

In this Bulletin

Announcements – FHC closures

Additions to Our Permanent Collections – Some Lincolnshire fiche and six booklets

What's New – No large databases but a few interesting items from Ancestry and FamilySearch

The Forum – One new question

News From the Trenches – Curiosities from Norfolk Memorial Transcriptions Online

Were You Aware... More on Chains, Rods and Perches

Announcements

The Toronto FHC will be closed for Family Day, February 21, and will close at noon on February 25th, March 4 and 11. Please call the FHC if the weather is bad and you are planning a visit - we may not be open.

Additions to Our Permanent Collections

Our thanks to Mary Belford, who has donated a number of fiche collections and books to our library. The fiche all relate to the County of Lincolnshire in England:

7000136 Lincoln Newport Cemetery 1856-1900, Lincoln St Peter in Eastgate Cem 1856-1999 (2 fiche)

7000137 Lincoln City Parish Burials 1813-1870 (5 fiche)

7000138 Lincoln St. Swithin Cemetery Register Burials 1890-1999 (4 fiche)

7000139 Lincoln Canwick Road Cemetery Register Burials 1856-1900 (5 fiche)

7000140 Lincoln Canwick Road Cemetery Register Burials 1901-1938 (4 fiche)

7000141 Lincoln City Marriages 1813-1837 (1 fiche)

7000142 Lincoln City Marriage Index 1754-1812 (2 fiche)

7000143 Lincoln City Marriage Index 1700-1753 (2 fiche)

7000144 Lawres Deanery Marriage Index 1813-1837 (1 fiche)

7000145 Lawres Deanery PR Burials 1813-1900 (3 fiche)

7000146 Burgh on Bain, Linwood, Lissington, Ludford Magna, North Willingham Monumental Inscriptions (2 fiche)

These six booklets will be found on shelf 6 of bookcase 3:

LIN Corringham Deanery Marriage Index 1813-1837 by Barton, Pask, Reed

YRK Hull Holy Trinity Monumental Inscriptions (Churchyard only) and

YRK Sculcoates PR Transcription Baptisms Sept 1806 - Dec 1812 and

YRK Sculcoates PR Transcription Baptisms Jan 1813 - Dec 1820 by the East Yorkshire FHS

LAN Registers in the Local Studies Unit of Manchester Central Library and

LAN Manchester - A Guide to the Registration Districts of Manchester by the Manchester and Lancashire FHS

What's New

FamilySearch has added a few collections to their record collections – some US state censuses, New York county marriages from 1908-1935 and Cheshire Marriage Bonds and Allegations from 1606 to 1900.

Ancestry has updated some Australian records and added some German military records, government directories and an 1857 census for Lübeck.

The Forum

Questions:

Q1/04/2011. Canada.

Library and Archives Canada has recently put the Canada Gazette online in a searchable form at <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/canada-gazette/001060-100.03-ephp> . In several cases when I search using names of family members I find entries in the Gazette among long lists of names headed "Insolvents" with each name followed by one or more numbers. I am guessing that this has something to do with bankruptcies and that the numbers may be file numbers of some kind. Does anyone have any knowledge about this or what specifically the numbers refer to? As an example, when I search for Robert Wynn, I find an 1865 entry: 1841-1869 (Province of Canada), Annual Index, 1865, page 14 which shows his name followed by the numbers 2759, 3228 and 4433.

News From the Trenches

Norfolk Records

I have been browsing some of the new Norfolk records online at www.FamilySearch.org for ancestors. One of the databases I have found useful are the Monumental Inscription records. For the parishes I have been looking at, the records are typewritten books of transcriptions of the gravemarkers, some with indexes. The books, mostly done in the late 20th century, tend to be 20 to 30 pages long and may include a description of the church building, sketches or descriptions of the monuments, and their locations. (And the pages load quickly!) I found this comment in the records for Rockland – St. Peter amusing: "Under Yew Tree: I could just see two tombstones in this tree but it grows down to the ground and the children even couldn't get in to see them". The records for New Buckenham had a page with the Natural History of the Churchyard. This page listed trees (7 limes, 2 yew, 4 silver birch and 1 hawthorn); mammals (bats in the church); birds (8 common species); and, surprisingly, 7 species of lichen giving their complete Latin names. I found a number of helpful monumental inscriptions, including one which was unreadable when we visited in 2003.

As well as the online Norfolk records at FamilySearch, last week I mentioned the searchable transcriptions available at FreeREG and at the Norfolk Family History Society (if one is a member). Membership for Norfolk FHS is £12.60 for an overseas membership paid by credit card – I enjoy their quarterly magazines as well. I neglected to mention Norfolk County Council's free search of their archives, called NOAH or Norfolk Online Access to Heritage at <http://www.noah.norfolk.gov.uk/> . One can search probate, books and trade directories (and other items) and download the images without charge. I have found a number of wills and the indexing is excellent, including all the parties mentioned in a will.

Were You Aware...

Chains, Rods and Perches

Bob McDonald noted in an email: "If you had been raised on an Ontario farm like I was, you would be more familiar with rods and chains. Rods were in fairly common use to describe the dimensions of land holdings when I was a boy.

Regarding the orientation of farm lots in Southern Ontario, they don't run east-west or north-south, they run any which direction. This is because the concessions and lots were surveyed back from the major rivers and lakes - the Saint Lawrence River and the various great lakes, and in some cases, local rivers like the Rideau or the Grand. This was an adaptation of the French long lot survey system developed in Quebec. Concessions run parallel to the water courses, the first one being the "front" and the others numbered from the front to the back end of the township. There are any number of local anomalies. In the case of York County, the southern parts, including all of Scarborough and the southern parts of York and Etobicoke Townships, would seem to be oriented to the lake. In the northern parts, the lots run "east-west" and would seem to be oriented to a feature of human creation - Yonge Street. In part of Gwillimbury, they run "south" from Lake Simcoe. Around Southern Ontario there are also a number of "colonization roads" - like Highway 10, the old York-Sydenham Road - with lots laid out perpendicular to them. Another example is in Hastings county, running north from Belleville.

Northern Ontario, with the possible exception of some areas of early French settlement, was surveyed like the Prairies, into square sections of 1 square mile each, and divided into "quarter" lots of 160 acres."

Ann Nelis wrote to the Bulletin: "Gosh, it is amazing what one can drag up from one's memory. 12 inches –1 foot; 3 feet—1 yard; 5½ yards-- 1 rod, pole or perch; 40 rods, poles or perches-- 1 furlong; 8 furlongs –1 mile. Chains didn't come into the rote that I can remember. Furlongs were quite common as race lengths for horses were often quoted in furlongs. Pecks and bushels are buried even further away in my

memory. The rote for volume was: 4 gills or noggins –1 pint; 2 pints—1 quart; 4 quarts—1 gallon and that is where we stopped.”

Gwen Armstrong sent this story: “The discussion of chains, rod and perches reminded me of my favourite measurement story... My grandfather was most comfortable with the imperial system of measuring. He and his 8-year-old grandson, who knew only metric, were looking out the window at the vegetable garden. My grandfather asked him how big it was. Adam replied that he thought it was about 10 metres long and 5 metres wide. When my grandfather asked him how many yards that would be, Adam paused for a very long time. When asked what he was thinking, he said he didn't know, weren't all yards different sizes?”

Films received in the 7 days ending 27 January 2011 and due for return on 24 February 2011.

Film Content	Film No
DEU Mecklenburg-Strelitz Prillwitz Church Books 1734 +	0069393
DEU Mecklenburg-Strelitz Prillwitz Plath 1837-1875, Alt Käbelich	0069394
ENG HAM Litchfield MB 1813+, Whitchurch PRs to 1812	1041304
ENG HAM Whitchurch PRs 1812-1876	1041305
ENG SRY Burstow PRs 1549-1948	1470975
PRU POM Various PR's 1810-1874	1273179

A patron wishing to view a film ordered by another patron should check first with staff. The patron who ordered the film will always have priority. The description of the film given above may not be a full description. A film number search in the Family History Library Catalog will reveal the full content of the film. The geographical abbreviations used above are based on 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 12 noon and 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Friday 9.30 a.m. to 4pm

Saturday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Closures: Closed Family Day, February 21; closed at noon on February 25th, March 4 and 11. Bad weather may also close the FHC.

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.

Toronto Family History Centre

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

24 Ferrand Drive (Don Mills & Eglinton) M3C 3V4 Phone: 416 422 5480 Ext. 111.

Email: Toronto_FHC "at" bellnet dot ca