

FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

June 2003 VOLUME 10 NUMBER 4



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GOING PUBLIC

Times are changing and "genealogy" is entering the public consciousness in more and more ways.

At a concert in Seattle the other evening, the conductor turned to the audience to introduce a piece by the Baroque English composer, Henry Purcell. He remarked on the historical uncertainty of the composer's parents, and an uncle who gave him his early musical training. The conductor noted the difficulty of finding the proper parish records in the months following the death of Oliver Cromwell. In fact, it is still unclear whether Henry Purcell's father was Thomas Purcell or Henry Purcell. Leading authorities can be found for both positions! (Oxford University Press favors Thomas, the BBC favors Henry.)

Even main stream comics and cartoonists are selecting themes on family history research. The author of "Love Is...." recently suggested that it was to be found in tracing your roots together. Our weekly magazines and our Sunday supplements run feature stories on how the internet holds the key to our family histories. The anniversary of Alex Haley's "Roots: The Saga of an American Family" drew major retrospective programs and reviews.

As public awareness of the genealogical research process grows, we who are doing that research find willing listen-

ers among our everyday acquaintances. We are eager to share our own enthusiasm with an audience that is increasingly receptive. Our new learning about historical events and our personal connection to those events through a newly identified ancestor can make for an enthusiastic recital of our search. Too often, however, we launch into the details of our recent successes without be sensitive to our listener. We miss the fact that their eyes have glazed over and they have begun to feel trapped! Our details are escaping their attention!

There is a need for civility and sensitivity when describing your genealogical research with a non-genealogist. Going public with our work is a good thing, but we need to find a kinder, gentler way that draws people into the discussion rather than drives them away from us. Draw them into a true conversation; don't confront them with a one-sided monologue. The end result may be the beginning of a new quest by your listener into her or his family background. When that happens, you both will be able to compare research experiences down to the most minute detail.

Summer is a good time to talk to your friends about family history.

Gary A. Zimmerman, President

GINI WISNER, FISKE VOLUNTEER, DIES JUNE 5, 2003



Fiske Library users will be saddened to learn that Ginny Wisner, a regular volunteer at the Fiske Library, died of cancer on June 5, 2003.

Gini was born Virginia Beatrice Crissey and married Robert (Bob) Guild Wisner in 1948 in Newton, Massachusetts. They had two children and three grandchildren. She and Bob (who died last year), traveled the US researching family history and collecting antiques and folk art. Gini was very interested in Revolutionary and Civil War history and proud of her ancestors, Thomas Dimock, Puritan, of Barnstable County, MA and Jacob Crissey, Pennsylvania Deutsch. In addition, Gini had been a real estate broker for 35 years.

Gini's enthusiasm and her joy and willingness to volunteer for a variety of Fiske related jobs will be very much missed by her Library friends.

Carolyn Blount

WRITING TIPS - BREAKING THOSE TYPING HABITS

Here are a few writing tips for those of you who, like me, learned keyboarding skills on a typewriter!

- **Don't use two spaces after punctuation.** Key only one space after all types of punctuation. Word processing software uses proportionally spaced fonts; not mono spaced fonts as in a typewriter. Double spaces after any form of punctuation are distracting for the reader.
- **Don't underline.** Use italics instead. This is yet another holdover from our typewriter days since typewriters couldn't italicize. If using italics for emphasis, restrict your usage to less than a sentence if possible. Underline only when writing longhand or when using a typewriter.
- **Don't use hyphens.** Use em or en dashes as appropriate. (An em dash is a measurement equal to the point size of the type being used. An en dash is half the measure of an em.) Within a sentence, don't add any spaces on either side of hyphens, en dashes and em dashes. For more details go to the web site: <http://www.getitwritonline.com> then select Resources/Tip Archive/then En Dashes and Em Dashes.

- **Don't use straight quotes.** Use "curly" or "smart" quotation marks (they are typically the default in most word processing software). Again, straight quotes are a holdover from our typewriter days. Use straight quotes as symbols to denote minutes, seconds, feet and inches only in charts and tables.

It does take a bit of focus to re-train our fingers to key just one space after punctuation, but it is possible! Here are some tools that might help!

When using MS WORD, go to menu items **Tools/ Options/Spelling & Grammar**, a dialog box will appear, select **Grammar Settings**. A smaller dialog box will appear and one of the first few options you can select are the number of spaces you prefer after each sentence. The default is typically 1. If you have it set at 2, you can change it to one now.

If your Grammar Setting option for spacing at the end of sentences shows 1, then you can use the Spelling and Grammar "checker" to catch each occurrence of double spaces in your document. You can correct one, or all of these errors automatically. A real time saver when you're trying to re-train your fingers!

Moiria E. Connor

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE WASHINGTON CENSUS PROJECT



The Office of the Secretary of State for Washington is in the midst of a project to put all of the territorial census records, naturalization records and other significant resources of genealogical interest on line with efficient search engines. They are now asking for volunteers to assist in the transcription of the census returns. (So far, 82 volunteers are involved in the project and about half of the work has been assigned.)

Volunteers receive clear copies of a section of the territorial census by surface mail. They are given a "template" to use in any database program they have at home, such as an Excel spreadsheet. When they have completed the transcription of the data, they e-mail the spreadsheet back to the project coordinator and return the hard copies of the census pages back to Olympia. After the work is checked for accuracy, the file is merged into the database and published on the State website.

There are already several county returns completed and available for public use. Naturalization records from several other counties also are ready for access at the same site. Eventually, each record will have an associated image linked to the search results so that you can interpret the original handwriting for yourself if you think the transcription was in error.

Genealogists will be especially appreciative of the fact that the project has made new microfilm copies of those territorial census pages that were barely legible in the original filming done years ago. Furthermore, they have found additional census records for Grays Harbor county that were never included in the original microfilm project, but which will be included in the current on-line database.

If you would like to volunteer for this project, please send an e-mail message to the project coordinator, Andrea Watts, andrea@state.wa.gov or call her at (360) 570-5568.

If you would like to review the results that have been completed to date, go to the website at www.wa.gov/secretary/archives and then select the link to Historic Records Search. If you are doing northwest family research, you will want to return to this site again and again, as more records are posted and made available for search.

When the census returns and the naturalization records are fully posted on-line, the project will turn to birth, marriage and death records for a similar treatment. If you have a computer, a little extra time, and want to get involved, contact Andrea Watts in Olympia. It will be a fun project and many people will benefit from your efforts.

Gary A. Zimmerman

OUT AND ABOUT

The Fiske was well represented at the recent Eastside LDS Family History Fair, held on Saturday, June 7th, 2003. Fiske president Dr. Gary A. Zimmerman gave a lecture on "Middle Atlantic States Genealogical Research, covering the Hudson River Valley of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

Carolyn Blount resourced the Fiske table. For a display, she took the large pedigree chart of the Sage family that has been at the Fiske Library since she prepared it for the Sage family reunion in Salida, Colorado last summer. The Sages are all descendants of David Sage of Middletown, CT.

Carolyn Blount



VOLUNTEER FOCUS-KARL KUMM



"My father always bragged about his family genealogy. He is the son of H. Karl W. F. Kumm, (Germans love lots of middle names) and Lucy Evangeline Guinness. Lucy's father is Henry Grattan Guinness, powerful preaching 19th century evangelical minister. In their eyes, the black sheep of the family was that BEER BREWING

Guinness from Dublin. And that's why I have spent my genealogical research on my mother's family--affirmative action. Some of her family were English and Scottish emigrants who came to New York in the 1850's. Other strains came from Suffolk County, New York; Huguenots who came to New York City in 1685; and some New Englanders who are second boaters.

I went to school in New Jersey, graduated from Haverford College in 1953, an English Major, served three years in the U.S. Army which took me to Alaska and Seattle, and eventually got a Ph. D from the University of Washington in Comparative Literature.

My teaching career included three years as a graduate fellow in the HHS Department at UW Engineering College; two years at California State Polytechnic College at San Luis Obispo, California; one year at University of Texas at Arlington; and twenty-five years at Atlantic Community College, Mays Landing, New Jersey. When I retired, I held the rank of full professor and had at various times served as an Assistant Dean of Instruction, academic dean and Vice-President of Academic Affairs.

My wife Judith and I have always loved Seattle. We met in Seattle, both owners of houseboats, in 1968. In 1995, we decided to retire to a houseboat on Lake Union.

I got interested in genealogy late in life, only starting to do research in 1993. My interest centers not merely on the basic data in my line but in trying to answer the question, what do the facts show to be the major decisions that these people made in their lives? What values seem to be implied by these decisions? My interest has led to the study of some fascinating events in American History. John Wyman, a Woburn Massachusetts ancestor, was killed in King Phillip's War 1675-76. As a result of the civil chaos caused by the New York draft riots, June 1863, some in my New York family may have moved to that safe suburban haven, Brooklyn, and one branch seems to have fled to Hawaii in 1864!"

Karl Kumm, Education Director

FISKE AUCTION-CANDID SHOTS



DELAYED BIRTH CERTIFICATES

Many states did not begin state-wide registration of births and deaths until the second decade of the 20th Century. When the Social Security system began to process applications for benefits in 1937, many people had to offer evidence of their birth date to qualify for the new Federal program. Many people who had been born in the 1880's and 1890's found that they could acquire a "delayed birth certificate" that would be accepted by the Social Security offices as part of their qualifying documentation.

Each state set up rules for the kind of evidence that should be submitted to justify a delayed certification of one's birth. This might include a hospital birth record, an affidavit from an attending doctor or midwife, an immunization record, one or more affidavits from persons who had contemporary personal knowledge of the birth. Some states would also accept copies of insurance applications or life insurance policies. The oldest available school record for a person, contemporary family bible records, copies of veteran's records or military records, early employment evidence, even marriage license applications could all be accepted by a state as it tried to weigh the evidence presented by an applicant. In most states this evaluation was done at the local county courthouse, although the criteria for evaluation might be specified by a state agency.

When the local official was convinced that the evidence was sufficient, a "delayed birth certificate" was issued and recorded in that county. In some states, the registers of delayed birth certificates were kept separate from the registers of timely issued birth certificates; in other jurisdictions the two types of birth record were placed in the same register.

When you are looking for evidence on a person who may have been born in the thirty years between 1880 and 1910, you may want to check for a delayed birth certificate in the county where they were residing at the time that they would have applied for acceptance into the Social Security system. In some localities, the supporting evidence may also be available for review. In any event, you may find useful links for the next step of your research.

Gary A. Zimmerman

COUNTY OF _____ STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

DELAYED CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH REGISTRATION

Name of Child: Leah LeAnn McKinney Date: April 27, 1942

Sex: Female Race: White Birthplace: McAlester, Oklahoma

Father: White King (Occupation: _____) Mother: _____

Address of Child: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Parents' Address: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Parents' Birthplace: _____ Date of Birth: _____

WITNESSES:

1. Affidavit signed by _____ attesting to the child's birth, and parentage.
2. Abstract of birth record from _____, 1911 appearing of record in the Register's office of _____ County, North Carolina, attesting the age, and parentage etc.
3. Birth certificate of applicant's child born June 1, 1932 supporting the age and place of birth of said Leah McKinney.

Date: April 27, 1942.

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Sample of a delayed birth certificate from North Carolina.

SOME FRIENDS OF THE FISKE AUCTION ATTENDEES



FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

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LIBRARIAN

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Jack Seeley

SECRETARY

Carolyn Blount

TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR

David Brazier

FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation Newsletter is published four times per year by the Fiske Genealogical Foundation, 1644 43rd Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112; phone (206) 328-2716 email gzim@fiskelibrary.org web site <http://www.fiskelibrary.org>.

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation is a non-profit service organization that provides genealogical training, resource materials and support to members.

Submission Deadlines:
First day of the month preceding the issue month, e.g. November 1st for the December/January issue.

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FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION MEMBERSHIP

Wednesday Seminar Series
(10 sessions) \$30.

Annual Library Membership \$40.

Annual Couple Membership \$60.

Annual Library Membership
plus Full Year Seminar Series
(30 sessions) \$75.

NEWSLETTER NEWS

The mailing list for this newsletter continues to expand and the quarterly expense of its production and mailing is beginning to be of concern to the Foundation board.

The Newsletter serves as a "link" between the Library and its regular users and as an effective means of attracting new users to our services. However, we have not found a perfect system for removing names from the mailing list when it is no longer of use to the recipient.

The Foundation is considering a subscription fee for all recipients of the newsletter who have not been a regular user of the library's collections or of its educational programs. Persons who have a "membership" (either for use of the collection AND the classes at \$75/year or for use of the library alone at \$40/year would continue to receive the Newsletter at no further cost. Persons who visit the library (at \$5/day) at least once a year would also receive the Newsletter with no additional expense. However, if a person goes for more than a year without a visit to the library of any kind, they would be asked to subscribe to the hardcopy version at \$12 per year.

Every visitor to the library gets added to the Newsletter mailing list if they leave a complete address on the sign-in sheet.

Of course, there will be no fee for users of the electronic version of the Newsletter which appears on the website at www.fiskelibrary.org and which has the same content as the mailed version.

You can receive an e-mail notification of when a new issue has been published by subscribing to the Fiske electronic mailing list on the form linked to the home page of the website. We encourage people who can read the newsletter on-line to notify the library that they no longer need the "snail-mail" hardcopy version. That saves us both printing and postage costs, yet gives them the complete information.

Final details of this subscription plan will be published in the Fall edition of the Newsletter. Your comments and reactions are welcomed. Please send an e-mail or letter to the Library with your thoughts. The Board will be considering them at its meeting in August.

Gary A. Zimmerman

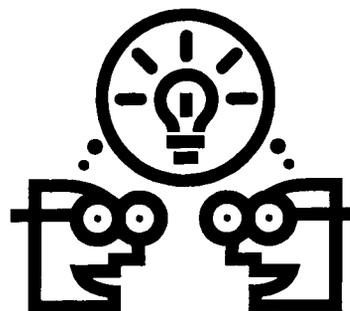
FISKE GENERATES NEW CONNECTIONS

Mary Stevenson reports that a woman in Massachusetts had called the Fiske Library after learning through the book list linked to the Fiske Library Web page that we had records for the B & O Railway. Mary was quickly able to find the book and provide her with the information from the Fiske Library that she was not able to obtain at home in Massachusetts.

In the first week in June, three queries to the Library all led to responses based on the same cemetery in Coupeville, yet none of the families were related to each other. Two of the requests were by E-mail, and one was by a student in a visiting genealogy class from a church in Redmond, Washington. In each case, the growing collection of the Fiske holdings made it possible to move someone's genealogical search one step further.

Carolyn Blount notes that she recently has received letters from two different persons responding to separate articles she had written for the Newsletter, one query from Olympia about Yelm and one from California. She was able to provide both writers with additional information, and, in the process, fill in information on collateral lines in her own research.

These incidents suggest that other Fiske Library users might wish to consider writing up stories about finds and connections they have made using the resources at the Fiske Library. Someone else may be helped by your efforts, and they, in turn, may be able to fill in your missing links!



FISKE LIBRARY—NEW BOOK, PUBLICATION AND CD ACQUISITIONS

Arkansas

- Ashley Co. AR, Kin Collecting

California

- Cable Car Days in San Francisco, CA

Canada

- Gen. Research in Nova Scotia
- Settlement in Upper Canada

Connecticut

- Connecticut Nutmegger periodical (many issues)
- Norwalk, CT Cemetery Inscriptions
- Stamford, CT, Registration to 1825 (V.R.)

England

- The Buildings of England - Shropshire

Florida

- Roadside History of Florida

Great Britain - General

- Maps for the Local Historian
- Royalty for Commoners
- The Tobacco Lords

Illinois

- Illinois Libraries
- Past & Present in Boone Co., IL

Indiana

- Hist. of Carroll Co., Indiana

Ireland

- Gen. Research Guide for Ireland
- North Irish Roots
- Origins in Ireland

Kentucky

- 1840 Census of Gallitan & Hickman Co., KY
- 1840 Census of Nelson & Trimble Co., KY
- 1850 Census of Jefferson & Livingston Co., KY
- East Kentuckian (periodical)
- Kentucky (periodical)
- Letcher Co. KY Census 1870 & 1880
- Lines & Bylines, Louisville Gen. Soc.

- Pioneer Families, Clay Co., KY 1776-1976
- Maine
- New Pennacock Folks (Rumford, ME)

Maryland

- History of Kent Co., Maryland
- Sketches of Maryland Eastern Shoremen

Massachusetts

- Bolton, MA. Soldiers & Sailors in American Revolution
- Capsule History of Braintree, MA
- Cemetery Inscriptions, Eastham, MA
- Cove Burying Ground & Bridge Rd. Cem., Eastham, MA
- Old North Burying Ground, Dorchester, MA

Missouri

- Pioneers of North Central Missouri

New England General

- Journal of Johannes Schwalm Hist. Assn.
- N.E. Gen. Handbook for New England Research
- Newspapers 1799-1880
- Newspapers 1799-1880
- The American Genealogist, Oct. 2002

New York

- Deaths from Wash. Co., NY
- Early Families of Otsego Co., NY
- Marriages from Wash. Co.
- New York Biog & Gen. Record, Oct. 2002
- Town of Orleans, Cemetery Inscriptions, Jefferson Co., NY

Ohio

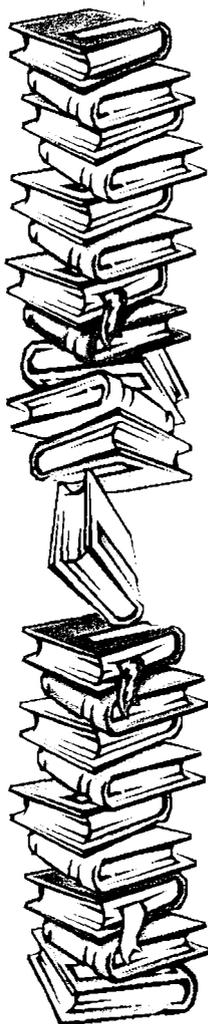
- Milan and Milan Township, Ohio
- Milan and the Milan Canal

Oregon

- 1974 Year Book Supplement of the Genealogical Forum of Portland, OR

Pacific Northwest - General

- Microfilm Publications of Natl. Archives, PNW



CONTINUED...NEW BOOK, PUBLICATION AND CD ACQUISITIONS

Pennsylvania

- Journal of Lancaster Co. - St. Mary's Church

Rhode Island

- Vital Records of Portsmouth, RI

Scotland

- Kilmarnock
- Glasgow Streets
- Over the Lowlands
- People and Society in Scotland
- Scotland Gen. Research guide
- Scottish Fishing
- Scottish Handwriting
- South Clyde Estuary
- Tracing your Scottish Ancestors
- Tracing your Scottish Local History

Soviet Union

- Atlas of the Soviet Union

South Carolina

- Laurens Co., SC, Tree Climber
- South Carolina Marriages 1800-1820

Sweden

- Beginner's Guide to Swedish Research

Virginia

- Handbook of Virginia History

Washington

- Appleland Bulletin (North Cen. Gen. Soc.) - back issues
- Inventory of County Archives of Lewis Co., WA
- Seattle - Past to Present A Hidden Past (Eastside, Seattle)
- Sceptre - King's Garden School, 1954 Year Book

West - General

- Conquerors of the West - Stalwart Mormon Pioneers, 4 vols.

General Reference/Research:

- The Chicago Manual of Style, The Essential Guide for Writers, Editors, and Publishers
- French/English Dictionary

- Russian/English Dictionary
- Age Research information
- Family History Index (25 selected family histories)
- Filipinos - Forgotten Asian Americans
- Hist. & Lineage Women Desc. of Ancient & Honorable Artillery True & Authentic Register of persons who in 1709 journeyed from Germany to America
- Index to Hidden Lineages in DAR volumes 151-166
- Microforms
- Monticello Convention Descendants (includes video)
- American Patriots at the Battle of Oriskany
- Notable Kin (by G. B. Roberts)
- Where to Write for Vital Records
- Your Guide to the Family History Library
- Military Collections and Histories
- Revolutionary Pensioners (1813)

Family Histories and Genealogies:

- Adams Addenda (periodical)
- Amburgey Ancestry in America
- William "Bill" Banks Family History
- Mohawk valley Bellingers
- Blair Family
- Some Desc. of Charles & Easter Blair
- The Bliss Book
- Bollings
- Branson
- The Brashear Story
- The Colton Letters, 1830-1850
- The Colton Letters, 1851
- The Colton Letters, 1861-1865
- Coombs family (in VA)
- Climbing the Right Ladder (Cornett)
- Gen. of Rev. Jesse Cornett
- Gen. of William Cornett
- The Cox Library

www.fiskelibrary.org

CONTINUED...NEW BOOK, PUBLICATION AND CD ACQUISITIONS

- Ascendants and Descendants of Dean
 - The Dixon Story
 - Descendants of John Howard
 - Jenkins Fam. History
 - Gen. Hist. of the Jennings families in Eng. & Am. (Vol II)
 - Mohawk valley Kilts family
 - Lucks, a pioneer family
 - Rob Roy MacGregor
 - Maggard Family Gen.
 - McMillan Genealogy
 - Pierson Millennium
 - The Family of Poyntz
 - Capt. Timothy Prout of Boston
 - Seward and Related Families
 - I am Because They Were (Smith)
 - Mohawk valley Snell family
 - The 18th century Snell Family of the Mohawk Valley
 - Anc. of John Harrington Stevens
 - Reprint of Thayer Genealogy
 - Desc. of Lt. Henry Timmerman of Herkimer Co. N.Y.
 - Van Asselt
 - Mohawk valley Zimmerman family
- Among the many donors of this collection are:
- Baxter Jenkins,
Bill Eberle,
Charlotte Kennedy,
Dolores DiLascio,
Edwyn Sherwood,
Euretta Shirley,
Junel Davidson,
Karl Kumm,
Lucille Stout,
Marge Jodoin,
Marion Lane,
Marion Lavrinec,
Maira E. Connor, and
the family of JoAnn DeWitt.
- The 4 volumes of the Mormon families were donated by Printha Barfuss of the Salt Lake City library. These gifts will provide much additional valuable research for Fiske Library and we are indeed grateful to the donors.
- Mary Stevenson, Librarian

FRIENDS OF THE FISKE AUCTION- RESULTS

Frank and Mary Peters hosted this year's successful, and very well attended, Friends of the Fiske Auction. Donated items included vacation time in a Maui condo time in a Lopez Island cabin, consulting time, a day cruise (with crew), two printers, jewelry (yes, some of Frank's wonderful work), books, potholders (Mary Stevenson has been busy as usual), and lots of green, healthy plants.

The evening included a tasty dinner of salmon, lasagna and fresh green salad. The deep dish apple pies finished the meal along with coffee and tea.

Not only was the evening great fun for the attendees, but financially successful for the Friends of The Fiske! Auction proceeds were approximately \$2,800 after expenses. As in previous years, this money will be used for the purchase of books and equipment for the library. A win for us all!

Maira E. Connor



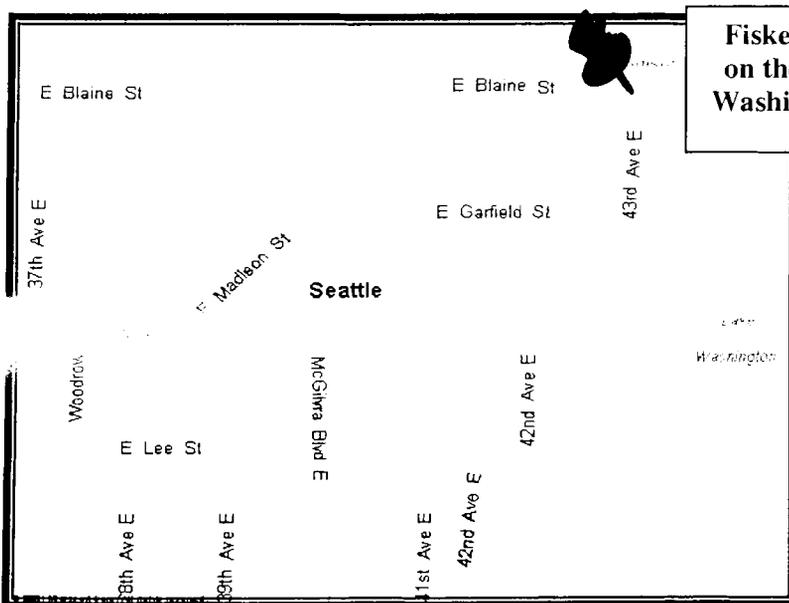


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Seattle, WA 98112-3222

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HOW TO FIND US!



**Fiske Library is located
on the lower level of the
Washington Pioneer Hall.**

- Drive east on East Madison Street until you see a Starbuck's Coffee shop to your left, and a one way street sign ahead.
- Ease to your right and follow East Blaine Street to the end of the street.
- The Washington Pioneer Hall faces onto 43rd Ave. East. The Fiske Genealogical Library is located on the lower level of the building.