

Genealogy Pointers (05/24/11)

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South Carolina's Revolutionary War Rank & File

For much of 1779-1781, South Carolina was the focal point of the American Revolution. In major battles at Fort Moultrie, Charleston, Cowpens, Guilford Court House, Camden, and Ninety-Six; in lesser affairs at Forts Motte, Granby, Orangeburg, Augusta, and Georgetown; and in countless skirmishes and guerilla operations, both Continental and militia forces distinguished themselves in the South Carolina campaign against the Redcoats and Loyalists alike. Most students of the South Carolina theater of the conflict are familiar with its leaders or heroes, notably Nathaniel Greene, Daniel Morgan, Light-Horse Harry Lee, Thomas Sumter, Andrew Pickens, Benjamin Lincoln, and Horatio Gates. But what of the rank and file soldiers who fought under their commands?

It was precisely this question that motivated Professor Bobby Moss to devote ten years to gathering every shred of evidence available on the South Carolina participants in the Revolution. The end result of his labors is not only the definitive, comprehensive roster of South Carolina participants but also THE model statewide roster of the Revolutionary War.

[*Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution*](#), by Bobby Gilmer Moss, is a simplified key to the more than 20,000 rank-and-file soldiers from South Carolina. Arranged in paragraph format, the roster provides each patriot's name, date of enlistment, battles, military unit, rank attained, and, sometimes, date and place of birth of the soldier and family members, places of residence, and more. Each entry also includes the source(s) of the information--pension records, bounty land warrants, pay lists, muster rolls, standard published sources, or any of a myriad of other sources consulted by the author.

First published in 1983, *Roster of South Carolina Patriots* is the definitive work on its subject. It ties up a whole elusive body of documents and printed sources scattered in state and national archives. To quote the esteemed periodical, *The Virginia Genealogist*, "For no other state is there anything comparable. . . ."

To gain a fuller understanding of some of the issues Professor Moss confronted in compiling and integrating his findings, consider the following comments from the Introduction to *Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution*:

At the close of the revolution, and for a number of years thereafter, South Carolina compensated her patriot veterans with cash payments. Not always did the soldiers lay claims to such stipends. Years later, the federal government attempted to pay the soldiers for their Continental Line services through grants of land. Even then, through ignorance of the law or because of pride many South Carolinians did not claim their rewards. Furthermore, when the federal government established a pension system for the patriots most of the ex-soldiers refused to lay claim to what was rightfully theirs. Only when they were old, infirm, and without means of support did the patriots put aside their pride and accept the land or pensions. Even then, some refused their rewards and, therefore, their names appear only on the muster rolls. As a rule, the muster roll only supplies a name and the dates of servitude in specified units; whereas, the pension files give minute details of the lives of the claimants from before the war until the time they filed for a pension. Those that did file for a pension often stated that they had not fought for pay, but fought for principles; therefore they were accepting the federal gratuities because they could not care for themselves.

Since the Americans were restless at the end of the war and for decades thereafter, many moved steadily westward as more land became available through grants, conquest, or by treaty. The result was that by the time the veterans became old and infirm many of them were living on the frontier. When Congress established the pension system for patriots, the former servicemen were required to answer a number of questions. One of the questions required the ex-soldier to make a list of the states in which he had resided since the war. The former soldier's deposition (or those of his wife or children) indicated that by 1830 more of the soldiers who requested a federal pension had left South Carolina than had remained in the state. In most cases the ex-soldier died in the last state listed in the federal pension claim. However, this was not always the case. Some filed a claim and moved afterwards. . . .

Often the petitioners referred to the officers under which they served by the highest rank the officers attained. Thus, when petitioners said they served under General Pickens in the battle at Cowpens they meant they served under Colonel Pickens who later became a general. Since I did not correct the applicant statement, other than correcting the spelling of the officers' names, this point must be kept in mind by anyone writing a family or military history. . . .

A more serious problem was created by the reorganization of the Continental Line. In June 1775, the First Provincial Congress of South Carolina passed legislation which established two regiments of foot and one of rangers to protect the province against British aggression. In November 1775, a regiment of artillery was added and in February 1776 two regiments of riflemen were added. Through resolutions of 18 June and 24 June 1776 passed by the Continental Congress and through a resolution passed by the General Assembly of South Carolina on 20 September 1776 these six regiments were taken into the Continental Line as South Carolina's quota. In reality, the names of the men in the six units made a larger force than was demanded of South Carolina by the Congress. Furthermore, the number of South Carolinians taken into Washington's army was larger than the population size of the state warranted. Eventually the regiment of rangers was converted into infantrymen and was thereafter called the Third Regiment. On February 1780, while the British lay before Charleston, the five infantry regiments were consolidated into three by order of General Lincoln. This action led to some confusion in the minds of old veterans. They sometimes put the name of their commanding

officer with the wrong unit

The records of South Carolina's Continental troops and militia are widely scattered. Some are housed in the United States Archives, some are in the South Carolina Archives, some are in the possession of the South Carolina Historical Society, others are in the hands of libraries, historical societies (within the state and without), while smaller numbers are owned by private collectors, and some, especially the militia records, are lost forever. This book represents the first serious attempt to collect all the known records and make them available in one source.

We are delighted to make *Roster of South Carolina Patriots* available to the genealogical community once again in a print on demand, paperback edition. Owing to the large size of the original edition, we have reprinted Professor Moss' exquisite book in two paperback volumes. For more information, visit the following URL:

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3915

NB: *Roster of South Carolina Patriots* is not available in electronic format, nor can its contents be searched by name on www.genealogical.com at this time.

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72-Hour Reductions on Statewide Marriage Books

(The following sale prices are in effect until 11:59 p.m. EDT Thursday, May 26, 2011.)

Each of the following books is a large collection of statewide marriage records. If your ancestors lived in Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, or Virginia relatively early in that state's history, you will discover that the your state's marriages are well represented in the corresponding volume. Moreover, for the next three days (until 11:59 p.m. EDT, Thursday, May 26, 2011) you can purchase any/all of these collections at a discount of 40% or more off the list price.

[Kentucky Marriage Records from *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*](#)

Except for a series of newspaper abstracts by G. Glenn Clift (*Kentucky Marriages, 1797-1865*), this volume contains every list of marriages known to have been published in *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* since 1903. The following nineteen of Kentucky's oldest counties are represented, some of which, either in whole or in part, spawned a great many later counties: Barren, Bourbon, Christian, Floyd, Franklin, Grant, Greenup, Hardin, Lawrence, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Montgomery, Muhlenberg, Nelson, Pike, Shelby, Union, and Woodford. Based on courthouse records--primarily marriage bonds, licenses, ministers' returns, and marriage registers--the combined lists, which are fully indexed, contain references to approximately 50,000 persons!

Was \$75.00 Now \$44.95

[Maryland Marriage Evidences, 1634-1718](#)

A companion volume to his 1975 work, *Maryland Marriages, 1634-1777*, this book contains a collection of 6,500 marriage records found in sources other than church records, closing the gap in the historical record and providing a clear alternative to traditional genealogical sources. The

records in this work are based on both direct and indirect references. With a bibliography and a full-name index of brides and others mentioned in the text, this work completes the tableau of sources available to the researcher in the area of colonial Maryland genealogy.

Was \$40.00 Now \$22.95

[Early Massachusetts Marriages Prior to 1800. With *Plymouth County Marriages, 1692-1746*, Edited by Lucy Hall Greenlaw](#)

This is the most complete collection of early Massachusetts marriages ever published, containing more than 20,000 entries for the period 1643 to 1800. The marriages derive from records kept by the various county, city, and court clerks in compliance with Massachusetts law and give the full name of the bride and groom and date and place of marriage. The book is divided into four sections, and each section of the book is separately paginated and indexed, except for the last, which is arranged in chronological order.

Was \$55.00 Now \$32.95

[Missouri Marriages Before 1840](#)

This is a compilation of 16,000 marriages from 51 Missouri counties formed before 1840. The majority of the marriage records in this work were copied from the original marriage books on file in various county courthouses. Others were copied from previously published compilations; some were copied from both sources. All Missouri counties with marriage records prior to 1840 are covered except St. Louis County and city, which have been adequately covered elsewhere.

Was \$32.50 Now \$18.95

[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 \$29.95

[Ohio Marriages Extracted from *The "Old Northwest" Genealogical Quarterly*](#)

For this compilation Marjorie Smith extracted all the marriages recorded in *The "Old Northwest" Genealogical Quarterly* and prepared them in a single alphabetical sequence. Altogether some 10,000 brides and grooms are listed here with the date of their marriage, the name of the county the marriage took place in, and, sometimes, the name of the church and the name of the person performing the ceremony.

Was \$39.95 Now \$22.95

[Pennsylvania German Marriages: Marriages and Marriage Evidence in Pennsylvania German Churches. Two Volumes](#)

Primarily a compilation of Reformed Church marriage records (with some Lutheran and Union church materials as well), this work provides documentation on some 50,000 persons of German origin or descent as found in the records of approximately 100 churches in eastern Pennsylvania. The records of actual marriages, which form the basis of the work, generally give the names of the bride and groom, date of marriage, names of parents, place of residence, and, sometimes, place of origin, date of birth, and previous marital status. Records of marriage, deriving from

baptismal entries, burial records, etc., variously give names of parents (usually the maiden name of the mother), names of grandparents and sponsors, place and date of birth and/or baptism, names of children, and date of death. Little wonder that this book is widely regarded as one of the premier sources in all of Pennsylvania-German genealogy!

Was \$65.00 Now \$37.95

[Virginia Marriage Records from the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, the William and Mary College Quarterly, and Tyler's Quarterly](#) (Low in stock)

This collection of marriage records is extracted from the three leading Virginia magazines of genealogy: the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, the *William and Mary College Quarterly*, and *Tyler's Quarterly*. The book contains almost every list of marriages published in these esteemed periodicals. The combined lists--fully indexed--contain some 20,000 marriage records, most of which derive from bonds, ministers' returns, licenses, registers, ministerial records, and newspapers. In the aggregate, they form the largest collection of Virginia marriage records ever published.

Was \$57.50 Now \$34.95

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Second Edition of *Evidence Explained: Citing History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace*, by Elizabeth Shown Mills

In 2009 Genealogical.com published a second edition of what is now the definitive guide to the citation and analysis of historical sources, a guide so thorough that it leaves nothing to chance, whether you want to cite a podcast or a census record. The second edition of [Evidence Explained](#) includes updates to numerous websites, new models for electronic sources such as blogs and online forums, and new model citations to traditional and nontraditional genealogical sources, thus continuing its role as the single-most comprehensive style manual for genealogical writing and publishing.

According to author Elizabeth Shown. Mills, there are no historical sources we can trust at face value. Records simply offer evidence, and their assertions may or may not be true. To decide what actually happened, we must understand those records. To analyze that evidence and judge what to believe, we also need particular facts about those records.

Thus, [Evidence Explained](#) has two principal uses: it provides citation models for most historical sources—especially original materials not covered by classic citation guides such as *The Chicago Manual of Style*. Beyond that it can help us understand each type of record and identify each in such detail that we and our readers will know not only where to go to find our source, but, equally important, the nature of that source so that the evidence can be better interpreted and the accuracy of our conclusions properly appraised.

Evidence Explained was the winner of the National Genealogical Society's 2008 Award of Excellent, and it was named a "Best Reference 2007" by the prestigious magazine *Library Journal*. Following are some highlights of this superb reference work:

- Covers all contemporary and electronic sources not discussed in traditional style manuals, including digital, audio, and video sources
- Explains citation principles and includes more than 1,000 citation models for virtually every source type
- Shows readers where to go to find their sources and how to describe them and evaluate them
- Teaches readers to separate facts from assertions and theory from proof in the evaluation of evidence

REVIEWS OF THE FIRST EDITION

“The definitive guide for how to cite every conceivable kind of source a historian might use, from traditional archival materials to digital media to the most arcane sources imaginable.”—John B. Boles, Editor, *Journal of Southern History*

“Meant not only as a style guide for the types of source citations used by genealogists and historians, this book also discusses why analysis of information within the total context of a source is imperative to understanding the nature of a ‘fact.’ Citations not only tell where the source was found, but also can indicate a level of confidence to knowledgeable researchers.”—*Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly* (December 2007)

“. . . pays special attention to the proper citation of multimedia materials and online resources and to understanding their role as evidence in historical research. . . . This 14-chapter guide could scarcely be more comprehensive or thorough. It outlines foundational issues of evidence and citation analysis and then details the citation of specific types of materials.”—*Choice* (March 2008)

“The heart of the book . . . presents more than one thousand citation models. . . . Most valuable are models for contemporary sources (Web sites, digital books and journals, DVDs, CDs, audio files, podcasts, e-zines, and others) and genealogical sources not covered elsewhere (artifacts, family group sheets, FHL preservation film, lineage society applications, genetic testing reports, grave markers, blogs, online forums, and such). . . . In standardizing a family history style, Mills has advanced the discipline. She has given genealogical researchers, writers, editors, and publishers invaluable new tools to bring quality and consistency to their work and distinction to the field.”—*National Genealogical Society Quarterly* (September 2007)

“You no longer have to guess how to cite your sources—there is an example for everything imaginable. . . . Users will find comfort in knowing nothing has been left to chance—anyone will be able to follow the trail back to the source used.”—*The Virginia Genealogical Society Newsletter* (October 2007)

“Carry it around and look up the correct citation of any source you come across. Keep it at your side to help you identify sources and use it to evaluate digital and internet sources.”—*Bluegrass Roots* (Fall 2007)

“*Evidence Explained* . . . is more than a mere expansion of *Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian*. As a transition, it is the next generation of genealogical and historical documentation style guide and will likely remain so for years to come. It should be on every genealogist’s shelf to be consulted often.”—*New Mexico Genealogist* (March 2008)

“Separate citation examples for print, film, and electronic formats are included when applicable. . . . This is an essential resource for family historians; highly recommended for all libraries.”—*Library Journal* (November 2007)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Elizabeth Shown Mills is a historical writer with decades of research experience in public and private records. Published widely in academic and popular presses, Mills edited a national-level scholarly journal for sixteen years, taught for thirteen years at a National Archives-based institute for archival records and, for twenty years has headed a university-based program in advanced research methodology. She is the author of a number of books, including *Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian* (1997), as well as the editor of *Professional Genealogy: A Manual for Researchers, Writers, Editors, Lecturers, and Librarians* (2001).

For more information about (or to order a copy of) the new Second Edition of *Evidence Explained*, please click on the following link:

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3843

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Just Reprinted in May!

[Abstracts from Ben Franklin’s *Pennsylvania Gazette*, 1728-1748](#)

Arranged chronologically from 1728 to 1748 during the period of Franklin's personal charge, this useful reference tool consists of genealogical abstracts of the most important newspaper in 18th-century America. The pages of the *Gazette* record fires, accidents, crimes, desertions, mutinies, piracies, and, in the advertisements, listings of merchants, artisans, teachers, and shippers, and many notices of deaths. The 12,000 persons indexed are by no means limited to Philadelphia or Pennsylvania, but appear in all the colonies, especially New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland.

[Buried Genealogical Data. A Complete List of Addressed letters Left in the Post Offices of Philadelphia, Chester, Lancaster, Trenton, New Castle and Wilmington Between 1748 and 1780. Abstracted from the *Pennsylvania Gazette*](#)

Lists of persons named in unclaimed letters first appeared in Franklin's *Pennsylvania Gazette* of 21 March 1738. These lists, which were printed from time to time throughout the colonial period, provide a wealth of genealogical information by locating thousands of individuals at various times and, on occasion, identifying their trade, profession, or military rank. The present volume--an innovative and ingenious tool for genealogical research--contains the names of approximately 27,000 persons whose letters lay unclaimed in the post offices of the above towns. All lists

printed in the *Gazette* from 1748 throughout the colonial period are published here.

[General Index to the Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New Jersey](#)

This index to the first ten volumes of the *New Jersey Archives* is the key to the earliest records of colonial New Jersey. It contains references to about 7,500 individuals and to hundreds of special subjects relating to the founding and settlement of colonial New Jersey.

[New Jersey Biographical Index](#)

This index covers some 100,000 biographies and associated portraits in 237 New Jersey cyclopedias, histories, yearbooks, periodicals, and other collective biographical sources published to about 1980. Donald Sinclair extracted these biographies from 2,000 volumes scattered among collective sources (not single-volume biographies).

[Virginia Counties: Those Resulting from Virginia Legislation](#)

This is the only book in existence that accurately shows the dates of formation of Virginia counties, the territory from which they were formed, their boundaries and jurisdiction, and the origin of their names, and then backs up the information with documentation. Without fear of exaggeration, it is a kind of "Rosetta Stone" to Virginia counties, for it unravels all the mysteries surrounding their origins and alterations.

[Old Tenth Legion Marriages in Rockingham County, Virginia: Marriages in Rockingham County, Virginia, from 1778 to 1816](#)

The records in this book, though styled Old Tenth Legion marriages, are predominantly of Rockingham County and include the area of Page County erected from Rockingham and Shenandoah in 1831. In this compilation the marriages are rendered in one alphabetical sequence by the name of the groom, preceded by the date of the record and followed by the name of the bride and names of sureties and parents, and they identify approximately 2,600 couples. Brides are separately indexed.

[Annals of Lincoln County, North Carolina. . .1749 to 1937](#)

These historical annals list early Lincoln County settlers and Revolutionary War soldiers and pensioners, with biographical sketches of prominent citizens and year-by-year summaries of the prominent events in the county's history from 1749 to 1937.

[South Carolina Provincial Troops Named in Papers of the First Council of Safety of the Revolutionary Party in South Carolina, June-November, 1775](#)

In June of 1775 the first Provincial Congress of South Carolina appointed a Council of Safety to administer the affairs of the Province. At the same time it provided for the formation of three regiments of regular troops. The vast bulk of the work consists of rosters of the several thousand men who composed the three regiments, their names appearing in pay rolls, muster rolls, and returns of the various volunteer companies of foot and rangers.

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Blog: Highlights of the 2011 National Genealogical Society Conference

Blogger-in-chief Carolyn Barkley experienced this year's NGS Conference from both sides of the exhibit hall: As a staffer of the Genealogical.com exhibit and as a conference attendee at lectures, luncheons, and other vendors' exhibits. Carolyn's summary of the biggest event in mainstream genealogy circles, now available on our blog, www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com, is the next best thing to having been there!

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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