

Name of Compiler _____ Person No. 1 on this chart is the same Family Group No. _____
 Address _____ person as No. ____ on chart No. ____
 City, State _____
 Date _____

Family Group Sheet

HUSBAND _____

Born _____ (date) at _____ (town or Township) _____ (County) _____ (State)
 Died _____ at _____
 Married _____
 (1) _____ at _____ to _____
 (2) _____ at _____ to _____
 (3) _____ at _____ to _____
 Father _____
 Mother _____
 Notes _____

(more on back)

WIFE () _____

Born _____ at _____
 Died _____ at _____
 Other marriages _____
 () _____ at _____ to _____
 () _____ at _____ to _____
 Father _____
 Mother _____
 Notes _____

(more on back)

CHILDREN (in order of birth)

i Name _____
 Born _____ at _____
 Died _____ at _____
 Married _____ at _____ to _____
 Notes _____

ii Name _____
 Born _____ at _____
 Died _____ at _____
 Married _____ at _____ to _____
 Notes _____

iii Name _____
 Born _____ at _____
 Died _____ at _____
 Married _____ at _____ to _____
 Notes _____

Side 2 of Family Group Sheet for _____ and _____
Husband wife

In spaces below record the sources for information in the Family Group Sheet

H U S B A N D	
W I F E	
C H I L D R E N	

Use a blank sheet to attach additional notes and sources.

CHILDREN OF _____

iv Name _____
Born _____ at _____
Died _____ at _____
Married _____ at _____ to _____
Notes _____

v Name _____
Born _____ at _____
Died _____ at _____
Married _____ at _____ to _____
Notes _____

vi Name _____
Born _____ at _____
Died _____ at _____
Married _____ at _____ to _____
Notes _____

vii Name _____
Born _____ at _____
Died _____ at _____
Married _____ at _____ to _____
Notes _____

viii Name _____
Born _____ at _____
Died _____ at _____
Married _____ at _____ to _____
Notes _____

ix Name _____
Born _____ at _____
Died _____ at _____
Married _____ at _____ to _____
Notes _____

x Name _____
Born _____ at _____
Died _____ at _____
Married _____ at _____ to _____
Notes _____

Side 2 of Family Group Sheet CHILDREN of

_____ and _____.

Husband

wife

In spaces below record the sources for information on child iv, v, vi, vii, viii, ix, and x.

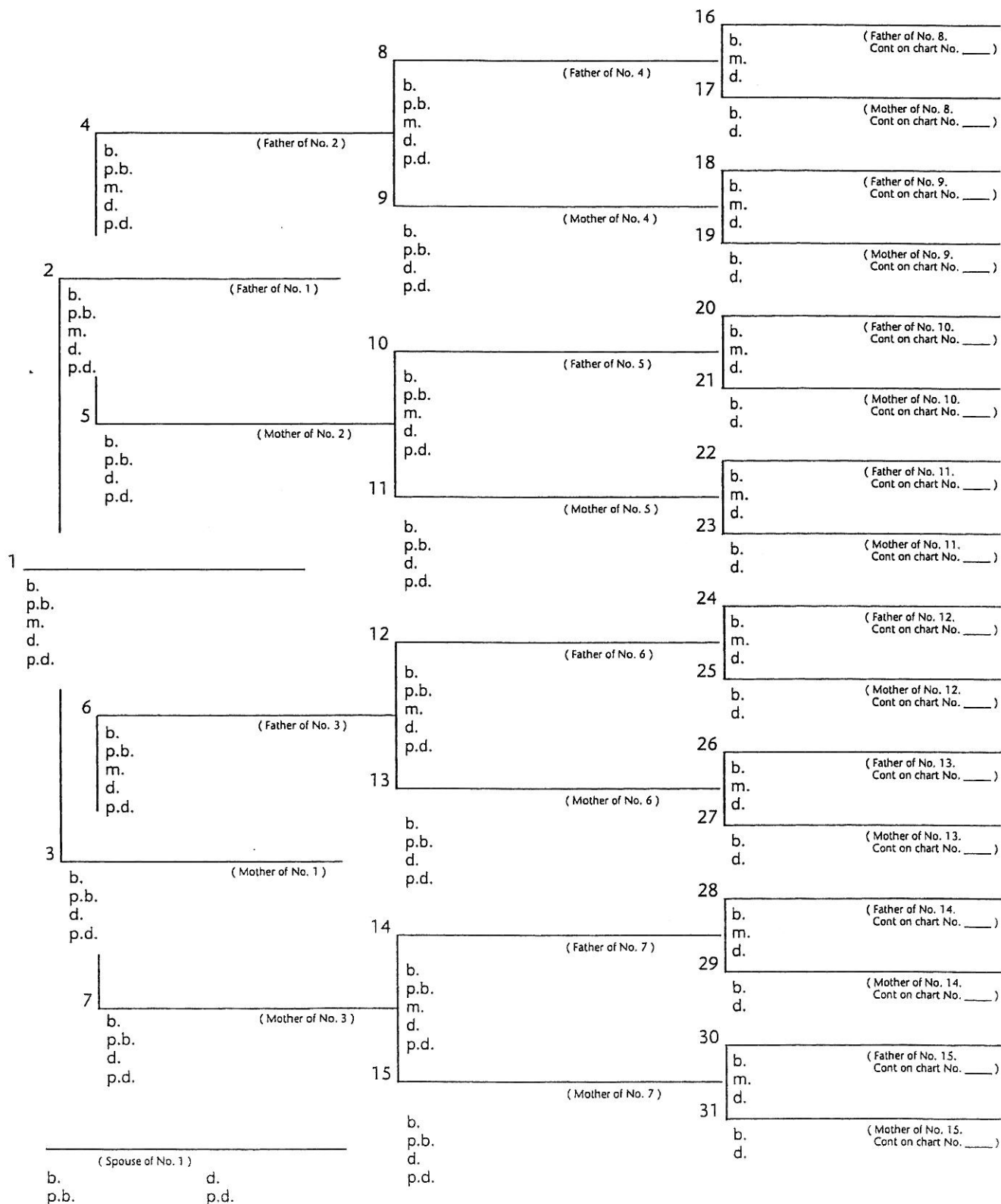
Use a blank sheet to attach additional notes and sources.

Pedigree Chart

Name of Compiler _____
 Address _____
 City, State _____
 Date _____

Person No. 1 on this chart is the same
 person as No. ____ on chart No. ____

Chart No. _____



Who Says So?

Documenting Your Family History Sources¹

Documentation is a critical step in family history. Citing a source permits the family recorder to verify data, let others confirm facts and helps evaluate conflicting information. In family history there are interviews, correspondence, CD sources and Internet files, so the family history must clearly answer "who says so?"

Family records include different types of evidence and may come from a variety of sources.

NATURE OF EVIDENCE

DIRECT – speaks directly to the point in question (for example, a birth certificate is direct evidence of the date and place of birth of the person for whom it was issued).

INDIRECT OR CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE– provides facts from which a conclusion can be inferred (for example, approximate year of birth can be inferred from the date of an infant's baptism).

TYPE OF EVIDENCE

PRIMARY – personal testimony of an eyewitness or a record created shortly after the event by a person with personal knowledge of the facts.

SECONDARY – evidence that is copied or compiled from other sources or that is written from memory long after an event occurred.

ORIGINAL (PRIMARY) SOURCES

Family Records: Family Bibles, vital records, correspondence (letters), memoirs, journals, diaries, unrecorded deeds and wills, diplomas, certificates, and testimonials.

Public Records: Censuses, government records, military, pensions, land bounty records, passport applications, passenger lists, original grants, naturalization or immigration records, records of entry, state, province and local records.

Institutional Records: Church records, cemetery records and inscriptions, educational institutions, societies and fraternal organizations.

SECONDARY SOURCES

Printed Materials: Family histories, collected genealogies, source materials (abstracts and transcriptions of records), local histories, other printed materials such as newspapers, reference works and directories (city, telephone, trade and professional), Web sites, Mailing Lists, Message (Bulletin) Boards, and E-mail messages.

Manuscripts: Commonly refers to handwritten or typed, not professionally printed, works.

¹Presented by Karen S. Smith, Vice President, Ohio Genealogical Society at the 2002 Ohio 4-H Volunteer Conference March 9.

Example for books, pamphlets, & monographs:

Bertram Hawthorne Groene, Tracing Your Civil War Ancestor (Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, 1973) pp. 17-19

Example for periodicals:

Kip Sperry, A.G., "Professionalism Examined," Genealogical Journal, 6 (June 1977), p. 59.

Example for newspapers:

New York Times, 3 April 1979, Sec. A, p. 4, col.3.

Example for miscellaneous unpublished documents:

Account Book of Rosehill Plantation, Hinds County, Mississippi," 1840-1846, original owned by John doe, 5157 South River Street, Clinton, MS Photocopy examined at Clinton Public Library, Clinton, MS.

Example for census records:

1850 U.S. Census (Free Schedule), Newton Co., MS; p. 403, Family 304, Dwelling 208, Lines 16-18; [National Archives Microfilm M-408, Roll 315] U.S Bureau of the Census (R.G. 29), MS Vol IV, National Archives and Records Service, Washington DC.

Example for tax records:

1807 Tax List (Real and Person Property), Baldwin Co., GA, Capt. Bennett's Dist., 4th Dist., p. 2, line 4, Microfilm Collection, GA Dept. of Archives & History, Atlanta.

Example for bible records:

Family Bible Record of Alexander Gordon of Clarke Co., MS. The Holy Bible, Containing the Old and New Testaments, Translated out of the Original Tongues and with the Former Translations Diligently Compared and Revised, (New York: D. & G. Brace, 1811), owner (1977) Mrs. Frank York, 410 Naples Rd., Jackson, MS 39206. Original record was hand copied, appeared authentic, and the family record, dim with age, unaltered. In possession of the writer.

Example for letters:

John Doe to author, 16 Jan. 1970. Original in possession of writer.

Example for vital records:

Birth Certificate for John Doe, 10 June 1920, File No. 6837-20, Mississippi State Board of Health, P.O. Box 1700, Jackson, MS 39205. Certified copy in possession of writer.

Example for court records:

"Deed of Sale from Jacob Blount to Henry Warren," 18 Jan. 1775 (recorded March 1775), Craven County, NC, Deed Bk 22, pp. 12-13, NC State Library, County Core Collection Microfilm No. 84-21.

Example for church records:

"Baptism record for John Doe," born 14 June 1815, Baptized 15 June 1815, St. Mary's Catholic Church Misc. Bk II, p. 182, Lancaster, OH. Photocopy sent author by Richard Roe, 180 River St., Olpe, KS.

Example for cemetery records:

Headstone inscription for Nathaniel Wilson, Stonewall Cemetery, Lancaster, OH (S. 15, T. 14, R. 19). Author's visit 21 May 2000.

Example for oral interview:

"Oral interview with Jane Smith," 15 Dec 1999, by Betsy Jones. Videotape owned by author, Sistersville, WV.

Example for compact disk:

United States, General Land Office, *Automated Records Project: Pre 1908 Homestead & Cash Entry Patents: Arkansas*, CD-Rom [Springfield, Virginia: Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States, 1994], Richard Stiles entry, SW ¼, section 20, township 6N, range 14w.

ELECTRONIC MESSAGES & FILES



Following are examples for citing electronic sources. These are quoted from Elizabeth Shown Mills *CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian*, (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1997) p. 80-82.

E-mail messages:

Christopher Nordman, "Rochon Baptisms of Mobile: Translated Abstracts," e-mail message from 104274.1313@compuserve.com (2767A Mary Avenue; St. Louis, MO 63144-2725) to author, 12 January 1997.

Electronic database (family files):

Gowen Research Foundation, Electronic Library, online <http://www.llano.net/gowen>, Arlee Gowen, web master gowen@llano.net (5708 Gary Avenue; Lubbock, TX 79413), downloaded 15 November 1996, page 7.

Electronic file (image from private files-annotated):

Floyd F. Shown and Mrs. Thelma Shown (Thulmar) Carver, marriage certificate, 24 March 1931, Bolivar County, Mississippi. Image file "Shown12" scanned 15 November 1996 by Elizabeth Shown Mills eshown@msn.com (1732 Ridgedale Drive; Tuscaloosa, AL 35406), from original document in her possession. Image has been retouched by Mills to remove stains; she attests that no information has been altered. File provided to author by Mills in January 1997.

Electronic file (image from public archives):

Photo: Private Edmund Ruffin, by Matthew Brady; Pictures of the Civil War, Select Audiovisual Records; National Archives and Records Administration, Washington. Online <http://clio.nara.gov:70//inform/dc/audvis/still/civwar.html>; file CIVIL159.JPG; printout dated 29 March 1996.

Electronic file-listserve message:

Daphne Gentry (Library of Virginia, Richmond), unidentified "report" quoted at length by Jon Kukla, in "Virginia Personal Property Tax Records as a Research Source," Jon@HNOC.ORG, listserve message to IEAHCNET list IEAHCNET@H-NET.MSU.EDU, 18 November 1996. Printout dated 22 November 1996.

Electronic web site:

Index to Texas Confederate Pension Records, Archives Division, Texas State Library, online <http://link.tsl.state.tx.us/c/compt.html>, Minshew data downloaded 16 November 1996.

Electronically published paper (previously published in hard copy):

"Records of District Courts of the United States (Record Group 21)," part 2, unpaginated, of *Black Studied: A Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications*, online <http://gopher.nara.gov:70/1/about/publ/micro/blkstd>, printout dated 1 August 1996. Previously published in hard copy (Washington: National Archives Trust Fund Board, 1984).



Suggested Reading & References

Lackey, Richard S. *Cite Your Sources: A Manual for Documenting Family Histories and Genealogical Records*. Jackson, Mississippi, University Press of Mississippi, 1980.

Mills, Elizabeth Shown. *Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian*. Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1997.

National Archives and Records Administration. *Citing Records in the National Archives of the United States* (General Information Leaflet 17 [Revised]). Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1993.

Greenwood, Val D. *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy* (3rd edition). Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 2000.