

## CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 811, Westminister, MA 01473-0811

# THE SEARCHERS



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MAY AND MEMORIAL DAY has always signaled the beginning of that wonderful season we all love SUMMER with all its promise of great travel weather for our research trips and family reunions. NOT IN THIS PANDEMIC YEAR OF 2020 I think we just might be included in the program Lori Lyn Price did for us in May of 2019 entitled Diseases and Epidemics in America Over the Years!!! So we are now in a state of “New Normal” where none of us feel safe going out and none of our meeting spaces are open anyway, so we are doing another month of virtual meeting. In April we had 12 members join us on our ZOOM meeting and we had a very interesting presentation by Sara Campbell on using historic maps in our genealogical research. We had hoped to record it for members who were unable to attend but had a technical issue. This month we will record the meeting and have it **available to members for two weeks after the May meeting** The Board has also decided to open this ZOOM meeting to our followers on Facebook **THIS ONE TIME ONLY** in hopes they may find us an valued resource for their genealogical research and join us, the recording will not be available to non-members of CMGS. I also have received several requests for a more efficient way to connect with us and the suggestion was to have our own identifiable e-

mail. Makes sense. Therefore anyone wishing to contact the Board of Directors with questions, or comments can contact us at the new CMGS e-mail [CMGSORG1@gmail.com](mailto:CMGSORG1@gmail.com) I also am putting information for election to be held at the May Meeting on the back page. We are taking nominations for any of the positions and are still looking to fill the secretary position currently held by Marcia White.

### ***2020 CMGS Membership Meeting for May 26, 2020***

#### ***“Researching Your Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Ancestors”***

Speaker: Kathleen Kaldis  
(*Genealogist, NERGC 2020 Director, and  
Lecturer*)

This lecture focuses on the resources available for researching the New England Planters and the Scots who settled up in Cape Breton. A professional genealogist who is known as ***The Ancestor Finder***. Her interest in genealogy started at a young age when heard stories about how her great great-grandfather, who was born on Cape Breton Island, came to Boston to build Fenway Park. Her enthusiasm shines through when she shares her passion of genealogy with her clients and audiences. Kathleen is a professional genealogist and genealogical speaker. She has worked as a Genealogist at the *Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants* and *The New England Historic and Genealogical Society* and specializes in lineage and forensic research.

She holds a Certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University, and has successfully completed many advanced level genealogical institute courses. Kathleen is very active within the genealogical community, and serves in many leadership positions for many organizations. A proud member of the Lexington Massachusetts DAR and the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Her areas of genealogical expertise are: New England and the Atlantic Canadian Provinces, lineage research, forensic research, researching mariners who sailed the seas, and resolving tough genealogical problems.

**Hope to see you all at our virtual meeting.**

**June 23, 2020**

Usually our annual dinner meeting is being listed as a TBA considering the current restrictions in Massachusetts. We are hoping to have the dinner later in the year when we can get together and celebrate. I will have more information as things evolve

**OPEN FOR THE SEASON!!**

**Not yet but soon we hope**



We are looking for volunteers who would like to help finish the Princeton Project when we can safely get back to it. Please contact Carol Bosworth if you are able to help in any way with this project [cambosworth@gmail.com](mailto:cambosworth@gmail.com) or [cmgsorg@gmail.com](mailto:cmgsorg@gmail.com)

**FREE**  
**My Favorite Word!!!**  
**By Susie Haenisch**

### **Free genealogy sites**

#### **Legacy FamilyTree Webinars** --

[www.familytreewebinars.com](http://www.familytreewebinars.com) -- this is a veritable library of webinars! They are free to watch the day-of and then you must have a subscription to view them afterwards and to view any other webinars in the library.

#### 2. **The New England Historic Genealogical Society**

[www.americanancestors.org/education/online-class](http://www.americanancestors.org/education/online-class) - offers webinars geared to using their vastly-wonderful website and New England research.

#### 3. **The Illinois State Genealogical Society**

offers great webinars

<https://ilgensoc.org> -- Just like with Legacy FamilyTree Webinars, these are free on the day of and then you must be a member to get the handouts and view past webinars.

#### 4. **The BYU Family History Library**

(Provo, UT) offers FREE online classes and webinars --

<http://sites.lib.byu.edu/familyhistoryclasses/classes-and-webinars/online-webinars> -- why not check it out, it's free!

#### 5. **Ancestry Academy**

offers 152 video lessons in several categories --

[www.ancestry.org/academy](http://www.ancestry.org/academy) --

you may view many without being a member.

#### 6. **FamilySearch**

is an over-looked source of personal education --

[www.familysearch.org/wiki](http://www.familysearch.org/wiki) --

the Wiki offers 92,252 articles on hundreds of topics.

7. **YouTube** – is my favorite these days.  
**www.youtube.com** –  
you can learn about any place, any topic,  
any subject, any hobby, **ANYTHING**  
from watching YouTube videos. Do a  
SEARCH for the Ancestry or  
FamilySearch "**channel**" and then click  
**to** subscribe. And it's **FREE!!!**

### **Speaking of Free**

## **National Genealogical Society Providing Free Access to NGS Monthly Archives Through 31 July**

Dear Friends of NGS:

During this time when so many Americans must stay at home, the [National Genealogical Society](#) (NGS) is offering non-members free access to five years of *NGS Monthly*. Starting immediately through 31 July 2020, everyone interested in family history can read insightful articles in our digital publication archive. Edited and authored by Aaron Goodwin, an award-winning genealogist, *NGS Monthly*'s articles help researchers of all levels. The articles offer family historians invaluable insights on methodology and digestible recommendations on genealogical research by considering the techniques of skilled researchers and scholars, and how they solved difficult research problems. Topics often examine valuable lessons in case studies published in the scholarly *NGS Quarterly* to help readers understand how to apply new concepts to their own work.

The October 2019 issue's "Land

Evidences and Geographic Clues: Mapping As a Research Tool," was especially popular among members. Goodwin examined an *NGS Quarterly* article by Rachal Mills Lennon[1]. Lennon's article showcased how she used mapping activities and associations of eighteenth-century Solomon Harper, whose name appeared in multiple locations in South Carolina, to determine if he was one and the same man.

In the February 2020 issue of *NGS Monthly*, "The Creation of Leap Year and Its Effects on Genealogy" gave a nod to the leap year and used the opportunity to review how calendars have changed over the centuries. These changes are of critical importance to family history researchers. Goodwin explained the difference between the Julian and Gregorian calendars, and noted that though the Gregorian calendar was commissioned in 1582, some areas of Europe did not begin using it until the eighteenth century.

These articles from Goodwin and many more, as well as dozens from former editors Laura DeGrazia and Melissa Johnson in the *NGS Monthly* archives, can provide genealogists and family historians hours of fascinating reading and will help them advance their skills as they continue to build their family tree. This free opportunity is available now until 31 July 2020.

You can also access the *NGS Monthly* archives by going to: [ngsgenealogy.org](http://ngsgenealogy.org) > Learning Center > NGS Monthly > Archives.

We wish you all the best during these challenging times.

Stay well!

The National Genealogical Society  
[1] Rachal Mills Lennon, "Southern Strategies: Merging Identities by

Mapping Activities and Linking Participants—Solomon Harper of South Carolina’s Lowcountry,” *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 107 (September 2019): 165–184; PDF, *NGSQ*

Archives (<https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/ngsq/> : 14 October 2019).

Founded in 1903, the [National Genealogical Society](#) is dedicated to genealogical education, exemplary standards of research, and the preservation of genealogical records. The Falls Church, Virginia-based nonprofit is the premier national society for everyone, from the beginner to the most advanced family historian seeking excellence in publications, educational offerings, and guidance in research. It also offers many opportunities to interact with other genealogists. Please visit the [NGS Pressroom](#) for further information.

## Finding Burials

### Can’t find your ancestor’s burial?

It happens. And to be honest there will be times when you may never find the burial. Why? Not everyone is buried in a marked grave and some people are not identified when they die and are buried as a “John or Jane Doe.” There are other reasons as well including:

- **Family Farm Burial.** Some people were buried on their own land. Families took care of the family cemetery. As our population became more mobile and as markers made of wood were not taken care of, these graves and their location began to disappear. There may be few clues that family land included a grave or a cemetery.
- **Commercialism.** As our society grows and becomes more and more commercialized, family graveyards are paved over by commercial enterprises. Although, most

states make it illegal to desecrate burial grounds, it does happen. Cemeteries also can end up underwater when areas are submerged or flooded, or gravestones can be removed and the land repurposed as a park or other building project.

- **Endowment Care.** Endowment care was not always a priority in cemeteries. You may find evidence from a death certificate that a family member is buried at a particular cemetery only to find out that the cemetery lacks records for that burial. Records burn, gravestones are stolen or even destroyed.

- **Lost, stolen, or destroyed gravestones**  
Metal markers stolen for their monetary value. Tombstones stolen and used for decoration or as a prank. Even if a grave was marked, it doesn’t mean that marker survived over time.

If available, check the death certificate for information about the burial. In cases where the cemetery still exists and has an office with records, contact the staff. A newspaper search can also help you identify a cemetery’s history.

**By Gena Philibert-Ortega, *Internet Genealogy* and *Your Genealogy Today***

### Another Method of Spellcheck

If illegible census rolls leave you uncertain about the spelling of an ancestor’s name, try a parallel source of records. Back-up checks for names might be done through such resources as deeds, probate records and wills; tax rolls; and militia musters. Many counties today have searchable online deed records going as far back as the colonial period. FamilySearch.org is adding a growing number of county probate and estate records. Your ancestors may be mentioned in these sources, and with luck, their names will be legible and correctly spelled.

**By David Norris, *Internet Genealogy* and *Your Genealogy Today***

## Genealogical Giggles – Finding Humor in Genealogy Documents

*As genealogists, we occasionally encounter funny genealogy records that makes us giggle. Here's a collection of some of our favorites!*

Most researchers have felt the thrill of discovering a little-known document that **connects the dots on a family tree**, but generally a lot of time is spent slogging through pages of records with little to show for the effort. However, researchers who spend copious amounts of time in censuses, wills, and **land records** are often rewarded with a few giggles to make the journey more enjoyable. The gems in this article were collected by researchers from Legacy Tree Genealogists.

### Funny Genealogy Records: Unusual Occupations

The occupation of J.F. Brown was listed on the 1880 census as “whorehouse pimp,” and the occupation of his wife Maude was “whore.” It is unknown whether these jobs were self-reported or if the census taker used other means of ascertaining their employment.

Brown J. F.	W	1825	Whorehouse Pimp
Maude	W	1825	Whore

*1880 census entry for J.F. and Maude Brown, Rockport, Atchison County, Missouri.  
Ancestry.com*

Oliver Butts worked as a “pettifogger” on the 1860 census, and his presumed son Eli Butts, age 23, was “running around.” Merriam-Webster defines a pettifogger as a lawyer whose methods are petty, underhanded or disreputable.

Oliver Butts	49	M	Pettifogger
Eli	23	M	Running Around

*.1860 census entry for Oliver and Eli Butts, Franklin, Delaware County, New York.  
Ancestry.com*

Charles V. Stewart, the census enumerator in Clifton, Mason County, West Virginia, in 1880 listed the occupations of several young children as “idle.” He apparently had high expectations for the work ethic of children under 10.

### o Miserable Monikers

In American colonial times, names often reflected qualities or characteristics that parents wanted their children to emulate, like Charity, Patience, or Virtue. Preserved was a name associated with salvation – preserved from sin, death, or destruction. However, Thomas and Mercy Fish should probably have given a little more thought to the burden their son would be forced to bear when they named him Preserved Fish.

Fish	Lydia d of Thomas and Mercy	10 Nov 1725
	Hait d of Thomas and Mercy	9 Nov 1727
	Amey d of Thomas and Mercy	29 Nov 1729
	Preserved d of Thomas and Mercy	6 Nov 1731

*Birth record for Preserved Fish, 6 November 1731, Dartmouth, Massachusetts.  
Ancestry.com*

There is no direct evidence that the name Pleasant Bottoms inspired its bearer to become a soldier, but it could have easily been a contributing factor in the decision. His father Turner claimed land in Illinois awarded to his deceased son Pleasant Bottoms in 1852 as a result of his military service in the war with Mexico.

Know Ye, That in pursuance of the Act of Congress, entitled “An Act to raise for a limited time an additional military force, and for other purposes,” approved February 11th, 1847.

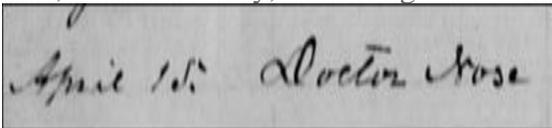
Pleasant Bottoms, Father and heir-at-law of Pleasant Bottoms, deceased, late a Private in Captain Galiaferri's Company of the Eleventh Regiment United States Infantry

having deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE a WARRANT in his favor, numbered 34864

1852 Illinois land grant to Pleasant Bottoms claimed by his father, Turner Bottoms.

Glorerecords.blm.gov.

Doctor Nose, son of Solomon and Sarah Ann Nose, was born 15 April 1853 in Taylor County, West Virginia. Confirming that he used this name throughout his life was his will, written 2 October 1906 and proved in Etam, Preston County, West Virginia.



Birth record for Doctor Nose, 15 April 1853, Taylor County, West Virginia. wvculture.org

The Kay Hollis family of Lamar County, Alabama, chose similar-sounding names for their children. Between 1907 and 1930, they had daughters named Destie, Lestie, Bessie, Sessie, Essie, and Effie, along with sons Girlie, Earlie, Jonnie, and Gurty. It's a given that the children would have been called by the wrong names from time to time.

Name	Relationship	Age	Sex	Color
Hollis Kay	Head	103	M	Blue
— Coralie	wife		F	Blue
— Lirle	son		M	Blue
— Destie	Daughter		F	Blue
— Lestie	Daughter		F	Blue
— Bessie	Daughter		F	Blue
— Sessie	Daughter		F	Blue
— Earlie	son		M	Blue
— Bobie	Daughter		F	Blue

1920 census entry for Kay Hollis household, Beat 3, Lamar County, West Virginia.

Ancestry.com

Name	Relationship	Age	Sex	Color
Hollis Kay	Head	0	M	Blue
— Coralie	wife		F	Blue
— Bessie	Daughter		F	Blue
— Essie	Daughter		F	Blue
— Earlie	son		M	Blue
— Effie	Daughter		F	Blue
— Jonnie	son		M	Blue
— Gurty	son		M	Blue

1930 census entry for Kay Hollis household, Beat 3, Lamar County, West Virginia.

Ancestry.com

Other examples of laughter-inspiring entries abound and are sure to brighten a

monotonous research session. What “genealogical giggles” have you encountered in your family history research?

We’d love to help you with your family history, whether we’re *breaking down brick wall mysteries, finding your biological parents, or just starting from scratch finding the stories about your ancestors.* We may even find a few “genealogical giggles” in your family history! **Contact us** today for a free consultation.

## Colorize Your Photos!

by Susie Haenisch

CMGS VP & Program Chair

If you haven’t already tried it, go to MyHeritage.com and upload one of your black and white or sepia-toned old photographs that I know you have hiding somewhere in your home. Even if you are not a MyHeritage member, you can check out their new FREE service – colorizing old photos that actually bring them to life and make them much more interesting to view.

I tried it. Loved it! Cannot wait to continue plugging in some of my family’s old photos to see what a difference it makes when color becomes part of the photo.

Don’t put it off. We are all very busy people, but this only takes a few minutes of your valuable time. I guarantee you will be pleased with the results if you try this simple photo conversion technique.

MyHeritage is offering this brilliant feature for all to try. Once completed, you can double click on your colorized photo and use some other tools to crop, reposition, save, etc. the final photo. I did that – and I am most pleased with the following

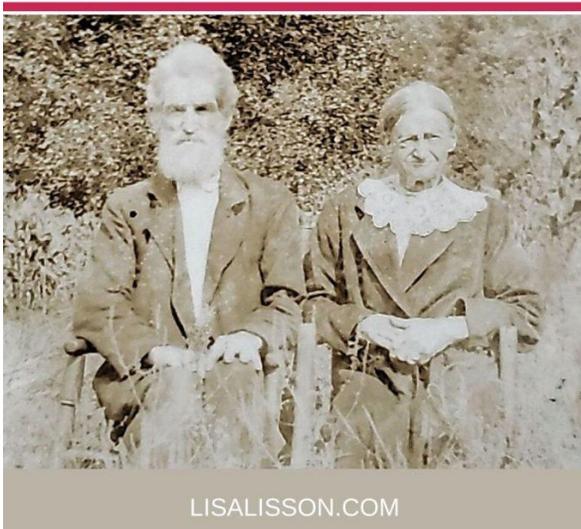
results. The first photo is of my great Aunt Anna at her wedding with my own grandmother Tina in the background as one of her attendants. The second photo is of my own Mom (in the middle) with two of her childhood friends.

Try it for yourself . . . it's fun and FREE!



**Non-Population Schedules**

Are You Overlooking Your Ancestors?



## Is Your Ancestor In The Often Overlooked U. S. Federal Non-Population Schedules of 1850-1880?

*Non-population schedules of 1850-1880 are important to your genealogy research.*

*Agricultural, mortality and DDD schedules hold info about your ancestors!*

Let's jump outside of the genealogy box again and explore the non-population schedules. associated with the 1850 – 1880 U. S. federal census.

You know the ones? Those census schedules taken beside the “regular census” in 1850-1880 collecting a variety of additional information on the country’s population. The information you learn about your ancestors on these schedules can add to your understanding of your ancestors

In the 1880 U. S. population census, my great-great-great grandmother Panthea Overby Elliott is listed as “insane”. The Elliott family includes her husband Elias Elliott, 7 children, and a housekeeper. The youngest child was just 1 year old.

Insane Category	Occupation	Age	Sex	Color	Marital Status	Value	Value
Insane	Housekeeper	1	F	W	Married	100	100
	Farmer	1	M	W	Married	100	100
	Farmer	1	M	W	Married	100	100
	Farmer	1	M	W	Married	100	100
	Farmer	1	M	W	Married	100	100
	Farmer	1	M	W	Married	100	100
	Farmer	1	M	W	Married	100	100
	Farmer	1	M	W	Married	100	100
	Farmer	1	M	W	Married	100	100
	Farmer	1	M	W	Married	100	100

Panthea.....insane?!

Hmm..... could I learn more about her and what this “insane” designation meant for her? Yes. Yes, I can!

For this part of my research, I needed to explore the **Non-Population schedules**.

**What are Non-Population Schedules?**

Do you use them in your genealogy research? Non-population schedules exist for 1850-1885 and were used to gather data on unique segments of the population. The information collected in these special schedules was used to determine the types of resources the government needed, how to allocate them, as well as looking at public health issues.

If your ancestor appears on one of the non-population schedules, you have a unique opportunity to learn more about them as individuals and their role in their community. In addition, the information you learn from a non-population schedule can point you to new clues and record sources not previously searched.

**Six types of non-population schedules were used:** (We will be taking a closer look below at the three in bold.)

1. **Agriculture**
2. Manufacturing/Industrial
3. **Defective, Dependent and Delinquent**
4. **Mortality**
5. Slave
6. Social Statistics

Each schedule had its own unique set of criteria and was not collected for every year. Not all schedules are included by each state. Just as with other record sets you research, determine the year(s) and location(s) the record spans and the type of information it entails before you “jump into your research”.

### The Defective, Dependent and Delinquent Schedule

To learn more about Panthea Elliott a closer look at the Defective, Dependent and Delinquent schedule of 1880 was needed. You will often find referred to as the “DDD schedule” for short.

The image shows a scan of a 1880 DDD schedule form. The form is a grid with multiple columns and rows. A red arrow points to a specific entry in the 'Name' column. The entry is 'Panthea Elliott'. The form contains various fields for recording information about individuals who are defective, dependent, or delinquent.

This particular DDD schedule is a bit difficult to read, so let me share with you the information gleaned on Panthea.

- Panthea was from the Clarksville Magistrate District (Mecklenburg County, VA).
- How Panthea’s care was paid for is difficult to decipher. We think her family paid for at

least part of the cost based on the answers of the others listed on the page.

- Her “form of disease” was unknown. In other words, they were not sure what was causing her “insanity”.
- The duration of her present attack is 1 year. Hmm... Panthea had a one-year old son at home. Could this be related to pregnancy or post-partum issues? Could there have been a medical event during delivery? At 42 years of age, her pregnancy would have been high risk. So many potential causes here.
- This was her first attack and she was 42 years old at the time the attack occurred.
- Panthea did not require to be restrained in a cell or by “mechanical” means (i.e. physical restraints).
- Panthea had been (and still was) in the Staunton, VA asylum for 1 year. A quick internet search reveals this was the [Western State Hospital](#) and the [Library of Virginia holds the hospitals documents](#). Panthea’s residency in the asylum can account for the presence of Betty Goode, housekeeper, listed in the family household on the 1880 population census.

This DDD schedule tells us as researchers quite a bit more about Panthea Elliott. Taking what was learned from her DDD record, a search of the asylum’s records (which include patient records) at the Library of Virginia is warranted.

*Note:* Each state is different in its privacy laws regarding patient records. Some allow no access by researchers regardless of the age of the records. Others allow access if records are older than a determined date. You will need to determine your state’s privacy laws and how those will impact your research.

### The Mortality Schedule (1850 – 1880)

The mortality schedules of 1850 – 1880 enumerated individuals who had died within the past 12 months prior to the regular population census was taken. Many believe these numbers were likely under-reported. Finding your ancestor on the mortality schedule will provide you with a death year and other information. Not finding you

ancestor on the mortality schedule does not mean your ancestor's date of death can be completely ruled out as being that year prior to the census being taken.

Let's take a look at what information on a mortality schedule. Here is an example from the 1880 Mortality Schedule for Halifax County, Virginia.

1880 Mortality Schedule, Halifax County, VA

1880 Mortality Schedule, Halifax County, VA

At first glance, one of the things I notice is the age ranges of the individuals listed. Notice how many are young children. Sadly, a listing here could be the only record for a young child.

Look at Daniel William highlighted above. He was a 55-year-old married black male. He was born in Virginia and bonus (!), we learn both his parents were born in Virginia, too. A specific death date is not given, but the month is listed. Daniel died in March 1880. The form also asks how long a person had a resided in the county. In Daniel's case, he is listed as living in Halifax County for 55 years. In other words, his entire life.

**GENEALOGY TIP:** Often the headings on population census and non-population schedules can be difficult to read, but they are crucial to your full understanding of the records. [Find bland U.S. Census and Non-Populations forms on the National Archives](#)

[website](#). Book mark this site page or print off individual forms to use while researching.

### The Agricultural Schedule

The agricultural schedule is a fascinating look at your ancestor's farm. You can learn about their land acreage and the value. I found it interesting to follow the value of my southern ancestors' lands pre and post-Civil War. I have a better appreciation for the post war economy they experienced.

1860 Agricultural Schedule, Halifax County, VA

1860 Agricultural Schedule, Halifax County, VA

You also will find out what type of livestock your ancestor raised and what type of crops they grew. Don't forget to turn the page to get all the information!!

### Where To Find Non-Population Schedules

Have you been convinced to look closer at the Non-population schedules? I hope so! You can find the non-population schedules on [Ancestry.com](#). [If you do not have a paid subscription check with your local library. Many have Ancestry.com that is accessible their patrons.]

[FamilySearch](#) has a few states' non-population schedules such as [Illinois](#) and [Iowa](#).

You will find having a blank copy with easy to read headings helpful when researching these schedules (and any census record you research). [Find these for free on the NARA website](#).

**Central Massachusetts Genealogical Society, Inc.**

P. O. Box 811

Westminster, MA 01473-0811

**\*IMPORTANT\* NEW WEB SITE ADDRESS**

**www.cmgso.org**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**2020 CMGS NOMINATIONS/BALLOT DIRECTOR/OFFICER**

	Current	Nominations accepted for all
President/D	Carol McNeil Bosworth	_____
Vice President/D	Susie Haenisch	_____
Secretary/D	_____	_____
Treasurer/D	Karon Parker	_____
Historian/D	Dwight Fitch	_____
Director	Joan Bonner	_____
Director	Bonnie Bohnet	_____
Director	John Johnson	_____
Director	Janet Fortunato	_____
Director	Marcia White	_____
Director	_____	<u>Sara Campbell</u>
Director	_____	<u>Kathleen Kaldis</u>