



1



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3

Birth Record Substitutes

4

Birth Record Substitutes

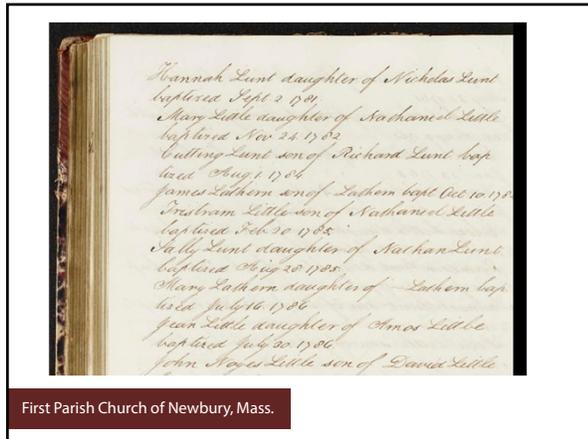
- Church Records
- Family Registers & Family Bibles
- Census Records - *1900 Census or 1901 Canadian*
- Cemetery Records or Gravestones
- Newspaper Resources - *Birthday anniversary*
- Naturalization Records
- Passports
- Military Pension Records



5

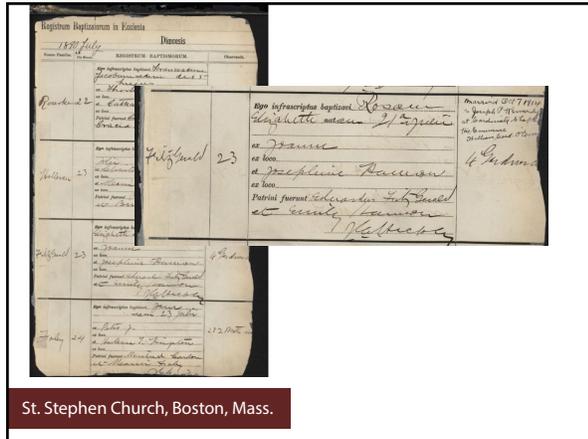
Church Records

6



First Parish Church of Newbury, Mass.

7



St. Stephen Church, Boston, Mass.

8



9

Family Registers

- Family registers were kept for recording vital records of a family.
- Originally designed simply or elaborately by hand.
- By the 19th century companies such as Currier and Ives were preparing preprinted family registers.
- Often these registers can record multiple generations of a family or families.

10



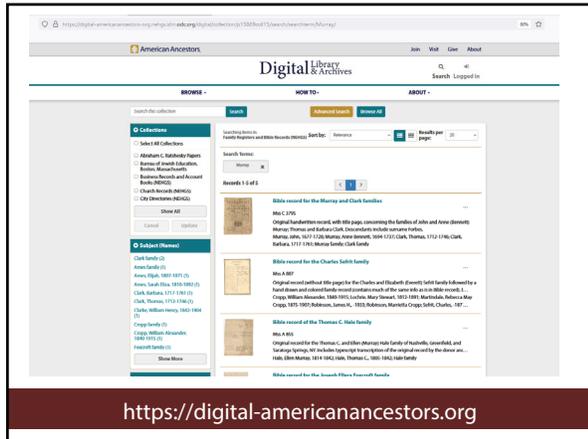
William Putnam Family Register - American Ancestors Ms 480

11

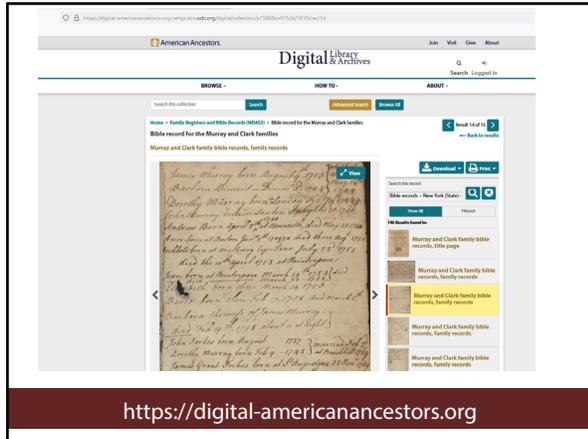
Family Bible Records

- Often recorded on a blank page or preprinted page of the Holy Bible between the Old and New Testaments.
- Occasionally family vital records are recorded on the covers, or on papers inserted into the bible.
- American Ancestors has hundreds of Family Bibles and Family Registers on the Digital Library & Archives section of AmericanAncestors.org

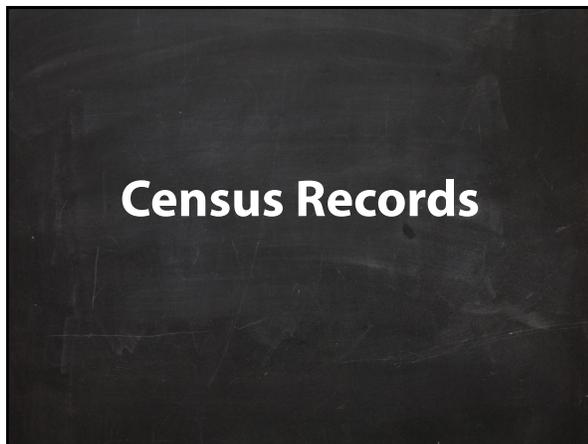
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18



22



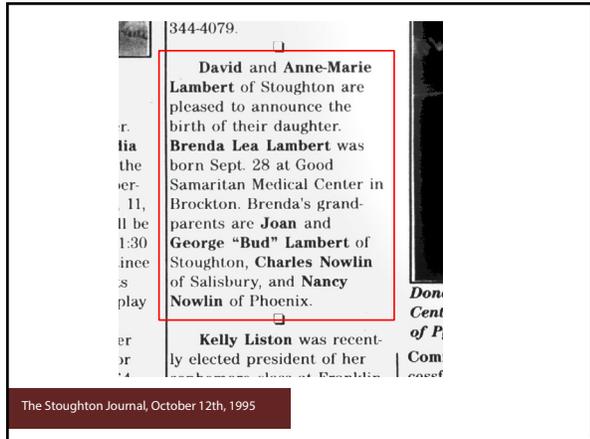
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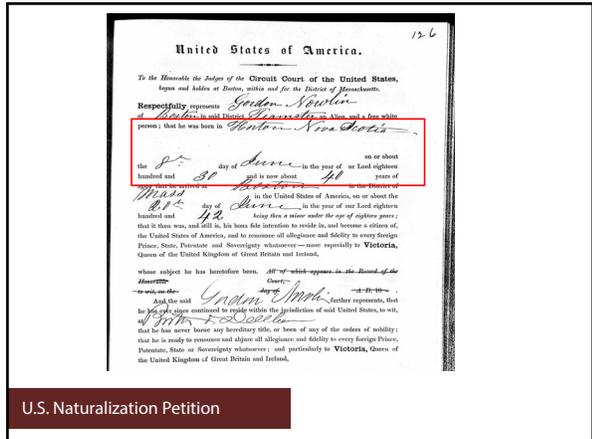
26



27

U.S. Naturalization Records

28



U.S. Naturalization Petition

29

U.S. Passports

30

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF New York
COUNTY OF New York

I, Babe Ruth, a NATIVE AND LOYAL CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES, hereby apply to the Department of State, at Washington, for a passport, accompanied by my wife Babe Ruth.

I solemnly swear that I was born at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, on or about the 7th day of Feb, 1894; that my father George H. Ruth, was born in Baltimore and is now residing at Baltimore.

U.S. Passport - "Babe" Ruth

31



32

ACT OF MAY 1, 1920
DECLARATION FOR PENSION

The Pension Certificate should not be forwarded with the Application

State of Massachusetts County of Worcester

On this 15th day of May, A. D. 1920, personally appeared before me, John M. H. [unclear], who being sworn according to law, declare that he is 78 years of age, and a resident of Worcester, and that he is identical person who was ENROLLED at Fortland, Massachusetts under the name of William F. Robinson, on the 18th day of October, 1861, as a private in Company B, 11th Regt. Maine Infantry in the service of the United States, in the 17th year of his age, and was HONORABLY DISCHARGED at Richmond Va., on the 17th day of October, 1861. That he also served at Seaboard, Virginia.

That he was not employed in the military or naval service of the United States otherwise than as stated above. That his pension description at retirement was as follows: Sergeant, 1861-1862, for 18 months.

That he was born July 11, 1842, at Stoughton, Massachusetts. That his several places of residence since leaving the service have been as follows: Stoughton, Massachusetts.

Declaration for Invalid Pension

33

Other Birth Record Substitutes

- Adoption Records
- School Records
- Employment Records
- Social Security Administration
- Passenger Lists – Births at Sea



34

Marriage Record Substitutes

35

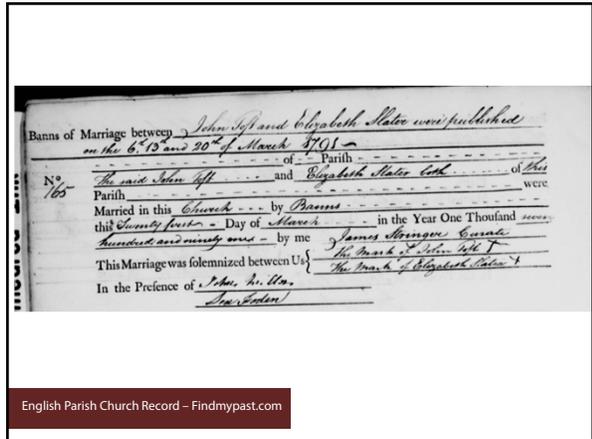
Marriage Record Substitutes

- Church Records – marriage and Marriage banns
- Marriage Intention and License
- Family Register and Bibles
- Census Records
- Newspaper Resources
- Military Widows Pension
- Divorce Records

36



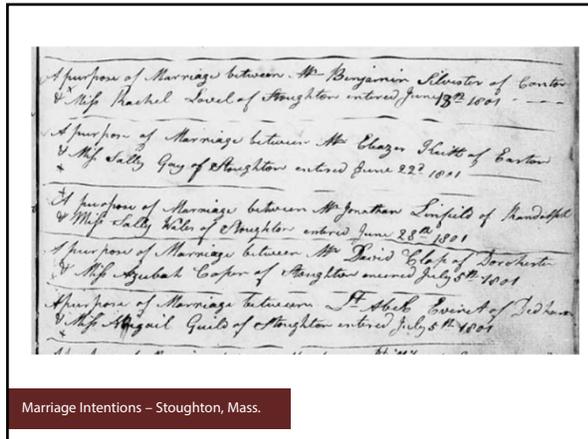
37



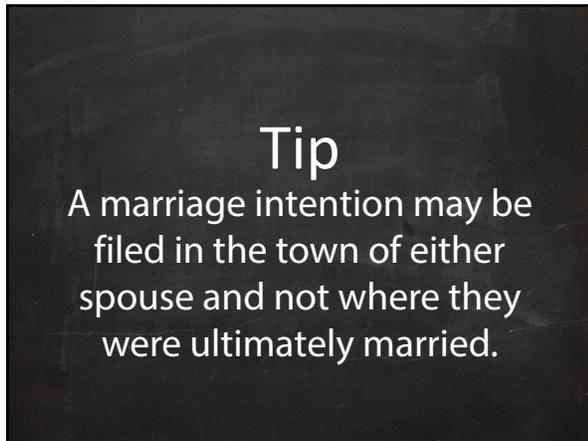
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41

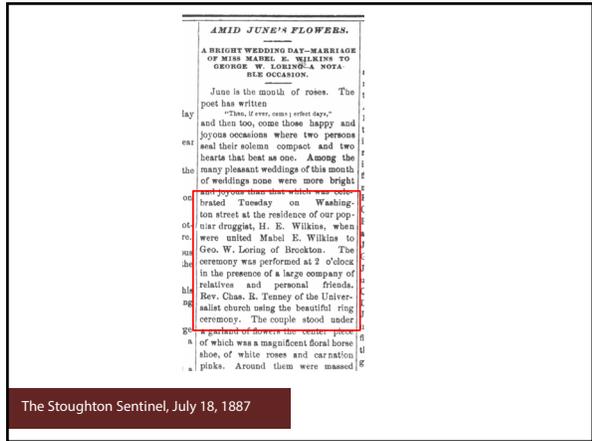


42



49

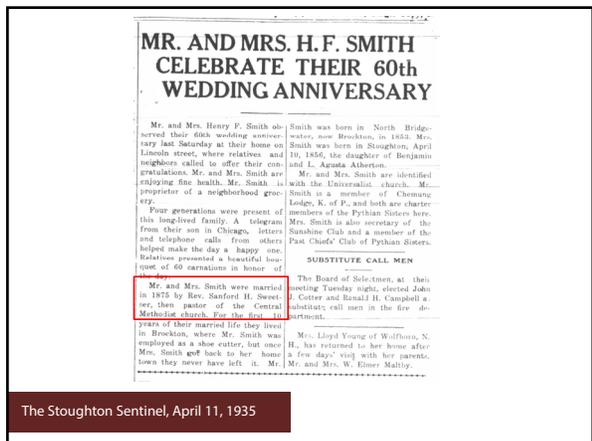
Seven horizontal lines for notes.



The Stoughton Sentinel, July 18, 1887

50

Seven horizontal lines for notes.



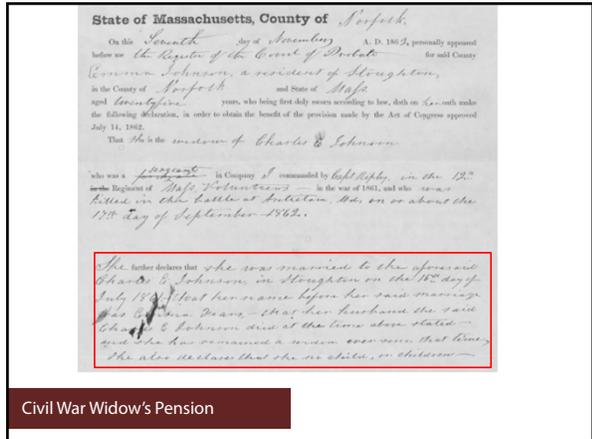
The Stoughton Sentinel, April 11, 1935

51

Seven horizontal lines for notes.



52

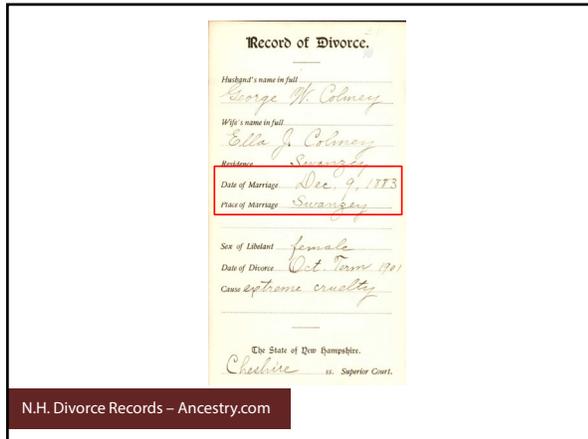


Civil War Widow's Pension

53



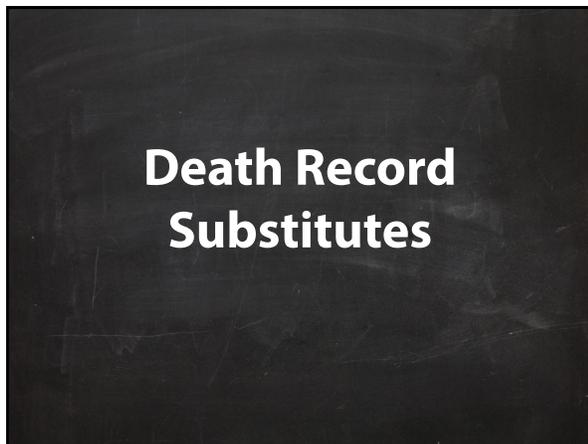
54



55



56



57

Death Record Substitutes

- Church Records
- Family Registers & Family Bible Records
- Newspaper Resources – Death notice, Obituary
- Census – Mortality schedule
- Coroner Reports
- Hospital Records
- Military Records
- Funeral Home Records

58

Church Records

59

Church Records

- Some denominations will include death, funeral and burial records in the volumes of church records recorded. This may include details to the cause of the parishioner's death.
- Often a diary of a clergyman may record more details about the death of a parishioner.
- Church membership lists indicating former members now deceased. These can date back until the 17th century for some parishes.

60

Church Cemeteries and Graveyards

- The church may oversee their own private graveyard or private cemetery.
- Burial records can include:
 - Internment records
 - Lot sales/transfers
 - Maps of the burying ground

67



Plan of the Burying Ground, Church of the Saviour, Jackson, North Carolina (FamilySearch)

68

19

Date of the payment for the Burial Lots

J. W. Weston paid \$25.00 for Lot No. 12. Jan 3rd 1853.

D. W. Bessie paid \$30.00 for Lot No. 6. Nov 16 1853.

Samuel Cabot, son paid \$40.00 for Lot No. 1. Feb 14 1854.

Thomas Bragg paid \$20.00 for Lot No. 7. May 5 1854.

John Randolph paid \$25.00 for Lot No. 11. May 8 1854.

H. H. Morgan paid \$40.00 for Lot No. 10. May 8 1854.

H. B. Hendry paid \$25.00 for Lot No. 2. April 4. 1855.

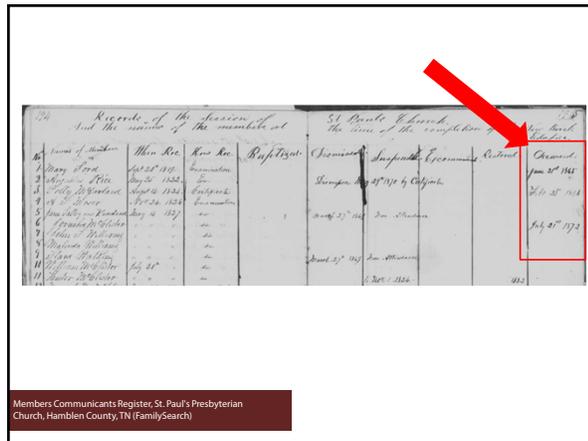
Payments for Burial Lots, Church of the Saviour, Jackson, North Carolina (FamilySearch)

69

Register of Communicants

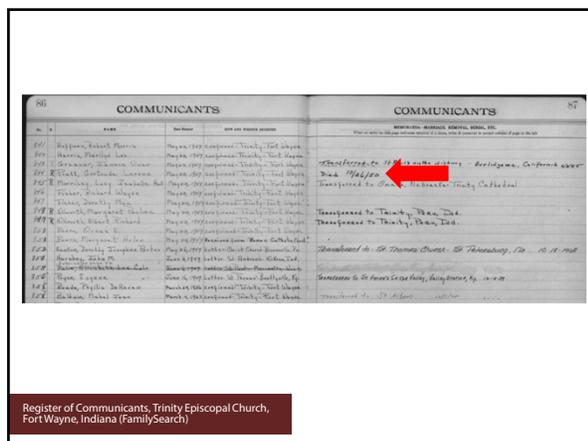
- Many churches kept an active log on the members of the church.
- These are an invaluable record set as vital records are noted (baptism, death), disciplinary measures taken, and dismissal date/location.

70



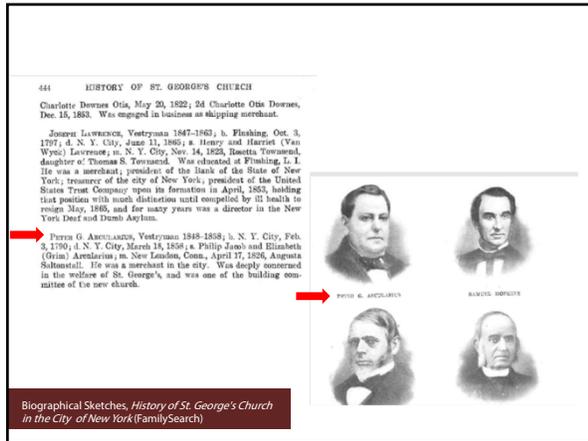
Members Communicants Register, St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Hamblen County, TN (FamilySearch)

71

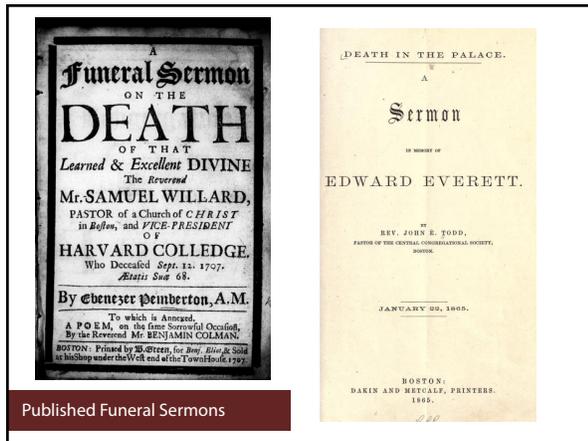


Register of Communicants, Trinity Episcopal Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana (FamilySearch)

72



73



74



75

Death Notices and Obituaries

- A death notice is often a preliminary notice to a longer more detailed obituary to be published in the newspaper the same day or the next issue.
- 18th through 20th century obituaries are often very limited if published in a larger urban American newspaper.
- Smaller town newspapers will often publish an obituary with details regarding the life, death and funeral of the resident.
- To locate a death notice or an obituary, often the exact date of death, and knowledge of the last residence is required.

79

Where to find newspapers

- Libraries: public and academic
- State Archives or Libraries
- State or local historical societies
- Newspaper Morgues
- Many online databases now exist to search American Newspapers since 1704
- Printed Sources



80



The screenshot shows the search interface for 'New York Evening Post: Death Notices, 1801-1890'. It includes search filters for First Name, Last Name, Years, Location, Volume, Page, and Keywords. There are also sections for 'Search Tips', 'Did you know?', and 'Browse This Database'.

81

DEATHS

New York Evening Post, Monday, November 16, 1801.

Yesterday, of a lingering illness, MISS SALLY CASEY, a young lady in the prime of life, of amiable disposition and accomplished manners, esteemed by a numerous acquaintance and much beloved by her intimate friends.

Monday, November 23

Suddenly on Thursday evening last, highly esteemed and much lamented, MRS. GRACE WALTON, consort of the late Abraham Walton, Esq.

Tuesday, November 24

This morning in the 20th year of his age, PHILIP HAMILTON, eldest son of General Hamilton - murdered in a duell between George I. Escker and Hamilton (story of the duell can be found in this newspaper).

On Friday morning, after a lingering illness, which she bore with christian fortitude, MRS. KUYPERS, the amiable wife of the Rev. G. Kuypers of this city.

New York Evening Post Death Notices, 1801
(AmericanAncestors.org)

82

Death Notice

- Place of birth mentioned, along with when he was a passenger on the Mayflower

Massfield, July, 22. Capt. Peregrine White of this Town, Aged Eighty three years, and Eight Months; died the 20th Instant. He was vigorous and of a comly Asp. & to the last; Was the Son, of Mr. William White and Susanna his Wife; born on board the Mayflower, Capt. Jones Com-mander, in Cape Cod Harbour, November, 1620. was the First Englishman born in New-England. Altho' he was in the former part of his Life, extravagant; yet was much Reform'd in his last years; and died hopefully.

The Boston News-Letter, 31 July 1704

83

CORCORAN—July 26, 1957, at his residence 2115, 45th Avenue, Long Island City, New York, Thomas James, fourth son of the late Thomas and Bridget Corcoran, Dillons-town, Dunleer, and brother of Very Rev. P. Corcoran, P.P. Collon, Co. Louth. Fortified by the Rites of Holy Church; deeply regretted by his sons, daughters, grandchildren, brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces and a large circle of friends, R.I.P. Interment took place after Requiem Mass in St. Mary's Church, in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

Irish Free Press - 7 Aug. 1957 (Irish Newspaper Archives)

84

American Ancestors Resources

← *Boston Transcript Obitis*




Columbian Centinel →

88

American Ancestors Resources

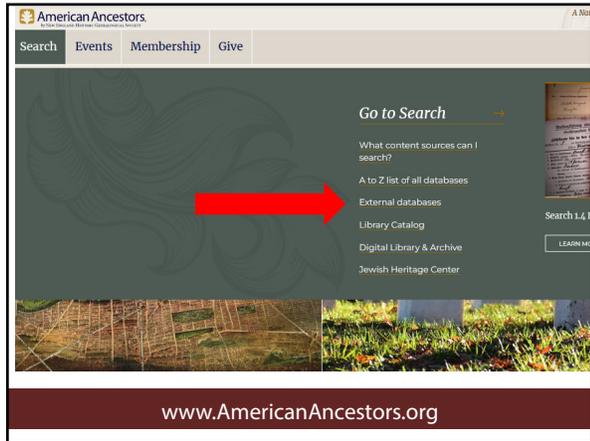
- AmericanAncestors.org
- Early American Newspapers, Series 1, 1690-1876 (remote access) over 1 million pages
- 19th Century U.S. Newspapers (remote access) 1.7 million pages
- *Boston Globe* since 1980 (remote access)
- *The New York Times* since 1985 (remote access)
- American Indian Newspapers (remote access)
- Missing Friends (database)
- Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center has digitized the *Jewish Times*

89

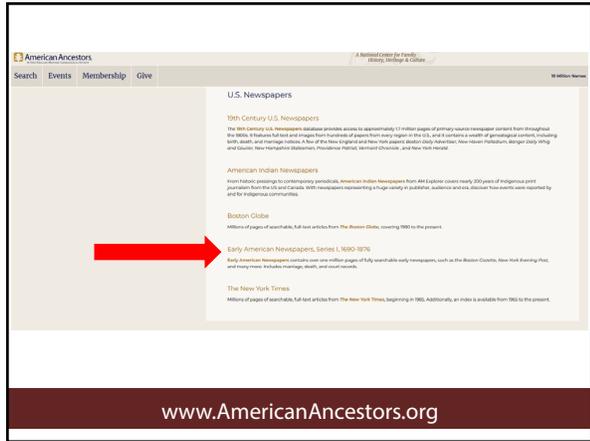
Digitized Newspapers

- Ancestry.com
- Cyndi's List www.cyndislist.com/newspapers
- GenealogyBank.com
- Google News news.google.com/newspapers
- Newspapers.com

90



91



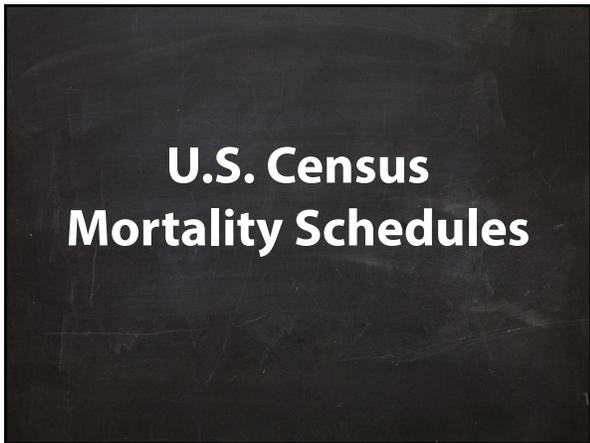
92



93



97



98

Mortality Schedules

- Mortality schedules record the name of the decedent, including age, race, marital status, and cause of death.
- Federal Mortality schedules were taken by census enumerators for the 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 Censuses.
- State Census Mortality for 1885 exists for Colorado, Florida, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, and South Dakota.
- The deaths recorded on the schedules occurred a calendar year previous to the date of the census enumeration. Example: The 1850 U.S. Census mortality schedule recorded deaths which occurred from May 31, 1849, until June 1, 1850.
- All mortality schedules 1850-1885 have been indexed and are viewable online at Ancestry.com

99



109

Why Call a Coroner?

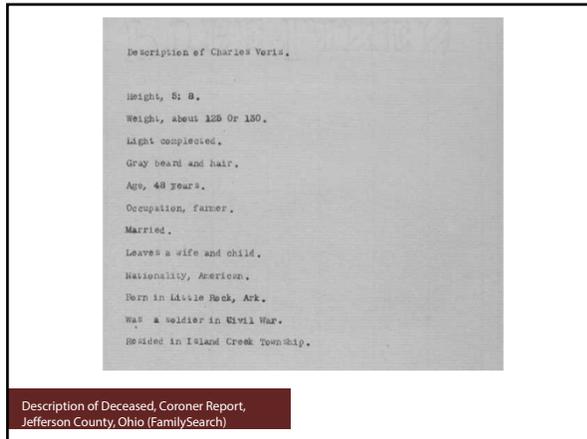
- A coroner may be called to complete an autopsy or physical examination on the body and confirm cause of death in the following cases:
 - Death caused by criminal violence
 - Unexpected death of an infant or child
 - Workplace injury
 - Unidentified body
 - Suspected drowning
 - Death by intoxication (drugs, alcohol)
 - Death while imprisoned
 - Motor vehicle accident
 - Suicide

110

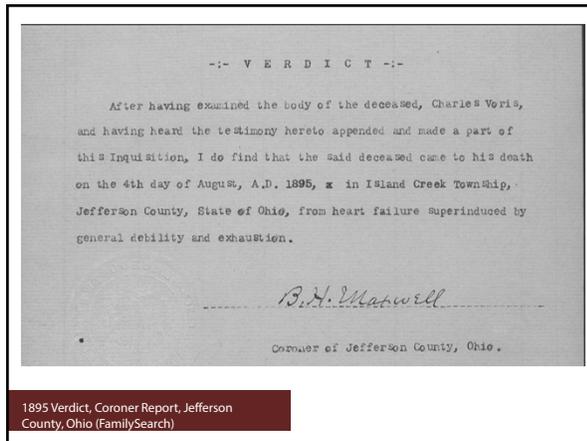
Coroner Inquest

- The body is examined, and witnesses may be interviewed to help determine cause of death
- The coroner inquest results are often printed in the local newspaper where the person died.
- Access to coroner reports is based on state laws where the person died
 - In some states the report may only be available to next of kin.

111



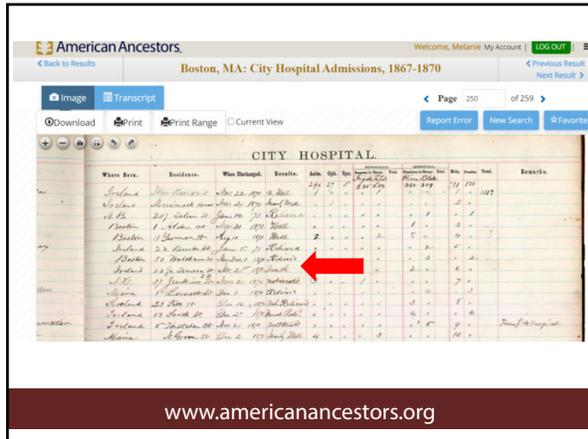
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113



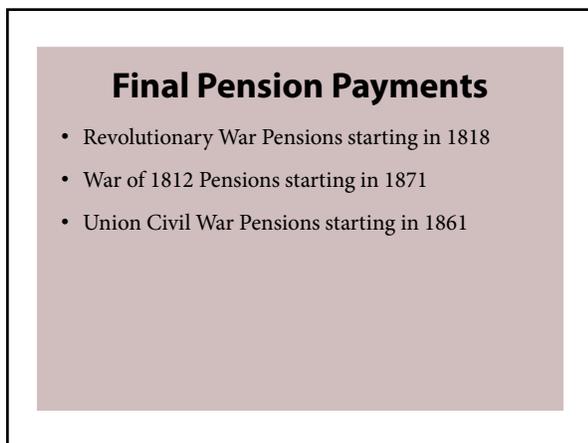
114



118



119



120

Bills and Receipts

- Bills and receipts for the veteran and his widow billable to the Pension Office
- Last payment to the veteran or widower

130

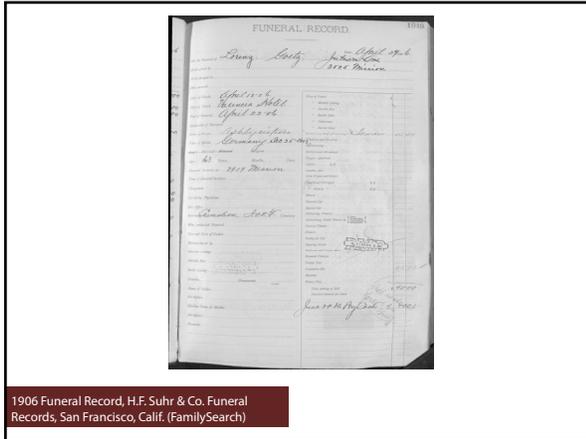
Funeral Home / Undertaker Records

131

History

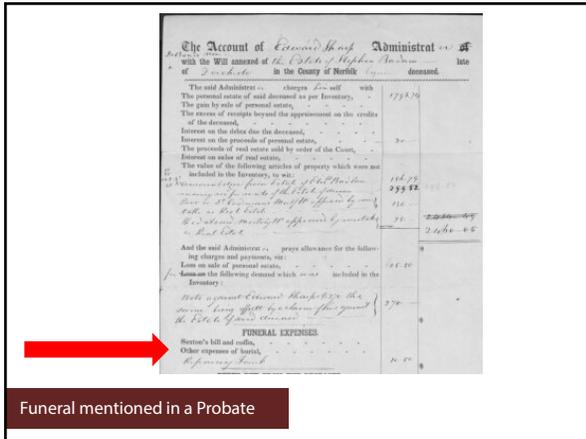
- The oldest funeral home in the United States is in Bucktrout, Virginia. It was founded in 1759.
- Before the mid-1800's the bodies of loved ones were displayed in the family's front room or parlor.
- Embalming became more popular following President Lincoln's assassination. His body was preserved for his nationwide funeral train.
- Families started seeking out funeral homes outside of their local area and transported bodies home for burial (particularly during the Civil War).
- Various memorial cards have been produced by funeral homes since the 19th century. Many memorials are simply virtual memorials in the 21st century.

132



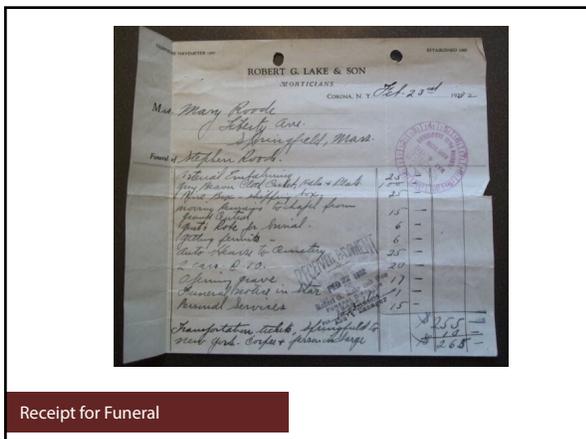
1906 Funeral Record, H.F. Suhr & Co. Funeral Records, San Francisco, Calif. (FamilySearch)

133



Funeral mentioned in a Probate

134



Receipt for Funeral

135

Ronald Guinan, Sr.
July 21, 1964 - July 27, 2022

Ronald Guinan, Sr. of Hyde Park, passed away on July 27, 2022. He was 58 years old.

Ronald was loved by everyone and had many friends. He was an incredibly hard worker who loved his cats Spooky and Puffy. He loved listening to Elvis, spending time with family and friends and having a good time. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Ronald was the loving husband of Nancy (Wiggins). Dear father of Ronald Guinan Jr. and his wife Mary Exick of Middleboro. Dear son of Janice (Brooks) Deaver of Hyde Park and the late Eugene F. Guinan. Dear brother of Eugene Guinan of Duxbury, Michael Guinan of Florida, James Guinan of Hyde Park and the late Debbie Guinan. Dear nephew of Phyllis Hunting of Florida. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to pay their respects to the family from 2 pm to 4 pm on August 18, 2022 at the Holy Resurrection Funeral Home, 8 Spring St. (at the corner of Centre St.) WEST ROCKBURY.

Contributions in Ronald's memory may be made to MSPCA-Angell, Attn: Donations, 350 South Huntington Ave. Boston, MA 02130.

Following the visitation, relatives and friends are invited to gather at the American Fogg Post located at 56 Harvard Ave. in Hyde Park.

Online Obituary from Funeral Home

136

Jesus have Mercy on the Soul of

Beatrice M. McDonald
Died
July 3, 1964

GENTLEST Heart of Jesus ever present in the Blessed Sacrament, ever consumed with burning love for the poor captive souls in Purgatory have mercy on the soul of Thy departed servant. Be not severe in Thy judgment but let some drops of Thy Precious Blood fall upon the devoting flames, and do Thou O merciful Saviour send Thy angels to conduct Thy departed servant to a place of refreshment, light and peace. Amen.

MAY the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

PETER J. BARRETT FUNERAL HOME
WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND

In Loving Memory of

Florence M. Lee
October 26, 1991

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred... let me sow love
Where there is injury... pardon.
Where there is doubt... faith.
Where there is despair... hope.
Where there is darkness... light
Where there is sadness... joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled... as to console,
To be understood... as to understand,
To be loved... as to love,
for
It is in giving... that we receive,
It is in pardoning, that we are pardoned,
It is in dying... that we are born to eternal life. St. Francis

Jones - Walton - Sheridan
Funeral Home
Cranston, Rhode Island

Memorial Cards

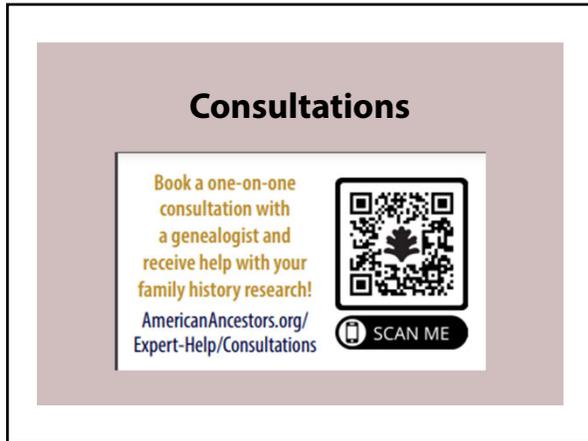
137

QUESTIONS?

Hire Research Services
research@AmericanAncestors.org

Chat with a Genealogist
AmericanAncestors.org/chat

138



139



140



141
