

# The Livermore Roots Tracer



Nelson Ira Merryman,  
The Wheat King  
of Central Nebraska

Vol V SPRING 1986

No 3

Livermore - Amador  
Genealogical Society

PO Box 901 Livermore, California 94550

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
Livermore, California

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Vern Barr 2nd Vice-President  
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ROOTS TRACER

Volume V Spring 1986 No.3



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<b>Committee Chairpersons</b>	
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Programs, RoseMarie Wade	
Membership, Vern Barr	
Transportation,	
Cultural Arts Rep, Olivette Chinn	
Editor, Roots Tracer	
& Cemeteries, Margaret Fazio	
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<b>Roots Tracer Address:</b> 454 Dover Way, Livermore, CA 94550.	
<b>Deadlines for Tracer:</b> Summer Issue, June 15; Fall Issue, September 15; Winter Issue, December 15; and Spring Issue, March 15.	
<b>Please send all queries to :</b> Mrs. Judy Williams, Query Editor, 1944 Mars Rd, Livermore, CA 94550. \$1/Query for Non-members.	
<b>Will Review Published Items In Exchange For Copy For Our Library.</b>	
<b>Meetings:</b> 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Hacienda Business Park Community Room, Suite 107, 4637 Chabot Drive, Pleasanton.	
<b>New dues schedule payable July 1 of each year:</b>	
Member \$10      Contributing \$25	
Family \$15      Supporting \$50	
Senior/Student \$5      Life \$100	
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**New Mailing Address**  
P.O. Box 901  
Livermore, CA 94550

**New Library Address**  
Livermore History Center  
East Room  
Old Carnegie Library  
3rd & K Streets  
Livermore, CA 94550

For More Information Call:

443-2576, 447-6861, 447-8316

## EDITORIAL NOTES

"Pepsi-Cola's advertising slogan, 'Come alive with the Pepsi generation,' appears on Taiwanese billboards as 'Pepsi will bring your ancestors back from the dead.'" How's that for American know-how? (Forbes, Feb 10, 1986)

### Welcome New Members

Walter Hayden, 623 Colusa Way,  
Livermore, CA 94550, 415-443-5372  
Sue Hrabe, P.O.Box 114, Sunol, CA  
94586, 415-862-2398  
William Burden, 874 Laguna Drive,  
Livermore, CA 94550, 415-447-8045  
Aksel Petersen, 444 Leona Drive,  
Livermore, CA 94550, 415-447-1867  
Liz Moir, 1730 Murdell Lane,  
Livermore, CA 94550, 415-447-8804  
Glenn & Dorothy Cofer, 3650 Pestana  
Way, Livermore, CA 94550,  
415-447-2618

### Welcome Returning Members

Janeva Hotz, 9989 Telsa Road,  
Livermore, CA 94550, 415-455-5584  
Suzanne Lay, 580 Falcon Way,  
Livermore, CA 94550, 415-443-5986

New Members are encouraged to contact Membership Chairman Vern Barr (443-1157) to receive your L-AGS Library Card which allows you to use the L-AGS Library located at the History Center (Old Carnegie Library) 3rd and K St., Livermore.

Our Handbook is being revised at the present time. Ask to see a copy of someone's so you'll be apprised of the Bylaws, and the Surname & Locality Index Cards.

New Members are also encouraged to submit a **Meet The Members Profile** for the Tracer so that we can make our readers

aware of the surnames you are researching. Any Member who would like to submit a Profile is welcome to do so. Ask for a "Profile" sheet if you need direction and mail your completed story to me, Margaret Fazio, at 454 Dover Way, Livermore, CA 94550, 415-443-2576.

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## Society News

**Next Meeting: May 12, 1986**

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Hacienda Business Park

Speaker: William Burden

Topic: Computers

**June Meeting**

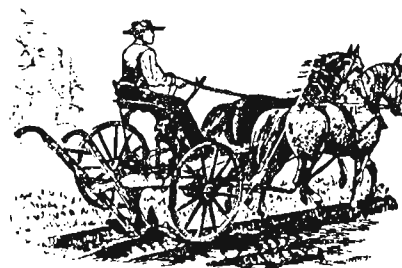
Date: June 9

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Hacienda Business Park

Speaker: Members

Topic: Show & Tell/Elections



## ODDS AND ENDS

Brengle Branches is a \$12/year newsletter published quarterly covering all branches of the Brengle / Brengel / Bringle / Pringle surnames and its many allied lineages. The newsletter includes an unlimited free query column related to this surname. Contact Editor Charles Brengle, 6619 Pheasant Rd, #16, Baltimore, MD 21220

## LIBRARY NEWS

### LIBRARY IS OPEN FOR CHECKING OUT BOOKS.

Bring Membership card and come on Wednesday or Sunday when a volunteer should be there for check-out! Hours are 11:30 to 4:00. 5 Books can be checked out at a time. 2 weeks is the length of time allowed to hold a book; the fine for late books is .10 cents a day, so be sure to get the books back on time!

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### Sutro Library in San Francisco

Now open on Saturdays -- started Feb 1. Hours are 10 AM to 5 PM just like on Tuesday thru Friday. Monday Hours are 10AM to 9 PM.

Sutro also now has the 1900 Census. (From Member Sue Lay)

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### Area LDS Library information

Note: Hours do vary so call before visiting.

Santa Clara 875 Quince Ave.  
408 - 241-1449

Tues Wed & Fri: 9:15 AM - 4 PM

Wed & Fri: 7 PM - 9:30 PM

Sat: 12 PM - 4 PM

San Jose 2175 Santiago St.  
408 - 251-3962

Tues: 10 AM - 3 PM / 6PM - 9 PM

Wed Thurs & Sat: 10 AM - 3 PM

Stockton 800 W. Brookside Rd.  
209 - 951-7060

Mon: 10 AM - 4 PM

Tues Wed Thurs: 10 AM - 9:30 PM

Menlo Park 1165 Valparaiso Ave.  
415 - 325-9711

Tues & Thurs: 7 PM - 9:30 PM

Sat: 12:30 PM - 4 PM

Fairfield 2700 Camrose  
707 - 425-2027

Tues Wed Thurs: 10 AM - 2 PM  
7 PM - 9 PM

OAKLAND : Closed 6 More Months

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## QUERY CORNER

William Zemendorf of Niagara County New York--of Prussian birth. HAVE FOR SALE: Wills of father & mother (100 pages) and extensive Census information. \$25

Not my line after all.

Sue Lay - 580 Falcon Way,  
Livermore, CA 94550 415-443-5986

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### Civilian Conservation Corps

Three years ago, the National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni (NACCCA) celebrated the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC).

The NACCCA is trying to locate about 2 million former members and persons who were connected or affiliated with the CCC during the 1930's and 1940's. Many of these people reside in California.

The NACCCA is a young and growing organization with 124 chapters throughout the nation, and more are in the planning and development stages. One of the group's main objectives is to have the CCC reactivated.

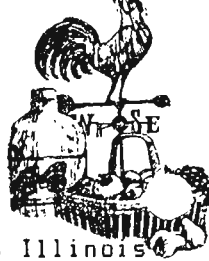
Anyone interested in the organization can write to NACCCA, Loehmann's Plaza, 7245 Arlington Blvd., Suite 318, Falls Church, VA., 22042, for more information and literature.

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# NELSON IRA MERRYMAN THE WHEAT KING OF CENTRAL NEBRASKA

BY WILLIS "BILL" WOLCOTT



Five generations of Merrymans preceded the hero of this article in America. The accounts of progenitor, Walter Merryman, vary but little among his descendants. He was kidnapped at Dublin, Ireland early in 1700 and brought to Boston, Massachusetts. Here his so-called passage money was paid by a Mr. Simonton of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, who faithfully taught Walter the ship carpenter's trade near Portland, Maine. This carpenter skill appears in the direct ancestral line of our subject, namely Nelson, David D., Timothy, Thomas, Thomas and Walter.

Nelson Ira Merryman was born 13 April, 1855 near Swedona, Illinois. His parents, David D. and Mrs. Mary (Love) Evans Merryman, were married 11 December 1852, at Rock Island, Illinois. On 19 September 1876, Nelson married Mary Elizabeth Quaintance, also from Swedona. She was the daughter of William Penn (Big Bill) and Elizabeth (Brumbaugh) Quaintance. Nelson's beautiful bride was born 18 September 1858, at Panora, Iowa. Since her mother died during childbirth, Mary Elizabeth was raised at Swedona, Illinois by a sister of her father, Mrs. Margaret (Quaintance) Van Meter, called Aunt Mag. She promised Nelson and Mary Elizabeth that she would give them a cradle, if they didn't have a baby for two years. Their first child, Raymond, was born 17 September 1878, and they received the cradle.

Since Mary Elizabeth's mother had died the day after Mary was born, everyone was excited and concerned when Raymond was expected to arrive. A doctor had been engaged for the event, but he did not arrive in time, so Nelson had to deliver his first child. Mary, being an extremely modest woman, refused to have any one in attendance, except Nelson, to help deliver her other children, namely Maud (my mother), the twins - Kitty and Clyde, Florence, D.D., and Marion.

Probably, Nelson moved from Illinois to his future home in Nebraska, north and west of Axtell, to be near his half-brother, Freeman Merryman, who came to Nebraska in 1874 and owned three eighties of land across the road north of the half section of land that was to become the home place for Nelson Merryman's family. Also, Nelson's father, David D., moved to this area in 1884. Nelson bought the north half of Section 6, Township 6, Range 16, Mirage Township, Kearney County, on 13 September 1884, for \$3119.20. This land had previously been homesteaded by four other men on 4 January 1876.

Nelson returned to Swedona to buy lumber to build a home on his Nebraska farm, and also to get livestock needed for his new home. The shipping rate for new lumber was a great deal higher than the shipping rate for livestock. That was no problem for Nelson. He laid his lumber in the bottom, piled hay on top of the lumber, then loaded his machinery and livestock. There were no objections upon leaving Illinois, but he was detained for two days on a siding at Axtell, Nebraska, where he was told that he would have to pay the higher rate. As the story goes, Nelson went right ahead and unloaded the freight, even though the station agent held a loaded shotgun.

The house, consisting of two large rooms downstairs, and two rooms of the same size upstairs, was completed in 1885. A big addition on the north side was built in 1905. A large barn was built in 1920 by Raymond, oldest son of Nelson. The barn was recognized as a landmark in the area for many years.

After the house was completed, Mary Elizabeth came to Axtell on the train on 1 March 1885, bringing with her their four children: Raymond, Maud, and the twins, Kitty and Clyde.

From the start, Nelson Merryman was a striking figure in this Swedish Nebraska community. He was striking, not only in his physical bearing, but also in the independence of his actions. He was a type all by himself and he wanted to be different. When asked why he had the handle-bar moustache and bushy sideburns, he replied, "So I am not like the Common Herd."

He was of great physical strength and endurance, and he demanded that his hired help and his sons and daughters work as hard and as long as he did. He was recognized as honest in his dealings, and he showed extreme loyalty to those whom he considered friends. He was a man of ambition and thrift, gruff on the outside, but underneath, his friends knew of his many kind deeds towards others less fortunate than himself.

As is well known, by his thrift, foresight, careful planning and personal toil, he became one of the largest land owners in the central part of Nebraska, and later he was recognized as "The Wheat King Of Central Nebraska." A stranger passing Nelson's farm in and about 1918 might have thought this was the stacking ground for all the grain in this part of the country. At one time there were sixty-five stacks of grain on his home place, and it all belonged to Nels. His \$95,000 single-sale of wheat was the largest individual wheat sale in the state.

Here is another true story about this gruff, tough, hard-boiled old Democrat with the fuzzy moustache and long sideburns. Each year after harvest time, Nels Merryman would arrange to send a portion of his wheat harvest to the Axtell mill to be ground into flour. Then the sixty or more sacks of flour would be delivered to Bethphage at Axtell. This was a self-supporting Mission, receiving no tax monies, but operating on donations entirely. It was known all over the Midwest for its loving care of the spastics, the Monogoloids, those who were badly crippled in mind and body, and a few there were simply homeless. Merryman set one stipulation on his annual gift: it

was to be anonymous. It is not clear just why this man wanted to give his alms in secret. Maybe it was to in some way protect the reputation he had among his neighbors as being a crusty, hard-headed old gent.

Nelson and Mary Elizabeth moved from their home on the farm to Kearney, Nebraska in \_\_\_\_\_. though Nelson continued to farm after locating in town. One reason for the move, as I have heard, is this. After the death of their son, D.D., he was buried in the Axtell cemetery. Mary Elizabeth was emotionally shook up by the death of her son, and sometimes would walk the three miles from the farm home to the cemetery at Axtell, where she would remain beside D.D.'s grave until someone would come and get her. I always thought the move to Kearney was made in order to help her adjust.

Many times Nelson would ask his first-born grandchild, Dwight Merryman, to do special jobs for him. One time he asked Dwight to drive him to the home place. Nels asked for the car to be stopped near the farmhouse and told Dwight to stay in the car. Then, for the first time, Dwight noticed that Nels Merryman had a shotgun hidden in this overalls. Dwight disobeyed Nelson's orders to stay in the car (that alone took courage) and followed him to the barn. There he saw Nels place the shotgun in a shooting position, and then he said in his loud, commanding, gruff voice, "Gypsies, I'll give you five minutes to load up and leave this farm forever!" Dwight said the ten gypsy wagons were soon on their way, and they never returned.

Following is a summary of a news article that appeared in the Axtell newspaper, dated 10 July 1896:

Nelson Merryman was observed leaving the Axtell Post Office walking toward a man named Andrew Hulquist. It was known that the two men had a grudge at each other, and that trouble was sure to come. However no one was prepared for what happened next. Hulquist drew a revolver, shot at Merryman five times, two shots taking effect. One shot passed through



the right lung and lodged just under the skin at the back. The other shot entered the right shoulder and remained there. During the shooting, Hulquist was so near Merryman that Nelson had powder burns on his chin from the revolver discharges.

By evening, Nelson was sinking very rapidly. Dr. Miller, from nearby Holdrege, was called and removed the bullet that passed through his right lung. The other bullet remained in the right shoulder the rest of his life. Undoubtedly, that is why Nelson's right shoulder always looked stiff and was lower than his left shoulder.

Nelson's final illness was of brief duration, only four weeks. With his characteristic independence and former experience with any sickness, he thought he could control the severe chills of this last attack. Therefore, his children and intimate friends were not notified during the early part of his last sickness.

On his death-bed, he remarked to his family members who were present, "I've fought a good fight -- you've all done well." Then on 13 March 1932, Nelson Ira Merryman passed away at his home in Kearney, Nebraska, one month less than 77 years of age. He had been granted a wish he had asked for many times: to die at home in his own bed.

His final resting place is in the Axtell cemetery in the family plot near his chief loves -- his wife and his mother, directly across the road from the Bethphage Mission.

Willis "Bill" Wolcott  
Grandchild No. 12 out of 31  
12 August 1985



William Mendenhall  
Benefactor of Livermore

The city of Livermore was founded in 1869 in a broad valley east of the coastal range and forty miles east of San Francisco. It was a pathway to the Sierras and, later, to the gold fields.

William Mendenhall was a Quaker, born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, to William Mendenhall Sr., and his wife, Sarah Peterson. He started west across the plains on horseback and arrived at Sutter's Fort on the 25th of December, 1845.

He first took up farming in the area of Danville, north of the valley. In the Spring of 1887 he was married to Mary Allen at the Mission Santa Clara. It is thought that they were the first couple of American descent to be married in California.

Mary Allen had also crossed the plains with her family, but her mother died during the trip and her father became too ill to travel. He remained at Fort Bridger, Wyoming.

William and Mary Mendenhall moved to the valley in 1860 choosing as a home site, an area to the south in the hills where there was a large mineral springs.

By 1869, the railroad was crossing the valley and William chose to establish a town along its route. He donated land for a depot, for school sites and churches. He proposed a plan for streets and stores, and he named the town after his good friend, a rancher named Robert Livermore.



**St. Michael's Cemetery Part X**

Row 5 W

Jones, Lawrie, son of Mary & J.M. Jones, died Jan 2 1885,  
aged 4m 29d  
Ryan, T. plot name, no stones  
Carroll - plot name, no stones  
Falvey Family Marker - 1905  
Falvey, Thomas - no dates  
Falvey, Emma Jane nee Sliter - no dates  
Falvey, Thomas W. - no dates  
Falvey, Mary R. - no dates  
Falvey, Emma L. - no dates  
Falvey, John R. - no dates  
Falvey, William A. - no dates  
Perata, John A. Died Dec 14, 1911, aged 24 yrs  
Perata, Thomas A. 1852 - 1916  
Perata, Catherine 1854 - 1940  
Perata, Peter T. Jan 11, 1902 - Dec 21, 1946  
Tobia, Victoria 1896 - 1976  
Tobia, Nicola 1889 - 1948  
Dellwig, Elizabeth Sept 21, 1893 - Sept 26, 1956  
Berg, Andrew J. 1880 - 1967  
Martin, James R. 1895 - 1960  
Martin, John L. 1889 - 1946  
Martin, Henry 1899 - 1925  
Martin, "Mother" 1864 - 1923  
Martin, "Father" 1850 - 1911

Row 8 W

Rose, "Mother" - no dates  
Rose, "Father" - no dates  
Rose, Antone - no dates  
Rose, Albert - no dates  
Rose, Mary E. - no dates  
Rose Sr., J.F. - no dates  
Bettencourt, Tony - no dates  
Bettencourt, Manuel - no dates  
Bettencourt, "Father" - no dates  
Bettencourt, "Mother" - no dates  
Bettencourt, Manuel G., husband of Annie Bettencourt  
died Mar 26, 1898, aged 43 years  
Frates (Thomas) Family Plot  
Frates, "Mother" - no dates  
Frates, "Father" - no dates  
Frates, Carrie - no dates  
Frates, Peter - no dates  
Bettencourt, Helen died May 18, 1912 aged 35y 5m 10d



St. Michael's X continued

Row 8 W continued

Bettencourt, Antone J.G. born 1849 - died 1907 "Father"  
Bettencourt, Antone S. aged 3 months "Brother"  
Larripa, George - no dates  
Larripa, Anna - no dates  
Grana, Salvator - no dates  
Larripa, Gil - no dates  
Azevedo, John Ignatius Apr 14, 1867 - Feb 2, 1932  
Azevedo, Maria G. died May 4, 1913, aged 44 yrs 4 mos  
Azevedo, Mary G. Vargas June 10, 1896 - July 21, 1981  
Azevedo, Baby Cecilia Jean 1915  
Azevedo, Baby John 1916  
Davina, Manuel S. born Mar 25, 1847 died Mar 6, 1918  
Davina, Marian R. born Mar 14, 1845 died July 10, 1913  
wife of M.S. Davina

Row 9 W

Ladd, Joseph T. born Feb 9, 1858 died Feb 1, 1877  
aged 18 yrs 11 mos 22 dys  
Ladd, S. - no dates  
O'Leary, Alice born Aug 18, 1886 died July 14, 1910  
O'Leary, William M. Sr. Oct 4, 1900 - Feb 24, 1977  
O'Leary, Margaret A. June 3, 1898  
Smith, Robert P. - no dates  
Smith, Catherine - no dates  
Grana, Marguerite 1913  
Grana, Peter J. 1890 - 1962  
Grana, Michael Oct 13, 1925  
Matt, Mrs. L. - no dates  
Matt, Gottlieb 1829 - 1894  
Matt, Andrew 1875 - 1908  
Matt, Ludwina 1837 - 1920  
Bispo, Jose Da Roza Fallego A' 18 de Fev de 1902, Gom 70  
Annos de Edade, Natural do Fayal Agores De Sange em Paz  
Patricio, Antonio died Sept 12, 1912 aged 47 yrs  
Ratto, Pietro - no dates  
Ratto, Theodore R. Jul 23, 1927 - Aug 8, 1978 USN WWII  
Trebois, Henry 1875 - 1923  
Trebois, Frank died Jan 28, 1914 aged 66 yrs  
Trebois, Emilie 1856 - 1926  
Mondot, Peter J. Mar 25, 1901 - Jan 6, 1968  
Mondot, Frank 1871 - 1936  
Mondot, Jennie 1878 - 1917  
Mondot, John 1843 - 1928  
O'Brien, Helen 1907 - 1945 "Mother"  
O'Brien, Michael 1945 - 1976 "Son"  
Aramentes, Luiza died May 17, 1904 aged 77 yrs  
Aramentes, J.M. 1862 - 1942  
Lemos, John S. 1825 - 1918 "Father"  
Lemos, Maria L.S. 1853 - 1922 "Mother"

St. Michael's X continued

Row 9 W continued

Lemos, Mary S. 1890 - 1934  
Lemos, Russell L. 1938 - 1955  
Silva, John 1831 - 1916  
Silva, Mary 1831 - 1926  
Silver, John J. 1877 - 1905  
Silver, Mary C. 1873 - 1900  
Silver, John T. Jr. 1900 - 1918  
Buck, Kendall D. Aug 14, 1889 - Feb 2, 1966  
Buck, Cecilia S. Oct 7 1897  
De Souza, John I. 1860 - 1908  
Gomes, M.A. - no dates

Row 10 W

Hayes, Mildred Irene dau of Francis R. & Frances F.  
1889-1894  
Hayes, Joseph V. son of Timothy & Julia, Native of Calif.  
died Dec 21, 1894 aged 26yr 11mos 17 dys  
Hayes, William C. died Jan 26, 1907 aged 36 yrs  
Hayes, Timothy died Apr 17, 1903 aged 93 yrs  
Hayes, Julia Carey died July 1, 1899 aged 69 yrs  
Hayes, Alliee died Mar 1, 1879 6yr 9 mos 23 dys  
dau of Timothy and Julia  
Hayes, Helen died Jan 30, 1926 aged 73 yrs  
Le Blanc, Agnes Hayes 1864 - 1946  
Dagnino, Louie L. Apr 18, 1892 - Nov 21, 1934  
Dagnino, Peter J. July 13, 1900 - Oct 21, 1968  
Dagnino, Valentino D. Sept 5, 1894 - Mar 27, 1922  
Dagnino, Valentino F. Mar 31, 1854 - July 27, 1916  
Native of Italy  
Dagnino, Emelio J. Mar 1898 - July 1904  
Silva, George R. Jan 5, 1860 - June 29, 1908  
Silva, Elizabeth Green Sept 8, 1863 - May 20, 1939  
Henry, Matthew died May 4, 1875 aged 41 yrs 10 mo  
"To Our Father, Erected by His Children"  
Henry, William F. July 28, 1902 - Aug 28, 1964  
Henry, Madeline G. Dec 17, 1915  
Sprague Headstone 1837  
Sprague Plot: M.G.F. no dates - & - J.S.F. no dates  
Whalen, J. Family Plot  
Whalen, "Papa" - no dates  
Whalen, "Mama" - no dates  
Whalen, Maggie - no dates  
Loughrey, Peter died Oct 2, 1936  
Loughrey, Bridget died Oct 28, 1930  
Loughrey, John J. died Nov 30, 1907  
Hachman, Sadie died Dec 22, 1918  
Hachman, Baby Cosmas 1908  
Hachman, J.A. died May 11, 1928  
Enos, Marianna died July 24, 1910  
Enos, Jos. died Sept 16, 1930 aged 69 yrs

St. Michael's X continued

Row 10 W continued

Enos Plot: small stone - M.J.E. no dates  
Oliveira, Mariana H. June 8, 1835 - July 22, 1917  
Mendonca, Florence A. 1892 - 1926  
Mendonca, Frank D. 1885 - 1945  
Mendonca, Baby Billy age 4 yrs  
Morris, Joe J. May 29, 1883 - Jan 4, 1919 "Brother"  
Souza, Baby Daniel age 2 mos  
Morris, John J. 1868 - 1939 "Father"  
Morris, Annie 1873 - 1966 "Mother"  
Periera, Mary July 30, 1879 - April 16, 1919  
Correa, Donald N. Jan 21 - July 7, 1921  
Short, Ellen May 17, 1852 - Aug 13, 1916  
Short, William Aug 1836 - Mar 17, 1923  
Short, David E. July 19, 1889 - Nov 28, 1922  
Gomes, Joe L. Nov 22, 1910 - Feb 1, 1912

Row 16 E

Jones, Sabina Lutz Aug 24, 1878 - Mar 1, 1968  
Rose, John A. 1899 - 1977  
Rose, Mother 1869 - 1939  
Rose, Father 1863 - 1946  
Scullion, Henry 1873 - 1928 "Father"  
Scullion, Catherine 1873 - 1939 "Mother"  
Scullion, Matthew 1901 - 1939  
Gallagher, Frances M. 1883 - 1960  
Gallagher, Joseph M. 1886 - 1931  
Loyola, Margareta Feb 8, 1920 - Sept 25, 1931  
Loyola, John A. Apr 30, 1927 - July 19, 1980 "Brother"  
Oberan, John 1863 - 1931  
George, Helen Elaine Jan 8, 1922 - June 30, 1931  
Ruiz, Annie 1920 - 1931  
Roseblade, Lucy 1886 - 1932  
Caratti, Abegaila 1852 - 1932 "Mother"  
Clemend, Joseph died Apr 30, 1934 aged 80 yrs  
Fera, Pietro Antonio died Oct 13, 1934  
Fay, Elizabeth 1856 - 1936  
Ravazzini, Margaret Aug 30, 1929 - Dec 31, 1935  
Valperga, John Mar 7, 1880 - Feb 22, 1935  
Pitrav, Barthelemy died Feb 17, 1937



Reviewed by George Anderson

**Where's What: Sources of Information for Federal Investigators.** ca.1966. Prepared by Harry J. Murphy, Office of Security, Central Intelligence Agency. Published by Quadrangle/The New York Times Co. Looseleaf binder, 8 1/2 x 11 inches, 452 + iii pages, indexed, illustrated. No price given.

This xerographic copy of **Where's What** was donated to the L-AGS Library by Marilyn Fullam.

Wouldn't you love to go to a courthouse, pull out a badge and say to the clerk, "I'm from the CIA. Show me everything you've got on my Uncle Herbert."? We can only envy the clout that a CIA investigator has, but from this book we can at least learn about his sources and techniques.



My reaction while reading this fascinating book was "If only we were allowed access to some of these records!" Mr. Murphy discusses systematically all of the records that we are familiar with and have access to - birth, marriage, death, land ownership - but most of his book is devoted to the other kind. For instance, there are records from the police, credit bureaus, insurance companies, banks, and all kinds of federal, state and local government bureaus. Apparently what Big Brother wants, he can usually get.

Actually, the question of access is deliberately avoided in this book. The author explains that "the accent is necessarily on the existence of information rather than on the

availability of information. To have included each department's or agency's restrictions on access to information in its files would have increased the content threefold." We are left wondering how much Big Brother actually does get to see. We also don't learn whether or not we could have access if we wanted.

Another shortcoming of this book, from our standpoint, is that it deals mostly with the investigation of living persons. For genealogists, this is an occasional but not common problem.

In spite of the difference in goals between us and the Feds, we can learn a lot from this book. For instance, there is a list of special libraries where the publishers of city directories keep comprehensive collections of their books. There is a discussion of the records that are kept on school teachers, who are really public employees. There are reproductions of at least a hundred different forms that various record-keepers use in doing their duty.

I recommend that everyone come into our library and browse through this book. Even if you don't find anything useful, you can fantasize about what you could do if you only had a trench coat and a badge.

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**West Virginia History: A Bibliography and Guide to Research.** 1981. By Harold M. Forbes. Published by West Virginia University Press, Morgantown, West Virginia 26505. Paper Cover, 6 x 9 inches, 359 + x pages, indexed, illustrated, \$9.00 in 1984 price list.

Donated to the L-AGS Library by the author, at the request of RoseMarie Wade.

There surely can be no book about West Virginia that is not listed in this bibliography. There are 3106

entries, plus a four-page fine-grained table of contents, an author-subject index of 3600 items, and paragraphs of background information at the beginning of each chapter. Antique photos and etchings are used for accent.

Aaron Burr's celebrated conspiracy to colonize the South West is the subject of a special chapter listing 25 references. "John Brown at Harpers Ferry" is another chapter, with 50 references.

Mr. Forbes is assistant curator of the West Virginia and Regional History Collection in the West Virginia University Library.

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High Sheriff of the Low Country. 1970. Written by J. E. McTeer. Edited by Kent W. Nickerson. Published by Beaufort Book Co., Inc., Beaufort, South Carolina. Hard Cover, 6 x 9 inches. 99 + vi pages, no index, no illustrations. Price unknown.

Loaned to the L-AGS Library by Margaret Fazio.

There is no genealogy and very little history in this book of reminiscences by the former sheriff of Beaufort County, South Carolina. But of local color there is plenty: rum-runners, witch doctors, nudist colonists, child abusers.

Anyone with family connections in the coastal deep south will find this short book a help in bringing to life the social conditions existing there 50 or 60 years ago.

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McFarland Collections. 1985. By Robert H. and Twilah M. (Seefeld) McFarland. Published by the authors, whose permanent address is given as: Physics Department, University of Missouri, Rolla, MO 65401. Hard Cover, 6 x 9 inches,

465 + xi pages, indexed. Price unknown.

Donated to the L-AGS Library by the authors.

Professor McFarland has a connection with the Livermore Valley, having once been in the fusion program at LLNL. He also worked for a time at LBL, Berkeley, and at DOE headquarters in Germantown, Maryland.

McFarland Collections traces the descendants of John McFarland, 1821-1891, of Omagh, County Tyrone, Ireland and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The authors then develop the genealogy for each family that



ARMS OF ANDREW MACFARLANE OF ARDESS, 1672

married into this McFarland branch. They also present a history of the McFarland clan in Scotland and Ireland, with speculation about the line of descent to the known ancestor, John McFarland.

Other surnames to which at least a chapter is devoted are: Polley, Wenden, Simpson, Grimes, King, Donohoe, Cummings, Williams, Seefeld, Koehler, Sutor, Groeper, Ordelleide, Harstromberg, Hollenbeck, Lichte, Logan and Bryan.

This is a thorough, professional-quality genealogy. Every kindred individual is given a number by a modified Henry system. Vital

Death, Birth, Marriage Records

Address: 70 W. Hedding  
San Jose, CA 95110

Hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Unable to assist with search  
between 12 noon and 2:00 p.m.

This repository has the California Death Index from 1905-1929 and 1930-1939. Anyone may research this set of records it is open to the public. The information from this search would reveal anyone who died in the state of California during those dates. Also included would be age at time of death, place of death (County), date of death and State File Number. This is an alphabetical index by last name.

Death Certificate Records after 1940 are not open to the public.

Birth Records are not open to the public.

Marriage Records are all open to the public.

Vital Statistics Fees

(1 January 1986)

Death Certificate (Certified) \$5  
Birth Certificate (Certified) \$9  
Marriage Certificate (Certified) \$9

The employees of this office are extremely helpful and copies of the certificates may be obtained by a personal visit. A Request For Certified Copy Of Vital Records must be filled out and a copy is hereby enclosed. Mail requests with this proper request form will be honored with a S.A.S.E. No telephone calls please.

City and County of San Francisco, California  
Department of Public Health  
Death, Birth, Marriage Records

Address: Room 105  
101 Grove Street  
San Francisco, CA 94102

No telephone or walk up requests will be taken but a request by mail will be honored with the appropriate fee. No request form needed.

Death Certificate (Certified) \$5

statistics are presented in tabular form. Sources are cited and often quoted in full. The index lists about 4900 names.

Anecdotes and background color are added liberally. For instance, a newspaper story about a family member is reprinted, beginning with the headline "MURDER! A Street Af- fray in the Village of Centerville -- A Doctor Shot and Mortally Wounded!" Such inclusions make up for the rather gray typography and the lack of any illustrations.

Members of L-AGS may check out Mc- Farland Collections from our li- brary, and non-members may read it in the library.

REQUEST FOR CERTIFIED COPY OF VITAL RECORD  
County Recorder, County Government Center, East Wing  
70 West Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110

Abstract No. \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT**

**DEATH CERTIFICATE**

City of Death \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_

**MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE**

\*Did you have a blood Test? \_\_\_\_\_  
If no, do not complete this form.

Name of Groom \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name of Bride \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Marriage \_\_\_\_\_

Where was the license issued?  
 San Jose  Palo Alto

**BIRTH CERTIFICATE**

ADOPTION? LEGAL NAME CHANGE? IF YES, you must send to the State for a copy

City of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Father \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name of Mother \_\_\_\_\_

\*No of Copies each of: Paid by: \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_

DEATH \_\_\_\_\_

MARRIAGE \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Sign \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE

ALL COPIES ARE CERTIFIED

7/27/REV 1/86



## National Archives—San Francisco Branch

1000 Commodore Drive San Bruno, California 94066

February 19, 1986

Dear Genealogists:

The San Francisco Branch of your National Archives is looking for money, help, and researchers. We often have enough researchers to use our 45 microfilm readers but we can always find room for a few more. We encourage you to visit us.

We have recently received some new microfilm which might be of interest to you. We now have M1410 - Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at San Francisco 1893-1953 (429 rolls of microfilm) and M1389 - Indexes to Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at San Francisco 1893-1934 (28 rolls of film). We are very excited about receiving these valuable records.

For the past two years, volunteers from various genealogical societies have been working in our microfilm reading room helping fellow genealogists with their research. We certainly appreciate this help and have received many compliments from visitors. If you can spare even a few hours a week, we invite you to join our volunteers. You will get the use of the best microfilm reader in the branch and the satisfaction of helping someone fill in missing branches on their family tree.

Now about the money. I know it must seem that the Federal government is always asking for MORE money, but in this case it will be used to support genealogical research. A Gift Fund has been established for the San Francisco Branch and money donated to it can be used to buy microfilm, sponsor symposiums, or whatever the donor thinks appropriate. For example, we can buy National Archives Microfilm Publications for \$6.25 per roll. If there is a roll or rolls of microfilm we don't have now that you would like to use, you can donate \$6.25 to our Gift Fund and we will buy that roll of film and put it in our research room.

Once again, let me thank you for your support in the past and encourage you to make use of the resources of your National Archives. If you have any suggestions or would like more information about the volunteer program or the Gift Fund, please call me at (415) 876-9009.

Sincerely,

*Michael Anderson*

MICHAEL ANDERSON

Director

National Archives - San Francisco Branch

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES CENTER

Administered by the National Archives and Records Administration

NEWS OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS



NEW SUTRO HOURS: The Sutro Library will remain open on Monday evenings until 9 P.M. and are adding Saturday hours from 10:00a.m. to 5:00P.m.

OLD NAMING PATTERNS: If you are trying to solve family name problems try this one:

The first son was named after father's father: The second son after the mother's father: The third son after the father: The fourth son after the father's eldest brother.

The first daughter after the mother's mother: The second daughter after the father's mother: The third daughter after the mother: The fourth daughter after the mother's eldest sister.

If it works thank the Lake County Illinois Quarterly for the information.

If names are still a problem for you, you might want to try: Baby Names From Around the World by Maxine Fields. Lists ethnic names and variations, with meanings or translations. The New American Dictionary of First Names by Leslie Dunkling and William Gosling. Has over 10,000 names listed with nicknames and ethnic origin. (French Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan)

MASSACHUSETTS: The following reprints of the Massachusetts Genealogical Council may be purchased from the Council at \$.50 each.

Massachusetts Divorce

Records: Where to Find Them, by Joslyn.

New England Naturalization Records Index, by Joslyn.

Records of Massachusetts Congregational Churches, by Mary Morgan.

Civil Records: Massachusetts-Updated 1984, by Alicia Williams. Send your check and business-size SASE envelope to Massachusetts Genealogical Council; 18 Martin's Cove Road, Hingham, MA 02043.

PASSENGER LISTS: The National Genealogical Soc Newsletter, Jan/Feb 1986, devotes a page to describing Passenger lists being made available for research. "Some 14,000 microfilm rolls of Passenger arrival records, which the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) had in storage at the Washington National Records Center for a number of years, have now been turned over to and accessioned by the National Archives. As these records are processed, inspected for preservation purposes, and duplicated, they will be made available to the public. These immigration Passenger lists span the period 1891 to 1957 and are for ports of entry on the West, East, and Gulf coasts and the Mexican and Canadian borders. The original records were destroyed by the INS following microfilming." The ports included are\* Galveston, San Francisco, Seattle, New York. Records that will become available soon include the ports of Baltimore for 1909 - 1957 and St. Alban's, Vermont for 1895 - 1934. (Betty Isbell via CA State Gen Alliance).

ACADIAN ANCESTRY: Georgia R. Moncada, 13120 Cherbourg St.,



New Orleans, LA. 70129 would like to hear from anyone of Acadian Ancestry who may have congenital Problems. Ms. Moncada is a nurse at Tulane University Hospital and has become involved in a research Project with the department of Genetics. She has become the Genealogist for the Project and is seeking information from othe Genealogists that may have found similar Problems. She said we know of Friedrichs Ataxia, congenial deafness, the Treacher-Collins Problem, learning difficulties and now have added malignant hyPerthermia (MH). Ms. Moncada said she has heard of MH as starting in Canada in the Dupues family. Write her if you can help in any way. (Chicago Gen.Soc.Newsletter)

VIRGINIA: Any reference that a Person was born in Virginia as early as 1728 or as late as 1863, could mean that he or she was actually born in: No. Carolina or Ohio from 1728 to 1803 or Tennessee from 1760 to 1803 or Kentucky or Maryland 1775 to 1792 or Indiana from 1787 to 1816 or Pennsylvania from 1752 to 1786 or West Virginia from 1769 to 1863 or Illinois from 1781 to 1816 (from San Mateo County Gen. Soc.)

POSTAL SERVICE VS. BEATRICE BAYLEY: In October 1985 the Consumer Protection Division of the Postal Service filed a complaint against Beatrice Bayley, Inc. and Kurt Schneider, its President, director, and principal stockholder. As a result of the filing of this breach Proceeding, mail addressed to Beatrice Bayley, Inc. is now

being held by the Postal Service, and such mail will continue to be held until the Judicial Officer reaches a decision in this matter. Both Proceedings were brought under 39 U.S.C. §3005 which Prohibits conducting a scheme or device for obtaining money or Property through the mails by means of false representation.

The Latest Fraud!! BEWARE!! The latest genealogy fraud is now the genealogy chain letter. The letter states that chain letters are illegal, but this one is merely selling a service. IT IS STILL ILLEGAL. DO NOT PARTICIPATE. IF YOU RECIEVE ONE, CONTACT YOUR POST OFFICE.

ELLIS ISLAND The National Park Service is looking for People to interview who immigrated thru Ellis Island or who worked there before 1924. The interviews are for the Ellis Island Museum. If you or someone you know has first-hand experiences to share of their immigration or work at Ellis Island before 1924, please send your/their name, address and phone number to: Ellis Island Oral History Project, P.O. Box 20375, Greeley Square Station, New York, N.Y. 10001. (From Audrey Jacobson & East Bay Gen. Soc.)

AGRICULTURAL CENSUS RECORDS: These census records can be a useful supplement to the Population census. Altho listing only heads of farm families, they present an entirely new Picture of many individuals. By listing improved and unimporoved acres owned, all of a farmer's livestock and totals (in bushels and Pounds) of specific crops and farm Produce for the

preceding year, the character of a particular farm becomes immediately apparent. The self-sustaining farm is easily discerned from one where a product was raised for market.

For one searcher, the Agricultural Census of 1850 solved a problem created by 2 missing pages in the population census by filling in the names of the heads of families. It could be helpful where the population census is difficult to read. Agricultural Census records were turned over to the States by the Federal Gov't and are deposited in State Archives. (Diablo Descendants)

CALIFORNIA: The San Francisco Historic Records Index is not accepting queries on pre-1906 deaths, land information, marriages, births and probate/court records. Send SASE for forms to: San Francisco Historic Records Index, City Hall - Room 167/Mezzanine, San Francisco, CA 94102.

Contra Costa County Records Office, 822 Main Street, Martinez, CA, has Grooms Index 1949-1972; Brides Index 1949-1972; Death Index 1905-1939 and 1949-1969; Birth Index is not available to public but they will look up a name for 1905-1924 and 1949-1972. (San Ramon Valley Gen. Soc.)

NEW ENGLAND: Naturalization records for the New England states that were previously at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. have been transferred to the Boston Archives Branch, 380 Trapelo Rd., Waltham, MA. 617-647-8100 L.L.G. The material consists

of "designaPh" copies of petitions from federal and nonfederal courts in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island made by the Works Progress Administration and card indexes for all six New England states. The period covered is the late eighteenth century through 1906. (CA Gen. Alliance)

CIVIL WAR: John P. Crosby, Ph. D. Department of Family Studies, 315 Funkhouser, Bldg., U of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky. 40506 is searching for families in which one son served in the Confederacy and another on the Union side during the Civil War. He is doing a study on the effect of the War Between the States on certain families. (East Cuyahoga Co. Chapter, Ohio Gen. Soc.)

OHIO: There is a grave registration file for soldiers in Ohio. It is indexed and a check of the index will be made and a copy of the record sent, if found. Send a large SASE to Division of Soldier's Claims, Ohio Adj. Office, State House, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

DUTCH: The Dutch system of inheritance was directly opposite the English system. The youngest son inherited the father's land. The older sons had already been provided for at the time of their marriage, as had the daughters with their dowries. Thus, the youngest son and his wife were responsible for the old folks and inherited what they had. (Mahoning Meanderings)

### CHRONOLOGY OF THE U.S. TERRITORIES TO 1850

- 1787 -- Northwest Territory organized
- 1790 -- Southwest Territory organized
- 1796 -- Tennessee (Southwest Territory) admitted to the Union
- 1798 -- Mississippi Territory organized
  
- 1800 -- Indiana Territory created from the western part of the Northwest Territory
- 1802 -- Georgia ceded its western lands to the national government, which were added to Mississippi Territory
- 1803 -- Ohio (Northwest Territory) admitted to the Union
- 1804 -- Orleans Territory organized in the southern part of the Louisiana Purchase
- 1805 -- Michigan Territory created from Indiana Territory
- 1805 -- Louisiana Territory organized in the remainder of the Louisiana Purchase
- 1809 -- Illinois Territory created from the western part of Indiana Territory
  
- 1812 -- Louisiana (Orleans Territory) admitted to the Union
- 1812 -- Spanish West Florida added to Mississippi Territory
- 1812 -- Louisiana Territory renamed Missouri Territory
- 1816 -- Indiana admitted to the Union
- 1817 -- Mississippi admitted to the Union and the eastern part of Mississippi Territory re-organized as Alabama Territory
- 1818 -- Illinois admitted to the Union and the remainder of Illinois Territory added to Michigan Territory
- 1819 -- Arkansas Territory created from the southern part of Missouri Territory
- 1819 -- Alabama admitted to the Union
  
- 1821 -- Missouri admitted to the Union and the remainder of Missouri Territory left un-organized
- 1822 -- Florida Territory organized
  
- 1836 -- Arkansas admitted to the Union
- 1836 -- Wisconsin Territory created from the western part of Michigan Territory
- 1837 -- Michigan admitted to the Union
- 1838 -- Iowa Territory created from the western part of Wisconsin Territory
  
- 1845 -- Florida admitted to the Union
- 1846 -- Iowa admitted to the Union
- 1848 -- Wisconsin admitted to the Union
- 1848 -- Oregon Territory organized
- 1849 -- Minnesota Territory created from the remaining parts of Iowa and Wisconsin Territories