

## The Bulletin

Quarterly Magazine of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon

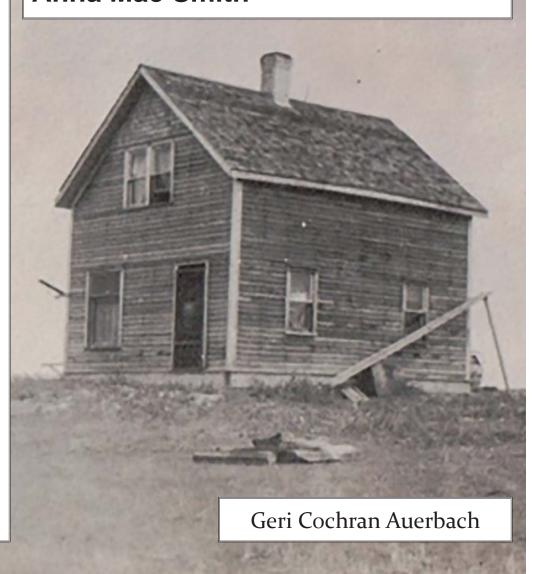
Volume 71, Number 2

December, 2021

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- Richard W. Helbock's United States Post Offices Now Available at the GFO
- The Family Bible of Margaret R. (Henderson) Wilson
- Snow Kids: A Memoir
- Memories from LeRoy Whitford of Chautauqua County, New York, Lead to His Maternal Grandparents
- 2020–2021 Annual Report of Donors
- · Book Reviews
- Calendar & More!

# Did She Prove Up? Researching the Family Lore About a Homesteading Woman, Anna Mae Smith



## The Bulletin: Quarterly Magazine of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon

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#### **CALL FOR ARTICLES**

The Bulletin Editorial Group invites readers to submit articles to *The Bulletin*. We look for articles that are of interest to members of the GFO and those that encourage the sharing and research of family history. Possibilities include but are not limited to:

- memoirs and personal essays
- research articles and source guides
- how-to articles

- problem-solving articles
- articles on family history travel
- using technology

We also welcome book reviews, transcriptions or extractions from original sources, and posts from your blog. You are encouraged to attach photographs or other graphics. Send submissions to <a href="mailto:bulletin@gfo.org">bulletin@gfo.org</a>. You may request a current "Instructions and Guidelines" by contacting us in writing or at the email address above. The information is also available at <a href="https://gfo.org/learn/our-publications/gfo-bulletin.html">https://gfo.org/learn/our-publications/gfo-bulletin.html</a>.

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### Letter From the Editor

or many of us, genealogy is like a puzzle. We want to fill in the missing pieces and put everything in its proper place. Records help us create a timeline of each person's life. But sometimes those timelines have gaps that go unexplained for decades. That was the case in several of the articles in this issue.

Anna Mae Smith was a legend among her descendants. Her life was well documented from her 1875 birth in Iowa to her death in 1933 in Wyoming. There was, however, a missing piece. Anna supposedly left her husband and became a homesteader in Canada. There are even photos to support this story. But when did this occur? And was it even true?

Emma Ogan led a complex life. There were multiple marriages and children who used the surnames of their stepfathers. Online trees are full of incorrect parentage. The correct narrative, however, came together through newly digitized newspapers and court records.

The mystery surrounding LeRoy Whitford focused on his maternal grandparents. His mother, Dorcas Wilbur, was born in 1804 in Vermont. There were theories about who her parents might be, but it took DNA matching to bring those theories to a satisfactory conclusion.

Our Bible article follows a family from Tennessee to Oregon. The author uses handwriting analysis to track the probable provenance of the Bible through the different generations.

But there is no mystery about the love that is described in our final article about a childhood memory of a snowy day in Iowa.

In addition to our feature articles, this issue offers resources that may be just what you need to find the missing pieces of your family puzzle. The reviewed books provide resources for locations ranging from Virginia to the Hebrides. The list of books from the GFO library may help you locate that post office shown on the census but never recorded as a community. This is very helpful when looking for land records.



Finally, this is my last issue as editor of the *Bulletin*. It has been an interesting couple of years, and I have learned a lot. I love working with the authors and the other volunteers who help with the *Bulletin*. My first issue as editor was published the same month the GFO library closed because of the Covid pandemic. Working on the *Bulletin* became a way for me to keep in touch with friends and get to know new people.

I plan to refocus my volunteer efforts on the manuscripts project at the GFO. I hope to share some of what I find through future articles in the *Bulletin*. I also plan to spend more time with my family and maybe travel a little. Hopefully, I can fill in a few of the missing pieces of my own family tree.

—Nanci Remington



iv December, 2021

## Did She Prove Up? Researching the Family Lore About a Homesteading Woman, Anna Mae Smith (1875–1933)

Geri Cochran Auerbach

#### **BACKGROUND**

nna Mae Smith was born 18 September 1875 in Iowa and died 7 August 1933 in Rawlins, Carbon, Wyoming. She has been a legend for several generations of her descendants. The accepted family story was that Anna Mae left her husband, Oly Guy Michael, because of his philandering and took her three children to Canada to successfully homestead. This family story came from two branches of Anna Mae's descendants. No information as to when and where this homesteading in Canada occurred is included in the family story in either branch. Both branches had a copy of a portrait photo of Anna Mae as an older woman and copies of photos of Anna Mae, Oly, and their children. Jean Cooper, a granddaughter of Anna Mae, had three additional photos. Jean was given these photos by her mother, Pearl Michael, prior to Pearl's death in 1952. The three photos were said to be of Anna Mae's homestead in Canada.

The photographs are shown in Figures 1.1, 2.1, and 3.1. The photographs are small (2" by 4") black and white photographs that appear to be original prints previously glued in a black-paged photo album. There is no additional information on the photographs themselves. These photos each have a sticky note affixed to the back that Jean added. (Jean does not recall when these notes were added but stated they are in her handwriting.)

A detailed review of the photos does not give any information as to the specific time or place when they were taken. The researcher next reviewed enlargements of Figures 1.1 and 2.1 (the photos that have Anna Mae in them). The sections that included her face were enlarged and are included as Figures 1.2 and 2.2. The resolution is quite poor in Figure 2.2, and when comparing it to 1.2, it is not clear these are Anna Mae at the same age. The two enlarged photos were then enhanced using the Vivid-Pix Restore application and are posted as Figures 1.3 and 2.3. The researcher cannot determine Anna Mae's age in these photos other than she was an adult female older than 30. Using the premise that these photos were taken in Canada and noting her death in 1933, this would limit the search window to between 1915 to 1933.







Figures 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3 noted with "Anna Mae looking at her home in Canada," images courtesty of the author.





Figure. 2.2.

Figure 2.3.



Figure 2.1, noted with "Anna Mae's chickens in Canada."



Figure 3.1, noted with "Anna Mae's home in Canada."

A review of previous research establishes a timeline for Anna Mae's life that may more narrowly focus the search. The timeline is summarized in the following table:

	Table 1 - Timeline						
Event	Date	Location	Notes	Reference			
Birth	18 Sep 1875	Iowa	Informant is daughter, Pearl	Death Certificate <sup>a</sup>			
Marriage to Oly Guy Michael	27 Jan 1894	Kay County, OK	State they are residents of Kay County, OK	Marriage Certificate <sup>b</sup>			
Residence- US Federal Census	25 Jun 1900	Linden, Montgomery, IN	Oly, head, 27 May A., 24 Cora, 3 Charles, 3/12 Ezra Smith, 65 Homer Smith, 27	1900 US Federal Census <sup>c</sup>			
Residence- Land Patent	17 Dec 1906	McHenry, ND	Land patent granted to Oly G. Michael	BLM-GLO records <sup>d</sup>			
Residence- US Federal Census	15 Apr 1910	Upham Village, Meadow TWSP McHenry, North Dakota	Oly G, 36 Anna M., age 34 Cora, 13; Pearl, 7 L. Guy, 4	1910 US Federal Census <sup>e</sup>			
Residence-US Federal Census	ı(?) Apr 1930	Marvin and Lamont, Carbon, Wyoming	Anna M. Greig, 54, lodger, widow, cook	1930 US Federal Census <sup>f</sup>			
Death	7 Aug 1933	Rawlins, Carbon, WY	Age at death, 57 Residence: Bair Oil	Death Certificateg			

- a. Wyoming, Department of Health, death certificate 1933-1245 (1933), Anna Mae Greig; Vital Statistics Services, Cheyenne.
- b. Kay County, Oklahoma, Marriage Records, p. 22, O.G. Michael-Anna Smith, 27 June 1894, database with images, "Oklahoma, County Marriage Records, 1890-1995," *Ancestry* (<a href="https://www.ancestry.com/">https://www.ancestry.com/</a> : accessed 2 September 2021).
- c. 1900 U.S. census, Montgomery County, Indiana, population schedule, Madison, p. 14B, dwelling 296, family 305, May A. Michael; image, *Ancestry* (<a href="https://www.ancestry.com">https://www.ancestry.com</a> : accessed 6 October 2018); citing NARA microfilm publication T623, roll 394.
- d. Oly G. Michael (McHenry County, North Dakota), homestead patent no. 12275; "Land Patent Search," images, *General Land Office Records* (www.glorecords.blm.gov/search/default.aspx: accessed 2 September 2021).
- e. 1910 U.S. census, McHenry County, North Dakota, population schedule, Meadow, p. 1B, dwelling 24, family 25, Anna M. Michael; image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 6 October 2018); citing NARA microfilm publication T624, roll 1143.
- f. 1930 U.S. census, Carbon County, Wyoming, population schedule, Marvin and Lamont, p. 1B (penned), dwelling 20, family 20, Anna M. Greig; image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com: accessed 6 October 2018); citing NARA microfilm publication T626.
  - g. Wyoming, Department of Health, death certificate 1933-1245 (1933), Anna Mae Greig.

A review of this data for Anna Mae's life shows her residing with O. G. until at least 1910.¹ After that there is a gap of documentation of 20 years, between April 1910 and April 1930. It is inferred from Anna Mae's 1930 US census entry that, during the twenty undocumented years, she married a man named Greig, was widowed from him, and moved to Wyoming. This 1910 to 1930 timeframe is most likely when Anna Mae moved to Canada and homesteaded.

As detailed below, Anna Mae Smith emigrated with her children, Cora, Pearl, and Guy, to Maple Creek, Saskatchewan, Canada, on 8 November 1912. She was not, however, leaving her husband, O. G., but rather leaving North Dakota to bring at least the children to "to father" in Canada.<sup>2</sup>

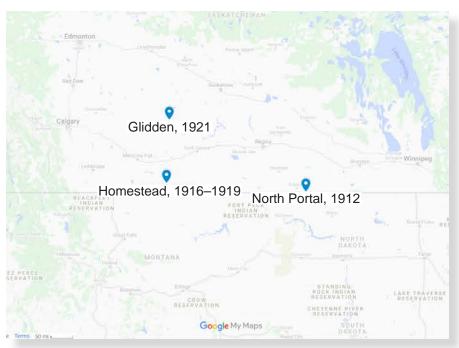


Figure 4, Anna Mae's entrance to Canada at North Portal, location of the homestead, and location of Glidden. Google My Maps.

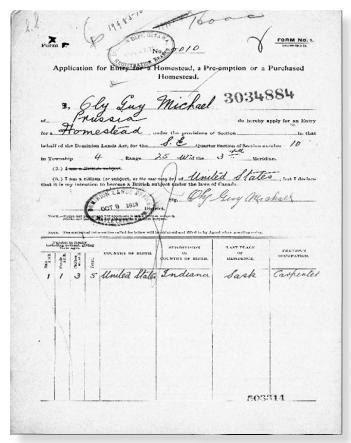
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Document 1. Saskatchewan, Canada, "Border Crossings: from U.S. to Canada, 1908-1935."

<sup>1. 1910</sup> U.S. census, McHenry County, North Dakota, population schedule, Meadow, p. 1B, dwelling 24, family 25, Anna M. Michael; image, *Ancestry* (<a href="https://www.ancestry.com">https://www.ancestry.com</a> : accessed 6 October 2018); citing NARA microfilm publication T624, roll 1143.

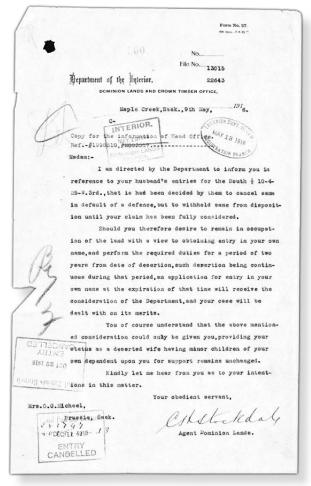
<sup>2.</sup> Saskatchewan, Canada, "Border Crossings: from U.S. to Canada, 1908-1935," image, *Ancestry* (<a href="https://www.ancestry.com/">https://www.ancestry.com/</a> : accessed 2 September 2021), entry for Mrs. O. G. Michael, age 37, arrived 8 November 1912; citing Library and Archives Canada, n.d. RG 76-C. Attached to this report as Document 1.

O. G. Michael filed for a homestead in Robsart, Saskatchewan, on 30 September 1913.<sup>3</sup> O. G. did not meet the requirements of his homestead and Anna Mae was sent a letter from the government on 13 May 1916 that stated such.<sup>4</sup> (Research did not discover what happened to O. G.) Anna Mae filed for entry to this same homestead as a single female head of household.<sup>5</sup>



Document 2, "Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987," FamilySearch, Homestead files 1909.

Anna Mae Smith did "prove-up," i.e., met the requirements to obtain a land patent on that homestead. She received the patent letter in her name "Mrs. Anna May Michael" on 31 December 1918.<sup>6</sup>



Document 3, "Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987," FamilySearch, Homestead files 1909, notice of cancellation of entry, Mrs. O.G. Michael.

The homestead location is just north of the Montana border in Saskatchewan. Anna Mae was found in the town of Glidden, Saskatchewan, on the 1921 Canada census as May A. Greig. She is enumerated with William Greig and Pearl and Guy Michael. Glidden is approximately 140 miles north of the homestead location. (See Figure 4)

Anna Mae's relationship to the homestead land after 1919 is not clear and would require further research.

<sup>3. &</sup>quot;Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987," images, *FamilySearch* (http://bit.ly/2ViFwai : accessed 3 April 2019), Homestead files 1909 no. 1998436-1998611 > image 410 of 1155, application for entry, Oly Guy Michael; Saskatchewan Archives, Regina. Attached to this report as Document 2.

<sup>4. &</sup>quot;Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987," images, *FamilySearch* (<a href="http://bit.ly/2IHVhRz">http://bit.ly/2IHVhRz</a> : accessed 3 April 2019), Homestead files 1909 no. 1998436-1998611 > image 412 of 1155, notice of cancellation of entry, Mrs. O. G. Michael; Saskatchewan Archives, Regina. Attached to this report as Document 3.

<sup>5. &</sup>quot;Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987," images, FamilySearch (http://bit.ly/2GsOHvB: accessed 3 April 2019), Homestead files 1909 no. 1998436-1998611 > image 413 of 1155, application for entry, Mrs. Annie May Michael; Saskatchewan Archives, Regina. Attached to this report as Document 4.

<sup>6. &</sup>quot;Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987," images, *FamilySearch* (<a href="http://bit.ly/2WMRsOV">http://bit.ly/2WMRsOV</a> : accessed 3 April 2019), Homestead files 1909 no. 1998436-1998611 > image 419 of 1155, patent letter, Mrs. Anna May Michael; Saskatchewan Archives, Regina. Attached to this report as Document 5.

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Document 4, "Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987," FamilySearch, Homestead files 1909.

#### RESEARCH STRATEGY AND RESULTS

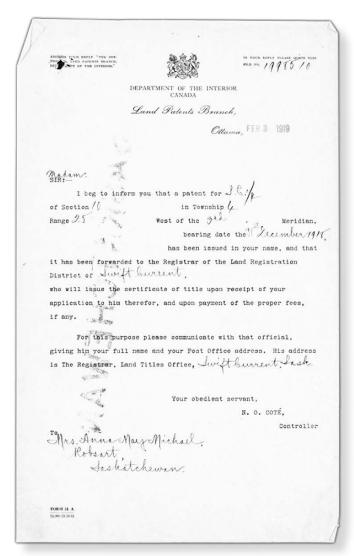
As discussed above, the search for records of Anna Mae's possible entrance and residence in Canada would concentrate on the years 1910 to 1930. Before conducting a specific records search, the researcher conducted a brief investigation into homesteading in Canada during that timeframe to determine likely areas of homesteading and the homesteading process and its regulations, i.e., would an unmarried woman with children be permitted to homestead.

The Dominion Lands Act, passed in 1872, enabled homesteading in the Northwest Provinces of the Dominion of Canada:

The Act devised specific homestead policies to encourage settlement in the West, covering eligibility and

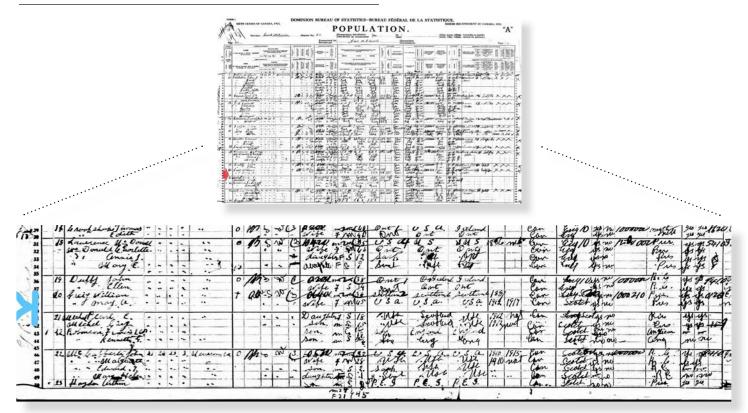
settler responsibilities. At first, any person over the age of 21 was eligible to land patents for a "quarter-section," a 65-hectare (ha) plot. However, eligibility changed over time... Women over 18 who were the sole head of a family became eligible in 1876...<sup>7</sup>

Because it would have been possible for Anna Mae to homestead in her own name, the research then focused on her emigration records to Canada. A search for Anna Mae in "Border Crossings: From U.S. to Canada, 1908-1935" was successful. Anna Mae and her children, Cora, Pearl, and Guy entered Canada on 8 Nov 1912, at North Portal, Saskatchewan, with a destination of Maple Creek, Saskatchewan. She stated her occupation as "farmer" and the remarks column notes that they were going "to father." It is recorded that she had no money to declare when crossing the border.



Document 5, "Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987." FamilySearch, patent letter, Mrs. Anna May Michael.

<sup>7.</sup> The Canadian Encyclopedia, (https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca: accessed 19 April 2019), "Dominion Lands Act."



Document 6, 1921 census of Canada, Kindersley, Saskatchewan. Ancestry.

Because vital records, church, cemetery, and newspaper records are limited in this timeframe in rural western Canada, often the best (and only records) are census and land records.

#### Census Results

A preliminary search of available censuses in Canada from 1910 to 1930 discloses two censuses in Western Canada and one national census. These censuses were searched in chronological order. The Dominion government of Canada conducted a census of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta in 1916. The surnames Michael and Greig were searched on both FamilySearch.org ("Canada, Prairie Provinces Census, 1916") and Ancestry.com ("1916 Canada Census of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta") with negative results for Anna Mae, O. G. or any of the children.

Canada conducts their national census every 10 years on the years ending in one. "1921 Census of Canada" was searched on Ancestry.com for Anna May Michael and Anna May Greig. Anna Mae was located as May A. Greig as a married woman, with her husband, William, and children Pearl Michael and Guy Michael in District 20, Town of Glidden, Saskatchewan. This census information is extracted below:



Anna Mae Smith, image courtesy of Geri Auerbach.

<sup>8. 1921</sup> census of Canada, Kindersley, Saskatchewan, population schedule, enumeration district (ED) 20, p. 14, dwelling 1, household 20, William Greig; image, *Ancestry* (<a href="https://www.ancestry.com/">https://www.ancestry.com/</a>: accessed 2 September 2021); citing Library and Archives Canada, RG 31; Folder Number: 152. Attached to this report as Document 6.

	Table 2 Census Information									
Name	Relationship	Home owned or rented	Sex	Age	Marital Status	Place of birth	Year Immigrated	Year Naturalized	Occupation	
Greig, William	Head	t	M	36	M	Scotland	1887		Engineer	
Greig, May A.	Wife		F	45	M	USA	1912	1917	none	
Michael, Pearl E.	Dau		F	18	S	USA	1912	not		
Michael, Guy	Son		M	15	S	USA	1912	not		

By 1921, Anna Mae had married William Greig, which infers either O. G. died or they were divorced. William and Anna Mae are residing in the town of Glidden and no street names are recorded. There are 26 families in Glidden and most heads of household list an occupation, and only three are farmers. Under home owned or rented, nearly all homes in Glidden Town are "O" but the notation for William Greig is "t." The column where rent should be listed is not readable as it has been written over. They do not appear to be living on a homestead. This is the last record found of either William or Anna Mae in Canada.

The Prairie Provinces Census of 1926 was searched on the Library and Archives Canada website and neither William nor Anna Mae Greig was located.

#### **Land Records**

The next records searched were homestead applications, starting first in Saskatchewan, where Anna Mae is known to have resided. A FamilySearch.org catalog search for Saskatchewan homestead records, finds "Saskatchewan homestead records, 1870-1930 and index". The link is to "The Saskatchewan Homestead Index," maintained by the Information Services Corporation (ISC) of Saskatchewan. (ISC of Saskatchewan is a provincial Crown corporation that is responsible for the administration of land titles and other land services.) A search of the index using "Michael" finds entries for both (Mrs.) Anna May Michael with File Number 1998510,

with the land location description of Part SE, Section 10, Township 4, Range 25, Meridian W3. Additionally, a file for Oly Guy Michael is also found with the same file number and land location description.<sup>9</sup>

A search of the records available on FamilySearch for Saskatchewan homestead files found "Saskatchewan homestead records, 1904-; applications for letters patent (from the homestead files), 1900." Attempting to use this source directs to "Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987." The images are indexed by homestead file number. A search for file number 1998510 in "Homestead files 1909 no 1998436-1998611" found the entire file for this piece of land on images 402-419. The most relevant information is noted below.

On 30 September 1913, Oly Guy Michael filed for homestead. <sup>10</sup> This is 10 months after Anna Mae and the children have entered Canada. Oly Guy gives his residence as Prussia.

On 13 May 1916, Anna May was sent a notification from the government that they were canceling Oly Guy's entries for the homestead. The letter further states that if she desires to remain on the land "with a view to obtaining entry in your own name," assuming she performs the required duties for a period of two years and that Oly Guy remains deserted, her "case will be dealt with on its merits."

<sup>9.</sup> Information Services Corporation (ISC) of Saskatchewan, "Saskatchewan Homestead Index," (http://www.saskhomesteads.com/search.asp: accessed 3 April 2019), search for MICHAEL.

<sup>10. &</sup>quot;Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987," images, FamilySearch (http://bit.ly/2ViFwai: accessed 3 April 2019), Homestead files 1909 no 1998436-1998611 > image 410 of 1155, application for entry, Oly Guy Michael; Saskatchewan Archives, Regina. Attached to this report as Document 2.

<sup>11. &</sup>quot;Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987," images, *FamilySearch* (http://bit.ly/2IHVhRz: accessed 3 April 2019), Homestead files 1909 no 1998436-1998611 > image 412 of 1155, notice of cancellation of entry, Mrs. O. G. Michael; Saskatchewan Archives, Regina. Attached to this report as Document 3.

The "required duties of homesteading" that are referred to in the letter included the following:

... the Dominion Government offered a free homestead of 160 acres for a \$10 registration fee. In order to receive the patent for the land the settler had to be a male 21 years of age or a woman who was the sole support of her family. Before being granted a patent the applicant had to be a British subject or a naturalized British subject, had to reside on the homestead for a period of time, usually six months of the year for three years, make improvements to the land by cultivating at least 30 acres of land, and erect a house worth at least \$300.<sup>12</sup>

Anna Mae made application for entry for this same homestead on 12 September 1916.<sup>13</sup> On 25 October 1918, Mrs. Anna May Michael filed the final paperwork to obtain her land patent. In her application, she stated that:

- She is now a naturalized citizen.
- She commenced actual residence on the property 1 April 1915 and that the house was built in April 1915.
- She has resided on the land for at least six months each of the preceding four years (generally March through the fall). In the other months of the year, she was residing in "Saskatchewan" and her occupation was housekeeper.
- In the previous four years, she has "broken" 80 acres and she has cropped up to 20 acres per year.
- She has a house, 16 x 18, made of lumber and worth \$600.00. She also has a shack worth \$50.00 and a well worth \$125.00.14

She received the patent for that land in her name "Mrs. Anna May Michael" on 31 December 1918.<sup>15</sup> The term "patent" is short for *letters patent*, which is a "government grant of the exclusive right to use," in this case, the land she homesteaded.<sup>16</sup>

#### Location of Homestead

The legal description of the homestead (Part SE, Section 10, Township 4, Range 25, Meridian W<sub>3</sub>) not only puts the homestead in a specific spot in a known township,

but it can also be converted to longitude and latitude for easier placement on a map for visualization. The homestead legal description converts to 49.279844 -109.284873. Using this GPS, the location was plotted on Google maps. This places the homestead just north of the Montana border. (See Figure 4)

Because it was not clear if William and Anna Greig were on the homestead on the 1921 Canada census, the town of Glidden, where they were enumerated, was also plotted on the same map. The distance between the locations is about 140 miles. Additionally, in 1921 William Greig stated his occupation as "engineer" and Anna Mae's as "none" when she had previously listed her occupation as "farmer." Adding the information that they are living in a town, where most residents are not farmers, it is a logical assumption that they are not actively working the homestead. It is not known what became of the homestead.

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

O. G. Michael's reason for deserting the homestead, whether because of death, divorce or desertion could be researched using death, cemetery, marriage, and court records in Canada as well as the United States.

Further research into the disposition of the homestead land could be conducted.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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<sup>12.</sup> Information Services Corporation (ISC) of Saskatchewan, "Homestead Files," (<a href="http://www.saskhomesteads.com/search.asp">http://www.saskhomesteads.com/search.asp</a> : accessed 3 April 2019).

<sup>13. &</sup>quot;Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987," images, *FamilySearch* (<a href="http://bit.ly/2GsOHvB">http://bit.ly/2GsOHvB</a> : accessed 3 April 2019), Homestead files 1909 no. 1998436-1998611 > image 413 of 1155, application for entry, Mrs. Annie May Michael; Saskatchewan Archives, Regina. Attached to this report as Document 4.

<sup>14. &</sup>quot;Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987," images, FamilySearch (http://bit.ly/2Xmwu9I : accessed 3 April 2019), Homestead files 1909 no. 1998436-1998611 > image 416 of 1155, application for patent, Anna May Michael; Saskatchewan Archives, Regina.

<sup>15. &</sup>quot;Saskatchewan Provincial Records, 1879-1987," images, *FamilySearch* (http://bit.ly/2WMRsOV: accessed 3 April 2019), Homestead files 1909 no. 1998436-1998611 > image 419 of 1155, patent letter, Mrs. Anna May Michael; Saskatchewan Archives, Regina. Attached to this report as Document 5.

<sup>16.</sup> Black's Law Dictionary, 2nd Pocket Ed., "letters patent."

<sup>17.</sup> Legal Land Description Converter, (http://legallandconverter.com/: accessed 2 September 2021).

## Emma J. Ogan (1858–1892): A Complex Lady and Life

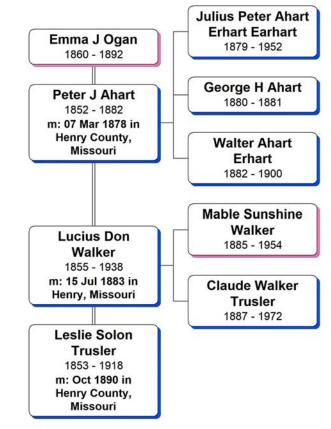
**Emily Aulicino** 

Department of 1 September 1860.<sup>2</sup>

The uncertainties surrounding the life of Emma Ogan began with her birth. According to a diary, Emma Ogan was born on 10 December 1858 in Ohio Township, Bureau County, Illinois.<sup>1</sup> She does not appear on the 1860 census but is shown as 11 years old on the 1870 census. Her second husband believed she was born in 1861. And her tombstone reads that she died on 23 March 1892 at age "319 6m 22d" which would calculate a birthdate of 1 September 1860.<sup>2</sup>

Emma had three husbands, although not all marriage records have been found. She first married Peter E. Ahart on 7 March 1878 in Henry County, Missouri.3 He was born about 1850 in Missouri.4 He died at age 32 years and one month and is buried in the Bear Creek Methodist Church Cemetery in Henry County. According to *The* Sedalia Weekly Bazoo, Emma next married Lucius Don Walker on 15 July 1883 which was about eleven months after Peter died.<sup>6</sup> Walker was born 24 March 1852 in Henry County and died 27 November 1938 in Olinda, Shasta County, California. Lastly, she married Leslie Solon Trusler about 1890. The couple took out a license as mentioned in The Clinton Eye on 11 October 1890.8 He was born 10 December 1853 in Evansville, Vanderburgh County, Indiana, and died 27 February 1918 in Eureka, Barton County, Kansas.9

Emma definitely led an interesting life. In 1883 she became the center of a romantic scandal in Montrose,



*Emma's marriages and children. Some dates are approximate.* 

Henry County, Missouri, where she had moved with her parents as a young child. Many newspaper reports have been found, mixing rumor and fact, and of course, newspapers of the time often sensationalized accounts. It is notable that newspapers outside of Montrose were more interested in this scandal than the locals. This is understandable given that other family members were well-known in Montrose.

<sup>1.</sup> Diary of Abbott Ellis, owned by Marguerite Ellis Dant.

<sup>2.</sup> Find A Grave, database and images (https://www.findagrave.com: accessed 16 September 2021), Emma J Ahart Trusler (1 September 1860–23 March 1892), memorial 71365660; citing Browns Chapel Cemetery, Fall River, Greenwood County, Kansas; maintained by Lila Cole (contributor 46507767).

<sup>3. &</sup>quot;Missouri Marriages, 1750-1920," database, *FamilySearch* (<a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:V2D2-R5M">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:V2D2-R5M</a> : accessed 16 September 2021), Peter J. Ahart and Emma J. Ogan, 7 March 1878; citing Henry, Missouri; FHL microfilm 946,602.

<sup>4. 1880</sup> U.S. census, Henry County, Missouri, population schedule, Fairview, enumeration district (ED) 168, sheet 283-A, entry for Peter E Ahart; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<a href="https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M6X7-84Q">https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M6X7-84Q</a> : 16 September 2021); citing NARA microfilm publication T9, roll 0689, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington D.C.; FHL microfilm 1,254,689.

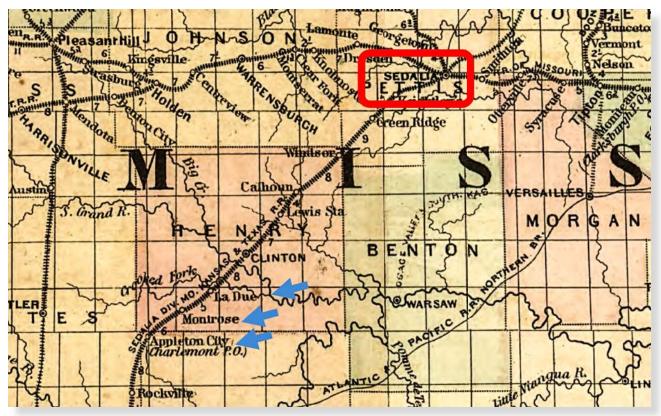
<sup>5. &</sup>quot;Bear Creek Methodist Church Cemetery, Henry County, Missouri," Peter J. Ahart; *MOGenWeb* (http://www.henrycomo.us/Cemeteries/1010. html: accessed 16 September 2021).

<sup>6.</sup> The Sedalia Weekly Bazoo (Sedalia, Missouri), 20 November 1883, p. 6, col. 3, "Walker's Woe," Newspapers.com (https://www.newspapers.com).

<sup>7.</sup> *Find A Grave*, database and images (<a href="https://www.findagrave.com">https://www.findagrave.com</a> : accessed 25 October 2018), Lucius Don Walker (24 March 1853–27 November 1938), memorial 24922329; citing Anderson District Cemetery, Anderson, Shasta County, California; maintained by califlandon (contributor 46882965).

<sup>8.</sup> The Clinton Eye (Clinton, Missouri), 11 October 1890, p. 1, col. 5, "Marriage Licenses," Newspapers.com (https://www.newspapers.com).

<sup>9. &</sup>quot;Directory of Deceased American Physicians, 1804-1929," database, *Ancestry* (<a href="https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/7833/">https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/7833/</a> : accessed 16 September 2021), entry for Leslie Solon Trusler, 27 February 1918; Arthur W. Hafner, editor, American Medical Association, Illinois, Chicago, 1993.



This Library of Virginia map helps understand Emma's travels.

Various papers have been gleaned to get what may appear to be facts in this event. To clarify, the term "elopement" did not just mean someone merely going out of town to marry but someone who left the area. The term "masher" was a man who thought of himself as irresistible and what was once called a "dandy" and what we might currently call a playboy. A "mash" could also be the object of one's affection or as a verb it could mean to flirt or seduce.

A few newspaper accounts described Emma as "... the center of attraction among the gents and the envy of all the fair sex. She was a brunette of average size, rather a beauty in features, fascinating in conversation and imposing in appearance" and "... was courted and sought by the most accomplished and refined gentlemen in the community." "The young lady is described as being quite attractive ..." "Mrs. Walker is about twenty-five years old, rather handsome and stylish; very social in her disposition and somewhat loquacious, or perhaps, more strictly speaking, talkative, very much so; free to

talk to strangers. She is good company and rather attractive." 12 The Sedalia Weekly Bazoo stated: "Mrs. Walker is described as rather a fine looking woman, with black eyes and black hair, and is about twenty-five years of age. She is rather fleshy, her weight being about 160 pounds. She has a winning way and boasts that she can make any man love her." 13

The Shelbina Democrat on 21 November 1883 provided some background information on the scandal and stated that this story could be a romance novel.<sup>14</sup>

In the summer of 1875, Emma and Lucius Don Walker met and became engaged. Walker was called to Tennessee, promising to return, but circumstances prevented that for three years. Although letters passed between them, Emma grew weary of the situation and married Peter J. Ahart in 1878. She bore him three children (one of whom died young). Sometime after Ahart's death, Walker returned to the area, and he and Emma met by chance in church.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>10.</sup> The Shelbina Democrat (Shelbina, Missouri), 21 November 1883, p. 2, col. 1, "Elopement," Newspapers.com (https://www.newspapers.com).

<sup>11.</sup> The Sedalia Weekly Bazoo (Sedalia, Missouri), 13 November 1883, p. 8, col. 1, "Emma's Elopement."

<sup>12.</sup> The Clinton Advocate (Clinton, Missouri), 15 November 1883, p. 4, col. 1, "Is it an Elopement."

<sup>13.</sup> The Sedalia Weekly Bazoo (Sedalia, Missouri), 20 November 1883, p. 6, col. 3, "Walker's Woe."

<sup>14.</sup> The Shelbina Democrat (Shelbina, Missouri), 21 November 1883, p. 2, col. 1, "Elopement."

<sup>15.</sup> Ibid.

Emma had purchased a millinery store and gained attention from several other men after her husband's death, but mostly from Jim Hayden, a peddler, and W. E. Ford, owner of the barbershop. She remained faithful to Walker, however, but both Hayden and Ford vowed they would "go through anything for her, and threatened, at different times, to shoot themselves, or her, rather than see her married to any one else." <sup>16</sup>

After Emma's marriage to Walker, Ford made house calls when Walker was not home, and Ford's friends were able to attest that he did come and go day and night and that they took long walks. The local gossip pursued, but Walker was too much of a gentleman to make judgments and believed in the innocence of his wife. Walker told Ford to never return, but at some point, Ford had taken a gold ring from Emma's bureau, claiming she gave it to him. Ford refused to return the ring when asked by Walker. There was a confrontation where Walker threw a weight at Ford after which Walker promptly took out a writ to recover the ring. A trial date was set.<sup>17</sup>

The Clinton Advocate reported that Emma was not in favor of these visits, and Ford was forbidden to be in the house unless Walker was present. Finally, the visits ceased, but Ford claimed the reason he never returned the ring was that he received a note threatening him with being shot if he did not stay away. Walker denied writing a note.<sup>18</sup>

The Sedalia Weekly Bazoo stated that on Friday, 9 November, Emma asked her sister Mary Ogan (age 16) to her home to attend to her household duties while she was in Appleton City for business. Mary and other members of the household started toward Walker's store (he was the business manager of J. L. Hunt's & Co.'s grocer), but Emma stated she forgot her watch and returned home for it. Upon her return home, she packed her clothes and gave them to James Hayden. Hayden took the packages to Appleton City where he joined Emma on Saturday.<sup>19</sup>

That same day, Mary Ogan discovered that her sister's clothes were gone. Mary told Walker, and he immediately

took a horse to Appleton City to confront his wife.<sup>20</sup> There, Walker found Emma and Hayden. One news story reported that Walker tried to get his wife to return, but she refused and stated she had left him and that he could sell everything but her organ. She requested that he take her two children to her father's home.<sup>21</sup> Another paper reported that Emma only wanted to leave Montrose, where she had been the victim of "vile slander and calumny" and that she was going to Illinois to visit her grandparents.<sup>22</sup> (Her only living grandparents at this time were her mother's parents Madison and Frances (Ellis) Studyvin who lived in Bureau County, Illinois.) Walker returned to his home in Montrose.

Still not giving up on reuniting with his wife, Walker waited for the train from Appleton City. Thinking he would meet Emma at the Montrose station, he saw her, but she did not get off, so he boarded the train. Hayden was on the train with Emma, but again, the newspaper accounts differ on what happened next. One states that before the next station was reached, Walker and Hayden quarreled and revolvers were drawn.<sup>23</sup> The conductor prevented anyone from harm. The other reported that "Just before kissing him a fond farewell she said. 'Now don't think I am going to Ford, for you will know I would not leave a gentleman as I know you to be to go with a rascal as I know he is."<sup>24</sup>

Ford supposedly went to Sedalia, Pettis County, Missouri, and intended to return in time for the trial concerning the ring. He had a divorce suit pending in Sedalia.<sup>25</sup> But, *The Sedalia Weekly Bazoo* stated on Tuesday 20 November that Ford was a masher and had been working in Dahluin's barbershop for the past few days. It further says he was a good-looking man about age twenty-eight, short, with brown eyes and hair and a small mustache. The paper claimed that "the happy couple (?) left yesterday morning for the north" and that Ford had told his employer that he would be absent for nine or ten days.<sup>26</sup>

<sup>16.</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17.</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18.</sup> The Clinton Advocate (Clinton, Missouri), 15 November 1883, p. 4, col. 1, "Is it an Elopement."

<sup>19.</sup> The Sedalia Weekly Bazoo (Sedalia, Missouri), 20 November 1883, p. 6, col. 3, "Walker's Woe."

<sup>20.</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21.</sup> Ibid.

<sup>22.</sup> The Shelbina Democrat (Shelbina, Missouri), 21 November 1883, p. 2, col. 1, "Elopement."

<sup>23.</sup> The Sedalia Weekly Bazoo (Sedalia, Missouri), 20 November 1883, p. 6, col. 3, "Walker's Woe."

<sup>24.</sup> *The Shelbina Democrat* (Shelbina, Missouri), 21 November 1883, p. 2, col. 1, "Elopement."

<sup>25.</sup> The Clinton Advocate (Clinton, Missouri), 15 November 1883, p. 4, col. 1, "Is it an Elopement."

<sup>26.</sup> *The Sedalia Weekly Bazoo* (Sedalia, Missouri), 20 November 1883, p. 6, col. 3, "Walker's Woe," *Newspapers.com* (<a href="https://www.newspapers.com">https://www.newspapers.com</a> (<a href="https://www.newspapers.com">https://www.newspapers.com</

## WALKER'S WOE.

He is Deserted by His Wife, Who Skips Out With a "Handsomer Man."

A Sensation Which Caused Excitement in the Lively
Little City of Montrose.

The Connection Which Certain Se-

From The Sedalia Weekly Bazoo, 20 November 1883.

Walker hired a livery team Sunday morning and with his sister-in-law Mary Ogan took his wife's two children to her father's home.<sup>27</sup>

There were five years between these Missouri news articles and the next mention of Emma visiting her father Simon Ogan in Montrose during the week of 19 May 1888.<sup>28</sup> She returned for a second visit in June 1888.<sup>29</sup> However, by October 1890, *The Clinton Eye* stated that L. S. Trusler of Oakland City, Indiana, and Emma J. Walker of Montrose took out a marriage license.<sup>30</sup> No official record of the marriage has been found.

However, some events from the missing years were published in Kansas newspapers. It seems that Emma and Walker did reconcile, at least for a while, and settled in Fall River, Greenwood County, Kansas. After leaving Montrose in November 1883, both are mentioned in the 23 May 1884 edition of the *Fall River Echo* as two of the organizers for a new chapter of the Independent Order of Good Templars. Both became officers of the group.<sup>31</sup>

In July, there is a short notice that "L.D. Walker and wife have taken up their residence on the old Gardiner

property."<sup>32</sup> In September, there was a notice that Emma had left for Missouri to visit relatives.<sup>33</sup> And in July 1885, it was noted that Emma's sister Mary Ogan was returning to her home in Missouri after a stay of several weeks.<sup>34</sup> It can be thought that Mary was visiting to help out after the birth of Emma and Walker's daughter, Mable Sunshine Walker, who was born on 1 May 1885. Two years later, when Emma was 26 years old, there was an announcement for the birth of a son on 25 July 1887.<sup>35</sup>

However, two years later there was a turn of events that shook the small town where they lived. On 12 December 1889, the local paper ran the following news item:<sup>36</sup>

Mrs. L. D. Walker went west on the 1:38 trin on Tuesday, leaving a note to her husband that she had taken the boy, two years old, and telling him that he must take good care of the little girl, who was at school, as they would see her no more, and that Dr. Trusler had furnished her money to go with.

Wednesday, Dr. Trusler was advised to leave, and he took the train going east, but did not buy a ticket. We for bear, for the present to say more—because we have not the bottom facts. But will give further particulars, when we have the facts.

That same day, Emma filed for divorce from Walker.<sup>37</sup> She listed a long list of reasons, giving examples of his cruelty and controlling nature. Walker denied all she said. Affidavits by Emma's father and sister stated they had never seen Walker be anything but kind and respectful to Emma. The record does not report the day the divorce was granted, but on 11 October 1890, less than a year after she left Walker, "Dr. LS Trusler, Oakland City, Ind, and Emma J Walker, Montrose" took out a marriage

<sup>27.</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28.</sup> The Clinton Eye (Clinton, Missouri), 19 May 1888, p. 4, col. 2, "Montrose Meteors."

<sup>29.</sup> Ibid., 16 June 1888, p. 4, col. 2, "Montrose Meteors."

<sup>30.</sup> Ibid., 11 October 1890, page 1, col. 5, "Marriage Licenses."

<sup>31.</sup> Fall River Echo (Fall River, Kansas), 23 May 1884, page 3, column 5; Newspapers.com (https://www.newspapers.com).

<sup>32.</sup> Ibid., 25 July 1884, page 3.

<sup>33.</sup> Ibid., 19 September 1884, page 3.

<sup>34.</sup> Ibid., 24 July 1885, page 3.

<sup>35.</sup> Fall River Times (Fall River, Kansas), 28 July 1887, page 3; Newspapers.com (<u>https://www.newspapers.com</u>).

<sup>36.</sup> Ibid., 12 December 1889, page 3.

<sup>7. &</sup>quot;Divorce case files, 1857-1914, Greenwood County, Kansas," image 1384 of 1704, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org).



Mable Sunshine Walker. Courtesy the author.

license in Montrose.<sup>38</sup> By April of 1891, the couple was living in Fall River. Emma died less than a year later, on 23 March 1892. No obituary can be found, nor death certificate. Meanwhile, Walker had moved West.

Walker first appears in California records in August of 1892 when he registered to vote at Happy Valley, Shasta County.<sup>39</sup> It notes that Walker is 37, 5' 7.5" tall, with a dark complexion, blue eyes, and dark hair. His brother John is also listed in the voting record. By 1900, Walker is renting a house and working as a carpenter.<sup>40</sup> His daughter Mable is living with him, and his brother is next door. On the 1910 census, Walker is living in Anderson, Shasta, California, on his own land. His occupation is fruit farmer. Mable and her children are in his household.<sup>41</sup> Walker stayed in Shasta County until his death at the age of 83.

In correspondence with Melody Dawn Landon, a descendant of Lucius Don Walker through his daughter Mable, additional details have emerged.<sup>42</sup>

When Melody wrote, she lived in Shasta County, California, on the property that her great-grandfather Walker bought in 1884. She stated that it was a Gold Coin Farm as he had purchased the property for \$400.00 in gold coin. If true, it means that Walker bought the land while still living in Kansas.

Melody's mom told her that before the house burned down there was a picture of Emma in a trunk in the attic and that Emma was beautiful with long dark curly hair "like a gypsy." Melody also stated that her mother gave her three photos which came from Claude Trusler, a son of Emma's. One was of Claude and his wife, Blanche, at the gravestone of Emma J. Trusler. Written on the back was "Died 3/27/1892 buried at Brown's Chapel 10 miles nw of Fall River on the shoreline of Fall River Reservoir. She was 32 years old."<sup>43</sup> The second one was the gravestone, and the third photo was an old Victorian house which indicated on the back: "The house that Lucius Walker built for Emma in Greenwood, Kansas. It is now in the state park there."<sup>44</sup> This is the house where Claude L. Trusler was born. He and Blanche are pictured here.



Claude and Blanche Trusler at Emma's grave, Browns Chapel Cemetery, near Fall River. Courtesy of author.

<sup>38.</sup> The Clinton Eye, 11 October 1890, page 1.

<sup>39. &</sup>quot;California, U.S., Voter Registers, 1866-1898," entry for Lucius D. Walker, Ancestry (https://www.ancestry.com)

<sup>40. 1900</sup> U.S. census, Shasta County, California, population schedule, Anderson Township, enumeration district (ED) 111, p. 3, line 68, dwelling 74, household 75, entry for Lucius D. Walker; digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com: accessed 2021).

<sup>41. 1910</sup> U.S. census, Shasta County, California, population schedule, Anderson Township, enumeration district (ED) 89, p. 13A, line 45, dwelling 321, household 326, entry for Lucius D. Walker; digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 2021).

<sup>42.</sup> Email of Melody Dawn Landon to Emily D. Aulicino, ca. 2005 [exact date lost in computer crash], re: Melody's family stories of Emma J. Ogan's and Emma's marriages to Lucius Don Walker and Leslie Solon Trusler.

<sup>43.</sup> Ibid.

<sup>44.</sup> Ibid.

Melody further stated that Emma was always elusive and mysterious as far as the family was concerned. She stated that Walker claimed Emma was born in 1861 in Missouri and was Mable Sunshine Walker's mother. Walker also claimed that Mable had a brother Claude who lived with his stepfather in Indiana. Claude believed that his parents were Lucius Walker and Emma. Claude was born in 1887 in Fall River, Kansas, and he visited after he grew up, according to a cousin of Melody. Claude always used the surname Trusler.

Melody says that Hap (the family nickname for Julius Peter Ahart) and his brother Walter Ahart came with Walker when he moved to California.<sup>45</sup> These were the two children that Walker took to Emma's father in 1883.

In Melody's family, the rumor was that Emma took Claude and ran off with a doctor. (Leslie S. Trusler was a doctor.) Melody's dad, Walter Landon, said that at some point Emma showed up in Olinda and tried to get her sons (Julius and Walter) to leave with her and also to take Mable (daughter of Emma and Walker), but Walker came out with a gun and ran them off the property. He told her nobody was taking his children, and he didn't care who they were. Walter's dad Andrew Landon, husband of Mable, told Walter this story.

Emma's third marriage was to Leslie Solon Trusler. He graduated from Valparaiso College in 1880 and from the Medical College of Indiana in Indianapolis in 1883 as an Allopath (an Allopath uses conventional or Western medical practices known at the time). 46 He specialized

in allopathic medicine, receiving his license in 1897 in Indiana and in 1901 in Kansas. He practiced in Fall River and in Oakland City, Indiana,<sup>47</sup> and owned a pharmacy in Fall River that burned down in 1896.<sup>48</sup>

Trusler was on the 1880 census<sup>49</sup> with his parents in Indiana, but by April 1883 he was living in Fall River.<sup>50</sup> In August 1888, a local newspaper reported that he was a candidate for representative of the state legislature.<sup>51</sup> He lost, however.<sup>52</sup>

Leslie Trusler, Claude Trusler, and Julius Ehrhart [sic Ahart] appear together in the Greenwood County, Kansas, census in 1895,<sup>53</sup> but only Leslie and Claude were in the 1900 federal census<sup>54</sup> and the 1905 Kansas state census.<sup>55</sup> By 1910 Leslie was living in Gibson County, Indiana, but he died 27 February 1918 in Eureka, Greenwood County, Kansas.<sup>56</sup> He is buried in Montgomery Cemetery, Oakland City, Gibson County, Indiana.<sup>57</sup>

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Emily Doolin Aulicino, a retired teacher, has been a serious genealogist since 1970 and a genetic genealogist since 2005. She has written a book on her Gilmore lineage and is currently compiling one on her Ogan line. She has taught writing classes for seniors through Portland Parks and Recreation for more than 10 years. Emily's booklet "Memoing" Your Memories is a guide to writing one's childhood memories and family stories. Emily has also published the book Genetic Genealogy: The Basics and Beyond. Mary Ogan was her great-grandmother.

<sup>45.</sup> If the boys did move to California, it was probably a back and forth arrangement. Peter was in Greenwood County in 1895 living with L. S. Trusler and Claude. He had moved to California before the 1910 census. Walter was in Greenwood County in 1900 working as a cook.

<sup>46. &</sup>quot;Directory of Deceased American Physicians, 1804-1929," entry for Leslie Solon Trusler, 27 February 1918.

<sup>47.</sup> Ibid.

<sup>48.</sup> *Democratic Messenger* (Eureka, Kansas), 7 February 1896, p. 2, col. 6, "Fall River," *Newspapers.com* (<a href="https://www.newspapers.com">https://www.newspapers.com</a>). Also, *The Fall River Citizen* (Fall River, Kansas), 14 February 1896, p. 3, col., "A Correction," *Newspapers.com* (<a href="https://www.newspapers.com">https://www.newspapers.com</a>).

<sup>49. 1880</sup> U.S. census, Gibson County, Indiana, population schedule, Columbia township, district 1, enumeration district (ED) 106, p. 193-B, line 14, dwelling 86, household 89, entry for George Trusler; digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com: accessed 2010); citing NARA microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls; 1880 U.S. Census Index provided by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

<sup>50.</sup> Fall River Echo (Fall River, Kansas), 20 April 1883, p. 4, col. 2, "Personal Brevities." Newspapers.com (https://www.newspapers.com).

<sup>51.</sup> *The Madison News* (Madison, Kansas), 10 August 1888, p. 4, col. 1, "Announcements. For Representative," *Newspapers.com* (<a href="https://www.newspapers.com">https://www.newspapers.com</a> (<a href="https://www.newspapers.com">https://www.newspap

<sup>52.</sup> *The Eureka Herald and Greenwood County Republican* (Eureka, Kansas), 24 August 1888, p. 1, col. 6, "The Convention," *Newspapers. com* (<a href="https://www.newspapers.com">https://www.newspapers.com</a>).

<sup>53. &</sup>quot;Kansas, U.S., State Census Collection, 1855-1925," Greenwood County, Kansas, p. 3, line 9, entry for Julius Ehrhart; digital image, *Ancestry* (<a href="https://www.ancestry.com">https://www.ancestry.com</a> : accessed 2009); citing Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, Kansas; 1895 Kansas Territory Census; roll v115\_54, line 11.

<sup>54. 1900</sup> U.S. census, Greenwood County, Kansas, population schedule, Salt Springs, Fall River, district 4, enumeration district (ED) 60, p. 2-A, line 49, dwelling 36, household 37, entry for Leslie Touslen [sic Trusler]; digital image, Ancestry (https://www.ancestry.com: accessed 2004); citing Bureau of the Census, Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900; NARA microfilm production T623, 1854 rolls, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.

<sup>55. &</sup>quot;Kansas, U.S., State Census Collection, 1855-1925," Greenwood County, Kansas, population schedule, Fall River, line 14, dwelling 2, household 2, entry for L. S. Trusler, digital image, *Ancestry* (<a href="https://www.ancestry.com">https://www.ancestry.com</a> : accessed 2009); citing Kansas State Historical Society; Topeka, Kansas; 1905 Kansas Territory Census, roll ks1905\_59.

<sup>56. &</sup>quot;Directory of Deceased American Physicians, 1804-1929," entry for Leslie Solon Trusler, 27 February 1918.

<sup>57.</sup> Find A Grave, database and images (https://www.findagrave.com: accessed 25 October 2018), Dr Leslie S. Trussler (1854-1918), memorial 52833361; citing Montgomery Cemetery, Oakland City, Gibson County, Indiana; Maintained by Jeannie Collins (contributor 47778023).

## Richard W. Helbock's United States Post Offices Now Available at the GFO

Harold E. Hinds, Jr.

ocating a particular place when you discover your ancestor once resided there can be very challenging. The Genealogical Forum of Oregon library has a number of gazetteers and geographical place name dictionaries, but our collection, while commendable, has many gaps. Notably, the U.S. gazetteer, *Omni Gazetteer of the United States of America* in 11 volumes, is among the missing, although it is available at the Central Multnomah County Library in downtown Portland.

For this reason, you might find Richard W. Helbock's eight-volume set exceptionally useful. The books list "every post office that existed in the United States, including their names, the states and counties in which they were located, and their dates of operation." Helbock mined the National Archives' "Records of Appointment of Postmasters" and numerous other sources. Individual volumes are as follows: The West, The Great Plains, The Upper West, The Northeast, The Ohio Valley, The Mid Atlantic, The Lower Mississippi, and The Southeast.

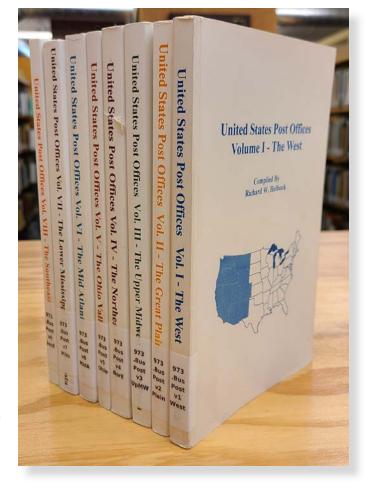
Books in the GFO library related to post offices include:

Axelson, Edith F. *Virginia Postmasters and Post Offices*, **1789–1832**. 1991. 975.40 .Bus Post 1789-1832

Barklow, Irene. From Trails to Rails: The Post Offices, Stage Stops, & Wagon Roads of Union County, Oregon. 1987. 979.55 Unio .Bus Post

Barklow, Irene. *The Old and the New: History of the Post Offices of Wallowa County*. 1982.
979.55 Wall .Bus Post Bark

Baughman, Robert Williamson. *Kansas Post Offices: May 29, 1828 - August 3, 1961*. 1961. 978.10 .Bus Post KPHS



Crosiar, R. Roland. *Neither Snow nor Rain: A History of U.S. Post Offices within Polk County, Oregon, 1850–1993.*1993.
1993.

Gamett, James. *Nevada Post Offices: An Illustrated History*. 1983. 979.30 .Bus Post Game

Helbock, Richard W. *United States Post Offices*. 1998. 973 .Bus Post v1-8

Lang, Della. *Post Offices of Jefferson County, Missouri,* 1811–1996. 1996. 977.85 Jeff .Bus Post 1811-1996

Zopf, Nancy Ward. *Post Offices of Wasco County, Oregon, 1851–2010.* 2010. 979.55 Wasc .Bus Post 1851-2010

United States Atlas 1890 and Complete Post-Office Directory. 1989. Atlas 973 .Maps Post 1890 Hutc

**Record of Appointment of Postmasters, 1832 - September 30, 1971, Oregon**. 1973. 979.50 .Bus Post 1832-1971

Preliminary Inventory of The Records of The Post Office Department: (Record Group 28). 1967. 973 .Repos NARA Post

*Directory of Post Offices*. 973 .Maps Post 1960

*Directory of Post Offices, with ZIP Codes* 973 .Bus Post Dir 1975-1976

*The Post Office London Directory - 1846 June Edition* 941.3 Midd Lond.Dir PO 1846



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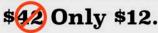
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# The Family Bible of Margaret R. (Henderson) Wilson (1810–1897)

#### Vince Roman

Published in 1862, the Wilson-Henderson Bible contains vital records spanning 107 years (1806–1913). The Bible belonged to Margaret R. (Henderson) Wilson as her name is prominently written above the date 21 April 1867. Her name and date occupy a single page and the date is probably when she received the Bible.

The Bible contains three pages designated for family records. One page each for marriages, births and deaths. The designated marriage record page contains illegible markings. The markings are probably ink residue that bled through the opposite side of the page. It appears four different individuals recorded the names and dates.

The Wilson and Henderson families hailed from Tennessee. Several members of the family relocated to Oregon in the 1850s and are noted as some of Oregon's earliest pioneers. The transcription of the title page and vital records are as follows:

THE

#### HOLY BIBLE,

CONTAINING THE

#### OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS,

TRANSLATED OUT OF

#### THE ORIGINAL TONGUES;

AND WITH THE

FORMER TRANSLATIONS DILIGENTLY COMPARED AND REVISED

#### NEW YORK:

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

INSTITUTED IN THE YEAR MDCCCXVI

{Pica, Ato. Reference}

1862.

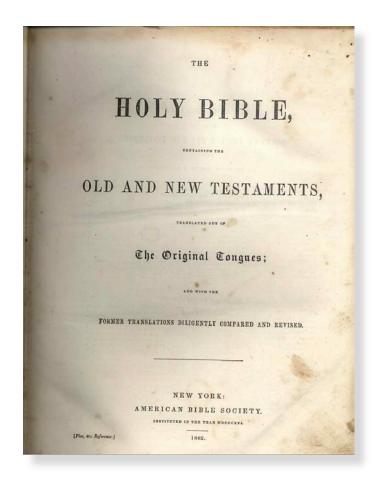
[Inside front cover]

Margaret R. Wilson

Apr. 21st 1867.

#### **FAMILY RECORD**

MARRIAGES [blank]





#### **FAMILY RECORD**

#### **BIRTHS**

John T. Wilson was born June 24th 1806.

Margaret R. Henderson was born July 9th 1810.

John H. Wilson was born March 4th 1829.

Penelope J. Wilson was born March 6th 1831.

Margaret C. M. Wilson was born Oct. 26th 1832.

Alexander M. Wilson was born Oct. 17th 1834.

Thos. H. Wilson was born Jan 9th 1837.

Nancy E. Wilson was born March 24th 1839.

Sarah L. Wilson was born Nov. 22d 1842.

Mary E. Wilson was born Feb. 13th 1844.

James H. Daily was born Feb. 22d 1837.

#### **FAMILY RECORD**

#### **DEATHS**

John Henderson died Jan 2d, 1827 – aged 64 years 3 mos and 16 days

Margaret Henderson died Sept. 23d – aged 74 years 8 mos. and 1 days

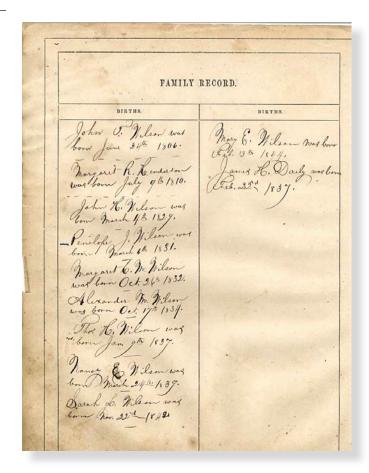
John T. Wilson died Aug. 23d 1843 – aged 37 years 2 mo.

Alexander M. Wilson died July 26th 1863 – aged 29 years 9 mos. and 9 days.

Mary E. Daily died November 13th 1871 – aged 26 years 9 months

Sarah L Burroughs Died May 14th – 1885 Aged 43 years 65 months 28 22 days

Margret T. Wilson dide November the 17 1897 Aged 87 years 4 months 5 days



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September, 2021

Mararet C. M Humphreys dide September . 11 [?] . 1901 Age 68 ys 10 months 11 days

John H. Wilson dide February 24 1901 Age 72 years 11 months 18 days

Thomas H. Wilson Died Oct 24 1911 74 years 9 m 15 days old

John . P. Humphreys Dide november . 17 1913. age . 81 . years 10 months and 15 days

#### HANDWRITING ONE – MARGARET R. (HENDERSON) WILSON

Margaret R. Henderson was born in 1810 in Monroe County, Tennessee, to John and Dorcas (McSpadden) Henderson.<sup>1</sup> She married John T. Wilson probably in 1828. As recorded in the Bible, their first child, John H. Wilson, was born 4 March 1829. Margaret's husband John T. Wilson passed away in 1843 while Margaret was pregnant with their eighth child.<sup>2</sup>

As a young widow, she continued to raise their children in Tennessee until she relocated to Oregon in 1859 at about age 49.3 At least three of her children, John H. Wilson, Penelope Humphreys, and Margaret C.M. Humphreys also relocated west (although not all together) and lived the remainder of their lives in Oregon.4 Daughters Penelope and Margaret married brothers William Jehu Humphreys and John Pryor Humphreys. When Margaret died in 1897, five children survived her. Son John H. and daughters Penelope

#### DIED.

WILSON.—At the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. J. Humphreys, in the Waldo Hills, at 9 p. m., Wednesday, November 17, 1897. Mrs. Margaret R. Wilson, aged 87 years. Deceased has been a resident of Oregon since 1859, coming from Tennessée. She leaves two sons and three daughters to mourn her death, viz: J. H. Wilson, Salem; T. H. Wilson, Palo Alto, Cal,; Mrs. W. J. Humphreys and Mrs. John Humphreys, of Marion county, and Mrs. O. P. P. Pence, of Des Moines, Ia.

Funeral services were held from the home at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

Obituary for Margaret R. (Henderson) Wilson, Daily Capital Journal (Salem, Oregon), 18 November 1897. <u>Historic Oregon Newspapers</u>.

and Margaret resided in Marion County, Oregon. Son Thomas Howard Wilson lived in Palo Alto, California, and daughter Nancy Pence resided in Iowa.<sup>5</sup>

Margaret received the Bible in Oregon and is the first person to document the family's vital records. She recorded the names and birthdates of herself, her husband, their eight children, and her son-in-law, James H. Daily. Margaret's daughter Mary E. Wilson married James H. Daily possibly the same year Margaret received the Bible. She likely recorded James's name as his marriage into the family was a recent event. No other son or daughter-in-law's vital records are recorded. The

<sup>1.</sup> For birth see, *Find A Grave*, database with images (<a href="https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/28903960/margaret-r-wilson">https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/28903960/margaret-r-wilson</a> : accessed 12 February 2021), memorial 28903960, Margaret R. Wilson (1810-1897), Anderson Lone Fir Cemetery, Sublimity, Marion County, Oregon, gravestone photograph by Betty Hunter-Harrison. For parents see, <a href="https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/pt/PersonMatch.aspx?tid=174224880&pid=162260829802&src=m&phsrc=JFe350&phstart=default&usePUBJs=true&currentPageIsStart="https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/pt/PersonMatch.aspx?tid=174224880&pid=162260829802&src=m&phsrc=JFe350&phstart=default&usePUBJs=true&currentPageIsStart="https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/pt/PersonMatch.aspx?tid=174224880&pid=162260829802&src=m&phsrc=JFe350&phstart=default&usePUBJs=true&currentPageIsStart="https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/pt/PersonMatch.aspx?tid=174224880&pid=162260829802&src=m&phsrc=JFe350&phstart=default&usePUBJs=true&currentPageIsStart="https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/pt/PersonMatch.aspx?tid=174224880&pid=162260829802&src=m&phsrc=JFe350&phstart=default&usePUBJs=true&currentPageIsStart="https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/pt/PersonMatch.aspx?tid=174224880&pid=162260829802&src=m&phsrc=JFe350&phstart=default&usePUBJs=true&currentPageIsStart="https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/pt/PersonMatch.aspx?tid=174224880&pid=162260829802&src=m&phsrc=JFe350&phstart=default&usePUBJs=true&currentPageIsStart="https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/pt/PersonMatch.aspx."https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/pt/PersonMatch.aspx.

<sup>2.</sup> The Bible death record notes John T. Wilson died 23 August 1843. Daughter Mary E. Wilson was born 13 February 1844 approximately 5.5 months after her father's death.

<sup>3.</sup> *Newspapers.com*, Died [Margaret R. Wilson obituary], *The Capitol Journal*, Salem, Oregon, 18 November 1897, p.5 (<a href="https://www.newspapers.com/image/82681416/?image=82681416&words=&article=2f4a866d-co86-4f7f-8od9-703c58282d67&focus=0.5134218,0.45964622">o.6244049,0.55662924&xid=3355&ga=2.87234456.1011280180.1613414560-1116692531.1604942237&ancestry=true</a>: accessed 15 February 2021).

<sup>4.</sup> For John H. Wilson death see, *Find A Grave*, database with images, (<a href="https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24113304/john-h-wilson">https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24113304/john-h-wilson</a> (1829-1902), Salem Pioneer Cemetery, Salem, Marion County, Oregon, gravestone photograph by Patty C. For Margaret Humphreys death see, *Find A Grave*, database with images (<a href="https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/27015235/margaret-clementine-humphreys">https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/27015235/margaret-clementine-humphreys</a> (1832-1901), Mount Hope Cemetery, Salem, Marion County, Oregon, gravestone photograph by Patty C. For Penelope Humphreys death see, *Find A Grave*, database with images, (<a href="https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/27968444/penelope-jane-humphreys">https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/27968444/penelope-jane-humphreys</a> : accessed 12 February 2021), memorial 27968444, Penelope Jane Wilson Humphreys (1831-1922), Anderson Lone Fir Cemetery, Sublimity, Marion County, Oregon, gravestone photograph by Karen Harness Tolle.

<sup>5.</sup> *Newspapers.com*, Died [Margaret R. Wilson obituary], *The Capitol Journal*, Salem, Oregon, 18 November 1897, p.5 (<a href="https://www.newspapers.com/image/82681416/?image=82681416&words=&article=2f4a866d-co86-4f7f-8od9-703c58282d67&focus=0.5134218,0.45964622,0.6244049,0.55662924&xid=3355&ga=2.87234456.1011280180.1613414560-1116692531.1604942237&ancestry=true: accessed 15 February 2021).

scant records for James Daily on Ancestry.com list him as possibly James (Jas.) Darby.<sup>6</sup> However, the writing in the Bible clearly presents the surname as Daily.

Margaret also recorded five of the eleven deaths written in the Bible. The deaths recorded by Margaret were that of her husband John T. Wilson, son Alexander Wilson, daughter Mary Daily, and her grandparents John and Margaret Henderson. All the vital records Margaret recorded, except her daughter Mary's death (1871), were likely written at the same time, on or near the date she received the Bible in 1867.

Margaret's parents were still living in 1867. Her parents passed away in 1869 and 1871. Why she didn't record their deaths is a mystery.

## HANDWRITING TWO – UNKNOWN (POSSIBLY MARGARET R. (HENDERSON) WILSON)

The death of Margaret's daughter Sarah L. (Wilson) Burroughs in 1885 is probably recorded by a second person. Still, this could be Margaret's handwriting, albeit matured. If it is Margaret, she aged fourteen years since writing her previous entry (daughter Mary's death in 1871).

#### HANDWRITING THREE – PENELOPE (WILSON) HUMPHREYS

Margaret lived with her daughter Penelope Humphreys at the time of her death.<sup>8</sup> Perhaps Penelope took possession of her mother's Bible after she passed? The deaths

of Margaret Wilson, Margaret Humphreys, John H. Wilson, and John P. Humphreys are clearly written in the same distinct handwriting. This person, likely Penelope, misspelled the word died as "dide" in all four records.

Penelope traveled along the Oregon Trail and gave birth to her first child, Margaret Jane Humphreys, along the journey in 1853.9 Penelope and her husband became the parents of ten more children and settled in Sublimity in Marion County. They witnessed Oregon become admitted to the Union as the 33rd State in 1859. Penelope lived a long life and passed away at the age of 91 on 2 May 1922. 11

#### HANDWRITING FOUR - UNKNOWN

Thomas H. Wilson (son of Margaret and brother of Penelope) died 24 October 1911 as noted in the Bible. His death was recorded by a fourth writer, possibly one of Penelope's children. Thomas lived for a time in Oregon but relocated to California where he passed away at age 74.<sup>12</sup>

The Wilson-Henderson family embodied what it meant to be pioneers. They were fortunate to survive the arduous journey in which disease, accidents, and Native American attacks threatened daily life. Once settled in Marion County, they established themselves as one of Oregon's earliest pioneer families. Their legacy lives on with the many descendants throughout the Pacific Northwest.

20 September, 2021

<sup>6.</sup> Ancestry.com, New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (Including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957 (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7488/images/NYM237\_244-0251?treeid=174224880&personid=162261037539&hintid=1032696094643&usePUB=true&phsrc=wXH9&phstart=default&usePUBJs=true&ga=2.110750605.980657339.1613152101-1116692531.1604942237&pld=5234558:accessed 12 February 2021) Jas. Darby. Further research is needed to confirm if Jas. Darby and James Daily are one in the same.

<sup>7.</sup> For Margaret's mother's death see, *Find A Grave*, database with images (<a href="https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/9135002">https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/9135002</a> :60525?tid=174224880&pid=162260834507 : accessed 15 February 2021), memorial 39055725, Darcus McSpadden Henderson (1792-1869) Sink Cemetery, Monroe County, Tennessee, gravestone photograph by aprlambur. For father's death see, *Find A Grave*, database with images (<a href="https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39055685/john-henderson">https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39055685/john-henderson</a> : accessed 15 February 2021), memorial 39055685, John Henderson (1790-1971) Sink Cemetery, Monroe County, Tennessee, gravestone photograph by aprlambur.

<sup>8.</sup> *Newspapers.com*, Died [Margaret R. Wilson obituary], *The Capitol Journal*, Salem, Oregon, 18 November 1897, p.5 (<a href="https://www.newspapers.com/image/82681416/?image=82681416&words=&article=2f4a866d-co86-4f7f-8od9-703c58282d67&focus=0.5134218,0.45964622">o.6244049,0.55662924&xid=3355&ga=2.87234456.1011280180.1613414560-1116692531.1604942237&ancestry=true</a> : accessed 15 February 2021).

<sup>9.</sup> *Ancestry.com*, 1860 United States Federal Census, Sublimity Precinct, Marion County, Oregon, p.339 (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7667/images/4282812\_00160?treeid=174224880&personid=162261035878&hintid=1032696078974&usePUB=true&phsrc=BKe9&phstart=default&usePUB]s=true&pld=43943528: accessed 15 February 2021). M J Humphreys is listed as born in Nebraska and corroborates a birth along the Oregon Trail.

<sup>10.</sup> Ibid

<sup>11.</sup> *Newspapers.com*, [Penelope Jane Humphreys obituary], *Statesman Journal*, Salem, Oregon, 3 May 1922, p.5 (https://www.newspapers.com/clip/69356774/penealope-obit/?xid=637& ga=2.259517578.1448694075.1612815793-1444544050.1606323917: accessed 10 February 2021).

<sup>12.</sup> *Ancestry.co*m, California, U.S., Death Index, 1905-1929, Thomas H. Wilson (<a href="https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/5187/images/41547\_B138956-00638?treeid=174224880&personid=162260834520&hintid=&usePUB=true&\_phsrc=TcZ12&\_phstart=default&usePUBJs=true&\_ga=2.85532313.1011280180.1613414560-1116692531.1604942237&pld=1936145: accessed 16 February 2021).

### **Snow Kids: A Memoir**

#### Patricia Lidrich

In 1949 central Iowa, winter snow still fell abundantly. That year, my older brother, Ronnie, was twelve years old and I was nine. We took every opportunity to play outside.

On one of those days, gradually the bitter cold seeped through my warm woolens until I felt as frozen as a popsicle. Ronnie began to walk up the hill for another sled run. I dreaded saying anything for fear of being marked a whiner, or worse, left at home on the next outing. However, being too cold to care, I blurted out, "I'm really freezing and want to go home."

He glanced around and noticed that several of his friends also prepared to leave. His shoulders sagged. "Okay," he sighed. "Let's go."

I picked up my sled rope with numb fingers and trod home on prickly toes. Even though my body felt burnt out, a lightness shown inside. I often composed little songs and rhymes and now one bubbled up from my heart.

I shot downhill
What a thrill!
I took a spill
But wasn't a pill.
Let's do it again,
Again, again.

Over and over, my song continued to the accompaniment of the sleds' creaking and clattering as their runners slid over the ice and snow.

Reaching our home, Ronnie and I stepped to the back. We leaned the sleds against the side of the house so Dad could put them away in the garage.

Ronnie remarked, "The other day Harry White asked me why I didn't put my sled away myself. Why leave it out for Dad?"

I laughed as much as my frosty face would allow. "Did you show him the garage?"

That building had become a family joke; its two floors crammed so full Ronnie and I couldn't possibly find a place to put our sleds and bicycles. Of course, our car stood parked inside with a wide path around it so we could easily get in and out. The rototiller which Dad had bought in 1946 for the unbelievable price of \$400 had earned its place. With it, he could till a two-acre plot pretty quickly. The organic vegetables he grew there constituted much of our diet, fresh in season and canned or frozen in winter. Also placed in the garage



My brother Ron pulling Sharon in a box sled with me alongside. Courtesy of the author.

were tools and implements Dad used to take care of the lawn and garden.

But his "precious junk," consisting of memorabilia from his mother's house, unfinished do-it-yourself projects, and even stacks of old lumber, crammed the rest of the first floor and all of the second. Things Dad might someday have a need for, or that he just couldn't bear to throw away, all had a home there. Fortunately, Dad always willingly took out our bikes and sleds and put them away with a kindly, "Sure thing, kids!"

Thank goodness, Mother ruled the house, so our living spaces and Dad's office always looked clean and tidy. She and Dad had set aside a few areas for more junk, though: a large closet in his office, his shop in the basement, and a corner of the attic. In the last could be found stacks of *National Geographic* magazines as well as a bookcase full of his old medical books. In a few years, the latter became magnets for inquisitive teenagers!

Before we hurried inside, we stomped our boots hard on the walkway between the house and the garage. Quickly brushing off any lingering snow on our clothes, we opened the storm door and the wooden house door. Rushing in, we clomped up three steps to the small back hallway. Two doors faced us. One led to the Chiropractic office and Dad, the other to the kitchen and Mother.

We'd run in so noisily our parents couldn't miss hearing us enter the house. Both doors opened at once. Dad spoke first. His wide welcoming grin made his black mustache quiver. "Well, kids, did you have fun today?"

We returned his warm greeting enthusiastically, being frozen stiff almost forgotten. "You betcha, Dad!"

"Great!" And he quickly walked back to his patient.

Mother's greeting proved quite different. "Children, it's so good to have you home. I missed you!" As she spoke, the little line between her brows grew deeper. "Tricia, are your teeth chattering?"

I tried to still my shivering. "J-Just a l-little, M-mom." On a mission now, moving faster, she helped us off with our wet outer clothes and boots. After being herded through the kitchen and into the dining room, we plopped down onto the brown, pillowy sofa set against the back wall. Mother gave us wool socks to put on, wrapped us in warm blankets, and carefully handed us mugs of hot cocoa. Ronnie and I both sighed with



*Left to right: My younger sister Sharon Dennis; the author* Patricia Dennis; my older brother Ronald Dennis; my mother Ellen Dennis; and my father Dr. Tedford Dennis. Courtesy of the author.

contentment. I felt so safe and protected. We'd come home numb with cold, but Mother took care of us. She always did.

About the Author: Patricia Lidrich was born in 1940, and grew up in Madrid, Iowa, a town of 2,000 people. Madrid was a European melting pot with many individuals emigrating from Sweden and Italy. There were a few other nationalities, as well as home-grown Americans. Small town social life centered on the school and church. Her father worked at home as a Chiropractor, which helped the family become very close. She moved to Oregon as a bride and eventually taught elementary and special education students for 32 years. She's written on a variety of subjects as well as two memoirs, "Lost" and "Goats of Wrath."

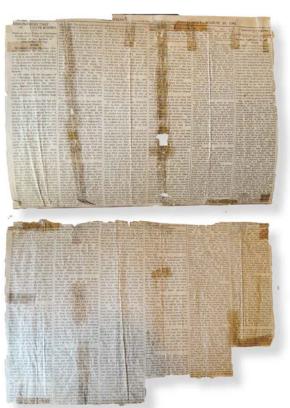
Note from Patricia: My mother's maiden name was Wassgren. Her parents were immigrants from Sweden. The name Wassgren comes from Wassamala, a village in the Parish of Vimmerby, Sweden. This village is situated near the river Stangan. Wass in Swedish means reed. Reeds grew on the wet meadows there along the river. Gren means branch. My ancestor Nils Martensson (1747-1827) served in the army at a base near the village of Wassamala. He was given the use of a soldier's croft (cottage), Wassnas, and later moved his family there. After he left the army, he became Nils Martensson Wassgren. My grandfather, Anton Wassgren, was one of 16 children. Eight were born to his father's first wife, and eight (including my grandfather) to the second wife. Anton and all but three of his siblings emigrated to the United States. I have cousins all over the country, most of whom I don't know!



# **Memories**from LeRoy Whitford (1827–1915) of Chautauqua County, New York, Lead to His Maternal Grandparents

Mark Grafe

eRoy Whitford wrote that his father was asked at a community gathering to talk about how he managed to raise his large family in rural Chautauqua County, New York, in the early 1800s. His father, Orison Whitford, walked up to the podium and his entire speech was as follows, "It is a mystery." Orison probably got a good laugh from friends and neighbors. LeRoy wrote a lengthy newspaper article detailing this family's hard work. However, it seems the mystery that was passed down related to LeRoy's maternal lineage.



"Some Pioneers That I Have Known," by LeRoy Whitford, held by Mark Grafe.



LeRoy Whitford, photo held by Mark Grafe.

LeRoy's mother and Orison's wife—Dorcas was buried at Maple Grove Cemetery in Ashville, Chautauqua County, New York. My grandparents, Heber and Ruth Radcliffe, visited Chautauqua County in 1939 and photographed Dorcas's grave stone. The inscription had her maiden name, Wilbur.

Dorcas Wilbur was born in 1804 in Vermont. No birth or baptismal record has been found for her. She died in Chautauqua County, New York, on 6 April 1870. Dorcas married 6 June 1826 near Saratoga Lake, New York, Orison A. Whitford, son of Dennis Whitford and Ruth Arnold. Orison and Dorcas (Wilbur) Whitford left clues to their heritage when naming their children:

- i. LeRoy Whitford
- ii. Daniel Burlin Whitford
- iii. Missouri Eunise Whitford
- iv. Urana Miami Whitford
- v. Solomon Wilbur Whitford
- vi. Ruth Amanda Whitford
- vii. Lois Sabrina Whitford
- viii. Martha Minerva Whitford
- ix. George H. Whitford (adopted)
- x. Gordon L. Whitford (adopted)

Sources were accessed 19 September 2021.

<sup>1. 1850</sup> U.S. census, Chautauqua County, New York, population schedule, Harmony, page 63, dwelling 479, family 491, Dorcas in the household of Morrison [Orison] Whitford; digital image, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-DCQ9-6RX?i ), image 63; citing National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) M432, roll 484.

<sup>2.</sup> Find a Grave (https://www.findagrave.com), memorial 17099633, Dorcas (Wilbur) Whitford (1804–1870) gravestone, Maple Grove Cemetery, Ashville, Chautauqua, New York; image by Heber Radcliffe 6 April 1970. Family history has 16 January 1804 or 17 December 1804 as a date of birth for Dorcas.

<sup>3.</sup> A. C. Pearse and Ruth Amanda (Whitford) Pearse, "Whitford family history," 7 July 1898; copied by Newton Burlin Whitford 3 February 1907 and Heber Radcliffe 29 April 1963.

The family tree on this Whitford/Wilbur line came from A. C. Pearse, spouse of Ruth Amanda Whitford. My grandparents received it from LeRoy's son, Newton Burlin Whitford. My grandma, Ruth H. Ball, was the great-granddaughter of Dorcas Wilbur.

In 1939, thanks to an interest in genealogy, Heber took a photo of Ruth with a relative, Emogene (Wilbur) Flahaven.
Later, Grandma's cousin shared a letter found in a family Bible that was written by Dorcas in 1825 to Orison, prior to their marriage in 1826.4

Bible that was written by Dorcas in 1825 to Orison, prior to their marriage in 1826.<sup>4</sup>

Other interesting artifacts included very small diaries written by

LeRoy and his wife, Mary Jane Dutcher.

Entries for the month in which their first son Newton was born were transcribed and Dorcas sto sent to my grandparents. One entry shows that Newton the only person of Burlin Whitford was born 3 February 1855.

The diary entries document illness, monetary transactions, weather, successful crops, and challenges with livestock on the farm. There is a lengthy discussion on fostering a nephew. And an uncle stopped by, in 1855. Whitford and Wilbur family memories were recorded in:

Newspaper articles
Grave stone for Dorcas
Children's names
Whitford family tree
Photo of Emogene Wilbur
Letter from Dorcas
Dorcas and LeRoy's Diary

#### X-DNA

What prompted a closer look at this line was an art project, a fan chart showing my inheritance patterns for X-DNA.

Dorcas stood out like a sore thumb. She was the only person of her generation without parents.



"Dorcas Wilbur" is barely readable on her gravestone. Image by Heber Radcliffe, 1970.

S. A. Calterine Grade McLaren	Robert Mel. Urquhart Margaret Urquhart	
Snig Rad Hela Medarer	Margar	
mich 43 Vabella		
Heber S & & &		Ichabod Buell Hepzibah Dewey
Mark Mark Ball James	Wells Hannah Buc	
	Hapgood Jane Bowk	Charles Bowker
Q SET TOUR	Wilbur	
Patty Losee		
3500	Walds	1
	Hannah Wooley	Samuel Waldo
	Oley	raters Abigair
		Marka Soule
Selected X-DNA		
Ancestors of		Martha 7800
Mark Grafe, croppe	d.	110pte

<sup>4.</sup> Dorcas Wilbur to Orison Whitford, letter, 8 January 1825; transcribed copy sent to Ruth Radcliffe (Oregon) 20 September 1969 by Harriet Hale (New York).

<sup>5.</sup> LeRoy and Mary Jane Whitford, diary, January-March 1855; transcription held by the author.

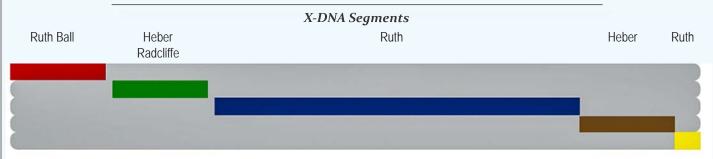
Who were they? The records and family memories did not answer the question. Could my chromosome matches for my X-DNA help?

X-DNA is "one of the two sex chromosomes. The Y is the other sex chromosome. The X chromosome pairs

with a second X in females and with the Y in males to form the 23rd pair of human chromosomes." <sup>6</sup> To clarify, though males have the X chromosome, it follows the female lines back in time.

ost of my DNA matches seem to be on my maternal grandmother's side. When I only had a few matches on chromosome (Chr.) X they fell into the five below groups below.

Several matches on the first (red) segment on Chr. X also matched on Chr. 12. The data for Chr. X and Chr. 12 is in the chart below. The red bars represent the overlapping sections of DNA. Test taker 1 (TT1) represents me. This data relates to the Descendant Chart.



Comparing my DNA from chromosome X on GEDmatch resulted in five distinct segments. The red segment (1–17,997,774) had matches with cousins who had genealogical trees. The green segment (19,951,816–43,836,666) possibly matches Irish cousins from the Smith/Grogan line. The blue segment (43,834,968–125,754,066) is a colonial American mix with known Bowker/Eager family. The brown segment (125,274,067–147,931,278) had no matches and mirrors my grandfather's lack of known ancestors. The yellow segment (147,884,774–154,929,412), was a match with a first cousin on my maternal side.

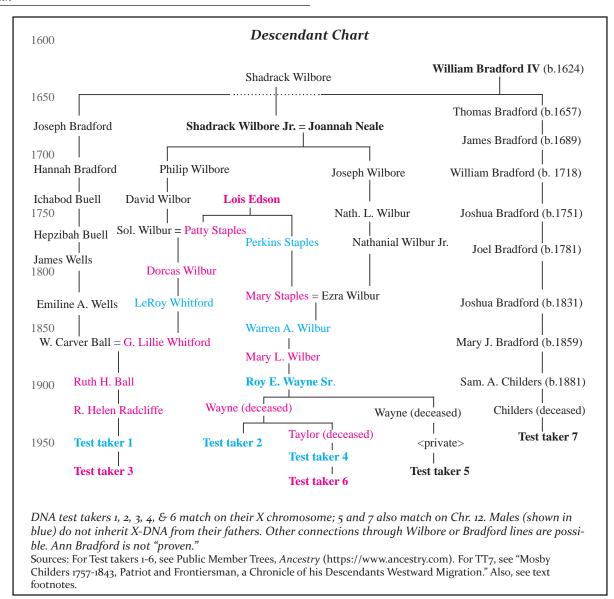
			Matching DNA Segmen	ıts					
	TOTAL	CHR.ª	START-END LOCATIONS (MBP)d	CMb	SNPs°	6 7	9 11	13 15	17
TT1 & TT2 TT1 & TT4 TT1 & TT6 Shared Locati	29.13 31.39 33.09 ions	X X X	7,887,990 - 16,120,997 6,887,439 - 16,105,838 6,887,439 - 16,105,838 <b>7,887,990 - 16,105,838</b>	15.48 16.50 16.50	2,069 1,299 1,299	Ė			
						60	70	80	90
TT1 & TT2 TT1 & TT4 TT1 & TT5 TT1 & TT6 TT1 & TT7 Shared Locati	_	12 12 12 12 12	67,581,301 - 78,723,899 70,948,833 - 87,808,426 68,281,406 - 85,144,089 70,948,833 - 89,786,183 68,508,863 - 85,096,749 <b>70,948,833 - 78,723,899</b>	13.63 15.24 17.86 16.94 17.41	2,430 2,956 3,380 3,200 3,263		Ξ		-

b. cM (centimorgan)

c. SNPs (single nucleotide polymorphism)

d. Mbp (megabase pairs)

<sup>6.</sup> Kathryn J. Johnson MD, "X-DNA Techniques and Limitations," Debbie Parker Wayne Ed., *Advanced Genetic Genealogy: Techniques and Case Studies* (Cushing, Texas: Wayne Research, 2019), 366.



#### **FAMILY TREES**

I had corresponded previously with Test taker 7 and we knew Bradford family members were remote common ancestors. I was not able to link the other matches to any of his ancestors, but using online family trees could follow my Chr. X up to Lois Edson, who married Jacob Staples. As in the fan chart, the above "Descendant Chart" shows males as blue and females as pink. A couple of generations further back, there was another connection, but I'll leave the Bradford match in the chart for others to ponder.

I heard or read that my low matches could be verified by showing that my child also matched, but recently, my child's match was said to just be redundant. Anyhow, that's me, Test taker 1, and like the other blue males in the chart, my X-DNA was not inherited from my father.

Uncited family history books almost suggest that Solomon Wilbur and Patty Staples were the parents of Dorcas Wilbur. The books have errors.<sup>7</sup> No online trees recorded the parents of Dorcas.

#### WAYNE FAMILY TO LOIS EDSON

Lineages from other test takers cited in family trees descending from Lois Edson checked out with two sources for each entry, with one error corrected. Starting with my mother's generation, Mary J. Wayne appears

<sup>7.</sup> John Reid Wilbor and Benjamin Franklin Wilbour, *The Wildbores in America, a Family Tree Originally Published in 1907*, 2nd ed. (Baltimore: George W. King Printing, 1933); *HathiTrust Digital Library* (https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uiug.30112052711675&view=1up&seq=7&skin=2021), 41-42, 55-57, 93, 96-97, 207. Mayflower records may show corrections to *The Wildbores in America*. FamilySearch notes on distant Wilbore family and their Rhode Island branch are recorded under relevant names. Also, Jarvis Bonesteel Edson, *Edsons in England and America and Genealogy of the Edsons* (New York: Knickerbocker Press, 1903); *Internet Archive* (https://archive.org/details/edsonsinenglandaooedso/page/n5/mode/2up?q=), 487, 642.



Aaron Arrowsmith, "Map of the United States," 1796; Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division. (1) Wilbur family was in Little Compton, British Colonial America, before it became Rhode Island in 1747. Whitford family migrated from West Greenwich, Kent County, Rhode Island. Wilbur family lived in Westmoreland, Cheshire County, New Hampshire (2), prior to 1800. Dorcas Wilbur was born in Vermont (3) in 1804. Dorcas Wilbur married Orison Whitford on 6 June 1826 at Saratoga, New York (4). LeRoy Whitford wrote that his father, Orison Whitford, was at Saratoga Lake until 1812, then settled at Lake Chautauqua (5) in 1818. Solomon Wilbur followed this path and continued west to Geauga County, Ohio (6).

in a birth index and a census.<sup>8</sup> For Mary's father, Roy E. Wayne was found in marriage records and a census record.<sup>9</sup> Roy's mother, Mary L. Wilber, also appears in marriage and census data that name her father.<sup>10</sup> Her father, Warren A. Wilbur, appears with Mary one year and his parents two years.<sup>11</sup> Warren was the informant for his mother's death certificate that gives her name as

Mary (Staples) Wilbur and her husband as Ezra Wilbur.<sup>12</sup> Mary Staples is linked to her father, Perkins Staples with a birth index card. She was, however, just enumerated as a female 5-10.<sup>13</sup> Perkins is linked to his father with a birth index card and is in census data.<sup>14</sup> And Jacob Staples was married to Lois Edson, who are both in census data.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>8. &</sup>quot;Kentucky, U.S., Birth Index, 1911-1999" *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/3015122:8788?: accessed 19 September 2021), 10 October 1920, Mary J. Wayne; citing Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. Also, 1930 U.S. census, Panama Canal Zone, population schedule, Cristobal, enumeration district (ED) 43, dwelling 42, family 82, line 43, Mary J. Wayne; digital image, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9R8J-9DDG), image 9; citing NARA T626.

<sup>9.</sup> Kentucky, Madison County, marriage bond, Roy Ellsworth Wayne and Hazel Belle Forte, 18 December 1919; digital image, "Kentucky County Marriages, 1785-1979," FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L9SJ-WG1C?i=970), image 971. Also, 1900 U.S. census, Kenton County, Kentucky, population schedule, Ludlow, ED 120, p. 149, dwelling 318, family 358, Rose [Roy] in the family of Ulysses Wayne; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-673S-PWX), image 31; citing NARA T623, roll 535.

<sup>10.</sup> Kenton County Court, Covington, Kentucky, Marriage Record, p. 177, Fred D. Appleton and Mary L. Wilber, 28 June 1886; digital image, "Kentucky County Marriages, 1797-1954), FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9S7-WWKX?i=417), image 418. Also, 1870 U.S. census, Franklin County, Massachusetts, population schedule, Greenfield, page 47, dwelling 344, family 380, Mary L. In the household of Warren A. Wilber; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-63TS-952), image 47; citing NARA M593, roll 615.

<sup>11. 1860</sup> U.S. census, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, population schedule, Westmoreland, p. 469, dwelling 171, family 177, Ezra Wilbur; digital image, *Ancestry* (<a href="https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7667/images/4234833\_00473?">https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7667/images/4234833\_00473?</a>), image 21; citing NARA. Also, 1850 U.S. census, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, population schedule, Westmoreland, p.38, Warren A. Wilbur in the household of Ezra and Mr. E. Wilbur; digital image, *Ancestry* (<a href="https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/8054/images/4105949-00046?">https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/8054/images/4105949-00046?</a>), image 38; citing NARA.

<sup>12.</sup> Massachusetts, Lancaster, death certificate 443, Mary (Staples) Wilbur, 1913; digital image, "Massachusetts, U.S., Death Records, 1841-1915," *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2101/images/41262\_b132256-00443?pld=8652955), image 17. Also, 1860 U.S. census, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, population schedule, Westmoreland, p. 469, dwelling 171, family 177, Mary in the household of Ezra Wilbur.

<sup>13. &</sup>quot;New Hampshire Birth Index, 1659-1900," *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-695Q-3PY?i=4138); index card from Westmoreland, Cheshire, New Hampshire, showing Mary Staples, daughter of Perkins Staples and Mary Pronty, 1820; image 4139. Also, 1830 U.S. census, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, population schedule, Westmoreland, p.12, one female 5-10 in the household of Perkins Staples; digital image, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YB9-S7MG: accessed 29 June 2020), image 25.

<sup>14. &</sup>quot;New Hampshire, U.S. Birth Index, 1659-1900," *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/4582/images/41267\_308177-04212?), Parkins Staples, son of Jacob Staples, 22 June 1783. Also, 1820 U.S. census, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, population schedule, Westmoreland, p. 457, Perkins Staples; digital image, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3387-9YYY-B55), image 6.

<sup>15.</sup> Vital Records of Bridgeport, Massachusetts, Marriages, p. 205, Jacob Staples of Taunton and Lois Edson of Bridgewater, 24 May 1765; digital image, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9B2-G9GK-K?), image 327; citing Family History Library (FHL) film 7,726,241. Also, 1790 U.S. census, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, population schedule, Westmoreland, p. 129, Jacob Staples; digital image, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YBZ-87), image 10.

#### **TIMELINE**

After constructing the "Descendant Chart," a timeline using mostly census records showed when the Whitford and Wilbur families came together. Whitford and Arnold family were from Rhode Island. The timeline shows my fourth great-grandfather Dennis Whitford there, then moving to New York. Orison Whitford and Dorcas Wilbur lived in Harmony, Chautauqua County, New York in 1830.

Lois Edson and Jacob Staples were born in Massachusetts. The Wilbur family came out of New Hampshire, and moved to Vermont. The uncle of Dorcas, Nathan Wilbur, arrived in Halfmoon, New York, before 1820, prior to Dorcas's wedding, which was near Saratoga Lake, about 15 miles away.

#### LOIS EDSON TO WILBUR FAMILY

Working down in the pedigree chart from Patty Staples, there were two sources for each entry. Patty appears in a birth record as the daughter of Jacob Staples and Lois Edson but is just one of three females in a census entry. <sup>16</sup> She is a female 16-25 with Solomon Wilbur in 1800, and there was a recorded marriage. <sup>17</sup> And Solomon Wilbur appears in the 1810 census with three daughters under age ten when Dorcas would be about six. <sup>18</sup>

#### **RADCLIFFE TO WILBUR FAMILY**

Citations for relationships in my family tree are only given for the line to Dorcas Wilbur. Sources include my mother's birth certificate, and she was a daughter of Ruth H. Ball in census entries. <sup>19</sup> Ruth was the daughter of Lillie Whitford, as evidenced by a delayed birth certificate and census records. <sup>20</sup> Lillie's birth certificate named her parents, and she was in LeRoy Whitford's household in (continued on next page because the footnotes do

#### Whitford and Wilbur Timelines

- 1766 Dennis Whitford (4gg) born, RI
- 1768 Ruth Arnold (4gg) born, RI
- 1790 John Arnold (5gg) in Halfmoon, NY
- 1790 Foster Whitford (5gg) in Stillwater, NY
- 1790 Whitford/Arnold marriage, Saratoga Lake, NY
- 1800 Dennis Whitford, Stillwater, NY
- 1800 Orison Whitford (3gg) born, Saratoga Lake, NY
- 1810 Dennis Whitford family in Saratoga, NY
- 1818 Orison settles near Lake Chautauqua, NY
- 1820 Dennis Whitford, Harmony, NY
- 1820 Foster Whitford family in Saratoga, NY
- 1826 Orison married Dorcas Wilbur, Saratoga, NY
- 1830 Orison, Dorcas, Harmony, NY
- 1835 Solomon Wilbur Whitford born
- 1774 Solomon Wilbur (4gg) born, NH
- 1780 Nathan Wilbur born, Westmoreland, NH
- 1780 Patty Staples (4gg) born, Westmoreland, NH
- 1790 Jacob & Lois (Edson) Staples (5gg), NH
- 1800 David Wilbur, (5gg) Westmoreland, NH
- 1800 Nathan Wilbur, Westmoreland, NH
- 1800 Solomon Wilbur, Westmoreland, NH
- 1800 Jacob Staples, Westmoreland, NH
- 1804 Dorcas Wilbur (3gg) born, VT
- 1806 Winslow Wilbur born, VT
- 1808 War of 1812
- 1810 Jacob Staples, Westmoreland, NH
- 1810 David Wilbur family, Colts Gore, VT
- 1810 Solomon Wilbur, Colts Gore, VT
- 1810 Nathan Wilbur, Peacham, VT
- 1820 Solomon Wilburn, Benson, VT
- 1820 Nathan Wilbur (bro. Solomon), Halfmoon, NY
- 1820 William Wilbur (bro. Solomon), Colts Gore, VT
- 1825 Letter from Dorcas to Orison
- 1826 Dorcas married Orison Whitford, Saratoga, NY
- 1830 Solomon & Winslow, Ellery, NY
- 1840 Solomon & Winslow in Thompson, Ohio
- 1850 Shepard Wilbur, Ellery, NY
- 1850 Winslow, Solomon, Thompson, Ohio

<sup>16. &</sup>quot;New Hampshire Birth Records, Early to 1900," FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-695Q-MMQ?), digital image 4144, Patty Staples, 14 January 1780; index card transcription from Westmoreland, Cheshire, New Hampshire. Also, 1790 U.S. census, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, population schedule, Westmoreland, p. 129, Jacob Staples; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YBZ-87), image 10.

<sup>17. 1800</sup> U.S. census, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, population schedule, Westmoreland, p. 1092, Solomon Wildbore; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9R8F-QL9), image 9; Citing NARA M32. Also, "New Hampshire Marriages, 1637-1947," FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-D4L3-XHS?cc=1520640&personaUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AFLFB-9X6), digital image of file card transcription, Solomon Wilbur and Patty Staples, 1798.

<sup>18. 1810</sup> census, Franklin County, Vermont, population schedule, Colts Gore, p. 681, line 8, Solomon Wilber; digital image, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYBC-D8L), image 1.

<sup>19.</sup> Oregon State Board of Health, Birth Certificate (1924), Ruth Helen Radcliffe; held by the author. Also, 1930 U.S. census, Klamath County, Oregon, population schedule, Klamath Falls, ED 35, page 250, 1180 Crescent Av, R. Helen in the family of R. Heber Radcliffe; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GRZ6-VV4?), image 1; citing NARA T626.

<sup>20.</sup> Jamestown, Chautauqua County, New York, delayed birth certificate #54390 (1949), Ruth Holly Ball; Department of Health, Division of Vital Statistics, Albany, New York; photocopy held by the author. Also, 1900 U.S. census, Chautauqua County, New York, population schedule, Jamestown, ED 104, page 170, 114 Hamilton, dwelling 65, family 78, Ruth H. In the family of William C. Ball; digital image, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HY-6SM7-6RJ?), image 7; citing NARA microfilm publication T623.

	Dorcas Wilbur & Family in Early Census Records						
Year	Location	Head of Household	Males	Females			
1790	Westmoreland, NH	David (grandfather)	one 16 & up, two u-16 (Solomon, Nathan)	two (Tabitha) (grandmother)			
1800	Westmoreland, NH	Solomon (father)	one u-10 (brother Shepard), one 26-44 (Solomon)	one 16-25 (Patty) (mother)			
1810	Colts Gore, VT	Solomon (father)	one u-10 (Winslow), one 10-15 (Shepard), one 26-44 (Solomon)	three u-10 ( <b>Dorcas</b> , two sisters), one 26-44 (mother)			
1820	Benson, VT	Solomon (father)	one 16-25 (Winslow), one 44 & up (Solomon)	two 10-15 (sisters) one 16-25 ( <b>Dorcas</b> ) one 26-44 (mother)			
1830	Harmony, NY	Orison (spouse)	two u-5 (LeRoy, Daniel) one 30-40 (Orison)	one 10-15 (?), one 20-30 ( <b>Dorcas</b> )			
1830	Ellery, NY	Shepard (brother)	one 30-40 (Shepard)	one u-5, one 20-30			
1830	Ellery, NY	Solomon (father)	one 10-15, one 15-20 one 50-60 (Solomon)	one 10-15, two 15-20 two 20-30, one 40-50			
1830	Ellery, NY	Winslow (brother)	one 20-30 (Winslow)	one 20-30			

Solomon Wilbur is one of two under-16 males in the 1790 census entry for his father David; see 1790 U.S. census, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, population schedule, Richmond, p. 131, David Wilbore; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYBZ-H2?: accessed 19 September 2021), image 11; citing NARA M637. Solomon is married with one child, Shepard, in 1800, see footnote 17. The 1810 census (footnote 18) again has Shepard and now Winslow; waiting, along with separate graves, to correct an error in *The Wildbores in America*, where they were combined as one person. Dorcas appears with Solomon in 1810 (footnote 18) and 1820 (footnote 23) before getting married and living with Orison (footnote 23). Shepard, Solomon, and Winslow are consecutive entries in 1830 (footnote 28) at Ellery, about a 15 mile walk from Harmony, Chautauqua County, New York.

not fit on the previous page) 1860.<sup>21</sup> LeRoy wrote that his mother was named Dorcas Wilbur. His obit and a family reunion photo are also on Find a Grave.<sup>22</sup>

#### **CENSUS DATA**

Dorcas, born in 1804, made an appearance in early census records. She was a female under 10 in 1810, she

was 16-25 in 1820, and then a young adult 20-30 with Orison Whitford in 1830. She appeared in 1850 and 1870 as Dorcas Whitford.<sup>23</sup>

The brother of Dorcas, Winslow Wilbur, born in 1806, was with his father in 1810 and 1820. Winslow had his own household in 1830, when he lived very close to his father and brother.

<sup>21.</sup> New York Department of Health, Birth Certificates, Birth No. 54390 (1858), Glen Lillie Whitford. Also, 1860 U.S. census, Chautauqua County, New York, population schedule, Harmony, page 20, dwelling 156, family 156, Lily in the household of LeRoy Whitford; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9BS4-996K?), image 20; citing NARA M653.

<sup>22.</sup> Find a Grave (https://www.findagrave.com), memorial 18070711, LeRoy Whitford (1827-) gravestone, Maple Grove Cemetery, Ashville, Chautauqua County, New York; image by Kathy Sloan; citing "Death of Leroy Whitford," unidentified newspaper clipping (Stow, New York), 26 March 1915, p. unk. Also, 1840 U.S. census, Chautauqua County, New York, population schedule, Harmony, page 18, line 20, Orison Whitford; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYYT-BMS?), image 39; citing NARA M704.

<sup>23. 1810</sup> census, Franklin County, Vermont, population schedule, Colts Gore, p. 681, line 8, Solomon Wilber. Also, 1820 U.S. census, Rutland County, Vermont, population schedule, Benson, p. 596, Solomon Wilburn; digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7734/images/4433443\_00282?: accessed 30 December 2020), image 5; citing NARA microfilm roll M33. Also, 1830 U.S. census, Chautauqua County, New York, population schedule, Harmony, page 371, line 24, Orison Whitford; digital image, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YYY-65K), image 25; citing NARA M19, roll 86. Also, 1850 U.S. census, Chautauqua County, New York, population schedule, Harmony, page 63, dwelling 479, family 491, Dorcas Whitford. Also, 1870 U.S. census, Chautauqua County, New York, mortality schedule, line 15, Dorcas Whitford; digital image, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/interactive/8756/31817\_B00466439B-00352/3053820?), image 23; citing NY State Ed. Dept. Archive Roll M5.

#### **GRAVES**

Winslow and his father are buried with their immediate families in Geauga, Thompson, Ohio.<sup>24</sup> Shepard, another brother of Dorcas, stayed in Chautauqua County, New York.<sup>25</sup> The large family will not be discussed in detail.

#### **EMOGENE (WILBUR) FLAHAVEN**

Emogene Wilbur was the granddaughter of Shepard Wilbur, great-granddaughter of Solomon Wilbur and Patty Staples. She was probably born 26 August 1858 in New York, to Silas "Austin" Wilbur and Lois Ingham Schofield, and died 27 October 1944.<sup>26</sup>

#### **REVIEW**

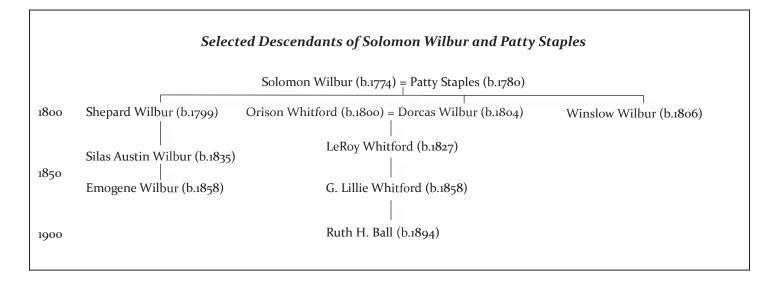
Newspaper articles do not name LeRoy Whitford's maternal grandparents. LeRoy's mother, Dorcas, had her maiden name, Wilbur on a gravestone. LeRoy's brother was named Solomon Wilbur Whitford. Emogene (Wilbur) Flahaven was a descendant of Solomon Wilbur. The letter from Dorcas, as far as I know, does not mention her parents. Two diary entries, barely readable, were transcribed as "Uncle W[illegible] stopped by" and "Uncle Winslow Wilbur stopped by." Dorcas had a brother!

The other clues: *X-DNA Chr.* 12 *DNA* matches *Public Member Trees Pedigree Chart* 

#### Maple Grove Cemetery, Thompson, Ohio

Martha (Wilbur) Harmon	Section 112, lot 1, grave 1
Harriet Wilbur	Section 112, lot 1, grave 2
Verona Wilbur	Section 112, lot 1, grave 3
Lois Wilbur	Section 112, lot 1, grave 4
Martha Wilbur	Section 112, lot 1, grave 5
	Section 112, lot 1, grave 6
Solomon Wilbur	Section 112, lot 3, grave 7
Sabrina (Wilbur) Nye	Section 112, lot 3, grave 3
Henry Wilbur	Section 146, lot 1, grave 1
Edith O. Wilbur	Section 146, lot 1, grave 2
Sarah (Billyard) Wilbur	Section 146, lot 1
Winslow Wilber	Section 146, lot 2, grave 1
Olive Wilber	Section 146, lot 2, grave 2
Emily (Wilbur) Jewell	Section 146, lot 2, grave 3
Mary M. Wilbur	Section 146, lot 2, grave 4
Lymnan Wilbur	Section 146, lot 2, grave 5

Timeline
Map from the time period
Census data
Cemetery burials
Emogene in the following chart



<sup>24.</sup> Find a Grave (https://www.findagrave.com), database, memorial 95013230, Winslow Wilber (1804-1891), Maple Grove Cemetery, Thompson, Geauga, Ohio.

<sup>25.</sup> *Find a Grave* (<a href="https://www.findagrave.com">https://www.findagrave.com</a> ), memorial 10537482, Shepard Wilbur (1799-1865), gravestone, Bemis Point Cemetery, Chautauqua County, New York, image by "Mare."

<sup>26.</sup> Find a Grave (https://www.findagrave.com), memorial 10535102, Emogene (Wilbur) Flahavan (1858-1944), gravestone and database, Bemis Point Cemetery, Chautauqua County, New York, image by "Mare." Also, 1865 New York State census, Chautauqua County, population schedule, Ellery, p. 12, dwelling 86, family 86, Emmogene Wilbur in the household of Austin Wilbur; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-DCQG-M4), image 9.

Winslow Wilbur, the brother of Dorcas stopped by Leroy's house on Sunday, 11 March 1855.<sup>27</sup> Winslow, his brother Shepard, and father Solomon were neighbors in Chautauqua County, New York, in 1830.<sup>28</sup> In 1840 and 1850, Winslow and his father were in Ohio.<sup>29</sup> Apparently, Winslow made a 125-140 mile trip from Geauga County, Ohio, to visit his brother and sister in Chautauqua County, New York.

#### CONCLUSION

LeRoy Whitford left clues that led to Solomon Wilbur. The unique inheritance pattern of X-DNA led me to family trees that linked to the Wilbur family. Census data, grave locations, Emogene (Wilbur) Flahaven, and diary entries helped prove relationships.

If Dorcas Wilbur is the sister of Winslow Wilbur, and Solomon Wilbur is the father of Winslow, then Solomon is the father of Dorcas. Dorcas is the sister of Winslow because her son, LeRoy Whitford, recorded in a diary that "Uncle Winslow Wilbur stopped by." Uncle Winslow is LeRoy's mother's brother, because his father had no brothers named Winslow Wilbur.

Although not named, Solomon's son Shepard fits within the 1800 census information. The 1810 census accounts for Solomon Wilbur with his children: Shepard, Winslow, Dorcas, and two other girls. Solomon, Shepard, and Winslow are consecutive entries in the 1830 census. Dorcas (Wilbur) Whitford was also in Chautauqua County in 1830. Because Winslow had moved to Ohio by 1840, an unexpected visit in 1855 would have been newsworthy enough to record in LeRoy's diary. Winslow and Solomon are in the same cemetery in Ohio.

Solomon's brother Nathan, who had similar migration patterns is not the father of Dorcas because she was sixteen and does not fit in Nathan's 1820 census entries, although she would fit in 1810. Also, Nathan Wilbur is probably not the father of Dorcas, born about 16 January 1804, because he has another child born ten months later on 5 November 1804. Dorcas and Nathan are not in the same cemeteries in Chautauqua County, New York.

Martha is the wife of Solomon and should be the mother of Shepard, Winslow, and Dorcas. Martha Wilbur, of similar age to Solomon, is buried with Solomon Wilbur in Ohio. Solomon (age 76), Martha (age 70), and Martha (48) lived in Thompson, Geauga, Ohio, in 1850. The older Martha Wilbur born *circa* 1780 and buried in Ohio is the same person as Patty Staples who Solomon married in 1798. This is based on the fact that "Patty" is a common nickname for Martha and is also used by another ancestor named Martha.

Orison and Dorcas (Wilbur) Whitford named a child after her father. The child was Solomon Wilbur Whitford; the name of Dorcas' father was Solomon Wilbur. Emogene (Wilbur) Flahaven was a known relative of Ruth (Ball) Radcliffe in 1939. Emogene and Ruth have a common ancestor, Solomon Wilbur.

#### **LOOSE ENDS**

Two cemetery burials in Solomon's Ohio plot are also memorialized in Chautauqua County. It is unclear where those family members died, and unknown if their parents were Solomon or Nathan. The total number of children for Solomon Wilbur and Nathan Wilbur are not known.



Maple Grove Cemetery, New York. Location of LeRoy Whitford's grave. Image by Mark Grafe.

<sup>27.</sup> LeRoy and Mary Jane Whitford, diary, January-March 1855; transcription held by the author.

<sup>28. 1830</sup> U.S. census, Chautauqua County, New York, population schedule, Ellery, p.316, line 8, Shepard, Solomon, and Winslow Wilber; digital image, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYYY-F33), image 7; citing NARA M18, roll 86.

<sup>29. 1840</sup> U.S. census, Geauga County, Ohio, population schedule, p. 88, line 4, Winslow Wilbur; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33S7-9YY5-7ZT), image 13, image 11 for his father, "Salmon Wilbber." Indexed as Thompson, Wake, North Carolina! Also, 1850 U.S. census, Geauga County, Ohio, population schedule, Thompson, p. 571, dwelling 37, family 41, W. Wilber; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-D8MW-658), image 6, image 27 for his father; Citing NARA M432, roll 682.

#### **Book Reviews**

Reviewed by Nanci Remington

ew this month are five books by David Dobson. The first is a guide to doing Scottish genealogy. The others are new volumes that expand the time periods covered in previous offerings.

To learn more about Mr. Dobson, see the December 2018 Bulletin. You can find more of his books at the GFO library by searching the catalog.

## Scottish Genealogy, The Basics and Beyond

Author: David Dobson, Ph.D.

Publisher: Genealogical Publishing Company

Publication Date: 202 Pages: 157

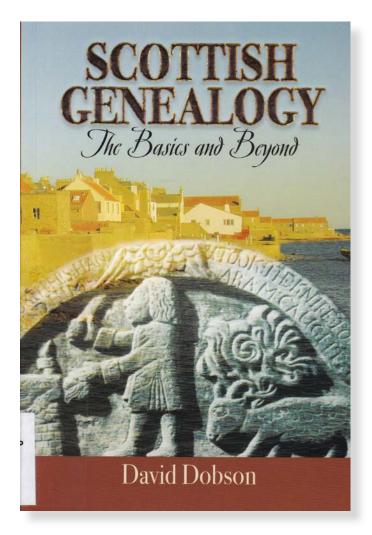
Price: \$25.95 plus shipping
Order from: <u>Genealogical.com</u>

GFO Call No.: 941.6 .How-To Dobs 2021

s noted by the publisher, David Dobson's latest book, Scottish Genealogy, The Basics and Beyond, "is the culmination of over fifty years of historical and genealogical research by Dr. David Dobson in archives and libraries throughout Scotland." This new book expands on the information offered in last year's Genealogy at a Glance: Guide to Scottish Genealogy Research. It begins by acknowledging that many typical resources are online, including parish registers, censuses, and registers of births, marriages, and deaths. This is followed by some historical information on surnames and a list of Scottish archives and libraries.

The book goes on to discuss major record sources, both civil and church. It then offers the reader secondary sources, many of which are unique to Scotland. Most entries provide examples and a link to the repository. Of special interest are the many records related to a person's occupation, whether they were a mariner, a fisherman, or a merchant. The book ends with a chapter on emigration and migration patterns.

This book is not a step-by-step guide to doing genealogical research, but rather provides a comprehensive source of record sets and repositories. It deserves a place on the shelf of anyone with Scottish ancestors.



# Scots-Irish Links 1575-1725, Part Ten

Author: David Dobson, Ph.D.
Publisher: Clearfield Company

Publication Date: 2017 Pages: 156

Price: \$21.50 plus shipping
Order from: <u>Genealogical.com</u>

GFO Call No.: 941.90 .Ethnic ScotIr 1575-1725 v10

The series Scots-Irish Links 1575-1725 compiles the names of Scottish settlers who relocated to the Plantation of Ulster in Northern Ireland. These names were taken from both manuscripts and published sources located in Scotland, Ireland, England, and the Netherlands. Dr. Dobson notes that many descendants of these Ulster Scots emigrated to colonial America.

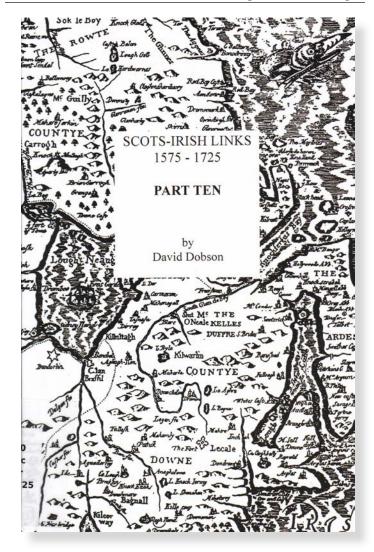
The book is laid out as an alphabetical list of names, each with associated facts pulled from records and an abbreviated citation. It should be noted that a few entries are out of order, so a reader should search several pages around the desired surname. A reference list at the front of the book expands on these citations but is lacking in detail. An index adds names mentioned in the text of the entries. The series should definitely be checked by anyone with Scots-Irish ancestors.

Sample entries:

ADAIR, SIR ROBERT, of Balmenock in Ireland, was granted the lands of Drummor in Scotland on 15 July 1698. [NRS.RGS.75.14]

MURRAY, COLONEL ADAM, commander of a regiment at the defence of Londonderry, where he personally killed the French General de Maumont who had been sent to support the forces of King James, later a Lieutenant Colonel in Lord Charlemont's regiment, died in February 1705, his widow Marie Murray petitioned Queen Anne on behalf of herself and her four children. [TNA.SP44.242.7-8]

SIMPSON, JANET, wife of Alexander Simpson in Hillsborough, Ireland, only daughter and heir of William Simpson a gardener in Erskine, Renfrewshire, a sasine re land in Haddington, East Lothian, 3 March 1705. [ECA. MBVI.bundle 176/6941]



# Scottish Highlanders on the Eve of the Great Migration 1725-1775 The Northern Highlands, Volume 2

Author: David Dobson, Ph.D.
Publisher: Clearfield Company

Publication Date: 2019 Pages: 120

Price: \$20.00 plus shipping
Order from: <u>Genealogical.com</u>

GFO Call No.: 941.6 .Biog Nort 1725-1775

ccording to Dr. Dobson's introduction, the counties of Caithness, Sutherland, and Ross, in the Northern Highlands of Scotland, are lacking in parish registers for dates preceding 1700 and, in some cases, up to the 1800s. This provides a challenge to researchers whose ancestors emigrated to America in the Great Migration.

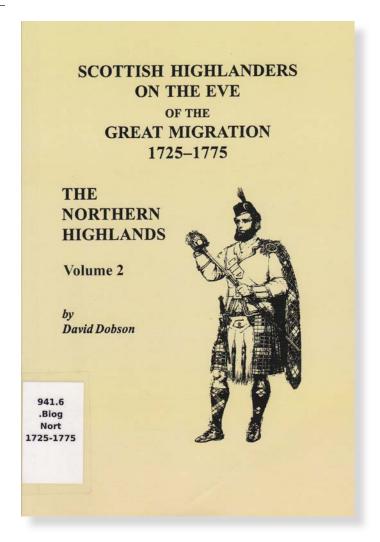
This book, The Northern Highlands, Volume 2, continues his series aimed at providing information gleaned from archives and libraries in Edinburgh that is not usually available online. As is typical of his compilations, the book has an alphabetized list of entries followed by a source citation. A few entries were spotted that were out of order. Many of the entries in this volume contain information on emigration, including dates and destinations.

## Sample entries:

FORTUNE, MARGARET, daughter of John Fortune a merchant in Thurso, Caithness, and spouse of James McKay a wigmaker there, a sasine, 5 October 1765. [NRS. RS21.3.185]

MCKENZIE, WILLIAM, born 1760, a servant from Polewe, Wester Ross, emigrated via Stornaway aboard the Peace and Plenty bound for New York in 1774. [TNA.T47.12]

SUTHERLAND, HUGH, born in Rogart, minister at Kildonan from 1740 until 1753 until his death on 8 April 1773, husband of Janet MacLean, parents of William and Alexander. [F.7.98]



# People of the Hebrides at Home and Abroad 1800-1850

Author: David Dobson, Ph.D.

Publisher: Genealogical Publishing Company

Publication Date: 2020 Pages: 155

Price: \$23.50 plus shipping
Order from: <u>Genealogical.com</u>

GFO Call No.: 941.7 Argy Hebr .Migr Emig

1800-1850

The Hebrides are a small group of islands off the west coast of Scotland, part of the Scottish Highlands. They include the islands of Skye, Islay, Mull, Lewis, and Harris. In this book, David Dobson attempts to identify emigrants from these islands who landed in the Carolinas, Maritime Canada, and Australia during the early nineteenth century. It is a compilation of names and bits of information gathered from public and church archives.

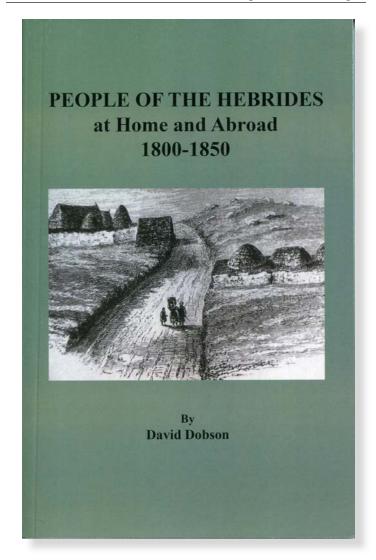
Dobson tells us that the emigrations from the Hebrides were unusual in that they usually included family groups who settled together where they could maintain their language, culture, and religion, often in frontier locations. One note of interest is that many of the original Gaelic place names in the Hebrides have been Anglicized. Dr. Dobson has added the Gaelic spellings.

Sample entries:

MCALISTER, ALEXANDER, born 1801, son of Duncan McAlister tenant in Portnahoven, [Port na h-Abhainne], Islay, was accused of plundering a wreck, 1821. [NRS. AD14.21.166]

MACINTYRE, DOMHNULL, born 1748, his son Iain Macintyre born 1783, with his wife Caitriona Walker and their children Aonghas born 1808, and Seonaid Fannie born 1821; Alastair Macintyre born 1789 son of Domhnull Macintyre, with his wife Ciorsden Macinnis and their children Domhnull, Mairi, Tormad, Mor, and Griogair, from Boisdale, South Uist; also Aonghas born 1799 another son of Domhnull Macintyre, possibly emigrated on board the Harmony to Cape Breton in 1821.

SMITH, MERRAN, widow of Donald Smith a crofter at Ardminish, [Aird Mheanais], Gigha, 1839. [NRS. SC50.1839.18]



## Irish Emigrants in North America, Part 10

Author: David Dobson, Ph.D.

Publisher: Genealogical Publishing Company

Publication Date: 202 Pages: 105

Price: \$20.50 plus shipping
Order from: <u>Genealogical.com</u>

GFO Call No.: 942 .Migr NoAm Dob pt\_10

Ccording to David Dobson, Irish immigration to North America began "in earnest" in 1718. By the early eighteenth century, the Irish were the largest immigrant group to settle in the Thirteen Colonies. Between 1815 to 1851, approximately one million more Irish left Ireland, mainly heading to North America.

This volume continues Dobson's series on Irish emigrants. Information was based on primary sources in the United States, Canada, Scotland, England, and the West Indies.

Sample entries:

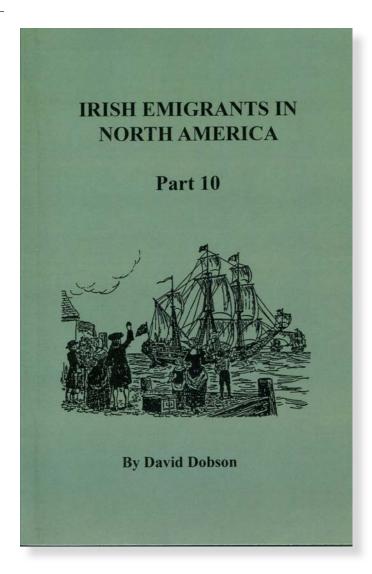
CLOSSY, Dr SAMUEL, was educated at the University of Dublin, married Elizabeth Leech in Dublin in 1759, emigrated to New York in 1763, was appointed a Professor at King's College there, a Loyalist in 1776, moved to England in 1780, died in 1786. [TNA.AO12.19.216]

HEALEY, MARGARET, a spinster from Tipperary, an indentured servant or redemptioner aboard the William, master Richard Bowen, bound from Cork for Philadelphia in June 1737. [PRONI.T3424.1]

TURNER, ALEXANDER, in Rocky Creek, South Carolina, a Loyalist soldier was killed in action near Winsborough in February 1781, his widow Jean McAllister settled in Newry, County Down, by 1789. [TNA.AO.12.52.355., etc.]

#### A NOTE ABOUT GENEALOGICAL.COM

Genealogical.com is a small genealogy-focused publishing company that has supported both authors and libraries for 65 years. The company donates many of its titles to the GFO library in exchange for book reviews. In addition to the traditional print books, Genealogical.com also publishes eBooks. Both can be purchased from their online store. They also have a three-month or yearly subscription plan where a reader can access their entire collection of eBooks—more than 740 books in all. Featured books are often on sale. If you are looking for genealogy or history books, take the time to visit the site and support a business that in turn supports genealogists.



#### **Book Review**

# "much given to Talk and bad Company" New-England Runaways, 1704–1754

Reviewed by Gloria Fisher

Author Joseph Lee Boyle
Publisher Clearfield Company

Publishing Date 2020 Pages 426

Price \$47.50 plus shipping
Order from <u>Genealogical.com</u>

GFO Call No. 974 .News Runa 1704-1754

Tew-England Runaways, 1704–1754 is a tightly packed compilation of advertisements for the return of runaways published in 25 New England and northern Maryland newspapers between 1704 and 1754. The advertisements are arranged by date, and the author retained the spelling, punctuation, and capitalization of the originals. The ads are mainly for runaway slaves or servants, wives, and merchant or naval sailors. Some warn against harboring the runaways. All promise rewards and costs.

#### Slaves and Servants:

Ran-away the 23d, of this Instant, at Night, from his Master Mr. William Wilson, a Negro Man Servant Named Boston: A Lusty Strong Fellow about 27 Years of Age, formerly belonging to Mr. Daniel Henshaw of Boston: Whoever shall take up the above-said Servant and him safely convey to Mr. George Monk, near the Crown Coffee-House in Boston, shall have Forty Shillings Reward, and all necessary Charges paid.

*The Boston Gazette*, From October 19, to October 26, 1730.

Ran-away from her Master William Wall of Prudence Island, on the 20th of March last, an Indian Woman named Mary; she had with her when she ran away two Gowns, one of a homespun Drugget of red and yellow Colour, the other of a striped Flannel and black Duroy quilted Coat and a blue Callico Apron; she hath lost her Toes on one Foot ...

The Boston Gazette, From May 7, to May 14, 1739.

RAN-away from *Ichabod Plaisted* of Berwick, a Negro Man, named *Pomp*, a short thick Fellow. 'Tis said he has changed his Clothes since he ran away ... Newport, July 21, 1749.

The Boston Weekly Post-Boy, July 24, 1749

"much given to Talk and bad Company"

> New-England Runaways, 1704-1754

> > Compiled by Joseph Lee Boyle

RAN away from Mr. Daniel Ballard of Boston, on the Sixteenth of December, an Irish Servant Boy named James McClean, about 18 Years of Age, who had on when he went away, A Worsted Cap, with Holes in it, a new Check Shirt, a pair of Camblet Breeches, Yarn Stocking, and a coarse Coat ...

*The Boston Evening-Post*, December 21, 1741: December 28, 1741: January 4, 1742.

#### Prisoners:

Broke out of New-York Goal, last Saturday Night, two Prisoners for Felony; one of them named James Green, a likely well-set Man, born and well known in New-England; the other named James Leech. Whoever apprehends and secures said Green, shall have Five Pound Reward, paid by JOHN AYSCOUGH, Sheriff.

The New-York Gazette Revived in the Weekly Post-Boy, May 21, 1750; May 28, 1750.

#### Seamen and Soldiers:

Absented from the Ship Britannia, Jeremiah Fones Commander, a few Days ago, David Sanders, a Sailor. If he will return to his Duty on board of said Ship, lying at Long Warf, within three Days from the Date hereof, he shall be kindly received, otherwise he will be treated as a Deserter.

The Boston Evening-Post, June 4, 1750.

Deserted from the Regiment now raising for his Majesty's service for the Expedition to *Canada, Nath. Clark* of Great Britian, inlisted the 14th of June last, about five Foot eight Inches, ruddy Complection, and pitted with Small Pox; as also *Benjamin Taplin* of Roxbury ...

The Boston Gazette, or Weekly Journal, July 29, 1746; August 5, 1746.

#### Wives:

WHEREAS *Rachel* the Wife of Me the Subscriber, living in *Dorchester*, have eloped (Haven be prais'd) about three Weeks since from me her lawful and tender Husband, and carried off my (reputed) Child contrary to my desire and command. This is therefor to caution all Persons to beware of said *Rachel*, and not to trust her; for I hereby declare off from Matrimony, and against paying any Debts that she has or shall contract from the 7th of August past, that

being the lst Day I have to do with her.

Witness my Hand, *Joseph Brown*The Boston Weekly News-Letter, From August

The Boston Weekly News-Letter, From August 26, to September 2, 1742.

This is an interesting book about a little-known custom that points to the number of persons held in servitude during that period of history and reflects the difficulty in disseminating news. The author has listed all names alphabetically in the index, making it easy to find advertisements by well-known persons or ancestors.

The book adds to those previously compiled by Mr. Boyle. The Genealogical Forum of Oregon <u>library</u> has many of his books. All would be of interest to both family history researchers and those wanting to know more about this time in United States history. You can read more about Joseph Lee Boyle and his books in the September 2019 issue of *The Bulletin*.

# "He is a person of very ill fame" New-England Runaways, 1755–1768

Author: Joseph Lee Boyle
Publisher: Clearfield Company

Publishing Date: 2021 Pages: 409

Price: \$47.50 plus shipping
Order from: <u>Genealogical.com</u>

GFO Call No.: 974 .News Runa 1755-1768

This book marks the second volume of ads for colonial New England runaways. The book contains about 1,500 runaway ads and names over 3,000 persons with connections to colonial New England.

"He is a person of very ill fame"

New-England Runaways,

1755-1768

Compiled by Joseph Lee Boyle

September, 2021

## **Book Review**

# Genealogy at a Glance

Reviewed by Nanci Remington

The GFO library continues to expand its popular *Genealogy at a Glance* series. These short guides sit near the front door of the library and offer patrons a quick way to learn the basic sources available to research given locations. To see earlier reviews, check the March and June issues of *The Bulletin*. To see the entire collection, check the library catalog for "at a glance."

## Russian Genealogy Research

Author: Vera Ivanova Miller

Publisher: Genealogical Publishing Company

Publication Date: 2021 Pages: 4

Price: \$6.95 (eBook) or \$9.95 + shipping

Order from: <u>Genealogical.com</u>
GFO Call No.: 947 .How-To Mill 2021

f you made a list of every challenge you have had when researching other countries, all of them would come to play in Russia. These include:

Surnames: spellings vary, they may or may not have a feminine or masculine ending, they may or may not follow a patronymic naming system, they may or may not be written in the Cyrillic alphabet.

Calendar: Russia did not adopt the Gregorian calendar until 1918.

Place names: Duplicate place names are common, especially at the village and town levels. Borders changed frequently.

Record destruction: Many wars and lack of modernization led to the loss of many records.

Vera Ivanova Miller does a good job of describing these challenges and lays the groundwork for researchers in her *Russian Genealogy Guide*. Included in each section is a short description of the problem at hand followed by links to archives and repositories that may provide some help. She then moves on to list different sources both by era and location. She covers record sets that can be found in most countries, such as church and census records, as well as some that may be less familiar, such as consular records. She also includes a copy of the Russian alphabet and a list of online resources.

This guide should be the first stop for anyone beginning to search for ancestors in Russia.



# Virginia Genealogy Research Updated Edition

Author: Carol McGinnis

Publisher: Genealogical Publishing Company

Publication Date: 2020 Pages: 4

Price: \$6.95 (eBook) or \$9.95 + shipping

Order from: Genealogical.com

GFO Call No.: RR 975.40 .How-To McGi 2020

Irginia can be a challenging location to do family history research. Colonized in 1607 by the English, it was first governed by the Virginia Company, became a Royal Colony, and then a state in 1788. Vital records were recorded by the Church of England, civil entities, the courts, and sometimes the legislature in the case of divorce. Virginia has a high number of independent cities (39) as well as 95 counties. Nearly half of the counties lost records to fire or during wars. However, of those records that remain, many have been digitized.

This much and more can be gleaned from the background information found in Virginia Genealogy Research by Carol McGinnis. The four-page guide has sections titled Settlement Background, Record Sources, Military Records, Census Returns and Tax Lists, and Supplementary Sources. Each section provides context for the topic, then breaks it down to smaller topics such as church records or newspapers. Additional sources are given throughout, as well as a list of repositories.

This updated guide includes information relevant to current researchers. It would be helpful for anyone researching in the state of Virginia, whether they are new to genealogy or just need to review the latest sources.

## 2020-2021 Annual Report of Donors

want to extend a personal thank you to everyone who has supported the Genealogical Forum of Oregon (GFO) with a monetary gift in the last year. It is because of your generosity, and the dedication of our volunteers, that the GFO has been able not only to survive but to flourish this past year, even though our library doors have been closed during these challenging times.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, you have my deepest gratitude. We are committed to using your generous contributions to keep the GFO connected, engaged, and relevant to our members.

Laurel Smith Acting President

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In Memoriam

## Bettina Mae (Amber) Gedrose Chew

(1928-2021)

Bettina Mae (Amber) Gedrose Chew passed away on 23 June 2021 at the age of 93. She was a longtime member of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon, joining in 1986, and became a life member in 1999. She volunteered as a Research Assistant in the library, and among other helpful roles she showed new volunteers how to shelve books "in a way that made sense." Her family noted that here Bettina discovered friends and pathways for research "which greatly enhanced her life." She completed extensive research on her family's Slovenian, English, and Dutch roots along with those of the Gedrose family in Norway.

Born in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, to Charles and Pauline (Omerzu) Amber on 11 February 1928, Bettina grew up in the multicultural immigrant neighborhood of Northeast Portland. "Marvelous really," she said of her neighbors in an interview. They "helped each other in all kinds of ways ... and they had fun!" Her father died when she was eleven years old at which point her mother, a single parent with limited resources, raised her with an emphasis on education. After graduating from high school, Bettina spent two years at Lewis and Clark College in Portland before moving on to a medical technology course and a marriage to her first husband Weldon Gedrose. With Weldon she had four sons. Her first travel experiences abroad were related to his work.

Weldon died in 1972 and Bettina remarried to Norman Chew. She increased her love of culture and history, traveling with him and then independently, to eighty-eight countries by 2015. Norman died in 1981 and Bettina, grieving, decided to complete her degree at Lewis and Clark College, recalling later in the interview "if I could keep my mind going, engaged, I might make it." She finished her degree in International Studies, then served as a program planner for international visitors through the World Affairs Council, "the most interesting thing I have ever done."

Bettina is survived by family members including son Steve (Ann) of Whitehorse, Yukon; sons Chris (Linda) and Andy; two stepchildren and two grandsons in Portland.





<sup>1. &</sup>quot;Chew, Bettina, 1984," *Lewis & Clark Oral History Project*, Morgan Mitchell interviewer, Lewis & Clark Digital Collections, Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, 3 March 2015, <a href="http://digitalcollections.lclark.edu/items/show/34913">http://digitalcollections.lclark.edu/items/show/34913</a>.

In Memoriam

# Marlyn Ray Lewis

(1945 - 2021)

arlyn Ray Lewis passed away on 22 July 2021 at the age of 76. He joined the Genealogical Forum of Oregon in 1985 and became a life member in 2010, contributing family charts to its library. Born 15 May 1945 in Hubbard, Marion County, Oregon, he attended Brigham Young University and served as a U.S. Army Specialist during the Vietnam War. After a short stint near Seattle, Marlyn returned to Oregon. He retired from the State of Oregon Health Division as their CFO. He enjoyed life to the fullest. He started traveling and worked his way up to staying three months in Europe. Marlyn married Deborah Inez Dorney (1949–2011) in 1972 and they divorced in 1979. They had one son, Steven Alexander Lewis, who died in 2011. He next married Dennis J. Lundahl, who survives him. He is buried at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon.

## **Clinton Brooks Wilkinson**

(1931 - 2021)

linton Brooks Wilkinson passed away on 27 February 2021 at the age of 89. He and his wife Katherine became life members of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon in 1996. Born in Hoytsville, Summit County, Utah, he was a firstborn twin who grew up on the family farm. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and trained as an Air Traffic Controller in England, continuing that career through civilian life until his retirement in Portland, Oregon. He is survived by his wife, several children and stepchildren, 10 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

## Robert Theodore "Bob" Green

(1931-2020)

Bob Green passed away on 18 August 2020 in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, at the age of 89. He joined the Genealogical Forum of Oregon in 2006 and became a life member in 2011. Bob was born in Havre, Hill County, Montana, and later moved west, working as a business agent for Teamsters Local 26 in Portland until his retirement. His wife of fifty-eight years, Dorothy Green, predeceased him in 2016. Bob is survived by his brother, two daughters, one son, and four grandchildren.



# Shirley Rose (Morgan) Hurrell

(1935-2020)

hirley Rose Morgan Hurrell passed away on 16 November 2020 at the age of 85. She joined the Genealogical Forum of Oregon in 1976 and became a lifelong member in 1996, serving on the Board as Director at Large from 1999-2000. Born in Longview, Cowlitz County, Washington, she married Jack Hurrell in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, in 1954 and had two children. Because of Jack's Volga-German family history, Shirley volunteered primarily for the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, Oregon branch. She is survived by one daughter, two grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren, and is buried at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon.

## Peter Barnhart Bosserman

(1933-2017)

Peter Barnhart Bosserman died on 20 July 2017 at the age of 83. He joined the Genealogical Forum of Oregon in 1996 and became a life member in 1999. Peter was born in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California, on 23 August 1933. His childhood was spent in Seattle, King County, Washington, with parents Charles and Charlotte (Cheney) Bosserman. Peter served in the army in Europe during the Korean conflict and graduated from Seattle University in engineering. He married Sarah "Sally" Kaufer in 1958. He worked at Boeing before moving to Portland's suburbs of Clackamas County, Oregon, where he worked in air quality, raised nine children, and attended Christ the King Church in Milwaukie, Clackamas County, Oregon. Peter was politically active and ran for state representative twice.



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# GFO **DECEMBER 2021** EVENTS

Check the calendar for the URL to participate in online events: gfo.org/calendar.

Wednesday, December 1	
10 a.m12	Learn & Chat
Friday, December 3	
10 a.m12	Access GFO Resources
Saturday, December 4	
10 a.m12	Virginia Group
1-3 p.m.	German Group
Thursday, December 9	
6-7 p.m.	The Q Review
Saturday, December 11	
1-3 p.m.	Writers Forum
Tuesday, December 14	
6:30-8:30 p.m.	Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 15	
10 a.m12	Learn & Chat
1-3 p.m.	DNA Q & A
6-8 p.m.	Irish Group
Saturday, December 18	/ / /
9:30 a.m12	Genealogy Problem Solvers
12 -2 p.m.	African American Ancestry
Sunday, December 19	1
3:30-5 p.m.	French Canadian Ancestry