

[illegible]

- 1

### What Records?

- Anything that records human activity
- All these little details piece your family story together

Birth	Baptisms
Marriage, divorce, separation	Death, burial, disinterment
Wills	Deeds
Immigration	Naturalization
Family bibles	Newspapers
Diaries and journals	Census
Cemetery	Ship manifests
Maritime Records	Military records
Social Security	Passports and border crossings



and more!

- Any record that contains details of human activity is a piece of your genealogy puzzle.

### Public Vital Records

- Created and maintained by political jurisdictions
- Originally kept in town ledger books
- Later transcribed to cards or publications
- Residences help find records
- The most reliable vital record is usually the one written when the event occurred
- Closely inspect every record
- Watch dates and town names
- Baptismal records are religious organizations

Massachusetts Vital Records

HAVERHILL BIRTHS 77

CORLES, Elisabeth, d. James and Sarah (Corlis), Apr. 2, 1768.  
Elizabeth, d. Jonathan and Elizabeth (Moer), Apr. 14, 1719.  
Ephriam, s. Joseph and Mary (Emerson), Aug. 13, 1751.  
George, s. Thomas and Rebecka (George), Dec. 18, 1719.  
George, s. John and Ruth (Haines), Mar. 4, 1714.  
George, s. George and Judith (Webster), July 25, 1754.  
George, s. George and Judith (Webster), Feb. 7, 1762.  
Hannah, d. John and Ruth (Haines), Aug. 16, 1724.  
Hannah, d. George and Judith (Webster), May 22, 1764.  
Hannah, d. John Swadock, bp. Mar. 2, 1773. C. R. 3.  
Hannah, d. Joseph, bp. Aug. 9, 1778. C. R. 1.  
Huldah, d. George and Joanna (Davis), Nov. 18, 1661.  
James, s. John, jr. and Abigail (Mitchel), July 7, 1743.  
Joanna, d. Timothy and Sarah (Hutchins), Apr. 14, 1729.  
Johanah, d. George and Joanna (Davis), Apr. 28, 1650.  
John, s. George and Joanna (Davis), Mar. 4, 1647-8.  
John, s. John and Mary (Wilford), Mar. 14, 1685-6.  
John, s. John and Ruth (Haines), Sept. 12, 1715.  
John, s. John, jr. and Abigail (Mitchel), May 8, 1747.  
John, s. Joseph and Mary (Emerson), Mar. 25, 1761.  
Jonathan, s. John and Mary (Wilford), July 16, 1695.  
Jonathan, s. Jonathan and Elizabeth (Moer), Oct. 8, 1724.  
Jonathan, s. John and Ruth (Haines), Feb. 25, 1730-31.  
Joseph, s. John and Ruth (Haines), Nov. 4, 1722.  
Joseph, s. Joseph and Mary (Emerson), Nov. 27, 1747.  
Joshua, s. John and Ruth (Haines), Jan. 19, 1733-4.  
Judith, d. George and Judith (Webster), Mar. 3, 1757.  
Lydia, d. Jonathan and Elizabeth (Moer), June 22, 1727.  
Martha, d. George and Joanna (Davis), Jan. 2, 1652[-3].  
Martha, d. Thomas and Rebecka (George), Nov. 10, 1727.  
Martha, d. John, jr. and Abigail (Mitchel), June 2-[-28. v. c.],  
1745.  
Mary, d. George and Joanna (Davis), Sept. 8, 1646.  
Mary [Corles. cr. r.], d. John and Mary (Wilford), Feb. 25,  
1687-8. [1687. cr. r.]  
Mary, d. Jonathan and Elizabeth (Moer), July 22, 1722.

- Colonial New England towns kept records of births, marriages, and deaths in ledger-size books.
- Families could (not always did) report their births, marriages, and deaths to the town clerk.
- Sometimes whole families were written together. Some are listed in chronological or alphabetical order.
- Not all family members may be recorded there. The birth, marriage, or death may have occurred before or after residence.
- Some ambitious town clerks recorded vital records for residents who were born, married, or died somewhere else.
- Ledgers were later transcribed to cards (in NH, located in Concord) or published books (New England Vital Records).
- Errors were sometimes made in transcription (illegible handwriting, worn or torn pages). Good intentions have created goofs (“I think this means...”).
- Knowing where they lived helps find their vital records.
- Towns split, merged, and changed names.
- The NH/MA boundary took a century to settle, splintering towns and family farms between two states. Some town borders changed several times.

- Records can be in surrounding towns, or either state, or both states.
- Every state has their own rules for keeping vital records, and when they can be made public.
- Baptismal records were sometimes added to published vital records.
- Note: published genealogies, and town and church histories, are not vital records.



### Birth Records

- Watch dates
- Closely inspect the record
- Number of this child
- Number of children still living
- Mother's maiden name
- Parents' place of birth

Today's quiz:  
remember the date

Child's Name *Ella S. Corliss*  
 Date of Birth *July 2, 1883*  
 Place of Birth *Hudson*  
 Sex *F* Color *W*  
 Living or Deceased *L*  
 No. of Children, Incl. Self, etc. *6th*  
 Father's Name *James N. Corliss*  
 " Birthplace *Hudson*  
 " Color *W* Age *38*  
 " Residence *Hudson*  
 Occupation *Teamster*  
 Mother's Maiden Name *Harriet C. Dunkley*  
 " Birthplace *Moultonboro, N.H.*  
 " Color *W* Age *29*  
 " Occupation  
 Reported from *Hudson, N.H.*  
 THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.  
 OFFICE OF REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS.  
 I hereby certify that the above birth record is an exact copy of the return made to this State according to law.  
*Irving A. Watson*  
 Registrar of Vital Statistics.

- Question dates to be sure you have the right record. Women don't typically have children after age 45. Men don't typically start families at age 70.
- Watch for gestational improbabilities, like childbirth at age 10.
- Families passed on first names for generations.
- Can be a challenge with cousins named John Smith both marry a wife Mary, each name their son John Smith, both born in same year and same town.
- Some records help organize families, like parent ages, number of this child, how many children still living, etc.
- Some have mother's maiden name. Careful: some cite mother's last surname, which could be a previous marital name.
- Parents' birthplaces are not always accurate; sometimes it's where they grew up or married, not where they were born.
- Today's quiz: remember this child's date of birth.

### Marriage Records

- Marriage intentions aren't always a marriage
- Closely inspect the record
- Number of marriages
- Maiden name
- Date and place of previous divorce

Back side of this card may have parent information

*Intentions of marriage.*

*The Intention of Marriage between Mr. Nathaniel Anninman of Braintree and Mrs. Hannah Tipt of Mendon was entered June 23<sup>rd</sup> 1763.*

*The Intention of Marriage between Mr. Jacob Wismell and Mrs. Susanna Tenney both of Mendon was entered March 24<sup>th</sup> 1764.*

*The Intention of Marriage between Mr. Edward Wood and Mrs. Rachel Ransom both of Mendon was entered August 30<sup>th</sup> 1764 and after they had been published the published days the said Edward Wood came and forbore publishing the third time.*

*Attest Edward Ransom Town Clerk*

Marriage intention cancelled

Groom	<i>Walter Collier</i>
Bride	<i>Harriet A. Collier</i>
Endorsement of Groom	<i>Thibault</i>
Bride	<i>Thibault</i>
Age of Groom	<i>24</i>
Bride	<i>22</i>
Color of Groom	<i>White</i>
Bride	<i>"</i>
Occupation of Groom	<i>Carpenter</i>
Bride	<i>Housekeeper</i>
Workplace of Groom	<i>Hudson N. H.</i>
Bride	<i>Thibault</i>
No. of Marriages of Groom	<i>1st</i>
Bride	<i>1st</i>
Groom Widowed or Divorced	
Bride	
Intention Filed	<i>Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 1896</i>
By whom Married	<i>James S. Lewis</i>
Endorsement	<i>Thibault</i>
Official Station	<i>Clergyman</i>
Date of Marriage	<i>Feb 14<sup>th</sup> 1896</i>
Place	<i>Thibault</i>

- Some marriage records are a wealth of detail: residences, ages, places of birth, parents' names and birth places, occupations, times married, etc.
- Some marriage records include name and date of previous spouse(s), and date of divorce, or date of spouse's death.
- It was once a requirement to publish an intention of marriage. These did not always result in a marriage. Look for children to confirm a marriage intention became a marriage.
- Can't find a marriage record? Listing all children in a family will help identify about when (and maybe where) the parents married.
- Look at the back side of marriage forms for additional details.
- Clarence Almon Torrey's *New England Marriages Prior to 1700* is a reliable source where records may no longer exist. Listed by husband's name, and includes source citations and more details.
- Marriage records aren't always accurate. People sometimes fib about their age, or number of times they were married.
- Bride's surname in second (and subsequent) marriage(s) is usually (not always) a prior marital name.

## Death Records

- Can have errors and omissions
- Closely inspect the record
- Some deaths are not recorded
- Reporting place may not be place of death
- Travelers
- Foreign deaths
- Place of burial

Example of a guessing informant.  
See the birth record.

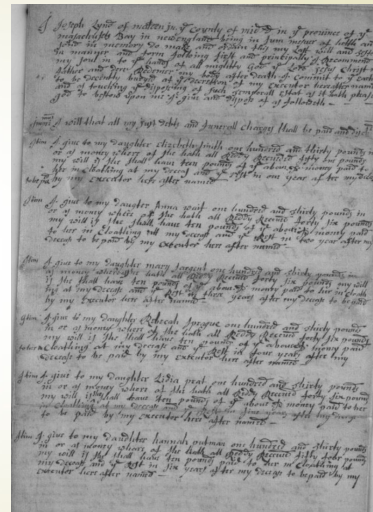
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts		STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH		RECORD OF VITAL RECORDS AND STATISTICS	
DECEASED NAME		LAST		REGISTERED NUMBER	
Elin		Wolach		55051	
PLACE OF BIRTH (CITY OR TOWN)		COUNTY OF DEATH		HOSPITAL OR OTHER INSTITUTION	
Cambridge		Middlesex		Malden Hospital	
AGE		SEX		DATE OF BIRTH (MO. DAY, YR.)	
102		F		December 20, 1885	
RACE		MARRIAGE		DATE OF MARRIAGE (MO. DAY, YR.)	
White		Never married			
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME		LOCAL OCCUPATION	
034-50-6007		Ireland		Housework	
RESIDENCE		CITY OR TOWN, COUNTY, STATE, ZIP CODE		PLACE OF BIRTH (MO. DAY, YR.)	
120 Fisher Ave. Roxbury, Suffolk, Mass. 02120		Ireland		at home	
PROFESSION		NAME AND ADDRESS		RELATIONSHIP	
Unknown		Boston, Mass.		Overseer	
DATE OF DEATH (MO. DAY, YR.)		PLACE OF DEATH		PLACE OF BURIAL	
Jan. 9, 1986		Old Calvary Cemetery		Boston, Mass.	
FURNAL SERVICE LICENSE		NAME OF FACILITY		ADDRESS OF FACILITY	
Donald K. West		Fallon P.W.		10 Tower St. Boston, Mass.	
IMMEDIATE CAUSE		ENTER ONLY ONE CAUSE PER LINE FOR (a) AND (b) (LIMIT 200 CHARACTERS)			
Pneumonia					
OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS		COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY OF DISEASE (LIMIT 200 CHARACTERS)			
Dehydration					
DATE OF INJURY (MO. DAY, YR.)		HOUR OF INJURY		REMARKS	
12-20-85		8:45 A.M.			
PLACE OF INJURY		LOCATION		CITY OR TOWN, STATE	
Home		Home		Cambridge, Mass.	
DATE OF DEATH (MO. DAY, YR.)		HOUR OF DEATH		PROFESSOR OF DEATH (MO. DAY, YR.)	
Jan. 9, 1986		1:45 P.M.		Jan. 9, 1986	
NAME AND ADDRESS OF CERTIFYING PHYSICIAN OR MEDICAL EXAMINER (Type in full)		NAME AND ADDRESS OF REGISTRAR (Type in full)		DATE RECEIVED	
Redding T. 18900 W.D. 777 Concord Ave. Cambridge		Jan. 8, 1986		JAN 9 1986	

- Death records can be incomplete or completely wrong.
- Whoever completed the record may not know the deceased. Informant could be anyone: family, friend, an attending doctor, or from hospital records.
- Even a family informant may be guessing age, birth date or place, and parents' names.
- The record may contain insufficient information (like "Mrs. J.M. Jackman").
- Records of prominent people or spectacular deaths often contain more detail, and published in more places.
- In colonial days, deaths of wives, infants, and indigents were often unrecorded.
- Some occupations (travelers, ministers, etc.) may have widely scattered family deaths.
- Before the practice of embalming, most people were buried where they died.
- Unless specifically noted, the place reporting the death can mean the place of death, or the place of burial.
- Deaths reported in two different states typically is place of death, and place of burial.
- Place of burial may point you to a family lot, where you may find more family lots in the same cemetery.
- American reports of foreign deaths typically include names and addresses of family notified, distribution of effects, and if buried abroad, the location and disinterment rules.
- Social Security Death Index cites where last check was sent—not place of death.

- Today's quiz: remember the birth record? The informant was guessing about the deceased.

## Probate Records

- Maintained by county probate offices
- Probate file should contain:
  - Last Will & Testament (if testate)
  - Nuncupative Will (oral deathbed will)
  - Proof and approval
  - Probate order(s)
  - Inventory of estate
  - Guardians appointed for minor children
  - Debts owned and owed
  - Disputes and agreements
- Probate files can contain a spectacular amount of family detail
- Can approximate death date when no record found
- Length of probate can take years



- Probate records can be a genealogy gold mine.
- Verify you have the right probate file by the names and relationships in the records.
- Typically names a surviving spouse; children, whether living or deceased; and sometimes grandchildren, in-laws, siblings, friends, ministers, etc.
- Can be the only place you find missing children. Or another wife. Or the widow's next married name.
- Can explain relationships: "my now wife"; "child of my former wife"; "my son[in-law] who married my daughter [name]."
- Can include guardian appointments for minor children. Sometimes orphans adopted their guardian's surname.
- Can point to where they lived, although being "of" a place doesn't always mean place of death.
- Can list property owned (sometimes identifying their old country), and debts owed and owned.
- Can list promises still to be kept: "take care of my mother"; "the father of my first wife"; "I promised the minister I would..."; etc.
- Can approximate date of death when no other record found (between date of will, and date of probate).
- When intestate (no Last Will), the widow receives 1/3 of the estate, children get 2/3rds. The eldest son typically gets a double share.

- Intestate probate files can include a distribution of the estate. That can name everyone who inherits: sons-in-law, daughters by their marital surname, and grandchildren.
- Inventory of estate can point to occupation: carpentry tools may mean joiner or shipwright; farm tools is typically a farmer; large volumes of books may be minister or teacher.
- Probate can take years, particularly with minor children who can't inherit until they are of legal age.
- Records can be in multiple probate files, particularly when guardians are appointed for children of minor age.
- Living Wills will leave little of genealogy interest. The deceased's assets were owned by a Trust, which avoids probate.

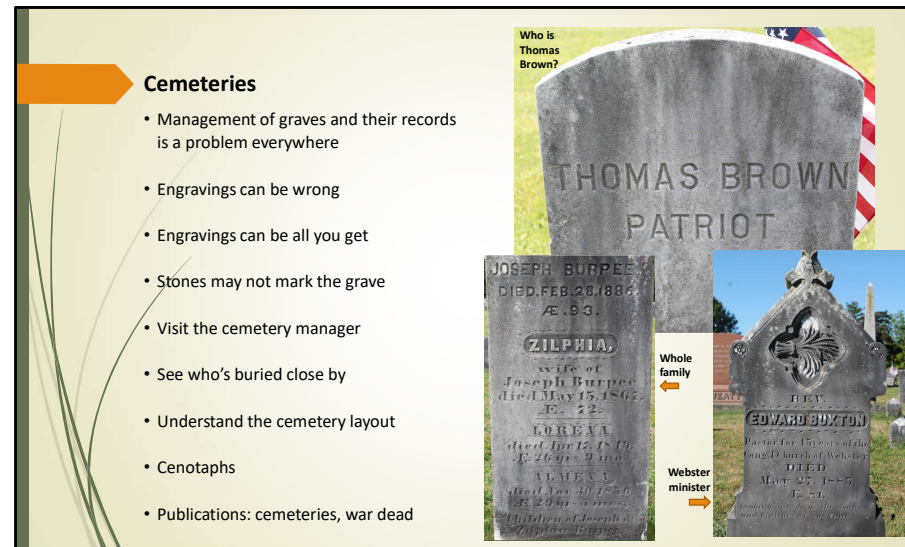
## Deeds

- Maintained in each county's Registry of Deeds
- Deeds can include:
  - Reason for property transfer
  - Maiden and marital surname(s) of women
  - Spouses
  - Relationships between the parties
  - Name all children of a family
  - Name(s) of a deceased and their residence

Deeds can be tough and boring, but read it all.



- More often now, you can find deeds on-line. Typically for a fee.
- Sometimes includes the reason for a property transfer: a gift before a marriage, inherited property, etc.
- It will name all parties involved, and can name their relationship to each other.
- Colonial deeds can name only a son-in-law, from which you'll find the daughter's married name.
- Deeds can point you to residences, where more records might be found.



- Cemeteries started in the back yard, and their records passed down through generations.
- Some were well managed. Some were abandoned. Some were moved. Some were plowed under without moving the deceased, and gravestones used for stone walls and foundations.
- Some people were buried where they died (particularly in wars), and there is no cemetery.
- Today, cemeteries are typically managed by a town or city, and some by private businesses. Some are still found in farm fields and deep in the woods.
- Some gravestones list occupation (like minister). Some list entire families, whether buried there or not.
- Check the cemetery office: who bought the lot, when, and who else is buried in that lot.
- Check who else is buried in this cemetery. Families tended to have lots in the same cemetery.
- Check if there are any transcribed epitaphs. May be the only source to prove burial place, or for illegible or no longer extant gravestones.
- Understand the cemetery layout. Some have (or once had) established sections for infants, veterans, religions, etc.
- Engraved dates can be wrong. Without records, it may be all you get.
- Epitaphs can be personally descriptive, mournful, and even hilarious. Epitaphs were more common in prior centuries.
- All names on the gravestone are not necessarily father, mother, and children. It may be a grandchild, aunt, uncle,



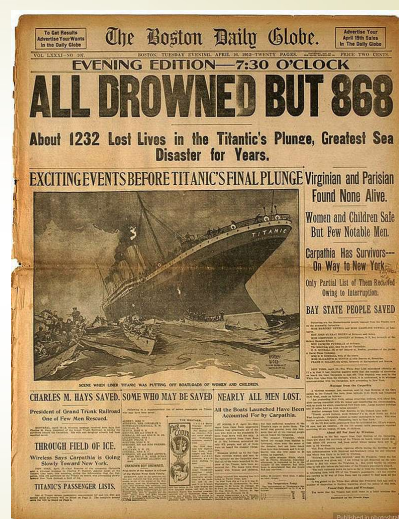
niece, nephew, even family friend or servant.

- Cenotaphs are a memorial to the deceased, not their burial site.
- There are published lists of those who died in military conflicts. These sometimes name where they're buried.
- FindAGrave has errors. Memorials are managed by volunteers, who may not have done the research, or no longer care (or alive) to manage the memorial.

## Newspapers

Contain a little of everything:

- Obituaries
- Land and probate notices
- Social columns
- Political ads
- Stories
- Engagement and wedding announcements



- Old newspapers can be a gold mine of genealogy information.
- In days of yore, they published articles about the everyday events of the community's residents: society columns, travels, personal tragedies, graduations, engagements and marriages; visiting family, and more.
- Newspapers report political races; business advertising; deed and probate actions; calamities; and life stories of notable residents.
- Obituaries and news stories can add great detail about your ancestor's life and family.

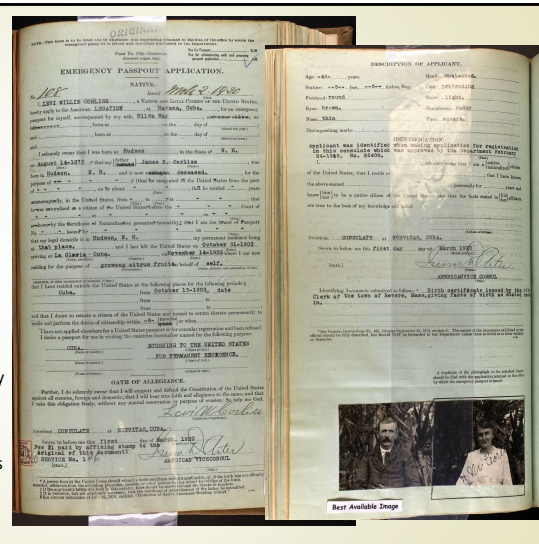
## Passports and Border Crossings

Passports contain details about the applicant:

- Destination, dates, and reasons
- Next of kin
- Nationality
- Who's accompanying them
- Photo

Border crossings:

- Vary widely dependent on the country and the crossing
- Typically include name, date, reason, origination, and destination
- Can also include names and addresses of home and destination



- Depending on the era, passport applications can include great genealogical detail.
- Typically includes the reason for going abroad.
- Can include how many times they've been abroad, and to where.
- May be the only place you find their photo.
- If repeatedly traveling to the same place, check for more family there.
- Border crossings may include where from, where to, the reason for crossing, who accompanies them, and name family and addresses in both places.

## Military Records

- First soldiers fought for a campaign, not the duration
- Record keeping improved with every war
- Records can be scattered
- Pension laws
- Local militia
- Military prisons
- Military cemeteries

42-29-A REGISTRAR'S REPORT

1. Submitter's name (last, first, middle) McBee

2. Date of report 1920

3. Name of person for whom report is made John Prince Boyd

4. Name of person who made report 220

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

Printed name John Prince Boyd

City or County Cooper

State Texas

Date 6/1/20

Form 1 215 REGISTRATION CARD 1298 33

1. Name in full John Prince Boyd

2. Name address Cooper Texas

3. Date of birth June 8 1890

4. Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? Natural Born

5. Where were you born? Cooper Texas U.S.A.

6. If not a citizen, at what country are you a citizen or subject?

7. What is your present occupation, or office? Farmer & Stock Raiser

8. By whom employed? Self

9. Where employed? Cooper Texas R.T.

10. Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 18, or a sister or brother under 18, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? wife 1 child

11. Married or single (which)? married Name (specify which)? Camelia

12. What military service have you had? Rank None Branch X

Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? under child exemption

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

John Prince Boyd

World War I draft registration card

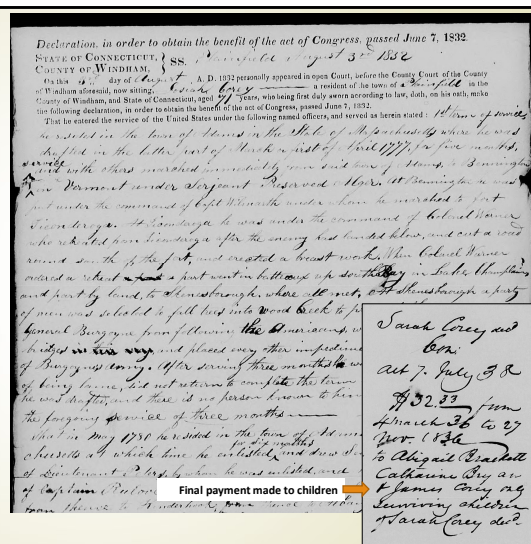
- Colonial and early American soldiers signed up for a campaign, not a period of time, or “the duration of the war.”
- These can be pieced together from muster or pay rolls, equipment lists, etc.
- Be careful of same names and places—father, son, uncle, nephew, all of same name and same town.
- In 1818, Congress created a pension for Revolutionary War veterans—only for disabled soldiers at first, and later, all soldiers and their widows.
- Not all were still living by then. Not all the living, or those eligible, applied.
- States maintained the lists of pension payments. Date of death is likely when payment stopped, although check if moved to another location.
- Be careful of Sons/Daughters of the American Revolution application. These were completed with best available information at the time. Check if application was accepted for membership.
- War of 1812 is less well documented. These are mostly found in town records, and can be confused with service in local militias.
- Civil War pensions were initially for disabled veterans only. Over decades, Congress revised the rules until all veterans, widows, orphans, and dependents (could be parents) could apply.
- Check military prison and cemetery records, both union and confederate.

- The Selective Service Act passed in 1917. There were three draft registrations for World War I, totaling about 24 million cards. Some versions of this card included a cut-off corner to identify African Americans.
- World War II draft registrations began in 1940. There were six registrations for men aged 18-65. A number of states destroyed these draft cards after the war.
- Not all men who registered for the draft actually served.
- Both draft registrations included requests for exemptions. These were typically requested to support dependent family, or because of physical impairment.

## Military Pension Files

Pension application files can include:

- Personal affidavits from soldier, family, friends, and neighbors
- Personal details (gunshot, lost an eye)
- Certificates of birth, marriage, death
- Affidavits of personal circumstances
- Family bible pages
- Newspaper clippings
- Letter, deeds, wills
- Muster rolls
- Company pay records
- Battle rosters
- Applications of widow, orphans, and dependents
- Bounties paid

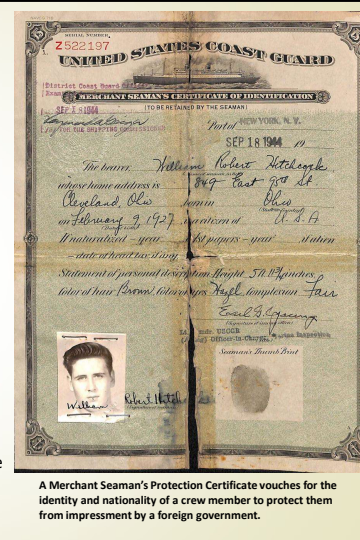


- Military pension files can be a genealogy gold mine.
- Applicants were required to prove service. Typically, this will be the soldier's affidavit describing enlistment(s), locations, commanders, battles, etc.
- Affidavit details were verified by pay rolls, muster rolls, and by affidavits of officers, fellow soldiers, family, friends, and neighbors.
- Dependents were required to prove relationship: birth, marriage, or death record, affidavit from a midwife, etc.
- Can describe medical conditions (lost an eye, gunshot, amputated leg, etc.), and current circumstances (unable to work, poor, etc.).
- Can include bounties paid for service.
- Pension files can include original pages from the family bible; marriage records; midwife's affidavit of a birth; doctor's affidavit of a death; and more.
- Ancestry.com has records of Veterans homes. These detail their service; health issues; date(s) of admission and discharge; next of kin; and if they died there, date and cause of death, and place of burial.

## Maritime Records (Merchant Seamen)

Ship logbooks detail:

- Name of vessel and master
- Name of home port
- Crewmen and their ratings
- Dates of voyage and ports of call
- Impressed seamen
- Lighthouses
- Accidents, infractions, illnesses, births, marriages, deaths
- Cargo manifests
  - Logbooks are arranged by port, then vessel name
  - Not one repository has all the records
  - The Great Lakes have their own maritime database
  - Merchant Seaman's Protection Certificate



- Sometimes kids left the farm and went to sea, disappearing for years, and sometimes forever.
- Maritime records may be the only place you find record of them: died at sea; AWOL on the Gold Coast; impressed on a British ship; cast away in the Caribbean; ship wrecked in Newfoundland; etc.
- Logbooks are kept by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and various maritime museums.
- Pay attention to often-visited ports of call. There could be family there.

## Social Security

- Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)
- Established in 1935
- Some people never applied
- Today, numbers are issued at birth
- SSNs were originally issued by region
- Request copies under the Freedom of Information Act
- Details on copies for living people may have redactions
- Social Security Death Index

Form SS-5 (10-2021) IF Use (11-2019) IF Unit Stock Is Exhausted Page 5 of 5  
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION OMB No. 0969-0096

### Application for a Social Security Card

<b>1 NAME</b> TO BE SHOWN ON CARD FULL NAME AT BIRTH IF OTHER THAN ABOVE		First	Middle Initial	Last
OTHER NAMES USED				
<b>2</b> Social Security number previously assigned to the person listed in item 1				
<b>3 PLACE OF BIRTH</b> (Do Not Abbreviate) City		State or Foreign Country	Office Use Only	<b>4 DATE OF BIRTH</b> MM/DD/YYYY
<b>5 CITIZENSHIP</b> (Check One)		<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Citizen	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal Alien Allowed To Work	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal Alien Not Allowed To Work (See Instructions On Page 3)
<b>6 ETHNICITY</b> Are You Hispanic or Latino? (Your Response Is Voluntary)		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>7 RACE</b> Select One or More (Your Response Is Voluntary)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander
		<input type="checkbox"/> Alaska Native	<input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American	<input type="checkbox"/> White
<b>8 SEX</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female	
<b>A. PARENT/ MOTHER'S NAME AT HER BIRTH</b>		First	Middle Initial	Last
<b>9 B. PARENT/ MOTHER'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER</b> (See Instructions for 10b on Page 3)				<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
<b>A. PARENT/ FATHER'S NAME</b>		First	Middle Initial	Last
<b>10 B. PARENT/ FATHER'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER</b> (See Instructions for 10b on Page 3)				<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
<b>11</b> Has the person listed in item 1 or anyone acting on his/her behalf ever filed for or received a Social Security number card before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If "yes" answer questions 12-13) <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't Know (If "don't know," skip to question 14.)				
<b>12</b> Name shown on the most recent Social Security card issued for the person		First	Middle Initial	Last
<b>13</b> Enter any different date of birth if used on an earlier application for a card				
<b>14 TODAY'S DATE</b> MM/DD/YYYY		<b>15 DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER</b> Area Code Number		
<b>16 MAILING ADDRESS</b> (Do Not Abbreviate) Street Address, Apt. No., PO Box, Rural Route No. City State Foreign Country ZIP Code				
<b>17 YOUR SIGNATURE</b>				
<b>18 YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE PERSON IN ITEM 1 IS:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Self <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Or Adopted Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Guardian <input type="checkbox"/> Other Specify				

(I declare under penalty of perjury that I have examined all the information on this form, and on any accompanying statements or forms, and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.)

- Some people never applied for Social Security: the self-employed, farmers, housewives, etc.
- Social Security Death Index gives scant detail. Place of death means only where the last check was sent, not place of death.
- Ancestry.com now has more SSN details from Form SS-5: parents names, date and place of birth and death. Again, death place is where last check was sent.
- You can request a copy of a completed Form SS-5 from Social Security under the Freedom of Information Act.
- If the SSN's applicant is still living, some details may be redacted.



## Ship Manifests

- From Mayflower to ~1634, included details of passengers
- After 1634, captains only counted heads
- Modern era passenger manifests contain great detail

U.S. DEPT. OF LABOR

LIST OR MANIFEST OF ALIEN PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED STATES

ALL ALIENS arriving at a port of continental United States from a foreign port or a port of the insular possessions of the United States, and all aliens arriving at a port of said insular possessions from a foreign port, a port of continental United States, or a port of the insular possessions of the United States, shall file this (yellow) sheet in the listing of

S. S. "LA TOURAINE" Passengers sailing from HAVRE SEP 13 1920 191

NAME IN FULL		Age	Sex	Calling or occupation	Abilities	Nationality, Country of birth, or subject	Race or people	Last permanent residence		Final destination	
Family name	Given name	Yrs. Res.	Mar.	Prof. or occ.	Ind.	Yes	No	Country	City or town	The name and complete address of nearest relative or friend in country whence alien came	State
de QUELLET	Augustin	37	m	Prof. adyces	French	yes	French	ILL.	Chicago	Mother Mrs. de Colligny, Flat 2111, Chicago, 16 at Lyon (France)	Ill.
de QUELLET	Auguste	28	f	w Dressmak	"	"	"	France	Paris	Friend Mrs. de Colligny, Flat 2111, Chicago, 16 at Lyon (France)	Ill.
de QUELLET	Auguste	29	f	m None	"	"	"	Greek	French	Mother Mrs. de Colligny, Flat 2111, Chicago, 16 at Lyon (France)	Ill.
de QUELLET	Auguste	21	f	m None	"	"	"	"	"	Mother Mrs. de Colligny, Flat 2111, Chicago, 16 at Lyon (France)	Ill.
de QUELLET	Auguste	18	f	m None	"	"	"	"	"	Mother Mrs. de Colligny, Flat 2111, Chicago, 16 at Lyon (France)	Ill.
de QUELLET	Auguste	15	f	m None	"	"	"	"	"	Mother Mrs. de Colligny, Flat 2111, Chicago, 16 at Lyon (France)	Ill.

- For about 14 years after the Mayflower landed in 1620, ship manifests listed the names, ages, and relationships of those aboard.
- After 1634, immigration became a flood, and ships headed for New England typically logged only a head count.
- Various since then, ship manifests include more detail about the people on board.
- National Archives & Records Administration (NARA) keeps passenger manifests between about 1820 up to the mid-twentieth century.
- Caution: sometimes people were crossed off a manifest because they didn't show up, which may be because they took a different ship.
- Check manifests for alternate spellings and similar surnames—could be traveling with more family.
- Ellis Island did spell names phonetically. Immigrants also altered their names.
- This 1920 manifest includes passenger name, age, relationship, nationality, occupation, last permanent residence, nearest relative in the country they left, and final destination.

## Naturalization

Naturalization applications have been processed since 1790

Applications contain the best genealogy detail

Index cards indicate when and where to find the naturalization record

No. 5703301

Name DIMITRIADIS Apostolos George

residing at 67 Billerica Ave. North Billerica

Aug. 15, 1899

Age 53 years. Date of order of admission Dec. 21, 1942

Date certificate issued Dec. 21, 1942 by the

U.S. District Court at Boston, Massachusetts

Petition No. 242176 3506969

*Apostolos George Dimitriadis*

ORIGINAL  
(To be retained by  
Clerk of Court)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA No. 242176

PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION  
(Under General Provisions of the Nationality Act of 1940 (Public Law, No. 85, 76th Cong.))

To the Honorable the U.S. District Court of Massachusetts at Boston

The petitioner for naturalization, hereby makes and swears, respectively, that:

(1) My full, true, and correct name is Apostolos George Dimitriadis

(2) I am 35 years of age; born on Aug. 15, 1899 at Billerica, Mass.

(3) My present residence is at 67 Billerica Ave. North Billerica, Mass.

(4) I was born of legitimate parents, both of whom were legitimate persons, and my father's name is George Dimitriadis and my mother's name is Anna Dimitriadis.

(5) My father was born on Jan. 1, 1865 at Billerica, Mass. and my mother was born on Jan. 1, 1865 at Billerica, Mass.

(6) I have been married to Anna Dimitriadis on Jan. 1, 1915 at Boston, Mass. and she is now living with me at 67 Billerica Ave. North Billerica, Mass.

(7) I have no other living wife or husband.

(8) I have no other living children.

(9) I have been a resident of the United States for the last five years, and I have been a resident of the District of Massachusetts for the last year.

(10) I have been a member of the U.S. Army from 1917 to 1918 and I have been a member of the U.S. Navy from 1918 to 1919.

(11) I have been a member of the U.S. Marine Corps from 1919 to 1920.

(12) I have been a member of the U.S. Air Force from 1920 to 1921.

(13) I have been a member of the U.S. Coast Guard from 1921 to 1922.

(14) I have been a member of the U.S. Customs Service from 1922 to 1923.

(15) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Justice from 1923 to 1924.

(16) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Education from 1924 to 1925.

(17) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 1925 to 1926.

(18) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1926 to 1927.

(19) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 1927 to 1928.

(20) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 1928 to 1929.

(21) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 1929 to 1930.

(22) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 1930 to 1931.

(23) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 1931 to 1932.

(24) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 1932 to 1933.

(25) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 1933 to 1934.

(26) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 1934 to 1935.

(27) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1935 to 1936.

(28) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 1936 to 1937.

(29) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 1937 to 1938.

(30) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 1938 to 1939.

(31) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 1939 to 1940.

(32) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 1940 to 1941.

(33) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 1941 to 1942.

(34) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 1942 to 1943.

(35) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 1943 to 1944.

(36) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1944 to 1945.

(37) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 1945 to 1946.

(38) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 1946 to 1947.

(39) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 1947 to 1948.

(40) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 1948 to 1949.

(41) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 1949 to 1950.

(42) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 1950 to 1951.

(43) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 1951 to 1952.

(44) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 1952 to 1953.

(45) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1953 to 1954.

(46) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 1954 to 1955.

(47) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 1955 to 1956.

(48) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 1956 to 1957.

(49) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 1957 to 1958.

(50) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 1958 to 1959.

(51) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 1959 to 1960.

(52) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 1960 to 1961.

(53) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 1961 to 1962.

(54) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1962 to 1963.

(55) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 1963 to 1964.

(56) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 1964 to 1965.

(57) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 1965 to 1966.

(58) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 1966 to 1967.

(59) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 1967 to 1968.

(60) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 1968 to 1969.

(61) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 1969 to 1970.

(62) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 1970 to 1971.

(63) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1971 to 1972.

(64) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 1972 to 1973.

(65) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 1973 to 1974.

(66) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 1974 to 1975.

(67) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 1975 to 1976.

(68) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 1976 to 1977.

(69) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 1977 to 1978.

(70) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 1978 to 1979.

(71) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 1979 to 1980.

(72) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1980 to 1981.

(73) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 1981 to 1982.

(74) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 1982 to 1983.

(75) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 1983 to 1984.

(76) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 1984 to 1985.

(77) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 1985 to 1986.

(78) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 1986 to 1987.

(79) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 1987 to 1988.

(80) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 1988 to 1989.

(81) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1989 to 1990.

(82) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 1990 to 1991.

(83) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 1991 to 1992.

(84) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 1992 to 1993.

(85) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 1993 to 1994.

(86) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 1994 to 1995.

(87) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 1995 to 1996.

(88) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 1996 to 1997.

(89) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 1997 to 1998.

(90) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1998 to 1999.

(91) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 1999 to 2000.

(92) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2000 to 2001.

(93) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2001 to 2002.

(94) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2002 to 2003.

(95) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2003 to 2004.

(96) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2004 to 2005.

(97) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2005 to 2006.

(98) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2006 to 2007.

(99) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2007 to 2008.

(100) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2008 to 2009.

(101) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2009 to 2010.

(102) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2010 to 2011.

(103) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2011 to 2012.

(104) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2012 to 2013.

(105) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2013 to 2014.

(106) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2014 to 2015.

(107) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2015 to 2016.

(108) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2016 to 2017.

(109) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2017 to 2018.

(110) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2018 to 2019.

(111) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2019 to 2020.

(112) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2020 to 2021.

(113) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2021 to 2022.

(114) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2022 to 2023.

(115) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2023 to 2024.

(116) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2024 to 2025.

(117) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2025 to 2026.

(118) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2026 to 2027.

(119) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2027 to 2028.

(120) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2028 to 2029.

(121) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2029 to 2030.

(122) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2030 to 2031.

(123) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2031 to 2032.

(124) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2032 to 2033.

(125) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2033 to 2034.

(126) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2034 to 2035.

(127) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2035 to 2036.

(128) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2036 to 2037.

(129) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2037 to 2038.

(130) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2038 to 2039.

(131) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2039 to 2040.

(132) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2040 to 2041.

(133) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2041 to 2042.

(134) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2042 to 2043.

(135) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2043 to 2044.

(136) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2044 to 2045.

(137) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2045 to 2046.

(138) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2046 to 2047.

(139) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2047 to 2048.

(140) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2048 to 2049.

(141) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2049 to 2050.

(142) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2050 to 2051.

(143) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2051 to 2052.

(144) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2052 to 2053.

(145) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2053 to 2054.

(146) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2054 to 2055.

(147) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2055 to 2056.

(148) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2056 to 2057.

(149) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2057 to 2058.

(150) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2058 to 2059.

(151) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2059 to 2060.

(152) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2060 to 2061.

(153) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2061 to 2062.

(154) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2062 to 2063.

(155) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2063 to 2064.

(156) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2064 to 2065.

(157) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2065 to 2066.

(158) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2066 to 2067.

(159) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2067 to 2068.

(160) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2068 to 2069.

(161) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2069 to 2070.

(162) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2070 to 2071.

(163) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2071 to 2072.

(164) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2072 to 2073.

(165) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2073 to 2074.

(166) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2074 to 2075.

(167) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2075 to 2076.

(168) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2076 to 2077.

(169) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2077 to 2078.

(170) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2078 to 2079.

(171) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2079 to 2080.

(172) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2080 to 2081.

(173) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2081 to 2082.

(174) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2082 to 2083.

(175) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2083 to 2084.

(176) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2084 to 2085.

(177) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2085 to 2086.

(178) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2086 to 2087.

(179) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2087 to 2088.

(180) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2088 to 2089.

(181) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2089 to 2090.

(182) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2090 to 2091.

(183) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2091 to 2092.

(184) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2092 to 2093.

(185) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2093 to 2094.

(186) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2094 to 2095.

(187) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2095 to 2096.

(188) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2096 to 2097.

(189) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2097 to 2098.

(190) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2098 to 2099.

(191) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2099 to 2100.

(192) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2100 to 2101.

(193) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2101 to 2102.

(194) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2102 to 2103.

(195) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2103 to 2104.

(196) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2104 to 2105.

(197) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2105 to 2106.

(198) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2106 to 2107.

(199) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2107 to 2108.

(200) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2108 to 2109.

(201) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2109 to 2110.

(202) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2110 to 2111.

(203) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2111 to 2112.

(204) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2112 to 2113.

(205) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2113 to 2114.

(206) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2114 to 2115.

(207) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2115 to 2116.

(208) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2116 to 2117.

(209) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2117 to 2118.

(210) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2118 to 2119.

(211) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2119 to 2120.

(212) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2120 to 2121.

(213) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2121 to 2122.

(214) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2122 to 2123.

(215) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2123 to 2124.

(216) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2124 to 2125.

(217) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2125 to 2126.

(218) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2126 to 2127.

(219) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2127 to 2128.

(220) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2128 to 2129.

(221) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2129 to 2130.

(222) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2130 to 2131.

(223) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2131 to 2132.

(224) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2132 to 2133.

(225) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2133 to 2134.

(226) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce from 2134 to 2135.

(227) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Labor from 2135 to 2136.

(228) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare from 2136 to 2137.

(229) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 2137 to 2138.

(230) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation from 2138 to 2139.

(231) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Energy from 2139 to 2140.

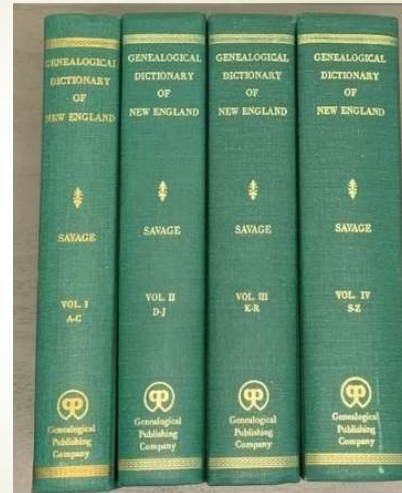
(232) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Environment from 2140 to 2141.

(233) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2141 to 2142.

(234) I have been a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2142</

### Published Histories and Genealogies

- Name a topic—there's a book
- Be careful!
- Research the author
- Look up the author's sources
- Look for more sources



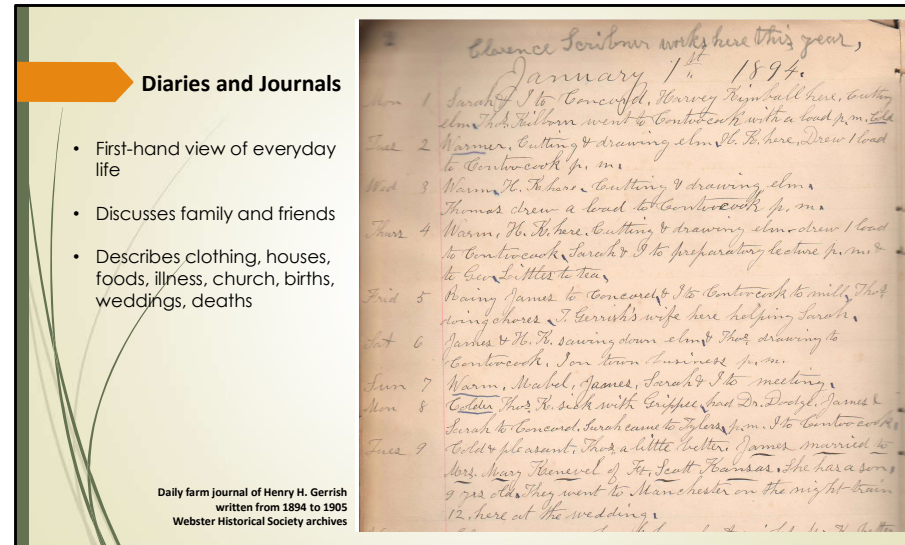
- Be careful here. Who's the author? Is this a first-hand account? Contains source citations? A compilation of someone's memory?
- There are known frauds: Gustave Anjou (1863-1942), published hundreds of fraudulent pedigrees. These were exposed decades later, but by then, included in other published works.
- Many details of Savage's Genealogical Dictionary of New England have been corrected by the research of later authors.
- New England Historic Genealogical Society has published the Register since 1847. Some articles have later been refuted based on new research.
- The best publications are heavily footnoted with source citations to vital records you can check for yourself.
- Other publications just bring life to family stories: New England Warnings Out; cemetery gravestone inscriptions; newspaper articles.
- Do your homework. Be careful not to pass something wrong to future generations.

[illegible]

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and more.

- 1910 census dropped date of birth; asked for number of times married; number of children and number still living (women only); veteran (Union or Confederate); and more.
- 1920 census dropped number of children.
- 1930 census asked about employment; veteran status.
- 1940 census dropped parents' place of birth, and asked for residence on 1 April 1935.
- 1950 census had more questions on housing.
- The American census is released to the public after 70 years.
- Separate schedules have been taken for Indian Reservations and American possessions: American Samoa, Alaska, Guam, Hawaii, Panama Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, and small overseas island possessions.
- There are also various slave and agricultural censuses.
- Various states have held their own censuses between the federal census years. Iowa's 1925 census includes parents' names, mother's maiden name, and place of their marriage.



- These can be hard to find, and precious to have.
- Gives a first-hand view of daily life: how they lived; what they thought, ate, liked, disliked, traded, and wore; their social events, occupations, accomplishments, friends and neighbors; and so much more.


## Local Libraries and Historical Societies

Here you'll find unique treasures

- Manuscripts, journals, diaries
- Photos
- Histories of homes and residents
- Family bibles
- Cemeteries and death lists
- Town reports
- Town histories
- Genealogies
- Old houses
- And so much more!

### Webster Historical Society, NH

*Preservation engages the past in a conversation with the present over a mutual concern for the future. William Mortagh*



Home The Society Contributions & Support Contact Us Website Albums Archive Info Genealogy Statistics & Stories  
Town Reports and Webster History Links

#### Old Meeting House, 1220 Battle Street, Webster, NH

The Society for the Preservation of the Old Meeting House in Webster, NH  
doing business as Webster Historical Society [d/b/a certificate](#)  
(Mailing address: Webster Historical Society, 1215 Battle Street, Webster, NH)

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Silent Auction has started!

Now through March 18 at 7 pm. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. Every dime is

Support the Webster Historical Society!

Donate

Non-profit Organization  
The Society for the Preservation of the Old Meeting House in Webster, NH has been a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization since 1985.

- Historical societies search for and preserve local history of every kind.
- People clearing houses drop boxes of unknown or unwanted photos, books, clothing, newspapers, and more, at their local historical society.
- Societies search for and preserve local history.
- Many New England towns have their own historical society.
- The New Hampshire Historical Society.

## Hiring a Professional

- Can break that “brick wall”
- Far less expensive than a plane ticket and hotel
- Professional researchers know where records are housed
- Experienced reading local languages and antique language structure

The screenshot shows the National Archives website. At the top, there's a header 'Independent Researchers Available for Hire'. Below it, a pink box contains the text: 'National Archives Operations. Research rooms are open to the public by appointment only. Please refer to our Frequently Asked Questions for additional information. The National Archives Museum in Washington, DC, and Presidential Library museums are open. Find our hours of operation on each museum's website.' Below this, the section 'Independent Researchers Available for Hire' is repeated. It states: 'The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) staff is available to provide some reference assistance to you. However, if you find that you require extensive research assistance at NARA facilities, we offer you the following lists of researchers who are available for hire. (Note: Researchers for hire are not NARA employees.) You may also visit our facilities and access some common databases like Ancestry.com for free.' Underneath, there's a section 'Find a researcher by:' with a list of links: 'Research Topic Specialty', 'Media Type Specialty', 'Presidential Records', and 'State and Facility Location'.

- Sometimes, hiring a professional can break that brick wall.
- Look for someone local to the area you’re searching, and specializing in the records you seek.
- Local researchers know where the records are kept, and experienced with local languages and antique language structure.
- Write a clear description of what you’re searching for, and set a not-to-exceed amount of hours or dollars.
- If that proves successful, you might authorize more time.
- Both the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) and National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) offer professional researchers for their collections.
- Be careful of those you find on-line.




### Where Are The Records

- Ancestry.com (subscription)
- LDS church: familysearch.org (free)
- Massachusetts Vital Records: ma-vitalrecords.org (free)
- Historical societies:
  - New England Historic and Genealogical Society (NEHGS)
  - New Hampshire Historical Society (NHHS)
  - American-Canadian Genealogical Society (ACGS)
  - Ellis Island Foundation
  - Sons/Daughters of the American Revolution
  - General Society of Mayflower Descendants
  - Town and regional historical societies
- Federal government:
  - National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)
  - Library of Congress
  - Social Security Administration
  - Veterans Administration
- Military and pension records:
  - Fold3.com (subscription)
  - National Archives (NARA)
  - Veterans Administration
- Deeds: county Registry of Deeds
- Probate: county Probate Office
- Cemeteries:
  - FindAGrave.com
  - BillionGraves.com
  - Town government
  - Private companies
  - Historical societies
- Maritime:
  - National Archives (NARA)
  - National Maritime Museum
  - Coast Guard
  - Local and regional maritime museums
- Naturalization and Immigration:
  - Local or county court
  - State or regional archives
  - National Archives (NARA)
  - Immigration Services
  - Ancestry.com
- Newspapers:
  - Historical societies (NHHS)
  - Newspapers.com

And more!

- Lastly: a partial list of places to find the records.
- These are primarily areas for research in New England.
- Other regions of America and foreign countries will have other sources for records.
- There's an ever-increasing number of genealogy sites popping up all the time.
- Every site has their own collection of vital and other records.
- Be careful of family trees. The owner may be copying the work of others and not done the research. They can point direction for your own research.



## Questions?

Webster Historical Society

<https://WebsterHistoricalSociety.org>

<https://Webster-NH.net>

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