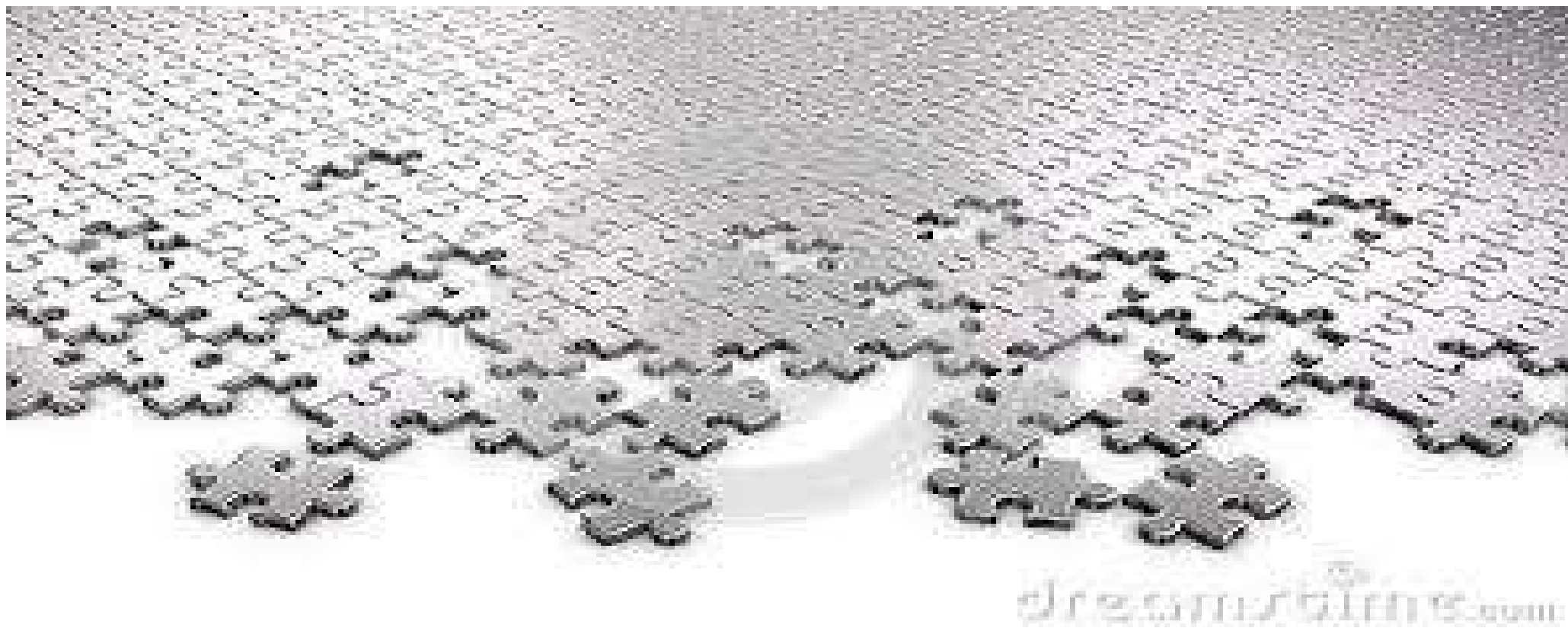


Getting Started In Genealogical Research



Genealogy is a combination of detective work
and piecing together a huge jigsaw puzzle...
that will never be truly finished.

An Important Genealogical Concept

Work Backwards
from the
Known to the Unknown

Golden Rule for Research

Never assume.

Always check for the facts.

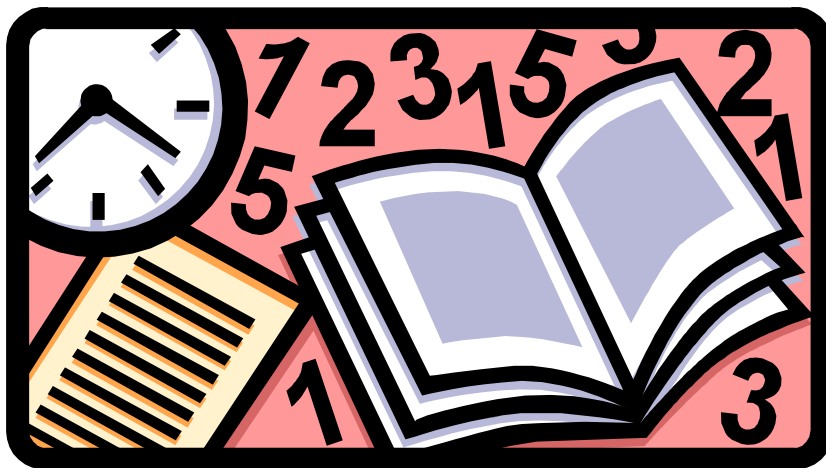
**Try to double-check or confirm
“facts” with legal documents.**

Why?

Remember, your ultimate aim is to record your family history for posterity.

Genealogical Research in 12 Easy Steps

- 1. Write down everything YOU know about the person or family you are researching.**



Ask yourself:

Who am I?

- When was I born?
- Where was I born?



To whom am/was I married?

- When?
- Where?

Now Begin to Work Backwards

Ask yourself:

Who are my parents?

- When and where were they born?
- When and where were they married?
- What was my mother's maiden name?
- Are they deceased?
 - When, where and how did they die?
 - Where are their graves?

Who are my father's parents?	Who are my mother's parents?
---------------------------------	---------------------------------

Record everything you know about all of the people, including:

Middle names

Nicknames (or most commonly used names)

Every place you know of where they lived, and the dates

What they did for a living

Their religion(s) and where they worshipped

Hobbies

Any family stories you can remember

Interview Relatives

Now ask the same questions to all your living relatives:
parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, etc.

Some questions are available on the following free sites:

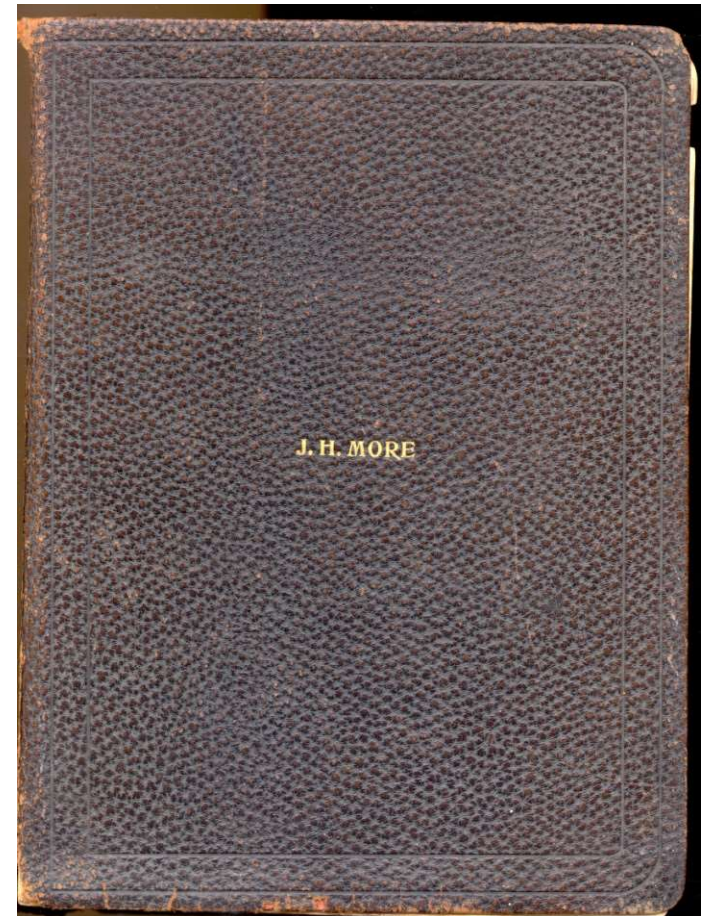
<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/article/20-questions>

<https://familysearch.org/blog/en/52-questions-52-weeks/>

<http://genealogy.about.com/cs/oralhistory/a/interview.htm>

Genealogical Research in 12 Easy Steps

2. Locate family documents (including the Family Bible).



Locate important family documents

Photograph, photocopy, scan or hand copy everything you find

Note where and when you found each item

If you find a family Bible, check it for entries of major events (births, marriages, deaths)

- Trust the accuracy of the entries more if they were written in more than one hand or colour of ink, because this suggests that the entries were written as each event occurred.

Genealogical Research in 12 Easy Steps

3. Begin your outside research. See if you can find a guide to researching in your area of interest.



Genealogical Research in 12 Easy Steps

**4. Work backward in time
from the known to the
unknown.**



Genealogical Research in 12 Easy Steps

5. Check birth, marriage and death records.

The image shows a historical birth record document from the County of Lanark, Division of Crantham. The document is titled "BIRTHS" and is divided into three columns, each representing a different birth entry. The entries are for the year 1917. The columns are numbered 1, 2, and 3. Each column contains the following information: Name, Sex, Date of Birth, Name of Father, Maiden Name of Mother, Residence of Father, Occupation of Father, Name of Physician to Attend, Name of Person making Record, Address of Person making Record, and Date of Registration. The entries are handwritten in cursive. The first column is for a child named William Walter C. Hare, born on Feb. 25th 1917. The second column is for a child named John H. Hare, born on Feb. 25th 1917. The third column is for a child named Green, born on March 25th 1917. The document is signed by the Registrar at the bottom.

Column	Name	Sex	Date of Birth	Name of Father	Maiden Name of Mother	Residence of Father	Occupation of Father	Name of Physician to Attend	Name of Person making Record	Address of Person making Record	Date of Registration
1	William Walter C. Hare	Male	Feb. 25th 1917	William Hare	Green	Cratham	Labourer	Dr. Hare	William Hare	Cratham	March 25th 1917
2	John H. Hare	Male	Feb. 25th 1917	John H. Hare	Green	Cratham	Labourer	Dr. Hare	John H. Hare	Cratham	April 5th 1917
3	Green	Female	March 25th 1917	Green	Cratham	Cratham	Labourer	Dr. Hare	Green	Cratham	April 25th 1917

Genealogical Research in 12 Easy Steps



6. Check for church or parish records as a primary source of information.

Genealogical Research in 12 Easy Steps

7. Check census or assessment records if they are available.

Administrative County Portsmouth The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the Parliamentary Borough of Portsmouth Page 10

Civil Parish North Gosport Ecclesiastical Parish North Gosport County Borough, Municipal Borough, or Urban District Portsmouth Rural District Portsmouth Parliamentary Borough Portsmouth Town or Village or Hamlet Portsmouth

House No.	ROAD, STREET, &c. and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES (Unoccupied)	Name and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	Age last Birthday	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, Own account	WHERE BORN	(1) Blind (2) Lame (3) Deaf and Dumb (4) Insane (5) Pauper
65	1	1	Margaret Mary	Wife	76	Swingman		South Gosport, 1848	
			Margaret Mary	Wife	75	Swingman		South Gosport, 1848	
			Robert Little	Head	27	Agricultural Labourer	Worker	Warrington	
			Elizabeth	Wife	27			Warrington	
			Robert	Son	5			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	3			South Gosport	
66	1	1	Robert Little	Head	27	Agricultural Labourer	Worker	South Gosport	
			Elizabeth	Wife	27			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	5			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	3			South Gosport	
67	1	1	Robert Little	Head	27	Agricultural Labourer	Worker	South Gosport	
			Elizabeth	Wife	27			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	5			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	3			South Gosport	
68	1	1	Robert Little	Head	27	Agricultural Labourer	Worker	South Gosport	
			Elizabeth	Wife	27			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	5			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	3			South Gosport	
69	1	1	Robert Little	Head	27	Agricultural Labourer	Worker	South Gosport	
			Elizabeth	Wife	27			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	5			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	3			South Gosport	
70	1	1	Robert Little	Head	27	Agricultural Labourer	Worker	South Gosport	
			Elizabeth	Wife	27			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	5			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	3			South Gosport	
71	1	1	Robert Little	Head	27	Agricultural Labourer	Worker	South Gosport	
			Elizabeth	Wife	27			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	5			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	3			South Gosport	
72	1	1	Robert Little	Head	27	Agricultural Labourer	Worker	South Gosport	
			Elizabeth	Wife	27			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	5			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	3			South Gosport	
73	1	1	Robert Little	Head	27	Agricultural Labourer	Worker	South Gosport	
			Elizabeth	Wife	27			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	5			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	3			South Gosport	
74	1	1	Robert Little	Head	27	Agricultural Labourer	Worker	South Gosport	
			Elizabeth	Wife	27			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	5			South Gosport	
			Robert	Son	3			South Gosport	

Total of Males and Females 15 16

Note—Draw your pen through such words of the headings as are inapplicable.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE REFERENCE > RG 13/1880 CROWN COPYRIGHT NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT PERMISSION CM SCALE 1 2 3 4 5 6

Davidson John	76 164	1	Mr Ford	Mr Cook	1866
" Mable E	"	"	Jr wife	Mr Jan	1864
" Grace A	"	"	Jr daughter	S Apr	1890
" James B	"	"	Mr son	S June	1895
" Catharine	"	"	Jr daughter	S Dec	1898

McClellan John	76 1866	1	McClellan	McClellan	1866
" Mable E			J. W. McClellan	McClellan	1866
" Grace A			J. W. McClellan	McClellan	1890
" James B			M. W. McClellan	McClellan	1895
" Catharine			J. W. McClellan	McClellan	1899

McClellan Cathaline F Daughter S Dec 1899

McClellan John	76	164	1	McClellan	McClellan	1866
"	Mable E			J. W. McClellan	McClellan	1866
"	Grace B			J. W. McClellan	McClellan	1890
"	James B			M. W. McClellan	McClellan	1895
"	Catharine			J. W. McClellan	McClellan	1899

McClellan Cathaline F Daughter S Dec 1899

McClellan Kathleen May 7 Dec. 18th 1899 John H. McClellan Mable Evelyn Emma W.

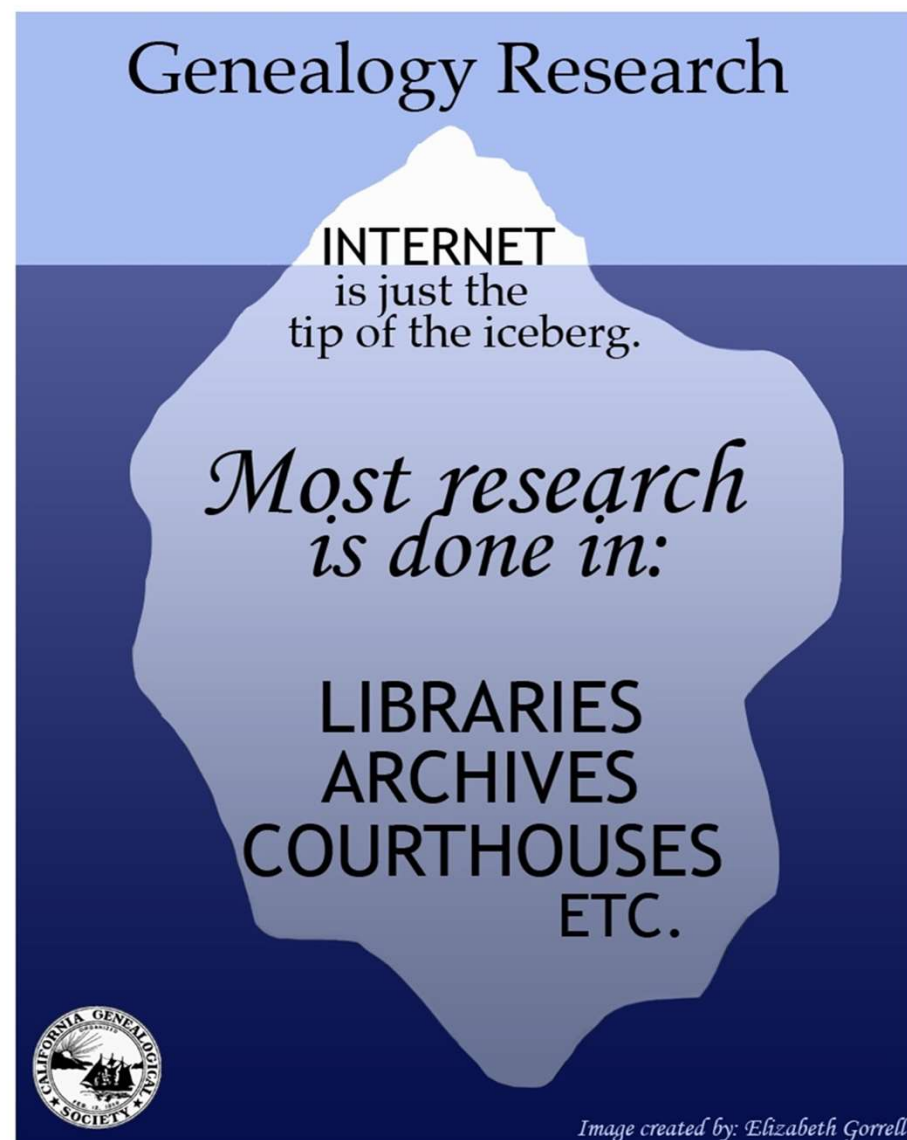
McClellan Kathleen May F Dec 18th 1899

8. Check records at various levels of governments.

COPYRIGHT (2007) THE ONTARIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
WWW.OGS.ON.CA

Genealogical Research in 12 Easy Steps

9. Research in libraries, archives and museums. Research on the Internet.



Using the Internet

The internet is a useful tool:

- as a search tool to find useful websites which may contain relevant family history content
- as a networking tool to communicate with other researchers and genealogical organizations

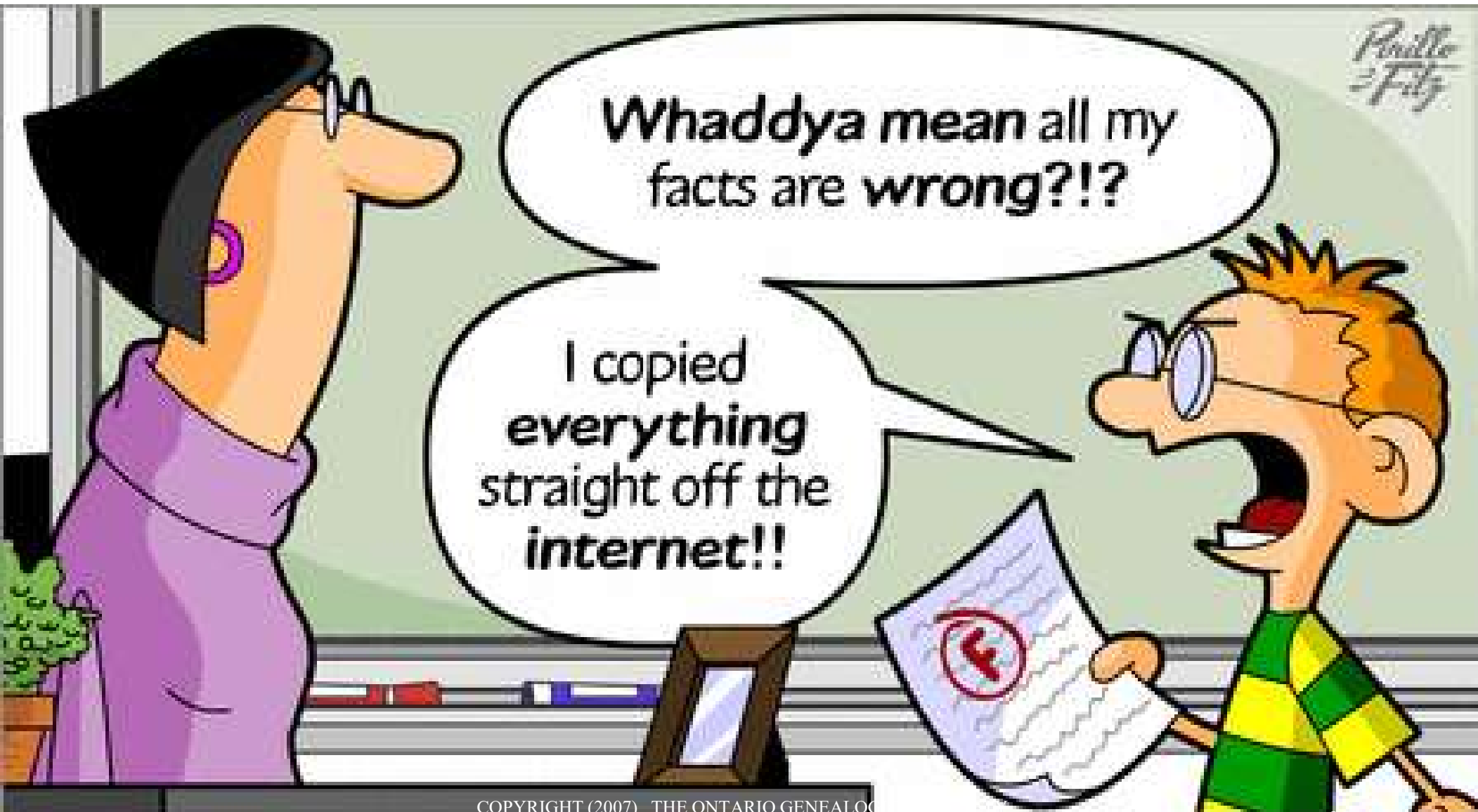
“Facts” on the Internet need to be checked for accuracy.

Using the Internet

Useful genealogy websites:

- FamilySearch.org
- Ancestry.com \$ (available in Ottawa Public Libraries)
- TONI (The Ontario Name Index) (<https://ogs.on.ca/databases/toni/>)
- New England Historic Genealogical Society \$ (<https://www.americanancestors.org>)
- MyHeritage \$
- Findmypast \$
- ScotlandsPeople \$
- Library & Archives Canada (<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca>)
- Cyndi's List (<https://cyndislist.com/>)

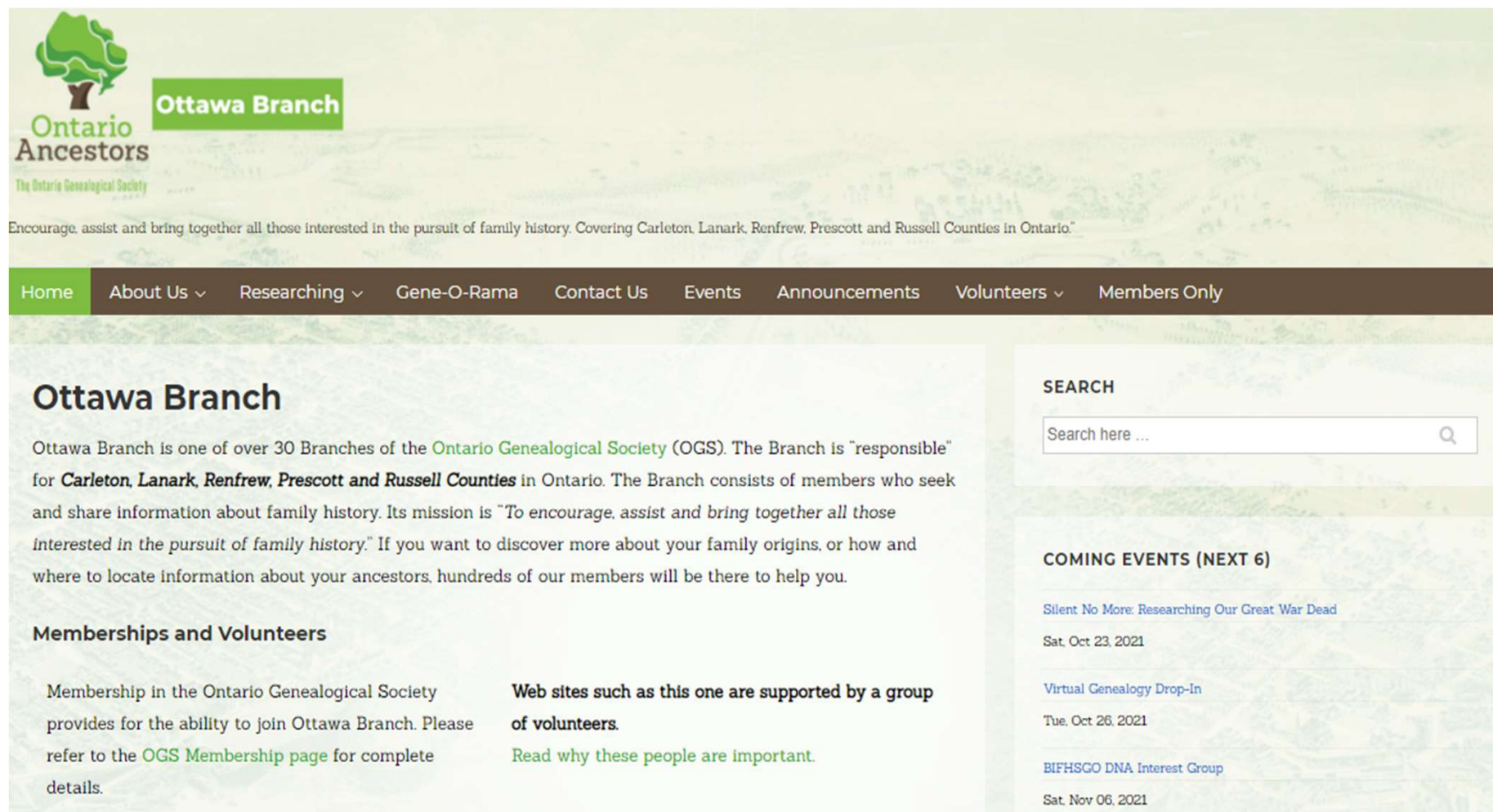
Not everything you see on the Internet is correct.



COPYRIGHT (2007) THE ONTARIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

© BLAUGH.COM FITZ C. WITTE SAVE 10% AT OURS BY USING THE COUPON CODE "BLAUGH"

10. Network with other genealogists via associations and electronic groups.



The screenshot shows the website for the Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society. The header features the logo on the left and a green box with "Ottawa Branch" on the right. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: Home, About Us, Researching, Gene-O-Rama, Contact Us, Events, Announcements, Volunteers, and Members Only. The main content area has a heading "Ottawa Branch" followed by a paragraph describing the branch's mission and membership. To the right is a search box and a list of upcoming events. At the bottom, there are two columns of text regarding membership and volunteer support.

Ottawa Branch

Encourage, assist and bring together all those interested in the pursuit of family history. Covering Carleton, Lanark, Renfrew, Prescott and Russell Counties in Ontario.

Home About Us ▾ Researching ▾ Gene-O-Rama Contact Us Events Announcements Volunteers ▾ Members Only

Ottawa Branch

Ottawa Branch is one of over 30 Branches of the [Ontario Genealogical Society](#) (OGS). The Branch is "responsible" for **Carleton, Lanark, Renfrew, Prescott and Russell Counties** in Ontario. The Branch consists of members who seek and share information about family history. Its mission is "To encourage, assist and bring together all those interested in the pursuit of family history." If you want to discover more about your family origins, or how and where to locate information about your ancestors, hundreds of our members will be there to help you.

Memberships and Volunteers

Membership in the Ontario Genealogical Society provides for the ability to join Ottawa Branch. Please refer to the [OGS Membership page](#) for complete details.

Web sites such as this one are supported by a group of volunteers.

[Read why these people are important.](#)

SEARCH

Search here ...

COMING EVENTS (NEXT 6)

Silent No More: Researching Our Great War Dead
Sat, Oct 23, 2021
Virtual Genealogy Drop-In
Tue, Oct 26, 2021
BIFHSGO DNA Interest Group
Sat, Nov 06, 2021

10. Network with other genealogists via associations and electronic groups.



British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa

Welcome to BIFHSGO, a Canadian family history society with a focus on the British Isles.

Our members connect with like-minded researchers to learn effective research methods and practices, share their knowledge and inspire other family historians with their presentations and published stories.

Our Name Index provides information from our ongoing research on home children, military ancestors and migration, focusing on British Isles and Canadian ancestry.

Genealogical Research in 12 Easy Steps

11. Leave “tracks” wherever you go.



Genealogical Research in 12 Easy Steps

12. Always copy all information you find, noting where you found it and any other pertinent details.

Cite Your Sources

- What is Genealogical Evidence?
- What is Proof?
- Genealogical Proof Standard elements:
 1. Direct or Indirect Evidence
 2. Original or Derivative Source
 3. Primary or Secondary Information
- Cite Your Sources

“Genealogy Without Proof is Mythology”

Get Organized!

Take care with your data from the start!

Record your Research

Paper and/or Computer

Computers can Help!

Organize your info

You can add and delete easily

Sort and search for data – focus lists

Identifies potential errors

Print a variety of reports

Create beautiful charts

So, which software is best for me?

“The only person to know which software is best for you- is **you**. Features that may be very important to someone else may be unimportant to you.” -Richard S. Wilson

What is right for you?

- make a list of your requirements and then try out the programs which seem to meet those requirements. Most genealogy software vendors have free trial or demo versions available just for that purpose. Most of the others offer a money-back guarantee.

Reputable Genealogy Software

GEDCOM Capable (or better)

<https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/GEDCOM>

<https://www.familytreeforum.com/articles/genealogy-software/1276513-gedcoms-explained>

Genealogy Software Requirements

- conflicting dates & locations
- alternate spellings of names & locations
- record sources and repositories in its database
- non-English alphabets, if necessary
- record census and other facts
- money back guarantee

List Your Requirements

What do you want to do with your information?

Do you plan to share your research online and/or with others?

Will you want to write a book with the information?

What kind of charts & reports would you like to print?

Do you want to transfer in genealogy files created in other software programs without any loss of data?

Do you prefer to use keystrokes to enter data or to click with the mouse?

Are you tracing your family's history for eventual submission to the LDS church?

Popular Genealogy Software

Ancestral Quest

DoroTree (Jewish)

Family Tree Heritage

Famtree

Heredis (French+)

RootsMagic

Brother's Keeper

Family Historian

Family Tree Maker

GenBox

Legacy

WinFamily



Ancestral Quest

Family Tree Maker

iFamily for Mac

Reunion (Mac)

FamilyTree Builder

Heredis Mac X.2

FamilyTree

RootsMagic

Family Trees On-Line

- Cloud storage of information
- Easy to collaborate or share
- Evaluation:
 - Privacy?
 - Reports?
 - Security?
- Top 8 Places to Put Your Family History Online
http://genealogy.about.com/od/publishing/tp/web_sites.htm

SOFTWARE REVIEWS



Genealogy Software Reviews:

<http://www.gensoftreviews.com/>

<https://www.toptenreviews.com/best-family-tree-maker>

Wikipedia: Comparison of genealogy software:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_genealogy_software

Wikipedia: Comparison of web-based genealogy software:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_web-based_genealogy_software

DNA Test can be used for:

- Explore surnames
- Verify family trees
- Confirm or disprove relationships
- Bridge gaps in paper records
- Help with brick walls as result of NPE
- Provide geographical focus for research
- Provide insight into deep ancestry

DNA Tests

- Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA)
- Y-chromosome DNA (Y-DNA)
- Autosomal DNA (atDNA)
- X-chromosome DNA (X-DNA)

- FamilySearch Research Wiki at https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/DNA_Basics
- International Society of Genetic Genealogy Wiki at https://isogg.org/wiki/Wiki_Welcome_Page
- <https://www.dnaweekly.com/best/ancestry/best-genetic-dna-testing-kits>

Who Can Test?

- Males can test their Y-DNA to get their father's male line.
- Males can test their mtDNA to obtain their mother's female line.
- Females can test their mtDNA to get their mother's all female line.
- Females and males can test their atDNA and match any cousin related to them on the lineages between the all-male and all-female line for at least six generations.
- Females and males can test X-DNA to find out more information about your ancestry.

Presenting & Sharing your information

Web Pages

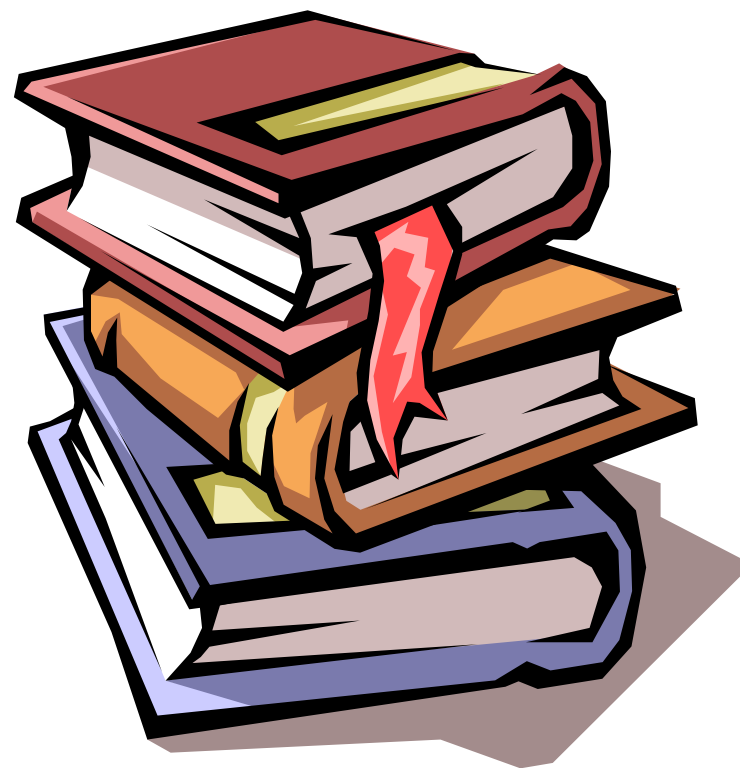
“Collaborative” Trees


Writing your family history book

Scrap booking

Quilts, Recipe Books, Family Calendars, Photo Christmas ornaments

Multimedia





Descendants of the Immigrant Roger Billings of Milton Mass., updated 24 Jan 2021

This is not a complete list but only the readily available family members found using resources on the Internet and at local Ottawa repositories such as the City of Ottawa Archives and Library & Archives Canada. Some of the links may no longer work; if you find a new link, please let me know.


Main Page

[Main Page](#)[Surname Index](#)[Master Index](#)[Recent Changes](#)[Search](#)[Legend](#)

Braddish BILLINGS, a son of Dr Elkanah BILLINGS was one of the first settlers in what is now the capital of Canada. Braddish's house was left to the city by one of his descendants and has become the Billings Estate Museum. There is considerable interest in the genealogy of the BILLINGS family by visitors to the City Archives and this is an attempt to compile a reference chart of the family. It initially concentrated on the descendants of Dr Elkanah but an article in the The New England Historical and Genealogical Register, 'Roger Billings of Milton, Mass., and some of his descendants, by Harold Ward Dana published 1938-1940, lead to an expansion to include the known descendants of immigrant Roger Billings. This has not yet been completed but it is now time to make the information available on line. I would appreciate any corrections or additions, which will then lead to a revised version.

This project has not yet been completed but it is time to make the information available on line. It has been compiled from a variety of sources but not all has been verified. Most of these sources are derivative and researchers should check the originals whenever possible. I will post updates as I progress and the date will be included in the main title. Please contact me if you have any corrections or updates.

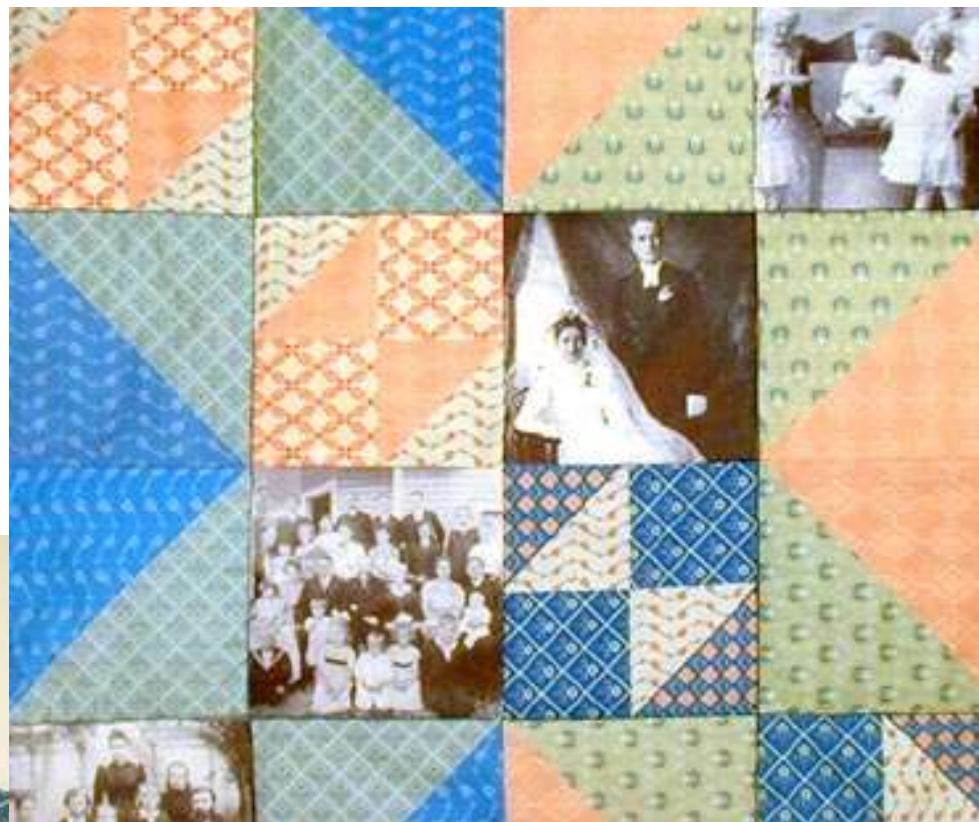
Copyright Ottawa Branch OGS: You are welcome to copy the facts on these pages. But the narratives are our creative work and are copyright. You may copy them for your personal use, but please do not republish them in any form, including copying them to your tree on Ancestry or elsewhere, unless you have written permission.



This website does not contain all my research on the Billings family. Living people are not included. Other individuals are excluded as I have not yet completed research on them. I may have more information available; send me an e-mail. If you use the information found on this site, proper credit should be given to the Ontario Genealogical Society

Compiler: [Michael More](#), Ottawa Canada

Site revised on 24 Jan 2021; 6,158 people



Ontario Genealogical Society

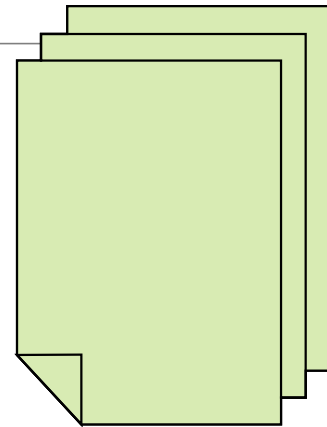


Promote genealogical research

Set standards for genealogical excellence by encouragement and instruction in effective research methods

Make available the knowledge, diversity and comprehensiveness of the genealogical resources in Ontario

The Ontario Name Index (TONI)



Index of Ontario personal names, indicating where to find information about a person in a genealogical or historical source.

13.1 million names and growing

<https://ogs.on.ca/databases/toni/>

Ontario Ancestors Virtual Conference 2022

presented by Ottawa Branch OGS

24-26 Jun 2022

Speakers, Marketplace

Featured Speaker: tbd

Registration: tbd

Website: <https://conference2022.ogs.on.ca/>

Upcoming Presentations

Saturday 26 Feb

Some Lesser-known London Archives: How to research from a distance.

Penny Allen

1:00pm online via Ontario Ancestors

Saturday 26 Mar

Arnprior & McNab/Braeside Archives

Digitization Update

1:00pm online via Ontario Ancestors

<https://ottawa.ogs.on.ca/events/>

Genealogy is like potato salad -
When you share it with others,
it's a picnic!