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## GENEALOGY POINTERS (02-10-09)

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### PRICES CUT ON KENTUCKY CDs

(Sale prices in effect until 11:59 PM, EST, Monday, February, 16, 2009)

Kentucky achieved statehood on June 1, 1792, a mere 18 years after James Harrod established its first permanent white settlement and only 42 years after Thomas Walker completed the first comprehensive exploration of the area. This milestone was not achieved without cost, as Kentucky (a Virginia county as of 1776) found itself a target of widespread Indian attacks incited by the British at the outbreak of the American Revolution. The exploits of Daniel Boone and, more importantly, George Rogers Clark quelled the reprisals and laid open Kentucky for an even larger influx of pioneer population. Veterans of these conflicts, like those in other theaters of the war, would qualify for land bounties awarded by the new American government.

Do you have Kentucky ancestors? You might have--even if you are unaware of it. Why? Because Kentucky was the great "feeder state" for countless ancestors who migrated westward from Virginia, Pennsylvania, and the mid-Atlantic states from the last quarter of the 18th to the middle of the 19th centuries. For example, since the Ohio River was Kentucky's northern boundary, it was natural for Kentuckians to cross over into Ohio to avail themselves of the abundant federal lands in the Old Northwest Territory. If you've lost the trail of your Midwest ancestor but believe that he/she originated from the east coast, you might pick up the trail in Kentucky.

We can think of no better place to look for that missing ancestor than in one or more of our Kentucky CDs. Each of these electronic publications places at your fingertips a fully indexed collection of reference works on Bluegrass State ancestors for only a fraction of the price of the books depicted in them. Now you can save \$10.00 on each CD until 11:59 PM, EST, Monday, February, 16, 2009.

EARLY KENTUCKY SETTLERS, 1700s-1800s

This CD contains the records of approximately 225,000 individuals who settled in or passed through Kentucky during these years. This unique collection of court, marriage, military, probate, and obituary records originally appeared in 12 Kentucky reference books published by GPC.

Was \$39.99 Now \$29.99

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=7519&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7519&NLC-GenPointers1)

## GENEALOGIES OF KENTUCKY FAMILIES

The principal genealogy periodicals for the Bluegrass State were "The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society" and "The Filson Club History Quarterly." In 1981, GPC published the genealogies--some 200 in all--from both of these distinguished Kentucky periodicals in a three-volume, 2,500-page set referencing 50,000 Kentucky ancestors. These three volumes of Kentucky genealogies are now available in electronic format. At one-fifth the cost of the original volumes, this CD is an extraordinary value you won't want to pass up.

Was \$39.99 Now \$29.99

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=7185&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7185&NLC-GenPointers1)

## KENTUCKY LAND RECORDS, 1774-1924

This Family Archive CD is composed of four essential Kentucky reference books published by GPC. Naming approximately 150,000 individuals, the information includes the number of acres owned in Kentucky, entry date of record, nearest watercourse, and the landholder's official place of residence. For those individuals who were granted land based on their service in the French and Indian War or the Revolutionary War, information pertaining to military service is also provided.

Was \$39.99 Now \$29.99

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=7650&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7650&NLC-GenPointers1)

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## COLONIAL TIDEWATER Virginia Publications by Virginia L. H. Davis

The year 2007 marked the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown, Virginia, the first permanent English colony in America. The late Virginia Lee Hutcheson Davis was one of our leading authorities on the earliest inhabitants of Jamestown and the entire Tidewater region of Virginia. Her most famous book on this area of research was the diminutive volume, JAMESTOWNE ANCESTORS, 1607-1699, a list of approximately 1,200 persons who are known to have landed or resided there between 1607 and 1699.

Mrs. Davis was particularly well qualified to compile a reliable listing of 17th-century Jamestown inhabitants. Her other publications included "Tidewater Virginia Families," a compilation of the genealogy and social history of some 40 early Virginia families, and its sequel, "Tidewater Virginia Families: Generations Beyond." In an effort to preserve early Virginia records, Mrs. Davis edited and published the periodical, "Tidewater Virginia Families: A Magazine of History and Genealogy," for 12 years. Most recently she transcribed "The Albemarle Parish Vestry Book of Surry and Sussex Counties, 1742-1786," the final Virginia parish vestry book to be made accessible to researchers. Mrs. Davis was a member of the Order of Descendants of Ancient Planters, Order of First Families of Virginia, The Jamestowne Society, and The James Cittie Company.

JAMESTOWNE ANCESTORS, meanwhile, recounts the establishment of England's first successful colony in North America, as Mrs. Davis describes it in her Preface:

"The emergence of James Towne and Virginia began with the goals of men and their various dreams--goals as diverse as their backgrounds. These men were lesser scions of the gentry, craftsmen, and laborers--all seeking a life they perceived as 'better' than their present state. They may have envisioned the acquisition of land, a higher station in life, greater freedom, or even gold. King James I certainly was lured by the prospect of increasing his reign with more land and wealth, and he found ready participants in his dream.

"After several unsuccessful earlier English colonizing efforts, King James I in 1606 issued a charter authorizing a group of investors to form the Virginia Company of London and settle colonists in North America. It was thus that his dream was fulfilled and James Towne was born. A council appointed by the king was to direct the enterprise from England, with management of day-to-day affairs in the colony entrusted to a second council of state. The charter provided that these English settlers would enjoy the same legal rights and privileges as those who remained at home.

"On Saturday the twentieth of December 1606 a fleet of three ships left England. After an arduous ocean voyage, 104 English colonists aboard the 'Susan Constant,' 'Godspeed,' and 'Discovery' reached the Virginia coast at Cape Henry. Sailing west up the river they named for their king, these men and boys stepped ashore on May 14, 1607, at the marshy peninsula now known as Jamestown Island. In time, 'James Towne' survived and prospered, but at first the triangular wooden palisade fort held only a tenuous foothold on the vast continent.

"Jamestown Island is situated in the James River, sixty-eight and three-fourths miles below the head of the tidewater, at the foot of the Richmond rapids, and fifty-eight miles above the Virginia capes. The island was two and three-fourths miles long, with a width varying from approximately three hundred yards at its head to about one and one-fourth miles near its lower extremity. Originally, it held a slender connection to the mainland by a narrow neck; later this was lost to the passage of time and the erosion of the river. It is now known that the site of the fort, believed to have been lost to the ravages of the river and the elements, has survived basically intact. This provides an entirely new focus to the placement of the settlement."

JAMESTOWNE ANCESTORS honors the island's early settlers and their contributions, to Virginia and the future nation. The volume includes all inhabitants of Jamestown Island--both year-round residents and members of the House of Burgesses or other government officials--who dwelled at Jamestown between 1607 and 1699. The author identifies each individual by name, occupation (burgess, landowner, artisan, etc.), year(s) present in Jamestown, and, in the case of officials, a place of permanent residence. The author includes only those colonists whose presence at Jamestown has been fully documented. Her list can be used as a starting point for achieving membership in a number of hereditary societies that accept descent from Jamestown as a qualification. (A list of 16 such organizations is included in the book.)

Replete with facsimiles of early maps and diagrams and drawing upon recent archaeological research, JAMESTOWNE ANCESTORS is the most comprehensive list of our oldest ancestors ever published. For more information about this book or its author, please access the following link:

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=1381&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1381&NLC-GenPointers1)

OTHER BOOKS by Virginia Lee Hutcheson Davis:

#### TIDEWATER VIRGINIA FAMILIES

Covering an incredible 375 years, this book sets forth the genealogical history of some 37 families who have their roots in Tidewater Virginia. Starting with the earliest colonial settler, the origins of the following Tidewater families are presented: Bell, Binford, Bonner, Butler, Campbell, Cheadle, Chiles, Clements, Cotton, Dejarnette(att), Dumas, Ellyson, Fishback, Fleming, Hamlin, Hampton, Harnison, Harris, Haynie, Hurt, Hutcheson, Lee, Mosby, Mundy, Nelson, Peatross, Pettyjohn, Ruffin, Short, Spencer, Tarleton, Tatum, Taylor, Terrill, Watkins, Winston, and Woodson.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=1382&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1382&NLC-GenPointers1)

#### TIDEWATER VIRGINIA FAMILIES: Generations Beyond

In this supplement, the author added 11 new families to the Tidewater Virginia families treated in the original volume described above: Alsobrook, Bibb, Edwards, Favor, Gray, Hux, Ironmonger, Laker, Southern, Taylor, and Woolfolk. In addition, this supplement includes vignettes and anecdotes of family life, descriptions and locations of family homes and burial sites, extensions of sibling lines, identification of neighbors, county maps, a place-name index, and, where necessary, corrections and updates to the original volume.

As in the original publication, all families tie in with the earliest Hutcheson, Peatross,

Butler, and Lee settlers in the colony of Virginia, and in each instance the family history, its vital statistics, and the events of the time are reported.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=1383&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1383&NLC-GenPointers1)

#### THE ALBEMARLE PARISH VESTRY BOOK, 1742-1786

The Vestry Book of Albemarle Parish is one of the priceless original public records of the Old Dominion that survived the vicissitudes of time, wars, invasions, fire, and neglect. Now, for the first time, it is widely available to researchers owing to the transcription efforts of Virginia Lee Hutcheson Davis and Andrew Wilburn Hogwood. The Vestry Book--which includes the proceedings of the vestry as well as many records of the processioners' returns--begins on November 16, 1742 (with some earlier pages missing), some four years after the parish's formation, and runs to 1786. Roughly 6,500 Surry/Sussex county inhabitants are identified.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=9875&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9875&NLC-GenPointers1)

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#### TRACING CANADIAN ANCESTORS (CD and Books)

For many U.S. genealogy wayfarers, their journey includes a stop in Canada. This makes a lot of sense when you consider that, from the colonial period through the 1920s, many of the tens of millions of emigrants from Great Britain and continental Europe entered North America through Canadian ports.

For example, during the colonial wars for control of North America, Canadians such as the Acadian French of Nova Scotia were banished and compelled to take up new homes in places like New England and Louisiana. Conversely, following England's defeat in the American Revolution, thousands of people who were still loyal to the Crown fled to Canada, sometimes leaving patriot family members behind. During the 1840s and 1850s, many Famine-era Irish emigrants arrived at the port of St. John, New Brunswick, because the fare was cheaper. Some of these same people ultimately joined family members in the U.S. once they had accumulated the necessary funds. Not surprisingly, living along the 3,000-mile border that separates the U.S. from its northern neighbor are innumerable families who share common ancestries as a result of their desire for greater economic, religious, or political freedom--in one country or the other.

If you are currently researching your Canadian ancestors, we have a wonderful array of resources available. The titles range from Angus Baxter's excellent how-to book, "In Search of Your Canadian Roots," to the massive "Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, Genealogies" by George S. Brown, to Denise Larson's groundbreaking 2008 work on the founding families of Quebec. Scroll down to see a sampling of our Canadian publications.

## ONTARIO AND NOVA SCOTIA SETTLERS, 1796-1860 (CD)

While there is no single body of records that identifies all immigrants and settlers in Nova Scotia and Ontario before Confederation in 1867, the six books included on this CD comprise the largest pool of information on early Canadian settlers available. Together, they name more than 130,000 settlers from Ireland, Scotland, England, and the U.S., many of them Loyalists from disbanded regiments or pro-British refugees fleeing New York and New England. Based on the best primary and secondary sources available, these works contain a mix of data featuring, for each settler, name, occupation, residence, place of origin, age, family members, name of ship, date of arrival, military affiliation, and land grants. As a group, they form a virtual encyclopedia of early Nova Scotia and Ontario families.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=7274&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7274&NLC-GenPointers1)

## IN SEARCH OF YOUR CANADIAN ROOTS. Third Edition

For both beginners and experienced researchers alike, this third edition of Angus Baxter's noted guidebook gives common-sense tips on where to begin your research, how to work backward in time from the known to the unknown, how to test your facts and avoid common mistakes, and, ultimately, how to create a family tree. It discusses the great migrations of Scots, Irish, English, Germans, Huguenots, Ukrainians, and Jews to Canada; describes the records of the national archives in Ottawa; summarizes the holdings of the LDS Church relating to Canada; and explores the vast nationwide record sources such as census records and church registers. It also provides a province-by-province survey of genealogical sources--in effect, a step-by-step guide to the records and record repositories in each of the 10 provinces and the Yukon and Northwest territories.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=391&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=391&NLC-GenPointers1)

## NOVA SCOTIA IMMIGRANTS TO 1867 [Volume I]

Col. and Mrs. Leonard H. Smith labored for more than a decade to construct this vast index of heretofore widely scattered Nova Scotia immigrants from numerous archives in North America and abroad (Part 1); and from 450 articles in Nova Scotia periodicals (Part 2). This is easily the most comprehensive sourcebook on Nova Scotia immigrants ever published, and it is a great tool for New England ancestral research, whether the ancestor's origins are Scottish, Irish, English, German, or Loyalist.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=5474&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=5474&NLC-GenPointers1)

## NOVA SCOTIA IMMIGRANTS TO 1867. Volume II

Whereas the first volume (see above) identified immigrants to Nova Scotia who were named in manuscript sources and periodicals, this volume identifies about 11,500 immigrants reported in selected periodicals published outside Nova Scotia (Part 1) and selected published diaries and journals (Part 2).

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=5476&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=5476&NLC-GenPointers1)

## EARLY ONTARIO SETTLERS

This sourcebook contains official records of the early settlers of Upper Canada, or Ontario. The core of the work consists of two provisioning, or ration, lists for 1784 and 1786, which provide the name of each head of household, place of settlement, and statistical details on each family. Most of the settlers named in the records were from the former American colonies, and a very substantial proportion were from New York, especially from the Albany area and the Mohawk Valley.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=1225&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1225&NLC-GenPointers1)

## ONTARIO PEOPLE: 1796-1803

After the American Revolution, several thousand families came to settle in the western part of Quebec, later called Upper Canada, then Canada West, and today Ontario. These settlers were former members of American Loyalist regiments, discharged British and German servicemen, and some civilians and refugees. They were offered grants of 200 acres of land on condition that they take an oath of allegiance and remain loyal to the British regime.

Subsequently, thousands of settlers appeared before the magistrates in district courts throughout Upper Canada. The magistrates provided additional information in the records, which have been preserved in the National Archives of Canada and are usually called the District Loyalist Rolls of 1796. These rolls have been carefully transcribed for the first time by Dr. E. Keith Fitzgerald, who has supplemented the 4,000 entries with further data from his own research. Details supplied by the settlers, the magistrates, and Dr. Fitzgerald now provide a rich source of information on the early inhabitants of Ontario. Some entries show, for example, relationships, deaths, military service, maiden names of married women, and remarriage of widows and widowers.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=1855&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1855&NLC-GenPointers1)

## ERIN'S SONS: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada, 1761-1853 [Volume I]

Covering the provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, author Terrence Punch investigated a wide-ranging group

of sources to identify many early Irish emigrants and reveal where they came from in Ireland. This work is an invaluable tool for U.S. researchers, since many New England Irish families can trace their ancestry through Atlantic Canada. The work includes maps showing Irish ports of embarkation, an index of surnames, and an index of ships.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=4708&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=4708&NLC-GenPointers1)

#### ERIN'S SONS: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada, 1761-1853. Volume II

Covering the same time period and geographic area as the first volume, Volume II lists an additional 7,000 Irish arrivals. Mr. Punch combed through church records of marriages and burials, cemetery records, headstone inscriptions, military description books, newspapers, poor house records, passenger lists, and lists of runaways, transported convicts, and indentured servants to find these persons. The work includes maps showing Irish ports of embarkation, an index of surnames, and an index of ships.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=4709&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=4709&NLC-GenPointers1)

#### COMPANIONS OF CHAMPLAIN: Founding Families of Quebec, 1608-1635

Author Denise Larson produced COMPANIONS OF CHAMPLAIN to honor the 400th anniversary of the founding of Quebec City and to enable North Americans on both sides of the border to appreciate more fully their French-Canadian heritage. Although Champlain and his wife, Helene Boulle, did not have children, his companions did. The original 18 pioneer families who inhabited Quebec during Champlain's lifetime formed the nucleus of French-Canadian culture from which a new society sprang. They are the focal point of this work. Other important features include maps, an illustration of Champlain's 1603 astrolabe, references, five appendices, lineage and pedigree charts with citations, and a comprehensive index.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=9914&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9914&NLC-GenPointers1)

#### GUIDE TO QUEBEC CATHOLIC PARISHES and Published Parish Marriage Records

The bulk of this work consists of county-by-county lists of parishes within the Province of Quebec. All known Catholic parishes are listed to 1900. Each list gives the names of all the parishes within that county, arranged in order of formation, with the date of the oldest records for that parish. A reference letter and name after the parish indicate the compiler and publisher of a marriage register for that parish, or whether the marriages for that parish may be found in the important Loiselles Marriage Index.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=9580&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9580&NLC-GenPointers1)

For a complete list of our Canadian books and CDs, please access the following link:  
[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=products\\_country&country=Canada&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=products_country&country=Canada&NLC-GenPointers1)

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#### 4-CD BUNDLE for New England Genealogy--Priced to Move!

Our 4-CD bundle dedicated to New England genealogical resources is nothing short of an electronic library for that region. The bundle consists of the four CDs described below. Comprised of images of the pages of classic works in New England genealogy, each CD is already a terrific value when compared to the cost of the books it houses. The CDs are all fully indexed and readily searchable--something that can't be said of all of the books themselves.

For a limited time, you have the opportunity to purchase all four of these CDs--each one a bargain in its own right--and save even more! If you were to purchase these CDs individually ("Genealogical Dictionary of New England, 1600s-1700s," "New England Families #2," "Early New England Settlers, 1600s-1800s," and "English Origin of New England Families"), they would cost about \$160.00. Now, while supplies last, you can get all four CDs for the bundle price of \$89.99 plus postage and handling. At that price, you are getting many of the best reference books in all of New England genealogy for, literally, pennies on the dollar. If you are a CD user with New England roots, you'll want to order the NEW ENGLAND GENEALOGY BUNDLE today!

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=7158&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7158&NLC-GenPointers1)

To learn more about the contents of this bundle, read the following brief descriptions of the component CDs, or click on the link below each description for more details.

#### GENEALOGICAL DICTIONARY of New England, 1600s-1700s

No matter what part of New England your ancestors hailed from, this CD is for you. Why? Because this extraordinary reference tool incorporates the two greatest works ever published on New England genealogy: "Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England" by James Savage and "Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire" by Walter G. Davis, Sybil Noyes, and Charles T. Libby. Given the tight, interlocking nature of New England genealogical research, you're destined to make repeated use of these reference works in this fully indexed electronic product.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=7169&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7169&NLC-GenPointers1)

#### NEW ENGLAND FAMILIES, 1600s-1800s

This Family Archive CD contains electronically searchable text of the First and Third

series of William Cutter's popular compendium, "New England Families, Genealogical and Memorial." The eight volumes that make up these two distinct series contain about 2,000 genealogies and refer to approximately 20,000 related individuals.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=7159&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7159&NLC-GenPointers1)

#### EARLY NEW ENGLAND SETTLERS, 1600s-1800s

The lineages, family histories, immigration records, vital records, and historical sketches included in this Family Archive CD contain information on approximately 190,000 individuals. Originally published by GPC, the 21 titles reproduced here are the bedrock of New England genealogy, comprising many of the most celebrated books ever published on the subject--books like "One Hundred and Sixty Allied Families" by John Osborne Austin and "Genealogical Register of the First Settlers of New England" by John Farmer.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=7504&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7504&NLC-GenPointers1)

#### ENGLISH ORIGINS of New England Families

This Family Archive CD contains hundreds of articles that were originally published in "The New England Historical and Genealogical Register" and subsequently collected and reprinted by GPC in six volumes under the title, "English Origins of New England Families." Treating more than 1,500 families and referencing 150,000 individuals, this work contains all the immigrant-origin data published in the first 137 volumes of the prestigious "Register." It is interesting to note that almost all living Americans with colonial Yankee forebears descend from several of the 1,500 immigrants covered in this work.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=7181&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7181&NLC-GenPointers1)

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#### "THE CITY DIRECTORY: A Genealogical Gold Mine," by William Dollarhide

City directories may be one of the most underused genealogical sources available. Old city directories exist for virtually every community in America, often going back to the establishment of a community. Many of the privately published city directories date back over a hundred years, and some of these collections are complete for every year in which a directory was published. Surprisingly, those that exist are quite easy to find. They are usually located in the public library serving a particular city.

For example, when I first started in genealogy, I was living in Seattle, Washington, where I soon discovered the wonderful collection of city directories at the main branch of the

Seattle Public Library. Their collection of city directories, with some gaps in the early years, dates back to 1877. (The city was founded in 1853.) From about 1885 onward, the collection is complete for every year, with an annual city directory for Seattle and its environs. (In some years, competing publishers produced more than one directory.) I should add that the library's collection of Seattle telephone directories for over 60 years complements its city directory holdings.

City directories typically list the name of each resident, an address, and a surprising amount of information, including occupation. City directories provide an unmatched source for finding the exact place a person lived, and they often function as a surrogate source of information about residents for a particular time period. City directories can act as a substitute to the lost 1890 census, for example.

Virtually every city in America with a public library has a collection of city directories for that city. New York City's directories go back to the 1730s, and they are nearly complete through 1933, the last year a city directory was produced for Manhattan. The New York Public Library has an outstanding collection of the old city directories. Boston's city directories go back even further than New York's, and the Boston Public Library's collection is a real treasure.

There have been many different directory publishers; however, by far the largest is the R. L. Polk Company. Today, this company has offices in the largest cities of America, where you may visit their library of current city directories. Check the yellow pages to find the R. L. Polk office nearest you, and you will discover a resource for current directories. (Current city directories give more detail about a person than the online residential directories). Older city directories, however, are almost exclusively found in public libraries, college libraries, and archives nearest to the city in question.

### The Cross-Street Index

A feature in most 20th-century city directories is a cross-street index, found at the back of the volume. This index is arranged according to the address of the houses, apartments, or businesses in the city, followed by the house number and names of residents at each address. Using this feature, a researcher can learn the names of people living next door to a relative. Next-door neighbors of a decade earlier, for example, may still live there and remember your relatives. Their presence may help you to locate lost relatives.

The cross-street index is also a resource for people whose names may have changed. For example, a woman living alone at a particular address in 1938 does not appear in the 1939 directory. But, by going to the 1939 cross-street address listing for the same address, you might discover that the woman had married and was still living in the same house, as well as learn the identity of her new husband!

### Old City Directories on Microfilm

City directories for the 50 largest cities in America dating before 1860 have been

collected together and microfilmed. The collection was produced by Research Publications, Inc. (12 Lunar Dr., New Haven, CT 06525), and it is available for sale to the public. The Family History Library in Salt Lake City has this complete collection, and you can find a particular directory by searching for that city in the Family History Library's catalogue. Just access the FHL's website at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) and use the keyword "city directories [name of city]" to search for a particular book.

### Genealogy in City Directories

Since the information in city directories is far more revealing than just a name and address, a typical city directory can be a genealogical gold mine. Here is a transcription taken from a city directory for the town of Whatcom (now Bellingham), Washington, for the year 1893:

Clancy, Annie (wid Patrick), res bet R R tracks nr B B & E round house  
Clancy, John, lab B B I Co mill  
Clancy, Mary, clk Montague & Mchugh, bds Mrs Annie Clancy  
Clancy, Michael, lab B B I Co mill  
Clancy, Wm., lab B B I Co mill

The five entries above read like a family group sheet! First, the directory informs us that Annie Clancy is a widow, and her deceased husband's name was Patrick Clancy. The Mary Clancy boarding with Annie Clancy appears to be a daughter, and the three men who all work at the same place likely are Annie's sons.

The following example from a 1955 city directory for Waterbury, Connecticut, displays some interesting entries for the name Culotta:

Culotta Augustine r 29 Crescent  
Charles G slsman r 29 Crescent  
John died June 6 1954 age 65  
Joseph P slsman r 29 Crescent  
Mariano h 42 Cooke  
Mary M wid John h 29 Crescent  
Rose M slswoman Hartford r 29 Crescent  
Thomas C student r 29 Crescent

The foregoing entries tell us quite a bit about this family. First, note that it gives an age and exact date of death for John Culotta and that his widow was Mary M. Culotta, who owned a house at 29 Crescent Street in Waterbury. (By the way, "r" indicates a renter, and "h" indicates a home owner.) Also living at that address were Augustine; Charles and Joseph P. Culotta, both salesmen; Rose Culotta, a saleswoman working in Hartford; and Thomas, a student--all of whom could be the children of John and Mary Culotta. Since all of the Culottas in Waterbury, Connecticut, in 1955 lived in the same house except for Mariano Culotta--who owned a house at 42 Cooke Street--one can infer that Mariano was probably related to the others.

The above examples illustrate that family relationships can be gleaned from city directories, and sometimes a surprising amount of detail is revealed. The examples are not unique. They are typical of virtually every city directory that has been published for cities and towns across the country. Unlike its offspring, the phone book, a city directory has a great deal more to say about the inhabitants of a city or town.

### Finding City Directories

To learn what city directories exist for the locality and time period of your investigation, address a letter to the "Reference Librarian" at the public library for your city of interest. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE). You can get the address of that library from the "American Library Directory," published by the R. R. Bowker Co., available at your local library. Every library in America has this directory, which lists the addresses and phone numbers for all American libraries, whether public, private, special collection, college, or archives. You will also find descriptions of the holdings of a selective list of public libraries with genealogy collections is my book, GETTING STARTED IN GENEALOGY ONLINE. For more information on this book, please access the following link:

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=1499&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1499&NLC-GenPointers1)

Although many libraries will not conduct any research for you, they will almost certainly answer your query. Then, contact a local genealogical society and see if a volunteer is available to go to the library and do some looking for you. Most genealogical societies render this service, for which a small donation to the society is customary.

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### BLOG: Researching Royal Lineages

Just how likely is it that you might be related to the Queen of Denmark or, for that matter, William the Conqueror? In the latest installment on our blog, [www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com](http://www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com), librarian and genealogist Carolyn Barkley dispels some of the myths surrounding royal lineages and highlights the major reliable sources at your disposal if you are intent on finding a crown in your past. [NB. This posting was originally scheduled for the January 27 issue of "Genealogy Pointers" but was unavoidably delayed.]

*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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