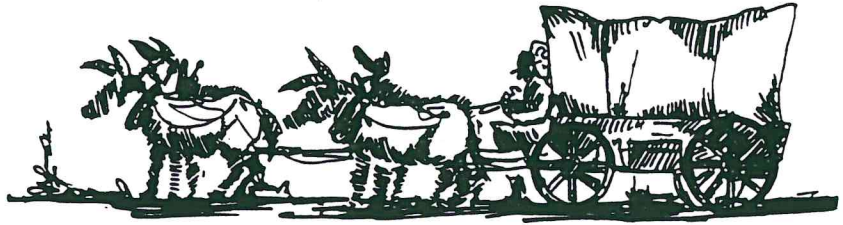


Cleveland County

GENEALOGICAL

SOCIETY

P. O. Box 6176
Norman, Oklahoma 73070



16

Volume 15, Number 2

APRIL 1995

Library Address: 1005 N. Flood, Suite 136, Norman, Oklahoma

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 6176, Norman, OK 73070

Hours: Tuesday 1-5 p.m.

Thursday 1-5 p.m.

Saturday 1-5 p.m.

VISITORS WELCOME!

Phone: (405) 329-9180

Meetings: 7:00 p.m., 3rd Tuesday of each month (except July & August)
Norman Public Library, Webster & Gray Streets

Dues: \$10 per year, \$15 for husband/wife, payable January 1

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

NOTICE: CHANGE OF MEETING PLACE! On May 16 we will meet at 7 p.m. at OEC for a program entitled Hitting the Road, with the following speakers and subjects:

Barbara Young, Fort Wayne, IN library

Darlene Shawn, Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah

Jim Mohon, Tennessee State Library and Archives

Inez Anderson, Kansas City Branch of the Federal Archives, the Kansas City Public Library and the Independence, MO Genealogical Library section

Joyce Grisham, Dallas Public Library Genealogical Collection and the Fort Worth Branch of the Federal Archives.

If you are traveling this summer, you may want to stop by some of these libraries and do research. We know many of you have good tips on what to take along on a research trip and we hope you will share them with us during an informal discussion time at the end of the meeting.

THE MAY FAIR will be May 13th at Reeves Park and Margaret Earls and Fran Blair will be coordinating the Society's Used Book Sale area. If you have books to donate, please contact them ASAP! They will need help moving, setting up and taking down tables as well as staffing the booth during the day. Hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

AT THE LIBRARY a large number of copies of The Genealogical Helper and the DAR Magazine have been donated that are duplicates of ones already on the shelves. If you would like any of these, please see Olier Valliere.

Our local historian and fellow CCGS member, Edna Couch, has entered the Four Seasons Nursing Center, 2416 North Ann Arbor, Oklahoma City, OK 73127. Telephone 942-8566. She is looking forward to being back in her own home, continuing work on the book she is writing, and attending CCGS meetings in a couple of months. Get Well Soon, Edna!

Genealogists are the only people I know who read books back to front.

The latest of our Cleveland County publications to be completed is Naturalization Records. This booklet includes petitions for naturalization, declaration of intent, first papers and/or final papers (abstracted from the original ledgers) through 1930 when jurisdiction was given to Oklahoma County. This has been completely indexed as to petitioners and witnesses. Quite a number of the surnames are well known in the Norman area; the most "famous" name may be that of Gustaf Fredrik Holmberg for whom Holmberg Hall on the campus of the University of Oklahoma is named. He immigrated from Sweden with his wife, Signy Louise, and obtained a position as a music teacher. Price is \$5, plus 39 cents sales tax. Add \$1.60 P/H if mailing is desired.

* * ELECTION OF OFFICERS * *

The Nominating Committee elected at the April meeting will present the slate of officers for 1995-1996 to the membership at the May meeting. Prior to the election at the June meeting, additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted. All nominees must have accepted nomination prior to election. Installation of the elected officers shall be at the June meeting.

NEW ACQUISITIONS AT THE LIBRARY

Gifts of Daughters of 1812

Haywood County, North Carolina Families, Alice R. Cook

Searching Your Heritage, Mary Whitney, Inc.

East Tennessee Roots, Publication of the East Tennessee Heritage Foundation, Inc, Vol IV, Winter 1989; Vol VII, Spring 1992; Vol VII, Summer 1992

Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine, February 1995

Heritage Quest, Nov/Dec 1994 Issue #54, "Stories of World War II Revealed in Asian Cemeteries", Pamela Schwannecke Olson

1816: THE YEAR WITHOUT A SUMMER

As a result of the eruption of the Tamboro Volcano in Java in 1815, 12,000 island residents lost their lives. The volcano is also probably to blame for an unusual weather pattern the following year in North America, resulting in mass migrations of people trying to avoid the ensuing climatic anomalies.

The summer of 1816 was unusually cold, with killing frosts and even snow-fall destroying newly-planted crops throughout the United States. June and July were the coldest months - 19 states had snow in June! There were no fall harvests; animals and people starved; wild animals ravaged the frontier. Not understanding the meteorological causes, people blamed the Wrath of God for their hardships. Some, destitute and despondent, committed suicide.

By 1817, the climate had returned to normal. However, many had moved to warmer parts of the country, and numerous farmers left for the cities to go into industrial work. If you have no explanation for why your ancestor may have migrated, or you can't determine exactly when it happened - just "sometime" around 1815-1820 - consider that this event might have been the cause.

With thanks to the Jefferson County Gen Soc Newsletter via The Family Tree, Odom Library, Vol VI:1

CAN'T FIND THAT DEATH CERTIFICATE?

The recording of deaths was not limited to the county of death. In addition to deaths actually occurring in the county, they were also recorded when only the doctor was from that county (accidents and/or medical facility out of county but close to the town where the doctor practiced) or perhaps the funeral home was the only one available. Towns located at some distance from the county seat might report their deaths to a neighboring closer county seat. Many deaths were recorded after the date of death, some several years. After all, what could be done to anyone for not recording it? Oversights, holidays, lack of relatives, etc., may be other reasons why death certificates are not available, even at the state level.

**Extrapolated from Wagoner Genealogist, 3 Forks Gen Soc, Dec 1994, Vol 14:4

QUERIES

I am searching for descendants, as well as ancestral information on LOUCINDA JANE BENNETT, wife of PETER H. MYERS, JR. and dau of ALFRED LOVEN BENNETT and MARY MARGARET MCEUIN of Missouri.) Siblings were: NANCY DELIBEY DELILAH BENNETT (m. NATHANIAL MYERS); LOVEN BENNETT; ALFRED T. BENNETT; MARGARET ELIZABETH BENNETT (m. WILLIAM LESLIE MORROW); JAMES J. BENNETT; and CYNTHIA ELLEN BENNETT (m. NORT SMITH). The Bennetts settled in Cleveland Co., Corbett area around 1900.

I am searching for descendants, as well as ancestral information on PETER H. MYERS, JR. family who settled in the Corbett area, Cleveland Co., Territory of OK, ca. 1898. The son of PETER MYERS, SR. and TEMPERANCE BABB of MO, PETER JR. married LOUCINDA JANE BENNETT. Both were from MO. Their children were: CLAUDUSE MYERS, OSCAR GREENSTREET MYERS and ABRAM MCEUIN MYERS.

Any information will be appreciated. I will be happy to pay copying costs or share information in exchange. Send info to Cindy Casey, 4510 River Ridge Road, Pfafftown, NC 27040 (910) 922-3291.

The 1910 Soundex shows JOHN L. BURNS (b 1857 MO) and MALISHA BURNS (b 1861 MO) in Cleveland Co. OK. Children: JOHN (b. 1893, OK), ARTHUR (b 1899 OK), BERT (b 1903 OK). In 1920 the parents and youngest child lived in Cotton CO, OK. Need any info on them. John L. was my grandfather's long lost half-brother. Boice Burns, 14019 East Cypress Forest, Houston, TX 77070 (713) 894-4064.

Would you know of someone who would like to sell their copy of the two-volume set of JOHN ROSS CORRESPONDENCE? Univ. of OK Press has it now out of print and we need a copy. Mountain Press, 4503 Anderson Pike, P. O. Box 400, Signal Mountain, TN 37377. (615) 886-6369.

Looking for any information on WILSON PORTER/PORTER WILSON, m. HENRIETTA WILLIAMS MO/KA/OK? Had one child RENEE b. Pottawatomie CO about 1890. They divorced in OK? Henrietta m. DAVID BARTO about 1897? OK? Have 1890 I.T. Census with David; 1900 Census Lincoln CO, OK with David and family. David died about 1910? Where in OK, and where was he buried? Henrietta m. JOE HOPKINS about 1915 Atoka OK? Any info, obits, etc. would be appreciated. Betty Bridgford, P. O. Box 2547, Silver City, NM 88062.

Searching for descendants of HENRY MARION (MASSIE) MILLER, b NC about 1856 and ANNIE R. MILLER ORR, b NC about 1852. She married Mr. Orr probably in Missouri. Write CCGS, P. O. Box 6176, Norman, OK 73070.

Seeking family info on twin girls, STELLA ELIZABETH and NELLIE CAROLINE FORD, children of CLYDE HUGHES FORD and UNA LeCLAIR FORD. Twins born in Norman, OK Aug 15, 1902. The twins lived in Shawnee Indian Mission School from 1904 to 1915. Please write CCGS, P.O. Box 6172, Norman OK 73070.

MAYFLOWER INFORMATION

The Kishwaukee Genealogists have printed a very interesting article concerning the "Mayflower Compact" - with lists of the passengers and information about their families. Just send SASE to the Odom Library, P. O. 1110, Moultrie, GA 31776-1110, and request a copy.

HOW'S THAT?

Have you heard that an ancestor of yours died as a result of a fall from a platform? Have you ever considered that he may have been hung?

With thanks to The Connector by way of the YVGS Family Finders

ADOPTION INFORMATION IN OHIO & INDIANA

The Ohio Mutual Registry allows adoptees and birthparents a way to reunite. A release of information form must be filed with the Bureau of Vital Statistics by birthparents and birth sibling. Adult adoptees must petition County Probate Courts to check the Mutual Consent Registry for a release of their birth family. If a release form is on file, the adoptee can be given identifying information about the birth family.

Pre-1941 adoptions finalized in Indiana are NOT considered part of the "closed" records law. Requests for pre-1941 records may be fairly new to some Indiana Courts. The adopted person who qualifies under this law should persist when contacting the court with jurisdiction. In case of problems, contact the Indiana State Board of Health, 1330 West Michigan Street, P.O. Box 1964, Indianapolis, IN 46206

HEALTH INVENTORY GREAT IDEA FOR FAMILY

While we are working on our genealogical information, information often becomes available concerning the cause of death of our family members. What a great idea to make a "Health Inventory" for your own family physician and one to keep with your genealogy papers for future generations of your family. Include uncles, aunts, cousins, as well as your direct lineage and children. A sample entry might read: "Maternal Aunt: Living age 91. Alert, active and living alone until age 90 when she had an apparent stroke. Now living in convalescent home. Moderate diabetes controlled by diet, diagnosed at age 55. Cataracts both eyes, age 88, right lens implant at age 90, successful. Several small strokes with residual left side weakness in 1993, also several seizure episodes.

Brother: Living at age 67. Left-handed. Good health."

With thanks to an article by Elizabeth Kohler in The Mission Oaks Genealogy Club Newsletter. Write them: PO Box 216, Carmichael, CA 05609-0216.

SPIELBERG BEGINS PRESERVING HOLOCAUST TESTIMONY

Last spring, movie director Steven Spielberg began a new non-profit foundation dedicated to collect and preserve Holocaust testimony. By the end of 1998, he plans to have 50,000 videotaped interviews--each 2 hours long--with Holocaust survivors all over the world.

Most of the world's estimated 325,000 Holocaust survivors are in their 70s and 80s. Spielberg says the project is a "race against time."

Survivors are invited to call the project toll free at 1-800-661-2092.

CIVIL WAR HELP

If you have an ancestor who served in the Civil War, help is available with information about the unit with which he served. Write Civil War Descendants Society. PO Box 233, Athens, AL 35611

All from The Family Tree, Vol 5:6, Odom Library, POB 110, Moultrie, GA 31776

BERLIN CENTER PASSES TO GERMANS

An article appearing in This Week in Germany reports that the Berlin Document Center, the last major repository of Nazi-era documents controlled by the United States, was transferred to the administration of Germany's Federal Archives on Friday, 1 July 1994.

In accordance with the transfer agreement, the United States has microfilmed the entire contents of the BDC. The microfilm copy will be available in the National Archives in Washington, DC.

HELP IDENTIFY UNKNOWN UNION SOLDIERS

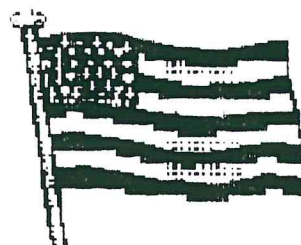
The Old Darlington District Chapter of the South Carolina Genealogical Society, as part of its ongoing cemetery survey of the Pee Dee area of South Carolina, is undertaking an effort to identify the unknown Union soldiers buried in the Florence, SC National Cemetery. This National Cemetery is located on the site of the Florence Stockade, a prison camp used during the War Between the States. In 1864, thousands of Union prisoners were moved from Andersonville Prison in Georgia to the Florence Stockade. The first burial occurred in September 1864. By the end of the war over 2,300 Union soldiers were buried in mass graves at the site. One of those interred is believed to be Florena Budwin, a female Union soldier who, disguised as a man, followed her husband into the service from Pennsylvania. After her husband was killed, she was captured and later moved to the Florence Stockade. In 1865 this site was declared a National Cemetery and now covers nearly 10 and one-half acres.

Those persons who have ancestors who died during the War Between the States at the Florence Stockade, or know of other Union soldiers who met the same fate, are encouraged to contact the Old Darlington District Chapter of the SCGS with the name and rank of the soldier. His unit, state of service and date of birth and death are needed as well. Also send information concerning survivors and a reference to where this information was found. Please write Cemetery Committee, Old Darlington District Chapter, SCGS, PO Box 175, Hartsville, SC 29551.

WHAT PRICE FREEDOM?

Here are the numbers of Americans who have died for our freedom during the following wars:

4,435	American Revolution
22,260	War of 1812
1,733	Mexican War
498,332	Civil War
4,101	Spanish-American War
116,516	World War I
303,455	World War II
54,246	Korean Conflict
58,665	Vietnam



With thanks to the Amelia Island Genealogical Society, PO Box 6005, Fernandina Beach, FL 32035-6005.

SOUTHERN BRAZILIANS?

About 3,500 Southerners fled to Brazil between 1866 and 1890. Nearly 3,000 returned to the USA by the turn of the century, but many remained. Most of those who stayed moved to Americana, Brazil, where their descendants still live. In a graveyard at nearby Santa Barbara D'Oaste, about 400 Confederate settlers and their offspring are buried.

All from The Family Tree, Vol V:6, Odom Library, POB 1110, Moultrie, GA 31776

WORLD WAR II AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS AVAILABLE

During World War II, the US and German military units took aerial photographs of most villages in Germany and France. You can secure copies of their aerial photos of your village through the National Archives. Write Cartographic and Architectural Branch (NNSC), National Archives and Records Administration, NARA, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001.

Fees are \$4.75 for a 4x5 black-white negative and \$6.25 for an 8x10 black-white print. You must purchase the negative to get the print. Unless your village name is duplicated by several other villages, they have no trouble locating it. With thanks to the Immigrant Genealogical Society Newsletter

CLINTON MAKES WAR RECORDS AVAILABLE

President Bill Clinton signed an Executive Order on November 10, 1994, authorizing the National Archives to release 43 million pages of war records. The documents include nearly all the classified holdings dating before World War II and nearly 23 million pages relating to the Vietnam War, Naval operating forces, and records of the headquarters of the USAF. All of these records, except those protected by privacy laws, are now available at three sites only: The main National Archives Building in Washington, DC; a second existing building in Suitland, Maryland, and a new building in College Park, Maryland. No index is available now.

NEW GERMAN ACQUISITIONS

Half a million German pedigrees, mostly dating from 1650-1850, are now available on microfilm at the Family History Library, 35 North West Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. They are also usually available at Family History Centers all over the United States. Many pedigrees are hundreds of pages long. The collection, titled Die Ahnenstammkartei des deutschen Volkes (The German Pedigree Card Index), includes 638 index films (listed under Family History Library Catalog computer number 688651). This is a handwritten, phonetic index. It is on 2.7 million cards and arranged by the wife's married name. It also includes over 600 pedigree films (listed under Family History Library Catalog computer number 677728).

A detailed introduction to the collection, written in German, appears on microfilm number 1,799,712, item 3. The Family History Library Catalog contains a briefer explanation in English.

Also available are 135 new microfilms about Germans in Russia. The German Protestant Church (Evangelische Kirche) of Russia was organized into several consistories and headquarters in St. Petersburg.

The new microfilms contain 274 volumes of the consistories' church record transcripts stored at the Russian State Historical Archives. These records are from German settlements in Ingermanland (the area near St. Petersburg), the Black Sea, Bessarabia and the Crimea for the years 1833 to 1885. The films are listed in the Subject section of the Family History Library Catalog under Germans, Russia, Church Records and Registers.

More information from the Family History Library, 35 North West Temple St., Salt Lake City, UT 84150.

WASHINGTON CO., OHIO 1800-1810 CENSUS DOES EXIST!

The 1800-1810 Census, Washington Co., Ohio, long thought lost, does exist and has been filmed on Family History Library film #940/916. The original enumerators' copy is at Marietta, Ohio.

all from The Family Tree, Odom Library, Vol VI:1

DON'T LET THEM TAKE YOUR NAME IN VAIN!

A variety of companies sells mass-produced items for thousands of surnames. Among these are one-page "surname histories," products showing a coat of arms, and books that feature addresses of individuals who share the same last name. These items are offered by direct mail, sold in airports and shopping malls, and advertised in magazines.

Millions of people buy these products, hoping they will learn something about their own family histories. However, people with the same last name do not necessarily belong to the same family or share ancestors. Those who suggest that a mass-produced item is part of a customer's individual family background are misrepresenting genealogy and family history.

The National Genealogical Society and the Federation of Genealogical Societies believe that there are four things you can--and should--do when you encounter any of these products.

- 1 . **BE ALERT!** Read the offer carefully. Then--think twice!
 - * Was the letter you received also sent to thousands of other people with the same last name?
 - * Do you know many people who can afford to print and mail thousands of letters to sell a book on their family history?
 - * Does the letter offer a family history, or....
 - * Does it merely offer a list of addresses of people who have your surname, suggesting that you write to them to learn about your ancestry?
 - * Does the advertisement offer a coat of arms for your last name? Coats of arms were first granted to individuals--not surnames. Then, as now, the right to use these arms was inherited from one's father.
 - * How could a company that has not researched your family tree know whether you have inherited the right to display a particular coat of arms?

- 2 . **RETURN IT!** If you bought a surname product that you realize has nothing to do with you or your family, you have the right to return it for a refund. Here's how to do that:
 - * If you ordered it by mail, you can return it for a refund.
 - * Be sure to enclose your name and address, as well as a statement that you request a refund.
 - * At the Post Office, you should buy a "return receipt for merchandise."
 - * If you paid for the product by credit card, ask your card company for help getting a credit.
 - * If you have not received a refund within six weeks, call The National Consumers League at 1-800-876-7060 (10 to 5, EST) for advice. Or, you can write to them at 815 15th Street, NW, Washington DC 20005.

- 3 . **COMPLAIN!** It is illegal to conduct schemes or devices through the U.S. mails to obtain money by means of false representation. The legal citation is 39 U.S.C. sec. 3005.
 - * The U.S. Postal Inspection Service will investigate any companies that use the U.S. mails to misrepresent mass-produced surname books or coats of arms. But the Service needs to hear from you before it can take action.
 - * If you receive a solicitation that you believe misrepresents the product being offered, you should write to the Consumer Protection Division, describing the ways in which you believe the company that contacted you has engaged in false advertising.

- * If you don't have time to write, simply replace the contents in the envelope, reseal it, and cross out your name and address. Then, forward it to:

U.S. Postal Inspection Service
Consumer Protection Division
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260-1100

4. **TELL OTHERS!** It is important to let others know what genealogy is...and what it is not! Here are some ideas for your society to use:

- * Keep a file on products that misrepresent genealogy and heraldry.
- * Contact the consumer news columnist of your newspaper, suggesting that he or she feature an article on this topic.
- * Sponsor a program on surname solicitations. Ask your members who have purchased surname products to give a short talk on their experiences.
- * Offer to speak to local service clubs about products masquerading as genealogy. You will not have to worry about libel if you stick to the facts and avoid specific name calling.
- * Encourage your community college to offer courses on genealogical research methods.

Sponsored by the National Genealogical Society, 4527 17th Street North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399, with the support of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, P.O. Box 3385, Salt Lake City, UT 84110-3385

The following is taken from The Journal of the Northumberland & Durham Family History Society, Notes and News:

General Register Office for Scotland, New Register House, Edinburgh is now selling a limited number of day tickets, called APEX passes, which are available at £12.00 (normal day rate £16.00) provided you book at least two weeks in advance. Telephone (031) 334 0380. Meanwhile in England, Family Tree Magazine for February reports an increase in the prices of certificates obtained in person from St. Catherine's House from £5.50 to £6.00, while postal applications made to Southport rise to £12.50.

Members in the Midlands may be interested to learn of the formation of Coventry Family History Society. For details, contact Mrs. Jane Cobbett, 8 Handcross Grove, Coventry CV3 6DZ.

The whole of the Big R - British Isles Genealogical Register - is now available on 23 microfiche from F.F.H.S. publications, 2-4 Killer Street, Ramsbottom, Bury, Lancashire BL0 9BZ, at a cost of £25.00 including postage. Pay by cheque to F.F.H.S. or by sterling money order. This Society has the Durham and Northumberland sections available for £2.50, from Mr. K. Dalkin.

North American members should note the new address of Ruesch International, from whom sterling cheques etc. can be purchased quite cheaply. Now at 700 Eleventh Street, Washington DC 20001-4507 (telephone 1-800-424-2923). Members in the U.K. who wish to obtain cheques in other currencies, avoiding high banking and conversion costs, can contact Ruesch International, 18 Savile Row, London W1X 2AD (freephone 0800-13632). Cost is £3.00 for a cheque in any other currency.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

BY Claire Prechtel-Kluskens

An Archivist with NASA's User Services Branch at Archives I

At Archives I

The National Archives is now beginning the second year of what's believed to be the biggest archival move in history, transferring massive amounts of files from its main building in Washington, DC to its new building in College Park, MD. Most records used by genealogical researchers will remain in the main building. Census, pre-World War I military, immigration, and naturalization, and Bureau of Indian Affairs records are among those remaining downtown.

Federal census records include the population census 1790-1920, and nonpopulation census records (agriculture, manufacturing, mortality, and social statistics schedules). Other census records include the 1857 Minnesota territorial census, and 1885 state censuses for Colorado, Florida, Nebraska, and New Mexico.

Military records include compiled military service files from the American Revolution, War of 1812, Mexican War, Civil War, Indian Wars, Spanish-American War, and Philippine Insurrection. Pension application files for veterans of these wars or their widows or other dependents are also available. Pension files for Confederate veterans may be obtained from the state archives or equivalent agency of the state in which the veteran resided after the war.

Immigration records include ship passenger arrivals at the ports of Baltimore, MD (1820-1909); Boston, MA (1820-1943); Detroit, MI (1906-1957); Galveston, TX (1896-1951); Gloucester, MA (1918-1943); Key West, FL (1898-1945); New Bedford, MA (1902-1943); New Orleans, LA (1820-1945); New York, NY (1820-1957); Philadelphia, PA (1800-1945); Port Townsend/Tacoma, WA (1894-1909); Portland, ME (1893-1943); Providence, RI (1911-1943); San Francisco, CA (1882-1957); Savannah, GA (1906-1945); Seattle/Port Townsend, WA (1882-1957). There are also arrival records for miscellaneous Atlantic and Gulf Coast ports (1820-1873); miscellaneous Great Lakes ports (1820-1873); miscellaneous Southern ports (1890-1954); and the Canadian border (1929-1954).

Microfilmed naturalization records in the main National Archives Building include an eclectic mixture of indexes, declarations of intention, and petitions for naturalizations from Federal Courts. Federal naturalization records not available in the microfilm Reading Room in Archives I can be obtained from the National Archives Regional Archives serving the state in which the Federal Court is located. However, most naturalizations before 1906 occurred in local, county, or state courts, and those records are not held by the National Archives.

Records about Native Americans are limited to records created or collected by the Federal Government about Federally-recognized tribes. The most frequently requested records are available on microfilm; see American Indians: A Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications. This catalog is being revised and should be available within a few months. Other records are described in Edward E. Hill, Guide to Records in the National Archives of the United States Relating to American Indians.

Other records remaining in the main National Archives Building in downtown Washington, DC include passport applications (1789-1906), and postal, maritime, lighthouse, and Civil War-era Internal Revenue Service tax assessment lists.

At Archives II

Depending upon your research needs, Archives II may contain records of interest to you. Aerial photographs, still photographs, and maps of the United States and foreign countries are now at Archives II.

Record Group 77 includes 1:50,000 scale maps of Europe (and elsewhere) made by the Army Map Service in the 1950s. These maps show small villages and other details not found on most commercially-available maps. Aerial photographs dating to the late 1930s may show the family farm and surrounding countryside as it once was. For more information about these records contact the Cartographic and Architectural Branch (NNSC), National Archives at College Park, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001.

TEXAS : HEADRIGHT AND SIMILAR GRANTS

First Class Headright: Issued to those who arrived before March 2, 1836. Heads of families received one league (4,428 acres) and one labor (177.1 acres), while single men received 1/3 league (1,476.1 acres).

Second Class Headright: Issued to those who arrived between March 2, 1836 and October 1, 1837. Heads of families received 1,280 acres, while single men received 640 acres.

Third Class Headright: Issued to those who arrived between October 1, 1837 and January 1, 1840. Heads of families received 640 acres, while single men received 320 acres.

Fourth Class Headright: Issued to those who arrived between January 1, 1840 and January 1, 1842. The amounts issued were the same as for Third Class grants, plus the requirement of cultivation of 10 acres.

Pre-emption Grant: similar to the headright grants, pre-emption grants were made after statehood. From 1845 to 1854 homesteaders could claim 320 acres. From 1854 to 1856, and 1866 to 1898, up to 160 acres could be claimed. Homesteaders were required to live on the land for three years and make improvements (such as building a barn) in order to qualify for a pre-emption grant of 160 acres.

EMPRESARIO COLONIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS

Four contracts were made to designate "colonies" and bring immigrants to the Texas frontier. Contractors were to receive 10 sections of land for each 100 colonists introduced and up to half of the colonists' grants. Colonists were to receive grants similar in amount and requirements to fourth class headrights, with the requirement of placing 15 acres into cultivation.

Peters' Colony. Several contracts were made, beginning in 1841 -- taken over by the Texas Land and Emigration Company. Located in north Texas.

Fisher and Miller's Colony. Made in 1842, taken over by the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants, and later the German Immigration Company. Located in the hill country in the area of Fredericksburg.

Mercer's Colony. Made in 1842 and the subject of serious legal problems due to conflicts with Peter's Colony. The contract was held invalid by the U.S. Supreme Court, 1882.

Castro's Colony. Made in 1842. This was an Alsatian colony located south of San Antonio.

MILITARY LAND GRANTS

Bounty Grant: grants awarded for military service during the revolution (law of 1837). Amount of land depended on length of service: 320 acres for each 3 months service up to 1280 acres. Soldiers were also awarded 240 acres for guarding the frontier. 7469 bounty grants were issued for 5,354,250 acres.

Donation Grant: grants issued for participation in specific battles during the war for independence. Those who participated in the siege of Bexar and the battle at San Jacinto (including the baggage detail at Harrisburg), and those who fell at the Alamo and Goliad were eligible for 640 acres. 1,816 donation warrants were issued for 1,162,240 acres.

Military Headright Grant: special grants issued to

- (1) soldiers arriving in Texas between March 2 and August 1, 1836.
- (2) heirs of soldiers who fell with Fannin, Travis, Grant, and Johnson.
- (3) those permanently disabled in the service of Texas.

Republic Veterans Donation Grant: a grant issued to veterans, or widows of veterans of the revolution and signers of the Declaration of Independence. Two laws were passed:

- (1) (law of 1879) provided 640 acres, proof of indigency required.
- (2) (law of 1881) provided 1280 acres, and the indigency requirement was dropped. The veteran was required to have received a bounty grant or have been entitled to one. This grant was repealed in 1887 with 1278 certificates issued for 1,377,920 acres.

Confederate Scrip: a grant created in 1881 providing 1280 acres to confederate soldiers who were permanently disabled, or widows of confederate soldiers. This grant was repealed in 1883 with 2,068 certificates issued.

LOAN AND SALES SCRIP

Loan scrip was a land certificate issued to provide for or repay loans made to the government of Texas. Sales scrip was a land certificate directly sold to raise money for Texas. Most of this scrip was issued to cover costs of the war. The following is a list of the categories of scrip indicated with the name by which they were known.

Bryan Scrip: Land scrip was issued to William Bryan equal to the amount of debt owed to him for loans made during the war for independence. 12/6/1836

Sam Houston Scrip: The president (Sam Houston) was authorized to negotiate a loan for \$20,000 for the purpose of purchasing ammunition and munitions of war. To do this, he was authorized to sell a sufficient amount of land scrip at a minimum of \$.50 per acre to raise money for the loan. 12/10/1836

Toby Scrip: The president was authorized to issue scrip to the amount of five hundred thousand acres of land. This scrip was to be transmitted to Thomas Toby of New Orleans and sold at a minimum of \$.50 per acre. 12/10/1836

White Scrip: An agency was established in the city of Mobile, and David White was authorized as an agent of Texas to sell land scrip at a minimum rate of \$.50 per acre for the benefits of the government. 12/10/1836

James Erwin Scrip: On January 20, 1836, Stephen Austin, Branch T. Archer, and William Warton contracted with James Erwin and others in New Orleans for a loan of \$50,000. 6/3/1837

First Loan Scrip: The president of the Republic was authorized to issue a land scrip to the stockholders as payment for the first loan to Texas "...to fulfill and carry into effect the contract of compromise made on April 1, 1836 between [the interim Texas government] and the stockholders in the first loan [for \$200,000] negotiated in New Orleans on January 11, 1836." 5/24/1838

Funded Debt Scrip: Any holder of promissory notes, bonds, funded debt, or any other liquidated claims against the government could "surrender the same, and receive in lieu thereof, land scrip." The scrip was issued at a rate equal to \$2.00 per acre. 2/5/1841

General Land Office Scrip: The Commissioner of the General Land Office was authorized to issue land scrip at \$.50 per acre for the liquidation of the public debt of the late Republic of Texas. 2/11/1850

Sales Scrip: The Commissioner of the General Land Office was authorized to issue land scrip in certificates of not less than 160 acres at \$1.00 per acre for the sale of the public domain. 2/11/1858

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT SCRIP

Central National Road: various amounts were issued to road commissioners, surveyors, and contracts for building a road from the Red River to the Trinity in what is now Dallas. 1844 law. Certificates were issued for 27,716 acres.

Scrip for Building Steamboats, Steamships, and other vessels: certificates for 320 acres were issued for building a vessel of at least 50 tons, with 320 acres for each additional 25 tons. Sixteen ships were built taking advantage of this 1854 law.

Railroad Scrip: several laws were passed beginning in 1854. Exact provisions varied, but generally an amount of land was offered for each mile of rail constructed. The Constitution of 1876 provided 16 sections per mile. Railroads were required to survey an equal amount of land to be set aside for the public school fund. Certificates were issued for \$35,777,038 acres.

Industry Scrip: for building factories, 320 acres were offered for each \$1000 valuation. 1863 law. Certificates were issued for 111,360 acres.

Navigation Scrip: for building ship channels, and improving rivers and harbors for navigation, several acts were passed beginning in 1854. Certificates were issued for various amounts of land for each mile completed. (For example, 320 certificates for 620 acres each were issued for building a ship

channel 8 feet deep and 100 feet wide across Mustang Island.) Certificates were issued for 4,261.760 acres.

Irrigation Canal Script: Sections of land were provided based on the class of ditch as specified by acts passed in 1874, 75, 76. Certificates were issued for 584,000 acres.

ALL LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT SCRIPT WAS REPEALED IN 1882.

SCHOOL LAND

Sale of the school lands began in 1874. Until 1905 the amount of land that could be purchased, price, method of purchase, and eligibility requirements varied a great deal. Legislation in 1905 required that the school lands be sold through competitive bidding. Purchasers could buy a maximum of 4 sections with residence required in most counties, or 8 sections with no residence required in other designated (western) counties.

The end of the unappropriated public domain: In Hogue v. Baker, 1898, the Texas Supreme Court declared that there was no more vacant and unappropriated land in Texas. In fact there was; however, as a result of the decision, a complete audit was ordered by the Legislature. The audit determined that the public school fund was short of the amount of land it should have had by 5,009,478 acres.

In 1900 an act was passed 'to define the permanent school fund of the State of Texas, to partition the public lands between said fund and the State, and to adjust the account between said fund and said state; to set apart and appropriate to said school fund, the residue of the public domain. . .' Thus, all of the remaining unappropriated land was set aside by the legislature for the school fund.

* * * * *

An early custom in old New England was when a woman was married for a second time, and assuming she was a widow, she might be married in the nude! She would stand inside a closet with only her arm poking through, or stand behind a screen, or wear a sheet over her bare body.

This was her new husband's way of telling everyone that she came to him penniless, and that he would not assume any back debts of her previous marriage. These were called "Smock Weddings".

Another custom was for the bride to cross a major road during the late evening hours when it was totally dark, with future husband and friends waiting on the other side. Here again, the bride would be naked so that witnesses could testify that she came to the new husband as a poor widow. This gave them both legal relief to start anew.

The Fuqua Foundation News, Vol 2 #2, Fall 1994

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ARIZONA NEWSPAPER CLIPS are available by writing the Arizona State Genealogical Society, ATTN: Clippings, P.O.Box 42075, Tucson, AZ 85733-2075. The old newspaper clippings are being copied on acid-free paper for preservation purposes and in the process are being indexed. Send your request with a SASE and enough postage for return.

The Tree Tracers, Vol. XIX, #1

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There are only two lasting bequests we can give our children,
one is roots, the other wings. Anonymous.

CIVIL WAR POW CAMPS

A list of Federal and Confederate prison camps was published in 1991 by Victoria Crosswords of South Texas. The camps listed were:

FEDERAL

Alton, IL
Rock Island, IL
Camp Douglas at Chicago, IL
Camp Chase, Columbus, OH
Camp Morton, IN
Johnson's Island, near Sandusky, OH
Elmira, NY
Point Lookout, LA
New Orleans, LA
Louisville, KY
St. Louis, MO
Old Capitol, District of Columbia
Fort Delaware, DE
Other sources list these Federal Camps:
Castle Williams, New York Harbor
Fort Lafayette, New York Harbor
Point Lookout, MD
Camp Randall, Madison, WI
Camp Butler, Springfield, IL

CONFEDERATE

Libby and Bell Isle, Richmond, VA
Danville, VA
Lynchburg, VA
Petersburg, VA
Salisbury, NC
Charleston, SC
Columbia, SC
Millen, GA
Camp Oglethorpe, GA
Atlanta, GA
Savannah, GA
Macon, GA
Cahaba, AL
Castle Morgan, AL
Tuscaloosa, AL
Mobile, AL
Florence, AL
New Orleans, LA
Camp Groce and Ford, Texas

There were also many smaller camps. According to official reports, the Confederates imprisoned 194,000 Federal soldiers. The Federals held 215,000 Confederates.

Conditions in most of the camps were admittedly frightful. Neither side was prepared with facilities, personnel, nor provisions for handling such a huge number of prisoners. For the South, it was particularly hard--especially in the latter part of the war. The Confederacy was not able to provide food, shoes, and clothing for its own soldiers. In many cases, the prisoners received better rations than Confederate soldiers in the field.

The South list did not include the most infamous of all the camps--Camp Sumter, better known by the name of Andersonville, the town in Georgia, where it was located. It was in February 1864 that prisoners began to arrive at Andersonville. By May the number had reached 15,000; at the end of July there were over 31,000. In all, 52,300 were confirmed at Andersonville. Of these, 13,200 died.

Conditions were not much better at Elmira, New York, where there should have been plenty of supplies. But, Secretary of War Stanton ordered that fuel and rations at Elmira be cut off at times so that the Southerners held there should suffer as much as Federal Troops. As a result, Elmira had a higher death rate than Andersonville.

After the war, Major Henry Wirz, who had been commandant at Andersonville, was hanged--the only Confederate to be executed for "war crimes." James I. Robertson, noted historian says "This was the grossest irony of the Civil War. Under modern rules of war, Stanton would have been hanged for murder."

Some of the soldiers who died in the camps were buried in cemeteries with grave markers. However, thousands more were buried in unmarked, long-forgotten graves.

Bluegrass Roots, V20:4, 1993; Tri-City Gen Soc Bulletin, Vol 34:2, 1994; via News and Notes, Gen Res Inst of VA, Vol XV:1, Jan 1995.

I have been your newsletter editor for the past three years, that's twelve newsletters! I would like to thank Gwen Woods, president of CCGS in 1992, for convincing me that I could do something I'd never considered, and Joyce Grisham for insisting that I continue as editor during her terms as president. We started with six pages per issue and have been at fourteen pages since the Fall of 1993. Through all those issues Eunice Goddard has proofed and corrected beyond the call of duty. She has never had an opportunity to be leisurely when proofing--I'm in too much of a hurry for that! Pat Starzer has helped enormously and faithfully with the collating, stapling, folding, attaching labels, sorting, and bundling for the post office. That set of jobs usually takes us three hours per issue! Both Gwen Woods and Olier Valliere have been conscientious as Librarians in making sure I got the newsletters from other organizations before they were filed. Bob Starzer helped with stapling and moral support, and Jim Goddard has made emergency runs for additional photocopying. My husband Dick has helped with stapling and folding and has been tolerant and unsurprised to find me at the computer at 4 a.m. or 12 midnight, and doesn't complain too noisily about not seeing me for days when I'm "newslettering". I want to thank you all for the many compliments you've made regarding the newsletter (they've kept me going), and for the interest of each slate of officers (the newsletter would not have been possible without your continued support). It has been fun, but I want to give someone else a chance to improve the newsletter even more. It is a time-consuming job, but one that gives a great deal of satisfaction. I hope that you, our members, will continue to suggest things for inclusion in the newsletter and assist the new editor whenever possible. Thank you.

Carol McGehee

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