

BOUSE GENIES

MUCH MORE ABOUT GENEALOGISTS' FIRST LOVE



In the Spring edition of the *Bouse Genies Newsletter* we expounded on the many virtues of the Population and Special Schedules of the various US Federal Censuses. But there is so much more to our romance with censuses, because there are so many more types of enumerations and census substitutions available to us to use as clues in tracking our ancestors. Therefore, in this edition we are delving into other types of census records.

Regardless of the sources used to grow a family tree, successful genealogists have found it prudent to adhere to certain time-tested procedures.

◆ Take a digital copy or photocopy of the entire page on which your ancestor is listed. Many researchers know as they gain experience that there are causes to refer back to a page. It is then they discovered new clues they hadn't noticed in previous examinations.

◆ Scrutinize the pages before and after the ones listing your ancestors. Otherwise you may never know if collateral family members, current in-laws or future spouses are living nearby.

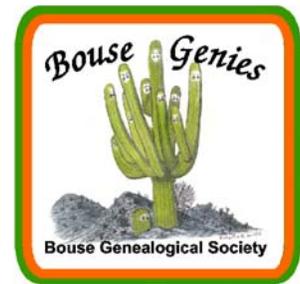
◆ Transcribe census data onto a spreadsheet or a paper form to help in evaluating the data. Copy the data in every column exactly as it is recorded—even if it is inaccurate—about everyone in the household, as well as the date of the census, the full location, page number, and line number. Don't forget to note the microfilm, DVD/CD or website details.

◆ Thoroughly search each and every federal, state and territorial census taken during the life spans of your ancestors. Develop a discrepancy chart listing conflicting "facts" to help determine the most probable truth and the location for finding primary source documents.

◆ Treat census records as clues and leads—not solid evidence. Don't assume the information in the census records is accurate. Except for the 1940 Federal Census, the individual who provided the information to the enumerator is not listed. Immigrants may not have spoken English well and could have misunderstood questions. People were often unsure about ages and birth locations or even lied. Always look for primary source documents to verify (or refute) the census data.

◆ Cite your sources. Include the information about the original census, as well as the microfilm or digital image the census was on.

There were many different censuses taken by various jurisdictions. Don't stop with the federal censuses, and don't stop with just gathering names, ages, and relationships. All censuses are packed full of interesting details which help us learn what our ancestors' lives were like and where to go to find other source documents. No wonder they are genealogists' first—and lasting—love. ♥



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Contents

1787 Virginia "Census"	3
ABC's of Genealogy - Q-R-S-T	13
Bouse Genies News	14
Bouse Genies Officers	16
Census Index Techniques	11
Christmas With Our Ancestors	13
Congratulations Norm Cutshall	6
DDD Census Schedules	9
From the Computer Desk	2
From the Editor's Desk	15
Great Journeys Into the Past	12
Hint	16
Know Your Geography	9
Lost Family Member?	5
Meeting Schedule	16
More Than the Decennial Census	7
Stepping Stones	6
The Census Taker	16
The Other "Censuses"	4
The US Census Bureau	15
What's Happening	16

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Please send all general correspondence to:

Bouse Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 624

Bouse, AZ 85325

or e-mail

BoueGenies@gmail.com

The Bouse Genies meet every other Friday at the Bouse Community Building next to the Library. The schedule of meeting is posted in this newsletter.

The Bouse Genies Website is:
<http://bousegenies.weebly.com>

FROM THE COMPUTER DESK

FAMILY HISTORY INDEXING PROJECT—1940 CENSUS AND MORE

By Carolyn H. Brown, & Mary Scherer

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Summer 2012]



We all waited with baited breath for the 1940 census to be released and some of us took advantage of helping get it indexed. As the Chairman of the Bouse Genealogical Society, Carol committed the organization to help index the Arizona 1940 federal census. Mary is involved in indexing portions of the Kansas, Minnesota and Arizona population schedules. Both of us are so glad we are taking part in this effort.

INDEXING IS EASY AND HELPS OTHERS

Participating in the 1940 Census indexing project will make the 1940 available for everyone to research that much sooner. Both of us and other genies we know have found we can index other source documents as well.

There are several questions everyone has when first volunteering to be part of an indexing project:

- ◆ Can anyone, even non-LDS people, help index in Family Search? Yes.
- ◆ How hard is it? Really simple. Family Search has a couple of training files and a webinar containing lots of great tips to help you understand how it is done.
- ◆ What am I committed to do? Only as much as you personally want to do.
- ◆ How long does it take? It all depends on how long you want to spend on it. When working on the census you download one “batch” at a time. A “batch” in this case is one census page. You can choose any state to work on, but you can’t select the county or enumeration district. For some of us a batch takes less than an hour, however, you can save the file, stop at any point and return later to finish it. They do put a time limit on holding a batch. Carol left a batch for about three days, and it was still there for her to finish. If the handwriting is clear, it takes about 30 minutes per batch.
- ◆ Do I have to work online? No, however, you do need Internet access to download a batch and to submit the file back to FamilySearch. There is an option to work offline.
- ◆ How do I get started? Log in to <www.FamilySearch.org>, then click on the INDEXING tab at the top of the screen and DOWNLOAD and INSTALL the Indexing program. Once installed, a Family Search Indexing icon for the program appears on your desktop. You will always access the indexing program from this icon. When you click on the icon it asks you to log in and then presents the indexing screen. Click on DOWNLOAD BATCH and go to work.

The indexing program is designed with three windows. Once the batch is downloaded, the top window displays the document. Click on the HIGHLIGHT TOOL and a blue highlight will follow the line you are working on. (We have found that in a few cases the highlight is one line above the line being indexed.)

The second window is displayed on the left below the document window and is in the form of a database file. It indicates the exact field to index as you work across the line. In some cases, the system has a list of valid field entries. In other cases, if the data entered is not in the program’s dictionary, or is in the wrong format, the field will be highlighted in this area in pink. These items will need to be double checked before the file can be submitted. If you feel you have entered the data correctly as you see it, then you will need to use the next window to accept the values you have entered.

The third window on the right below the document window is for indexing tips, accepting data written on the document not accepted by the program, and your indexing statistics. The indexing statistics shows you how well you have performed as a percentage of the data you submitted.

INDEXING ADVANCES PERSONAL RESEARCH

There is a lot to be learned when indexing the 1940 federal census, especially since they asked where the person was in 1935. One of the things Mary found most poignant is the ages of the young men. The census was taken in April 1940 so anyone near the age of 18 at that time was most likely going to be in the military in a couple of years. We wonder how many of those young men never came home. Something else that we found when indexing is the number of families with grown children still living at home. This was nearing the end of the depression, and jobs were scarce, so families had to stick together to make ends meet.

The censuses have always been interesting, but perhaps because this one includes our immediate families it is more interesting than others. Until the 1940 census is indexed for the state you are interested in, you might be able to find your family if you know their address or at least the enumeration district. An article in the Spring edition of the *Bouse Genies Newsletter* (page 13) explains how. Basically, if you know where they lived in 1940 or in 1930—and as far as you know they did not move—you can find enumeration districts by going to <http://stevemorse.org>.

While practicing how to index and waiting for the 1940 census to be released, Carol found some early Texas Death Record Index cards were available to be indexed. These are records of interest to her, so she dove into that project and indexed as many as she could. Now she is looking forward to getting the 1940 census indexing finished so she can see what else is waiting to be indexed. Maybe it will be something which will help her personal research.

JOIN US

Mary and Carol are hoping some of you have or will volunteer to index the census. Go to the Family Search website and you may find the records your are looking for are waiting to be indexed. It is a lot of fun and very addictive and you will be helping fellow genealogists as you advance your own research. ♥

THE 1787 VIRGINIA "CENSUS"

By Carolyn H. Brown

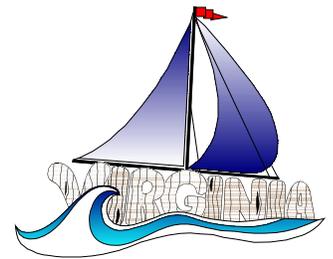
[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Summer 2012]

For those of us researching in early Virginia we have one of the first census records created in the new United States of America. On 11 October 1786 the Virginia Assembly passed a law mandating that the tax commissioner should *"on the tenth day of March annually, begin and continue proceeding without delay through their respective district, and call on every person subject to taxation or having property in his or her possession for a written list thereof . . . make four alphabetical general lists therefrom, shewing [sic] in columns according to the form hereto also annexed, the date when each list was received, the persons chargeable with the tax or taxes, and the number or quantity of every species of property, inserting particularly the names of all [not just heads of household!] free males subject to tax, distinguishing those also subject only to parish and county levy . . ."*

What made this tax list so different from all other previous tax lists was the commissioner was to call on each person at that person's residence. (Before this the people took their list to the commissioner.) He was to make note of the day that he took the lists. He was to use the form he was given and to record the names of the males over 21 years of age. Previously they had been instructed to get the names of these persons, and also of the slaves over 16, but had rarely done so. Additionally, they were to note the number of free males between 16 and 21. In some counties they named the free males in the household between 16 and 21.

The tax on white males aged 21 years and up was repealed on 12 October 1787. Fortunately, some of the tax commissioners continued to use the 1787 tax form for a year or two, but the 1787 tax list is the only one in which it was required, thus providing us with the 1787 "census" of Virginia.

The individual county lists go further than the composite. The lists are given twice in the individual county books—once in the original order, then again rearranged by the date on which the commissioner had visited the taxpayer. This second list makes it possible to tell who the neighbors were since it appears evident that the commissioner visited those living in the same vicinity on the same day.



Pay special attention to the “Notes” section as the commissioner may have made a notation to the identity of two people with the same name. The notes many include such entries as “son of Henry”, “miller”, or “York River”.

Genealogical Books in Print, Springfield, Virginia, has printed extract booklets of every county in Virginia at the time titled “The Personal Property Tax Lists for the Year 1787 for [county].” However, it is suggested that you access the actual tax list on microfilm, as additional data is shown on the lists than has been extracted for the booklets. ♥



THE “OTHER” CENSUSES

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Summer 2012]

State censuses rank right up there with federal censuses as a major genealogical resource. However, many times we simply forget them. Why? Because not every state took a census; when taken they were taken randomly; and they are not centrally held in one repository. However, none of those “reasons” should deter us from seeking these very valuable resources.

Yes, not all states took their own censuses. Granted, some have not survived. Still it is worth looking for them, for state census records provide invaluable information:

- ◆ State censuses act as substitutes for missing federal censuses—most notably the one of 1890.
- ◆ State censuses may have asked different questions than the federal census, thus providing us with additional information about our ancestors.
- ◆ State censuses complement the federal censuses because they were usually taken in the “off-years” half way between the decennial federal censuses, thus making it easier to back-track our ancestors.

State censuses are official documents of the individual states, and therefore are most likely found in the State Archives. Microfilm copies may be housed in the larger public libraries and the Family History Library (FHL). Some commercial online databases have indexes and perhaps images of state censuses.

There was one state census that was “requested” by the Federal Government. It was taken 1 June 1885 and included a detailed Population Schedule; an Agricultural Schedule with 100 questions about the farm; a Manufacturing Schedule; a meticulous Mortality Schedule with details about the cause of death, where they died, where their families live, and remarks by physicians if there were any diseases that caused a significant number of deaths in the enumeration district.

Sadly, participation in the “Federal Census of 1885” was very small. Those researching ancestors living in Florida, Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico Territory and Dakota Territory in the mid-1880s will benefit from this census. Except for those from Dakota Territory, the census records are at NARA and have been microfilmed. The Dakota returns are in the State Archives of North Dakota and South Dakota. Dakota Territory 1885 Census Index is free on the North Dakota State University website at <<http://library.ndsu.edu/db/census/>>.

Other states took censuses in 1885, they just didn’t “participate” in the “Federal Census” and the enumeration date and the questions/forms are most likely different.

Smaller jurisdictions also took censuses. For instance, New York City decided the 1890 federal census was not accurate, so they took their own census! It is known as the “New York City Police Census of 1890.” The census produced 1,008 books of data and 894 still exist. Ancestry has a very small percentage of the books online. The FHL has microfilms of the surviving original records. However, none are indexed.

OUTSTANDING RESOURCES FOR FINDING “OTHER” CENSUSES:

Carol Brown has created a wonderful reference chart listing the colonial, territorial and state censuses taken since earliest times. Plus she has included some records that make good census substitutes. This chart—beginning on page 7—is a “keeper” and bound to be a resource you refer to often.

Dollarhide, William W and Leland K Meitzler. *Census Substitutes and State Census Records; An Annotated Bibliography of Published Name Lists for all 50 U. S. States and State Censuses for 37 States*. Bountiful, Utah:

Family Roots Publishing Company 2008. Volume 1 is about the Eastern states and Volume 2 is about the Western states. Both list FHL microfilm numbers of many of the state census records.

Lainhart, Ann S. *State Census Records*. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company 1992. This book describes what censuses are available, and what one might expect to find in the way of data.

A CENSUS IS A TERRIBLE THING TO WASTE

Don't overlook any census. Granted, the information recorded on census schedules is not considered a primary source—except for physical location of the residence. But it is an excellent record for finding clues about your ancestors and gathering leads for locating primary source documents. ♥

LOST FAMILY MEMBER? LOOK OVERSEAS!

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Summer 2012]



On every Federal census enumeration day there have been American citizens who were living outside the boundaries of the states and US territories. In most cases they were American service personnel or members of the diplomatic corps. In the censuses during the first half of the 1900s we may also find their family members living with them at their overseas assignment, American Red Cross workers assigned to overseas locations and crew members living aboard commercial ships.

Could your lost family members have been living overseas when the census takers were making their rounds? Could an ancestor have been stationed aboard a naval ship or serving as a crew member of a merchant vessel? As with all censuses, the instructions varied on how to count overseas Americans—or even whether to enumerate them at all.

Since the whole purpose of the census is to determine apportionment of the seats in Congress, and because communication outside the US was slow and erratic in the early years of our nation, no procedures were in place to count those living overseas.

Census takers in 1870 and 1880 were instructed that “seafaring men are to be reported at their land homes, no matter how long they may have been absent, if they are supposed to be still alive.” So there were no special forms used in those censuses.

The federal censuses of 1900, 1910, and 1920 include special enumerations of all those living overseas. The Family History Library (FHL) has microfilms of these special schedules. Look in the catalog under UNITED STATES—CENSUS—[YYYY] or UNITED STATES—MILITARY RECORDS.

In the 1930 census Americans living abroad were enumerated on the Population Schedule (Form 15-6), the same one used in the states; or on the Crews of Vessels (Form 15-202). Since there were so many different ways to record those living outside the US or on ships, it is best to read the Enumerator Instructions for an understanding of where your people might be counted. An index to the 1930 Census of Merchant Seamen is online through the FHL catalog or the new Family Search.

There was a special code used on the 1940 Population Schedule for members of the household who were temporarily absent. Those individuals may have been living abroad. Since census statistics show more than 100,000 citizens were living overseas at that time, we may find Population Schedules prepared at overseas duty stations.

There is good information in these special schedules. For example, my grandfather's brother-in-law, Andrew HILLEBRAND, was enumerated on the 1900 census Schedule Number 1 reporting “Military and Naval Populations.” The top of the form provided me with the following information: the name of the station or vessel (USFS Newark), the country (China), the Seaport (Taku), and the day it was enumerated (30 June 1900). The body of the form provided me loads of personal information about Uncle Andrew and his shipmates: name, rank, residence in the US (city, state, address), race, sex, month and year of birth, age, marital status, number of dependants, place of birth of the individual and both parents, citizenship and educational level. As with all censuses, special schedules provide great leads for further research.

Remember, the enumeration date was a snapshot in time. On that particular day your family member may have been overseas or on the high seas, so you may have to look on the schedules of other EDs for their name on the census. Your ancestors weren't lost at all—they were seeing the world. ♥



CENSUSES: STEPPING STONES OR STUMBLING BLOCKS?

By Carolyn H. Brown

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Summer 2012]

Are the census records a stepping stone or a stumbling block in your research? Most of the time we would consider them stepping stones, but when we can't find the family we are researching in the census we believe they should appear in, they can be a real stumbling block.

Why can't we find the family in the census? To answer that question, we need to ask ourselves the following questions before we give up the search.

- ◆ Did I try multiple spellings of the individual's first and last names? Did I consider that they may have been listed under their middle name, a nickname, or their initials?
- ◆ Did I look for every other person who was in the household in a previous census? In some cases the indexing was so poor, and the census taker's handwriting so bad, that the family can't be found. Try looking for a child with a very simple name. I didn't find one family until I entered the name of their seventh child named "Ida". In this case, her name was spelled out while all others were recorded by illegible initials only.
- ◆ Have I depended too much on indexes? Have I searched the entire census for the county in question, page by page, and am I sure they are not there?
- ◆ Have I considered that they may be listed under an entirely different surname? Had the mother re-married? Also, some census takers were told that if they could not spell the name to just enter SMITH. That way the people were counted. In this case, look for all individuals listed in the family as a unit. If the first names, in the expected order and correct ages are found, look at the neighbors they are recorded near. If the neighbors are the same, most likely it is the same family.
- ◆ Have I used more than one website for this search? Because of the differences in the indexing processes and the search engine functionality, a person may be found in one program, and while using the same search format they are missed in another.
- ◆ Using all of the above techniques, have I searched the surrounding counties, or even surrounding states to make sure I could not find them?
- ◆ Have I looked to see if there is a State Census that may help determine where I should be looking for the next Federal Census?
- ◆ Where were the children in this family born who were found in a previous census? Could the family have returned to a place they had lived in before?

When all else fails, we sometimes have to finally admit that the family may have been missed by the census taker. However, we do not make that assumption until we have completed a thorough search. ♥

Congratulations Norman Cutshall!



Norman Cutshall, along with several other BG members, has been helping Family Search index the 1940 census. What makes Norm so unique is that he has become addicted to the process. As of 29 June 2012, he has indexed 12,641 names.

Indexing is really fun, and when you want a document searchable, the best way to make it available is to help index it. Norm has been working on the 1940 New York census for several weeks and reports that it is now 99% indexed. This was one of the largest censuses in the country. Thank you, Norm, for all of your hard work. ♥

THERE'S MORE THAN THE DECENNIAL FEDERAL CENSUS

By Carolyn H. Brown

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Summer 2012]

This is a list of extant colonial, territorial and state censuses for every state in the union. For states with few enumerations, suggestions of notable census replacements are included i.e.: tax lists and reconstructed censuses.

Note: Not included are enumerations that were destroyed or were only statistical in nature. An asterisk (*) denotes a partial or limited census. Those in a language other than English are identified.

STATE	COLONIAL CENSUSES	TERRITORIAL CENSUSES	STATE CENSUSES
Alabama		1816	1820*, 1850, 1855, 1866
Alaska		1870-1929*	
Arizona	1801,1831* (Spanish)	1862, 1864, 1866, 1867,1869, 1871, 1872, 1874, 1876, 1880, 1882	
Arkansas		1823, 1829*, 1865*	
California	1796*, 1797-98*		1852
Colorado			1861 (poll lists), 1866* & 1885
Connecticut	1670 (reconstructed)		1917 (military)
Delaware	1671, 1693*, (Swedes on the Delaware), 1782		
District of Columbia			1803, 1807, 1818, 1867 & 1878 (district censuses), 1885-1919 (police censuses)
Florida	1784-1820 (Spanish)*	1825	1855*, 1867*, 1875*, 1885*, 1895*, 1935, 1945
Hawaii	1866*, 1878*, 1890, 1896*		
Georgia	1738-1743*		1798*, 1827*, 1834*, 1837*, 1838*, 1845*, 1852*, 1853*, 1859*, 1865*, 1879*
Idaho		1856 (Utah)*	
Illinois		1810, 1818	1820, 1825*, 1830*, 1835*, 1840, 1845*, 1855, 1865
Indiana		1807	1853*, 1857*, 1871*, 1877*, 1883*, 1889*, 1901*, 1913*, 1919*, 1931*
Iowa		1836 & 1838 (Wisconsin), 1844* & 1846 (Iowa)	1847, 1849, 1851, 1852, 1854, 1856, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, 1925
Kansas		1855, 1860	1865, 1875, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915, 1925
Kentucky			1888-1910 (school censuses)*
Louisiana	1699-1732 (French), 1770-1799 (Spanish)	1804 & 1805 (New Orleans), 1810	
Maine			1837
Maryland	1776, 1778 (fidelity oaths)		
Massachusetts			1855, 1865
Michigan	See Michigan Censuses 1710-1830		1845, 1854, 1864, 1874, 1884, 1894

STATE	COLONIAL CENSUSES	TERRITORIAL CENSUSES	STATE CENSUSES
Minnesota		1836 & 1838 (Wisconsin), 1849, 1852*, 1855*, 1857	1865*, 1875, 1885, 1895, 1905
Mississippi	1723*, 1784, 1787, 1788, 1792	1805*, 1808*, 1810, 1813*, 1816	1818*, 1820*, 1822*, 1823 to 1825, 1830, 1833, 1837, 1840, 1841, 1845, 1850, 1853, 1860, 1866
Missouri		1814, 1817, 1819 (statistical)	1840*, 1844*, 1868*, 1876
Montana		1862-63 (compilation), 1864 (poll list)	
Nebraska		1854 to 1855, 1865*	1885, 1913-14 (German immigrants from Russia)
Nevada		1862-63*	1875
New Hampshire	1767, 1775 (reconstructed), 1776 (men only)		
New Jersey			1855*, 1865*, 1875*, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915
New Mexico	1790, 1823, 1845 (Spanish)	1885	
New York	See <i>Early New York State Census Records, 1663-1772</i> (RAM Publishers)		1825*, 1835*, 1845*, 1855, 1865, 1875, 1892, 1905, 1915, 1925
North Carolina	1784-87		
North Dakota		1857 (Minnesota), 1885	1915, 1925
Ohio			1803-1911 (county & town censuses)*
Oklahoma	1880, 1890, 1896 (Cherokee Nation)	1809	1907 (Seminole County)
Oregon		1842*, 1843*, 1845*, 1849, 1850*, 1853* to 1856*, 1857, 1858*	1859*, 1865*, 1870*, 1875*, 1885*, 1895*, 1905*
Pennsylvania			Septennial tax lists for various years & counties
Rhode Island	1730*, 1747-55, 1774, 1777, 1782		1865, 1875, 1885, 1905, 1815, 1925, 1935
South Carolina			1829*, 1839*, 1869*, 1875*
South Dakota		1885	1895*, 1905. 1915. 1925. 1935. 1945
Tennessee			1891 (male citizens over 21)
Texas	1782-1836 (Spanish)		
Utah		1852*, 1856*, 1872*	
Vermont	1771 (reconstructed)		
Virginia	1624, 1625, 1782-1785 (compiled counties), 1787 (reconstructed)		
Washington		1956-1887 (various)*	1889, 1891*, 1892*, 1898*
West Virginia			
Wisconsin		1836, 1838*, 1842, 1846*, 1847*	1855, 1865*, 1875, 1885, 1895, 1905
Wyoming		1869	1875 & 1878 (Cheyenne only) ♥

THE DDD CENSUS SCHEDULES

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Summer 2012]

Before you get your hopes up too high, this is not a listing of locations of Guy Fieri's Diners, Drive-ins and Dives (DDD), although I'm sure many Escapees would make good use of such a list. Actually, this DDD was a one-time only supplemental schedule used in the 1880 census detailing defective, dependent and delinquent (DDD) individuals.

On the Population Schedule of the 1880 US census it was annotated if the individual was: blind (column 16); deaf and dumb (column 17); idiotic (column 18); insane (column 19); or maimed, crippled, bedridden or otherwise disabled (column 20). If an ancestor has a tick-mark in one of these columns, look for the DDD schedule which gives more information about the individual.

The DDD schedules are classified as non-population schedules, and are arranged by state, county and enumeration district (ED). The schedule sheets are divided into seven categories: insane; idiots; deaf and dumb; blind; homeless children living in institutions; prisoners; and paupers/indigents. The categories list the person's name, location and other related data such as the nature and cause of the affliction; the date and reason for incarceration; the amount of public support; and any training received.

Sadly, there doesn't appear to be just one location where all DDD schedules are held. Repositories known to have microfilms of some of them are the National Archives <www.archives.gov/research/>, the Family History Library <www.familysearch.org>, the Allen County Public Library <www.genealogycenter.org>, and the Midwest Genealogy Center <www.mymcpl.org/genealogy>. You may find copies of the DDD schedules in the holdings of the state archives, library or historical society.

Yes, you may have to do some diligent deep digging to find the 1880 Defective, Dependent and Delinquent Supplemental Census Schedule, but it could result in a delightful data discovery for you. ♥

KNOW YOUR GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY TO ASCERTAIN THE "RIGHT" CENSUS

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Summer 2012]

When we look for vital records, land records, wills, probates and tax records, we know the county boundaries are likely to be different today than when our ancestors lived in the county. We know we may have to look in another jurisdiction to find those documents. But do you use that same understanding of changing political boundaries when looking for your ancestors in the US censuses? You should. It is important since census data was compiled by the states and territories, then sent to the Federal government.

Doing census research without brushing up on your geography and history may very well lead you straight into a brick wall—and that can hurt. Knowing the date of statehood of your ancestral roots and the geographical areas of US territories at the time of the censuses will certainly help you as you research. Yes, indexes and databases do narrow down your search, but if you don't know a particular area was a "different" state or part of a large territory at the time of the census, you may discount an actual ancestor listed on the index.

STATE BORDERS

A chart of statehood dates, along with pre-statehood notes, is at <www.50states.com/statehood.htm>. In most cases, when an area gained statehood the boundaries were set. But during the first couple of decades, there were some exceptions.

Until a couple of years after the first census Kentucky was part of the state of Virginia, and residents of that area will appear on the 1790 enumeration of Virginia. In 1863 another split of the state occurred. West Virginia was admitted to the Union as the 35th state. It was formed from the western counties of Virginia. Thus, an ancestor's family living in Charleston in the mid-1800s would be listed on the census of Virginia in 1860, but on the census of West Virginia in 1870.

Other exceptions are Vermont and Maine. Prior to statehood in 1791 Vermont was claimed by both New York and New Hampshire. Therefore, there are two other states' inputs to the federal census your ancestors may have been listed on. Maine belonged to Massachusetts until March 1820. Thus, inhabitants will appear on the 1790 and 1810 censuses of the state of Massachusetts.

Early territorial claims by the original 13 states only complicate matters when searching on the first six censuses since only the head of the household was name-identified.

STATES WERE CREATED FROM LARGER TERRITORIES

Large territories were restructured, divided, and broken down into smaller territories before they gained statehood. Thus, knowing the chronological changes in borders will certainly help you to find your ancestors in the censuses.

Between 1790 and 1853—think seven censuses, think average human lifespan—the US grew from 13 states to holding the lands currently making up the lower 48 states. This impacted greatly on the name of the jurisdiction your ancestors called home. For instance, in the years between the 1850 and 1860 censuses, the Washington Territory was formed from the northern part of the Oregon territory. Just a year before the 1860 census, Oregon was granted statehood with their eastern boundary at the Snake River and the lands east of the river becoming part of the Washington Territory. Names of other places (i.e., the State of Franklin, Orleans Territory and Deseret) only lasted a very short time.

RESOURCES FOR DETERMINING THE “RIGHT” CENSUS

Maps will be one of your greatest resources for determining the territory or state and county your ancestors lived in at the time of a particular census. The maps used in this article are clips from the software program AniMap by Gold Bug. Their website is <www.goldbug.com/AniMap.html>.

The state archives, historical societies, academic libraries and city/county public libraries will have historical maps of their area no matter what it was called in days gone by. It will mean a visit to where your ancestors lived—but how hard is that when our homes have wheels?

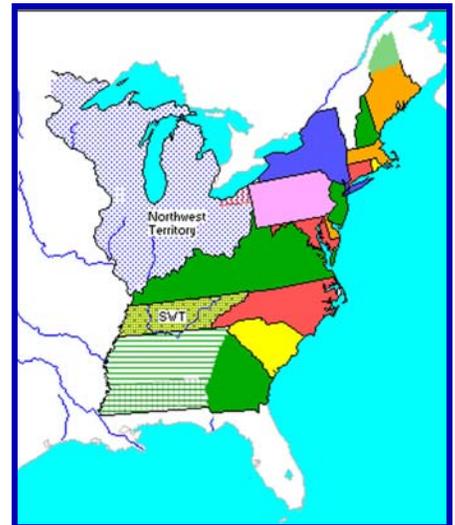
If you prefer a virtual trip, try the US Gen Web site <<http://usgenweb.org/states/index.shtml>> for your state or county of interest and the Library of Congress Map Collection <<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/>>. There are many more websites containing maps with historical jurisdiction borders. Revisit the *Bouse Genies Newsletter Vol. 5, No. 3* published in the Jul-Aug-Sep of 2011 for loads of information about maps and numerous websites having maps and gazetteers.

Don't neglect books. History books of your ancestors' states, counties or specific area may provide just the details you need. It may be 25 years old, but still one of the best resources about boundary changes at decennial intervals is: Thorndale, William and William Dollarhide. *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920*. Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1987.

Save the chart on pages 7 and 8. It gives you an overall general synopsis of the censuses taken in various areas before becoming states, as well as any censuses taken by the states themselves.

BOTTOM LINE

Knowing the political geography and understanding the history of the areas where each generation lived is vital for finding our ancestors on all sorts of documents. It is never more evident than when we look for federal, state or territorial censuses. Save yourself some time and maybe frustration. Study the area where they lived before you look for the population schedules. ♥



THE USA AT THE TIME OF THE 1790 CENSUS



WESTERN US AT THE TIME OF THE 1860 CENSUS

TECHNIQUES FOR SEARCHING CENSUS INDEXES

By **Barbara A. H. Nuehring and Carolyn H. Brown** [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Summer 2012]

Online databases, microfilmed Soundex cards and published indexes speed up our search in locating previous generations in census records. Although they are wonderful shortcuts to finding our ancestors, they should be used with caution—for errors occur in all of them. If you can't find your family on an index and you think you are at a dead end, here are some search methods to try that may get you back on the road to success.

SEARCH ON VARIATIONS OF THE SURNAME. Even common names may be spelled various ways, especially when it comes to similar surnames that originated in different countries. Barbara has a line of ancestors who spell their name as MEIER, MEYER, MYER, MAYER and MAIER depending on what side of the bed they got out of that morning.

THINK PHONETICALLY WHEN SEARCHING A SURNAME. Consider all possible phonetic spellings of your surnames. Often the letters H and E are silent and may be dropped or added; and the letters in foreign languages have different sounds (i.e., in German, A is pronounced Ahh; E is pronounced as a long A; and I is pronounced E) which may cause a name to be spelled differently.

USE WILDCARDS TO FIND VARIANTS OR MISSPELLED SURNAMES. This database feature is particularly useful when the first letter of the surname may have been erroneously recorded. Since some written capital letters are similar, it will help you find your Sawyer ancestor who was recorded as Lawyer; or your Ellig family who was listed as Billig. To do a wildcard search use a question mark for a match of only one letter. Use an asterisk to replace multiple or no characters (i.e., M*er would show all the various spellings of Barbara's MEIER ancestors and maybe even some they hadn't thought of). Tip: Make sure you check the database's restrictions on using wildcards.

SEARCH WITHOUT USING THE SURNAME. If one of the family members had an unusual first name, try searching using it. Barbara couldn't find her 2nd great grandmother, Pauline BUDE, in the 1900 census. She knew she was alive and probably living in Wisconsin, so she just searched on Pauline. Of course, Barbara found several in the Great Lakes area, but one who was living in Illinois was her! On both the database and the actual census form, her last name was spelled BUTY.

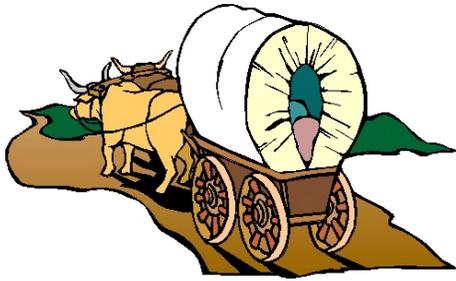
SEARCH ON INITIALS OR ON THE MIDDLE OR NICKNAME. Many times the census taker only recorded the initials of the individuals. Even then the "J" may look like an "I", so try variations. Many times people went by their middle name or a nickname. If they were not the person giving the information to the census taker they would probably have been identified by the name most used. Carol has one ancestor Henry Cincinnatus WALKER who was recorded in three censuses as Henry WALKER, Cincinnatus WALKER, and H.C. WALKER.

SEARCH ON THE NAME OF EACH PERSON IN THE HOUSEHOLD. When the handwriting of the census taker was too difficult for indexer to read, the family names in the index may look nothing like the actual names of the individuals recorded. One family Carol found had been recorded using mostly initials. The indexer got most of the initials wrong. It was not until Carol got to the seventh child—Ida—that she found the family. Ida's name was so short that it was spelled out and identifiable.

DON'T GIVE UP BECAUSE AN INDEX DOESN'T LIST YOUR ANCESTOR—SEARCH ANOTHER ONE. Omissions do happen. Several different companies/organizations have online databases of various censuses, so don't stop at just one, search the others. Even search the old-fashioned way. If a database does not have your ancestor listed try using the microfilmed Soundex cards.

A CITY DIRECTORY CAN SUBSTITUTE FOR A CENSUS INDEX. If your ancestor was living in a large town, search the city directory for a street address. Look for the ward and ED number in the front of the directory, or check online sources/maps. Tip: Use the directory for the year after the census, since the data is collected a year before the directory is published.

Whatever database or index you use to track down previous generations, don't forget—an index is not a source document! It is a tool that provides you with leads as to where to find your ancestor on the census or other records. ♥



GREAT JOURNEYS INTO THE PAST

THE DAY I FOUND MYSELF IN THE 1940 CENSUS

By Carolyn H. Brown

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Summer 2012]

Maybe some of you, using the tools provided in the last newsletter, have found yourselves in the 1940 census. This is the first census that occurred after my birth, and all sorts of emotions passed through my mind as I searched through Steve Morse's <<http://stevemorse.org>> One-Step Webpages for the 1940 Census Enumeration District (ED) Finder. I was worried it would be hard to find the right ED for where we were living at the time. I was really lucky; since we had not lived in a big city it was not too hard. It helped that we had lived near the same place all of my school years, so I knew the approximate district. At least I thought I did. I knew the name of the street was Milford Avenue in 1940.

I looked at the ED map, which was also available through the One-Step Webpages, and printed it for easy reference as I was looking through the census. The ED maps for Elizabeth City County, Virginia do not show all streets by name. I noticed that some other ED maps do show the street names.

Starting with the <www.archives.com> websites I tried to access the Elizabeth City County, Virginia census pages. That site was so slow that I quickly became discouraged. Then I remembered <www.ancestry.com> had the 1940 census pages available on their site. Wow! What a difference in processing time. The Ancestry home page has a link to the 1940 census with a very easy-to-use search feature. I entered the state, county and ED, clicked search and was immediately taken to the first page of the ED. It was so fast I hardly had time to think about it.

I was brought up in the Wythe District of Elizabeth City County, Virginia. My parents lived in the same home on Brightwood Avenue for 50 years, but this was the second place they had lived after I was born. It was quite near our first home on Milford Avenue, so I looked at the ED map and picked out the ED I thought would apply to Milford Avenue. The first entry on the first page of the 1940 census was for a cousin who lived about two blocks from my folk's home on Brightwood Avenue. How exciting it was to see the cousins I had known when I was a child. Oh, the memories it invoked. Some died many years ago. I was sure I had the right ED. I went through every page looking for Milford Avenue. Nothing! I tried two more ED's close by, and still nothing.

With great anticipation I clicked on the last ED in Wythe District, ED 28-20, which I had not searched. Ancestry had a problem accessing the file. I waited a while and tried again. Same results! Oh well! I thought, I can try tomorrow. The next day I got the same message, so I sent Ancestry an email. I kept trying and getting the same message. Another email was sent to Ancestry.

While waiting for Ancestry to take action I spent some time with the ED map and determined that Milford Avenue was probably not in Wythe District, but in North Hampton District. Back to Ancestry I went. I accessed the North Hampton District and I found ED 28-20 which had appeared in Wythe District was also showing in North Hampton District. When I tried to access it from there the same "unable to access" message appeared.

More online research revealed that ED 28-20 was supposed to be in the North Hampton District. I sent Ancestry an email explaining what I thought the problem might be. They had ED 28-20 in two different districts and there was a program error with the double access points.

The next morning when I tried to access North Hampton District ED 28-20 it opened right up. My excitement level jumped 50 points. I was flying high and in a hurry. I paged through the census looking for Milford Avenue.

THERE I WAS—PAGE 11A LINE 8!

The first names on the page were my uncle and his wife, my mother's sister. Then the next dwelling was our house. There I was with my family. My emotions exploded as I realized I knew many of the people on the page. I made another discovery. In the "Residence April 1, 1935" field the entry was "same place". This meant that

they had lived in Elizabeth City County, just not in the same house. This is like having a 1935 census for these people right before your eyes, without ever leaving the page. I noticed for those people who had not lived in Elizabeth City County, the town, county and state where they had lived in 1935 was listed.

Hutchinson, Mark	Head	M	W	28	M	no H S	New York	same place
Myrtle	Wife	F	W	26	M	no H S	Virginia	same place
Mercia	Daughter	F	W	4	0	no 0	Virginia	
Carolyn	Daughter	F	W	3	0	no 0	Virginia	

While writing my personal history I was able to name many of the people by first names that I knew from our years on Milford Avenue, but I could not remember them all. Now I need to go back through my personal history and fill in the blanks.

I had a lot of cousins in this county at the time and I will be researching quite a while to fill in some of the data gaps I haven't answered before.

As I looked more closely at the census document I discovered there were, in fact, two towns recorded on the same page with the same ED number. It is not uncommon for an ED to cover parts of two cities or towns. Since I had never paid close attention to the ED structure of the census before I did not realize an ED could cover more than one city or town.

If you haven't tried to locate someone in the 1940 census, now is the perfect time to do it. It was not that hard for me, just a little frustrating. ♥

ABCs

THE A-B-Cs OF GENEALOGY

by Carolyn H. Brown for Maryalice Gordon [From Jul-Aug-Sep 2009 SKP Genies Newsletter]

Q - R - S - T

Q is for **Quiet**. All of us genealogists need a little quiet time to regroup with our data and really analyze what we have. Try to set up a special time each week that you can spend reviewing what you have so you don't look for the same data in the same place over and over again.

R is for **Review**. Once you have your data before you, review each document individually. You may be amazed to find that you had some information all along to help you over a brick wall, but it meant nothing to you when you first obtained the document.

S is for **Study**. The best way to learn how to do genealogy research is to study how others have done it. Read all of the articles on the subject you can find.

T is for **Time**. Genealogy research takes time. Don't expect to find everything you want to know in a few short sessions on the Internet. ♥

CHRISTMAS WITH OUR ANCESTORS POTLUCK

We are planning a *Christmas With Our Ancestors Potluck* for the 14 December 2012 meeting. Please plan to bring a prepared dish based on an old family recipe (and bring copies of the recipes to exchange). Also, bring an item that has been passed down through the family, or something you received for Christmas from an ancestor, for "show and tell". ♥



Nikki, Carol, Shirley & Gloria
Photograph courtesy of Harry Jensen

BOUSE GENIES NEWS

The small group of members left in western Arizona for the summer met at Carol Brown's home in Bouse on 22 June to discuss everything genealogy, and prepare for the upcoming winter season. They also finalized the documents required for the Genies in the Desert - Genealogy Technology Seminar.

NEW MEETING DAY STRUCTURE

Several of our members travel over 30 miles, and some more than 70 miles each way, to join us. They asked that we allow more than two hours on meeting days to have time to gather in groups to discuss individual topics of their choosing. Our Vice Chairman, Harry Jensen, took this idea and presented us with a suggested agenda for our meeting days. His meeting structure was issued to all members via the Bouse Genie Yahoo Group, or a special email to those who have not joined our Yahoo Group.

We voted at the 4 May meeting to change the structure of our bi-weekly meetings to the following:

All business meetings will start at 9:30 AM, with 45 minutes allowed for formal agenda items. The business meeting will be followed by a short discussion session open to all members and guest. After a short break there will be a webinar or class lasting about one hour. There will be time for some discussion on the topic of the day before we break at noon for a bag lunch. Please bring whatever you want for your lunch and a drink.

Following lunch the group can divide into Special Interest Groups or SIGs. One of those groups will be a Legacy User Group. As we are working out the ideas concerning which are of the most interest topics to our membership, we will be developing other SIGs. What we are trying to do is educate our membership in the research they are involved in. The nice part of this is, we can select the other "Sig's of the day" based on the needs of the members in attendance. If you are interested in being a SIG chairman, let Harry know.

All persons are encouraged to bring their computers to each meeting. Don't forget to bring an extension cord, as we only have one available. Though we don't have Internet access in the meeting room, MyFis and data enabled cell phones can be used. If you are having a problem, either genealogy or computer related, please speak up. Someone should be able to help you. Remember, there are **no** dumb questions. However, there may be some dumb answers. We are here to help you. We don't know if you have a problem, if you don't speak up.

If you have knowledge of some aspect of genealogy to share, please let Harry Jensen know, and he will try to work you into our schedule so you can give a class or just take some time to share with others.

2012 GENEALOGY TECHNOLOGY SEMINAR

Plans have been finalized, as best as we can at this point, for the 2012 Genealogy Technology Seminar to be held at the Blue Water Casino in Parker on 7 December 2012. Geoff Rasmussen will again be our speaker with four new topics. Based on the response last December, we should do very well this year.

Geoff's topics are:

- 1) Googling Around with Google: Alerts, iGoogle, Calendar, Reader and more
- 2) Legacy Tips and Tricks: Something for Everyone
- 3) Genealogy on the Go: CDs, thumb drives, GEN Viewer, and the Families App
- 4) Message Boards, Mailing Lists, Blogs, and other Social Media for Genealogists

Changes made for this seminar are:

Morning bagels and sweets have been canceled. We had too much left over food at each of the last two seminars, and feel our money can be better spent on adding meat and cheese to the lunch menu. Coffee, tea and water will still be available in the morning.

There will be one more table available for vendors and a larger podium for Geoff.

Norman Cutshall, who was adopted, will be our special speaker during lunch. He will tell us about his experience finding his birth family.

We have secured several special door prizes, notably: PBS donated a three disk set of Gates *Finding Your Roots* series; Lisa Louise Cooke donated one year subscription to her *Genealogy Gems Podcast*; Dick Eastman donated one year subscription to his *EOGN Newsletter*; and West Valley Genealogical Society donated one year society membership. We thank them all for these donations.

The cutoff date for pre-registration member rate of \$35 for the seminar will be 16 November 2012. All registrations received after that date will be \$40 for members. Get your registration in early. ♥

From the Editor's Desk

By Carolyn H. Brown



Spring is over in Bouse, Arizona, and it is starting to get into the “dog days of summer” which last four months here. It is the time of year for me to stay indoors and do some heavy writing. I will also take time to try out some of the new genealogy-related websites and genealogy tools that have become available in the last few years.

If you have found a website, search engine, special program, application, or computer-related tool that has helped you in research, either high-tech or old-school, we would love to hear from you.

We are also looking for articles for *Great Journeys Into the Past*. This can be any family history story telling us how you found the evidence. Tell us about that great “Ah! Ha!” moment when you made a connection you had been looking for. We have an excellent editorial staff to work with you to make your story come to life.

Please send your story, article or just information you think our members would like to hear about to: GenieCarol@gmail.com.

October, November, December 2012: *Genealogy Tools: High-Tech*. Looking for articles on tools you use in your research such as: lineage databases; search engine searches; foreign word translators; applications for smart phones, pads and tablets; other software programs to help in research and analysis; favorite fee and free WWW sites; social networking. (Deadline is 1 September 2012.)

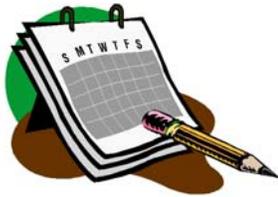
January, February, March 2013: *Genealogy Tools: Old School*. Looking for articles on tools you use in your research such as: date and relationship calculations; genealogy societies; advantages of attending conferences/seminars/ courses/workshops; helpful reference books; dictionaries; almanacs; interviewing techniques; interlibrary loan. (Deadline is 1 December 2012.) ♥

THE UNITED STATES CENSUS BUREAU has a website with all sorts of wonderful information about every census taken. The home page is at www.census.gov/history. There is nothing listed about individuals, but some interesting information and fascinating historical photos are at your fingertips by simply clicking on a tab:

- ◆ THROUGH THE DECADES > QUESTIONNAIRES lets you download a PDF of the blank population schedules.
- ◆ THROUGH THE DECADES > INDEX OF QUESTIONS lists the questions asked on various schedules.
- ◆ THROUGH THE DECADES > FAST FACTS timelines covering economic, social and political issues.
- ◆ GENEALOGY > DECENNIAL CENSUS RECORDS provides information about the censuses in general.
- ◆ GENEALOGY > OTHER RESOURCES includes links to a variety of sources. ♥



PUBLICITY PHOTO FOR 1940 CENSUS
FROM THE CENSUS.GOV WEBSITE



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Improve your physical and mental health this summer. Get out of the bright UV rays and into a cool facility for a great learning experience.

American Family History and German Genealogy:

Research for Both Sides of the Atlantic
14 July in Belleville, Illinois
Info at: www.stclair-ilgs.org/conf2012.pdf

Midwestern Roots 2012:

Family History and Genealogy Conference
20–21 July in Indianapolis, Indiana
Info at: www.indianahistory.org/

Utah Genealogical Association:

Discover Your Family Treasures
18 August in Cedar City, Utah
Info at: www.ugagenealogy.org/aem.php?eid=19

FGS 2012 Conference:

Indians, Squatters, Settlers and Soldiers in the "Old Southwest"
29 August–1 September in Birmingham, Alabama
Info at: www.fgs.org/2012conference

SKP Genies Magic in the "Show Me" State

23–30 September near Kansas City, Missouri
For info and registration form contact Bob ED at:
RobertEd7568@gmail.com or 928-231-0983

Georgia Genealogical Society:

Technology for the Genealogist
29 September in Atlanta, Georgia
Info at: www.gagensociety.org/calendar_ggs.htm

ISBGFH: 2012 British Institute

8–12 October in Salt Lake City, Utah
Info at: www.isbgfh.org (click on **Institute**) ♥

THE CENSUS TAKER

A census taker walked up to a woman who was sitting on a porch. After introducing himself, he said, "How many children do you have?"

The woman answered, "Four." The census taker asked, "May I have their names, please?"

The woman replied, "Eenie, Meenie, Minie, and George."

Confused, the census taker said, "May I ask why you named your fourth child 'George'?"

"Surely, because we didn't want any Moe."

Bouse Genies 2012 Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held in the Bouse Community Building from 9:30 AM -2 PM unless other wise specified.

21 September
5 & 19 October
2, 16, & 30 November
7 (Seminar - Parker) & 14 December

HINT:

Do you want to see how much indexing by Family Search has been done in each state? Go to www.FamilySearch.org and click on the 1940 Census Images Released in the upper right corner of the screen and the map of the United States will appear. Hold your cursor over any state and the percentage of indexing completed is shown. This screen is updated every day. ♥



FILLING UP THE CENSUS PAPERS

Wife of his Bosom: "Upon my word, Mr. Peewitt! Is this the way you fill up your census? So you call yourself the "Head of the Family"—Do You—and me a female!"

[Editor's Note: This cartoon appeared in 1850. Image taken from the Census.gov website.]

Current Officers:

Chairman - Carol Brown	Assistant Treasurer - Brenda Dixon
Vice-Chairman - Harry Jensen	Librarian - Nikki Mackey
Secretary - Gloria Freeman	Webmaster - Dennis Chapman
Corresponding Secretary - Nikki Mackey	Newsletter Editor - Carol Brown
Treasurer - Donna Potter	Bouse Project Coordinator - Janet Williams