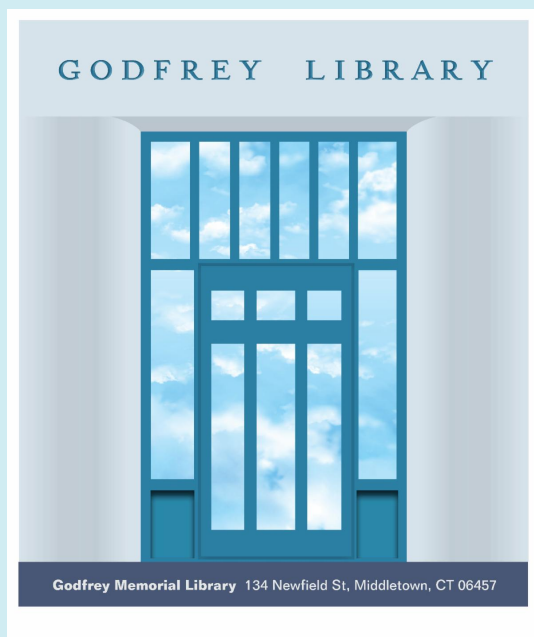


Godfrey news & updates

February 2024 | Number 4 Issue



This month's Genealogy Club presentation: Annette Burke Lyttle -- Finding & Using Digitized Manuscripts

On **Saturday, February 24**, we will welcome **Annette Burke Lyttle**, to talk about where you can find digitized versions of manuscripts for your genealogical research.

Manuscript collections can contain genealogical gems. Letters, diaries, photos, histories, and many more information-packed wonders reside in repositories around the world. Many repositories are digitizing parts of their collections and making them available online, but finding these collections can still be a challenge. Learn how to search for online collections, use finding aids to determine their usefulness for our

February is Black History Month

Unfortunately, African Americans are one of the groups who were often ignored and did not appear in standard historical information sources, so genealogists have to think creatively and dig deeper when researching these ancestors. Fortunately, in recent years researchers have begun to search out and compile lists of those resources they can find, and lists abound online (though there is still plenty of work to be done!). At the Godfrey, we've been trying to put all our African-American resources in one section -- click [here](#) to see a list of what we currently have. On the website, we have some interesting articles as well as our collection of

manumission records, which you can find under our section "People of Color." Finally, click [here](#) to see a list of online sources of information -- not at all comprehensive, but a place to get started.

Inspiration to Get Writing!

If you're like me, you have the best intention to write up some of your research "one of these days." I even signed up for Amy Johnson Crow's "[52 Ancestors in 52 Weeks](#)" program this year in which she provides prompts each week to inspire some writing. How many have I done? -- you guessed it, zero.

Not so for Godfrey Board member Laura Cowles Hobbs. She has written a great little essay about her ancestress Harriet Beadle Cowles (whose mother's book of [Wallingford death records](#) is digitized on our website) and three historical events that she was witness to. Read Laura's [essay](#) and get inspired to do your own writing.

New & Recataloged Books

Check out this month's list of new and recataloged books.

research, and locate amazing records.

The Zoom presentation will take place at **1:30 pm (EST)**.

Premium Godfrey Scholar members can register for free at the following email: [GML GenClub Feb 2024](#)

If you are not a GML Premium member and want to view the presentation, you can pay \$10 via PayPal (click below on "Buy Now"), **then** return to this email and register at [GML GenClub Feb 2024](#)

Buy Now



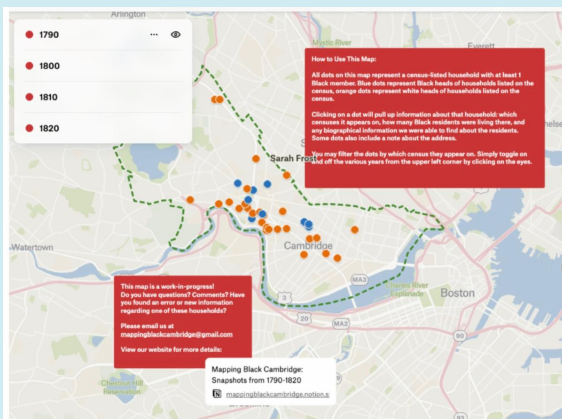
Another Excellent Online Learning Site - - The Family History Guide

NGS (the National Genealogical Society) has recently partnered with The Family History Guide. We all know we could spend the rest of our days self-educating online. The Family History Guide is a well-organized and fairly comprehensive online learning site for genealogists. The same format is used consistently for learning about four of "the biggies" in terms of online resources: *Ancestry*, *FamilySearch*, *MyHeritage* and *FindMyPast*. You can work your way through each

Call	Title	Author
BIOFILE 929.2 BURTON 2024	John Burton	Fiacre, Albert E.
BIOFILE 929.2 JONES VA 2024	Edward Jones of Isle of Wight County Virginia	Fiacre, Albert E.
BIOFILE 929.2 SOPER 1952	Soper, Gildersleeve, Smith and Rogers Families of Northport LI	Gildersleeve, Willard Harvey
BIOFILE 929.2 TOMPKINS 1893	Record of the Ancestry and Kindred of the Children of Edward Tompkins Sr. Late of Oakland, California, Deceased	Tompkins, Edward
BIOFILE 929.2 WIGHTMAN England	Wightman	
BIOFILE 929.2 WIGHTMAN Royalist	Wightman	
MAINE 974.91 KENNEDY 2005	Kennebunk	Ostrander, Kathleen
MAINE 974.91 KENNEDY 2009	Remembering the Kennebunks	Ostrander, Kathleen

Mapping Black Cambridge

I love maps and how they can help illustrate history. I subscribe to a newsletter from the Leventhal Map & Education Center at the Boston Public Library, and today they had a fascinating article about two women who received a grant from them to study [black residents of Cambridge, Mass.](#) as found in the censuses from 1790 to 1820. They found 66 households with at least one black resident, and with careful research they were able to find locations for 35 of them and placed them on an interactive map. It makes for fascinating reading.



methodically, but you can also sample topics here and there -- there's a system to track the sections you've already visited. Start with this [helpful background video](#). I would bookmark this as one of your go-to learning resources.

4th Edition of Evidence Explained is Here

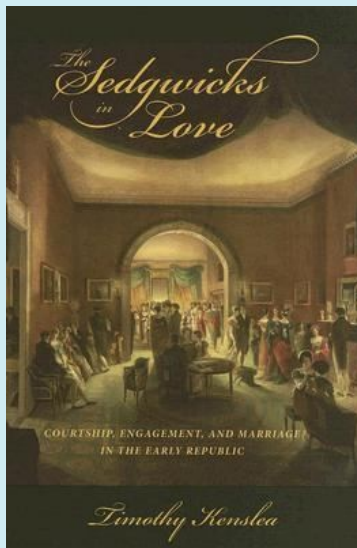
Everyone's favorite part of writing genealogical reports is doing the citations, right? (Just kidding!) Really, though, what's the point of citations? Getting your reader (and you) easily back to the resources you consulted. It's truly not about torturing you with a secret code of convoluted rules and regulations. The "Bible" when it comes to citing sources is *Evidence Explained* by Elizabeth Shown Mills. The publication of the new 4th edition has been announced, and it sounds promising, in terms of using more of a building blocks approach vs. a "have to find the exact right, matching format and fill out the form" methodology.

Looking for folks to operate scanners

We've got our second scanner up and running and are about ready to embark on a project of scanning some Connecticut directories. If you can spare a couple hours a week to help out, give us a call (860-346-4375). Process is simple and we'll train

you.

Featured Resource Shelf



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SEDGWIC
2006

The Sedgwicks in Love: Courtship, Engagement, and Marriage in the Early Republic by Timothy Kenslea

Since February brings us Valentine's Day... This well-researched book is based on a series of letters found at the Massachusetts Historical Society written by various members of the Sedgwick family of Stockbridge, Massachusetts. Members of the family also lived in Albany, New York City, and Boston. Father Theodore was a well-known Federalist who served in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court after the Revolutionary War. Though his wife was prone to bouts of depression and mental illness, Theodore has no qualms about being away from home for extended periods of time for his work. His generation was very used to arranged marriages. He and his second wife, Pamela Dwight, had ten children, seven of whom lived to adulthood. Six of the couple's seven children eventually married, choosing their own spouses. Catherine, who did not marry, became an author. Rather than looking to the parental generation to select "appropriate" matches, this generation made their own choices, but looked to their peers and siblings for advice, including a group of twenty-somethings in Boston who were referred to as the "Friendlies." Many reviewers note that this book reads more like a novel than nonfiction, though its impeccable research is unquestioned, and one reviewer even gives a nod to Jane Austen. So if you're looking for a historical, yet romantic read for February, give this book a try.

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