

Steven W. Morrison Genealogy



Steven Waltz Morrison has been a professional genealogist since 2006. He is the past-president of the Puget Sound chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, and the Olympia Genealogical Society in the capital of Washington state.

Steven attained a Master's Degree in Public Administration from The Evergreen State College, where he taught as an adjunct faculty in the graduate program (1987-1994). In recent years, he's advanced his genealogical education by attending over twenty genealogical institutes.

Steven's been an active genealogical speaker throughout the northwest and has presented to most all the genealogical societies in Western Washington either in-person or virtually. He's also presented at the Family History & Genealogical

Conference at Provo, Utah, and at the National Genealogical Society Conference in Sacramento, California. Steven has addressed international audiences at the Ulster American Historical Symposium at Omagh, N. Ireland in 2012; the Irish Friends (Quakers) Yearly Meeting, in Newry, N. Ireland in 2015; and at the Ulster American Historical Symposium in Toronto, Canada in 2018.

Steven is a leading expert on the Quaker religion (Religious Society of Friends) and has coordinated several genealogical institute courses regarding their records in America, Ireland and Britain. The first of its kind Quaker course debuted at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG) in 2018, which he repeated as a 10-week virtual course in 2023. A week-long virtual course occurred at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP) in 2020, a mini-course in 2021 for the British Institute and then as a principal instructor in 2024. In spring 2026 Steven will co-coordinate 'Research in the US Northwest,' a 10-week virtual course at SLIG which will explore the records and resources of five northwestern states (Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming).

As an author, Steven's genealogical journey began in 1998 with the self-publishing of a remembrance of his grandmother. The book is part of a millennium time capsule on the Washington State Capitol Campus, and in the FamilySearch Library at Salt Lake City. Since then, Steven has published numerous articles. Three were with *Familia* (the journal of the Ulster Historical Foundation), and others in the *Journal of Scotch-Irish Studies*, *Directory of Irish Family History Research*, the *Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly*, *Quaker History*, and twice in *The Genealogist*. In 2016 Steven received the American Society of Genealogist (ASG) scholar award for his paper "Quaker John Starr of Antrim and Cavan, Ireland and his five sons who sailed to Pennsylvania."

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NEW & REVISED PRESENTATIONS

YOUR ANCESTOR'S OCCUPATION
Exploring the 1821 Irish Census

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Locating Your Irish Ancestor

The Irish Diaspora displaced hundreds of thousands; many with the same surname. That begins the first problem with Irish migration - determining which one was MY ancestor.

Knowing your ancestor's country of origin is a place to start. Thankfully there are only 32 counties in Ireland. Sadly, such basic information is often omitted from the immigrant's migration story.



Often ancestral candidates with the same names (both given and family names) give us the most problems. For instance, you might find multiple sons in a single town:

- John Flanagan (3 times)
- Bridget Reilly (6 times)

With so many families, reused given names, generation after generation, separating individuals by their age can help. However, when all else fails, sometimes an **OCCUPATION** can be as important as their surname.

Census Records for Ireland

What Existed? Full Irish government censuses were taken of the whole island in: 1821, 1831, 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1911.

What was Lost? The census records for 1821 (1821 thru 1891) were destroyed by order of the government.

The remains of early census records are housed at the National Archives of Ireland in Dublin. Their website notes that fragments for the 1821 Census still exist, but only for a few locations.

1821 Ireland Census

The Census was taken - 28 May 1821 by census enumerators (who were usually the local collectors of taxes). The census was taken at the Court House, and surprisingly County Cavan has census records for almost half of the country.

1. Name, age, and occupation of every person resident in Ireland.
2. Number of persons in each household.
3. Number of children in each person in the household.
4. House size.
5. Number of houses in each person in the household.
6. Entry space for Observations.

Search the 1821 Ireland Census fragments at: <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/245320>

• YOUR ANCESTOR'S OCCUPATION – Exploring the 1821 Irish Census *Beginner-Intermediate*

In Ireland all of our ancestors had an occupation. While some might later change their name, few changed their trade or means of making a living. When used in combination with other factors, an occupation can be a powerful tool to help identify OUR ancestor, among the hundreds of same named Irish immigrants. Explore the occupations outlined in Ireland's 1821 Census for the town of Ballyhaise in County Cavan. Its records are among a handful of remaining census fragments, which were not destroyed by the Public Records Office fire in 1921.

CROSSING THE POND – Researching in British and Irish Libraries & Archives *Intermediate*

Are you ready to try to locate original records overseas? This light hearted tale will help you determine if your travels skills are ready for such an adventure. Also, explore other cost-effective options such as a genealogy tour group, or just stay home by hiring an agent!

The Likely British Roots
Deacon John Doane from London, England

Maureen (Perry) Scott & Steven W. Morrison
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MISSION IMPOSSIBLE
John Doane, Deacon, a Deacon of Plymouth and Eastham, Massachusetts has been missing for hundreds of years.

Our Mission ...

- 1. Identify the parent of John Doane, then ...
- 2. Prove that their son is the missing Deacon.

How Did We Get Here?

1992 Publication of: *The Doane Family Book*
1997 Incorporation of the Doane Family Association of America (DFA)

1809 First Family meeting at Plymouth, Mass.

1972 Gilbert H. Doane guidance: "Mr. John Doane - Who Was He?"

1976 Gilbert H. Doane research: "Clue to the Identity of Mr. John Doane"



Figure 1 - Rev. Gilbert H. Doane (1897-1980)
Image: UHM-Madison Archives

Gilbert Doane's clues ... to the identity of Mr. John Doane

1. John Doane, Taylor
2. Eastham (East Ham) Records
3. St. Peter's Gracechurch Street, London, England & Rector John Doane
4. Family of John Doane, London Whitebaker

Doane Family Association Research Committee

2004 Research committee restarts
2004 Doane & Doane (ongoing)
2012 Steven W. Morrison - research paper: *Unearthing John Doane - A Plymouth Colony Lieutenant*
2014 Maureen (Perry) Scott - research paper: *Clue to the Identity of Deacon John Doane*
2017 DFA hired researcher Michael Sharpe in England
2018 Midland Research (ongoing)
2019 Somerset Research
2019-20 Roger eliminates potential candidates:

- John Doane, the "Whitebaker"
- John Doane, the "Cordwainer"

2020 Bryan Committee (ongoing)
2021 Preparation of Doane-Doane Paper
Submission to *The Genealogist*
Estimated publication date Oct 2024

• THE LIKELY ENGLISH ANCESTRY – Of Deacon John Doane of Plymouth & Eastham, Mass. *Intermediate-Advanced*

Follow the trials and tribulations of a small group of dedicated family researchers who set out to identify the ancestor of Deacon John Doane. While his activities in the Plymouth Colony are well documented, the Deacon's life in his mother country was a complete mystery. Over decades, plausible theories were researched and eventually discarded as dead ends. Then the release of online records resulted in a wave of new discoveries. Comparative analysis from both sides of the pond eventually proved that a candidate from London, England was likely the youthful Deacon. A case study for anyone with a lost New England ancestor.

FACT CHECKING YOUR FAMILY TRADITION *Intermediate*

Some families are lucky they have family lore. But is this story true? With new online collections we can now double check to see how it holds up to the light of some original records. Only then will we know if it's a keeper or just fools' gold. A case study of colonial Virginia entrepreneur Isaac Perkins/Perkins.

EXPLORING – The Gilbert Cope Collections on FamilySearch

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Fiske Genealogical Library ... January 2025

Who was Historian & Genealogist - Gilbert Cope?

Gilbert Cope was an amazing historian and genealogist. Known as "the father of genealogical research in Pennsylvania," his family lineage dates back to the 1600s. He was a Quaker, and he spent his life working mostly for Quaker families. His authoritative accounts regarding early families were often published in genealogical journals. Twice he traveled to the British Isles to abstract records from Quaker meetings. In America, he saved the early records of many Quaker meetings from destruction, and abstracted or transcribed vital records. Few individuals have contributed more to Quaker history and the genealogical community than he.



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• EXPLORING – The Gilbert Cope Collections on FamilySearch *Beginner/Intermediate*

Gilbert Cope was "father of genealogical research in Pennsylvania." His surname collection – scrapbooked records on thousands of surnames. He prepared the first accounts on many early families and twice traveled to the British Isles to abstract English Friends records. In America, Cope saved numerous Quaker meeting records from destruction. Explore FamilySearch to discover if Cope also researched – YOUR Quaker ancestor.

NEW & REVISED PRESENTATIONS (CONT.)

**Western Overland Trails
Following the Seven Ts**



Steven W. Morrison, MPA foxhallgav@gmail.com
Seattle Genealogical Society – April 2023

The major trails from the Midwest to the west will be covered in this session. The principal routes will include the Oregon and California Trail, the Mormon migration, the Santa Fe Trail, and more. These were the OVERLAND RIVERS which helped populate the West.

The Seven Ts

7 Ts ~ Seven Trails	7 Ts = Tracking Techniques
1. Oregon Trail	1. Tradition
2. California Trail	2. Travel
3. Mormon Trail	3. Trail/Route
4. Applegate Trail	4. Time
5. Santa Fe Trail	5. Testament
6. Old Spanish Trail	6. Treasure
7. Gold Trail (Rocky)	7. Tide

FAN CLUBS – Rely on the “FAN principle” (Family/Associate-Neighbors) when searching for your relation. Make sure you determine which family members left and identify those that chose to travel together. This was a common practice for the average person to travel with their relatives. They were likely friends or neighbors who lived in the same community. The westward migration was a time of great opportunity for the average person to make GOLD or silver. Financial or religious association: were often not aside during the journey. The principal economic were those immigrants who were members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints which followed the Mormon Trail to the Salt Lake Valley.

• WESTERN TRAILS – Following the Seven Ts

Beginner/Intermediate

The major trails from the Midwest to the west will be covered in this session. The principal routes will include the Oregon and California Trail, the Mormon migration, the Santa Fe Trail, and more. These were the OVERLAND RIVERS which helped populate the West.

ASSEMBLING YOUR PROOF – Hunting for High Quality Resources

Intermediate

You looked and found more than you expected! Now you have multiple dates for the same event. What should you use? Which is more reliable? How do you decide? Learn how to handle multiple conflicting sources from family traditions to hatched, matched, and dispatched records.

START WRITING
Your Ancestor's Legacy Depends upon YOU!

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Reasons we put off Writing

1. It's hard!
2. We like to hunt & gather
End the hunt. You have enough nephews!
3. Use what you have to hammer out a framework
4. Start putting the pieces together



What are you leaving your family ...
A mess ... or ... Something they will cherish forever?

What to Write?
Biography – An essay about a single individual. Most “Book” genealogists include two or three generations.

Genealogy – A series of essays tracking multiple lines of descent from an ancestral couple for a number of generations.

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Thomas W. Jones, “Courthouse, Forum, and BCG Standards for Research in Genealogical Projects,” Course 10: Accessing and Cataloging Probate, 2010 Salt Lake City, Utah, Genealogy (Salt Lake City, Utah), session 10, p. 53-56.

• START WRITING – Your Ancestor's Legacy Depends upon YOU!

Intermediate

To some genealogists ‘the hunt’ is everything. Learn how to shift gears and to write a cohesive story about your ancestor. Writing helps you refocus your thinking. You might even surprise yourself, realizing you’ve bagged your ancestor without knowing it!

FRIENDLY RELATIONS – Finding American Quakers and their Online Records

Beginner

In 1750 the Quaker religion was the third largest in the colonies. So, if you have an English sounding surname, a dead-end pointing the British Isles or Ireland, and if your kin could have arrived before the American Revolution ... well you could be looking for a Friend (Quaker)! Learn about the Quakers and their meticulous record keeping, now available online.

**Courthouse Records
in Colonial Virginia**
Order, Deed, & Will Books



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Records from Virginia courthouses are some of the nation's oldest written treasures. The Order, Deed, and Will books were microfilmed for most Virginia counties, but were not widely accessible. Today, these have been scanned and are now online. They create an amazing written tapestry for those researching in the colonial era.

ORDER BOOKS*

County court order books or minute books survive for many Virginia counties. They record all manner of business before the court when it was in session and may contain important genealogical information. Most Order, Deed, and Will books were microfilmed, while order books provide synopses of cases in a neater, more organized form. These volumes are sometimes internally indexed; more rarely, there is a comprehensive index. A wide variety of information is found in order books, including, but not limited to, the names of the parties involved, the date of the case, the date before the court, appointments of guardians, apprenticeship of children by the overseers of the poor, manumissions, road orders, and registration of “Free Negroes” (a legal term for free Black).

TIPS:

1. The INDEX – isn't (index) the name of the Plaintiff, and NOT Defendant. Don't forget to look for a second index page.
2. May need to check all index pages for your surname. Be prepared to read Page by Page.
3. May include early chancery actions by the parish church to bind out to place children in apprenticeship. May include the ages of children and name the deceased parent.
4. May contain of oaths of allegiance or supremacy (to the king/queen).
5. May direct wills to be recorded, name executors, and/or a guardian for the minor children.
6. May direct sheriff to arrest a defendant, or an heir at law to appear in court.
7. May seize and/or sell property of a defendant due to a court suit.

Courthouse Records in Colonial Virginia - Order, Deed, & Will Books
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• COURTHOUSE RECORDS IN COLONIAL VIRGINIA – Order, Deed, & Will Books

Intermediate

Records from Virginia courthouses are some of the nation's oldest written treasures. The Order, Deed, and Will books were microfilmed for most Virginia counties, but were not widely accessible. Today, these have been scanned and are now online. They create an amazing written tapestry for those researching in the colonial era. In a case study format.

NO DATABASE, NO PROBLEM – Building your own Genealogical Database with Excel

Intermediate

What if there is no genealogical database for your relation? No problem, build your own. Explore how Excel software can reveal key answers about your ancestor. Presented in a case study format.

FAMILY CASE STUDIES



An Unexpected Exodus Southern Quakers to the Midwest

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In the late-1790s and early-1800s a flood of southern Quakers migrated to the new “free” states of the Old Northwest Territory. Along with the westward migration of Quakers from the Atlantic seaboard, these two migrations helped to fuel new Yearly Meetings in Ohio and then in Indiana. Retrace this southern exodus of Friends: tracking its footprints in printed sources and original Quaker records which are now available online.

Quakers and Slavery

In colonial America the Society of Friends (Quakers) labored with the moral, ethical, and economic issues of slavery for almost 100 years. As an institution, slavery was so well established that the rights and responsibilities of “Masters and Slaves” were included in the charters of Friends’ meetings, and in the Atlantic seaboard, these two were helped to fuel new Yearly Meetings in Ohio and then in Indiana. Retrace this southern exodus of Friends: tracking its footprints in printed sources and original Quaker records which are now available online.

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• AN UNEXPECTED EXODUS – Southern Quakers to the Midwest *Intermediate*

In the late-1790s and early-1800s a flood of southern Quakers migrated to the new “free” states of the Old Northwest Territory. Along with the westward migration of Quakers from the Atlantic seaboard, these two migrations helped to fuel new Yearly Meetings in Ohio and then in Indiana. Retrace this southern exodus of Friends: tracking its footprints in printed sources and original Quaker records which are now available online.

DIGGING UP NEW DIRT – Unearthing the ‘REAL’ New England Immigrant *Beginner*

Do you believe that family associations know everything about their early New England ancestors? Well, guess again! Learn what nuggets you can uncover by rediscovering original records. So, with some surprising facts, sound analysis and a little historical context you may just uncover the real secret about your elusive ancestor.

IRELAND & BRITISH ISLES



DETOURS AROUND Irish Roadblocks and Stone Walls

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YOU must be in IRELAND if...

1. All the courthouse records were burned
2. You have no clue of your family's religion
3. You're not sure when the family left Ireland
4. Your relatives were all farmers
5. You can't find any census records
6. You're not sure what county your ancestors came from
7. You can never find the same place on any old maps
8. You've never heard of a Barony, Parish or Townland
9. The family said they came from “Bally-something”
10. You're looking for a surname like MURPHY

Reasons for Irish Roadblocks

- You don't understand the culture
- You don't understand the records
- You don't understand the record when you find it
- You try to solve an Irish genealogical problem like you would in the states
- You do not seek local advice or help
- You become frustrated and give up

LOTS of Stone Walls in Ireland

- ▲ They seem to be everywhere
- ▲ They are uniquely part of Ireland
- Rock towers, Céide crosses and Stone walls
- ▲ Although they appear solid, they are full of holes
- When you shift them, they can be breached
- ▲ Then you can walk right through them!!!



• DETOURS AROUND – Irish Roadblocks and Stone Walls *Beginner*

Tired of making little progress finding your elusive Irish ancestors? Learn about Ireland’s top ten roadblocks and stone walls. Let this session springboard you to discover the Irish branches on your family tree.

IRISH RECORDS ONLINE @ FindMyPast & Ancestry *Beginner-Intermediate*

Most of us start our family history with what we’ve been able to collect at home. But how does that line up with the historical records from the Emerald Isle? Explore and compare Irish records available on both Find My Past & Ancestry before paying for a subscription.



IRISH FRIENDS MIGRATION TO PENNSYLVANIA – Uncovering an Ulster Family Story *Beginner*

Did you know that Quakers (Religious Society of Friends) was one of three major religions in America prior to the revolution? While small in numbers, the travels of Irish Friends are so well documented they provide a migration template for English-speaking nonconformists.

WESTERN AMERICANA

IS IT TRUE? Using Manuscripts and Family Records for Genealogical Proof *Intermediate*

To some, family records – including diaries, letters, and personal photographs – may be seen as having little genealogical value. Nothing could be further from the truth! Explore how original information from the Oregon Trail can shine new light on undiscovered facts or family relationships.

QUAKERS (*Religious Society of Friends*)

PROFILE OF A QUAKER – Finding a Friend in Colonial America *Beginner*

The profile of a Quaker (Friend) can be as distinctive as a fingerprint with their unique ethnic origin, belief system, marriage practices, and separate record structure. This session will teach you the profiling techniques you'll need to spot a Quaker in colonial America.

SIMPLY AMAZING – US Quaker Records Online *Beginner/Intermediate*

The Quaker faith was one of the largest religions in colonial America. Learn the basics of their record keeping and meeting hierarchy. In addition to the traditional vital records, Friends kept meeting minutes for both men and women. This was radical for its time. Friends also collected some unique records, including travels between meetings (called Removals); and events of early religious persecution (called Sufferings). Discover how wonderfully rich Quaker records can be.

QUAKER MIGRATIONS – Across Ye United States *Intermediate*

How do you find lost Quaker families? FOLLOW THE MEETINGS! Learn how to track your Quaker ancestors by following the opening and closing of monthly meetings they attended. Then marvel at an animated video clip of Quaker meetings marching across the country for 350 years. You won't believe your eyes!

Ye BEST BOOKS – for Quaker Research *Intermediate*

Before the world wide web and the age of internet documents, books were one of the family historian's most available assets. In the Quaker way, they allowed an expanding nation to share knowledge when the original records were concentrated in only a few repositories. While derivative materials are less reliable as sources, they play a valuable role as "Finding Aids" to help you locate the original record for your Quaker ancestors, or to understand if it even exists.

FINDING YEARLY MEETING RECORDS – Quaker Archives in the US and Canada *Intermediate*

Unlike other religious denominations, Quakers do not centralize their records. With over 36 Yearly Meetings in the US and Canada, each is responsible for its own archives. Learn where and how to gain access to these repositories whether housed at Quaker colleges, state historical societies, yearly meeting headquarters, or now available on-line.

RESEARCHING IRISH QUAKERS *Intermediate*

Did you know Genealogical research in Ireland can often be challenging. The 1922 fire of the Public Records Office (aka Four Courts Fire) caused devastating losses to Irish census, wills/probates, and parish records. However, the records for the Religious Society of Friends survived intact, largely because their records were collected, organized, and archived separately. Today, the Friends 'Quaker Collection' is one of Ireland's most robust record sets and is now available on FindMyPast.

USING HINSHAW & other Finding Aids to located original Quaker Records *Intermediate*

During the past century, Quaker historians and clerks have been busy copying old meeting records and creating a wide variety of finding aids. In the 1930s William W. Hinshaw began publishing his historic six volume Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy. Willard C. Heiss followed with six volumes for just Indiana. Learn how these tools can shortcut your search for original Quaker records.

DIGGING DEEPER - Into Quaker Sufferings and Removals *Advanced*

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) was a different kind of religion. It benefitted from its supporters printing large numbers of pamphlets and handbills promoting its cause and denouncing its opponents. In the process, early manuscripts and books named both Friends and non-believers. When available, *Sufferings* and *Certificates of Removal* provide a rare glimpse into their family life and reveal unknown details about their extraordinary journeys.