

## GENEALOGY POINTERS (06-26-07)

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DICK EASTMAN Touts Revised Edition of Mills' "Quicksheet"

[The following article originally appeared in the May 22, 2007, issue of "Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter" and is reprinted here with the permission of the author.]

"Quicksheet: Citing Online Historical Sources. First Revised Edition," Reviewed by Dick Eastman

Elizabeth Shown Mills is well known in genealogy circles for a number of reasons. One of those reasons is her excellent book, EVIDENCE! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian. This book is the definitive guide about how to cite sources in any genealogy work. I wrote a review of this book when it first appeared ten years ago, and I was very impressed with it. I have used it often ever since.

Almost two years ago, Elizabeth produced a condensed QUICKSHEET that is equally valuable. It consists of four laminated pages. It focuses on online sources, a subject that has grown in importance since her book EVIDENCE! was published. A lot of information is crammed into these four pages. A revised edition of the QUICKSHEET is now available.

QUICKSHEET: Citing Online Historical Sources provides a template for citing historical sources on the Internet. It also lays down rules to help you judge the reliability of these sources. The QUICKSHEET contains a series of sample citations, showing the correct way to identify online sources such as databases, census images, and digital books and articles.

The QUICKSHEET is based on the premise that online sources are publications that have the same characteristics as printed publications. It provides rules and models for common record types such as passenger lists, vital records, and newspapers. The QUICKSHEET shows you how to cite the author/creator/owner of a website, title of the website, place (URL), date posted, and so forth. The QUICKSHEET doesn't replace EVIDENCE! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian; rather, it is much more of a supplement to the earlier book.

Best of all, the QUICKSHEET sells for a modest price: \$5.95 plus [\$2.00] shipping. It is available directly from Genealogical Publishing Company at

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=3849&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3849&NLC-GenPointers1)

This tiny QUICKSHEET is a "must have" for all genealogists. I kept the original version next to my computer for nearly two years, and I referred to it often. I have now replaced the previous version with the revised edition and expect to use the new one often in the future.

You can also read my review of the earlier EVIDENCE! Citation & Analysis for The Family Historian in the archives of this newsletter at <http://www.eogn.com/archives/news9737.htm>.

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### MARTHA McCARTNEY Accounts for Overlooked 17th-Century Virginia Ancestors

During the 20 years she spent researching VIRGINIA IMMIGRANTS AND ADVENTURERS, 1607-1635: A Biographical Dictionary, author Martha McCartney investigated the surviving civil and ecclesiastical records of Virginia's state and local archives and libraries with a fine-tooth comb. Additionally, she traveled to examine records at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.; the Huntington Library in San Marino, California; and the archives of Bermuda, Great Britain, and Ireland.

In the process, she was able to incorporate findings into her research that had been unknown or overlooked. As she has noted, "One of the most remarkable record groups that has come to light during modern times is the Ferrar Papers, which have been preserved in the Pepys Library at the University of Cambridge in England. They comprise the bulk of the 'lost records' of the Virginia Company of London." Among other things, the Ferrar Papers contain references to early Virginians, which enabled Ms. McCartney to account for 20 percent more inhabitants along the James and York rivers in 1625 than previously had been accounted for.

The following paragraphs are excerpted from the Introduction to VIRGINIA IMMIGRANTS AND ADVENTURERS, 1607-1635: A Biographical Dictionary. They summarize the principal breakthroughs in the book. If you have lost the trail of a Virginia Tidewater ancestor who you believe was around during these years, there is a chance that you will find him/her in Ms. McCartney's new book. Read on and see why.

"During the course of [my] research, some illuminating discoveries were made. The names of at least 227 people were omitted from the February 16, 1624, census, individuals who came to Virginia prior to that date and were still alive in early 1625. While it could be argued that some colonists were away on the day demographic records were collected, it is unlikely that almost 18 percent of the population left briefly and then returned. The 1625 muster seems to have been compiled much more carefully, for only 44 people (3.5 percent) were missing. The men collecting information for the 1625 muster frequently listed the name of the ship on which a colonist came to Virginia, along with a specific date. Research has revealed that sometimes the date recorded denotes

when a particular vessel left England; in other instances, it indicates the date of the ship's arrival in Virginia. Unless otherwise noted, the dates used herein are those listed in the muster. Notably, the muster-taker classified all indentured servants and tenants as 'servants,' even though tenants were free and therefore had more rights.

"A considerable number of men, women, and children who spent time in English prisons and jails were deemed suitable for transportation to Virginia. It is unclear how many of these individuals actually left England, despite being selected. Many inmates undoubtedly were in such poor physical condition that they perished on the way to the colony or died shortly after their arrival. On the other hand, at least 42 former prisoners did indeed survive and a handful continued to run afoul of the law after they reached Virginia. Sometimes, people who wanted to acquire Virginia land by means of the headright system did so by paying for a prisoner's passage to the colony. Likewise, Virginia Company officials occasionally procured prisoners and sent them to Virginia. For example, the 50 young males the Company sent to the colony in the ship, the *Duty*, in 1620 (afterward dubbed the 'Duty boys') were brought in from Bridewell Prison in London. The Virginia Company also sent large numbers of children to the colony, youngsters who had been rounded up from the streets of London specifically for that purpose. Just as numerous people's names were omitted from the 1624 census and 1625 muster, many of those listed as headrights never made it into contemporary demographic or court records. Likewise, relatively few of the literally hundreds of former prisoners selected for transportation to the colony show up in the census and muster. The omission of these people raises the possibility that during the early years the colony was a deathtrap, just as some of its harshest critics claimed.

"Through research, the known number of ancient planters (that is, people who came to Virginia prior to Sir Thomas Dale's May 1616 departure) has increased modestly, and the given name of one ancient planter has been corrected. Also discovered was an individual whose descendants incorrectly identified him as an ancient planter and attempted to patent the amount of land to which they assumed he was entitled. Through the use of a little-known seventeenth-century text, a Virginia colonist's marriage to the daughter of an Indian king has been documented. Thus, the union of John Rolfe and Pocahontas was not the only early instance of legal marriage between a colonist and a Native. Sir Thomas Dale, whose wife, Elizabeth, was in England, unsuccessfully sought an Indian bride.

"It has been learned that certain people, listed in the official account of those slain in the March 22, 1622, Indian attack, did in fact survive. In light of the chaos that followed the surprise assault upon the settlements sparsely scattered along the banks of the James River, this is understandable. The need to evacuate survivors to positions of greater safety and the abandonment of certain plantations undoubtedly added to the confusion. Listed among the casualties were 19 women captured by the Pamunkey Indians and taken to their homeland and one colonist and his household, who were spirited across the James River by the Nansemond Indians but managed to escape to safety. Discrepancies can be found in the accounts compiled by the Virginia Company and Captain John

Smith, who may have drawn upon the same sources. An alternative account of the 1622 Indian attack reveals that at least three Natives warned the colonists that an assault was imminent.

"The May 1625 land list, compiled by William Claiborne, includes the names of those who held patents for acreage outside of Jamestown Island. It describes the location of patentees' property in general terms, and often lists the quantity of land to which they had laid claim. In many instances the acreage was described as 'seated' or 'planted,' an indication that it had been partially cleared or developed. Claiborne's list includes the names of certain people known to have perished in the March 22, 1622, Indian attack or who died a year or so later. Therefore, he probably was documenting the decedents' land claims to preserve their heirs' hereditary rights.

"The reader is invited to check the sources listed at the end of each biography. Although the research culminating in the production of this volume spans a period of more than 20 years, undoubtedly, as new record groups are discovered, more will be learned about Virginia's first settlers."

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=3505&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3505&NLC-GenPointers1)

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#### BARBADOS CD Identifies Earliest Inhabitants of Island

During the 1980s, Texan Joanne McRee Sanders dedicated herself to transcribing the vital records and probate records of the island of Barbados. Her transcriptions eventually filled six large volumes, spanning the period 1637 to 1800. Mrs. Sanders was keenly aware of the Barbados connection to the North American mainland, owing to the triangular trade that operated between Barbados, North America (especially South Carolina and New England), and either Great Britain or Africa. Her books, most of which are out of print, sold in the hundreds of dollars; however, researchers can now obtain them (page image by page image) on a fully searchable CD-ROM entitled, ENGLISH SETTLERS IN BARBADOS, 1637-1800. This CD is completely indexed and, at \$39.99, sells at a tiny fraction of the cost of the books--even if you could get your hands on them.

ENGLISH SETTLERS IN BARBADOS, 1637-1800 is one of four terrific CD values featured at [www.genealogical.com](http://www.genealogical.com) this month. If your ancestors lived in Massachusetts, Connecticut, or New Jersey, you will find many of the best reference works on those topics--fully indexed--on our three other featured CDs for June. Please have a look!

#### ENGLISH SETTLERS in Barbados, 1637-1800

This Family Archive CD contains images of the pages of six volumes of Barbados baptism, marriage, and probate records compiled by Joanne McRee Sanders. It is very likely that the majority of English persons residing in Barbados between 1637 and 1800 are among the 200,000 individuals identified here. The British initially settled Barbados

as early as 1627. Many of these early settlers eventually moved to mainland North America, settling in Virginia, Georgia, the Carolinas, and other colonies. In fact, throughout most of the 17th and 18th centuries, there was a continuous flow of settlers from Barbados to virtually every point along the Atlantic seaboard, with the result that many families in America today trace their origins in the New World first to Barbados. [http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=7022&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7022&NLC-GenPointers1)

#### COLONIAL NEW JERSEY Source Records, 1600s to 1800s (CD)

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

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=7518&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7518&NLC-GenPointers1)

#### THE RICKER COMPILATION of Vital Records of Early Connecticut

This CD is an alphabetized and edited list of birth, marriage, death, and related vital records bearing on the inhabitants of the towns of early Connecticut. It is based extensively on the Barbour Collection of Connecticut Town Vital Records, the chief resource in Connecticut genealogy, and it covers the period from approximately 1633, when these statistics were first recorded, to around 1850.

In addition to the celebrated Barbour Collection, compiler Jacquelyn Ricker's database also includes vital statistics from the following Connecticut towns not covered by Barbour: Bolton, Coventry, Enfield, Mansfield, New Haven, Vernon, and much of Norwich and Woodstock, as well as information gleaned from lists of source records, Bibles, and church records held in the Connecticut State Library at Hartford. THE RICKER COMPILATION, moreover, includes tombstone transcriptions from more than 400 cemeteries that were originally published in "The Connecticut Nutmegger," a publication of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists formerly edited by Jacquelyn Ricker herself.

Overall, the amount of data on this CD is staggering--one-and-a-half million names! Another great feature, the CD's search engine--based on the popular Adobe Acrobat platform--allows you to search the records by name or keyword.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=7535&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7535&NLC-GenPointers1)

## MASSACHUSETTS Probate, Town, and Vital Records

Between 1630 and 1642, the period of the "Great Migration," some 30,000 people emigrated from England to Massachusetts. By the time of the American Revolution, nearly everyone in Massachusetts could trace their ancestry to one of these 30,000 people. Of the 13 books on this CD, six deal specifically with vital records. Vital records usually contain the name of the individual involved in the event, the date of the event, and the name of the town in which the event took place. Four of the books are histories of Massachusetts towns. The rest of the books contain abstracts of Massachusetts probate records--wills, inventories, administrators' accounts, receipts, divisions of estates, petitions, and guardianships.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=7502&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7502&NLC-GenPointers1)

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## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS Genealogy Website

The Library of Congress (LC) is the greatest repository of published works in the U.S., including genealogy and local history books and periodicals. Whether or not you are planning to visit the Library itself in the near future, it will pay you to visit its website.

To get on the LC site, go to the following link: <http://www.loc.gov>. Now that you've arrived at the LC home page, allow yourself to browse the site as a whole. For example, at the American Memory collection ([www.memory.loc.gov](http://www.memory.loc.gov)), you will find a gateway to rich primary source materials related to the history and culture of the U.S. The site offers more than 7 million digital items from more than 100 historical collections--from ancient Greece to Athens, Ohio. Other popular sites that can be accessed from the LC home page include online exhibitions (interested in Bob Hope's vaudeville career?), world cultures, congressional legislation, and a discovery center.

After you tear yourself from the aforementioned diversions (thank goodness for the "back" button), return to the LC home page. Now click on "Resources for Researchers," which will take you to the following page: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/>. Next click on "General Collections," at the bottom right of the Web page, and then click on "Local History and Genealogy," which should bring you to the home page for the Local History and Genealogy Reading Room: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy>.

While much of the Local History and Genealogy site is designed to prepare researchers to work in the Library, you can also do some of your investigating right on the site. For instance, you can learn how to optimize a search of the Library catalogue for a book among its collection of 50,000 published genealogies and 100,000 local histories (<http://catalog.loc.gov/>). You will also find a page of links to genealogical collections at other libraries, as well as to a selected list of popular genealogy sites. Staff members of the Local History and Genealogy Division have prepared two dozen bibliographies or guides to a range of genealogy topics that you can access or print out for free

([http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib\\_guid/bibguide.html](http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/bibguide.html)). And if you are about to finish writing a genealogy or local history, you can learn what the procedures are for depositing a copy at the LC.

On the other hand, if you ARE contemplating a trip to Washington, here are some reasons to visit <http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/> in advance. The staff of the Local History and Genealogy Division conducts tours of the reading room and research seminars to orient new users to LC resources. You'll want to book one or both of these opportunities in advance. Similarly, the site's home page should give you a pretty good idea of what to bring, the Library's circulation policy, and generally how to make the best use of your time at the LC. Finally, if you are accustomed to using a commercial genealogy database (e.g. Ancestry.com), you can find out in advance which ones are available at the Local History and Genealogy Reading Room.

So, whether you're planning to travel or want to find something online among the LC's 29 million books and other printed materials, 2.7 million recordings, 12 million photographs, 4.8 million maps, and 57 million manuscripts, a visit to <http://www.loc.gov> promises to be rewarding.

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## CONTACT US

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To order other than online, you can:

1. Order by mail: 3600 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 260 - Baltimore, Maryland 21211-1953
2. Fax your order to 1-410-752-8492
3. Call toll-free to our sales department at 1-800-296-6687