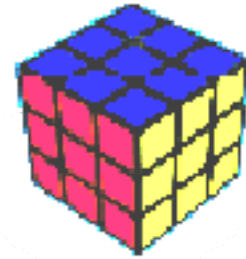


Rubik's Cube® Genealogy: A New Twist on Your Old Data



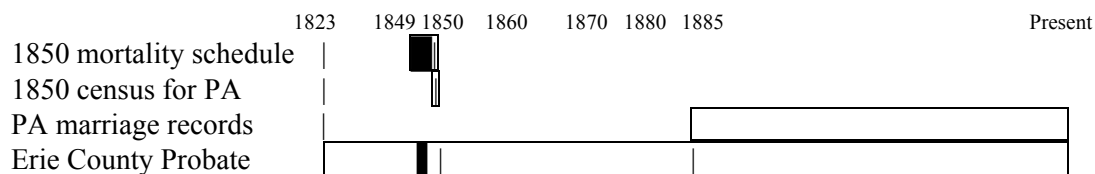
Elissa Scalise Powell, CGSM, CGLSM
720 Highpoint Drive, Wexford, PA 15090
www.PowellGenealogy.com
Copyright ©2012

The three dimensions in genealogy are Name, Time, and Place. You should be able to pinpoint records for a particular person knowing these three “coordinates.” As you twist the dimensions in different ways new or previously unseen patterns emerge in your family history.

Organize your data differently

- by grouping all records about a person or a family
 - source checklist
 - chart comparing common family characteristics
- by grouping records together
 - compare all census years, all deeds, military service, health history, etc.
 - compare related record groups together such as plot plan, tax lists, and census
- by looking at records geographically
 - genealogy of the counties
 - migration map
 - hardiness zones
 - meteorological data
- by looking at all records chronologically by person
 - identifies missing data
 - highlights illogical and contradictory data
 - shows who lived concurrently
 - can help sort out multiple individuals with the same name
- by looking at our ancestors on a historical timeline
 - can see what events shaped their lives
- by looking at all records by availability in a location
 - identifies extant information in a certain time period

Create timelines for the records used in a research locale in order to pinpoint exactly which ones should be consulted for an event. For example, for a man's death in Erie, PA in 1849, consult:



Apply to a lineage society

- The process of proving each step will make you revisit your data
- Shows you where assumptions may be and where you need more evidence

Write the family history, or at least start it

- Helps to see where the holes in our knowledge exist
- Makes it more interesting if we can think of our ancestors as witnesses of history

Write a case study for a journal

- Talk about how you researched a part of your genealogy and what led you there
- Publishing may turn up more information, or the cousin with the family Bible.

Submit an entry to a writing contest

- NGS, ISFHWE, ASG Scholar Award, Southern California Genealogical Society, OGS

Share an aspect of your research in a newsletter in the research locale

- Newsletter editors are always looking for articles on families or records of local interest

Write a query for publication in print or on the Internet

- Think about the specifics of what you know and what you desire to know
- Communicate as concisely as you can
- Share photos

Publish a website or blog

- Include photos and sources. Example: <http://acreetree.net>

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Croom, Emily. *Unpuzzling Your Past Workbook*. 4th ed. Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, 1996.

Greenwood, Val D. *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*. 3rd ed. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2000.

Kintner, Elgin P., MD. *Edward Kintner and Glada Snyder: Ancestral Genealogy and Tour Guide*. Maryville, TN: privately published, 1994.

Mills, Elizabeth Shown. *Evidence Explained: Citing History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace*. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2007.

_____, editor. *Professional Genealogy: A Manual for Researchers, Writers, Editors, Lecturers and Librarians*. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2001. (Especially chapter on transcripts and abstracts.)

Animated timeline and history of the United States: www.animatedatlas.com/movie.html

Free personalized timeline intermixed with history: www.OurTimelines.com

Genelines timeline software: www.progenygenealogy.com

Genogram sample using Eugene O'Neill family: www.genogram.org

Genogram to chart your family: www.genopro.com

Growth Zones: www.burpee.com and www.uk.gardenweb.com/forums/zones/hze.html

Hardiness Zones: interactive map at <http://www.usna.usda.gov/Hardzone/>

Meteorological data: <http://www7.ncdc.noaa.gov/IPS/coop/coop.html>

Source Checklist: www.byubroadcasting.org/ancestors/charts/oldpdf/checklist1.pdf