

Genealogy Pointers (02-22-11)

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New Quicksheet Emphasizes African-American Source Citation

[Quicksheet: Citing Online African-American Historical Sources Evidence! Style](#) is the newest of Elizabeth Shown Mills' acclaimed *QuickSheets*, which are used by genealogists everywhere as guides for citing online sources.

The basic citation models given here help researchers evaluate the reliability of online historical sources by recording all relevant information about both the historical material itself and the website that provides the material.

In citing online historical sources Mrs. Mills offers two basic style formats:

- Source-list style, used in bibliographies, gives a short and general identification of a source.
- Reference-note style, used for footnotes and endnotes, adds specific details about particular information within the source.

With this basic template, the African-American *QuickSheet* provides models for citing common resources such as databases, image copies, transcripts, blogs, books, and articles, using the widely accepted citation principles established in the *QuickSheet* series. Arranged in tabular format, the sample citations are easy to follow and can be applied to your specific needs in citing your sources.

While it provides standards for citing online sources, the latest *QuickSheet* is, of course, tailored to the African-American experience, so source citation models illustrate subjects such as slave manifests, slave narratives, Freedmen's Bureau records, and slave census schedules.

Like its companions, this *QuickSheet* is a laminated four-sided sheet designed for portability and heavy use. For more information or to order, visit the following URL:

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3863

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Prices Reduced in Recognition of African-American History Month

President Gerald Ford established February as African-American History Month in 1976, encouraging all Americans to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.” Mr. Ford's action was both an affirmation and an expansion of “Negro History Week,” a celebration initiated in 1926 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, founder of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. (Dr. Woodson originally selected the dates for Negro History Week to take in the birthdates of both Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglas.) "Genealogy Pointers" readers should visit the official African-American History Month website sponsored by the Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, Smithsonian Institution, and other agencies, where you will find an excellent list of events, exhibits, and “virtual” tours for the balance of February.

In recognition of African-American History Month, we have lowered the prices by 25% or more on our most popular titles for finding black ancestors. These sale prices will remain in effect until 11:59 p.m. EST, Thursday, February 24, 2011.

[Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your African-American Ancestors](#)

This book is unique because it includes methods for successful research in slavery-era records as well as strategies to help you identify your ancestors' slaveholder and slaveholding family. Case studies from various states and time periods tell the stories of real families whose lives were recorded in public records that you too can use. Discovering your family history can be a powerful experience that also allows you to create a special legacy for your loved ones.

Was \$34.95 Now \$26.95

[Black Genesis. A Resource Book for African-American Genealogy. 2nd Edition](#)

This book provides information on resources and a methodology specific to African-American genealogy. Part I gives an overview of general research principles and methodology, while Part II contains a rundown of specific resources for all fifty states, Canada, and the West Indies found in national, state, county, and city archives, historical societies, and libraries.

Was \$30.00 Now \$22.50

[Free Blacks and Mulattos in the South Carolina 1850 Census](#)

Compiler Margaret Motes combed through a microfilm copy of the 1850 census manuscript for the state of South Carolina to unearth every reference to a free black or mulatto that can be found there. The end result of her efforts is this volume, an alphabetically arranged list of 8,160 free blacks and mulattos between the ages of one month and 112 years. The data for free persons of color in South Carolina in 1850, which spans twenty-nine different counties, records the following for each individual named in the census: name, age, sex, occupation, color, place of birth, household and dwelling number, and county.

Was \$27.50 Now \$19.95

[Bibliographic Checklist of African American Newspapers](#)

This book, by Barbara K. Henritze, contains a complete checklist of African-American newspapers identified in all major bibliographic sources--newspaper directories, union lists, finding aids, African-American bibliographies, yearbooks, and specifically African-American newspaper sources. In short, it is a comprehensive checklist of every newspaper that has served

African Americans since 1827, when the first black newspaper was published. The work lists a total of 5,539 newspapers. These papers have been owned, published, edited, and read by African Americans and have been identified in forty-four states and the District of Columbia.

Was \$39.95 Now \$27.95

[Free African Americans of North Carolina, Virginia, and South Carolina from the Colonial Period to About 1820. Fifth Edition. In Two Volumes](#)

Now published in two volumes and 300 pages longer than the previous edition, *Free African Americans of North Carolina, Virginia, and South Carolina from the Colonial Period to About 1820* consists of detailed genealogies of 600 free black families that originated in Virginia and migrated to North and/or South Carolina from the colonial period to about 1820. The families under investigation represent nearly all African Americans who were free during the colonial period in Virginia and North Carolina.. *Free African Americans* ranks as the greatest achievement in black genealogy of this generation! No collection of African-American genealogy or social history is complete without this two-volume work.

Was \$89.95 Now \$66.50

[Free Black Households in the New York State Federal Census, 1790-1830](#)

This is an alphabetical listing of all free African-American heads of household listed in the five U.S. censuses for the state of New York taken between 1790 and 1830. Contains 15,000 references to freedmen, many of whom appear in more than one census.

Was \$32.50 Now \$22.95

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"Federal Records of the Five Civilized Tribes," by Rachal Mills Lennon
(*Excerpted from the book, [Tracing Ancestors Among the Five Civilized Tribes](#))*

Historical Background

The history and culture of the American South are unique, owing chiefly to the intermingling of the races and the diverse ethnic backgrounds of countless families. Modern Southerners proudly boast traditions--real or not--of Native American ancestry. Odds are, these traditions lead directly back to the so-called Five Civilized Tribes. The Chickasaw, Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, and Seminole Indians dominated a broad swath of territory from North Carolina to Mississippi before their forced removal westward. Long hailed for their adaptability to "white" ways (hence the designation "civilized"), these nations have gained near honorific status among Southeastern genealogists.

The five Indian groups that dominated the Southeast, known to history as the Five Civilized Tribes, were not all of the same ethnic family. The Cherokee were the southernmost branch of the Iroquois. Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks, and Seminoles were dominant members of the Muskogean family. Beyond these, several other tribes were still viable in the Lower South as the U.S. government moved into and across that area--for example, the Catawba in South Carolina and the Koasati (Coushatta) in Alabama--although federal records of the late-18th and 19th centuries largely ignore these smaller groups.

In Arkansas and Louisiana, states normally considered part of the Southeastern U.S., other tribes were active. However, the major groups there (the Caddo and Osage) were culturally akin to the tribes of the Southwest and the Plains. Smaller groups--remnants of the Attakapas, Chitimachas, Taensa, and Tunica, for example--had exceedingly limited relations with the U.S. until the 20th century; thus, little is found on them in the earlier federal records. However, by the time the U.S. had acquired this area, via the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, small bands from the Five Civilized Tribes were already migrating into Arkansas and Louisiana, first to hunt and then to settle.

Federal relations with America's native peoples were both paternalistic and antagonistic. Consequently, the surviving historical records were kept for a variety of purposes: to subdue and subjugate tribes; to effect and maintain treaties; to minimize conflict between Indians and whites (and blacks); to acquire territory; to identify and compensate individual Indians and white countrymen displaced by land transfers; to remove tribes; to educate and assimilate individuals; and, of course, to financially support whole groups after they were reduced to welfare status by Euro-American encroachment.

Chronological Framework of Federal Records

Premodern records of federal interaction with American Indians are divided broadly into three bureaucratic periods. A basic familiarity with these political time divisions is essential to the location of federal records.

1774-1789: Pre-Federal Era:

September 1774 saw the first assembly of the Continental Congress, a body that would govern until the individual colonies adopted the Articles of Confederation in 1781. From then until the creation of the U.S. in 1789, the union was governed by Confederation congresses, which created three separate Indian superintendencies to serve the Southern, Middle, and Northern tribes. The records of this era are maintained separately from the federal records below.

1789-1824: War Department Era:

With the creation of the U.S. in 1789, Indian affairs were assigned to the Department of War, where authority would remain for the next 35 years. Most records in the War Department were destroyed by fire on 8 November 1800. Consequently, for genealogical purposes, most "Indian records" within this department date only from 1800 to 1824. In 1806, an Office of Indian Trade was established within the War Department--a bureaucratic move that caused another regrouping of records.

1824-1947: Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Era:

In March 1824, the War Department established a separate Office (later Bureau) of Indian Affairs--generally known today as the BIA. This office functioned until 1849, when it was moved to the Department of the Interior.

Hence, those "Indian records" genealogists seek at the National Archives are scattered across several collections, according to time frame: i.e., the records of the Continental Congress, the War Department, and the BIA. Most extant records of the Continental Congress have been

published in print or microform, with excellent indexes. For the War Department era, resources are more limited and far less easily explored. Under the BIA, vast resources have been created, and major ones now have finding aids and published transcripts or abstracts. Yet many researchers who use them to search for Southeastern Indian forebears are disappointed because the BIA materials on these tribes predominantly relate to families that removed to Oklahoma. [END]

From this point in her book, Ms. Lennon proceeds to describe the salient federal records along topical and tribal lines, creating a highly focused catalogue of the federal holdings that are most helpful for studying the Southeastern Indians who did not migrate westward. Readers can avail themselves of her fine detailed presentation of the records in *Tracing Ancestors Among the Five Civilized Tribes: Southeastern Indians Prior to Removal*. For more information on this book, visit the following URL:

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3350

Related Publications:

[History of the Cherokee Indians and Their Legends and Folklore](#)

Emmet Starr's work is the classic account of the early Cherokees, their constitution, treaties with the federal government, land transactions, school system, migration and resettlement, committees, councils and officials, religion, language and culture, and a host of other topics. More than half of the book is devoted to genealogies and biographies, of which there are several hundred. The biographies in particular--each averaging a paragraph or more--are noteworthy for their focus on the genealogical events of birth, marriage, and death over a period of several generations.

[Cherokee Connections](#)

Unlike Emmet Starr's history, above, Myra Gormley's delightful *Cherokee Connections* provides a brief overview of extant genealogical sources pertaining to the Cherokee nation. It is designed specifically for researchers who are trying to prove their heritage for tribal membership as well as for those who are simply interested in investigating family legends about Cherokee ancestry. All important sources of genealogical value are explained with respect to the reasons why the various records were generated and where they can be accessed today.

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Descriptions of February New Books & Reprints

Our new publications for February are the latest volumes in two continuing series. Vernon L. Skinner returns with Volume XXVIII of his very popular collection of inheritance records, *Abstracts of the Testamentary Proceedings of the Prerogative Court of Maryland*. David Dobson has presented us with the fourth volume in the series *Ships from Scotland to America, 1628-1828*, the next best thing to actual passenger lists for the country and period in question.

Speaking of passenger records, we have reprinted two important collections of Philadelphia

passenger lists in February: Raymond Adams' list of Ulster emigrants from 1803-1850; and the Philadelphia baggage lists of 1800-1819, the oldest official U.S. source of its kind. A third collection of passenger records, *Rhineland Emigrants, Lists of German Settlers in Colonial America*, edited by Don Yoder, identifies emigrants who came through Philadelphia and other colonial ports of entry.

The balance of our featured titles include a two-volume collection of Rhode Island genealogies extracted from six scarce periodicals; a listing of early inhabitants to colonial New York; four collections of Virginia records, including separate volumes of will and tax records compiled from periodicals, early Kentucky wills and inventories; a definitive list of early Georgia settlers; and an extremely popular collection of North Carolinians who served in the American Revolution.

Following is a complete list of our featured titles for February, with encapsulated descriptions.

[***Ships from Scotland to America, 1628-1828. Volume IV, by David Dobson***](#)

Like the three earlier volumes in this series, the fourth and concluding volume is designed to identify ships plying their trade with North America between 1628 and 1828. Volume IV is based records found in the Acts of the Privy Council Colonial series (London), the *Canadian Courant*, *Greenock Advertiser*, *Montreal Gazette*, Register of the Privy Council of Scotland, *Virginia Gazette*, and a dozen other sources. Typically, these sources identify each vessel by name, its captain(s), the dates it sailed, and ports of origin and destination, and sometimes references to the number of passengers onboard, miscellaneous information, and the source of each entry. Researchers will also benefit from Dr. Dobson's Introduction summarizing the Scottish shipping trade and the concluding chronological list of sailings spanning the period under investigation.

[***Abstracts of the Testamentary Proceedings of the Prerogative Court of Maryland. Volume XXVIII: 1751-1752, 1755. Libers 35 \(pp. 115-end\), 36 \(pp.1-207\), by Vernon L. Skinner, Jr.***](#)

The Prerogative Court was the focal point for probate in colonial Maryland. All matters of probate went directly to the Prerogative Court, which was located in Maryland's colonial capital, Annapolis. The Prerogative Court was also the colony's court for equity cases--resolution of disputes over the settlement and distribution of an estate. Volume XXVIII of this series by Vernon L. Skinner is derived from this important source for Maryland genealogists. It consists of abstracts for 1755 and then backtracks to pick up abstracts for 1751-52, owing to the contents of the balance of Liber 35 and Liber 36.

[***An Alphabetical Index to Ulster Emigrants to Philadelphia, 1803-1850, by Raymond D. Adams***](#)

The work at hand enumerates a list of 3,200 Ulster emigrants to Philadelphia between 1803 and 1850. Arranged alphabetically according to the head of the household--with other family members listed immediately under the head--the entries typically furnish the name of the emigrant, his/her age, town and county of origin, where given, year of emigration, and name of ship.

[***Genealogies of Rhode Island Families from Rhode Island Periodicals. Two Volumes***](#)

The articles forming this unique collection were taken from a total of six Rhode Island

periodicals. Three were issued by the Rhode Island Historical Society, namely *Rhode Island Historical Society Collections*, *Rhode Island History*, and *Publications of the Rhode Island Historical Society*. The remaining three were published privately and are the most difficult to find today. These are the *Newport Historical Magazine*, *The Narragansett Historical Register*, and *Rhode Island Historical Tracts*. Viewed as a collection--with dozens of articles on English origins and scores of other articles showing descent from immigrant settlers--the family history articles from these six periodicals offer the researcher an excellent chance of making ancestral connections in Rhode Island.

[Chronicles of the First Planters of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay from 1623 to 1636, by Alexander Young](#)

Like author Alexander Young's earlier work, *Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers of the Colony of Plymouth*, this book is based entirely on original sources. It consists of illuminating character sketches, broadsides, and correctives that supply the reader with hundreds of obscure facts and threads relating to the original planters of the colony. Most are creditable histories with accompanying lists of early planters, biographical sketches, and topical references to contemporary family members.

[Rhineland Emigrants. Lists of German Settlers in Colonial America, by Don Yoder, ed.](#)

Virtually all of the individuals mentioned in this work are cited with reference to church, parish, and provincial records and other records located in the archival repositories of the old Palatinate and adjoining provinces in southwest Germany. These emigrants are cited again, where possible, with reference to a corresponding range of Pennsylvania source materials, notably church records, wills, and tax lists. In addition, names of emigrants are collated with Strassburger and Hinke's celebrated work, *Pennsylvania German Pioneers*, from which are drawn dates of arrival, names of ships, and other evidence of immigration.

[Lists of Inhabitants of Colonial New York, by Edmund B. O'Callaghan](#)

This work contains all of the genealogical records in O'Callaghan's remarkable four-volume *Documentary History of the State of New-York* as well as a complete index of names, overcoming for individuals unfamiliar with Dutch or German nomenclature the confusion caused by variant spellings of family names. The index lists about 12,000 inhabitants of colonial New York--Dutch, English, and German.

[Passenger Arrivals at the Port of Philadelphia, 1800-1819, by Michael H. Tepper, General Editor. Transcribed by Elizabeth P. Bentley](#)

The Philadelphia "baggage lists" are the oldest federal passenger lists existing. In fact, no port besides Philadelphia maintained records of comparable value. Appearing in these lists are names of incoming passengers arriving with baggage. Typically no more than a handful of passengers are found in each list, and in the twenty years from January 1800 to December 1819, in 4,767 separate ship lists, a total of about 40,000 passengers are actually identified--most of them from Great Britain and Germany. In this present work, every scrap of data pertaining to these 40,000 immigrants has been faithfully transcribed from a microfilm copy of the originals, and for convenience passengers' names are arranged in alphabetical order.

[The First Explorations of the Trans-Allegheny Region by the Virginians, 1650-1674, by](#)

[Clarence Walworth Alvord & Lee Bidgood](#)

Within these pages are printed the sources of information concerning the western explorations of the intrepid early Virginians. The leaders of these expeditions included Abraham Wood in the 1650s, the German physician John Lederer in the late 1660s, Thomas Batts and Robert Fallam in 1671, and James Needham and Gabriel Arthur in 1673. Authors Alvord and Bidgood recount the stories of the various expeditions, demonstrating how the interplay of economic motive and love of adventure conspired to lay the groundwork for colonial Virginia's claim on much of the Ohio territory.

[Abstract of Early Kentucky Wills and Inventories. Copied from Original and Recorded Wills and Inventories, by Junie Estelle Stewart King](#)

Transcriber Junie Estelle Stewart King has here abstracted the earliest wills of thirty-eight Kentucky counties formed between the years 1780 and 1842 (with the exception of Crittenden County) and representing the state as a whole. The information given includes dates of instrument and probate, names of wife and children, and names of witnesses.

[Virginia Will Records from the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, the *William and Mary College Quarterly*, and *Tyler's Quarterly*](#)

Virginia Will Records is composed of articles dealing with Virginia wills, inventories, and administration accounts and contains virtually everything pertaining to estate records ever published in the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, the *William and Mary Quarterly*, and *Tyler's Quarterly*. Also found in the volume are a number of articles containing abstracts of various companion records--court minutes and deeds, for example--as well as a smaller group of articles dealing with the probate of certain wills in England.

[Virginia Tax Records from Virginia Periodicals](#)

Drawn from the same periodicals as the work above, this is primarily a compilation of articles pertaining to tax records--a term used rather freely to permit inclusion of such records as personal property tax lists, tithables, poll lists, land tax lists, and rent rolls. Like census records, tax records have the distinction of placing people in a particular location at a definite time and identifying them in relation to their households and property, thus providing irrefutable evidence of their existence and places of habitation. These records probably represent only a fraction of the early tax records of Virginia, but they

[A List of the Early Settlers of Georgia, by E. Merton Coulter & Albert B. Saye](#)

This is a list not only of the early settlers of Georgia but of the first settlers of Georgia, and it is apparently a complete list of all those who were sent by the Trustees for Establishing the Colony of Georgia in America under Oglethorpe and the Earl of Egmont. Covering the period 1732 to 1741, these two lists together contain the names and details of 3,000 immigrants, most of whom were assigned lots in Savannah and Frederica and a good number of whom would soon leave the colony for the Carolinas. Information pertaining to each settler consists, generally, of name, age, occupation, place of origin, names of spouse, children and other family members, dates of embarkation and arrival, place of settlement, and date of death.

[Roster of Soldiers from North Carolina in the American Revolution, by the North Carolina D.A.R.](#)

The most complete military roster for the state, this monumental work contains the names of approximately 36,000 soldiers from North Carolina who served during the Revolution. Service records include such information as rank, company, date of enlistment or commission, period of service, combat experience, and whether captured, wounded, or killed.

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Blog: Good Writing Practices in Genealogy

The latest article on our blog, www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com, discusses the standards of good composition in genealogy. Learn why this is important for you and future generations.

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1. Order by mail: 3600 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 260 - Baltimore, Maryland 21211-1953
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3. Call toll-free to our sales department at 1-800-296-6687