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### Announcements

**The FHC will be closed this weekend, May 19<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>. We will also be closed on Thursday mornings from now until after Labour Day.**

### Genealogy Summer Camp – August 12-17, Toronto

Genealogy "Summer Camp" is a unique program (for adults) that brings out-of-town family historians to Toronto for an intensive week of tutorials and hands-on research at the many archives and reference libraries in the city. If you have ancestors from Toronto or other parts of Ontario, there are many resources here for you. Local family historians are also welcome to participate as "day campers".

OGS Toronto will help you spend more time finding information about your ancestors—and less time finding the archives.

Genealogy "Summer Camp" 2012 will take place from August 12-17. The Summer Camp fee for 2012 is \$230 (Cdn), which covers approximately 7 hours of lectures and tutorials, 25 hours of hands-on instruction and all worksheets and handouts. For details as to venues, resources, tutorials and accommodation, and to download an application package, visit [www.torontofamilyhistory.org/summercamp.html](http://www.torontofamilyhistory.org/summercamp.html), or contact Jane MacNamara at [info@torontofamilyhistory.org](mailto:info@torontofamilyhistory.org). Applications should be received by 11 June 2012.

### What's New

**Ancestry** has a new collection of convict records. This collection contains convict transportation contracts 1682-1787 for Middlesex, England. The convicts were transferred to America, the Caribbean, or, in later years, Australia. Information available in these contracts includes: Convict Name, Ship Name, Captain Name, Destination, and Transfer Dates. These records can be used to help find court records relating to the original conviction, perhaps at the Old Bailey.

**FamilySearch** has added browsable images of naturalization records for British Columbia 1859-1926 and images of death notices in the Victoria (BC) Times 1901-1939. These collections are accessible from any computer. Updates have been made to Quebec, Non-Catholic Parish Registers, 1763-1967 – a browsable collection of 250,000 images.

### The Forum

#### Questions:

#### Q1/19/2012. Jewish Polish Records.

Polish records were mentioned in last week's newsletter. I would like to know if there are 19th century synagogue records. I think my gr gr grandfather may have come from Mlawa. I only know the surname he used in England - Marks - so I mightn't be able to identify him in Polish records in any case, but it would be nice to try.

#### Q2/19/2012. England to Argentina.

My grandmother's first husband - a cousin, Lawrence Nathan Lazarus - went to Argentina from England sometime after WW1. My grandmother (Nancy Lazarus) sailed to join him, but met my grandfather (Harry Richardson) on board the ship and struck up a relationship, which led her to leave her husband. I have found my grandmother and grandfather listed twice on ships' passenger lists (FindMyPast) dated 1922 and 1924, bound for Argentina (I haven't actually viewed the records yet, but assume that one of the entries is an error as I can't imagine why they'd have gone twice), but I haven't found any record of Lawrence Nathan Lazarus on a ship and his time in Argentina is a mystery. I was told by his niece that he was never heard from again by his family, yet I have just been contacted by his grandson, so he evidently formed

another relationship, and his second "wife" (he and my grandmother were never divorced, I believe) ended up back in Britain, but apparently she never spoke of him. I'd love to find out more about him. Any ideas?

### **Suggestions:**

#### **Q1/18/2012. Pennsylvania Marriage Records.**

I found on FamilySearch.org a record under the Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Marriage Indexes for 1885-1951. It is the reference information for the marriage of Annie Murphy to John McBride. The index from the Orphans' Court - Philadelphia 1885-1916 records is: John McBride married Annie Murphy in 1889, with licence number 27386.

1) Now that I have this information, how do I get a copy of this license from the Orphan's Court using this reference information? Where do I send to get it and how much would it cost me?

2) Does anyone know if there would also be a marriage certificate and where would that record be held or is the license the only record available?

I'm hoping it will give me information regarding Annie Murphy and John McBride, my great grandparents. I know that Annie and John were both Roman Catholic and that Annie McBride died in 1890 and is buried at Holy Cross Cemetery. Any suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

The index says that the information came from the "Orphans' Court - Philadelphia 1885-1916" and entering that information into the Keywords Search in the FHL Catalog at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org), one gets a list of 600 microfilms for this Philadelphia court, of which only the first seven are the indexes. The McBride/Murphy marriage in 1899 has licence number 27386. Looking down the list of the 600 films, you find that film #1299840 has 1889 marriage licences 26900-27499. By ordering that film online at FamilySearch, the researcher will get the marriage licence and the cost will just be \$8. A digital or printed copy of the record can be obtained at the FHC (bring your USB drive).

Gwen Armstrong found a good description of the Orphans' Courts on the FamilySearch Wiki at <http://goo.gl/tnYzn> :

#### **1682 - 1968 Orphans' courts**

Orphans' courts dealt with orphan, guardianship, and estate issues. In the larger cities, the orphans' courts became totally separate from other courts. The orphans' court also appears to have been the main equity court for much of the colonial period. The library has some orphans' court records such as Pennsylvania, Orphan's Court (York County), Orphan's Court Dockets, 1749-1881; General Index to Dockets, 1749-1887 (on 24 Family History Library films beginning with #22150). These courts were abolished by constitutional amendment in 1968, and became a part of the courts of common pleas; however, in most counties, the filing clerk remained the Clerk of the Orphans' Court after the formal abolishment.

She also found this from the Philadelphia Government website <http://courts.phila.gov/common-pleas/orphans/> :

#### **Marriage Records**

A Marriage Record is a certified or exemplified copy of a Marriage Application or Duplicate Portion of the Marriage License. To obtain a Marriage Record, please send us a letter containing 1) the names that the parties used when they applied for a license, 2) the date of the marriage, 3) a self addressed stamped envelope. In addition, you must send in two checks. The first for \$15.00, made out to "The Clerk of Orphan's Court". This is to pay for the research. The second check is to be for either \$20.00 if you are ordering a Certified Copy or \$40.00 if you are ordering an Exemplified Copy.

Leslie Dorschell wrote that she had something similar when researching for records for ancestors in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The records had been transferred to the main library in Pittsburgh. The library provided a copy of the newspaper notice of marriage, referred her to where some data had been put on their website, and to the Catholic Diocese, i.e., the main Catholic church in Pittsburgh, which gave her the christening information for the children.

Paul Branson sent the Bulletin this information which is more general for finding relatives in the States: "You first have to ascertain what county Philadelphia is in. A useful site for this purpose is The National Association of Counties (NaCo). Here is the link: <http://www.naco.org/Pages/default.aspx>. You then have to search the web for sources in that county, often the department of health to see where the relevant information is stored. Depending on the State, these records may be in a library, courthouse or as stated by the researcher here, The Orphans and Wills court. I have found locating American sources to be quite confounding, but as usual, a persistent approach pays off."

### **Were You Aware ...**

#### **England and Wales Wills – 1858-1925**

Margaret Taylor sent us an interesting link that came from the Yorkshire mailing list she is on. Copies of all wills probated between 1858 and 1925 are available to order on film from the FHL Catalog. It has never been easy to figure out which film to order, although at the Toronto Family History Centre we can locate the film you need by using a binder we have on the admin desk.

To find out if your ancestor left a will, you can search the Ancestry database called "England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1861-1941". This is so easy to do that I recommend doing it for all your relatives, using the date of death as a starting point and working forward up to ten years. At our FHC we also have the Probate indexes for 1856 to 1957 on film in our resources. Please do not think that because your folk had little money that they would not have left a will; I have come across wills where the value of the estate was as little as £5. Even the index entry can often be quite informative; e.g. "CHEVILL William of the Hythe Littleport Ely Cambridgeshire died 22 April 1907 Probate **London** 19 June to Alfred William Chevill police-sergeant and George Harry Chevill joiner Effects £18s 2d. Resworn £8s 2d."

Be aware that if no will was left an administration was granted (usually to the closest kin) and there are no complete administrations available on FHL film.

The Yorkshire mailing list states: "Knowing which film to order has always been a problem but this problem has been largely resolved by a kind and clever fellow who's put a nifty look-up utility on line at <http://www.haine.org.uk/wills/willsearch.php>. The site illustrates how to take an index entry and enter it into the form. Results appear (on a separate page) in spreadsheet form. You can look up one film or keep going and get a handy list to save or print.

"The program is designed for district courts only, though, **not** the Principal Probate Registry at London. Films for the PPR are in the FHL catalogue under 'Record copy wills for the Principal Registry, 1858-1925.' There is a direct link to it on the Library's wiki: choose Learn at the top of any of the FamilySearch pages, then Research Wiki, and enter Principal Probate Registry in the search box; should be the first hit."

While you will not find the film containing the will of William Chevill (above) using this website (as it was registered in London), his wife's will was probated in 1896 in the district court of Peterborough and her will can be found on film #1596804 - 1896: *B Dec (Chester to York); C Jan (Birmingham) to May (Wakefield)*.

The Toronto FHC has many other films that can help one to find probate records for relatives who died before 1858, like county and peculiar court probate indexes and death duty indexes. Our volunteers would be happy to help.

### **New War of 1812 Records**

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) has announced that you can now access 73,000 new images of War of 1812 records on its website. LAC holds a unique and vast collection of records about those involved in the War of 1812: muster rolls, paylists, claims, certificates of service, medal registers, maps, paintings, and published sources.

The images now online are:

- Board of Claims for War of 1812 losses, 1813–1848, Series RG19 E5A
- Lower Canada militia nominal rolls and paylists, Series RG9 1A7
- Upper Canada militia returns, nominal rolls, and paylists, Series RG9 1B7

To browse these records page by page, go to <http://goo.gl/l78hk>.

### **Families in British India (FIBIS) and Times of India BMD records**

FIBIS has updated its database of births, marriages and deaths from the Times of India, to cover 1905, 1906, 1908 and 1909. The data now includes births, marriages and deaths from 1862 to 1909 that were reported in the Domestic Occurrences section of the Times of India newspaper. To search this database, go to <http://goo.gl/x3K8Z>. FIBIS free databases include nearly one million individual names; so if your European or Anglo-Indian ancestors lived or worked in India or South Asia between 1600 and 1947, this website is worth a visit - [www.new.fibis.org/](http://www.new.fibis.org/).

### **Don't Forget - Free Access to Canadian Immigration Records**

Over the May long weekend, Ancestry.ca will allow free access to Canadian passenger arrival records, naturalization records, border crossings, emigration records, passports, and convict transportation records.

**Films received in the seven days ending on May 17, 2012 and due for return on July 12, 2012.**

Film Content	Film No
DEU BAY Hettenleidelheim PRs 1707-1798	0247611

Film Content	Film No
ENG DEV Land Tax Assessment "H" & "I" parishes 1780-1832	1471088
ENG DEV Land Tax Assessment "H" parishes 1780-1832	1471064
ENG MDX Edmonton Marriage banns, 1893-1900.	2214228
ENG MDX Parochial list of the Poll 1802, 1840	0475531
ITA Palermo Civ Reg Banns 1875-1899	2014481
POL Bydgoszcz Lisnowo (Grudziądz) Evang.Church Births 1839-1860	0071341
POL Bydgoszcz Lisnowo (Grudziądz) Evang.Church Deaths 1766-1848	0071344
POL Bydgoszcz Lisnowo (Grudziądz) Evang.Church Marrs 1767-1901	0071343

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 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Now closed Thursday mornings.

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. Closed May 19th to the 21st inclusive.

**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.**

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

Toronto Family History Centre

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