

Greenville Local History Group Newsletter

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Hempstead Collection

An unusual sight greeted the twenty GLHGers who showed for the July meeting. Spread out over four tables were thousands of index cards. But, more later. Attending were Kathie Williams, Mimi Weeks, David and Harriet Gumpert, Harriett Rasmussen, Stephanie Ingalls, Connie Teator, Len Gardiner, Martha Turon, Rosemary Lambert, Phyllis Beechert, Walter Ingalls, Betty Vaughn, Dave and Judy Rundell, Larry and Dot Hesel, Ron Golden, Dot Blenis, and Don Teator. Also attending was Sharon Pugsley, daughter of Doris Hempstead.

The program for the evening was the thousands of cards on the tables, a lifetime work of Doris. My experience with Doris was the trading (although it was usually asking for) genealogical information. Doris would scour newspapers, church records, and cemeteries, noting the family details on a 3x5 index card. Almost always, she would note her source. I think she started with family names she was interested in, but it grew to encompass any name, eventually resulting in tens of thousands of cards. (I will try to get a better estimate in a month or so.)

Ideally, a person interested in genealogy would call Doris, ask for family information, and Doris would look it up. She had her own system of organizing, a mix of alphabetical order, her own special rack of names she was most interested in, and a growing collection of cards in boxes in various states of alphabetized order.

The task this night, as people learned upon entering, was to continue the

alphabetizing. About one-third of the cards were already in order, so everyone cheerfully grabbed a handful of cards and started placing a card on the guide cards, according to surname. After an hour or so, and after numerous minor near-collisions, and after stopping to read a card or three or six, we completed about seventy-five per cent of the cards. Anyone who wants to continue this, at home, or a site of your choosing, give me a call. I'm hoping by our next meeting, all of the cards will be in rough alphabetical order, with the next stage ready to happen – the ordering of cards within each letter of the alphabet.

Sharon was present to represent her family. Even though she doesn't remember much of her mother starting this work, it was clear that the family respected Doris' requests for cards and pens for birthday and Christmas gifts. I also hope Sharon got a sense that this collection is truly a genealogical gem that should continue to be used.

At present, it is in the historian's files. I've asked that you think where the best site for this collection should be. I'm willing (would rather) to keep it in Greenville, especially now that the old records room is being emptied for transfer to the new town building. This means that I will have the room for my records, thus enabling people who want to search Doris' records to do so, and with some room to spare. The other place to store his collection could be the Vedder Library, and I will talk to people there. I would like to see this collection used to its best, and will take all

your input before coming to a preliminary decision which will then be discussed.

So, people worked as long as they wished, and I thank each of you who helped get so much done this night. With a little bit of work, a useful collection can be shared again, and the lifetime efforts of Doris Hempstead live on.

A few cards, indicative of the collection, are copied in this newsletter.

Also, some of you who want to use this collection for research should wait until we've completed the entire alphabetizing.

The collection is a bit scattered but should be ready in a few months. However, if someone wants to look through the cards, give me a call and I'll arrange for it to happen.

The next meeting, August 11, will be a share session.

Take care,

Don

2- John T. b. Dutch. Co NY ca 1801 - to v. ca 1812 w. Eliz. b. v. ca 1801
STORY MATTHEW - Greenville Twp. Greene Co, N.Y.
m. MARY ANN WILLIAMS s. Jeremiah & Thomas Rev War
1- ch JOHN W. b. 21 MARCH 1856
m. 19 Dec. 1878 LILLIE dau. of EDWIN P.
AND MARY GREEN of Greenville, N.Y.
ch TWO DAUGHTERS UNM. EMMA + S. EDNA
one SON WARD - res NYC 1926
2- EMILY A. b. ca 1850
3- MARY J. b. ca 1851
4- MIRIAM^{SP} A. b. ca 1853 (Poss. Willard)
Beers Hist. Greene Co. N.Y. p. 459

poss. s. HENRY + MARY
Phinney HIRAM - Freehold, Twp. Greenville Gr Co NY
m. Bessie PETERS
ch VIRGIL SR. - dead - m. PAULA Thiemann^{SP} dead
OSMAN " m. FANNY Goodwin^{SP} - NO ch.
MARY D. b. 22 JUNE 1901 - d. 15 APR. 1994 - 92 yrs
m. LENNON?
dec'd neph. - VIRGIL JR + bro LAWRENCE - Freehold NY
1/9 niece - ELNORA m. LAWYER - div. - m. COPPENHAF^{SP}
"gr" s. VIRGIL JR - LINDA m. CRAIG MATTHEWS
gr gr N + N - AARON - HENNER + FAWN MATTHEWS
Freehold Cem. + obit - CATSKILL DAILY MAIL Gr Co NY 4/18/94

Flansburgh Jacob S. - 1838-1903
w MARY Reynolds 1847-1925
son Elmer P. Flansburgh - 1870-1953
w Rose Travis 1872-1961
daughters: ANNA M. ^{Flansburgh} HALLOCK 1883-1972

Note: Ruby Flansburgh - unkn. b. ^{Twin, New Baltimore} Medway, Gr Co NY 1899 - d. Greenville CT
Gr Co NY 1979 - bur. Greenville Gr Co NY w Elmer P. + Rose
P.O. RR: RAYMOND Flansburgh - COXSACKIE NY - surv. cousin of Ruby
Mrs. Ethel RATHBURN - Delmar NY " " "
Riverside Cem. COXSACKIE, Greene Co, N.Y.

CUNNINGHAM - Cornwallville, Durham, Gr Co NY
m. MARY ARMSTRONG - b. 1897/8
w "JERRY"
m. Louise
w 5 sons

Clarence Armstrong - b. 1894/5 - lv. Cornwallville 1981 - bur. MARY
m. CLARA b. 1888/9 " " "

Powell William H. - d. 1956
m. ANNA L. Scofield - b. Freehold NY 18 Dec 1887 - d.
CATSKILL NY 9 APR 1976 w ERASTUS H. b. ca 1844 - lv. 1883
w EMILY F. (Weaver) Scofield w Edwin b. Wester Co NY 1816
d. Twin, Greenville NY 1881 w CAROLINE SIMPKINS b. ca 1819

TALLMAN Oma - res. OAK Hill Gr Co NY 1970^s - DAR
m. Howard Smith
do Wellington + Chloe (Chesbro) Tallman - Greenville NY
descend. of Jabez Chesbrough - 1756-1814 Conn. - Rev WAR
m. Rhoda Woodworth - 1756-1835 Conn.
ch Luther 1792 Conn^d 1853-1868 Greenville Gr Co NY

TAYLOR Richard Edw. - 59 - m. 1857
w. LOUISA - nee Ytter 56
ch Howard 28
Addie 26
Isabelle "Belle" 24 m. 1893 George Allen
Dwight 20
MARY 14

Note: CARA MAE - d. 1872 - 1 month old.

1888 - Twin Durham Gr Co NY - (WRIGHT ST.)