



## Toronto Family History Centre Bulletin 2015-13

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<http://torontofhc.blogspot.ca/>

Editor:  
Helen Billing



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### Announcements

**OGS Conference 2015 – “Tracks Through Time” – May 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> in Barrie**

**Early bird registration** for this year's OGS Conference ends tomorrow. Take advantage of the savings before time runs out. For all the information about the workshops and sessions and registration details, go to [OGS Conference](#).

### News From the Trenches

#### Is This the Right Death Certificate? By Alan Billing

I received an 1874 British death certificate that might be that of a direct ancestor of southeast London, Louisa Margaret Hughes. It more-or-less fitted the information (name, age, pre-deceased husband's name) but wasn't quite perfect - it was missing her middle name, and Louisa Hughes isn't that unusual a name; her husband was listed as a labourer rather than a Chelsea Pensioner; and the death was in Rotherhithe, more than 10 kilometres from where she lived with Thomas in the 1871 census, in Woolwich.

Since Thomas died in Woolwich in August 1873, perhaps Louisa had moved closer to her daughter Louisa Jane who was living at 6 Russell Street, Rotherhithe in 1871. So I wondered whether her place of death, at 59 Derrick Street, was anywhere near to her daughter's house.

Using the great list of useful mapping resources provided by James Thomson during his OGS course on Maps and Mapping last year, I searched the very detailed five-feet-to-the-mile Ordnance Survey map of the early 1890s at <http://maps.nls.uk/os/london-1890s/index.html>, that shows all streets and all houses. I found Derrick Street. The 1871 census route description around Russell Street showed that it might be close to Derrick Street, but Russell Street was nowhere to be found.

I wondered if there had been new construction, and so looked at Stanford's 1864 map of London at <http://london1864.com/>, that also had a lot of detail, though not quite as much as the other map. After a second search, I found Russell Street, but there was no Derrick Street. They seemed to be in the same general area, but it was difficult to match the two maps, which had very different scales and styles. Guided by the overlaying methods of old and new maps laid out in James's course, I snipped the relevant parts of the two maps (and combined adjacent map sections as needed) to compare the maps, and I finally figured it out. Derrick Street was the very same street as Russell Street - it had simply been renamed, which obviously took place between 1871 and 1874. (James has since pointed out that the occurrence of this, and many other, street name changes can be found in the lists at [http://www.maps.thehunthouse.com/Streets/Street\\_Name\\_Changes.htm](http://www.maps.thehunthouse.com/Streets/Street_Name_Changes.htm).)

This identity of the streets improved the probability that the certificate was indeed that of the ancestor. Now for the next puzzle.

## What's New

**FamilySearch** has updated or added to the following collections:

- England Derbyshire PRs (1.4 million records) **Parish register images now available at home** after signing in. Registration is free and does not require a credit card number.
- China Collection of Genealogies (1239-2014) – Updated browse-only collection
- Alabama County Marriages 1809-1950 – Indexes and images may or may not be available

**Ancestry's** updates or additions include:

- London England Workhouse Admission & Discharge Records 1659-1930 (updated to over 7 million records)
- Sweden Selected Indexed Death Records 1899-1941 (over 2 million records)
- Puerto Rico Passenger and Crew Lists 1901-1962 (updated to over 1.2 million records)
- US Select Crew Lists and Manifests [for small ports] 1890-1963 (updated to over 2 million records)

**FindMyPast** has added the following datasets for this Friday's release:

- Australia New South Wales Government Gazette Indexes 1832-1863 – 1.2 million transcripts
- Australia New South Wales Gaol Photographic Description Books 1871-1969 (29,000 records with photographs of the inmates)
- Essex Wills Beneficiaries Index 1605-1916 (156,000 records of all the people mentioned in the wills – beneficiaries, relatives, executors, trustees, occupiers of property, etc.)
- Craven Yorkshire in WWI – 4,000 records of members of his Majesty's forces who joined from the area of Craven in North Yorkshire
- British Newspaper Update – 5.3 million articles and 15 new titles add to this collection which now has over 124 million articles

See [FindMyPast Record Sets](#) for the complete description of the new records.

## The Forum:

### Questions:

#### **Q1/2015/13. Canada Census records.**

I am searching for info on my great grandfather Francis "Frank" McDonald who was born on the Atlantic Ocean coming from Scotland to Quebec 16 May 1822. I cannot find him again until 28 September 1864 in Ancaster Twp, Wentworth Co. when he marries Margaret Mae Near. He dies in Stratford on 30 Sept. 1902. I have not found him in the 1851, 1861, 1871 Census. Where should I look now?

## Were You Aware...

### **Online Tree? – Save Your Supporting Documents**

Many genealogists now have online trees on various websites, the most popular being Ancestry and FamilySearch. Do you also have those trees backed up on your computer? If not, how can you pass that family information down to interested relatives? Will there always be an Ancestry? Will you need to have an Ancestry subscription to access that tree?

Something else to think about would be the supporting documents that are referenced on that tree. Ancestry makes it really easy to add a link to one of their records like a census record. If you are no longer a subscriber, can you access that record? If internet access is not available, can you see that record? You should consider downloading all your supporting documents to your computer and saving them in appropriate files. Censuses could be saved in a folder with the name CENSUS. If a file name starts with the census year followed by the name eg "1841 Blogs, Fred", sorting by file name will likely make finding a particular census entry easy. Parish records, military records, immigration records, etc. can be organized similarly. Don't put your hard work in jeopardy by assuming that it will always be available to you or your descendants online and under someone else's control.

## **WWI Soldiers' Graffiti**

FindMyPast had an interesting blog this week about soldiers who scrawled their names on the wall of underground caves near the Somme. It is also an Associated Press article on the CBC website [here](#). In its [blog](#), FindMyPast says that

photographer Jeff Gusky is hoping to photograph the name of every soldier from Australia, Britain, Canada and the US who made their mark there.

### Indexes to Irish Historic Civil Records Restored

The indexes to birth records over 100 years old, to marriage records over 75 yearsold, and to death records over 50 years old are now available to search on [IrishGenealogy.ie](http://IrishGenealogy.ie). The indexes were removed last year because people objected to too much personal information being displayed. The indexes start in 1864, with non-Roman Catholic marriages starting in 1845. These indexes are available up to 1958 and free to search [here](#) at FamilySearch or on Ancestry or FindMyPast.

### Films in the week ending April 9<sup>th</sup> and due for return about the beginning of June.

Film Content	Film No
ENG Misc. church reg. index printouts	1238721
ENG GLS Bristol St. Thomas Marr 1784-1904 Bapt 1813-1890	1597027
ENG GLS Bristol Sts Philip/Jacob BMD 1853-1864	1596677
ENG LAN - Quarter Sessions petitions 1871-72	1655880
ENG LAN - Quarter Sessions prisoners 1869-72	1655946
ENG Lichfield Probate 1833 - P-R	0096611
GBR Admiralty Muster Books (series 2) 1757-1822	2206123
GBR Admiralty Records -- Seamen's Effect Papers 1757-1860	2358112
GBR Admiralty Records --Seamen's Wills 1786-1882	1941975
USA FL Dade Co Plat books & probate	0963654
WLS Misc. church reg.	0104502
WLS Misc. church reg. index printouts	1238720

A patron wishing to view a film ordered by another should check first with staff. The description of the film given above may not be a full description but a search in the FamilySearch catalogue 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.)**

Tuesday 9:30 am to 2 pm (Linda)

Wednesday 9:30 am to 3:45 pm (Ann, Joe am, Helen & Leslie pm); 6:30pm to 9:30pm (Helen)

Thursday 9:30am to noon (Don & Roberta); 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm (Don & Roberta)

Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of each month, 10am to 1pm (Grace & Charlene) For Chinese research

**For a copy of a searchable listing of all films, fiche, CDs and books held at the Toronto Family History Centre in pdf format, click [here](#).**

[FamilySearch - Search](#)

[FamilySearch - IGI](#)

[Hugh Wallis IGI Batch Numbers](#)

[FamilySearch Catalogue](#)

[FamilySearch Film Ordering](#)

[Steve Archer IGI Batch Numbers](#)

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Toronto Family History Centre

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

24 Ferrand Drive (Don Mills & Eglinton) M3V 3V4 Phone: 416-422-5480 Ext. 111

Email: Toronto\_FHC "at" bellnet "dot" ca