



The Geneline

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

Amelia Island Genealogical Society

June 2010 - ISSUE 6

COMING UP!

AIGS General Meeting

Tuesday- June 15, 2010 at 7:00 PM

HELD: FERNANDINA BEACH POLICE DEPT.

COMMUNITY ROOM

Speaker: Susan McCarthy

Topic: Heirlooms, Antiques, Collectibles or Junk



Susan's talk will be about what to do with the things you find in Grandma's Attic when it comes time to clear it out. How do you evaluate the various items and decide what to do with them? Susan will share with us her insights on this and how to tell the differences between these items so we can make appropriate decisions as to their disposition - what should be saved, what may be an antique or a collectible, and what can be trashed.



About Susan McCarthy

Our speaker for the June 15, 2010 meeting of the Amelia Island Genealogical Society is Susan McCarthy, a lifelong resident of Fernandina.

She and her husband opened Trailer Park Collectibles now located at 702 Center Street in downtown Fernandina Beach in 2006 after many years of running the Down Under Restaurant. A hobby of what she called "junking" has become her fulltime business.

She and her 24 vendors sell a wide variety of items from folk art, jewelry, and primitive antiques to second hand furniture and used clothing.



**2010 AIGS
BOARD MEMBERS**

Marie Santry
President

Michael Toomey
Vice-President

Lori Miranda
Secretary

Royce "Gus" Reinwald
Treasurer

Bob Loveless
Past-President

Charles Finnigan
Director

Bob Keane
Director

Pam Manley
Director

Kay Watt
Director

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS
& EDITORS**

Bob Keane
Program

Charles Finnigan
Membership

Gloria Toomey
Publicity/Historian

Pam Manley
Library

Kathy Nemaric
Research Coordinator

Frances Bartelt
Editor Geneline

Jean Mann
*Editor Nassau County
Genealogist*

Message from the President

In last month's message, I mentioned that I have volunteered to review lineage applications for the Florida State Genealogical Society's (FSGS) "Florida Pioneer Descendant" program. These lineage societies, be it FSGS, DAR, Mayflower, etc., all require applicant's to prove unbroken chain of descent from one generation to the next. The further back you go, the harder it is to do so. Birth and Christening records (if parents are named) are primary sources used as proof. Marriage records and death records can be used as secondary evidence, if parents are named in these documents. But what do you do if these types of documents cannot be found? Well, sometimes the information you need crops up in unexpected places. I would like to share with you an example in which a DEED provided the information needed.

Deeds are often one of the last documents used by genealogists. A deed "completes" the picture of an ancestor's life. After we have found the vital records that put an ancestor in time and place, we become interested in exactly where they lived. But sometimes they contain vital record-type proof that often eludes us. One such example comes from an FSGS Florida Pioneer Descendant application that I recently reviewed. I have taken the liberty of changing the names for the purpose of this example.

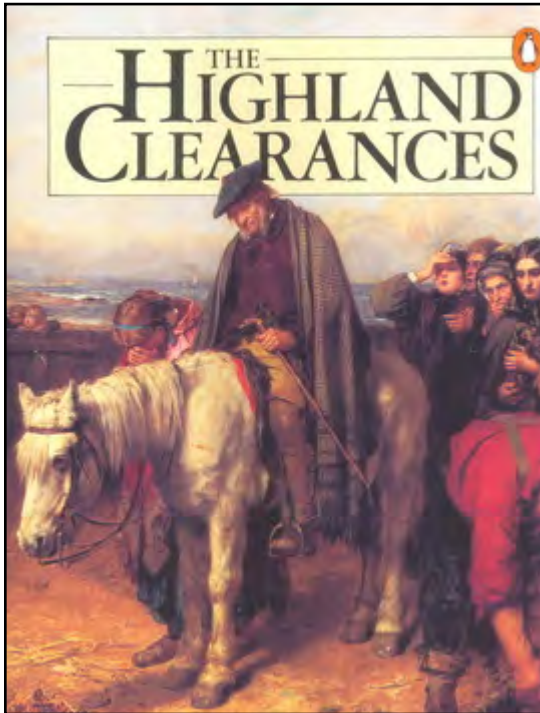
Based on the will of Robert Reed AUSTIN of Pennsylvania, Jane Reed Little ERWIN was named as a granddaughter. The applicant was trying to prove that Jane Reed Little Erwin LEWIS was living in Florida before March 3, 1845 (i.e. before Florida became a state) in order to qualify the ancestor as a Florida Pioneer. So, along with the Robert Reed AUSTIN will, the applicant submitted a deed for the sale of the land bequeathed to her in Pennsylvania. The deed, dated 5 June 1834, named John Willis LEWIS and wife as the sellers. Much further down in the deed, the wife was fully identified as follows: "... Jane Reed Little ERWIN, granddaughter of Robert Reed AUSTIN, now married and known as Jane Reed Little LEWIS of Tallahassee, Florida." Based on the date of the deed and that one sentence, we have evidence of the marriage of John Willis LEWIS and Jane Reed Little ERWIN and proof that she was living in Florida prior to 1845.

The lesson here is DON'T OVERLOOK ANY DOCUMENT. Deeds have been recorded for centuries. Birth, Marriage, and Death records are relatively recent inventions. I have several other examples that I will try to share with you in future messages.

**Wishing you success in your family history search,
MARIE SANTRY**

A Story of TWO Neil Campbell's The Warrior and The Wanderer

By Gus Reinwald- AIGS Board Member



Part 1 – THE WARRIOR

Neil, you're fourteen years old, time to join the Navy.

Born 1787 at Kilmartin house, Argyllshire, Scotland, the fifth and youngest son of a member of the Scottish landed gentry, Neil Campbell knew he had limited choices for a career. His father, Colin Mor Campbell was the 5th Laird of the Kilmartin estate, which gave the family a nice income of about £900 per year, but his oldest brother would become the next Laird and the other brothers would be occupied with various duties in running the estate. Scotland, in 1802, didn't have a lot of opportunities for a young man due in part to the Highland Clearance where almost two-thirds of the tenant farm workers were forced to move or emigrate. This is, in part, why Neil joined and served with the British Navy for six years aboard HMS Texel. Then, in 1808 after receiving a nomination from two respected English noblemen, he entered the Honorable East India Company Service (H.E.I.C.S.) as a Cadet.



East India Company Service

Neil was 21 years old when he arrived in India and began his H.E.I.C.S. Army service. His journey to India involved a sea voyage around Africa's Cape of Good Hope, which was risky and long, taking six to ten Months. In India, he probably had initial training at Fort William in Calcutta, and then was promoted to the rank of Ensign. This must have pleased Neil very much and made him feel important, because he straight-away insulted and "ill-treated a Circar" (a provincial Hindu accountant) in Calcutta. His superiors, not being pleased by this action, promptly imposed a fine and imprisoned him for 8 months. I gather that this must have been a learning experience for Neil because he continued his H.E.I.C.S. service in India and was promoted in 1814 to Lieutenant with the 21st Regiment of Native Infantry, one of the very few native regiments that remained faithful to Britain in the Indian Mutiny of 1857. He was involved in the invasion of Nepal in 1814-1815, and the long campaigns of the Mahratta and Pindari Wars in 1815-1819. Neil was in the battle of Laswarree, as well as several minor engagements, and in 1826 was at the siege and storming of Bhurtpore, in which 14,000 enemy and 1,000 British forces were killed.

(Continued on pg. 4)



Scotland - Argyllshire

All this time he must have conducted a long distance relationship with friends in Scotland because, in 1821 he returned home on sick leave and stayed long enough to get well and to court a young girl, Isabella Ann Campbell from Lochgair, Argyllshire, 14 years his junior. They were married in June of 1823 at Kilmichael Glass, Argyllshire, Scotland, Neil being 36 and Isabella 22 years old. The couple made the long journey back to India either by ship around the Cape or by the new Red Sea route from England to Alexandria Egypt, overland to Suez, down the Red Sea and on to India. This route greatly reduced the journey to a month and made it more comfortable.

In India, Neil and Isabella tried to start a family, but at that time and place there were many forms of disease prevalent, and this took a toll on the newly married couple. From 1824 to 1829, Isabella gave birth to 5 children but only one survived.

Then from 1830 to 1840, Neil and Isabella had six more children in India, of which four survived. Because of Neil's service, they moved often; Calcutta to Agra, to Muttra, to Nusseerabad, to Cawnpore, to Allahabad, to Landour, and to Kurnaul, with Neil being promoted to Captain and finally, in 1838, to Major. Major Neil Campbell tried to save some money for his family, and evidently invested in a company called MacIntosh House. This didn't work for him because MacIntosh House failed in 1833 and Neil lost all.

In 1841, Neil retired from the East India Service after 33 years and he and Isabella, with the five children, returned to Scotland and started a new life in Rothesay on the Isle of Bute in the northern part of the Firth of Clyde. In Rothesay, they had two more children in 1842 and 1843, which brought the total living to seven, five boys and two girls. The family stayed in Scotland and in 1848 Neil died at the age of 61 and is buried at Warriston Cemetery in Edinburgh. Neil's wife, Isabella Ann Campbell, born 1801, eventually moved to Stirling and lived there with her youngest daughter until her death in 1880 at the age of 79. She is buried with Neil in Warriston Cemetery.

(Continued on pg. 5)



Scotland - Rothesay on the Isle of Bute



Major Neil Campbell



Mrs. Isabella Ann Campbell

**The surviving children of
Neil and Isabella Campbell were:**

Son - Colin Ward, born in India, a civil engineer for the East India Railway Company, married but no children, and died in Scotland

Daughter - Helen Charlotte, born in India, lived in Scotland, two husbands and five children, and died in Scotland

Son - Charles Eckford, born in India, went to Australia to the gold diggings where he died in the outback

Son - Dugald, born in India, a surgeon in the H.E.I.C.S., unmarried, and died in India

Son - Neil, (*see note below*) born in India, went to Canada, married and four children, then to New York state, married again, three children, and died in NY;

Daughter - Isabella Janet, born in Scotland, unmarried, and died in Scotland

Son - John Alexander, born in Scotland, a civil engineer in the public works department in India, unmarried, and died in India.

**Major Neil Campbell &
wife Isabella Ann Campbell
are the
great-great grandparents of
GUS REINWALD.**

Note:

This Neil Campbell is The Wanderer
to be continued next, in Part 2.

Visit our Website: <http://www.aigensoc.org/>

Find Information about Amelia Island Genealogical Society

Access old and new GENELINES.

A special reminder to our members: GENELINE is your Society's publication.

Each member is encouraged to contribute material to it

All GENELINE articles are indexed by PERSI

Send GENELINE comments & submissions to Frances Bartelt - Francesbartelt@gmail.com

The Amelia Island Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 6005

Fernandina Beach, FL 32035-6005

The Society's Library Collection is housed in the Fernandina Beach Library

The membership packet includes AIGS information and all current year issues of Society's quarterly

The Nassau County Genealogist, and the GENELINE, AIGS's monthly newsletter.

Family history research training is offered through classes, workshops and ongoing programs

Membership dues are \$20.00 per person and \$25.00 per two-person family.

The membership year is January 1st through December 31st

To join, send application form, along with the appropriate fee to:

The Amelia Island Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 6005

Fernandina Beach, FL 32035-6005

To print an membership application or for more information check our web site:

<http://www.aigensoc.org/aigs/meetings.asp/>