

*Welcome to....*

**Genealogy 101<sup>©</sup>**

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*Your Speaker ....*

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**Free Genealogy Handouts**

<http://waterford.lib.mi.us/content/genealogy-u-handouts>

- **Genealogy 101 (2014)**
  - pdf Format
  - Lecture Slides
  - Handouts
  - Check Year on File - 2014

**A Few Opening Remarks**

- The Way Things Were
- Change
- Basic Computer Skills

**A Few Opening Questions**

- **Who Knows**
  - The Names of Your 4 Grandparents?
    - What Year They Were Born?
    - Where They Were Born?
    - Where They Lived?
    - The Year & Place of Their Deaths?
  - The Names of Your 8 Great Grandparents?
    - Where They Lived?
    - Where & When They Died?
  - The Names of Any Great Great Grandparents?

**Why We Are Here** 

- Get You Started Doing Genealogy
- Show You Correct Techniques
- Show You the Basic Sources
- Help Make Your Family History Search Successful

### Getting Started

- 4 BIG TIPS
  - Start With Yourself
  - Never Skip a Generation
  - Ask Good Questions
  - Know What You Are Looking At

See:  
[Genealogical Research - Getting Started](#)



### Getting Started

- Think of Yourself As A Newspaper Reporter When Doing Research
- The 5 BIG QUESTIONS TO ALWAYS KEEP IN MIND
  - WHO ? -- Name (Target)
  - WHAT ? -- Event
  - WHERE ? -- Location
  - WHEN ? – Date
  - WHY (Sometimes)?



### Getting Started

- Begin with Yourself
- Begin Filling Out a Pedigree Chart
- Begin Filling Out Family Group Sheets
- Interview Your Family
- Collect Family Documents & Memorabilia

### Getting Started

- Identify a Target Ancestor
- Identify a Primary Locality of Research
- Study an LDS Research Guide for that State  
[https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/United\\_States](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/United_States)
- Read about the Region's History, Geography & Records

### Getting Started

- Create a Research Aids Notebook
  - Place Items in Plastic Sheet Protectors
- Create an Online Research Aids Folder
  - Place Digital Images and Files in Folder
- Work Backwards Along Family Lines
- Collect Names, Dates, and Places

### Starting with Yourself

- Find Ancestors in *Every Census* taken during their lifetimes
- Never Skip a Vital Event (obtain a record of births, marriages & deaths or a substitute record)
- Never Skip a Generation (work backwards methodically)

## Starting with Yourself

- TIP – When Stuck
  - Use Collateral Lines
    - Trace Siblings of Your Ancestor
  - Try “Cluster” Genealogy
    - Investigate Friends & Neighbors – Create a FAN Club (Friends, Acquaintances, & Neighbors) and Trace them
      - People Moved Together
        - » Neighbors’ Place of Origins Information may provide Clue as to your Ancestor’s Geographic Origins
      - May Reveal Wife’s Family -- Thereby Obtaining Maiden Name

## Talking with Relatives

- Interview Your Relatives
  - Obtain Names, Dates, Places
- Write, Phone or Visit Family
- Talk to Older Family Members
  - The Sooner the Better
- Before Visiting: Prepare Questions
  - See Cyndislist.com for Interview Questions <http://www.cyndislist.com/oral.htm>
- During Visit: Take Notes & Record (Audio or Video) when Possible

## Talking with Relatives

- Contact the Women in Your Family Early On
  - Women are Traditionally the Keepers of Family History
  - Men are Traditionally Less Helpful – Give Them a Try Anyway

## Reading Books

- Read a “How-To” Book
  - (See: [Guide to Basic Books - How-to-Books](#))
- Read Local Histories
- Look at Maps of Research Area
  - Plat
  - Historical
  - Topographical
  - Migration Routes
- Browse Specialized Reference Works

## Brushing Up On History

- Study a Timeline
- Look at a Survey of U.S. History

## Brushing Up On History

- Re-familiarize Yourself With Major Events & Trends
  - Wars: Am Revolution, Civil War, Spanish-Am War, WWI, WWII
  - Panics (Depressions): 1819, 1837, 1857, 1893, 1929
  - Transportation Development: Canals, Railroads, Steam Power
- Consider How Events may have Impacted your Ancestor

### Internet Searching

- Visit Basic Genealogy Web Sites
  - Learn what they Contain
- Create a Genealogy Folder in your Computer's Web Browser
  - Recommend *Google Chrome*
- Add Sites to Favorites List
- Create Sub-Folders as List Grows
  - Examples:
    - Vital Records
    - Military Records
    - New York Records
    - Family Names Sites
- Place Super Favorites on Bookmarks Bar

### Internet Searching

- **Basic Genealogy Web Sites**
  - FamilySearch.org
  - Ancestry.com
  - HeritageQuest via Library's Databases
  - <http://michlist.com/> (Michigan Biographical Index)
  - <http://www.archives.gov/index.html>
  - <http://seekingmichigan.org/> (@ Mi State Archives)
  - <http://stevemorse.org/> (Morse One-Step Searches)
  - <http://www.ocgsmi.org/> (O Co Gen Soc)
  - <http://oaklandcountyhistory.org/awweb/main.jsp?itype=adv&menu=on> (Oakland Co Historical Resources)

### Keeping Accurate Records

- Get Organized Today!
- Develop a Filing System
- Approaches
  - Notebooks
  - File Folders
  - Digital
    - Computer Directories
    - Genealogy Software

### Keeping Accurate Records

- **Genealogy Software**
  - Legacy
  - Roots Magic
  - Family Tree Maker

### Keeping Accurate Records

- Pedigree Charts
- Family Group Sheets
- Research Agenda (To Do List)
- Research Log (What You've Done)
- Correspondence Log
- Research Reports

### Keeping Accurate Records

Pedigree Chart



### The Problem With Hand Written Charts

EXAMPLE: Rabideau Pedigree Chart

Click on Graphic

### Keeping Accurate Records

Fill in a Pedigree Chart  
(Traditional Hand Written Example)

Click on Graphic

### Keeping Accurate Records

Pedigree Chart  
(Genealogy Software Generated)

Click on Graphic

### Keeping Accurate Records

#### Accepted Genealogical Conventions

- Males Always in Top Bracket
- Record Full Name w/ Complete Middle Name (when known), Nicknames in Quotation Marks
- Record Surnames in All Capital Letters
- Females Always Listed w/ Maiden Name
- Dates in Day, Month, Year Format (dd,mmm,yyyy, i.e., 28 MAR 1942)
- List all Event Locations: City/Twp, County, State/Province & Country

### Keeping Accurate Records

Fill in a Family Group Sheet

### Keeping Accurate Records

Fill in a Family Group Sheet  
(Genealogy Software Generated)

**Family Group Sheet**

**Subject** **Moise Eustache ROBIDOUX (1)**

Birth: 21 Jan 1882 St. Chrysostome, Chateauguy Co., Quebec, Canada

Marriage: 29 Jun 1926 Hospital Name Hospital, Cass City, Tuscola Co., MI, 2

Death: 1 Jul 1958 St. Agatha's Parish Cemetery, Saginaw, Tuscola Co., MI

Father: Jean Baptiste Robidou (18) (b. 16 Nov 1834; d. 3 Jan 1915)

Mother: Catherine Proulx (17) (b. 08 Jul 1823; d. circa 1871)

**Spouse** **Phoebé BÉDARD (1)**

Birth: 23 Oct 1878 Etonnet Twp., Perth Co., Ontario, Canada

Death: 24 Nov 1918 Etonnet Twp., Tuscola Co., MI

Burial: St. Agatha's Parish Cemetery, Saginaw, Tuscola Co., MI

Father: Ferdinand BÉDARD (182) (b. 20 Sep 1848; d. 14 Nov 1922)

Mother: Adèle VINCENT (183) (b. 02 Jan 1847; d. 1936)

**Fourteen Known Children**

# **Edith Rabideau (149) (1)**

Birth: 24 May 1891

Death: 24 Aug 1982

# **Albina Leona Rabideau (150) (1)**

Birth: 21 Jun 1893

1. ID Number – Software Generated  
2. Footnote Number

### Keeping Accurate Records

- Advantages to Genealogy Software Generated Charts
  - Always Up To Date
  - Easy to Read
  - Time Saving
    - When Updating – No Need to Re-Write Entire Chart or Charts
  - Documentation Provided

### Keeping Accurate Records

- Research Logs
  - By Surname
    - By Record Type
      - By Geographic Area

### Keeping Accurate Records

- Research Logs
  - By Surname
    - Do Not Like to Separate by First Name
    - Searches are Similar Because Surname is Identical
    - Easier to Determine if it has Already been Done
  - Next By Record Type
    - By Geographic Area

### Keeping Accurate Records

- Research Log Questions #1
  - Who were you looking for?
  - Where were you looking for them?
  - What was your objective or goal?
  - What did you look at?

### Keeping Accurate Records

- Research Log Questions #2
  - Where did you find it?
  - Who had it?
  - Who originally created it?
  - What was in it?
  - Where can you find it again?





### Citing Your Sources



- Full Citation of All Sources Examined
- Why?
  - Replication is Possible
  - People Can Follow Your Sources – And Know You Are Right
  - Make Suggestions If You Are Not
- How?
  - Use Guides

### Citing Your Sources

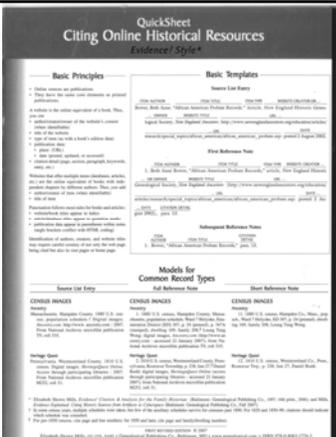


- New Standard Guide
  - Elizabeth Shown Mills, *Evidence Explained: Citing History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace*
- See: <https://www.evidenceexplained.com/>
  - Sample Pages, Questions, ....
- Elizabeth Shown Mills, Quick Guide Series

### Citing Your Sources



- Older Guides
  - Elizabeth Shown Mills, *Evidence: Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian*
  - Richard S. Lackey, *Cite Your Sources: A Manual for Documenting Family Histories and Genealogy Records*
  - Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*




### Keeping Accurate Records

- Storage & Retrieval
  - Make Copies of All Documents & Records
  - File Them Logically
  - Lock-Up Original Copies
    - Use Fireproof Box or Safety Deposit Box @ Bank
  - Make 2<sup>nd</sup> Copy to Keep With You
    - Never Take Original & Only Copy to a Library, Archive, Court House, etc. (REMEMBER -- Stuff Happens!!)



### Organize Your Records

Computer File Organization 

Name	Size	Type
1851 CANADA EAST CENSUS - ROBIDOUX BAPTISTE.pdf	3,975 KB	Adobe Acrobat Doc...
1851 CENSUS CANADA AGRICULTURE EAST ROBIDOUX BAPTISTE P1.jpg	938 KB	JPEG Image
1851 CENSUS CANADA AGRICULTURE EAST ROBIDOUX BAPTISTE P2.jpg	779 KB	JPEG Image
1851 CENSUS CANADA AGRICULTURE EAST ROBIDOUX BAPTISTE P3.jpg	796 KB	JPEG Image
1851 CENSUS CANADA EAST ROBIDOUX BAPTISTE P2.jpg	683 KB	JPEG Image
1851 CENSUS CANADA EAST ROBIDOUX BAPTISTE.jpg	762 KB	JPEG Image
1851 CENSUS CANADA ROBIDOUX JEAN BAPTISTE P2.jpg	1,362 KB	JPEG Image
1861 CENSUS CANADA ROBIDOUX JEAN BAPTISTE		
1871 CENSUS ROBIDOUX JEAN BAPTISTE.jpg		
1881 CENSUS ROBIDOUX J BTE TRANS.docx		
1881 CENSUS ROBIDOUX JEAN BAPTISTE.jpg		
1900 CENSUS RABOUX JOHN TRANS.docx		
1900 CENSUS RABOUX JOHN.jpg		
1900 CENSUS RABIDOUX MOSE TRANS.docx		
1900 CENSUS ROBIDOUX MOSES.jpg		
1910 CENSUS RABIDOUX MOSES P1.jpg		
1910 CENSUS RABIDOUX MOSES P2.jpg		
1920 CENSUS REBIDOUX MOSES P1.jpg		
1920 CENSUS REBIDOUX MOSES P2.jpg		

#### File Naming Conventions

- Year
- Record Type
- Place if not U.S. Census
- Surname as in Census
- First Name as in Census
- TRANS = Transcript Document

### Knowing About Reference Works

- Detailed Info on Sources
- Detailed Info on Libraries
- Where to Write or Phone

(see Reference Books Section of Guide to Basic Books)

### Knowing About Periodicals

- Commercial Publications
  - *Family Tree Magazine*
  - *Family Chronicle*
  - *Internet Genealogy*
- Society Publications
  - *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*
  - *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*
  - *Michigan Habitant Heritage*
  - *Acorns to Oaks* (Oakland Co Gen Soc)

### Knowing About Periodical Indexes

- Many Varieties & Forms
  - Local Library Indexes
    - Local History, Obituaries, Picture File
  - OCPHS (Oakland Co Pioneer & Hist Soc)
    - 3 Obit Indexes
      - Dates of Coverage Unknown
  - Burton Historical Collection (DPL)
    - Local History
    - Photographs
    - Death Index
    - Wonderful Analytics of Periodicals

### Knowing About Periodical Indexes

- *PERSI (Periodical Source Index)*
  - Accessible Through Heritage Quest (Online) & Ancestry.com
    - Family Name Search
      - 27 Rabideau/Robidoux articles
    - Keyword Search
    - Locality Search
    - Record Type Search

### Using Libraries

- Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society
- Oakland County Reference Library
- Orion Public Library Orion Room
- Mt. Clemens Public Library
- Burton Historical Collection @ Detroit Public Library
- Archives of Michigan in Lansing
- Allen County Public Library
- LDS Family History Centers

### LDS Libraries

- Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints
  - Main Library @ Salt Lake City – Best Genealogical Library in the Country WORLD
  - Family History Centers (Branches)

### LDS Libraries

- LDS @ Salt Lake City
  - World's Largest Genealogy Library
    - 142,000 square foot
    - 2,000 patrons a day
    - 2.4 million rolls of microfilm
    - 0.75 million microfiche
    - 310,000 books
    - 4,500 periodicals
    - 700 Electronic Sources

### LDS Libraries

- World's Largest Genealogy Library
  - Records from Around the World
  - Monthly Increase
    - 4,100 rolls of microfilm
    - 700 books
  - 200 digital cameras in over 45 countries
  - Records filmed in over 110 countries
  - 202 patron computers
  - 509 microfilm readers
  - 36 microfiche readers
  - 28 microfilm/microfiche copiers
  - 15 photocopiers
  - 4 microfilm scanners
  - Seating for 396 at tables

### LDS Libraries

- Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints - Family History Centers
  - AKA
    - LDS Family History Centers
    - LDS Libraries

### LDS Libraries

- Local FHCs
  - Bloomfield Hills
    - Extensive Hours of Operation
    - Knowledgeable Volunteers
  - Grand Blanc
  - Clarkston
    - Small – Very Limited Hours
  - Rochester
  - Roseville
  - Westland

### LDS Family Search System

- Available Online & FHCs
- Microfilm Materials **ONLY** available from a LDS Family History Center
- Microfilm Rental -- \$7.50/roll
  - May be Rented Online for use at FHC
- All Microfilm being Digitized
  - Project Completion Expected in 5-10 years

### LDS Family Search System



- Family Search
  - www.familysearch.org
  - Constantly Under Revision
    - Online Indexes
    - Online Indexes with Images
    - Instructional Videos
    - Wikis
    - Blog

### Record Classification



- Various Designations of Records
- Types of Records
  - Original Records & Compiled Records
- Originator of Records
  - Municipality
  - Township
  - County
  - State
  - Federal

### Record Classification



- Original Records (Primary Sources)
  - Your Goal is to Obtain Copies of These
    - Participants Create at Time of Event
    - Manuscripts
    - Handwritten, frequently
- Compiled Records (Secondary Sources)
  - May Aid Search for Original Records
    - Created After the Event by Non-Participants
    - Published (books)

### Record Types



- Vital Records
  - Death Records
  - Marriage Records
  - Birth Records
- Church Records (substitutes)

### Vital Records: Where? & When?

-----  
Check A Directory

- Birth
- Marriage
- Death
- Land
- Probate
- Court

MICHIGAN					
Map	County	Date Formed	Birth	Land	
Address	Parent	Constitution	Marriage	Probate	Court
144	Monroe 600 Terrace Street Monroe 49100	1832 Ottawa/organized land	1867 1867 1867	1839 1837 1850	
05	Oshtemo 1007 Cornell Street White Cloud 49100	1840 (1862) Ottawa/Mackinac "Keweenaw"	1867 1868 1867	1840 1840 1843	
	Oshtemo (aka Oshtemo)	1840 (organized town, 1843) organized land "Mackinac"			
	Oshtemo (aka Oshtemo)	1840 (organized town, 1843) organized land "Mackinac"			
08	Charlevoix 2300 N. Telegraph Road Charlevoix 49801	1850 Michigan	1867 1867 1867	1821 1821 1821	

### Vital Records: How to Locate?



- State Indexes
  - In MI there is a Microfilm Index @ Lib of MI & Burton Historical Collection
- County Indexes
  - Courthouses Have Indexes
    - County Clerk's Offices
- Published Indexes
  - Check Library Catalogs
  - Books
- Online Indexes
  - State Archives Web Pages
  - County Clerks (Increasing Number – Check)
  - Ancestry.com
  - FamilySearch.org



## CENSUS RECORDS



### Census Records Overview

- Single Most Important American Genealogical Source
  - Federal Government
  - Taken Every 10 Years Since 1790
  - Widely Available
  - Many State Censuses Also Taken
    - See William Dollarhide, *Census Substitutes & State Census Records*



### Census Records Overview

- Most Used Source in American Genealogy
- Approach:
  - Find Your Target Ancestor in **EVERY** Possible Census During Their Lifetime



### Census Records Formats

- Available Formats
  - Online Images
  - Microfilm
  - Published Transcriptions
  - Manuscript (Original)



### Census Records Formats

- Record Format Preferences
  - Use Online
  - Use Microfilm
  - Use Published Transcriptions as Last Resort
- Note Manuscript Returns (Original) Records are Generally Inaccessible
  - National Archives, Washington D.C.
  - Records for many Years were Destroyed
  - Extra Copies Sometimes Available at Various State Libraries or Archives
    - 3 Hand Written Copies Made for 19<sup>th</sup> C. Enumerations



### Census Records Overview

- Online Availability
  - Ancestry.com \$\$\$ (14 day free trial)
    - Free use in many Libraries
  - FamilySearch.org
  - HeritageQuest.com (free @ libraries)
  - Genealogy.com \$\$\$\$ \$\$\$\$ \$\$\$\$
  - Cyndislist.com  
<http://www.cyndislist.com/census.htm#USCensus>

### Census Records Overview

- Ages are a Problem
  - Not Always Accurate
  - Affected by Date Census was Taken
  - Often Provided by Someone Else
  - Inordinate Number of Ages End in "0" or "5" Indicating an Estimation

### Census Records: Census Day

Date Census Enumerated Affects  
Age as Listed in Census

CENSUS	DAY	CENSUS	DAY
1790	Aug. 2	1870	June 1
1800	Aug. 4	1880	June 1
1810	Aug. 6	1890	June 1
1820	Aug. 7	1900	June 1
1830	June 1	1910	April 15
1840	June 1	1920	Jan. 1
1850	June 1	1930	April 1
1860	June 1	1940	April 1

### Census Records Overview

- Don't Allow Ages to Hang You Up
  - Consider Children's Birth Sequence
  - Consider Possibility of Informant Error
    - Wife/Mother
    - Child
    - Neighbor
    - Landlady
    - Hotel Clerk

### Census Records

- Population Schedule
  - 1790 through 1940
  - 1940 Census
    - Available only as Images – No Microfilm
    - Free Access
    - Indexing Complete
- Other Schedules in Some Years
- Population Schedule Questions Changed Every Census

### Census Records

- Two Major Eras of Census Taking
  - Household Enumeration (1790-1840)
  - Nominal Enumeration (1850- )

### Census Records

- Household (1790 - 1840)
  - Only Named Head of Household
  - Ages in Large Categories (Household Members)
  - Sex & Race (Household Members)

(See Census Clues Handout)



### Census Records

- Household: 1820 Census
  - Head of Household's Name
    - **Only Name Provided**
  - Free White Males: 0-10, 10-16, 16-18, 16-26, 26-45, 45 & up
  - Free White Females (same age cohorts)
  - Male Slaves: to 14, 14 to 26, 26 to 45, 45 & up
  - Female Slaves: (same age cohorts)

### Census Records

- Nominal: 1850 Census
  - Provides **Names of Every Person**
  - **ALSO**
    - Ages
    - Sex
    - Race
    - Occupations of Males
    - Place of Birth (State or Country)
    - Real Estate Value

### Census Records

- Nominal: 1880 Census
  - In Addition to 1850 Questions
  - Relationship to Head of Household
  - Marital Status
  - Father's Place of Birth
  - Mother's Place of Birth

### Census Records

- Nominal: 1900 Census
  - Month & Year of Birth
  - Number of Years Presently Married
  - Mother of How Many Children
  - Number Children Still Living
  - Year of Immigration
  - Number of Years in U.S.
  - Months Not Employed
  - Attended School This Year
  - Read & Write
  - Speak English
  - Rent or Own Home
  - Owned Home - Free or Mortgaged

### Census Records

- Missing Schedules
  - 1790
    - DE, GA, KY, NJ, VA Destroyed
  - 1890
    - 99.99+ % Destroyed
    - 1,232 Pages or Pieces Survive
    - **6,160** Individuals Listed – 0.00978%
    - 62,979,766 People Originally Enumerated
    - Data Remains from AL, DC, GA, IL, MN, NJ, NY, NC, OH, SD, TX

### Census Records

- 1890 Census Reconstruction Projects
  - Ancestry.com – Reconstruction
    - Currently Limited to Directories
  - Genealogy Societies
    - Livingston Co., MI (Example)
      - Multiple Record Types

### Census Records

- Other Schedules
  - Slave: 1850 & 1860
    - Owners' Names Only
  - Agriculture: 1850 - 1880
  - Manufacturing: 1810, 1820, 1850 - 1880
  - Mortality: 1850 - 1880
  - Social Statistics: 1850 - 1880
  - Special: Veterans, 1890

### Census Records

- Search All Pertinent Schedules for Your Ancestors
  - Some Ancestors had "Sideline" Businesses
  - Researchers should search both the Agriculture and Manufacturing Schedules
    - Critical if ancestors lived in rural areas
    - Farmers often had noteworthy "sideline" manufacturing businesses, such as tanning, milling, coopering, or cheese making

### Census Records

	CLUE	CENSUS YEAR
BIRTH DATE & PLACE	Age Range of Free White Males (Different Ranges for Different Census Years)	1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840
	Age Range of Free White Females (Different Ranges for Different Census Years)	1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840
	Age of Everyone in the Household	1850 - 1940
	Birthplace	1850 - 1940
	Born Within the Census Year (with Month)	1870, 1880
	Month & Year of Birth	1900
	Foreign-Born Parents (Place not Listed)	1870
PARENTS	Parents' Place of Birth	1880 - 1930, 1940 5%
	Mother Tongue	1910
	Self & Parents' Mother Tongue	1920, 1930

### Census Records

	CLUE	CENSUS YEAR
MARRIAGE	Married Within the Census Year	1850, 1860, 1870 (Includes Month), 1880, 1890
	Marital Status	1880 - 1930
	Number of Years Married	1900, 1910
	Age at First Marriage	1930
IMMIGRATION & CITIZENSHIP	Number of Aliens/Persons Not Naturalized	1820, 1830, 1840
	Year of Immigration to U.S.	1900, 1910, 1920, 1930
	Number of Years in the United States	1890, 1900
	Naturalization Status	1890 - 1940
OTHER	Number of Free Colored	1820, 1830, 1840
	Relationship to Head of Household	1880 - 1940
	Veteran Status	1890, 1910 (Civil War Only), 1930
	Mother of How Many Children/Number Living	1890, 1900, 1910

### Census Records: What Is Really Being Asked?

- Occasionally One Needs to Know the Intent of a Question in the Census
  - Hence the Text of the Instructions for the Census Enumerators is Needed
  - *Measuring America: The Decennial Census From 1790-2000* (U.S. Census Bureau, 2002)
  - <http://www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/pol02-ma.pdf>
  - Download (**FREE**) and Retain a Copy
  - Consists of 149 Pages
  - pdf Format

### Census Records: What Is Really Being Asked?

- *Measuring America: The Decennial Census From 1790-2000*
  - Contains basic methodological explanations for how census data was gathered over time including the questionnaires and instructions to census enumerators for each census. It contains historical notes for each census
  - Extremely Useful for Interpreting Citizens' Responses

Census Records:  
Case Study

- Searching for Lewis S. Pope – Resident of Geauga County, Ohio in 1850

L.S. POPE CASE STUDY - 1840 CENSUS EXAMPLE

1840 CENSUS EXAMPLE

(No. 4.) SCHEDULE of the whole number of persons within the division all

THREE WHITE PERSONS, EXCLUDING HEADS OF FAMILIES.

NAMES OF HEADS OF FAMILIES	MALES										FEMALES									
	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
Lewis S. Pope																				
Mary S. Pope											1									
John S. Pope																				
John S. Pope																				
John S. Pope																				

1840 CENSUS EXAMPLE PAGE 2

the March of the ...

FAMILIES	TOTAL	NUMBER OF PERSONS IN EACH FAMILY EMPLOYED IN					NAME	AGE
		10	20	30	40	50		

1850 CENSUS EXAMPLE

SCHEDULE I - Free Inhabitants in ...

NAMES	AGE	SEX	MARRIAGE	BIRTH PLACE	OCCUPATION	EDUCATION														
						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
Lewis S. Pope	27	M		Ohio																
Mary S. Pope	24	F		Ohio																
John S. Pope	18	M		Ohio																
John S. Pope	15	M		Ohio																
John S. Pope	12	M		Ohio																

Lewis S. Pope Case Study

1st Page

2nd Page

1. HOUSEHOLD LISTING DIVIDED ON TWO PAGES
2. NAME RECORDED AS L S POPE NOT LEWIS POPE
3. NAMES OF ALL FAMILY & HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS PROVIDED
4. NOTE FAMILY MIGRATION VIA BIRTH PLACES
5. AGE & PLACE OF BIRTH PROVIDES CLUE AS TO ARRIVAL DATE IN COMMUNITY
6. MOTHER CHARRY'S BIRTH PLACE?

### Lewis S. Pope Case Study

**SCHEDULE 1 - Free Inhabitants in** *Geauga* **in the County of** *Geauga* **State** *Ohio*  
**enumerated by** *W.W. Bruce* **on the** *5th* **day of** *Sept* **1850.** *W.W. Bruce* **Asst. Marshal.**

NAME	SEX	AGE	OCCUPATION	PLACE OF BIRTH	WAS BORN IN THIS HOUSE	WAS BORN IN THIS COUNTY	WAS BORN IN THIS STATE
<i>Lewis S. Pope</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>FARMER</i>	<i>Ohio</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mary S. Pope</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>Ohio</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>John S. Pope</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>Ohio</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>William S. Pope</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>Ohio</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>

7. PROVIDES CLUE AS TO MARRIAGE DATE OF PARENTS
8. OCCUPATION "FARMER" LIMITS VIEW OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY
9. REAL ESTATE VALUE PROVIDES INDICATION OF WEALTH
10. PROVIDES NAMES OF OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

### 1860 AGRICULTURAL CENSUS

- Available Online at Ancestry.com
- Only One Page of Two Page Form Provided

**SCHEDULE 4 - Productions of Agriculture in** *Geauga* **County of** *Ohio* **in the** *Year* **1860.**

NAME OF FARMER	ACRES	WORTH	PRODUCTS	WORTH
<i>Lewis S. Pope</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>300 improved and 60 unimproved acres</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>

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### Case Study: Lewis S. Pope

- All Schedules: Lewis Pope Example  
 Lewis S. Pope lived in Geauga County, Ohio. The **1850 Agricultural Schedule** indicates his farm, worth \$5,000, consisted of 300 improved and 60 unimproved acres. His farming implements and tools were worth \$100, and his livestock was worth \$1,000. On June 1, 1850, he owned 4 horses, 46 milch cows, 2 working oxen, 14 sheep, and 2 swine. During the preceding year, Lewis slaughtered \$40 worth of animals, and his farm produced 150 bushels of Indian corn, 40 pounds of wool, 50 bushels of Irish potatoes, 800 pounds of butter, 2,000 pounds of cheese, 100 tons of hay, and \$10 worth of orchard products.

### Census Records

- All Schedules: Lewis Pope Example  
 A search of the **1850 Manufacturing Schedule** reveals that Lewis Pope invested \$700 in his cheese-making business and that he annually produced 7 tons of cheese worth \$750 from 10 tons of curd costing \$500. He employed three males to whom he paid a total of \$45 per month (i.e., \$15 each). Since Pope made only one ton (2,000 pounds) of cheese from the milk that his own 46 cows produced, it is logical to infer that his cheese-making business (7 tons) was conducted by buying milk from area farmers and turning it into cheese.

### Census Records

- Mortality Schedules
  - Record Deaths in the Year Before the Census
    - 1850 Census contains deaths from June 2, 1849 to June 1, 1850
    - May be Only Record of Death for Some Individuals
      - Many States Did Not Require the Recording of Death Until the Late 19th Century or Later
    - Provides a Record for Those Without Gravestones
    - Provides a Record for Children Under Ten Who Died the Year Before the Census



### Online Census Indexes



- Problems
  - Alphabetizing
  - Handwriting Interpretation
  - Microfilm Difficult to Read
  - Scanning (Optical Character Recognition Errors)
    - Converting From Book Images to Text

### Indexing Errors



- GIGO
  - Garbage In--Garbage Out

### Indexing Errors & Issues



MOORE, E. I. THOMAS, SHOREWELL 1840N, CATHARINE 1840N, DIEGO 1840N, ELIZA L. 1840N, IRA 1840N, J. 1840N, JAMES 1840N, JOHN 1840N, JOSEPH 1840N, JUSTIN 1840N, M. 1840N, MARY 1840N, PLEASANT 1840N, USLEY D. 1840N, WILLIAM 1840N, JSEPHS 1840N, JSUTIN 1840N, ASA	MC WILLIAMS, W. G. MC WILLIAMS, WATSON MC WILLIAMS, WILLIAM MC WILLIAMS, WILLIAM P. MC WILLIAMS, CALVIN MC WILLIAMS, JOHN P.F.V. MC WOSTON, JOHN MC, DONALD, AUGUS R. MC, LAMP, WILLIAP MCATRY, JOHN MCINTOSH, SAMIPL MCLDIN, GEORGE W. MCVEY, CVERITT MC VOICE, JOHN MEACHAM, JAMES MEACHEM, ELISHA MEACHUM, JOHN MEACHUM, WILLIAM MEAD, AMERICA MEAD, ELIZABETH B. MEAD, MARTIN MEAD, MARY W. MEAD, MINDA MEAD, SAMUEL MEAD, SPOOPER MEAD, THORNTON	SRISWELL, JOFL SROGGINS, R. P. SROD, LITTEHFDRYA SRUDKFR, F. J. SRUMWEL, JAMES W. SHVGLVY, JOSEPH W. SSIWDIS, JONATHAN G. SSTAHOFFR, WILLIAM M. SSIMMFWILL, JAFFS ST CLAD, WILLIAM ST JOHN, JAMES ST JOHN, JOHN W. ST LAUFNCE, THOMAS ST CLAD, MICHAEL ST CLAD, BIRD ST CLAD, C. W. ST CLAD, JOHN ST CLAD, JOHN ST CLAD, MARGARET ST CLAD, MICHAEL ST CLAD, J. U. ST CLAD, JAMES ST JOHN, ALFRED P. ST JOHN, P. ST JOHN, THOMAS ST JOHN, ISAAC ST JOHN, JANE ST JOHN, W. ST JOHN, DICHARD ST JOHN, THOMAS ST JOHN, WILLIAM P. ST JOHN, THOMAS ST. RAY, SAMUEL STANFOL, SAMIPL STARH, J. U. STAR, P. J. JOHN
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### Indexing Errors & Issues



MOORE, E. I. THOMAS, SHOREWELL 1840N, CATHARINE 1840N, DIEGO 1840N, ELIZA L. 1840N, IRA 1840N, J. 1840N, JAMES 1840N, JOHN 1840N, JOSEPH 1840N, JUSTIN 1840N, M. 1840N, MARY 1840N, PLEASANT 1840N, USLEY D. 1840N, WILLIAM 1840N, JSEPHS 1840N, JSUTIN 1840N, ASA	MC WILLIAMS, W. G. MC WILLIAMS, WATSON MC WILLIAMS, WILLIAM MC WILLIAMS, WILLIAM P. MC WILLIAMS, CALVIN MC WILLIAMS, JOHN P.F.V. MC WOSTON, JOHN MC, DONALD, AUGUS R. MC, LAMP, WILLIAP MCATRY, JOHN MCINTOSH, SAMIPL MCLDIN, GEORGE W. MCVEY, CVERITT MC VOICE, JOHN MEACHAM, JAMES MEACHEM, ELISHA MEACHUM, JOHN MEACHUM, WILLIAM MEAD, AMERICA MEAD, ELIZABETH B. MEAD, MARTIN MEAD, MARY W. MEAD, MINDA MEAD, SAMUEL MEAD, SPOOPER MEAD, THORNTON	SRISWELL, JOFL SROGGINS, R. P. SROD, LITTEHFDRYA SRUDKFR, F. J. SRUMWEL, JAMES W. SHVGLVY, JOSEPH W. SSIWDIS, JONATHAN G. SSTAHOFFR, WILLIAM M. SSIMMFWILL, JAFFS ST CLAD, WILLIAM ST JOHN, JAMES ST JOHN, JOHN W. ST LAUFNCE, THOMAS ST CLAD, MICHAEL ST CLAD, BIRD ST CLAD, C. W. ST CLAD, JOHN ST CLAD, JOHN ST CLAD, MARGARET ST CLAD, MICHAEL ST CLAD, J. U. ST CLAD, JAMES ST JOHN, ALFRED P. ST JOHN, P. ST JOHN, THOMAS ST JOHN, ISAAC ST JOHN, JANE ST JOHN, W. ST JOHN, DICHARD ST JOHN, THOMAS ST JOHN, WILLIAM P. ST JOHN, THOMAS ST. RAY, SAMUEL STANFOL, SAMIPL STARH, J. U. STAR, P. J. JOHN
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### Census Indexes



- Ancestry & AncestryLE (Library Edition)
  - New Improved Indexing
  - Linked Images
  - Every Name: 1790-1940
  - 1890 Veterans, Every Name
  - 1850 & 1860 Slave Schedules
    - Every Name of Slave Owners
    - No Slave Names Recorded in the Census

### Census



- LDS FamilySearch
  - <http://familysearch.org>
  - Available Images & Indexing
    - All Extant Population Schedules, 1790-1940
      - Provides Transcriptions for Individuals
      - No Linkage to Other Family Members
    - 1850 Mortality & Slave Schedules
    - 1890 Veterans

## Census



- HeritageQuest
  - Available from Home
  - Log In through Your Library
  - Requires Library Card
  - Available Images, 1790-1930
  - Available Indexing
    - Inconsistent
    - 1790-1820, 1860-1920, head of household
    - 1930 (5 states), head of household
    - 1830-1850 **Not Indexed** – Read Every Page
    - 1940 Unavailable

## Census Indexes



- What If It Isn't In An Index?
- What Does It Mean?

It ***Only Means*** The Name Is Not In The Index

It ***Does Not Mean*** The Name Is Not In The Document

## Census Indexes



- Person May Still be in the Census
  - Use Alternative Approaches
    - Try Alternate Spellings
    - Search Reversed First & Last Names
    - Search Last Name with Different First Letters – Hearing or Reading or Writing (Indexer) Error
    - Search First Name Only
    - Search First Name & Limit by Birth Place or Age or Occupation, etc
    - Try Different Search Criteria
    - Try Different Jurisdictions
    - Search Other Family Members
    - Or Read the Entire Document !
      - Examine First Names

## Census Soundex



- Special Index Based on Sound
  - Groups Similar Sounding Names
  - Helps Compensate for Misspellings
- Helps Locate a Family in Census
- Created for 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920 & 1930 Censuses
- Some Databases Provide a Soundex Search

## Soundex Rules - I

### SOUNDEX CODING GUIDE

The number	Represents the letters
1	B P F V
2	C S K G J Q X Z
3	D T
4	L
5	M N
6	R

**Disregard the letters A, E, I, O, U, W, Y, and H.**

## Soundex Rules - II

### SOUNDEX CODING GUIDE

The number	Represents the letters
1	B P F V
2	C S K G J Q X Z
3	D T
4	L
5	M N
6	R

**Disregard the letters A, E, I, O, U, W, Y, and H.**

have the same number of the Soundex coding system are described below.

**NAMES WITH PREFIXES**  
If the surname has a prefix, such as van, Von, De, Di, or Le, code it both with and without the prefix because it might be listed under either code. The surname *vanBevern*, for example, could be V-531 or D-153.  
Mc and Mac are not considered prefixes.

**NAMES WITH DOUBLE LETTERS**  
If the surname has any double letters, they should be treated as one letter. Thus, in the surname *Lloyd*, the second L should be crossed out, in the surname *Guisener*, the second R should be crossed out.

**NAMES WITH LETTERS SIDE BY SIDE THAT HAVE THE SAME NUMBER ON THE SOUNDEX CODING GUIDE**  
A surname may have different letters that are side by side and have the same number on the Soundex coding guide; for example, *PF* in *Pfeifer* (1 is the number for both P and F); *CKS* in *Jackson* (2 is the number for C, K, and S). These letters should be treated as one letter. Thus in the name *Pfeifer*, F should be crossed out; in the name *Jackson*, K and S should be crossed out.

**The Soundex Coding System**  
Every Soundex code consists of a letter and three numbers, such as S-650. The letter is always the first letter of the surname, whether it is a vowel or a consonant. Disregard the remaining vowels and W, Y, and H and assign numbers to the next three consonants of the surname according to the Soundex coding guide. If there are not three consonants following the initial letter, use zeros to fill out the three-digit code.  
Most surnames can be coded using the Soundex coding guide. Names with prefixes, double letters, or letters side by side that

### Soundex Family Card [Microfilm]

NAME	RELATION-SHIP	AGE	BIRTHPLACE
Crooks, Mary J.	W	37	England
- William P.	D	12	Michigan
- Hugh W.	D	9	Michigan
- Marie E.	D	7	Michigan
- Edna A.	D	4	Michigan

### Soundex Family Card [Microfilm]

Do Not Rely on this Data Alone. Use it to Find the Person in the Manuscript Census

1. Possible Multiple Cards for Households  
2. Possible Transcription Errors

### Good Census Technique

- Copying Names
  - Rule of Ten (Families)
    - Before & After Target Individual
  - Same Surname
    - All in County (if small) or Township and Surrounding Townships
  - Some Collect Every Instance They Find of the Surname

### Good Census Technique

- Always Note the Headings on each Column for each Census Schedule
  - Blank Census Forms are Available from AncestryLE for Every Census
  - Digitize a Copy of Each Form & Place in Research Aids Folder
    - Provides Quick Access
  - OR Print a Copies & Keep in your Research Tools Notebook

### Good Census Technique

- Know what Information to Expect from that Schedule
- Know the Value of that Information to Your Research

### Good Census Technique

- Working With Online Census
  - Save All Images
  - Save All Transcripts (Also)
    - Click on "View printer-friendly"
    - Copy and Paste this to Word Processor File
  - Extract to Word Processor or Spreadsheet All Information from Every Column for Every Person in Every Household in which the Surname of your Ancestor is Found

### Good Census Technique

Data Analysis

**FRANCIS YENOIR FAMILY: AGES LISTED IN MACOMB CO., MICHIGAN CENSUS, 1850-1880**

CENSUS LOCATION	Chesterfield Twp	Chesterfield Twp	Ray Twp	Ray Twp	ESTIMATED BIRTH YEAR
CENSUS NAME	YURNO	JORNO	YALLOR	YENOR	
CENSUS YEAR	1850	1860	1870	1880	
Francis	33	39	54	62	1818
Susan	20	37	50	60	1824
Susan	9	--	--	--	1841
Madeline	6	--	--	--	1844
Mary	4	--	--	--	1846
Francis	3	13	--	--	1847
Jouise	2	11	--	--	1848
Margaret	--	7	16	--	1854
Moses	--	3	14	--	1856
George	--	4/12	11	--	1859
Mary	--	--	8	18	1862
Charles	--	--	6	--	1864

### Good Census Technique

Data Analysis

**August C. SCHMIDT/SCHROEDER TIMELINE**

DATE	AGE	EVENT	PLACE	SOURCE	ANALYSIS/COMMENTS
Sept. 1858 <sup>1</sup>	0	Birth	MECKLENBURG <sup>2</sup>	<sup>1</sup> Census, 1900 <sup>2</sup> Census, 1880	1880 Census says Mecklenburg as birth place
1874/75	17	Immigration	Casco, St. Clair Co., MI	<sup>3</sup> Census, 1900	Ambiguity in census data. August's info says 1874, his parents' info says 1875
1880 <sup>2</sup>	21	Census	Casco, St. Clair Co., MI	<sup>3</sup> Census, 1880	August Schroeder age 21 listed with parents August & Lena and sister, Fredereka
22 Mar 1884 <sup>4</sup>	25	Declaration of Intention	Port Huron, St. Clair Co., MI	<sup>4</sup> Declarations of Intent, Circuit Court, St. Clair Co., Box 5, p. 280, RG 94-301, Michigan State Archives; LDS Film #1984399	
21 Oct 1887 <sup>5</sup>	29	Marriage	Port Huron, St. Clair Co., MI	<sup>5</sup> St. Clair Co., MI, Marriages, 1887-1898, Book 4, Vol. 1; Found at: www.rootsweb.com/~mista2/m_records4.htm	Parents listed as August Schmitt & Catherine Schroder. It's possible the I.P. inverted the last names to make groom & father's surnames agree. Schroder could well have been what was heard for Schroeder.
4 Apr 1889 <sup>6</sup>	30	Naturalization	Port Huron, St. Clair Co., MI	<sup>6</sup> Naturalization Records, Circuit Court, St. Clair Co., Box 6, p. 305, RG 94-301, Michigan State Archives; LDS Film #1984399	Charles Schroeder vouched before the court for August C. Schmitt
1900 <sup>7</sup>	41	Census	Casco, St. Clair Co., MI	<sup>7</sup> Census, 1900	Note that Schmitt, Krausad & Schroeder families lived side by side; Families #2, #3 & #4
1910 <sup>8</sup>		Census	Casco, St. Clair Co., MI	<sup>8</sup> Census, 1910	
1920 <sup>9</sup>		Census	Mount Clemens, Macomb Co., MI; ED 77, P. 228	<sup>9</sup> Census, 1920	
1930 <sup>10</sup>		Census	Mount Clemens, Macomb Co., MI; ED 50-31, P. 7A	<sup>10</sup> Census, 1930	He was living with his Daughter Selma and is listed as a 72 year old widower, watchman at the Sugar factory, born in Germany, came to U.S. in 1874, and naturalized
25 Apr 1931 <sup>11</sup>	72	Burial/Death	Clinton Grove Cemetery, Clinton Twp, Macomb Co., MI	<sup>11</sup> Cemetery Records, Clinton Grove Cemetery; Found at: www.clintongrove.com/genealogy.asp	Don't currently have death date

- ### Good Census Technique
- Study Enumerator's Handwriting
    - Minimize Misinterpretations
  - Read Census Looking for the Same Difficult to Read Character used in a Word You Can Identify with Certainty
  - Watch for Unusual Spellings
  - Watch for Nonsensical Names

- ### Good Census Technique
- Decipher Every Surname in Difficult to Read Censuses
    - Allows Exclusion Names Not of Interest
  - First Name Searching an Excellent Technique
    - Use When Surname Can not Be Found
    - In Particularly Difficult Situations Read Image Pages for First Names
    - Search First Name of a Spouse or Child

- ### Good Census Technique
- Watch for a Divided Family
    - Family may be Split on 2 Pages
    - Head of Family may be on the Bottom Line of One Page
    - Remainder of Family may be at the Top of the Next Page
      - Frequently this is done WITHOUT the Repetition of the Surname

- ### Good Census Technique
- Watch for a Divided Family
    - Missing Children?
      - Search Entire Township for Children that are Recorded Elsewhere Apart from Family
        - Happens Frequently
      - Examine Every Page of the Enum. Dist.
      - Be Certain to Check the Last Page of the Enumerator's Work
        - They Frequently Placed Missing Data There
      - Census Enumerators in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Required to Make Three Copies – All By Hand – Errors Occurred

### Good Census Technique

- Watch for a Divided Family
  - Bottom of Census Film is Often Darker and Under Exposed -- Difficult to Read
    - Some Imaging Corrects This but Some Does Not
  - Look at Every Line
    - Examine it Carefully

### Good Census Technique

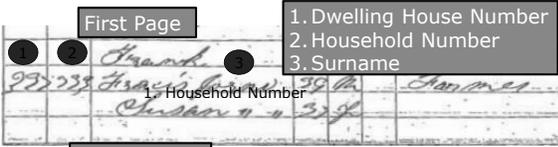
Divided Family Example



### Good Census Technique

Divided Family Example

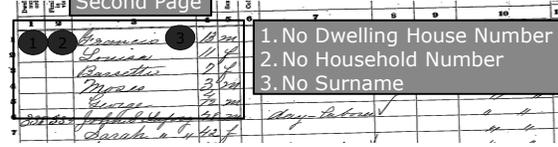
First Page



Household Number

1. Dwelling House Number  
2. Household Number  
3. Surname

Second Page



1. No Dwelling House Number  
2. No Household Number  
3. No Surname

### Good Census Technique

- Extract Every Family with your Ancestor's Surname
- Extract the Complete Household

### Good Census Technique

- In Households Containing Someone with your Surname Who is Not the Head of Family
  - Extract every such Household
    - Regardless of the Family Head's Surname
      - Use Wisdom if the County is Large and the Surname is Common
      - But Do What you Need to Do
      - Remember the More the Better

### Good Census Technique

- Employing the Rule of 10
  - Extract 21 Families
    - Your Ancestor
    - 10 Families Before
    - 10 Families After
  - Relatively Easy to do Online
    - Copy 5 Census Page Images
      - Page with Target and Two Pages on Either Side
    - Transcribe & Enter into a Spreadsheet for Analysis

### Good Census Technique

- Among the 21 Families Check Each Family for Similar
  - Migration Patterns
    - Father's & Mother's Places of Birth
    - Children's Places of Birth
  - Occupations
  - Child Naming Patterns

### Good Census Technique

- Remember Relatives Often Lived Near One Another
- Young Couples Frequently Moved with Wife's Family
  - Migration was Strongly Matriarchal
- Determine Where Ancestors Lived Through Use of Land Records
  - Even If They Owned No Land
    - Check Land Records for Neighbors (Found in the Census)
    - Helps Locate Nearby Churches & Cemeteries

### Good Census Technique

- Cardinal Principal
  - Find Your Ancestor and the Members of His/Her Family in Every Census During Their Lifetime
- When Doing This: Always Apply the Above Rules

### Good Census Technique

- Beware of Divided Jurisdictions
  - In large population situations you may have to limit your search to specific townships, towns, cities
  - Be Careful Not to Miss Someone Because of Artificial Political or Administrative Boundaries

### Good Census Technique

- Caution: Divided Jurisdictions
  - Townships may be Divided into Separate Enumeration Districts
  - Towns and Cities may be Enumerated Separately from their Townships
    - Geographically Surrounded by the Twp.
  - Cities were Divided by Wards & Enumeration Districts
    - Look at Enumerator's Name on the Census Form to Assure Continuity
  - Use County Histories & Contemporary Maps as Aids in these Situations

### Good Census Technique

- Use Geographic Aids to Enhance Your Census Research
  - Always Check Maps of the Area Under Research
  - Detailed Maps may Provide a Perspective on Your Problem Attainable through No Other Source

### Good Census Technique

- Use Geographic Aids to Enhance Your Census Research
  - Gazetteers
    - Contemporary
    - Modern
  - Atlases
  - Plat Books

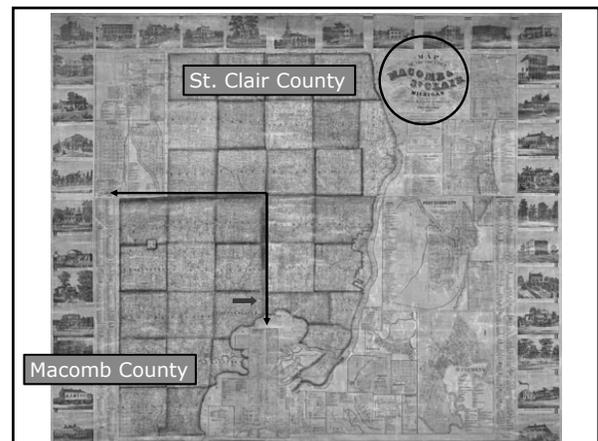
### Good Census Technique

- Be Cautious When Ancestors Lived Near Political Boundaries
  - Township, County or State
  - Extend Search to Neighboring Jurisdictions
  - Close Neighbors are often Separated by these Arbitrary Political Divisions



### Good Census Technique: Township Section Numbering

6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36



### Good Census Technique

- Use All Available Census Schedules for the Year you are Searching
  - Agriculture, Manufacturing, Mortality, etc.

### Good Census Technique

- Repeat Census Search of an Area
  - When New Evidence is Uncovered
  - When New Ancestral Families are Identified
    - Example: Family of Your Male Ancestor's Wife whose Maiden Name you just Discovered

### Lost?



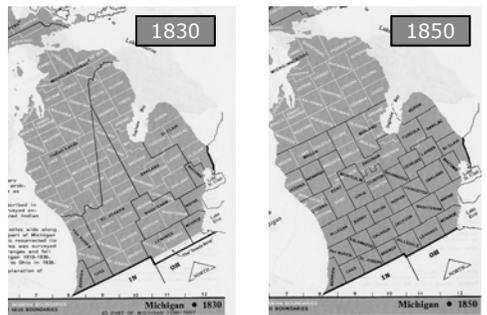
Which Way Did That Ancestor Go?

### Lost?



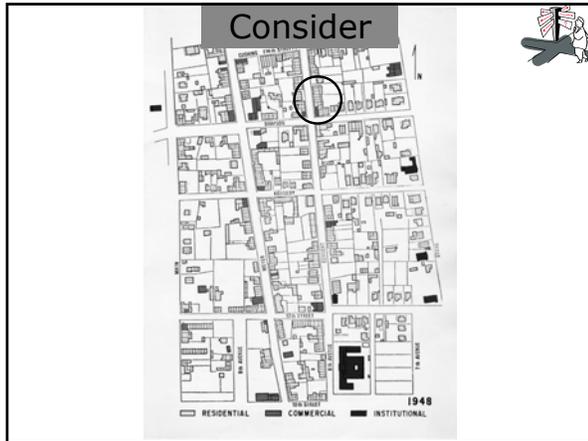
### Lost?

Check for Changed Boundaries



### Lost?

- Work Methodically
- Use Concentric Circles
- Remember: Horses Traveled About 16 Miles a Day
- Check Directories and Land Records for Clues
  - Corner Houses & Buildings Often Not Enumerated in Cities



### Lost?

- Try Cluster Genealogy
  - Research Relatives, Friends & Neighbors
  - Possible Search Criteria
    - Last Known Residence
    - Area Residents from Same State
    - Everyone with Same Occupation (Non Farmers)
    - First Names, Nicknames, Foreign Spelling
    - Age Cohort & Place of Birth

### Lost? Name Problems?

- Name Changes
- Name Variants
- Reading Errors
- Recording Errors
- Diminutives
- Nicknames
- Foreign Language Spelling

### Name Changes

- John Whitfield
- John Whitefield

### Name Variants: Example

- Montague

### Name Variants: Montague

Cague	MacKage	MacTeague	O'Tighe
Keag	MacKague	MacTeige	O'Tigue
Keague	MacKaige	MacTeigue	Tague
MacAig	MacKaigue	MacTigue	Teague
MacCague	MacKeag	McTague (1881)	Teige
MacCaig	MacKeague	McTeauge (1871)	Teigue
MacCaigue	MacKeige	Montague	Tighe
MacHaig	MacTague	O'Taidhg	Tigue
MacHeig	MacTaidhg	O'Teague	

### Reading Errors

FREQUENTLY MISREAD LETTERS			
Intended	Sometimes Mistakenly Inferred As ...	Intended	Sometimes Mistakenly Inferred As ...
A	A, I, O, U	B	B, 8, D, E, G, H, M, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z
B	B, 8, D, E, G, H, M, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z	C	C, G, O, Q, U, X, Y, Z
C	C, G, O, Q, U, X, Y, Z	D	D, B, E, G, H, M, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z
D	D, B, E, G, H, M, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z	E	E, G, H, I, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z
E	E, G, H, I, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z	F	F, T, V, W, X, Y, Z
F	F, T, V, W, X, Y, Z	G	G, A, C, E, I, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z
G	G, A, C, E, I, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z	H	H, B, D, E, G, I, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z
H	H, B, D, E, G, I, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z	I	I, A, O, U
I	I, A, O, U	J	J, I, K, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z
J	J, I, K, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z	K	K, G, R
K	K, G, R	L	L, I, O, U
L	L, I, O, U	M	M, N, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z
M	M, N, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z	N	N, M, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z
N	N, M, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z	O	O, A, E, I, L, M, N, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z
O	O, A, E, I, L, M, N, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z	P	P, B, D, E, G, H, I, L, M, N, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z
P	P, B, D, E, G, H, I, L, M, N, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z	Q	Q, O, U
Q	Q, O, U	R	R, K, G
R	R, K, G	S	S, L, F
S	S, L, F	T	T, F, V, W, X, Y, Z
T	T, F, V, W, X, Y, Z	U	U, O
U	U, O	V	V, F, T, W, X, Y, Z
V	V, F, T, W, X, Y, Z	W	W, V, X, Y, Z
W	W, V, X, Y, Z	X	X, C, G, O, Q, U
X	X, C, G, O, Q, U	Y	Y, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Z
Y	Y, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Z	Z	Z, C, G, O, Q, U, X, Y
Z	Z, C, G, O, Q, U, X, Y		

Note: Letters in bold print are especially likely substitutes.

### Reading Errors: Lower Case

- a & o & u
- e & i
- n & u
- m & n

### Reading Errors: Upper Case

- L & S
- T & F
- J & G & Y
- I & J
- K & R
- O & Q
- P & R
- U & W

### Recording Errors: Phonetic Substitutes

PHONETIC SUBSTITUTES			
Original	Letters Which Might Have Been Substituted for the Original	Original	Letters Which Might Have Been Substituted for the Original
A	A, I, O, U	AE	A, E, I, O, U
B	B, 8, D, E, G, H, M, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z	BE	B, E, I, O, U
C	C, G, O, Q, U, X, Y, Z	CE	C, E, I, O, U
D	D, B, E, G, H, M, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z	DE	D, E, I, O, U
E	E, G, H, I, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z	EE	E, I, O, U
F	F, T, V, W, X, Y, Z	FE	F, E, I, O, U
G	G, A, C, E, I, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z	GE	G, E, I, O, U
H	H, B, D, E, G, I, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z	HE	H, E, I, O, U
I	I, A, O, U	IE	I, E, O, U
J	J, I, K, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z	JE	J, E, I, O, U
K	K, G, R	KE	K, E, I, O, U
L	L, I, O, U	LE	L, E, I, O, U
M	M, N, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z	ME	M, E, I, O, U
N	N, M, P, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z	NE	N, E, I, O, U
O	O, A, E, I, L, M, N, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z	OE	O, E, I, O, U
P	P, B, D, E, G, H, I, L, M, N, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z	PE	P, E, I, O, U
Q	Q, O, U	QE	Q, E, I, O, U
R	R, K, G	RE	R, E, I, O, U
S	S, L, F	SE	S, E, I, O, U
T	T, F, V, W, X, Y, Z	TE	T, E, I, O, U
U	U, O	UE	U, E, I, O, U
V	V, F, T, W, X, Y, Z	VE	V, E, I, O, U
W	W, V, X, Y, Z	WE	W, E, I, O, U
X	X, C, G, O, Q, U	XE	X, E, I, O, U
Y	Y, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Z	YE	Y, E, I, O, U
Z	Z, C, G, O, Q, U, X, Y	ZE	Z, E, I, O, U

### Recording Errors

- Phonetic Spellings
- Silent Letters - added or dropped
  - H's & E's
- Letters Doubled
- Double Letters made Single

### Recording Errors

- Vowel Sound Misunderstood
  - At Beginning of Name
  - In Middle of Name
  - ANGLE / ENGLE / INGLE
  - MATLICK / MATLOCK / MATLACK

### Recording Errors

- Indexers' Typographical Errors
  - Transposition of Letters
  - Striking of Adjacent Keys

EXAMPLES:

- RANOLD for ARNOLD
- AMITH or SMIRH for SMITH

### Recording Errors

- Census Enumerator's Spelling Errors
  - MT. GOMERY for MONTGOMERY

### Recording Errors: Robidoux

- Moise & Phoebe
- 14 Children
- Last Names all Spelled Differently on Birth Records

### Recording Errors: Robidoux

Rabadeau	Rabidau	Rabidue	Robedeaux	Robidou	Rubadeaux
Rabadeaux	<b>Rabideau</b>	Rebadow	Robedeaux	<b>Robidoux</b>	Rubadeux
Rabadue	Rabideaux	Rebadowx	Roberdeau	Robidue	Rubado
Rabbideau	Rabideux	Rebedew	Roberdeaux	Roubadeaux	Rubadu
Rabedeau	Rabidioux	Rebedoux	Robidaux	Roubedeaux	Rubadue
Rabedeaux	Rabido	Rebideau	Robideau	Roubideaux	Rubedew
Rabedew	Rabidou	Rebideaux	Robideaux	Roubidou	Rubidoeaux
Rabedioux	Rabidou	Rebidue	Robido	Roubudeaux	Rubidoux
Rabedue	Rabidoux	Robedeau	Robidou	Rubadeau	

### Name Problems?

- "Correct" Spelling
  - Modern Concept
  - Began in Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century (after Civil War)
  - Early Names were Spelled Phonetically

### Name Problems?

- Previously Not Important
  - No National Records
  - Society was Local
    - Everyone Knew Everyone Else
  - Illiterates (Large % of Pop)
  - Most Made Their Mark and Depended On Someone Else to Spell Their Name
    - Government Officials, Clergy, and Clerks Spelled Names in Their Own Way

## Name Problems?

- Census Takers Were Political Appointees
- Some Nearly Illiterate
- Often From Different Ethnic Group
  - Didn't Hear Names Correctly
  - Didn't Know How To Spell Names
- Immigrants Frequently Chose to Americanize Their Names

## Name Problems?

- Locating Name Variations
  - Search the IGI at FamilySearch.Org
  - Check Ethnic Name Books

Lost?  
Name Problems?

- Diminutives  
<http://www.nireland.com/anne.johnston/diminutives.htm>
- Nicknames  
<http://www.censusdiggins.com/nicknames.htm>
- Foreign Language Spelling

## What Is The Name?



- All the Names of **Odile Bedore**
  - **Bedore** (Husband's Name in Michigan - Changed in Ontario)
  - **Bedard** (Husband's Name in Quebec)
  - **Vincent** (Death Certificate Maiden Name)
    - Isn't She Fr Can?
    - Why an English Name?
  - **Desjand** (Marriage Certificate Maiden Name, Provided by the Province of Ontario
    - Not Book Copy)

## What Is The Name?



- All the Names of **Odile Bedore**
  - **Desjean** (Maiden Name in Church Register for Marriage)
  - **Vassar** (Census Index NY – 1850 as a Child)
  - **Vassau** (Census – 1850 NY – My Reading of Text)

## What Is The Name?



- All the Names of **Odile Bedore**
  - **Odile Vincent dit Jean** (Actual Birth Name)

### Beginning Search Strategy or THE CHASE

- Plan the Search Before Beginning
  - Target Person’s Name
  - Target Person’s Residence
    - Place of Death (if known)
    - Place of Marriage (if known)
    - Place of Birth (if known)
  - Determine Type of Record to Examine
- Work Backwards D → M → B
- Determine Approximate Lifespan of Target Person
- Make “Educated Guesses” as to When Married or Born

### Beginning Search Strategy or THE CHASE

- Obtain Vital Records
  - Acquire Both County & State Records
    - County or State Records May Include Additional Information from the Other
    - County or State may have Different Interpretation of Data
- Obtain Vital records of Siblings
- Search All Germane Censuses
- Reconstruct Target Person’s Family
- Locate Target Person’s Birth Family

## FINDING ALL YOUR ANCESTOR’S DOCUMENTS®

(Well, Almost All!)



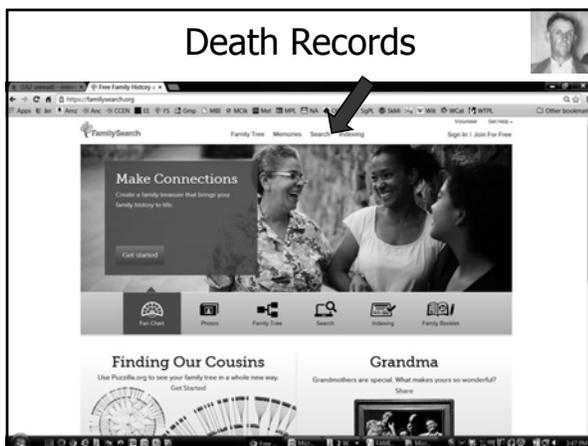
**The Case of Bert Arthur Pingel**  
1892 - 1962

© Irvin C. Rabideau  
Clarkston, MI 48346  
irvinrabideau@att.net

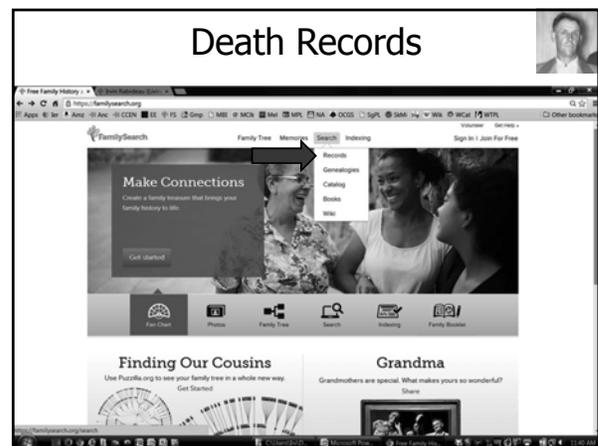
## Death Records

- Places to Check
  - Social Security Death Index
  - County Death Index
  - State Death Index
  - Church Records
  - Cemetery Records
  - Obituary Indexes
- Using the Social Security Death Index @ FamilySearch.org

### Death Records



### Death Records





## Death Records

Name	Birth	Death	Location
Bert Pingel	31 August 1912		
Bert Pingel	31 August 1912	August 1962	Michigan
Bert Pingel	21 July 1912		
Bert Pingel	November 1919		New Haven, North Carolina
Bert Pingel	5 February 1904		Monroe, Wisconsin
Bert Pingel	5 September 1912		Phoenix, Maricopa, Arizona
Bert Pingel	8 April 1914		Phoenix, Maricopa, Arizona
Bert Pingel	30 Aug 1911		
Bert Pingel	July 1912		Cuyahoga, Ohio
Bert Pingel	20 Jan 1915		
Bert Pingel	September 1918		Whitehall, Illinois
Bert Pingel	19 July 1912		
Bert Pingel	February 1913		Michigan
Bert Pingel	31 August 1912		
Bert Pingel	August 1912		Forest, Massachusetts
Bert Pingel	14 October 1910		
Bert Pingel	May 1917		Eastonville, Burke, York, Iowa
Bert Pingel	8 January 1914		

## Death Records Social Security Death Index

Bert Pingel  
United States Social Security Death Index

Given Name: Bert  
Surname: Pingel  
Birth Date: 31 August 1912  
Social Security Number: 270-10-2294  
State: Michigan  
Event Date: August 1962  
Age: 70

## Death Records Social Security Application Information

**Social Security Applications**

In order to enroll, the applicant completed a form known as the SS-5, *Application for Social Security Number*, which requested the following information:

- Full name
- Full name at birth, including maiden name
- Present mailing address
- Age at last birthday
- Date of birth
- Place of birth (city, county, State)
- Father's full name
- Mother's full name, including maiden name
- Sex
- Race as indicated by the applicant
- Whether the applicant ever applied for Social Security or Railroad Retirement before
- Current employer's name and address
- Date signed
- Applicant's signature

For Legal Requirements See:  
<http://www.legalgenealogist.com/blog/2013/05/31/ordering-the-ss-5/>

## Death Records Social Security Application Instructions

<http://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/topics/social-security.html>

### Social Security Records

Records of the Social Security Administration (SSA) relating to individuals are not in the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). However, the following information may assist you in locating these records.

Records Available from the Social Security Administration (SSA)

For a fee, the SSA will provide a copy of the Form SS-5, *Application for Social Security Number*.

Send the required fee, plus:

1. the person's name
2. the person's Social Security Number (if known)
3. either evidence of death or a release-of-information statement signed by the person about whom the information is sought

Send to:  
Social Security Administration  
OEO FOIA Workgroup  
300 N. Green Street  
P.O. Box 33022  
Baltimore, Maryland 21290-3022

For Legal Requirements See:  
<http://www.legalgenealogist.com/blog/2013/05/31/ordering-the-ss-5/>

## Death Records Social Security Application (Faux)

**U. S. SOCIAL SECURITY ACT  
APPLICATION FOR ACCOUNT NUMBER**

Name: Bert Pingel  
Address: 54 Teawans, Mt Clemens, Mich  
Date of Birth: August 31 1912  
Place of Birth: Frederick Lake, Pa  
Sex: Male  
Color: White  
Signature: Bert Pingel  
Date: April 14 1937

## Death Records Social Security Application

**APPLICATION FOR SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBER**

Name: ELVIS PRESLEY  
Address: 128 Winchester - on Memphis Tenn  
Date of Birth: 16 JAN 8 1938  
Place of Birth: Tupelo, Miss  
Signature: Gladys Love Smith  
Date: OCT 21 1950

## Death Records



- Obtain the Original Application Form for Social Security Card:
  - Order Online From Record, or
  - Generate an SS-5 Letter From Record
    - Complete
    - Snail Mail
- If You Are Aware That This Information Is Important To Your Research DO NOT DELAY. Obtain The Cards ASAP As They May Soon Cease To Be Available To Genealogists, See: <http://www.legalgenealogist.com/blog/2013/01/30/news-from-the-ssdi-front/>

## Death Records – SS-5 Letter



Date of request: 01 Apr 2010  
Social Security Administration  
GEO FOIA Workgroup  
350 N. Green Street  
P.O. Box 33022  
Baltimore, Maryland 21290-3022

Please send me a photocopy of the actual application for a Social Security card (Form SS-5--Social Security Number Record Third Party Request for Photocopy) filed by the person listed below. I obtained this information from the Social Security Death Master file at FamilySearch.org who obtained it from the Social Security Death Master file, originally compiled by the Social Security Administration. My understanding is that the fee is \$27, when the Social Security number is provided or \$29 if the Social Security number is unknown or incorrect. Enclosed is a check or money order for \$\_\_\_\_\_, made payable to the Social Security Administration. Thank you for your assistance.

RABIDEAU, IRVIN  
376-07-3476  
Birth: 04 Apr 1913  
Death: Aug 1979

Sincerely,  
Address:

## 1957 DEATH OF WIFE



MACOMB COUNTY CLERK / REGISTER OF DEEDS  
Death Records System

Last Name	First	County of Death	Date of Death
PINGEL	SELMA	MACOMB	June, 13 1957

## 1957 DEATH OF WIFE



FIND A GRAVE INDEX

**Selma L Pingel**  
Birth: 1892  
Death: Jun. 13, 1957

Burial:  
Clinton Grove Cemetery  
Clinton Township  
Macomb County  
Michigan, USA

**Mt Clemens Public Library Obituary Index**  
*Daily Monitor Leader*, June 13, 1957  
Age: 64 Maiden Name: Schmidt



## 1952 DEATH OF SON



- Check Family Documents & Keepsakes
- Search Relevant Newspapers
  - Remember: Relatives Made News



## 1952 DEATH OF SON



### Die As Car Plunges Into Canal

Where Accident Bounced Trio Into Watery Grave

Two of Three Victims Lost in Rescue Bid

South River Road Accident Shocks Mount Clemens

BY JERRY KASSEL

Frantically searching for their bodies, relatives of three victims of a fatal automobile accident today mounted the first of the three victims of the South River Road accident, which occurred here Sunday night, and plunged into 18 feet of water today.

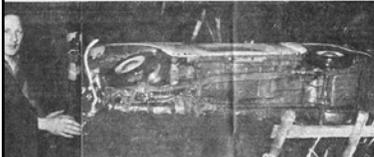
A third body was found in the river today, when the car was pulled from the 187 water at 10 p.m. yesterday.

The dead son:  
**LEONARD PINGEL, 25, 24** years old, was killed in a 1948 Buick automobile, and a victim of the accident.

**WALTER JOSEPH LAPOINTE, 25,** a 1951 Buick, was killed in a 1948 Buick automobile, and a victim of the accident.

**WILLIAM OWEN, 25, 11** years old, the father of two small children, his body was found in the river today.

—Last night's tragedy was the second in a series of accidents on Clinton Road since 1948, according to Sgt. Walter




## 1942 DRAFT

Available at FamilySearch.org & Ancestry.com

Name: **Bert Arthur Pingel**

Birth Date: 31 Aug 1892

Residence: Mount Clemens, Michigan, USA

Age:  
Occupation: [View image](#)

Nearest Relative:  
Height/Build:  
Color of Eyes/Hair:  
Signature:

## 1942 DRAFT

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after April 28, 1877 and on or before February 16, 1897)

SERIAL NUMBER U. 2354	1. NAME (Print) BERT ARTHUR PINGEL	ORDER NUMBER
2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) 54 YEARSMAN ST. MTCLEMENS MACOMB HIGH.		
3. MARITAL STATUS Same		
4. TELEPHONE 1406 W	5. AGE IN YEARS 49	6. PLACE OF BIRTH MTCLEMENS
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mrs. BERT PINGEL - 54 YEARSMAN MTCLEMENS HIGH		
8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS Macomb Co. Road Commission		
9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS County Bldg. MTCLEMENS MACOMB HIGH		
I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.		
D. S. S. Form 1 (Revised 6-1-42)		Bert A. Pingel

## SOURCES OF CENSUS INFORMATION

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/pol02-ma.pdf>

[http://www.ancestry.com/wiki/index.php?title=Overview\\_of\\_the\\_U.S.\\_Census](http://www.ancestry.com/wiki/index.php?title=Overview_of_the_U.S._Census)

**The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy**  
by Szucs, Loretto Dennis  
Publication Date: 2006  
Chap. 5, "Census Records," pp. 157-218

## 1940 CENSUS

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	SEX	AGE	DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH
Lowell	Son	M	11	Feb 2	Mich.
Pingel, Bert	Head	M	49	Aug 31	Mich.
Selma	Wife	F	47	Nov 7	Mich.
H. Leet	Son	M	19	Nov 10	Mich.
Raymond, Fern	Son	M	10	Feb 2	Mich.
Arline	Daughter	F	24	Nov 4	Mich.

## 1937 DAUGHTER'S MARRIAGE

**Marriage License**

County, Michigan

Creating:

Not a Book Copy

Name Error

**Marriage Certificate**

## 1930 CENSUS

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	SEX	AGE	DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH
Bert A. Pingel	Head	M	37	Aug 31	Michigan
Selma	Wife	F	37	Nov 7	Michigan

### 1930 CENSUS

**Incorrect Gender**

**Caring for Father-in-Law**

NAME	SEX	AGE	BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH	RACE	RELATIONSHIP
Ringel, Fred	M	47	1883	Michigan	W	Caring for Father-in-Law
Ringel, Maggie	F	47	1883	Michigan	W	
Ringel, Fred	M	12	1918	Michigan	S	
Ringel, Helen	F	12	1918	Michigan	D	
Ringel, Albert	M	10	1920	Michigan	S	
Ringel, Kenneth	M	7	1923	Michigan	S	
Ringel, Margaret	F	7	1923	Michigan	D	

### 1927 DEATH OF MOTHER

**Stroke**

DATE	TIME	PLACE	CAUSE	AGE	SEX	RELIGION	EDUCATION	INDUSTRY	RESIDENCE	PARENTS	MARRIAGE OF DECEASED
1927	10:30	Home	Stroke	47	M	Methodist	High School	None	1215 S. Michigan St., Lansing, Mich.	John Ringel, Michigan; Maggie Jones, Michigan	1905

### 1927 DEATH OF MOTHER

- Mother's Death Triggered Father's Probate – 20 Years After His Death
- Real Estate was in His Name
- It could only be Sold After His Death
- Female Rights were Limited

### 1927 DEATH OF MOTHER

**List of Heirs**

NAME	RESIDENCE	RELATIONSHIP
John Ringel	1215 S. Michigan St., Lansing, Mich.	Son
Maggie Jones	1215 S. Michigan St., Lansing, Mich.	Daughter
Albert Ringel	1215 S. Michigan St., Lansing, Mich.	Son
Kenneth Ringel	1215 S. Michigan St., Lansing, Mich.	Son
Margaret Ringel	1215 S. Michigan St., Lansing, Mich.	Daughter

### 1927 DEATH OF MOTHER

**Paid Claims**

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
McCook & Drostbeck, Funeral	367.00
Bert A. Fiedler, care of Mrs Fred Fiedler	150.00
Carrie Paulson, Doctor bill & Daily Leader	53.05
Leader - Press, License to sell (NOTICE)	5.00
Henry Gillich, Cemetery charges	15.00
Union Title and Guaranty Company	40.00
Mrs Alvin Spear	300.00
Joseph Miller, Appraiser	2.00
Harvey Diehl, Appraiser	2.00
Henry Macreix, Appraiser	2.00
Charles Diehl, Appraiser	2.00
Administrators Fees	90.00
Publication, Final Account	5.00

### 1927 DEATH OF MOTHER

**Bert Receives Brother John's Settlement**

**John is in a State Mental Hospital**

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
The Probate Court for the County of Macon

ESTATE OF ... Fredrick Ringel, Deceased ...

This is to Certify, That I have received of ... Bert Ringel, Administrator ... One Hundred Seventy-six Dollars and seventy-eight cents ...

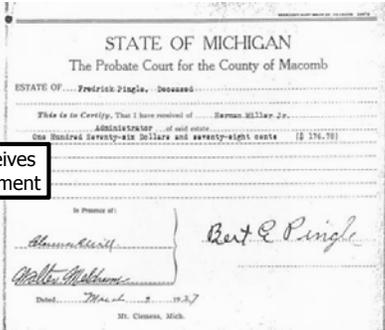
Bert E. Ringel  
Administrator

John Ringel  
In a State Mental Hospital

### 1927 DEATH OF MOTHER



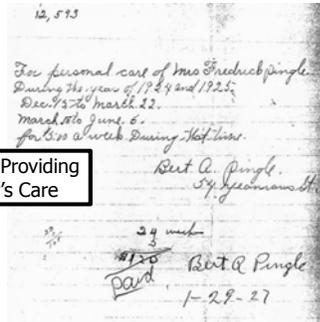
**Bert Receives His Settlement**



### 1927 DEATH OF MOTHER



**Bert's Bill for Providing His Mother's Care**



### 1927 CITY DIRECTORY



1927 CITY DIRECTORY TRANSCRIPT

PINGEL, BERT A. (Selma A.) frmn Rapid Ry, h 54 Yeamans  
Rapid Railway System 171 N. Gratiot  
Extracted from: *Mt. Clemens City Directory, 1927* p. 196

- Search Every Available Directory
- Determine Subject's Arrival & Departure Dates
- Directories Contain a Section Listing Address Changes, Departures & Deaths

### CITY DIRECTORIES



Pingel, Bert	133	Front N	← <b>Probably Not Our Bert</b>	899
Pingel, Bert	133	Front	←	1901
Pingel, Bert	133	Front N	← Park Cottage	1903
Pingel, Bert	136	Dickinson		1913
Pingel, Bert	85	Dickinson	Rapid Railway System	1915
Pingel, Bert A	113	Front N	Rapid Railway	1922
Pingel, Bert A	54	Yeamans	Rapid Railway	1924
		Yeamans	Detroit United Railway	1926
		Yeamans	Rapid Railway	1927
Pingel, Bert A	52	Yeamans	Rapid Railway	1929
Pingel, Bert A	54	Yeamans	County Road Commission	1930
Pingel, Bert A	54	Yeamans	Copeland	1932
Pingel, <b>Burt A</b>	113	Front N	Detroit United Railway	1919

**Note Spelling Variation**

SOURCE: Mt Clemens Public Library, *Mount Clemens City Directory Master Index*  
<http://www.mtclib.org/search/MCDirectory.php>

### 1920 BIRTH OF TWINS – WILMA & WILBERT




No Birth Documents – Born Less than 100 Years Ago

### 1920 CENSUS




### 1917 BIRTH OF THELMA

- No Birth Record Obtained
- Birth Date: 1 September 1917
- Obtained from Marriage Record

### 1917 DRAFT CARD

World War I Draft Registration Card A—(5 June 1917)

### 1917 DRAFT CARD

### 1915 BIRTH OF LILA

- No Birth Record Obtained
- Birth Date: 14 January 1915
- Obtained from SSDI

Given Name:	Lila
Surname:	Liss
Birth Date:	14 January 1915
Social Security Number:	370-09-9847
State:	Michigan
Event Date:	November 1976
Age:	61

### 1913 MARRIAGE

### 1913 BIRTH OF FIRST CHILD

Certified Copy of Record of Birth

### 1910 CENSUS

Maggie's Children:  
Born/Living

Correct Ages for  
Bert & Albert

### 1907 DEATH OF FATHER

- Important to check probate files both near the death date but way off in time when not found near the death date
- Newspaper news not just obituaries
- My generation had only the vaguest of ideas as to when he died (i.e., around 1905)

### 1907 DEATH OF FATHER

No word has been received from the body of Engineer Pingle who lost his life in the wreck of the Arcadia.

Says his brother William: "I might have been in my brother's place, as I had the first chance to go on the ill-fated vessel, but Fred wanted money more than I did, and so he went. I am informed that the vessel was improperly loaded, and top heavy. It is possible that she simply rolled over."

News Story  
No Obituary was Published for Frederick

### 1900 CENSUS

### 1900 CENSUS

### 1900 CENSUS

LOCATION	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	NATIVITY
1	Frederick	Head	30	Michigan
2	Maggie	Wife	24	Michigan
3	Charles	Son	10	Michigan
4	Carl	Son	8	Michigan
5	Albert	Son	7	Michigan
6	Bert	Son	5	Michigan

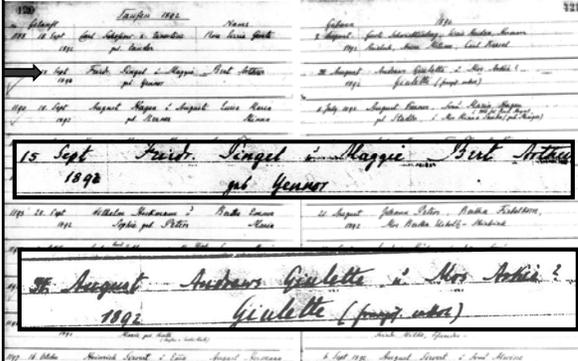
Note: Surname Not Listed--Often the Case (for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Page) When a Family is Split Between Two Pages

### 1892 BIRTH



- No Birth Registration Found
  - County Clerk's Office
  - Vital Records Office, Michigan State Department of Health
- Located Baptismal Record which Provided the Date of Birth as well as the Baptismal Date
- Baptisms can be a Good Clue as they Frequently Occurred Near the Date of Birth

### 1892 BIRTH

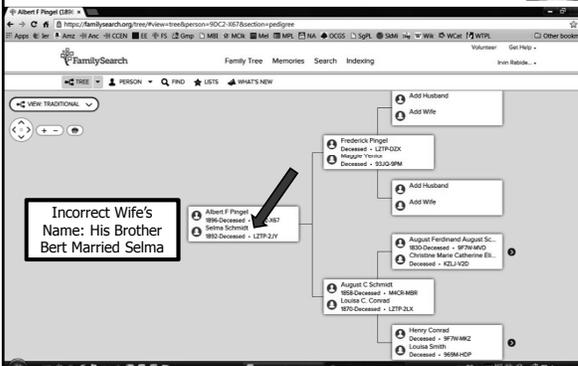



### Online Pedigree Problems

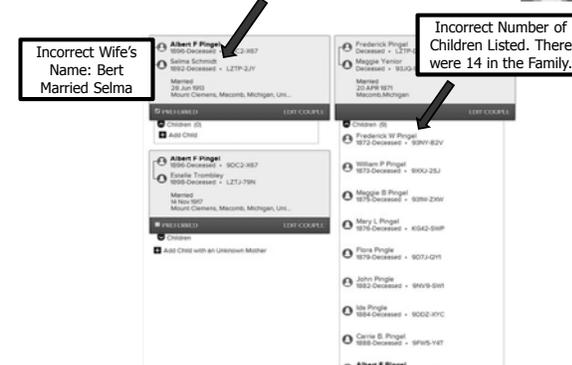


- Use as Clues Not as Fact
- Far too often the Information in Pedigree Charts is not Sourced
- Many Errors in Online Pedigree Information
  - Frequent Errors in Vital Record Information
  - Frequent Errors when Connecting Related Families Who Share the Same Given Names
  - Errors Present when Records Contain Variants of Surname

### Online Pedigree Problems

### Online Pedigree Problems

### Online Pedigree Problems




**Be An Exemplary Genealogist**



- **Follow the Ten Commandments of Genealogy**
  1. Never accept someone else's opinion as "fact." Be suspicious. Always check for yourself
  2. Always verify primary sources; never accept a secondary source as factual until you have personally verified the information
  3. Cite your sources! Every time you refer to a person's name, date and/or place of an event, always tell where you found the information
  4. If you use the works of others, always give credit. Never claim someone else's research as your own.

**Be An Exemplary Genealogist**



- **Follow the Ten Commandments of Genealogy**
  5. Assumptions and "educated guesses" are acceptable in genealogy as long as they are clearly labeled as such. Never offer your theories as facts
  6. Be open to corrections. The greatest genealogy experts of all time made occasional errors. So will you. Accept this as fact. When someone points out a possible error in your work, always thank that person for his or her assistance and then seek to re-verify your original statement(s). Again, check primary sources

**Be An Exemplary Genealogist**



- **Follow the Ten Commandments of Genealogy**
  7. Respect the privacy of living individuals. Never reveal personal details about living individuals without their permission. Do not reveal their names or any dates or locations
  8. Keep "family secrets." Not everyone wants the information about a court record or a birth out of wedlock to be posted on the Internet or written in books. The family historian records "family secrets" as facts but does not publish them publicly

**Be An Exemplary Genealogist**



- **Follow the Ten Commandments of Genealogy**
  9. Protect original documents. Handle all documents with care, and always return them to their rightful storage locations
  10. Be prepared to reimburse others for reasonable expenses incurred on your behalf. If someone travels to a records repository and makes photocopies for you, always offer to reimburse the expenses

**These "commandments" apply to online data as well as to printed information**

**Upcoming Genealogy Classes**

- Gen 102, Sat. Nov. 7, 2015
- Gen 103, Sat. Jan. 16, 2016
- Gen 104, Sat. Feb. 6, 2016
- All Classes from 9:30 to 1:00

**Waterford Genealogical Society**

- **Meetings**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays
  - 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
  - In this room

## LAST BIG TIP!

- **Never** Accept Another Person's Work At Face Value
- **ALWAYS PROVE IT!**
- Use it as a Guide
- **VERIFY IT!**

## REMEMBER!

- *Nullus in verba* ---  
We take no man's word for anything

## QUESTIONS

