



Buried Treasures

Central Florida Genealogical Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 536309, Orlando, FL 32853-6309

Web Site: <http://www.cfgs.org> Email: cfgs@cfgs.org

Editor: Betty Jo Stockton (407) 876-1688 Email: bjstock@cfl.rr.com

The Central Florida Genealogical Society, Inc. meets monthly, September through May.

Meetings are held at the **Cultural Hall, Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints**
on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

The LDS Cultural Hall is located at 45 E. Par, Orlando, FL (at the corner of Par St & Formosa Ave)

The Daytime Group meets bi-monthly on the fourth Thursday afternoon of odd-numbered months at the **Winter Park University Club**. The Computer Special Interest Group meets bimonthly on the first Saturday of even-numbered months.

The Board meets year-round on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the LDS Cultural Hall.

All are welcome to attend.

Table of contents

President's Message.	50
Thoughts from your editor: Research Clues in Odd Places.	51
Economic Recessions Throughout History.	52
The Great Depression in Central Florida.	54
1918 Letter from James Clifford PATTERSON.	55
A Shortened Career: The Story of Lt. William GARDNER.	56
Truth or Goof: Where's the Proof?	58
Elizabeth KELTON, Wife of Bernice GRANGER of Pittsfield, Massachusetts.	60
Our Police Escort to a French Cemetery.	61
Will of John WHEELER of Charlotte Co, VA - 1819.	62
Internet Patience Pays Off - Again.	63
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.	64
Help – We're Underwater! Flood Damage and Genealogy.	66
State Census - 1885 Orange County, Florida.	67
Index.	70

Contributors to this issue

Pat ALLEN

Sallie BELPERCHE

Dick CONNELL

Dick EASTMAN

Paul ENCHELMAYER

Gregg GRONLUND

Betty KIESER

Leo MARION

Mary PENNER

Elaine POWELL

Betty Jo STOCKTON

Blanche WALLACE

President's Message

by Gregg GRONLUND

So many different things stimulate our interest in genealogy and our reasons for focusing on it and conducting our research.

At our recent Central Florida Genealogical Society monthly membership meeting, members shared their experiences with genealogy, sharing documents and artifacts that play a part in making genealogy so valuable to us. Whether a piece of silk from a parachute, a cigar mold, a passport from Switzerland, a handwritten wall size family chart, family records from a Bible preserved after being rescued from a barn, a barber's wall shelf with personalized shaving cups, a West Point diploma, or a tattered, worn copy of a published family history – each of these precious artifacts connects us with our families, with history, and with that ongoing curiosity that leads us to celebrate and engage in genealogical research. Some of these artifacts and documents are what get us started with genealogy in the first place. Think back to how you got started, and why you continue with your research.

Although I had always been interested in my family history, paying attention to family stories, and to who various relatives were that I met on family trips to Iowa and Minnesota, I did not truly get started in genealogical research until I worked in the Genealogy Department at the Orlando Public Library. Prior to moving back to Florida in 1991, while I lived in Madison, Wisconsin, I would frequently travel 3 hours away to visit my great aunts in Elkader, Clayton County, Iowa, where many of my ancestors had settled. I would ask my great aunt Alice Monlux, who was in her 80s at the time, for stories about the family, but she was of a generation who was not interested. "Oh, that's over and done with," she would say. "Who cares about that?" So I could not get any information out of her. She lived until 2001 when she died at the age of 95 and I never could get her to talk about the past.

When she entered the nursing home at age 90, my parents had to clean out and sell her house. In the process, they found many genealogical treasures. They asked Aunt Alice about the two antique Civil War era guns they found, and what she knew about them. But Aunt Alice only said, "Guns! I don't have any guns in my house!" She was the last living relative of her generation, so over the years, boxes of family belongings came to her and were stored in her extra bedroom; and we think she never looked at most of it. So we never found out what connection these guns had with the family. Among other things, my parents also found Civil War discharge papers; beautifully printed baptism & confirmation certificates; hundreds of photographs; and a variety of World War One bond drive documents, including a number of World War One bond drive posters. One document served to verify a family story we had heard all our lives, of which we had no proof. A distant relation was said to have had a try out in the 1910's or 1920's to play baseball with the Chicago Cubs. Sure enough, my parents found a contract from the Chicago Cubs verifying this often told story, which, of course, had always been told with great pride, even though this relative declined the contract, supposedly due to family pressure to stay at home on the farm!

So all of these things stimulate our research. And more current events do, too. As I mentioned, my job led me to get started in genealogy back in 1992. I was duly warned by my colleagues that, if I got started, I would be stuck researching for life. I heeded their warning, and plunged in anyway, and here I am today, still researching! I did a great deal of research on my father's side of the family in preparation for a family reunion back in 1998. I am now doing a great deal of research on my mother's side of the family, in preparation for her 80th birthday! It was very stimulating to see other genealogist's treasures and hear their stories. It is great to read about such things, and about resources, research tips, queries, etc., in publications like this one. And although we are all on the Internet these days, both surprised and delighted by the extensive material we can find there, it is good to remember to continue to use resources other than the Internet, such as genealogical society journals and newsletters, and the books in the library (where I just found transcriptions of three wills from the late 1700s, which I had not found online!). And remember to continue to attend meetings and conferences, to share your own stories and research, and to listen to stories of other genealogists' research. You never know what you might find out!

Thoughts from your Editor: Research Clues in Odd Places

by Betty Jo Stockton

Somehow, I've never learned to say "no" when someone asks me to talk about genealogy, so I'm currently in the process of preparing four talks – two to senior's groups about Family History Month and two at the LDS Family History Conference (one on using Personal Ancestral File to organize genealogical research and one on Oral History).

One of the topics for the Family History Month talks is reminding folks how gathering bits of memorabilia from around your home may help with identifying people and places. So, I've been back to digging through boxes to see just what I might have. As the self-appointed family historian, lots of family "stuff" has ended up with me, as older relatives die or move into retirement homes. Much of it doesn't even relate to my family – I just can't stand to see anything old being thrown away.

In the process of digging, it struck me that many of my "finds" were not the usual documents for genealogy. We expect to find information in birth and death certificates, family Bibles, etc, but that's only the beginning. So...a few of the more unusual sources I've found are:

- ★ My grandmother STALDER's address book - She wrote lists in the back of the address book of everyone's birthday, by month - including years on many of them. These were not only immediate family, but also neighbors and other family. There were also addresses for many distant cousins, which helps me figure out where others went when they left Ohio. (There were also lists of Christmas gifts - evidently I received an apron for my 3rd Christmas.)
- ★ My parent's ration cards issued in 1944. They give a physical description of each person in the family – i.e. Mother was 4' 10", weighed 96 pounds, had dark hair and eyes, and was 29 years old.
- ★ My aunt's marriage certificate - It was being used as lining in a dresser drawer that I inherited when she gave up her home. I wonder if she knew it was there.
- ★ My uncle's letter home from Germany, telling of the wonderful young lady he'd met and planned to marry. It must have worked, as they were married forty-five years.
- ★ An 8th grade graduation certificate from Dilsboro, IN for my grandfather STALDER - included with it was his teacher's certificate. Obviously an 8th grade education was fairly advanced.
- ★ My great grandfather UMBAUGH's discharge from the Sandusky, OH Old Soldier's Home. The family story was that he checked himself out because "he didn't want to live with those old people". He was 78 at that time and drowned a few weeks later swimming across Lake Lancaster in south Orlando.
- ★ My grandparent's marriage license - a huge certificate that was rolled up and separated from other papers. There was no record of a marriage, but I suspect that cohabitation for 40 years and raising eight children sort of indicates a marriage. It did show me something I need to follow up on.
- ★ A photograph of my father-in-law in with military group (with everyone identified on the back). This is puzzling, because I have his draft papers dated several years later. Was he in a guard unit of some sort?
- ★ A photograph of a group of people with one head circled and "Grandpa" written above it. By following up on this, I discovered a whole new branch of the family.
- ★ My father's brother, Walter KIESER's letters home during World War I. They didn't have much information, but seemed to confirm the dyslexia in the family. He spelled even worse than my dad did.
- ★ A letter from Johann Gottlieb GAMMERRINGER to his daughter (my great grandmother) bidding her farewell as she emigrated to America, saying that he would see her in heaven. The town name, written in tiny German script, was the clue I needed to get the family traced back to Horrheim, Germany.

I can see I'm going to need to be even more vigilant in my clearing out – who knows what might be in that seemingly worthless box of junk.

Economic Recessions Throughout History

by Dick EASTMAN

The world economies may be in for some rough times ahead. Let's call it a crisis, or even crises. Yet throughout history, every crisis has also brought opportunities. Indeed, our ancestors lived through many recessions and economic downturns. The end result was... us. Most of our ancestors survived the various economic problems of their day and went on to raise families and to prosper in various ways.

Many of us were born as a result of an economic crisis. How many of our ancestors lost their homes and then moved to other places for better economic opportunities? Upon arrival, they or their children met new potential spouses, married, and started new families. Indeed, many of us would not be alive today if it were not for economic crises.

Today's economic woes are nothing new. Indeed, far worse economic problems challenged our ancestors. Here are a few of the major recessions and depressions throughout history:

The Dutch Tulip Bubble of 1637

As much as the tulip is associated with Holland, it is not native there. Rather it was introduced in 1593 by a botanist named Carolus CLUSIUS, who brought it from Constantinople. Over the next several decades, tulips became a fad among the rich of Holland, and prices began to climb. Soon even ordinary bulbs were selling for extraordinary prices, and the truly rare bulbs were astronomical. This was a perfect example of the greater fool theory: no matter how much I pay, there will always be someone willing to pay more.

The height of the bubble was reached in the winter of 1636-37. Tulip traders were making (and losing) fortunes regularly. Then one day in Haarlem a buyer failed to show up and pay for his bulb purchase. The ensuing panic spread across Holland, and within days tulip bulbs were worth only a hundredth of their former prices. The tulip bubble had burst. The financial loss was so severe that the Netherlands suffered a depression that lasted for years. Even many who were wise enough to stay away from tulip bulb speculating lost their savings as a result of the general economic depression that resulted from the tulip bulb crash.

Panic of 1797 1797–1800

The effects of the deflation of the Bank of England crossed the Atlantic Ocean to North America and disrupted commercial and real estate markets in the United States and the Caribbean. Britain's economy was greatly affected by developing deflationary repercussions because it was fighting France in the French Revolutionary Wars at the time.

Depression of 1807 1807–1814

The United States Congress under President Thomas JEFFERSON passed the Embargo Act of 1807. It devastated shipping-related industries. The Federalists fought the embargo and allowed smuggling to take place in New England.

Panic of 1819 1819–1824

The first major financial crisis in the United States featured widespread foreclosures, bank failures, unemployment, and a slump in agriculture and manufacturing. It also marked the end of the economic expansion that followed the War of 1812.

Panic of 1837 1837–1843

Bank failures and lack of confidence in the paper currency caused a sharp downturn in the American economy. Speculation markets were greatly affected when American banks stopped payment in specie (gold and silver coinage).

Panic of 1857 1857–1860

Failure of the Ohio Life Insurance and Trust Company burst a European speculative bubble in United States railroads and caused a loss of confidence in American banks. Over 5,000 businesses failed within the first year of the panic, and unemployment was accompanied by protest meetings in urban areas.

Panic of 1873 1873–1879

Economic problems in Europe prompted the failure of the Jay Cooke & Company, the largest bank in the United States, which burst the post-Civil War speculative bubble. The Coinage Act of 1873 also contributed by immediately depressing the price of silver, which hurt North American mining interests.

Long Depression 1873–1896

The collapse of the Vienna Stock Exchange caused a depression that spread throughout the world. It is important to note that during this period, the global industrial production greatly increased. In the United States, for example, industrial output increased fourfold.

Panic of 1893 1893–1896

Failure of the United States Reading Railroad and withdrawal of European investment lead to a stock market and banking collapse. This panic was also precipitated in part by a run on the gold supply.

Panic of 1907 1907–1908

A run on Knickerbocker Trust Company deposits on 22 October 1907 set events in motion that would lead to a severe monetary contraction.

Great Depression 1929–1939

Stock markets crashed worldwide, and a banking collapse took place in the United States. This sparked a global downturn, including a second, more minor recession in the United States, the Recession of 1937.

Of course, most of us remember the Early 2000s recession when the collapse of the dot-com bubble, the September 11th attacks, and accounting scandals contributed to a relatively mild contraction in the North American economy.

I find it interesting that the great panics are always followed by periods of prosperity. Indeed, all economics seem to run in cycles: a downturn followed by an upturn. The upside to recessions is the fact that periods of expansion last about 5 times longer than recessionary periods.

The few who "keep their heads" during a recession tend to spot and act upon golden opportunities. For example: the other day I read an article on how billionaire American investor, businessman, and philanthropist Warren Buffet bought stocks and shares, spending billions, while most others were selling in panic. When everyone is complaining about the stock market going down, Warren Buffet is quietly looking for bargains to purchase. When the stock market starts looking better, he sells at a profit. Many other smart investors do the same: purchase stocks when everyone else is in a panic.

We have all heard the phrase "buy low, sell high" many times, but how many Americans actually follow that advice? Warren Buffet does and his success is legendary.

Will the current recession be the same? Will many people panic while a few crafty folks move in and make fortunes? I really don't know. I have no expertise as a stock market adviser or as a financial planner. But it strikes me that history is indeed repeating itself. Many of our ancestors lost their homes and all their possessions in the various recessions and panics of the times. However, they or their children almost always persevered and eventually prospered.

I am looking forward to the next ten or twenty years.

Posted by Dick EASTMAN on October 15, 2008. Read the weekly newsletter at <www.eogn.com>

The Great Depression in Central Florida

by Betty KIESER as told to Betty Jo STOCKTON

The depression started in 1928 in Orlando, a year earlier than it did in the rest of the country. Many Floridians were involved in real estate, often buying land for pennies on the dollar. My grandfather, Frank LEVI, had been in Central Florida for a number of years and had become quite wealthy – buying real estate on borrowed money and selling it before the loan came due.

My family had moved down from Ohio in 1921 and were well established in Orlando by 1928. Dad was a carpenter and builder, building houses both on speculation and for people who paid him to build them. We moved in with my grandparents for a few months (can you imagine their adding eight extra people to their two bedroom duplex?) while Dad built us a nice home on Illiana Ave (near Michigan and Orange Ave). We were well settled in, had saved our money and finally had enough money in the bank for a trip back to Ohio to visit the family we'd left behind. We'd bought a new car and planned to spend several weeks up north. Dad had several houses underway, so as soon as they were completed (and paid for) we'd be on our way.

Then disaster struck in 1928! The banks closed overnight – all our money was gone. The only money we had was what we had in our pockets. Dad's customers couldn't pay their bills, but he was determined not to owe anyone and paid all of his own bills for the materials he'd already committed to. No one realized what was in store.

Before long, money was really tight. Dad couldn't find any work - since no one had money to hire him. Granddad's loans became due – and he didn't have the money to pay them. He lost the real estate he'd invested in, and later his home in downtown Orlando. He and his wife (my step-grandmother) moved in with us. Now we had four adults and eight children living in our 3 bedroom home in south Orlando.

The only work Dad could find was working in the Pigly Wigly grocery, in the produce section. This had the one advantage that he was allowed to bring home any produce that was left over when the store closed. We ate lots of shopworn vegetables. Mom planted a big garden and there were always veggies to eat, but meat was a seldom seen luxury. Mom made all of our clothes, including underwear – from flour sacks that she and neighbors collected.

As soon as we were old enough, my older brother Curtis and I got jobs. I worked on Saturdays at the McCrory dime store – earning a dollar for a 12 hour workday. Curtis worked for a grocery distributor and earned a bit more, but still not much. When he finished high school in 1929, he was awarded a full scholarship to Emory University, but had to turn it down, since the family needed the money he was earning. The other six kids in the family were younger so they couldn't get jobs, though my brother Bill delivered papers from a very young age. He saved enough to buy a used bicycle to deliver the papers – and we all rode that one bike.

Dad finally gave up on finding work in Florida and went to Ohio to live with his sister's family – in hopes of finding work there. He seemed to lose heart eventually and was never again fully employed .

Eventually, we lost our house in south Orlando and moved to a rental home in Union Park. Curtis and I saved our money and bought a much used Hupmobile for \$25 so we could get to work. The car was so big - and I was so short - that I had to use two pillows to see over the hood of the car.

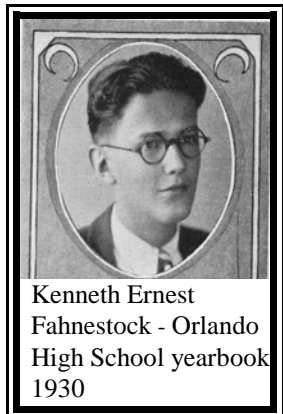
I'll never forget the morning that my Mom came into my room and asked if I had a nickle she could borrow so that she could buy milk for the little kids. I'd always "squirreled away" money, so I did have just one nickle. I can't think but what that must have done to her pride to be desperate enough to ask for money from a teen-aged daughter.

During the winters, my other grandmother (Medora Stalder COOPER) came down from Ohio to spend the winters with us. She had a Civil War pension of \$42 a month – we thought she was really rich. Each month, she took one of us kids downtown for a new pair of shoes. Of course, she bought what she thought we needed – fancy Mary Janes for the girls – when what we really needed were school shoes and sturdy clothes.

continued on page 65

1918 Letter from James Clifford PATTERSON

submitted by Pat Allen



This letter was written by my grandfather, James Clifford PATTERSON, to his step-daughter's son, Kenneth Earnest FAHNESTOCK, about 6 years old. The letter was written April 10, 1918. James Patterson died 10 days later on April 20, 1918. Kenneth's parents also died shortly thereafter as a result of the influenza pandemic of 1918. My father, George Beatty PATTERSON, who was a test pilot in the Air Service, became Kenneth's guardian. Kenneth used the Patterson name until he graduated from Orlando High School in 1930.

James Clifford PATTERSON retired to Orlando in 1900 from Brookline, Massachusetts, and found there were no banks in Orlando! So, he started the Peoples Bank (forerunner of SunTrust) and served as Chairman without pay so he'd have some place to put his money. He had been in the wool business up north.

The farm being referred to was my grandfather's property bordered by BUMBY, BENNETT, Colonial Drive and Corrine Drive. The farm which now includes Audubon Park and Fashion Square was sold in the 1920's for \$60,000 (less than one house is worth today). I never knew that the early pilots carried pigeons in their "flying machines!"

LAKWOOD FARMS

Orlando, Florida

April 10, 1918

Dear Kenny:

I want to tell you about the farm for you would find so many things there that you would like. Perhaps you would like the little boy best; he is four years old and a happy, jolly little chap, but he has no one to play with. There is a little brown pony so gentle that any boy can ride him. The boy's name is Tommy and the pony's is Teddy.

We have about 200 baby chicks and a lot of pigeons. Some of them are homers—the kind Uncle George carries in his airplanes--and some are Carneaux, the kind that produce the jumbo squabs. They have not been there long enough to have little ones, but they are laying eggs every day.

We have some Belgian hares, too—a father, mother and five babies. Then, there is a father cow and three lady cows, all Jerseys, and such milk! Yesterday, one of the cows found a beautiful calf. I wish you could see him skipping around the stable yard.

We have big fields of watermelons, cantelopes, corn, castor beans, Irish and sweet potatoes, cow peas, velvet beans, peanuts, chufas, sorghum, millet, rice, cassava, pumpkins, tomatoes and Natal grass and everything is growing very fast. We count upon having the earliest melons in the market. They will be ripe in about a month.

I forgot to mention another big field of Russian sunflowers which we grow for chicken feed, and I forgot to tell you about the pigs. We have four—two red Tamworths and two black Berkshires. I brought one of the black ones down from Maitland in my car though he would weigh more than you do. We put him into a sack and he kept very quiet except that once he said unk!kkk!!! I thought it was a Klaxon horn so I pulled off to the side of the road to let the other car pass. Wasn't that a joke on

s/Grandaddy

A Shortened Career: The Story of Lt. William GARDNER

by Leo D. MARION, <lmarion@cfl.rr.com>

The 5,000 ships rocked in the rough water off the coastline, the men battling seasickness. The target was dead ahead, a small crescent-shaped beach on the northern coast of France, closed in by rocky cliffs on both ends, code named "Omaha." The date was June 6, 1944, a day that went down in history as the turning point of World War II and as one of the bloodiest battles ever fought. One of the men waiting his turn to rush the beach – head was 1st Lieutenant William Gardner from Beverly, Massachusetts, a 28-year-old career soldier. Many years and many experiences had brought Lt. Gardner to this day.

Bill, as his friends and family called him, was the oldest of three boys and three girls born to William J. GARDNER and Irene Williams. His father operated a barbershop in Beverly while his mother tended to her home and children. At some point after his graduation from Beverly High School in 1933, Bill decided to pursue a career in the military. He began his training at the Stanton Military Academy in Cornwall, New York in preparation for study at the United States Military Academy at West Point. He received his appointment to West Point from his home state of Massachusetts and entered with the class of 1940.

During his first year at West Point, Bill excelled in sports, mainly boxing and lacrosse. He earned the nickname of "Porky" during this time because he was short and somewhat heavysset. It had always been Bill's desire to grow tall and even his high school yearbook spells out this wish. It was not to be. Bill slimmed down some but, his height and body shape remained the same throughout his life.

Because he took some time after high school to decide what he wanted to do with his life, Bill was several years older than most of his classmates. This fact combined with his steadfast character and strong will earned him the respect of his fellow cadets. Those close to Bill described him as easy going, but if provoked, he was a person to be reckoned with. One summer when he was still a teenager working on his grandfather's farm, he physically fought with a cousin over an issue no longer remembered.

Bill acquired a substantial amount of knowledge about West Point and took great pride in informing less knowledgeable cadets about the Academy. He was also very vocal about his home state of Massachusetts and frequently debated the Civil War with members of the Southern contingent. Unfortunately, the sports and all this extracurricular activity took time away from his studies, and at the end of his first year at West Point, Bill failed a mathematics class.

In December of that year, Bill returned to West Point with a greater sense of what was important. He chose to use the time he previously dedicated to sports as focused study time. Apparently this decision was a good one because he progressed through the program without any problems.

Bill did take time out from his studies to attend the various school socials put on for the cadets. Mrs. Eleanor DIXON and her teenage daughter, Patricia, regularly attended these events always bringing the boys home-baked goods and other snacks that weren't available in the school mess hall. Mrs. Dixon was well-liked and respected by the cadets, and Bill grew especially close to this family. He spent many holidays with the Dixons at their home in Greenwich, Connecticut, rather than making the longer trip home to Massachusetts.

After graduation from West Point, Bill was accepted for flight training in the Southwest. He soon found that his talents and abilities were better suited to other jobs in the Army, and he was reassigned to Fort Custer in Battle Creek, Michigan. During this time, Bill's relationship with the DIXON family changed dramatically. Mrs. Dixon had previously divorced her husband and assumed her maiden name of ARROTT. She joined Bill at Fort Custer, and they were married on December 17, 1941. Early the next year, Bill was reassigned to Iceland with the 5th Infantry Division and remained with them until his transfer to the 29th Division, 116th Regiment in 1943.

Bill spent the entire next year in preparation for the Normandy invasion. He earned the respect of his men by participating in the training exercises alongside them. As the invasion date approached, Bill simulated the actual landing using lights on a screen to replicate enemy fire on the beach. The next morning orders were received from

command headquarters to commence the attack on the enemy stronghold of Omaha Beach. The 116th Regiment was chosen to be one of the first groups to land on the beach. Leading them would be 1st Lieutenant William GARDNER as Executive Officer.

There are many accountings of what happened that fateful day in June of 1944. Central to every man's story are the horrors of heavy enemy mortar fire, the chaos of equipment failures and the loss of many fellow soldiers and friends. Two versions exist of Bill's experience on Omaha Beach.

In the first accounting, Bill had issued his final commands as he and his men approached the beach. Just as he instructed them to keep low when assaulting enemy positions, German mortar fire struck his landing craft, killing him and all his men. Another version stated that Bill made it to the beach but was killed as he returned to assist other soldiers who were wounded.

Containing only basic information, the notification of Bill's death received by his wife explained nothing of his actual experience on Omaha Beach. The notice had been prepared under battle conditions and sent with limited means of transmission so no one 'accurate' version of his death exists. A letter received from the War Department dated October 7, 1944 stated that Lt. Bill GARDNER had been awarded the Purple Heart for the sacrifice of his life in defense of his country.

Bill was initially buried in France not far from the area where many of his ancestors left their country hoping for a better life in North America generations earlier. Bill's West Point photo proudly sat on the mantle of his French-Canadian grandparents' farmhouse for more than 20 years until the house was finally sold and was no longer in the family. Even though the summers of his youth spent working and playing on the farm were long past, he was still a constant presence in his grandparents' lives.

After the war was over, Bill's wife had the option of leaving his remains in France or relocating them to the United States. She chose the latter, and Bill was buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery on April 23, 1948. In 1986 when Eleanor ARROTT GARDNER died, she was buried alongside her husband who she lost only a couple of years after their marriage.

First Lieutenant William GARDNER was destined for success, possessing all the qualities of a great leader - a strong will, good judgment, faithfulness to his men and a deep love of his country. He can rightfully claim his place as part of America's greatest generation.

Note from the author: In preparation of this story, I consulted the World War II writings of Stephen AMBROSE and Sgt. John Robert SLAUGHTER and the accountings of members of a D-Day reunion. I also went to Omaha Beach in 2004 to walk in Bill GARDNER's final footsteps and to attempt to imagine what he saw and felt on that fateful day. During this trip, the extremely knowledgeable Alain CHESNEL of Overlord Tours guided and directed me. Through him I discovered that an article about Bill GARDNER written by Paris Match a French magazine was published in celebration of France's liberation from Nazi occupation. In 2006, I stood before a simple marker in Arlington National Cemetery bearing the name of 1st Lt. William GARDNER. I paid my final respects and felt peaceful knowing that by researching and telling his story, I had done a small part to give 1st Lt. William GARDNER the tribute he deserved.

Sources:

West Point Alumni Foundation, Inc.; William Gardner 1st Lt., U.S. Army, Volume X July 1951.

D-Day June 6, 1944, The Climatic Battle of WW2, Simon and Schuster, 1994. by Stephen E. Ambrose, p. 343.

Omaha Beach and Beyond, Zenith Press, 2007, Sgt. Robert Slaughter, p. 90. Peter Dixon, Alexandria, VA

Alain Chesnel, Overlord Tours, Normandy, France

Arlington National Cemetery

Beverly High School, Beverly, MA

Researched and written by Leo D. MARION of Winter Springs, FL. Edited by Patricia Charpentier, (Writing Your Life) of Orlando, FL. This article has also been submitted to various other journals for publication and is printed here with the author's permission.

Truth or Goof: Where's the Proof?

by Mary PENNER

What is a fact? Google the definition of “fact” and you’ll get a variety of answers. Most definitions hinge on the concept of truth; so, a common definition would be that a fact is something that can be proven to be true. Then how do you define “truth?” Well, one definition asserts that truth is a fact that has been verified. We’re back where we started.

Abraham LINCOLN addressed the dilemma of truth by posing this question: “How many legs does a dog have if you call the tail a leg? Four -- calling a tail a leg doesn’t make it a leg.” That’s the “aha” moment for genealogists; simply saying your ancestor was born on such and such a date in such and such a place doesn’t make it so. Unless you can travel back in time and witness your ancestor’s birth, you’ll never know the absolute truth about that happy event. Even eyewitnesses to events can mangle the facts; just ask any police detective investigating a crime.

Genealogists frequently wrangle with these concepts of “facts” and “truth.” We try to figure out what is true, or factual, about our ancestral past and what is Pulitzer prize-worthy fiction. Pulling together an accurate family history is problematic because we rely largely on the efforts made by humans decades--even centuries ago. And humans, as we all know, are prone to blunders, miscalculations, carelessness, and gargantuan goofs. That’s why every time we collect a piece of information about our ancestors from a source we need to consider the reliability of the source.

In the genealogy world we distinguish sources in two ways: original and derivative. An original source is something in its original form usually created by someone with firsthand information about the details described in the source. A derivative source is anything that provides information apart from its original form.

For example, an original death certificate filled out by a physician who was present when the dearly deceased departed is considered an original source.

That original death certificate may have been sent to the state or county for safekeeping. And, maybe the county recorder transcribed all of the information from the death certificate into a ledger book. The ledger book would be considered a derivative source, even if the careful clerk accurately recorded everything from the original source.

That’s the kicker, though – just how careful were the recorders and transcribers of our ancestral comings and goings?

Maybe that physician had spent the last twenty hours helping to deliver a stubborn baby and when he arrived at Granddad’s deathbed he wasn’t quite sure what time it was, or even what day it was. In his sleep-deprived stupor, he might have mistakenly scribbled that Granddad expired on the 21st when it was actually the 31st. So, even though we have an original source the information may not always be true, factual, or reliable.

Keep in mind, also, that sources often contain two kinds of information: primary and secondary. Primary information comes from an actual participant or observer of an event. Secondary information is based on what people believe or claim to be true even though they don’t have firsthand knowledge of the event.

Since the good doctor was present at the death, the date and time of death and the identity of the deceased would be considered primary information regardless of whether it was accurate or not.

And, consider this scenario: death certificates often include place of birth and birth date. It was highly unlikely that the grieving widow, who provided those details to the doctor, witnessed her future husband’s birth. The birth information on the death certificate would be classified as secondary even though it’s documented on an original source. She may have believed that he was born in Linn County, Kansas, because that’s what he always said, but, perhaps, in reality, he was born in Lyon County, Kansas, and moved to Linn with his family when he was six months old.

You can see how easy it is for errors to creep into both original and derivative sources, and for primary and secondary information to be inaccurate despite the good intentions of those who provided the information.

When juggling primary and secondary information in both original and derivative sources, you also need to consider the type of the evidence. Evidence can be direct or indirect. Direct evidence provides information without any need to ponder the conclusion. For example, you want to know Granddad's date of death. You look on his death certificate and there's the date right there in black and white (never mind, at this point, that the date is incorrect). Indirect evidence, on the other hand, doesn't clearly provide the answer to your question. You have to draw on several different sources to reach a conclusion.

Let's assume Granddad's death certificate burned in a courthouse fire, but, fortunately, the probate records were saved. Granddad's file doesn't list his date of death, but it does have dates scattered through the file that give you an idea when he died. Plus, you found his name listed in a local store ledger four months before the probate case opened. Using indirect evidence, you're getting closer to drawing a reasonable conclusion about his date of death. That's assuming, of course, that the store clerk didn't keep Granddad's name on the account even though he was dead, and it was really Granny who bought the tobacco and not Granddad.

So, what's a genealogist to do when facing an assortment of documents with all of these truths, half-truths, educated guesses, unfortunate mistakes, and flat-out lies? Turn to the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS).

Adopted by the Board for Certification of Genealogists, the GPS serves as a standard for credibility in the genealogy world. Genealogical research should satisfy the five elements of the GPS in order to establish confidence in our research conclusions. The five elements are:

1. Conduct a reasonably exhaustive search. Death dates pop up on a number of different sources. I shouldn't assume that Granddad died on the 21st just because the death certificate says so. Look at all available sources to confirm his death date.
2. Cite your sources. Anyone can manufacture a family history; but if the research can't be verified through identifiable sources, it lacks credibility.
3. Analyze and draw conclusions based on your research. Think critically about the data you've found. How reliable is the source, the information, and the evidence?
4. Resolve conflicting evidence. Even though the death certificate lists Granddad's death on the 21st his tombstone lists it as the 31st. Further research should help you determine which death date is the most probable.
5. Create a written account of your research. We should compile our research, our conclusions, and our sources into a coherent written document.

After all that, you now have research that you will be proud to pin your name to. Until, of course, a new document surfaces that shoots your conclusions all to heck. That is why genealogies are rarely shifted to the out box with an emphatic "DONE" stamped on them.

Originally published in the *Ancestry Weekly Journal*, 7 Sep 2008. "We encourage the circulation of the *Ancestry Weekly Journal* via non-profit newsletters and lists providing that you credit the author, include any copyright information (Copyright 2008, The Generations Network and its subsidiaries.), and cite the *Ancestry Weekly Journal* as the source, so that others can learn about our free newsletter as well." Subscribe to the free *Weekly Journal* at <<http://learn.ancestry.com/Home/HMLND.aspx>>

Editor's Note: This issue was begun in September, but not completed until early November. Therefore there will be some discrepancies in dates... i.e. my note written in late October on the *Depression in Central Florida* article in this, the summer issue.

Elizabeth KELTON, Wife of Bernice GRANGER of Pittsfield, Massachusetts

By Richard A. CONNELL

For more than four decades, I had searched for the identity of the wife of my third great-grandfather, Bernice (*BURR-ness*) GRANGER. He was born at Sandisfield, Massachusetts, in 1783 and died at Pittsfield, Massachusetts, on 9 May 1813, son of David⁵ (*David⁴, Thomas³⁻², Launcelot¹*) and Abiah (“Abi”) Elizabeth (LEONARD) Granger. The primary Granger genealogy, *Launcelot Granger of Newbury, Mass., and Suffield, Conn.: A Genealogical History*, said that Bernice GRANGER was “m. to _____.”¹ Bernice’s wife had always been listed as “unknown.” Nowhere had I ever found anything to identify his wife.

Four years ago (2004), thanks to the Internet, the first clue came to light. Searching in Heritage Quest Online, I found *First Church in Pittsfield, Confession of Faith and Catalogue of Members, January 1, 1834*. Listed is “Elizabeth (BERNICE) GRANGER, (Widow),” who joined that church in 1820.² This provided a first name for the wife of Bernice GRANGER.

The New England Magazine, yielded the next clue. An article entitled “Necrology For February” states, “Mrs. Elizabeth GRANGER died at Pittsfield, Mass., at the age of one hundred and two years and nine months. She was a native of Northampton.”³ This clue brought forth two facts: her birth about May 1785, and that she was born in Northampton. This item was found in a Google search⁴ on her name, as was the next: *Proceedings In Commemoration of the Organization in Pittsfield, February 7, 1764, of the First Church of Christ, February 7, 1889*, page 127. A list of deceased members includes, “Elizabeth GRANGER . . . 1785 – 1888.”⁵ This confirms the birth and death years.

The final piece of the puzzle came much by chance while browsing in the Godfrey Memorial Library’s newspaper archives. I entered the search name of Elizabeth GRANGER and came up with this obituary from the *New York Times*. The heading read, “Over A Hundred Years Old.” The obit continues:

“PITTSFIELD, Mass., Feb. 4. – Mrs. Elizabeth GRANGER died here to-day at 1 o’clock at the age of nearly 103 years. She was born in Northampton, Mass., May 8, 1785. Her maiden name was KELTON. She came to Pittsfield in 1810, when she married Bernice GRANGER, who died in 1813, since which time she has lived on Penn-street. She is thought to have been the oldest woman in the State. She was a member of the First Congregational Church for 66 years, and remembers distinctly when Lafayette visited Pittsfield.”⁶

Once her name was known, it was possible to locate Elizabeth’s death in Pittsfield vital records. It does give her exact her exact age at death which agrees with the birth date in the obit of 8 May 1785. However, while it named her father John KELTON, it did not name her mother or provide their birthplaces.⁷

Elizabeth KELTON, baptized at Northampton on 12 April 1786, is the daughter of John⁸ and Rachel (WAIT) KELTON, who were married in Northampton on 4 June 1772.⁹ It is said that John came from Boston in 1751, at age 4 or 5 with

continued next page...

¹ James N. Granger, *Launcelot Granger of Newbury, Mass., And Suffield, Conn.: A Genealogical History* (1893), 127, 231.

² *First Church in Pittsfield, Confession of Faith and Catalogue of Members, January 1, 1834* (Pittsfield, Mass.: P. Allen & Son, 1834), 28.

³ “Necrology For February,” *The New England Magazine*, Boston, 6 (1888):301.

⁴ In 2008 google.com is an Internet search engine.

⁵ *Proceedings In Commemoration of the Organization in Pittsfield, February 7, 1764, of the First Church of Christ, February 7, 1889* (Pittsfield, Mass.: Press of the Sun Printing Co., 1889), 127.

⁶ *The New York Times*, February 5, 1888, online at godfrey.org, 6.

⁷ Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 391:61.

⁸ Walter J. Corbin, *The Corbin Collection: Volume I: Records of Hampshire County, Massachusetts*, CD-ROM (Boston: NEHGS, 2003), from First Church records.

⁹ *Ibid.*, from First Church records.

Our Police Escort to a French Cemetery

by Sallie BELPERCHE

My husband John and I traveled to Europe several years ago. This wasn't your ordinary tourist trip; it was a "walk in the footsteps of the ancestors" trip. The largest village we visited in France was Corbie, population about 6,400. Although I've learned to read and translate the French handwriting, neither of us speaks the language.

We entered *la mairie* (town hall) and spoke English to the receptionist. She immediately said we wouldn't be able to see any records. We could have probably protested that, as records are public information after 100 years. But, since I've extensively used LDS microfilms, I wasn't interested in records. Actually, I'm not sure what I wanted! We did ask about telephone directories; there were no BELPERCHE names listed.

We then inquired about burials; all *cimetières* (cemeteries) appeared to be town-owned, as opposed to being owned by a church. The receptionist sent two *gendarmes* (policemen) to search the records for BELPERCHE and PÉCHIN. In a few minutes they returned with information on Belperche; Péchin is a very common surname in that area, so it wasn't feasible to list all those burials. We have no idea if the police are normally involved with cemetery records in any manner, but they certainly seemed to know where the records were kept.

The policemen indicated they would lead us to the cemetery and, as it turned out, to the graves!

They waited until we retrieved our rental car, then we followed them to the cemetery. They accompanied us into the graveyard and located several graves they thought we might be interested in.

In France, as in some other European countries, burial isn't necessarily forever. They've been burying their dead for much longer than we have in the United States and have less land available. Therefore oftentimes remains are dug up if the graves aren't maintained properly and the site re-used.

Although we didn't locate the final resting place of any of John's ancestors, we'll always remember being escorted to the cemetery by the French police!

Elizabeth KELTON... continued from previous page

Captain Samuel CLARK. He was a veteran of the Revolutionary War, serving from 1776 to 1783. He died of consumption, in poverty.¹⁰ Rachel Kelton died in Northampton on 22 August 1837 at age 84.¹¹

According to his Revolutionary War pension file, John was age 71 when he deposed on 30 March 1818, so he was born about 1747. He died on 4 February 1828. Rachel deposed on 4 April 1837 saying she had turned 84 the previous December. The file also contains evidence from Northampton church records of their marriage. Many years later, in early January 1848, "Elizabeth GRANGER, daughter of Rachel KELTON pensioner deceased, sent to Commonwealth Bank in Boston her power of attorney to William Clark Jr." in order to receive "payment of the amount due to her."¹²

John KELTON owned no property at his death and had no probate file that might have identified his daughter Elizabeth's husband. While Bernice GRANGER's wife's name and death record identified her origins in Northampton, it was only this unexpected letter in her parents' pension file that clinched her married identity.

Richard A. CONNELL <rconnell@cfl.rr.com> is a member of Central Florida Genealogical Society and is a fifty-year-plus family historian. He is a retired professional accountant and a Colonel, U. S. Air Force (Retired).

¹⁰ Ibid., from the "Northampton Genealogies" transcribed from Vol. 4, Northampton, of the Judd Manuscript compiled by Sylvester Judd, which is owned and kept by the Forbes Library at Northampton, Mass.

¹¹ Ibid., from Northampton vital records 1:473.

¹² John and Rachel Kelton, Revolutionary War Pension, W21612, selected papers viewed at Heritage Quest Online.

Will of John WHEELER of Charlotte Co, VA - 1819

I John WHEELER senr. Of the county of Charlotte do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following First I desire that all my Just debts be paid and five pounds to each of my Executors hereafter named.

2nd I lend to my Beloved Wife Elenor all my Estate Both Real and personal of every description whatever during her life, except her Riding saddle bridle and a small Walnut Chest, them I give her.

3rd I give to my daughter Elizabeth SUMPTER, all the property of every description, that she has now in her possession heretofore lent her by me.

4th I Give to my son William WHEELER all the property of every description heretofore lent him by me. 5th I Give to the heirs of my late son John WHEELER, Jr all the property of every description, heretofore lent him by me.

6th I Give to my daughter Sarah BERKLEY all the property she now has in her possession, of every description, heretofore lent her by me.

7th I Give to my son James WHEELER all the property of every description heretofore lent him by me. 8th I Give to the six children of my deceased daughter Susannah WALKER all the property of every description with its increase that was heretofore lent her by me, and is now in the possession of Gabriel WALKER to be equally divided Between them, or as many as may be living at such division.

9th I Give to my son George WHEELER all the property of every description heretofore lent him by me.

10th I give to my daughter Mary Alliga? REYNOLDS all the property of every description, heretofore lent her by me.

11th I give to the heirs of my late son Samuel WHEELER all the property of every description, lent my said son in his lifetime by me. I also give to his Widow Rhoda WHEELER all that part of my land lying on the south side of Little Bear Creek, Whereon she now lives, to be enjoyed by her as her property during her life or so long as she Remains the Widow of Samuel WHEELER dec'd. At her death or marriage it is my Wish that the said land be equally divided or sold and the proceeds equally divided Between the children of my said son Samuel WHEELER as may seem best for their Interest which must be determined by their Guardians.

12th After the death of my Wife Elenor, I Give the Whole of my Estate Both Real and personal to be divided into nine Equal parts and given as follows, to wit, Elizabeth SUMPTER one part, William WHEELER one part, the children of my son John WHEELER dec'd. one part, Sarah BERKLEY one part, James WHEELER one part, the children of Susannah WALKER one part, George WHEELER one part, Mary Alliga REYNOLDS one part and the children of Samuel WHEELER deceased one part - and last I do appoint my friends Wm. MCKINNEY and Charles MCKINNEY my Executors to this my last Will and Testament hereby Revoking all former Wills by me made. In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and afixed my seal this 19th day of March one thousand eight hundred and seventeen

Signed in presence of

John HANNAH Samuel HUNTER John WHEELER sen'r. T.S.

Richard NORTH

At a court held for Charlotte County the third day of May 1819

This Last Will and Testament of John Wheeler sen'r. dec'd. was presented in Court and the same was proved by the oaths of John HANNAH, Samuel HUNTER and Richard NORTH the Witnesses thereto subscribed and ordered to be Recorded. At the motion of William MCKINNEY one of the Exectors therein named who made oath according to law, probate of the said Will is granted him on giving Bond and security, Whereupon he with Benjamin MARSHALL and Nathan HARVEY is securities entered into and acknowledged their Bond according to law for that purpose

Teste William L. MORTON Ct.C.

continued next page....

Internet Patience Pays Off - Again

by Paul ENCHELMAYER

Back in 1998 I created a simple web page at the Family Tree Maker website. Users of the popular genealogy software program were invited to create a free website for their family history research information. The page would be located at the Family Tree Maker website and be searchable through their internal search engine. I had already created such a page on my personal website, posted queries on Message Boards and Mailing Lists at RootsWeb, and thought that little if anything would result from putting anything further at this commercial location. However, I flipped a coin and decided to go ahead and create a simple page at their site.

I introduced myself on the page with a few paragraphs of my research pursuits, including several surnames and locations along with dates. I included some photos of family and ancestors. Among the names were ENCHELMAYER, SAUER, SEYPELT, KLOK, and MUTH, all very German, but each line had its share of brick walls. I took the added step of including various spellings and misspellings of each name, just in case someone searched for one of those spellings. That was in 1998. Over the years I have visited that page only to update my email contact address.

In October 2008, less than a week ago as I write this, I had one of those stand-up-and-cheer! moments when I received an email out of the blue from someone who had recently seen my page at Family Tree Maker, the page I thought never had a chance! He was searching for the descendants and ancestors of Charles F. MUTH, a successful Cincinnati honey manufacturer of the nineteenth century. Charles F. MUTH is my great-great grandfather (my mother's father's mother's father.) As it happens, this fellow researcher is my third cousin, once removed. He is Frederick Muth GLEASON and lives in Asheville, NC. I was unaware of his entire line of descendancy from Charles F. MUTH until now.

In a flurry of emails we have swapped data, sources, photos, charts, old letters and have begun a new collaborative friendship. Of course a few of our dates and names don't match exactly, but that's what makes it more interesting

I had a similar experience about five years ago when someone found my surnames on the RootsWeb Message Board. In that case I was able to break through another brick wall and so did she as we swapped vital data and documents. That experience was so amazing, I felt it could never happen again and was just a fluke occurrence. What would be the odds of it ever happening again? As you can see, the odds are pretty good. In my lectures on various genealogy topics, I try to make the point that getting your genealogy names online is essential to successful collaborative research - but be patient, very patient, for possible results. [surnames: ENCHELMAYER, GLEASON, KLOK, MUTH, SAUER, SEYPELT]

Will - John WHEELER continued from previous page

Truly Recorded William L. MORTON Ct. C.

Side marginal note: 1833 August 6 - Made disbursement _____ to Joel MCKINNEY

Inventory recorded June 12, 1819

Appraisal [seems to be partial - slaves only] dated Dec 28, 1833/recorded Jan 6, 1834

Accounting w/Wm. MCKINNEY, executor, covers 1819-1824

John Wheeler is the 4th great grandfather of CFGS member, Sallie Belperche

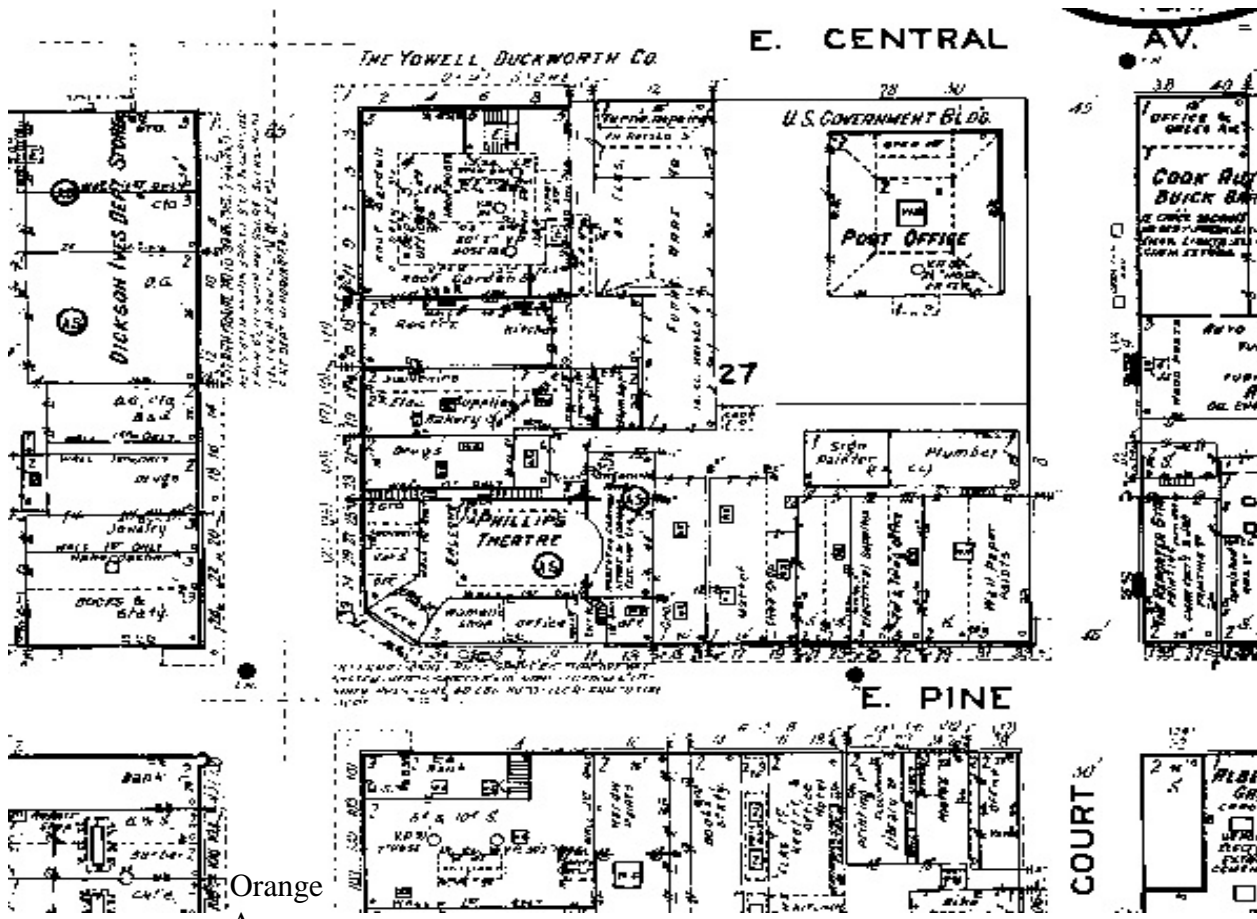
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

by Betty Jo STOCKTON

I was surprised to learn that many genealogists have never heard of the Sanborn Maps. These maps of cities and towns can be a great genealogy resource. Founded in 1867 by D. A. Sanborn, the Sanborn Map Company was the primary American publisher of fire insurance maps for nearly 100 years. Their maps were designed to help insurance companies estimate the potential risk for urban structures. These maps are gradually becoming available online.

The maps include information such as the outline of each building, the size, shape and construction materials, heights, and function of structures, location of windows and doors. The maps also give street names, street and sidewalk widths, property boundaries, building use, and house and block numbers. They often give textual information on construction details (for example, steel beams or reinforced walls) on the plans and indicate different building materials with shading. Extensive information on building ranges from symbols for generic terms, such as stable, garage, and warehouse, to names of owners of factories and details on what was manufactured in them. In the case of large factories or commercial buildings, the maps even record individual rooms and their purposes. Other features shown include pipelines, railroads, wells, dumps, and heavy machinery.

In most cases, these maps do not list the owners' names. However, if you have already found your ancestor's address in a city directory or elsewhere, you can now look at a map of his or her property by accessing the Sanborn Maps.



Orlando in 1919

The Sanborn Map Company kept updating their maps every few years. In some cases, seven or eight different editions of the maps are available, showing both urban growth and even a limited amount of migration trend information. Sanborn maps are valuable historical tools for urban specialists, social historians, architects, geographers, genealogists, local historians, planners, environmentalists, and anyone who wants to learn about the history, growth, and development of American cities, towns, and neighborhoods.

Many of these maps are now online through various state historical websites and some are available at the Orlando Public Library or through the Family History Centers. The University of Florida website has more than 3,000 map sheets for cities in Florida, including Orlando maps for 1884, 1887, 1892, 1897, 1903, 1908, 1913 and 1919. The Genealogy Department of the Orange County Library System has Sanborn maps on microfiche for Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, and Virginia.

Florida: <www.uflib.ufl.edu/ufdc/?c=sanborn>

Sanborn Maps of Missouri: <mulibraries.missouri.edu/specialcollections/sanborn.htm>

Utah: <www.lib.utah.edu/digital/collections/sanborn>

South Carolina: <www.sc.edu/library/digital/collections/sanborn.html>

Alabama: <alabamamaps.ua.edu/historicalmaps/FireInsurance/1_County%20Index.html>

Georgia: <dlg.galileo.usg.edu/sanborn/?Welcome&Welcome>

Charlottesville, VA: <fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/maps/sanborn/about.html>

Indianapolis, IN: <indiamond6.ulib.iupui.edu/SanbornJP2/>

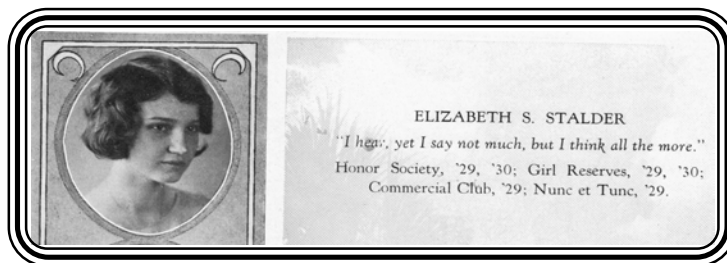
St. Louis, MO: <cml.upenn.edu/nola/14maps/L3mapspgsanborn.html#>

and many more...

The Great Depression continued from page 54

We struggled financially for a number of years. I'd met Bob KIESER and we wanted to get married – but both of our families depended on the money we earned. We were not able to get married until 1936, when my brother Curtis was offered a really good job in Jacksonville, working for Greyhound Bus Line. The whole family moved with him, leaving me behind, so we could get married. We continued to support Bob's mother until she died in 1941.

My family laughs at me now – since I'm really uncomfortable when I don't have a good bit of cash in hand. Hopefully now they'll realize why.



Elizabeth (Stalder) Kieser
Photo from Orlando High School yearbook 1930

Editors Note: My Mom, Betty (STALDER) KIESER, passed away on October 17th while this article was in progress. I'd heard these stories enough that I've completed it in her words. Even 80-odd years after the Great Depression, she still "squirrelled away" money, used every scrap of food, and grew as much as she could – old habits die hard.

Help – We’re Underwater! Flood Damage and Genealogy

by Elaine POWELL

We have talked in CFIGS publication in the past about how to protect your genealogy papers, books, photos, and documents in case of a major disaster or loss. However, have you ever thought about how to protect from a smaller disaster? I wrote an article for *Treasure Chest News* years ago about how to handle flood damage to photos, documents, and papers! Just two weeks ago, we had a flood in our home. We came home to two inches of water in my genealogy office and other places in our home, never knowing I’d need it myself! I have a bad habit of putting my canvas bags (that contain papers of recent research trips and committees that I am on) on the floor when I get home. I also had my computer CPU tower directly on the floor as well as a mound of cords and plugs, a battery backup, and even some recent genealogy books I had purchased. I also had cardboard boxes stacked high with 25 years of genealogy papers that aren’t in file cabinets or in binders. What a mess I had!

While my husband was sucking up the water with our wet vac, I immediately called my insurance agent and even though it was 10 p.m. on a Saturday night, there was a way to link to an emergency operator to report my flood. The insurance operator contacted a Water Recovery company for me and they were at my house within two hours. They brought in huge dehumidifiers (four of them) and **twelve** large fans, which remained in my house for three days. (Thankfully the total water recovery bill was covered by insurance.) We removed the wet carpet and padding and they helped us put my desks up on wooden 2x4s that I had in our garage. I quickly got my loose papers and books off of the floor and put them on towels. I picked up my computer tower and also put it on a towel. Later on I opened it up and found that my two hard drives (one a backup!) were on the very bottom of the CPU tower box. So I was instructed by my son (who owns a computer company) to unplug my hard drive to see if there was water on the plugs. (There was none.) So he then told me to put the tower outside in the sun for an hour or so with the side off to dry up any moisture that might be in there. I then plugged it in. It worked! However, the fan slows down from time to time, which is probably due to the moisture that got in the unit. Thankfully the computer is still under warranty, so I can call the manufacturer and ask them to send me a new fan.

Luckily my two desks had no permanent damage. But I have learned a valuable lesson! I purchased a CPU stand at an office supply store, one that is on wheels, making it easy to roll it out to plug into the back. It also keeps the tower 2 ½ inches off the floor. That is the highest the water would ever get in my house, as the water would just keep moving from room to room and out doors eventually (as ours had started to do). I also will keep all wires and plugs off the floor and up on a stand; some I will tie up to the underside of my desk.

I took the books that had gotten wet and stood them up on end and put a fan on low to blow on the pages and then I turned the pages from time to time while they were drying so that they would not stick together. I took the papers out of the cardboard boxes that were on the floor and put them in another box. From now on, the box that is on the bottom of the pile will be plastic! The books are okay, just somewhat “swollen,” but they are not moldy or permanently damaged.

I was lucky because I didn’t lose anything of monetary or sentimental value. Our carpet will be replaced. We found that the water line break was caused because our water pressure is 80 lbs. and it blew out a water line and our hot water heater at the same time. The pressure is supposed to be no higher than about 65, so the county is now involved in testing our whole subdivision and will eventually put in a pressure regulator.

I wrote this article to encourage you to pay attention to where you keep your genealogy papers and your computer. Please take a look at where you keep your files and computer with new eyes and imagine what would happen if you had a flood. Take action now to prevent a disaster.

State Census - 1885 Orange County, Florida

(Film M845 Roll #10 at Orlando Library & Archives;#088971 at Family History Center and on Ancestry.com.)

Page	House hold	Name	Race	Age/ Sex	Relation to head of household	Marital status	Birthplace of self/ father/ mother	Occupation
1	7	JORDEN, E	B	28 M	Husb	M	GA/GA/SC	Laborer
1	7	Jorden, Mattie	B	32 F	Wife	M	GA/GA/GA	
1	7	Jorden, Wesley	B	11 M	Son	S	GA/GA/GA	
1	7	Jorden, Julia	B	7 F	Dau	S	GA/GA/GA	
1	8	PENNELTON, David	B	27 M	Husb	M	FL/VA/VA	Laborer
1	8	Pennelton, T? A.	B	24 F	Wife	M	FL/NC/SC	
1	8	Pennelton, F. M. R.	B	5 F	Dau	S	FL/FL/FL	
1	8	Pennelton, O. J?	B	3 F	Dau	S	FL/FL/FL	
1	8	Pennelton, H. W.	B	- M	Son	S	FL/FL/FL	born January
1	9	FOSTER, James	B	24 M	Husb	M	SC/SC/SC	
1	9	Foster, Hattie	B	22 F	Wife	M	SC/SC/SC	has malarial fever
1	9	Foster, David	B	- F	Dau	S	FL/SC/SC	born January
1	10	FLOOD, James	W	35 M	Husb	M	Eng/Ire/Ire	Laborer
1	10	Flood, Elizabeth	W	30 F	Wife	M	GA/GA/GA	
1	10	Flood, Viola	W	9 F	Dau	S	GA/Eng/GA	
1	10	Flood, James	W	8 M	Son	S	GA/Eng/GA	
1	10	Flood, John	W	7 M	Son	S	GA/Eng/GA	
1	10	Flood, Dean	W	4 M	Son	S	GA/Eng/GA	
1	11	BREMEN, John	W	23 M	Bach	S	NY/NY/NY	Laborer
1	12	ANDERSON, Kenut	W	28 M	Husb	M	Swe/Swe/Swe	Laborer
1	12	Anderson, Anna	W	19 F	Wife	M	Swe/Swe/Swe	
1	12	Anderson, Geo	W	1 M	Son	S	FL/Swe/Swe	
1	13	Anderson, A	W	24 M	Bach	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	Laborer - broken leg
1	14	SIMMONS, J. S.	W	48 M	Husb	M	SC/NC/SC	Farmer
1	14	Simmons, M. E.	W	48 F	Wife	M	AL/Sco/VA	
1	14	Simmons, Belle	W	19 F	Dau	S	MS/SC/AL	
1	14	Simmons, J. D	W	17 M	Son	S	MS/SC/AL	
1	14	Simmons, W. E.	W	14 M	Son	S	MS/SC/AL	
1	14	Simmons, H. E.	W	8 M	Son	S	FL/SC/AL	
2	14	Simmons, M L	W	6 F	Dau	S	FL/SC/AL	
2	15	HILL, J E	W	60 M	Head	M	SC/SC/SC	Fruit grower
2	15	Hill, L S	W	42 F	Wife	M	SC/Sco/Ire	
2	15	Hill, V B	W	27 M	Son	S	AL/SC/SC	Nursery man
2	15	Hill, C H	W	22 M	Son	S	AL/SC/SC	Fruit grower
2	15	Hill, A F?	W	17 F	Dau	S	AL/SC/SC	
2	15	Hill, L S	W	15 F	Dau	S	AL/SC/SC	
2	16	Hudson, G E	W	26 M	Bach	S	AL/OH/SC	Farmer
2	17	Hill, T P	W	32 M	Head	M	AL/SC/SC	Farmer
2	17	Hill, M C	W	20 F	Wife	M	SC/SC/SC	
2	17	Hill, C	W	3 F	Dau	S	FL/SC/SC	
2	17	STEAVENTSON, J	B	13 M		S	GA/NC/SC	Laborer
2	17	Haynes, O P	B	27 M		S	FL/VA/FL	Laborer
2	17	NEWBORN, G	B	26 M		S	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
2	17	COOK, R L	B	22 M		S	FL/SC/SC	Laborer
2	18	COOMBS, P D	W	40 M	Head	M	ME/ME/ME	Farmer
2	18	Coombs, E A	W	36 F	Wife	M	ME/ME/ME	

Page	House hold	Name	Race	Age/ Sex	Relation to head of household	Marital status	Birthplace of self/ father/ mother	Occupation
2	18	Coombs, M? F?	W	4 F	Dau	S	ME/ME/ME	
2	19	DAWSON, G F	W	48 M	Head	M	PA/PA/SC	Lawyer
2	19	Dawson, M P	W	50 F	Wife	M	PA/PA/PA	
2	19	Dawson, A P	W	24 M	Son	S	PA/PA/PA	
2	19	Dawson, C W	W	23 F	Dau	S	PA/PA/PA	
2	19	Dawson, M R	W	21 F	Dau	S	OH/PA/PA	
2	19	Dawson, E	W	19 F	Dau	S	OH/PA/PA	
2	20	NEVINS, Dr. R H	W	32 M	Head	M	NY/RI/RI	Ice Mfg
2	20	Nevins, R B	W	30 F	Wife	M	RI/RI/RI	
2	20	Nevins, H B	W	7 M	Son	S	NY/NY/RI	
2	20	Nevins, R H	W	5 M	Son	S	NY/NY/RI	
2	20	Nevins, FW	W	3 M	Son	S	FL/NY/RI	
2	20	WALKER, D? or I?	W	22 F	Servant	S	Sco/Sco/Sco	Servant
2	20	ZACERIAS, Mary	W	25 F	Servant	S	VA/VA/VA	Servant
2	20	TINGLEY, W R	W	30 F	Boarder	S	CT/CT/CT	Servant
2	20	GRIFFIN, J	B	18 M		S	FL/-/-	Laborer
2	21	?PRENTIS, J C	W	25 M	Bach	S	CT/CT/CT	Farmer
2	22	POTTER, F H	W	35 M	Head	M	PA/PA/ME	Lawyer
2	22	Potter, A R	W	28 F	Wife	M	MD/-/-	
2	22	Potter, F H	W	3 M	Son	S	Fra/PA/MD	
2	22	SMITH, Lizzie	W	28 F	Servant	M	Ire/?/?	Servant
2	22	FLEMING, Ellen	W	25 F	Servant	S	Ire/?/?	Servant
2	22	DOCKERTY, Ellen	W	24 F	Servant	S	Ire/?/?	Servant
2	22	FEENEY, Mary	W	20 F	Servant	S	Ire/?/?	Servant
2	22	CABERET, Leona	W	24 F	Servant	S	Fra/Fra/Fra	Nurse
2	22	WILEY, Edward	B	34 M		S	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
2	23	ATWOOD, E N	W	26 M	Head	M	ME/NH/ME	Engineer
2	23	Atwood, M C	W	24 F	Wife	M	GA/MA/GA	
2	23	Atwood, E M	W	2 F	Dau	S	FL/ME/GA	
2	23	CLYDE, A? or J? F	B	26 M		M	MD/MD/MD	Laborer
2	24	CAMPBELL, C H	W	28 M	Head	M	GA/-/-	Ice Agt
2	24	Campbell, R B	W	24 F	Wife	M	MD/VA/VA	
There is no page 3								
4	36	STURDEVENT, Ella	W	19 F	Dau	S	AL/AL/AL	
4	36	Sturdevent, A	W	15 F	Dau	S	AL/AL/AL	
4	36	Sturdevent, R	W	13 F	Dau	S	AL/AL/AL	
4	36	BIGELOW, Millie	W	26 F	Dau	W	AL/AL/AL	
4	36	MADISON, Thomas	B	17 M	Servant	S	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
4	37	PERDEW, Martha	W	50 F		W	GA/NC/NC	Housekeeper
4	37	TURNER, Cora	W	23 F		S	FL/FL/FL	Seamstress
4	37	CHATMAN, Wm	W	30 M		S	CT/-/-	Laborer
4	38	TURNER, James	W	71 M	Head	M	KY/NC/VA	Farmer
4	38	Turner, Jennie	W	45 F	Wife	M	NY/NY/NY	
4	38	ELYESTON, A C	W	19 F	Boarder	S	PA/NY/NY	
4	39	LAWSON, T? H	W	27 M	Bach	S	GA/GA/GA	Fruit grower
4	39	WILLIAMS, Pack	B	19 M		S	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
4	40	EVANS, C M	W	25 M	Head	M	GA/AL/GA	Section Master
4	40	Evans, M E	W	19 F	Wife	M	GA/GA/GA	
4	40	Evans, A B	W	3 M	Son	S	FL/GA/GA	
4	40	Evans, C M	W	1 F	Dau	S	FL/GA/GA	
4	41	SMITH, Joseph	B	22 M	Head	M	AL/AL/AL	Laborer
4	41	Smith, Nancy	B	22 F	Wife	M	FL/GA/GA	
4	41	IVEY, Madison	B	19 M		S	AL/AL/AL	Laborer
4	41	GRANT, Luke	B	22 M		S	SC/SC/SC	Laborer
4	41	CHAPPEL, Rob	B	28 M		S	SC/SC/SC	Laborer
4	41	BAKER, Silas	B	23 M		S	FL/NC/NC	Laborer
4	42	McMURAY, F G	W	43 M	Head	M	GA/GA/GA	Horticulturist
4	42	McMuray, Emma	W	34 F	Wife	M	GA/NC/SC	

Page	House hold	Name	Race	Age/ Sex	Relation to head of household	Marital status	Birthplace of self/ father/ mother	Occupation
4	42	McMuray, C A	W	1 M	Son	S	FL/GA/GA	
4	42	NIMONS, W E	W	20 M	Boarder	S	CA/GA/GA	Carpenter
4	43	SAVAGE, A L	W	36 M	Head	M	SC/SC/SC	Laborer
4	43	Savage, E	W	32 F	Wife	M	FL/FL/FL	
4	43	Savage, Clara	W	2 F	Dau	S	FL/SC/FL	
4	43	Savage, Minnie	W	Jan F	Dau	S	FL/SC/FL	
4	44	TOWNSEND, W W	W	49 M	Head	M	PA/PA/PA	Dentist
4	44	Townsend, M R	W	49 F	Wife	M	AL/AL/AL	
4	44	Townsend, Annie P	W	16 F	D	S	AL/PA/AL	
4	44	Townsend, J C	W	13 M	S	S	GA/PA/AL	
4	44	KING, E M	W	23 M	S	S	GA/GA/AL	
4	44	TIMBERLAGE, S M	W	22 M	Boarder	S	GA/VA/GA	Farmer
4	45	MCDONALD, J G	W	46 M	Head	M	PA/Sco/Sco	Farmer
4	45	McDonald, C	W	53 F	Wife	M	PA/PA/PA	
4	46	SMITH, J C	W	30 M	Head	M	FL/NC/SC	Farmer
4	46	Smith, Elizabeth	W	20 F	Wife	M	GA/GA/GA	
4	46	Smith, J E	W	4 M	Son	S	FL/FL/GA	
4	46	Smith, Susan	W	65 F	Mother	W	SC/SC/SC	
4	47	BEASLEY, John	W	28 M		D	GA/GA/GA	Farmer
4	48	SIMMONS, C H	W	39 M	Bach	S	ME/ME/ME	Farmer
4	49	SELF, B J	W	37 M	Head	M	GA/SC/Eng	Farmer
4	49	Self, H S	W	37 F	Wife	M	GA/GA/GA	
4	49	Self, G W	W	12 M	Son	S	FL/GA/GA	
4	49	Self, Mary	W	11 F	Dau	S	FL/GA/GA	
5	49	Self, E A	W	9 M	Son	S	FL/GA/GA	
5	49	Self, S B	W	7 M	Son	S	FL/GA/GA	
5	49	Self, H M	W	- M	Son	S	FL/GA/GA	born July
5	49	DRIGGERS, Elizabeth	W	71 F	Mother	W	GA/GA/NC	
5	50	MOREMAN, A	W	55 M	Head	M	KY/VA/KY	Farmer
5	50	Moreman, S E	W	50 F	Wife	M	KY/Ire/KY	
5	50	Moreman, A R	W	24 F	Dau	S	MO/KY/KY	
5	50	Moreman, AW	W	22 M	Son	S	KY/KY/KY	
5	50	Moreman, May	W	17 F	Dau	S	KY/KY/KY	
5	50	Moreman, Minnie	W	10 F	Dau	S	MO/KY/KY	
5	51	RENAKER, Ardor	W	31 M	Head	M	KY/KY/KY	Farmer
5	51	Renaker, Mer	W	30 F	Wife	M	KY/KY/KY	
5	52	FORD, J A	W	64 M	Father	M	KY/KY/KY	Farmer
5	52	LANE, L V	W	21 F	Dau	W	IL/KY/KY	Housekeeper
5	52	Lane, L H	W	6 M	G Son	S	CA/CA/IL	
5	52	Lane, Wm	W	5 M	G Son	S	CA/CA/IL	
5	52	Lane, Perl	W	2 F	G Dau	S	CA/CA/IL	
5	53	PARTIN, J B	W	41 M	Head	M	GA/GA/GA	Farmer
5	53	Partin, M R	W	33 F	Wife	M	GA/GA/GA	
5	53	Partin, L P	W	15 F	Dau	S	FL/GA/GA	
5	53	Partin, N E	W	13 F	Dau	S	FL/GA/GA	
5	53	Partin, C A	W	10 M	Son	S	FL/GA/GA	
5	53	Partin, J E	W	8 M	Son	S	FL/GA/GA	
5	53	Partin, J C	W	3 M	Son	S	FL/GA/GA	
5	54	DENNING, C	W	50 M	Head	M	NC/NC/NC	Farmer
5	54	Denning, M M	W	25 F	Wife	M	IL/Eng/IA	
5	54	Denning, J G	W	10 M	Son	S	IL/NC/IL	
5	54	Denning, O P	W	8 F	Dau	S	IL/NC/IL	
5	54	WEBSTER, W W	W	20 M	Boarder	S	IL/-/-	

Extracted by Blanche WALLACE

continued next issue...

Index

Anderson.	67	Klok.	63
Arrott.	56	Lane.	69
Atwood.	68	Lawson.	68
Baker.	68	Leonard.	60
Beasley.	69	Levi.	54
Belperche.	61	Lincoln.	58
Bennett.	55	Madison.	68
Berkley.	62	Marion.	56, 57
Bigelow.	68	Marshall.	62
Bremen.	67	McDonald.	69
Bumby.	55	McKinney.	63
Caberet.	68	McMuray.	69
Campbell.	68	Moreman.	69
Chappel.	68	Morton.	62, 63
Chatman.	68	Muth.	63
Clark.	61	Nevins.	68
Clusius.	52	Newborn.	67
Clyde.	68	Nimons.	69
Connell.	60, 61	North.	62
Cook.	67	Partin.	69
Coombs.	67	Patterson.	55
Cooper.	54	Péchin.	61
Dawson.	68	Pennelton.	67
Denning.	69	Penner.	49, 58
Dixon.	56	Perdew.	68
Dockerty.	68	Potter.	68
Driggers.	69	Powell.	66
Eastman.	52, 53	Prentis.	68
Elyeston.	68	Renaker.	69
Enchelmayer.	63	Reynolds.	62
Evans.	68	Sauer.	63
Fahnestock.	55	Savage.	69
Feeney.	68	Self.	69
Fleming.	68	Simmons.	67, 69
Flood.	67	Smith.	68, 69
Ford.	69	Stalder.	51, 65
Foster.	67	Steavenson.	67
Gammerdinger.	51	Stockton.	51, 54, 64
Gardner.	56, 57	Sturdevent.	68
Gleason.	63	Sumpter.	62
Granger.	60, 61	Timberlage.	69
Grant.	68	Tingley.	68
Griffin.	68	Townsend.	69
Gronlund.	50	Turner.	68
Hannah.	62	Umbaugh.	51
Harvey.	62	Wait.	60
Haynes.	67	Walker.	62, 68
Hill.	67	Wallace.	69
Hunter.	62	Webster.	69
Ivey.	68	Wheeler.	62, 63
Jefferson.	52	Wiley.	68
Kelton.	60, 61	Williams.	68
Kieser.	51, 54, 65	Zacerias.	68
King.	69		