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Announcements

Films to be Returned: Starting in the next week or so, we will be returning all the films that were ordered from the Family History Library on a short term loan after October 1, 2011 and have a due date before March 31, 2012. We will try to email all of you who have films in this category before we return them. After the end of April, we will be returning all short term loan films as their return date occurs.

University of Toronto School of Continuing Studies Course

The six-session course, *Toronto's Past: Your City, Your House, Your Family*, will start on May 8. More information may be found at:

<http://2learn.utoronto.ca/uoft/search/publicCourseSearchDetails.do?method=load&cms=true&courseId=1701461> .

What's New

Ancestry has a new rather interesting set of over 600,000 records for West Yorkshire – Non-Conformist Records 1646-1985. Non-conformist churches were those that did not conform to the doctrine of the Church of England. This database includes Baptist, Congregationalist and Independent, Moravian, Methodist, Inghamite, Quaker, and Presbyterian records, among others. Most are registers documenting baptisms, marriages, or deaths, though some miscellaneous records, such as church rolls and notices of members joining or leaving a congregation, are included as well. The records may cover Births and Baptisms 1646-1906, Marriages and Banns 1659-1921 [no marriages yet after 1812], Deaths and Burials: 1656-1985 and Residence: 1772-1973.

FindMyPast has added a few more transcribed parish records for Northamptonshire, Yorkshire, Dorset, and Kent. These new records have been transcribed by the county family history societies. They have also added 12,000 new burial records for Handsworth Cemetery, Birmingham, bringing the total number of records to 74,623 and spanning the period 1909 to 2010.

FamilySearch has updated their England Births and Christenings 1538-1975 database and it now contains nearly 70 million records. Their Mexico Baptisms 1560-1960 now contains over 44 million records and the Belgium Civil Registration 1795-1910 has 400,000 records.

The Forum

Questions:

Q1/15/2012. Germany/US.

I am researching my great-grandfather's sister, Amalie Friedericke Christiane Spengler born 28/06/1831 in Mannheim, Germany. She applied for residence in Winterthur, Switzerland on August 10 1860. She then married a man named Reisch, lived in New York and had 3 children. This is all the information that I have about Amalie Friedericke Christiane Spengler. Is it possible to find out more about her and her family from any U.S. records?

Q2/15/2012. Canada/Ireland.

My 2gr grandfather, Robert Miller, emigrated to Canada in 1832, settling in Adelaide Township, Middlesex County. He brought with him at least four children (William, Mary, Margaret and Robert) and from various censuses, I have discovered that Robert and his children were born in Ireland. In the GRO Regimental Birth Indices (Army Births and Baptisms) I have found the baptisms of William Miller in 1821, and Robert in 1824, both related to the 52nd Regiment of Foot, and in Dublin. From land records here in Ontario I found that Robert Sr. had been in the British Army's 52nd Regiment of Foot. Searching for him on the National Archives website, I found two soldiers with the same name in the same regiment. In WO97 I found Robert Miller, born in County Monaghan, age 29, discharged in 1816. In WO121 I found Robert Miller, age 26, born in County Londonderry, discharged in 1813. Could this be the same man and if not how can I find more information to decide which is my ancestor?

Suggestions:

Q1/07/2012. Canada. 1851 Census.

My ancestor, William M. Gorrie, is in the Toronto Directories in 1850-51 (Roswell's City of Toronto and County of York Directory) and in the Ontario Directory for 1851. Why can I not find him in the 1851 census living in Toronto?

As mentioned in Bulletin 8/2012, the 1851/2 census for much of Toronto is missing. Sue Reid has sent us some further suggestions for the researcher to try: "Several years ago, the Ontario Genealogical Society indexed all of Toronto's 1853 municipal assessment roll, as the information for that year's property taxes was taken in late 1852, at roughly the same time as the now-lost 1851/2 Toronto census returns, so that it could serve as a substitute. It won't tell the names of family members, usually just the head of the household, but it will give a good amount of information. It is fully searchable on-line and can be found here: <http://www.torontofamilyhistory.org/taxrolls.html> .

Another useful resource for those researching Toronto ancestors is the Goad's fire insurance maps. Some are available in hard copy at the Reference library and Toronto City Archives, but to find out (from the comfort of one's own home) where some streets are (such as "Palace Street", where one of my ancestors resided), and to see the type of lots and location of houses on the lot, you can find a number of them on-line on the City of Toronto Archives webpage at http://www.toronto.ca/archives/goads_fire_insurance_plans.htm. [See item below in Were You Aware...]

Final note--the 1841 census pages for most of Toronto do survive, a resource often overlooked as they have not been indexed or digitized and can be consulted only on microfilm. The North York library's Canadiana Room has a copy, as does the office of the Ontario Archives.

Q1/14/2012. London, England. Burials.

I am trying to find the burial places for relatives in London in the late 19th century. Joseph Ayling died on February 19, 1896 in Tottenham, Middlesex and I know the funeral cost £7 10s. Would this indicate where he was buried (private or public- rich or poor)? I would also like to know where his two wives are buried – Emma Ayling, d November 15, 1886 and Elizabeth Ayling d 1896 Lower Edmonton. I have found nothing at DeceasedOnline and wonder where else I could look. I would appreciate so much knowing if there are any tricks to finding people buried in London.

Your Bulletin editor knows of no tricks to finding the burial locations of people in London (and I have many ancestors who died there, so I wish I did). In 1854 there was legislation banning further burials in overcrowded churchyards and cemeteries were started on other land. I think that this explains why there are so few burials after 1854 in the online London records at Ancestry. There is the excellent Abney Park Cemetery database online at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~abneypark/abneyy.html> but the area it covers (Hackney, Stoke Newington & Dalston) is a bit south of Tottenham and Edmonton. (A search found a few Aylings but not the right ones.) The North West Kent Family History Society has a transcription of the Ladywell (formerly Lewisham) and Brockley (formerly Deptford) Cemetery at <http://www.nwkfhs.org.uk/ladywell.htm>. This cemetery is south of the Thames and a long way from Edmonton. One can try www.findagrave.com/ - FindAGrave now has over 78 million records from all around the world and one could be lucky. Unfortunately no appropriate Joseph Ayling here. DeceasedOnline, www.deceasedonline.com, has indexes for the London boroughs of Newham, Havering, Camden, Islington, Merton, and Brent but these again are not close to Edmonton/Tottenham. Another website with some indexed burials in England, <http://www.interment.net/uk/eng/index.htm>, has no indexes for London or Middlesex. Friends of Highgate Cemetery will search for someone who is buried in the cemetery or will trace a grave as long as one includes a minimum *donation* of £40! (www.highgate-cemetery.org) [I guess that it is cheaper than a trip to England.] Edmonton has a large Jewish cemetery and some of the headstones and inscriptions have been made available online by Cemetery Scribes - www.cemeteryscribes.com/. Nor really London but close, the Kent Archaeological Society has put a number of things online, including churchyards and monumental inscriptions (too early for the Aylings). Go to the research section: <http://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/Research/research.htm> . Do readers have other suggestions of places to look for London/Middlesex cemetery records online?

Were You Aware ...

1940 US Census Again

If you go to <https://www.familysearch.org/1940census/> you will be able to see what percentage of records has been indexed for any state. Oregon, Utah, Colorado, Kansas, Virginia, Delaware and New Hampshire are basically complete. A quick click on `View All States` in the bottom of the blue box will give you the completion number for each state.

Goad's Atlas of the City of Toronto

Nathan Ng writes: "I recently cobbled together a simple online site for viewing the 1884, 1890, 1893, and 1899 editions of Goad's Atlas of the City of Toronto. It is not anything you haven't seen already at the archives or via the Library, but the format is easy to use and is meant as a complementary mode of access. The maps of course can be useful for visualizing the development of a given neighbourhood at a given time in Victorian era Toronto.

Here's the introductory post about it: <http://skritch.blogspot.com/2012/04/goads-atlas-of-toronto-online.html>."

No films were received in the seven days ending on April 19, 2012.

A patron wishing to view a film ordered by another should check first with staff. The ordering patron will always have priority. The description of the film given above may not be a full description but a search in the Family History Library Catalog will reveal the full content. The geographical abbreviations are Chapman codes.

Toronto Family History Centre Current Opening Hours.

(Always phone us if you do not have a booking to ensure that we are open.)

Monday 9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday 9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thursday 9:30 a.m. to noon; 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Friday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Saturday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Closures: If you do not have a booking, call before you come.

For a copy of a searchable listing of all the films, fiche, CDs and books held at the Toronto Family History Centre in pdf format, go to the Toronto FHC Website at <http://torontofhc.blogspot.com/> and look for it under Resources.

Should you decide that you no longer wish to receive this bulletin, reply to this email with the word "Delete" in the subject line.

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