



The Newsletter of
Middlesex Genealogical Society

Vol. XXXVIII, No. 2

Darien, Fairfield County, CT

June, 2022

President's Message

Happy Summer 2022

- Summer, a great time to read. Read about the town or county in which your ancestors lived.
- Summer, a great time for watching. Watch movies, documentaries, YouTube videos about the area your ancestor lived or their occupation.
- Summer, a great time for organizing. Organize your genealogy files. Create a backup either using an online tree or a software program. Share it with a family member.
- Summer, a great time for the 1950 census. Locate your relatives, read on for my article on pg. 4, or join the communities at FamilySearch click on "Get Involved" to help index it's easy and rewarding.
- Summer, a great time for family. Make new memories with your family and friends. Write your stories and take pictures of what you love for your future genealogist.
- When summer ends and the leaves are getting ready to turn we will host our first of two lectures in the fall. Come join us 15 Oct 2022 to hear about Researching our Irish Ancestors.

See you in October.
Sara Zagrodzky

As of April 30, 2022, presentations for Middlesex Genealogical Society are back at the Darien Library's Community Room. For now they will be hybrid events with the presenters on Zoom and participants either Zoom or in person.
Look for updates in this newsletter and via email announcements.
Send you email to:
[newslettermgsdarien@gmail](mailto:newslettermgsdarien@gmail.com) to be added to the list.

In This Issue

President's message pg. 1
MGS News pg. 1
Irish Documents Saved from 1922 Fire pg. 3
My 1950 Census Family Members pg. 4
Tips pg. 6
Passenger List Annotations pg. 6
Welcome New Members pg. 8
Leave Them Smiling pg. 8

MGS News

On March 12, Middlesex Genealogical Society held it's second meeting of the year. It was held on the Darien Library's Zoom platform and attended by 37 participants. Susan Jaycox, professional genealogist, lecturer, and the current

President of the Genealogy Federation of Long Island, presented “Using Family Search & Ancestry in 2022.” Beginning with artificial intelligence and how it can benefit the genealogist, she described the advances made in such things as search engine results and text recognition (OCR). Susan described records held by Family Search, its partners and affiliates. She went on to tell us how best to use [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org), what is available, what services are provided, what is restricted or limited and why. She also prepped the audience on what to bring to a Family History Center to make the experience worthwhile.

Susan told us about [Ancestry](https://www.ancestry.com) and its growing number of owned websites like [fold3](https://www.fold3.com) and [newspapers.com](https://www.newspapers.com). She described its new features, as well as the pitfalls, and the possible duplication problems of merging directly into your tree. She stressed always adding your findings manually and recommended keeping a master spreadsheet of websites used as sources; also using Ancestry’s 1950’s Flashback to give context to your family story.

Our last meeting of this season was held on April 30th. It was a hybrid session held at the Darien Library’s Louise Parker Berry Community Room as well as a Zoom presentation and was attended by a combined 29 participants. Susan Miller, NYG&B Director of Programs; editor of the New York Researcher and a managing editor of the New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer, presented “Navigating the 1950 US Census.”

Susan began by explaining the reason for the 72-year law governing the census release and went on to the [National Archives and Records Administration](https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk) (NARA) microfilming of the 1950 census and why only the population side and not the housing schedule side was microfilmed. NARA released the census images using machine learning-assisted Optical Character Recognition (OCR) which generated a limited index (names, states, counties, and enumeration districts). Su-

san said that the artificial intelligence accuracy was not very good and one can help refine the results at [Census Records: 1950 Census: Please Help NARA ... | History Hub](https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSK3-3?i=1&cc=2)

She explained that there are four groups indexing the census: [NARA](https://www.familysearch.org), [MyHeritage](https://www.myheritage.com), [FamilySearch](https://www.familysearch.org) and [Ancestry](https://www.ancestry.com). FamilySearch and Ancestry are combining their efforts. MyHeritage is

Continued on pg. 6

**MIDDLESEX GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
2022
OFFICERS &
BOARD MEMBERS**

Sara Zagrodzky	President & Programs Director
Open	Vice President
John Driscoll	Treasurer & Newsletter Ed.
Peter Biggins	Secretary & Webmaster
Tara Finn Forschino	Social Director and Facebook Administrator
Robert E. “Pete” Kenyon	Past VP Programs
Leonard Christie	Past VP Programs

PAST DIRECTORS

Pamela Shea	Past President
Mary Lavins	Email Communications

Middlesex Genealogical Society was established for the purpose of helping those interested in genealogy to pursue the investigation of their family heritage and to provide guidance in research to that end. The society publishes a quarterly newsletter (ISSN 1936-3494) and co-sponsors, with Darien Library, at least four meetings with a program and speaker during the year. Annual membership dues vary from \$25 for 1 yr. or \$45 for 2 yrs. per individual and \$30 for 1 yr. or \$55 for 2 yrs. per couple or family. Original notices of genealogical interest and queries are welcomed for publication in the newsletter.

**Middlesex Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 9
Darien, Fairfield County, CT 06820**

Website: mgsdarienct.org

Documents Saved From the Irish Public Record Office Fire of 1922 to Be Conserved

The following article is from *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* and is copyright 2022 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at

<http://www.eogn.com/>

From Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

Published on 11 May 2022

Last updated on 11 May 2022

Dublin Port Company is supporting the State's effort to recover from the Four Courts fire of 1922 by funding the conservation of 200-year-old records concerning Dublin Port.

On 30 June 1922, the Public Record Office of Ireland at the Four Courts was destroyed in the opening engagement of the Civil War. In the aftermath of the fire of 1922, over 25,000 sheets of

paper and parchment were retrieved from the rubble. These records, which date from the fourteenth to the nineteenth centuries, are known as the '1922 Salved Records'. They are now held at the National Archives.

Most of this collection remained unopened until the last 5 years. As the successor of the Public Record Office of Ireland, the National Archives is a Core Partner in the Beyond 2022 project—an all-island and international research programme hosted at Trinity College Dublin and funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under Project Ireland 2040. The project is working to reconstruct what was lost in 1922.



The National Army attack on the Four Courts, June 28 1922

During a recent investigation of unopened parcels of salved records through the Beyond 2022 project, archivists identified 5 parcels of significance to the history of Dublin Port.

Now, with generous support from Dublin Port Company, these records are being restored by the conservation team at the National Archives of Ireland. The conservation work is being undertaken by the Beyond 2022 Project Conservator, Jessica Baldwin, under the guidance of Zoë Reid, Keeper, Public Services and Collection. The documents all show some evidence of

damage from the heat of the flames, as well as damp and rain from exposure to the weather following the fire. Despite the damage, conservation will mean that documents not seen for 100 years can soon be consulted again by historians and the public.

The thousands of sheets of paper are historically significant both as survivors of

the destruction of 1922, and as fresh evidence for the historical development of Dublin Port. These papers create an incredible snapshot of the bustling life of the busy port with hundreds of people from around the country, from ports in Killybegs, Strangford and Youghal coming to collect salaries, pensions and trade in goods. They contain details on salaries and compensations and many names of inspectors and collectors of customs taxes. They provide accounts about wine, bounties on beef and pork, allowances on silk, detail repayments of taxes on fish, ash, salt, and linen. For example, over 50 documents relating to the Bounty Payments for Fish in the summer of 1817 give a fascinating insight, as they include information on the ship,

listing crew members and detailing the size and type of catch. These are important details of trade and commerce in Dublin Port that do not exist elsewhere.

Following the conservation, the documents dating from 1817–1818 will be available for research and suitable for digitisation.

Speaking about the partnership, Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Catherine Martin, said:

“This partnership between Beyond 2022, the National Archives and Dublin Port is an important and significant one. The process of saving the recovered records from the fire at the Public Record Office in June 1922 is a flagship project under the government’s Decade of Centenaries Programme led by my department’s Commemorations Unit.”

“The care that staff in the Public Record Office demonstrated over 100 years ago in their mission to save as many records as possible is now being continued by a highly skilled and committed team of archivists and conservators working together to uncover and reveal a snapshot of what life looked like at Dublin Port in 1922.”

Eamonn O’Reilly, Chief Executive, Dublin Port, said:

“Our own rich archive is an important and actively used resource which we routinely rely on to tell the story of Dublin Port. We are delighted now to be able to add to the additional archive materials related to Dublin Port which the National Archives holds by supporting the conservation of records recovered after the burning of the Four Courts a century ago.”

Orlaith McBride, Director of the National Archives, said:

“The conservation of these records represents a significant contribution to the State’s key legacy project from the Decade of Centenaries. The National Archives as successor institution to

Public Record Office has held these records, salvaged from the fire in 1922, in its care for almost 100 years and has now begun the process of conservation. This support from Dublin Port is invaluable in terms of allowing us to progress this work.”

Dr Peter Crooks, Trinity College Dublin and Academic Director of the Beyond 2022 project, said:

“As each page of these fascinating archives is restored, another page of Irish history is returned to the public record. These documents provide a fascinating insight into everyday life 200 years ago - not only in Dublin, with its extensive trading network, but also across Ireland at large.”

My 1950 Census Family Members

By Sara Zagrodzky

Few things excite genealogists as much as the release of a census. Every ten years, we wait with childlike anticipation for the big day. When it comes and we’ve recovered from the heart-racing excitement, it’s time to get down to business; our business. It’s time to crank up the research engine!

I’ve started to take a look, and I hope you have too. My early research revealed that I had 119 living relatives at the time of the 1950 census. They spanned four generations and included both my parents, all four grandparents, three great-grandparents and even one great-great-grandmother. Then there were the siblings of these older relatives and their offspring – my distant cousins. These relatives are all connected to me through the DNA test I took.

Of course, I began to develop my list of relatives with exactly the sort of question every genealogist should pose at this once-every-ten-year moment: “Who was alive in 1950?” It’s



true that I have still not recovered from the thrill of the census release (give me another few months), but I have managed to calm down enough so that my research is careful, thorough and complete. You can be sure that my list of relatives from that marvelous set of seventy-year-old records was curated with love and attention to detail. Just like a good genealogist should!

If you have not already begun to explore the latest census release, it's time to get busy. Your first step should be to write what you know about relatives from that time period or review what you have already loaded into your genealogy software program. List your parents, their siblings and families, grandparents, great-grandparents and any other potential relatives.

That's just a starter list, of course. Your grandparents and great-grandparents alive at that time also had siblings, and they also had spouses and families. And aunts and uncles. And cousins. Lots of them. Each one you find may add a whole new branch to your tree and open up a world of family history you never knew. It will almost be like they are alive again!

Logic dictates that if our grandparent generations of that era were just having their children, then their own parents might be alive. Who in the family circle of my great-grandparents would have shown up for family dinner? Wouldn't it have been great if someone had a tape recorder under the table at even one of those dinners? It makes me want to push 'record' on my

iPhone sometime. But then I'm sure to get into privacy trouble one day. Anyway, don't forget to look sideways around your direct relatives for other relations. The possibilities are endless.

Is this basic research the end of the line? No! My second great grandmother, Emma, whose father was William Ward, Mormon architect and stonemason, who carved the Deseret stone for the Washington Monument, was still living in 1950, a hundred years after her father had come to America. My point is that each person you find will not only add to your family history, he or she will also bring to life some story about

that period, which just adds richness to this fascinating research.

Don't forget – at the time of the 1950 census, Harry S Truman was president. And while everyone was still recovering from World War II, another conflict was taking its place – the Kore-

an War. For those passionate about science, the term "Big Bang" was used for the first time in 1949 by Fred Hoyle on the BBC. In 1949, the Kingdom of Siam became Thailand, and Hawaii was a young territory, only to become a state ten years later.

Everyone living in the 1950s was also living that history. As you work through your research, take note of this history and the possible roles your ancestors played in it. Who knows, maybe you have a relative connected to a big event and you just didn't know it.

That's it for now. Enjoy the 1950 census. Happy researching!



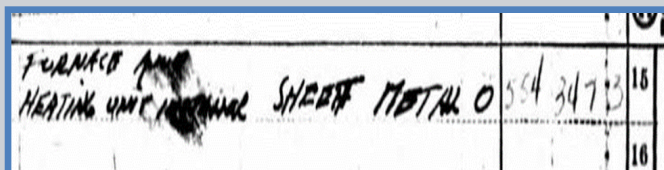
Deseret stone 220' level of the Washington Monument [click here for more](#)

Tips

Send your tips in to the MGS newsletter!

newslettermgsdarien@gmail.com

In the 1950 Federal Census, if you can't decipher an enumerator's handwriting, the "Leave Blank" columns may help. Go to: www.stevemorse.org/census/codes.html and enter the code numbers to determine the meanings.



Example of hard to read occupation code

Occupation Code	554	Mechanics and repairmen, (n.e.c.)
Industry Code	347	Fabricated nonferrous metal products
Class Code	3	In own business (O)

Steve Morse One Step Deciphering Codes

Have you found a person in a directory in the 1940's or 1950's, but can't confirm it is *your* ancestor? Look that person up in the 1950 census using the address to find the Enumeration District and see if it is.

For those of you with New York City ancestors, who have for years collected birth, death and marriage certificates from the Municipal Archives in the city, you can now replace them for free with much better copies at [Home - Historical Vital Records of NYC](#)

MGS news continued from pg. 2

optimistically predicting they will complete the project by June 2022. FamilySearch is looking for volunteers to help by reviewing the indexing (log in and click "Get Involved"). Susan explained how to search the census using ED maps available on [Ancestry](#), [NARA](#) and [Steve morse.org](#). She went on to describe the questions asked and supplemental questions asked of every fifth person on the sheet. The presentation was followed by questions and answers.

The next presentation of MGS is October 15, 2022. More to come.

Enjoy the Summer!

U.S. Passenger List Annotations and Markings What Do the Markings on the Manifest Mean?

By Kimberly Powell

[Powell, Kimberly](#). "U.S. Passenger List Annotations and Markings." ThoughtCo, Feb. 16, 2021, [thoughtco.com/us-passenger-list-annotations-and-markings-1422263](https://www.thoughtco.com/us-passenger-list-annotations-and-markings-1422263).

Contrary to popular belief, U.S. customs officials or Immigration Services did not create ship passenger lists. Ship manifests were completed, generally at the point of departure, by steamship companies. These passenger manifests were then submitted to the immigration officials upon arrival in the United States.

U.S. immigration officials were known, however, to add annotations to these ship passenger lists, both at the time of arrival or many years later. These annotations may have been made to correct or clarify certain information, or to reference naturalization or other relevant documents.

Annotations Made at Time of Arrival

Annotations added to passenger manifests at the time of a ship's arrival were made by immigration officials in order to clarify information or to detail a problem a passenger's entrance to the United States. Examples include:

X - An "X" to the far left of the page, before or in the name column, signifies that the passenger was temporarily detained. Look at the end of the manifest for that particular ship to see the list of all detained aliens.

S.I. or B.S.I. - Also found to the far left of the manifest, before the name. This meant that the passenger was held for a Board of Special Inquiry hearing, and perhaps slated to be deported. Additional information may be found at the end of the manifest.

USB or USC - Indicates "U.S. born" or "U.S. citizen" and is sometimes found noted on the manifests for U.S. citizens returning from a trip abroad.

Annotations Made Later

The most common annotations added to ship passenger lists after the time of arrival had to do with verification checks, generally in response to an application for citizenship or naturalization. Common annotations include:

C # - Look for C followed by a bunch of numbers - usually stamped or handwritten near the individual's name on the passenger manifest. This refers to the Naturalization certificate number. This may have been entered while verifying immigration for a naturalization petition, or upon arrival for a returning U.S. citizen.

435/621 - These or similar numbers with no date given may refer to the NY file number and indicates an early verification or record check. These files no longer survive.

432731/435765 - Numbers in this format generally refer to a permanent U.S. resident returning from a visit abroad with a Reentry Permit.

Number in the Occupation Column - Numerical sequences in the occupation column were often added during verification for naturalization purposes, usually after 1926. The first number is the naturalization number, the second is the application number or Certificate of Arrival number. An "x" between the two numbers indicates that no fee was required for the Certificate of Arrival. Indicates the naturalization process was initiated, although not necessarily completed. These numbers are often followed by the date of the verification.

29

RECEIVED

LIST OR MANIFEST OF ALIEN PASSENGERS FOR THE U. S. IMMIGRATION OFFICE

Required by the regulations of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor of the United States, under Act of Congress approved March 3, 1903, to be delivered to Officer of any vessel having such passengers on board upon arrival at a port in the United States.

51 S.S. Baltic sailing from Liverpool, England, 1906 Arriving at Port of New York

No. in List	Name in Full	Age	Sex	Marital Status	Calling Occupation	Birth Place	Naturalization Status	Last Residence	Final Destination	Whether Landing Ticket or other document required	By whom	Whether in possession of \$50.00 and if not, how much?	Whether over 16 years of age	Whether going to work or other business?
1583	David Krucher	16	M	Single	None	Russia	None	Russia	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1584	X Hermann Kersch	30	M	Married	None	Russia	None	Russia	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1585	X Jacob Guleschik	41	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1586	X Jacob Rosensch	25	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1587	X Franka Amosch	103	F	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1588	X Jacob Ellak	45	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1589	X Morris Kax	33	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1590	X Morris Adelsch	49	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1591	X Mendel Adelsch	45	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1592	X Morris Kax	33	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1593	X Morris Kax	33	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1594	X Morris Kax	33	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1595	X Morris Kax	33	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1596	X Morris Kax	33	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1597	X Morris Kax	33	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1598	X Morris Kax	33	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1599	X Morris Kax	33	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None
1600	X Morris Kax	33	M	Married	None	Austria	None	Austria	New York	Yes	Self	None	No	None

NARA

C/A or c/a - Stands for Certificate of Arrival and indicates that the naturalization process was initiated with a Declaration of Intention, although not necessarily completed.

V/L or v/l - Stands for Verification of Landing. Indicates a verification or record check.

404 or 505 - This is the number of the verification form used to transmit manifest information to the requesting INS office. Indicates a verification or record check.

Name crossed out with line, or completely x'd

out with another name written in - The name was officially amended. Records generated by this official process may still survive.

W/A or w/a - a Warrant of Arrest. Additional records may survive at the county level.

LEAVE THEM SMILING



Welcome New Members

Robert C Abercrombie

Duncan M Chisholm

Susan B Gaccione

**NEXT MEETING
OCTOBER 15,
2022**

**Middlesex Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 9
Darien, CT 06820**