

FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER



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DECEMBER 2007 VOLUME 15 NUMBER 2

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ARE YOU SHARING YOUR UNIQUE RESOURCES?

For many of us, the more family history research that we do, the more resource books we accumulate in our own private collections of reference materials. Often these are focused works dealing with a small town, a distant county, or an unusual institution that had a past connection to our family. Such resources are not widely available outside of the area where they were originally written.

There is a cadre of genealogists across the country who own just this sort of unique material, collected for their own personal research, but which they are willing to make available to others in distant places. You can find them in the Books We Own section of Rootsweb. Go to:

www.rootsweb.com/~bwo/index.html

and see if there are titles that might be helpful to you.

There are currently over 2400 volunteers who have listed their unique treasures and expressed a willingness to do “look-ups” upon request by a simple e-mail form. For example, Robin Garraway offers look-ups in the volume *Anthon, Iowa – 1888-1988*. This book of over 620 pages is found in only four libraries in World-Cat and is not available on the used-book market or among the digitized

books at ancestry.com. However, a simple request through the BWO process will afford you a quick check on what is said about your family of interest in this small community east of Sioux City, Iowa.

The BWO website is organized by state or province and then by county or district. Works that deal with the whole state or province are listed first. If you see a book that may be of interest, you click on the code for that volunteer and you connect to a form that requests enough background so that your search can be correctly done without further exchange of details. However, I find that the information exchange can often lead to further contacts with knowledgeable people in that distant community.

You can easily volunteer your own books – especially if you see that no one else has already listed those titles with the website. Your offering would be unique – and it just might solve the brick wall that some distant researcher has been struggling with for months (... or even years).

The volunteer extraordinaire who has overseen the growth of the BWO site for nearly ten years is Jenny Tenlen. Stop

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ARE YOU SHARING...

(Continued from page 1)

by her own website to see what she has been doing to voluntarily assist your genealogical research: <http://www.drizzle.com/~jtenlen/index.html>.

Jenny also has two other big projects: the Washington Biographies project and the Oregon Biographies Project, with over 2000 bios already contributed to the two sites. The links to those two resources are on her website.

With her as a model, you can now go to your bookshelves and identify the five most unique books that you own and volunteer to do “look-ups” for others. You’ll feel really good about the aid you render to others and someone out there will benefit from your library.

Gary A. Zimmerman

FISKE BOARDMEMBERS

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HUDSON RIVER

The New York Public Library as an on-line exhibit of maps, books and pictures of the Hudson River valley. The books are presented as digital transcriptions or as images of each page. They can be searched for any keyword. The site can be found at:



www.nypl.org/research/udson/index.html

You can start with a historical overview, which has links to a host of topics offered in the portfolio, or you can go to the “Hudson Topics” page – with some eighty different headings – and browse according to your own interests.

There are travelogues from the 1820’s through the 1850’s. There is an 1846 panorama of both sides of the Hudson from Albany to New York – the original was ten feet long and published as a folding map so that travelers could look at either shore and follow their route along the entire river. You can look at it in Quicktime. You choose whether you want to face east or west, and then when the picture appears on your screen, you hold down the mouse and drag it to the south or the north side and the image of the panorama scrolls across your screen. There are detailed drawings of each town as you voyage along the river.

The Hudson Topics section reproduces period lithographs of towns and view points from the mid-19th Century.

Gary A. Zimmerman

BOSTON CITY

Tufts University has a collection of Boston City directories in a digital format that can be searched on line at:

<http://dca.tufts.edu/features/bostonstreets/people/>

Directories for the years 1845, 1855, 1865, 1870, 1872, 1875, 1885, 1905, and 1925 are currently available. It is easy to search for a specific surname and get a page with all entries in a specific directory, with their addresses and occupations.

A search for the surname NEFF in the 1865 directory returns three entries:

1. Neff F. R. engineer, house 10 Plymouth place
2. Neff Wm. J. Mrs. corset and skirtmaker, 28 Winter and 16 Bedford, h. 26 Harrison ave.
3. Neff Wm. J. house 26 Harrison avenue

The collection is part of a broader project entitled "Boston Streets: Mapping Directory Data." In the 1865 directory, you can find a description of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, which had a room at No. 13, Bromfield St. Its officers were listed as "Winslow Lewis, MD, of Boston, *Pres.* William B. Towne, of Brookline, *Treas.*, Rev. Henry M. Dexter, of Roxbury, *Cor. Sec.* Edward S. Rand, jr., *Rec. Sec.*, John H. Sheppard, *Librarian.* William B. Trask, *Historiographer.*"

The site also offers complete Boston city atlas images for 1874, 1898, and 1928. The .tiff images can be viewed and magnified so that individual street names are very clear, but the names of property owners are indistinct even at high magnification.

Gary A. Zimmerman

Title:	The Boston directory. Embracing the city record, a general directory of the citizens, and a special directory of trades, professions, &c., with an almanac ...
Document ID:	tufts:central:dca:UA069:UA069.005.DO.00002
Author:	Adams, George
Date:	1855
Date of Publication:	04/13/2004

Above is an example of the type of directory references available.

FINDING DEATH RECORDS GETS EASIER

The Social Security Death Index has become a convenient tool for identifying death and birth dates for many persons who have died in the past forty years. Finding similar information for people who died before the mid-1960's is more difficult. However, more and more jurisdictions are placing indexes to their death records in convenient formats on the internet.

A good starting point to locate where on-line death records can be found is:

<http://www.deathindexes.com/>

Joe Beine maintains a collection of links to websites in every state that present either indexes or images of death records. The format is easy to read and the notations on each site are accurate and up-to-date. The index pages include both free and fee-based archives (such as ancestry.com or certain newspaper websites).

The page for On-Line Michigan Death Records begins with the free index at the Michigan Department of Health, for deaths between 1867 and 1897, and the Ancestry fee-based index for deaths recorded between 1971 and 1996. It goes on to list over 50 other websites, many county-specific in their focus, which offer indexes of death and burial information. Some sources are local genealogical societies; others are county clerks or local libraries.

Online Michigan Death Indexes	
•	Michigan Death Index 1867-1897 at the Michigan Dept of Health
•	Michigan Death Index 1971-1996 at Ancestry over 2.75 million entries (requires payment)
•	Michigan Newspapers Obituaries Archive - Recent (copies of individual obituaries can be obtained online for a fee) includes: Ann Arbor News (7/1/2004-Current), Battle Creek Enquirer (5/4/2002-Current), Detroit Free Press (3/5/1982-Current), Detroit News (1/1/1999-Current), Flint Journal (10/3/1995-Current), Grand Rapids Press (8/6/2000-Current), Lansing State Journal (1/14/1999-Current), Muskegon Chronicle (1/3/1997-Current), Saginaw News (11/16/1998-Current), and 11 more Michigan newspapers

Gary A. Zimmerman

FISKE LIBRARY—RECENT ACQUISITIONS

New England

- Blaine House: home of Maine's governors, The
- First National Bank of Skowhegan 1825-1925
- Growing up in Old New England
- Illustrated History of Bangor, Maine 1769-1969
- Skowhegan on the Kennebec (2 vols)
- Verrill, Dana, Walker, Philbrick and Whitehouse 1862-1962
- Voters' List, Warren, Litchfield Co 1837-1859 (Connecticut) (Handwritten mss)*

New York

- Annals of Newtown in Queens County (1852)
- Carmans River Story, The
- Colonial Long Island Folklife
- History of Early Sayville
- History of the Sayville Community
- Patchogue Story 1737-1987 **, The
- Strolling Through Old East Moriches: 19th Century Main St.
- The Happy Valley: the elegant eighties in upstate NY

Middle Atlantic and South

- Anne Arundel Readings (Maryland)
- History of Meade County 1821-1991 (Kentucky)
- In French Creek Valley (Crawford County PA)
- Kentucky Marriages 1797-1865
- Meade County Pension Records / Abstracts (Kentucky)*

Midwest

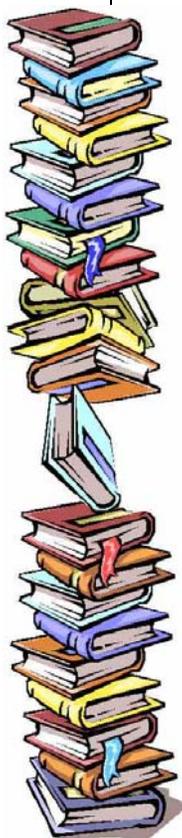
- Atlas of Crawford County OH 1855
- Burial sites and cemeteries, Austin Twp, Cass Co (Missouri)
- Cemeteries of Crawford Co, Ohio Vol III
- Gazetteer of Illinois
- Index to 1860 Minnesota Mortality Schedule
- Index to burial sites Big Creek Twp, Cass Co (Missouri)
- Irish in Dakota (South Dakota), The
- Missouri Genealogical Records & Abstracts, Vol 3, 1787-1839
- Missouri Taxpayers 1819-1826

Pacific Northwest

- E-Z Guide Map of Seattle (1926)
- Metsker's Sportsmen's Guide map to King County
- Polk County Pioneer Sketches (Oregon)*

Europe

- Baptismal Records 1800-1812, Parish of Lattin, County Tipperary (Ireland)**
- Church of St Margaret, Felbrigg (England)
- Companion Guide to Ireland
- EIREphile: Irish history, Genealogy and Culture
- Fenians (Ireland), The
- Golden Vale of Ivowen, between Slievenmon and Suir (Ireland), The
- Green Flag: the bold Fenian Men (Ireland), The
- How the Irish Saved Civilization...from the fall of Rome to the rise of medieval Europe
- Ireland since 1800: conflict and conformity
- Irish Cottages



FISKE LIBRARY—RECENT ACQUISITIONS

(Continued from page 4)

- Irish Country People
- Irish Roots
- Irish Roots Guide
- Little History of Ireland
- Modern Ireland, 1600-1972
- Tracing Your Mayo Ancestors

Genealogies

- Ancestors and Children of John Solon and Ellen Avery Congdon
- Ancestral lines of Guildford Solon Tingley and his wife Martha Pamela Meyers
- Ancestry of Governor Thomas Dudley
- Bairds (1909)*, The
- Descendants of Edward Gilman of Hingham, England (1550-1950)
- Dudley Family, The
- Edwardian Riggses of America I: Elder Bethuel Riggs of Morris Co NJ
- Genealogy of the Philbrick and Philbrook Families – descended from Thomas Philbrick 1583-1667
- Life and Family of John Bean of Exeter
- Proceedings of the first reunion of the Dodge Family in America (1879)
- Richard Bailey of Chesterfield and Tazewell Counties (Virginia)
- Riggle Family of Wythe Co VA, The
- Schenese/Schinness/Shinness Family History**, The
- Some descendants of Thomas Crosswell and Allied Families
- Underwood Biographical Dictionary Vol I

Reference

- Harwell Farm, A way of life
- History of the name O'Kelly
- Journal of the American-Irish Historical Society Vol 2 (1899) and Vol 21 (1922)
- Outstanding Young Men of America 1988
- Scottish and Scotch-Irish Ancestry Research
- Underfoot: an everyday guide to exploring the American past

Note:

* indicates that a book is in the bindery prior to being shelved

**indicates that a book is in cataloguing prior to being shelved

Donors of books recently accessioned by the Fiske Library include:

Alvy Ray Smith

Bonnie Hamilton

Carldine Van Allen

David Brazier

Evelyn Martin

Family History Library

Friends of the Fiske Foundation

Ingrid Philbrick

Irish Special Interest Group - Eastside Genealogical Society

Kurt Laidlaw

Mildred Eaton

South King County Genealogical Society



Not all of the books and archival materials received by the library have been processed and made available for research. These items will appear on a future list with acknowledgment of their kind donors.

CENSUS DAYS.... CENSUS DAZE

Using census records to gain information about the age of a person can be a helpful step in your research, but there are some potential pitfalls that you must keep in mind.

In the United States, each decennial census had a designated “census day” and the individual census taker was instructed to gather information that was relevant to the date of that one specific day. However, census takers were given a period of time to cover their territory and they might not get to a family until a long time after the official census date. The question a researcher must ask, is the data recorded as of the census date or as of the date the enumerator visited the family? When recording census data, be sure to record both the “census day” and the date of the enumerator’s visit to the family as indicated at the top of the specific page on which the family information is recorded.

In the census for 1790 and for 1800, enumerators had up to nine months to complete the tabulation in their assigned routes. (For the 1790 census, many of the residents of South Carolina refused to give family information to the enumerators and a special extension had to be granted to that state. Only after several families had been taken to court to compel answers to the census questionnaires, and after at least one census enumerator was replaced for failing to finish asking the questions on his assigned route, did South Carolina finally get their 1790 results by February 1792!)

On the following table, note the difference in dates between the 1820 and 1830 census days. It is possible that persons born in June and July will fall in different age groupings in those census records, because the counting is not exactly ten years apart. That could be a useful clue.

Census enumerators were told to only count persons who were in the household on the census day, including persons who died after the census day and before the enumeration day. To be consistent, they also were to omit babies born after the census day and before the enumeration visit.

Census Year	Census Day	Time Allowed
1790	02 Aug	09 months
1800	04 Aug	09 months
1810	06 Aug	10 months
1820	07 Aug	13 months
1830	01 Jun	12 months
1840	01 Jun	18 months
1850	01 Jun	05 months
1860	01 Jun	05 months
1870	01 Jun	05 months
1880	01 Jun	01 month
1890	01 Jun	01 month
1900	01 Jun	01 month
1910	15 Apr	01 month
1920	01 Jan	01 month
1930	01 Apr	01 month

If you use census data from another country, you have to get specific information about the instructions given to the census enumerators in that jurisdiction. For example, in Canada, for the censuses of 1851, 1861, and 1871, the age given was to be their age at their next birthday, but for census records from 1881 through 1911, the age recorded is for the last birthday before the census day.

In England and Wales, on the other hand, the ages may not be very helpful. In the 1841 census the ages of persons 15 years or younger were recorded correctly, but for all persons over the age of 15 the recorded figure was the first year of the five-year term in which their age appeared. So anyone of 15 but less than 20, was recorded as age 15. Persons between 20 and under 25, were listed as age 20. (Occasionally, the enumerator didn’t follow the procedure and did list the actual age!) Beginning with the 1851 census, English and Welsh census records listed the actual age of each person, as reported by the informant for the household.

Gary A. Zimmerman

WINTER TRIMESTER AT THE FISKE

The Winter Trimester at the Fiske is kicking off with a class on Irish Research. Patty McNamee will focus on how to use resources at the national archive to sort out where your ancestors came from in the Emerald Isles. When did they immigrate? When did they naturalize? Find out how to connect them to a home place. She will also discuss other Irish research that can be done here.

Carol Buswell, another archivist from the Sand Point facility, will teach a class on "American Indian Research: Pacific Northwest Tribes." In this class you will be introduced to the many records held in the national archives about Indians. There are school records, land records, tribal membership records as well as yearly census records. You will also learn more about Northwest history.

The trimester will wind up with a class by Gary Zimmerman titled "Land Companies, Bounty Land and Westward Migration: 1773-1840." Gary also offers classes that will cover Wisconsin, Minnesota and French Canadian research. These classes will support our genealogical research with a rich emphasis on history. A good knowledge of historic events helps us understand how records get created and how the events shaped the decisions our ancestors made.

Dave Ault will give a class on On-line Maps. He will also show us how maps can help us quickly plan a trip and how to organize the libraries, archives, courthouses and cemeteries we plan to visit.

The need survey circulated last spring showed some interest in "Evidence and Proof" and Documentation." Two classes will be offered on those topics. On Wednesday the 12th of March, we will take of field trip to Olympia. This visit is planned to be a working session so no tour is offered. You can drive your own car, meet us a Olympia, or travel by a van pool. Outside groups are invited to join us.

There are only five open seats on the van so make your reservation early. Contact Karl Kumm at k.kumm@comcast.net . The van will leave the Fiske Library at 8:30, stop at South Center and plans to arrive by ten a.m. We will drop off any who want to use the State Archive and continue to the State Library. We will depart the library at 3 p.m.

Please plan your research objectives and list the archival resources, film or books you plan to consult.

Check the State Archive descriptors at <http://www.secstate.wa.gov/archives/search.aspx> .

The State library catalog is also online at <http://www.secstate.wa.gov/library/catalog.aspx> .

Karl Kumm, Education Coordinator





2008 - WINTER CLASSES AT FISKE

All classes will be held from 10:00 am to 12 Noon in the Library at 1644 43rd Avenue E. in Seattle (in the Madison Park neighborhood).

Tuition is \$5 per class or \$30 per quarter. An annual library membership with educational privileges is \$75.

All sessions are led by Gary A. Zimmerman, unless otherwise indicated.

Winter 2008	Topic	Instructor
23 January	Irish Research	Patty McNamee
30 January	Wisconsin	Gary Zimmerman
6 February	American Indian Research: Pacific Northwest Tribes	Carol Buswell
13 February	Minnesota	Gary Zimmerman
20 February	Documentation	Karl Kumm
27 February	French Canada Research	Gary Zimmerman
5 March	On-line Maps	David Ault
12 March	Olympia Field Trip: State Archive & Library	Please register.
Spring Break	No Class	
26 March	Evidence & Proof	Gary Zimmerman
2 April	Land Companies, Bounty Land & Westward Migrations- 1773-1850	Gary Zimmerman

FISKE LIBRARY HOURS

Monday	10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Wednesday	Noon to 8:00 pm
Thursday	3:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Friday	Reserved for research groups (greater than 8 persons) from outside the greater Seattle Area. Contact the Library to make reservations.
Saturday	10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Sunday	2nd and 4th Sunday of every month

HISTORIC CLEVELAND

The Kelvin Smith Library at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland has collected an in-depth library of digitized materials on the settlement and growth of Cleveland, Ohio. At <http://library.case.edu/ksl/ecoll/books/cleveland.html> you will find the titles of forty-nine books, originally published between 1850 and 1933. The images in .pdf format can be expanded many hundred-fold with retention of clarity, so you can read even the smallest notations on the maps.

There are city histories with biographical

sketches. There are several pamphlets, written about the time of the First World War, about the various ethnic groups who immigrated to the greater Cleveland area. These include separate books on the Polish, the Czech, the Yugoslavian, the Hungarian and the Lithuanian communities. There are some early atlas and directory publications.

The Adobe Reader permits an every word search for any surname or community that might be mentioned in each book.

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.

Editor and Publisher
Moirra E. Connor
moiraconnor@shaw.ca

Webmaster
Marge Jodoin

Contributing Editors
Carolyn Blount
Karl Kumm
Gary A. Zimmerman

Production Director
Carolyn Blount

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—Hard-copy Subscription Only \$6 for 4 Issues

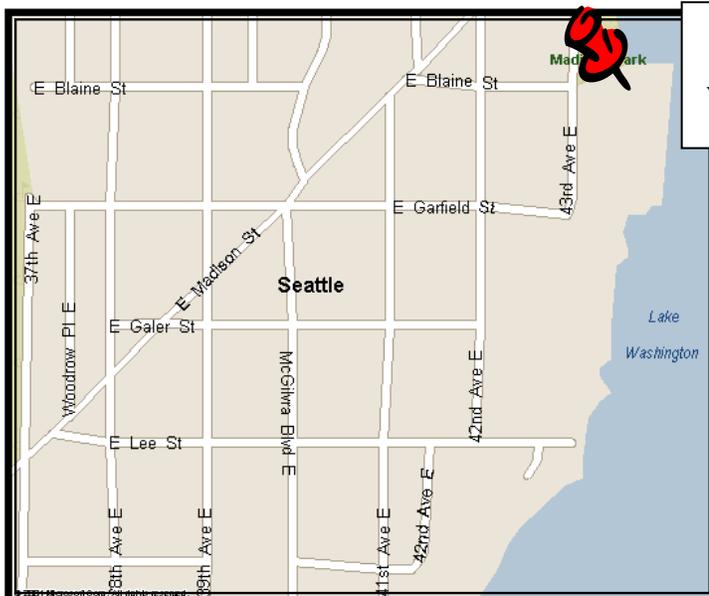


Fiske Genealogical Foundation
1644 43rd Avenue East
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HOW TO FIND US!



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

- Drive east on East Madison Street until you see a Starbucks 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.