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Newsletter

A publication devoted to the accurate identification, recording and publication of data and stories of the descendants of Casper Wilhelm Hendershott (1699-1768).

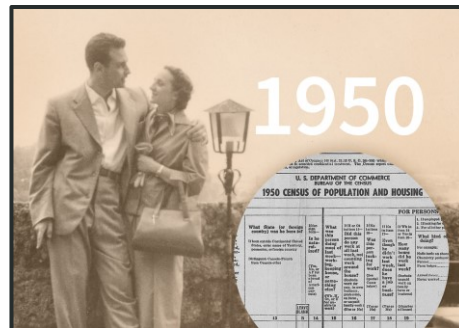


Casper Wilhelm Hendershott

BIRTH 13 NOV 1699 • Hohenolsen, Sachsen-Anhalt, Germany
DEATH 1768 • Tewksbury, Hunterdon, New Jersey Colony, USA

Spouse and children

- Catherine Shipman**
1698-1754
- Peter H Hendershot UEL**
1733-1788
- Christopher Hendershot UEL**
1734-1812
- Baltes Theobald Hendershot**
1735-1812
- Jeremiah Hendershot**
Clan A4
1738-1805
- Isaac Hendershot**
1740-1788
- Jacob Hendershot**
1742-1828
- Michael Hendershot**
1745-1778
- Casper Hendershot 1411**
1749-1812
- Abraham Hendershot**
1754-1840



The 1950 US Census is due for release in April 2022



Charles Hendershot grew up in Jerseyville, Upper Canada

Hendershot Researchers' activities are segmented into three distinct "Clans" representing the major sons of Johann Michael Hennescheid. Clan A explores the descendants of son Casper Wilhelm Hendershot (1699-1768), Clan B is devoted to the lineage of Michael Hendershot (1713-1786) and Clan C studies the offspring of Johannes George Hendershot (1720-1797). I devote my time to Clan A – Casper Wilhelm Hendershot.

Contact Me

Descendants

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Ancestors of Casper Hendershot

Casper is the son of Johann Michael Hennescheidt and Anna Maria Balter who emigrated to New York Colony in America with Casper and two younger siblings aboard the ship, the Lyon in 1710. Father Michael's father was Johann Wilhelm Hineschied, a tenant farmer who leased Naumburger Hof (a farming estate).



Johannes Wilhelm Hineschied

BIRTH 1640 • Berg, Deggendorf, Bayern, Germany
DEATH 12 JAN 1688 • Naumburger Hof, Hohenollen, Germany
 3rd great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 – Birth
1640 • Berg, Deggendorf, Bayern, Germany

Age 23 – Marriage
1663 • Medard, Kusel, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany

 **Anna Maria Balter**
(1640–1724)


Age 48 – Death
12 Jan 1688 • Naumburger Hof, Hohenollen, Germany



Family

Parents

Spouse and children

-  **Anna Maria Balter**
1640–1724
-  **Anna Maria Hineschied**
1670–1695
-  **Anna Magdalena Hineschied**
1672–1695
-  **Johann Michael Hennescheid 1**
1674–1749
-  **Johann Peter Hineschied**
1677–1704
-  **Mariah Catharina Hineschied**
1680–1706
-  **Johann Christoph Hineschied**
1682–1747
-  **Johann Antonius Hendershot**
1684–1720
-  **Maria Elisabetha Hineschied**
1686–1706

The succession to the Hof lease was the subject of a long-standing dispute. Wilhelm had died in 1688 leaving his wife in charge with the assistance of a son-in-law. As Wilhelm's sons reached legal age, they expected to inherit the tenancy, but a contest developed with their sister's husband. Several appeals were made by their mother to the landlord, including one dated in early 1709. She petitioned that her fourth and youngest son be confirmed in possession. This was in accord with a common principle of *Jungenrecht* (junior right) in contrast to *Primogeniture*, the right of the eldest to inherit the whole.

Since in large families, elder sons tended to marry and move away while the youngest often remained on the farm, he was allowed to inherit on the condition that he compensated his brothers and sisters for their equal shares in the inheritance. We do not know the exact decision of the Lord, but we are not surprised that the eldest son emigrated shortly afterwards.

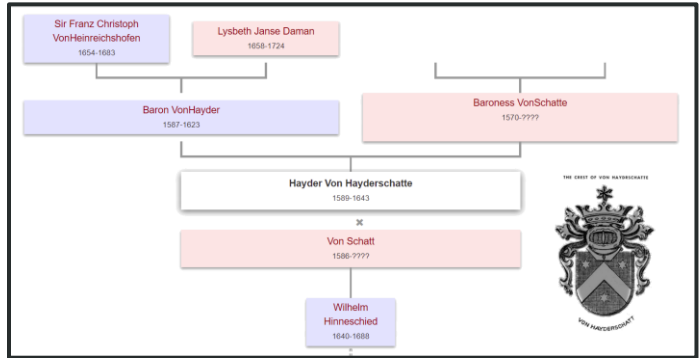
Von Hayderschatte Controversy

Hendershot genealogy has a long and venerable past stretching back at least a century. The search in those days was far more labour intensive than it is today. Technological progress has resulted in the simplified organization and retention of information that previously required long and arduous searches in many locations. What took months in 1920 can now be accomplished in days and hours. This codification continues as sites such as Ancestry.com and FamilySearch capture and provide access to an ever-widening clientele of intrepid amateur genealogists.

The first systematic effort began with Cleveland Blanchard Hendershott (1868-1940) and his attempt to discover the history of his father, Robert Henry Hendershott, known as the “*Drummer of the Rappahannock*” for his exploits during the Civil War. Single his entire life, Cleveland embraced the tracing of his father’s lineage backwards. Though acknowledged as a competent genealogist for the time, Cleveland’s fanciful pursuit of the lineage back into what is now Germany was motivated by a desire for discovering nobility in his background, as if that discovery would enhance his stature as a travelling musician much as his father had been.

Cleveland (as well as others) had traced their common lineages to Michael Hennescheid, born 1674, who had migrated on the ship the *Lyon* to America in 1710. Like so many immigrants to the “*New World*” their pasts are often murky and ambiguous regarding to their European history. To resolve this mystery Cleveland set out for Germany and around 1900 spent several years there researching the Hendershot connection. He concluded (falsely) that Michael Hennescheid was the son of Michael Hayder Von Hayderschatte who,

for embracing Lutheranism, had had his estate confiscated by the Catholic Church in 1675.¹ Upon returning to the United States, Cleveland devoted the next thirty years travelling across the US and Canada searching out the connection. He personally visited many Hendershot households gathering information on their histories. He recorded his findings and provided a report entitle “*The House of Von Hayderschatt*” to the Newberry Library in his home city of Chicago.



Von ‘Hayders’ Lineage expounded by Cleveland Hendershott

Cleveland’s efforts were picked up by Alfred E Hendershot from Akron, Ohio who, in 1961, published “*Genealogy of the Hendershot Family in America*”. Alfred had amassed family histories of Hendershot families throughout Ohio and Pennsylvania. He expanded upon Cleveland’s efforts² but continued the dubious connection with Von Hayderschatt. In addition, he confused two identically named Jacob Hendershots with the same birth year of 1747.

These inaccuracies were exposed by John Ruch in 1982. He “*was satisfied that there could have been no probable connection between an extinct noble name in Luxembourg-northern Lorraine area and a family of peasants near Dusseldorf*”.³ Ruch went on to publish his own version of Michael Henneschied’s descendants which culminated with the arrival of Michael aboard the ship the *Lyon*. Confined to a wheelchair Ruch visited Germany to

¹ It is difficult to verify this kind of information because World Wars 1 and 2 destroyed many buildings housing German archival records.

² Including *Early Germans of New Jersey* (Chambers), *30,000 Names of Germans, and Swiss, Dutch, French and Other Immigrants in Pennsylvania 1727 to 1776* (Rupp), *Daughters of the American Revolution*, archival material and his visitation results.

³ Hendershot Heraldry “*I Joined the Club, And Paid My Dues*”, John E Ruch, Rootsweb → <http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~hendershot/genealogy/heraldry.htm>

inspect the original records of Michael's parents Wilhem and Maria Hineschied.

The ancestors of the Hendershot family left Germany in 1709 in the great Palatine Auswanderung (emigration). Descendants of the thousands of Germans who emigrated then are innumerable now. So, genealogies of 'Palatines' are found frequently in North American publications on ancestry and local history. However, such writings are usually sketchy in two areas: in detailed history of the Palatinate, and in background information on the immigrants.⁴

Ruch was not the only person interested in the Hendershot story. Evelyn Baer, Wayne Hendershot and Frank Hendershot from New Jersey were researching in the heart of Michael Hendershot's home territory. Together they had amassed a large collection of data from libraries and archives in Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Sussex and Warren counties. Consolidating their individual findings removed many *Brick Walls* in each of their respective research findings.

Then they learned of the work of William E Hendershott of La Jolla, California. He had extracted Hendershot records from federal and state censuses and recorded his findings in organized lists by state and time, producing indices of Hendershots in published volumes. He had contacted Ruch and much if his work was included in these volumes. William commenced to assemble these indices into family lineages, tracing them back to Michael Hennescheid, the nodal ancestor for most of the lines. William produced a published volume of his works in 1982. Its publication was met with excitement and intense scrutiny of the data. Corrections began pouring in causing addenda to the original publication and procedures for the systematic reworking of the documentation. In 1985 William produced a *Hendershott File Index* to accompany the booklet, followed by indices for

spouses and daughters. William continued his work despite contracting cancer and in March 1988 produced a 465-page "*workbook*" of the revised work complete with amendments and indices. However, he succumbed to the disease in July 1988.

When William died, his collection was bequeathed to Evelyn Baer who had promised to continue his work after his death. She organized his associates into a community under the umbrella of Hendershot Researchers and dedicated the organization to the maintenance of William's work which became known as the *WEH Booklet*. The organization was divided into three *Clans* representing Michael's prodigious three sons – Casper b. 1699 (Clan A), Michael b. 1712 (Clan B) and John b. 1720 (Clan C). These three lineages are now well defined within the boundaries of the generations covered by these genealogical efforts. A mandate of the Hendershot Researchers is to ensure that any new findings that imply a change to the WEH publication get vetted by the organization to ensure that misrepresentations such as that perpetrated by Cleveland Hendershot do not re-occur. To aid in this task Evelyn proposed the creation of a newsletter "*to promote the many research efforts of over 100 Hendershot descendants engaged in the family history research; and also, to facilitate the sharing of efforts in order to prevent duplication of energy, time and money.*" Today this newsletter has had multiple issues over its' thirty-year existence.

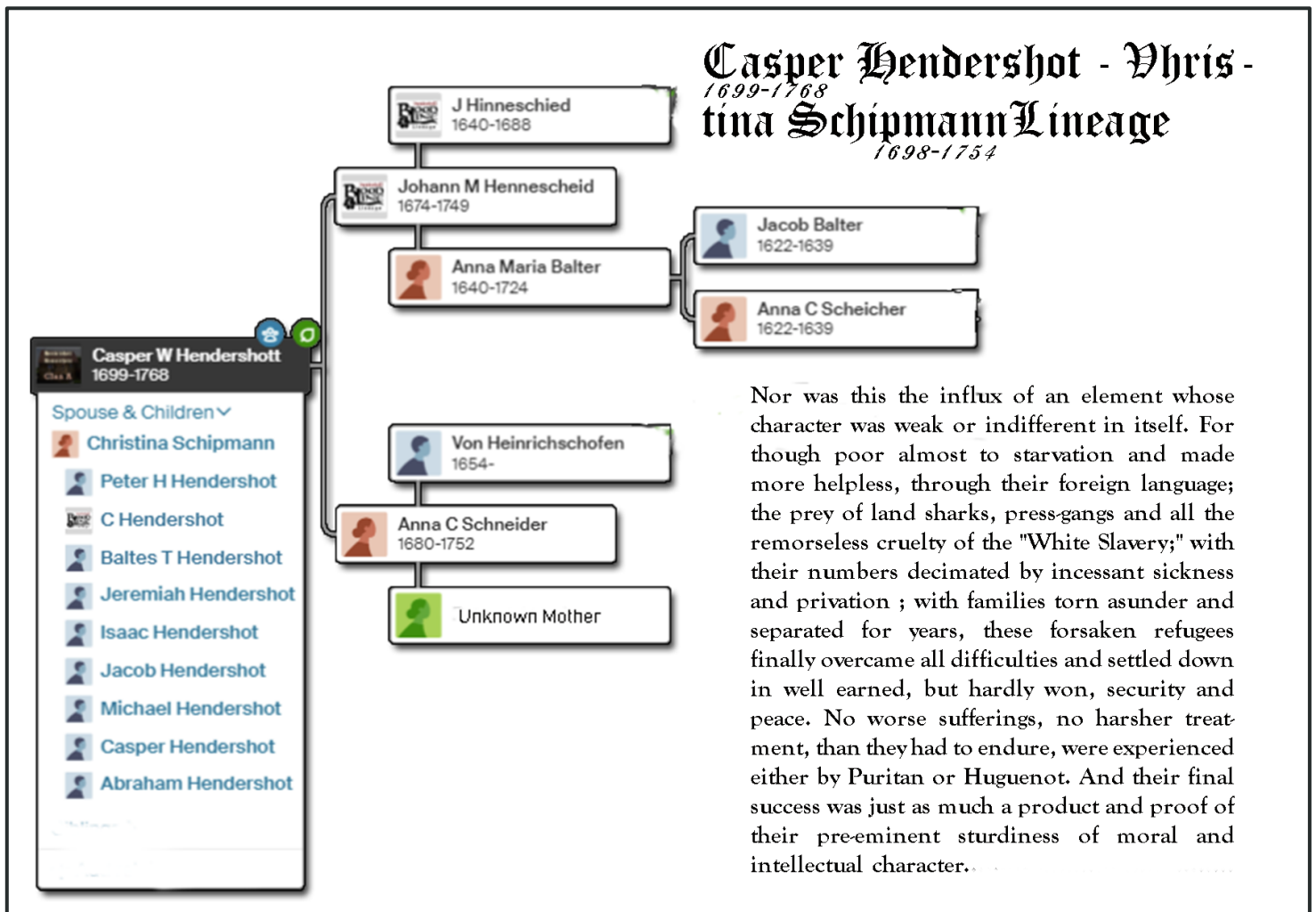
While the Hendershot Researchers continue their mission to mandate a paper version of the tree similar efforts have been undertaken online. Wiki Trees has 30,037,096 profiles (9,635,957 with [DNA test connections](#)) edited by 894,475 members from around the world. This comprehensive database cites the Hayderschatte connection and includes mention of its' debunking. Its' format and structure are publicly accessible and include a much wider community of collaborators.

⁴ John Ruch, *A Name in a Hundred Hinescheid/Hendershot: A Palatine family of the great Auswanderung*, originally published in Canadian generalist, Vol 4 #3, Nov 1882

Casper Hendershot (1699-1768)

Casper tops Clan A of the Hendershot Research categorization. Born in Meisenheim, Germany and, relocating to London, England as part of the Palatine dispersal, he departed Plymouth, England in Jun 1710 aboard the ship the Lyon with his parents Michael Hennescheid and Maria (nee. Balter), younger sister Maria Rosina (age 6) and younger brother Johann Peter (age 1), arriving at Nutten Island in the 13 Jun 1710. The Lyon was the

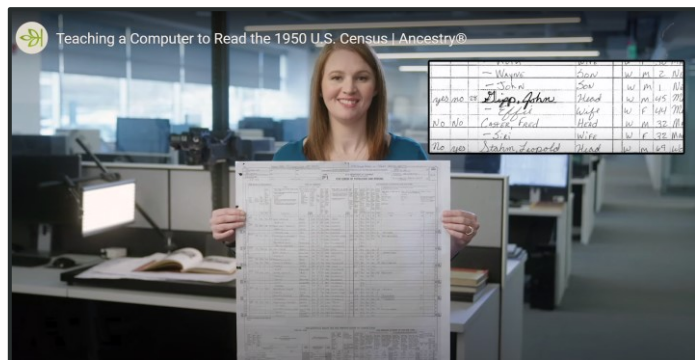
last of ten ships carrying Palatines to New York Colony, a group of about three thousand distressed Germans with newly appointed royal governor, Robert Hunter. The passengers experienced much sickness during the voyage, and nearly five hundred were lost at sea. Upon arrival they were quarantined for several months due to typhus on board. Established in the colony, Casper married fellow immigrant Christina Schipmann in New Jersey Colony. Casper was employed as Commissioner of Roads in the colony and served many years as trustee and elder at the Lutheran church in New Germantown.



1950 USA Census Release

After a lapse of seventy-two years from the enumeration date of the decennial census, the National Archives and records may disclose information contained in these records for the use in legitimate historical, genealogical, or other worth-while research, provided adequate precautions are taken to make sure that the information disclosed is not used to the detriment of any of the persons whose records are involved. Prior to the lapse of time specified above, the information will be disclosed only by the Bureau of the Census from microphotographic or other records in its possession.⁵

Ancestry.com users may well experience headaches this April as the release of the 1950 census spurs renewed online activity. These records are due to be released on April 1st. Ancestry as well as other genealogy sites will undertake the indexing of the census records, state by state for release on their web sites. Great strides in machine learning have been made since the 1940 census was transcribed permitting far fewer transcription errors caused by human hand-writing recognition.



Ancestry has been spending a lot of time over the last two years developing the hand-writing AIs to machine produce the census data thereby reducing the number of transcription errors.

Moreover, they plan to transcribe the entire census – “You can discover details like your ancestors’ occupations, education level, and even a street view to see what their neighborhoods look like today. It can help you better understand how that information

applies to your story and reveal new insights about your relatives and their world in 1950.”

Other key Ancestry features under development for this census include:

- **Contextual Insights:** Sometimes there’s more to a census record detail than what’s on the surface. What does that abbreviation mean? If your relatives rented their home, how common was that in their area? Was their level of education like others during that time? Contextual insights in the census record can not only explain the information that’s there but can give you a comparison between your relatives and other people of the era to add additional context and depth to your story.
- **Enumeration District Maps:** Where your relatives lived is an important part of their story and the 1950 census can help you learn more about what it was like back then. This feature combines census enumeration map overlays with a modern-day interactive map, letting you explore their world in an entirely new way. Compare landmarks, roads, new developments, and other marked features on the maps to see how much has changed over the years, and how much is still the same.
- **Cross-Record Insights:** The census can provide a revealing snapshot of your relatives’ lives, but there’s often more to the story. Your great-grandfather may have been a factory worker in one census, only to become a factory owner the next. This feature can compare results from multiple records, and even add additional historical context to help you discover what remained the same and what changed for your ancestors from one decade to another.

It is important to understand that what is presented to the researcher through an Ancestry HINT system does not reflect the underlying store of data. Ancestry exercises discretion in what and how it offers up information. Researchers are no doubt aware of the scarcity of information presented in

⁵ Letter from Census Bureau Director, [Roy V. Peel](#) to Archivist of the United States, Wayne C. Grover, concerning the 72-year lapse between collection and release of decennial census records, [August 26, 1952](#).

early censuses. The earliest displayed a single individual without reference to household units, so important for kitting household subjects together. Misspellings and transcription errors often render some of the household subjects virtually undiscoverable without a scan of original documentation. Over time, Ancestry expanded what information gets presented to include household units but only offered modest recording to the census event description field for subjects – Residence Religion, Marital Status and Relationship of Head⁶. When found occupation and household data is indispensable in deciphering accurate household composition and uncovering subject historical accounts. Ancestry has indicated that it intends to codify every field on the census form providing new information for the ardent researcher to discover and annotate his subject records.

Further Information:

GETTING READY FOR THE 1950 CENSUS:
Searching With and Without a Name Index
<https://stevemorse.org/census/1950census.pdf>

Ancestry: Big Picture
<https://www.ancestry.com/c/1950-census/take-census-research-further>

Genealogy Rules of Evidence

Have you encountered a Family Tree on Ancestry, MyHeritage, Rootsweb or any of a myriad of tree creation sites that you question the authenticity for one or more subjects? Are there associated sources supporting the subject's inclusion and the portrayal of events – the subject's Lifestory? Many new genealogists are just interested in establishing how far back in time they can trace their

lines. They often merely accept subject renderings from other family trees with the result that inaccuracies get seemingly engrained. A facts' veracity is determined by the number of trees displaying it. Often none of them have supporting sources.

These instances are easily discoverable by the absence of supporting Sources – but be careful. Sometimes their inclusion is the result of personal knowledge on the part of the recorder. Before dismissing this evidence check the relationship between the Tree's owner and the subject. Sometimes, intimate knowledge will be demonstrated by the inclusion of heirloom photographs. Trace these artifacts to their creator and then assess their authenticity. A good researcher will include a citation for the subject's inclusion either in a description or, better yet, by creating a new Source for the information.

More problematic are instances when the recorder has accepted information from an incorrect subject. This occurs frequently in large family trees composed of many offspring where ancestors chose the common practice of assigning names similar or identical to their parent, grandparents, etc. Duplicate names are further obscured when they are common last and/or first names. It's all about statistical probability: the more uncommon a name the greater the probability of its uniqueness.

Genealogists have adopted a means for assessing the veracity of information. It's known as the *Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS)*, a five-point formula set out in the *Genealogy Standards: 50th Anniversary Edition*⁷ and further described in *Genealogical Proof Standard, Building a Solid Case*⁸.

Evidence can be *direct* meaning it is not derived from another source such as deeds, headstone, or an original photograph, but it can also be *derivative*, meaning it was copied, transcribed, abstracted, summarized, or repeated from an

⁶ This applies to other sources of information as well – whenever household units are recorded together – ship manifests, city directories, voting enumerations, sometimes even telephone directories. Considering household

units rather than subjects as the unit of inspection vastly increases the chance that household members will be uncovered.

⁷ Genealogy Standards (Nashville and New York: Ancestry.com, 2014)

⁸ Genealogical Proof Standard, Building a Solid Case, 4th Edition Revised, Christine Rose, San Jose, CA, 2014.

GPS: The Process

1. Reasonably exhaustive research – emphasizing original records providing participants' information – for all evidence that might answer a genealogist's question about an identity, relationship, event, or situation,
2. Complete, accurate citation to the source or sources of each information item contributing – directly, indirectly, or negatively – to answers about the identity, relationship, event, or situation,
3. Tests – through processes of analysis and correlation – of all sources, information items, and evidence contributing to an answer to a genealogical question or problem,
4. Resolution of conflicts pertaining to the proposed answer,
5. A soundly reasoned, coherently written conclusion based on the strongest available evidence.

Genealogical Proof Standard, Building a Solid Case, 4th Edition Revised,
Christine Rose, San Jose, CA, 2014, p 3

original or other ancillary source. An *Authored* source cites opinions, observations and conclusions reached by an observer. An obituary notice would be an example of an authored source.

Regardless of its' type, the reliability and validity of each piece of evidence must be assessed. Genealogical research is a process. Like all processes, every hand-off (i.e., event) is a potential source of error – misspelling, hand-writing difficult to interpret, blemishes on the transcription material. Though originals may have errors, derivative and authored material involve additional *hand-offs*. Consequently, they are more prone to errors.

According to GPS, evidence can be one of three types:

- **Direct Evidence** is *Original* and is sufficient alone to testify to a piece of information – *without any requirement to introduce other pieces of information*. This implies that it is obtained from an official source where significant steps were taken to ensure accuracy,
- **Indirect Evidence** is information that substantiates or supports ancillary *Facts*. Each piece comprises a part of an evidence puzzle. Only taken together do they collectively form a piece of coherent evidence,
- **Negative Evidence** is the absence of facts. If a subject is missing from a census this could indicate that they had died. It could, of course, indicate several alternative conclusions and requires investigation that a possible record cannot be located.

It is instructive to distinguish between *reliable* and *valid* information. The two terms have different statistical meanings. Validity means the cited evidence *supports* what it purports to represent. Birth and death dates and locations are highly valid, though sometimes a burial date can be cited as a death date, so some care needs to be exercised when the two dates coincide. Census locations, however, claim to represent residencies, but there may be instances when the reported location is invalid – a guest during the census taking reports residency when they are living there only temporarily. You may assume that a headstone marker for two people assumes marriage or kinship, but the conclusion may be *invalid*. There are other possibilities to be considered for being listed together.

Validity is the degree to which *independent* observations or recordings result in the same conclusion. Every recording has a process associated with it: an observer recording the initial verbal or written declarations of a subject or the subjects' proxy, and every recording process has possible sources of error: incorrect memory, bad transcription, faded recording media. The degree to which *independent* recording steps coincide is a measure of that facts' *reliability*. Note that the fact might be wrong, but it was recorded wrong every time. Independent measures are simply more likely to include the correct fact amongst them. The collection processes must be *independent*, meaning each is unique – one stage doesn't utilize or rely upon a previous stage therein imparting bias to subsequent process steps.

Reliability is enhanced over time as researchers discover and correct transcription and recording errors. If you discover one you should annotate the record accordingly. These kinds of annotations are forms of *Indirect Evidence*, clarifying an original source. If the evidence constitutes a *Key Connecting Fact* (a fact linking one subject to others – e.g., household census data) you should verify the correction yourself by inspecting the original document. In many instances a previous researcher will provide an important *Key Connector* by citing maiden or married names for women. Ancestry often fails to link subjects together. Early censuses did not

cite household subjects together. Ship manifests completely miss this connection leaving it to the vagaries of separate search routines to identify multiple subjects. *If you find them then record them and don't leave it to the chance that a distinct search will uncover the other household members.*

The key question with a fact's validity is its' source – what GPS refers to as **WHO** – who supplied the information. *“Genealogists view sources as containers of information potentially relevant to research questions.”*⁹ Obviously, a federal or state bureau of statistics would have more valid information on birth and death locations (and perhaps dates) than an obituary. This may happen because the original source is more *direct*, involving fewer intermediaries in the conveying of the information, but, more likely, it derives from what GPS refers to as the **WHY** – the reason behind the information collection. There are economic and perhaps legal issues associated with the collection of state-imposed documents that make them more valid than data collected as informative.

Many genealogists suggest that *“the closer a record corresponds to an event, the greater the likelihood of true information.”*¹⁰ This occurs because ancillary processes intervene to potentially confound the content – paper degradation, memory lapse, etc. Information recorded near the date of the event can be considered a *Primary Source*, but discretion must be exercised when the date of recording becomes extended.

“Wherever possible, genealogist prefer to reason from original records that reliable scribes carefully created soon after the reported events. They also prefer original records that competent authorities checked or vetted and that institutions maintained with protection from alteration, damage, and tampering”.

Genealogy Standards, 50th Anniversary Edition

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Reliability is the degree to which a fact would be repeated if collected from different sources or at different times. An example might be residency collected via a census or a city directory for a subject in the same year. The reliability of the two sources may require reconciliation due to different location boundaries (townships, cities, boroughs, postal areas, census districts). Furthermore, census data is provided by whoever is at the door when the census taker appeared – *“When spouses, children, or others gave the data errors inevitably were introduced.”*¹²

When evidence is confusing and possibly contains contradictory facts, it is highly desirable that conclusions be well documented. Ancestry offers the ability to attach Notes and Comments to subjects for precisely this purpose. Your rendition of the subject will probably not be the last or even the most definitive statement. Others may build upon your efforts. State how you arrived at your conclusions so that they don't descend the same warrens and recreate your missteps.

Adherence to proper *rules of evidence* not only speaks to the integrity of your tree but provides increased confidence for future researchers. To assist in this endeavor, I have created an Evidence Evaluation Sheet which I have included as an Appendix to this newsletter.

⁹ Genealogy Standards, 50th Anniversary Edition, Ancestry.com, 2014, ISBN 978-1-630-26018-7 (paper), p. 23

¹⁰ For example, Karen Pitman, *A Good Detective Considers the Source*, <http://www.genealogytoday.com/articles/reader.mv?ID=633>, Genealogy Today

¹¹ For example, Karen Pitman, *A Good Detective Considers the Source*, <http://www.genealogytoday.com/articles/reader.mv?ID=633>, Genealogy Today

¹² Genealogical Proof Standard, Building a Solid Case, op cit., p 23

Tall Tales – Hendershot Lore

Charles Hendershot (1812-1897), Charles Roots

Christopher was the third son of Daniel L Hendershott (1790-1888) who had emigrated with his family from Morris County, New Jersey after the American War of Independence. Charles' grandfather, Christian Hendershott, a cooper or barrel-maker by trade, had encountered financial troubles with his creditors in New Jersey. He had been jailed for ten months in 1799 without as much as a hearing. All his goods were seized, as was his family's clothing—save for what they were wearing: a poor testimonial to pioneer justice in the new *United States of America*. Christian developed a foul taste for New Jersey and Morris County, a bitter tang that languished on the tongue of many of his fourteen offspring.

When the British Government began offering land in Upper Canada it was time to assess their loyalty to the burgeoning new country against the promise of a new start under the British flag. It wasn't that this loyalty was unfringeable. In fact, by the time Christian had emigrated with his son Daniel and his other children, eight of ten residents in Upper Canada were from the United States. Many were quietly awaiting or even actively promoting an American take-over of the new territory. Loyalty to Britain was indeed fragile, more an offshoot of animosity to American taxation than love for the mother country.

The American Government was aware of this sentiment. They expected Upper and Lower Canada to fall into their possession in the same manner that Florida succumbed to the Americans in March 1812. *"I believe that in four weeks from the time that a declaration of war is heard on our frontiers, the whole of Upper and part of Lower Canada will be in our possession."*¹³ In Upper Canada most of the population expected a quick resolution of the affair



Re-enactment of the Battle of Queenston Heights

with the Americans prevailing. It was only after the British took Detroit and General Brock won the day at Queenston Heights that expectation of an American victory waned. Many American sympathizers then left the country while others were deported for refusing to take an oath of allegiance to Britain. But the fortunes of war then took another dramatic turn when the Americans occupied York and the Niagara frontier. The American commanders commented upon the sympathy expressed by the locals for their occupation. These same sympathizers made a dramatic exodus after the British re-occupied Niagara.

We come," they said to the Governor, whom they did not know, "to see whether he will give us land." "Aye, aye," he [De la Roche-foucauld] replied, "you are tired of the Federal Government. You do not like to have so many kings. You want your old father. You are perfectly right. Come along. We like such good Loyalists as you. We will give you land."

Immigration from the United States into Upper Canada ... p. 270

The lasting effect of the war of 1812 was not only that Britain maintained its' presence in North America, but that there was a purging of American sympathies. The repeated reverses of the American army and the re-occupation of the Niagara frontier by the British forces caused the flight of so many of the inhabitants that General De Rottenburg¹⁴ issued a general order stating that *"many farms in the District of Niagara are abandoned by their proprietors or tenants who have joined the enemy,"*

¹³ Speech from Randolph on 6th May, 1812, Calhoun. Reported in *Immigration From The United States Into Upper Canada*. p. 280

¹⁴ Assumed responsibility for both the civil and military leadership of Lower Canada on two occasions during the absence of Sir George Prevost, the commander in chief

and appointed commissioners to "*husband the same and gather in the grain.*"¹⁵ The abandoned homesteads left vacancies for those remaining to augment their allotments. Vacancies were scattered throughout Upper Canada. One primary location would be the then county of Middlesex comprising what would become Norfolk and Elgin Counties where Charles Hendershott would reside for brief periods and where some of his brethren would settle.

The Hendershotts were not neutral in this engagement. Neither were they united. Christopher's father, Daniel fought alongside his father, Christian for the loyalists. Christian fought for General Brock at Queenston Heights. Christian's brothers, Peter and Isaac were also on the British side. Uncle John Hendershott was killed while on sentry duty for the British. Uncle Jacob Samuel also fought for the British but deserted to the American cause, returning to New York to settle in Newfield, Tompkins County.

It was a confusing time. Loyalties were as diverse as the residents of the new territory. It was hard to differentiate ally from enemy. America, by way of the expressed doctrine of *Manifest Destiny* was expanding into an empire, stretching its' tentacles west.

Charles had many relatives, in both the United States and in Upper Canada. They were all descendants of great, great grandfather Michael Hendershott, or Hinneschied as he was known in the old country. He had come from Germany to Rockaway, New Jersey Colony in 1710, one hundred and twenty-six years before. As mentioned, his grandfather, Christian had been badly treated for his loyalty to Britain losing all his possessions and effectively ostracized for his convictions. He and many of his neighbours in Rockaway accepted the offer of the first lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada, John Graves Simcoe, of 200 acres of free land and assistance such as food, clothing, building materials and seeds in Upper Canada. By 1815 the

population of Upper Canada had grown from 12,000 in 1791 to 95,000.



Next.... Growing Up in Ancaster

Upcoming Issue

Digging Deeper into Ancestry and Recording More

I'll detail how you can find more information in Ancestry records by inspecting the root document and how displaying that information in your description field can assist you in uncovering further information and understanding the chronology of the subject's story.

Casper's Children

Casper Hendershott and Elizabeth Schipmann had nine children. I'll Outline their migration patterns throughout the United States and Canada.

Census Update

I'll provide further information on transcribing and indexing the 1950 census for public use.

Tall Tales

Charles Hendershot – Growing Up in Ancaster

The continue saga of Charles - as he grew up in Ancaster, Ontario in 1817.

¹⁵ Ibid, p. 282

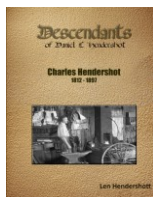
Hendershot Publications



Beyond Doubt - The Murder of William Henry Hendershott

Len Hendershott, Lulu Publishing

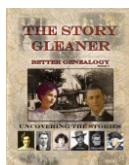
The Murder of William Henry Hendershott by his Uncle and farmmate William Welter in December 1894 in St. Thomas, Ontario is explored along with the trial and subsequent hangings - one of only two double hangings in Canada.



[Descendants of Charles Hendershott](#)

Len Hendershott, Lulu Publishing

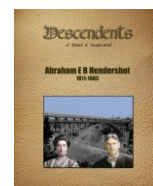
Descendants of Charles Hendershott and Caroline Robinson in Hornellsville, New York State, Racine, Minnesota, Chicago, Santa Ana, California. Stories of main character and three descendants are described in context of historical events that may have shaped their lives.



The Story Gleaner, Better Genealogy

Len Hendershott, Lulu Publishing

The Story Gleaner presents a methodology and techniques for getting the most out of your Ancestry.com subscription and for undertaking genealogical projects



[Abraham E B Hendershot Genealogy:](#)

Len Hendershott, Lulu Publishing

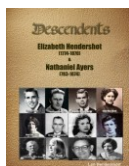
Ancestry of Abraham E B Hendershot (1811-1883) and Charlotte Elizabeth Vansickle (1822-1906). Listing of descendants, sources, photo album and geographical depiction of descendant's migration from Wentworth County, Ontario to Owosso, Michigan.



Stories, Grandpa's Yarns

Len Hendershott, Lulu Publishing

Tales, stories and opinions of Len Hendershott over his life.



[Descendants of Elizabeth Hendershot and Nathaniel Ayers:](#)

Len Hendershott, Lulu Publishing

through nine generations centered in Ohio, Tennessee, and Alabama



[Descendant of Henry Clay Hendershot](#)

Len Hendershott, Lulu Publishing

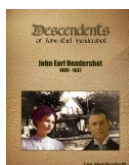
Five Generation of Descendants of Henry Clay Hendershot as they migrate from Ohio to Arkansas to Oklahoma during the Civil War and then Oklahoma land rush



[Descendants of Jacob Hendershott:](#)

Len Hendershott, Lulu Publishing

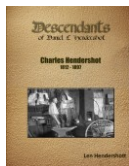
Genealogy of Jacob Hendershott through four generations in Michigan, USA and Elgin County, Ontario, Canada



[Descendants of Earl and Loretta Hendershott](#)

Len Hendershott, Lulu Publishing

Five Generation of Descendants of Henry Clay Hendershot as they migrate from Ohio to Arkansas to Oklahoma during the Civil War and then Oklahoma land rush



[Descendants of Elizabeth Hendershot and Nathaniel Ayers:](#)

Len Hendershott, Lulu Publishing

(six daughters, each with a photo collage). Significant husbands have their respective ancestries traced back.

Appendix: Evidence Evaluation Sheet

Objective

State the purpose or expectation for the evaluation

Edgar Eugene Dennis (1925-2014) [candidate #1] is the son of Harry Edward Dennis (1905-1965) and Edna Myrtle Huffman (1906-1988). His obituary (available on Findagrave memorial 125510659) cited his "first wife" as Ethel M Huffines and his "second wife" as Ruth N Boyle, both deceased at the time of his death.

Garnett Marie Queen (1926-2008) married Gilbert Gene Ayers (1922-2015) at age 43 in 1969. Her obituary (cited in Findagrave memorial 28051621) cited two sons - Boyd Dennis (married to Kay) and Robert Dennis, indicating a previous marriage or relationship to a spouse with the last name of "Dennis". The West Virginia marriage Index cited a marriage in 1943 between Garnett Marie Queen and Edgar Eugene Dennis in Cabell, West Virginia, USA [candidate #2].

An obituary for the Edgar Eugene Dennis failed to mention any reference to Garnett Marie Queen or the two sons suggesting they were not the same person. However, the evidence suggests they are.

Evaluation

Fact	Source	Src ¹⁶	Info ¹⁷	Cat ¹⁸	Conclusion
<u>Candidate #1</u> Birth: 28 Jun 1925 in Hocking County, Ohio. Death: 25 Jan 2014 in Hocking County, Ohio	Findagrave Memorial 125510859				Edgar's first wife is cited as being Ethel M Huffines and not Garnett Marie Queen.
Ancestry search for name Edgar Eugene Dennis	Ancestry search for Edgar Dennis, born within 5 years of 1925 in the state of Ohio.	O	I	I	No other possible person under that name was found.
<u>Candidate #1</u> Edgar's parents were Harry Edward Dennis (1905-1965) and Edna Myrtle Huffman (1906-1988)	Findagrave Memorial 125510859 1930 & 1940 US Federal census	O	P	D	Parentage established according to Findagrave interpreter.
<u>Candidate #2</u> Edgar Eugene Dennis married Garnett Marie Queen at age 17 in Cabell, West Virginia in 1943	West Virginia Marriage Index, 1785-1971	O	P	I	Only names mentioned - no birth dates or locations to increase probably that it is the same "Edgar Eugene Dennis".
<u>Candidate #2</u> Dennis Family Tree cites Private as a Spouse for Garnett Queen. They capture the West Virginia Marriage index as a source	Ancestry - Dennis Family Tree, Tracie Dennis	A	S	I	Alludes to existence of Edgar Dennis as first husband of Garnett Queen.

¹⁶ O - Original (original doc), D - Derivative (derived from other doc(s)) or A - Authored (opinion, observation)

¹⁷ P - Primary (from original, knowledgeable source), S - Secondary (repeated info, second hand), I - Indeterminant (unknown source)

¹⁸ D - Direct (sufficient to state as fact), I - Indirect (requires additional info), N - Negative (info pertinent but not directly related, A - Absent (No contrary evidence found)

Fact	Source	Src ¹⁶	Info ¹⁷	Cat ¹⁸	Conclusion
citing Edgar Eugene Dennis as the PRIVATE person					
<u>Candidate #2</u> Edgar and Garnett had two children born in 1943 and 1945 and both born in Ohio	Indiana Marriage certificate for Boyd Eugene Dennis,	O	P	I	Does not create an anomaly or inconsistency in anyone's timeline
Boyd Eugene Dennis is son of Gene and Garnett Dennis	US Obituary Collection	D	S	D	Boyd's parentage established. A connection to one of the other two spouses would prove conclusive.
Robert C Dennis was born 10 Apr 1945. Edgar is cited on the record	Ohio Birth Index, 1908-1964	O	P	D	Robert's parentage established. A connection to one of the other two spouses would prove conclusive.
<u>Candidate #1</u> "Garnett Dennis" lived in Lancaster, Ohio in 1960 without reference to husband Edgar Eugene	Lancaster City Directory, 1960, p 114.	O	S	I	Garnett is still married to Edgar, but he is not living with her.
<u>Candidate #1</u> Garnett married Gilbert Gene Ayers in 1962	Garnett Queen obituary cited Gilbert as her "husband of 46 years" at the time of her death (2008). No Marriage certificate can be located	D	S	I	Garnett and Edgar were divorced by 1962 - probably between 1960 and 1962. Their two children remained with Garnett.
<u>Candidate #2</u> Ethel M Dennis with maiden name Huffines died in 1971. Her spouse was listed as Edgar Eugene Dennis (1925-2014)	Findagrave memorial 160342207	D	S	D	Edgar was 21 when he married Ethel Huffines. Ethel M Dennis died at age 41 in 1971
<u>Candidate #2</u> Edgar's obituary cited children born between 1948 and 1956	Edgar Eugene 'Gene' Dennis Obituary, The Athens Messenger (in appendix)	D	S	I	Mother indeterminant - either Garnett Queen, or Ethel Huffines (Ruth Nancy Boyle married Edgar in 1977).
<u>Candidate #2</u> Ruth Nancy Boyle obituary refers to above male children as "step-sons".	Ruth Nancy Boyle obituary	D	S	I	The mother is most likely Ethel Huffines and she likely married Edgar around 1947.
Edgar married Ruth Nancy Boyle on 19 Feb 1977 at the age of 51 in Hocking, Ohio. She was 50. It indicated his "Times Married" as 2.	Ohio Marriage Index, 170, 1972-2007	D	P	D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dennis had been previously married (not sure if two refers to current or previous marriages). • Six years lapsed between death of Ethel M Huffines (1971) and marriage to Ruth Boyle (1977).
<u>Candidate #1</u> Son Roy Elsworth Dennis mentioned in Edgar's obituary.	Gene was preceded in death by his parents; ... infant son, Roy Elsworth Dennis	D	S	I	Infant son Roy Elsworth mother may be Ethel M Gail Huffines (1929-1971), the second wife of Edgar.

Fact	Source	Src ¹⁶	Info ¹⁷	Cat ¹⁸	Conclusion
<u>Candidate #1</u> No evidence can be found for Roy E Dennis"		D	I	N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transcription on obituary may not be correct • No definitive birth and death date can be attached to him

Proof Statement

State the final disposition of the investigation

Edgar Dennis married Garnett Queen after graduating from South Bloomingville High School in 1942. They crossed the state border into West Virginia to do so - 93 miles to Cabell, WV. They lived in Ohio and had two children, Boyd, born 9 Apr 1943 and Robert C, born 10 Apr 1945 both born in Ohio. Apparently, matters deteriorated for the two of them leading to their separation by 1960 as Garnett is living alone in Lancaster, Ohio as Garnett Dennis. By 1962 she has re-married to Gilbert Ayers with whom she has a child - Roy Ayers in 1971. She dies in 2008 and is buried beside her second husband. Her two children by Edgar - Boyd and Robert remain with her.

Edgar served in the US army until the completion of WW2, thereafter, meeting Ethel Gail Huffines in Hocking County, Ohio, whence they married sometime around 1947. They had six children together between roughly 1948 and 1956. Ethel died in 1971 and Edgar remarried at age 51 and for a third time in 1977 to Ruth Nancy Boyle. They had no children.

Edgar worked for Columbia Gas for 20 years and then at Saving Hardware for another 17 years. During this period, he served in the Logan city government for 16 years, where he served as president of Logan City Council and as mayor from 1988 to 2000. His third wife, Ruth died in 2010 and Edgar died in 2014. Edgar is buried in the same cemetery as Ethel Huffines.

Unresolved

State any evidence that conflict with the Conclusion(s)

Edgar's obituary never acknowledges Garret Queen nor the two children they had together. Nor is there ever a reference by either of his last two wives or their children to Edgar's first wife. They appear as two unconnected lives except for:

- The West Virginia marriage certificate indicating their liaison citing Edgar by all three names but without any reference to his birth date or location.
- Edgar's obituary refers to Ethel M Huffines as "his first wife" indicating that those composing the obituary deliberately deleted reference to his early life or were unaware of it.

Appendix

LOGAN — Edgar Eugene “Gene” Dennis, 88, of Logan, Ohio, passed away Jan. 25, 2014, at Hocking Valley Community Hospital, Logan, with family members by his side.

...

Surviving is sons George (Cheryl) Dennis of Logan, Myron (Rebecca) Dennis of Logan, Edgar E. “Luck” Dennis II of Logan, Michael “Pete” (Jennifer) Dennis of Logan; a daughter, Janet (Larry) Wood of Florida; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and sisters Nora Daubenmire of Logan; and Frieda (Robert) Willis of Circleville.

Gene was preceded in death by his parents; first wife, Ethel M. (Huffines) Dennis; second wife, Ruth N. (Boyle) Dennis; an infant son, Roy Elsworth Dennis; and sisters Edith Martin, Georgia Brokaw, and Marilyn Reichley.

[The Athen Messenger](#)

She [**Garnett M Queen Ayers**] is survived by her husband of 46 years, Gilbert "Gene" Ayers; two sons, Boyd (Kay) Dennis and Robert "Bob" Dennis; stepson, Roy (Jennifer) Ayers; grandchildren, Greg (Molly) Dennis, Mark Dennis, Keith (Marcie) Dennis, Kevin (Tracie) Dennis, John (Jeanie) Dennis and Tricia (Joey) Fleming; 16 great-grandchildren; one brother, John (Sharon) Queen; one sister, Alberta (George) Ellis; sisters-in-law, Olive Queen and Marilyn Queen. She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles S. and Josie (Gue) Queen; four brothers, Clinton Queen, Norman Queen, Charles Queen Jr. and David Queen; infant sister.