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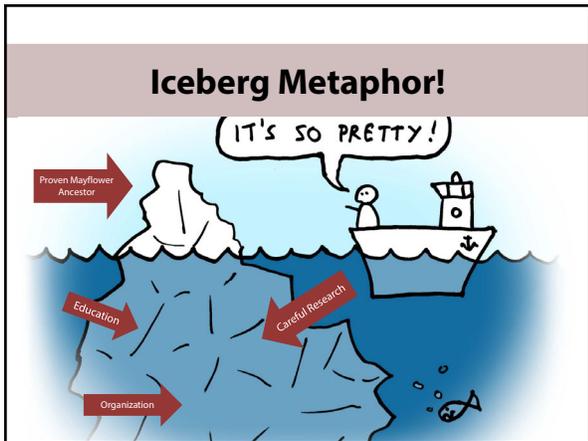
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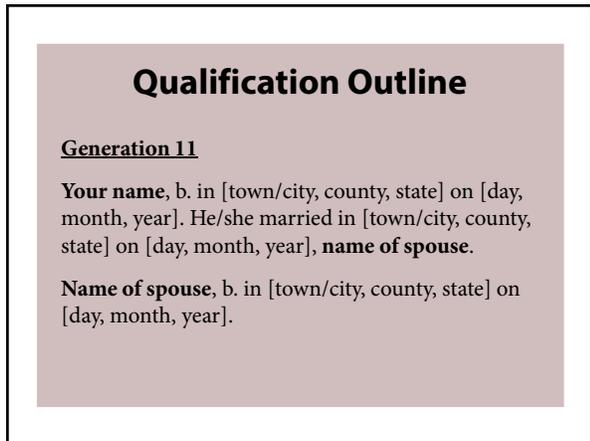
How to properly document your Mayflower line:

1. Organize
2. Locate records for each generation (including spouses) back to the *Mayflower* passenger
3. Determine if a proof summary is necessary
4. Write it down!

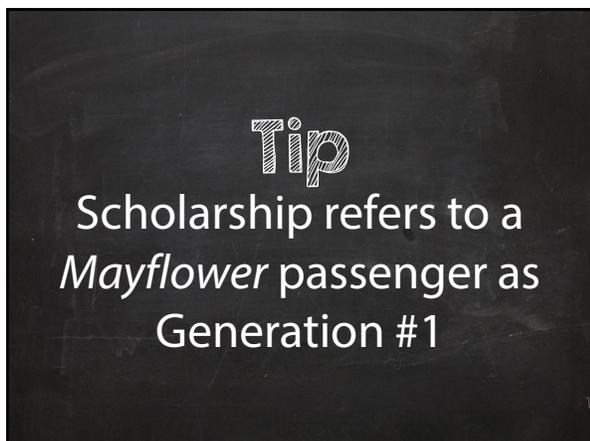
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Step #2

Locate vital records for each generation

13

Vital Records

- Often provide the names of the individual's parents and/or spouse
- Depending on the state, records may be held on the state, county, and/or town/city level
- Privacy restrictions may limit access
- Certified vs. genealogical or informational copies

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**Civil vital records
birth, marriage, and death**

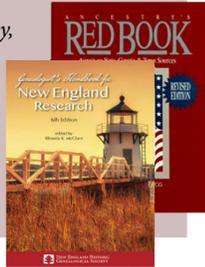
– Modern vital records vary from state to state

- Massachusetts (1841)
- Connecticut (1897)
- Maine (1892)
- New Hampshire (1866)
- Rhode Island (1853)
- Vermont (1857)
- New York (1881)

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Vital Records: Resources

- *Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research*, 6th ed. (NEHGS, 2021)
- *Red Book: American State, County, and Town Sources*, 3rd ed. (Ancestry Publishing, 2004)
- *The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy*, 3rd ed. (Ancestry Publishing, 2006)
- Family Search Wiki



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Tip

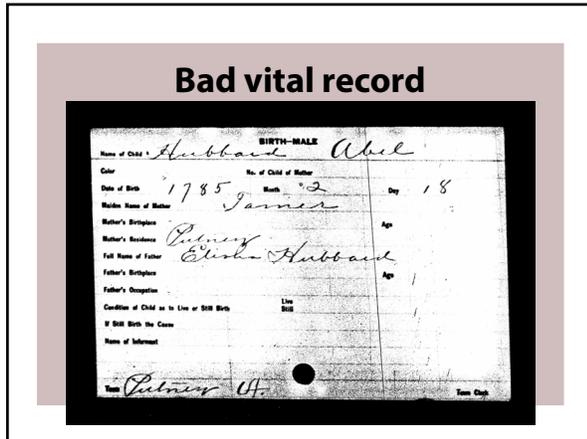
Always seek out the original!

17

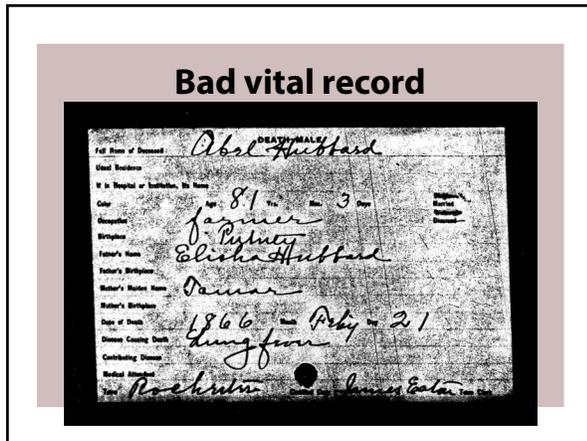
Good vital record



18



19



20

What do you do when no vital records exist?

21

Types of Records

Ideal	May need more
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vital Records/ Certificates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Lists parents with mother’s maiden name – Marriage record is preferable • Church Records • Probate Records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genealogies • County/Local Histories • Cemetery Records and Headstones • Census records

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Some alternative vital records:

• Church Records	• Military
• Census	• Newspapers
• Cemetery Records	• Compiled genealogies
• Naturalization Records	• Finding aids
• Land and Property	• Local histories
• Probate	• Family papers

...and more!

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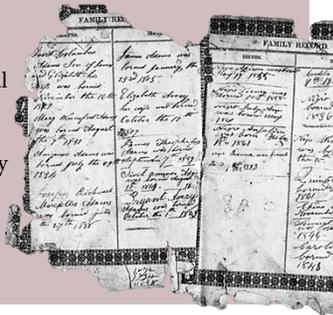
Clues to look for:

- Naming patterns
- Similar migrations
- Buy/sell land from family members

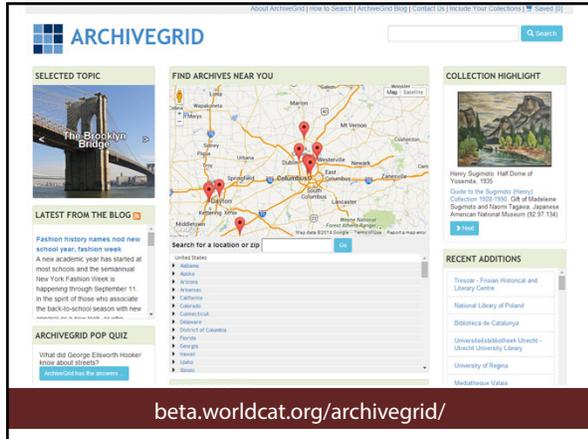
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Bible Records

- Rare, but helpful
- Maintained by local historical societies, archives, or genealogical society (NEHGS)



25



beta.worldcat.org/archivegrid/

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Census Records (Federal and State)

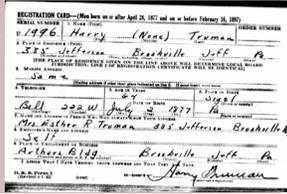
- U.S. Federal Census available 1790–1950
- Before 1850, U.S. Federal Census did not name each member of household
- Online resources:
 - [AmericanAncestors.org](https://www.americanancestors.org)
 - [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org)
 - [Fold3.com](https://www.fold3.com)
 - [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com)



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Military Records

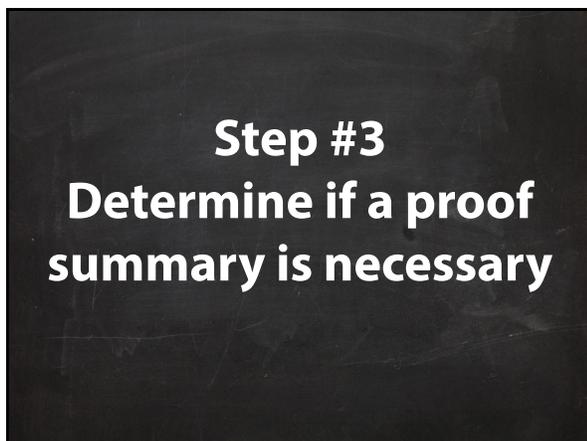
- Pension records — fold3.com
- Military rolls — nationalarchives.gov.uk
- Enlistment papers — americanancestors.org
- Draft card/records
- Manuscripts (such as diaries or letters home)



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What is the purpose of a proof argument?

- Interpreting documentation
- Connecting generations
- Explaining conflicting documentation

40

When is a proof argument necessary?

- No primary source documentation
 - Vital records
 - Probate records
- One (or no) secondary sources
 - Genealogy
 - County history
- Documentation that suggests the relationships, but not explicitly stated
- Correcting information

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When a proof argument is *not* necessary

- Vital Records/primary sources exist
 - i.e., Death record
 - Census records
- When the documentation clearly shows a connection

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Anatomy of a proof argument

- Clearly stated Objective
- Recognition of Earlier Scholarship (Correct or Incorrect)
- Research Summary
 - What did you find?
 - What didn't you find?
- Address anomalies or mistakes in the research process
- Suggest Alternative Possibilities
- Conclusion
- Provide a Genealogical Summary

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Clearly State Objective

- What is the genealogical Question?
- Include information such as:
 - The Primary Individual (Date/Place of Birth and Date/Place of Death- if known)
 - The name of the Primary individual's Spouse (Date/Place of Birth and Date/Place of Death- if known)
 - The names of the Primary Individual's Parents

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Recognize Earlier Scholarship

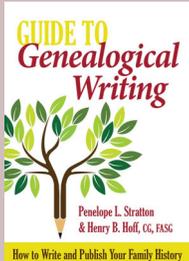


- What has been presented previously?
- How Scholarly is that material?
 - Correct
 - Incorrect
- If nothing has been done, say so

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Research Summary

- Provide an explanation of the relevant records found
 - Logical progression
 - Clear and concise
- Use scholarly footnotes
 - *Guide to Genealogical Writing*



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Address Anomalies

- Missing records
- Numerous Individuals with the same name
- Incorrect Information on a record or an incorrect published genealogy
- Present this information honestly
 - Do not distort or underplay a record

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Suggest Other Possibilities

- Cover all your bases, Even if unlikely
- Does your conclusion jive with historical, geographical, and religious facts
- Conflating two persons?
- Creating Two persons?

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Conclusion

DO	DON'T
-----------	--------------

- Clearly State Your Conclusion Based on your analysis
- Give too much information- just state the facts
- Present new information

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Genealogical Summary

- Register style
- Include relevant persons and their relationships
- Continue to provide scholarly citations

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

1. WRIGHT BROWN¹, born at Ware, Hampshire County, Massachusetts 1 July 1748, son of Timothy ("Clary Keyser", and "Phebe Rowland" [Willow]) and Hannah (_____) ("Wright" Brown)². He removed to Saratoga, Chenango County, New Hampshire³, Saratoga, New York⁴, and Yates County, New York, and died 25 April 1837⁵.

He married first probably before 1780⁶ before 1784 BETHANY NOLAN/NEWLAND⁷ (she died before 1796⁸). He married second BETHANY _____ before 1 June 1796⁹. She died in 1828¹⁰.

No photos for Wright Brown has been found in Yates County and no land records identifying him.

Children of Wright and Hannah (_____) ("Wright" Brown):

- i. CHILD BROWN¹, d. SWANNEY, 204 4 Mar. 1795¹¹
- ii. JOEL BROWN, d. SWANNEY, 208 21 Mar. 1795¹²
- iii. SAMUEL RIGHT BROWN¹, b. 1773¹³ d. Clary Valley, NY, 15 Sep. 1817¹⁴ m. 13 February 1801 EUNICE ANDRICK.
- iv. THAS BROWN, bp. Stillborn, NY 18 Jan. 1784¹⁵

Children of Wright and Bethany Brown:

- v. WRIGHT BROWN¹, b. 1 Jan. 1796; d. 28 Jan. 1874¹⁶ m. ELLY EDGOS¹⁷

2. SAMUEL RIGHT BROWN¹, born possibly at New Hampshire¹⁸ 1773. He died at Clary Valley, Orange County, New York 15 September 1817¹⁹.

He married at Saratoga, New York on 13 February 1800, EUNICE ANDRICK/ANDRICK²⁰ (she was born in 1760²¹). She died probably at Yates County, New York, 1874²².

No photos record for Samuel R. Brown has been found in Albany, Fulton, Saratoga, or Cayuga Counties, New York.

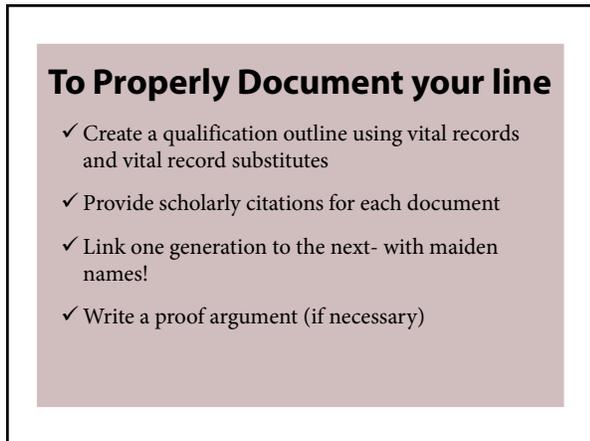
Children of Samuel Right and Eunice (Andrick) Brown:

- i. CHARLES TOLSON BROWN, b. 1804; d. 1879²³
- ii. ARZELLUS V BROWN, b. 1806²⁴ m. LUCY AND MILLER, 10 February 1827.
- iii. BRANCH BARTON BROWN¹, b. 1807²⁵ d. Saratoga County, ca. after 1860²⁶ married Letitia Leiby bef. 1821²⁷
- iv. WILLIAM BERRY BARTON BROWN, b. 1814; d. 1864²⁸
- v. YULIETTE BRUCE BROWN, m. CHARLES LOONEY.
- vi. SAMUEL RIGHT BROWN, b. 17 Nov. 1817²⁹; d. 2 Feb. 1903³⁰ m. SALLIE ANN CAHILL³¹

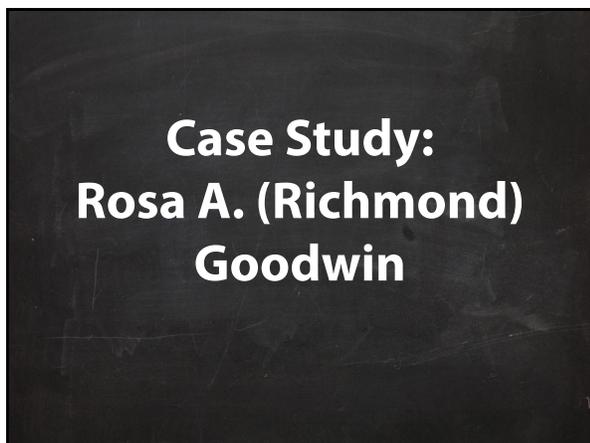
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53



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Ancestry of Rosa A. (Richmond) Goodwin

<p>What we have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosa A. Goodwin's death record • Rosa's obituary • Census records 	<p>What we don't have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosa A. (Richmond) Goodwin's birth record • Rosa's marriage record
--	--

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1881 Death Record Rosie A. Goodwin

56

1881 Obituary

Sad Bereavements.

Mrs. Rosa A. Goodwin, daughter-in-law of the late William A. Goodwin (who was buried last Sunday), and wife of Frederick T. Goodwin, of Chelsea, Mass., died December 22d, aged 32 years and 8 months. She was not feeling well when her husband came to attend his father's funeral, and he returned in haste after the ceremony. Her funeral will take place Sunday from the residence No. 68 Minor street. A brother of the deceased, William F. Richmond, a commercial traveler, was buried four weeks ago. He was taken ill out west and was buried in New Bedford. Brother and sister formerly lived in New Haven.

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Case Studies

- One and the same
 - Ancestry of Nathan Cannon
- Almost nothing exists
 - Ancestry of Emeline Barker

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Case Study: Ancestry of Nathan Cannon

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Ancestry of Nathan Cannon

```

    Nathan Cannon      Thankful
    1741-bef. 1769    =      Bassett
                               1746-aft. 1790
    |
    |-----|
    |
    Nathan Cannon      =      Rachel
    Bap. 1777-1832      Landers
                               abt. 1766-1847
  
```

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Ancestry of Nathan Cannon

<p>What we have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nathan Cannon's baptismal record • Nathan's death record • Nathan and Rachel Lander's marriage intention • Entry in <i>Mayflower Families Through Five Generations</i> (Howland) • Guardianship record 	<p>What we don't have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof Nathan Cannon removed from Barnstable, Massachusetts to Fairfield, Maine
---	---

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What do we need to prove?

- Was Nathan Cannon, son of Nathan Cannon and Thankful Bassett, the same Nathan Cannon who died in Fairfield, Maine in 1832?

Fifth and Sixth Generation Descendants of Joseph² Howland 187

Child of Nathan and Thankful (Bassett) Cannon, b. Barnstable:

i **NATHAN CANNON**⁹, bp. West Parish Ch. 13 June 1773 (CR 255).

Sources cited: Barnstable Vital Records and West Parish Church Records (CD, 2002). *Falmouth V.R.* See also: MD 31:151(b. Nathan). *Barnstable Families* 1:251.

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Start with the vital records

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Marriage record

Melinda L. and Henry Tibbetts, both of Fair., int. 25 Sept 1847
 Nathan and Rachel Lander, both of Fair., int. 5 Dec 1789;
 md. 22 Apr 1790
 Nathan, Jr., and Sarah Holway, both of Fair., int. 27 June 1819
 Phebe of Fair., and Charles Soule of Waterville
 int. 6 Feb 1865; Cert. issued 11 Feb 1865
 Sally Ann and William Gifford, both of Fair.,
 int. 30 Apr 1849; md. 9 Sept 1849 (Som Yr's)
 Simon and Ellinor M. Nye, both of Fair., int. 15 June 1844
 Sophia of Fair., and Henry Parker of Waterville,
 int. 6 June 1842; md. 12 July 1842

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Death record

Lemuel H., 22 Feb. 1835, so of Nathan and Sally.
 Lemuel H., 28 Mar. 1908. G.R. 6 so of Nathan and Sarah
 Lottie Dudley, 16 Sept. 1968, ae 73 yrs., at Oakland. G.R.6
 Mary (Jones), 17 Feb. 1897, ae 88 yrs., w. of Stephen.
 G.R. 6
 Mary, 12 Mar., 1829., da of Nathan and Rachel.
 Mary A., 17 Mar. 1864, ae 24 yrs., 5 mos., da of Stephen
 and Mary. G.R. 6
 Nathan, 1 Apr. 1831, hus. of Rachel.
 Nathan, 25 May 1864, ae 88 yrs., 2 mos., (War of 1812)
 G.R. 6
 Rachel, 3 Aug. 1847, w. of Nathan.
 Restella A. (Lander), 1906, G.R. 6
 Sarah, 18 Aug. 1861, ae 84 yrs., 2 mos., w. of Nathan. G.R.6
 Sarah E., no date.,(Smith),w. of Joseph A.
 G.R. 6
 Susan E., 30 June 1863, ae 21 yrs., 6 mos., da of Stephen
 and Mary. G.R. 6
 Stephen, 14 Feb. 1879, ae 71 yrs., G.R. 6
 Thomas, 16 Nov. 1870, ae 78 yrs., 2 mos., 22 das., G.R. 6

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Obituary

69

Exhaustive Search

- ~~Church Records~~
- Census
- ~~Cemetery Records~~
- ~~Naturalization Records~~
- Land and Property
- ~~Probate~~
- ~~Military~~
- Newspapers
- Compiled genealogies
- Local histories
- ~~Family papers~~

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***Remember the clues to look for:**

- Naming patterns
- Similar migrations
- Buy/sell land from family members

71

Similar Migration

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History of Fairfield, Maine



- Settled by people from Barnstable County, MA
- Originally called Nye's Plantation
- Incorporated as the town of Fairfield, Lincoln County, Massachusetts (now Maine) on 18 June 1788

73

Deeds between family members

74

Nathan Cannon deeds

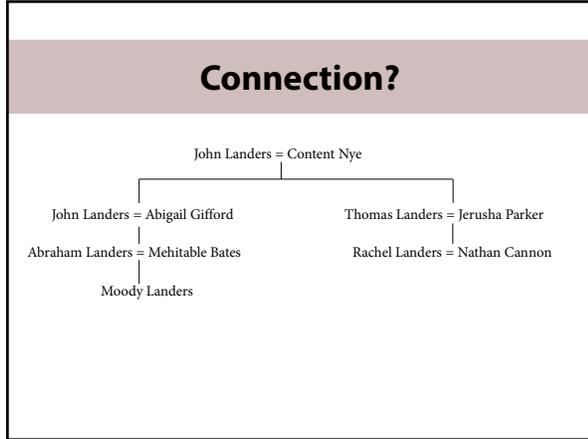
- 17 March 1803, purchased the north part of Lot No. 37 from Moses Appleton of neighboring Waterville, Maine.
- 5 August 1806 Nathan Cannon, along with Barnabas Holway, purchased part of Lot No. 39 in Fairfield from Moody Landers

75

Know all men by these presents, that I Moody Landers of Fairfield in the county of Kennebec, yeoman, in consideration of the sum of twenty dollars paid me by Nathan Cannon & Barnabas Holway both of said Fairfield, yeomen, (the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge) do hereby give, grant, sell & convey unto the said Cannon & Holway their heirs & assigns forever, a certain tract of land situated in said Fairfield on lot N^o thirty nine, bounded on the south by Bryant Nye, on the east & west by the two county roads, & running north far enough to make one half-acre of land. To have & to hold the same to the said Cannon & Holway their heirs & assigns to their use & benefit forever. And I do covenant with the said Cannon & Holway their heirs & assigns, that I am lawfully seized in fee of the premises, that they are free of all incumbrances, that I have good right to sell & convey the same to the said Cannon & Holway, & that I will warrant & defend the same to the said Cannon & Holway their heirs & assigns forever, against the lawfull claims & demands of any persons. — In witness whereof the said Landers have hereunto set my hand & seal this fifth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred four.

Moody Landers

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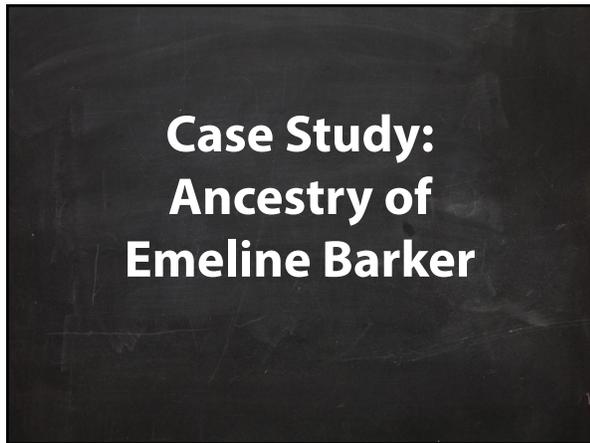
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Naming Pattern

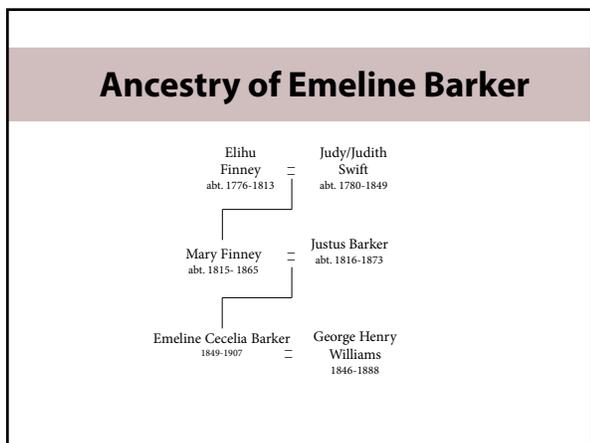
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Ancestry of Emeline Barker

What we have	What we don't have
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emeline (Barker) Williams Death Certificate • Emeline's obituary • Census records • Land records • <i>Finney-Phinney Families in America</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vital records for Mary (Finney) Barker • Probate Record for Elihu Finney or Judith/Judy (Swift) Finney

85

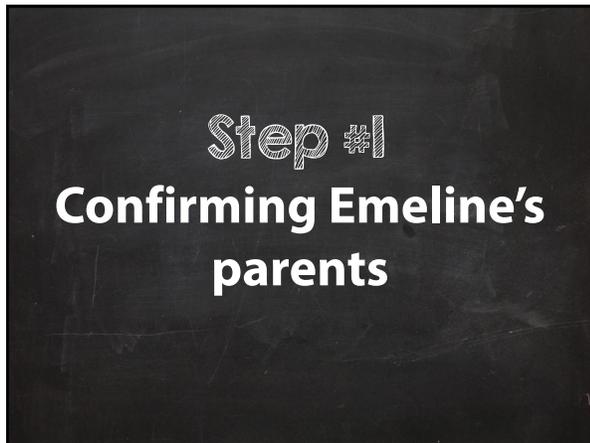
What do we need to prove?

- Emeline (Barker) Williams is the daughter of Mary (Finney) Barker
- Mary (Finney) Barker is the daughter of Elihu Finney of Sharon, CT

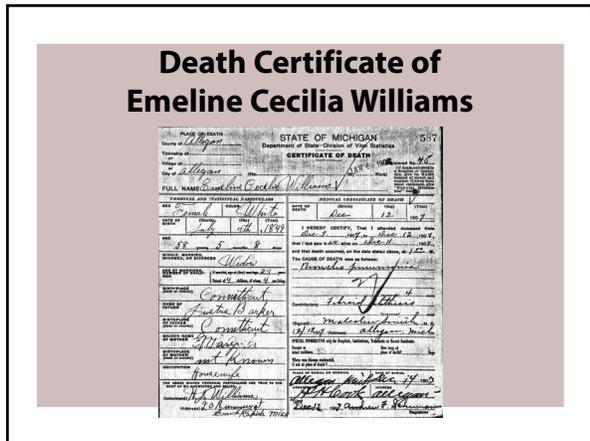
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Tip
 Start with the known,
 and move to the
 unknown

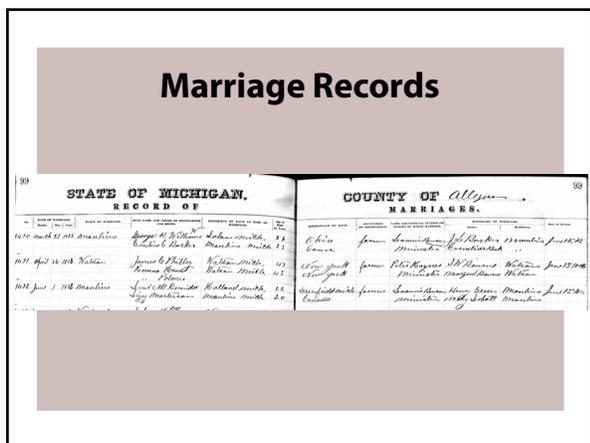
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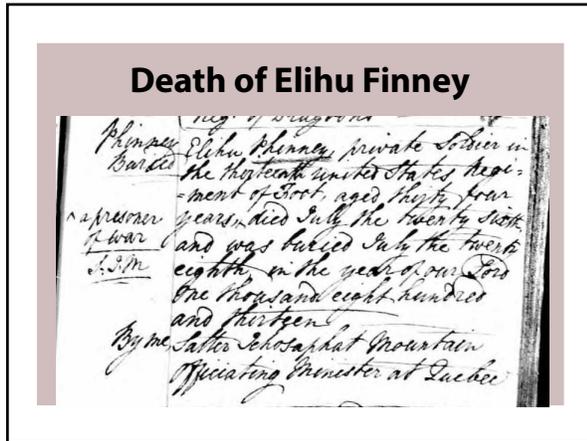
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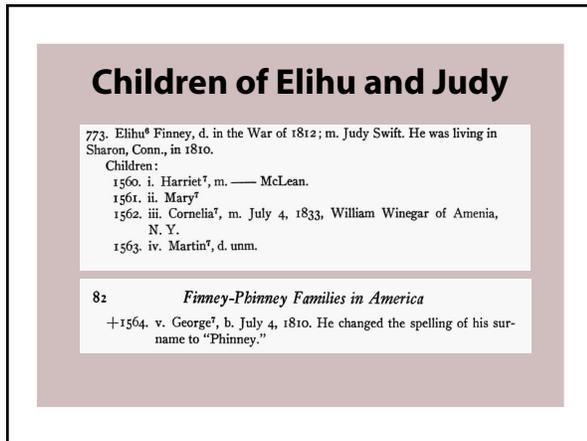
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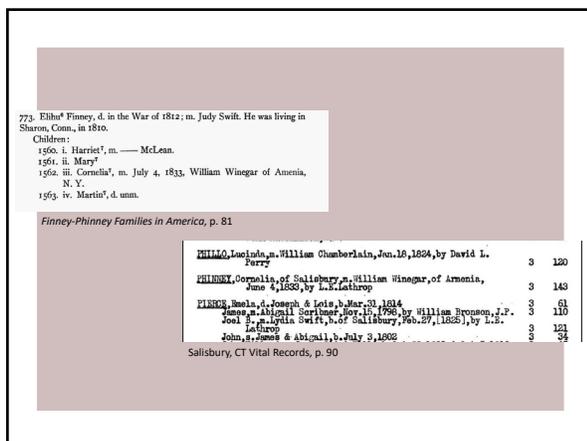
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Mrs. Emeline Williams
 Mrs. Emeline Williams died at her home on My street Wednesday evening after a short illness of pneumonia. Though she has been in poor health for years, she was able to visit her daughter at Pearis on Thanksgiving day.
 Emeline Barker was born in Litchfield county, Conn., July 4th, 1849, and came to Michigan with her parents when five years old, living in Chicago and Peaseville. At the age of 28 she was married to George H. Williams, who passed away 20 years ago. To their union four children were born. Mrs. Fannie Laporte of Pearis, Mrs. Lottie Rogers of South Haven, Homer of Grand Rapids and Miss Hattie, who lived with her mother. Three of those were with her when she came.
 Twenty nine years ago she united with the Seventh Day Adventist church at Pearis and was a faithful member to the end. Deceased came to this village 15 years ago. Mrs. Williams was a kind mother, good neighbor, intelligent and a representative true citizen, being able to judge from any portion of the sacred book. The funeral services will be conducted at the Advent church tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock.

The Allegan News,
 Friday, December 13, 1907

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SCHEDULE I.—Free Inhabitants in Sharon, Town of Sharon in the County of Litchfield State of Connecticut enumerated by me, on the Twenty-ninth day of August 1850. Chas. M. Kelley Ass't Marshal.

1	2	3	4			7	8	9	10 11 12 13			
			Male	Female	Total				Free	Slave	Color	White
1		37	1				Connecticut					
2		24	0				Massachusetts					
3	Dr. J.	39	0				Massachusetts					
4		21	1				Connecticut					
5		2	0				Connecticut					
6		1	1				Connecticut					
7		2	0				Connecticut					
8		1	1				Connecticut					

1850 Census, Sharon, Litchfield County, Connecticut

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Naming Pattern

```

    graph TD
      EF[Elihu Finney] --- JS[Judy/Judith Swift]
      EF --- GF[George Finney]
      EF --- CF[Cornelia Finney]
      JS --- NF[Nancy Kehoe]
      JS --- WF[William Winegar]
      JS --- MF[Mary Finney]
      JS --- JB[Justus Barker]
      GF --- JF[James Finney]
      GF --- CF2[Cornelia Finney]
      GF --- GF2[George Finney]
      GF --- MF2[Mary Finney]
      GF --- HF[Harriet Finney]
      MF --- EB[Emeline Barker]
      JB --- CB[Cornelia Barker]
    
```

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Making the Connection

<p>Emeline Barker to Mary Finney</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emeline's death certificate • Obituary • Census • Land Records • Elbert Barker's Vital Records 	<p>Mary Finney to Elihu Finney</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genealogy • Geographical Connection • Repetition of name Cornelia
--	---

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QUESTIONS?

Schedule a consultation
consultations@nehgs.org

Hire Research Services
research@nehgs.org

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AmericanAncestors.org
History, Heritage & Culture

Search Events Membership Give to Million Names Publications Expert Help Tools Signature Projects Centers & Initiatives

Verifying Your Mayflower Lineage 2023

Thank you for registering for the online course, Verifying Your Mayflower Lineage!

Four hundred years ago, the Mayflower landed on the shores of Massachusetts with 102 passengers aboard. Today, there is an estimated 35 million Mayflower descendants worldwide. Join experts from American Ancestors for a three-part online course that will explore the many resources, record collections, and research strategies for verifying your connection to the Mayflower. We will also include several case studies demonstrating ways to break down brick walls, including an examination of using DNA to confirm a hypothesis.

This course includes three 90-minute classes; exclusive access to handouts and recordings of each presentation; and in-depth Q&A sessions with the instructors.

JOIN LINK

Click here to join the live broadcasts: <https://zoom.us/j/97684086029>

If you are unable to attend the live sessions, you will be able to view a full recording here on the course page.

COURSE SCHEDULE

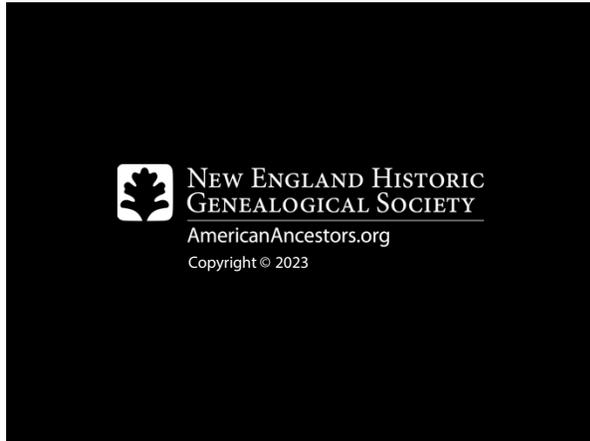
November 1 - Class 1: Getting Started: Mayflower Resources and Records
Presented by Lindsay Fulton

AmericanAncestors.org/verifying-your-mayflower-lineage-2023

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