MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

A pack rat is hard to live with, but makes a wonderful ancestor.

What Volume 32 Issue 2 is June 2012 Past is Prologue.

Glade Park Woman Made Home in Natural Caves By Kathy Jordan

High on Glade Park, about three miles west of the store, is the cave that once housed Laura Hazel Miller. What little I have been able to uncover about her makes her story both heartbreaking and fascinating.

I spoke with several people who knew Mrs. Miller. One of those was Elsie King Granere. Elsie said that she and her deceased husband, Roy King, moved onto Glade Park in 1944. One day when they were driving to the Glade Park store from their ranch several miles to the west, they stopped and offered Mrs. Miller a ride. Elsie said that Mrs. Miller, dressed in a black bonnet and skirt, was happy to get a ride as she appeared tired and out of breath.

Elsie told me that sometime after 1944, The Denver Post ran a full-page story about Mrs. Miller. Since the Kings subscribed only to the Sunday Post, she knew that the story had appeared on a Sunday.

I contacted the Denver Public Library with the limited information I had. In about three weeks, I had an e-mail from a library volunteer with a copy of the page that ran in December 1948. It contained three pictures and information about Mrs. Miller's life.

According to the Post, Mrs. Miller was born July 23, 1866, near Boone, Iowa. In 1905 she moved to Glade Park, where she homesteaded with her two sons after their father had been killed in a train wreck.

She did remarry, but her second husband and her sons were killed in an automobile accident. She moved into the cave after a flood washed away her original log-cabin

Mrs. Miller's property was later described in an article in a United States Geological Survey report as "having a middle cave that contained a small one-room structure." Another cave was used for storage, and a third large one had been fenced to shelter domestic animals.

The unnamed author of the article wrote

that he visited with her in the early 1950s and that they had a pleasant conversation.

He noted: "She was a very intelligent woman, and I could hardly believe she was 87 years old".

Doralyn Genova, whose grandparents, Henry and Dora Lane, had a homestead on the property just west of Mrs. Miller's, recalls visiting Mrs. Miller with her mother. Anna Lane Brodak, and Olive Lane Blackburn on a somewhat regular basis.

Doralyn said they always took fresh vegetables and fruit when in season.

Mrs. Miller had several Ute Indian baskets, and she would go back in one of the caves and bring out one or two to show her guests. She said that Mrs. Miller was intelligent and always had a lesson of some sort to teach Doralyn and her sister, Shirley.

Zita Hammer Roseborough said that her mother would give Mrs. Miller a ride to the store. She said that Mrs. Miller kept her money in a glass jar in the midst of other glass jars filled with fruit and vegetables she had canned.

Terry Hammer remembered that when his parents were giving him and his siblings a ride to the store to catch the school bus, they would sometimes pick up Mrs. Miller and give her a ride. She would do her shopping, pay for the groceries and then walk home. When his parents picked him and the others up after school, they would pick up the items that she had purchased and take them to her.

Vi Holloway, another longtime Glade Park resident, told me that Mrs. Miller was a pioneer farmer and a midwife on Glade Park. She seldom went to town, but was friendly if you were friendly to her. Her life was simple although, surprisingly, she had an organ in one of her caves.

Patty Brouse Shear told me that Mrs. Miller was a midwife and delivered the five youngest children out of seven in the Brouse family, one of those younger

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MESA DWELLERS

From the Editor

I hope you find the June newsletter interesting and informative. I would like to thank Elizabeth and Caley Gredig for submitting the information on Laura Alice Lare. In future newsletters, I would like to add more local historical stories, so if anyone has one, please contact myself or Karen Grew-Ellison or go to:

to submit via-email

directly to us.

The September newsletter will be on researching your German Roots. Larry Eucher will be helping me on this endeavor, but, if anyone has some valuable tips on the German research they have found that they think may help, we welcome them! Just send them along to myself or Karen.

I would also like to give a very long overdue "Welcome" to our new members:

Camille Ficklin, Jill Bystol, Carol Smith, Shiloh and Tom Hendricks, Terry J. LaSalle, Elaine Moore, Henry Snyder, Fae Tarrant and Kris Schaufellberger, John Michael Dixon, Barbara and Ben Walker and Brenda Tillman.

If I have not included someone's name that is a new member, I apologize ahead of time and I hope to meet all of you at some point at one of our noon or evening meetings.

We hope you have a very good summer,

Kathie Vlahos & Karen Grew-Ellison

Membership/Education/Outreach Update

The Membership/Education/Outreach committee is suspending the monthly help session after June 1, 2012 for the remainder of the summer. Anyone needing help on a brickwall is welcome to contact the committee at:

and one of us will be in touch

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to set up a time and place to meet.

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The Mesa County Genealogical Society, established in 1980, is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization.

Objectives:

- 1. To promote an interest in genealogy, to encourage and instruct members in the art and practice of genealogical research.
- 2. To maintain and elevate genealogical standards, to stress the importance of accuracy in research through careful documentation.
- 3. To locate, preserve and index public and private genealogical records and make such records available to members and the general public.
- 4. To assist and support any genealogical library in Colorado, which is open to the public.

Society meetings are held the 2^{nd} Thursday of each month in the Cross Orchards – Orchards View Room, 3073 F Road, 7:00 pm. The monthly Sack Lunch meeting is held in the 2^{nd} floor Museum conference room of the C. D Smith Building at 5^{th} & Ute Streets at 12 noon on the 4^{th} Wednesday of each month. A Board of Directors meeting will often follow the Sack Lunch meeting from 1pm - 2pm.

Society Officers

President	Dennis Jenkins
Vice President	Vacant
Secretary	Donna Jackson
Treasurer	Anita Caldwell

Board Members	3 year Term	
Jan Wilson	2011-2012-2013	
Karen Grew-Ellison	2010-2011-2012	
Jill Berthod	2012-2013-2014	

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Standing Committee Chair persons	
Historian/Archivist	Jan Wilson
Co-Genealogist/Librarian	Kay Oxer
Co-Genealogist/Librarian	Linda Garey
Newsletter Editor	Kathie Vlahos
Assistant Editor	Karen Grew-Ellison
Society Webmaster	Caley Gredig
Parliamentarian	Vacant
Program Director	Dennis Jenkins
Research Director	Bob Cress
Membership/Education/Outreach	Caley Gredig &
	Jill Berthod

Membership year: March 1 - February 28/29 Annual Dues: \$10 Single - \$12 Family (2 voting family members). Those with unpaid dues after April 30th of the membership year will not receive the newsletter.

You can also go to newsletter@mesadwellers.org to contribute to the newsletter. Contributions are encouraged and appreciated and should be neatly typed or written stories, queries, articles and/or other information applicable to genealogy research. Contribution (deadlines): March issue (Feb 15), June issue (May 15), September issue (August 15), December issue (November 15).

June 2012 – August 2012 ~ Upcoming Programs and Events

1 June 2012	Friday Help Session: 1-3 p.m. at the Main Mesa Library. (Note: No help sessions for July and August.
2 June 2012	Saturday: Western Slope Genealogy Conference at Montrose, Co.
14 June 2012	Thursday Evening at Cross Orchards: 7 p.m.: Donna Jackson and Karen Grew-Ellison will share their Family History Research.
17 June 2012	Wednesday Noon Sack Lunch at the Museum: Topic and speaker to be announced.
12 July 2012	Thursday Evening at Cross Orchards: 7 p.m.: Annual Brickwall Share.
25 July 2012	Wednesday Noon Sack Lunch at the Museum: Anita Caldwell will present a program on the "Daughter's of the American Revolution."
9 August 2012	Thursday Evening Meeting: Annual Picnic meeting. We need someone to volunteer to host.
22 August 2012	Wednesday Noon Sack Lunch at the Museum: Topic and speaker to be announced.

President's Message

Images of the 1940 census have now been available for 2 months on at least 6 websites for free. The indexing continues to go forward with more states being completed every week. Colorado was finished early and now is available on FamilySearch.org. At Ancestry.com as I write this message, the indexes are searchable for 3 states. I also recently saw that FamilySeardh.org has indexes searchable for 6 states. I have used my own knowledge of where I suspect my relatives were living in 1940 and found many of them without the aid of an index. If you haven't tried to locate the enumeration district using the Stevemorse.org website, you should give it a try. Keep in mind that you can still sign up to be an indexer for the 1940 census. It is really quite easy to be an indexer and you can usually finish a batch in less than 30 minutes. When the 1940 census indexing project is done, there are many other indexing projects to consider volunteering for at FamilySearch.org.

If you go to our website *mesadwellers.org* you will be able to see what programs are planned over the next few months. Note that the work sessions being held at the Mesa County Public Library branches on the first Friday of each month will be off for the months of July and August and we hope to start back up in September. In the meantime you can go to the website and email help@mesadwellers.org to set up an appointment for a one on one help session.

So far we have had a couple members give presentations about their own family history research. At our May 10th meeting Liz and Caley Gredig gave a nice power point presentation about one of their relatives Laura Alice Lare. You can read about it in this issue. We still need more members to come forward and volunteer to talk about their own research. This can be 10 minutes, 30 minutes or more and can be done at our second Thursday evening meetings or the 4th Wednesday Noon meetings. We're hoping that members will share the reasons they are doing their research and any goals or plans to publish. We are also interested in knowing surnames and places for your ancestors.

As you will see in the program list, we still need a place to have our August annual potluck picnic meeting host let me know at or email me at	. If you are willing to
Dennis Jenkins, President, MCGS	

Mesa Dwellers

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children was her father, Howard.

Patty said that there were no doctors on Glade Park and it was difficult to find a doctor who would make the trip. Mrs. Miller was a registered nurse and practiced homeopathic medicine.

One of her cures was for intestinal worms caused by improperly cooked wild game, a common food then. The cure was to take turpentine for a few days to kill the worms, then eat egg shells to scour them out.

In 1958, when Mrs. Miller was 92 years old, she moved to Grand Junction to live with her daughter. She died Jan. 26, 1962.

All that remains today to indicate the existence of Mrs. Miller — or as the children of Glade Park called her, "the lady who lived in the big rock candy mountain" — is the soot blackening the cave ceiling.

Written by Kathy Jordan for the Daily Sentinel, 17 September 2010, reprinted with permission by Kathy Jordan, 8 March 2012.



Laura Hazel Miller, standing between gate posts, circa 1950, in her cave on Glade Park

FOREWORD

Twenty years ago, we started searching for the final resting places of our relatives, beginning with the most recent generations. Our Memorial Weekend tours included the Colorado cemeteries where we knew parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents were buried. As we found these family plots and individual lots, we left flowers in each one's memory. Each year we found more people and included even those relatives who were only related by marriage, especially when they no longer had survivors close by. We were pleased to find that someone was remembering several in the Denver area whom we thought had no living family.

The Grand Junction cemeteries were not on our itinerary until after we moved back to Mesa County in 2003. That was when we went to Orchard Mesa to verify that my sister-in-law, Mickey Smith's; ashes had been interred there, fully expecting to find four generations in the same plot or lot. We found three gravestones with hers between her mother and grandmother on which we placed small bouquets for Memorial Day. Thus began the search for Mickey Smith's great-grandmother, Laura Miller.

After finding the graves of Mickey Smith, her mother Pearl Harless, and her grandmother Lenora Flucken, we were frustrated that Laura Miller was nowhere in any of the Mesa County cemeteries, according to the listings at the Lloyd Files Research Library at The Museum of the West. When we went to the Obituary Card File at the Central Branch of the Mesa County Library, we still found nothing. Since I knew she had lived quietly for many years in the Glade Park area, I was sure there would be a mention of her death in The Daily Sentinel.

Mickey's relatives had shared little about their earlier lives. All I remembered growing up in Grand Junction was that Mickey and her brother Junior lived on West Avenue with their mother and grandmother, and their great-grandmother lived in a house built in a cave in Glade Park. Junior seemed to be the only male in this family group.

* * *

LOOKING FOR LAURA

By Elizabeth Gredig With Research and Collaboration from Caley Gredig

It was perhaps a year later that my brother came to visit, and we asked him if he knew why we couldn't find where she was buried. He told us that she had married a guy by the name of Hazel and was buried in the Orchard Mesa Cemetery in the early nineteen-sixties. She is in the older part of the cemetery, close to the longtime cemetery office. Then we also found her obituary in The Daily Sentinel which included the names of four husbands and four children.

The next search was the Censuses through Heritage Quest. She was in Glade Park in 1920 with 'Harmon' and 'Lee' Hazel, and in 1930 and 1940 she was by herself. Since she was born in 1866 as Laura Alice Lare in Boone County, Iowa, we looked for the family there in 1870. Roadblock! No Lare family in Iowa or Kansas in 1870 or 1880 with a Laura.

Her life was certainly long, intriguing, sad, and perhaps very frustrating at times. Hopefully she had some good and happy times, too. Thanks to the spellings, writing skills and guesstimations of the marshals and other census takers, as well as the misinterpretations of indexers, the search took more time and brought up more unanswered questions.

Her obituary gave her first husband's name as Mr. Hawks and that she had a daughter, Rena. On to the 1900 Census, since there is no 1890 Census for most states. Success! There is a Rena I. Hawks, age 15, in Kansas. Pay Dirt! Rena is in the household of Abraham Lare in Phillips County in Valley Township, and is a granddaughter. Whoa! There is also a grandson, Clifton A. Hawks, age 16, and a son, Daniel Lare. The households on either side of this one are also Lare families - James and David. The indexers read the name as Larr. Why are these Hawks teens living with grandfather? Where are their parents?

Then, Family Search was the next source to look for the Lare family. Finally, they are found in Boonesboro, Boone County, Iowa in 1870 as Layr, and in Bow Creek, Phillips County, Kansas in 1880 as Lair.

No Slusser was listed in Kansas or Oklahoma in 1900, but Family Search had them in Kirwin, Phillips County, Kansas-George T, Laura, Lenora, and Lillie. (Heritage Quest indexed them as Stusser.) George remained in Kirwin through 1940 and did not remarry, dying in 1945.

John R. Miller and Laura were with two small boys, ages 3 and 5 in Waukomis, Garfield County, Oklahoma in 1910-one a stepson and the other adopted. No Hawks or Slussers. Where had her other children gone? Lillie, at age nineteen, is living next door and married to Harry H. Fouts. Both she and Laura have been married for two years with Laura stating this is her third marriage, but the one son is named James Williams. The adopted one is down as Herbert Williams. Lenora was also married because her daughter, later known as Pearl, was born in 1903 in Oklahoma when Lenora was fifteen. Family members said that Pearl was originally named Irene Belle, her aunts' middle names. Neither Clifton nor Rena was found in Phillips County, Kansas or Oklahoma, but later Clifton and Ruth Irene appeared in Rooks County, Kansas, close to their father and his third wife through 1930. Both were married and had five children.

Since Laura was found on all available censuses, further research was shelved until my brother passed away in 2011, and his son, daughter, and granddaughters remarked that they would like to know more about their ancestors on all sides. My niece had a copy of Kathy Jordan's article which appeared in The Daily Sentinel on September 20, 2010. So, we resumed our research. With everything which is now available on the internet, there is an amazing amount of information about Laura and many of her family members. The only problem is that many more questions have arisen, but her grandchildren can decide how much more they want to know about that part of their family.

This portrait of Laura Alice Lare is by no means complete. To summarize, she was the first of nine children born to Abraham/Abram Lare from Pennsylvania, a Union soldier in the Civil War who fought in the battles of Vicksurg and Shiloh and was imprisoned at Andersonville, and Tamer/Thamar/Tamar/Thamer Ward from Indiana whose father was called 'Doc' and referred to as 'medicine man'. This may indicate the Native American heritage which some of the family has been trying to prove for at least half a century. Farming seemed to be the main occupation for most of the family.

According to family lore, Laura was sold to William M. Hawks, supposedly a much older man, when she was only fourteen and had a son and daughter by him before she was twenty. Actually, he was just five years older and had already been married with a motherless daughter by the time he and Laura were married in 1882. She was then married to George T Slusser in 1888 and had two more daughters by the time she was twenty-five. This marriage lasted at least twelve years. Between 1900 and 1910, her life as a farmer's wife changed. She left Kansas for Oklahoma; all three of her daughters were married while in their teens; and she married, as Laura Williams, John R. Miller, a railroad worker, in 1907.

Her travels were not yet over. The next ten years brought even more change. This time she traveled west to Colorado with the two little boys, presumably after John Miller was killed in a railroad accident, but this has yet to be verified. Lillie remained in Oklahoma, but widowed Lenora and her daughter Pearl are living in Glade Park close to Laura now married to Pete Hazel, who then disappeared by 1920.

By 1925, her extended family also had seen the deaths of her parents, three sisters and one brother, her Hawks stepdaughter, her son James Harmon Miller who is buried in the Glade Park Cemetery, and two grandsons she may have never known.

The next thirty-three years, she became a legend to the Glade Park area as she lived her reclusive life. Someday, her great-great-great grandchildren may find the answers to the questions she left behind. When she passed away in 1962, her obituary listed her surviving children as Lillie Fletcher, Mrs. Ed Lambert, Mrs. Lenora Flucken, and Lee Miller.

Clifton A. Hawks, her first son, came to Western Colorado about 1935 and lived on Packing House Road in 1940 before passing away in Pueblo in 1963. Why were he and his children not listed as survivors? He and his wife Laura, who passed away in 1954, are buried in Stockton Cemetery in Rooks County, Kansas with their son Georgie. Their son Charley and daughter Mabel both came to Colorado, but Bertha was not with them in 1930, and only Clifton and Laura were in Grand Junction in 1940. Jennie Laverne may have stayed in Kansas.

'Rena' Hawks or Lambert after 1900 was 'lost' until last month. Ed Lambert showed up as William E Lambert buried in the Lawn Ridge, Kansas cemetery with Ruth Irene Hawks as his wife. They had five children within ten years. (Evidently, someone started calling her Rena while she was a child.). The Lambert children were Corodon A. who died young, Neva M., Ruth A., Wilber B., and Lawrence A. We have not had time to look for the last four.

Lenora and her daughter Pearl continued living in Grand Junction across the street from Riverside Park with the Colorado River flowing by on its way West. Several years after Lenora's death, Pearl moved closer to her son Junior in Nevada whose family included five children. Her daughter Mickey had three children. 1997 took the lives of Pearl, Tom, Jr., and his wife. Only five of her eight grandchildren are still living.

Lillie left Oklahoma and moved to Neosho, Missouri in 1960. She married again, presumably after her husband of at least twenty-one years was gone. No children were ever listed in the Fouts household or in her obituary.

James died in 1922 at the age of seventeen and is buried in the Glade Park cemetery.

Lee moved to Los Angeles before 1962 and is on the California Death Index as living in Vista, California. Hopefully, the 1940 Census will give us clues as to his marital status and possible family, since he was single in 1930.

Now our search for Laura is ended, but we shall help these next generations find living cousins who may be willing to share their families' histories.



Laura Alice Lare, circa 1950

We deeply regret that we were unable to share this research with Kathy Jordan to add to the information she had about Laura's more than forty years as a Mesa County resident.

We appreciate Kathy's lifelong dedication in researching, finding and preserving the history of the Western Slope and its residents and will miss what new object or person would be the subject of her next Friday column. Thus, we dedicate this endeavor to her memory and hope that someone is inspired enough by her contributions to follow in her footsteps to continue these accounts.

For more in information about Laura Alice Lare, contact Elizabeth or Caley Gredig at Article's and Photographs submitted by Elizabeth and Caley Gredig, 22 May 2012.

Information to Aid in Finding the Females in Your Family Kathie Vlahos

Searching for the females in your family can sometimes be very challenging. What was the maiden name of grandpa's first wife? What happened to the daughter that disappears from the census records? When did the wife die and where is she buried? Because most women changed their names when they were married it can make finding them a more difficult task. Often however, finding the answers can be found in the records of their husband, son or brother. Before the 20th century, men owned the land, they ran the businesses and their lives were recorded, where as, women, because the focus was centered mainly on the men, generated fewer records. However, with some deeper investigation, research and sleuthing strategies, throw in a dash of patience and it is not impossible to fill in those blanks on your female ancestors.

Here are some examples of records and tips that may be helpful in your research:

- Marriage Records Lists maiden names and names of parents.
- Church Records A whole list of possibilities with these records because the church recorded marriages, (and remarriages) births and deaths that occurred of its members. These records will list maiden names of mothers, children born and their birth dates, deaths dates, sometimes cause of death and burial places. Women were often sponsors for the children of siblings, which can give clues to others in her family.
- Death records Usually will include the maiden name of the deceased, sometimes names of parents.
- Wills and Probate Records Parents would usually name each child in their will or probate. They may also may be in grandparent's or other relative's will or probate Married names are usually used and the name of the spouse.
- Land and Tax Records Passing of land ownership is important, these records will show the names of wives and married daughters.
- Obituaries May list maiden names, names of parents, marriage date.
- Census Records Gives quite a bit of information on female ancestors, such as age, origin, children born, children living, the current children living with them and elderly parents living with married children.
- Cemetery Records May list maiden names and also who bought the cemetery lot or lots may give clues to the family.

There are countless other places to look that may help, such as; photographs, personal diaries, newspapers, yearbooks, convents, insane asylums and tuberculin sanitariums. There are also many good books and websites to assist with information in the search to find the answers to your questions about your female ancestors. Here are just a few examples:

Books:

"The Hidden Half of the Family: A Sourcebook for Women's Genealogy" by Christina Schaefer

"A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Female Ancestors" by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack

Websites:

www.genealogy.com/50 donna.html

www.familytreemagazine.com/article/Strategies-for-Finding-Female-Ancestors

http://genealogy.about.com/od/women/a/female_ancestor.htm

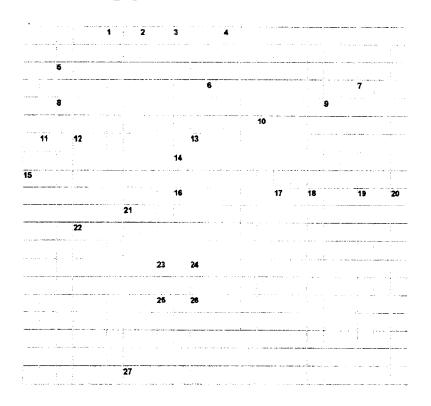
www.cyndislist.com/Female

www.shoestringgenealogy.com/article/Female.htm

www.geni.com/blog/gentips-finding-those-elusive-female-ancestors-ee891.html

Sources: "Genealogy: tips for finding females that matter to you", by Jule Miller, 17 Oct. 2009, Broomfield, Enterprise, "Researching Female Ancestors" by Dae Powell, shoestringgenealogy and Gentips: "Finding those Elusive Female Ancestors", 16 March, 2009 by Geni.

Genealogy Crossword Puzzle



Down

- 1. Scot: Owner of a landed estate
- First papers; Declaration of
- 4. Predecessor, progenitor, forefather
- 7. Birth, Death, Marriage Records, _____ records
- 9. Geographic index of places
- 12. Indentification papers (travel)
- 13. Events displayed in chronological
- 15. Legal certification of a will's validity
- 17. Inscription on a tombstone
- 19. Ecclesiastical records, ____ records
- 20. Related through one's mother
- 21. Family name
- 23. Collection of documents
- 26. Used to identify a woman's maiden

Submitted by Larry Eucher June 2012

- 2. Death announcement with short biography
- 5. Passenger list
- 6. Cemetery caretaker
- 8. Document detailing change in property ownership
- 10. Group moving between places
- 11. Geographic diagrams
- 14. Sheet of reduced photographs
- 15. Money paid for past service
- 16. UK: System of hereditary titles
- 18. Standardized formatting of family tree
- 22. Someone's job
- 24. One who leaves a country
- 25. Memorial without a burial
- 27. Someone's account of something

.O. Box 1506 Grand Junction, CO 81502-1506 Elizabeth Shown Mill's Website Elizabeth Shown Mills is one of the most respected genealogy authors, teachers, and lecturers of today. Now she has created a new web site that links to many of the articles she has written over the years. This should provide a treasure chest of highquality "how to" information. Quoting from the site: For a lifetime, I have pursued those whom history has forgotten. Many have teased me through trails of burned-out courthouses and decades in which no census takers found their cabins. Most have challenged me to separate their identities from hordes of other same-named people. Many have rewarded me. Some of their stories I have told already-as tales, as essays in scholarly journals, or in books of various ilk. At this site, as time allows, I hope to share their stories with those of you who might care to follow them down the pathways these men and women quietly blazed through out nation's past. Elizabeth is the author, editor, and translator of 13 books and over 500 articles in the fields of genealogy, history, literature, and sociology. She has delivered over 1,000 lectures internationally, has appeared on radio and TV talk shows on three continents, and was featured on BBC's 20th and 30th anniversary specials on the novel Roots. I'd suggest you look at Elizabeth's new web site at http://historicpathways.com and follow the links to her articles. You'll be glad you did. Posted by Dick Eastman on 16 December 2011 The following article is from Eastman's online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2012 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at http://blog.eogn.com

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