



BCGS NEWS

JANUARY 2024 • VOL 9 | ISN 01 • ISSN 2817-8750



**JANUARY MEETING:
WEDNESDAY 10 @7PM**
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ON THE COVER

The Polar Bear Club about to go for a swim on New Years Day, Jan 1, 1939.
City of Vancouver Archives: AM54-S4-2-: CVA 371-836

Photo Credit: Major James Skitt Matthews (1878-1970) Major J.S. Matthews was a native of North Wales who arrived in Vancouver in 1898 from New Zealand. He was with Imperial Oil for most of the period 1898-1920 and held various executive positions during the twenties. In 1933 he became City Archivist for Vancouver, a position he held until his death.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

EUNICE ROBINSON #112, PRESIDENT@BCGS.CA

Welcome to 2024! So what are your plans for this year?? Travel, solve a brickwall, write your family story? Volunteer with BCGS?

As 2023 wound down, I made my list of 'things to do'. I have been working on the FindAGrave project for BCGS. We are now down to some of the larger cemeteries. For instance, Capilano View Cemetery, West Vancouver - I'm slowly working my way through this cemetery, using the index cards, and adding the inscriptions to the various records. It would be great to complete our remaining cemeteries this year. Interested? We sure could use the help. Let me or Yvette Howard know. You can do this from home!

I also updated one of my family 'chapters'. Using FamilySearch, Ancestry, MyHeritage and FindAGrave, I found several new records (to me), and contacted a few relatives to ask for information. One of the family members died in a mining accident. I had that he died in Scotland, as he was a coal miner. Digging a little deeper, found his wife had applied for Poor Relief in Scotland, and discovered that her husband had actually died in a mining accident in Alberta in June 1910! Using our friend Google, I tried to locate a mining accident in 1910. There was one, but it happened in December 1910. So his death might have been in an accident, but not in a disaster. Something else to search for. Finally thought I'd updated all I could, printed all 90 pages. Last time I printed this file there were 17 pages! As I filed these prints in my binder, discovered I hadn't scanned several pages - so scanned them, added them to the family story, changed the footer in my Word document - but didn't reprint. And was able to get rid of 10 sheets of paper. Note to self, check the binder in case you didn't scan everything!

Consider joining one of our weekly Coffee Chats. If you haven't yet 'signed up', contact coffeechat@bcgs.ca. We have interesting discussions, and you have a chance to ask questions or share your research puzzle. If there isn't a Coffee Chat that interests you, then let me know.

Consider visiting our library to do some research or perhaps even volunteering for a shift or two. We have an amazing collection of resources, not all related to British Columbia. You can choose your day(s) and you can bring your own research.

Looking forward to seeing you at our Monthly Meetings.



COFFEE CHATS

Click here to go directly to the page

MEETING NOTES

JANUARY

DELVING DEEP: THE POWER OF PLACE



**WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 10TH**

Members will receive Zoom invitations to our monthly meetings, so watch your email inbox for the Zoom link, meeting number and password.

If you don't receive the email by the day before the meeting, please contact info@bcgs.ca for assistance.

A free Zoom account is needed to join these meetings.

GUEST SPEAKER—KAREN INKSTER VANCE

A one-place study sheds light on our ancestors' lived experiences and can highlight patterns, reveal relationships, and topple brick walls.

Join Karen Inkster Vance as she discusses her decades-long journey researching and writing about her great-grandfather's village in the Shetland Islands, the subject of her recently published book, *Voices from the Past: Stories of North Roe (2023)*. Karen will discuss the benefits and challenges of conducting a one-place study, share poignant stories that she uncovered along the way, and offer tips for delving into one-place research. Karen can also answer questions about her writing and self-publishing journey.

BCGS 2024 WINTER SEMINAR



FEATURED SPEAKER Gordon L. McBean

**Railways in My Tree and
in My Blood—
The Impact of Railways on
our Ancestors**

**They Came Through
Ontario—
How to conduct Ontario
research from afar using a
variety of tools**

**SATURDAY
JANUARY 27TH
9:30 AM TO
12:30 PM**

Register at the BCGS.ca
Follow the link from the
HOME page.

BCGS Members and members
of BCGS Affiliate Societies –
FREE.

Non-Member price is \$25
for the two session seminar.

A Little About Gordon

JGordon has been a member of the Manitoba Genealogical Society since 1996. He has presented many programs during this time. He has spent his life in technology, so in addition to the many topics he presents, he was involved in the MGS MANI (Manitoba Name Index) database creation, an expertise in digital photography, has created several websites. Check out his website at <http://glmcbbean.myheritage.com>

First NOTICE of CALL for NOMINATIONS for the BCGS Board of Directors

The March meeting & AGM will be held on Zoom on
Wednesday, 13 March 2024, at 7:30 pm.

In addition to the regular meeting, elections will be held for the positions of:

- **President**, 2024/2025 term
- **Two Vice Presidents**, 2024/2025 term
- **Society Secretary**, 2024/2025 term
- **Administrative Secretary**, 2024/2025 term
- **Treasurer**, 2024/2025 term
- **One Director**, 2024/2026 term
- **Two Directors**, 2024/2027 term

We are grateful that several of our current Board members have agreed to stand for positions on the Executive Committee. We are in particular looking for a **Society Secretary**, **Administrative Secretary** and the three **Director** positions.

We need proactive participation from more of our members, to provide inspiration and guidance about the future endeavours of BCGS. Will you stand for nomination?

Nomination forms are available on the **BCGS website**.

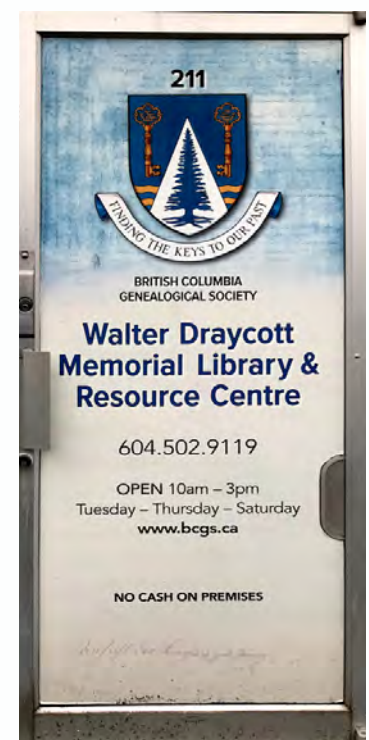
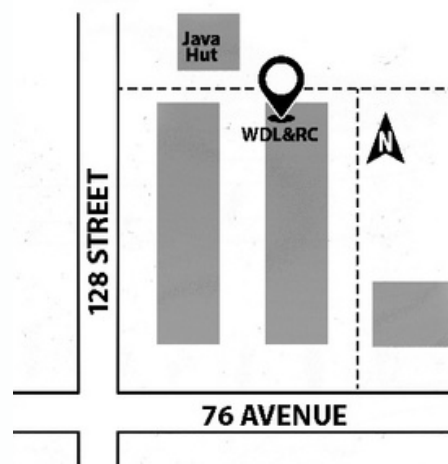
Contact **Eunice Robinson** if you would like further information about any of these positions.

By resolution adopted 13 March 2019, nominations will not be accepted from the floor during the meeting.

Welcome to the LIBRARY!
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays—10am to 3pm.

\$5 per day for non-members

The library is closed all holiday weekends and if there is extreme weather. Please call to confirm hours **604.502.9119**.



Unit 211, 12837 76 Ave, Surrey - No parking in fire lanes.
You must park in a designated BCGS parking stall or on the street. If in doubt, check with the library host on duty.

WELCOME

TO NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

Richard CROSS, Barrhead #6005

Bonnie EPP, New Westminster #6006

Ann GLOUX, New Westminster #6007

Thora CASEY, Invermere #6008

Mark MCCAULEY, Toronto #6009

Sharon SYRETTE, Mission #6010

Heather W., Vancouver #6011

Debra COLE, Mississauga #6012

Lynda HENDERSON, West Kelowna #6013

Cam DAVIS, Parksville #6014

Ronald T WALLER, Chamainus #6015

Shirley PORTER, Nanaimo #6016

Mickey KELLER-NADON, Christina Lake #6017

Urvishkumar MEHTA, Pitt Meadows #6018

The BCGS 2024 Membership Renewal Campaign is on NOW! Please click [here](#) to renew and ensure you will get all our notifications and publications.

You don't want to miss out, do you?

Congratulations!

TOTALS for 2023: \$1247
7231 glass bottles, 50 milk bottles, 193 bags
containing 12816 bottles & cans.

TAKE YOUR DONATIONS TO THE RETURN-IT DEPOT CLOSEST TO YOU

This is the easiest method to contribute to the society. Thank you to all our members all over BC who are supporting the BCGS.

Please return your bottles, cans, etc. in clear plastic bags to your nearest Return-It Centre. Print a deposit label on their machine, using the BCGS phone number 604-502-9119.





GENEALOGY GEMS & ODDITIES at the BCGS LIBRARY & RESEARCH CENTRE

BY CELIA LEWIS, #5183

941.5 DIC—ULSTER EMIGRATION TO COLONIAL AMERICA 1718-1785 by R.J. Dickson

As seen by the dates in the title of this book, the period of emigration discussed is prior to the American Revolution. During this period, "...the religious and economic history of Ireland in the eighteenth century determined the heights and depths of Irish emigration...". The author details the backgrounds of the Scots and Irish experience in Ulster which led so many to emigrate. Some emigrated in clusters around a strong minister, others left family-by-family seeing little to hold them in Ulster.

Details of increasing trade with the colonies in North America, and successful shipping, encouraged many to plan emigration. In the first phase, 1718-1720, roughly 2600 Irish people arrived in New England from the north of Ireland. Poverty and religious grievances were the major factors in emigration planning. As stated by the author, "the vast majority of the north Irish emigrants to the American colonies were presbyterians." By 1728 approximately 3100 emigrants arrived in a single year, and increasingly large numbers thereafter.

The author describes Ulster emigration in several periods of time: "Religion and Emigration: 1721-1730," "The Middle Years: 1731-1769," "The Climax: 1770-1775." Details of the specific main Ports and the Agents involved in emigration are given—a boon for researchers.

The experiences of the emigrant passengers are detailed, describing the berths, the foods, the challenges when ships hit the doldrums or were caught in a storm and shifted off course. There were no options but to continue when that happened. Diseases were impossible to control in crowded unsanitary conditions, and many died in the voyage.

You, the researcher, will not be looking for your specific ancestor, but will gain a great deal of context of the specific Irish ports used, the methods used to encourage emigration, making very clear both the pull & the push factors of migration. There are Appendices, a Bibliography, and an Index. Highly recommended for those with early Irish ancestor settlers in North America.

**Will 2024 be the year you find
and research your Loyalist?**

**These four UELAC Pacific Region Branches
are here to help you discover your Loyalist history.
Chilliwack • Victoria • Thompson/Okanagan
and Vancouver**

Find us at www.uelac.ca/branches/



PACIFIC REGION

eJOURNAL NEWS



The fountain, frozen in Stanley Park, February 3, 1929. Inscription on the back of the photograph reads "thought you would like to see your home town in her winter garments, F. Tarn". City of Vancouver Archives: AM1477-1-S5-: CVA 1477-613

LYNNE FLETCHER, #5353—E-JOURNAL EDITOR

Are you watching the predictions for our weather in the coming year?

Even though I am enjoying a winter season of rain and more rain, without any snowflakes so far, I can see how this unusual weather is affecting the lives of many other Canadians. Our internet coverage from other cities shows pedestrians sliding down sidewalks (or falling across them), empty streets glistening with ice from side to side, and giant waves crashing over seawalls.

Extreme weather can certainly change our everyday lives, affecting travel plans, supply routes and emergency room visits. Media reports blame global warming for causing this grief, but I can recall unusual weather from past years, with extremes of temperature, precipitation or lack of it.

Do you have a family story about an extreme weather event that caused major changes in your family's lives? Did these effect the future plans for your family?

Please send your story and pictures to:
Journal@bcgs.ca

2023 BCGS BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Orders for the Printed Edition of the Book of Remembrance close on January 12, 2024.

A huge thank you to the **Writers 'Coffee Chat' Group: Ann Buchanan, Sharon Clayton, Linda Drake, Judy Isaac, Meg McLaughlin, Carole Reed, Judy Rosmus, and Barbara Rae Stopa** for all the ideas, help and support they offered to me as I worked through the process of creating, designing, assembling and presenting this *Book of Remembrance* in all its parts.

Special thank you's go to a few special people: to **Sheila Albrecht** for making submissions and ordering possible through the **bcgs.ca website** and for assisting with other technical bits. To **Sharon Clayton** for always hearing me out and laughing with me on the low days, when I was deep in the throes of changes. She heard me and I am grateful to her. To **Meg McLaughlin** for jumping in at the last minute when called upon. Your skills made this a better book.

Thank you to everyone who contributed their people: Sheila Albrecht, Jane Baggott, Jann Bain, Rob Bennie, Lisa Blackburn, Loretta Bogert-O'Brien, Kimberly Brant, Vicky Briggs, Heather Bailey Brown-John, Ann Buchanan, Rosemary Cann, Candy-Lea Chickite, Bill Clayton, Sharon Clayton, Marianne Cote-Malley, Pamela Cox, Sandra Cunliffe, Marlene Dance, Grace Darney, Frances Daw, Linda Drake, Gwen Dumfries, Judith Emmerson, Lynne Fletcher, Linda Fleury, Judith Galpin, Frank Gavaghan, Laurel Searle Gorman, Callum Gould, Jim Graham, Marcia Wey Graves, Joan Gray, Cynthia Hamilton, Malcolm D. Harvey, Betty Harvey, Janice Hobbs, Frances Ingram, Judy Isaac, Sheldon Johnson, Dorothy Jones, Corrine Jubb, Aidren Kayce, Sherry King, Moyna Paulhus Laing, Cathy Lawrence, Celia Lewis, Donna Little, Linda Maitland, Phyllis McConnachie, Jack McGee, Meg McLaughlin, Douglas Richard McMillan, Clint Meyers, Gini Moore, J. Amy Newman, Barb Onstad, Pearl Phillips, Gordon Pitter, Cindy Quigley, Penny Rea, Carole Reed, Eunice Robinson, Samantha Robinson, Judy Rosmus, Kathie Ross, Marie Rumley, Ann Ryder, Anne Scott, Margaret Sharon, Gail Slavik, Cyndi Smith, Joan Smith, Susan Snalam, Harry Snalam, Kerry Snider, Ginette Stangroom, Colin Stevens, Ernst Stjernberg, Barbara Rae Stopa, Carl Stymiest UE, Sue Sullivan UE, Cheri Sutherland, Sharon Syrette, Judy Teague, Jane Thomas, Gerry Townsend, Mary C Turnbull, Gordon Walter Udell, Judith Ueland, Colin Vanderfluit, Sean Vanderfluit, Wendy Warner, Gordon Watts, Janet White, Ben Whiting, Marian Wight, Lori Thibault Winn, Mary Worth, Linda Yip and Judy Zipursky.

Thank you to the BCGS Board of Directors for approving and supporting my crazy idea. — Sue Sullivan



TIPS & TRICKS COFFEE CHAT

A new Zoom Coffee Chat about navigating different genealogy topics

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO WITH MY FAMILY HISTORY?

Thursday, January 11, 2024

7 to 9 pm

With facilitator **Eunice Robinson.**

FIND-A-GRAVE

Thursday, February 29, 2024

7 to 9 pm

With facilitator **Eunice Robinson.**

To sign up for this Chat please email the Scheduler at coffeechat@bcgs.ca at least 24 hours ahead of time. Please include your BCGS membership number or the name of your Affiliate Society.

IN PERSON KINDERTECH

Saturday, January 20, 2024

10 am to Noon

With facilitator **Margaret Sharon.**

KINDERTECH is a newer and successful **in-person** workshop at the BCGS Library & Resource Centre on the third Saturday of each month. Kindertech is intended to teach very simple computer techniques to people who would like to know but don't know where to start.

Workshop topics for the next few months are in preparation. Let us know your suggestions! We can discuss anything and everything to do with technology.

This is a "hands-on" workshop; bring your own computer (laptop or tablet) so you can practice at your own pace with as much support as you need.

FAMILY TREE MAKER USERS GROUP

A newer Zoom Coffee Chat

Monday, January 15, 2024

3 to 4:30 pm

With facilitator **Sharon Syrette.**

To sign up for this Chat please email the Scheduler coffeechat@bcgs.ca at least 24 hours ahead of time. Please include your BCGS membership number or the name of your Affiliate Society.

If you have already attended a Family Tree Maker User Group Coffee Chat, you will receive an invitation automatically and don't need to sign up.

FEBRUARY IS HERITAGE MONTH

Send in your “Heritage” photos with captions to newsletter@bcgs.ca
 Let’s flood the issue with your old photos!
 February Newsletter Deadline is Tuesday Jan 30

BCGS Newsletter Team
newsletter@bcgs.ca,
 Sue Sullivan Editor/Designer
 with Sharon Clayton,
 Margaret Sharon
Pub Review Team:
 Sherry King, Jo-Ann Blomquist,
 Sally Funk.
Publishing Team:
 Sheila Albrecht
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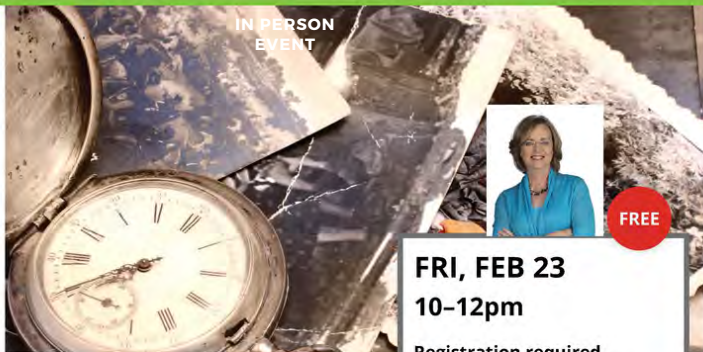
Q1 2024	DEADLINE	PROOFERS	RELEASE	MEETING
February	J30	7	12	14
March*	F15	6	15	13
April	M36	3	8	10

*E-Journal

SURREY LIBRARIES WORKSHOPS

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR MOST PROGRAMS: FAMILYHISTORY@SURREY.CA
CHECK OUR CALENDAR FOR SURREY LIBRARY EVENTS

HISTORICAL PHOTO DETECTIVE: ROADSHOW



IN PERSON
 EVENT

FREE

FRI, FEB 23
10-12pm
 Registration required
 604-598-7328 or
familyhistory@surrey.ca

Old photos are full of clues if you know how to read the evidence. Join The Photo Detective, Maureen Taylor, and learn how to date and place old photos. You can submit your own photos for analysis in this ONLINE Roadshow-style program (10-15 photos will be chosen).

SURREY LIBRARIES: FAMILY HISTORY
 Finding your roots. Telling your story.



OUR PARTNERS:
 MUSEUM of SURREY



GENEALOGY & EASTERN EUROPE BORDER CHANGES



ONLINE

FEBRUARY
8TH
10 AM

Researching your family history in Eastern Europe? Learn to sort out the many border changes and how to use them to your advantage. Presented by Edie Adam, from the Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe.

You will need a computer with a microphone (or headphones) and webcam, or a smartphone/tablet.



SURREY LIBRARIES: FAMILY HISTORY
 Finding your roots. Telling your story.

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2024 CALENDAR

Sunday–Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JANUARY  NEWSLETTER RELEASE Genealogy for Beginners Winter 2024 Starts Monday January 8th–February 12 Register at bcgs.ca 7-9pm	 Chinese Genealogy Chat 10am  Meeting 7pm	 Tips & Tricks: What am I going to do with my family history? 7pm	 Last chance to order your Book of Remembrance  Family History DNA Chat 2:30pm	 Genealogy Orientation 10:30am
 FAMILY TREE MAKER Monday January 15 Chat 3pm Genealogy for Beginners Winter 2024 Monday Jan 15th–Feb 12th Register at bcgs.ca 7-9pm  Tuesday Jan 16 Advanced DNA Chat at 7pm	 It's not too late to make a Genealogy Plan for 2024	 England Chat 7pm	 Fun Family History 2:30pm	 Kindertech at the Library 10am
Genealogy for Beginners Winter 2024 Monday Jan 22nd–Feb 12th Register at bcgs.ca 7-9pm		 Scandinavia Chat 7pm	 Fun Family History 2:30pm	 Winter Seminar with Gordon L Bean 9:30am to 12:30 pm
 Indigenous Roots Tuesday Jan 30 Chat 10:30 am  TUES - JAN 30 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Genealogy for Beginners Winter 2024 Monday Jan 29th–Feb 12th Register at bcgs.ca 7-9pm		 Scotland Chat 7pm		
		 Eastern Europe Border Changes 10am	 Family History DNA Chat 2:30pm	
 NEWSLETTER RELEASE 	 Chinese Genealogy Chat 10am  Meeting 7pm	 EJOURNAL DEADLINE  Eastern Europe Chat 7pm		 Kindertech at the BCGS Library 10am  Genealogy Orientation 10:30am
 FAMILY DAY HOLIDAY  Tuesday Feb 20 Advanced DNA Chat at 7pm		 Canadian Prairies Chat 7pm	 Historical Detective Roadshow 10am Fun Family History 2:30pm	
 Indigenous Roots Tuesday Feb 27 Chat 10:30 am		 Tips & Tricks: Find-A-Grave 7pm	MARCH 1	

Zoom Coffee Chats

Also known as Special Interest Groups [SIGs]

If you would like to be included in a chat, please visit the [BCGS website](#) or email the address below to register. Not sure? Check the BCGS Website Calendar-of-events.



CHINESE COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Jan 10/Feb 14, 10-11 am

With Linda Yip

RSVP hello@past-presence.com



TIPS & TRICKS COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Jan 11, 7 to 9 pm

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



FAMILY TREE MAKER COFFEE CHAT

Monday, Jan 15, 3 to 4:30 pm

With Sharon Syrette

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ADVANCED DNA COFFEE CHAT

Tuesday, Jan 16/Feb 20, 7 to 9 pm

With Terry Hartley, Jim & Kathleen Graham

RSVP terhart1@gmail.com



ENGLAND COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Jan 18, 7 to 9 pm

With Sandy Cunliffe

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



SCANDINAVIA COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Jan 25, 7 to 9 pm

With Kathie Ross

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



INDIGENOUS COFFEE CHAT

Tuesday, Jan 30/Feb 27, 10:30am to Noon

With Aboriginal Genealogy Association

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



SCOTLAND COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Feb 1, 7 to 9 pm

With Eunice Robinson & Lorraine Irving

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



UNITED STATES COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Feb 8, 7 to 9 pm

With Celia Lewis

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



EASTERN EUROPE (INCLUDING GERMANS FROM RUSSIA) COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Feb 15, 7 to 9 pm

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



CANADIAN PRAIRIES COFFEE CHAT

Thursday, Feb 22, 7 to 9 pm

With Judith Ueland

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



Would you like to facilitate a
Coffee Chat? Contact Eunice
coffeechat@bcgs.ca

A blog was posted on 16 December 2023 in regards to proposal by the UK Government to destroy original Will documents. It is important to read the blog in full and to then read the Government position. **Below are links to both.** Note only the beginning of the blog is shown below.

<https://pasttopresentgenealogy.co.uk/2023/12/16/government-proposal-to-destroy-millions-of-wills/>

Read about the UK Government Proposal here

Government Proposals to Destroy Millions of Wills

Yes. You read the headline correctly.

The government is proposing to destroy millions of wills going back to the 1800s, thus making the original paper documents unavailable to historians & genealogists. These are the wills held by HM Courts and Tribunal Service (HMCTS), dating back to 1858 when the Principal Registry was established.

Unsurprisingly though, this is not the spin the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) put on it when their 10-week consultation was announced on 15 December 2023.

Pitching the proposals at genealogists and historians, they say they will digitise these documents making access easier. Once the documents are digitised, the original paper documents will be destroyed – the proposal is to retain these original copies for 25 years only. They estimate this will save storage costs currently estimated to be around £4.5m per annum. Although it is unclear exactly what costings have been done, including the costs around digitisation, digital storage and keeping up-to-date with technology changes.

However, they are proposing retaining some documents: the original wills of famous and historic figures would be exempted from destruction.

As a clarification point, the documents subject to destruction are not the registered copies of wills obtained from the Probate Search Service website. The original will may differ from these registered copies, importantly containing the original signatures of testator and witnesses. These, as family historians know, can provide an important comparator in identifying/proving signatures of the individuals in other records. Currently you are able to request – and should legally be supplied – the original will. It is these originals which are earmarked for destruction.

That being said, they do say responses are welcomed from anyone with an interest in or views on the subject covered by their paper. The full document is [here](#).

I would urge anyone who values history and family history to respond to the consultation, which closes on 23 February 2024. The address for consultation responses is:

Will Storage consultation

Ministry of Justice

Civil Justice and Law Division,

Postpoint 5.25

102 Petty France

London

SW1H 9AJ

Email: civil_justice_poli@justice.gov.uk

Military research fills out family tree branches

MEG MCLAUGHLIN, #3847 GENEALOGY BLOGGER

Did getting entries ready for *The BCGS 2023 Veterans Book of Remembrance* spark any research paths for you? The many and varied wars in which our ancestors served were impressive and the potted biographies barely scratched the surface of our ancestors' stories. In my case, the entries for my ancestors who fought in the American Revolution were hastily written. In part, that was due to procrastination and an imminent trip to Boston where seeing exhibits about that self-same conflict would be on the agenda.

Even when I wrote those sketchy entries, I knew that I had copies of court records in my possession that would shed more light on Charles Tripp's war. I just hadn't got around to parsing out those records to find out what information they actually contained. It was probably past time to do something about that but I needed another nudge.

That came from DNA. No, not a new match, although I'm hoping some might show up eventually. I signed up for the *Your DNA Guide* Study Group. One of the techniques I was taught was to find a known match and then find what matches you share in common. So, of course I started with my birth name of Cavanagh, found my match and checked to see what other matches we shared in common--only there were none. My match and I were the only ones on Ancestry on that line. Perhaps it was because I was looking for a UK line on Ancestry. It also didn't help that my family tree on the website contained just my direct ancestors, not those helpful side branches that contain clues about where two peoples' branches match up.

So I decided to add some collateral branches to my tree. Because I'd washed out when I tried a UK family line, this time my focus would be on my American links. It was time to really look at Charles Tripp's pension application records for the time he fought in the American Revolution. There were a lot of them because Charles' application wasn't straightforward. According to the statement he gave at court, once he had served for three years

he was given his discharge papers. In turn he gave the papers to the duty sergeant Dakes [sp] in 1784, "for the purpose of getting his bounty lands", but the sergeant's house burnt and the papers were lost. Hard for young Charles, but those court records where he had to prove himself and others testified on his behalf contained lots of wonderful information.

But it didn't stop there. When Charles died, his wife Jane Tripp née Woodworth could qualify for a widow's pension--only she didn't have the right documents either. She couldn't produce a marriage record. She could, however, bring forward people to testify on her behalf: people who stated for the court how they were related to her. Much was made of her maiden name, Woodworth, as her father Soloman had died fighting for the cause.



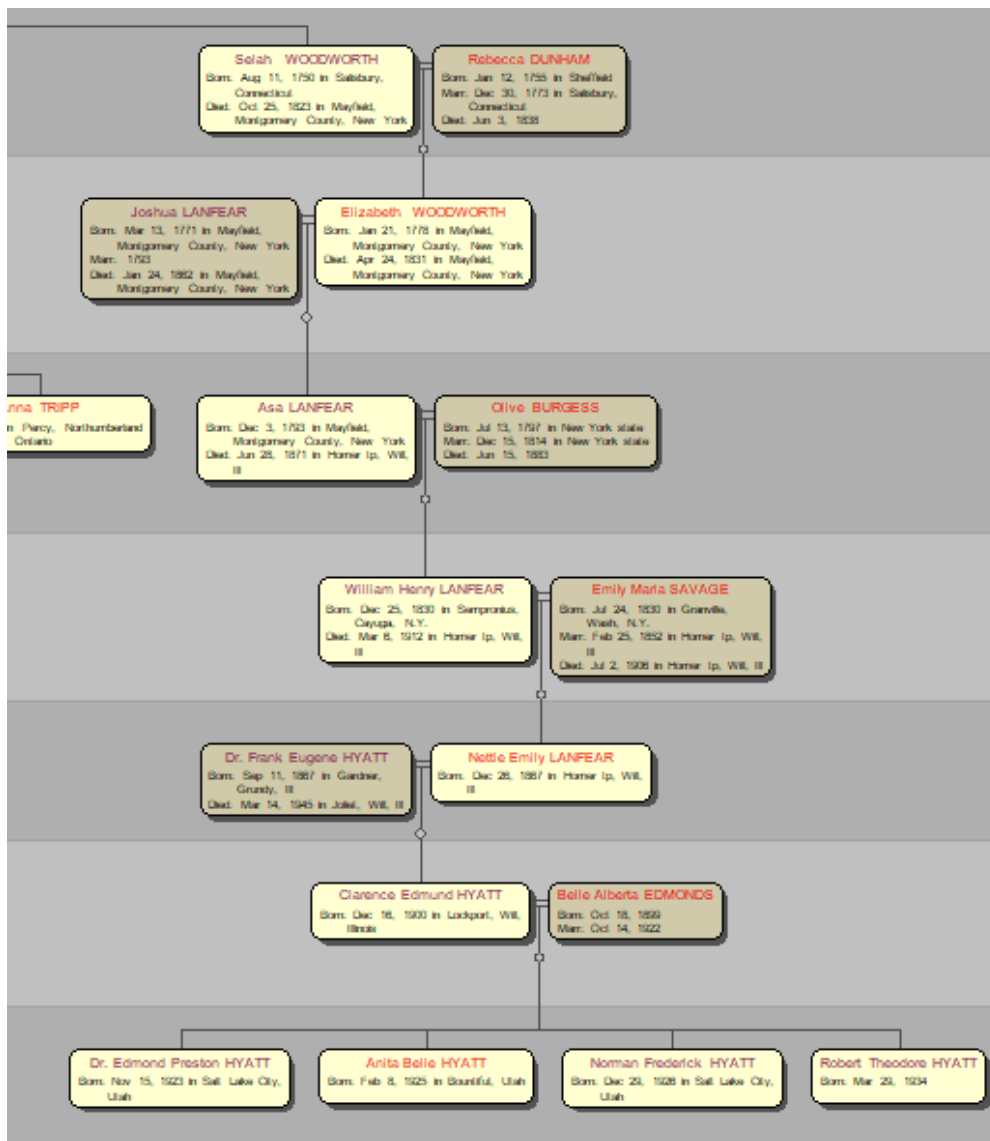
Revolutionary Benjamin Franklin, Boston Statue.

Family tree branch filled with information from the SAR application

A few of her male Woodworth cousins were among those who testified on her behalf. And, there were a few write-ups about Soloman which gave me more information to work with, including the name of his brother, Selah Woodworth, and their father Caleb Woodworth.

So I tried searching for Caleb Woodworth on Ancestry. The most promising result was a connection to Selah Woodworth, the son of Caleb Woodworth on the US, Sons of the American Revolution Membership Applications, 1889-1970 database. The application was filed in 1959 and included a lineage that tied Clarence Edmund Hyatt to Selah Woodworth through Selah's daughter Elizabeth. Elizabeth Woodworth married Joshua Lanfear (or Lamphere), one of the men who testified for Jane

Woodworth back in the 1840's when she went to court for her widow's pension. So, it's not just proof but a whole lineage that I can add to the descendant tree that I'm trying to flesh out. I wonder if I can find any more SAR or DAR applications to speed my quest along.



Meg writes about history and genealogy in *A Genealogist's Path to History* at <http://genihistorypath.blogspot.ca/>. Read more about her findings in her blog.

Does your Employer or Former Employer have a Program like this?

We know that **Telus** has a program for employees and retirees. Those who volunteer can submit their volunteer hours, and the company will give a donation to their choice of charitable groups. Over the decades we have had several **Telus Retirees** do this – *Peter Claydon, George Caldwell, Marianne Cote-Malley* to name a few.

Linda Fleury, our new **Newspaper Index Facilitator**, worked with **RBC**. She says they have the same sort of program.

BE COUNTED

2025



CANADA WIDE RESEARCH
Spread the word! the "Be Counted" project has begun! Our Research Team is looking for past and present Veterans who were Canadian Citizens at the time of enlistment who served with the U.S. Military from 1959-1975.

Canadian Vietnam Veteran?

- Do you have a descendant or someone you know that served during the Vietnam War Era from 1959 to 1975?
- Were they a Canadian Citizen at the time of enlistment?

If you said yes to both of these questions then they qualify for this project.

In January 2023 the "Be Counted" project was launched in Windsor, Ontario. The goal of this project is to not only document each person following the Genealogical Proof Standard in our research, but to also ensure that these Veterans are properly Welcomed Home in Windsor, Ontario 2025.

RESEARCH QUESTION:

How many Canadian Citizens enlisted in the U.S. Military from 1959 to 1975?

No government knows this number. It is guesstimated that 40,000 Canadians enlisted, and finding direct evidence to support this question is challenging based on the timelines, confidentiality laws in the United States and Canada as well as Stolen Valour. There is much indirect evidence available, however based on these challenges stated research will require direct evidence following the GPS.



In 1995 the Canadian Vietnam Veterans memorial was erected by two American Veterans with the land given by the City of Windsor. It identifies KIA and MIA soldiers having a direct connection to Canada.

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