



United States Ask a Research Question

November 8, 2016

Question 1:

Have been trying to find the parents of John Bradford who we have found in the Chester, South Carolina 1790 Census and the Grainger, Tennessee 1800 Census before his 6 children were appointed a guardian in Warren County, Ohio in 1809 after both he and his wife died. We think John was born about 1773 and died 1808 after his wife died 1807 with the oldest child 15 years old. FS 2WF8-DWS, John Bradford including book, Gateway to the West, p.639.

1. Deeds
2. Tax Records
3. Find someone local in South Carolina
4. FamilySearch Wiki Chester County
5. South Carolina State Archives
6. Local genealogical and historical societies
7. FindaGrave
8. South Carolina 1790 census to see what Bradford families are living there.
9. Probate records for Bradford families to see if any list John Bradford
10. Land records in Chester County, South Carolina
11. Pre-1790 censuses for South Carolina
12. Expand your search to adjoining counties to see what Bradford families are living there
13. Bradford's out of Chester County that were in the military, pension records, after the Revolutionary War, that may list minor children. Maybe a father, uncle, grandfather
14. Is he a descendant of William Bradford of the Mayflower Society
15. Contact local clerks in the counties there to see if anyone would do lookups for you
16. Search the parent county of Chester County also
17. Do any Member Societies have a pedigree posted for John Bradford?
18. Atlas of Historical County boundaries:
http://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/documents/SC_Individual_County_Chronologies.htm#CHESTER
19. Daughter's of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution records
20. Mayflower Society Silver book for Bradford
21. Newspapers for that time period may be helpful.
22. See if local historical and genealogical societies or state archives have manuscript collections that may have surname files
23. <http://www.robinsavingstories.com/>
24. <http://www.robinsavingstories.com/2016/07/genealogy-digging-deeper-into-newspapers.html>
25. Church records possible baptism records, marriage record civil or church, witnesses
26. Facebook Group where you can ask for help

Question 2:

Elizabeth CAIN, d. 1799, Bladen Co., NC. Married ca. 1774/5 to James CAIN, d. 1826, Bladen Co., NC. Burned county, limited surviving records. Trying to identify parents. Plan to search probate, tax and land records of CAIN neighbors. His parents were William Cain, d. 1781 and Olive Regan, d. 1797. Know

their children from his will. Only place she is named is in military pension app filed by sons after death of both parents. Husband has a Rev. War memorial marker in a Scriven family cemetery that was placed in late 20th century

Other suggestions or strategies?

1. Church records to find a marriage record
2. Inferred marriage based on land or property records
3. Probate records
4. Who was living with them, other relatives, or lived somewhere else, neighbors
5. DNA, autosomal, Y-DNA or Mt-DNA
6. What other Cains are in the area?
7. Link to Helen Leary's book on North Carolina research at WorldCat:
<http://www.worldcat.org/title/north-carolina-research-genealogy-and-local-history/oclc/34803478>
8. Periodical Source Index (Parsi) available at findmypast.com free here at the library and at Heritage Quest which is may be available at your public library.
<http://search.findmypast.com/search/periodical-source-index>
9. DAR records, SAR records: Using the GRS at DAR: <http://www.dar.org/national-society/genealogy/using-genealogical-research-system-grs>
10. Pension Court hearings, yes, may list widow after soldier died. He died before eligible for pension in 1832, so did she so no paper trail. Also another man by same name in county at same time so military records are muddled.
11. Southern Records could also end up in Northern Repositories.
12. Search this site for mentions in the pensions of others. <http://www.revwarapps.org>
13. Church records: witnesses for baptisms of children, find a church repository if you know what denomination they were. This branch were wealthy large landowners so probably Anglican, later years Methodists. Not unusual for Methodists families to have been Quakers in the past.
14. Church records: Monthly meetings online index <https://www.quakermeetings.com/Plone/>
15. Were Bladen settlers from a particular area in other Mid-Atlantic states? Family and neighbors. Did they move there together?
16. If they were from Pennsylvania and Virginia and settled in North Carolina
17. Middle or first names of children may have used naming patterns
18. Spelling of the last name Cain/e or with a K. Check for spelling variations
19. North Carolina State Library and Archives a lot available online

Question 3:

Any suggestions for obtaining school records? Was able to get some, but door shut in last 4-5 years due to privacy concerns on 100-year-old records. Have heard of school enumerations which have publicly accessible info, but have not found many resources for obtaining them regardless of city size.

1. Go to local school board and see if they will let you have access to them. You may have to have a death certificate to prove the individual was deceased and proof of relationship in Providence, Rhode Island.
2. Some places may digitize them at local district level. Contact specific district to find out policies.
3. Melissa Barker (a local archivist in Tennessee) has done a webinar on school records.
<http://genealogyservices.webs.com/>
4. Also Peggy Clemens Lauritzen has a webinar. Check for repeats. Rootstech
5. Needs name of a great-grandmother
6. School Records: you can find DOB, parents' names, signatures on forms, addresses, transfer records
7. Looking to find the daughter's school records for transfer to Indianapolis

8. Check local genealogical societies, historical societies, archives, repositories, and colleges to see if someone has those school records.
9. Newspaper research for pointers to names of schools. Also municipal records on Google Books.
10. City directories for period and location.
11. County histories might list schools and give info on what happened to them
12. Church records

Question 4:

I am trying to find sources before the year 1820 for a handwritten genealogy that was passed down in my husband's family. It says Samuel Burns was born 20 Sep 1795, and married Lois Stevens (d. 1856) on 15 Mar 1812 (location not given). Census records say they were both born in New Hampshire. From 1820 onwards, the couple lived in Jericho, Vermont (Chittenden County). I have census records for them from 1820 until death, and the Vermont Death index for Samuel, who died in Barre, Vermont (Washington County) on 20 OCT 1883. That index gives his parents' names as Samuel Burns and Desire. There is another Samuel Burns in Groton, New Hampshire (wife Esther Blodgett) and most of my searches find information about that couple instead. Local histories I've read so far mention the generation after this e.g. Israel Davis 1815-1888) who married Samuel's daughter Lucinda (1821-1902).

1. Descendancy records to find a descendant who may have the genealogy in their possession.
2. Statewide indexes for New Hampshire and Vermont land records.
3. Probates
4. Criminal court records
5. Church records
6. Londonderry, NH had a very large early Scots population early on. There is a vital records of the town with more history at archives.org
7. Search the town records page by page to see if you can find anything
8. Check with NE Hist/Gen society
9. Town historians may have records that are not public
10. New Hampshire: americanancestors.org,
11. NEGS will put you in touch with people in local towns
12. Put an advertisement in the local newspaper
13. Look at the biography pages in the FamilySearch Wiki for New Hampshire and Vermont. There may be some books you can search.
14. There is a tree on ancestry that has the wife as Louise. No clue on the accuracy of that however! Jan: Any idea where the marriage date came from?
15. Go back and look at the original town records on microfilm or in book form. Even the town records to see if there is information that may have been missed.
16. Town/local newspapers. A lot of newspapers are becoming digitized online.
17. Chronicling America at the Library of Congress website for newspapers.
18. Town reports not indexed
19. Search at <http://www.fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html> while focused on NY state has MANY other small town papers from many locations
20. Vermont: newspapers:online <http://www.theancestorhunt.com/blog/vermont-historic-newspapers-research-for-free#> WC1gfcvgn
21. New Hampshire: <http://www.theancestorhunt.com/blog/vermont-historic-newspapers-research-for-free#>.WC1gfcvgn
22. New Hampshire <http://www.theancestorhunt.com/blog/new-hampshire-online-historical-newspapers-summary#>.WC1gw8mvgns
https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars