







# Making the Most of Ancestry.Com to Research Your Family's History

Class 3—Vital Records (birth, death, marriage, divorce)  
on Ancestry.com

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SEARCH CENSUS	SEARCH VITALS	SEARCH MILITARY	SEARCH IMMIGRATION
			
Find ancestors in the complete set of U.S. Federal Census images from 1790-1940, including name indexes.	When did those significant life changing events happen in your ancestors life? Search our Vital Records to find out.	Did your ancestors serve in the Military? Our collection of military records holds the answers.	When did your ancestors arrive in the U.S.? And how did they get here? Search our passenger lists and other immigration records to learn

# Comments? Questions? Observations from Week Two class?

## Class # 2—Nov 17

- Ancestry.com, and the manuscript census, 1790-1950
- the census questionnaires: what questions did Congress want asked each decade?

Visit your local public library and try Ancestry.com Library Edition

Did you make use of your Ancestry.com access (either through your local public library or some other provider)?

Did you check the 1950/1940/1930/1920/1910/1900/censuses going back four generations?

- You
- Your parents
- Your grandparents
- Your great-grandparents

What, if anything, did you learn about their lives that you did not know?

Pro tip from MSC student Polly LeVasseur:



“I did want to mention that printing the hand written census logs on yellow paper sometimes makes them much easier to read. “

# Invitation to present your Ancestry.com searches, hits (and misses) for Dec 15 class

- Five minutes per student to present some interesting finding about your family research from the census or from vital records or from immigration/military records
- Email me at [joberly@uwec.edu](mailto:joberly@uwec.edu) and I'll get you signed up; let me know if there is a specific document you want to show-and-tell. We can work out arrangements to show it on Zoom.
- If all participants in the class wish to present, we might run a bit late past 11:00 a.m.; if only some participants wish to present, we be able to give each presenter more time.

Now...let's turn to today's topic:  
vital records of birth, death, marriage, and divorce

# What is a “vital record?”

## Birth, Marriage & Death

[View sample images and collection details](#)

### SEARCH VITALS



When did those significant life changing events happen in your ancestors life? Search our Vital Records to find out.

[Search Now](#)

Vital records are a cornerstone of family history research because they were typically created at or near the time of the event, making the record more likely to be accurate. This category includes indexes that can help you request copies from vital records keepers, and in some cases the images of actual records.

### Narrow by Category

[Birth, Baptism & Christening](#)

[Marriage & Divorce](#)

[Death, Burial, Cemetery & Obituaries](#)

# Census records cannot provide precise information about 'life events' in the same way as vital records

Type of Life Event	Census Records	Vital Records
Birth dates	Can only give an approximation to year	Can provide an exact day-month-year and sometimes more (e.g., birth weight)
Marriage dates	Can only give an approximation to year	Can give an exact day-month-year and usually parents' information; also, bride's maiden name and mother of bride & groom's maiden name
Death dates	No information...a person just disappears, whether from migration, death or just being overlooked	Can provide an exact day-month-year and often the cause of death
Family members outside the residential household	No information unless living next door, especially for adult children (where did they go?)	Sometimes provided, if family member was a witness to the life (or death) event.

When did the recording of births, deaths, and marriages begin? Starting in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, by religious officials...called “parish registers”

- Church of England... 1538 requirement that all parish vicars make a record of baptisms, matrimonials, and interments
- Roman Catholic Church in France...the same requirement for parish priests, starting in 1539
- New France, first parish established 1615; “Parish of the Lakes” at Mackinac Island (Michigan) has a parish register dating back to 1660...
- Massachusetts Bay Colony (Dedham parish register from 1638)

Questions—Why would the churches want to record births, marriages, and deaths?

Answer (for England, anyway): the fear of the Anabaptist challenge; the Roman Catholic Church responded to the Protestant challenge from the Church of England...

# Let's search for a parish register on Theodore Lincoln

(Dennysville, ME resident seen last week in the 1790-through 1850 censuses)

### Search

First & Middle Name(s)

Theodore

☐ Exact...

Last Name

Lincoln

☐ Exact...

Place your ancestor might have lived

Dennysville, Washington, Maine, USA

☐ Exact to...

Birth Year

1762

☐ Exact +/-...

Search

Show more options

## Filter by

### All Categories

> Census & Voter Lists	40
> Birth, Marriage & Death	308
> Military	109
> Immigration & Emigration	7

1<sup>st</sup>--I use the basic search box on Ancestry.com filling in names, places, and estimated birth year (I recall he was listed as age 88 in the 1850 census so I input birth year=1762)

2<sup>nd</sup>--Next, I filter by selecting the Birth, Marriage & Death tab

A promising hit! →  
Ancestry.com gives me an exact birthdate for Theodore Lincoln. I'm going to click on "View" to see the primary source record

Massachusetts, U.S., Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988

Birth, baptism & christening

View

Name

Theodore Lincoln

Mother

Mary

Father

Benjamin Lincoln

Birth


30 Dec 1763 Hingham, Massachusetts

Vital

30 Dec 1763 Hingham, Massachusetts



# What Ancestry.com linked to from this search

 Massachusetts, U.S., Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988

Birth, baptism & christening

 View

Name	Theodore Lincoln
Mother	Mary
Father	Benjamin Lincoln
Birth	30 Dec 1763 Hingham, Massachusetts
Vital	30 Dec 1763 Hingham, Massachusetts

58

L.

Delight, Daughter of Ebenezer Lincoln and Deborah,	Born June 10, -	1753
Peter, Son of George Lane and Deborah,	Born May 30, -	1753
Hannah, Son of Joshua Leavitt and Deborah,	Born April 4, -	1754
Deborah, Daughter of Joshua Leavitt and Deborah,	Born March 10, -	1753
Joshua, Son of Joshua Leavitt and Deborah,	Born January 30, -	1753
Isa, Daughter of Joshua Leavitt and Deborah,	Born January 9, -	1753
William, Son of William Lincoln and Mary,	Born July 1, -	1751
Abby, Daughter of Solomon Loring and Hannah,	Born September 10, -	1751
Laban, Son of Jeremiah Lincoln and Sarah,	Born October 20, -	1751
Leavitt, Son of Josiah Lane and Lucy,	Born May 20, -	1751
Isa, Son of James Littlejohn and Hannah,	Born November 9, -	1753
Abner, Son of Solomon Lincoln and Sarah,	Born January 27, -	1752
Sarah, Daughter of Benjamin Lincoln and Mary,	Born December 29, -	1751
Michael, Daughter of James Littlejohn and Hannah,	Born March 28, -	1752
Josiah, Son of Josiah Lincoln and Mary,	Born March 27, -	1751
Peggy, Daughter of Hordcai Lincoln and Margaret,	Born February 5, -	1748
Isaac, Son of Hordcai Lincoln and Margaret,	Born October 13, -	1749
William, Son of Hordcai Lincoln and Margaret,	Born October 25, -	1749
Sarah, Daughter of Hordcai Lincoln and Margaret,	Born November 11, -	1750

K.

Theodore, Son of Benjamin Lincoln and Mary,	Born December 30, -	1753
Eliza, Son of Stephen Lincoln and Lydia,	Born December 15, -	1753
Joshua, Son of Joshua Lincoln and Sarah,	Born September 25, -	1753
Isaac, Son of Deacon Josiah Lincoln,	Died March 24, -	1753
Enoch, Son of Jonathan Lane and Sarah,	Born March 23, -	1754
George Bradford, Son of George Lane and Deborah,	Born July 20, -	1755
Lucina, Daughter of Hordcai Lincoln and Margaret,	Born May 25, -	1755
Hannah, Daughter of Joshua Leavitt and Deborah,	Born April 17, -	1753
Marilla, Daughter of Job Lincoln and Mary,	Born July 2, -	1752
Edward, Son of Job Lincoln and Mary,	Born October 10, -	1754
Abby, Daughter of Eliza Lane and Deborah,	Born October 9, -	1754
Abba, Daughter of Thomas Lewis and Mary,	Born April 12, -	1750
Lucy, Daughter of George Lane and Deborah,	Born November 30, -	1753

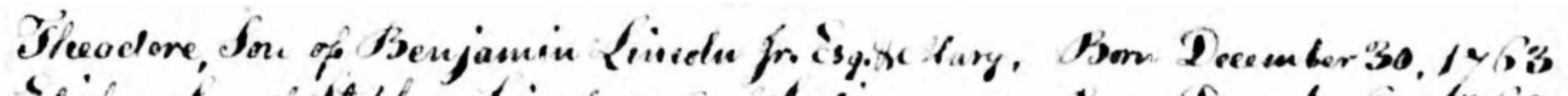
M.

Mary, Daughter of Stephen Marsh and Mary, his wife,	Born January 12, -	1754
Caleb, Son of Stephen Marsh and Mary, his wife,	Born December 1, -	1753
Stephen, Son of Stephen Marsh and Mary, his wife,	Born October 24, -	1751
David, Son of John Marsh and Hannah, his wife,	Born August 28, -	1753
Elizabeth, Daughter of Jonathan Marsh and Ann,	Born May 25, -	1753

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Note—this is an index of names compiled by somebody (unknown) from the Hingham (Mass) Congregational Church. This is not the original parish register from Hingham, but an edited transcription. The indexer organized the birth surnames alphabetically, then added the names of the parents, and the birth date.

# Hingham, Mass parish register index closeup: Theodore Lincoln

A closeup photograph of a handwritten entry from a parish register. The text is written in a cursive script on aged, slightly yellowed paper. The entry reads: "Theodore, Son of Benjamin Lincoln Jr. Esq. & Mary, Born December 30, 1763". The handwriting is clear and legible.

Theodore, Son of Benjamin Lincoln Jr. Esq. & Mary, Born December 30, 1763

“Theodore, Son of Benjamin Lincoln, Jun., Esq. & Mary, Born December 30, 1763”  
Hingham, Mass Parish Register, Published as Hingham Town Records

Note: The birth register index gives me the exact day-month-year of Theodore Lincoln’s birthdate. The census did not do that, although I could infer a good estimate of his birth year as either 1762 or 1763.

# Searching parish registers for death information...(General)

## Benjamin Lincoln, father of Theodore...

12	L			
Gen'l Benjamin Lincoln, Aged seventy seven years —	Died	8 <sup>th</sup> May	1810	
Mary Wid of Gen'l Benjamin Lincoln	Died	28 July	1818	
George son of George Lincoln & of Sarah	Born	9 June	1797	
Sally dau of George Lincoln & of Sarah	Born	20 Jan	1800	
Sarah Wif of George Lincoln	Died	25 March	1802	
Isaac son of George Lincoln & of Betty	Born	6 March	1805	
Elizabeth dau of George Lincoln & of Betty	Born	20 March	1808	
Daniel son of George Lincoln & of Betty	Born	23 May	1810	
Euse son of Euse Lincoln & of Grace	Born	21 May	1816	

Ancestry.com takes me to the same  
Hingham index of parish vital records.

closeup

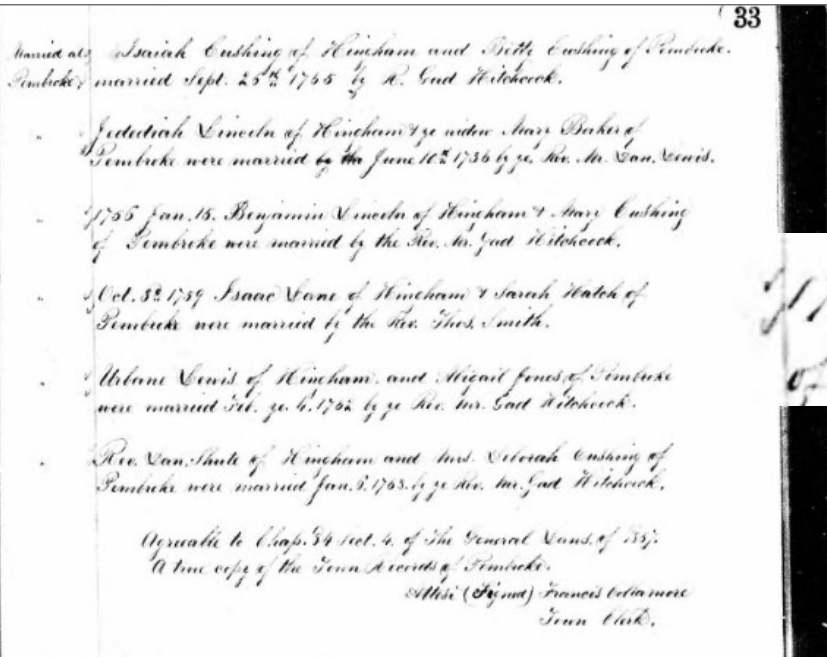


Gen'l Benjamin Lincoln, Aged seventy seven years —	Died	8 <sup>th</sup> May	1810
Mary Wid of Gen'l Benjamin Lincoln	Died	28 July	1818

Index reads: "Gen'l Benjamin Lincoln, aged seventy seven years—Died 8<sup>th</sup> May 1810"

Bonus: "Mary wid of Gen'l Benjamin Lincoln – Died 28 July 1818" (but does list her age at death)

# Marriage index, Town of Hingham (Mass), Benjamin Lincoln and Mary Cushing



Closeup of the index entry

1755 Jan. 15. Benjamin Lincoln of Hingham & Mary Cushing of Pembroke were married by the Rev. Mr. Gad Hitchcock.


Text reads "1755 Jan. 15. Benjamin Lincoln of Hingham & Mary Cushing of Pembroke were married by the Rev. Mr. Gad Hitchcock."

Note the "Pembroke" was in Plymouth County, Mass, not Washington County, Maine (which did not exist as a local government body in 1755)


Note: Benjamin Lincoln was born in 1733 so he was not even 22 at the time of his marriage. Who was his bride, Mary Cushing?

# Tracking Mary Cushing (spouse of Benjamin Lincoln, mother of Theodore Lincoln...and ten other children)

Ancestry.com gives a few possibilities for women born in Massachusetts around 1734. The most likely seems to be:

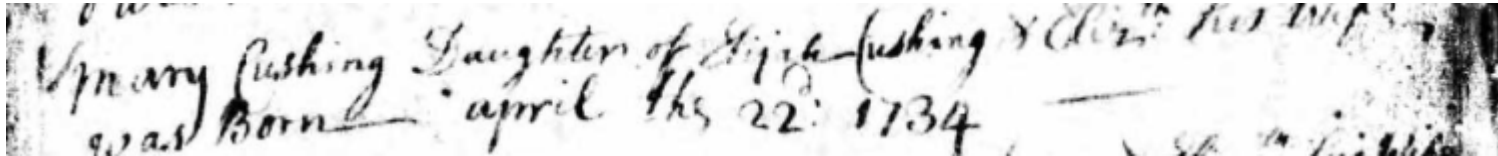
 Massachusetts, U.S., Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988

Birth, baptism & christening

 [View](#)

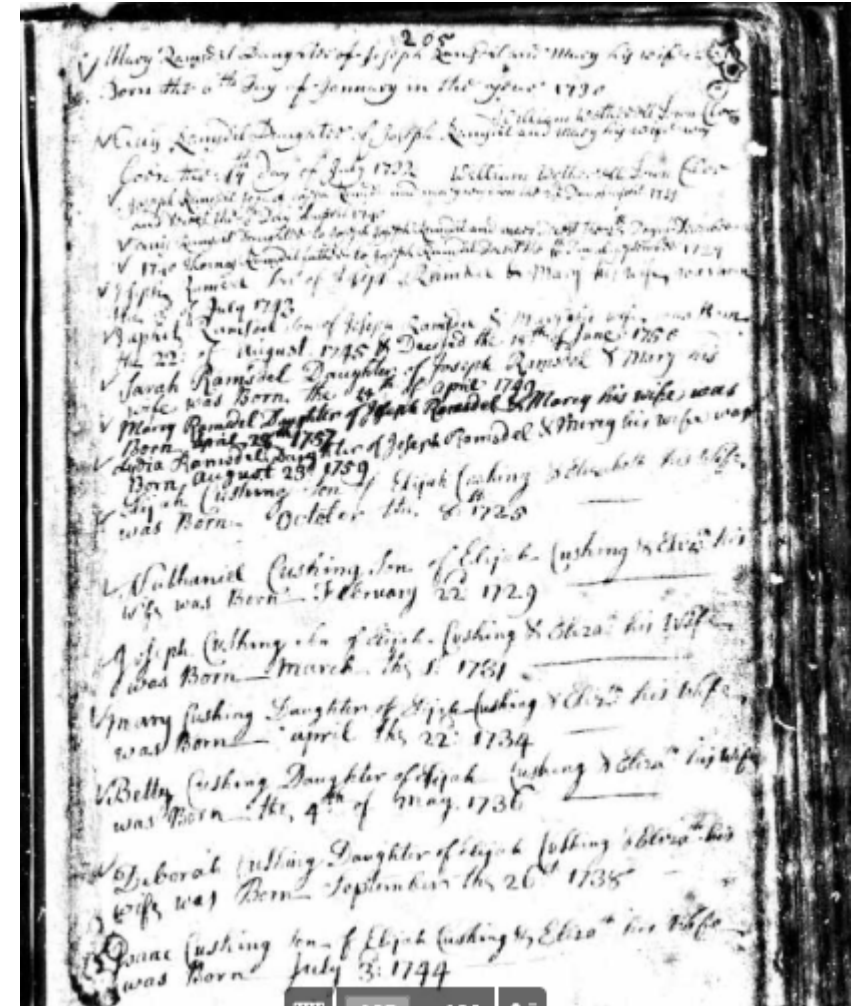
Name	Mary Cushing
Mother	Elizath
Father	Elijah Cushing
Birth	22 Apr 1734 Hanover, Massachusetts
Vital	22 Apr 1734 Hanover, Massachusetts

Note: this is the actual birth register, not a transcribed index.



Text reads: “Mary Cushing Daughter of Elijah Cushing & Eliz<sup>th</sup> his wife was Born—April the 22, 1734.” So, Mary was age 20 when she wed Benjamin.

Test Question: how old was Mary Cushing Lincoln when she died?





Sometimes there is no surviving parish register for the town you are searching

Search > Birth, Marriage & Death

# Birth, Baptism & Christening

[View sample images and collection details](#)

Search

☐ Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)

Theodore

Last Name

Lincoln

☒ Exact

Birth

Day

Month

Year

1831

Location

, Washington, Maine, USA

☒ +/- 1 yr

☒ Exact to this place

Any Event

City, County, State, Coun

Add family member:

Father

Mother

Spouse

Child

Father

First & Middle Name(s)

Theodore

Last Name

Lincoln

Browse

Filter By

Location

Australia

Canada

Europe

Mexico

USA

Features

England

Birth In

Californ

Search terms for Theodore Lincoln, estimated birth year of 1831:  
first name/last name/  
birth year (+/- 1 year)/Location/Father

## All Birth, Baptism & Christening results for Theodore Lincoln

Your search

Theodore

Lincoln

Born: 1831

In: Dennysville, Washing...

Hide 1 field

Parents: Theodore Lincoln

Broad

Exact

Your Search for Theodore Lincoln returned zero good matches

Why?

We couldn't find any results that exactly matched the information you marked as 'Exact'. [Learn more](#)

What should you do?

\* Try un-checking one or more 'Exact' boxes to show close matches even when no exact matches are found.

Your Search for Theodore Lincoln returned zero good matches

I don't find a birth register for Theodore Lincoln, 3rd (est. birth year 1831). In fact, I don't find any birth records of anybody from Dennysville before 1892, despite the fact that the town had a Congregational church from 1834 on.

A painting of a church with a steeple, surrounded by trees and a body of water, with a bridge in the foreground. The church is white with a red roof and a tall steeple. It is situated on a grassy hill. In the foreground, there is a wooden bridge over a body of water. The water reflects the church and the trees. The sky is blue with some clouds.

# When did civil authorities begin recording births, marriages, and deaths?

Birth Certificates	Marriage Certificates (based on marriage licenses)	Death Certificates
Massachusetts...1841	Massachsetts...1841	Massachusetts..1841
Maine...1892	Maine...1892	Maine...1892
Standard in all 48 states...by 1933	New York-license requirement-1908	Standard death certificate in all states by 1910
Standard=name of child, sex at birth, race, date of birth, parents	Standard=names of marriage couple; ages; races; parents' names; place and date of marriage	Standard=name of decedent, place of death, date of death, birthdate of decedent, occupation, cause of death, certifying official (physician or coroner)
Privacy—closed for 75 years after birth	Privacy—closed for 50 years after the wedding (not so for divorces)	Privacy—closed for 25 years after death (50 years for fetal death)

Question: why did state governments (not the US as a whole) have an interest in recording vital statistics?

- Why births? Why marriages? Why deaths? Other vital statistics? (divorces, domestic partnerships? fetal deaths?)

# What information was in a Maine birth certificate? (example from 1899)

• Town Clerks Records

**RECORD OF A BIRTH.**

Child's Name *Louis W. Gardner*

Date of Birth *June 21 1899*

Place of Birth *Dennysville*

Sex *M.* Color *W.*

Living or Stillborn *Living*

No. of Child, 1st, 2nd, etc. *4th*

Father's Name *Levi L. Gardner*

" Birthplace *Dennysville*

" Color *W.*

" Residence *Dennysville*

" Occupation *Merchant*

Mother's Maiden Name *Mary Philbrick*

" Birthplace *Dennysville*

" Color *W.*

" Occupation *House wife*

Name and address of Physician (or other person reporting said Birth.)  
*A. T. Lincoln Dennysville*  
*Maine*

Look who signed as the attending physician:

Dr. A(rthur) T(heodore) Lincoln, great-grandson of Gen'l Benjamin Lincoln, grandson of Theodore Lincoln, Sr, son of Theodore Lincoln, Jr., brother to Theodore Lincoln (Jr-II)



What information was in a Maine marriage certificate? (example from 1921)

**RECORD OF A MARRIAGE**

Groom George Henry Merriam  
Bride Edith Howard Gardner  
Residence of Groom Fairfield, Me.  
" Bride Dennysville, Me.  
Age of Groom 27  
" Bride 32  
Color of Groom W  
" Bride W  
Occupation of Groom High School Principal  
" Bride Teacher  
Birthplace of Groom Princeton, Mass.  
" Bride Dennysville, Me.

" Bride Dennysville, Me.  
No. of Marriage of Groom 1st  
" Bride 1st  
Groom Widowed or Divorced S  
Bride " " " S  
Intention Filed August 1, 1921.  
By whom Married G. W. Hinckley  
Residence Fairfield, Me. (Hinckley)  
Official Station Clergyman  
Date of Marriage August 18, 1921.  
Place Dennysville, Me.  
\*Clergyman, Justice of the Peace, etc.  
(Record continued over.)

Pro tip—view information recorded in vital statistics documents with a careful eye

The New York City marriage certificate for my maternal great-grandparents, Louis Kraus(s) and Anna (“Hany”) Friedman.

- Date of marriage: 30-10-1892
- Groom, age “24 years,” born in Hungary
- Bride, age “20 years,” born in Hungary

Age	20 years
-----	----------

Wait a minute... Anna—“Hany”—Friedman’s birth register from Hungary lists her birth date as 23-12-1874...and the 1900 US Census lists her as born in 1874...

37350	Krauss, Louis	Head	M. 11 May 1866	34 M 8
	Anna	Wife	M. 4 Aug 1874	25 M 8

That means she was only 17 on her wedding day on “30 Oktober 1892.”

Why did she report her age as “20 years” on her wedding certificate?

COURT OF NEW YORK  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
No. of Certificate, 18498 and  
Louis Kraus and  
Hany Friedman were joined in Marriage  
in the City of New York, in the State of New York,  
on the 30th day of October, 1892  
I, *[Signature]*  
Minister of the Gospel,  
do hereby certify that the above named persons have been joined in Marriage  
according to the rites and ceremonies of the Jewish Religion, and in accordance  
with the laws of the State of New York, and in accordance with the laws of the City of New York.

Date of Marriage.	30 October 1892
Groom's Full Name.	Louis Kraus
Residence.	236 E 1st St
Age.	24 Years
Color.	white
Single or Widowed.	single
Birthplace.	Hungary
Father's Name.	Jacob
Mother's Maiden Name.	Reisel Selman
Number of Groom's Marriages.	first
Bride's Full Name.	Hany Friedman
Residence.	295 E 1st St
Age.	20 Years
Color.	white
Single or Widowed.	single
Birthplace.	Hungary
Father's Name.	Jacob
Mother's Maiden Name.	Chaya Reisel
Number of Bride's Marriages.	first
Name of Person performing Ceremony.	Rev. Tannenbaum
Official Station.	Rabbi
Residence.	156 Columbus St
Date of Record.	OCT 15 1892

# The problem of false statements as recorded in vital records.

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 1910.

## 18 PEN FRAUD.

Getting Seven Gross  
of Muffs.

A clerk of the Post  
office at Detroit  
was arrested yesterday  
afternoon at  
Detroit on complaint  
of a female per-  
son. The clerk was  
found with a large  
quantity of muffs  
and was charged  
with the same.

A woman, who  
was arrested in April  
from St. Louis and  
sent to the penitentiary  
for a year, was  
arrested yesterday  
at Detroit on complaint  
of a female per-  
son. The woman was  
found with a large  
quantity of muffs  
and was charged  
with the same.

A woman, who  
was arrested in April  
from St. Louis and  
sent to the penitentiary  
for a year, was  
arrested yesterday  
at Detroit on complaint  
of a female per-  
son. The woman was  
found with a large  
quantity of muffs  
and was charged  
with the same.

## TOR APPRAISAL.

Establish Value of  
Transfer Tax.

When the time value  
of the transfer tax  
is established, the  
value of the transfer  
tax will be known.

## HASTENS TO MARRY HIS MOTHER'S CHOICE

Westerner Meets and Weds, When  
She Lands Here, Girl He  
Had Never Seen.

## SHE CAME ACROSS SEAS

But Her Quiet Pastoral Costume Was  
Quickly Discarded After a Bridal  
Shopping Trip.

Feira Kaskowka, a twenty-year-old  
Hungarian girl, got here a few days ago  
on the Canadian liner *Capitaine*. She was  
released from the immigration station on  
Hill Island yesterday afternoon after a  
visit to the City Hall, and a minister had  
made her Mrs. Andrew Moller, wife of a  
Colorado miner.

On her arrival she wore a short skirt,  
which reached to her knees, and a short  
waist, and her mass of dark hair was  
tied up on her head and hid by a beauteous  
headscarf. Her feet were clad in long,  
heavy-pointed boots reaching to her knees.

The bride, who landed yesterday, after  
her visit to the shopping district with her  
husband, was typically American in dress.  
She wore a skirt of Scotch plaid, of  
laid out, and her apron was  
at the front, revealing a silk shirtwaist.  
Patent-leather boots peeped out from un-  
der her skirt. On her head she wore a  
gorgeous military combination of white  
velvet and many feathers.

Moller has lived for many years in this  
country, most of the time a miner in  
Colorado. He had never seen the young  
woman he married until they met after  
her arrival in the steamship. The affair  
was all arranged for by a friend. She knew  
the Kaskowka family in the old country  
and had heard of the beauty of the girl.  
Negotiations were opened, and the result  
was that the girl consented and crossed  
the ocean to become the wife of a

man which he had missed. He is a tall  
young man, whose face shows a life spent  
mostly in the open.

The consent of the Government to the  
marriage was obtained, and the couple,  
married by a minister, visited the City  
Hall. There they obtained a license to  
wed. They followed the priest to the dis-  
tress and the trip to the shore.

The young woman experienced all the  
delights that a shopping trip brings to  
her American sisters. The bride and the  
scored under the guidance of her husband,  
and by displaying his knowledge of the  
city, she gathered the wardrobe which  
made possible her transformation.

Mr. and Mrs. Moller will start west at  
once.

## 4,000 SOLDIERS VACCINATED.

With Typhoid Serum—Medical Corps  
Hopes to Get the Whole Army In.

More than 4,000 soldiers in the United  
States Army have been vaccinated with  
typhoid serum, and the Medical Corps  
of the army hopes that within a short  
time the entire army will have submitted  
to the operation. Vaccination is volun-  
tary on the part of the officers and men.

The Coun  
and the  
Living-Ha

NEITHER  
Europe d  
counterpart of  
the rooms in a  
House—the Liv

## STATE OF NEW YORK Affidavit for License to Marry

STATE OF NEW YORK

County of New York—City of New York

No. 1111

Michael Moller and Piros Kotrogo

applicants for a license for marriage, being severally sworn, depose and say, that to the best of their  
knowledge and belief the following statements respectively signed by them is true, and that no legal  
impediment exists as to the right of the applicants to enter into the marriage state.

Full name Michael Moller

Full name Piros Kotrogo

Color white

Color white

Place of residence 34th St. & 4th Ave.

Place of residence 34th St. & 4th Ave.

Age 25

Age 25

Occupation Miner

Occupation Miner

Place of birth Slovak, Hungary

Place of birth Slovak, Hungary

Name of father Michael Moller

Name of father Joseph Kotrogo

Country of birth Hungary

Country of birth Hungary

Maternal name of mother Elizabeth Fehér

Maternal name of mother Elizabeth Fehér

Country of birth Hungary

Country of birth Hungary

Number of marriages First

Number of marriages First

Former wife or wives

Former husband or husbands

Is applicant a divorced person

Is applicant a divorced person

If so, when and where divorce or divorces were

If so, when and where divorce or divorces were

granted

granted

Michael Moller

Piros Kotrogo

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

12 day of May 1910

12 day of May 1910

John J. Quinn

John J. Quinn

Clerk

Clerk

"Mihael" and "Piros"  
marriage license,  
May 12, 1910



Help! I searched Ancestry.com's marriage records and I got a hit...but it appears to be in Latin!

REV. PAUL P. ...  
4724 CAREY ST.  
10-12-70  
Visum

1

Matrimoniorum Ecclesiae ad S. S. S. Trinitatem East Chic.  
piensis Ind. Diocesis Fort Wayne

RAHENTIUM  
COMINA.  
1  
domus  
rinka  
rabeth  
Kriston

Die 11 mensis Maii A. D. 1908<sup>prae</sup>missis 3 bannis, matrimonium inierunt  
Vendelinus Trinka ex loco Szeged Hungaria,  
filius Antonii Trinka et Veronicae Götz, et  
Elisabet Kriston ex loco Borsod Hungaria,  
filia Andreae Kriston et Mariae Soldos  
Testes adfuerunt: andreas Detvaij et  
antál Balog  
Adnotationes: Sponsa pridie (10 Maii) suscepta est in gremium  
Ecclesiae ex haeres Calvini. Oscar M. Szilagy

Source: from Holy Trinity Church, East Chicago, Indiana 1908—a marriage notation in the parish register of two Hungarian immigrants, Vendelinus Trinka and Elisabet Kriston

I don't understand the phrases and words "Missis 3 bannis, matrimonium inierunt" / "testes adfeurent" / "adnotations" / "sponsa (10 Mar) suscepta est in gremium"

So...I go to google translate (<https://translate.google.com> )

The screenshot shows the Google Translate web interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the Google Translate logo and a user profile icon. Below this, there are tabs for 'Text' and 'Documents'. The main area has a language selector with 'LATIN' selected on the left and 'ENGLISH' selected on the right. The input text on the left is: 'missis 3 bannis, matrimonium inierunt', 'testes adfeurent', 'adnotations', and 'sponsa (10 Mar) suscepta est in gremium'. The output text on the right is: 'having sent 3 bans, they remarried', 'witnesses', 'annotations', and 'The bride (Mar 10) is welcomed into your lap'. At the bottom right, there is a 'Send feedback' link.

Note that translate.google.com also is based on artificial intelligence and machine learning....  
... but was the machine paying attention when it translated "est in gremium" as "into your lap?"

# What information was in a Maine death certificate? (example from 1915)

**RECORD OF A DEATH**

No. of Record, \_\_\_\_\_

Name, **Abbie W. Gardner**

Place of Death, **Dennysville, Me.**

Street, \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ Ward, \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Death: Year, **1915** Month, **Jan** Day, **31**

Age: Years, **84** Months, **10** Days, **13**

Place of Birth, **Dennysville, Me.**

Sex, **F** Color, **W** Married, Single, Widowed, or Divorced, } **W.**

Occupation, **At Home,**

Name of Father, **Bela R. Reynolds,**

Maiden Name of Mother, **Deborah Wilder**

Birthplace of Father, **Pembroke, Me.**

Birthplace of Mother, **Dennysville, Me.**

Occupation of Father, **Sea Captain.**

Deceased was wife of \_\_\_\_\_

Widow of **A.L. Raymond Gardner.**

Cause of Death, **Chronic valvular Disease**  
**of the Heart.**  
[over]

Information includes:

- date of death
- age of decedent at death
- place of death
- family relations,
- cause of death,
- attending physician

**WAB 1 1915**

If death was in a hospital, or other institution, give its name, \_\_\_\_\_

How long an inmate \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Residence \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Physician (or other person) reporting said death  
**J.W. Crane, M.D.**

P. O. Address **Dennysville, Me.**

Place of Burial **Dennysville,**

Undertaker **W.H. Welch,**

P. O. Address **West-Pembroke, Me.**

**State of Maine.**

I hereby certify that the above death record is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

*Fred L. Gardner*  
Clerk of **Dennysville,** **Dennysville**

Small-town Dennysville: the town clerk, Fred L. Gardner, filled out the death certificate for his mother, Abbie W. Gardner

# Other types of death records on Ancestry.com

Accession # 5502					
Surname GARDNER	First Abbie	Middle W	Maiden REYNOLDS		
Born: Day. Month. Year 1830	Died: Day. Month. Year 1915	Age Year Mo. Day	Military Service		
Name of Cemetery: DENNYVILLE	Street or Route	Town PEMBROKE	County WASH		
The following names also appear on the same lot. These names are the following relationship to the above: hus., w., son, dau., etc. Please note after name. Indicate with "x" in box for all those who have separate forms					
NAME	BORN	DIED	AGE		
			Yr.	Mo.	Dys.
<input type="checkbox"/> wife of ALR Raymond GARDNER	1822	1891			
<input type="checkbox"/> Julia, dau	1850	1851			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eva M, dau	1858	1943			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fred L, son	1862	1944			
<input type="checkbox"/>					
<input type="checkbox"/>					
<input type="checkbox"/>					

Note—Ancestry.com gives access to the work of researchers who have shared their notes. Caution—these notes are not the original death certificates (beware of possible errors)

Source: Faylene Hutton's notes on cemetery records, 1780-1990.



# Abbie W. Gardner

in the U.S., Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current



Want to get involved? [Click here.](#)

**Detail** Source

Name: Abbie W. Gardner

Birth Date: 1831

Birth Place: Dennysville, Washington County, Maine,  
United States of America

Death Date: 3 Jan 1915

Death Place: Dennysville, Washington County, Maine,  
United States of America

Cemetery: Dennysville Cemetery

Burial or Cremation Place: Dennysville, Washington County, Maine,  
United States of America

Has Bio?: Y

Father: [Bela Raymond Reynolds](#)

Mother: [Deborah Reynolds](#)

Spouse: [Aaron L. Raymond Gardner](#)

Children: [Charles Otis Gardner](#)  
[Edwin Raymond Gardner](#)  
[Julia Gardner](#)  
[Eva M. Gardner](#)  
[Fred Lee Gardner](#)

Cemetery headstone  
photos from “Find a  
Grave”




# Other sources on Ancestry.com for death information

Search > Birth, Marriage & Death

## U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014

This file includes the following information on each decedent, if the data is available to the SSA:

- Last name
  - First name
  - Social Security Number
  - State issued
  - Birth date
  - Death date
  - Last residence
  - Lump sum payment
- 

94 million records, but 3-year wait after death to be uploaded to Ancestry.com and 10-year wait after death until Social Security number is published.

Note—Ancestry.com Library Edition does not have “lump sum payment” information, but it does have the year the decedent was issued a Social Security number

# U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014

Search

☐ Match all terms exactly

First &amp; Middle Name(s)

Edith Gardner

Last Name

Tobey

☐ Exact...☐ Exact...

Birth Day Month Year Location

1889

Death Day Month Year Location

1975

Lived In Day Month Year Location

Dennysville, Washington,

Any Event Day Month Year Location

City, County, State, Coun

## Related data collecti

[U.S. Federal Census Collect](#)
[U.S., Social Security Applic](#)  
[Claims Index, 1936-2007](#)

This database picks up whe  
leaves off, with details such  
date and parents' names e  
from information filed with  
Security Administration thr  
application or claims proce

[U.S., Department of Vetera](#)  
[BIRLS Death File, 1850-2010](#)

This index contains birth ar  
dates for more than 14 mill  
veterans and VA beneficiari



Note—Edith Gardner Tobey of Dennysville (ALR Gardner's granddaughter and Fred & Mary Gardner's daughter, shown at left at her engagement in 1921) waited until 1962 (at age 73) to apply for a Social Security account. Not Every American applied for a Social Security account after Congress passed the enabling act in 1935.

## Most likely hit

Results 1-3 of 3

View Record	Name	Birth Date	Death Date	Last Residence
<a href="#">View Record</a>	Edith Tobey	1 May 1889	Jul 1975	Fairfield, Somerset, Maine, USA
<a href="#">View Record</a>	Edith Tobey	9 Jan 1886	15 Mar 1974	Kelso, Cowlitz, Washington, USA
<a href="#">View Record</a>	Gorden Tobey	11 Nov 1891	Oct 1972	Tucson, Pima, Arizona, USA

1-3 of 3

Per page 20 ▼



Request copy of original application

Name:	Edith Tobey
Social Security Number:	004-46-8341
Birth Date:	1 May 1889
Issue Year:	1962
Issue State:	Maine
Last Residence:	04937, Fairfield, Somerset, Maine, USA
Death Date:	Jul 1975

# Divorce Records...

Search > [Birth, Marriage & Death](#)

## Maine, U.S., Divorce Records, 1798-1891

Search

☐ Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)

Last Name

Month

Year

Location

Divorce

City, County, State, Country

Any Event

City, County, State, Country

Add family member: [Spouse](#)

First & Middle Name(s)

Last Name

Spouse

X

Keyword

e.g. pilot or "Flying Tigers" ▾

Search

Clear search

### Related data

[The Maine State](#)

The Maine State.

[Maine, U.S., Birth](#)

Contained in this records from 1711 include information birth date, birth place etc.

[Maine, U.S., Marriage 1713-1922](#)

Contained in this marriage records will include information dates, locations,

[Maine, U.S., Death](#)

Contained in this death records from include information date, location, spouse

[All Birth, Marriage](#)

## About Maine, U.S., Divorce Records, 1798-1891

This database contains an index extracted from early Maine divorce records.

The details in this index were extracted by the Maine State Archives from divorce proceedings heard by County Supreme Judicial Courts in Maine. Details included are

- plaintiff's name
- defendant's name
- term/date
- docket number
- county
- court
- volume and page number

## Legal Grounds

Divorce decrees that were granted on two or more legal grounds were assigned to the ground considered the most specific. Some of the grounds were combined



(1) adultery, (2) bigamy or fraud, (3) conviction of crime, (4) drunkenness, (5) desertion or abandonment, (6) neglect to provide or nonsupport, (7) cruelty, (8) indignities, (9) incompatibility, (10) separation or absence, and (11) all other grounds.


# Maine probate records on Ancestry.com





Question—what is probate? What is probate court?

Answer—probate is the legal process by which the assets and liabilities of a deceased person are resolved. If the deceased person left a will, an executor/administrator oversees the payout of assets and liabilities.


Probate court is involved when a judge or magistrate has to appoint an estate administrator to oversee. In Maine, each county has its own probate court.


Your search  ... 1-20 of 4,810  Browse by collection



Broad  Exact

Ebenezer   
Gardner   
Born: 1776   
Any: East Machias, Washi... 

Apply

Filters  Clear all

 To get better results, add more information such as **Death Info**—even a guess will help.  
[Edit your search](#) or [learn more](#)

 **Maine, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1584-1999**  
Wills, estates & guardian records  
 View

Name	Ebenezer Gardner
Death	1856
Residence	Abt 1856 East Machias, Washington County, Maine

Searching on  
Ebenezer  
Gardner of  
East Machias  
(b. 1776 d.  
1856)



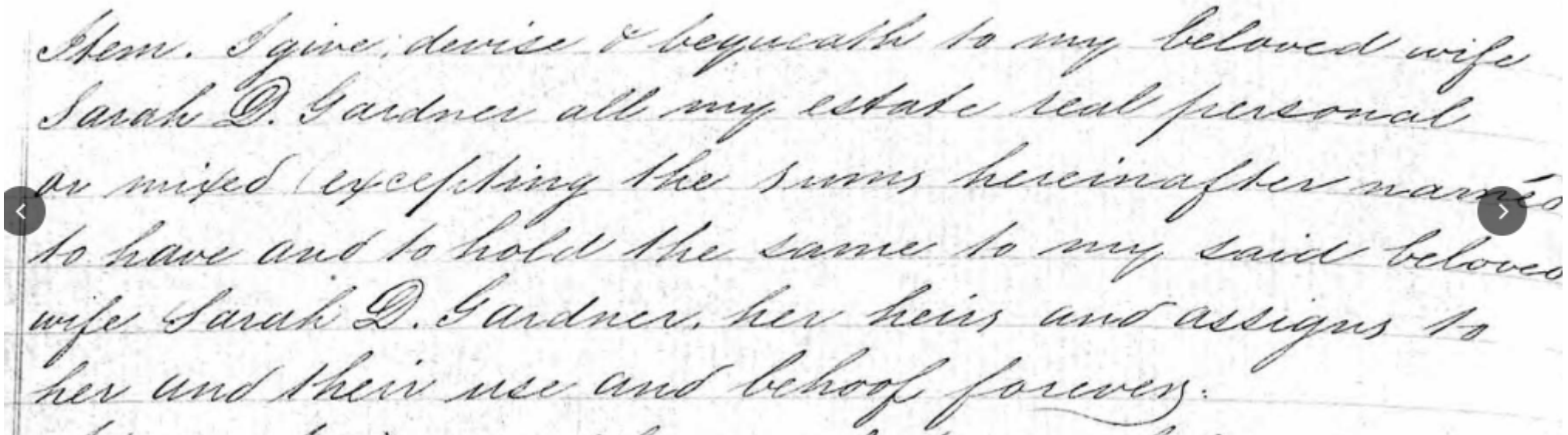
Preface to Ebenezer Gardner's 1856 will...

In the name of God Amen, I Ebenezer Gardner  
of East Machias in the county of Washington & State  
of Maine being weak in body but of sound and dis-  
posing mind and memory calling to mind the Will.  
frailty & uncertainty of human life and being de-  
sirous of settling my worldly affairs and directing  
how the estate with which it has pleased God to bless

...first up: possession of Ebenezer's "immortal being"...

this my last will & testament. And first I commend  
my immortal being to him who gave it and my  
body to the earth, to be decently buried by my exec-

First up: Ebenezer left “all my estate real personal...” to his widow, Sarah D. Gardner



Item. I give, devise & bequeath to my beloved wife Sarah D. Gardner all my estate real personal or mixed (excepting the sums hereinafter named) to have and to hold the same to my said beloved wife Sarah D. Gardner, her heirs and assigns to her and their use and behoof forever.

Note the phrase “excepting the sums hereinafter named”  
....Ebenezer gave specific sums to his heirs...

Item. I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter  
Susan Sanborn the wife of Cyrus Sanborn one  
dollar to be paid out of my estate by my ex-

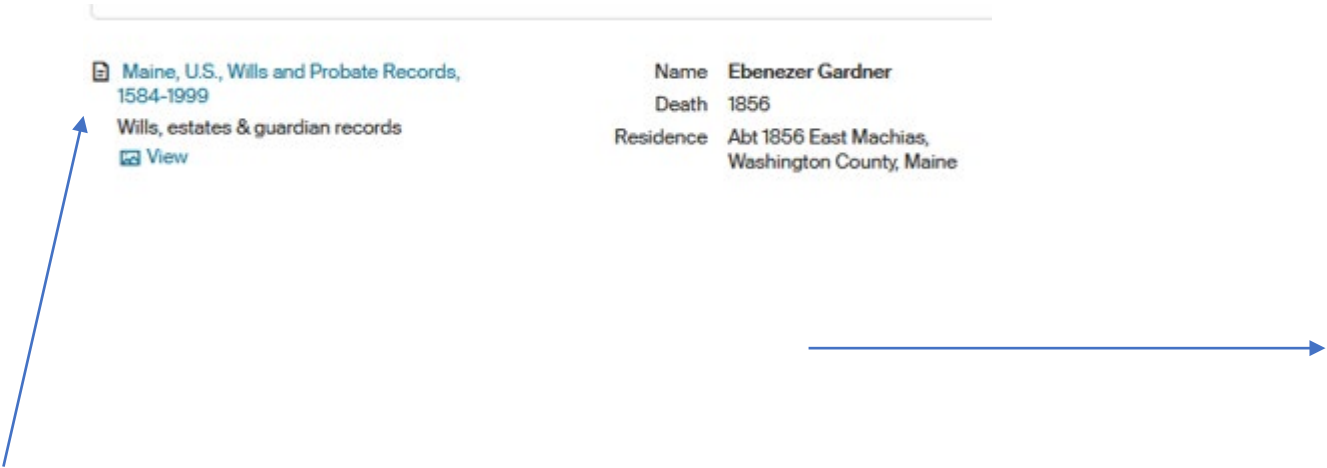
Item. I give and bequeath to my beloved son James  
A. Gardner one dollar, to be paid out of my estate by  
my executor hereinafter named as soon after my

Item. I give and bequeath to my beloved son Aaron  
L. B. Gardner one dollar to be paid out of my estate by  
my executor hereinafter named as soon after my

Note: Ebenezer Gardner willed "one dollar" to nine named children (by the way, why just one dollar?)



A neat Ancestry.com trick: if you double-click on the hyperlink “Maine U.S. Wills and Probate Records” you get a pop-up window listing all the people listed in Ebenezer Gardner’s will and their relationship to him.



Note that Ebenezer listed his children from Susan Sanborn, first, through Julia Gardner, last. Was that the birth order of his nine children? You would have to work out the birth dates of Susan, James, Ebenezer, Jr., Thaxter (?), Lucinda, Henry, Aaron, Cyrus, and Julia.

Ebenezer Gardner	
in the Maine, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1584-1999	
Detail	Source
Name:	Ebenezer Gardner
Residence Date:	Abt 1856
Residence Place:	East Machias, Washington County, Maine
Probate Date:	17 Jan 1856
Probate Place:	Maine, USA
Inferred Death Year:	1856
Others Listed (Name) Relationship	
Ebenezer Gardner	
Sarah D. Gardner	Wife
Susan Sanborn	Daughter
Cyrus Sanborn	Son-in-law
James A. Gardner	Son
Ebenezer Gardner Junior	Son
Thaxter Gardner	Son
Lucinda West	Daughter
Stephen West	Son-in-law
Henry A. Gardner	Son
Aaron L. R. Gardner	Son
Cyrus S. Gardner	Son
Julia Gardner	Daughter
Thomas M. Gardner	Son-in-law



# Homework for the coming week...

Start exploring the vital statistics records on Ancestry.com and keep track of what you examined:

- Search on your name and the names of your parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents in the the birth, marriage, and death records retrieved on Ancestry.com.
- What does Ancestry.com think are the 'most likely' matches for your search terms?
- Do you recognize the 'hits' as your parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents?
- If so, what can you learn about their lives from the vital statistics record

# SSC F2110—Worksheet for Vital Records Searching Your Great-Grandparents

Relationship	Surname	First Name	Middle Name/ Initial/ Maiden Name	Found in birth registers?	Found in marriage registers?	Found in death registers?
You						Not yet!
Your mother						
Your father						
Your Maternal grandmother						
Your Maternal grandfather						
Your Paternal grandmother						
Your Paternal grandfather						

Relationship	Surname	First Name	Middle Name/ Initial/ Maiden Name	Found in birth registers?	Found in marriage registers?	Found in death registers?
Your Maternal Gt-Grandmother						
Your Maternal Gt-Grandfather						
Your Maternal Gt-Grandmother						
Your Maternal Gt-Grandfather						
Your Paternal Gt-Grandmother						
Your Paternal Gt-Grandfather						
Your Paternal Gt-Grandmother						
Your Paternal Gt-Grandfather						