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## **Genealogy Pointers (05-19-2009)**

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### **New 3rd Edition (2009) of County Courthouse Book**

*Bentley's County Courthouse Book Now Contains Websites and E-Mail Addresses!*

The [County Courthouse Book](#), by Elizabeth Petty Bentley, is a concise guide to county courthouses and courthouse records. It is an important book because the genealogical researcher needs a reliable guide to American county courthouses, the main repositories of county records. To proceed in his investigations, the researcher needs current addresses and phone numbers, information about the coverage and availability of key courthouse records such as probate, land, naturalization, and vital records, and timely advice on the whole range of services available at the courthouse. Where available he will also need listings of current websites and e-mail addresses.

He will also need to know whether search services are provided, what fees are involved, and whether there are alternative locations for the records. And if he's a diligent researcher, he'll need to know something about the origins of the county itself—names of parent counties, dates of formation, former names, etc.

Such is the kind of guidebook required, and such is Elizabeth P. Bentley's [County Courthouse Book](#), now in its third edition, the first edition to provide websites and e-mail addresses. Besides its obvious genealogical uses, the [County Courthouse Book](#) can also be used for land title searches, legal investigations, questions of property rights and inheritance, and indeed personal searches and investigations of all kinds. But it is the genealogist who stands to benefit most from the book because it offers a concise guide to the county courthouses and courthouse records that are the main focus of his research.

This new 3rd edition of the [County Courthouse Book](#) is a complete overhaul of the 2nd edition of 1995, and it is up-to-date and more useful than ever.

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### **Courthouse Book Completes 2009 Trio of New Editions of Major Reference Books**

The new 3rd Edition of Elizabeth Bentley's [County Courthouse Book](#) is the key to unlocking the doors to an enormous cache of primary sources genealogists require to conduct their research. Most other primary and secondary sources of importance to family historians—manuscript collections, books, periodicals—are housed at repositories like public and university libraries, genealogical societies, historical societies, and museums. Mrs. Bentley identifies the holdings and operations of these institutions in her [Genealogist's Address Book](#).

Birth, marriage, death, and divorce records, however, are usually housed neither in courthouses nor in historical societies. Instead, genealogists must request them from vital records offices administered, for the

most part, by state or provincial governments. The [International Vital Records Handbook](#), by Thomas J. Kemp, provides genealogists with the addresses, websites, hours of operation, fees, and application forms for ordering vital records from jurisdictions throughout North America and the British Isles. It also provides contact information for inquiring about vital records from every other country in the world.

The [Address Book](#) and the [Vital Records Handbook](#), along with Mrs. Bentley's [Courthouse Book](#), constitute the three most valuable desk references genealogists require on a day-to-day basis. Like the [Courthouse Book](#), both of the other titles in this threesome have been updated and expanded during the first half of 2009. You will find details on these wonderful books below. Be sure to get your copies of these terrific directories while supplies last.

### **New 6th Edition of *The Genealogist's Address Book***

[The Genealogist's Address Book](#) is the answer to the perennial question, "What's out there in the world of genealogy?" What organizations, institutions, special resources, and websites can help me? Where do I write or phone or send e-mail? Once again, Elizabeth Bentley's [Address Book](#) answers these questions and more.

Now in its 6th edition, [The Genealogist's Address Book](#) gives you access to all the key sources of genealogical information, providing names, addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, e-mail addresses, websites, names of contact persons, and other pertinent information for more than 27,000 organizations, including libraries, archives, societies, government agencies, vital records offices, professional bodies, publications, research centers, and special interest groups.

Based on a written survey of thousands of organizations and institutions across the country, and supplemented by information from printed and Internet sources, the new 6th edition of the [Address Book](#) has been extensively revised and updated, eliminating undeliverable addresses and defunct organizations, while adding thousands of additional sources. Besides new websites and e-mail addresses, the 6th edition features greatly expanded coverage of archival agencies and vital records offices, especially in the New England states and New York. In addition, it is now easier to use than ever, with all 27,000 entries divided into two easy-to-follow sections.

The [Address Book](#) is the only comprehensive list of genealogical and historical resources available; the only book that places an exhaustive list of genealogy organizations at your fingertips, reducing searching to a matter of seconds. Since its first appearance in 1991, it has established itself as the most frequently consulted book on the genealogist's reference shelf—the one research tool that almost everybody uses. Through six editions it has proved itself indispensable, and is acclaimed by beginners and professionals alike. If you own any of the previous editions, you'll certainly want to own this one.

### **New! 5th Edition of the *International Vital Records Handbook***

At one time or another all of us need copies of birth, marriage, or death certificates for a driver's license, passport, job, Social Security, family history research, or for simple proof of identity. But the requirements and fees needed to obtain copies of vital records vary from state to state and from country to country, often requiring a time-wasting exchange of correspondence before the appropriate forms can be obtained. The new 5th edition of the [International Vital Records Handbook](#), by Thomas J. Kemp, puts an end to all that, as it offers complete, up-to-date information on how and where to request vital records. It also includes copies of the application forms, where available, thus simplifying and speeding up the process by which vital records are obtained.

The new 5th edition of the [International Vital Records Handbook](#) marks the first revision of this classic reference work since the year 2000. It contains the latest forms and information for each of the 50 states and also furnishes details about records that were created prior to statewide vital records registration. In addition, it identifies vital records collections, online databases, and institutions of interest to genealogy

researchers. Then, in alphabetical sequence, it covers the other countries of the world, giving, where available, the current application forms and instructions, as well as the key addresses of repositories or embassies that might help you obtain copies of vital records.

If you are doing genealogy research and are not eligible to access a restricted record, you may be able to obtain an "informational copy" of the record, which will contain all of the information found on the certified copy but will have a statement stamped on it saying that the document is for informational purposes only and cannot be used to establish identity. States that provide an informational copy for research are noted in this book. A number of searchable, free databases containing vital records are now available online, and many of these, too, are noted here, as well as specific repositories containing vital records collections that are accessible by genealogists.

The new 5th edition of the [International Vital Records Handbook](#) belongs on the bookshelf of every serious genealogist. It's a resource that you will consult over and over again. Access the link below to order your copy online today.

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### **One-Week Sale on New Jersey CDs & Books**

*(Until 11:59 PM, Monday, May 25, 2009)*

The colony of New Jersey, like those of New York and Pennsylvania, was one of North America's most ethnically and religiously diverse colonies. By the early 18th century, New Jersey had become a melting pot of Dutch, Swedish, Finnish, German, and British immigrants, as well as emigrants from Connecticut. The state was also known as a haven for Puritans, Quakers, Presbyterians, various German sects, and of course, Anglicans. Our collection of New Jersey CDs and books is derived from most of the basic books in New Jersey genealogy, including compiled genealogies, source records, or finding aids. Here's a synopsis of these outstanding values--but hurry to place your order because this offer expires before 11:59 PM, Monday, May 25, 2009:

#### **[GENEALOGIES OF NEW JERSEY FAMILIES \(CD\)](#)**

This Family Archive CD contains the two-volume set *Genealogies of New Jersey Families*. Referencing over 40,000 individuals who lived between the 1600s and 1800s, this collection is essential to anyone interested in New Jersey ancestry.

**Was \$39.99 Now \$29.99**

#### **[COLONIAL NEW JERSEY Source Records, 1600s to 1800s \(CD\)](#)**

This Family Archive CD includes the records of approximately 330,000 persons in a unique collection of church, court, marriage, land, military, and probate records. Made up of nine New Jersey reference works, this CD is the entry point for genealogical research in colonial New Jersey. Additionally, in light of the missing New Jersey census schedules for 1790-1820, this CD is probably the most important finding-aid available in this or any other format.

**Was \$39.99 Now \$29.99**

#### **[NEW JERSEY BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX](#)**

This Family Archive CD contains the *New Jersey Biographical Index* by Donald A. Sinclair, a comprehensive finding-aid for 100,000 New Jersey biographies. The *Index* includes biographical information from 237 collective sources, such as encyclopedias, histories with biographical components, certain annual reports and other serials, selected periodicals, and other collective biographical sources.

**Was \$39.99 Now \$29.99**

[THE EARLY GERMANS OF NEW JERSEY](#)

For over a century, Chambers' *Early Germans* has been the standard reference for genealogical research on families of northwestern New Jersey. In spite of its title, it is as useful for families of English, Scottish, or Dutch origin as for German. The bulk of the work is devoted to genealogies of families from the counties of Hunterdon, Morris, Sussex, and Warren and to genealogies of the early settlers of old Roxbury Township from Southold and Southampton.

**Was \$59.95 Now \$46.50**

[PATENTS AND DEEDS and Other Early Records of New Jersey, 1664-1703](#)

This monumental work contains abstracts of all the known surveys, patents, and deeds of Proprietary New Jersey (1664-1703). Thousands of documents pertaining to title and transfer of land are here sorted and calendared, each revealing the names of grantors and grantees, buyers and sellers, relatives and neighbors--most with references to specific places of residence--and further giving a precise description of the survey, including date, location, and acreage.

**Was \$60.00 Now \$41.95**

[NEW JERSEY MARRIAGE RECORDS, 1665-1800](#)

This work contains about 30,000 entries (15,000 marriages), giving place of residence and date of marriage. The marriages are arranged in two alphabets, male and female. Most of the data derives from marriage bonds and licenses, with some additional entries from marriage records of various churches.

**Was \$50.00 Now \$37.50**

[THIS OLD MONMOUTH OF OURS: History, Tradition, Biography, Genealogy Relating to Monmouth County, New Jersey](#) (Low in stock)

Originally published as a series of newspaper articles, this book is a mine of information on the history and genealogy of Monmouth County. Genealogists should delight in the author's treatment of nearly 100 Monmouth County families--from Ackerson to Yard.

**Was \$42.50 Now \$29.50**

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**Headley Goes Extra Mile for Northern Neck, Virginia, Marriages**

From time to time, we have marveled at the lengths to which some authors go to make their books comprehensive. For instance, how Dorothy Ford Wulfeck, in her multi-volume *Marriages of Some Virginia Residents, 1607-1800*, and Charles Hughes Hamlin, in *They Went Thataway* and its sequel, *Virginia Ancestors and Adventurers*, scoured a mountain of records to track the movements of settlers into and out of Virginia.

With the exception of Quaker records of removal, migration records as such do not exist. As Wulfeck and Hamlin demonstrated, the genealogist must reconstruct the pattern of migration from related sources, such as marriage records, deeds, and so on.

Migration is just one example of how conscientious researchers have compiled records where there appear to have been none. Piecing together the records of an entire county is exactly what Polly Cary Mason faced when she undertook to compile the genealogical records of Gloucester County, Virginia, nearly 60 years ago. This was a tall order since Gloucester had suffered the loss by fire of all of its court records prior to 1865. Undeterred, Mrs. Mason spent 10 years among the records of neighboring counties, the Virginia State Archives in Richmond, the College of William and Mary, and additional repositories in Virginia and other states and abroad to salvage the genealogical heritage of Gloucester and Mathews counties.

In the tradition of Dorothy Ford Wulfeck and Polly Mason, contemporary author Robert K. Headley, Jr., is a model of genealogical thoroughness. Each of his two earlier titles for GPC--*Wills of Richmond County, Virginia, 1699-1800* and the landmark *Genealogical Abstracts from 18th-Century Virginia Newspapers*--required that he be resourceful in finding alternative sources for missing records and in tracking down other widely scattered sources.

From this standpoint, Mr. Headley's most recent book, [Married Well and Often: Marriages of the Northern Neck of Virginia, 1649-1800](#), may be his most ambitious effort to date. As the book's subtitle (*Marriages and Marriage References for the Counties of Lancaster, Northumberland, Old Rappahannock, Richmond, and Westmoreland*) states, the volume encompasses all the licenses and bonds for the aforementioned counties. It also includes every reference to a Northern Neck county marriage that Headley could discover in wills, deeds, order books, and Bibles in both published and unpublished sources. The end result is a book that not only lists 7,000 marriages but also boasts an additional 16,000 index entries--making it far more than a simple marriage book.

In fact, [Married Well and Often](#) is a work with many unusual features. Besides the names of brides and grooms and the dates of marriage, entries may contain the names of parents, grandparents, former spouses, children of previous marriages, and other relations, as well as names of persons connected with the marriage, such as securities for the groom, guardians, and clergymen. In addition, parent and child relationships are spelled out, as are sibling relationships. There is also a wealth of incidental detail concerning illegitimate children, places of birth and residence, putative marriages, dates of death of one or more parents, exact spellings of names, and precise dates of marriage.

Obviously, if you have even a glimmer of interest in the Northern Neck of Virginia prior to 1800, this exhaustive work is bound to satisfy you. If you want to learn what a model of genealogical scholarship looks like, you have another reason to study Mr. Headley's [Married Well and Often: Marriages of the Northern Neck of Virginia, 1649-1800](#), or one of the others of related interest described below:

#### [RECORDS OF COLONIAL Gloucester County, Virginia. In Two Volumes](#)

This work is the result of Polly Cary Mason's prodigious effort to reconstruct the records of Gloucester County from other sources. Volume I cites a variety of land ownership or tax lists relating to Gloucester County, while the second volume focuses on the movement of Gloucester residents into neighboring counties, as evidenced in abstracts of deed books from those counties.

#### [MARRIAGES OF SOME VIRGINIA RESIDENTS, 1607-1800. 7 volumes in 4](#)

This landmark multi-volume work by Dorothy Ford Wulfeck, recently reissued by Clearfield Company, not only contains records of approximately 40,000 marriages with references to about a quarter-million individuals found in such traditional sources as parish registers, ministers' returns, and marriage bonds, it also draws information from Bible records, wills, deeds, court suits, and orphans' court records. Brides and grooms are listed in a single alphabetical sequence, and all other persons mentioned in the records are indexed separately. As a rule, the marriage records relate to three categories of people: (1) those who married before settling in Virginia, (2) those who married in Virginia, and (3) those who married after moving from Virginia to another colony or state--essential information for tracking the colonial origins of ancestors who removed to states like Kentucky, the Carolinas, Georgia, Tennessee, Missouri, and Indiana.

#### [THEY WENT THATAWAY \(Very low in stock\)](#)

Composed almost entirely of abstracts of wills, deeds, marriage records, powers of attorney, court orders, church records, cemetery records, tax records, guardianship accounts, etc., this unique work by Charles Hughes Hamlin provides substantive evidence of the migration of individuals and families to Virginia or from Virginia to other states, countries, or territories. Each record provides prima facie evidence of places of origin and removal, irrefutably linking individuals to both their old and new homes, and incidentally naming parents and kinsmen, all of whom (close on 10,000) are listed in the indexes.

[VIRGINIA ANCESTORS AND ADVENTURERS](#) (Low in stock)

Charles H. Hamlin's collection of genealogical vignettes derives from a variety of miscellaneous records and documents. Like the author's *They Went Thataway*, it attempts to prove, by a process of careful selection and evaluation, the Virginia connections of an individual or family, focusing exclusively on those persons who either moved to or from Virginia. This work confidently identifies thousands of migrant Virginia ancestors and thousands more of their kinsmen, all of whom are easily located by reference to the comprehensive indexes.

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**What's New at the Genealogy Warehouse for May**

Genealogy bargain hunters can choose from three local histories or source record collections newly added to our [Genealogy Warehouse](#). If your ancestors lived in Rowan County, WV, or Haverhill, MA, or if they were Presbyterians from Goshen, NY, you might discover them in one of the scarce reference works we have just deeply discounted.

The [Genealogy Warehouse](#), of course, is our bargain basement for genealogy books. Every one of the roughly 150 titles in the [Warehouse](#) has been permanently discounted by 40%, 50%, or more below its original cost. Since we are always adding new titles to the [Genealogy Warehouse](#), you may want to get in the habit of checking it out on a regular basis--especially since some of these markdowns are in short supply.

In addition to the three aforementioned local titles, we invite you to peruse the following list of eight Scottish volumes in the [Genealogy Warehouse](#) also featured this month. If your interests fall outside of Scotland, why not browse the complete collection of [Genealogy Warehouse](#) titles at:  
[http://www.genealogical.com/content/products\\_warehouse.html&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/content/products_warehouse.html&NLC-GenPointers1)

**\*\*New Titles for May\*\***

**\*\*[ROWAN COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA FAMILIES](#)\*\***

Bishop's *History of Roane County* is the standard work on its subject, but its chief appeal to the genealogist can be found in the hundreds of genealogical and historical essays of pioneer families of Roane County that comprise the second half of the work and are reprinted here as a separate volume.

**Was \$30.00 Now \$16.95**

**\*\*[THE HISTORY OF HAVERHILL \[Massachusetts\] from Its First Settlement, in 1640, to the Year 1860](#)\*\***

This narrative history is richly interspersed with genealogical and biographical essays of prominent citizens, lists of voters, militia companies, signatories to various documents, tax lists, householders in 1798, etc.

**Was \$62.95 Now \$36.50**

**\*\*[THE EARLY RECORDS of the First Presbyterian Church at Goshen, New York, from 1767 to 1885](#)\*\***

This transcription of births, marriages, and deaths from the records of the First Presbyterian Church is of importance because no public vital records exist for Orange County before the mid-19th century. Goshen, the county seat, was founded only two generations after the county's inception.

**Was \$25.00 Now \$14.95**

**\*\*Scottish Titles in the Genealogy Warehouse\*\***

[SCOTS IN THE USA AND CANADA, 1825-1875. Part One](#) (Very low in stock)

Between 1825 and 1838 more than 60,000 emigrants left Scotland bound for North America; from 1840 to 1853, nearly 30,000 emigrated from there; and in 1881 alone, 38,000 left for the U.S. and 3,000 left for Canada, mostly via Greenock. This book contains about 1,500 brief sketches of Scottish men and women and their families who were a part of this great exodus. David Dobson's findings come mostly from Scottish newspapers as well as from a handful of documents in the National Archives of Scotland. Data invariably gives, besides the individual's full name, the place of residence (country, state/province, or city), an identifying date, and the source of the information. In addition, many of the entries indicate the individual's date of birth, father's name and occupation or place of residence, spouse, or the name of the vessel upon which he/she arrived.

**Was \$14.50 Now \$8.50**

[SCOTTISH FAMILY HISTORY](#)

Author David Moody examines the Scottish family in relation to the great movements of local history, while providing instruction on the sources and techniques needed for successful family history research. Trades, professions, religions, clans and surnames, migration and emigration, labor and industry, kin and community--all are dealt with in the intimate context of family history. So, too, are the conventional sources of genealogical data such as church records, memoirs, and government records.

**Was \$19.95 Now \$10.95**

[SCOTS IN THE MID-ATLANTIC COLONIES, 1635-1783](#)

This work identifies some 3,000 Scots who settled in the mid-Atlantic colonies prior to the Revolutionary War. Scottish settlement in the middle colonies of America dates from the early 17th century, and David Dobson demonstrates that, even before the establishment of English colonies in that region in the 1660s, a number of Scots pioneers were living with the Dutch settlers of New Netherland and probably also in the Swedish settlements along the Delaware River.

**Was \$25.00 Now \$14.95**

[SCOTS IN THE MID-ATLANTIC STATES, 1783-1883](#)

Naming 3,000 Scots immigrants to the mid-Atlantic region, this book covers the hundred years immediately following the Revolutionary War. It provides a series of sketches giving such information as the immigrant's place and date of birth and death, occupation, date of arrival and place of settlement in the U.S., and names of spouse and children.

**Was \$25.00 Now \$14.95**

[SCOTS ON THE CHESAPEAKE, 1607-1830](#)

David Dobson here attempts to bring together all available references to Scots in Maryland and Virginia from sources scattered throughout Great Britain and North America. The result is an exhaustive list of several thousand Scots known to have been in the Chesapeake region between 1607 and 1830, including, where known, details of birth, marriage, and death, occupation, age, date of emigration, place of settlement, and family relationships.

**Was \$20.00 Now \$11.95**

[SCOTTISH-AMERICAN Court Records, 1733-1783](#)

Evidence of the settlement of Scots in America exists in a wide range of documentary sources in Scotland, including the records of the Scottish court. This work is a digest of such evidence, as it is based on the minute books of the Court of Session (the highest civil court) and those of the High Court of the Admiralty (which had jurisdiction in all seafaring and maritime cases) for the period 1733 to 1783. In essence, it identifies those people resident in North America who were engaged in litigation in Scotland and whose

cases came before the aforementioned courts.

**Was \$18.00 Now \$11.00**

[THE ORIGINAL SCOTS COLONISTS of Early America. Caribbean Supplement, 1611-1707](#)

It is believed that as many as 5,000 Scots settled temporarily or permanently in the Caribbean before the Act of Union in 1707. Many of the colonists used the islands as a stopping-off point before continuing on to the mainland of America, where they then settled. Alexander Hamilton and Theodore Roosevelt are numbered among those who descend from Scots who initially settled in the Caribbean. This supplement contains data that expands on some of the information found in David Dobson's earlier book *The Original Scots Colonists of Early America, 1612-1783*. It also contains completely new information gleaned from recent research.

**Was \$20.00 Now \$12.00**

[SCOTS IN LATIN AMERICA](#)

Emigration from Scotland to Latin America began in earnest following the end of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815. In this volume on Scottish emigration, David Dobson enumerates the members of this exodus. Mr. Dobson's findings are based on primary sources in Scotland, especially documents in archives, newspapers, and cemetery transcriptions. While there is considerable variance from description to description, each entry identifies the passenger by country (and sometimes city) of origin, a date when the immigrant was known to have resided in Latin America, and the source of the information. Mr. Dobson's Scotsmen turn up in a number of Latin American countries, including Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, British Guiana, Chile, Colombia, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

**Was \$14.95 Now \$7.95**

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**Blog: Interview with Drew Smith**

Everyone is talking about Drew Smith's groundbreaking new book, [Social Networking for Genealogists](#), including the editor of our blog, Carolyn Barkley. You can read an interview with author Drew Smith on our blog, [genealogyandfamilyhistory.com](#), today!

*Note: This newsletter includes time-sensitive special offers previously announced only to e-mail subscribers of Genealogical.com's Genealogy Pointers. To sign up for this free weekly newsletter, [click here](#).*

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To order other than online, you can:

1. Order by mail: 3600 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 260 - Baltimore, Maryland 21211-1953

2. Fax your order to 1-410-752-8492
3. Call toll-free to our sales department at 1-800-296-6687