



1



2

Introduction

Americans tend to enjoy rags-to-riches stories and the idea of the self-made man, but as a famous philosophy thesis posits, nothing comes from nothing. A successful person who overcame hardships still came from a web of families that passed on their talents, values, and work ethic. This book, *Ancestors of Albert James Zdenek, Sr. and Rose Marie Mildred Prince*, shows how a diverse background led to the many accomplishments of Albert J. Zdenek, Jr.

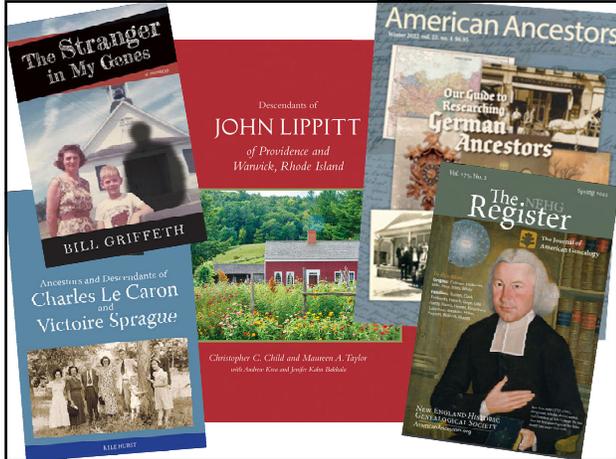
These woven-together families came from different places. The ancestors of Albert James Zdenek, Sr. and Rose Marie Mildred Prince emigrated from four European countries: Czech Republic, Germany, Ireland, and England. Two families—Zdenek and Janousek—hailed from South Bohemia; four—Prince, Molitor, Hitt, and Huber—came from Germany, the regions of Trier, perhaps Westphalia, and Swabia, respectively. The English families included Bailey, Fletcher, and Wine/Wines, while the Irish contingency included the Kennedy, Johnston, Grew, McGinnis, and Hagerty families.

met and blended together in the America “melting pot.” Having arrived in New York, Delaware, and Virginia, the descendants eventually made Philadelphia (in Delaware by 1790), the Huber family (in New York by 1790 and probably as early as 1661) all so and then to Indiana. In Illinois, a Kennedy bride in 1909. During the Great Depression, the couple



Voice of
 Kyle Hurst
 Senior Genealogist

3



4

Components

- Family = genealogical sketches
- History = context
- Story = combine genealogical, biographical, contextual facts

<p>Justice Bayless/Bailey was born probably in New York, about 1760, and died after 1850. He married by 1788, Sarah _____, born in New York, about 1766.</p>	+	<p>Orange County, New York was just over the river from Upper Smithfield Township. Originally, the township was in Wayne County, then in Pike County when that divided, and finally in Monroe County.</p>	=	<p>Justice Bailey, like many who lived through the formation of the United States of America, was quite mobile. As new lands and new transportation options opened up, Justice continually moved westward across his new country.</p>
--	---	---	---	---

5



6

Base decisions on:

Deadlines

- When do you want to finish?
- Limits depth of coverage

Audience

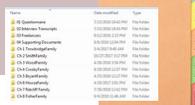
- Who are you writing for?
- Determines style & tone

7

Organize ideas then data

- Table of contents/outline
 - What in each chapter/section?
 - Who to discuss?
 - What to say about them?
- Structure
 - Thesis
 - Examples to support
 - Genealogical formats vs narrative





8

Incorporating narrative into genealogy

-  Insert after birth-death-marriage info, **within** a genealogical sketch.
-  Include narrative chapters **before** and/or **after** the genealogical presentation.
-  Insert narrative or explanatory information in **features** / sidebars / boxed inserts.
-  Provide transcriptions of wills, interviews, or letters in one or more **appendices**.

9

Storytelling

Novel	Genealogy
Plot	Themes
Conflict	Tensions
Transition between scenes	Move times/locations
Characters	Ancestors
Dialogue	Quotes

16

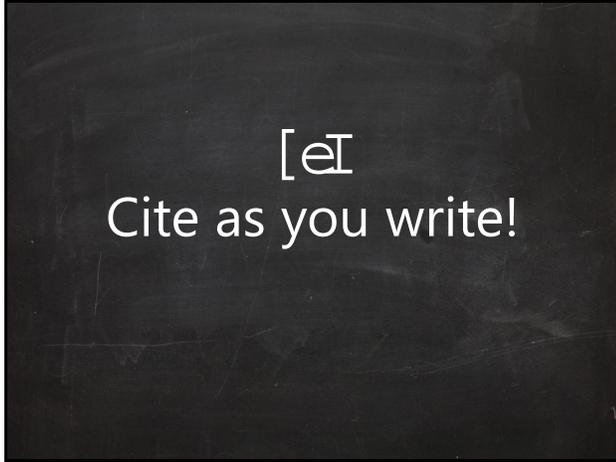
Story Structure

BEGINNING	✓ Table of contents
↓	
MIDDLE	✓ Genealogy
↓	
END	✓ Within narrative

17

Eventful Events

18



22

How to add the narrative

Chronologically

Thematically

One topic per paragraph

23

The Builder
Isaac Conroe was a mason and brick-seller. In 1762, Isaac supplied twenty thousand bricks to Edward Pryor/Pryor "used in building the Proprietor's house in [Perth] Amboy." Pryor paid for ten thousand white bricks on 19 March 1763, but Isaac was still owed "10,669 York money" as of 13 April 1770. The Board of Proprietors of East Jersey agreed to pay the balance.¹⁰

The Proprietary House was built about the time of the first visit of William Franklin, the royal governor and son of Benjamin Franklin. He wanted to live there, and the East Jersey proprietors wanted rooms for the Council and Assembly. Unfortunately, when the building was ready in September 1764, a depression and stirrings of revolution meant that Franklin did not move in until nine years later.¹⁰

Isaac Conroe led the construction of the Sandy Hook Lighthouse (originally the New York Lighthouse). According to Park Historian Thomas J. Hoffman:

Quaker Life
After bans were posted on 7 September and 5 October, Isaac Conroe and Elinor Wright married at the Burlington Monthly Meeting "1730, 8, 22" (22 October 1730). Isaac, son of Isaac Conarros, was from Gloucester County, Elinor, daughter of Jonathan Wright, was from Burlington (town and county). Among the many witnesses were Jonathan Wright, Elizabeth Wright, Andrew Conmarow, Stephen Wright, and Fretwell Wright.⁷

The Conroe couple remained with the Burlington Quaker meeting at first. On at least two dates, 6/9th month 1738 and 2/12th month 1746, Isaac was appointed to attend the quarterly meeting by the Burlington Monthly Meeting.⁷

Then in the summer of 1751, Isaac Conroe and his wife made plans to switch to the Chesterfield Meeting. However, the friends who looked into his application for a certificate of removal (from the Burlington Monthly Meeting) determined that "he was likely to return here again" and denied the request.⁷

Property in Burlington
Over the course of their time in Burlington, New Jersey, Isaac and Elinor Wright basically owned and sold three properties.

They received the first property from Elinor's parents on 27 February 1730/31. Jonathan and Elizabeth Wright of Burlington sold property to their son-in-law, Isaac Conmarow, a Burlington bookseller, and their daughter, "Elinor" for £60. The first part was for the dwelling house known as White Hall on the island of Burlington that Jonathan had purchased in 1720. The second part included 19 acres that Jonathan obtained in 1723. With the land, Isaac received the rights to build a brick wall on the property line and

Thematically then chronologically

24

What makes an engaging family history?

Details about people, places, events	Historic and geographic context
Photos, charts, and other images	Clear, focused writing

25

[eI]
Read your text aloud

26

Perspective

27

Point of View

- Authorial vs. narrative voice
- Third person vs. first person
- Don't switch viewpoints midstream
- Decide how close is close enough

28

Hugh Hart Lusk was asked by Justice Foster if he would defend Louisa Collins in her murder trial, which was scheduled to begin the following week. The judge said that there wasn't any money to pay for his services.

↓

At the height of his career, Hugh took on the responsibility of representing Louisa Collins *pro bono*. With only a week remaining until the murder trial, Justice Foster chose him for the defense.

↓

One week, that's all he had, one week to prepare a defence in a murder trial. The prosecution had had a month. . . . What did he have? A request from Justice Foster that he, Hugh Hart Lusk, should conduct the case *pro bono*, which meant no fee, no assistance, no money for any investigative work . . .

Viewpoints

Carol Baxter, *Writing and Publishing Gripping Family Histories* (St. Ives, New South Wales: Baxter, c2016), 37.

29

Narrative Voice Styles

- **Narrative non-fiction**
Justice Bailey, like many who lived through the formation of the United States of America, was quite mobile.
- **Journey of discovery**
By tracing him in census, land, and tax records, I found that Justice Bailey was quite mobile.
- **Intimate voice**
After his 50th birthday, Justice decided to leave New York bound for Ohio. Would he finally be at home there?
- **Encyclopedic**
Between 1790 and 1810, Justice Bailey appeared in N.Y. records for Orange, Tioga, and Livingston Counties.
- **Distant voice**
Justice Bailey (1760-*abt.* 1850) lived in New York in 1810 and in Ohio by 1835.
- **"Faction"**
In his melancholy, Justice Bailey thought, "Maybe moving from place to place will bring me happiness and success."

30

Truth Matters

<p>Do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be tactful • Beware bias • Maintain impartiality 	<p>Don't</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Withhold "sensitive" data • Exaggerate • Judge
---	--



31

Anchoring

- Location
- Timeframe
- Generation
- Characters

1

TO AMERICA!
Dolor Davis and the Establishment
of the American Colonies

CHAPTER
4

GO WEST, YOUNG MEN
Albert, Arthur, and Edward
and the Expansion of America

by well as making her a
subject, and even taking
on the burden of her."

the New World in 1624

is the early colonization
impulse exploration in
underpins in the early
of the eastern seaboard
a Culture of Innovation
in Europeans who had
reference to the idea of

informants some era of
policies of King James,
the political economic.
New World held the
de to change and shape
frontier. In 1620 King
or and steady stream of
one of the Massachusetts
on already established,
were single men, setting
of men, however, were
of Dolor Davis.

Since Dolor Davis's arrival in the 1620s, seven generations of Davises had made their
homes within a seventy-mile radius of where he first made landfall at Boston. From
Cambridge to Barnstable, from Concord to New Ipswich to Haverhill, the Davises
had firmly established themselves in northern New England, with the city of Boston remaining
as their closest metropolitan hub. Many of their neighbors and friends, however, had
ventured into new territory over the years, particularly to lands in the American west
that were becoming hosts to ripening new cities.

The appetite for westward expansion began almost as soon as European settlers like

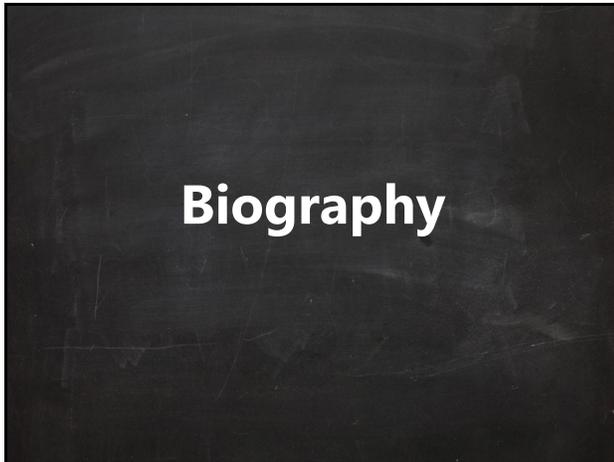
Jennifer Kahn Bakula, *An American Family: Four Centuries of Labor, Love, and Reward* (Newbury Street Press, c2018).

32

Answering Questions

		
WHO?	WHAT?	WHEN?
		
WHERE?	WHY?	HOW?

33



34

Adding genealogical content

 Enter data following the chosen format.

 Add the key events in the subjects' lives.

 Consistency leads to clarity!

35

Vital data

FRANCESCO ROSARIO "FRANK" TAORMINA was born in Partanna, Trapani, Sicily, Italy, 9 September 1891. He died in Pompano Beach, Broward County, Florida, 18 November 1982, and was buried at Brookside Cemetery in Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey. He married at St. Mary's Church in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana, 27 October 1926, **JOSEPHINE ACCARDO**.

36

More of the story

FRANCESCO ROSARIO "FRANK" TAORMINA was born at home at Corso Maggiore in Partanna, Trapani, Sicily, Italy, 9 September 1891 (at 3:30 a.m.). He died of "old age" at Pompano Beach, Broward County, Florida, 18 November 1966 (at 75 years old). He is buried in the Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey. He married **Partanna parish records** JOSEPHINE ACCARDO, daughter of Joseph and Josephine Accardo, in New Orleans, Louisiana, 27 October 1926. JOSEPHINE ACCARDO.

After the First World War ended, Frank again travelled to America around the time of his birthday – this time about a month after his 29th. As a healthy laborer from Partanna, Francesco carried \$60 aboard the *Logan* bound from Naples to New York City. With him was his cousin, Giuseppe, and his final destination was the New Orleans home of his cousin, **Passenger list** Tina. The Taormina family in New Orleans would soon start a food import business that would come to be known as Progresso. **Family stories; newspaper articles**

40

[e] Decide what to omit.

41

According to the 1860 census, on 17 July 1860 the Pratt household at Norwich, Connecticut, consisted of George Pratt, white male aged 27, (occupation illegible), \$800 in personal estate; born in Massachusetts; and Sarah Pratt, white female aged 28, housekeeper, born in Connecticut. The young couple was also enumerated in her father's household: on 18 July 1860, the Whittlesey household at Salem, Connecticut, included Oramel Whittlesey, white male aged 58, music teacher, \$10,000 in real estate, \$16,000 in personal estate; born in Connecticut; Oramel Whittlesey, white female aged 54, born in Connecticut; E. T. Maginnis, white female aged 5, estate, born in Ireland; E. T. Maginnis, white female aged 3, in Connecticut; O. M. Maginnis, white female aged 2, in Connecticut; G. F. Pratt, white male aged 28, lawyer; and S. V. Pratt, white female aged 10, Connecticut.

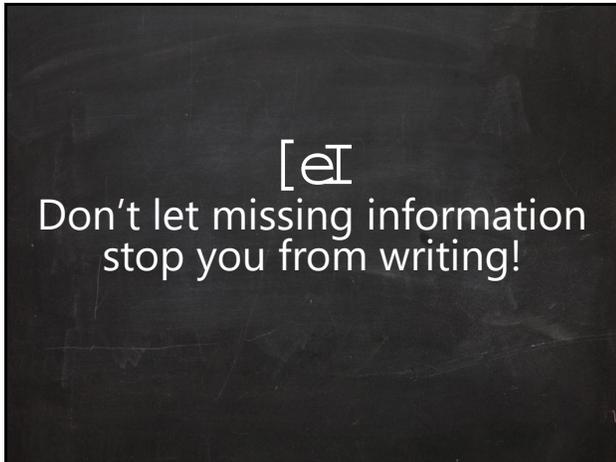
At the time of the 1860 census, George, 27, was living with Sarah, 28, in Norwich with \$800 in personal estate. His occupation is lawyer; she is listed as a housekeeper. They are also enumerated in the household of her father, Oramel Whittlesey in Salem. By 1870, George was listed as a lawyer with \$12,000 in real estate and \$6,000 in personal estate. Sarah was keeping house. Also living with them were their children Alice, 10; Oramel, 8; Gertrude, 8; Bela, 3; and infant Susan, 7 months.

The 1870 census, taken on 16 July 1870, reports household at Norwich, Connecticut consisted of male aged 37, lawyer, \$12,000 in real estate, \$6,000 in personal estate, born in Massachusetts, a male U.S. citizen; Sarah Pratt, white female aged 38, keeping house; Alice Pratt, white female aged 10, within the year, born in Connecticut; Oramel Pratt, 8, at school, has attended school within the year; Gertrude Pratt, white female aged 8, attended school within the year; born in Connecticut; white male aged 3, at home, born in Connecticut; white female aged 7 months, born in Nov. 1866; Margaret Harrington, white female aged 13, domestic servant, born in Ireland, parents of foreign birth; Margaret O'Reagan, white female aged 22, domestic servant, born in Ireland, parents of foreign birth; and Anna Kelley, white female aged 13, domestic servant, born in Connecticut, parents of foreign birth. . . .

By 1880, Sarah was a widow. A music teacher, she was living at 11 Union Street in Norwich, with her daughter "Alice" (Alice) M., 19, also a music teacher; son Oramel W., 17, daughter Gertrude, 15, and son Minot T., 8, all in school; and niece **Charlotte Maginnis, 16,** As a lawyer, George increased his wealth during the 1860s, which was fortunate as he had to support five young children. After George died during the following decade, his widow Sarah and their eldest daughter both worked as music teachers to maintain the family.

Deciding what to omit

42



43

<p>Thomas of Sunderland, England) arrived at Galveston, Texas, 5 February 1881. He declared his desire for U.S. citizenship at the U.S. Circuit Court in Massachusetts, 30 December 1886. As a laborer, he petitioned for naturalization at Boston, 13 October 1889 and was naturalized there, 28 August 1889. His witnesses were Charles E. Milligan and Robert G. Stratford of Chelsea.</p> <p>Galveston Immigration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Galveston immigration data is not available from the National Archives and 1894; neither, since records are missing near the time of the 1906 historical marker. Federal laws enacted in 1875 ended the uncontrolled immigration and led to the establishment of the new U.S. Steamship Galveston's Pier 29. The U.S. Congress closed Galveston's pier New major new Federal immigration station in 1906. More than 130,000 immigrants came through the Port of Galveston from 1845, a business with the California Historical Foundation, an immigrant station on Galveston Island opened in 1853 at Pier 29. The effort was described as the "Ellis Island of the West" in a "Second Ellis: A History of Immigrant Immigration to the United States at Pier 29" but many records are gone. The Texas Seaport Museum at Pier 29 is of passengers arriving to the seaport only from its 1845 to 1889. Records in missing from The National Archives, a large gap during those immigrant records are held copies of originals and are inaccessible. 	<p>During the first year, Thomas sailed out with the 336-ton barque <i>Magdala</i>. It had been built in Sunderland a decade earlier and was owned by the Watson family. The <i>Magdala</i> left for Point de Galle, Sri Lanka, the day after Thomas's registration. When they returned to the British Isles after about ten days, two crew members refused to continue their service (citing "frivolous and ridiculous excuses," in the opinion of the magistrates) and were sentenced to six weeks of hard labor.¹¹ Perhaps this was enough to show Thomas that life on the sea was not for him, because he chose instead to work at a wharf for most of his life.</p> <p>Thomas braved at least one last major sea voyage when he left England for America. According to his own memory, he arrived in early February 1881 at Galveston, Texas. The port there had attracted immigrants since around the time Texas joined the United States (in 1845), but it took decades before an official U.S. Customs immigration station was set up at its Pier 29. Unfortunately, the National Archives' collection is missing the port's records for 1871–1894. Even without those documents, we know that from the 1840s through the 1940s, over 130,000 immigrants arrived at Galveston. With the selection (in 1906) of Galveston over New Orleans as the official point of entry, by 1915 Galveston became known as the "Ellis Island of the West."¹²</p> <p>From Texas, Thomas <u>could have</u> traveled by ship or by train to the northeastern states. Likely, he had to stop over in New York before making his way to Massachusetts. He <u>seems to have</u> settled at Chelsea by 1884, but he was certainly in the area at the end of 1886 when he declared his desire for U.S. citizenship. Having petitioned for naturalization two years later, he officially became a citizen on 7 January 1889.¹³</p>
---	---

44

Gaps and unsolved problems

Enter what you have and highlight it for later attention.

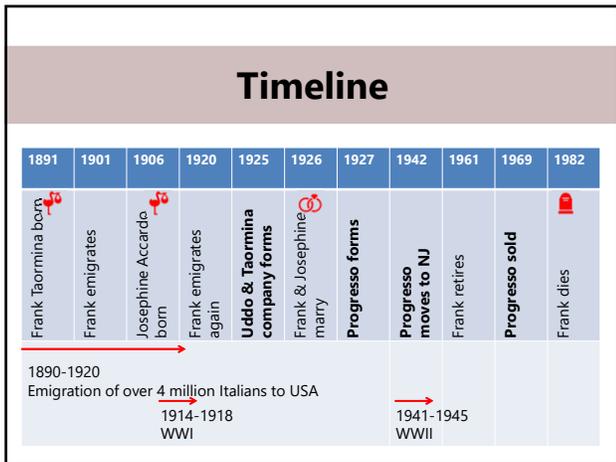
Enter what you have and indicate the need for further research.

- In your preface
- In the text
- In reference notes

45



46



47

Noting ideas

FRANCESCO ROSARIO "FRANK" TAORMINA was born at home at Corso Maggiore in Partanna, Trapani, Sicily, Italy, 9 September 1891 (at 3:30 a.m.). He died of 'old age' at Pompano Beach, Broward County, Florida, 18 November 1982, and was buried at Brookside Cemetery in Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey. He married at St. Mary's Church in St. Bernard, Louisiana, 27 October 1926, JOSEPHINE ACCARDO.

After the First World War ended, Frank again travelled to America around the time of his birthday - this time about a month after his 29th. As a healthy laborer from Partanna, Francesco carried \$60 aboard the *Logan* bound from Naples to New York City. With him was his cousin, Giuseppe, and his final destination was the New Orleans home of his cousin, Rosario Taormina. The Taormina family in New Orleans would soon start a food import business that would come to be known as Progresso.

Comment [KH1]: How would this trip be a different from his first trip to America with his parents in 1901?

Comment [KH2]: If the destination was New Orleans, how did Frank end up dying in Florida but buried in New Jersey?

Comment [KH3]: Research the company - especially its beginnings and how it changed hands.

48

Where to obtain background info for your narrative

<p>Published sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Histories • Timelines • Maps/Gazetteers • Websites/Publications by/about subject matter • News 	<p>Unpublished sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manuscript collections • Governmental records • Interviews • Presentations
--	---



52

Story in context

After the First World War ended, Frank again traveled America around the time of his birthday – **this time about a month after his 29th. Italian immigration to American had just begun to taper off after the arrival of 4 million of Frank's countrymen.** As a healthy laborer from Partanna, Francesco carried \$60 aboard the *Logan* bound from Naples to New York City. With him was his cousin, Giuseppe, and his final destination was the New Orleans home of his cousin, Rosario Taormina. **So many Sicilians like them had settled there that the French Quarter was nicknamed "Little Palermo."** The Taormina family in New Orleans would soon start a food import business that would come to be known as Progresso.

Journal article about Italian immigration

New Orleans website

53

The Scottish branch of the family lived in the Shetland Islands (also called Zetland) for many generations. Only seven larger and eight smaller islands of the hundred are inhabited. The group is so far northeast of the main coast of Scotland that the next stop is Norway. Naturally then, Shetland's geographic and history is a unique blend of Norse and Scottish family names and cultures.¹⁵⁶

Robert grew up in the village of Grimster on the island of Yell (formerly Zella), the second-largest island north of the main island. Even at the height of its population (in 1846, Yell only had 3,400 residents. Almost all its settlements hug the coast, leaving the center as what is known as "the Wilds of Yell." Unsurprisingly then, inhabitants of the Mid and South Yell parishes primarily made a living fishing, mostly for ling, cod, herring, and sea trout. Robert's father Andrew Jamieson (No. 56) and grandfather James fished in addition to Partanna.¹⁵⁷

Robert and Jean wed in 1855 at the Mid Yell parish with minister James Barclay officiating. At the time, Robert worked as a seaman in merchant service. Over the next five years, the couple had two sons and a daughter, only to lose their younger son, the first Thomas Thomason. The young family remained on Yell until 1868.¹⁵⁸



Area's primary migration cause

Uncertain migration

Possible motivation for destination

During the 1860s, Shetland as a whole lost about 300 residents to migration. According to an 1871 inquiry, the primary cause was "the system under which the people have been and are placed." In imploring change, Commissioner Thomas Edmonstone explained:

There can be no doubt but that the barter or truck system has been and is the cause of Shetland... at the system at present stands, a good year for fishing or for the crops does not mean much cash among the people any more than a bad year implies little, but it means little or much debt. The people as a rule do not finger in money one fifth of their earnings as an average, and three fourths or thereabout of them never see money as payment for their produce. Such a state of matters is utterly demoralizing, and so long as it is permitted to continue Shetland must and will continue behind-hand in every sense, at least so far as the peasantry are concerned.

Essentially, the barter system arose from the unbalanced relationship between proprietors and tenants and the proprietors' monopolizing role in the fishing industry. The commissioners estimated that nearly two thirds of the population (essentially all adults) were "under the influence of truck"—whether perpetuating or being victimized by that system. Throughout the centuries, the system had added tensions between the Scottish (who became proprietors) and those of Norse background (who lost lands and influence to said Scots).¹⁵⁹

In 1860 or 1861, this Jamieson family decided to leave the Shetlands to seek **Wear**, the northeastern coast of England. As a mariner, Robert chose to move to Sunderland, a shipping port known for shipbuilding. According to an 1848 gazetteer, over 35 shipyards allowed "ship-buildings [to be] carried on [in Sunderland] to a greater extent than at any other port in the empire." Sunderland became one of the four English towns to attract the largest numbers of Shetlanders over the course of the century. As of 1881, the Jamieson family lived on Zetland Street, a name that may have indicated a known gathering of Shetlanders.¹⁷⁰

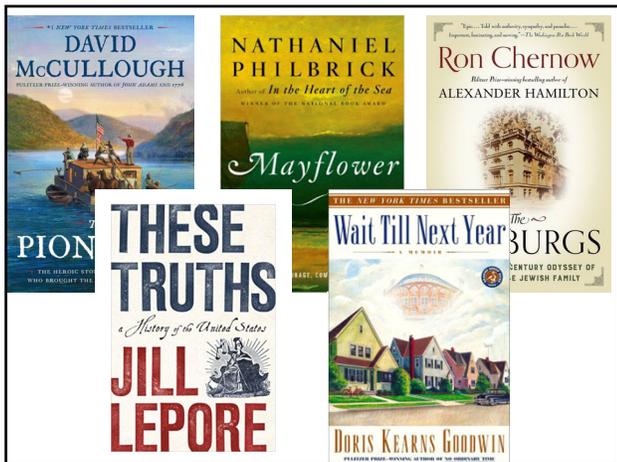
While Robert likely sailed out from northern village, Monkwearmouth, Wear River and near a Benedictine monastery, the townships held nearly 12,500 residents in total. The family lived in the township of Monkwearmouth Shore (making up nearly half of Monkwearmouth's total acreage), which grew from 15,139 residents in 1861, to 16,590 in 1871, to 17,647 in 1881.¹⁷¹

Context to fill gaps

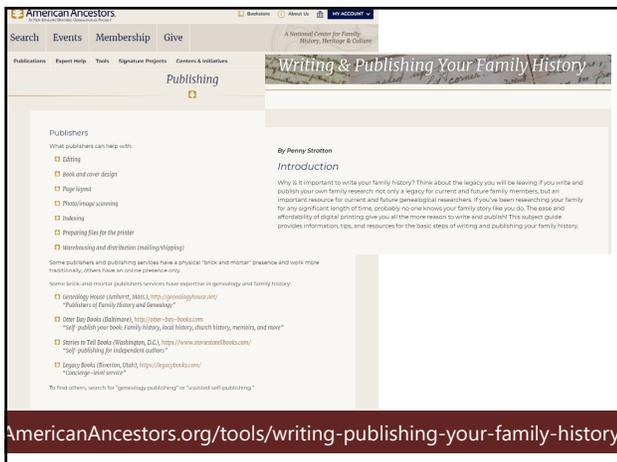
54



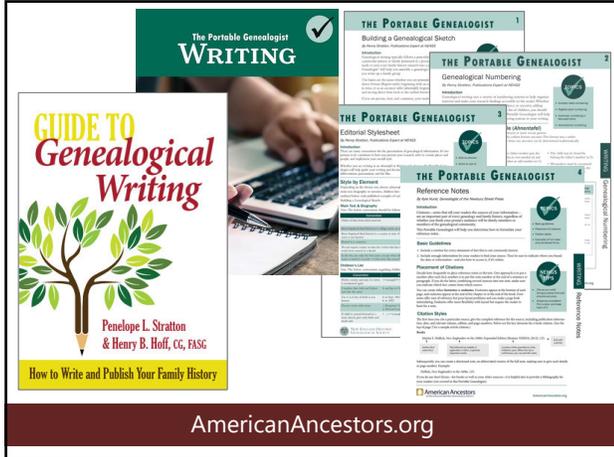
55



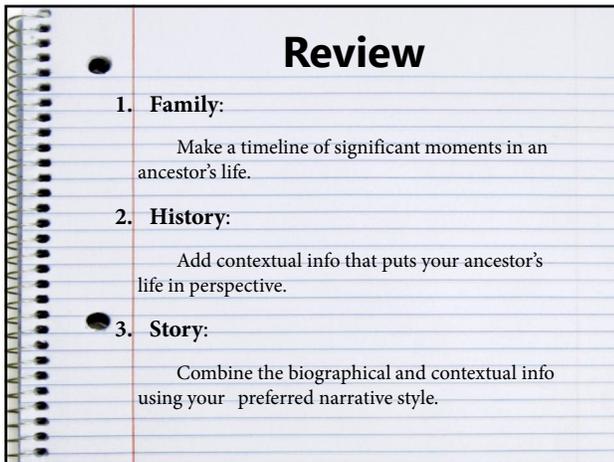
56



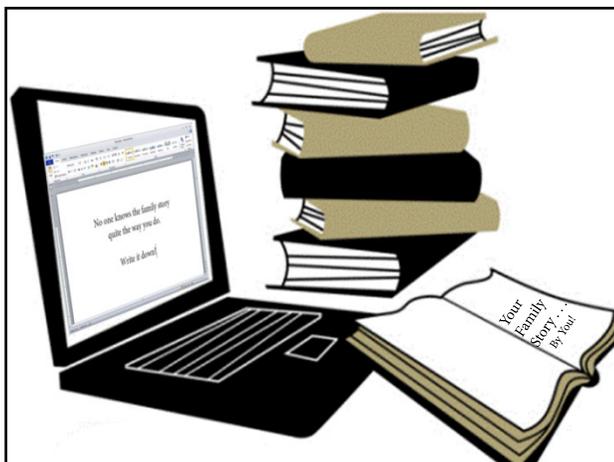
57



58



59



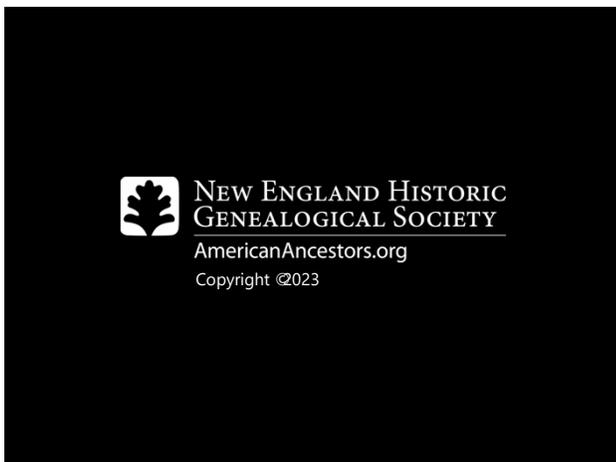
60



61



62



63
