



# NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

PO Box 169 • Wexford, PA 15090 • [www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org](http://www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org)

## NEW BOOKS DONATED TO NORTHLAND LIBRARY BY NHG

The North Hills Genealogists recently donated twenty new books to Northland Library for their genealogy collection. This gift has become an annual occurrence to benefit all patrons of Northland. In collaboration with Northland's director and genealogical librarian, Amy Steele, the following books were selected to meet the needs of Northland's patrons. This year's donation includes:

*An Atlas of German Migration and America* by Carrie Eldridge

*The Beginner's Guide to Using Tax Lists* by Cornelius Carroll

*Carmack's Guide to Copyright & Contracts: A Guide for Genealogists, Writers, & Researchers* by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack

*Deciphering Handwriting in German Documents* by Roger P. Minert

*Everything You Need to Know about How to Find Your Family History in Newspapers* by Lisa Louise Cooke

*Finding Italian Roots: The Complete Guide for Americans*, 2nd edition, by John Philip Colletta

*Fires in Allegheny City, Pennsylvania (1875–1907)* by Joel Fishman, Lisa Ann Senkow, and Katherine Fishman

*Mastering Genealogical Proof* by Thomas W. Jones

*New Englanders in the 1600s: A Guide to Genealogical Research Published between 1980 and 2010* by Martin E. Hollick

*North America's Maritime Funnel: The Ships*

*that Brought the Irish 1749–1852* by Terrence M. Punch

*Numbering Your Genealogy: Basic Systems, Complex Families, and International Kin*, revised edition by Joan Curran, Madilyn Crane, and John Wray

*On Your Own: How to Design and Construct a Family History Book to Inform and Captivate Readers* by Elayne and Stephen Denker

*Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 19th Century Voter Lists* by the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society

*Presbyterian Churches in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania* by Dorothy B. Braden

*Preserving Your Family Photographs* by Maureen Taylor

*Scottish Dissenting Presbyterian Churches* by Rev. Reid W. Stewart

*The Sleuth Book for Genealogists* by Emily Anne Croom

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## NHG BOARD MEMBERS 2013–2014

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### For more information:

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### Newsletter ideas and feedback:

[Editor@NorthHillsGenealogists.org](mailto:Editor@NorthHillsGenealogists.org)

## WHO WE ARE—NHG

*We are a group of genealogy enthusiasts who meet on a regular basis to assist one another in establishing our family histories. We meet on the third Tuesday of every month, except December, at the Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, McCandless Township in the North Hills of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Tip Time begins at 6:45 P.M., and our general meeting commences at 7:00 P.M. Meetings are free and open to the public.*

*We publish a newsletter ten times a year for a nominal membership fee of \$15.00 annually. The subscription year runs from August to June, but anyone wishing to join the North Hills Genealogists mid-year will receive back issues of the newsletter for that membership year.*

*The North Hills Genealogists Board meets at 7:00 P.M. on the first Tuesday of each month in the Conference Room of the Northland Public Library. The Board meeting is open to all members of the North Hills Genealogists organization.*

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Collaboration is a useful tool when conducting genealogy research. For example, I have a second cousin named Cheryl who lives near Atlanta, Georgia, whom I have never met; however, we have been collaborating on our family history for over ten years. This collaboration helps to expand our family tree as we combine our information.

We first began communicating when I answered a query she posted on a LONG family Rootsweb Message Board. She was clearly asking about my branch of the family, and I happened to know one piece of information that she did not: that our mutual great-great-grandfather had died as a result of an illness he acquired during his service in the Civil War. I had his widow's pension file. Since that first communication, we have exchanged data that resulted in tracing our Pittsburgh Long family back two generations and some female lines back even further.

Our research efforts are split: she is a better Internet researcher than I am, constantly referring me to websites that I would never have found on my own, and better at analyzing and correlating information we have found. I am the field researcher (see September's column). I travel to court houses, libraries, and historical societies from Greensburg to Little Washington to Steubenville, Ohio, and Wellsburg, West Virginia, looking for estate information, deeds, and tax records. Every time I find a new bit of information, I send it to Cheryl, who pieces it together. Then she suggests I look for something different.

We do not communicate for months at a time, but then I will come up with a new approach to a problem, or she will, and then we are off again on our genealogical search.

Looking for family information on your own can become boring, especially if you have no one who is as enthusiastic about your finds as you are. Often you can be blinded with what you have found and not see another path that someone can immediately see. I have collaborators for other branches of my family tree, both cousins I know and cousins that I found on the Internet. All and all, collaboration with cousins has been a good experience.

This month's NHG meeting allows members of our own society to ask questions and provide answers in a round table discussion moderated by Dave Williams. It is an opportunity to share information, collaborate, and, as I understand, find previously unknown cousins. I hope you can come and participate.

Our sixth annual NHG conference took place on October 26th with four sessions presented by Warren Bittner. The venue was grand, the luncheon buffet was wonderful, the desserts provided by NHG members were delightful, and Warren offered four excellent methodological lectures to help us pursue our ancestors.

This November is the 150th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln declaring Thanksgiving to be an American National Holiday. The year 1863 was one of the most disheartening in our nation's history. By setting aside the fourth Thursday in November as a day the entire nation could sit down as one and count our blessings, and give thanks for all we share, Lincoln's hope was that Thanksgiving could be the start of us seeing what binds us together—the start of healing in his time. This year make your Thanksgiving dinner a time with your family to give thanks, and then discuss what your ancestors were doing 150 years ago.

This is the last newsletter for 2013, so I want to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a happy holiday season and happy ancestor hunting in the new year.

~ Dave

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## **NHG DONATES BOOKS (continued from page 31)**

*Spelling Variations in German Names: Solving Family History Problems through Application of German and English Phonetics* by Roger P. Minert

*Turn Your iPad into a Genealogy Powerhouse* by Lisa Louise Cooke

*Welsh Settlement of Pennsylvania* by Charles H. Browning

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## **EDITORS ANNOUNCE NEWSLETTER GUIDELINES**

NHG Newsletter editors Amy Arner and Sue Ennis have developed guidelines for submitting articles to the newsletter. The guidelines are:

- Email submissions to [Editor@NorthHillsGenealogists.org](mailto:Editor@NorthHillsGenealogists.org).
- The editors will confirm via email that a submission was received.
- Articles should be 300–600 words in length.
- The editors reserve the right to edit submitted work for grammar, punctuation, spelling, usage, length, and format.
- The deadline for submissions is the first of the month, except for July and December when no newsletter is published.
- The author will retain the copyright to his or her article.
- Non-members who have an article published will receive a PDF copy of the issue in which the article is published.

These guidelines will be added to the NHG website in the next few weeks.

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## **NHG FALL CONFERENCE THANKS**

The NHG Conference Committee thanks all those who volunteered during the conference. They would also like to thank all those who brought desserts. As usual, the desserts were fantastic.

Stay tuned for details about next year's conference, which will feature Rev. David McDonald, CG, as the speaker. It will be held 25 October 2014.

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## **NHG PLANS HOLIDAY SOCIAL**

This year NHG will be touring the Beaver Area Heritage Foundation's campus on Saturday, December 7th. We'll meet at 10:00 A.M. at the Beaver Area Heritage Museum, which is housed in a former freight station of the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad. One of the current exhibits is *Trains, Trains, Trains!* The exhibit features model trains from the post-war era, including one

with a Steelers theme. Also on the campus is a reconstructed cabin dating from the early 1800s. It allows visitors to see how people lived during that time. The research facility of the Beaver County Genealogy and History Center is on the same campus. It is located in the basement of a former passenger station of the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad.

Fort McIntosh, built in 1778, is nearby. Depending on the weather, we may be able to visit the grounds where the fort was located. For more information about the museum, log cabin, and fort, go to <http://www.beaverheritage.org>. The History Foundation's campus is located at 1 River Road in Beaver. There is free parking on the campus, which overlooks the Ohio River.

After our tour, we will have lunch at the 1810 Tavern (<http://www.1810tavern.com>). The restaurant, located at 234 Bridge Street in Bridgewater, is about a mile from the Heritage Foundation's campus. Lunch will be dutch treat. Please join us for some learning and socializing.

Spouses and family members are welcome to join us for the tour and lunch. We do need a head count for the restaurant. If you will be attending the social, please let Sharon Cimoch know at the November meeting or send an email to [info@NorthHillsGenealogists.org](mailto:info@NorthHillsGenealogists.org) by 4 December.

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## NHG JOINS PINTEREST

North Hills Genealogists now has a board on Pinterest so that we may make finding interesting and informative websites available to our followers. We will be "pinning" sites that can help you pursue and record your family histories. Pinterest is a tool for collecting and organizing the things that inspire you. Pins are like bookmarks. Whenever you find something on the web that you want to keep, add it to Pinterest.

When you follow North Hills Genealogists' Pinterest boards, you can re-pin them to your account. When you want to go back to a particular site, it is available to you on any computer that has access to the Internet. For an explanation on how Pinterest works, view the page <http://about.pinterest.com/basics>.

Many of the links from our website have been added to the Pinterest boards. When you follow our board, you will be notified when we pin something new. You can control how you receive that notification in the Pinterest settings. To find our Pinterest board, go to <http://www.pinterest.com/NHGenealogists/pins> and follow us.

You can also get up to date genealogy news by following NHG happenings on Twitter <https://twitter.com/NHGenealogists> or liking the North Hills Genealogists on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/NorthHillsGenealogists>.

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## DELL OFFERS HOLIDAY DEALS

Dell has announced discounts on its new tablet computers for participants in its Partner Benefits Program. More information about the discounts is available online at <http://dell.com/mpp/FGS> or by telephone at 1-800-695-8133. You will need the ID code SS131372490 once you are ready to purchase. The company has also announced that its Black Friday deals will be available to program participants starting on November 21st.

As a member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), NHG provides access to the discounts for our members.

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## NECROLOGY

NHG is sad to report the passing of long-time member Marion (Mager) O'Brien on 14 October 2013 after a valiant battle against illness. Marion was an enthusiastic participant in monthly meetings at Northland and volunteered with many special NHG events each year. She was on the original committee for the Fall Conference and helped at past Library Lock-ins. Marion volunteered tirelessly for many organizations in the North Hills. Those who looked for her white hair at NHG meetings would be met with a friendly greeting, a pat on the arm, and a lively joke! NHG sends its sincere and heartfelt condolences to Marion's children, Patrick and Jean, the entire O'Brien family, and her many close friends at NHG.

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## DEPRECIATION LANDS MUSEUM DESCRIBED

*By Rich Hayden, NHG Tip Time Coordinator*

For readers of this newsletter who descend from residents of the North Hills, the Depreciation Lands Museum in Hampton Township is a treasure with much to offer. The Depreciation Lands were created in 1783 to compensate veterans of the Revolutionary War, and extended some thirty-three miles north from the Ohio and Allegheny Rivers. However, until the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794, Indian resistance prevented significant settlement of this area, as well as the Donation Lands further north. Hampton Township comprises just 1.5% of this vast expanse.

The museum maintains a small, but significant archive of historical materials beyond the pioneer buildings and other physical artifacts so skillfully interpreted during events such as the Welsh *Hydref* festival in the fall. Of special interest are a series of maps that identify the locations of many of those who settled near the museum. Although a warrantee atlas has been compiled for Allegheny County, in many cases the warrantees were not the settlers who finally occupied and developed the land. These individuals are mostly found in deeds describing the purchase and subsequent sale and subdivision of the land, usually with reference to the original surveyor's district and lot number designations. If these designations could be attached to the warrantee atlas or to the detailed maps held by the museum, researchers could more readily locate their ancestral lands on a modern map. To do this, a co-operative effort will be considered with the goal of identifying the original surveyor's districts and lot numbers, and fixing them to a modern map, such as an appropriate U.S. Geological Survey map. For Hampton Township, the original north-south line dividing the survey districts of Samuel Jones (No. 3, to the west) and James Cunningham (No. 4, to the east) roughly bisects the township.

An additional goal of such efforts should be to foster a greater appreciation among genealogists and historians alike of their mutual need for one another. After all, history is really more than

just the story of the times and places in which our ancestors lived, and genealogy is more than just a collection of names, dates, and relationships. Genealogists will always do well to "put flesh on the bones" of their finds, and nothing brings these individuals more to life than places like the Depreciation Lands Museum.



*The North Hills Genealogists were recently represented by Mary Dzurichko, left, and Sharon Cimoch, right, along with Dave Williams and Rich Hayden, at the Hydref Fall Festival. The Hydref was held at the Depreciation Lands Museum in Allison Park where NHG set up an information booth and discussed genealogy with visitors.*

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## FAMILYSEARCH UPDATES PITTSBURGH DATABASE

FamilySearch has updated their database "Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh City Deaths, 1870–1905." This searchable database provides access to the death registrations in Pittsburgh. There are links from each entry to an image of the original record. This collection is available at <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1810>

412. A person who died in Pittsburgh may have had their death registered at the city level or, starting in 1893, at the county level. The county level death registrations have not been digitized.

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## **TRENDING NOW IN GENEALOGY— PRESERVE FAMILY TALES**

*By Sue Ennis, NHG Newsletter Co-Editor*

The Summer 2013 issue of *The New York Researcher* (which I picked up while browsing our monthly freebie table) included a detailed and interesting article by Tammy A. Hepps, titled “Telling Family Stories: One of the Biggest Trends in Genealogy Today”. You can read this article and the entire Summer 2013 issue of *The New York Researcher* at <http://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org>.

As mentioned in the abstract about the article, the emphasis on preserving the stories about your family began early in the year when RootsTech—the largest genealogical conference held in the U.S.—included [Story@Home](#), a conference-within-a-conference. The aim? To collect, preserve, AND share the stories that brightly color every family’s tree!

Stories include published accounts of events such as from letters, diaries, audio tapes, or movies. Legendary tales include those events passed along through a family’s oral tradition. Perhaps the most poignant stories that are NOT being preserved are those anecdotal accounts of ancestors and family events which emerge from, and are re-told during, holiday gatherings or other special family events. Sometimes these types of tales spring from a visual reminder, such as sharing photos, or watching slide shows and then inquiring about an individual or place.

Putting our ancestors into the context of their time in history, the places they lived, and the people and special occasions in their lives is vital to truly preserving your precious family stories!

The busiest holiday season of the year in the U.S. begins in about a week with Thanksgiving and continues through the advent of the new year. What a perfect time to make time to collect, preserve, and share some stories from your family lore.

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The best way to do this is probably an obvious way: ask someone in your family to re-tell a story that you have heard, and enjoyed, many times in the past.

As the story is retold, listen actively, perhaps even taking a step back from the group exchange to observe the interactions among the relatives. What does Aunt Mary Grace remember that Mom, her sister, does not? After all, one was ten years old when World War II began, and the other was just beginning school. Is one’s account more accurate, or just more detailed? Was the relative spinning the tale directly involved in the event or incident, or just repeating what was told to him or her?

Last summer, one of my younger cousins had a wedding, and the day after the family gathered at the home of her parents with three generations of my mother’s immediate family in attendance. It started with someone saying, “Remember when Grandma Jones . . .” and ended with my youngest sister saying: “Thank you for telling those stories; I was only six when our grandparents passed away in 1975, but all of you were teenagers or older. As you told the stories, I remembered more!”

Preserving the stories of one’s own family is a precious priority. There are several easy methods for doing so, and all of them begin with a re-telling of something you have already heard. This holiday season when you are surrounded by loved ones and relatives—focus on collecting the family tales rather than the family data and statistics. Trigger those stories with photos, songs, holiday traditions, questions, and storytelling. Record the stories while fresh in your mind by writing, taping, or transcribing. Then, find a day this winter when you are trapped inside your home to send out the stories to all of your relatives. Perhaps you will even be ambitious enough to set up a website or Facebook page and post your written and photographic family tales for yet unknown cousins to find!

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## **THE VALUE IN WRITING A RESEARCH REPORT—FOR YOURSELF!**

*By Sue Ennis, NHG Newsletter Co-Editor*

While attending the FGS (Federation of

Genealogical Societies) National Conference in August, I was re-inspired in one aspect of genealogical research by a dynamic, knowledgeable speaker, Paula Stuart-Warren, CG. Paula, a former NHG Fall Conference speaker, provides genealogical instruction about many topics. The session that I attended by Paula was "Writing a Research Report for Yourself." In this workshop, Paula took the professional genealogist's skill of producing a research report for a client and applied that concept to how any family researcher can write a genealogical report as a tool for more effective genealogical research.

A research report can be as basic or as detailed as you need it to be. The goals of any research report are to create an accurate, detailed record of where you conducted research, when you did so, what you found, and notes for future research.

The concept that Paula and others profess is important. With the limited time you have to spend on the search for your roots, you do not want to unintentionally conduct redundant research—accessing records and sources to gather new information, only to suddenly realize that you had already "found" and recorded the same facts a few years earlier.

Keeping notes in the style of a research report provides a visual reminder of what you are researching, where you have already looked, what you have already found, what other facts you need to find in the future, and sometimes even a list of sources to access for future genealogical research sessions.

The genealogical research report that you write to yourself must be set up in a format that works for you and your research style. You can download free forms from genealogical sites such as FamilySearch.org and write research notes with pencil and paper. You can create an *Excel* spreadsheet to track places, dates, and sources used for each repository that you frequent. You can open a *Word* document and type a summary for yourself. Or you can create or use a template, app, or program that allows you to input citation data including additional, detailed notes. Remember to include the location of the repository and the date you were

there to research along with your findings, your sources, and notes with comments. Writing the research report to yourself must be timely—make a point to summarize and record your research notes to yourself as soon as possible after every research project or trip.

As you plan any research time or trip, re-read your most recent research notes to help to focus each research session, even if that session is taking place at home.

There are several places where you can find templates or directions for creating a genealogical research report for yourself, as well as for others. You can search and find multiple articles on the blog of Paula Stuart-Warren, CG, at <http://paulastuartwarren.blogspot.com>. Tonia Kendrick refers to an idea she gleaned from NHG's own Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, at a conference and offers added insight about writing a research report to yourself on her genealogical blog, *Tonia's Roots*, found at <http://www.toniasroots.net/2012/09/03/write-as-you-go/>. Here is an article providing the basics for creation of a genealogical research report for yourself, using a step-by-step style of explanation: [http://www.ehow.com/how\\_6105514\\_write-genealogy-report.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_6105514_write-genealogy-report.html).

A comprehensive article by Rhonda S. Norris called *Skillbuilding: Preparing Research Reports (Accurately and Clearly)* can be found on the BCG (Board for Certification of Genealogists) at <http://www.bcgcertification.org/skillbuilders/skldo11.html>. Although it was written for professional genealogists, the skills and formats recommended will work for any genealogist who writes a report about research conducted. NHG's Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, is currently a Trustee for BCG and has the expertise to offer insight into the writing of a genealogical research report.

Whether you choose a basic report style or create a matrix of citations, repositories, dates, and locations, make a resolution to write yourself a research report after each and every time you conduct research about your family tree. Read and review your reports to yourself prior to every new research session as you continue your search for your ancestors.

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## WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

### **Wednesday, 20 November 2013, 7:00 P.M. BEAVER COUNTY GENEALOGY AND HISTORY CENTER**

NHG Program Chair Shelli Nye will be the featured speaker at the next Beaver County meeting. This event will be held at their facility in the Beaver Train Station, 250 East End Avenue, Beaver. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information, please visit <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~pabecgs>.

### **Monday, 2 December 2013, 6:30 P.M. ZELIENOPE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

NHG Newsletter co-editor Sue Ennis will host an informal meeting for people to work on their own genealogical research at the Zelianople Library. This free event is open to the public. The library's address is 227 South High Street, Zelianople. If there is continued interest in this event, more sessions will be scheduled starting in April 2014.

### **Saturday, 7 December 2013, 10:00 A.M. HEINZ HISTORY CENTER**

The Heinz Center will hold its annual Books in the 'Burgh from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. This free event features western Pennsylvania authors. Attendees will be able to talk to the authors, purchase copies of books, and listen to two talks by authors. For more information, please visit <http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org>.

### **Thursday, 12 December 2013, 6:30 P.M. MOON GENEALOGY CLUB**

The program for the next meeting of the Moon Genealogy Club is to be determined. The event will be held at the Moon Township Public Library, 1700 Beaver Grade Road, Moon Township. For more information, please email the group's coordinator Heather Anderson at [heathersfamilysearch@gmail.com](mailto:heathersfamilysearch@gmail.com).

### **Saturday, 11 January 2014 PLUM FAMILY HISTORY CENTER**

The Plum FHC is planning a program on Italian family history research. Details are still being finalized. The event will be held at their facility on 710 New Texas Road, Plum. Email [paoakcreekaviaries@gmail.com](mailto:paoakcreekaviaries@gmail.com) or watch the Plum Family History Center's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Plum-Family-History-Center/528993133843669> for more information.

### **13–17 January 2014 SALT LAKE INSTITUTE OF GENEALOGY**

Space is still available in some of the courses at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG). This week-long institute features intensive education on different aspects of genealogy. It will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah. More information is available at <http://www.infouga.org>.

### **6–8 February 2014 ROOTSTECH**

Registration is now open for Rootstech, a conference focusing on using technology for genealogy as well as getting started with research. It will be held in the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. For more information and to register, please visit <https://rootstech.org>.

### **7–10 May 2014 NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Next year's conference will be held in Greater Richmond Convention Center in Richmond, Virginia. The theme is *Virginia: The First Frontier*. The program has not been announced, but watch <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org> for updated information.

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### **WESTMORELAND COUNTY PUTS DEEDS ONLINE**

*By Amy E. K. Arner, NHG Newsletter Co-Editor*

The Westmoreland County Recorder of Deeds has



digitized many of their records and made them available on their website <http://www.co.westmoreland.pa.us>. On this page, click on the link "Search Our Records". This will take you to a page where you have several options for searching and viewing records.

The options of interest to genealogists are "Simple Search," "Advanced Search," and "Archive Search". The Simple Search option allows users to search deeds and mortgages from 1918 to the present by name. The name used can be either the buyer or the seller of the land. The date range allowed on this page starts with 1850, but that is an error. The Advanced Search option works like the Simple Search option, with the addition of some extra search parameters. These extra parameters include subdivision and lot number, which can be helpful for researchers using modern deeds.

The Archive Search option works differently. In this case, users can look at books containing deeds, mortgages, and plans. Once you select the type of document, you need to pick the volume and page. This will allow users to open a digital image of the page in an image manipulation program such as *Photoshop Elements* or *GIMP*. The deed books from volume one to volume 1499 are available this way. These volumes cover deeds recorded from the formation of the county in 1773 to 1953. The mortgage books from volume one through 493 include mortgages recorded from 1852 to 1934. Earlier mortgages may be recorded in the deed volumes. The plan books from volume one through ninety-one are available, which include plans filed from 1890 to 2000. Plan books contain maps and other information about subdivisions of land.

Since the Archive Search option does not allow searching by name, users must determine which volumes and pages they want to examine in other ways. For more recent records, users can utilize the Simple Search and Advanced Search options. For older records, users must consult the deed book indexes. These are available in the Recorder of Deeds Office in Greensburg. The indexes have been microfilmed by the Family History Library and are available through their microfilm rental program.

If you have ancestors who lived in Westmoreland County, please take advantage of this method to view original records from the comfort of your own home.

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## **CELEBRATE YOUR HERITAGE AT PITT'S NATIONALITY ROOMS**

Consider visiting the Nationality Rooms at Pitt's Cathedral of Learning between now and January 11th while each room is decorated in an authentic manner for the upcoming holidays. Cultural heritages that are celebrated at the Cathedral of Learning include Japan, Wales, Armenia, Early American, Israel, Ukraine, America, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Ireland, Lithuania, Romania, Sweden, China, Greece, Scotland, Yugoslavia, England, France, Norway, Russia, and Syria-Lebanon. For more in-depth information, click on <http://www.nationalityrooms.pitt.edu>.

The hours and information have been released for the 2013 Holiday Tours of the Nationality Rooms. Guided groups are available for groups of 10 or more visitors; reserve a guide in advance and check the available hours. Holiday tours allow visitors to experience each culture's traditional holiday style in beautifully decorated rooms.

Refer online to the schedule of available dates and times, which offer a variety of choices. The 2013 Open House for the Nationality Rooms is on Sunday, December 8th from 12 noon to 4:00 P.M. Traditional performances will take place every fifteen minutes in the Commons Room throughout the Open House. Each room will have a guide in authentic garb who will offer insight and information about their culture.

This year, in case you cannot make it to the Nationality Rooms in person, you can now tour the rooms online. The website *Virtual Nationality Rooms @ the Cathedral of Learning* is accessible from the link <http://www.pitt.edu/~natrooms/pages/allnr.html>. Once on the site, click on either the first or third level links to access a list of all nationality rooms. The virtual tour on this site includes audio—music, stories, and commentary—along with stunning images of each room.

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dated Material



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS FROM NHG

## Mark Your Calendars!

### **Saturday, 7 December 2013** **NHG ANNUAL SOCIAL**

*NHG Members*

Come tour the Beaver Area Heritage Foundation facilities. Features include a museum, an 1802 log cabin, Fort McIntosh, and the Beaver County Historical and Genealogical Society's research room. After the tour we will have lunch at the nearby 1810 Tavern.

### **Tuesday, 21 January 2014** **Trilogy of Families: The Road to Publication**

*Nancy Lauer*

Lauer has written and published three books about her Maryland families, including her German, Irish, Welsh, and Scottish ancestors. Hear what she learned while jumping hurdles, breaking brick walls, and making tough decisions. Explore the many ways to research, compile, write, and publish a quality family history.

## **THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM – Tuesday, 19 November 2013** **NHG ANNUAL ROUND TABLE**

*NHG Members*

November is a popular month for our group to break through brick walls! Join NHG for the annual Round Table Discussion. This meeting is an opportunity for all members to exchange ideas for resolving problems in family history research. Everyone, whether a beginner or an experienced genealogist, can benefit!