



SCGS

Sonoma County Genealogical Society April 2005 Newsletter

Excerpt From "Genealogical Research On The Internet"

By Anthony Hoskins, February 2005

No meaningful discussion of genealogical research on the Internet can occur without reference to the inescapable need for constant analysis of sources, and evidence.

Direct evidence is that which addresses a particular matter and points to a conclusion without the addition of other supporting evidence.¹

Indirect evidence is circumstantial information that requires us to supply a thought process (and perhaps other evidence) to convert its detail into a reliable conclusion.²

Primary evidence is generally original or first-hand evidence. It is found in original documents like wills, original pension applications, original deeds, or original tax receipts.³

Secondary evidence is evidence that is not primary – that is to say, original or first-hand. Secondary evidence covers a broad spectrum of things, from the very trustworthy to the highly questionable.⁴

Many of the following online sites are multi-purpose, providing on occasion a range of data from the “virtual primary” to the most distantly derived secondary. It is crucial to always analyze the particular use and function of a site with reference to the particular function it serves at any given moment, in any given application.

Remember, before accepting a genealogical connection, be sure to scrutinize it for its likely derivation from primary evidence like probate, tax, census,

church, land, vital records. Any “fact” that you cannot trace back to one such primary source ought not to be accepted!

The following are a few genealogy web sites that may help your search: More can be found at the SCGS web site

Google

www.google.com/

Leo's Genealogics Website

www.genealogics.org/index.php

Stirnet Genealogy

www.stirnet.com/HTML/genie/genfam.htm

Bradley & Opp Ancestry

freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~hwbradley/

Library of Congress

catalog.loc.gov/

Access to Archives - a2a (England and Wales)

www.a2a.org.uk/

(Footnotes)

¹ Elizabeth Shown Mills, *Evidence!: citation and analysis for the family historian* (1997), p. 45.

² Mills, *Evidence!*, p. 45.

³ Val Greenwood, *Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy* (3rd ed., 2000), pp. 68-69.

⁴ Greenwood, p. 69.

*April 23rd
Seminar!*

*Featuring:
Sandra
Luebking*

*Registration
begins at 8:00
A. M.*

*Seminar from
9:00 A. M. to
4:00 P. M.,*

*Luther
Burbank
Center, Hwy
101 at River
Road, Santa
Rosa, CA*

*There will be
no Q&A with
Tony this
month. Please
save your
questions for the
May meeting.*

Visit Our Web Site at <http://www.scgs.org>

The Sonoma County Genealogical Society is a Nonprofit Organization which Encourages Interest in Genealogy and Family History

What's New at the Library

By Maggi Andrews, March 2005

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- Biography T *The Man Behind the Plow: Robert N. Tate: Early Partner of John Deere*
- 287.6 F *150 Years of Ministry & Mission in Santa Rosa; by First United Methodist Church of Santa Rosa*
- 305.897 S *Lost Laborers in Colonial California : Native Americans and The Archaeology of Rancho Petaluma; by Silliman*
- 331.6 R *Migrant Farm Workers, Growers, and The Healdsburg Community, 1941-1945; by Rithner*
- 345.3 S *Final Report; Sonoma County Grand Jury ... 1918*
- 574.979418 C *Docent Training Manual ... California State Parks, Silverado District*
- 634.93 P *Station Log : Pole Mountain ... Dept of Forestry ... 1985-1988*
- 728 A *A Cultural Resources Evaluation of the Water Street North Mixed Use Condominium Project, Petaluma*
- 728 B *Historic Architectural Inventory and Evaluation of the Property at 431-435 Paula Lane, Petaluma*
- 728 C *Capitola Architectural Survey / Prepared for the City of Capitola*
- 728 C *Historic Resource Evaluation ; 700 West Street, Petaluma*
- 728 C *An Evaluation for Significance, 2132 Stony Point Road ... Part of the Rancho Cabeza De Santa Rosa*
- 728 H *Historical and Architectural Resources of the City of Vallejo*
- 728 N *Historical/Architectural Evaluation of the House at 511 East D Street in Petaluma*
- 728 O *National Register of Historic Places Inventory-nomination Form : Old Petaluma Opera House (The Maclay Building)*
- 728 P *Historic Context Report: M. Vonsen Company & The First Street Warehouses ... Petaluma*
- 728 P *Historic Significance of 1077 Lakeville Highway [Petaluma]*
- 728 P *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form: Petaluma Historic Commercial District*
- 728 S *A Context Statement and Architectural/Historical Survey of Unreinforced Masonry Building Construction in San Francisco from 1850 To 1940*
- 728 S *Sweed School, City of Petaluma, California : Historic Building Evaluation*
-

Welcome New Members



Debra SAPP, interested in British and Irish groups, researching surnames SAPP, WEAVER, McKEE, LYDICK, and KELLER.

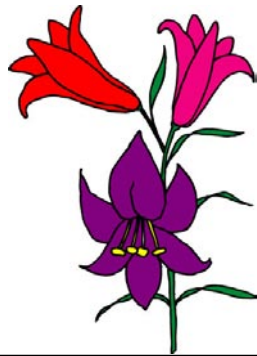
Susan CUMMINGS, interested in surnames CUMMINGS, CODDING, GUNTHER, BEAUCHAMP, and DEMERS.

Gayle REGAN, researching surnames BRUSH, ELDER, and TROWBRIDGE.

Mark STEPHENS, interested in the British group, and researching surnames STEPHENS and DUVALL.

Research Policy Statement

Research Policy Statement: SGGS will do limited research 'lookups' for a \$5.00 fee, which includes an SASE, postage & handling, and up to 5 pages copied. Additional charges will be made for research of more than one hour or more than 5 copied pages.



Special Interest Groups



British Group Meeting on the first Saturday of alternate months. The next meeting will be on Sat., April 2, 2005, at the home of Susan Simons, 459 Nikki Dr., Santa Rosa, from 10 A. M. to 12 Noon. For more information, contact Susan Simons, e-mail, susans@sbcglobal.net or phone 527-7191.



German Group Saturday, 7 May 2005, at 10 A.M. at an undetermined location. We will be having a general help session and discussion on topics of interest to those present as well as laying out plans for research during the summer months. For information contact Jim Cochran at 526-7331 or cougars@sonic.net.



Italian Interest Group We meet bi-monthly. The next meeting will be on May 21, 2005. Everyone is welcome. For more information contact Inese Williams at inesw@comcast.net.



Computer Interest Group We will be changing our regular schedule to be the third Saturday on alternate months - the "odd" numbered months, except July. For more information, contact Maggi Andrews at 538-1775.

Sonoma County Genealogical Society

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Coming Events

April 16: Sacramento Genealogical Society will sponsor an all day seminar featuring Dr. George Schweitzer, Saturday, April 16th at 9:00 A. M., in Citrus Heights, CA. Topics will include "Major Indexes on the Internet", "American Federal and State Land Records", "Finding Your Ancestor's Parents", and a questions and answers session. Contact Root Cellar-SGS, P.O.Box 265, Citrus Heights, CA, 95611-0265

April 23: SCGS Seminar, featuring Sandra Hardgreaves Luebking, 9 A.M.To 4 P.M., at Luther Burbank Center, Santa Rosa.

May 13-14, 2005: Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree and Resource Expo, 2005. To be held at the Burbank Hilton in Burbank, CA. With guest speakers and exhibitors with the latest books. For information see <http://www.scgsgenealogy.com>.

May 28: Investigative techniques for genealogy presented by Ray Owen

Several members have expressed an interest in having a program discussing how to get started in genealogical research in other countries. The best way to do this would be a panel of experts in various countries. In order to put together a panel, I need to know in which countries people are interested. Please send an e-mail message to Audrey at AudreyRae@earthlink.net listing the countries you would like to have represented, and I will try to put something together for a future meeting.

September 7-10, 2005: FGS, The Federation of Genealogical Societies will be hosting a conference in the fall, "Reminders of the Past: Visions for the Future", at Salt Lake City, Utah. Flyers are available at the Library Annex.

Workshops Offered at the National Archives: Rose Mary Kennedy, Genealogy Specialist, will offer a series of workshops at the San Bruno National Archives. They will be held Fridays, 9 A. M. to 12, or 1 P. M., as follows:

April 22, Passenger Arrival & Naturalization Records

July 15, Military- Part 1, Revolutionary War to Civil War

August 19, Military Part 2, Spanish American to Viet-Nam

Sept. 23, Census Records Research.

All workshops will be held at NARA-Pacific Region (San Bruno), 1000 Commodore Dr., San Bruno, CA, 94066. To register and reserve a space, contact Rose Mary Kennedy, (650) 238-3485, or 238-3488. Fees are \$15.00 payable at the door.

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P.O. Box 2273
Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0273
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\$20 per year individual or family (one household)
\$25 contributing (\$5 to book fund)
\$200 lifetime

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