



**Genealogy<sup>TV</sup>**

**ACADEMY**

LEARN. RESEARCH. PRESERVE.

# The Process of Research



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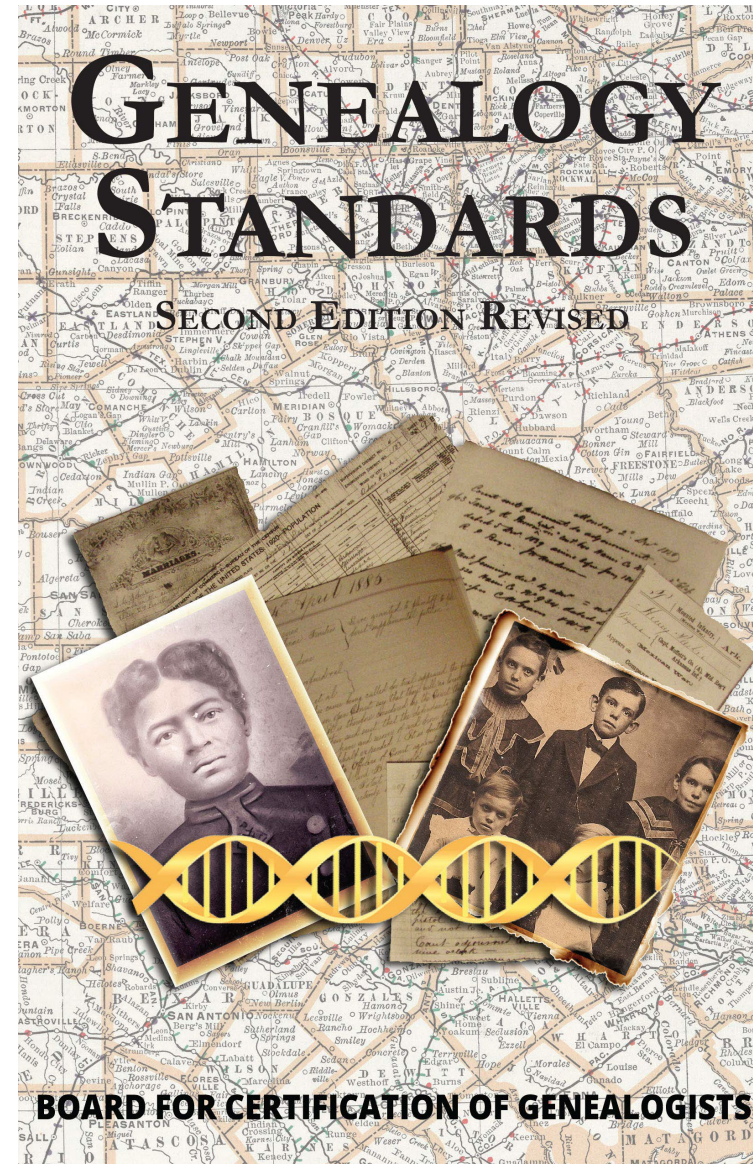
Constance H. Knox

# Process of Research

Parts of This Presentation are Based  
on the Genealogical Proof Standards...  
... With My Own Experience Added

Board for Certification of Genealogist

Affiliate Link <https://amzn.to/3zRfL4w>



# Process of Research



Research  
Question



Research Plan



Research



Document  
Findings



Resolve  
Conflicts



Write Your  
Conclusions



# Research Questions



Get Focused

# Research Questions



J. Mark Lowe

Multiple Questions?

Prioritize Them!

# Research Questions



- Use **Who**, **What**, **Where**, and **When** to craft your research question.
- Consider **Why** it matters to you.

Build a Foundation  
from  
Which to Research



Research  
Question  
Taken  
One Step  
Further

A Foundation



Henry Gustave “Gus” Henley was born in January of 1862 as an illegitimate child of Rebecca M. Henley in Randolph County, North Carolina. Rebecca never told Gus who his father was. Who was the father of “Gus” Henley?

## Digging Deeper

- Who?
  - Three People Here
    - Gus
    - Rebecca
    - Unknown Father
- **What** – The relationship between the father and Rebecca.
- **When** January 1862 but was conceived Mar/Apr of 1861.
- **Where** was likely Randolph County, North Carolina.
  - Was Rebecca in Randolph Co. in Spring 1861?

# Good Detailed Research Question



Uses all Who, What, Where, and When.



# Homework!



- Write 1- 3 Research Questions
- Use **Who**, **What**, **Where**, and **When** to craft your research question.
- Consider Why it matters to you.

# Process of Research



## Research Plan



# Research Plan

- Census
- Vital Records (B, M, &D)
- Church
- Directories
- Court (including divorce)
- Newspapers
- Military
- Land/Deeds
- Wills & Probate

## What Are You Looking For?

- Immigration, Emigration, and Naturalization
- Local/Regional Histories
- Manuscripts
- Maps
- Tax Records
- Family Histories
- Occupation
- School

# Research Plan

## Where to look?



- Personal Archives/Records

- Online Platforms

- Ancestry
- FamilySearch
- WikiTree
- MyHeritage
- Geni

- State Archives

- National Archives

- County Courthouse

- Vital Records
- Court Documents

- Ask Your Family

- Newspapers

- Newspapers.com
- NewspaperArchives.com
- GenealogyBank.com
- Chronicling America (Loc.gov)
- State Archives
- Local Libraries

- Manuscripts/Family Histories/Local Histories

- Libraries
- Archives
- Persi (<https://www.genealogycenter.info/persi/>)
- Jstor (<https://www.jstor.org/>)
- WorldCat (<https://www.worldcat.org/>)

# Research Plan

## What we Already Know

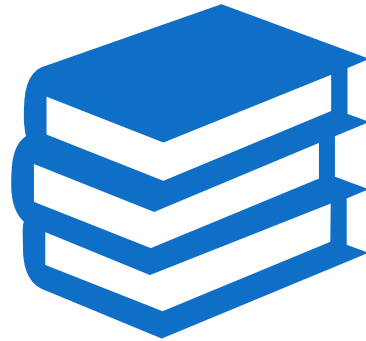
- **Who?**
  - Three People Here
    - Gus
    - Rebecca
    - Unknown Father
- **When** January 1862 but was conceived Mar/Apr of 1861.
- **Where** was likely Randolph County, North Carolina.
  - Was Rebecca in Randolph in Spring 1861?

## RESEARCH PLAN (Example)

- Census Records for 1860 in Randolph County
- Research F.A.N. Club in 1860 Census
- Death Records for Gus
- Death Records for Rebecca
- Newspapers during the time.
- Court Records (Bastardy Bonds)
- Tax Records (if Rebecca Owned Land)
- Rebecca's Father's Will?
- Close Family Top to Bottom (B. to D.)
- Land Records for Gus and Rebecca
- 1870-1940 Census for Gus
- 1830-1910 Census for Rebecca
- State Census?
- City Directories
- Quaker Records
- Cemetery
- Migration

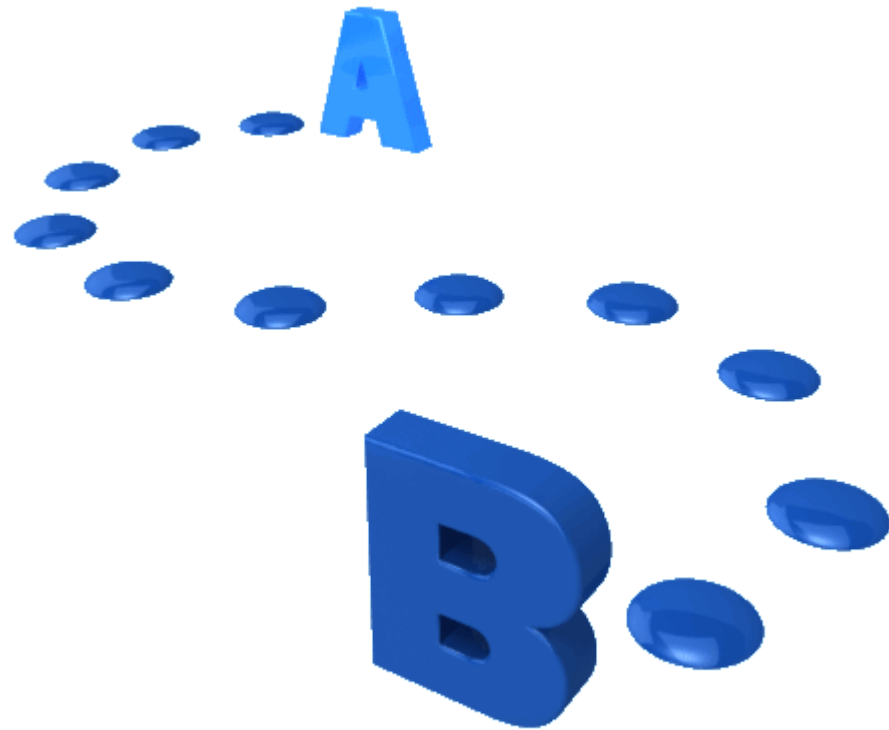


# Process of Research



Research

# Research



**Plan Your  
Research**

**&**

**Research Your  
Plan**

# Reasonably Exhaustive “Research”



**Have You  
Found  
Everything?**



# Process of Research



Document Findings



John Doe  
was born in  
1862, in VA.

Find the  
1870 census  
for Jan

Don't forget  
to feed the  
dog!

Look for  
marriage  
record.

I need more  
coffee!

Put the  
crockpot on  
it 1PM.

Look for  
newspapers  
in Culpepper,  
VA.

Look for the  
family bible.

Found land  
records, but  
I forget  
where?

## Is This You?

Do you have notes all over the place?

# RESEARCH NOTES!

Research Notes on Henry Gustav "Gus" Henley – Revised 11-22-2020

Abt. April 1861 conception.

28 Jan 1862 Born in near Asheboro, Randolph County, North Carolina. Son of Joel Davis Jr. (surname DAVIS per YDNA results with Dannie Lee Henley) and Rebecca Henley.

About 1880 (per family lore from Nancy Henley Nowatzke) he lived in Kansas near Clahe and worked as a cowboy. Spend 18 months outside and did not sleep under a roof. He tried to homestead some land, but the drought brought him back to NC. When he returned, he married Nannie Watson Winslow in 1884.

\*\*\* Need to research homestead applications.

1890 Federal Census – Cedar Grove Township, Randolph County, North Carolina.

- Shows Henry as a "Farm Laborer" on Nathaniel Steeds farm. Note that Steed is the same surname as Henry's servant later in life when he moves to Kansas. Henry G **Henly** is a white male and 19 years old.
- There is a Dilbert **Henly** living in the same household as a "farm hand".
- Henry's brother could be the same William working as a farm hand William H **Henly** working for the Joel Ashworth family on the same census page toward the top of the page.
- Thomas **Henly** and wife Nancy M are farming two pages to the right on the census roll. I don't see a connection at this time. This Thomas is 32 years old making him born about 1848. Nancy is 33.
- Easter **Henly** is on pages 5-6 of this 1890 census. She is black and is 80 years old and has two children, an sister and granddaughter working with her in the Charles Clary household.<sup>1</sup>

17 April 1893 H.G. Henley buys land from J.M. and Etta Varner.<sup>2</sup> This is transcribed and plotted. There are two lots, one is 100 acres, the other is for 30 acres.

18 Jan 1894 (32 years old) Married Nannie Watson Winslow (18 years old) in Asheboro, Randolph County, North Carolina. Officiating J.H. Redig, J.P. Place of ceremony, A.H. McDaniel, (Asheboro) Witnesses, A.H. McDaniel, Jane McDaniel, Amie Hale.<sup>3</sup>

31 Aug 1895 H.G. Henley shows up as a bondsman in the probate record of Joshua M. Davis (deceased) along with W.A. Varner.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "1890 United States Census," database, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com>), accessed 14 Mar 2021), entry for Henry G. Henley living in the household of Nathaniel Steed, (age 19), ED 220, p. 1, Randolph County, North Carolina, citing "NARA microfilm publication 19," roll 978, p. 150A.

<sup>2</sup> Randolph County, North Carolina, Registrar of Deeds, images, *Courthouse Computer Systems* (<http://www.randprod.com/realstate/records.html>), accessed 2 January 2021), entry for J.M. and Etta Varner to H.G. Henley, book 73:573 & 574.

<sup>3</sup> North Carolina, U.S. Marriage Records, 1741-2011," database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com>), accessed 14 Mar 2021), Marriage Register (1810-1981), Henry G. Henley to Nannie W. Winslow, 18 January 1894, image 303, last line, left page.

<sup>4</sup> Randolph County, Probate records, 1870-1900, Probate record for Joshua M. Davis, deceased, book 1, p. 193, 1895, digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com>), accessed 14 Feb 2021).

27 Apr 1896 50 Acres Mortgage Deed. Gus buys 50 acres of land with a Mortgage. Grantor is **Vuccannon**.<sup>5</sup>

19 July 1897 Mortgage Deed from H. G. Henley and his wife N. W. Henley (Nannie Watson Winslow) to William J. Miller. Two tracts of land for 100 and 30 acres. It appears that Henry Gus Henley and wife are selling their 130 acres to move to Kansas. This mortgage is later satisfied in 1901.<sup>6</sup>

6 April 1900 Gus Henley buys mules.<sup>7</sup>

15 June 1900 Federal Census - From the 1910 Census Lexington Township, Johnson County, Kansas Gus is listed as Head of Household is Male, White, born Jan 1862 is 38 years old, married for six years. He is listed as being born in North Carolina, father's birthplace is "unknown", and mother's birthplace is North Carolina. Henry can read, write and speak English. This family **rents** the farm they are living on.

- Henry's (aka Gus) wife Nina M. is white, Female, born in Aug 1875 and is 24 years old, married for 6 years and is the mother of 3 children still living at this time.
- Nina M. is born in North Carolina as well as both of her parents. Nina can read, write and speak English.
- Living in the household are two sons, one daughter and Henry's mother Rebecca M.
  - First son listed is John H., white, male, born May 1895 and is 5 years old. He is born in North Carolina with his parents.
  - Second son Clifford is white, male born April 1897, is 3 years old born in North Carolina with his parents.
  - Daughter Ursula is white, female, born July 1899 and is 11 months old and was born in Kansas.

This means they most likely moved to Kansas about 1898 since the older son Clifford is born in NC in 1897.

- Henry's mother Rebecca M. is listed as a white, female born in Aug 1829 and is a **70 year old** widow. She has had 7 children all of whom are living at the time. She was born in North Carolina as well as her parents. She can read, write and speak English.
- Also living in the household is a **servant** Joe Steed. He is a white male born in Jan 1870 and is a **30 year old** single man. He was born in North Carolina along with both of his parents. He is listed as a farm laborer, he has been employed all year and can read, write and speak English.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Randolph County, North Carolina, Registrar of Deeds, images, *Courthouse Computer Systems* (<http://www.randprod.com/realstate/records.html>), accessed 7 February 2021), entry for John and Nancy **Vuccannon** to Gus Henley, book 91:28-29.

<sup>6</sup> Randolph County, North Carolina, Registrar of Deeds, images, *Courthouse Computer Systems* (<http://www.randprod.com/realstate/records.html>), accessed 13 February 2021), entry for a Mortgage Deed for H. G. Henley and N. W. Henley his wife, William J. Miller, book 80:576.

<sup>7</sup> "Prairie Center," *DeSoto (Kansas) News*, 6 Apr 1900, p. 2; image copy, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com>), accessed 3 October 2021), Historical Newspaper Collection, [https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7602/images/4120149\\_00329?i=16839715](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7602/images/4120149_00329?i=16839715)

- Kenneth Son, Male, Age 16, Single, Attended School anytime since 1 Sep 1919? = Yes, **Read** = Yes, **Write** = Yes, Birth Place = NC, Father = NC, Mother = NC, **Speak English** = Yes
- Maurice Son, Male, Age 13, Single, Attended School anytime since 1 Sep 1019? = Yes, **Read** = Yes, **Write** = Yes, Birth Place = NC, Father = NC, Mother = NC, **Speak English** = Yes
- Glenn Son, Male, Age 8, Single, Attended School anytime since 1 Sep 1919? = Yes, **Birth Place** = NC, Father = NC, Mother = NC,
- Boyd Son, Male, Age 5, Single, Attended School anytime since 1 Sep 1919? = No, **Birth Place** = NC, Father = NC, Mother = NC,
  - Robert Son, Male, Age 2 3/12, Single<sup>9</sup>

1901 Mortgage Deed from William Miller (from 1897, see above) is satisfied and the Mortgage Deed is cancelled.<sup>9</sup>

1903 Gus Henley appears in Olathe, KS newspaper as being from Olathe.<sup>10</sup>

1910 Federal Census – Olathe Township, Johnson County, Kansas - Rebecca was still alive as of the 1910 Census, living with Henry Gus Henley.

- Henry G. Henley was the Head of Household, Male, White, 46 Years Old, Married 1 for 16 years. Henry was born in "**N.Carolina**" along with both parents. He was currently employed for the past year as a Rural Route Mail Carrier as a wage earner. He **rented** the farm they where they lived.
- Living with him is his wife Nannie M., female, white, 33 years old, married 1 for 16 years is the mother of 7 children 5 of whom are living in 1910. She was born in "**N.Carolina**" along with both parents. Nannie can read, write and speak English and is not working.
- First son John H. is male, white, 14 years old and is single. He was born in "**N.Carolina**" along with both parents. John is not working, can read, write and speak English and is attending school this year.
- Son Clifford Henley is 13 years old and is single. He was born in "**N.Carolina**" along with both parents. Clifford is not working, can read, write and speak English and is attending school this year.
- Daughter **Cissie** U. is female, white, 10 years old and is single. She was born in Kansas, her parents are born in "**N.Carolina**". **Cissie** is not working, can read, write and speak English and is attending school this year.
- Son Kenneth is 8 years old male and is single. He was born in Kansas. Both parents are listed as born in "N. Carolina" along with both parents. Kenneth is not **working** and it is assumed he cannot read or write as those are left blank. He did not attend school this year.
- Son Maurice is 3 years old male and is single. He was born in Kansas. Both parents are listed as born in "N. Carolina" along with both parents. Maurice is not **working** and it is assumed he cannot read or write as those are left blank. The school line is blank as well.
- Rebecca M. Henley is the mother to the head of household Henry. She is female, white, 80 years old and widowed. She is the mother of 5 children, 5 of whom are living. She is born in "N. Carolina" as are both of her parents. She speaks English and is not working. She can read and write.

There does not appear to be any family living nearby (one page **before** and after in the census).<sup>11</sup>

1910 Soundex/Miracode shows Henry as being 45 yrs old. This makes his birth year around 1865. Listed in Johnson County, KS in 1910.

<sup>9</sup> Randolph County, North Carolina, Registrar of Deeds, images, *Courthouse Computer Systems* (<http://www.randprod.com/realstate/records.html>), accessed 13 February 2021), entry for a Mortgage Deed for H. G. Henley and N. W. Henley his wife, William J. Miller, book 80:576.

<sup>10</sup> "County Correspondence," *The Olathe (Kansas) Mirror*, 13 August 1903, p. 6, col. 1; image copy, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com>), accessed 2 October 2021), Historical Newspaper Collection.

<sup>11</sup> 1910 U.S. census, Olathe Township, Johnson County, Kansas, population schedule, enumeration district (ED) 111, p. 78 (penrod), dwelling 146, family 148, Henry G. Henley and family image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com>), accessed 14 March 2021), citing NARA microfilm publication T624, roll 443.

Older Notes from the 1980's - Additional information gathered by Beth M. Henley (wife of Kenneth T. Henley). New information by Kathy Henley, he may have been from Asheboro, NC. Latest information by Eleanor Bell confirms his birth date as 1862. A.K.A. Gustave or Gus. I previously thought that they were married in K.S. But they are listed in the marriage register for Randolph Co. NC.

Notes on the life of Gus Henley Version I (8/12/07) From Dan Henley (Son of Frances Henley)

Little of this information can be verified – most of it is based on a variety of informal notes and family records, often from unidentified sources. -- Dan Henley

7 Oct 1912 unnamed infant son dies.<sup>12</sup>

24 Jun 1914 Personal Wealth article shows H. G. Henley paid \$105 in taxes.<sup>13</sup>

1915 Kansas State Census – H. G. Henley 53, Nannie 40, Clifford 18, Ursula 15, Kenneth 12, Maurice 8, Glenn 4, and Boyd H 6 months. They are living in a rented house in Olathe, Kansas.<sup>14</sup>

10 June 1915 two of their kids have their tonsils removed. Olathe Mirror.<sup>15</sup>

31 Mar 1917 Newspaper Ad "For Sale—Buff Orpington eggs 75c setting, \$4.00 per 100.



# Research Notes – Christopher Madsen

Date – Document/Item – Details or Abstract

Document  
Findings

**12 Mar 1873** Departed Liverpool for New York aboard Steamship Nevada.<sup>6</sup>

**25 Mar 1873** Chris sails from Liverpool on SS Nevada for New York. Ancestry.com. *New York, Passenger Lists, 1820-1957* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010.

Original data: *Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, New York, 1820-1897*. Microfilm Publication M237, 675 rolls. NAI: 6256867. Records of the U.S. Customs Service, Record Group 36. National Archives at Washington, D.C. *Passenger and Crew Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, New York, 1897-1957*. Microfilm Publication T715, 8892 rolls. NAI: 300346. Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service; National Archives at Washington, D.C. *Supplemental Manifests of Alien Passengers and Crew Members Who Arrived on Vessels at New York, New York, Who Were Inspected for Admission, and Related Index, compiled 1887-1952*. Microfilm Publication A3461, 21 rolls. NAI: 3887372. RG 85, Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1787-2004; Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service; National Archives, Washington, D.C. *Index to Alien Crewmen Who Were Discharged or Who Deserted at New York, New York, May 1917-Nov. 1957*. Microfilm Publication A3417. NAI: 4497925. National Archives at Washington, D.C. *Passenger Lists, 1962-1972, and Crew Lists, 1943-1972, of Vessels Arriving at Oswego, New York*. Microfilm Publication A3426. NAI: 4441521. National Archives at Washington, D.C.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup>Rigsarkivet [Danish National Archives,] "Dansk Demografisk [Danish Demographic] Database, DDD Emigration Database," online database, *Dansk Data Arkiv*, (ddd.dda.dk/databaser.html : accessed 18 June 2017), Udvandrede [Walked] > [Gå til søgning](#) [Go Search] > Navn [Name] "Madsen, Christopher", entry for Christopher Madsen of Rudkjøbing, Denmark, IDkode [ID code] l7273M1602, registration 4 March 1873, contract no. 20300; Also, "Denmark, Emigration Index, 1868-1908," *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 18 June 2017), entry for Christopher Madsen.

<sup>7</sup>"New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957," database, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 18 June 2017), entry for Christoffer Madsen, age 22, arrived from Liverpool, England 25 March 1873.

**1885** 1885 Map of Laramie shows "C. Madson" in block 229 and a "M. Madson" in block 239. I've got to think that the C. Madson is my Christopher Madsen. Found on the Wyoming State Archives Map Collection. Map downloaded in Madsen folder.

# Process of Research



Resolve Conflicts

# Resolving Conflicts

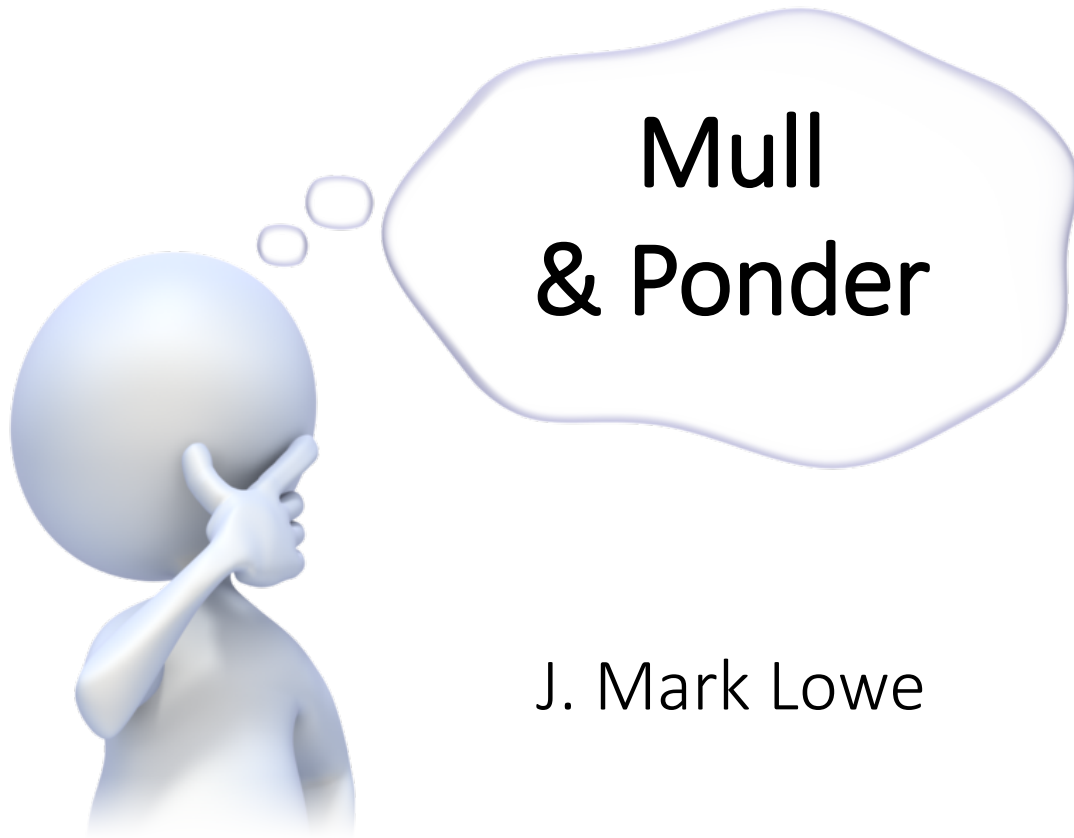


J. Mark Lowe

## Comparing Records

- Dates Don't Match
- Names Differ
- Locations Differ
- Spouses Names Don't Match
- Children Don't Line Up

# Resolving Conflicts



J. Mark Lowe

- Compare the Evidence
  - Across All Records for that Ancestor
  - Across Family & FAN Club
- Weigh the Evidence
  - What has more street-cred?
  - See **Evidence Evaluation Lessons** in Live Sessions Course

# Find the Recorded Sessions

- Academy Dashboard
- Live Classroom Lessons & Video Replay

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar with the following links: HOME, BEGINNERS START HERE!, BLOG, HANDOUTS FOR GENEALOGY TV VIDEOS, GENEALOGY TV SHOP, ACADEMY DASHBOARD (highlighted with a red box), ABOUT THE GTV ACADEMY, GTV EVENTS CALENDAR, ABOUT GTV, MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS, FAQ, and CART. Below the navigation bar is a search bar with the text "Relevance".

The main content area is titled "My Courses". It features a user profile for Constance H. Knox with a "LOGOUT" button. Below the profile is a navigation menu with the following options: MY COURSES, ORDERS, SUBSCRIPTIONS, ADDRESSES, PAYMENT METHODS, ACCOUNT DETAILS, and LOGOUT.

The "Your Courses" section lists three courses: "Getting Started in Genealogy", "Smart Research", and "Live Classroom Lessons & Video Replay" (highlighted with a red box). Each course has a search icon and an "Expand All" button. Below the course list is a "Resume Course" button.



# Find the Recorded Sessions

- Academy Dashboard
- Live Classroom Lessons & Video Replay

**Live Classroom Lessons & Video Replay**  
By: Constance H. Knox / On: March 17, 2022 / In: Uncategorized / Edit This

0% COMPLETE Last activity on March 17, 2022 4:54 pm

This is where you'll find the live classroom lessons, recordings, and handouts.

### Course Content

- Getting Organized & FOCUS
- Transcribing & Abstracting Documents
- Q&A Session 4-20-22
- Correlating U.S. Census Records
- Q&A Session 5-18-2022
- Correlation of Evidence, Part 2
- Q & A Session 6-15-22
- Evidence Analysis Live Session Recording
- Q&A Session 7-20-22

# Resolving Conflicts



## What has more credibility when evaluating records?

1. In general, a Birth Certificate or Death Certificate? (B. or D. in chat)
2. Marriage Certificate or a Marriage Registry? (MC or MR)
3. A Will or an Obituary? (W or O)
4. A Newspaper Article or a Court Document? (NA or CD)
5. An Ancestor was born in 1898...  
Which is more credible for his age, the 1900 census or the 1940 census?  
(Year)

# Process of Research



Write Your Conclusions

# Write Your Conclusion



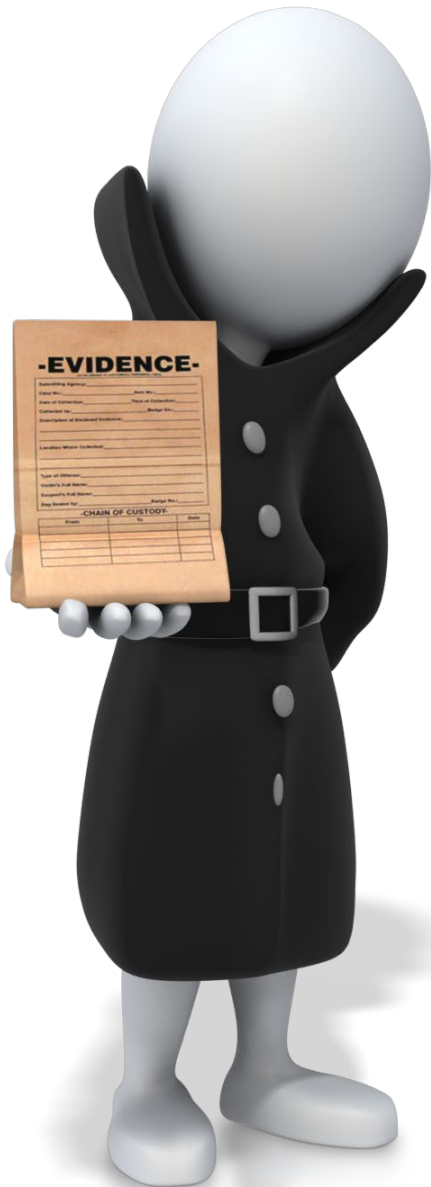
Recap - We created a...

- **Research Question**
  - **Research Plan**
  - **Research** (Reasonably Exhaustive)
  - **Documented Our Findings**  
(Research Notes)
  - **Resolved Conflicts**
  - **Write a Conclusion**
- **Simple or Complex**
  - **Outline**
    - **Problem**
      - Restate the Research Question in Detail.
    - **Findings**
      - List Only Relevant Evidence with Details of Each.
    - **Reasoning for Your Conclusion**
  - **Add to Your Research Notes!**



Will You Solve Every  
Mystery?





It depend on where  
the evidence leads  
you.

Was there enough  
evidence to create a  
sound conclusion?



Not always...  
But often, YES!

# Process of Research



Research  
Question



Research Plan



Research



Document  
Findings



Resolve  
Conflicts



Write Your  
Conclusions

