

## **Boots on the Ground**

### **Genealogy 101 – Part 3**

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*Because sometimes, you just need to make the trip...to visit the libraries and archives, to visit the cemeteries, and to talk to the locals. And, to walk the same land our ancestors walked. MissP*

#### **How To Take A “Roots” Vacation**

(You will know how to modify this to current research techniques.

1. Do your homework! Go prepared and know your family lines well.
2. Study area history and language.
3. Communicate! Write or call distant relatives.
4. Write ahead! Send inquiry letters to Chambers of commerce, lineage societies, public recorders, local libraries, National Archives, etc.
  - Find out about what you’re allowed to bring in to research. Websites will tell you.
5. Make copies! Leave original documents at home.
6. Take extra copies of pedigrees and family group sheets to leave with relatives along the way. Be prepared to share information.
7. As you travel and visit ancestral sites, read copies of journals, diaries, and letters. This can make your visit come alive. You may be surprised at the accuracy of description, even after 100 years.
8. Take correspondence. Include copies of family history correspondence. This can be a key to immediate assistance and get you into places otherwise impossible.
9. Carry maps. Historical, parish, topographical, city and county maps of the area you plan to visit. Be sure to check for name changes.
10. Did your ancestral home have a name? Many European homes have titles rather than street numbers. Also, in Maryland, many deeds were known by title rather than the owner’s name.
11. Record impressions. Take along a small battery-operated recorder to interview relatives, historians, ministers, “old-timers”, public officials, etc. Don’t forget extra batteries! Keep a journal.
12. Take lots of pictures. If possible, take two cameras ~ a 35 mm and a digital. Be sure to carry extra film and batteries.
13. Plan ahead but be flexible. Make appointments in advance, if possible, and learn visiting hours.
14. Talk about it! Talk to everyone ~ friends and strangers alike ~ about your “roots” vacation. Casual conversation can have surprising results. One lady was telling her garage mechanic about her trip to Germany. She was overheard by a German-born mechanic, who gave her the address to a Records Repository in his hometown. She followed the lead and found 400 years of names, dates and places.
15. Try tours.
16. As you arrive in a new area, check branch libraries for local history.

## Ancestry image – how to site as a source

Source:

[https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/42876812/person/19993704528/media/1b80ea05-2242-4fa0-ab5f-ccad822474f0?\\_phsrc=Kjc509&\\_phstarrt=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/42876812/person/19993704528/media/1b80ea05-2242-4fa0-ab5f-ccad822474f0?_phsrc=Kjc509&_phstarrt=successSource)

digital image, "Marriage Record," Person Number 19993704528, Tree Number 42876812, Public Member Trees, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com>), accessed Jan 2022.

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1. Date of Marriage: 1912  
 2. Name of Groom: William A. Davis  
 3. Residence of Groom: 27 years  
 4. Age of Groom: 27 years  
 5. Number of Marriages of Groom: 1  
 6. Occupation: Farmer  
 7. Birthplace of Groom: Elliott, Kentucky, Ky.  
 8. Name and Birthplace of Groom's Father: John A. Davis, Elliott, Ky.  
 9. Name and Birthplace of Groom's Mother: Malinda Cline, Elliott, Ky.  
 10. Name of Bride: Pearl Cline  
 11. Residence of Bride: 28 years  
 12. Age of Bride: 28 years  
 13. Number of Marriages of Bride: 1  
 14. Birthplace of Bride: Elliott, Ky.  
 15. Name and Birthplace of Bride's Father: John A. Davis, Elliott, Ky.  
 16. Name and Birthplace of Bride's Mother: Malinda Cline, Elliott, Ky.  
 17. Remarks: I solemnly swear that the above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Witness my hand this 12th day of April, 1912.  
 18. Minister: J. H. McDavid, C. C. C. C.  
 19. Officiant: R. E. Tipton, M. D. C.  
 20. Witnesses: J. H. McDavid, C. C. C. C.; R. E. Tipton, M. D. C.  
 21. Marriage Certificate: THIS IS TO CERTIFY that on the 12th day of April, 1912, at the office of the Minister of the Gospel, the above named persons were lawfully united by me in Holy Matrimony according to the rites and ceremonies of the Christian Church.  
 22. Minister: J. H. McDavid, C. C. C. C.  
 23. Officiant: R. E. Tipton, M. D. C.  
 24. Witnesses: J. H. McDavid, C. C. C. C.; R. E. Tipton, M. D. C.

## US Federal Census (1930)

1930 United States Federal Census for Pearlle Cline

Kentucky > Carter > Upper Tygart > District 0011

Line No.

Street

House No.

Dwelling

Family No.

Name

Relation

Home Ow.

Home Value

Radio

Farm

Sex

Race

Age

Marital S.

Marriage

Attended

Reads &

Birthplace

Father Birthplace

Mother Birthplace

73

Herman

Son

M

W

27

S

No

Kentucky

Kentucky

Kentucky

74

Creek

32

32

Pearlie Cline

Head

R

3

F

W

40

D

12

No

No

Kentucky

Kentucky

Kentucky

75

Charles William

Son

M

W

22

S

No

yes

Kentucky

Kentucky

Kentucky

76

Alvin Cline

Son

M

W

15

S

No

yes

Kentucky

Kentucky

Kentucky

77

Robert Cline

Son

M

W

12

S

No

yes

Kentucky

Kentucky

Kentucky

78

Archer Albert

Nephew

M

W

19

S

No

yes

Kentucky

Kentucky

Kentucky

1930 U.S. Federal Census (Population Schedule), Upper Tygart, Carter County, Kentucky, ED 11, Sheet 2B, Dwelling 32, Family 32, Purlie Cline household; digital image, "1930 United States Federal Census," Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com>), accessed Jan 2022.

Note: She indicates she is divorced.

## FindAGrave Memorial

**Pearlie Cline**

BIRTH 6 May 1885

DEATH 30 May 1973 (aged 88)  
Niles, Trumbull County, Ohio, USA

BURIAL Kerrs Cemetery  
Mineral Ridge, Trumbull County, Ohio, USA [Add to Map](#)

MEMORIAL ID 53118323 · [View Source](#)

lori, grave marker of Pearlle Cline (6 May 1885 – 30 May 1973 Kerrs Cemetery, Mineral Ridge, Trumbull County, Ohio, photograph, uploaded 2010; digital image, "Pearlie Cline," memorial 53118323, *Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com>), accessed Jan 2022.

## Don't be afraid of online family trees

### Combine Family Trees and Research

1953237\_0001460

**George Russell Clemens**  
1904-1973 • LHK8-GGK  
Marriage: Ber. 1934  
Kentucky  
Burnzia Magalene Viars  
1917-1967 • KFT2-1QQ

**Richard Lee Clemens**  
1886-1960 • LZQR-DXG  
Marriage: 20 Aug 1903  
Lawton, Carter, KY  
Fannie Collier  
1886-1961 • LZKF-BCF

**Children (12)**

- Kenneth Eugene Clement  
1934-1935 • 9722-XTW
- Marcella Clemens  
1935-1935 • LZT2-RV5
- Richard Thomas Clemens  
1936-1981 • KFT2-1WT
- Nellie Marsue Clemens  
1937-Living • LXGK-LV6
- Barbara Olive Clemens  
1939-Living • LXGK-GWW
- Ernest Franklin Clemens  
1941-Living • LXGK-GCD
- Mazie Lou Clemens  
1943-1943 • KFT2-14M

**Children (11)**

- George Russell Clemens  
1904-1973 • LHK8-GGK
- Cecil Clemens  
1906-1906 • KJZ4-TQB
- Mary Ann Clemens  
1907-1970 • KJZ4-R1Q
- Dewey Orville Clemens  
1910-1977 • KJZ4-RQF
- Chester Lee Clemens  
1912-2002 • KWBH-HN2
- Betty Kenedelino Clemens  
1914-1918 • KJZ4-RW9
- Nellie Mae Clemens  
1916-1983 • KJZ4-TM3

**1953237\_0001460**

**1** PLACE OF DEATH (Dist. No. 2221) Series No. 184  
County Logan West Virginia State Department of Health  
District Logan **CERTIFICATE OF DEATH** 7441  
Town or City Echel, W Va No. 7441  
or Echel, W Va

**2** FULL NAME Charles Russell Clemens

**PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS**

**3** SEX Male **4** COLOR OR RACE White **5** BIRTH DATE May 28, 1925  
**6** DATE OF BIRTH May 28, 1925 **7** AGE 60 **8** SEX Male **9** BIRTH DATE May 28, 1925

**10** OCCUPATION Baby **11** MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

**12** I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from May 28, 1925, to June 16, 1985, and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 6:00 a.m. The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows:  
Syphilis

**13** PLACE OF BIRTH Echel, W Va **14** IN NAME OF George Russell Clemens  
**15** FATHER Ky. **16** MOTHER Junior Belcher  
**17** BIRTHPLACE W Va **18** PLACE OF BIRTH W Va  
**19** THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE  
Junior Belcher  
**20** SIGNATURE Echel, W Va **21** DATE OF DEATH June 16, 1985  
**22** PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL Chatham, W Va **23** DATE OF BURIAL June 16, 1985  
**24** UNDERTAKER None

Searching for birth, marriage and death records before 1900 will take you beyond official state records and into other kinds of records at the local level. In terms of marriages, local civil governments have been in charge of recording marriage information in marriage registers since the beginnings of the county or town. Some marriage records began in the early 1600's in New England and the early 1700's in the South.

Unfortunately, most state vital records weren't mandated until the early 20th century. So, what should you do when a certain official vital record cannot be found? Search for the next best thing, a substitute. Something that while not official perhaps, is likely a trustworthy source of information.

If you learn that a courthouse burned in a certain year, that may be completely accurate. But, you might want to consider the following:

- Which records were burned?
- Which records were saved, and where are they stored?
- When asking about these records, be sure to mention the years you are looking for. They may have been reconstructed.
- Courthouse space is usually at a premium. Records may be scattered throughout many offices and locations. Many will be within walking distance.
- Visit the section handling the recording and registration of deeds. Many of these have survived, and if not, were among the first to be reconstructed. Land ownership was precious to our ancestors.

## **Select Bibliography and Websites**

Ancestry Website: [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) (Price increases 1 Feb 2022. Also check for AARP discounts.)

Ancestry Blog About Price Increase: <https://www.ancestry.com/corporate/blog/were-increasing-our-monthly-subscription-prices-help-provide-you-more-content-and-new-product>

Bob Greene, To Our Children's Children; Preserving Family Histories for Generations to Come, Doubleday, 1993.

Counties with more than one county seat: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/County\\_seat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/County_seat)

County and State Boundaries: <https://www.mapofus.org/>

DNA Testing Companies Comparison: [https://www.top10.com/dna-testing/comparison?utm\\_source=google&kw=dna&c=472491617512&t=search&p=&m=p&adpos=&dev=c&devmod=&mobval=0&network=g&campaignid=11353839836&adgroupid=109207046577&targetid=kwd-51464050&interest=&physical=9015618&feedid=&a=7009&ts=&topic=&test=Desktop\\_Google&gclid=CjwKCAiAlrSPBhBaEiwAuLSDULtS8GpEmlqO5rlfbCH08OUpq31Z4NbpHTn3evIpfq54mkejTLaj9xoCSB8QAvD\\_BwE](https://www.top10.com/dna-testing/comparison?utm_source=google&kw=dna&c=472491617512&t=search&p=&m=p&adpos=&dev=c&devmod=&mobval=0&network=g&campaignid=11353839836&adgroupid=109207046577&targetid=kwd-51464050&interest=&physical=9015618&feedid=&a=7009&ts=&topic=&test=Desktop_Google&gclid=CjwKCAiAlrSPBhBaEiwAuLSDULtS8GpEmlqO5rlfbCH08OUpq31Z4NbpHTn3evIpfq54mkejTLaj9xoCSB8QAvD_BwE)

FamilySearch Catalog: <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog>

FamilySearch Wiki: [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main\\_Page](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page) (Search for TOPICS and LOCALITIES – not names.)

FindAGrave Website: <https://www.findagrave.com/> (always spell out the full name, or use FG)

GoogleEarth: <https://earth.google.com/>

Greenwood, Val D. Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy. 4th ed. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2017.

Gretna Greens in the United States:

[https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Gretna\\_Greens\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Gretna_Greens_in_the_United_States)

AND

<http://www.gretnagreen.com/famous-blacksmiths-shop-p1421>

Indigenous Peoples of the United States Genealogy:

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Indigenous\\_Peoples\\_of\\_the\\_United\\_States\\_Genealogy](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Indigenous_Peoples_of_the_United_States_Genealogy)

Kentucky, County Marriages, 1797-1954:

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1804888>

Kentucky Death Records, 1911-1965: <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1417491>

Kentucky, United States Genealogy:

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Kentucky,\\_United\\_States\\_Genealogy](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Kentucky,_United_States_Genealogy)

Lynn Watkind Jorgensen, “How to Take a Roots Vacation”, *The Ensign*, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, (June 1988), p. 23.

RootsTech: <https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech>

Thorndale, William and Dollarhide, William, Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920, Genealogical Publishing Company, 2000.

Traditional Nicknames in Old Documents - A Wiki List:

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Traditional Nicknames in Old Documents - A Wiki List](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Traditional_Nicknames_in_Old_Documents_-_A_Wiki_List)

United States Record Finder:

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United\\_States\\_Record\\_Finder](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Record_Finder)

United States Vital Records: [https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/United\\_States\\_Vital\\_Records](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Vital_Records)

US Migration Trails and Roads:

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/US\\_Migration\\_Trails\\_and\\_Roads](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/US_Migration_Trails_and_Roads)

An extra bonus from one of my other webinar handouts:

### **Substitutes for Vital Records**

<p><b>The US Federal Census</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Every one your family appeared in.</li><li>• Can lead to other records.</li></ul> <p><b>Mortality Schedules</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The year before 1850-1880 census.</li></ul> <p><b>Local Church or Religious Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Often began before civil registration.</li></ul> <p><b>Christening and Baptismal Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• May be the only record of a child's birth.</li><li>• These events may take place through adulthood.</li></ul> <p><b>Cemetery Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Check local funeral homes to find the owners of local cemeteries.</li><li>• Towns, cities, churches, and privately owned.</li></ul> <p><b>Tax Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One of the most underused records.</li><li>• Shows location and financial status.</li><li>• Check every year.</li><li>• May see when they reached taxable age, moved, or died.</li></ul> <p><b>Newspapers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Many are online, many more are not.</li><li>• Small-town newspapers are especially "newsy".</li></ul> <p><b>Town Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Common in New England.</li></ul> <p><b>Journals, Letters, and Diaries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Look for entries near monumental events, i.e. birthdays, New Year's Day, beginning of war.</li><li>• May be housed in manuscript collections or vertical files – Libraries and Archives.</li></ul>	<p><b>Obituaries and Funeral Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dissect every bit of information found.</li><li>• Keep a blank family group record nearby.</li></ul> <p><b>City and Rural Directories</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Look at each one your ancestor may have appeared in.</li><li>• May help to determine death.</li><li>• Earliest date to 1700's – Boston.</li></ul> <p><b>Military Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pension records are rich!</li><li>• Obtain the entire file.</li></ul> <p><b>Draft Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Began during the Civil War.</li></ul> <p><b>Land Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Follow the money!</li><li>• Look at all neighbors.</li><li>• In conjunction with probate packets, look at estate inventory and sale.</li><li>• May include names of slaves.</li></ul> <p><b>Maps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Begin a collection of maps for your research areas.</li></ul> <p><b>Naturalization Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Look at 1900-1940 for abbreviations.</li></ul> <p><b>Probate Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not just wills – the whole packet.</li></ul> <p><b>County Histories</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commonly called "Mug Books".</li><li>• Don't rely wholly on the information, but use as a springboard to other records.</li></ul> <p><b>School Records</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Many include birth date of students.</li><li>• Most include names of parents.</li></ul>
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