



# NCGS News

The Newsletter of the North Carolina Genealogical Society

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## **The Metes & Bounds of Land Plats in Genealogy: Understanding, Drawing, and Using Land Plats to Solve Research Problems**

**Saturday, 15 March 2014**

at the New Hanover County Public Library  
201 Chestnut Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

Don't miss this hands-on workshop with Gerald "Jerry" Smith, CG, co-sponsored by NCGS and the New Hanover County Public Library. Full program information and the registration form can be found on pages 5 and 15 of this newsletter and on the NCGS website at <http://www.ncgenealogy.org>.

## **VOL\_NTEER**

**What is missing?  
"U" are  
NCGS Needs YOU to Volunteer!**

NCGS has a lot of exciting projects that need volunteers to help make them happen. You can make a difference in the success of these projects by volunteering your time. Do you like to work on committees, have good writing skills, or enjoy using technology? Do you like to access materials at libraries and archives, transcribe documents, or index records? With such a variety of activities available there is something for everyone. Some projects allow you to work from home wherever you live.

Check out the many volunteer projects throughout this issue of the *NCGS News*. Each is marked with the checkmark symbol ☒. To volunteer, simply respond to the e-mail address that follows the request, or contact the Mabel Dillard, Volunteer Coordinator, at [volunteer@ncgenealogy.org](mailto:volunteer@ncgenealogy.org). Also, be sure to check out the volunteer tab on the NCGS website where you can respond and volunteer.

Remember that NCGS needs "U" to use your talents and skills to volunteer for one or more opportunities. Help us fill in the missing U.

The next North Carolina Series webinar  
will be presented on 21-23 March 2014.

See page 9 for more information.

## NCGS Officers and Directors

### Executive Committee

Victoria P. Young, President  
president@ncgenealogy.org

Maryann Stockert Tuck, 1st Vice President  
firstvicepresident@ncgenealogy.org

Pam Toms, 2nd Vice President  
secondvicepresident@ncgenealogy.org

Carolyn Clemmer McCulley, Secretary  
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Judith Garner Hinton, Treasurer  
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Victor T. Jones Jr., Past President  
pastpresident@ncgenealogy.org

### Directors

Mark Beasley, Mabel Osborne Dillard,  
Carolyn Gibbons, Mary L. Gray, Jordan  
Jones, Ed Pattishall

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Victoria P. Young, Publications Distributor  
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### Committees

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awards@ncgenealogy.org

Membership: [open], Chair  
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Nominating: Victor T. Jones Jr., Chair  
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Publications: Ed Pattishall, Chair  
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Publicity: Charlotte Bell, Chair  
publicity@ncgenealogy.org

Technology: Mary L. Gray, Chair  
technology@ncgenealogy.org

Volunteers: Mabel Osborne Dillard, Chair  
volunteer@ncgenealogy.org

Webinars: Maryann Stockert Tuck, Chair  
webinars@ncgenealogy.org

## The North Carolina Genealogical Society

PO Box 30815  
Raleigh, NC 27622-0815

### Society Goals

The North Carolina Genealogical Society, chartered in 1974, is open to all who are interested in genealogical or historical research and has the following goals:

- ▶ to increase interest in and raise the standards of research and compilation by means of educational programs and publications;
- ▶ to acquaint members with research sources and materials in North Carolina and elsewhere;
- ▶ to serve as a medium of exchange of genealogical information; and
- ▶ to promote the collection, preservation, and utilization of manuscripts, documents, and other materials of genealogical and historical value.

While not maintaining a library of its own, the society promotes and encourages the development of the many fine research centers across the state. Books given to the society for review in the *NCGS Journal* are donated to the Genealogy Collection of the State Library of North Carolina in Raleigh, North Carolina.

### NCGS Statement Code of Ethics

The North Carolina Genealogical Society encourages researchers to uphold high standards for their genealogical research, analysis, and publication. Care should be taken to document properly all information included in a genealogical work. Researchers should remember that the original document is the proper source for all information.

When the original cannot be found, careful analysis of secondary materials (including Internet sites) should be fully explained and sources cited.

Given modern technology and the ease of accessing information on the Internet, researchers are encouraged to respect the privacy of all living individuals by not sharing personal information via electronic media.

While the courts have not yet fully tested copyright issues involving the Internet, the same respect should be paid to information found on the Internet as is paid to information in printed works bearing notice of copyright. Under United States copyright law, an individual's intellectual output is protected whether or not it bears a copyright notice or symbol and regardless of the medium in which it appears.

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### NCGS Journal

Larry W. Cates, MLIS, Editor

The *North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal* is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November. Submit articles, comments, questions, and suggestions to Larry Cates, at [JournalEditor@ncgenealogy.org](mailto:JournalEditor@ncgenealogy.org).

Pam Pearson, Book Review Editor  
[BookReviewEditor@ncgenealogy.org](mailto:BookReviewEditor@ncgenealogy.org)

### NCGS News

Phyllis Matthews Ziller, MLIS, Editor  
*NCGS News*, the newsletter of the North Carolina Genealogical Society, is published bimonthly in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Submit articles, comments, and suggestions by the 15th of the prior month to Phyllis Matthews Ziller at [NCGSNewsEditor@ncgenealogy.org](mailto:NCGSNewsEditor@ncgenealogy.org).

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### NCGS Memberships

NCGS 12-month memberships are \$40 for individuals and institutions, \$45 for families (same residence), and \$100 for patrons. Members receive two publications: the quarterly *NCGS Journal* and the bi-monthly *NCGS News*. Members are also invited to attend, at a discount, the NCGS annual meeting and workshop and all other NCGS-sponsored programs.

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A note regarding genealogical credentials: Certified Genealogist (CG) and Certified Genealogical Lecturer (CGL) are proprietary service marks of the Board for Certification of Genealogists® used by the Board to identify its program of genealogical competency evaluation and used under license to Board's certificants.

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## President's Message

by Victoria P. Young

As I write this letter, I see vestiges of snow in the shady edges of my lawn and on the hills of the woods behind my home. Having lived as a small child in the Dakotas, and then later in New York, snow was always a part of my youth—at many times magical, but oftentimes treacherous. After attending college and starting a sales career in Pennsylvania, where shoveling snow was a loathed routine wintertime chore, I determined to live where snowflakes were only a novelty. For the most of these past twenty-seven years, this has been the case in the Raleigh, North Carolina, area. Unfortunately, I have had to shovel my steep driveway twice in the past month. Bah! Power outages and lost Internet service, though brief this past week, have made me empathetic to those of you who live with the challenges of winter weather every year. I hope that this season has been kind to you, wherever you may live.

Soon, warmer weather will be here, and with it comes genealogical programs and events being offered throughout the state and elsewhere. Our first society program will be offered this month in Wilmington, North Carolina, where we will have a hands-on workshop by Jerry Smith, CG, on metes and bounds land platting, an essential tool for North Carolina and non-federal land grant states. You can read more about this workshop and registration details on page 5.

### NGS Conference

One of the best annual opportunities for genealogical education and social networking will be 7–10 May 2014 in Richmond, Virginia, when the National Genealogical Society presents Virginia: The First Frontier. For those of you who have never attended a national conference, I encourage you to look at the listing of over 200 lectures from both regional and national experts on a variety of subjects to be offered over these four days. Over 2,000 attendees are expected to participate in learning about all facets of genealogy. Topics to be presented include records-based tools pertaining to the matters of migration, religion, ethnicity, and law, just name but a few topics. There will be lectures presented not solely on Virginia and the Carolinas, but also on New York,

*continued on next page*

## Welcome, New Members

We are glad you joined the North Carolina Genealogical Society at this exciting time. You are part of an organization that is committed to preserving the genealogical process through education and partnerships with genealogical societies and libraries throughout the state.

Leslie Windham Adams, Paige, TX  
Pamela Brett, Berkely, CA  
Sue Campbell Brody, Silverton, OR  
Donald Burbage, Las Vegas, NV  
Lori Cook-Folger, Hot Springs, NC  
Linda Dail, Atkinson, NC  
Jennifer Daugherty, Wilmington, NC  
Mariel Q. Davis, Chenoa, IL  
Rita D. Davison, Sherwood, AR  
David England, Blaine, WA  
Jeffrey Wayne George, Greensboro, NC  
Paul Hawthorne, Escondido, CA  
Stephen and Jean Hendrix, Kannapolis, NC  
Douglas B. Hill, Chapel Hill, NC  
Richard Allen Johnson, Bonney Lake, WA  
Susan Johnston, Whitney, TX  
Constance Jones, Raleigh, NC  
Shirley Ann Kanode, Lenoir, NC  
Cynthia M. Kennedy, Devine, TX  
Karen Krzmarzick, Fairfax, VA  
Anita Rollins Lay, Fernandina Beach, FL  
Pickens County Public Library, Easley, SC  
Susan Lindig, Baton Rouge, LA  
Judith Lockhart, Eastchester, NY  
Celeste Lueck, The Woodlands, TX  
Melissa Luginski, Clarkston, MI  
Peggy D. Madden, Kennewick, WA  
Sloan Mason, Fayetteville, GA  
Emma Moore-Kochlacs, El Cajon, CA  
Mary K. Nowell, Thomaston, GA  
Patti Elaine Price, Charlotte, NC  
Jane Land Ratliff, Gastonia, NC  
Sherry Rhodes, Wilmington, NC  
Ann E. Rogers, Frederick, MC  
Frieda Schreck, Riverton, IL  
John T. Sills Jr., Sorrento, FL  
Grace Bliss Smith, Harrison Twp., MI  
Haywood County Historical & Genealogical Society,  
Waynesville, NC  
Randolph County Genealogical Society, Asheboro, NC  
Johanna Kay Standish, Aberdeen, WA  
Margaret M. Teal, Brevard, NC  
Marsha Van Ham, Peachtree Corners, GA  
Gina M. Williams-Vacala, Cary, IL

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## President's Message

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Pennsylvania, Ohio, New England, Maryland, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Learn more about how to organize, write, and publish your family genealogy. Perhaps you will decide to learn how better to understand the exciting developments that DNA testing brings to genealogy. Or maybe you will want to increase your understanding of what constitutes sound, genealogical practice and methodology. Whatever your interest, there will be lots of opportunities to learn and meet new friends. Daily as well as full-conference registrations are available, making this affordable and of great value. More information about the conference can be found at <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>.

### Exhibit Hall Booth Help

If you do plan to attend the NGS Family History Conference, I hope that you will consider volunteering an hour or two in the NCGS booth in the exhibit hall with me and other society members. We will be offering society publications and memberships for sale. The volunteer signup can be found on the NCGS website at <http://www.ncgenealogy.org> under the Volunteer tab. This is a perfect opportunity to *give back* and meet new friends. I hope to see you there!

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## Upcoming Events

15 March 2014—The **NCGS regional workshop**, co-sponsored by the **New Hanover County Public Library**, will be held in Wilmington, North Carolina. More information about the workshop can be found on page 5; registration information is available on the NCGS website (<http://www.ncgenealogy.org>) and a registration form can be found on page 15.

22 March 2014—The **Raleigh Family History Center** will host a seminar, *My Family: the Discovery of a Lifetime*. This seminar is held in conjunction with RootsTech, an annual event where people of all ages learn to discover and share their family stories and connections through technology. Presentations are for the beginner, intermediate, and advanced family historian. All presentations are free, but register soon at <http://www.eventbrite.com/o/raleigh-family-history-center-947571895> before all seats are gone.

4–6 April 2014—The **17th Annual Salisbury Confederate Prison Symposium** will be held in Salisbury, North Carolina. Spend a weekend with historians and descendants of Commandants, guards, civilian prisoners, and POWs exploring the 1861–1865 history of North Carolina's military prison during the War Between the States. For more information, contact the symposium chairman, Sue Curtis, by e-mail at [southpaws@fibrant.com](mailto:southpaws@fibrant.com).

7–10 May 2014—The **National Genealogical Society** (NGS) will host its 2014 Family History Conference, Virginia: The First Frontier, in Richmond, Virginia. More information can be found on the NGS conference blog at <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org>.

27–30 August 2014—The **Federation of Genealogical Societies** (FGS) will host its annual conference, *Gone to Texas*, in San Antonio, Texas. Details can be found on the FGS website at <http://www.fgs.org>.

26 July 2014—The **NCGS regional workshop**, co-sponsored by the **Old Buncombe County Genealogical Society**, will be held in Fletcher, North Carolina, just south of Asheville, and will feature the Rev. Dr. David McDonald, CG. Dave is a past president of the Board for Certification of Genealogists and is a former director of the National Genealogical Society. He is past editor of the *Wisconsin State Genealogical Society Newsletter*. Dave is a frequent lecturer at national, regional, state, and local societies. More information about this upcoming workshop can be found on page 12.

15 November 2014—The **NCGS Annual Meeting and Workshop** will be held in Raleigh. The day's speaker will be Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL, also known as The Legal Genealogist. Judy lectures on a variety of genealogical issues, including the importance of the law to genealogy.

### Share Your News

Does your society have news to share with North Carolina researchers? Send an e-mail with your news to the *NCGS News* editor, Phyllis Matthews Ziller, at [NCGSNewsEditor@NCGenealogy.org](mailto:NCGSNewsEditor@NCGenealogy.org).



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The North Carolina Genealogical Society and the New Hanover County Public Library present

## **The Metes and Bounds of Land Plats in Genealogy: Understanding, Drawing, and Using Land Plats to Solve Research Problems**

with Gerald “Jerry” Smith, CG

Saturday, 15 March 2014 ♦ 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. ♦ 9:00 a.m. registration

New Hanover County Public Library, 201 Chestnut Street, Wilmington, NC 28401

The full-day Metes and Bounds of Land Plats in Genealogy workshop consists of a series of four sessions that introduce land plats and their use; provide a short workshop to learn the essentials of constructing a land plat; discuss USGS maps and their role in placing plats on a modern map and connected tract map construction; and show how to deal with common problems and introduce computer-based platting. Participants are given access to restricted web pages to review the step-by-step workshop examples, look at exercise solutions, and get detailed instructions for downloading USGS base maps for use with DeedMapper™. All materials will be provided for the hands-on session.

- **Introduction and Basic Topics:** Introduction to land plats and their use.
- **Workshop: Drawing Land Plats:** A short workshop to learn the essentials of constructing a land plat.
- **Using USGS Maps for Plat Placement and Connected Tract Maps:** Discussion of USGS maps and their role in placing plats on a modern map and connected tract map construction.
- **Advanced Topics: Dealing with Problems and Using Computer Software:** How to deal with common problems and an introduction to computer-based platting.

Seating is limited, so register early to ensure your spot. When registration reaches capacity, a wait list will be created.



**Jerry Smith** is a Certified Genealogist specializing in Pennsylvania research. As well as authoring a number of journal articles, he has written books in the areas of early court records and Pennsylvania land topics. He has lectured for the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, Genealogical Society of New Jersey, the New England Regional Genealogy Conference, Palatines to America, and various local and regional groups.

Jerry is a faculty member at Samford University’s Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, where he teaches land platting. He researches regularly in Pennsylvania repositories, the National Archives, the New Jersey State Archives, and various Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia repositories.

Jerry is a member of NGS, the Association of Professional Genealogists, and the Council for the Advancement of Forensic Genealogy.

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**A Workshop Registration Form can be found on page 15**

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### ✓ **NCGS Journal Indexing Project**

The *NCGS Journal* Indexing Project is underway! We currently have five volunteers to help index our journals. For those who are not familiar with the project, we are indexing all the past *NCGS Journal* indexes so our members will have an easy resource to check and see if an ancestor's name is mentioned in the *NCGS Journal*. It will be a great tool.

Indexing is easy to do. When you are assigned a journal to index, you will receive instructions and an Excel spreadsheet for entering the information. We ask for only names and places to be entered into the spreadsheet.

This is a great project to work on whether you have a little or a lot of free time because it can be done at your own pace. You don't even need to be in North Carolina to help! We have had interest from several of your fellow members who live outside the state.

Please consider helping with this project. We all know what a great feeling we get when we find an ancestor (or someone we hope is an ancestor) in an index. It can begin to break down brick walls!

Thank you again to our volunteers. Your work is truly appreciated. If anyone would like to volunteer for this project, please send an e-mail to the volunteer coordinator at [volunteer@ncgenealogy.org](mailto:volunteer@ncgenealogy.org).

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### ✓ **NGS Conference Volunteer Opportunity**

Are you going to the NGS 2014 Family History Conference in Richmond, Virginia, from 7–10 May 2014? Will you have some time to volunteer in the NCGS booth in the exhibit hall? We need volunteers to help in the booth to handle sales of NCGS items (e.g., books, CDs, webinar CDs, and memberships). Instructions will be provided in advance and price sheets will be available.

Shifts have been structured to allow those who choose to volunteer an opportunity to miss only one lecture at any given time and to provide time between shifts to get to and from a lecture.

To volunteer for a shift, visit the NCGS website (<http://www.ncgenealogy.org>) and click on the Volunteer tab, then select NGS Conference Volunteer Opportunity.

### ✓ **North Carolina Loose Estates Waypointing Project**

As of 31 January 2014, a group of volunteers has completed waypointing 88.7% of the loose estates found in the North Carolina Archives county record series (see figure below)!

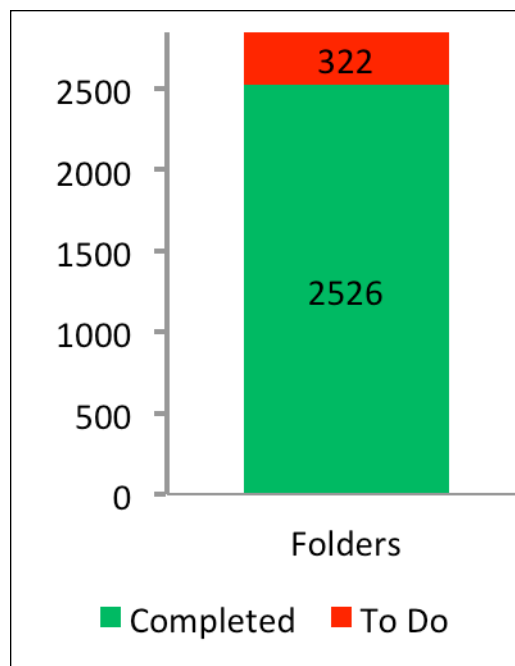
Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped with the project to date. In the last quarter, special thanks go to Betty Carrier, Pam Toms, Pam Pearson, Guy Potts, Linda Thompson, Sharon Gable, Carolyn Gibbons, June Chambliss, and Mark Beasley.

The North Carolina Loose Estates Waypointing project is creating an online digital microfilm reader of all extant loose estates found in the North Carolina Archives county record series. FamilySearch already created the digital images, and now volunteers enter the year and name from the image of the typed label of each folder into an online form, then identify the pages contained in that folder. Waypointing can be done from anywhere with a personal PC (no MAC version available) and Internet access. Training is provided. Your efforts will be appreciated by people looking into their North Carolina roots for years to come!

**More help is still needed!** Won't you offer a little of your time to help bring this project to completion?

For more information, or if you would like to volunteer for this project, please contact Ed Pattishall at [publications@ncgenealogy.org](mailto:publications@ncgenealogy.org).

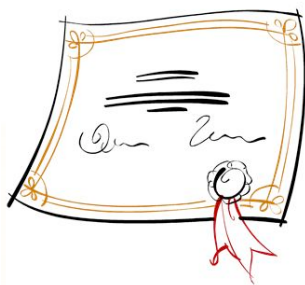
North Carolina Loose Estates Waypointing Project status through 31 January 2014



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## 2014 NCGS Awards

It's not too early to submit a nomination for a 2014 NCGS Annual Award to honor outstanding contributions to the North Carolina genealogical community.



This year's deadline for submissions is **15 August 2014**.

The NCGS Awards promote continued excellence in North Carolina genealogy and also inspire others to publish abstracts and transcriptions of North Carolina county and state records, cemetery and Bible records, family histories, and society journals and newsletters, and to develop informative genealogical websites. The Awards Committee urges you to join the society in recognizing the labors of deserving individuals and societies by submitting a nomination for an award. The eight categories are listed on page 13.

Each submission requires a Nomination Form, which can be found on page 13 of this issue of *NCGS News* and on the NCGS website. The completed form should be mailed to:

NCGS Awards  
PO Box 30815  
Raleigh, NC 27622-0815

A copy of any publication being nominated must accompany the submission as well as complete contact information and any relevant supporting material, data, or additional written endorsement. Please include the latest four (4) issues of a nominated newsletter or journal.

**Guidelines for NCGS Awards** for genealogical publications or websites worthy of consideration for nomination are posted on the Awards page of the NCGS website at <http://www.ncgenealogy.org>. Nominations are reviewed by a panel of judges and awards will be presented during the NCGS Annual Meeting to be held on 15 November 2014 in Raleigh. Printed materials should properly cite their sources. Submissions of printed material are donated to the State Library of North Carolina in Raleigh after the judging process. If you have questions, please send an e-mail to [awards@ncgenealogy.org](mailto:awards@ncgenealogy.org).

## ✓ NCGS Journal Volunteer Opportunities

- Submit transcriptions and abstracts of original documents of North Carolina genealogical significance. In some cases, the editor can acquire images of original documents so that contributors can work on transcriptions or abstracts from home.
- Alerting the editor to sources of statewide or broad regional interest that haven't already been abstracted or transcribed elsewhere, particularly for areas that have received less attention in past journals.
- Submit carefully researched and well-documented case studies and methodological articles as well as source material and fillers.

If you are interested in these volunteer opportunities, please contact Mabel Dillard, NCGS Volunteer Coordinator, at [volunteer@ncgenealogy.org](mailto:volunteer@ncgenealogy.org).

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## Atlas of Historical County Boundaries

<http://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/project.html>

Hosted by Chicago's Newberry Library, this website features maps documenting boundary changes in the United States. The Atlas presents complete data about the creation and subsequent changes in the size, shape, and location of every county in the fifty United States and the District of Columbia. The Atlas is organized by state and covers changes starting in the early 1600s through the end of the year 2000. The Atlas is designed to be as comprehensive as possible, leaving no gaps in either space or time.

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## ✓ Volunteer Opportunity for Retired Accountant

NCGS needs to have an audit of its financial records and would like to have someone volunteer to do this. It would be the perfect opportunity for someone with an accounting or bookkeeping background. This would also be ideal for someone who is retired and has time for this important task. If you are interested, please contact Mabel Dillard, NCGS Volunteer Coordinator, at [volunteer@ncgenealogy.org](mailto:volunteer@ncgenealogy.org).

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## Webinar Review

### ***The Goodliest Soyle:***

### **Finding, Reading & Interpreting North Carolina Land Records**

by Cathy Roberts

“*The Goodliest Soyle: Finding, Reading, & Interpreting North Carolina Land Records*,” presented by Helen F. M. Leary, CG (EMERITUS), FASG, is part of the North Carolina Research Series of webinars being produced by the North Carolina Genealogical Society. The series uses *North Carolina Research: Genealogy and Local History*, Second Edition, edited by Helen F. M. Leary, CG(EMERITUS), FASG, as its text.

As referenced in the title, this webinar covers the finding, reading, and interpreting of North Carolina land records from Colonial times onward. Leary breaks down land acquisition into two types: buying land, which was mostly a county level record, and obtaining a land grant, which was a state level record. She explains the steps taken by a buyer when purchasing land as well as what benefits and obligations were gained by land ownership. Leary also lets the researcher know where to find the recorded deeds and where to look for original deeds. She discusses the registration of deeds in North Carolina and how the organization of the Deed Register Books varied from county to county, as well as what clues to look for if you’re not sure whether you’re looking at an original Deed Register Book or one that was copied over at some earlier date.

Leary then goes over the process for acquiring a land grant and again lets the researcher know where to look for indexes of those who obtained land grants. She gives a brief history of land grants in North Carolina, which includes a shortened version of the colonial/state history mentioned in earlier webinars.

Some of the most valuable information is where Leary shows specific spellings of words that can be found in older deeds, and how those letters in the words were written back then, including more than one form of some of the letters. This will be of great benefit when looking over the older deeds or grants. Leary also gives suggestions on how to abstract the deed or grant once it is found, including which portions need to be transcriptions and not just abstractions. One such portion is the *call*—the

description of the physical boundaries of the land. Leary recommends keeping track of the calls so those of your ancestors can be compared to those of their neighbors.

Leary provides recommendations of how extensive your land acquisition search should be, for instance, collecting all of the deeds for one particular surname in one area, looking at the deeds that were recorded at the same time, looking at the neighbors, and which parts of the deeds and grants to compare with other deeds and grants. Leary then goes on to share her personal method of keeping track of the information found in deeds or grants and how she has used that method to help narrow down which person is the correct one when research has revealed more than one person with the same name living at the same time in the same place.

I have found that with each webinar viewing, I pick up something of the history of North Carolina that I did not notice during prior viewings. When I see a new webinar available for this North Carolina series, I look forward to reaching the end of the webinar knowing far more than I knew beforehand. By the time I became more actively involved with North Carolina genealogy, Helen Leary had cut back on doing presentations. This webinar series offers me, and all other genealogists who are researching in North Carolina, the chance to learn from genealogists who are considered to be among the best when it comes to North Carolina research.

Viewing the webinars, especially this particular one, along with the syllabus and *North Carolina Research: Genealogy and Local History*, a researcher will gain a deeper understanding and knowledge of the state and its rich history. When using *North Carolina Research: Genealogy and Local History* along with this webinar, you may want to refer to two related chapters in the book: Chapter 13, “Land Records,” by Raymond A.

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## ***The Goodliest Soyle Review***

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Winslow Jr. and Chapter 31, "Land Grants," by Margaret M. Hofmann.

Sometimes, just knowing where to find a deed or land grant isn't good enough if we don't know what to do with the documents once we find them. This webinar gives the guidance needed for the researcher to interpret the deeds or grants, and to further build upon his or her researching skills, which will then help develop a fuller story for one's ancestor.

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## **Upcoming Webinar**

### **"Proving Parentage With Probate Records"**

The next webinar in the NCGS Webinars North Carolina Series, "Proving Parentage With Probate Records: North Carolina Inheritance Laws and Customs" by Helen F. M. Leary, CG (EMERITUS), FASG, will be presented on 21 March 2014 on the NCGS website at <http://www.ncgenealogy.org>. It will continue free for all to access through 23 March.

In this webinar, Ms. Leary explains North Carolina inheritance law and probate. She also discusses where to look for land records and why they are important, the process of land acquisition and transfer, and the interpretation of deeds and grants. Analysis of the evidence found in these documents can yield clues to your ancestor's prior location and familial relationships and may solve your genealogical brick wall.

Additional information on probate and land records can be found in chapters 2, 12, and 13 of *North Carolina Research: Genealogy and Local History*, by Helen F. M. Leary, CG (EMERITUS), FASG. This book may be purchased through the NCGS online store.

This webinar will continue to be free after 23 March, anytime to members of NCGS, or it may be purchased on a CD from the NCGS online store. The webinar, which will be available to members in the members-only section of the NCGS website, and the CD include the PowerPoint presentation and the speaker's syllabus. The syllabus is not available during the free webinar viewing period.



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## **✓ Volunteer Opportunities on NCGS Committees**

If you would like to assist with the planning and executing of various NCGS activities, consider serving on one of the following committees:

### **Program Committee**

- Help plan for upcoming workshops, including topics, speaker, and location.
- Help execute the committee's plans.
- If you are planning to attend the Metes & Bounds of Land Plats in Genealogy workshop to be held in Wilmington, North Carolina, on 15 March 2014, can you help greet and register participants? [See page 5 for more information about this workshop.]

### **Nominating Committee**

- Secure members who are willing to serve in various NCGS positions.

### **Publicity Committee**

- Do you have a way with words? Want to help NCGS get the word out? Do you like to gather information? The publicity committee provides information about upcoming programs, develops a marketing area, and sends publicity electronically to the media and the NCGS website. Can you do some of these tasks for NCGS? If so, we want YOU to give the NCGS Publicity Committee a try!

### **Technology Committee**

- Volunteers are needed to begin training for delivering upcoming NCGS webinars. You must have access to reliable Internet access, headphones and a microphone, and a curiosity in this new delivery form. This can be done from wherever you live. Training is required and offered for all those interested.

To volunteer on a committee, please contact Mabel Dillard, NCGS Volunteer Coordinator, at [volunteer@ncgenealogy.org](mailto:volunteer@ncgenealogy.org).



**Do you tweet? We do.**

**[www.twitter.com/ncgenealogy](http://www.twitter.com/ncgenealogy)**



## Finding Your North Carolina Revolutionary War Soldier or Patriot, Part 1

by Terry Moore, CG

Gunshots at Lexington and Concord on 19 April 1775 alerted Americans that the Revolutionary War had begun. Although the British surrender at Yorktown occurred on 19 October 1781, the war was not officially over until September 1783—the war was long and hard won. Today, we honor those who participated in obtaining our freedom from Britain in lineage societies such as the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Sons of the American Revolution, and the Society of the Cincinnati. Most of us would be proud to know that one of our ancestors was a soldier or patriot in that grand war, and there lies the challenge ... knowing.

I like using lists. They jar my memory and prevent me from forgetting important things like a gallon of milk from the grocery store or records that may reveal evidence about Revolutionary War heroes. Below is my Rev War list of records pertaining to North Carolina soldiers and patriots. I usually begin with the records of the Continental Line.

### Continental Line:

- *General Index to Compiled Service Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers from North Carolina* (Washington: The National Archives, microfilm publication M257) (2 rolls). Available at the National Archives, the North Carolina State Archives, Ancestry.com, and Fold3.com.
- *Compiled Service Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers from North Carolina* (Washington: The National Archives, Microfilm Publication M881, rolls 781-786). Available at the National Archives, the North Carolina State Archives, Ancestry.com and Fold3.com.
- William L. Saunders, Secretary of State, *The Colonial and State Records of North Carolina, Published Under the Supervision of the Trustees of the Public Libraries by Order of the General Assembly, Series* (1890: reprint, Wilmington, North Carolina: Broadfoot Publishing Company, 1993).

Comment: There are **many** Revolutionary War records indexed in these volumes, including a list of the North Carolina Continental Line. Search for your ancestor in the index. Finding the original records from these volumes is not always easy. Seek the help of the archivist to find where the originals have been filed. This series of books is available online at <http://docsouth.unc.edu/csr/>. (Wilson Library, UNC)

- Virgil D. White, *Index to Revolutionary War Service Records, Volumes I, II, and III* (Waynesboro, Tennessee: The National Historical Publishing Company, 1995)
- Fred. M. Hintze Jr., M. Div., Ret, *North Carolina Continental Line of the American Revolutionary, an Alphabetic List of Enlisted Soldiers* (Richlands, NC: privately printed, no date).
- Daughters of the American Revolution, compiler, *Roster of Soldiers from North Carolina in the American Revolution* (Durham, NC: The North Carolina Daughters of the American Revolution, 1932). This book is available at Ancestry.com. Go to the card catalog and enter the name of the book.

Comment: The above book includes a variety of North Carolina records relative to the Revolution. Always locate and look at the originals.

- Francis B. Heitman, *Officers of the Continental Army during the War of the Revolution, April, 1775 to December, 1783* (1914: reprint, Baltimore, Maryland, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1973). Available free online at [www.googlebooks.com](http://www.googlebooks.com).

Comment: This book lists the officers for each military unit of the Continental Line and then gives an alphabetical list with a short description of continental line and militia officers.

Occasionally, there may be a descriptive list of enlistments or draftees. These are filed in the North

*continued on next page*

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## This Land was Their Land

*continued from previous page*

Carolina, State Archives. Search the card catalog of original records under the county and then military or militia. These records are also listed in the North Carolina State Archives Military Finding Aid under "Revolutionary War, Draft and Enlistment."

The following is an example of an enlistment record from Granville County. These provide snapshots of the men in a day when there were no cameras.

"A Descriptive list of the 6 men raised under the present Act of Assembly in Cap<sup>tn</sup> Samuel Walker's Company No. 5

George Woodlift, 17 years old, 5 feet 6 inches high, light complexion, a Planter.

David Hunt, a Blackman, 30 years of age, 5 feet 7 inches high, a Planter.

Gibson Harris, 17 years of age, 5 feet 6 inches high, a Blackman, a Planter.

David Hatcher, 16 years of age, an half Indian, 5 feet 7 inches high, well made, a Planter.

Tolbert Tucker, 40 years of age, 5 feet, 10 inches high, of a Sandy complexion, professes several Trades.

John Kennedy, about 25 years of age, 5 feet 10 inches high, thick made, a planter by Trade.

Resevd by me    Ralph Williams, Cap<sup>t</sup> 9. N. B"

Pension, military land records, militia, and army accounts among other records will be discussed in the next issue of NCGS News. Our source list will get longer and each additional record provides hope that we will find evidence of our Revolutionary War hero.

## NCGS Subscriptions Sign-up Link

Sign up for NCGS e-mail news and announcements at <http://eepurl.com/dGyM2>. (Note: *this URL is case-sensitive*).

You can choose from:

- **NCGS News (newsletter)**: This bimonthly newsletter provides information of interest to genealogists researching North Carolina ancestors as well as news about NCGS events and projects.
- **NCGS Webinar Notices**: Learn about webinar offerings as they become available.
- **Local Society Leaders**: Sign up for monthly announcements to share with your society.

These are independent subscriptions. Choose one, or more, as desired. You may also opt out of the subscriptions at any time.

These subscription lists are available to both members and non-members of the society. The NCGS subscription lists will not be sold or shared with any other entity.

The deadline for the next issue of the *NCGS News*, which will be published in early May, is **Tuesday, 15 April**.

## NCGS Memberships

NCGS 12-month memberships cost \$40 for individuals and institutions, \$45 for families (same residence), and \$100 for patrons.

A membership renewal form can be found online at the NCGS website (<http://www.ncgenealogy.org>) and on page 15 of this newsletter.

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## NCGS is on Facebook

Visit [www.facebook.com/ncgenealogy](http://www.facebook.com/ncgenealogy) and "like" us

Stay up-to-date with news and announcements.



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## Mark Your Calendars

### Upcoming Workshop: Tools for Successful Research 26 July 2014

The North Carolina Genealogical Society (NCGS) and the Old Buncombe County Genealogical Society (OBCGS) will co-sponsor a workshop, Tools for Successful Research, on 26 July 2014. The workshop will feature Rev. David McDonald, CG, and will be held at the Calvary Episcopal Church located at 2840 Hendersonville Road in Fletcher, North Carolina, just south of Asheville. The full-day workshop will feature four lectures on topics to help genealogists perform successful research.

#### Lectures

1. **Irish & Scots-Irish in America.** Consideration of the Scots and the Scots-Irish as they moved internally in the old world, why they left the Isles, and their impact on the American experience. Clues for researching and understanding these proud, sometimes elusive ancestors.
2. **The Churches in North Carolina.** An examination of various Christian bodies in the Tar Heel State, their records, and their utility for genealogical researchers.
3. **Brick Wall or Black Hole? Knowing When to Stop.** Sometimes genealogical researchers strike up against so-called brick walls. Sometimes they are insurmountable. Sometimes, in our effort to be reasonably exhaustive in our efforts, we fail to close our research when a conclusion is clear and chase endlessly after an elusive clue or confirmation. Some tips for recognizing when it's time to write up your findings.
4. **Thinking Genealogically: From North Carolina to the Midwest and Beyond.** A case study in

compilation, analysis, and evaluation of evidence. We'll look at the life and families of Whitmill Whitfield Leigh, a native of Perquimans County, North Carolina, who moved to Tennessee and later, Illinois.

#### About the Speaker

**Rev. David McDonald, CG**, a Wisconsin resident and Illinois native, is the principal of Old Northwest Research, LLC. He has lectured throughout the United States and in England on genealogical matters since the early 1980s.



Dave is a past president of the Board for Certification of Genealogists, former director of the National Genealogical Society, and past editor of the *Wisconsin State Genealogical Society Newsletter*. With nearly 40 years' research experience, his interests include churches and their records, migration paths and causes, English and Germanic research, and Presidential genealogy as well as genealogical instruction. He has conducted extensive research in New England, New York, the Middle Atlantic states, the states of the old Northwest

Territory, and the Great Plains from the Mississippi to the Dakotas south to Oklahoma.

In addition to genealogical endeavors, Dave is a Protestant minister serving in the United Church of Christ. He holds an undergraduate degree in history and political science from Beloit College, a master of divinity from Eden Seminary in Saint Louis, and a doctorate in theology from Christian Seminary in Indianapolis.

With his wife, Dr. Jennett Shepherd (an optometrist), Dr. McDonald has three adult children. They live outside of Madison with two cats and an aging basset hound.

**Watch the NCGS website ([www.ncgenealogy.org](http://www.ncgenealogy.org))  
and the May issue of the NCGS News for registration information.**



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## 2014 NCGS Awards Nomination Form



Please select one:

- ☐ **1. THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PERIODICAL PUBLISHING** for a periodical (newsletter) published by a local North Carolina genealogical society.
- ☐ **2. THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PERIODICAL PUBLISHING** for a periodical (journal) published by a local North Carolina genealogical society.
- ☐ **3. THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN WEB PRESENCE** for a freely accessible website promoting North Carolina genealogy.
- ☐ **4. THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PUBLISHING** for a book, or a set of books, of abstracts or transcriptions of original North Carolina primary source material and published within eighteen months preceding the closing date (15 February 2013–15 August 2014).
- ☐ **5. THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PUBLISHING** for a book of secondary source material relevant to North Carolina and published within eighteen months preceding the the closing date (15 February 2013–15 August 2014).
- ☐ **6. THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PUBLISHING** for a book of family history relevant to North Carolina and published within eighteen months preceding the the closing date (15 February 2013–15 August 2014).
- ☐ **7. THE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO NORTH CAROLINA GENEALOGY** for an individual whose genealogical contributions have greatly enhanced the study of family history of North Carolina. The genealogical contributions may be regional.
- ☐ **8. THE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO NCGS BY A MEMBER** for an individual whose work within the NCGS has been outstanding.

*The North Carolina Genealogical Society retains the option of not giving an award in any given category and of presenting more than one award in any given category.*

**Nominee Name/Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason for Nomination:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominee Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Submitter Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Include complete contact information and attach any relevant supporting material, data, or additional written endorsement. A copy of any publication being nominated must be sent with the nomination. Submitted publications become the property of NCGS and will be donated to the Genealogical Services Branch of the State Library of North Carolina. **All nominations must be received by 15 August 2014.**

Nominations and supporting material should be sent to NCGS Awards Committee, PO Box 30815, Raleigh, NC 27622-0815. Please direct questions to [awards@ncgenealogy.org](mailto:awards@ncgenealogy.org).



# North Carolina Genealogical Society

## 12-Month Membership

\_\_\_\_New \_\_\_\_Renewal \_\_\_\_Gift

The membership renewal date for members who joined after 1 January 2012 is the date you joined the society. All members who joined the society prior to 2012 will continue to renew by 1 January of each year. The renewal date for members who allow their membership to lapse will be the date NCGS receives your renewal payment.

Individual Membership (1 year \$40.00) \$\_\_\_\_\_

(Includes 2 free queries per year in *NCGS News*.)

Family Membership (1 year \$45.00) \$\_\_\_\_\_

(Includes 4 free queries per year in *NCGS News*.)

Patron Membership (1 year \$100.00) \$\_\_\_\_\_

(Includes 4 free queries per year in *NCGS News*.)

Society and Institutional (1 year \$40.00) \$\_\_\_\_\_

(Society and Institutional memberships include *Journal* and *NCGS News* subscriptions only.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership # \_\_\_\_\_  
(five-digit number above your name on the mailing label)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Why we need your e-mail address:**

- *NCGS News* will be e-mailed to all members.
- Your e-mail address will not be shared with 3rd parties.

**Payment:**

☐ PayPal: NCGS website: [www.ncgenealogy.org](http://www.ncgenealogy.org)

☐ Check: made payable to "North Carolina Genealogical Society"  
PO Box 30815, Raleigh, NC 27622-0815

☐ Visa or MasterCard (circle one)

Print name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 3-Digit Verification No. (back/front of card) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**The above form must be complete to process credit card orders.**

# The Metes & Bounds of Land Plats in Genealogy: Understanding, Drawing, and Using Land Plats to Solve Research Problems

presented by the North Carolina Genealogical Society  
and the New Hanover County Public Library

with

**Gerald “Jerry” Smith, CG**

15 March 2014

New Hanover County Public Library, 201 Chestnut St., Wilmington, NC 28401

The full-day Land Plat workshop consists of a series of four sessions:

9:00–9:30	Registration
9:30–10:30	<b>Introduction and Basic Topics</b> Introduction to land plats and their use.
10:30–11:00	Break
11:00–12:00	<b>Workshop: Drawing Land Plats</b> A short workshop to learn the essentials of constructing a land plat.
12:00–1:30	Lunch
1:30–2:30	<b>Using USGS Maps for Plat Placement and Connected Tract Maps</b> Discussion of USGS maps and their role in placing plats on a modern map and connected tract map construction.
2:30–3:00	Break
3:00–4:00	<b>Advanced Topics: Dealing with Problems and Using Computer Software</b> How to deal with common problems and an introduction to computer-based platting.

**Walk-ins** are welcome, space permitting; however, the workshop packet or lunch may not be available.

**Refund policy:** Full refund if withdrawal precedes the early registration date of 10 March 2014; between then and workshop day a prorated refund may be made; no refund may be made if withdrawal is on the day of the workshop.

**Any changes, including those due to inclement weather conditions, will be posted on the NCGS website: [www.ncgenealogy.org](http://www.ncgenealogy.org).**

## Registration Form (please print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*Your e-mail address will not be shared with 3rd parties.*

☐ I wish to receive e-mail notifications of future NCGS events and activities.

**Seating is limited.  
Register early to ensure your spot.**

### Registration:

NCGS Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$54 (includes lunch) \_\_\_\_\_

Non-member \_\_\_\_\_ \$60 (includes lunch) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would like a vegetarian lunch. \_\_\_\_\_

Annual NCGS Membership Dues (optional)

Individual \$40 \_\_\_\_\_

Family \$45 \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Only registrations received on or before 10 March 2014  
are guaranteed to receive workshop packet and lunch.**

### Payment:

☐ Check: made payable to “NCGS Wilmington Workshop”

PO Box 30815, Raleigh, NC 27622-0815

☐ Visa or ☐ MasterCard (check one)

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3-Digit Verification No. (back/front of card) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**The above form must be complete to process credit card payments.**

You may also **register and pay** online through the  
NCGS website at [www.ncgenealogy.org](http://www.ncgenealogy.org).

**Please note refund policy below program on left.**



**NCGS and the New Hanover County Public Library will present the workshop, Metes and Bounds of Land Plats in Genealogy, on 15 March 2014 in Wilmington.**

North Carolina Genealogical Society  
PO Box 30815  
Raleigh, NC 27622-0815

Address Service Requested

