

RECENT IRISH DATABASES AND A LOCAL BOOK

To update the information on the "Irish Research" video presentation, within the last year or two, additional Irish records, databases and books have become available. Included below are those that were recently included in our quarterly, "Cuyahoga West *TRACER*", with explanatory comments.

NEW DATABASE OF IRISH IMMIGRANTS TO BOSTON

If your ancestors immigrated to Boston between Jan. 1848 and July 1891, the Massachusetts archives has a resource for you. Volunteers are creating an online database of names from passenger manifest index cards. Search what's there so far at: <www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arcsrch/PassengerManifestSearchContents.html>

Search on first and last name, ship name and dates of arrival or departure. Click on a surname in the results list and see entries for some or all of the following: first, middle and last name; gender; title (as Mr./Mrs.); age; country of origin; destination; traveling companions; occupation; ship name and passenger list number.

The Massachusetts state archives holds the original lists and microfilm copies. Although immigrants arrived at various ports in the state, the archives has manifests only for Boston.

"Information Wanted" NEW IRISH IMMIGRANTS DATABASE NOW AVAILABLE

<<http://infowanted.bc.edu>>

From Oct. 1831 through Oct. 1921, the Boston *Pilot* newspaper printed a "Missing Friends" column with advertisements from people looking for "lost" friends and relatives who had emigrated from Ireland. This extraordinary collection of 31,711 records is now available as a searchable online database, created by Boston College, which contains a text record for each ad that appeared in the *Pilot*.

People who placed these ads were from many locations, not just Boston, and were looking for those in many states. As of August 2005 the database contained entries for 1831-1878, plus 9 other years. *Cleveland, Ohio appears as a destination 166 times.*

Some records have as many as 50 data fields, while others have only a few, but often the Irish county of origin, date, ship and port of arrival

relationship of seeker are given. After the initial search, the list of results appears. Upon clicking on a name of interest, further information comes up, with considerable detail.

The website also includes a History and Resources section giving the history of Irish immigration and the Great Famine. A link to "Research Guide for Irish Genealogy" is also provided.

CASTLE GARDEN, NEW YORK: NEW ONLINE IMMIGRATION DATABASE DEBUTS

While Ellis Island is most famous as the immigration site in New York, their records don't begin until 1897. Prior to that, the entry point at New York City was known as Castle Garden. Records of approximately 10 million immigrants who arrived at Castle Garden between 1830-1892 that have been unindexed for years, are now accessible (not yet complete), due to The Battery Conservancy, a non-profit organization to the preservation of Battery Park and its history.

<www.castlegarden.org> is the website to check. Fill in the search fields with information about your ancestor and click "Search." If there are any hits for that name, they will appear on the following screen. Two choices of searches are available: **Quick Search**, which is free, may contain name, occupation, age, gender, literacy, arrival date, port of origin, last residence, destination, ship name, plus plan and passage. **Advanced Search** evidently provides more information, as it costs \$45. No experience on this level was available at the date of this writing. This income will help complete the effort of which there are still about 2 million more records to process. The site does not offer Soundex searching, so you will need to try all the variant spellings.

Steven B. Morse, who posts search utilities for Ellis Island has already posted two Castle Garden search utilities. Check these out at: <www.stevenmorse.org/ellis/cgbrowserse.html> and <www.stevenmorse.org/ellis/cg.html>

IRISH IMMIGRANTS IN THE NATURALIZATION RECORDS OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO 1820- 1900

A valuable recent publication compiled by **Donna M. Wolf** has been published by Closson Press. The index includes the names of 11,364 Irish immigrants and 3,168 witnesses hand copied from microfilmed records from both Common Pleas and Probate Court. The abstracts include all the genealogical information in each record, usually consisting of the date of arrival in the US, dates of first papers, where filed, and dates of naturalization (final papers). Additional information is included in some records, perhaps even place of origin. 260 pps, price \$30.00.

Check the Fairview Park Regional Library or order from Closson Press, 1935 Sampson Drive, Apollo, PA 15613-9208; check their website at <www.clossonpress.com> or email rclosson@nb.net with questions.



The *TRACER* is the quarterly publication of Cuyahoga West Chapter, OGS (which meets monthly at Westlake Porter Public Library) and is sent to every member of the chapter 4 times a year. In addition to Cleveland area records and chapter news, new research developments and current information on Ohio and around the country are highlighted to help members keep up to date. Membership is \$15 per year. Speak to our membership chair, *Leah Krulik*, or call her at 440-779-0648. We'd be happy to have you network and learn with us!

**IRISH GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES
SELECTED DOCUMENTS AND INDEXES ONLINE**

Immigrant Ships Transcribers Guild: Irish Ports
Belfast, Derry, Galway, Larne, Limerick, Londonderry, Moville, Queenstown and Tralee
<http://www.immigrantships.net/departures/ireland.html>
Passenger Lists, Ship Arrivals, Marriage at Sea etc. Free site!!
www.theshipslist.com/index.html
Irish Family History Foundation
<http://www.irish-roots.net/genealogy-links.asp>
Irish Family Research Data Base Short List \$
<http://www.irishfamilyresearch.co.uk/dbshortlist.htm>
National Archives of Ireland
<http://www.nationalarchives.ie/>
National Library of Ireland
<http://www.nli.ie/>
Public Record Office of Northern Ireland [PRONI] Belfast
<http://www.proni.gov.uk>
Ulster Historical Foundation
Gives the frequency of surnames in the parishes and counties in the province of Ulster
<http://www.uhf.org.uk/>
Scotch-Irish Research
<http://www.genealogy.com/00000384.html>
British Isles Family History Society-USA: Irish Internet Resources
www.rootsweb.com/~bifhsusa/irishlinks.html
Largest collection of online gravestone inscriptions in Northern Ireland 50,000 + \$
www.historyfromheadstones.com
Large database \$ - free monthly newsletter offered
www.irishorigins.com
Ireland GENUKI Home Page
<http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/irl/index.html>
Ireland Genealogy Projects
irelandgenealogyprojects.rootsweb.com
British History Research Guide
www.library.yale.edu/rsc/history/british/Pagesbrit/FrameSets/setAtlas.htm
www.island-images.co.uk *Isle of Man*

RESOURCES ON THE SHELVES AT PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Title: A new genealogical atlas of Ireland / Brian Mitchell.
WEST CALL NUMBER COPY MATERIAL LOCATION
1)912.415 M681N 1 ABOOK ANF

Title: In search of your British & Irish roots : a complete guide to tracing your English, Welsh, Scottish and Irish / Angus Baxter
WEST CALL NUMBER COPY MATERIAL LOCATION
1)929.1 B355I 1 ABOOK ANF

Title: A genealogist's guide to discovering your Irish ancestors : how to find and record your unique heritage / Dwight A. Radford
WEST CALL NUMBER COPY MATERIAL LOCATION
1)929.1 R128G 1 ABOOK

Title: Tracing your Irish ancestors : the complete guide / John Grenham
WEST CALL NUMBER COPY MATERIAL LOCATION
1)929.10720415 G826T 1 ABOOK ANF

Title: The complete book for tracing your Irish / Michael C. O'Laughlin
WEST CALL NUMBER COPY MATERIAL LOCATION
1)929.10899162 O42C 1 ABOOK ANF

Title: The book of Irish families great & small. Volume I / O' Laughlin
WEST CALL NUMBER COPY MATERIAL LOCATION
1)929.3415 O42BM 1 ABOOK

Title: A genealogist's no-frills guide to the British Isles/ C. K. Schaefer
WEST CALL NUMBER COPY MATERIAL LOCATION
1)929.342 S294G 2 ABOOK

Title: Clans and families of Ireland : the heritage and heraldry of Irish clans and families / John Grenham
WEST CALL NUMBER COPY MATERIAL LOCATION
1)929.72 G826C 1 ABOOK ANF

Title: Atlas of Irish history / Sean Duffy ... [et al.].
WEST CALL NUMBER COPY MATERIAL LOCATION
1)941.5 A881M 1 ABOOK

Title: Heritage of Ireland : a history of Ireland & its. Nathaniel Harris
WEST CALL NUMBER COPY MATERIAL LOCATION
1)941.5 H315H 1 ABOOK

compiled by J.A. Broestl March 2006