A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to March. It is the month that brings my Irish ancestors to mind like no other time of the year. I find myself reviewing the information I have about them and seeking to find more. I take pride in knowing I carry some of their DNA. I find myself cherishing the sacrifices they made to come to America and start a new life for themselves and ultimately, me. Speaking of the Irish, March is a busy time for GSP. The Annual Ulster Historical Foundation Conference, which required months of planning, is almost here. Fintan Mullan and Gillian Hunt will help all of us learn more about Irish and Scots-Irish record sources. There will be books to buy, wonderful door prizes, a continental breakfast, a hot Irish themed buffet, an opportunity to connect with other researchers, and perhaps, a chance to find a relative you didn’t know you had. Our last newsletter contains an article on one author’s experience at last year’s Ulster event and one by another regarding hopes for this year. There are also member submitted articles on ancestors, member publication announcements, and reports on other events and happenings at GSP. You’ll find GSP-provided data as well. So, do enjoy the March 2019 newsletter, send your articles and comments, and do come to the Ulster Conference March 10th.

Carol M. Sheaffer MD, President

The GSP online newsletter

We look forward to keeping you informed by giving you dates and times of upcoming events, answering questions and being a source of information to our membership.

UPCOMING EVENTS

GSP 2019 Events

GSP will host two lunch events each month – ROOTS and ROOTS FOCUS. Both are designed to allow researchers to discuss genealogy over brown bagging lunch. ROOTS will be an opportunity to discuss all questions with each other and share research, artifacts, photos and questions. ROOTS FOCUS will offer an opportunity to discuss a specific topic. Participants need to register in advance as space is limited. Participants are also asked to bring their own lunch, however, GSP will provide coffee, tea, and dessert.

Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania
2100 Byberry Road, Suite 111
Philadelphia, PA 19116 - 267.686.2296  gsp.deborah@gmail.com

REGISTRATION
GSP Members Free; GSP Non-Members $5
Advance Registration Required Due to Space Limitations.

EMAIL to Register: info@genpa.org
Finding Alfred’s Death Certificate

What do you do when you have the exact date of an event – birth, marriage, death – but can’t find it in the online index? Anyone who has used the New York City records at a Family History Center knows what a joy they are. Sit there and save that death certificate right to your flash drive! Don’t forget that if it’s a double image, the page before your certificate is the reverse of the one before – you need to move to the next frame to get the reverse of your certificate. I learned that the hard way!

We have not one, but two obituaries for this man. He is definitely our guy, but he doesn’t pop up in the index so we are stymied. Alfred Harris – pretty straightforward, no? I tried without the first name, with the first name but no death date, with name and date but no death place. Nada.

Italiangen.org has its own database of New York City records. Alfred Harris showed up there, with the correct birthdate and a certificate number.

What to do? I thought that since I knew the cert number, if I could only get into the actual film I could browse until I reached the number. I searched again using just the last name. Fortunately (for me at least), there was a Ray Harris who died in Brooklyn on February 17, 1917. His cert number was 4203. Alfred died February 12, 1917; his cert number was 3825. I made a note of Ray Harris’s cert number and the corresponding film.

I went to the Family History Center at Cherry Hill. I

10 March 2019
The Ulster Historical Foundation
All Day Conference
8:30 AM-4:30 PM
Lecturers: Fintan Mullan and Gillian Hunt
Brookside Manor ~ 50 Bustleton Pike
Feasterville-Trevose, PA 19053
Registration closed Monday, March 4th, 2019

Registration for the following events
GSP Members Free; GSP Non-Members $5
Held at GSP Office. Advance Registration Required Due to Space Limitations

14 March 2019 ~ 12 Noon-2 PM
Note Change from Tuesdays to Thursdays
ROOTS: Bring Your Ancestor to Lunch
Led by Carol M. Sheaffer at GSP Office
Bring Your Lunch-Coffee and Dessert Provided

23 March 2019 10 AM-11:30 AM
DNA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP
DNA Discussion: Testing, Results, Use in Genealogical Research

23 March 2019 12 NOON-2 PM
PRE-PRO SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP
Is it your goal to become a professional genealogist?
Come to GSP’s newest Special interest Group to help you reach that goal
Bring Your Lunch-Coffee and Dessert Provided

28 March 2019 12 Noon -2 PM
Note Change from Tuesdays to Thursdays
ROOTS FOCUS: Ulster Conference Follow-Up
Led by Carol Sheaffer
Bring Your Lunch-Coffee and Dessert Provided
EMAIL to Register: info@genpa.org

(Continued from page 1)
followed the instructions as if I were looking for Ray Harris. When I realized that I was in the correct film, I just had to browse to cert number 3825. I held my breath as I got closer (I was prepared – I thought – to find 3824 followed by 3826) but there it was. To me the name on cert #3825 was clearly Alfred Harris. Would have done the Happy Dance, but I didn’t want to be thrown out of the center.

When I got home with my flash drive, where I’d stored my finds for the day, I looked again at his handwritten last name. Hmm. Opened FamilySearch.org for New York, typed in Alfred HANIS, and there it is in the index. I thought I’d tried every misspelling possible, but that didn’t help because in reality, it is spelled correctly on the certificate. So, here’s a suggestion: if you can’t find your person in a simple search, write out the name in ‘cursive,’ hand it to someone else and ask them what it says. You may be surprised at their answer.

Nancy Nelson—GSP Vice President

GSP Launches New Special Interest Group

In response to requests from members who plan to become professional genealogists, a new Special Interest Group, Pre-Pro, was launched on February 23rd. Those attending have decided to meet monthly over lunch to talk together about the many facets of being a professional genealogist including research, report writing, record keeping, contracts, fees. The group plans to select articles and/or book chapters to read and then use as a basis for discussion at the next meeting. There will be opportunities as well to critique each other’s work and solicit peer input in research planning.

Carol M. Sheaffer

Q&A

Do you have questions about Pennsylvania genealogy? We have answers! For example, we can answer questions such as “Where/How can I find marriage license records?” or “When did Pennsylvania start recording birth certificates?” We’ll feature the question and answer in the newsletter. Submit your questions (not family specific research) to: editor@genpa.org

Share your Research or Family History Story

Briefly share amusing, touching, unusual, interesting or tragic stories you have unearthed in your family research - editor@genpa.org
DNA CORNER

IRISH AND SCOTS-IRISH DNA

Origenes is one of several companies supporting the GSP Ulster Conference March 10th with door prizes. Of special importance to researchers are the maps created and sold by Origenes and the DNA services offered. Maps include Irish and Scots-Irish surname, clan, plantation and castle maps. One of these maps will be on display at the Ulster event and several will be offered as door prizes. In regard to DNA, Origenes will do a search for you using YDNA from Family Tree DNA with the goal of determine where in Ireland your ancestors resided and that is exciting. Details can be found at https://www.irishorigenes.com/.

Carol Sheaffer, President

UPCOMING GSP EVENTS

https://genpa.org/events/

30 March 2019 1-3 PM

The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

for Members at GSP Office

Advance Registration Required

EMAIL to Register: info@genpa.org
THE TWO CONFUSED JOHN BUMBAUGHS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Kindly submitted by Sally (Bumbaugh) Wasielewski, GSP Member
Author is descended from John Barney Bumbaugh through his son David R. Bumbaugh and Eliza Jane Rouse, parents of Edgar Preston Bumbaugh. John Barney Bumbaugh is the author’s great great grandfather. The sources are all listed at the end of the article.

Sally can be contacted at sauersal1890@twc.com

The Mont Alto Cemetery in Mont Alto, Franklin County, Pennsylvania has a number of Bumbaugh burials, but the one which has caused many years of erroneous genealogy is that of John J. Bumbaugh and Barbara Hippensteel. The birth and death dates of both are correctly inscribed. For John, he lived from 8 Aug 1832 – 2 Dec 1910 and Barbara’s dates are 29 March 1833 - 26 July 1909. John Bumbaugh did in fact marry Barbara Ann Hippensteel in 1854. The man who married Barbara Hippensteel, who was married to her at her death, is not John J. Bumbaugh, but John Barney Bumbaugh.

SUMMARY

There was a John J. Bumbaugh living in Franklin County, Pennsylvania during the same years that John Barney Bumbaugh also did, but John J. was older than John Barne. John J. was a saddler, not an iron furnace worker like John Barne. John J.’s wife was not Barbara Hippensteel, but Anna Terziah Thompson. John B. did not serve in the Civil War, however John J. did and received an "invalid” pension for his injuries. John Barney died in 1910, whereas John J. died in 1904. John J. was literate, but John B. was not.

Although there are records which merely state “John” without a middle initial, there are enough records for each man as either “John B.,” “John Barney,” “John J.,” or “J.J. Bumbaugh” to allow the overwhelming conclusion that they are two different people.

1. Birth and Death Discrepancies

John Barney Bumbaugh by all accounts, including his death certificate, obituaries, and the federal censuses in which he appears (1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900 and the year of his death, 1910) indicate that he was born in 1832/33.

John J. Bumbaugh, on the other hand, was seven years older than John Bumbaugh. He was born in 1825 in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, according to his Civil War enlistment papers as well as federal censuses in which he appears. His occupation is always listed as a saddler in the federal census (1860, 1870, 1880, 1900). More specifically, the 1900 federal census reports his birth as December 1824. Also of interest in this federal census is the information that his father was born in Germany, whereas the father of John B. (David) was born in Virginia.

Although we have no documentary evidence that John B. was born in Franklin County, anecdotal evidence places his father, David, there as a “pioneer” in the Mont Alto iron furnace. And the 1840 federal census for Franklin County includes an age-appropriate David Bumbaugh with three male children under
the age of 10. At least one of David’s daughters (an aunt to John Barney Bumbaugh) believed he was born at Mont Alto.


2. Two Different Men with Two Different Wives

There is no known documentary proof of the marriage of John B. and Barbara Ann Hippensteel, but the 1900 federal census gives the calculated year of marriage as 1854. Barbara’s maiden name appears on the death certificates (or obituaries) of all of her children.

John J. Bumbaugh, on the other hand, married Anna T. Thompson on 28 May 1859 at Fannettsburg, Franklin Co., Pennsylvania. He claimed that this was recorded in a family Bible.

J.J.’s wife’s name varies from census to census, but she is clearly the same woman. In 1860, the (presumed) wife of J.J. Bumbaugh, born in 1825 appears to be T.C. age 21. Ten years later, in 1870, 32-year-old Tirzah is the (presumed) wife of saddler John Bumbaugh, 45. Then in 1880, the wife of J.J. Bumbaugh, a 55-year-old saddler, is Terz Anne, 37 years old. The one-year-old Mary Elen is adopted. The 1890 federal census was either lost or destroyed. However, John Bumbaugh (no middle initial) is listed in the Veterans Schedules of 1890 for Quincy Township, Franklin Co., PA with a wounded left arm.

In 1900, Anne is the 61-year-old wife of 75-year-old saddler, J.J. Bumbaugh. They have been married for 40 years since 1860. John J. also stated that his wife came to his barracks and helped nurse him back to health for five months after he was wounded in December 1862 by a falling log, which fell on his arm. In the years 1862-63, Barbara Hippensteel Bumbaugh had four children to deal with at home, the youngest being Susan, born 18 Sept 1861. It is quite unlikely that she was “really” Tirzah and was “really at Ft. Slocum” nursing her husband. John Barney’s wife, Barbara Hippensteel, died 26 July 1909, whereas the wife of John J. Bumbaugh, Annie T. (born 22 June 1838), died 07 September 1901. Since both John J. Bumbaugh and his wife Ann Terziah Thompson were dead by 1904, they do not appear in further federal censuses for Franklin County.

3. Two Different Men with Different Wives and Families

John Barney and Barbara Hippensteel had six children who survived to 1907 when Barbara made her will. They were: Daniel, David, Susan (married John Woolridge), John Holker, Joseph Edward, and Anna Jane (married Harry Sweeney). Barbara also named her husband, John B. Bumbaugh, in the will.

When John J. filed for his Civil War invalid pension, his first affidavit was taken on 04 October 1877 when he was a resident of Mont Alto, PA. He recites his injuries and identifies himself as a “sadler” who can now only work “half my time.” He named his wife, Anna T., but stated he had no children. In 1870, John [J] Bumbaugh was a saddler, 45, and his (presumed) wife Terziah was 32 years old. There are two females also listed, a 15-year-old named Covensida and 7-year-old named Ella, but their relationship to the head of household or his (presumed) wife, is not known.

4. Different Occupations: John B. is an iron worker; John J is a saddler
As stated above, in each census in which John J. or J.J. appears, he is a saddler, even at the age of 75. John Barney, on the other hand, “worked in the furnace” or is a moulder. John [B.] Bumbaugh first appears in the 1850 census in the household of David Brumbaugh [sic], a moulder. John has no occupation.

In the 1860 US census for Franklin Co. PA, John [B.] Bumbaugh is now 27, has a (presumed) wife Barbara (28), and 3 children (Daniel, 5; Mary, 3; David, 1). John “worked in the furnace” and Barbara was a “washerwoman.” In 1870, John [B.] is now 38, a moulder, and (presumed) wife Barbara is now 37; with four (presumed) children: Daniel (15), David (12), Susan (9), and John (2). Ten years later, John [B] is now a 48 year old moulder, wife Barbara is 47 and the children in the household are: David (21), John Hoker (13), Joseph (10), and Anna (8).

In 1900, John [B.] Bumbaugh is 67, he is a “day laborer.” Barbara keeps house and there are no children. The last census in which John [B.] Bumbaugh appears is 1910, the year he died. He is a 78-year-old widower living with a married daughter and he no longer works.

Even though none of the federal censuses use John Barney’s middle initial, it is clear that his household is not the household of the John or J.J. or John J. married to Terziah or Ann Terziah.

5. John J. Was Literate; John B. Was Not

John J. Bumbaugh signed his Civil War enlistment papers, as well as each of the affidavits he had to submit to prove that he deserved an invalid pension. The 1870 federal census was the first federal census which asked “cannot read” and “cannot write.” For John [B.] Bumbaugh, born in 1832, these columns were checked. For John [J.] Bumbaugh, they were not. Although two censuses said “yes” for “can read” and “can write” for John [B.] Bumbaugh, this is clearly contradicted by other documents.

Censuses reflect what an unknown person told the enumerator. Deeds bearing signatures are more reliable because the party involved was present when they were executed and signed, and they were subsequently filed at the courthouse, giving them some legal authority.

In 1874, John B. Bumbaugh purchased two lots in the town of Mont Alto from Geo. B. Wiestling for 120 dollars. His name is recorded as John B. Bumbaugh. Subsequently, John B. sold the same lots to H.D. Hippensteel on 22 September 1900 for 300.00 dollars. Since John was grantor, he had to sign and did: John B. Bumbaugh, his mark, “X.”

In addition to these deeds which clearly record his name as John B. Bumbaugh, his wife also named him as John B. Bumbaugh in her will. The informant on his wife’s death certificate is John B. Bumbaugh, Mont Alto, PA. His own death certificate has his name John Barney Bumbaugh, the informant on which was Harry Sweeney, the son-in-law with whom he lived in 1910. A newspaper story about Barbara’s “great endurance” at the age of 76 identifies her as Mrs. John B. Bumbaugh.

Local histories and newspaper stories also recount John B. Bumbaugh as part of the Mont Alto iron furnace labor force. His obituary also states that he was a moulder “back in the days of the Hughes and Wiestling iron works.”
One of John Barney Bumbaugh’s granddaughters, Gail Alma (Bumbaugh) Spangler who would have been nine years old at the time of his death, wrote that her fraternal grandfather was Barney Bumbaugh and his wife was Barbara Bumbaugh.

The source of the name “Barney” is not known (assumed to be Irish), but there is at least one Barney Nunamacher, the maiden name of John B.’s mother, in the federal census records of Maryland. There are many Nunemakers listed among the Mont Alto iron furnace workers, but none named Barney. The origin of John Barney Bumbaugh’s middle name is yet to be discovered.

6. The Tombstone Inscription in Mont Alto Cemetery

The Mont Alto Cemetery has no historical records of when tombstones were erected or by whom. The John J [sic] Bumbaugh/Barbara Hippensteel monument can be viewed on FindAGrave.com and numerous family trees posted on the internet. It is approximately 3-3.5 feet tall, vertical and four-sided. The inscription for John begins way to the left, with plenty of room to write “Barney,” yet all that appears is a “J.”

It appears that one of John and Barbara’s sons, Daniel, purchased a tombstone for his mother’s grave from Thomas B. Gray, about three months after she died. As they were driving it to Mont Alto, a deer became trapped in a fence and Daniel handed the reins to Gray, and freed the deer. Unfortunately, the size and nature of the conveyance they were in is not described, nor is the size of the tombstone, nor is the place of purchase. The story (minus the tombstone) was repeated in several regional papers. There is simply no way to determine whether the large, four-sided upright tombstone that exists today is the original purchased by Daniel, or a replacement put up by descendants. The inscriptions of both John J [sic] and Barbara Hippensteel “his wife” appear to be done by the same carver—-at an unknown date.

In 1935, a Veterans Burial Card was issued by the Adjutant General’s Office in Harrisburg for J.J. Bumbaugh’s Civil War service. Veteran John J. Bumbaugh is buried in the Mont Alto Cemetery, Section A, Range 154. This card reflects for headstone: “None.” Certainly if the large four-sided vertical stone engraved with John J [sic] and his wife, Barbara Hippensteel, was already in place, this card would have noted that information. On the other hand, if that tombstone was already in place, that is evidence that it is not the tomb of Civil War veteran, John J. Bumbaugh.

CONCLUSION

Because of this erroneous middle initial, Bumbaugh family history has been incorrectly reported for many years by people who failed to look beyond the tombstone to other, more reliable genealogical and historical evidence. This evidence conclusively proves that John J. Bumbaugh and John B. Bumbaugh were two different men. The time to correct the historical record is far overdue.
Sources

PA. Death Certificate no.125110 (John Barney Bumbaugh Waynesboro, Franklin Co PA).

1900 U.S. census, Franklin Co. PA., population schedule, Quincy Township, sheet 7B, Enumeration District 57, dwelling 139, family 140 (scribbled), John (scribbled) Bumbaugh; digital image, Ancestry.com, citing NARA microfilm publication T623, 1,854 rolls. John and Barbara had been married 46 years.

John B. Bumbaugh was the informant on Barbara’s death certificate. Fn.2.

“John S. Bumbaugh [sic] “John B. Bumbaugh died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Harry Sweeney...aged 78 years...He formerly lived in Mont Alto and was a moulder back in the days of the Hughes and Wiestling Iron Works...” (photocopy of Chambersburg newspaper, date obscured).

1850 U.S. census, Franklin Co. PA., population schedule., Quincy Township, p. 402 (stamped), 803 (stamped), p.7 (penned), dwelling 5, family 6, David Brumbaugh [sic]; digital image, Ancestry.com, citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 782. The oldest (presumed) child is John, 18.

1860 U.S. census, Franklin Co. PA., population schedule, Quincy Township, p 797 (stamped), p. 59 (penned), Mont Alto Post Office, dwelling 429, family 421, John Bumbaugh; digital image, Ancestry.com, citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 1,112. John is 27, a moulder.

1870 U.S. census, Franklin Co. PA., population schedule, Quincy Township, Quincy Post Office, p. 70 (penned), dwelling 524, family 569, John Bumbaugh; digital image, Ancestry.com, citing NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 1346. John is 38 and “works in furnace.”

1880 U.S. census, Franklin Co. PA., population schedule, Quincy Township, p. 7 (penned), 532 (stamped), Enumeration District 113, dwelling 53, family 58, John Bumbaugh; digital image, Ancestry.com, citing NARA microfilm publication T9, roll 1132. John is 48, a moulder.

1900 U.S. census, Franklin Co. PA., population schedule, Quincy Township, no page visible, sheet 7B, Enumeration District 57, dwelling 138 (scribbled), family 141 (scribbled), John Bumbaugh; digital image, Ancestry.com, citing NARA microfilm publication T623, 1854 rolls. John is 67, a day laborer.

John J. Bumbaugh enrolled at Chambersburg, Franklin County, in the war at the age of 37, on 18 Oct. 1862. John J. Bumbaugh (Pvt. Co.2, PA Heavy Artillery, Civil War), pension no. S.C. 174,858, Case Files of Approved Pension Applications, 1861--1934; Civil War and Later Pen-
sion Files; Department of Veterans Affairs, Record Group 15; National Archives, Washing-

1860 U.S. census, Franklin Co. PA., pop. sch., Metal Township, Fannettsburg Post Office, p. 148 (penned), 575 (stamped), dwelling 1064, family 1052, J.J. Bumbaugh; digital im-
ge, Ancestry.com, citing NARA microfilm pub. M653, roll 1112. J.J. Bumbaugh is a 35 year old saddler.

1870 U.S. census, Franklin Co. PA., pop. sch., Quincy Township, Quincy Post Office, p. 532 (stamped) 61 (penned), dwelling 458, family 495, John Bumbaugh; digital image, An-
crestry.com, citing NARA microfilm publication M593,1761 rolls. John Bumbaugh is a sad-
dler.

1880 U.S. census, Franklin Co. PA., pop. sch., Quincy Township, Alto Dale Village, p. 22 (penned), sheet__B, Enumeration District 113, dwelling 181, family 190, J.J. Bumbaugh; digi-
tal image, Ancestry.com, citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 1132. J.J.Bumbaugh is a sad-
dler.


Ibid.

David Bumbaugh is listed as the father of John B. Bumbaugh on his death certificate, Fn.1. Many of the siblings of John B. also list David as their father, which is beyond the scope of this article.

See for example, “Mont Alto Furnace Which Operated from 1807 Until 1892, All of Original Company Gone; Few Descendants in County,” (Waynesboro PA.) Record Herald, 3 July 1936. Also see, “Mont Alto Iron Company, A Brief History of the Area Connected to the Iron Company, The Places, The People, and the Names that Were Left. Names of Hol-
lows, Names of Creeks, Names of Mines, Etc.” L. Dean Calimer, manuscript (Waynesboro, PA. 1975). The name Bumbaugh is prominent among the workforce, including David and John B.in both the newspaper accounts and in local histories.

1840 U.S. census, Franklin Co. PA., line 11, David Bumbaugh; digital image, Ances-
try.com, citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 458.


PA. Death Certificate no. 125110, John Barney Bumbaugh, Fn.1.
John J. Bumbaugh (Pvt. Co. 2, PA Heavy Artillery, Civil War) pension no 174858, Case Files of Approved Pension Applications 1861–1934; Civil War and Later Pension Files; Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Record Group 15; National Archives, Washington D.C., Fn.12.

1900 U.S. census, Franklin Co. PA., pop. sch., Quincy Township, dwelling 139, family 140, John Bumbaugh, digital image, Ancestry.com, Fn.3.


“The original 1890 population schedules were destroyed or badly damaged by a fire in the Department of Commerce in Washington in 1921. Less than 1 percent of the schedules still exist.” None survive from Pennsylvania. Eales, Anne Bruner & Kvasnicka, Robert M., editors, Genealogical Research in the National Archives of the United States, Third Edition (National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C. 2000), p. 27.


_Ibid._

The official military records in this pension file do not confirm or deny the truth of his wife being present in the barracks. (Pvt. John J. Bumbaugh, Civil War Pension file no. 174858), Fn.23.

Susan (Bumbaugh) Woolridge was born 18 Sept 1861. PA. Death Certificate no. 2733, Fn. 25.

PA. Death Certificate no. 3546692 (Barbara Ann Bumbaugh), Fn. 2.

1900 U.S. census, Franklin Co. PA., population schedule, Quincy Township, dwelling 121, family 123 J.J. Bumbaugh, Fn. 33.

FindAGrave.com says she was buried at Mont Alto cemetery. I was unable to corroborate this as she died before official death records were mandated in Pennsylvania.

Will of Barbara Bumbaugh, 15 March 1907, Franklin County Courthouse, Chambersburg, Estate no. 18005.

“A Declaration for Original Invalid Pension A” 4 Oct. 1877, Civil War Pension no. S.C. 174858, Fn. 23.

_Ibid._

The 1870 U.S. census did not identify relationships to head of household.

See footnotes 13-16.

An illustration from 1763 shows moulders pouring molten iron into wooden molds to make cast iron pots and other household goods in “The Time and Times of Catoctin Furnace,” by Frank Mentzer, printed in The (Frederick, Maryland) News, 30 March 1972, p. 7; digital image, Newspapers.com.

1850 U.S. census, Franklin Co. PA., population schedule. Quincy Township, dwelling 5, family 6, David Brumbaugh [sic], Fn. 6.

about the Mont Alto furnace says that Barbara worked in the Wieslting mansion. L Dean Calimer, “Mont Alto Iron Company, A Brief History,” Fn. 19.


John B. Bumbaugh to H.D. Hippensteel, Franklin Co. Deed Book 119, p. 9, Deed no. 1177.


The source of her maiden name is the death certificates of six of her children: Mary Jane (Bumbaugh) Humm, PA. Death Certificate no. 12825 (1915); Susan (Bumbaugh) Reed, PA. Death Certificate no. 86941 (1915); Catherine (Bumbaugh) Spro, PA .Death Certificate no. 11644 (1912); Samuel Bumbaugh, PA. Death Certificate no. 7255 (1936); Michael Bumbaugh, PA. Death Certificate no. 4182100 (1913) and James D. Bumbaugh, PA. Death Certificate no. 50960 (1936).


Conversation with Greg Smith, President of the Mont Alto Cemetery Board, 13 February 2019 [CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PRIVATE USE].
BRIDGET CONLIN MURPHY - THE IRISH ANCESTOR I WOULD MOST LIKE TO TALK TO

The following obituary appeared in The Trenton Evening Times 23 August 1891:

“Mrs. Bridget Murphy, one of the oldest women in the southern part of the City, died at the residence of her son, John Murphy, 144 Ferry Street, on Sunday morning last, of dysentery and old age. Although her exact years are unknown, the family records having been lost, her memory of occurrences nearly one hundred years ago, was very clear. She had been totally blind for a number of years and unable to care for herself. Requiem services were held over the remains in the Sacred Heart Church on Tuesday morning 9 o’clock. Interment was in St John’s Cemetery.”

Among the information in this obituary are two key facts – the family records were lost, and Bridget, who had a clear memory of occurrences nearly a hundred years before, was dead. Those unwelcome bits of news left me at the mercy of online and offline sources of information to separate all the Bridget Murphys of the world from mine and, specifically, those with a husband named Francis!!

Census records placed her in Trenton, NJ 1850 and thereafter. Her husband, Francis Murphy, disappears from all records after the 1860 census. Those census records and christening records of St John’s Church in Trenton (later called Sacred Heart) indicates the couple previously lived in Falls Township, Bucks County, PA. Many Catholic residents in Bucks County were married and had children christened at St John’s in Trenton, it being the closest Catholic Church. Some, like this family, eventually moved to Trenton. John Murphy, who also lived in Falls Township appears to have been the father of Francis, and likely was married to Johanna. John and Johanna are mentioned in St John’s Records in the early 1830s. Based on Christian names and some associated ages in records, this Murphy family is likely the family that originated in County Wexford, Ireland and arrived in Philadelphia on the ship Ceres in 1816. John and Johanna Murphy were among them, along with a Francis, Lawrence, Mary, Simon, Martin and Bridget.

Francis Murphy filed his Intent to be naturalized 1834, so obviously was not born here. Added to the mystery of this family is the existence of a prior John Murphy family in Falls Township, Bucks County found in tax lists as early as the 1780s. So did my Murphy Family come to that location because they were related to this predecessor? Was my Murphy family unrelated to him?

There are record gaps between 1816 and the early 1830s. Marriages, deaths and burials have been difficult to find. Bridget’s family has been elusive. Her father appears on one document only as “P. Conlin”. A Patrick Conlin in the region may have been a brother but was not old enough to be her father.

Alas, sadly, I cannot talk to Bridget Conlin Murphy. That being said, I do welcome our upcoming Ulster Conference and the opportunity to learn what records I might use to ascertain what Bridget Conlin Murphy knew about the family during her lifetime and what the lost family records contained. Fingers crossed!

Carol M Sheaffer, President
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Post-Revolutionary Arrivals
at the Port of Philadelphia

MOST genealogists, searching for the arrival of German ancestors in Pennsylvania, are familiar with the ship lists of eighteenth century immigrants first published in one volume by Rupp in the nineteenth century,¹ and the more correct twentieth century translation of those lists by the Reverend William John Hinke, published in three volumes as Pennsylvania German Pioneers.² They are, or ought to be familiar also with the lists relating to Pennsylvania³ in the bibliographical study published by the New York Public Library, first compiled by Harold Lancour, and revised and enlarged in 1963 by Richard J. Wolfe under the title, A Bibliography of Ship Passenger Lists, 1538-1825, Being a Guide to Published Lists of Early Immigrants to North America.

Such a wealth of data, available for German migrants to Pennsylvania as revealed in these lists, is lacking for emigrants who were subjects of the British Crown during the colonial period. The few lists of such persons noted in the Lancour Bibliography refer primarily to the seventeenth century emigrants who were Pennsylvania’s first settlers.⁴ They were kept only briefly by direction of the Province’s founder, William Penn, who had hoped thereby to have a record of those first comers.

After the Revolution no attempt was made in Pennsylvania to note the arrival of foreign emigrants, and it was not until the beginning of the nineteenth century that any official ship passenger lists, under an Act of Congress, were required. Such lists as have survived for Philadelphia — as well as other American ports — are in the National Archives in Washington.⁵

¹ The earliest printing of these ship lists was in The Minutes of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania. ... (Harrisburg, 1840), familiarly known as the Colonial Records, in Volumes III and IV, under the editorship of Samuel Hazard. I. Daniel Rupp included those early ones and the rest of the extant lists in his volume A Collection of Thirty Thousand Names of German, Swin, Dutch, French and other Immigrants in Pennsylvania from 1727 to 1776, which first appeared in 1816, and then in later editions, the most recent of which appeared in 1961.
² Published in Norristown, Pa., in 1934, under the auspices of the Pennsylvania German Society, and reprinted in two volumes in 1966.
³ Specifically, Lists 117-127. For later lists of servants and apprentices bound before Mayor James Hamilton, many of whom were subjects of the British Crown, see Lists 165, 166, 184, 185.
⁴ For references to these, see Meredith B. Colket, Jr. and Frank E. Bridges, Guide to Genealogical Records in the National Archives (Washington, D.C., 1964), 22-38.
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However, unofficial lists of foreign arrivals occasionally appeared in Philadelphia newspapers following the Revolution. Usually the names on these lists were appended to an expression of thanks for their safe arrival to the captain of the vessel on which the passengers had sailed. Between 1785 and 1790 there were more than a score of such notices printed. They varied in detail, and not always included all the passengers of a particular ship. They serve, however, as a useful source of information for searchers interested in late eighteenth century immigrants, most of whom were subjects of the British Crown who had embarked from Irish ports.

The earliest such list noted appeared in the Pennsylvania Packet and Daily Advertiser for 6 December 1785:

To Captain James Ramage of the Ship Ann of and from Londonderry,

Sir,

We the passengers, who came on board the ship Ann from Londonderry to Philadelphia, having happily arrived, request you will accept of our most grateful acknowledgments for the generous and humane treatment experienced by us during our passage. Plenty of provisions were laid in, and amply served out. Nothing was wanting on your part that could in the least contribute to our comfort and happiness. Your office, as commander of the ship, was uniformly discharged, with propriety and unremitting attention, which gained our approbation, won our esteem, and commanded our respect. Philadelphia, Dec. 2, 1785.

Hugh Morrison
John Baird
James Trueland
John Campbell
Matthew Watson
William McJunkin
John Ducanny
David Brown
Robert Ramsey
William Humphreys
William Orr
Thomas Gilmour, &c

Robert Gray, junior
Wallis Crawford
George Ellis
John Bevaerd
James Brown
George Fitzsimons
Joseph Ramage
Daniel M'Mahan
William Meas
William Johnston
Daniel Grahms
Wm. Morrison, junior
John Brown
Joseph Lesney
John Stevenson
William Irvine
John Atkinson
James Montgomery
Thomas Hewitt
John Gipson
Stuart Richey
Daniel Christy

The passengers on an earlier ship would have arrived well before the Ann had not tragedy struck just before it entered Delaware Bay. The first notice of this event appeared in the Packet 12 September 1785:

A most melancholy catastrophe occurred on Thursday the 1st instant, near the Cape of Delaware. The ship Faithful Steward, captain M'Casland, from Londonderry, bound to this port, with 240 passengers on board, standing into the Bay, unfortunately ran on a shoal to the southward of Cape Henlopen, about 150 yards from dry land. The captain, and some others, got ashore, but the surge being very violent, the boats were unable to return to the ship, which lay till the next day and then beat to pieces.

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Painful as it is to tell the dismal story, we are nevertheless obliged to mention, that of the 240 passengers, about sixty only were saved, by laying hold of pieces of the vessel, &c. and driving to the shore; the rest perished with the ship, in sight of the miserable survivors, who were the unhappy witnesses of this truly lamentable and disastrous shipwreck, which is still more afflicting, as the passengers consisted chiefly of families, who had previously defrayed every expense of the voyage, with a design of settling in this country.

About the same time a French brig from Ostend, also bound to this port, foundered in sight of the above ship, but the crew taking to their boat, were saved. We have not learned her name, or any other particulars.

Three months later on 4 January 1786, the names of the survivors of the Faithful Steward were listed in the Pennsylvania Packet:

For the information and satisfaction of the relations and friends of the passengers who were on board the ship Faithful Steward [sic], capt. Con. M’Causland from Londonderry, bound to this place, with 249 people on board, when he was cast away in September last, near the Capes of Delaware. The Subscribers think it necessary to give a list of the passengers, which is as correct as they have been able to make it out; some others may also have been saved of which they have not yet had any account.

Ship’s Crew

Capt. Con. M’Causland  Samuel Irwin
Mr. Standfield, 1st mate  John Quigly
Mr. Given, 2nd do.  Pat. Mourn
Mr. Lin, boatwain  Edward M’Caffery
John Brown, sailor  Pelick Hudson
Wm. Dalrample, do.  Owen Phillips
Robert Kelly, do.

Cabin Passengers

John O’Neill  James Dougherty  Gustavus Calhoun
Thomas Blair  John M’Calister  Robert Laurence
John York  Samuel Heburn  James Marshall
Thomas Calhoun

Samuel Moore  James Beaty  James Devin
Sarah Campbell  Thomas Moore  Alexander Moore
Arthur Higginbottom  Charles M’Williams  Samuel Wright
George Munro  Andrew Watt  James Watt
James Smyth  Robert Dinmore  Wm. M’Clintock
John M’Ilhenney  John M’Nab  John Brocket
Neill M’Kinon  Sarah M’Kinon  John Aspil
James Aspil  Thomas Ranolles  John M’Mullen
Mary Burns  James M’Intire, senior  James M’Intire, junior
Rebecca M’Intire  John Scott  John Spires
James Stunkard  James Lee  Mary Lee
Thos. Baskin  Margaret Kincaid  Doctor M’Dougle
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Mary Maginnis
John Shaw
James Ellist

Matthew Caldwell
Matthew M’Manes
John Davis

Hugh M’Clean
Simon Ellist
George Richford

/s/ JOHN M. NESBITT
JAMES CAMPBELL
WILLIAM ALLISON

6 Nesbitt, Campbell and Allison presumably were the owners of the shipwrecked vessel. Similar lists will appear in subsequent issues of this Magazine.
USING THE LOWLY POSTCARD TO RESEARCH MY ANCESTORS

Oliver Perry Cornman and the Fife Family

When I was about nine years old, my grandmother gave me her postcard collection. After doing the usual damage to them that young children are prone to do to such things, I tucked them away. Many years passed before I looked at them again.

About 35 years ago, for no particular reason, I pulled them out to have a look through them. When I did, I noticed several postcards signed "O. P. C.", "Oliver P. Cornman" and "Oliver Perry Cornman". This was a name unfamiliar to me. Who was this man and what was his connection to my family?

At the time, my mother was still alive, so I asked her if she knew anything about him. Unfortunately, she did not know if he was related or not; nor could she recall ever having met him. She thought he had something to do with "wayward boys". Oh well, a mystery to be solved another day. The cards got tucked away again.

More years passed until October 2018, when I found an article in the GSP newsletter, Penn in Hand, Vol. XXX No.1 2013, "Envelopes and Postcards are a Genealogical Resource" by James R. Miller. This inspired me to dig the cards out of their hiding place and go through them. I checked them for postmarks, names and addresses. I was specifically looking for any from or to my mystery man, Oliver Perry Cornman.

The messages held an interesting clue. I noticed most of the cards Oliver sent were addressed to his "nieces". Were the term "nieces" being used as a term of respect or were they really his nieces? Perhaps he is indeed a relative?

Ages ago, I asked in a genealogy chat room if anyone had any information on Oliver Perry Cornman. A woman wrote back that she had come across his name somewhere but was in the middle of moving and would get back to me after she settled into her new place. I promptly wrote and gave her my address. Times sure have changed; today, on social media, I would never give out my address.

Several months went by when, one day, a large envelope from her arrived in the mail. She had kindly made a copy of an article published by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania about the Cornman family, who were bakers from Germany. I eagerly read through it. Buried in one of the many footnotes was a notation that a Jane (Jennie) Fife had married Samuel Cornman in St. James Episcopal Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on January 14th, 1862. Fife was my mother’s maiden name. Was this Jane one of my Fifes? And where was the church?

The footnote stated that Samuel and Jane had a son named Oliver Perry Cornman. Was this my Oliver? Also, the article said that Oliver had been the Associate Superintendent of the Philadelphia School System at the Philadelphia Board of Education.

The clues kept coming, but what were they adding up to? Were they adding up to anything?

Sometime later on a visit the Philadelphia Archives, while waiting to use a microfiche reader, I decided to peruse a small bookshelf. I randomly pulled a report cover down, discovering within, photographs of a school being built named for Oliver Perry Cornman at 1146 Melon Street in Philadelphia. This was dumb luck, as in all of my visits to the Archives, I had never browsed the books stored on those shelves.
But Melon Street? Where was Melon Street? It did not show on my map. Recently, while driving down Broad Street, I spotted Melon Street, one block below Fairmount Avenue. I paid to have copies made of two of the photographs; funny, today you can sit at home and print them for free. Finding the photographs gave me the idea to visit the Library at the Philadelphia Board of Education.

The librarian had a copy of his memorial service program with what looked like a drawing of his face on the cover. So, this was Oliver. She told me there was a plaque hanging downstairs in the lobby honoring him. Unfortunately, I did not have time that day to go see it and since then, the Board of Education has moved. What happened to the plaque? Another mystery to be solved. The librarian also suggested contacting the Temple Archives to see if they had more information. Alas, still on my to-do list.

Late one night, not long ago, while loading information into Family Tree Maker, up popped the question asking if I wanted to link two people. Without giving it much thought I hit "yes". I have made it a habit, as a backup, to print out any changes I make in FTM. This time was no exception. Next morning, I gathered up the pages I had printed the night before and added them to the Fife family tree folder. Off I went to a meeting at GSP with the Fife file.

During the meeting, while looking for information to share, I glanced at the papers I'd printed the night before. I double checked my information and _eureka!_ They _were_ my Jane Fife and Oliver Perry Cornman.

Jane is my 3rd great aunt. (Never forget to research the ladies!) Her son Oliver is my 1st cousin 3X removed.

I Sometimes feel as if Oliver has been haunting me (in a good way) for many years. There are several coincidences to this story:

- I live a block from a mural of the shadow of St. James Church.
- I worked across the street from the Board of Education and ate in their cafeteria.
- I worked one block from where he lived.
- I volunteer at an organization at Broad and Wallace Streets, two blocks south of Melon Street and four blocks from the school.

Even with the most important part of the mystery having been solved, there are still many more mysteries to be solved, and many questions yet to be answered. With the help of the postcards, I had broken through my 35-year-old brick wall.

You never know where the information on a "lowly postcard" can lead you.

Written by Florence R. Gallagher

Thanks to my sister Nancy Shearer for editing my story.
FINDING ANCESTORS’ RECORDS WITH THE HELP OF GSP

I am an amateur genealogist, having started researching my family ancestry in 2012. Both of my parents died prematurely, my father having died when I was 11 years old. So, I never knew much of anything about their family background. I started my family genealogy quest after seeing an advertisement for ancestry.com offering a free trial period. I found so much information during that trial period that I was hooked! Granted it wasn’t all found on ancestry.com. I found out about other genealogical websites and databases, some that were free, and others that required a paid subscription.

I already knew, of course, that my father was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. I also knew the names of my father’s parents. I learned how to use US Census records as well as family trees on familysearch.org to find them and their families. As I traced back the family tree on my father’s side, I was amazed to find that my great-great grandfather, James Spencer, was born in Philadelphia on 8 Feb 1797 and his wife, Sarah King McDonald, was also born in Philadelphia on 11 Oct 1801.

This was quite a coincidence for me, since I was not originally from Philadelphia and had only lived in the area for the prior ten years. I decided to look for historical societies in Philadelphia and found the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. A very kind and helpful woman told me about records, that could be useful, that had been contributed to ancestry.com and digitized, “Pennsylvania, Church and Town Records, 1708-1985.”

Lo and behold, I found records for James and Sarah Spencer. Specifically, they were records of the old historic St. George Methodist Episcopal Church, which is still standing and operating at the corner of 4th and New Streets in the Old City neighborhood of Philadelphia. It is the oldest Methodist church in continuous use in the United States since 1769. The church has a collection of class and membership records. I found records for them on ancestry.com where they were listed in the same classes before they got married. Those records, of course, then listed Sarah by her maiden name. It was most interesting to find a class record from right after they were married in 1818 where Sarah’s maiden name was lined out and her married name was handwritten in.

I wrote to the church and found out that it has a museum and archives open to the public most week days I was invited to visit the church and to view the original books that were digitized. This was extraordinary for me, not only to see those books, but to know that I was standing in the very spot my ancestors once were some 200 years before.

I would not have had this experience without the advice and help of The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania.

David B. Spencer, Yardley, Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania became a state December 12, 1787. There are 67 counties and 2561 municipalities. Berks County was established on March 11, 1752 from parts of Chester, Philadelphia and Lancaster Counties. The county seat is Reading.

Prominent People: Daniel Boone, John Updike, Taylor Swift, Michael Constantine, Kate Gosselin, Carl Furillo, Chad Hurley, Lenny Moore, Carl A. Spaatz, Betsy King, Steve Burns, Kelly McGillis and Keith Haring

Microfilm copies of county records along with the tools to help research county records are available at the Pennsylvania State Archives - PHMC > Archives > Research Online > County and Municipal Records

Finding Family and Historical Records in Berks County

I. Register of Wills: http://www.co.berks.pa.us/dept/regwills/Pages/default.aspx

II. Berks County Vital Records: http://vitalrec.com/pacounties2.html

III. Family Search Wiki on Berks County:  

IV. Berks County History Center: http://www.berkshistory.org/

V. History of Berks County Pennsylvania by Morton L. Montgomery (free eBook) : https://archive.org/details/historyofberksco00mont_1

VI. The Story of Berks County (Pennsylvania) by A.E. Wagner, Francis Wilhauer Balthaser and D.K. Hoch (free eBook): https://archive.org/details/storyofberkscoun00wagn_0

VII. Some Early Lineages of Berks County, PA: Clauser (Klauser) - Hicks (Hix) and Associated Lines by Beulah Hix Blair (free eBook): https://archive.org/details/someearlylineage00blai

VIII. The Original German Record of Baptisms from 1757 to 1852 of Altalaha Lutheran Church, Rehrersburg, Tulpehocken Township of Berks County, Pennsylvania, United States of America (free eBook): https://archive.org/details/originalgermanre01unse

IX. Chronology of Pennsylvania Counties: http://buckscountyhistory.com/chronological.htm

X. Pennsylvania Resource Guides: https://genpa.org/public-collections/pennsylvania-resources/

St. Stephen’s Cemetery is a small Catholic graveyard established in 1844 in the Nicetown, now part of Philadelphia, with burials continuing until 1891. The author has included information on the history of this cemetery and the associated church, a burial register of over 2000 interments. This book tells the story of the cemetery and the people buried there. It includes a burial register listing over 2,000 interments, including Civil War soldiers and, cemetery maps, and results of a ground penetrating radar survey. Mr. Harrison’s goal is to bring renewed recognition and dignity to this old burial ground and all who are buried there.

The book is available through Amazon and sells for $22.95.
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Finding your Pennsylvania Ancestors

Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania Newsletter

GSP has a number of volunteer opportunities at home, in the office or on location.
E-mail at gsp.deborah@gmail.com or editor@genpa.org or call the office 267-686-2296

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Q&A
Do you have questions about Pennsylvania genealogy? We have answers! For example, we can answer questions such as “Where\How can I find marriage license records?” or “When did Pennsylvania start recording birth certificates?” We’ll feature the question and answer in the newsletter. Submit your questions (not family specific research) to: editor@genpa.org

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