

## Genealogy 104®

## Genealogy U

*Your Speaker*

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### Genealogy U Handouts

[http://waterford.lib.mi.us/  
content/genealogy-u-handouts](http://waterford.lib.mi.us/content/genealogy-u-handouts)

### Today's Topics

- Naturalization Records
- Maps & Geographic Information
- Military Records
- Land Records
- Tax Records
- Source Citation Techniques
- Brick-Wall Busting Techniques

### Part I

## Naturalization Records



## Naturalization Records



- Naturalization Generally a Two Step Process
  - Took a Minimum of 5 Years
  - After Residing in the U.S. for 2 Years
    - Could File a "Declaration of Intent"
      - "First Papers"
  - After 3 Additional Years
    - "Petition for Naturalization."
  - When the Petition was Granted
    - A Certificate of Citizenship Was Issued

## Naturalization Records

- Exceptions to Two Step Process
  - **First Major Exception**
    - "Derivative" Citizenship was Granted to Wives and Minor Children of Naturalized Men Between 1790 to 1922
      - Wives of Naturalized Men Automatically Became Citizens.
      - Alien Women who Married a U.S. Citizen Automatically Became a Citizen
      - Conversely, an American Woman who Married an Alien Lost her U.S. Citizenship, Even if She Never Left the United States

## Naturalization Records

- Exceptions to Two Step Process
  - **First Major Exception**
    - "Derivative" Citizenship was Granted to Wives and Minor Children of Naturalized Men Between 1790 to 1922
      - **From 1790 to 1940** Children Under the Age of 21 Automatically Became Citizens Upon the Naturalization of their Father
        - Little or No Documentation for Wives & Children Included in Declarations or Petitions Filed Before September 1906

## Naturalization Records

- Exceptions to Two Step Process
  - **Second Major Exception**
    - **From 1824 to 1906** Minor Aliens who had Lived in the United States 5 Years Before their 23rd Birthday could File Both their Declarations and Petitions at the Same Time

## Naturalization Records

- Exceptions to Two Step Process
  - **Third Major Exception**
    - For Veterans
      - 1862 Law Allowed Honorably Discharged Army Veterans to Petitions After 1 Year of Residence & Without First Papers
      - 1894 Law Extended this to Navy & Marines After 5 Years Service
      - 1918 Law Allowed WWI Veterans to File Petitions
      - Laws in 1919, 1926, 1940 & 1952 Extended Preferential Treatment

## Naturalization Records

- Two Main Records Categories
  - Records Prior to 27 September 1906
    - Local Courts & Federal Courts
    - Information Varies
    - Few Clues
  - Since 27 September 1906
    - Federal Courts
    - Uniform Information
    - Useful

## Naturalization Records

- Most pre-1906 naturalization papers contain little information of biographical or genealogical value
- No standardized forms
- Federal, state, county & local courts created their own documents
  - Varied greatly in format
  - Wonderful exceptions can be found so it is worth seeking pre-1906 naturalizations

## Naturalization Records

- Post-1906 Petitions May Include
  - Name of individual
  - Current address
  - Occupation
  - Birth date or age
  - Birthplace
  - Physical description – complexion, eye and hair color, height, weight, visible distinctive marks
  - Current and former citizenship
  - Marital status

## Naturalization Records

- Post-1906 Petitions May Include
  - If married, marriage and spouse information
    - name of spouse
    - marriage date
    - marriage place
    - birthplace and date of spouse
    - date and place of spouse's entrance to the U.S.
    - current residence of spouse
    - whether the spouse was a naturalized citizen and if yes, where and when naturalized
  - Children
    - number born to the individual
    - and/or their names and ages
  - Where and when lawful admission for permanent residence in the U.S. took place

## Naturalization Records

- Post-1906 Petitions May Include
  - Date of Intention
  - Immigration info – date of immigration, country from which immigrated, last foreign residence, port and mode of entry, name of ship, date of entry
  - Length of time in the U.S.
  - Last foreign residence
  - Date of Petition
  - Photograph

## Naturalization Records

- Locating Records
  - Check with Local Court House
    - Employees May Not Realize They Have Older Records

## Naturalization Records

- Locating Records – Michigan State Archives Online **Indexes**  
[http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17449\\_18635\\_20684---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17449_18635_20684---,00.html)
  - Allegan, Alpena, Antrim, Barry, Bay, Chippewa, Clare, Clinton, Crawford, Delta, Dickinson, Eaton, Genesee, Grand Traverse, Huron, Iosco, Iron, Isabella, Kalamazoo, Kent, Lake, Lapeer, Lenawee, Mackinac, Macomb, Marquette, Mason, Newaygo, Oakland, Ontonagon, Otsego, Ottawa, St. Clair & Sanilac

## Naturalization Records

- At Ancestry
  - Michigan Eastern District
    - Index to Naturalization papers of the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan, Detroit, 1837-1903 and U.S. Circuit Court, Eastern District of Michigan, Detroit, 1837-1903
  - U.S. Naturalization Records - Original Documents, 1795-1972
  - U.S. Naturalization Records Indexes, 1794-1995

### Naturalization Records

Naturalization Records: *From U.S. District Courts (RG 21) in Michigan held in the National Archives, Chicago*

District	City	Petition Index	Declarations of Intent	Petitions
Western	Marquette	1887-1915	1887-1909	1888-1915
	Grand Rapids	1868-1962	1868-1978	1868-1972
Eastern	Detroit	1837-1991	1856-1989	1837-1991
	Bay City	03/19/1895	-----	03/19/1895
	Flint	1965-1984	-----	1965-1984

### Naturalization Records

- Film @ Family History Centers
  - Declarations of Intention, 1911-1930 United States. District Court (Michigan: Eastern District)
  - Naturalization Records (Michigan), 1887-1915 United States. District Court (Michigan: Western District: Northern Division)
  - Naturalization Records, 1907-1930 United States. District Court (Michigan: Western District: Southern Division)

### Naturalization Records

- Film @ Family History Centers
  - Naturalization Records, 1913-1928 United States. District Court (Michigan: Eastern District)
  - Naturalizations, ca. 1832-1973 Michigan. Circuit Court (Calhoun County)
  - Petition and Declaration of Intention, 1907-1963 Michigan. Circuit Court (Gogebic County)

### Naturalization Records

- Schaefer, Christine. *Guide to Naturalization Records of the United States* (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1997).
- Szucs, Loretto Dennis. *They Became Americans: Finding Naturalization Records and Ethnic Origins*. Salt Lake City, UT: Ancestry, 1998.

### Part II Maps & Geographic Information



### Maps & Geographic Information

- Gazetteers
  - Identify Place Names
  - Aid in Locating "Ghost" Towns
  - Examples:
    - Bahn, Gilbert. *American Place Names of Long Ago* [reprint; f.p. 1898]
    - Hobson, Archie. *The Cambridge Gazetteer of the United States and Canada*

### Maps & Geographic Information

- Place Names
  - Take Care When Recording Place Names (Avoid Confusion)
  - Include ALL Parts of the Location
  - Good Genealogy Database Programs Make Provisions
    - E.g.: Windsor, Essex Co., Ontario, Canada

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Windsor, Nova Scotia</li> <li>•Windsor, Ontario</li> <li>•Windsor, Quebec</li> <li>•Windsor, California</li> <li>•Windsor, Colorado</li> <li>•Windsor, Connecticut</li> <li>•Windsor, Delaware</li> <li>•Windsor, Florida</li> <li>•Windsor, Mercer County, Illinois</li> <li>•Windsor, Shelby County, Illinois</li> <li>•Windsor, Kentucky</li> <li>•Windsor, Maine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Windsor, Massachusetts</li> <li>•Windsor, Missouri</li> <li>•Windsor, New Hampshire</li> <li>•Windsor, New Jersey</li> <li>•Windsor (town), New York</li> <li>•Windsor (village), New York</li> <li>•Windsor, North Carolina</li> <li>•Windsor, Pennsylvania</li> <li>•Windsor, South Carolina</li> <li>•Windsor, Vermont</li> <li>•Windsor, Virginia</li> <li>•Windsor, Wisconsin</li> </ul>
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### Maps & Geographic Information

- U.S. Board of Geographic Names (GNIS)
  - <http://geonames.usgs.gov/>
    - Historic U.S. Place & Geographic Features Names
    - Contemporary U.S. Place & Geographic Features Names
    - Foreign Place Names

### Maps & Geographic Information

- Name Changes
- Try State & County Libraries
  - Online Lists & Databases of Ghost Towns & Place Names No Longer Used
  - Search Library Catalogs & WorldCat.org for Books Containing Antiquated Place Names

### Maps & Geographic Information

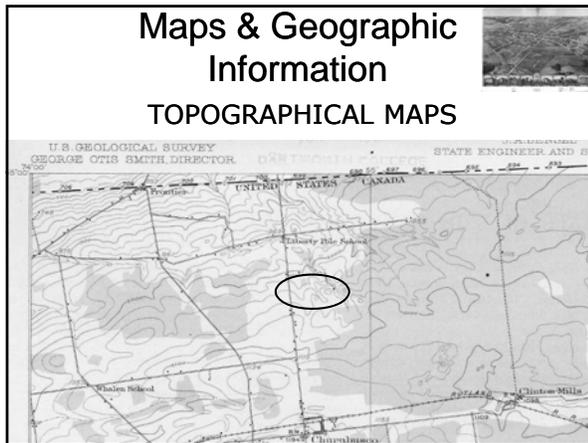
- Google Search
  - Search Google with a Place Name & the Words Atlas and Map
  - Search Google Images
    - Search for county & state maps
    - Alternative Search – City or Town & State
    - Example: clinton county ny 1869 atlas

### Maps & Geographic Information

#### PLAT MAPS

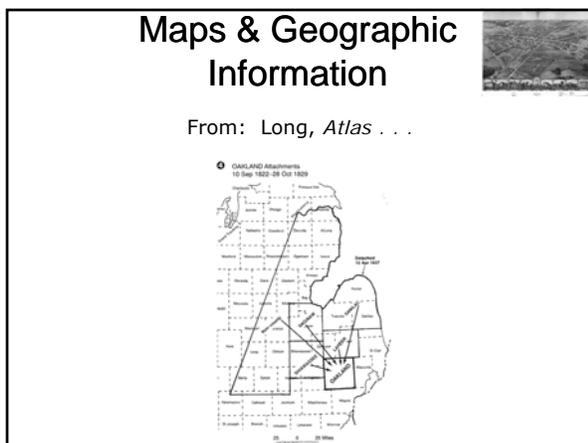
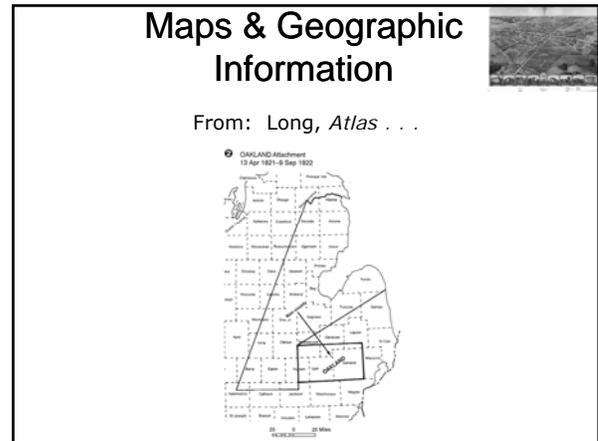
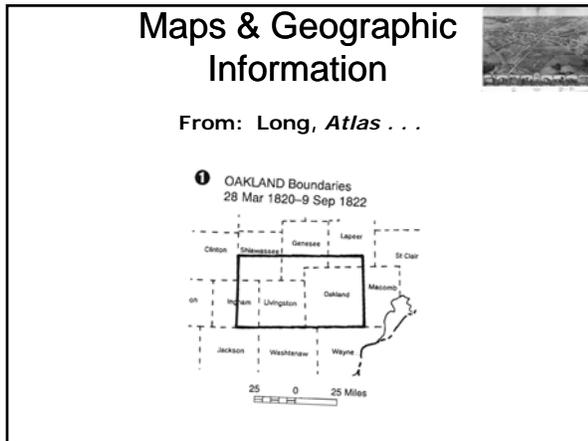
### Maps & Geographic Information

- U.S. Geological Survey
  - <http://www.usgs.gov/>
    - Topographic Maps for Sale
- MyTopo.com
  - <http://historical.mytopo.com/>
    - Historic Topographical Maps
      - Maps for eastern states from Virginia northward
      - West Virginia & Ohio



### Maps & Geographic Information

- County Boundaries
  - Frequently Changed in Earlier Years
    - Long, John H. *Atlas of Historical County Boundaries: Michigan* (1997)
  - Contemporary Township Boundaries
    - Andriot, John L. *Township Atlas of the United States* (1987)



### Maps & Geographic Information

From: Andriot, *Township Atlas* . . .

Holly	Brandon	Orford	LEONARD
Groveland	ORTONVILLE	ADDISON	
<b>OAKLAND</b>			
White Lake	LAKE ANGELUS	PL. ERIE	ROCHESTER
Highland	WHITE LAKE SEVEN HARBOR	WATERFORD	AYR
Commerce	WOLVERINE LAKE	WATERFORD	TROY
MILFORD	MILFORD	WALLEN	CLAWSON
Lyon	NOVI	FARMINGTON HILLS	LATHRUP VILLAGE
SOUTH LYON		SOUTHFIELD	

- 1 LAKE ORION
- 2 ORCHARD LAKE VILLAGE
- 3 KEEGO HARBOR
- 4 SYLVAN LAKE
- 5 BLOOMFIELD HILLS
- 6 BIRMINGHAM
- 7 MADISON HEIGHTS
- 8 ROYAL OAK
- 9 BERKLEY
- 10 Southfield
- 11 BEVERLY HILLS
- 12 BINGHAM FARMS
- 13 FRANKLIN
- 14 FARMINGTON
- 15 ROYAL OAK
- 16 OAK PARK
- 17 HUNTINGTON WOODS
- 18 PLEASANT RIDGE
- 19 FERDALE
- 20 HAZEL PARK

### Maps & Geographic Information

From: Andriot, Township Atlas . . .

### Maps & Geographic Information

- American Memory Maps  
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html>
  - Panoramic Map Collection

### Maps & Geographic Information

Panoramic View

IRONWOOD, MICH.

DENBIGH COUNTY MICH. 1886

### Maps & Geographic Information

- Fire Insurance Maps
  - Sanborn – Major Publisher
  - *Fire Insurance Maps in the Library of Congress: Plans of North American Cities and Towns Produced by the Sanborn Map Company*, a checklist compiled by the Reference and Bibliography Section, Geography and Map Division (Washington: Library of Congress, 1981)
  - Available Online in Some Libraries
  - Available on Microfilm in Some Libraries

### Maps & Geographic Information

- *Sanborn fire insurance maps. Michigan [microform.] [1983]*
  - LIBRARY OF MICH MICROFILM 2S G 1411 .G475 S3z 1983
  - 39 Reels
- *Fire insurance maps from the Sanborn Map Company archives, late 19th century to 1990, Michigan [microform] [1993] LIBRARY OF MICH*
  - LIBRARY OF MICH MICROFILM 2S G 1411 .G475 S3 1993
  - 24 Reels

### Maps & Geographic Information

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

### Maps & Geographic Information

- Historic Maps from the University of Alabama  
<http://alabamamaps.ua.edu/historicalmaps/index.html>
  - Many Michigan Maps

### Maps & Geographic Information

William Thorndale, *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920* (1995)

1800 TN CENSUS MAP

1800 COUNTIES IN BLACK  
 MODERN COUNTIES IN WHITE

### Maps & Geographic Information

William Dollarhide, *Map Guide to American Migration Routes, 1735-1815* (1997)

### Maps & Geographic Information

*Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History*, Helen Tanner, ed.

Frontier in Transition 1782-1786  
 The Ohio Country and Canada

### Maps & Geographic Information

*Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History*, Helen Tanner, ed.

### Maps & Geographic Information

- Early Federal Survey Maps  
[SeekingMichigan.org](http://SeekingMichigan.org)



## Military Records



### Military Records

- Provide Dates Served
- Provide Engagements Participated In
- Provide Personal Information



### Military Records

- Types
  - Draft Registration Cards
  - Enlistment Forms & Related Documentation
  - Quartermaster or Provisions Records
  - Duty Assignments
  - Payroll Records & Pay Stubs



### Military Records

- Types
  - Records of the Awarding of Medals & Awards
  - Service Files or Dossiers
  - Records of Courts Martial
  - Pension Files
    - Affidavits
    - Correspondence
    - Payment Records
    - Other Documents



### Military Records

- Types
  - Veterans Records
  - Benefits Records
  - Draft Notices
  - Medical Records
  - Educational Testing & Training Reports/Diplomas
  - Muster Rolls



### Military Records

- Types
  - Announcements & Postings of Promotions
  - Casualty Reports
  - Discharge Papers
  - Pension Payment Vouchers
  - Veteran's Life Insurance Certificates
  - Death & Burial Records

### Military Records

- **National Archives (NARA) Holdings**  
<http://www.archives.gov/research/military/index.html>
  - Federal Service Records
  - Pension Records
  - Bounty Land Records
  - Draft Records

### Military Records

- **National Archives (NARA) Holdings**
  - Several Major Indexes on Microfilm
  - Some Collections on Microfilm
  - Most Original Records **Not** Filmed
  - Most Records Only Available @ NARA

### Military Records

- **Obtaining NARA Holdings Records**
  - Photocopies Obtainable
  - Forms from NARA Online  
<http://www.archives.gov/contact/inquire-form.html#part-a>
    - Form NATF 85
      - Pension & Bounty Land Warrant Applications
    - Form NATF 86
      - Military Service Records (pre-1917)
    - Form SF 180 (National Personnel Records Center)
      - Military Service Records WWI & Later

### Military Records

- **Research Guides**
  - Neagles, James. *U.S. Military Records: A Guide to Federal and State Sources, Colonial America to the Present* (1994)
  - *Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives*, rev. ed. (1985)

### Military Records

- **Research Guides**
  - *Military Service Records: A Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications* (1985)
  - *LDS, U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (1993)

### Military Records

- **Colonial Wars**
  - Record Types
    - Rosters
    - Pay Lists
    - Bounty Lists
  - Virtually **ALL** Records Found at State Level
  - Lydon, James G. *Struggle for Empire: A Bibliography of the French and Indian War* (1986)

### Military Records



- Revolutionary War
  - Gephart, Ronald M. *Revolutionary America 1763-1789: A Bibliography* (1984)

### Military Records



- Revolutionary War
  - Record Types
    - General History & Personal Narratives
    - Unit Histories
    - Soldier Lists (Incomplete)
    - Daughters of the American Revolution
      - *Patriot Index*
      - *DAR Lineage Books*
    - Pensions & Other Compensations
    - Loyalists
    - German Soldiers

### Military Records



- War of 1812
  - Schweitzer, George K. *War of 1812 Genealogy* (1984)
  - White, Virgil D. *Index to War of 1812 Pension Files*, rev. ed. 2 vols. (1990-1992)
    - Indexes to Servicemen are on the State Level
    - Transcribes NA microfilm (M313)

### Military Records



- Mexican War
  - Tutorow, Norman. *The Mexican-War: An Annotated Bibliography* (1981)
  - White, Virgil D. *An Index to Mexican War Pension Applications* (1985)
    - Transcribes NA microfilm (T317)

### Military Records



- Civil War
  - Research Guides
    - Groene, Bertram H. *Tracing Your Civil War Ancestor* (1995)
    - Neagle, James C. *Confederate Research Sources: A Guide to Archive Collections* (1997)

### Military Records



- Civil War
  - Dyer, Frederick. *Compendium of the War of the Rebellion* (1908)
    - Provides Basic Facts for Every Union Unit
  - Sifakis, Stewart. *Compendium of the Confederate Armies* (1992- )

### Military Records

- Civil War
  - *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies in the War of the Rebellion*, 128 vols. (1880-1900)
    - Allows Researcher to Follow an Engagement
    - Difficult to Use
    - Available on CD-ROM
      - Easier to Use with Online Index

### Military Records

- Civil War
  - Other Types of Records
    - Histories
    - Soldier Lists
    - Pension Lists
    - Unit Histories and Personal Narratives
    - *Confederate Veteran* [Periodical]
      - 1893-1932
      - Memoirs, Biographies, Obituaries
      - Nothing Similar for Union Veterans
    - Local Histories
      - Often Contain a Chapter

### Military Records

- Spanish-American War
  - Verson, Anne Cipriano. *The Spanish-American War: An Annotated Bibliography* (1990)
  - Peterson, Clarence S. *Known Military Dead During the Spanish American War and the Philippine Insurrection, 1891-1901* (1958)

### Military Records

- First World War
  - *Order of Battle of the United States Land Forces in the World War* (1937-1949)
  - Dornbusch, Charles E. *Histories of American Army Units, World Wars I and II and Korean Conflict* (1956)
  - Many Local History & Compilations

### Military Records

- First World War
  - Pension Records
 

The Dept of Veteran Affairs has benefit claims files. Veteran files are located at the regional office closest to the residence of the veteran at the time of application. To find phone numbers and addresses look in:

Johnson, Richard S. *How to Locate Anyone Who is or Has Been in the Military*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. (or later)

### Military Records

- First World War
  - Draft Records
  - 24 Million Men Registered
  - Available Online @ AncestryLE or Ancestry.com

### Military Records

#### ■First World War

##### ●Draft Records

■**First Registration.** The registration on 5 June 1917, was for men aged twenty-one to thirty-one—men born between 6 June 1886 and 5 June 1896.

### Military Records

#### ■First World War

##### ●Draft Records

■**Second Registration.** The registration on 5 June 1918, was for men who had turned twenty-one years of age since the previous registration—men born between 6 June 1896 and 5 June 1897. Men who had not previously registered and were not already in the military also registered. In addition, a supplemental registration on 24 August 1918, was for men who turned twenty-one years of age since 5 June 1918.

### Military Records

#### ■First World War

##### ●Draft Records

■**Third Registration.** The registration on 12 Sept 1918, was for men aged eighteen to twenty-one and thirty-one to forty-five—men born between 11 Sept 1872 and 12 Sept 1900.

### Military Records

#### ■First World War - Draft Records

##### ●1<sup>ST</sup> Registration (12 Question Card)

- Name
- Age
- Address
- Date of birth
- Place of birth
- Citizenship status
- Employer's name and address
- Dependent information
- Marital status
- Race
- Military service
- Physical appearance

### Military Records

#### ■First World War - Draft Records

##### ●2<sup>ND</sup> Registration (10 Question Card)

- Name
- Age
- Address
- Date and place of birth
- Father's birthplace
- Citizenship status
- Occupation
- Employer's name and address
- Dependent information
- Name and address of nearest relative
- Physical appearance

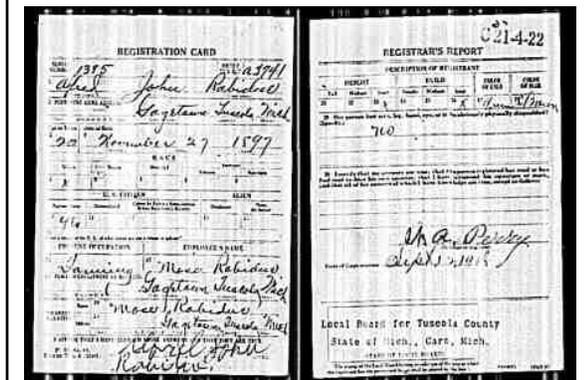
### Military Records

#### ■First World War - Draft Records

##### ●3<sup>RD</sup> Registration (21 Question Card) (Same Basic Questions w/ Greater Refinement)

- Name
- Age
- Address
- Date and place of birth
- Father's birthplace
- Citizenship status
- Occupation
- Employer's name and address
- Dependent information
- Name and address of nearest relative
- Physical appearance

World War I Draft Registration Card



Military Records



- World War II
  - Pension Records
- Use Same Approach as for WWI

Military Records



- World War II
  - Draft Records
    - On 16 Sept. 1940 - Selective Service Act
    - Men between 21 and 35 Registered
      - 16 Million Men
    - Some Selective Service Records are at the NARA Regional Centers

Military Records



- World War II – 4<sup>TH</sup> Draft Records
  - Online @ Ancestry
  - Limited Availability & Partial Lists \*
 

Alaska	New Jersey
Arkansas*	New York*
California*	Ohio*
Connecticut	Pennsylvania
Delaware	Puerto Rico
Idaho	Rhode Island
Illinois	Vermont
Indiana*	Virginia
Maryland	Washington
Massachusetts	West Virginia
New Hampshire	Wisconsin

Military Records



- World War II – Records of 4<sup>TH</sup> Draft
  - Online @ Ancestry
  - About *U.S. World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942*

This database is an indexed collection of World War II U.S. draft cards from the Fourth Registration, the only registration currently available to the public (the other registrations are not available due to privacy laws). The Fourth Registration, often referred to as the "old man's registration", was conducted on 27 April 1942 and registered men born on or between 28 April 1877 and 16 February 1897 - men who were between 45 and 64 years old - and who were not already in the military.

Military Records



- World War II – 4<sup>TH</sup> Draft Records
  - Information available on the draft cards includes:
    - Name of registrant
    - Age
    - Birth date
    - Birthplace
    - Residence
    - Employer information
    - Name and address of person who would always know the registrants whereabouts
    - Physical description of registrant (race, height, weight, eye and hair colors, complexion)

### World War II Draft Registration Card

**REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after April 28, 1897 and on or before February 16, 1947)**

SERIAL NUMBER 117	1. NAME (Print) Adolphus Bedore	ORDER NUMBER
2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) Greenwoods Road, Norfolk, Litchfield, Conn.		
3. RESIDING ADDRESS Norfolk, Connecticut.		
4. TELEPHONE Norfolk 127	5. AGE IN YEARS 32	6. PLACE OF BIRTH Montreal
7. OCCUPATION Norfolk, 127	8. DATE OF BIRTH July 2, 1879	9. PLACE OF BIRTH Canada
10. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mrs. Adolphus Bedore, Norfolk, Connecticut		
11. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS Norfolk, Connecticut.		
I SWORE THAT I HAVE FURNISHED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE		
12. SIGNATURE OF REGISTRANT <i>Adolphus Bedore</i>		

### Military Records



- World War II
  - U.S. Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946
  - Available @ Ancestry
  - Records of the National Archives and Records Administration, Record Group 64; National Archives at College Park, College Park, MD.
    - Contains information on about 8.3 million men and women who enlisted in the U.S. Army
    - Incomplete and does not represent the entirety of the U.S. Army servicemen

### Military Records



- World War II
  - U.S. Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946
  - Data usually included:
 

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name of enlistee</li> <li>• Army serial number</li> <li>• Residence (county &amp; state)</li> <li>• Place of enlistment</li> <li>• Enlistment date</li> <li>• Grade</li> <li>• Army branch</li> <li>• Component</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Term of enlistment</li> <li>• Birthplace</li> <li>• Year of birth</li> <li>• Race &amp; citizenship</li> <li>• Height and weight</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Marital status</li> </ul>
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### Part IV

## Land Records



### Land Records



- Complex
  - Multiple Systems
- Grantor Index
  - Seller
- Grantee Index
  - Buyer

### Land Records: Information Sources



- Place of Residence
- Former Residence or Other Residence
- Names
- Religion
- Dates of Transaction & Recording
- Description of the Parcel or Lot
- Price or Consideration or Circumstances of the Transfer

**Land Records:  
Information Sources**



- Power of Attorney
- Relationships
- Approximate Dates
- Military Service
- Social Standing in the Community
  - Titles
  - Occupation
  - Education
- Previous Owners
- Neighbors

**Land Records:  
Information Sources**



- Place of Residence

Can help differentiate between two men of the same name in different localities at the same time. Many white men owned land before the Civil War, so, if no reference to ownership in a rural area can be found, the individual may not have lived in that area

**Land Records:  
Information Sources**



- Former Residence or Other Residence

Potential place of birth, marriage, or other land purchases

**Land Records:  
Information Sources**



- Names

Ascertain a widow's or wife's given name.

**Land Records:  
Information Sources**



- Religion

The word *jurat* following the name of a witness indicates that the witness swore an oath. Witnesses who "affirmed the deed" were Quakers  
This provides another clue and suggests new research avenues

**Land Records:  
Information Sources**



- Dates of Transaction and Recording

Indicates a period of residence in an area and clues to individuals' arrival and departure dates. Could imply an approximate or actual death date of a landowner.

### Land Records: Information Sources



#### ■Description of the Parcel or Lot

If a property description given in the early 1700s still exists in the family in the late 1800s, it could prove line of descent even though no written deed was located.

### Land Records: Information Sources



#### ■Price or Consideration or Circumstances of the Transfer

Could indicate a special relationship, such as "for love and affection" or "For the price of an orange blossom branch on [a specific date]."

### Land Records: Information Sources



#### ■Power of Attorney

May lead to other places of residence

### Land Records: Information Sources



#### ■Relationships

Could identify groups of people with the same surname. A female listed first in a deed often indicates the woman is a widow and the male following is her son. This was common practice in many areas.

### Land Records: Information Sources



#### ■Approximate Dates

Could indicate the approximate or actual death date of a landowner. In some states, men could not sell land until a certain age; in some situations this can help establish approximate birth dates.

### Land Records: Information Sources



#### ■Military Service

Terms such as *Col.*, *Cpt.*, *Lieutenant*, etc., might indicate membership in a local or state militia unit.

### Land Records: Information Sources



- Social Standing in the Community, Titles, Occupation, or Education

Terms such as *Mr.*, *Esq.*, *yeoman*, *farmer*, *merchant*, etc., and a signature (versus a mark, as X) may distinguish one individual of the same name from another.

### Land Records: Information Sources



- Previous Owners

May identify a wife's or widow's maiden name, father, or parents on dower or inherited property.

### Land Records: Information Sources



- Neighbors

Land could pass through several generations with no recorded deed. Neighboring landowners of the individuals being researched might have recorded those individuals as neighbors (esp. in metes & bounds surveys), thus establishing their residence or ownership.

### Land Records



- Legal Description
  - Exact Location
- Where Land was Owned
- When Land was Owned
- Census Substitute
- Places People in Time & Place

### Land Records



- Published Abstracts & Finding Aids Cover a Variety of Land Transfers

### Land Records



- Court House Land Record Books
  - Deed Books
    - Quitclaims
    - Mortgages
    - Leases
    - Assignments
    - Divisions
  - Mortgage Books
  - Survey Books

### Land Records

- Court House Land Record Books
  - Deed Books
    - Contain More Than Deeds

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal Property Sales</li> <li>• Agreements</li> <li>• Apprenticeships</li> <li>• Bills of Sale of Non-Real Property</li> <li>• Bonds</li> <li>• Contracts</li> <li>• Deeds of Gift</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partitions</li> <li>• Leases</li> <li>• Manumissions</li> <li>• Mortgages or Securities</li> <li>• Plats</li> <li>• Powers of Attorney</li> <li>• Prenuptial Agreements</li> <li>• Quitclaims</li> </ul>
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### Land Records

- Complex Subject
- U.S. 2 Basic Land Systems
  - Federal Land States
  - State Land States
    - 5 Sub-Systems

### Land Measurements

- Units of Linear Measurement
  - 1 Mile = 5280 feet
  - 1 Mile = 80 chains
  - 1 Chain = 100 links
  - 1 Chain = 66 feet
  - 1 Link = 7.92 inches
  - 1 Rod, Pole, Perch = 16½ feet

### Land Measurements

- Units of Area
  - 1 Acre = 10 Square Chains
  - 1 Acre = 43,560 Square Feet
  - 1 Square Mile = 640 Acres

### Land Measurements

- A Theoretical Township
  - 6 Miles Square, Containing 36 Sections of One Square Mile of 640 Acres Each
  - Area of Theoretical Township 23040 Acres

### Land Records

- Michigan State Records
  - See Michigan Land Records Word Document

### Land Records



- Michigan State Records @ State Archives
  - Abstracts of Land Grants, ca. 1837-1900
  - Tax Assessment Rolls
  - Rural Property Inventories
  - Land Tract Books 1818-1962
  - Land Patents and Certificates 1847-1943
  - Surveys of Private Claims by Aaron Greely, 1809-1810
  - Resurveys of Private Claims and Concessions, 1807-1877
  - Private claim surveys in northern Michigan, 1823-1855
  - Bounties, Premiums, Subsidies, and Relief

### Land Records



- Michigan State Records @ State Archives
  - See Online Circulars, 2, 16 & 47

[http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-54463\\_54475\\_20992---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-54463_54475_20992---,00.html)

### Land Records



- Michigan Rural Property Inventories
- Michigan State Records @ State Archives
  - See Online Circular 16

### Land Records



- Federal Land States
  - All States North of Ohio River
    - Except PA
  - All States West of Mississippi River
    - Except HI & TX
  - Four Gulf States
    - FL, AL, MS & LA

### Land Records: Principal Meridians & Base Lines



### Land Records: Legal Descriptions



### Land Records: Township Grid

### Land Records: Sectional Numbering

6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36

### Land Records: Sectional Breakdown

### Land Records: Ohio Land Surveys

**George W. Knepper, *The Official Ohio Lands Book* (2002), free .pdf version @ <http://www.auditor.state.oh.us/publications/default.htm>**

### Land Records: Ohio Land Surveys

- Old Seven Ranges
- Modified Rectangular Survey
- U.S. Military District
- Congressional Lands, beg. 1799 in Northeast Central OH (i.e. Rectangular Survey)
- Connecticut's Western Reserve
- Virginia's Military Tract
- Area between Miami and Little Miami Rivers
- Congressional Lands west of Miami River
- Congressional Lands north of Greenville Treaty Line & VA Military District
- Michigan Survey Region

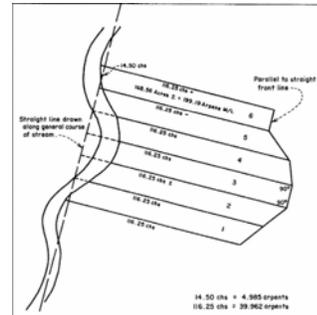
### Land Records: Private Claims States

### Land Records: Private Claims

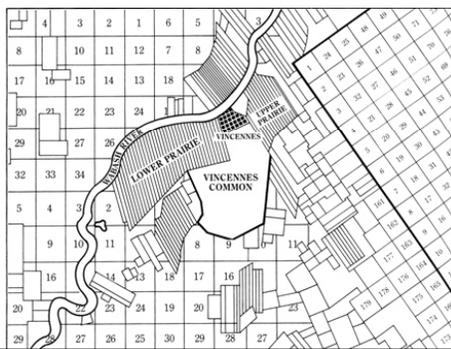


- Reapplication to U.S. government for re-ownership of lands acquired from a foreign government
  - Spain
  - Mexico
  - Britain
  - France

### Land Records: Private Claims Survey Example



### Land Records: Private Claims



### Land Records: Private Claims



### Land Records: Private Claims



### Land Records: Private Claims



### Land Records: Private Claims



- Recognized as early as 1784
- Legislation began to recognize the plight of French & Canadian inhabitants
  - Detroit
  - Vincennes
  - Kaskaskia
  - Cahokia
  - Fort Wayne
  - Green Bay

### Land Records: Private Claims



- Information often found
  - Verification of title or settlement through several generations of previous ownership
  - Outline Pedigrees
    - Grandfather > Father > Son
    - Over a half century or more
- Provide Clues to Migrations & Family Structures

### Land Records: Private Claims



- Records Included
  - Surveys by both Foreign & American Officials
  - Descriptions of Improvements Made
  - Lengths of Residence on the Property
  - Evidence of Title Transfers through Multiple Generations
  - Descriptions of Heirs for each Generation

### Land Records: Private Claims



- Records Included
  - Evidence of Previous Origins & Loyalty
  - Political Affiliation
  - Testimonies from Witnesses & Claimant
  - Family Structures
  - Time Periods & Places of Migration

### Land Records: Private Claims



- Claim Sizes
  - From Small Town Lots
  - To Almost 1.5 Million Acres
- Took Precedent over Federal Land System
- Caused Creation of Odd Fractions in the Remaining Land
- Some Michigan Claims Still Litigated in Early 1900s

### Land Records: Private Claims



- Michigan State Records @ State Archives
  - Surveys of Private Claims by Aaron Greely, 1809-1810 (series 1)
    - Claim Number
    - Metes and Bounds of the Tract
    - Name of Claimant
  - Resurveys of Private Claims and Concessions, 1807-1877 (series 2)
    - Name
    - Date
    - Coordinates
    - Bearings
    - Distances
    - Acreage
    - Claim Numbers



## Land Records



### ■ Key Sources

- *Federal Land Series: A Calendar of Archival Materials on the Land Patents Issued by the United States Government, with Subject, Tracts and Name Indexes*, 4 vols. (1972-1986)

## Land Records



### ■ Key Sources

- *American State Papers: Public Lands*
- *Grassroots of America: A Computerized Index to the American State Papers: Land Grants and Claims (1789-1837)* (1972, r.p. 1994)

## Land Records



### ■ Key Sources

- *Digested Summary and Alphabetical Lists of Private Claims* (1853, r.p. 1970)
  - <http://www.genealogybank.com>
- *Territorial Papers of the United States*
- *Bureau of Land Management General Land Office Records*
  - <http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/>

## Land Records



### ■ Methodology

- **Luebking, Sandra Hargreaves.** "Research in Land and Tax Records" in Loretto Szucs, ed. *The Source* (1996)

## Land Records



### ■ Methodology

- **Rose, Christine.** "Property Matters" and "Searching for Property Records," in *Courthouse Research for Family Historians*, pp. 27-63 (2004)
- **Hatcher, Patricia Law.** *Locating Your Roots: Discover Your Ancestors Using Land Records* (2003)

## Part V

## Tax Records



### Tax Records

- Real Property
- Personal Property
- Substitute for Census
- Annual Records (often)
  - Indicates Arrival and Departure from a Community

### Tax Records

- Taxes on Individuals
- Various Kinds of Property
- Imports
- Services
- Income

### Tax Records

- Taxes Collected by All Levels of Government
    - Federal
    - State
    - County
    - Local
  - County Tax Lists Most Accessible
- See: [FHL Catalog](#) Tax Records Examples

### Tax Records

- Generally Concern Resident Heads of Family and Property Owners
- Generally Exclude
  - Married Women
  - Children
  - Paupers
  - Indentured Servants
  - Slaves

### Tax Records

- Indicates Arrival in a Community
- Indicates Departure from a Community
- Indicates Relative Economic Status

### Tax Records

- Methodology
  - **Luebking, Sandra Hargreaves.** "Research in Land and Tax Records" in Loretto Szucs, ed. *The Source* (1996)
  - **Eakle, Arlene H.** *Tax Records: A Common Source with an Uncommon Value* (1978)

### Tax Records

- Methodology
  - **Rose, Christine.** "Property Matters" and "Searching for Property Records," in *Courthouse Research for Family Historians*, pp. 27-63 (2004)
  - **Hatcher, Patricia Law.** *Locating Your Roots: Discover Your Ancestors Using Land Records* (2003)

### Tax Records

- Finding Aids
  - **Jackson, Ronald Vern.** *AIS Microfiche Indexes of U.S. Census and Other Records*
    - Plagued by Errors
  - **Family History Library Catalog**
    - Use the Locality Search
    - Look at Word File

### Tax Records

- Land Tax Records
  - Name of the Owner
  - Indicates if an Estate
  - Residence of Owner
  - Type of Ownership
    - Fee Simple
    - Trust
    - Mortgaged
    - Life

### Tax Records

- Land Tax Records
  - Number of Acres
  - Legal Description

**State Land System Example:** Description of the land as to the persons whose land it joins, water courses & places of notoriety on which or near to which it lies

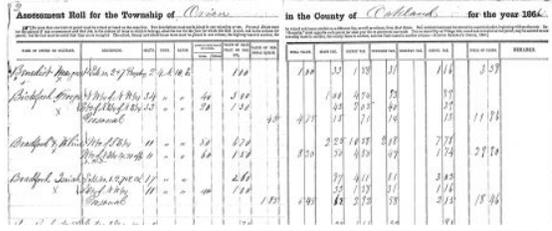
**Federal Land System Example:** NE ¼ of T7N R5E

- Distance & Bearing from the Court House
- Type of Ownership

### Tax Records

- Land Tax records
  - Rate of Land per Acre
    - Equalization
  - Total Value of the Land
  - Amount of Tax on Land @ Tax Rate per \$100 Value
  - Explanations of Alterations During the Preceding Year

### Tax Records



NAME OF OWNER OR TENANT	ACRES	VALUE	TAX	REMARKS
Bridgford, James	1.00	1.00	1.00	
Bridgford, John	1.00	1.00	1.00	
Bridgford, William	1.00	1.00	1.00	
Bridgford, Sarah	1.00	1.00	1.00	
Bridgford, Elizabeth	1.00	1.00	1.00	
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Bridgford, William	1.00	1.00	1.00	
Bridgford, Sarah	1.00	1.00</		

## Personal Property Tax Records



- Typical Items Taxed (Ante Bellum South)
  - Names of Persons Taxed
  - Number White Males above 16 Years
  - Slaves above 12 Years Old
  - Slaves above 16 Years Old
  - Horses
  - Carriages
  - Watches
  - Pianos
  - Plate
  - Clocks & Watches
  - Interest on Money Loaned Out
  - Physicians & Attorneys

## Tax Records



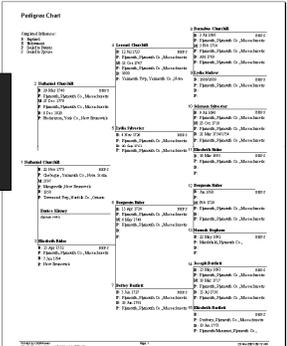
- Location
  - Archives
  - Libraries
  - Historical Societies & Museums
  - Newspapers

## Part VI Source Citation Techniques



## CITATIONS

**Problem with Standard Forms: No Provision for Sourcing**



### NOT JUST ANY CITATION WILL DO EXAMPLES OF NONSTANDARD & UNACCEPTABLE FORMS (LACKEY)

- "Reference material collected by my friend"
- "A big magazine (authorative) [sic] on Virginia Volume II, page 109, I think"
- "A bible in South Carolina"
- "Deeds of North Carolina, # 30 – p.10" "A role [sic] of Microfilm sold by the U.S. Govt. and National Archives out of Washington..."
- "The Library of Congress"
- "File #19603"

### NOT JUST ANY CITATION WILL DO EXAMPLES OF NONSTANDARD & UNACCEPTABLE FORMS (LACKEY)

- "Marriage Bond B, Folio 169, Office of the Superior Court, Courthouse"
- "The Census Record, 1790 to 1880"
- "A book by James in the Mobile Library, pages 160-168 (our line)"
- "DAR records and Mormon Records (both are accurate)"
- "S. Micro-film of Civil War Men"

### NOT JUST ANY CITATION WILL DO EXAMPLES OF NONSTANDARD & UNACCEPTABLE FORMS (LACKEY)

- "A death certificate written by the State"
- "Pages 120-127 by Boddie in one of his books named *Historical Southern Families*"
- "My cousin's book which the DAR takes on pp. 18-19"
- "A History of My Family and Allied Lines, (pages 176-192) by a professional genealogist"
- "Worth S. Ray, N.C. (old Albemarle) He wrote only true books"

### WHY CITATIONS?

- Prevent Mistakes and Misunderstandings
- Genealogy is Scientific-- It Can be Replicated

### CITATIONS: WHY?

- Effective Source Citation is an *Art*, not a *Science*
  - No Formula can Cover All Situations that Researchers Encounter
  - Researchers Need to Understand the Reasoning that Underlies the Suggested Formats so you can Devise Sound Citations to Fit your Particular Circumstances

### GUIDELINES FOR DOCUMENTATION

- Any Statement of Fact that is Not Common Knowledge Must Carry Its Own Individual Statement of Source

### GUIDELINES FOR DOCUMENTATION

- Source Notes have Two Purposes
  - To Record the Specific Location of Each Piece of Data
  - To Record Details that Affect the Use or Evaluation of that Data

### GUIDELINES FOR DOCUMENTATION

- Sources are Tracked in Two Basic Ways
  - Generic Lists (Bibliographies)
  - Source Notes Keyed to Specific Facts

### GUIDELINES FOR DOCUMENTATION

- Source Notes have Two Basic Formats
  - Full Citations
  - Short Citations

### GUIDELINES FOR DOCUMENTATION

- Source Notes for Narrative Accounts can be Presented in Four Ways
  - Footnotes
  - Endnotes
  - Parenthetical Citations
  - Hypertext

### GUIDELINES FOR DOCUMENTATION

- Source Notes Keyed to Narrative Text Should be Numbered Consecutively
  - The Corresponding Numbers Should Appear in Correct Sequence Within the Text

### GUIDELINES FOR DOCUMENTATION

- Explicit Source Notes Should Appear on
  - Pedigree Charts
  - Family Group Sheets
  - Family Histories
  - Research Reports
  - Individual Subject Reports

### GUIDELINES FOR DOCUMENTATION

- Do Not Cite Sources You Have Not Used
  - It is Both Risky and Unethical to "Borrow Notes" from Another Work

### GUIDELINES FOR DOCUMENTATION

- Microforms and Electronic Materials Need Extra Treatment



### BASIC RULES *for* ARRANGING THE ELEMENTS

**■ Full v. Short Citations**

- *First Reference Example:*  
Daniel F. Roberts, *Lake County, Illinois Probate Abstracts, 1855-1899* (Chicago: Mid-River Press, 1983), 259.
- *Subsequent References Example:*  
Roberts, *Lake County*, 78.

### MILLS EXAMPLES

**■ Death Registration (State Level)**

*Primary Citation:*

1. Frances Whitney, death certificate no. 59-0224 (1959), Tennessee Department of Public Health, Nashville.

*Subsequent Citations:*

1. Frances Whitney, Tennessee state death certificate 59-0224.

*Bibliographic Entry:*  
Tennessee. Nashville. Department of Public Health. Death Registrations. Frances Whitney certificate.

### MILLS EXAMPLES

**■ Family Group Sheet (With Annotation)**

*Primary Citation:*

1. Jane Doe, "John Jones-Mary Smith family group sheet," supplied 23 November 1989, by Doe (111 Main; Anytown, US 00000). This sheet offers only a generic list of materials consulted.

*Subsequent Citations:*

1. Doe, "John Jones-Mary Smith family group sheet," inadequately documented.

*Bibliographic Entry:*  
Doe, Jane. "John Jones-Mary Smith family group sheet." Compiled 23 November 1989. Available from compiler at 111 Main; Anytown: US 00000.

### MILLS EXAMPLES

**■ Census, Federal, 1850-1870 (Filmed)**

*Primary Citation:*

1. Abner Lake household, 1870 U.S. census, Lawrence County, Illinois, population schedule, Christy township, Bridgeport post office, page 29, dwelling 38, family 38; National Archives micropublication M593, roll 245.

NOTE: Many genealogists liberally abbreviate their references to censuses (including state name and county designation) because they cite this resource so extensively. It is best to spell out all words in the first citation to a particular census, especially for post-1840 returns which contain many elements whose abbreviations may not be recognized by beginning researchers.

### MILLS EXAMPLES

**■ Census, Federal, 1850-1870 (Filmed)**

*Primary Citation:*

1. Abner Lake household, 1870 U.S. census, Lawrence County, Illinois, population schedule, Christy township, Bridgeport post office, page 29, dwelling 38, family 38; National Archives micropublication M593, roll 245.

*Subsequent Citations:*

1. 1870 U.S. census, Christy township, page 29, dwelling 38, family 38.

OR

1. 1870 U.S. cens., Christy twp., Ill., p. 29, dw. 38, f. 38.

### MILLS EXAMPLES

**■ Census, Federal, 1850-1870 (Filmed)**

*Primary Citation:*

1. Abner Lake household, 1870 U.S. census, Lawrence County, Illinois, population schedule, Christy township, Bridgeport post office, page 29, dwelling 38, family 38; National Archives micropublication M593, roll 245.

**CAPS?** Archives micropublication M593, roll 245. **CAPS?**

*Bibliographic Entry:*

Illinois. Lawrence County. 1870 U.S. census, population schedule: Micropublication M593, roll 245. Washington: National Archives.

## MILLS EXAMPLES



### ■Vital Record (Filmed)

#### *Primary Citation:*

1. Windsor, Connecticut, Vital Records, Book 1: 55, microfilm 1,316,427, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

#### *Subsequent Citations:*

1. Windsor Vital Records, 1: 55.

#### *Bibliographic Entry:*

Connecticut. Windsor. Vital Records. Microfilm. Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES

- Mills, Elizabeth Shown. *Quicksheet: Citing Online Historical Resources: Evidence! Style*. 1<sup>st</sup> Revised ed., Baltimore, Md: Genealogical Pub. Co., 2007.



## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES



### ■Basic Principles

- Websites are the Online Equivalent of a Book, so you cite:
  - Author/creator/owner of the website's *content* (when identifiable)
  - Title of the website
  - Type of item (as with a book's edition data)
  - Publication Data
    - Place (URL)
    - Date (Posted, Updated, or Accessed)
    - Citation Detail (Page, Section, Paragraph, Keywords, Entry, etc.)

## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES



### ■Basic Principles

- Websites that offer **Multiple Items** (Databases, Articles, etc.) are the Online Equivalent of Books with Independent Chapters by Different Authors. Thus, you add:
  - Author/Creator of Item (When Identifiable)
  - Title of Item

## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES



### ■Basic Principles

- Punctuation Follows Most Rules for Books and Articles:
  - Website/Book Titles Appear in Italics
  - Article/Database Titles Appear in Quotation Marks
  - Publication Data Appear in Parentheses Within Notes
    - Angle Brackets Conflict with HTML Coding

## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES



### ■Basic Principles

Note: The Identification of Authors, Creators, and Website Titles may Require Careful Scrutiny of Not Only the Web Page being Cited but also its Root Pages or Home Page

See Also: "Core Elements" Handout

## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES



### ■Basic Template – Source List Entry

ITEM AUTHOR: Knights, Edwin M.  
 ITEM TITLE: "Dealing with New Developments."  
 ITEM TYPE: Article.  
 WEBSITE CREATOR OR OWNER: New England Historic Genealogical Society.  
 WEBSITE TITLE: *New England Ancestors*  
 URL: <http://www.newenglandancestors.org/ed....asp>:  
 Date: Accessed 2 March 2007\_.

## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES



### ■Source List Entry Example

Knights, Edwin M. "Dealing with New Developments." Article. New England Historic Genealogical Society. *New England Ancestors* (<http://www.newenglandancestors.org/ed....asp>: accessed 2 March 2007.

## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES



### ■Basic Template – First Reference Note

ITEM AUTHOR: Knights, Edwin M.  
 ITEM TITLE: "Dealing with New Developments."  
 ITEM TYPE: Article.  
 WEBSITE CREATOR OR OWNER: New England Historic Genealogical Society.  
 WEBSITE TITLE: *New England Ancestors*  
 URL: <http://www.newenglandancestors.org/ed....asp>:  
 DATE: Accessed 2 March 2007.  
 CITATION DETAIL: para. 13.

## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES



### ■First Reference Note Example

1. Edwin M. Knights, "Dealing with New Developments." article, New England Historic Genealogical Society, *New England Ancestors* (<http://www.newenglandancestors.org/ed....asp>: accessed 2 March 2007, para. 13.

## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES



### ■Subsequent Reference Note Example

1. Knights, "Dealing with New Developments," para. 13.

## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES



### ■CENSUS INDEXES & DATABASES

*Ancestry* Example: Source List Entry

"1880 United States Federal Census" Database. *Ancestry.com*. <http://www.ancestry.com> : 2005.

## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES



■ **CENSUS INDEXES & DATABASES**

*Ancestry* Example: Full Reference Note

1. "1880 United States Federal Census," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 1 July 2005), entry for Leung Tung Wong, [b.] 1861/1862, Holyoke, Hampden County, Massachusetts.

Short Reference Note

2. "1880 U. S. Federal Census," *Ancestry.com* database entry for Leung Tung Wong, [b.] 1861/1862, Holyoke, Hampden Co., Mass.

## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES

Mills, Elizabeth Shown.

*Quicksheet:*  
*Citing*  
*Ancestry.com*  
*Databases.*  
Baltimore, Md:  
Genealogical  
Pub. Co., 2009



## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES



*Quicksheet: Citing Ancestry.com*

■ **Specific to Materials on Ancestry.com**

- *How to Cite Databases that include Census Records, Vital Records, Passenger Lists, City Directories, Family Trees*
- *How to Cite Images that include Manuscripts, Maps, Newspapers, and Online Books & Articles*
- Sample Citations are Included
  - Source List Entry
  - Full Reference Note
  - Short Reference Note

## ONLINE HISTORICAL RESOURCES



Purchase @ Whollygenes.com  
<http://www.whollygenes.com/>

- *Quicksheet: Citing Online Historical Resources* **\$4.50 Discounted from \$5.95**
- *Quicksheet: Citing Ancestry.com Databases & Images* **\$6.95 Discounted from \$7.95**
- *Evidence Explained* **\$44.96 Discounted from \$59.95**

## Part VII Brick-Wall Busting Techniques



## Brick-Wall Busting Techniques



■ **We All have Brick-Walls**

■ **Make a list of everything you really know**

- You will need to revisit all your associated records to do this
- You may have missed a tiny snippet of information that could be the key to the puzzle
- Don't be afraid to throw out family legends

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques

- Review All Your Documents
  - Carefully Read & Re-read those Documents
  - Compare Documents to those of Other Family Members such as Siblings, Aunts & Uncles
  - Look for Discrepancies
  - Look for New or Additional Facts

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques

- Determine what it is you really need to know
  - Are you looking for the right information to help you move to the next step?

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques

- Where are the logical places to look for that information
  - Use guidebooks (such as the LDS resource guides available at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)) to educate yourself on what is available
  - Check all available sources and record when you DON'T find something as well as when you do
  - Don't assume that people are dead just because they are missing. Making sure you have exhausted all avenues before making assumptions

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques

- Get creative with spellings
  - Try common misspellings or phonetic spellings
  - Try wildcard \* ? searches on computerized searches (\* = anything, ? = replaces one character only)

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques

- Try following other people – **FAN** (Friends, Ancestors & Neighbors)
  - What about his/her siblings?
  - What about their traveling companions or neighbors?
  - Are there any clues in traditional naming patterns or middle names?
  - Who are the witnesses to an event?
  - Who are the neighbors/boarders?

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques

- Try following their land rather than the people
  - If they are landowners follow the plot or find the same address on a census record

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques

- Create Comparative Census Abstracts
  - Compare Different Families in Same Census
  - Compare "Same" Family in Different Censuses
  - Compare Specific Questions Concerning the Same Family in Different Censuses

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques

- Create Comparative Census Abstracts
- Question: Is This the Same Family?

S U R R I A T I O N				
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### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques

- Create A Timeline
  - Record Known Details
  - Seek Corroborating Evidence for Record Discrepancies
  - Broaden Research to Include Collateral Relatives
  - Formulate Research Goals
  - Research New Unused Sources
- Timelines Help Clarify What You Know & What You DO NOT Know About an Individual

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques

**August C. SCHMIDT/SCHROEDER TIMELINE**

DATE	AGE	EVENT	PLACE	SOURCE	ANALYSIS/COMMENTS
Sept. 1854 <sup>1</sup>	0	Birth	MECKLENBURG <sup>2</sup>	<sup>1</sup> Census, 1900 <sup>2</sup> Census, 1880	1880 Census says Mecklenburg as birth place
1874/75	17	Immigration		<sup>1</sup> Census, 1880	Ambiguity in census data. August's info says 1874, his parents' info says 1875
1887	21	Census	Calico, St. Clair Co., MI	<sup>1</sup> Census, 1880	August Schroeder age 21 listed with parents August B. Lense and sister, Fredrika
22 Mar 1884 <sup>3</sup>	25	Declaration of Intention	Port Huron, St. Clair Co., MI	<sup>1</sup> Declarations of Intent, Circuit Court, St. Clair Co., Box 5, p. 281, RG 94-901, Michigan State Archives; LDS film #1994 399	
21 Oct 1887 <sup>4</sup>	29	Marriage	Port Huron, St. Clair Co., MI	<sup>1</sup> St. Clair Co., MI, Marriages, 1887-1888, Book 4, Vol. 1, Found at: <a href="http://www.rootsweb.com/~michia2/m_records4.htm">http://www.rootsweb.com/~michia2/m_records4.htm</a>	Parents listed as August Schmidt & Catherine Schöder. It's possible the J.F. inserted the last names to make groom & father's last names agree. Schöder could well have been what was heard for Schroeder
4 Apr 1889 <sup>5</sup>	30	Naturalization	Port Huron, St. Clair Co., MI	<sup>1</sup> Naturalization Records, Circuit Court, St. Clair Co., Box 6, p. 305, RG 94-901, Michigan State Archives; LDS film #1994 399 <sup>2</sup> Census, 1900	Charles Schroeder vouched before the court for August C. Schmidt
1907	41	Census	Calico, St. Clair Co., MI	<sup>1</sup> Census, 1900	Note that Schmidt, Körvad & Schroeder families lived side by side; Families #3, #3 B, #4
1920 <sup>6</sup>		Census	Calico, St. Clair Co., MI	<sup>1</sup> Census, 1920	
1920 <sup>7</sup>		Census	Mount Clemens, Macomb Co., MI; ED 77 P.238	<sup>1</sup> Census, 1920	
1930 <sup>8</sup>		Census	Mount Clemens, Macomb Co., MI; ED 50-31, P.7A	<sup>1</sup> Census, 1930	He was living with his daughter Selma and is listed as a 72 year old widower, watchman at the Sugar factory, born in Germany, came to U.S. in 1874, and naturalized
25 Apr 1931 <sup>9</sup>	72	Burial/Death	Clinton Grove Cemetery, Clinton Twp., Macomb Co., MI	<sup>1</sup> Cemetery Records, Clinton Grove Cemetery, Found at: <a href="http://www.clintongrove.com/geneal.html">http://www.clintongrove.com/geneal.html</a>	Don't currently have death date

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques: Genealogical Profiling

(See [Handout](#))

- Problem Ancestor Type: **BLACK SHEEP**
  - The proverbial skeleton in the closet -- a convict, outlaw, madam, pirate or other "colorful" character
- Suggested Sources
  - Censuses (check occupation field)
  - Coroner and funeral home records
  - Court records
  - FBI, prison and institutional records
  - Marriage and divorce records
  - Message boards
  - Newspapers and obituaries

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques: Genealogical Profiling

- Problem Ancestor Type: **CENSUS EVADER**
  - This individual or family makes an appearance in certain federal enumerations but not others
- Suggested Sources
  - City directories
  - Soundex indexes to 1880 and later censuses
  - Census searches by first name only and/or demographic characteristics
  - State and territorial censuses
  - Tax lists

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques: Genealogical Profiling



- **Problem Ancestor Type: DRIFTER**
  - Moves around more than a band of gypsies. Shows up in different states and localities; never seems to stay put for an extended period
- **Suggested Sources**
  - Censuses (check birthplace fields)
  - City directories
  - Deeds and land records
  - Migration and boundary-change maps
  - Social histories

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques: Genealogical Profiling



- **Problem Ancestor Type: FLEETING FEMALE**
  - She might be the mother whose maiden name eludes you, or the daughter whose marriage you can't pin down
- **Suggested Sources**
  - Court records
  - Convent records
  - Marriage and divorce records
  - Military pension files
  - Naturalization papers
  - Newspaper society pages
  - Records of her husband and siblings

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques: Genealogical Profiling



- **Problem Ancestor Type: MYSTERY IMMIGRANT**
  - Your missing link to the old country. You might know approximately when he came, but can't retrace his journey or pinpoint his town of origin
- **Suggested Sources**
  - Alien registrations
  - Censuses (check birthplace and language fields)
  - Censuses (check neighbors born in same country)
  - Church records
  - Emigration lists
  - Ethnic newspapers
  - Naturalization papers
  - Newspapers' ship arrival notices
  - Passenger arrival lists

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques: Genealogical Profiling



- **Problem Ancestor Type: ORPHAN OR ADOPTEE**
  - Seemingly, the ultimate brick wall, since the parents' identities may be unknown or purposely concealed
- **Suggested Sources**
  - Amended or delayed birth certificates
  - Apprenticeships
  - Censuses
  - Family interviews
  - Guardianships and orphans court records
  - Message boards and support groups
  - Newspaper adoption notices
  - Orphan train records
  - Orphanage records

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques



**BEST  
TECHNIQUE?**

### Brick-Wall Busting Techniques



**GET LUCKY!!!**

QUESTIONS?



**CONTACT  
INFORMATION**

**irvinrabideau@att.net**