



Arkansas Genealogical Society

AGS Ezine

Volume 12, No. 10, October 2017

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Brandon Ryan, list manager

JOIN US!

If you are not a member,
this is your official
invitation to join AGS.

[AGS Membership Application](#)

If you are a member,
look at the back of your
Arkansas Family Historian.
Your membership expires
on the date printed under
your name.

It may be time to renew
your AGS membership dues!

IT'S ALMOST HERE

2017 Fall Seminar

Date: Friday Evening, October 20 and Saturday October 21

Friday Speaker: Dr. Dan Littlefield

Saturday Speaker: D. Joshua Taylor

**Location: Benton Event Center, 17322 I-30, North Benton, AR
72019**

Hotel: Fairfield Inn and Suites, attached to the Benton Event Center

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Tidbits —

The following is republished from <https://lialisson.com/2017/04/20/5-tips-to-have-a-fantastic-first-genealogy-conference-experience/>.

5 Tips To Have A Fantastic First Genealogy Conference Experience

1. Define what you want to accomplish or gain at the conference.
2. Take breaks!
3. Take a Snack
4. Create Your Own Business/Contact Cards

One thing is a given at a genealogy conference - You will make new friends (and they may even be related to you). Exchange your “business” card with contact information and stay in touch after the conference.

5. Bring the Right Stuff

- Smartphone and laptop/tablet
- Portable phone charger
- A sweater!
- A legal pad and pencils/pens

Coming Events

October 6-7, 2017

Pierre Chastain Family Association, 2017 Annual Reunion at the Hampton Inn in Louisville, Kentucky.

October 13, 2017

The Independence County Library, *Immigration and Genealogy Research: What to Look for and Where to Find It* by Jane A. Wilkerson, Collection Manager at the Arkansas State Archives, at 12:00 p.m. in the Loft of the Barnet Building, located at 267 East Main Street, Batesville, Arkansas.

October 17, 2017

The Arkansas State Archives, Pen to Podium: Arkansas Historical Writer's Lecture Series; Erik Wright - *Main Street Mayhem: Crime, Murder and Justice in Downtown Paragould*, from 6:30 pm to 8 pm at Historic Arkansas Museum in Little Rock, Arkansas. For more information contact the Arkansas State Archives at 501-682-6900.

October 20-21, 2017

The Arkansas Genealogical Society 2017 Fall Seminar will be at the Benton Event and Convention Center in Benton, Arkansas. D. Joshua Taylor is scheduled to present. Watch our [website!](#)

October 21, 2017

Newton County Ancestor Fair, sponsored by the Newton County Historical Society will be from 9 am to 3 pm at the Newton County Fairgrounds on Arkansas Hwy 7 south at Jasper. There are two presentations scheduled:

Coming Events (continued)

at 10 am Donna Dodson will present *Research Your Family History* and at 1 pm Nicole Martin will explore *Ancestry Through Science—Research Your DNA*. For more information email history@ritternet.com or call 870-446-6247.

October 23, 2017

Heritage Seekers, *Notes from the Surgical Suite Operative Report: WWI* Phillip A Snodgrass, MD/author, from 6:30 pm to 8 pm at Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock.

May 2-5, 2018

The NGS 2018 Family History Conference will be in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The announcement was in the *NGS Monthly* from May 2016. Call for proposals opened January 3, 2017.

June 2–7, 2018

[The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research](#) (IGHR) will be at the Georgia Center's UGA and Hotel Conference Center.

August 22-25, 2018

The [FGS](#) National Genealogy and Family History Conference will be held in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Coming Events *(continued)*

October 19-20, 2018

The Arkansas Genealogical Society 2018 Fall Conference will be at the Benton Event and Convention Center in Benton, Arkansas. Cee Cee Moore is scheduled to present.

August 21-24, 2019

The [FGS](#) National Genealogy and Family History Conference will be held in Washington, D. C.

September 2-5, 2020

The [FGS](#) National Genealogy and Family History Conference will be held in Kansas City, Missouri.

Have I Lost It? 5 Tips to Organize Your Military Research

The following is republished from the Ancestry.com blog, <https://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2017/09/14/have-i-lost-it-5-tips-to-organize-your-military-research/>. The article written by Jennifer Holik was published September 14, 2017 and provides some excellent tips on organizing military research.

*Talking to myself.....*Wait, I had an Individual Deceased Personnel File (IDPF) about a WWII man who was killed in Bari, Italy, when the Germans bombed the harbor. Who was that file about? Where did I stick that file in my computer? Why isn't it listed in my Excel spreadsheet? **Why can't I find this file?!**

Have you ever experienced this during the course of your research on a family or military project? I was preparing to write my article for this month, had a topic picked out, and began a search for the IDPF to use with the article. Guess what? I couldn't find it.

Now, if we only look at my WWII IDPFs, I have more than what the average family historian has because I have been researching these files for several years for the programs I teach and books I write. I also receive them through client projects. I have several hundred of these files and at one point started an Excel sheet to track each one because each contains something different. Tracking wasn't consistent though and now I can't find the file or remember whose file it was.

Whether you are researching one person, all the members of your community who served in the war, or a unit, ask yourself, "How am I organizing these materials so I can find them again easily?" Here are 5 Tips to help you get organized.

Have I Lost It? 5 Tips to Organize Your Military Research(continued)

Tip 1: Organize Your Digital Files

My personal digital military files are organized by military branch then by unit. I have separate file folders for each. Within each unit folder I have additional folders for records. These are broken out by the following. This list does not contain every way I organize files but will give you an idea with which to start organizing yours.

- Where I obtained the files—National Personnel Records Center (NPRC), National Archives at College Park, Library, etc.)
- Type of record—Official Military Personnel Files (OMPF), IDPF, Morning Report, General Orders, Unit Journals, After Action Reports, etc.
- Photos
- Newspapers
- Notes

There are also file folders for new files that I have not had time to sort into the appropriate folder. My client folders, which are similar to an individual researcher's files are usually broken out differently.

- Client Documents and Notes (these are things received from the client)
- NPRC records (then often with folders for specific records)

Have I Lost It? 5 Tips to Organize Your Military Research (continued)

- Unit Records (then often with folders for specific records)
- IDPF
- OMPF
- Newspapers
- Research Reports

Other folders are added as required for the specific client.

Breaking things out this way helps keep me organized digitally. Important!! Have a back-up plan for your digital materials.

Tip 2: Organize Your Paper Files

Paper files can be organized in a similar fashion using paper folders or binders. I scan every file that comes across my desk. This allows me to have access all the time to my files on my computer or the cloud. I back up my files regularly.

If you choose not to scan and only use the paper copies, consider a digital tracking system so you know where the information is stored offline.

Tip 3: Track the Information and Files

Excel is one way to track your files. Some people prefer to create Word documents or use Evernote or OneNote to track and organize research and materials. Create a system that works best for you.

Have I Lost It? 5 Tips to Organize Your Military Research (continued)

To track the IDPFs I have, I started an Excel spreadsheet, which as I mentioned I haven't kept up. In this spreadsheet, I track many details, which may include the following:

- Name
- Service number
- Unit
- Enlistment date and place
- Death date and place
- Cause of death
- Notes as to what the file contains
- Discrepancies found

Your research may be on one individual rather than many. The same concept can be used. Perhaps instead of all those fields, yours are the major records you examine. A good example of this is for [Company Morning Reports](#). When you receive many of these, creating a table is a good way to track the information and view the service history of your soldier. Your spreadsheet may contain:

- Date
- Unit

Have I Lost It? 5 Tips to Organize Your Military Research (continued)

- Station (location)
- Information on the soldier or airman
- Record of Events
- Your thoughts, comments, notes on discrepancies against other records, etc.

Tip 4: Write the Story

Writing the story is, I feel, the most important part of the research and documentation process. Through writing we discover the holes, inconsistencies, questions, and healing that comes from the story. Stories can also be shared with family members or other researchers. Reading about someone's life or military service is more interesting and more likely to be read by those who do not conduct research, than handing them a bunch of records. Stories grab our hearts and minds.

Tip 5: Share Your Research and Stories

There are many ways we can share our research and stories.

- Add this information to your Ancestry family tree.
- Create a memorial page on Fold3.
- Share with others on message boards.

Have I Lost It? 5 Tips to Organize Your Military Research (continued)

- Share with your family members.
- Share with WWII researchers and foundations that preserve the memories of our soldiers, airmen, sailors, and Marines.
- Share your information and work with your community on military archives, services, or commemorations.

There are many ways to organize materials and share the information. What is discussed here is the tip of the iceberg. For myself, I'll be slowly working through all my IDPFs and updating my Excel file with details. Then the next time I seek a file for an article, I know where it is.

Using Apprenticeship Records to Trace Your Ancestors from the United States to England

The following is republished from the FamilySearch Blog, <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/apprenticeship-records-trace-ancestors-united-states-england/>. The article written by Kate Eakman was published September 18, 2017 and provides some good information on colonial research.

Tracing your ancestor's journey from England to the United States during colonial times can be difficult. Passenger lists from that period weren't as detailed as modern ones, which can often help you determine the identity of the family they left behind, places of birth, and family members or friends who had already immigrated. But, if you are fortunate, and if you know one or two key pieces of information about that ancestor, [Findmypast](#) has some great databases that can help you make that leap across the pond.

Let's imagine your ancestor was John Randall, an Englishman by birth who ended up in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, by the 1790s. From the census records, you know that he was born no later than 1765, but he could have been born ten or twenty or more years earlier than that since he only appeared in the "white males 45 years of age and older" columns.

Using Apprenticeship Records to Trace Your Ancestors from the United States to England (continued)

You also know that John was a joiner or a specialized carpenter who made the wooden parts of a building such as stairs, doors, door frames, and window frames. But you are stuck on the banks of the Chesapeake Bay unable to find John Randall in England. A search for John Randall with various spellings of his name results in a thousand possible matches for men born in England between 1725 and 1765.

Fortunately for you, there are specialized document sets on Findmypast which can help you trace John Randall. They are all related to his occupation and can be used to trace any ancestor who lived and worked in a specialized trade in England between 1442 and 1933.

From medieval times, the most common way for a young man to learn a trade was to become an apprentice. His parents would pay a fee to a master craftsman to take in the young man for at least seven years and teach him the skills of the trade. Careful records were kept of the name of the apprentice, the name of the master, and the trade which the boy was to learn—and those contracts still exist today. Findmy past has several of these record sets available: [Country Apprentices 1710-1808](#); [City of London, Haberdashers, Apprentices and Freeman 1526-1933](#); [City of London, Ironmongers, Apprentices and Freeman 1511-1923](#); and [London Apprenticeship Abstracts, 1442-1850](#).

In the case of John Randall, you know that the haberdashers (in England this meant dealers in small items used for sewing, such as buttons, thread, needles, etc.) and the ironmongers (people who made iron hardware, such as handles, hinges, and locks) are not the places to look for him, but the Country Apprentices

Using Apprenticeship Records to Trace Your Ancestors from the United States to England (continued)

and the London Apprenticeships Abstracts record sets are both possible places where records for a man who was a joiner might be found.

A search of these sources yielded two entries for the same person: Master John Randall, a carpenter from Sherrington or Sherington in Gloucestershire, took in two apprentices—one in 1761 and one in 1764. While it is certainly possible that Master John Randall of Gloucestershire could be the ancestor you seek, you still need to find some evidence that this man emigrated (left England) between 1764 and 1790.



Britain, country apprentices 1710-1808 Transcription
[Learn more](#)

First name(s)	John
Last name	Randell
Role	Master
Indenture or registration year	1761
Registration year	1761
Premium	£3. 3s. 0d
Place	Sherrington
County	Gloucestershire
Apprentice's first name(s)	William
Apprentice's last name	Ussell
Master's first name(s)	John
Master's last name	Randell
Master's occupation	Carpenter
Master's place	Sherrington
Master's county	Gloucestershire
The National Archives reference (IR 1 series)	54 r 48
Society of Genealogists volume	30
Society of Genealogists page	5981
Society of Genealogists number	203983
Record type	Records
Record set	Britain, Country Apprentices 1710-1808
Category	Education & work
Subcategory	Apprentices
Collections from	United Kingdom, England

Society of Genealogists
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FindMyPast database and record collections

Using Apprenticeship Records to Trace Your Ancestors from the United States to England (continued)

This is where another document set comes in handy. Findmypast has a set of passenger lists (Early Emigration from Britain 1636-1815) which, depending on the date of travel, can contain some very specific information. Your next step is to search that document set for John Randall of Gloucester, traveling between 1771 (when James Lowe's 1764 apprenticeship would have ended) and 1790 (the year John was living in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, which you discovered in a previous search). This search resulted in four possible options, three who traveled to Philadelphia, and one who traveled to Maryland:



Results for Early Emigration From Britain 1636-1815

Your search criteria		4 result(s)						
John First name(s)		First name(s)	Last name	Birth year	Year	Ship name	Destination	Archive reference
Randall Last name								
		John	Randall	1734	1774	Sibella	Maryland	T 47/9
New search		John	Randall	1747	1774	Sally	Philadelphia	T 47/9
Save search		John	Randall	1751	1774	Sally	Philadelphia	T 47/9
		John	Randall	1755	1774	Sally	Philadelphia	T 47/9

*FindMyPast database
and record collections*

Using Apprenticeship Records to Trace Your Ancestors from the United States to England (continued)

The three men who left in 1774 for Philadelphia were a sawyer from Kent, a husbandman from Salisbury, and a laborer from Salisbury—none of which match the ancestral John Randall, joiner. But the first man on the list was 40-year-old John Randall, a carpenter and joiner from Gloucestershire. He embarked on the ship *Sibella* from London on March 21, 1774 and landed in Maryland:



Early emigration from Britain 1636-1815 Transcription
[Learn more](#)

First name(s)	John
Last name	Randall
Birth year	1734
Age	40
Occupation	Carpenter & Joiner
Residence	Gloucestershire
Year	1774
Event date	21 Mar 1774
Ship name	Sibella
Ship departure port	London
Destination	Maryland
Town	-
County	-
Country	America
Piece description	Weekly Emigration Returns To New World
Year range	1773-1774
Archive reference	T 47/9
Archive	The National Archives
Record set	Early Emigration From Britain 1636-1815
Category	Immigration & Travel
Subcategory	Migration
Collections from	United Kingdom, North America, United States

© Findmypast

*FindMyPast database and
record collections*

Using Apprenticeship Records to Trace Your Ancestors from the United States to England (continued)

You can also see a copy of the actual passenger list, which provides you with the information that John was traveling with his wife, 30-year-old Ann Randall. Their final destination was Maryland, where they intended to settle. This information matches the age of the woman who appeared in the US census records you already found and provides a possible name for your ancestor's wife.

While there is still more research necessary before you can definitively say that the John Randall you found in Gloucestershire is your ancestor, by utilizing these unique record sets available on Findmypast, you have managed to find what appears to be the ancestor you were seeking.

FindMyPast database and record collections

An Account of all Persons who have taken their Passage on Board any Ship or Vessel to go out of this Kingdom from any Port in England, with a Description of their Age, Quality, Occupation, & Employment, former Residence, to what Port or Place they propose to go, & on what Account, & for what Purpose they leave this Country, from the 21. to the 25. of March 1774. distinguishing each Post.

Names	Age	Quality, Occupation or Employment	former Residence	to what Port or Place bound	by what Ship or Vessel	Master's Name	for what Purpose they leave this Country
<i>Embarked from the</i>							
<i>Port of London.</i>							
John Randall	30	Carpenter & Joiner	Newmarket	Maryland	Abella	David Brantford	to settle there
Ann Randall	30	Wife to J.	London	London	Abella	J.	London
John Gale	25	Gentleman	London	London	Abella	J.	London
Robert Biner	31	Carpenter	Suffolk	New England	Anchor	Samuel Bacon	London
Robert Sawcut	25	Merchant	London	Dartmouth	Abella	J.	London
J. Weine	33	J.	London	London	Abella	J.	London
Jane Smith	25	Spinster	London	Newmarket	Abella	J. C. Palmer	to settle there
Martina Hankey	29	J.	London	Newmarket	Abella	J.	for her health
J. A. Kilgusford	35	J.	London	Newmarket	Abella	J.	London
M ^{rs} Brown	30	Wife	London	Newmarket	Abella	J.	to settle there
M ^{rs} Copinches	20	J.	London	Newmarket	Abella	J.	for her health
Mary Thompson	27	Spinster	London	Newmarket	Abella	J.	to settle there
James Chance	25	Banker	Jamaica	Newmarket	Abella	J.	London
James Newlands	29	Wagoner	London	Newmarket	Abella	J.	London
Robert Cott	25	Wagoner	London	Newmarket	Abella	J.	London
Edward Dalton	23	Wagoner	London	Newmarket	Abella	J.	London
Richard Whittle	21	J.	London	Newmarket	Abella	J.	London
<i>Maryland</i>							
Henry Cole	24	Cardener	London	Maryland	Abella	J.	London
John Goldborough	24	J.	London	Maryland	Abella	J.	London
John Nichols	26	Clerk & Bookkeeper	London	Maryland	Abella	J.	London
Jonathan Finch	21	Wagoner	London	Maryland	Abella	J.	London
William Austin	26	Wagoner	London	Maryland	Abella	J.	London
Lennis Cornette	20	Wagoner	London	Maryland	Abella	J.	London
James Sack	19	Wagoner	London	Maryland	Abella	J.	London
William Lewis	20	Wagoner	Westminster	Maryland	Abella	J.	London
John Old	14	J.	London	Maryland	Abella	J.	London
<i>Indented Servants</i>							
<i>for a Year</i>							

Using Apprenticeship Records to Trace Your Ancestors from the United States to England (continued)

And once you have verified that the two men are the same person, you have a very specific part of England to begin your search for John Randall and his ancestors in Gloucestershire. (John's Maryland will, which names his wife, Ann, would be a great start, or a deed naming the two of them buying or selling a piece of real estate would be another way to confirm the connection.¹)

Kate Eakman works for Legacy Tree Genealogists, a genealogy research firm with extensive expertise in researching and finding immigrant ancestors. Legacy Tree also has numerous onsite agents in hundreds of countries worldwide who can access archives and repositories for records that may be necessary in tracing your immigrant ancestors.

[1] See *Maryland, Anne Arundel and Howard Counties, Founders* (Published 1905); *Maryland, Anne Arundel County, Wills 1777-1917*; *Maryland, History, 1634-1848*; and *Maryland, Index of New Early Settlers of Maryland Query* By Dr. Carson Gibb. All sources can be found on Findmypast.

Administrative Stuff

Contributions: If you have news for the Ezine, send it! To agscontributions@gmail.com – Thanks!

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