



Coastal Georgia

Genealogical Society

News & Reviews

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Amy Hedrick, Editor

JANUARY Meeting to be decided.

14 November 2004 Meeting was a show and tell, members brought some of their oldest pictures and told us the history behind them. Bill Smith also donated some photos to the GlynnGen.com website, some are already online now!



British National Archives Documents Online

--by Amy Hedrick

DocumentsOnline allows you online access to The National Archives' collection of digitized public records, including both academic and family history sources. They are committed to providing online access to the records, and DocumentsOnline forms a key part of this strategy.

Families of British and Commonwealth soldiers who fought in World War I can trace their relatives' war records through a website that was launched recently.

The National Archives site lists the records of more than five million men and women of the Army and Royal Flying Corps who won service medals during the war. Members of the Royal Navy are not included in the register.

Among the famous to be found in this index are former British Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill and the then future King Edward VIII. Medal records can be valuable to family histories. They often provide the only account of a soldier's wartime service since many other records were destroyed by bombing during World War II.

World War II Seaman's Medals, information about the World War Two medals issued to merchant seamen, including the qualifications for each.

There are more records to be found at this website than just military. There are over 1 million wills from the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, including some famous folks, like William Shakespeare, Jane Austen, and more.

Some of the wills may be in Latin, or the writing may be hard to read. While the site does not provide online transcriptions, they do have a list of researchers who can help you with your documents.

Other subjects found on this site are: Victorian

Prisoners Photograph Album, photographs and case details of prisoners in Wandsworth Prison dating from 1872 to 1873. Each case gives the prisoner's physical description, as well as a photograph, their date and place of birth, the crime they committed, their sentence, the place of conviction and often their place of residence.

New Releases, documents created by Government Departments are usually closed for 30 years. Most are released on 1 January, 30 years after the date of the last document on the file. (Occasionally records may be closed for longer than 30 years. These are known as Extended Closures and are often released after either 40, 50 or 75 years).

Society & Law, this category contains records relating to immigration, crime and disasters, as well as legal documents such as title deeds and depositions. Among the images are photographs of prisoners from the Victorian period, the Magna Carta, convict transportation registers and passenger lists, one of the latter including Charlie Chaplin.

Military & Defense, here you will find records relating to defense policy, research and espionage as well as propaganda. A particularly rich area is the correspondence between Churchill and Lord Selborne concerning Special Operations Executive activities during the Second World War, as well as government files about TE Lawrence ("Lawrence of Arabia") and his service in the RAF.

Home & Foreign Affairs, records in this category concern political policy both domestic and foreign. Among other records you will find Cabinet Office minutes from 1971, along with posters produced by the Empire Marketing Board in the 1920s and 1930s and various items of political correspondence from figures such as William Pitt and Anthony Wedgwood Benn (Tony Benn).

Arts, Recreation & Travel, this category contains records relating to all the arts, from design and architecture to film and photography. It includes documents relating to famous people such as Oscar Wilde and Charlie Chaplin, whose knighthood file is available.

Science & Environment, records on scientific research and the environment, including maps, are located in this category. There are documents about subjects such

as atomic research leaks and photographs of air disasters and early computers.

Be sure to check out the FAQs page to help you with questions you may have about the images and searching for them.

Searching the index is free, but it costs £3.50 [about 6.50 USD] to download a document. Documents are in PDF format so you need the Adobe Acrobat Reader to view them.

Check the site out at:

<http://www.documentsonline.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>



Holiday Get-Togethers

It's that time of the year again, when we all get together as a family, to share in the joy of the holidays. Many folks you may only see during these special events, others you may have not met as yet.

This is a reminder to those of you having family get-togethers or attending them, to be prepared for sharing and compiling more family history. I only wish I had been interested in genealogy long ago, as I would have had many stories to add to my history when attending these holiday events.

So, be ready, and ask those attending if they have any old family photos, stories, documents, etc., and have them bring those articles along. Make sure you have your scanner, or digital camera ready, to copy these documents.

Also, you may want to invest in, or rent, a video or audio recorder, so that you won't miss your grandaunt's story on how, as a young child, she had to baby sit an unruly child that came to her house every once in a while. The woman who brought this child over, Annie Sullivan, was friends of your great grandmother, the child was deaf and blind and was all over the place. It was all your grandaunt could do to keep up with this toddler. The child's name was Helen Keller. An unbelievable story since Helen Keller was born in 1880 in Alabama and my grandaunt in 1912 in Indiana, but cute just the same.

Don't let happen to you what happened to my family. The above story was recorded on a video tape, along with numerous family stories. Only to have a cousin slip it in the VCR and record a football game over it! Once you make a recording of your "interview" be sure to mark the tape or DVD immediately.

Now is also the time to share those photos that have no names on them. Maybe someone else in the family can identify them for you.

Have a chart, or family tree, printed and ready so

that family members can enter their data, or note some corrections or additions to the work you have already done. I know I have numerous cousins not in my file, because I don't know when they were born, or even their correct names. This is the time to get those "newborns" into your database.

Make a list of interview questions, especially for those relatives you have been meaning to talk to and have put off due to distance between you, or procrastination. I went to my mother's house with one goal in mind, and achieved said goal. There is so much I missed out on asking my father, and I thought all was lost. But, my mother is still alive, and she was a big part of his life, and can share those details with me.

My goal on Thanksgiving was to learn more about my father's army career. Mom had his discharge papers, and other documents that give me more insight into his stint in the army. I also got an added bonus, my father's divorce papers from his first marriage. My mother had these as well.

This year, set some goals for your research, see if someone in your family can help you obtain said goals. Do not miss out on this golden opportunity that only happens once or twice year. You never know who may not make it the next year.



THE BRICK WALL

--by Amy Hedrick

Several newsletters ago, I wrote about my brick wall, Rebecca Sanders born on 27 November 1812, and how I was told that she was full blooded Cherokee Indian. I never knew whether to believe this theory, as no one had supporting evidence.

The story goes that Rebecca Sanders married Moses Rich, he being my 4th great grandfather, born about 1808 and a Quaker. Supposedly he was disowned for marrying out of unity. Possibly to a Cherokee Indian. But if his marriage was to Rebecca Sanders, I think I now have the evidence that it wasn't because *she* was Cherokee. He may have married before Rebecca. Records suggest that Moses was disowned and he moved to Indiana, and that Moses and Rebecca married in Indiana, so maybe he married someone before her. I did find a marriage record for a Moses to a Nancy Dougan in North Carolina, maybe she was of another faith?

In fact, Rebecca was a Quaker herself! As were quite a few generations before her. I plugged her name into my trusty computer and found one internet tree online with her family, and was amazed. I immediately emailed the gentleman to find out what his sources were, as I could

not find Rebecca Sanders in any Quaker Records. The reason being, I was looking in the wrong state.

Going on the assumption that she was a Cherokee from North Carolina, I dumped the Cherokee part and started looking for Sanders' in North Carolina. Well, if I had looked in Ohio, I would have found her beginnings. Rebecca was born in Ohio, but guess where her father was born? In Georgia! That's right folks, I am a Georgia girl after all!

Rebecca's family were some of the first Quakers to Wrightsborough/Wrightsboro, Georgia, the Quaker Colony set up in what was McDuffie County, now Columbia. Her grandfather, Joel Sanders/Saunders was living in said community with his wife Sarah Morgan, and two children, William [Rebecca's father], and Barbara. When the Monthly Meeting [what the Quakers termed their group gatherings] disbanded, the Sanders family moved to Ohio. Then by 1832 they were in Indiana. I still have not found where they originated from before Georgia, it is most certainly North Carolina and/or Virginia.

So, my Cherokee heritage has been disproved, or has it? There still remains the fact that my great grandmother was offered lands in North Carolina for her Indian heritage, and my cousin, a granddaughter of my great grandmother, who tried to get scholarship monies because of this heritage. Who was my Native American ancestor?



INTERNET

<http://rmslusitania.info/pages/index.html> The aim of this site is not only to provide information on the Cunard steamship RMS *Lusitania*, but also to provide a starting point for biographical and genealogical research on the passengers and crew of the ship on the ocean liner's last and fateful voyage.

<http://db.genealogy.net/ofb/map.cgi?land=deutschland> Online Heritage Books. German resources for family histories from around the country of Germany.

http://www.langdy.com/dacc_g.htm Free online multidirectional dictionaries in seven languages -- Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish. Translates up to 20 words at a time.



UPCOMING EVENTS

2 December 2004 Thursday Open house at the Jekyll Island Club Hotel at 2 p.m. Come see the holiday decorations, and share in stories and refreshments. Call (912)635-2600 for more information. Free.

3 December 2004 Friday Feast of St. Nicholas, A moveable holiday feast with stops at two historic cottages and the Jekyll Island Club Hotel. Starts at 7:30 p.m. at the hotel located at 371 Riverview Drive on Jekyll Island. Call (912)635-2600 for more info. Admission.

3 & 4 December 2004 Friday & Saturday Annual Plantation Candlelight Tour at Hofwyl Plantation located at 5556 US Hwy 17 North from 7 to 9 p.m. Call (912)264-7333 for more info. Admission.

4 December 2004 Saturday Christmas Parade downtown, starts at 10 a.m. Call (912)265-4032 for information or to enter the parade.

18 December 2004 Saturday Holiday Open House at Fort Frederica on St. Simons Island from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Decorations and refreshments by the Neptune Garden Club. Music from 1-3 p.m. featuring the Stewart-Law Baroque Trio. Ranger programs at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. Call (912)638-3639 for more info.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Annual membership to the CGGS is only **\$15** for one person or **\$18** for a family. Membership extends from 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2004.

Remit payment to our treasurer:

Barbara Baethke
119 Bayberry Circle
St. Simons Is. , GA 31522

