

## FOR THE RECORDS

### Genealogy in Lincolnland

In 1829, New Salem, Illinois was founded when James Rutledge and John M. Camron, a millwright and nephew of Rutledge's wife, entered the land to construct a mill (Fig. 1). Two years later, in 1831, a young Abraham Lincoln set off on his own. The story of Lincoln's family is a familiar one: his parents received conflicting land titles in Kentucky, which largely contributed to the family's move out of that state.<sup>1</sup> They went to Indiana and, later, Macon County, Illinois, where Lincoln would separate from his family and live in New Salem for most of the pioneer village's life. For several decades these origins were seen as "drab, sordid, uninspiring; as an obstacle that he in some mysterious manner succeeded in surmounting"<sup>2</sup> rather than as a foundational and quintessentially American part of Lincoln's life, full of people he would recall and interact with to the heights of his career. His persistent mingling with people resulted in sources rich in material of genealogical interest to descendants of early settlers of Central Illinois.

Originally located in Sangamon County, New Salem became part of Menard County when Menard was formed in 1839. The large, extended Elmore family began to settle in and around the area before 1830 and continued to pour in from Kentucky and Tennessee for a hundred years. They were connected by ties so labyrinthine and documentarily ephemeral as to warrant family history titles such as "The Legend of the Eight Brothers."<sup>3</sup> Like most families, the Elmore's lives were both too obscure and too common to command a place in general histories. Yet the intense interest in Lincoln, from his assassination to the present day, opened a door to the lives of less famous Illinois settlers through which anecdotes, petitions, and otherwise rarely seen records have been allowed to flow.

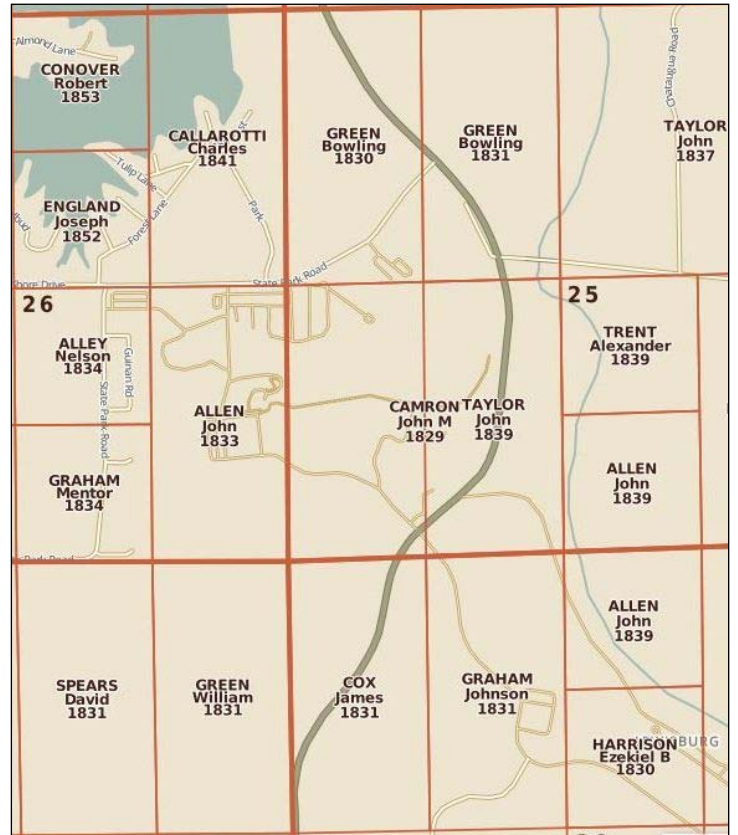


Figure 1 | The New Salem area as seen on HistoryGEO's First Landowners Project. The HistoryGEO database is available in the History & Genealogy Department.

### Voting in 1831

In 1831, Lincoln was hired by Denton Offutt to help take a flatboat and its cargo to New Orleans. On the way, the boat got stuck at New Salem, where a crowd gathered to watch the spectacle. After reaching New Orleans, Lincoln took a steamboat to St. Louis and then walked back to New Salem, as Offutt had decided to open a store there and hire Lincoln as a clerk.<sup>4</sup> Only a few days after arriving on August 1, 1831, Lincoln cast what was likely his first vote. By the next year, Lincoln was already running for the State Legislature.

The 1831 election return (Fig. 2)<sup>5</sup> shows Lincoln's name



and freely available manuscript version of his book, [Abraham Lincoln: A Life](https://bit.ly/2Pbnt20) <<https://bit.ly/2Pbnt20>>, the other men did not necessarily take Lincoln seriously as a leader at that time. Two men in Lincoln's company were Nathan Drake and Travis Elmore, who may have been the Travis listed next to Lincoln the 1831 election return. The two were later informants to John F. Snyder, a Confederate veteran and historian. Based on his interviews with Elmore and Drake, Snyder wrote that Lincoln was "profoundly ignorant of military matters, and, from fear of losing his popularity, he made no pretense, or effort, to enforce discipline, or control his men in any way."<sup>8</sup> While Snyder's harsh rendering of events is likely enhanced by political differences, Lincoln was in fact disciplined for his men's drunkenness and for firing his pistol too close to camp, though he was also able to stop his men from harming an innocent elderly Native American.<sup>9</sup> If some peers lacked full confidence in his abilities, Lincoln already had a legendary reputation to live up to, for Denton Offutt claimed his clerk could "run faster and jump farther than anyone in the county, and could beat anyone at wrestling."<sup>10</sup>

Try using the find function (Control + f on Windows or Command + f on Mac) in Burlingame's manuscript for surnames or other keywords. Check any relevant footnotes for clues to further research.

### Odd jobs and biographies

The earliest biographical accounts of Lincoln were the three short autobiographical accounts he wrote from 1858 to 1860. In 1860, William Dean Howells wrote a biography for Lincoln's campaign titled *Life of Abraham Lincoln*. The same year, a lawyer named Samuel C. Parks asked Lincoln to read the biography. Lincoln left his corrections in the margins of that copy,<sup>11</sup> which is [available online in facsimile](https://bit.ly/2YC1THc) <<https://bit.ly/2YC1THc>>.

After Lincoln's death, opportunists rushed to publish biographies, each trying to take a piece of a life that was already becoming a public attraction. Around the same time, two of Lincoln's close associates, Ward H. Lamon and William H. Herndon, intended to "make the real history and character of Mr. Lincoln as well known to the public as they were to us."<sup>12</sup> In his preface, Lamon stated that "out of the mass of works which appeared, of one only—Dr. Holland's—

is it possible to speak with any degree of respect."<sup>13</sup> While standards of scholarship have surpassed even the more serious early endeavors, the collection of oral history they provided remains invaluable.

This early drive to record the most mundane details of Lincoln's life can be the source of stories concerning lesser-known settlers. As of this writing, the Abraham Lincoln Association has made it possible simultaneously to search 24 texts on Lincoln with [Lincoln Monographs](https://bit.ly/2Pcf2Dv) <<https://bit.ly/2Pcf2Dv>>. To see if we can glean more information on the Elmore family, we can type "Elmore" in the simple search option. The database returns a few results in two books, including something from the biography written by Lamon that does not appear in the book's index. Clicking "Results details" will show part of the relevant text, and clicking the page number will display the full text. One of the results concerns the period when Lincoln was postmaster at New Salem, having been appointed to that position in May 1833. He held the job until New Salem's post office closed in May 1836.<sup>14</sup> Lamon attributes the following story to a Mr. Hill, who was likely Samuel Hill, a merchant and first postmaster of New Salem:

One Elmore Johnson, an ignorant but ostentatious, proud man, used to go to Lincoln's post-office every day—sometimes three or four times a day, if in town—and inquire,

## LIBRARY HOLIDAY CLOSING

### Christmas Eve

Tuesday, Dec. 24

### Christmas Day

Wednesday, Dec. 25

### New Year's Eve

Tuesday, Dec. 31—the library closes at 5:00 p.m.

### New Year's Day

Wednesday, Jan. 1

### Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, Jan. 20



## Abraham Lincoln: President, surveyor, common laborer...genealogist?

Contrary to the image of a self-made man of murky provenance, an image that his own statements sometimes perpetuated,<sup>1</sup> Lincoln held a sustained interest in his family history. He went so far as to write to suspected relations in Massachusetts and Virginia.<sup>2</sup> Faced with increasing responsibility in his political career, Lincoln intended to pursue his family history more seriously after the conclusion of his second term as President.<sup>3</sup> Since he was assassinated before that, it is unknown to what degree genealogy may have occupied his later years.

Though he had little information on his maternal lineage, Lincoln managed to trace his paternal line to the 1600s. In 1637, Samuel Lincoln immigrated from Hingham in Norfolk, England to a village in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, also called Hingham. He helped build the Old Ship Church, which still stands in Massachusetts.<sup>4</sup> A more recent ancestor, John Lincoln, married a Quaker woman and took the Great Wagon Road from Pennsylvania to Virginia in the 1760s. Abraham Lincoln's paternal grandfather, after whom he was named, served as a captain during the Revolutionary War and moved the family to Kentucky.<sup>5</sup>

1. For example, Lincoln referred to his lineage as "undistinguished" in the second of three short autobiographies he wrote from 1858 to 1860. It was originally published in a Pennsylvania newspaper at the request of Jesse W. Fell. See Abraham Lincoln, "[Abraham Lincoln to Jesse W. Fell, Tuesday \(Sends autobiographical sketch \[Cover letter and sketch provided\]\)](#)," *Abraham Lincoln papers: Series 3. General Correspondence*, 1859. Manuscript/Mixed Material. <https://www.loc.gov/item/mal4339100/>.

2. Ronald C. White, A. *Lincoln: A Biography* (New York: Random House, 2009), 8. Call no. B Lincoln Abraham.

3. Michael Burlingame, "Abraham Lincoln: A Life," (online PDF, 2008, Knox College—Lincoln Studies Center, 2008, Galesburg), chapter 1, 2. <https://www.knox.edu/about-knox/lincoln-studies-center/burlingame-abraham-lincoln-a-life>.

4. White, A. *Lincoln*, 8-9.

5. *Ibid*, 10-1.

"Any thing for me?" This bored Lincoln, yet it amused him. Lincoln fixed a plan,—wrote a letter to Johnson as coming from a negress in Kentucky, saying many good things about opossum, dances, corn-suckings, &c.; "John's! come and see me; and old master won't kick you out of the kitchen any more!" Elmore took it out; opened it; couldn't read a word; pretended to read it; went away; got some friends to read it; they read it correctly; he thought the reader was fooling him, and went to others with the same result. At last he said he would get Lincoln to read it, and presented it to Lincoln. It was almost too much for Lincoln, but he read it. The man never asked afterwards, "Any thing here for me?"<sup>15</sup>

The subject of this anecdote, Elmore Johnson, is almost certainly Johnson Elmore, who lived in the vicinity of New Salem. While the account provides no evidence of its veracity, the story and others like it offer the most elusive type of insight into the personalities of people who seldom appear in records. Lincoln's early biographers, particularly Herndon, his former law partner in Springfield, collected many stories such as this by interviewing people who had lived near Lincoln in Illinois. Among the searchable sources in Northern Illinois University's [Abraham Lincoln Historical Digitization Project](#) <<https://bit.ly/2RI8376>> is information extracted from the book Herndon's Informants: Letters, Interviews, and Statements about Abraham Lincoln. The same story about Johnson Elmore is repeated in that source, except here it is attributed to an interview with James Miles and makes it clear the story was originally told by Samuel Hill to James Miles, who repeated it to Herndon.<sup>16</sup> A related source, the "[Register of Informants](#)" <<https://bit.ly/35gxcW>> comprises brief biographies of the informants, including James Miles, a few members of the Elmore family, and various others.

In late 1833, Lincoln became deputy to John Calhoun, the county surveyor. A story about Lincoln's survey of Petersburg, located just north of New Salem in Menard County, is often used in biographies as an example of Lincoln's character in the early steps of his career. Carl Sandburg's version of the story goes like this:

In Petersburg, however, [Lincoln] laid out one street crooked. Running it straight and regular, it would have put the house of Jemima Elmore and her family into the street.



Figure. 3 | In front of Henry Onstot's cooper shop in the restored New Salem village. Photo by Jennifer Rigsby.

Lincoln knew her to be working a small farm with her children and she was the widow of Private Traveice Elmore, honorable in service in Lincoln's company in the Black Hawk War.<sup>17</sup>

The true story is probably not so simple. In the first place, Lincoln surveyed Petersburg in 1836, and the Travis Elmore who served under him lived long enough to provide information to Snyder after Lincoln's death. Later historians, such as Burlingame, have omitted the name Travis from the account.<sup>18</sup> On the other hand, Johnson Elmore's wife was named Jemima, though she was not widowed at that point, and Johnson did not participate in the Black Hawk War. A sign in Petersburg reduces the names to "squatters." Whatever the case may or may not have been, [Lincoln's survey of Petersburg](https://bit.ly/2LMee6x) is available on the Papers of Abraham Lincoln Digital Library. To find other surveys he made, try searching the documents for "survey."

### The "absolute mad man" and the case of the reappearing surveying tools

In February, 1836, Lincoln authored and signed a petition that called for an increase of state support to a son of Travis Elmore. The document, also hosted by the Papers of [Abraham Lincoln Digital Library](https://bit.ly/2EaAvXe) <<https://bit.ly/2EaAvXe>>, reads:

To the county commissioners court for the county of Sangamon.

We the undersigned, being personally acquainted with the insane son of Traveice Elmore, for whose maintenance an allowance from the county treasury has already been made, believe that the allowance is much too small, and, therefore, recommend that it be increased to a fair compensation for the maintenance and management of an absolute mad man."<sup>9</sup>



The footnotes to the transcription offer details on laws in use at the time and references to related records. This petition made for the benefit of an ill and impoverished person underlines the extent of Lincoln's involvement with all levels of his community.

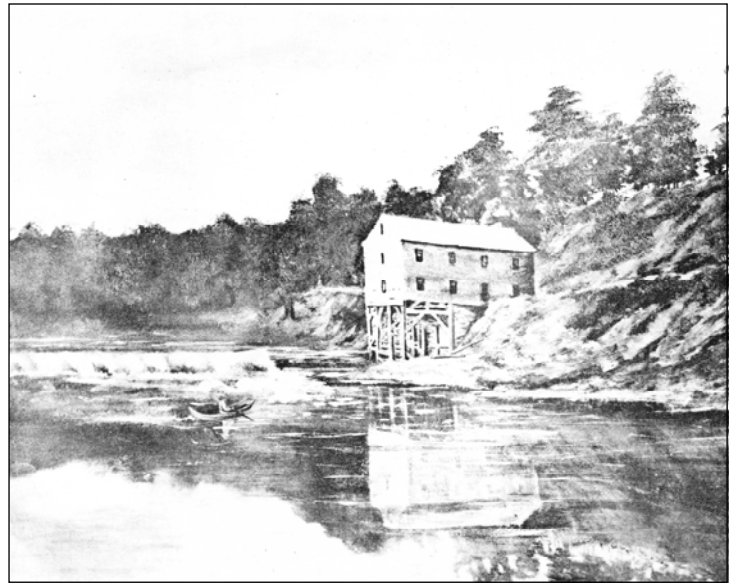
As Lincoln strived for the benefit of others, so too did the other pioneers come to his aid. As an informant to Herndon, Travis Elmore told a story about how, in order to pay a debt, the constable sold Lincoln's surveying tools, which he relied on for income. Fortunately for Lincoln, a man named Jim Short, who lived nearby, bid on the tools and returned them to him.<sup>20</sup>

Later in 1836, a final, failed attempt to navigate the Sangamon River by steamboat proved fatal to New Salem.<sup>21</sup> The settlers began to disperse. Some, such as the Elmore, congregated north, in and around the more bustling city of Petersburg. Some headed ever towards the west. Lincoln went south, to Springfield, where he pursued a career in law. The Bale family would eventually buy out every town lot in New Salem.<sup>22</sup>

### Long-distance neighbors

New Salem's failure was not enough to break the powerful social bonds the pioneer settlers formed. Through his law practice he formed with Herndon, Lincoln continuously interacted with former neighbors, who often hired him for their legal woes, sometimes against each other. The Law Practice of Abraham Lincoln website allows researchers to scour through these cases. The website provides several ways to search. Try quickly searching for surname by typing the name in the "Summary Text" field, located in the bottom-right box labelled "Direct." Searching with the "Participant" field requires names to be formatted with the last name first. If searching for Johnson Elmore, one must enter "Elmore, Johnson." A list of valid suggestions will appear as you type.

The results show that Johnson Elmore was involved in a few of Lincoln's cases, though he seemed less interested in frivolous suits than pointless post office visits. In 1846, he hired Lincoln and Herndon to represent him after a man named Chester Moon shot him, hindering his ability to move. According to the summary:



"The Old Mill at New Salem," painting by a Mrs. Bennett printed in *Menard, Salem, Lincoln: Souvenir Album* (Call no. R 977.3555

Elmore retained Lincoln and Herndon and sued Moon for \$500 on the charge of assault with a deadly weapon. Elmore claimed Moon beat and shot him, causing him to become lame. The jury found Moon guilty and awarded Elmore \$50. Lincoln and Herndon received \$25 for their legal services.<sup>23</sup>

Clicking the name of the case, *Elmore v Moon*, near the bottom left of the page will bring up more information, including the ability to see original documents by clicking the "View Documents" button at the bottom right.

The pattern of involvement with Lincoln and his early connections continued. In 1857, Lincoln successfully defended Jack Armstrong's son against murder charges sprung from a drunken incident at a camp meeting.<sup>24</sup> Even after Lincoln became President, the people of Central Illinois retained a hold on him. The *Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, [made available online](https://bit.ly/2skUhfW) <<https://bit.ly/2skUhfW>> by the Abraham Lincoln Association, contains the late 1864 text of Lincoln's correspondence regarding a Union soldier named William Elmore who may have been related to the Elmore family in Illinois. William's wife failed to convince his commander to release him back into his unit until Lincoln got involved. Lincoln wrote an endorsement to William's commander stating that he knew William and that "he has a wife and one

child who is perfectly destitute and any thing that can be done for her relief would be a charitable act.”<sup>25</sup> William received a pardon from Lincoln and was sent back to his unit.

### New Salem

For a long time the site of New Salem sat deserted of buildings and the lively festivities it had once been host to. As people began to see Lincoln’s early history as positive if not essential, many wanted to restore life to the town that was so central to his early adulthood. Through multi-disciplinary efforts, the state of Illinois and organizations devoted to Lincoln were able to rebuild the village’s structures. The Old Salem Lincoln League sourced period-appropriate furnishings, most of which

came from descendants of early Menard County settlers. Several items are known to have been owned by people who lived in the town.<sup>26</sup> New Salem was re-founded on April 3rd, 1919 as Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site.

The small selection of Elmore-related documents and oral history covered here follow much of Lincoln’s life and the various hats he wore. They also provide valuable family history information and leads for further research. What will your own searches turn up?

### Notes

1. Ronald C. White, *A. Lincoln: A Biography* (New York:

## The deep snow

In the history of Central Illinois, the Deep Snow that fell over the winter of 1830–1831 ranks second only to Abraham Lincoln. Whether you read a county history or skim the introduction to a seemingly unrelated index, the memory of the snow seizes upon those who stumble by its wake. The 1879 *History of Menard and Mason Counties, Illinois* states as a matter of fact that “all important events are reckoned by the deep snow.”<sup>1</sup> The history goes on, as if preparing to recite Hans Christian Andersen’s “The Snow Queen,” by imploring readers to “ask the old grandfather or grandmother about the deep snow, and note the sparkle of their eyes, as memory rolls back over a period of fifty years, when 'All the land with snow was covered.’”<sup>2</sup>

Sources claim three to four feet of snow fell and remained until spring. A layer of ice crusted the top, while the wind constantly blew snow across the prairie. Vague and macabre stories relate the deaths of people and animals left in the open. Deer and horses, whose hooves broke through the ice, became easy meals for wolves.<sup>3</sup> When the snow finally thawed in March, settlers ventured out to find bodies revealed by the thaw.<sup>4</sup>

In 1860, Lincoln wrote about the Deep Snow in the third and longest of his three autobiographical writings. It happened the year he came to the part of Illinois that would become Menard County. The snow delayed him. Writing in the third

person, Lincoln recalled that winter, which caused him to stay in Macon County “through the succeeding winter, which was the winter of the very celebrated ‘deep snow’ of Illinois. During that winter Abraham, together with his stepmother's son, John D. Johnston, and John Hanks, yet residing in Macon County, hired themselves to Denton Offutt to take a flatboat from Beardstown, Illinois, to New Orleans; and for that purpose were to join him—Offutt—at Springfield, Illinois, so soon as the snow should go off.”<sup>5</sup>

According to Samuel Wheeler, a historian at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, in order to join the Old Settlers Society formed in 1859, one had to have been present for the Deep Snow. “Even that many years later,” Wheeler said, “they were still affected by it. It was a shared experience, and they never forgot it.”<sup>6</sup>

1 *The History of Menard and Mason Counties, Illinois* (1879; repr., Evansville, Indiana: Unigraphic, 1976), 286. Call no. R 977.355 H673.

2 Ibid.

3 Benjamin P. Thomas, *Lincoln's New Salem* (Chicago: Abraham Lincoln Book Shop, 1966), 30-1. Call no. R 977.3555 T454L.

4 Tom Emery, “‘Year of Deep Snow’ set standard for winter in Illinois,” *The Journal-Courier*, 25 December 2016, HTML edition (<https://www.myjournalcourier.com/news/article/Year-of-Deep-Snow-set-standard-for-winter-12579706.php> : accessed 11 December 2019), para. 18; citing print edition.

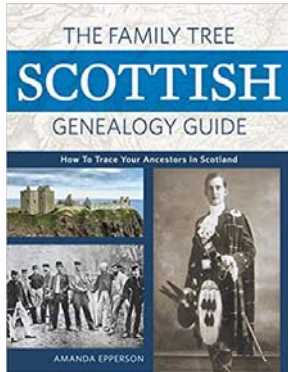
5 Abraham Lincoln, *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, ed. Roy P. Basler (New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1953), 4:63.

6 Emery, “‘Year of Deep Snow’ set standard for winter in Illinois,” para. 20.

- Random House, 2009), 21. Call no. B Lincoln Abraham.
2. Benjamin P. Thomas, *Lincoln's New Salem* (Chicago: Abraham Lincoln Book Shop, 1966), ix. Call no. R 977.3555 T454L.
3. See William E. Elmore, "The Legend of the Eight Brothers." In *The Working Papers of William E. Elmore*, vol. 4, (St. Louis, Mo: W. E. Elmore, 1992). Call no. R 929.2 E48E.
4. Thomas, *Lincoln's New Salem*, 61
5. "Legislative Digital Archive," Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, *The Papers of Abraham Lincoln Digital Library* (<https://papersofabrahamlincoln.org/documents/D251267> : accessed 3 December 2019), database with images, "Election Returns for Clary's Grove Precinct in Sangamon County, Illinois. [1831-08-01]."
6. Travis was a particularly popular name in the Elmore family. At least three Sangamon County residents shared the name Travis Elmore in the early 1830s. One was about 60 years old, one a young man, and another a young child of Johnson and Jemima Elmore.
7. Thomas, *Lincoln's New Salem*, 101.
8. Michael Burlingame, "Abraham Lincoln: A Life," (online PDF, 2008, Knox College—Lincoln Studies Center, 2008, Galesburg), chapter 3, 242. <https://www.knox.edu/about-knox/lincoln-studies-center/burlingame-abraham-lincoln-a-life>. See note cclxxxiii.
9. *Ibid*, 241.
10. White, A. *Lincoln*, 46.
11. Thomas, *Lincoln's New Salem*, xii.
12. Ward H. Lamon, *The Life of Abraham Lincoln: From His Birth to His Inauguration as President: With Illustrations* (Boston: James R. Osgood and Company, 1872), iii. Call no. RB L736L.
13. *Ibid*.
14. Thomas, *Lincoln's New Salem*, 94.
15. Lamon, *Life of Abraham Lincoln*, 148-9.
16. Northern Illinois University Digital Library, "Herndon's Informants: Letters, Interviews, and Statements About Abraham Lincoln," database, *Abraham Lincoln Historical Digitization Project* (<https://digital.lib.niu.edu/islandora/object/niu-lincoln%3A36169> : accessed 10 December 2019), extract, James Miles (William H. Herndon Interview).
17. Carl Sandburg, *Abraham Lincoln: The Prairie Years and the War Years* (1967; repr., New York: Galahad Books, 1993) 36. Call no. B L736S7.
18. Burlingame, "Abraham Lincoln: A Life," online PDF, chapter 3, 279.
19. "Legislative Digital Edition," Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, *The Papers of Abraham Lincoln Digital Library* (<https://papersofabrahamlincoln.org/documents/D200073> : accessed 3 December 2019), database with images, "Petition of Abraham Lincoln and Others to the Sangamon County Commissioners' Court, 3 February 1836."
20. Northern Illinois University Digital Library, "Herndon's Informants: Letters, Interviews, and Statements About Abraham Lincoln," (<https://digital.lib.niu.edu/islandora/object/niu-lincoln%3A37017> : accessed 10 December 2019), extract, Travis Elmore (Jesse W. Weik Interview).
21. Thomas, *Lincoln's New Salem*, 55.
22. *Ibid*, 56.
23. Martha L. Benner and Cullom Davis et al., eds., *Elmore v. Moon, The Law Practice of Abraham Lincoln: Complete Documentary Edition*, 2d edition (Springfield: Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, 2009), <http://www.lawpracticeofabrahamlincoln.org/Details.aspx?case=135123>, hereafter cited as *LPAL*.
24. *People v. Armstrong, LPAL*, <http://www.lawpracticeofabrahamlincoln.org/Details.aspx?case=135794>.
25. Abraham Lincoln, *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, ed. Roy P. Basler (New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1953), 8:6.
26. Thomas, *Lincoln's New Salem*, 163-4.



## NEW BOOK HIGHLIGHTS



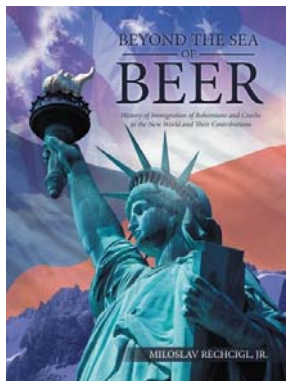
AMANDA EPPERSON

The Family Tree Scottish Genealogy guide  
**Family Tree, 2018**

**R 941.1 E64F**  
and circulating copy

This book will help you uncover your Scottish heritage, from identifying your immigrant ancestor to tracking down records in the old country. With help from Scottish genealogy expert Amanda Epperson, you'll learn about church records, civil registrations, censuses, and more, plus how to find them in online databases and in archives. Inside, you'll find:

- Basic information on how to start family history research, including identifying and tracing immigrant ancestors
- Step-by-steps for finding and using records from both the United States and Scotland
- Crash-course guides to Scottish history, geography, surnames, and naming conventions—*Publisher*



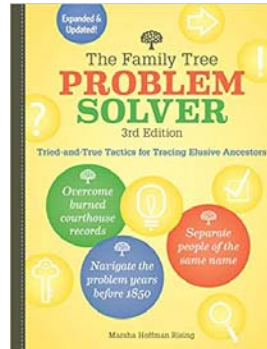
MILOSLAV RECHCIGL

Beyond the Sea of Beer:  
History of Immigration of  
Bohemians and Czechs to  
the New World and Their  
Contributions

**AuthorHouse, 2017**  
**R 973.04918 R296B**

This is a comprehensive history of immigrants from the historic lands of the Bohemian Crown and its successor states, including Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic, based on the painstaking lifetime research of the author. It covers the period starting soon after the discovery of the New World to date. The emphasis is on the U.S., although Canada and Latin America are also covered. It covers the arrival and the settlement of the immigrants in various states and regions of America, their

harsh beginnings, the establishment of their communities, and their organization. A separate section is devoted to the contributions of notable individuals in different areas of human endeavor.—*Book jacket abstract*



MARSHA HOFFMAN RISING

The Family Tree Problem Solver: Tried-and-True Tactics for Tracing Elusive Ancestors  
**3rd Edition**

**Family Tree Books, 2019**  
**929.1 R595F**

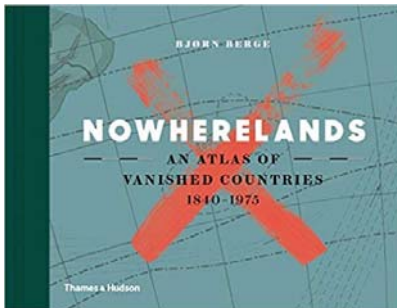
Has your family history research hit a brick wall? Marsha Hoffman Rising's newly updated bestselling book *The Family Tree Problem Solver* has the solutions to help you find the answers you seek. Here, you'll find answers to genealogy's toughest problems.

- Inside, you'll find:
- Work-arounds for lost or destroyed records
- Techniques for finding ancestors with common names
- Strategies for analyzing your problem and creating a successful research plan
- Ideas on how to find vital records before civil registration
- Troubleshooting advice for interpreting your DNA results
- Tips for finding "missing" ancestors in censuses

## [View a complete list of new books online](#)

A list of new books received during the previous month is posted on the library's website. [View the list online](https://bit.ly/2HrQhks) <<https://bit.ly/2HrQhks>>. For more information about viewing the new book list online, exporting records, and saving items to a customized list, call (314) 994-3300 or ask a librarian when visiting any St. Louis County Library branch.

- Instructions for investigating collateral kin to further your family tree
- Methods for finding ancestors who lived before 1850
- Case studies that show you how to apply these strategies to real-life research problems—*Publisher*



BJORN BERGE  
**Nowherelands: An Atlas of Vanished Countries, 1840–1975**  
**Thames & Hudson, 2017**  
**R 909.8 B495N**

These are the stories of fifty countries that once existed but have now have been erased from the map. Varying vastly in size and shape, location and longevity, they are united by one fact: all of them endured long enough to issue their own stamps.

Some of their names, such as Biafra or New Brunswick, will

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 Website: <http://www.slcl.org>

Tours

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be relatively familiar. Others, such as Labuan, Tannu Tuva, and Inini, are far less recognizable. But all of these lost nations have stories to tell, whether they were as short-lived as Eastern Karelia, which lasted only a few weeks during the Soviet–Finnish War of 1922, or as long-lasting as the Orange Free State, a Boer Republic that celebrated fifty years as an independent state in the late 1800s. Their broad spectrum reflects the entire history of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, with its ideologies, imperialism, waves of immigration, and conflicts both major and minor.

The motifs and symbols chosen for stamps have always served as a form of national self-presentation, an expression of the aims and ambitions of the ruling authorities. Drawing on fiction and eye-witness accounts as well as historical sources, Bjorn Berge's witty text casts an unconventional eye on these lesser-known nations. *Nowherelands* is a different kind of history book that will intrigue anyone keen to understand what makes a nation a nation.—*Publisher*

## Briefly noted

### American history

The European Struggle to Settle North America: Colonizing Attempts by England, France and Spain, 1521–1608.  
 R 970 P597E

The First American Political Conventions: Transforming Presidential Nominations, 1832–1872. R 324.273 H424F

The United States Military in Latin America: A History of Interventions through 1934. R 355.0098 C593U

Central Colonies Chronicle: The Freemen, the Servants, and the Government, 1722–1732. R 974 C397

Latin American Rebels and the United States, 1806–1822.  
 R 327.7308 B877L

Negotiating the Louisiana Purchase: Robert Livingston's Mission to France, 1801–1804. R 973.46 B829N

### Colonial period

The Colonial Cavalier, Or, Southern Life Before the Revolution. R 975 G657C

The Colonization of the Middle States and Maryland.  
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St. Francis of Assisi: 1998 Membership Directory, 4556 Telegraph Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63129. R 977.865 S138

Whiteman Air Force Base. R 977.848 L334W

Wicked Branson. R 977.8797 U56W

Wicked Joplin. 977.872 W876W

Wicked Women of Missouri. R 977.8 W876W

#### New York

Mr. Jay of Bedford: John Jay, the Retirement Years 1801–1829. R 974.7277 B853M

Our Brooklyn, New York Ancestors, 1796 and Beyond.  
R 974.71 E21O

#### North Carolina

The Deep River Coalfield: Two Hundred Years of Mining in Chatham County, North Carolina. R 975.659 C466D

The Easter People: A Pen-Picture of the Moravian Celebration of the Resurrection. R 975.667 K59E

The Heritage of Davidson County, 1982. R 975.668 H548

Breaking Loose Together: The Regulator Rebellion in Pre-Revolutionary North Carolina. 975.6 K18B

North Carolina and World War II: A Documentary Portrait.  
R 975.6 D260N

Asheville: A History. R 975.688 C487A

Snow Camp, North Carolina. R 975.658 A426S

Tell Me Why Dear Bennett. R 975.662 M913T

#### Pennsylvania

The Middle Holds: A History of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, Canonsburg, and the Community It Serves.  
R 974.882 R518M

Burials in the Upper Ten Mile Church Cemetery: Located in the Village of Prosperity, Morris Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania: Compiled in 1995.  
R 974.882 D923B

Cambria County, Pa Cemeteries. R 974.877 W311C

Collected Cemetery Records from Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. R 974.818 S398C

Early African American Deaths in the Pittsburgh Courier.  
R 974.886 B821E

Index of Surnames Appearing in the Hazleton Semi-Weekly, Hazleton, Pennsylvania. R 974.832 D767I

Alphabetical Listing, Flatwoods Cemetery Record: Franklin Twp., Fayette County, Pa. R 974.884 M849A

Memorabilia of Flatwoods Baptist Church. R 974.884 C836M  
Memorabilia of Jackson Elementary School: One Room  
Schoolhouse Located on Virgin Run Road, Perry Town-  
ship, Fayette County, Pa, 1832–2000. R 974.884 C836M  
Obituaries and Death Notices from the Hazleton Standard  
Sentinel, Hazleton, Pennsylvania. 974.832 D767O  
Obituaries and Death Notices from the Hazleton Standard  
Sentinel, Hazleton, Pennsylvania. R 974.832 D767O  
Pittsburgh's Forgotten Allegheny Arsenal. R 974.886 W959P  
Venango County Soldiers: Includes Biographical Sketches &  
Pension Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers, War of  
1812 Burials, & Civil War Burials. R 974.896 M996V

### South Carolina

The Huguenot Church in Charleston. R 975.791 E13H  
Charleston! Charleston!: The History of a Southern City.  
975.7915 F842C

### Tennessee

The Day the Whistles Cried: The Great Cornfield Meet at  
Dutchman's Curve: The Story of America's Deadliest  
Train Wreck. R 976.855 T518D  
The Journal of Griffith's General Store, Jasper, Marion Coun-  
ty, Tennessee: December 10, 1836–November 11, 1838.  
R 976.879 B873J  
The Memphis Commercial Appeal: The History of a Southern  
Newspaper. R 976.819 B168M  
1836 Henry County, Tennessee, Tax List. R 976.834 E35  
1890 Tax Book, Hamblen County, Tennessee.  
R 976.8923 E34  
19th Century and Early 20th Century Photographers in Giles  
County, Tennessee. R 976.861 W243N  
Benton County, Tennessee County Court Minutes.  
976.833 B478  
Benton County, Tennessee County Court Minutes.  
R 976.833 B478  
Big Black Creek. R 976.827 K52B  
Bradley County, Tennessee Chancery Court Minutes.  
R 976.8873 B811  
Cemetery Records of Lincoln County, Tennessee, and Adjoin-  
ing Counties. R 976.8624 C394  
Civil War Soldiers of Greene County, Tennessee: A Sesqui-  
centennial Project. R 976.891 G799C  
Clarksville. R 976.845 R688C

Counties of Tennessee. R 976.8 F754C  
Doctor Woman of the Cumberland: The Autobiography of  
May Cravath Wharton, M.D. R 976.8944 W554D  
Dyer County, Tennessee Circuit Court Minutes: Civil and  
Criminal. R 976.815 D996  
Early West Tennessee Baptist Associations, Minutes and  
Notes, 1830–1903. R 976.8 T297E  
Elmwood 2002: in the Shadows of the Elms.  
R 976.819 M196E  
Finding Our Past: History of Black Education in Giles Coun-  
ty, 1920–1970. R 976.861 F494  
Hamblen County, Tennessee County Clerk Minutes, October  
1870–December 1874. R 976.8923 H199  
Hamblen County, Tennessee, Wills, 1870–1974.  
R 976.8923 H199  
Henry County, Tennessee, Women of Distinction.  
R 976.834 T236H  
History of Giles County, Tennessee. R 976.861 P238H  
Interesting Cases from the Henry County, Tennessee  
Archives. R 976.834 T236I  
Lake County, Tennessee Circuit Court Minutes: March 1892–  
1895. R 976.812 L192  
Land Deed Genealogy of Bedford County, Tennessee.  
R 976.8583 M365L  
Lewis County, Tennessee Circuit Court Minutes, Civil and  
Criminal, March 1846–March 1850. R 976.8432 L673  
Looking Back at Tennessee: A Photographic Retrospective.  
R 976.8 M825L  
Alpha. R 976.8923 P985A  
Stewart County, Tennessee Circuit Court Minutes.  
R 976.835 L848S  
Stewart County, Tennessee Election Records, 1804–1879.  
R 976.835 L848S  
Vonore Families: Yesterday and Today. R 976.8883 V948  
Wicked Nashville. R 976.855 G599W

### Virginia

The Militia of Washington County, Va: Officers, 1777–1835,  
Militia Men, 1798–1835. R 975.5725 C593M  
The University Memorial: Biographical Sketches of Alumni  
of the University of Virginia Who Fell in the Confederate  
War. R 975.5481 J67U  
Hanover County, Virginia: Old Wills, 1785–1893: Will Book  
Circuit Court, 1852–1865. R 975.5462 E92H

Hanover County, Virginia: Will Book 1, Circuit Court, 1862–1895, Will Book 1, 1862–1868. R 975.5462 E92H

Ploughshares Into Swords: Race, Rebellion, and Identity in Gabriel's Virginia, 1730–1810. R 975.5451 S568P

Seventy-Five Years in Old Virginia: With Some Account of the Life of the Author and Some History of the People Amongst Whom His Lot Was Cast—Their Character, Their Condition, and Their Conduct Before the War, During the War and After the War. R 975.5 C585S

Virginia in the War Years, 1938–1945: Military Bases, the U-Boat War and Daily Life. R 975.5 F866V

#### Other states

The Texas Revolution and the U.S.-Mexican War: A Concise History. R 976.4 C165T

Theatres of Oakland. R 979.466 T577T

Beer in Maryland: A History of Breweries Since Colonial Times. R 975.2 O62B

Above Washington: A Collection of Nostalgic and Contemporary Aerial Photographs of the District of Columbia. R 975.3 C182A

Cotton-Patch Schoolhouse. R 976.1392 T662C

Greenbrier County Death Records, 1853–1899: The Index. R 975.488 B942G

In Search of Lake Wobegon. R 977.6 K27I

Passaic County, New Jersey Military Service Records from World War I and Other Wars. R 974.923 P226P

Vital Record of Rehoboth, 1642–1896: Marriages, Intentions, Births, Deaths: With Supplement Containing the Record of 1896, Colonial Returns, Lists of the Early Settlers, Purchasers, Freeman, Inhabitants, the Soldiers Serving in Philip's War and the Revolution. R 974.485 V836

William Carey College: The First 100 Years. R 976.218 W562W

#### Other new titles

Digitization and Digital Archiving: A Practical Guide for Librarians. R 025.84 L513D

The Irish in Baseball: An Early History. R 796.357 F596I

The Oxford Guide to Library Research. 025.524 M282O

The Penguin Historical Atlas of the Vikings. R 911.48 H427P

Cartes de Visite in Nineteenth Century Photography. R 770 D225C





## Additions to the National Genealogical Society Book Loan Collection Dec. 1, 2018–Nov. 30, 2019

The National Genealogical Society Book Loan Collection (NGS Collection) features more than 28,000 books for family history research, including more than 10,000 published family histories. Originally housed at NGS headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, the collection was relocated to St. Louis County Library in St. Louis, Missouri in 2001. Although access was once limited to NGS membership, the NGS Collection is now accessible to everyone at local libraries through interlibrary loan services (ILL) or by visiting History & Genealogy at St. Louis County Library.

The collection continues to grow through contributions by authors and publishers. The following titles were added in the previous year. Call number locations at St. Louis County Library follow each bibliographic entry.

- Alley, Robert Earl. *Joseph Alley & Elizabeth Miller, Their Descendants & Ancestors Including Miller, Landes, Riley, Gaylor, Mcnett, Bailey, & Gilbert Families*. Rockingham, Va.: Robert Earl Alley, 2019. 929.2 A435A
- Anderson, Robert Charles. *Puritan Pedigrees: The Deep Roots of the Great Migration to New England*. Boston, Mass.: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2018. 974 A549P
- Bailey, Harris, Jr. *Our Ancestors, Our Stories: The Memory Keepers—Harris Bailey Jr, Bernice Alexander Bennett, Ellen Levonne Butler, Ethel Dailey, Vincent Sheppard*. Suwanee, Ga.: The Write Image, 2014. 975.737 B1540
- Bakkala, Jenifer Kahn. *An American Family: Four Centuries of Labor, Love, and Reward: A Story of the Davis Family*. Boston, Mass.: Newbury Street Press, 2018. 929.2 D261B
- Bennett, Bernice Alexander. *Tracing Their Steps: A Memoir—My Journey to Find Granddaddy's Land In Livingston Parish, Louisiana*. Palmyra, Va.: Shortwood Press, 2019. 929.2 C592B
- Berry, Kenyatta D. *The Family Tree Toolkit: A Comprehensive Guide to Uncovering Your Ancestry and Researching Genealogy*. New York, NY: Skyhorse Publishing, 2018. 929.1 B534F
- Bogenschneider, Duane Raymond. *The Bogenschneider Family History and Genealogy*. Mequon, Wisconsin: Bogenschneider Publications, 2015. 929.2 B674B
- Bolt, Leland Emet. *Leland & Fern Bolt: Heritage, Family, Business and City Service*. Bloomington, Ind.: Authorhouse, 2018, 2017. 929.2 B694B
- Bower, Barbara. *Adam Bower, 1825-1889 of Minikin, Germany: Including 7 Generations of Bowers in America of Pennsylvania, Iowa and Missouri, and Allied Families of John Franklin, John Mulvaney, Thomas Harper, Richard Ford, John Hurst, and Bryant Breeding*. Yorktown, Va.: Barbara Bower, 2018. 929.2 B786B
- Brice, Beverly. *The Migrants, New York to Oregon: Van Kirk and Related Families, Deyoe and Related Families*. Salt Lake City, Utah: Scattered Leaves Press, 2017. 929.2 V258B
- Brooke, Ted O. *Wilkes County, Georgia Will Index, 1777-1921: A Testator Index For Researchers*. Cumming, Ga.: Briarpatch Press, C1997. 975.8172 B872W
- Christiansen, Scott C. *The Soul of Schleswig-Holstein: An Iowan's Insight into His Ancestral Homeland*. Iowa City: Up Ewig Ungedeelt Press, 2009. 929.2 C555C
- Clapp, Ebenezer. *The Clapp Memorial: Record of the Clapp Family In America: Containing Sketches of the Original Six Emigrants, and a Genealogy of Their Descendants Bearing the Name: With a Supplement and the Proceedings At Two Family Meetings*. Boston: David Clapp &

- Son, 1876. 929.2 C589C
- Claunch, Jim L. and Lora I. Claunch. *A Quiet Man From Michigan*. Leavenworth, Kan.: Jim & Lora Claunch, 2018. 929.2 H144C
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Soldier, Sailor, Cowboy, Airman*. Leavenworth, Kan.: Claunch, 2019. 929.2 H144C
- \_\_\_\_\_. *And Then the Horse Died*. Leavenworth, Kan.: Claunch, 2018. 929.2 L296C
- Cox, Vicki Wells. *Our Family's Hallowed Ground: The Wells-Lyons Cemetery of Wellington, Kentucky*. Morehead, Kentucky: Past Generations, 2018. 929.2 W453C
- Crowder, Jack Darrell. *Women Patriots in the American Revolution: Stories of Bravery, Daring, and Compassion*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 2018. 973.308 C953W
- Daniel, Karen Stein. *A German Immigrant Family in 19th Century Texas: Johannes Gustav Gräter, Christian Friedrich Gräter, Gottlob Friedrich Gräter, Ancestors and Descendants*. Murray, Utah: Family Heritage Publishers, 2017. 929.2 G771D
- Endicott, Virginia. *The Hash Family of Long Branch*. Baltimore, Md.: Otter Bay Books, 2017. 929.2 H348H
- Evans, Loretta. *Two Major Documents On the Descendants of William Burnett, Born 8 Dec 1771, Died 12 April 1863: Lived Most of His Life In Trumbull County, Ohio*. Idaho Falls, Idaho: L. Evans, 2019. 929.2 B964E
- Fagyal, Emelie Victoria. *The Fagyal Family From Mérk, Hungary*. St. Louis, Mo.: E.V. Fagyal, 2013. 929.2 F156F
- Faucette, William M. *The Descendants of William E. Faucett and Elizabeth Wallis*. Rev. ed. Carrolton, Ga.: W.M. Faucette, 2009. 929.2 F25F
- Findlen, George L. *Our Acadian Family History, the First Four Generations 1650-1800: From Barnabé Martin and Jeanne Pelletret of Port Royal, Acadia, to Simon Martin and Geneviève Bourgoin of Saint Basile, New Brunswick*. Madison, Wis.: Books for Generations, 2019. 929.2 M379F
- Fipphen, John S. and Richard C. Fipphen. *Phippen Genealogy: Ancestors and Descendants of David Phippen (C. 1585-1650) of Melcombe Regis, Dorset, and Hingham and Boston, Massachusetts*. Boston, Mass.: Newbury Street Press, 2017. 929.2 P573F
- Flowers, Jeanne. *Jacob Flowers: Uncle Jake and His Family*. Ketchum, Idaho: Jeanne Flowers, 2018. 929.2 F644F
- Gable, Sharon Rea. *Camden County, North Carolina Deed Books, G-H, 1795-1799*. Suffolk, Va.: Sharon Rea Gable, 2016. 975.6135 G115C
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Pasquotank County, North Carolina Apprenticeship Bonds, 1716-1881*. Suffolk, Va.: Sharon Rea Gable, 2019. 975.6142 G115P
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Pasquotank County, North Carolina, Extant Wardens of the Poor Records, 1807-1868*. Suffolk, Va.: Sharon Rea Gable, 2019. 975.6142 G115P
- Gerry, Robin. *Healing the Family Heart Holes: A Genealogical Quest to Solve an Illegal Adoption Mystery Using DNA, Old Records, and Irish Luck*. N.P.: Robin Gerry, 2019. 929.2 G778G
- Graham, John A. Graham. *Descendants of the Immigrant Robert Roy of Fall River, Massachusetts*, Ed. Melissa A. Johnson. Melbourne, Florida: Abavus Publishing Co., 2018. 929.2 R888G
- Grant, Robert N. *Sorting Some of the Wrights of Southern Virginia. Part XV, 1776 Augustine Wright of Amherst County, His Wife Alice or Alcey (Ball) (Wright) Edmunds, and His Descendants*, 4 vols. Menlo Park, Calif.: Robert N. Grant, 2016. 929.2 W947G
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Sorting Some of the Wrights of Southern Virginia. Part XVI, 1814 Parmenos Wright of Nelson County, His Wife, Elizabeth ( ) Wright, and His Descendants*. Menlo Park, Calif.: Robert N. Grant, 2017. 929.2 W947G
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Sorting Some of the Wrights of Southern Virginia. Part XVII, 1825 Achilles Wright of Oldham County, Kentucky, His Wife, Nancy ( ) Wright, and His Descendants*, 4 vols. Menlo Park, Calif.: Robert N. Grant, 2018. 929.2 W947G
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Sorting Some of the Wrights of Southern Virginia. Part XVIII, Jesse Wright (Amherst County), His Wives Susannah (Harper) Wright and Rachel (Welch) Wright, and His Descendants*, 2 vols. Menlo Park, Calif.: Robert N. Grant, 2018. 929.2 W947G
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Sorting Some of the Wrights of Southern Virginia. [Part XIX], Grief Wright (Bedford County), His Possible Wife Sally (Candler) Wright, His Wives Nancy ( ) Wright and Leanna ( ) (Hanes) Wright, and His Descendants*, 2 vols. Menlo Park, Calif.: Robert N. Grant, 2019. 929.2 W947G

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- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Tumultuous Achym/Fulford Relationship: With Abstracts of Chancery Court Proceedings and Transcripts of Chancery Decrees and Orders*. Star, Idaho: Chaghill Publications, 2003. 929.2 A183H
- Hoff, Henry B. *Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Alfred Sands & Kate Van Volkenburgh: Enduring Relations*, Ed. Penelope L. Stratton. Boston, Massachusetts: Newbury Street Press, 2018. 929.2 S221H
- Hoftiezer, Virgil Hoftiezer. *A Life after Quantrill: Kate King, a Biography*, Ed. David W. Jackson. N.P.: Orderly Pack Rat, 2017. B King Sarah
- Huber, Kathy. *Research in American Indians of Oklahoma*. 976.6 H877R
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- Jackson, B. Darrell. *Pearson Family History: Lineal Ancestors and Descendants of James P. Pearson, Born in Yorkshire, England, 1816, Emigrated to Ohio, 1820, Lived in Macoupin County, Illinois and Bates County, Missouri, 1834 to His Death In 1890*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Belford Darrell Jackson, 2019. 929.2 P361J
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Ruffin Family History: Lineal Descendants of William Ruffin (1618-1674) of Isle of Wight County, Virginia to John Henry Ruffin (1861-1951) of Pettis County, Missouri Descendants of John Henry Ruffin and Rosa Belle (Calvert) Ruffin (1861-1943)*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Belford Darrell Jackson, 2018. 929.2 R923J
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- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Benedicts: Christian Benedict (1829-1923), His Ancestors, His American Siblings and His Children*. Kokomo, Ind.: C.N. Joray, 2005. 929.2 B463J
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Stelzer Genealogy*. Indianapolis: Charles N. Joray, 2018. 929.2 S824J
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- Morton, Sunny Jane and Harold A. Henderson. *How to Find Your Family History in U.S. Church Records: A Genealogist's Guide*. Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing, 2019. 929.1 M891H
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- Poss, Faye Stone Poss. *Jug Tavern & Environs (Now Winder & Barrow County, Georgia): Newspaper Clippings, 1835-1893*, Ed. Jane N. Grider. Snellville, Georgia: Faye Stone Poss, 2019. 975.8195 P856J
- Posz, Darcie Hind. *Recast: Vital Events Published In Variety In 1918 and 1919*. Washington, D.C.: D.H. Posz, 2019. 929.3 P858R
- Reynolds, Thaddeus Butler. *Consider the Rock: An American Family*. Marion, Ind.: Thaddeus B. Reynolds, 2017. 929.2 B985R
- Schober, Katherine. *Tips and Tricks of Deciphering German Handwriting: A Translator's Tricks of the Trade for Transcribing German Genealogy Documents*. Lexington, Ky.: Katherine Schober, 2018. 929.1 S363T
- Suffridge, Lynda Childers. *Research in Arkansas*. Falls Church, Va.: National Genealogical Society, 2019. 976.7 S946R
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- Snyder, Dianne M. *Cemeteries of Carter County, Tennessee: An Index*. Baltimore: Cleafield, 2010. 976.8984 S675C
- Tharp, James A. *14,468 Public High School Graduates, Kansas City, Missouri, 1872-1920*. Greenwood, Mo.: The Orderly Pack Rat, 2019. 977.8411 T367F
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- Tomlinson, Julia Pierce Tomlinson, and Susan Sloan. *Two Brothers: Reddick and Lovick Pierce, Their Heritage and Their Descendants*, Ed. Elizabeth Snow. Chelsea, Mich.: Sheridan Books, 2017. 929.2 P615T
- Trostel, Helen Cogswell. *Cogswell-Haldeman: The Ancestors and the Descendants of Asa Ferris Cogswell and Arobine Haldeman Cogswell (With Allied Lines)*. Denver: Big Mountain Press, C1966. 929.2 C677T
- Wayne, Debbie Parker, Ed. *Advanced Genetic Genealogy: Techniques and Case Studies*. Cushing, Tex.: Wayne Research, 2019. 929.1 A244

# CLASSES & PROGRAMS

## CLASSES

Classes are free and open to the public, but registration is requested. Register online at [www.slcl.org](http://www.slcl.org) or call 314-994-3300. Before registering for classes, you should already know how to use a computer and search the Internet. A prerequisite is noted for some classes.

### CLASSES FOR BEGINNING RESEARCHERS

#### Who Were my Ancestors? Beginning Genealogical Research

If you have little or no research experience, this is the class for you. Learn about the genealogical research process and the many resources available in History & Genealogy at St. Louis County Library.

Jan. 25	10:00 a.m.	Headquarters	<a href="#">Register</a>
Jan. 29	6:30 p.m.	Daniel Boone	<a href="#">Register</a>
Feb. 11	2:00 p.m.	Thornhill	<a href="#">Register</a>

#### Library Skills for Genealogical Research

Libraries offer essential tools for researching your ancestry. Learn how to search online library catalogs, obtain materials from distant libraries, locate periodical articles, and use the library's in-house guides. *Pre-requisite: Who Were my Ancestors? Beginning Genealogical Research class or previous research experience.*

Jan. 15	2:00 p.m.	Daniel Boone	<a href="#">Register</a>
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#### Finding Ancestors in U.S. Census Records

Census records are a basic and essential source for genealogical research in the U.S. Learn how to search census records effectively using Ancestry Library Edition and other electronic databases.

Jan. 9	10:00 a.m.	Weber Road	<a href="#">Register</a>
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#### History and Genealogy in Newspapers

Newspapers are excellent sources of historical and genealogical information, and digitization has made them more widely available. The class will cover *19th-Century U. S. Newspapers*, *NewspaperArchive*, *Newspapers.com* and *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* databases.

Jan. 30	10:00 a.m.	Weber Road	<a href="#">Register</a>
Feb. 6	10:00 a.m.	Cliff Cave	<a href="#">Register</a>

### DATABASES FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

#### Family History Online: Databases for Family History Research

Discover the variety of genealogical databases that can be used free at the library and at home with a St. Louis County Library card.

Jan. 21	10:00 a.m.	Cliff Cave	<a href="#">Register</a>
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#### Exploring Fold3 and Heritage Quest Databases

Fold3 and HeritageQuest offer a variety of records for genealogical research, and they can be used free at home with a valid St. Louis County Library card. Find out how to search for your ancestors in census records, city directories, genealogy books, and government documents.

Jan. 16	2:00 p.m.	Headquarters	<a href="#">Register</a>
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#### FamilySearch Basics

FamilySearch.org is a free website offering access to millions of records for genealogical research. This class will provide an overview of the kinds of records available and how to find them.

Jan. 6	6:30 p.m.	Grand Glaize	<a href="#">Register</a>
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## ST. LOUIS COUNTY LIBRARY BRANCH LOCATIONS

**Bridgeton Trails**

3455 McKelvey Road  
Bridgeton, MO 63044

**Cliff Cave**

5430 Telegraph Road  
St. Louis, MO 63129

**Daniel Boone**

300 Clarkson Rd.  
Ellisville, MO 63011

**Eureka Hills**

156 Eureka Town Center  
Eureka, MO 63025

**Florissant Valley**

195 New Florissant Rd, S.  
Florissant, MO 63031

**Grand Glaize**

1010 Meramec Station Rd.  
Manchester, MO 63021

**Grant's View**

9700 Musick Rd.  
St. Louis, MO 63123

**Headquarters**

1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63131

**Indian Trails**

8400 Delport Dr.  
St. Louis, MO 63114

**Jamestown Bluffs**

4153 N. Highway 67  
Florissant, MO 63034

**Lewis & Clark**

9909 Lewis-Clark Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63136

**Meramec Valley**

1501 San Simeon Way.  
Fenton, MO 63026

**Mid-County**

7821 Maryland Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63105

**Natural Bridge**

7606 Natural Bridge Rd.  
St. Louis, MO 63121

**Oak Bend**

842 S. Holmes Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63122

**Prairie Commons**

915 Utz Lane  
Hazelwood, MO 63042

**Rock Road**

10267 St. Charles Rock Rd.  
St. Ann, MO 63074

**Samuel C. Sachs**

16400 Burkhardt Place  
Chesterfield, MO 63017

**Thornhill**

12863 Willowycck Dr.  
St. Louis, MO 63146

**Weber Road**

4444 Weber Rd.  
St. Louis, MO 63123

**General information**

Phone: 314-994-3300,  
ext. 2070

CLASSES TO EXPAND RESEARCH SKILLS

**Discovering Ancestral Military Veterans**

Explore strategies for military research in the Fold3 and Ancestry Library Edition databases, as well as in print and internet sources. *Prerequisite: Finding Ancestors in U.S. Census Records class or comparable research experience.*

Jan. 22      2:00 p.m.      Grand Glaize      [Register](#)

**Using City and County Directories in Family History Research**

Where did your ancestors live, and what were their occupations? City and county directories can give you this information and more.

Jan 28      10:00 a.m.      Oak Bend      [Register](#)

AFRICAN AMERICAN

**Tracing Your African American Ancestors: Getting Started in Genealogical Research**

Do you want to research your African American family but don't know where to start? This class will teach you the basics of genealogical research including resources available in History & Genealogy at St. Louis County Library.

Feb. 1      10:00 a.m.      Florissant Valley      [Register](#)

**Tracing Your African American Ancestors: Digging Deeper**

Learn about additional sources and techniques to deepen your research and overcome roadblocks. This course will use specific examples of records available and show you how to use them. *Prerequisite: "Tracing your African American Ancestors: Getting Started in Genealogical Research" or comparable research experience.*

Feb. 1      2:00 p.m.      Florissant Valley      [Register](#)



# CLASSES & PROGRAMS

## Tracing Your African American Ancestors: Advanced Techniques

The usual techniques can often lead to roadblocks in African American research. The instructor will use case studies to demonstrate how researchers can fill gaps in missing information. *Prerequisite: "Tracing Your African American Ancestors: Digging Deeper" or comparable research experience.*

Feb. 22 10:00 a.m. Florissant Valley [Register](#)

## Tracing Your African American Ancestors: Records of Slave Owning Families

Slave owning families often kept detailed records of their enslaved African Americans. Learn how to find and use these private records to reveal more information about your family. *Prerequisite: "Tracing Your African American Ancestors: Advanced Technique" or comparable research experience.*

Feb. 22 2:00 p.m. Florissant Valley [Register](#)

## PROGRAMS

Programs are free and open to the public. No registration is required.

### Saturday, Jan. 11, 10:00 a.m., Headquarters

#### "Ask Louie" Panel Discussion

*St. Louis Genealogical Society*

A panel of genealogists will field questions and try to help break down your brick wall. If you have an unusual question, email it ahead to [programs@stlgs.org](mailto:programs@stlgs.org). Additional questions from the audience will be addressed at the meeting.

### Wednesday, Jan. 15, 7:00 p.m., Headquarters

#### German Abolitionists

*StLGS German Special Interest Group*

Learn more about the role German immigrants played in changing the demographics of Missouri from slave state to Union state. As Abolitionists, they altered the outcome of the

Civil War both in the state and nationally, playing an important part in history. Dorris Keeven-Franke, speaker.

### Tuesday, Jan. 21, 7:00 p.m., Headquarters

#### Tips for Success in Irish Research

*StLGS Irish Special Interest Group*

Have you found the county, parish, and townland in Ireland? You know you need that information to tap into the records our ancestors left. Join us to learn and to share what others have found helpful. The Irish Special Interest Group Team will lead the program.

### Wednesday, Feb. 5, 6:30 p.m., Cliff Cave

#### Where's Grandma? Tracing Female Ancestry

Having trouble finding your female ancestors? Learn about strategies for finding those elusive female family members. Judy Belford, St. Louis Genealogical Society, Speaker.

### Saturday, Feb. 8, 10:00 a.m., Headquarters

*St. Louis Genealogical Society*

#### Preserving Family Documents and Photos

Learn about proper preservation of paper heirlooms so you can protect your precious family inheritance. Ilene Murray, speaker.

# CLASSES at the MIROWITZ CENTER

Classes are free and open to the public. Registration is required. Contact Susan Kamppainen, 314-733-9813 or email [skemppainen@covenatplacestl.org](mailto:skemppainen@covenatplacestl.org).

## Class location

Mirowitz Center at Covenant Place  
8 Millstone Campus Dr.  
St. Louis, MO 63146

Classes will be taught by members of the St. Louis County Library History & Genealogy staff.

**Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2:00 p.m.**

## 101 | Who Were my Ancestors? Beginning Family History Research

If you have little or no research experience, this is the class for you. Learn about the genealogical research process and the many resources available in History & Genealogy at St. Louis County Library.

**Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2:00 p.m.**

## 102 | Library Skills for Genealogical Research

Libraries offer essential tools for researching your ancestry. Learn how to search online library catalogs, obtain materials from distant libraries, locate periodical articles, and use the library's in-house guides.

- *Pre-requisite: Who Were my Ancestors? Beginning Genealogical Research class or previous research experience.*
- *Participants should bring a laptop or tablet device to participate.*

**Tuesday, March 3, 2:00 p.m.**

## 103 | Finding Ancestors in U.S. Census Records

Census records are a basic and essential source for genealogical research in the U.S. Learn how to search census records effectively using Ancestry Library Edition and other electronic databases.

- *Participants should bring a laptop or tablet device to participate.*

**Tuesday, April 7, 2:00 p.m.**

## 105 | History and Genealogy in Newspapers

Newspapers are excellent sources of historical and genealogical information, and digitization has made them more widely available. The class will cover *19th-Century U. S. Newspapers*, *NewspaperArchive*, *Newspapers.com* and *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* databases.

- *Participants should bring a laptop or tablet device to participate.*

**Tuesday, May 5, 2:00 p.m.**

## 301 | Finding Immigrant European Ancestors

Discover print and online resources for researching immigrant ancestors. This class will include an overview of information available on Ancestry Library Edition and other electronic databases.

- *Prerequisite: Finding Ancestors in U.S. Census Records class or comparable research experience.*
- *Participants should bring a laptop or tablet device to participate.*