

# Steven W. Morrison Genealogy



**Steven Waltz Morrison** has been a professional genealogist since 2006. He is the past-president of the Puget Sound chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, and the Olympia Genealogical Society, in the capitol of Washington State.

Steven attained a Master's Degree in Public Administration from The Evergreen State College, where he taught as an adjunct faculty in the graduate program (1987-1994). In recent years, he's advanced his genealogical education by attending fourteen genealogical institutes including the: Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR), the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG), Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP), and the British Institute at Salt Lake City.

In 2018 Steven coordinated the SLIG Course: *Exploring Quaker Records – At Home and Abroad*, and did the same at 2020 GRIP: *Exploring American Quaker Records*. For 2021 Steven instructed in SLIG: *From Sea to Shining Sea: Researching Our Ancestor's Migrations in America* and coordinated the *Quaker Virtual Institute* hosted by the ISBGFH.

Steven's been an active genealogical presenter throughout the northwest, including the principal speaker at Seattle, Spokane, Yakima, and three times in Eugene, Oregon. While presenting at more than two dozen conferences and seminars, he also makes time to address local society meetings, and volunteer at family history expos.

In 2007 he presented at the Family History & Genealogical Conference at Provo, Utah and has addressed international audiences. At the 2012 Ulster American Historical Symposium at Omagh, N. Ireland, to the Irish Friends (Quakers) Yearly Meeting in 2015, and at the Ulster American Historical Symposium in Toronto, CA in 2018.

As an author, Steven's genealogical journey began in 1998 with the self-publishing of a remembrance of his grandmother. The book is now part of a millennium time capsule on the Washington State Capitol Campus, and in the Family History Library collection at Salt Lake City. Since then, he's authored multiple articles and books reviews regarding Quakers (Religious Society of Friends).

These include three articles for *Familia* (the journal of the Ulster Historical Foundation), and others for *Journal of Scotch-Irish Studies*, *Directory of Irish Family History Research*, and the *Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly*. In 2016 Steven received the American Society of Genealogist (ASG) scholar award for his paper "Quaker John Starr of Antrim and Cavan, Ireland and his five sons who sailed to Pennsylvania."

With relatives in England, Steven has crossed the pond no less than six times, to undertake primary research in Ireland and United Kingdom. While these trips resulted in some break-through discoveries, they afforded an opportunity to visit the major repositories, numerous private libraries, and meet an amazing collection of truly warm and helpful people.

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# STEVEN W. MORRISON - CURRENT PRESENTATIONS

March 2021

## QUAKERS (Religious Society of Friends)

### **PROFILE OF A QUAKER – Finding a Friend in Colonial America** Beginner

The profile of a Quaker (Friend) can be as distinctive as a fingerprint with their unique ethnic origin, belief system, marriage practices, and separate record structure. This session will teach you the profiling techniques you'll need to spot a Quaker in colonial America.

### **SIMPLY AMAZING – US Quaker Records Online** Beginner/Intermediate

The Quaker faith was one of the largest religions in colonial America. Learn the basics of their record keeping and meeting hierarchy. In addition to the traditional vital records, Friends kept meeting minutes for both men and women. This was radical for its time. Friends also collected some unique records, including travels between meetings (called Removals); and events of early religious persecution (called Sufferings). Discover how wonderfully rich Quaker records can be.

### **QUAKER MIGRATIONS – Across Ye United States** Intermediate

How do you find lost Quaker families? FOLLOW THE MEETINGS! Learn how to track your Quaker ancestors by following the opening and closing of monthly meetings they attended. Then marvel at an animated video clip of Quaker meetings marching across the country for 350 years. You won't believe your eyes!

### **Ye BEST BOOKS – for Quaker Research** Intermediate

Before the world wide web and the age of internet documents, books were one of the family historian's most available assets. In the Quaker way, they allowed an expanding nation to share knowledge when the original records were concentrated in only a few repositories. While derivative materials are less reliable as sources, they play a valuable role as "Finding Aids" to help you locate the original record for your Quaker ancestors, or to understand if it even exists.

### **EXPLORING QUAKER RECORDS – In Ireland and Britain** Intermediate

The roots of American Quakers are most often traced back to relations from Ireland or Britain. While similar types of record were collected on both side of the pond, there are some important differences. In Ireland Quaker records were centralized and some surnames come with a detailed pedigree. Whereas English, Scottish and Welch Quaker records were merged with other "Non-Conformist" religions and are organized by county. Learn how to how to navigate both collections whether online or still in the archives.

## FAMILY CASE STUDIES

### **DIGGING UP NEW DIRT – Unearthing the 'REAL' New England Immigrant** Beginner

Do you believe that family associations know everything about their early New England ancestors? Well, guess again! Learn what nuggets you can uncover by rediscovering original records. So, with some surprising facts, sound analysis and a little historical context you may just uncover the real secret about your elusive ancestor.

### **IRISH FRIENDS MIGRATION TO PENNSYLVANIA – Uncovering an Ulster Family Story** Beginner

Did you know that Quakers (Religious Society of Friends) was one of three major religions in America prior to the revolution? While small in numbers, the travels of Irish Friends are so well documented they provide a migration template for English-speaking nonconformists.

### **AN UNEXPECTED EXODUS – Southern Quakers to the Midwest** Intermediate

In the late-1790s and early-1800s a flood of southern Quakers migrated to the new "free" states of the Old Northwest Territory. Along with the westward migration of Quakers from the Atlantic seaboard, these two migrations helped to fuel new Yearly Meetings in Ohio and then in Indiana. Retrace this southern exodus while comparing its footprints in printed sources and original records which are now available online.

## WESTERN AMERICANA

### **OUTLAW GENEALOGY – Finding the Outlaw in YOUR Family** Beginner

Are you fed up with working family lines which are ‘tight as a tick?’ Stop treating them like family and start tracking them like real outlaws. Saddle up and learn how to use genealogical techniques to trail your elusive relation just like a Wild West story.

### **WESTERN OVERLAND TRAILS – Following the Seven Ts** Intermediate

The major trails from the Midwest to the West will be covered in this session. The principal routes will include the Oregon and California Trails, the Mormon migration, the Santa Fe Trail, and more. These were the OVERLAND RIVERS which helped populate the West.

### **IS IT TRUE? Using Manuscripts and Family Records for Genealogical Proof** Intermediate

To some, family records – including diaries, letters, and personal photographs – may be seen as having little genealogical value. Nothing could be further from the truth! Explore how original information from the Oregon Trail can shine new light on undiscovered facts or family relationships.

## IRELAND & BRITISH ISLES

### **DETOURS AROUND – Irish Roadblocks and Stone Walls** Beginner

Tired of making little progress finding your elusive Irish ancestors? Learn about Ireland’s top ten roadblocks and stone walls. Let this session springboard you to discover the Irish branches on your family tree.

### **IRISH RECORDS ONLINE @ FindMyPast & Ancestry** Beginner-Intermediate

Most of us start our family history with what we’ve been able to collect at home. But how does that line up with the historical records from the Emerald Isle? Explore and compare Irish records available on both Find My Past & Ancestry before paying for a subscription.

### **THE TREASURES OF ONSITE RESEARCH – In Ireland and Britain** Intermediate

Are you ready to try to locate original records overseas? This lighthearted tale will help you determine if your travels skills are ready for such an adventure. Also explore other cost effective options such as a genealogy tour group, or just stay home by hiring an agent!

### **IRISH FRIENDS MIGRATION TO PENNSYLVANIA – Uncovering an Ulster Family Story** Beginner - Intermediate

Did you know that Quakers (Religious Society of Friends) was one of three major religions in America prior to the revolution? While small in numbers, the travels of Irish Friends are so well documented they provide a migration template for English-speaking nonconformists.



### **FAVORITE RESOURCES FOR IRISH GENEALOGY** Beginner (30 min)

Today is a great time to be an Irish genealogist! New records are being digitized and released throughout Ireland. These are available for both the Irish Republic and Northern Ireland. Some websites are free, while others require a small fee or subscription. Discover new on-line resources and how to get the most of old favorites.

### **IRISH ROOTS – Jeopardy** Beginner

If you’ve seen Jeopardy, you know how it goes. Five categories, questions from \$100 to \$500, a Daily Double, and of course “the answers must be in the form of a question”. Short explanations after each question provide you with a colorful back story about your Irish ancestors.

## **IRISH FOLK PARKS – Your Ancestor’s World** *(Lunchtime - Background Loop)*

Can you imagine your ancestor’s house, farm, place of worship, or their village? Ireland has outdoor museums called ‘Folk Parks.’ Sit back and relax as you visit both the Ulster American Folk Park at Omagh and the Ulster Folk Park and Travel Museum at Belfast in Northern Ireland.

## **GENEALOGY METHODS**

### **FACT CHECKING YOUR FAMILY TRADITION** Intermediate

Some families are lucky, they have family lore. But is this story true? With new online collections we can now double check to see how it holds up to the light of some original records. Only then will we know if it’s a keeper or just fools’ gold. A case study of colonial Virginia entrepreneur Isaac Perkins/Parkins.

### **NO DATABASE, NO PROBLEM – Building your own Genealogical Database with Excel** Intermediate

What if there is no genealogical database for your relation? No problem, build your own. Explore how Excel software can reveal key answers about your ancestor. Presented in a case study format.

### **THE TREASURERS OF ONSITE RESEARCH – In Ireland and Britain** Intermediate

Are you ready to try to locate original records overseas? This lighthearted tale will help you determine if your travels skills are ready for such an adventure. Also explore other cost effective options such as a genealogy tour group, or just stay home by hiring an agent!

### **ASSEMBLING YOUR PROOF – Hunting for High Quality Resources** Intermediate

You looked and found more than you expected! Now you have multiple dates for the same event. What should you use? Which is more reliable? How do you decide? Learn how to handle multiple conflicting sources from family traditions to hatched, matched and dispatched records.

### **START WRITING – Your Ancestor’s Legacy Depends upon YOU!** Intermediate

To some genealogists ‘the hunt’ is everything. Learn how to shift gears and to write a cohesive story about your ancestor. Writing helps you refocus your thinking. You might even surprise yourself, realizing you’ve bagged your ancestor without knowing it!

### **IS IT TRUE? Using Manuscripts and Family Records for Genealogical Proof** Intermediate

To some, family records – including diaries, letters, and personal photographs – may be seen as having little genealogical value. Nothing could be further from the truth! Explore how original information from the Oregon trail can shine new light on undiscovered facts or family relationships.

### **QUAKER DATES – And the Missing 11 Days of 1752** Beginner

Conflicting dates on vital records can be puzzling. Is that date – month day year – or day month year? Learn about how clerks in the British Isles and the American colonies created a dating system that linked to both the old Julian and new Gregorian calendars.

### **NOW WHAT? Options for YOUR Genealogy Education** Intermediate

Ready to move your Family History research up to the next level? This session provides an overview of ways to advance your genealogy skills and knowledge. It will review available seminars, conferences, and training courses. Learn if an on-line or on-site training course is the best fit for your needs.

## QUAKERS INSTITUTE CLASSES

### **FINDING YEARLY MEETING RECORDS – Quaker Archives in the US and Canada** Intermediate

Unlike other religious denominations, Quakers do not centralize their records. With over 36 Yearly Meetings in the US and Canada, each is responsible for its own archives. Learn where and how to gain access to these repositories whether housed at Quaker colleges, state historical societies, yearly meeting headquarters, or now available on-line.

### **QUAKERS IN PEACE AND CONFLICT** Intermediate

The Quaker faith arose out of the violence of the English Civil War (1642-1651). Since then, Quakers have refused to serve in the military, protested against wars, and sought alternatives to violence of all sorts. Explore how the Friends 'Peace Testimony' fared within the British colonies and along the American frontier up thru the rebellious war between the states.

### **USING HINSHAW & other Finding Aids to located original Quaker Records** Intermediate

During the past century, Quaker historians and clerks have been busy copying old meeting records and creating a wide variety of finding aids. In the 1930s William W. Hinshaw began publishing his historic six volume Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy. Willard C. Heiss followed with seven volumes for just Indiana. Learn how these tools can shortcut your search for original Quaker records.

### **SOUTHERN QUAKERS TO THE MIDWEST – An Unexpected Exodus** Intermediate

You say that the Quakers migrated from the south to the Old Northwest Territory in the early 1800s. Some say that slavery in the South caused it. Did that mass migration really happen? Retrace the exodus of Southern Quakers by comparing its footprints in printed sources, Hinshaw's abstracts, and original records now available on-line.

### **QUAKERS ON THE MOVE – Three Friendly Migrations** Intermediate

By the 1730s Quakers were concentrated in four regions. Steady growth within their ranks and continued migration from the British Isles fueled three migrations waves. With their Certificates of Removal as their common currency, each migration is an opportunity for you to track your Quaker ancestor who was likely – on the move.

### **A RAMBLING FRIEND – Tracking an Ulsterman in US Quaker Records** Intermediate

The depth and breadth of Quaker (Friends) records is simply amazing. Track one immigrant from Ireland – as he gets off the boat until he is disowned. But just when you think the records will run out, they will leap up and surprise you.

### **DIGGING DEEPER - Into Quaker Sufferings and Removals** Advanced

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) was a different kind of religion. It benefitted from its supporters printing large numbers of pamphlets and handbills promoting its cause and denouncing its opponents. In the process, early manuscripts and books named both Friends and non-believers. When available, *Sufferings* and *Certificates of Removal* provide a rare glimpse into their family life and reveal unknown details about their extraordinary journeys.