**From the Editor:**

Just a reminder to those of you who may be planning a visit to the West Virginia Archives and History Library over the holiday season: Please check our Web site and/or call us to be sure we will be open on the day and time you hope to come in. The holiday schedule for the 2003-2004 season for the Archives and History Library is as follows:

- Dec. 24 (Wed.) Closing at 1:00 p.m.
- Dec. 25 (Thurs.) Closed.
- Dec. 26 (Fri.) Closed.
- Dec. 27 (Sat.) Open 9:00–6:00.
- Dec. 31 (Wed.) Closing at 1:00 p.m.
- Jan. 01 (Thurs.) Closed.
- Jan. 02 (Fri.) Open 9:00–6:00.
- Jan. 03 (Sat.) Open 9:00–6:00.

Please drive safely, and plan to include a few hours of research in the Library in your itinerary for West Virginia.

**SKIPPED PAGES NOW AVAILABLE**

Did you know that when the 1820 Census of the United States was originally microfilmed, eight pages of the Virginia census were missed, including two pages in counties now in West Virginia? Roy Lockhart, of Parkersburg, WV, was researching Randolph and Monongalia County 1820 Census records and noticed something peculiar—there were no surnames beginning with D through F and very few beginning with G recorded in Randolph, and only a few beginning with G or H listed in Monongalia County. The names he expected to find fell in these gaps.

Always a thorough researcher, Lockhart contacted the National Archives and Records Administration and found that a page in each county had been skipped during microfilming, that the pages (or copies of the pages) were still in existence, and that copies could be purchased from the National Archives. He obtained a microfilm copy of the missing Monongalia County page and a photocopy of the Randolph County page. He has generously donated the copies to the West Virginia State Archives.

Dick Fauss, our Film Archivist, has microfilmed the print copy, and made a more legible copy of the microfilm image. For the convenience of our researchers, he will be splicing each microfilmed image into the appropriate sequence on the original reels of census microfilm in our collection. In the meantime, following are lists of the missing names.
Missed Heads of Household from the 1820 Census of Monongalia County  
(Page 51a, Western Division)

In order of appearance:
Glascock, Charles
Garlow, John
Gilbert, Stephen
Garlow, Andrew
Gidley, John
Garlow, Daniel
Gooden, Elizabeth
Grayham, Richard
Gutridge, Robert
Gutridge, Elizabeth
Goodnight, Christian
Gray, Caleb
Gottard, Francis
Garrison, John
Glover, Nehemiah
Swarengan, Van
Pitcher, Jonathan J.
Hayhurst, James
Hays, Isaac
Hess, Peter
Heck, Adam
Hess, John,
Hannen, Nathan
Hayhurst, John
Hoult, Calder
Hoult, Joseph
Hayhurst, David
Hawkens, William
Hawkens, John
Haught, Jacob

Missed Heads of Household from the 1820 Census of Randolph County  
(Page 266a)

In order of appearance:
Coffman, George
Cross, Joseph
Carpenter, Solomon
Coontz, John
Chinoweth, ______
Degarmo, Samuel

NEW TITLES

Inside the White House in War Times: Memoirs and Reports of Lincoln’s Secretary: William O. Stoddard, 2000, c1890.
Lee’s Aide-de-Camp: Charles Marshall, 2000. [Note: Originally published as An Aide-de-Camp of Lee, c1927.]
Randolph County [West] Virginia deeds and will abstracts, Early Marriages and Sims Land Grant Index: Larry Shuck, 2003.
The West Virginia Adventure: Elisabeth Evans Wray, 2003. [West Virginia history textbook]
“Unusual Given Name Has Ancient History”

by Carl Hommel

I have noted on some mailing lists mention of the given name of Benoni. This is an unusual name, and some people think that it is an Italian family name and the child is named after his or her mother’s family and then indicate that they have been unable to find a family with that surname. Actually Benoni is a Biblical Name that means “son of my sorrow.” It was the original name given to the younger son [Benjamin–Editor] of the patriarch Jacob. Rachel, his mother, in her dying agony named the child Benoni. (Genesis 35:18)

This name was often given in American Colonial times to a child whose mother died in childbirth or whose father died before the child was born. In fact, this is an important clue. When one sees the name Benoni, look to see what sad event might have caused the child to be given that name. It might have been the death of a grandparent, a parent or a sibling.

[From RootsWeb Review, Vol. 6, No. 40, October 1, 2003.] Editor’s Note: An Internet search brought up many verifications of the meaning of the name Benoni, but no citations or discussions of its usage as described above. A quick look at the available national census on HeritageQuest on-line showed 113 heads of household with the first name of Benoni in 1790, 203 in 1820, peaking at 250 in 1870, and declining to 203 in 1920, despite the huge growth in the country’s population and the inclusion of all names in the later census indexes, indicating the less frequent usage of the name over time. The New England states of New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts consistently had far more people named Benoni than other states over the decades. If you have a “Benoni” in your family that can be connected with a death or other great sorrow, please share your information with us.
West Virginia's Cemeteries

2004 SHPO Calendar

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), West Virginia Division of Culture and History, produces an attractive calendar each year featuring a subject of historical preservation interest. The 2004 topic is cemeteries. In addition to striking photographs and informative text illustrating each month’s calendar page, the following articles are included: “West Virginia’s Cemeteries and the National Register of Historic Places,” “A Labor of Love: Protection and Preservation of Historic Cemeteries,” and “Tombe Iconography.” A list of references and resources offers guidance to those who would like to learn more about the history and preservation of cemeteries.

Calendars are free while supplies last. To obtain a copy, contact Lora Lamarre, SHPO, at the Division of Culture and History address given below; call (304) 558-0230, Ext. 711, or e-mail lora.lamarre@wvculture.org.

Calendar of Events

Please check our website (http://www.wvculture.org/history) for genealogical and historical society meeting announcements, and for more complete information on activities listed below.

Christmas Eve, December 24: Closing at 1:00 p.m.

Christmas Day, December 25: Closed.

Friday, December 26: Closed.

Saturday, December 27: Open regular hours, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*

New Year’s Eve, December 31: Closing at 1:00 p.m.

New Year’s Day, January 1, 2004: Closed.


HISTORY DAY, JANUARY 29, 2004: The Capitol and the Cultural Center, Charleston.

*Only the Archives Library will be staffed—all other Archives offices will be closed. The State Museum will be open any time the Archives Library is open. The West Virginia Library Commission Library in The Cultural Center is closed weekends and all holidays.

Archives and History Staff

Fredrick Armstrong: Director
Debra Basham: Archivist (photographs, special collections)
Constance Baston: Researcher (Veterans Memorial Archive)
Greg Carroll: Historian (Civil War, Native American history)
Dick Fauss: Archivist (microfilm and moving images collection)
Elaine Gates: Library Assistant (microfilming and microfilm repairs)
Joe Geiger: Assistant Director (Historian, Web page)
Ed Hicks: Photographer (archival photography, darkroom)
Mary Johnson: Historian (West Virginia History)
Terry Lowry: Library Assistant (Civil War)
Cathy Miller: Library Assistant (WV State documents, periodicals)
Sharon Newhouse: Secretary
Harold Newman: Library Assistant (microfilming, Revolutionary War)
Pat Pleska: Manager of the Veterans Memorial Archive
Susan Scouras: Librarian (cataloging, Kentucky, library collection, newsletter editor)
Jaime Simmons: Library Assistant (records of the 1700's and early 1800's, Pennsylvania)
Bobby Taylor: Library Manager
Nancy Waggoner: Office Assistant
Working on special projects: Allen Fowler, Volunteers: Carolyn Conner, Bill Kelley, Angela Tolbert, Bob and Lucile Foster, John McClure, and Carol de la Riva.

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Nancy P. Herholdt, Commissioner

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