



PATCHOGUE-MEDFORD LIBRARY

GENEALOGY RESEARCH GROUP

NEWSLETTER



“To forget ones ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root.”

A Chinese Proverb

Volume: 9 Issue: 2 Editors: Diana Erickson & Carol Proven

Food Editor: Maureen Gallagher

Dates: March and April 2016



HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY



HAPPY PASSOVER



MEETINGS AND EVENTS
PATCHOGUE MEDFORD LIBRARY

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 10:00 a.m. and END AT 11:30

Getting Started Help Session: 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Date: Saturday, March 12, 2016 Topic: “Discovering Your Early American Ancestry” (Be sure to register for this Program due to limited seating.)

Guest Speaker: Gretchen L. Mills Maresco, National Society DAR

Date: April 2, 2016: Our Annual “Lock-In” from 1 to 9:00 PM (*Special time and date.*)

Presenter: George Morgan (A well-known author, presenter and co-host of The Genealogy Guys Podcast)

REMEMBER: You need to register for this program also, again to make sure we have enough room for everyone.

OUR EDITOR PRESENTS GENEALOGY PROGRAMS

1. Date: Saturday, Mar. 5, 2016 Topic: “Let's Put Flesh on the Bones of Your Genealogy”

Presenter: Carol Proven

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: Conklin Barn, New York Ave & High Street, Huntington, NY.

Sponsored by: Huntington Historical Society. Info: 631-427-7045.

2. Date: Tuesday, April 5, 2016 Topic: “Getting Started In Genealogy”

Presenter: Carol Proven

Time: 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Comsewogue Public Library 170 Terryville Rd Port Jefferson Station N.Y. 11776 (631-928-1212) Register starting March 22, 2016

CONTACT FOR GENEALOGY:

Call “Adult Reference” 631-654-4700 and leave message for Jean King (our Genealogy Librarian) or e-mail Jean at: jking@pmlib.org. She will be leaving at the end of April.

LONG ISLAND GENEALOGY PROGRAMS

Please refer to the calendar of events from the Genealogy Federation of Long Island that is sent out monthly by Jean King, our librarian.

EDITOR'S NOTE

This edition of our newsletter marks the start of our 9th year of publication. Carol Proven and I have been doing this for the entire 9 years and Maureen Gallagher is our third food editor and this is the start of her 4th year. We are all proud to be of service to the Genealogy Research Group and hope we can continue into the future! So to the three of us, I wish ourselves a "Happy Anniversary!"

"AROUND THE TOWN AND OTHER PLACES!"

BETHPAGE NY

Bethpage Public Library

Saturday, April 30, 2016

9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Come learn about family history research and meet local genealogy societies

All Tickets Free

Limited Seating-Advance Registration Required (www.eventbrite.com)

Member groups include:

- ***African Atlantic Genealogical Society***
- ***Connetquot Public Library***
- ***Genealogy Workshop of the Huntington Historical Society***
- ***German Genealogy Group***
- ***Irish Family History Forum***
- ***Italian Genealogical Group***
- ***Jewish Genealogy Society of L. I.***
- ***Patchogue-Medford Library Genealogy Research Group***
- ***Plainview Family History Center***

Sessions Include:

Getting Started in Genealogy Research

Presenter: Chuck Weinstein (9:30-10:30 am)

Genealogical Services of the Huntington Historical Society: Research, Library & Archives

Presenter: Art Sniffin (9:30-10:30 am)

Finding Your Irish Ancestral Place of Origin: Building a Bridge Back From Here

Presenter: Terry Koch-Bostic (11:00-12:00 pm)

The Genealogical Importance of Jewish Burial Records & Cemetery Information

Presenter: Nolan Altman (11:00-12:00 pm)

Ask the Experts Panel (12:30-1:30 pm)

The New and the Old in German Genealogy

Presenter: Richard Haberstroh (2:00-3:00 pm)

Evidence Analysis

Presenter: Rhoda Miller (2:00-3:00 pm)

Expanding Your Research for Italian Ancestors From Home (USA)

Presenter: Mike Genovese (3:30-4:30 pm)

Available Resources at the African American Museum & Library
Presenter: Julius Pearse (3:30-4:30 pm)

NEW YORK CITY RESEARCH OPPURTUNITIES!
NATIONAL ARCHIVES at NEW YORK CITY

One Bowling Green, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10004

Toll-free: 1-866-840-1752 or 212-401-1620

Fax: 212-401-1638

Email: newyork.archives@nara.gov

Workshops and Program Schedule:

2016 Finding Family Genealogy Series

Our Finding Family Genealogy Series is offered every Spring (March through June) and Fall (September through December).

The series of workshops are free and open to all interested in learning about genealogical research using records from the National Archives.

History Talks! Series Continues in 2016

The History Talks! series, a collaboration between the National Archives at New York City and the New York City Department of Education, continues this year with speakers focusing on a diverse series of topics, including the slave trade, early New York City, immigration, Native American history, and the Polio virus.

Each program combines primary sources, pedagogy and renowned historians discussing their latest works. Every participant receives a signed copy of the book and a packet of related primary sources from the National Archives.

When:

This FREE educational program is held on select Thursdays throughout the year (typically 1-2 per month). Programs occur between 4 - 6 p.m.

Where:

These programs are held at the [National Archives at New York City's Learning Center](#) at One Bowling Green in Lower Manhattan.

NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
STEPHEN A. SCHWARZMAN BUILDING
Fifth Ave at 42nd Street
New York City, N.Y.

**The following programs will be held at the NYPL
South Court Classrooms, First Floor**

**Register: www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org (If noted in description)
Or 212-626-6583**

Program: The New York Public Library – Milstein Division

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION: CALL LIBRARY

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

**Italian Genealogy: Resources and Research
Methods**

**3:30
p.m.**

Using resources in NYPL's large free public collection of genealogical tools, this class introduces some key resources to help you find information on an Italian ancestor. Participants will learn about print and electronic sources of information and work on developing a research plan for genealogical quests. First come, first served

**Stephen A.
Schwarzman Building, Adults
South Court Classroom
A**

Wednesday, March 23, 2016

Getting Started in Genealogy

**3:30
p.m.**

Begin exploring your family history with the NYPL. This introductory class will explain first steps in genealogical research. Find out best practices for getting started, learn about genealogical records, and discover how to

**Stephen A. Schwarzman
Building, South Court
Classroom A**

search NYPL's collections. First come, first served

Thursday, March 31, 2016

[Researching Vital Records and the Census](#)

12
noon

Discover genealogical resources at the New York Public Library with an exploration of vital records and the census. First, learn how to search for and find your ancestors on birth, marriage, and death certificates. Next, we'll explore the history of the U.S. Federal Census, explore what other types of census records exist, and offer a variety of search strategies to use in your genealogy research.

Stephen A.
Schwarzman Building, Adult
South Court
Classroom A

Wednesday, April 6, 2016

[Researching the History of Your New York City Home](#)

3
p.m.

Have you ever wondered about the history of your home? Who used to live there or what their lives were like? This class will show you how to research the history of your building and the people who owned and lived in it. The Milstein Division is home to one of the largest free United States history, local history and genealogy collections in the country. Looking at censuses, city directories, land conveyances, and photographs, newspapers and local histories available at the New York Public Library. First come, first served

Stephen A.
Schwarzman Building, Adult
South Court
Classroom A

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Getting Started in Genealogy

12 noon Begin exploring your family history with the NYPL. This introductory class will explain first steps in genealogical research. Find out best practices for getting started, learn about genealogical records, and discover how to search NYPL's collections.

**Stephen A.
Schwarzman Building,
South Court
Classroom A** **Adult**

First come, first served

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

Genealogical Research with Newspapers and Periodicals

3:30 p.m. Historical newspapers and genealogy periodicals can reveal a wealth of information about your ancestors. Discover NYPL's vast collections of newspapers and periodicals and learn how these resources can supplement your family history research.

**Stephen A.
Schwarzman Building,
South Court
Classroom A** **Adult**

First come, first served

Thursday, April 28, 2016

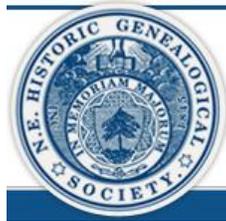
Writing Your Family History

12 noon If you have been collecting the information, now it is time to shape your genealogy research into a cohesive family history for others to read. Learn the different types of family history writing styles and explore the writing manuals that will match your writing style.

**Stephen A.
Schwarzman Building,
South Court
Classroom A** **Adult**

First come, first served

NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



www.AmericanAncestors.org

Leah Walczak

Director of Education and Programs

education@nehgs.org

617-226-1226

Many important and relevant programs are sponsored by the NEHGS. Please use the above website to review their offerings and you can call 617-226-1226 or 1-888-286-3447 (education@nehgs.org.)

Founded in 1845, NEHGS is the country's oldest and largest non-profit [GENEALOGY](#) library and archive. With more than 15 million artifacts, books, manuscripts, microfilms, journals, photographs, records, and expert staff to help you navigate it all, NEHGS provides the access you need to research your [FAMILY HISTORY](#) .

New England Historic Genealogical Society

99 - 101 Newbury St. / Boston, MA / 02116, USA

888 - 296 - 3447

THEY OFFER THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS AND TRIPS:

2016 Research Tours and Programs

[Hartford Research Tour](#)

March 7-12, 2016

Explore the repositories of Hartford including the Connecticut State Library and Connecticut Historical Society. NEHGS staff and local experts will provide consultations, lectures, and the information you need to get the most out of Hartford's genealogical resources.

[London Research Tour](#)

April 8-16, 2016

Experience one of the largest family history conferences in the world—Who Do You Think You Are? LIVE—and spend a week of intensive research at some of England's most important genealogical repositories. Visit the British Library, the National Archives, and the Society of Genealogists, attend lectures, and receive one-on-one research assistance.

[New York City Research Tour](#)

May 15-22, 2016

Join NEHGS for our inaugural research tour to New York City! The Big Apple can be a genealogist's paradise—you just need to know where to look. We'll research at the New York Public Library, the Ackman & Ziff Family Genealogy Institute, and the Municipal Archives. In addition to lectures and consultations, we'll make group visits to the Tenement Museum, Ellis Island, and other cultural gems

[Albany Research Tour](#)

May 22-26, 2016

Explore the New York State Library and the New York State Archives. Now in its fifth year, this popular tour includes one-on-one consultations, lectures, and group meals.

Heritage Tours

[Quebec: Follow the Trail of New England Captives Carried to Canada](#)

July 16-24, 2016

Between King Philip's War in 1675-76 and the fall of Quebec in 1759 almost 1,000 captives—soldiers and civilians, men, women, and children—were taken by Natives and French from the New England frontier to Canada. Join NEHGS and Donald Friary—experienced tour leader, historian, and former Executive Director of Historic Deerfield—on a once-in-a-lifetime tour that traces the captives' route north and recounts the story of their lives and fate.

Whether you are a descendant of the captives, want to learn firsthand about Native American culture and New England history, or simply wish to enjoy

**the magnificent scenery of the St. Lawrence valley in lovely July weather—
this will be an unforgettable journey!**

Come Home to New England

August 9-13, 2016

For more than thirty years, researchers have learned with NEHGS during Come Home to New England, an intensive workshop offering lectures, guided research, extended library hours, and one-on-one consultations. NEHGS has been collecting information about families in America for 170 years. Our collections are international in scope and contain significant materials that cover the United States, especially New England and New York, as well as Canada and Europe. This rigorous research program provides the opportunity for you to “come home” to Boston and work closely with NEHGS staff to find your family.

Wanted: You! Please share your knowledge and talent. Write an article for our newsletter. We have a large group of researchers with tons of knowledge that needs to be shared. Please e-mail dianamets@msn.com with your articles. For our next newsletter the deadline is March 12th.

“THE HAPPY RECAP”

The January Blizzard cancelled our meeting, so we move on to February.

FEBRUARY RECAP: February 27, 2016

“Managing the Genealogy Data Monster”

**A Live Webinar with Thomas MacEntee
By Diana Erickson**

We have finally experienced a “live webinar” at one of our meetings. It was a great experience. It brought a very dynamic and knowledgeable genealogist (from Chicago) right into our meeting room.

The topic is one we all have to face-the monster of our own research! We have at our finger tips huge amounts of data about our ancestors. Sometimes we can't find a scrap of information, but a brick wall collapses and we can be over whelmed with what pours out and soon we are covered with "bricks."

Tom took us step-by-step through a highly organized system of "Project Management Basics." He shared with us his system of organizing his research and findings. From using a journal or notebook, a spreadsheet, note taking app or a task/management program or app he showed us the way he completes the entrees and how to organize everything you need to do for a research project. The importance of genealogy files and how to organize them was also discussed. A number of "tips and techniques" were presented and are very useful for all our research needs.

An excellent resource list for our own use was included. Well, thank you Tom for an interesting presentation. I hope this is the first of many other webinars at our meetings!



"GRANDMA'S KITCHEN"

Food Editor: Maureen Gallagher



Deep-Dish Plum Pie

This is an Irish recipe that I have made for my family on St. Patrick's Day for many years. I served it as a dessert after making Corned Beef and Cabbage, homemade Irish Soda Bread and homemade Irish Oatmeal Bread.....by Carol Proven

Filling

Topping

2 cans (1-lb size) purple plums
1 tablespoon cornstarch
1 “ lemon juice
1 “ butter

1 ¼ cups biscuit mix
½ cup quick-cooking oats
¼ cup sugar
¼ teaspoon cinnamon
½ cup milk, Light cream

- 1. Preheat oven to 425F. Lightly grease a 6 x 10 inch flat baking dish.**
- 2. Make Filling: Drain plums, reserving 1 cup liquid**
- 3. In small saucepan, combine cornstarch and reserved plum liquid, stirring until smooth. Bring to boiling stirring. Reduce heat, and simmer 2 minutes. Mixture will be thickened and translucent. Remove from heat.**
- 4. Stir in lemon juice.**
- 5. Remove pit from plums. Add plums to hot liquid; heat, stirring for 1 minute. Pour into baking dish and dot with butter.**
- 6. Make Topping: In medium bowl combine biscuit mix, oats, sugar and cinnamon, mixing well.**
- 7. Add milk, mixing quickly and lightly with fork just until dry ingredients are moistened.**
- 8. Spread topping over hot fruit. Bake 20 minutes or until golden. Serve pie warm with light cream**

Makes 8 Servings



THE IRISH WAY OF TEA!

By Maureen Gallagher

**God willing, may our tea
be steeped in serenity,
sweetened by sharing,
and surrounded by the
warmth of your love**

<http://www.irishcultureandcustoms.com/Blessings/Bless.html>

The above-referenced quotation is indicative of the way the Irish feel about tea. Tea was first introduced to the upper classes in the early 1800's before spreading to the lower masses in the later years of that decade. Tea was not of the best quality, brewed strong, and served with much milk. This tradition is known as Irish Breakfast (<http://www.arborteas.com/blog/history-of-irish-tea>)

Anna Snyder, a writer who studied in Galway indicates how Irish Breakfast is made:

“Assam tea from India, a very strong, robust tea with a high tannin level, was blended with the lighter-tasting Ceylon from Sri Lanka, giving us the invigorating tea that the rest of the world now knows as Irish Breakfast.”

Ms. Snyder indicates that the importance of tea to the Irish revolves around the beverage itself, its medicinal properties, and associated rituals. Irish pubs are required legally to provide a cup of tea. The offering of tea is considered to be “a symbol of hospitality, camaraderie, and friendship.”

<http://www.enjoy-irish-culture.com/irish-tea-culture.html>

So, have a “cuppa” and see what tea can do for you.



GENEALOGY COUSIN

"THE 20th CENTURY"

PART FIVE

By Diana Erickson

A TIME-LINE OF THE 20TH CENTURY

1980-2000

Adapted from: About.com:History Timeline of the Twentieth Century

The 1980's. To me it was like yesterday..... This decade my grandmother gives me "the family history" which is replete with fact and fiction regarding her life and her recollection of family members who are near famous or infamous. This information will start me on the road to genealogy "madness!"

1980: Failed US rescue of American hostages in Iran,
John Lennon assassinated in NYC,
Mount St. Helens erupts,
Pac-Man video game released
Rubik's Cube becomes popular
Ted Turner establishes CNN

1981: Assassination attempts on Pope John Paul II and President Reagan,
First woman (Sandra Day O'Connor) appointed to the US Supreme Court
Millions watch the "Royal Wedding" of the century on TV
New plague identified as AIDS
Personal Computers (PC) introduced by IBM

1982: *E.T.* Movie released
Falkland Islands invaded by Argentina
Michael Jackson releases "*Thriller*"
Vietnam War Memorial Opened in Washington, DC

1983: Cabbage Patch Kids are popular
Reagan announces Defense Plan Called Star Wars
Sally Ride becomes first American woman in space
Soviets shoot down Korean airliner
US embassy in Beirut bombed,

The first public cell phones were put out by Motorola (In 1973 Martin Cooper, a Motorola researcher and executive, made the first mobile telephone call from handheld subscriber equipment, placing a call to Dr. Joel S. Engel of Bell Labs. The prototype handheld phone used by Dr. Cooper weighed 2 and ½ lbs. and measured 9 inches long, 5.1 inches deep and 1 ¾ inches wide. The prototype offered a talk time of just 30 minutes and took 10 hours to re-charge.)

**1984: Huge poison gas leak in India
Indira Gandhi, India's Prime Minister is assassinated by two of her own bodyguards
PG-13 Movie Rating Created**

**1985: *Back to the Future* opens
Famine in Ethiopia
First Internet Domain Name is Registered
Soviet Prime Minister, Mikhail Gorbachev calls for "*Glasnost and Perestroika*"—glasnost: allowing Soviet citizens to voice their opinions and perestroika: reform the economy of the USSR—a big step towards the downfall of Stalin-style communism,
Rock Hudson dies of AIDS
Terrorists Hijack Flight 847
US singers record charity single, "*We Are the World*," with proceeds to go for Famine Relief in Ethiopia and other parts of Africa
Wreck of the *Titanic* found**

**1986: Space Shuttle *Challenger* explodes on liftoff
Chernobyl Nuclear Disaster
Ferdinand Marcos flees Philippines and his wife leaves behind *all those shoes!*
First PC Virus "Brain" goes viral—idiots invade technology
Halley's Comet passes by
Iran-Contra Scandal Unfolds
The Oprah Winfrey Show gets national syndication
US bombs Libya
THE NEW YORK METS WIN THE WORLD SERIES.**

**1987: DNA first used to convict criminals
Klaus Barbie, the Nazi Butcher of Lyons, France is sentenced to life in prison
New York Stock Exchange suffers huge drop on "Black Monday"**

**1988: Pan Am Flight 103 is bombed over Lockerbie, Scotland
US shoots down Iranian airliner**

**1989: Berlin Wall falls
Exxon Valdez spills millions of gallons of oil on coastline of Alaska
Romanian leader Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife are executed
Students massacred in China's Tiananmen Square
World Wide Web is invented
The flip phone is introduced by Motorola**

**As the 80's ended we still see the international incidents of terrorism,
natural and man-made disasters and the swift entrance into a world of
technology that will forever change the way we live and communicate.**

**The 1990's: Just 10 years away from a new century and the world glides into
the last decade of the 20th century. It is hard to imagine writing a date for
a year without a "19" at the start.**

**1990: Gardner Heist: The Biggest Art Theft in History
Germany reunited, Berlin becomes the capital of the unified nation
Hubble telescope launched into space
Lech Walesa becomes first president of the newly freed Poland
Nelson Mandela freed
US invades Nicaragua
President Bush announces he doesn't like broccoli (lost re-election - is
there a connection?)**

**1991: Basketball player Magic Johnson announces he is HIV positive
Copper Age man found frozen in the Alps
Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines erupts killing over 800 people
Operation Desert Storms begins
Serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer is arrested
South Africa repeals Apartheid Laws**

**1992: Bosnian Genocide begins
Official end of the Cold War with the collapse of the Soviet Union
(enacted by legislation on 12/26/91)
Racial riots in LA after the Rodney King verdict**

1993: Federal government raids a cult compound in Waco, Texas

Use of the internet grows exponentially
Bombing of the World Trade Center

1994: Channel tunnel opens connecting Britain and France
Nelson Mandela elected President of South Africa
Genocide committed in Rwanda

1995: Auction website eBay is founded
First successful air-balloon ride over the Pacific Ocean
Million Man March in Washington D.C.
O.J. Simpson found “not guilty” of the double murder
Oklahoma City Bombing
Saran Gas attack in Tokyo Subway
Yitzhak Rabin assassinated

1996: Centennial Olympic Park (in Atlanta, Georgia) is bombed during the
Olympic Summer Games
First cloned mammal (Dolly the Sheep) is born
Mad Cow Disease hits Britain
Mount Everest Disaster (8 people caught in a blizzard die,)
Two Royal Divorces
Infamous Unabomber arrested.

1997: First “Harry Potter” book is released
Hale-Bopp Comet is visible
Heaven’s Gate cult commits mass suicide
Hong Kong returned to China
Space ship *Pathfinder* sends back pictures of Mars
Princess Diana dies in a car crash in Paris
Mother Theresa dies in India
Scientists clone sheep
Tallest building in the world built in the city of Kuala Lumpur in
Malaysia

1998: India and Pakistan test nuclear weapons
Titanic most successful movie ever made to this date in the US is
released
President Clinton is impeached (he was acquitted on 2/12/1999,)
Viagra on the market (that is not cause and effect of the Clinton
situation!)

1999 The Euro is adopted by most member nations of the European Union
The “panic” of Y2K Bug spreads among many people-rumors of
“shortage of toilet paper” abound!
JFK Jr. dies in an accidental plane crash
Columbine High School Massacre
NATO attacks Serbia
Panama Canal is returned to Panama
Many people think this is the last year of the 20th century-they have
forgotten how to count!

2000: We finally reach the last year of the 20th century. I begin to wonder,
“What is the movie company “20th Century Fox” going to do about their
famous logo? Will they change the music?” The human genome is
mapped, a nasty virus, “ILOVEYOU” hits thousands of computers, and
Microsoft is ordered to spilt, unclear US Presidential winner-remember the
“hanging chads” in Florida? Before we can say “end of the Millennium” it
is here, January 1, 2001 and the 20th century ends and the 21st Century
begins. For our nation some of the worst things are yet to come and we
can’t even imagine the horror and consequences of that September
day...just a few months away.

GENEALOGY RESEARCH

“WHEN IRISH EYES ARE SMILING”

By Diana Erickson

Here we are in the merry month of March and the greatest celebration is
right around the corner. In honor of St. Patrick we have dedicated this
edition of our newsletter to the Irish. I will share with you the joys and
travails of researching your Irish ancestors.

When the Irish eyes of our ancestors are smiling, it is because they have a
100 secrets to the family history and they are laughing that you will never
find out where in Ireland they came from. This is not an empty promise, but it
is based on my own personal experience and that of many other Irish
researchers. But do not despair, you can actually find many of your ancestors
in Ireland, probably not all of them. We will take a look at some strategies to
help you.

The 1st Strategy: Check every single record on this side of the Atlantic before going over to the other side. I mean just that. Every census record, vital record, military record, will, land deed, court proceeding, passenger manifests (especially those after 1900 which have important additional information,) newspaper articles and obituaries, Emigrant Savings Bank records, etc., etc. I have found the county and even exact place of origin (down to the townland) in Ireland for several of my Irish families. Fitzpatrick Family through military pension files, baptismal records (mentioned the county in Ireland where the father was born)-the Hogan family through an obituary in the "New York Herald" and Carberry Family from the Emigrant Savings Bank records.

So keep on looking! Don't forget books which have transcribed records from other sources. One great source is "Index to Marriages and Deaths in the "New York Herald" by James P. Maher-3 Volumes. Another good source for early NYC immigrants, "Methodist Marriages in NYC 1785-1893" by William Fisher. Don't be concerned because the weddings took place in a Methodist church and your Irish ancestors were not Methodist. Many Catholic couples married in this church. Methodist churches were the most common church found in NYC in the mid-1800s.

Early ship manifests are very disappointing as they only list name, age, occupation (with a variety of occupation terms such as "matron, spinster, laborer and child") and only "Ireland" listed as place of origin. But at least you have them getting off the boat.

When they got off the boat (in NYC) it was right on to the dock if they arrived before 1855. From 1855 to 1892 Castle Garden helped to ease the immigrant into New York City. After 1892 Ellis Island became the landing spot for immigrants until 1954. As the years passed the ship's manifest became a good source for information about your immigrant-the early records have the least. So check the two websites: www.castlegarden.org and www.libertyellisfoundation.org.

The 2nd Strategy: The Irish as a rule were very tight lipped about themselves and their families. They frequently gave misleading information or just lied or left out information. It may have been their distrust of "government" due to their experiences with the British Government. Listen carefully to family "tales" -- they may or may not be the truth.

The 3rd Strategy: The most obvious question can bring a variety of answers. “When did your Irish ancestors come to the US?” Famine immigrants: the technical years are 1846 to 1851. But many came before and after those years. For many families one person came over to earn the money for the tickets for the rest of the family. It usually took several years to earn the passage money.

If your family came to the US after 1864 you may find members of the family listed in vital records in Ireland. It is after 1864 that things improve considerably, as vital records are finally recorded for all of Ireland. To be realistic, you have to know where in Ireland your family came from - imagine how many “Bridget Murphys” you will find! Records before 1864 are usually only non-Catholic records.

Where they came from in Ireland will have a direct bearing on what records you may find. If they came from one of the 6 counties in the north, records are fairly plentiful-contact PRONI- Public Records office of Northern Ireland (www.proni.gov.uk/). For the rest of Ireland records are not so plentiful.

The 4th Strategy: So you found them! Now what do you do? When you identify the county and townland you can look for records related to that location. A townland is a small geographical division of land used in Ireland. The townland system is of Gaelic origin. However, some townland names and boundaries come from Norman manors, plantation divisions, or later creations of the Ordnance Survey.

Census records for Great Britain and Ireland began in 1801. From 1801 to 1831 these records are virtually useless. They only contain statistical information and virtually no personal information such as name, age, sex, etc. By 1841 personal information appeared and continued down through the decades. But, alas the luck of the Irish fated the records with many disasters! The Irish Census records are a mixed bag of lost, burned, pulped and readily available (1901 and 1911 Census.)

The 1881 and 1891 census records were “pulped” before they could be copied-sheer incompetence! The biggest blow was the fire at the Public Records Office in Dublin in 1922 during the Irish fight for independence from British rule. This is the sad but true story:

What was lost? From www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com

Apart from a few fragments, the Irish Censuses of 1821, 1831, 1841, and 1851 were burned in the Public Records Office. So, too, were just over half of all the Anglican Church of Ireland registers deposited there following the dis-establishment of the state church in 1869.

In addition, the majority of wills and testamentary records that had been proved in Ireland were reduced to ashes (although transcripts of many testamentary records survive). All pre-1900 documents from the legal courts were lost, as were local government records for the same period.

- See more at: <http://www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com/irish-records-burned.html#sthash.IXu4ZVb1.dpuf>

Many records did survive:

The 1901 and 1911 Irish census returns survive. So do all civil registration records. So do nearly half of all Church of Ireland parish registers (many clergymen had simply not sent their registers to Dublin). Baptism, marriage and burial records for Roman Catholics, Presbyterians and Methodists were not housed at the Public Records Office Griffiths Valuation – the primary source of land and property records for the middle of the 19th century is intact.

Indexes to wills and probate bonds survive.

So do a good number of local muster rolls, poll tax lists and other records dating back to the very early 1600s. - See more at: <http://www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com/irish-records-burned.html#sthash.IXu4ZVb1.dpuf>

The 5th Strategy: Here we are on the shores of the Emerald Isle! Let your computer help you to the great number of websites dedicated to Irish research. There are a number of paid and free websites. Also most if not all the Counties have a website devoted to genealogy and “Irish Heritage.” Just “Google” the county you want. Also a general search of “Irish Genealogy” will bring numerous websites to your screen! Enjoy the hunt and maybe, just maybe you can solve that question of “Where in Ireland Did My Ancestors Come From?”

USEFUL WEBSITES:

www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com www.nationalarchives.ie

www.findmypast.com (\$) www.ancestry.com (\$)

www.irishtimes.com (\$) www.familysearch.org

A TIMELINE OF IRISH HISTORY OR HOW THE IRISH SAVED THE WORLD

7500 B.C. The first known inhabitants settle in Ireland.

600-150 B.C. Celtic tribes arrive on the island.

432 A.D. St. Patrick arrives in Ireland, bringing Christianity. (The Protestant faith did not yet exist.)

5th & 6th Century: After the final collapse of the Roman Empire (476), mainland Europe fell into the Dark Ages. Monks in Irish monasteries saved the books of western civilization-this is the basis of "How the Irish Saved Civilization" by Thomas Cahill.

795 The first Vikings arrive in Ireland-establish many new settlements-such as Dublin and Waterford

1541 Britain's King Henry VIII is declared King of Ireland by Englishmen living in Ireland. He opposes the Catholic religion. (Start of 400 year + of war, protests, banishment, repressions, rebellion, and loss of civil and religious freedom, famine and hatred-also called "The Troubles.")

1608 Britain's King James I sent thousands of Protestant English farmers to Ireland to take over land owned by Catholic farmers, mostly in the north. This migration by the Protestants, who are mostly from Scotland, is called the "Plantation of Ulster."

1641 Oliver Cromwell landed in Ireland with a large army and his aim was to crush the Roman Catholic religion and all Catholics who would not convert. Many acts of atrocities by both the Irish and the English are recorded. Cromwell won and Catholics again lost land that had been in families for centuries.

1690 The Battle of the Boyne: Irish Catholics supporting Prince James II for the English crown are defeated by King William and Queen Mary of Orange and a large English army. The Treaty of Limerick ends the war.

1692 The repressive, harsh and bigoted “Penal Laws” forbid Catholics to vote, own land or practice their religion. Such laws remain in effect until 1829. You have many years of religious persecution, in which Catholics have lost all their rights as citizens in their own country before the last restrictions are lifted in 1829.

1845-1849 A potato blight kills Ireland's staple food crop. About a million people die from starvation and fever during the Great Potato Famine. From 1846 to 1851 approximately 1 million Irish leave Ireland for North America. These people are often referred to as “The Famine Immigrants.”

1916 The Easter Rebellion. Armed Irish patriots rebel against British troops in Dublin, Ireland, on the Monday after Easter. The British execute rebel leaders.

1919-1921 The Anglo-Irish War between the British and the Irish Republican Army. In a treaty, Britain finally gives up control of most of Ireland but tightens its grip on the six counties of Ulster (Northern Ireland).

1921-1923 Irish Civil War between those who accept the treaty with the English and the Irish Republican Army, which wants all of Ireland to be free of British rule. The Republicans lose. In 1922 the Public Record Office is burned during an Irish uprising in Dublin.

1949 Britain declares Ulster a permanent part of the British Empire. The lower 26 counties of Ireland declare themselves the Irish Republic, totally free of British control.

1972 During anti-British protests in the Ulster town of Londonderry on January 30, 1972 13 unarmed marchers are killed by British troops, an event now known as Bloody Sunday. Britain imposes direct rule on Ulster. A more intense era of bloodshed begins.

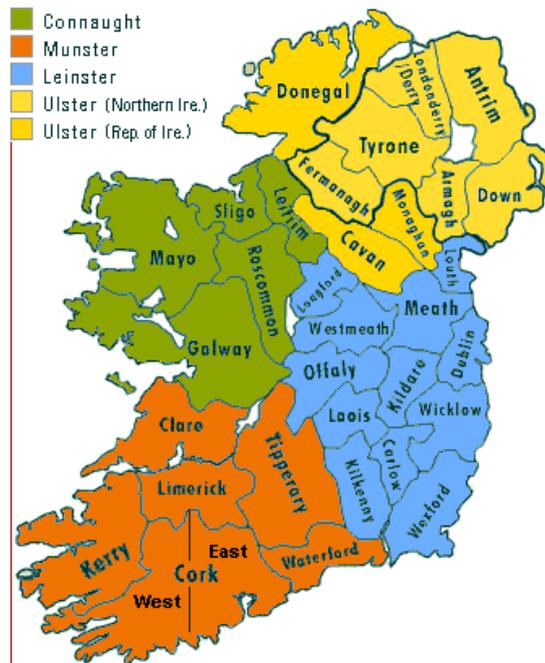
1998 Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland adopt The Good Friday Agreement, an important step in the peace process.

2002 The Euro replaces the Irish pound, or punt, as Ireland's official currency.

2005-2006 The European Union officially recognizes Irish as a working language. The Irish government begins a 20-year plan to make Ireland a bilingual country where everyone speaks both Irish and English.



FACTS ABOUT IRELAND



**COUNTIES: 26 IN THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
6 IN NORTHERN IRELAND (PART OF GREAT BRITAIN)**

PROVINCES: 4: Have no political significance just historical and cultural.
MUNSTER: contain the counties of Tipperary, Waterford, Cork, Limerick, Clare and Kerry
CONNAUGHT: contain the counties of Mayo, Galway, Sligo, Leitrim and Roscommon

LEINSTER: contain the counties of Longford, Westmeath, Meath, Louth, Offaly (formerly Kings County-changed after Ireland gained independence,) Laois (formerly Queens County-changed after Ireland gained independence,) Kilkenny, Carlow, Waterford, Wicklow, Dublin and Kildare

ULSTER (REPUBLIC OF IRELAND): Donegal, Cavan, and Monaghan

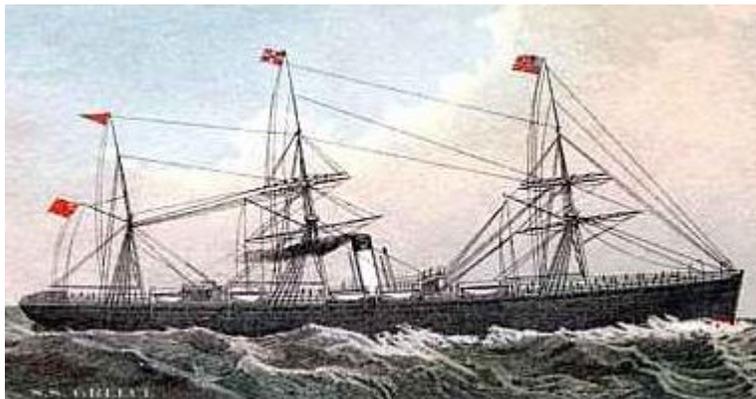
(NORTHERN IRELAND-PART OF GREAT BRITAIN): Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry (or Derry), and Tyrone

PHOTO PARADE

Ellen Mary Oats

1844 – 1929

By Carol Proven



S.S. Greece

Ellen Mary Oats was born in Dublin, Ireland about 1844. She immigrated to England but I still have not found proof as to when she left Ireland or if she came to England with her parents who were Patrick Oats and Mariah Hanely. She met and married Patrick Clifford October 13, 1867 at St. Aloysius Chapel,

R.C., in Lancashire, England. Their daughter Margaret, born in 1868, was one of five children and the only child born in England.

In 1867, Patrick left England on the S.S. Pennsylvania and arrived in New York. After he secured a job with the railroad, Ellen and her daughter, Margaret, joined Patrick in America. They arrived in New York on the S.S. Greece June 4, 1873.

The family settled in Dutchess County and lived in towns like Pine Plains and North East. Ellen and Patrick had four more children: Mary, John, James and Patrick. Ellen's sons followed in their father's footsteps, all working for the railroad. Their son John suffered a fatality while working on the railroad site. Both Ellen and Patrick were laid to rest in St. Patrick's Church and Cemetery in Pine Plains. Ellen died in 1929 at the age of 85 years old. Her husband Patrick died at the age of 68 years old.

(I located their arrivals through the website www.castlegarden.org and the ship photo was found on www.ancestry.com.)

PHOTO PARADE STORY # 2



**Annie Jane Nixon
1883 – 1943
By Carol Proven**

Annie Jane Nixon was the first child of John Nixon and Margaret Johnston. Both of her parents were born in Ireland. Her father's occupation was a Cartier Proprietor. (One who owns carts. Today's interruption could be a car

owner/driver.) Annie was born February 23, 1883 in Cavan, Ireland. She had two siblings namely: James and Catherine. Annie and her family immigrated to Liverpool, England prior to her reaching the age of 20. When she was 23, she married Alfred Proven on December 1, 1906 in Liverpool, England. Alfred, who was born in England, came from a line of ancestors from Scotland. He was one of 11 siblings.

Annie and Alfred had three children: Robert, Nancy and Alfred. All but one of her children remained in England. One left for America at the age of 20, not to return before Annie's death in 1943. Most likely due to the fact that World War II was going on at this time. She died at the age of 60 in England and her husband died seven months later.

Alfred Proven
Annie's youngest son

(Materials gathered from: U.K. Censuses; death records; family notes and Memories)

THE BOOK CORNER

By Diana Erickson

"THE FAMILY WAY" **A Molly Murphy Mystery** **By Rhys Bowen**

As the years catch up to me and my physical labors (shoveling snow) are passed on to the next generation, I have more time to read. With the snow flying late in January and missing some day of work-I reconnected to a favorite author and her series about a young Irish lassie in New York City in the early 1990s.

I have written about this character before and she continues to be a delightful heroine as she saves the day! I love the stories because of the time



period in which they are set, the fiction of the story melding with real historical events and the touch of “Irish” culture, stories, foods and outlook on life.

In this adventure Molly is married to her love-Detective Daniel Sullivan of the NYPD and is expecting their first child. She becomes involved in kidnapping, murder and cover-ups! Enough adventure for anyone. I look forward to completing three other recently written books. Sometimes you have to put aside the dry topic of genealogy and travel into a fiction of adventure. So check your local library for a fast reading book that will give you a little view of the early 20th century.

New Titles: “City of Darkness and Light” (2014) “Away In The Manger” (2015) and “Time of For and Fire” (2016): All available at our favorite library!

THE END