

Genealogy Pointers: (November 2, 2010)

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Featured Publications for November

We are closing out our 2010 publishing program with a bang this November (we do not publish any books in December).

For starters, we are initiating a new series of laminated, "Genealogy at a Glance" research aids with a terrific guide to Irish genealogy by Brian Mitchell, and we are continuing a second series with a new *Quicksheet* by Elizabeth Shown Mills on African-American sources. When it comes to new books, we have a major work on Scottish immigration records, as well as an entirely new compilation of runaway servant notices from colonial newspapers. We have reissued the magnum opus on the founding families of colonial Virginia, *Adventurers of Purse and Person, Virginia, 1607-1624/25*, Fourth Edition, by John Frederick Dorman. Virginia researchers will be glad to learn that we have received permission to reprint Malcolm Harris's fine, but long out-of-print, history of Louisa County.

Even our classic reprints for November will be a sought-after group among serious researchers. Now available is a three-volume work on the English origins of colonial New England families. So is the long out-of-print, two-volume *History of Baltimore City and County*, by J. Thomas Scharf. Other reprints cover New York, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Alabama, other localities in Virginia, and Revolutionary War records.

Following is a complete list of our featured titles for November. Immediately below is a link to the page on our website where you'll find short descriptions of each:

http://www.genealogical.com/content/products_new_genealogy.html

- [*Genealogy at a Glance: Irish Genealogy Research*](#), by Brian Mitchell
- [*QuickSheet: Citing Online African-American Historical Sources*](#), by Elizabeth Shown Mills
- *Adventurers of Purse and Person, Virginia, 1607-1624/25*, Fourth Edition. In Three Volumes, by John Frederick Dorman
[*Volume One, Families A-F*](#)

[Volume Two, Families G-P](#)
[Volume Three, Families R-Z](#)

- [*A History of Louisa County, Virginia*](#), by Malcolm Harris
- [*Directory of Scots Banished to the American Plantations, 1650-1775*](#). New 2nd Edition, by David Dobson
- [*"Drinks hard, and swears much" White Maryland Runaways, 1770-1774*](#), by Joseph Lee Boyle
- [*Abstracts of Carteret County, North Carolina Deed Books A-F, 1713-1759*](#), by John Anderson Brayton
- [*Records of the Revolutionary War Third Edition. \[Bound with:\] Index to Saffell's List of Virginia Soldiers in the Revolution, by J.T. McAllister*](#), by William T.R. Saffell
- [*English Origins of New England Families from The New England Historical and Genealogical Register. First Series*](#)
- [*Genealogical Data from Colonial New York Newspapers. A Consolidation of Articles from The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*](#), by Kenneth Scott
- [*The Pennsylvania-German in the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783*](#), by Henry M. M. Richards
- [*History of Baltimore City and County \[Maryland\]*](#), by John Thomas Scharf
- [*Some Emigrants to Virginia. Memoranda in Regard to Several Hundred Emigrants to Virginia During the Colonial Period whose Parentage is Shown or Former Residence Indicated by Authentic Records*](#), by William G. Stanard
- [*A History of Orange County, Virginia*](#), by William W. Scott
- [*The Quit Rents of Virginia, 1704*](#), by Annie Laurie Wright Smith
- [*Some Cemetery Records of Abbeville County, South Carolina*](#), by South Carolina WPA
- [*Early Georgia Wills and Settlements of Estates: Wilkes County*](#), by Sarah Quinn Smith
- [*Early Settlers of Alabama, by James Edmonds Saunders. With "Notes and Genealogies,"*](#) by Elizabeth Saunders Blair Stubbs

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72-Hour Sale on Midwestern CDs & Books: Part Two

Last week we discounted a number of popular CDs and books containing records or compiled

genealogies from the states of the American Midwest. Here are nine more Midwestern titles for you to consider, each a major reference on its topic. The CD and books described below underscore the importance of land and census records--as well as published county histories--for genealogy research in the Midwestern states during the first half of the 19th century. For the rest of this day and all of the next two days (until 11:59 p.m. EDT, Thursday, November 4, 2010) you can purchase them for 25-30% or more below their original retail prices.

[Early Ohio Settlers \(CD\)](#)

This CD collection of Ohio genealogical records refers to approximately 165,000 individuals and contains everything from vital records to the biographies that bring your Ohio research to life. Based on marriage records, cemetery inscriptions, genealogies, censuses, biographical sketches, tax lists, newspaper abstracts, and vital records, it is the gold standard for traditional genealogical source records. Not surprisingly, many of these records date from as early as 1787, when the Northwest Territory was opened to settlement, or from 1803, when Ohio became a state. Indexed.

Was \$39.99 Now \$25.99

[Genealogical Research in Ohio. 2nd Edition](#)

This expanded and revised version of *Genealogical Research in Ohio*, by noted genealogical scholar Kip Sperry, examines the holdings of the major Ohio archives and libraries, covering everything from church records to divorce records, from periodicals to probates, and from tax records to town records. So thorough is the coverage that it even includes a 123-page bibliography of Ohio books and periodicals, the most comprehensive survey of Ohio printed genealogical sources ever published. New to this Second Edition are Ohio sources on compact disc and the Internet, as well as many additional genealogical and historical sources and a greatly expanded bibliography.

Was \$39.50 Now \$27.50

[Gateway to the West. In Two Volumes](#)

Gateway to the West, a periodical published from 1967 to 1978, covered some of the least accessible but most important genealogical records of 76 of Ohio's 88 counties. For this two-volume consolidated reprint of the periodical, the articles are arranged under their respective counties. Some 350 articles name more than 95,000 persons in records ranging from Adams County to Wood County, from court records to church records, and from township records to cemetery records. In all, a priceless body of material!

Was \$165.00/set Now \$105.95/set

[Early Narratives of the Northwest 1634-1699](#)

This volume contains personal narratives of the voyages of the discoverers and founders of the French empire in North America--Jolliet and Marquette, La Salle, Nicolet, Perrot, Radisson, Tonty, and other pioneers in the Great Lakes and Mississippi areas.

Was \$29.95 Now \$19.95

[Kentuckians in Illinois](#)

Many of the early settlers of Illinois moved there originally from Kentucky. Passing over conventional record sources, this work is based on information from published county histories

and atlases. Arranged in tabular format under the county of origin, entries include some or all of the following: name of the Kentucky migrant, birth date, names of parents and places of birth (if known), and date of migration. The index refers to more than 10,000 persons.

Was \$27.50 Now \$19.50

[Kentuckians in Missouri](#)

This work derives its information from a study of some 60 Missouri county histories, atlases, and "mug-books." It provides information on more than 4,000 persons born in Kentucky who migrated to Missouri, some by way of Ohio, Indiana, or Illinois. The entries include the name of the Kentucky migrant, birth date, names of parents and their dates and places of birth (if known), name of the Missouri county in which the migrant settled, and the earliest known date of residence in Missouri.

Was \$22.50 Now \$14.95

[Kansas Territorial Settlers of 1860 Who Were Born in Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina](#)

This volume lists 9,358 Kansans identified as having been born in Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina, or South Carolina. Information given on each person includes name, age, sex, occupation, and the volume and page number of the original census schedule, as well as an indication of the county, township, and post office of residence in Kansas.

Was \$28.50 Now \$19.95

[Detroit River Connections](#)

Judy Jacobson here examines the history of the area along Lake Erie encompassed by Detroit, Michigan and Windsor, Ontario. Genealogists will find most valuable the sketches she has prepared on a number of border families spanning the 18th and 19th centuries.

Was \$22.50 Now \$14.95

[Pioneer Families of the Midwest. In Three Volumes](#)

This important, albeit scarce, three-volume collection of family histories pertaining to persons who migrated to the Midwest during the last quarter of the 18th or first quarter of the 19th century is now available in a consolidated edition. Mrs. Walden, who privately published these genealogies between 1939 and 1941, has here bridged the earliest known records pertaining to each family so that future researchers might be able to trace their lines with less difficulty. Although the Clearfield edition lacks an index to the work as a whole, a complete name index to Volumes 1 and 2 can be found at the end of the second volume. In all, the reader will find about 150 allied families and some 7,500 Midwestern pioneers treated within these pages.

Was \$27.50 Now \$19.50

Locating Church Records, by Val D. Greenwood

Problems and Solutions:

Church records are of no value if you cannot find the ones that fit your specific problems. In

America, where church and state are separate and where people with ancestry from all over Europe lived side by side and inter-married, there are two main problems:

1. Determining the church with which your ancestor had affiliation.
2. Locating the records of that church in the locality where your ancestor lived.

Clues to solve the first problem might come from many sources. Perhaps the family's present affiliation can help you, or the national origin of the family, or family tradition. You might find your answer in a will or a deed or on a tombstone. It may be in an obituary. Or there may be a clue in the locality where your ancestor resided--it may have been the settlement of a particular religious denomination--but you must know the locality's history to determine this. (A person may have belonged to several churches during his/her lifetime. This was quite common on the frontier because if a town had only one church, that was usually where the town's residents [especially the Protestants] went to worship, regardless of former affiliation.) In later years obituaries, death certificates, hospital records, etc., contain statements of religious preference.

The second problem may be the more difficult of the two. There are some helps and reference tools to assist in locating church records, but even these are quite incomplete and may be misleading if we are not aware of their limitations. There is, in fact, no complete guide to American church records. This is an area that lies wide open to further study. The personnel at the LDS Family History Library have done some studies on the location of church records, but they have a long way to go before the true objective is attained.(1)

Some useful studies were made in the 1930s and early 1940s as part of the Historical Records Survey under the auspices of the Works Projects Administration (WPA) of the New Deal. The "Inventories of Church Archives" that resulted from these studies were excellent for the geographic areas and the churches they covered at the time they were made, but much of the information in them is now outdated. Many of the records have since been moved, and many that were in private hands are now completely untraceable.(2)

We must not assume that church records do not exist just because we have been unable to find them; on the other hand, it would be foolish to say that no church records have ever been lost or destroyed, because many of these records are, indeed, no longer in existence. The following biographical sketch (obituary) of George Washington Bassett tells some of the history of the Immanuel Church:

"In the year 1843, soon after his removal to his estate in Hanover, Mr. Bassett became much concerned at the prostrate condition of the Church in his neighborhood and the adjoining counties of King William and New Kent. The parishes had died out and been without rectors or church services for more than half a century."

Was this common? What of records during this "more than half a century"? What about records of the earlier period before the church "died out"? All of these questions should be considered in a study of American church records. The same thing may have happened in hundreds of other churches. What does happen to the records when a church becomes defunct? It has been suggested by some that many records of the English Church met their doom during the

Revolutionary War as part of an action of reprisal against the British, but I am unaware of any specific situations of this nature.

Finding the Records:

If you can find early American church records they are peerless as a source of genealogical evidence, so let's consider some steps you might take:

1. First consider that the records are still in the custody of the church where they were kept, if that church still exists.
2. An advertisement in a local newspaper will often lead to the whereabouts of available records, especially those in private hands.
3. Don't be afraid to ask questions--of ministers, chambers of commerce, old-timers; anyone who might know.
4. The records of many churches have been published, especially in genealogical and historical periodicals, and are thus available. These are generally not too accessible either from the standpoint of finding the proper magazine or of knowing that an article of value is within it. One of the best approaches is to use the various periodical indexes listed in Chapter 6 [of *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*].

A few church records are also published in book form (both alone and in conjunction with other records), and you should be aware of this possibility. Look under the locality of interest in your library catalog, for example Hinshaw's work on the Quakers.⁽³⁾ These seven volumes (in eight) contain abstracts of Monthly Meeting records, are indexed, and are quite useful as far as they go; but they certainly do not cover all Quaker records. They are, however, a representative example of published American church records. In using published church records, as with all published sources, remember that they present secondary evidence and frequently contain copying errors.

5. Many church records are now being microfilmed by the churches themselves and by other agencies. Historical societies often preserve microfilm copies as well as originals, and copies are frequently available for sale or for reading. The LDS Family History Library has microfilmed the records of many churches throughout the U.S., and you may find it worthwhile to check its holdings before making a lot of other searches.
6. Libraries and historical societies have collected many church records (especially in their local areas) and these are readily available for searching. One of the big problems is to determine just who has the records. The "National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections" can be useful in that effort.⁽⁴⁾

Editor's Note: Some Record Locations:

This article was excerpted from Chapter 23 of Mr. Greenwood's book, [Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy, Third Edition](#). Among other things, this chapter includes an

extraordinarily detailed, if still partial, list of church record depositories in states east of the Mississippi.(5)

Footnotes:

(1). See Jimmy B. Parker and Wayne T. Morris, "A Definitive Study of Major U.S. Genealogical Records: Ecclesiastical and Secular" (Area I, no. 36), World Conference on Records and Genealogical Seminar (Salt Lake City: The Genealogical Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1969).

(2). See chapter 10 of *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy* for a list of the guides to the WPA inventories of church records in the several states.

(3). William Wade Hinshaw, *Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy*, 7 vols. (in 8), 1936. (Vols. 1-6 have been reprinted by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore. Vol. 7 is available from the Indiana Historical Society.)

(4). See bibliographic references under "bibliographies" in chapter 6 of *Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy* and footnote number five in chapter 9, and the textual discussion relating thereto.

(5). The researcher should become familiar with Peter G. Mode, *Source Book and Bibliographical Guide for American Church History*, 1921 (Boston: J. S. Canner & Co., 1964 reprint). This scholarly work is a peerless reference for the genealogist and historian who seek a better understanding of church history and religious development in America. Another important reference work is E. Kay Kirkham, *A Survey of American Church Records*, 4th ed. (Logan, UT: Everton Publishers, 1978).

For more information about *Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*, please access the following link:

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=2362

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Speaking of Church Records (CDs & Books)

Over the years, we have published scores of church records collections. You will find a number of them, arranged by religious denomination, at

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=products_categories_all

We have consolidated still other bodies of church records (births, marriages, deaths, baptisms, etc.) into expanded consolidations of "vital records." Look for them in CD-ROM publications such as the following:

- [Virginia Vital Records \(CD\)](#)

- [Pennsylvania Vital Records, 1700s-1800s \(CD\)](#)

Finally, here is a sampling of church records publications pertaining to a variety of denominations. You might just discover some that have heretofore escaped your notice!

[The Colonial Clergy of the Middle Colonies, 1628-1776](#)

This is an annotated alphabetical list of approximately 1,250 clergymen who settled in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania during the colonial era.

[St. Luke's Records, 1829-Early 1900s, Danville, Knox County, Ohio](#)

In this volume the researcher will find more than 2,000 baptism records arranged in chronological order, giving the date, the names of the child and parents (including the wife's maiden name), and the names of the child's sponsors. The baptisms are followed by several hundred marriage records, giving the date of the marriage, the names of the bride and groom, and witnesses to the marriage. Also included are two membership lists from the 1830s; a number of communion and confirmation records, starting in 1853; a table of surname variants; and a list of St. Luke's pastors. Most of the death records found in the volume commence with 1876 and continue to 1947.

[Catholic Families of Southern Maryland: Records of Catholic Residents of St. Mary's County in the Eighteenth Century](#)

St. Mary's residents played a key role in the development of the Catholic Church throughout the whole of America. In 1785, for example, the first of many Catholic families from St. Mary's crossed the mountains to find land in Kentucky, while a few years later, driven by economic necessity, others migrated to Georgia, Louisiana, Missouri, and Texas. The most significant portion of this work contains the marriages and baptisms from the Jesuit parishes of St. Francis Xavier and St. Inigoes, which, in the case of baptisms (1767-1794), give the names of children, parents, and godparents, the date of baptism; and in the case of marriages (1767-1784), the names of the married partners and the date of marriage.

[William Penn and the Dutch Quaker Migration to Pennsylvania](#)

In this classic study, Dr. William Hull explores the historic background to the Dutch Quaker migration and William Penn's mission to Holland and Germany in 1677, which has been credited with touching off the large Dutch and German immigration to Pennsylvania. Hull's scholarly study contains a number of appendixes that give the names of all the settlers in Germantown during the years 1683 to 1709, with brief genealogical notices, including place of origin. Other appendixes include names from a 1693 tax list and names of Germantown residents naturalized in 1691 and 1709.

[Hopewell Friends History, 1734-1934, Frederick County, Virginia. Records of Hopewell Monthly Meetings and Meetings Reporting to Hopewell](#)

This compilation is divided into two parts. The historical section is a broad survey of Hopewell Quaker Meeting from its origins nine years before the creation of Frederick County. Of far greater importance to genealogists, the documentary section encompasses 200 years of Quaker records: births, marriages, deaths, removals, disownments, and reinstatements, a good many of which cannot be found in public record offices.

[The Moravians in Georgia, 1735-1740](#)

This book documents the brief history of the Moravian community in Georgia, commencing with an overview of the sect and continuing through the establishment of the Brethren community in Savannah, missionary work among the Creeks, and the departure of the Moravians for England, Pennsylvania, and other locations. Genealogists will find numerous references to transfers of land involving the Moravians, settlement maps, passenger lists of Moravian arrivals, a brief list of Moravian deaths in Georgia, and a name index to the persons mentioned in the text.

[Pennsylvania-German Church Records, 1729-1870 \(CD\)](#)

This CD contains images of the pages of all three volumes of *Pennsylvania German Church Records*, representing a distillation of all the church records ever published in the *Proceedings and Addresses* of the Pennsylvania German Society. The records, which refer to approximately 91,000 individuals, include births, baptisms, marriages, and burials and identify people and their relationships to one another--not only parents and children, husbands and wives, but witnesses and sponsors as well.

[National Huguenot Society Bible Records](#)

These records are extracted from roughly 750 known Bibles and extend from the late 18th through the early 20th centuries. Most of the entries refer to births, marriages, and deaths. In most cases the entries give the name(s) of the principals, the date of the event, and, sometimes, such supplementary information as his/her age or address, the maiden name of a parent, etc. In all, the records refer to more than 2,500 main families named in the surname index and embrace a staggering 25,000 individuals.

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Blog: War of 1812 Records

Americans will mark the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812 in two years. This "2nd War for American Independence" is dear to the hearts of us Marylanders, of course, because of the heroics at Ft. McHenry in 1814 and their association with Francis Scott Key's "Star Spangled Banner." If you want to get up to speed on the genealogy of the War of 1812, be sure to read Carolyn Barkley's excellent article on the records and websites devoted to that conflict on our blog, www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com.

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Contact Us

www.genealogical.com is the online home of Genealogical Publishing Company and its affiliate, Clearfield Company. For general information about our companies and their products, please e-mail us at info@genealogical.com. To order online, please e-mail us at sales@genealogical.com.

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