Preserving Our Family Story

"Bird by Bird"



Important Questions

Why is doing this important to me?

• Who am I creating this history for?

How MUCH do I want to try to cover in this project?

What end product am I working toward?

Getting Organized

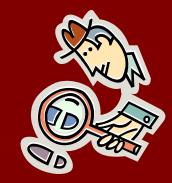
• What do I have to work with?

• Where is it now?

• How can I best organize it to pull it together.

• Where will I keep it?

So where do I start?



- Start with what your oldest family members know
- Family papers, Bibles, tombstones
- Bits of information *you* remember

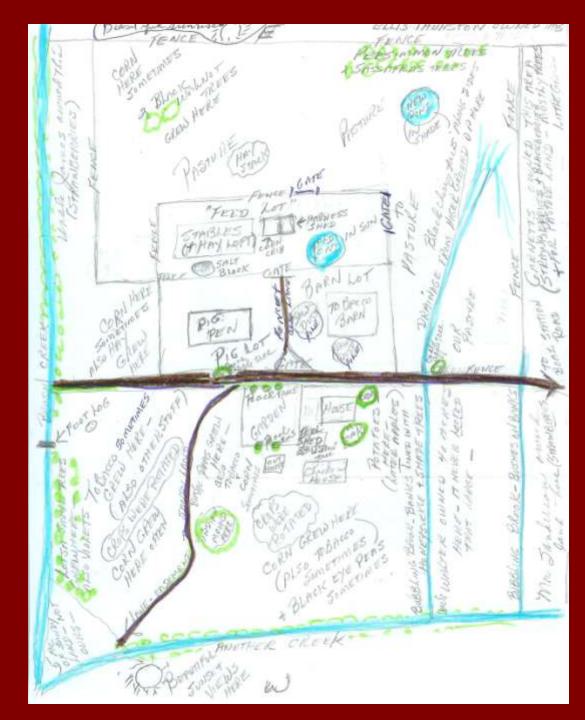
• Locate people so you know which states and counties to search.

• Keep an eye out for the stories you've never heard.

• "Beyond this place there be dragons." Early Maps of the World



Enjoy your discoveries ...and don't run too fast!



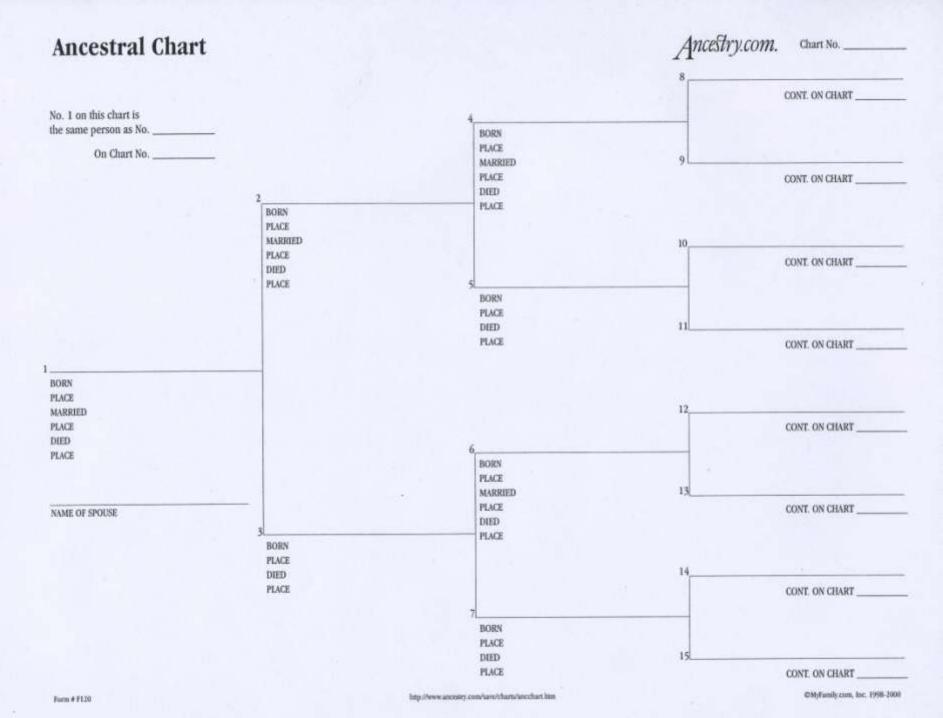
What information do I need to find?

 Where I find might have details or pictures I don't have?

• Where can I hunt for facts we're missing?

You can be a genealogist without being a family historian...

...but, it's hard to be a family historian without becoming involved in genealogical research.



Digging into the Past

- Federal Census forms 1940 to 1790.
- Court Records- Deeds, Wills, suits
- Birth, Death, Marriage & baptisms
- Newspapers and periodicals.
- Local histories, Genealogy Societies and county historical societies.

- Who keeps these records?
 - -National Archives
 - -County Courthouses
 - -State Archives/Libraries
 - -Churches and local societies

Important Reminder!

- Print copies where possible
- Always note source
- Notations for which person/generation

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To search the census online, visit www.ancestry.com

Ascestry' Cerous Form 015

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	Street, avenue, road, etc.	House number (in cities or towns)	Number of dwelling house in order of visitation	Number of family in order of visitation	of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any Include every person living on April 1, 1930. Omit children born since April 1, 1930.	RELATION Relationship of this person to the head of the family	Hame award or rented	Value of home, if owned, or monthly rental, if runted	Radio ser	Does this family live on a farm?
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for the County of Graves, State of Kentucky,

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OVER

1890 Census destroyed in fire

Ancestry.com

1880 United States Federal Census

For more family history charts and forms, visit www.ancestry.com/save/charts/ancchart.htm

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Those Without Names

- No slaves named.
- No married women's names before 1850.

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LOUISA COUNTY VIRGINIA RECORDS

Louisa County Virginia

Death Records 1853-1896

with addendum from records of Woodward Funeral Home 1907-1911



compiled by Janice L. Abercrombie

Berian Publishing Comput Athens, Georgia 1997 Anderson, father, 1859

Shelton, Oliver; white, M; March 12; scarlet fever; 3 years, Jas. B. & Frances A. Shelton; James B. Shelton, father. 1859

Anderson, Joseph T.; white; M; March 2; disease unknown; 7 mos. Jno. B. & Bettie H. Anderson; Jno. B. Anderson, father. 1859

Wright, William S.; white; M; April; scarlet fever; 5 years; Jas. M. & Julia A. Wright; James M. Wright, father. 1859

Buck, Ann E.; white; F; Aug.; dyspepsia; 21 years; Thos. & Eliza T. Wilson; b. Spotsylvania County; married; Jno. S. Buck, father-

in-law. 1859

Buck, Florence L., white, F; July; disease unknown, Watter L. & Ann E. Buck; Jno. S. Buck, father-in-law (sic) [grandfather?]. 1859

Hope, Molly G.; white; F; March 2; scarlet fever; 3 years, 9 mos. David M. & Sarah J. Hope; David M. Hope, father, 1859

King, Sarah L.; white; F; June 28; disease unknown; 1 years; Daniel W. & Mary C. King; Daniel W. King, father. 1859

Dickinson, James S.; white; M; Sept; disease of heart; 10 years, Ralph & Frances S. Dickinson; b. Orange County; Ralph Dickinson, father 1859

Crew, Robert S.; white; M; April; disease unknown; 2 years [maybe 12 years]; John M. & Elizabeth Crew; John M. Crew, father. 1859

Desper, John, white; M; Feb.; dropsy; 80 years; Thomas & Polly Desper; widower; Rebecca Diggs, daughter. 1859

McGehee, Adeline, white, F. June 16; consumption; 18 years; Wm. W. & Eliza H.? McGehee, single; Wm. W. McGehee, father. 1859

Winston, Caroline; white; F; Feb. 25; disease unknown; 2 years, 4 mos.; Jno. J. & Elina Winston; Jno. J. Winston, father. 1859

Shelton, Dr. Thomas; white; M; July 25; apoplexy; 63 years; Thos. & Celia Shelton; physician; unmarried; Jos. L. Shelton, nephew. 1859

Anderson, John W.; white; M; April 13; cause unknown; 1 mos.; Jno. W. & Sarah C. Anderson; Jno. W. Anderson, father. 1859

Walker, Thomas, white, M, May 14, drowned, 72 years, Wm. & Rebecca Walker, widowed, Nancy Walker, wife. 1859

Powell, Dicy; white, F; July 20; consumption; 38 years, Jane Poindexter; widow; Jane Poindexter, mother. 1859

Carr, Mildred; white; F; Dec. 27; sore throat; 10 years; King & Sally Carr; b. Albemarle County; Troyler Watkins; renter. 1859

Banks, William; white; M; April 1; old age; Ralph & Nancy Banks; b. Fluvanna County; married; M. S. Hoggard, son-in-law. 1859

Mary; slave; Robert L. Jones, owner; F; Jan. 30, cause unknown, 1 year, 6 mos.; Peggy; Robert S. Jones, owner. 1859

Not named; slave; Mrs. Sarah Branham; F; July; jaundice; 1 mo.; susan; Miss Ellen Branham, daughter of owner. 1859

Henry; slave; John B. Pendleton; M; Aug. 1; inflammation of bowel; 1 mo.; 6 days; Susan; Jno. B. Pendleton, owner. 1859

McHenry; slave; Wingfield Cosby, M, June; teething; 7 mos.; Mary; Wingfield Cosby, owner. 1859

Henry; slave; William Waddy, owner; M; Dec.; smothered; 2 mos.;

PARISH REGISTER

OF

Saint Peter's, New Kent County, Va.

FROM

1680 to 1787,

PUBLISHED BY

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA IN THE STATE OF VIRGINIA.

Parish Record Series, No. 2.

RICHMOND: WM. ELLIS JONES, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER. 1904. Elenor Crawley Departed this Life June ye 20, 1720.

Sarah wife of W" Crump Deceased June 29, 1720.

Peg a negro of Major Custis Deceased June 14, 1720.

Eliz: Clarkson Deceased april 17, 1720.

a negro boy belonging to David Clarkson Died April 24, 1720.

Nanny a negro of Rich' Crump Deceased april 25, 1721.

Dryas a negro of Major Custis Deceased Sep' 11, 1721.

Dryas a negro boy of Major Custis Deceased Febry: 16, 1721-2.

Bock a negro girl of Major Custis Deceased Febry: 26, 1721-2.

Martha Crump wife of Rob' Crump Dep't this Life May 21st, 1722.

Dinah a negro girl belonging to Major Custis died March 1st, 1722-3.

Roger a negro boy belonging to Wⁿ Clopton Jun' Dyed Jany. 24th, 1723-4.

Gilbert Cotterell Dyed ye 25 of 8", 1724.

58

David son of Rich* Crump Died Febry: 12th, 1724-5.

Will a negro belong to W" Clopton Jun' Dyed, 1725.

M' Henry Collins minister of this Parish Dyed Nov. 21st, 1725. Anne Daugh. of M' Wn Chamberlayne Died oct ye 8th, 1725. Wm Cotterell Died Febry 13th, 1725-6.

Sam a negro belonging to Mr Wm Clopton Died March 4, 1725-6.

Jenny a negro belonging to Major Jn" Custis Dyed april 7, 1726. Eliz" Crump Departed this Life March ye 12th, 1726-7.

Gloucester a negro belonging to M' W" Chamberlayne Dyed Apl, 1726.

Tho' Crump Dyed March the 1st, 1726-7.

Geo. ye son of Susannah Crump Dyed 7th ye 29th, 1727.

Dick a negro belonging to Col^o Jn^o Custis Died april ye 10th, 1728.

Jack a negro belonging to Col^a Custis Dyed March ye 12th, 1731.

Benedict son of Rich⁴ & Lucy Crump was Born oct² 18, 1739.

Edw⁴ Dorrill deceased ye 25 d of February, 1687–8.

Jn° sone to Cornelius Dabenie deceased ye 7 d of aprill, 1688. Eliz. daugh: to Cornelius Dabenie deceased ye 4 d of aprill, 1688.

Eliz: wife of Rob' Depress Departed this life sept 27, 1789.

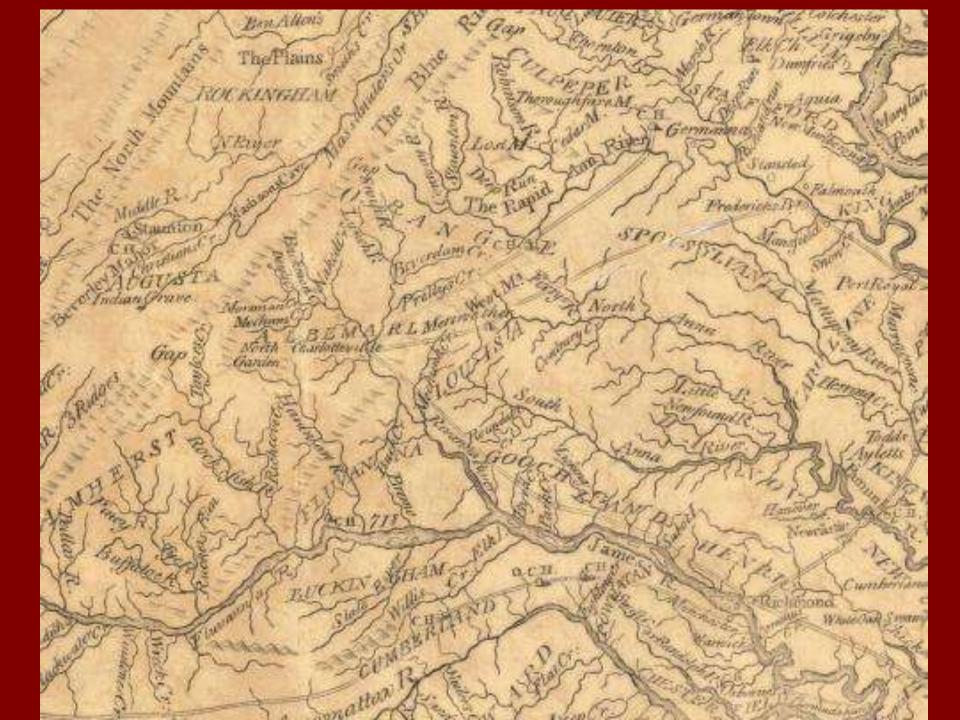
John Dennett Departed this Life July ye 15th and were Buried ye 17th, 1787.

What do I do with THIS?

- Keep Notes on related people.
- Keep note of "maybe this is us?" finds.
- Shoebox on Ancestry.
- Paste text and source into Word.
- Print and place in notebook.

Bringing Dry Bones to Life

- Filling in historical context, timeperiods, national and local events in those ancestor's lifetimes.
- Read local history- and good historical fiction.
- Year event sites, books.



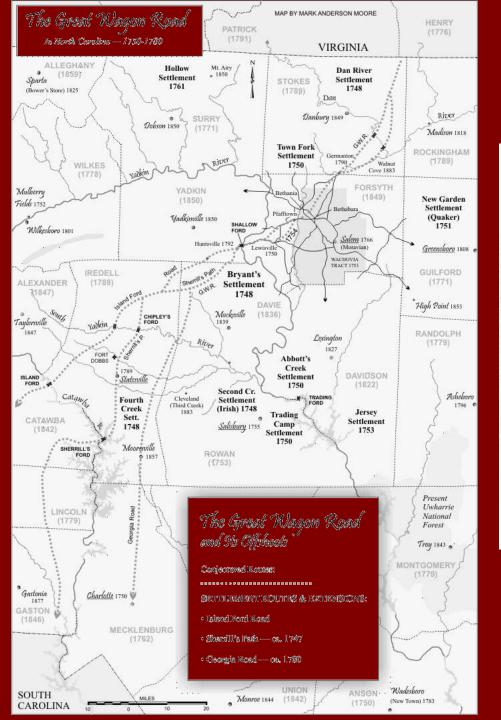


Online Resources

- Library of Congress
- National Archives
- Public Library (Louisa)
- Library of Virginia
- Bob's Genealogy Filing Cabinet
- Ancestry.com
- Fold3.com

URLs for websites

- http://www.loc.gov
- http://www.archives.gov
- www.jmrl.org
- http://www.lva.lib.va.us
- http://www.genfiles.com
- www.ancestry.com
- www.footnote.com





- Although this is family "history", you want it to read like a story, not a textbook.
- When what you know is true, state it as fact.
- When you don't know, make free use of, "I imagine," or "One can only guess that like other early Tennessee pioneers...."

 "Conflicting accounts are told, but it seems..."

Focus and Limits

- Your story for your children.
- Focus on one early ancestor and come forward in time.
- Begin with someone living and go back a few generations.







Plots, Themes or Quotes

- Immigration/Migration
- Rags to Riches
- Pioneer or Farm Life
- Rising Out of Slavery
- War Survival
- Quotes- literary or from letters

The Key Component to Success...

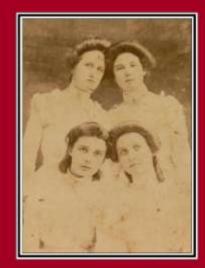
Your passion for what you're writing about.

Format Options

 Scrapbook (only good for a few copies)

 Copy and/or Print your 'scrapbook'

- Create your own pages for print.
- Scan photos and background papers and textures.
- Be creative!
 Scan or
 photograph
 anything.



Candace Womble Mathis

Youth is to be a time of promise and the hope of love. The young girls in this photo joined Candace, upper left, for what appears to be a wedding picture.

Her life had not been an easy one by the time she met and married Jim Mathis, by whom she would bear thirteen healthy children before her own death at the age of fifty.

Her father, William A. Womble, died in a logging accident when Candace was only three and her mother struggled to provide for her children in two more marriages.

Candace and Jim Mathis would finally come to own their own small farm just in time for the Great Depression, during which they lost that farm and went to live with Candace's mother.





Essentials for the Task

- A scanner and computer
- Digital camera with close-up
- A little creativity or a young person close at hand!



A Sensory Exercise

As you watch jot down a name, place or memory that comes to mind.

Think how you can best engage your family member's interest and involve them in the process!

To know the story of our roots is to better know ourselves.

•On YouTube?

Let your *heart* bring the story...

...and welcome the story that comes.