



Putting Your Family History into Historical Context:

Solving Puzzles by Correlating
Evidence

Five Steps of Genealogical Research-- Review



1. Formulate a question or goal.



2. Search broadly.



3. Organize and analyze your research.



4. Evaluate, correlate and solve discrepancies to draw a conclusion.



5. Write and share your findings.

Focus your research with a genealogical question about events, locations, or relationships.





Research broadly by finding as many sources as possible to answer your question. Look beyond vital records! Find out who your ancestors were and why they did the things they did.

See the previous class in this series on Inferential Genealogy for an exhaustive list of resource types and a discussion of drawing inferences from conflicting sources.

Putting Your Ancestors Into Historical Context - Jerroleen Sorensen (5 Jun 2022) - YouTube

How do I analyze genealogical records or information?

Sources of genealogical information may be wholly accurate, wholly inaccurate or a mixture of the two. This is why we need to assess each source of information as we collect it. Inaccurate information from unreliable or incorrect sources leads to inaccurate conclusions.

Ask two questions

*Keep good notes and record citations.



"All torment, trouble, wonder, and amazement inhabits here": the vicissitudes of technology in Buffy the Vampire Slayer. James B. South.
Journal of American & Comparative Cultures
Spring-Summer 2001 p93(12)

1. Is this source an original record or a derivative record?

Original records are things such as a certificate, photo, microfilm, etc. Derivative records include authored works, compiled genealogies, histories, indexes, transcriptions, inaccurate or altered copies, etc.

2. Is the information contained in the record primary, secondary or indeterminate?

Think: origin, why created, when created, by whom created, eyewitness or second-hand informant, etc.

What is correlation?

- Correlation establishes relationships or connections between two or more records or sources in order to establish an identity, a relationship, a location or a date for an event.



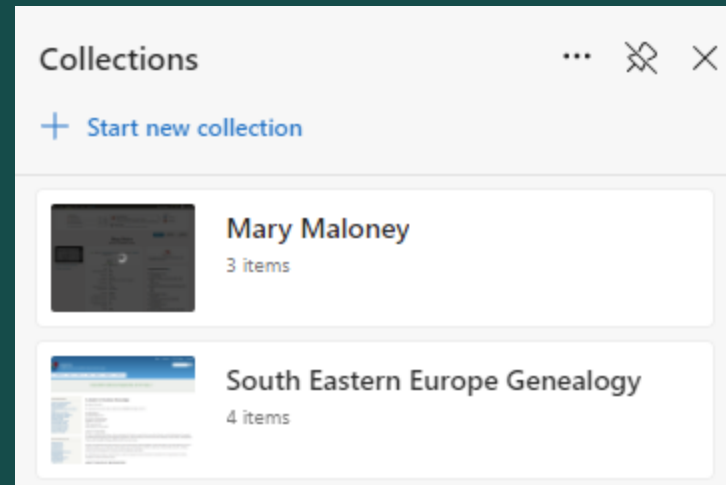
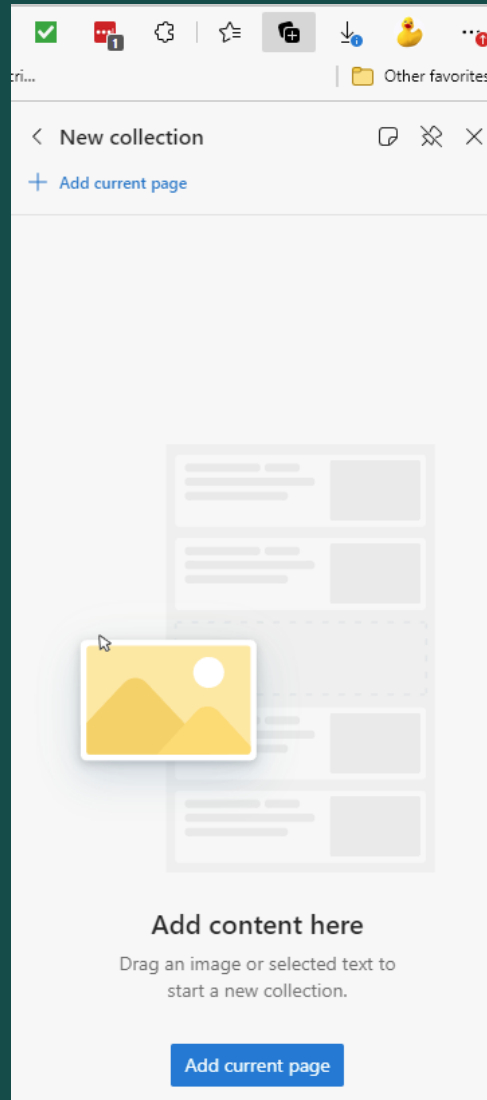
How do I organize to correlate my evidence?

- Organize the material logically by time, place , patterns and/or type of source.
- Use tables or spreadsheets, timelines and maps to set the evidence out clearly.
- Write lists using bullet points and/or prose explanations.
- Write narrative paragraphs, sentences or essays.

And now, for something completely different

This is Microsoft Edge's Collections feature. To use it, sign into Microsoft Edge and click on the two little boxes (in black here) up in the top right-hand corner.

A box will drop down. Click the pin to fasten it onto the right side of the window.



You're gonna love it.

To add a collection, click on Start new collection. Name the collection by clicking on New collection. To add and save pages, click on Add current page or drag an image or text and drop it into the collection.

You can sort the collection by title or order added.

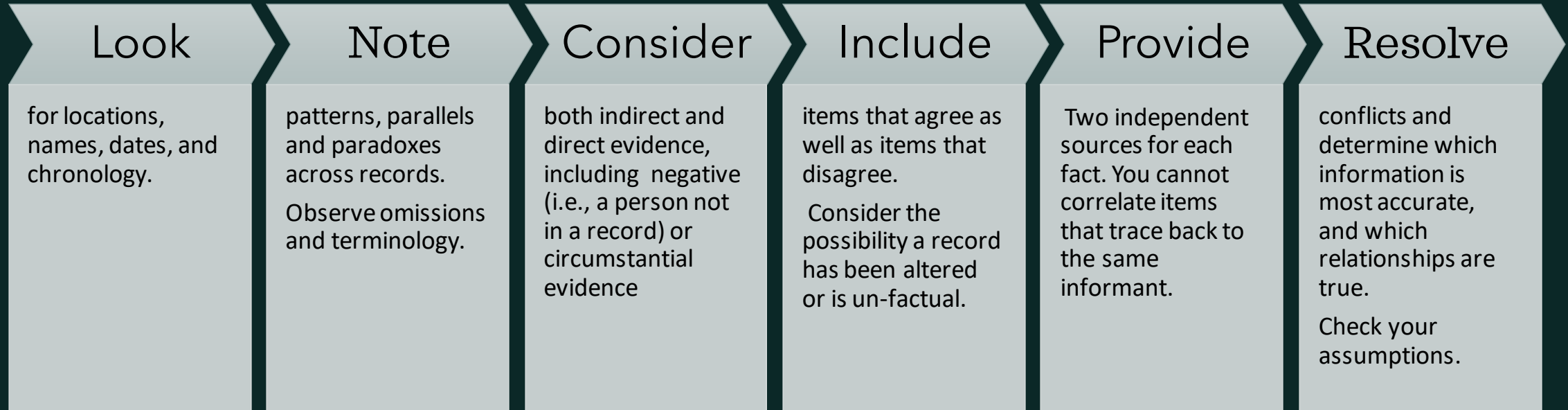
Nitty Gritty Quiz

Can you answer these questions?

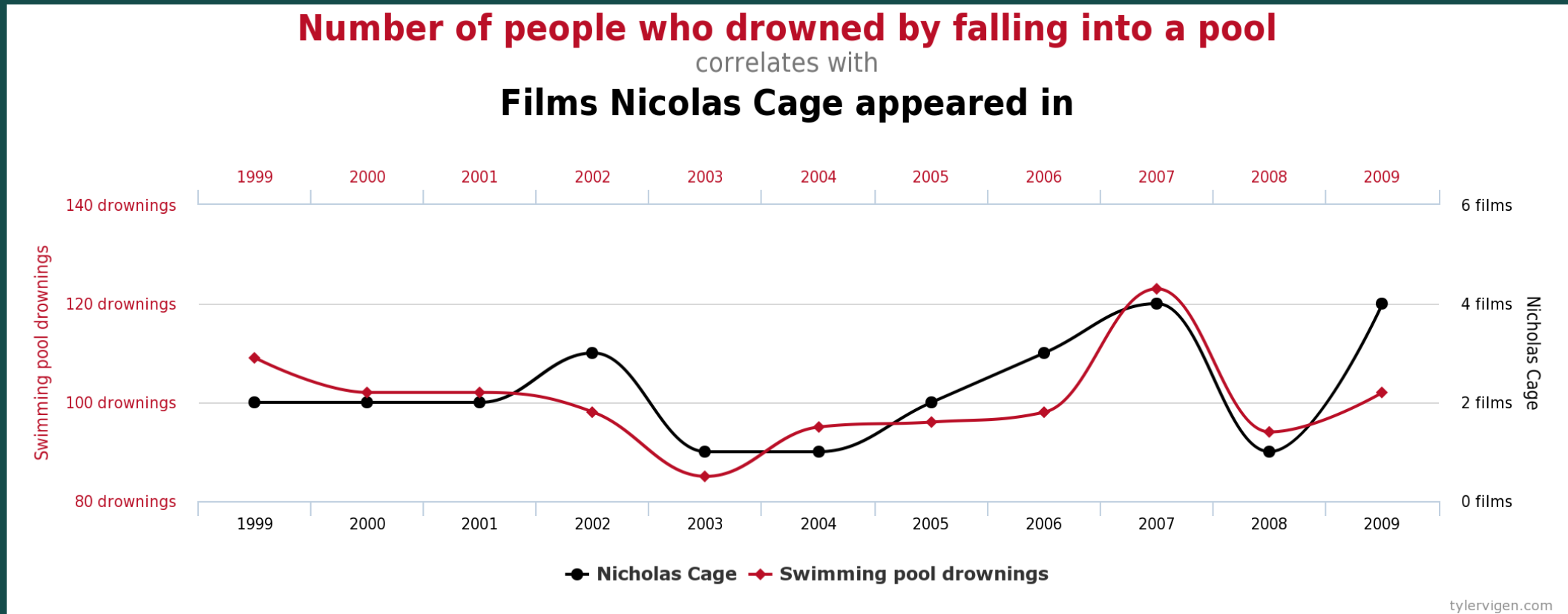
1. Is an index an original or a derivative record?
2. What type of work is a published county history? How would you treat it as a source?
3. You see that a will contains a certification as a copy. Is this an original or a derivative record? Is it always going to be an accurate record?
4. True or False: Deciding whether a document is primary or secondary depends on whether it is an official government or church document.
5. You come across a family Bible that has names and dates of your family. How do you decide whether to use that information as evidence?

1. An index is a derivative record. You must look at the original record to make sure the indexed information is correctly compiled.
2. This would be an authored work. It would depend on what sources the information in the book came from whether or not you can rely on the information. Be aware that people often exaggerated their social class, relied on hearsay or made certain relationships appear closer, more distant or non-existent as they wrote these (especially early) histories.
3. Certified copies can be treated as original records. If a document appears to have been altered, it would be looked at as a derivative. However, mistakes are always possible on copies.
4. False. It depends on who provided the information and how the informant acquired the information. This can sometimes be difficult to determine.
5. Are all or some the entries in the same handwriting, seeming to have been written at one time? In that case it would be considered likely derivative, probably copied from another record.

How Do I Correlate? Compare and Contrast Information.



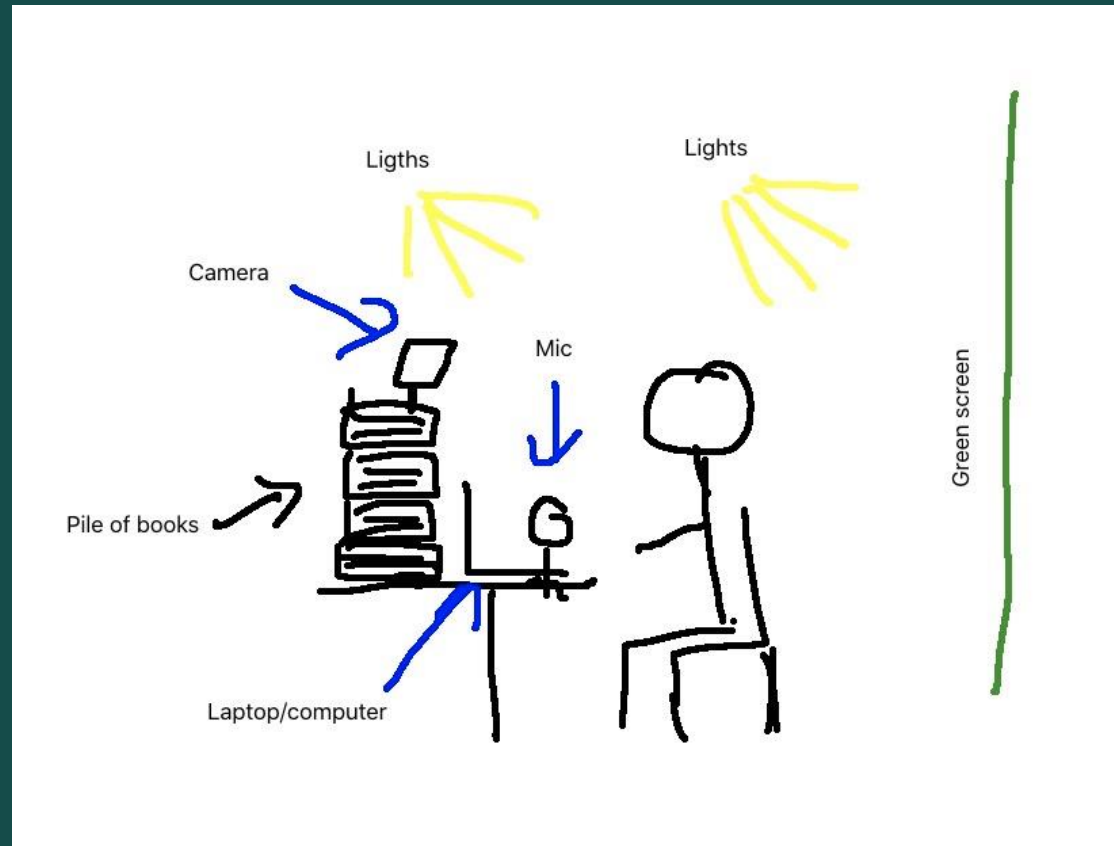
Some Pitfalls of Correlation



- Trust no record (or index) in isolation. Consult original records whenever possible.
- Recognize assumptions as such, and make no assumption you can't defend. (Don't wish an ancestor into existence.)
- Don't commit the mistake of Same-Name syndrome.
- Consult as many sources as possible; avoid shortcuts and lazy research.
- Analyze the quality of every source you consult and evaluate all evidence each source contains.
- Corroborate secondary sources with other independently created sources to the greatest extent possible.
- Accept a conclusion only when it meets the Genealogical Proof Standard (the sum of source-cited evidence, including resolved contradictions, from all potentially applicable sources and explained in writing).

Adapted and quoted from *Inferential Genealogy: Deducing Ancestors Identities Indirectly* (scgsgenealogy.com)

Some Practical Examples



Example 1:

This is a simplified problem to show the use of tables in correlation.

In searching for my Potter relatives in Lancashire, I ran into two fairly similar problems. Which of the Henry Potters who were born in southwest Lancashire in the late 1840s was my relative? And which of their wives, all of whom were coincidentally named Mary, was his wife?

See if you can figure it out.



Year ▾	Record set ▾	Location	
1842	England & Wales Births 1837-2006	Wigan, Lancashire, England	 
1844	England & Wales Births 1837-2006	Wigan, Lancashire, England	 
1845	England & Wales Births 1837-2006	Wigan, Lancashire, England	 
1846	England & Wales Births 1837-2006	Wigan, Lancashire, England	 



This Photo by Unknown author is licensed under CC BY-SA.

A quick search of findmypast.com found four possibilities from Wigan, which is the registration district for Hindley, among other towns. We'll have to locate these on the census or the General Register Office to eliminate them.

By looking at the GRO (General Register Office) and findmypast.com to find all the Henry Potters born in Wigan during 1840-1850, I found only one who matched the mother's maiden name, Mason (Ellen). I found his baptism record and the earliest two censuses to make sure his father was Henry Potter (Sr.) He was clearly on the 1851 and 1861 census with his parents. No problem there.

The screenshot displays a genealogy record for Henry Potter. On the left, a vertical timeline shows the years 1844 (AGE), 1845, and 1845. The main record area contains two entries: a birth record for 1 Sep 1844 at Hindley Green, Lancashire, England, with GRO Reference: 1844 S Quarter in WIGAN Volume 21 Page 778, and a baptism record for 5 Jan 1845 at Hindley, All Saints, Lancashire, England. To the right, under the heading 'Ancestry sources', three census records are listed: 1851 England Census, 1861 England Census, and 1871 England Census. Each census entry includes a small thumbnail image of the document. A blue line connects the birth record to the 1851 and 1861 census entries, and another blue line connects the baptism record to the 1871 census entry.

1844 (AGE)

Birth Edit
1 Sep 1844 • Hindley Green, Lancashire, England
POTTER, HENRY MASON GRO Reference: 1844 S Quarter in WIGAN
Volume 21 Page 778
12 sources

1845

Baptism
5 Jan 1845 • Hindley, All Saints, Lancashire, England
2 sources

1845

Ancestry sources

- 1851 England Census
- 1861 England Census
- 1871 England Census

Example 2 : The question of Henry's wife. We start with a chart to organize our search. We used chart #1 to organize Henry's birth data. We will use #2 to find his wife. Material from the first chart can be copied and pasted to the second, as needed.

Chart for Correlation of Evidence Henry Potter #2 Wife (1st)		
PERSON OF INTEREST: Henry Potter B: 1844 F: Henry Potter 1818-1887 M: Ellen Mason 1820-1861		
Question or Goal: Who was the wife of Henry Potter born 1844 in Wigan, Hindley Green?		
Conclusion:		
Type of Record, Citation and Analysis of Quality	Name(s) on Record	Place(s), Date(s), Other Information

Looking for marriages, there are these possibilities:

- The 1857 marriage makes him too young, and also the 1861 marriage is probably too young. The 1867 one might work, as would the 1870 marriage. There are two other marriages, 1878 and 1879, that we can look at also.

Potter	Henry	—	—	1857	England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005	Wigan, Lancashire, England	 
Potter	Henry	—	—	1861	England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005	Wigan, Lancashire, England	 
Potter	Henry	—	—	1867	England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005	Wigan, Lancashire, England	 
Potter	Henry	—	—	1870	England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005	Wigan, Lancashire, England	 
Potter	Henry	—	—	1878	England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005	Wigan, Lancashire, England	 
Potter	Henry	—	—	1879	England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005	Wigan, Lancashire, England	 

PARISHES WITHIN A 5 MILE RADIUS OF WIGAN

Wigan St Catherine (1.24 mi)

Henry was born in Hindley. He was living in Aspull in 1861.

Wigan St George (2.19 mi)

Ashton in Makerfield (2.58 mi)

Hindley (2.77 mi)

Haigh and Aspull (3.42 mi)

Golborne (3.51 mi) Ashton in Makerfield Holy Trinity (3.67 mi)

Lowton (4.46 mi)

Newton in Makerfield St Peter (5.05 mi)

Newton in Makerfield (5.22 mi)

Looking at the information above, I found two marriage records that could be his.

1870. Marriage solemnized at The Parish Church in the Parish of St. Thomas in Ashton in the County of Lancaster

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
198	January 10 1870	Henry Potter	22	Bachelor	Engine Turner	Town of Ashton	Henry Potter	Pit Manager
		Mary Maloney	19	Spinster	Worker in a Cotton Factory in Ashton	Smithy Brown	Martin Maloney (Deceased)	Labourer

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after Banns by me, J. H. Bullivant, Curate

This Marriage was solemnized between us, { Henry Potter } in the Presence of us, { John Clarke
Mary Maloney } { Martha Jones }

1867. Marriage solemnized at Haigh Church in the Parish of Haigh in the County of Lancaster

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
203	July 7 th	Henry Potter	21	Bachelor	Collier	New Springs Aspall	William Potter	Collier
		Mary Dobson	21	Spinster	Factory Worker	New Springs Aspall	Lawrence Dobson	Cartier

Married in the Church of Haigh according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after Banns by me, John Aldworth

This Marriage was solemnized between us, { Henry Potter his mark } in the Presence of us, { Robert Gregson }
{ Mary Dobson her mark } { Ellen Dobson her mark }

PARISHES WITHIN A 5 MILE RADIUS OF ASHTON IN MAKERFIELD

Pemberton

Golborne

Ashton in Makerfield Holy Trinity

Wigan [All Saints]

Parr

Burton Wood

Newton in Makerfield St Peter





Newton in Makerfield

Wigan St Catherine

Which is most likely our Henry Potter? Why do you think so? Do we have enough evidence to support our assumption? What else can we look for? You can answer in the chat, if you like.

<p>3. Wigan, England, Church of England Marriages, 1754-1926 (High) FHL Film Number: 1885661 Reference ID: p97 no.193 Family Search in catalog Indexed in Ancestry.com</p>	<p>Mary Maloney age 19 (1851) Father: Martin Maloney (Deceased) (Laborer) Spouse: Henry Potter (Bachelor) (Engine Tenter) Father: Henry Potter (Pit Manager)</p>	<p>R: Smithy Brow in Ashton R: Town of Ashton Marriage Place: Ashton-In-Mackerfield, Marriage Date: 10 Jan 1870 Parish: St Thomas</p>
<p>4. Wigan, England, Church of England Marriages, 1754-1926 (High) Ancestry.com</p>	<p>Henry Potter age 21 (1846) Collier Father: William Potter Collier Mary Dobson age 21 Factory Worker Lawrence Dobson Carter</p>	<p>R: New Springs, Aspull R: New Springs, Aspull Marriage Date: 7 Jul 1867 Marriage Place: Haigh, Lancashire, England Parish as it Appears: Haigh</p>

Yes. We could use more evidence! We need at least two independent sources to verify a fact. Here are the possible census records from 1871.

Potter	Henry	1845	—	1871	1871 England, Wales & Scotland Census	Parr, Prescott, Lancashire, England	 
Potter	Henry	1845	—	1871	1871 England, Wales & Scotland Census	Tyldesley cum Shakerley, Leigh, Lancashire, England	 
Potter	Henry	1846	—	1871	1871 England, Wales & Scotland Census	Aspull, Wigan, Lancashire, England	 
Potter	Henry	1846	—	1871	1871 England, Wales & Scotland Census	West Derby, Lancashire, England	 

If we narrow it by the wife's name of Mary, there are only two left. The other two have Elizabeth and Harriet as wives. (You could just do an advanced search with the name of Mary as family member.)

The 1871 census has the following entries:

<p>4. 1871 Census Ancestry.com (M High)</p>	<p>Henry Potter (Head) age 26 (1845) Colliery Eng. Mary (Wife) age 22 (1849) Caroline (Daughter) age 9?, 2? m.o. (1870)</p>	<p>R: 394 Havannah, Parr; B: Wigan R.: " ; B: Warrington R.: " ; B: Parr</p>
<p>5. 1871 Census (M-High) findmypast.com</p>	<p>Henry Potter (Head) 25 (1846) Mary (Wife) 25 (1846) Alice A (Daughter) 1 (1870)</p>	<p>R: Aspull, New Springs B: Aspull R: " B: Bispham, Lancashire R: " B: Aspull</p>

From our birth records search and earlier census records, we know that Henry Potter was born in Hindley Green. He has also lived in Aspull and/or Ashton. Which might be Mary Dobson and which might be Mary Maloney? Why?

Of course, we will look at the original source and try to find anyone related in the area (10 names above and below):

Henry Potter	Head	Mar	26		Colliery Engineer	Wigan
Mary	Wife	Mar		22	St. Wife	Warrington
Caroline	Serv		1	2m		Warr

Henry Potter	Head	Mar	25		Coal Miner	Lancashire Aspull
Mary Do	Wife	Mar		25		Do Birkham
Alice, et Do	Serv			1		Do Aspull


Here are the three likely Wigan boys in the 1881 Census. None has a wife named Mary at that point.

Potter	Henry	1842	—	1881	1881 England, Wales & Scotland Census	Farnworth, Bolton, Lancashire, England	 
Potter	Henry	1844	—	1881	1881 England, Wales & Scotland Census	Tyldesley with Shackerley, Leigh, Lancashire, England	 
Potter	Henry	1845	—	1881	1881 England, Wales & Scotland Census	Whiston, Prescot, Lancashire, England	 

The last place we saw Henry was in Parr.

The 1881 and 1891 Census have these entries; Henry Potter (and Mary) from Aspull was not found in 1881, but was in the 1891 and 1911 censuses in Bolton. The Tyldesly and West Derby Henrys are still married to Elizabeth and Harriet. Henry from Hindley Green is married to a Sarah. They are living in the Prescott area. What might this mean?

<p>6. 1881 Census Ancestry.com (Moderately High)</p>	<p>Henry Potter (Boarder) (W) 36 (1845) Civil eng. Caroline Potter (Boarder) 10 (1871) Mary Ellen Potter (Boarder) 7 Henry James Potter (Boarder) 5 John Thomas Potter (Boarder) 3 William Potter (Boarder) 0</p>	<p>R: Whiston, Prescott B: Hindley Green R: “ B: Parr R: “ B: Haydock R: “ B: Haydock R: “ B: Haydock R: “ B: Haydock (Indexed Incorrectly as Whitford, Flintshire, Wales)</p>
<p>7. 1891 England Census Ancestry.com (Moderately High)</p>	<p>Henry Potter (Head) Age 44 Engine Fitter FT Sarah (Wife) Age 44 Henry Jas Potter (S) Age 14 Laborer Thomas Potter (S) Age 13</p>	<p>R: 3 Straw Lane, Prescott B: Hindley Green R: “ B: Mold, Flintshire, Wales R: “ B: Haydock R: “ B: Haydock</p>

<p>3. Wigan, England, Church of England Marriages, 1754-1926 (High) FHL Film Number: 1885661 Reference ID: p97 no.193 Family Search in catalog Indexed in Ancestry.com</p>	<p>Mary Maloney age 19 (1851) Father: Martin Maloney (Deceased) (Laborer) Spouse: Henry Potter (Bachelor) (Engine Tenter) Father: Henry Potter (Pit Manager)</p>	<p>R: Smithy Brow in Ashton R: Town of Ashton Marriage Place: Ashton-In-Mackerfield, Marriage Date: 10 Jan 1870 Parish: St Thomas</p>
<p>4. Wigan, England, Church of England Marriages, 1754-1926 (High) Ancestry.com</p>	<p>Henry Potter age 21 (1846) Collier Father: William Potter Collier Mary Dobson age 21 Factory Worker Lawrence Dobson Carter</p>	<p>R: New Springs, Aspull R: New Springs, Aspull Marriage Date: 7 Jul 1867 Marriage Place: <u>Haigh</u>, Lancashire, England Parish as it Appears: <u>Haigh</u></p>
<p>5. 1871 Census Ancestry.com (M High)</p>	<p>Henry Potter (Head) age 26 (1845) Colliery Eng. Mary (Wife) age 22 (1849) Caroline (Daughter) age 9?, 2? m.o. (1870)</p>	<p>R: 394 Havannah, Parr; B: Wigan R.: " ; B: Warrington R.: " ; B: Parr</p>
<p>6. 1871 Census (M-High) findmypast.com</p>	<p>Henry Potter (Head) 25 (1846) Mary (Wife) 25 (1846) Alice A (Daughter) 1 (1870)</p>	<p>R: Aspull, New Springs B: Aspull R: " B: Bispham, Lancashire R: " B: Aspull</p>
<p>7. 1881 Census Ancestry.com (Moderately High)</p>	<p>Henry Potter (Boarder) (W) 36 (1845) Civil eng. Caroline Potter (Boarder) 10 (1871) MaryEllen Potter (Boarder) 7 Henry James Potter (Boarder) 5 John Thomas Potter (Boarder) 3 William Potter (Boarder) 0</p>	<p>R: Whiston, Prescott B: Hindley Green R: " B: Parr R: " B: Haydock R: " B: Haydock R: " B: Haydock R: " B: Haydock (Indexed Incorrectly as Whitford, Flintshire, Wales)</p>
<p>7. 1891 England Census Ancestry.com (Moderately High)</p>	<p>Henry Potter (Head) Age 44 Engine Fitter FT Sarah (Wife) Age 44 Henry Jas Potter (S) Age 14 Laborer Thomas Potter (S) Age 13</p> 	<p>R: 3 Straw Lane, Prescott B: Hindley Green R: " B: Mold, Flintshire, Wales R: " B: Haydock R: " B: Haydock</p>

The complete table for Henry's adult life to 1891.

The red highlights indicate conflicting info. What other items could you highlight? How would I decide which 1871 census was correct?

Example 3: A search for Mary Maloney's birth

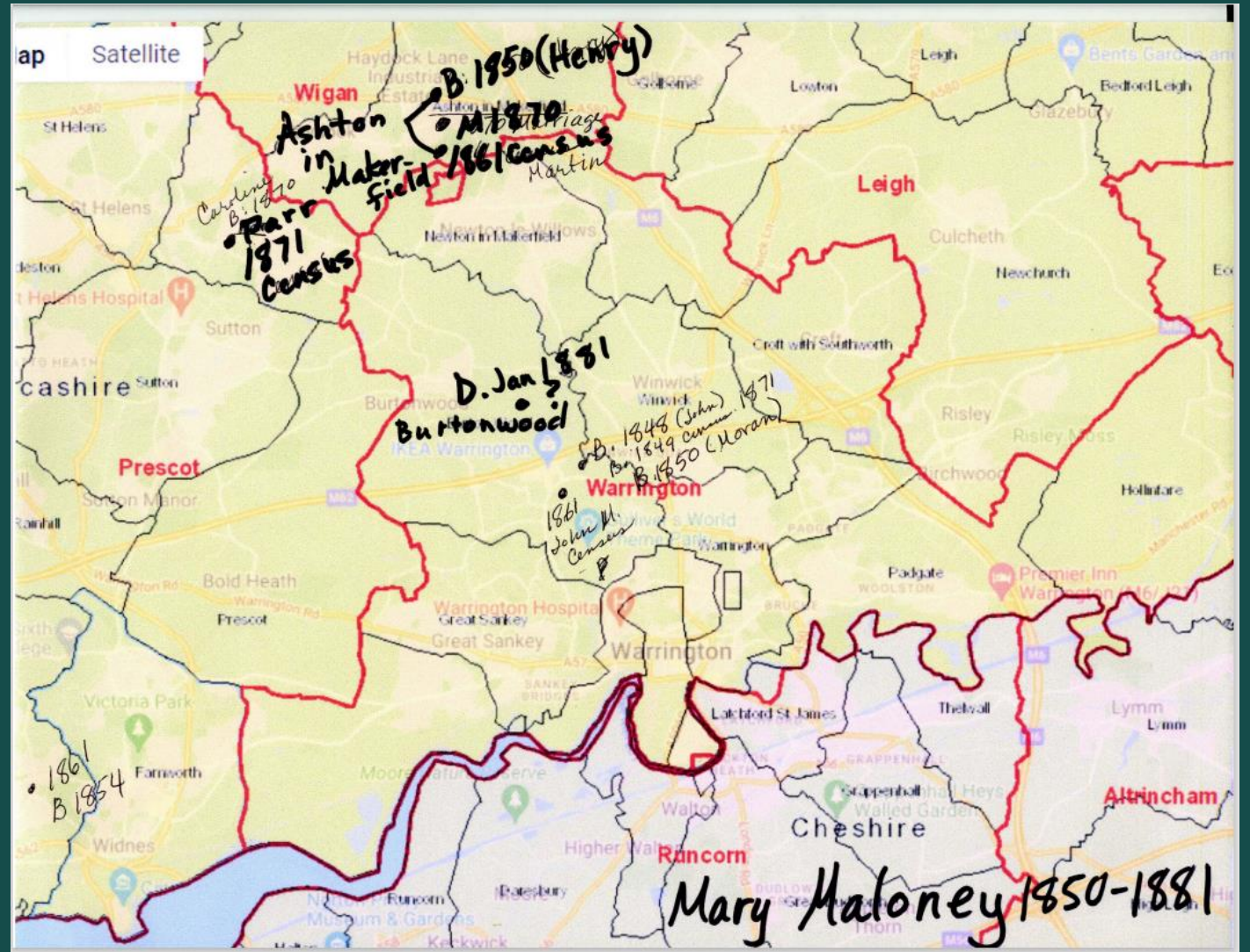
Chart for Correlation of Evidence Mary Maloney, #1 Birth		
PERSON OF INTEREST: Mary Maloney, b. 1848-1852 in Lancashire or Ireland Question or Goal: Who was Mary Maloney's mother? Conclusion: Not able to assess at this time. Not enough information.		
Type of Record, Citation and Analysis of Quality	Name(s) on Record	Place(s), Date(s), Other Information
GRO INDEX (High) https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp #Results Volume 20 Page 24	MALONEY, MARY DORAN	GRO Reference: 1849 J Quarter in ASHTON UNDER LYNE
GRO INDEX (High) https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp #Results Volume 20 Page 976	MALONEY, MARY MORAN	GRO Reference: 1850 S Quarter in WARRINGTON
GRO INDEX (High) https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp #Results Volume 21 Page 862	MALONEY, MARY HENRY Need original;	GRO Reference: 1850 M Quarter in WIGAN UNION
England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005 (Index) (Moderate) V. 20 P. 38 (Parish Registers)	John Maloney Bridget Doran Margaret McGuinness, Mary Cartwright, Ann Gordon	Q2 1848, Ashton under Lyne See 1861 Census on Chart 1
NOTE:	Need to get originals. Were her parents married in Ireland? Haven't found Moran or Henry in an index.	

The search for Mary's parents

How valid is the conclusion, and what do I need to make it completely valid?

Chart for Correlation of Evidence Mary Maloney #2		
PERSON OF INTEREST: Mary Maloney b. 1848-1852 in Lancashire or Ireland		
Question or Goal: Who are the parents of Mary Maloney?		
Conclusion: Tentatively No. 5 due to Names, Dates and Place; 4 is also a possible, although the birth date is early for birth record.		
Type of Record, Citation and Analysis of Quality	Name(s) on Record	Place(s), Date(s), Other Information
1. Marriage Parish record FHL Film Number: 1885661 Reference ID: p97 no.193 Ancestry.com (High)	Mary Maloney age 19 (1851) Father: Martin Maloney Spouse: Henry Potter	St. Thomas, Ashton-in-Mackerfield, Lancashire Marriage Date: 10 Jan 1870
2. England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005 (Index) (Moderate) V. 8C P. 3 findmypast.com	Mary Maloney Henry Potter	Wigan, Lancashire Marriage Date: Q 1 1870
3. 1871 Census Ancestry.com (Moderately High)	Henry Potter (Head) age 26 (1845) Colliery Eng. Mary (Wife) age 22 (1849) Caroline (Daughter) age 9?, 2? mo. (1870)	R: 394 Havannah, Parr; B: Wigan R.: " ; B: Warrington R.: " ; B: Parr
4. 1861 Census Ancestry.com (Moderately High)	John Maloney (Head) age 35 Bridget (Wife) age 39 Mary (Daughter) age 13 (1848) James 11, Agnes 9, Frances 7, Paul 4, John Joseph 2, Michael Thomas 5/12 Winifred Maddin M-in-law	R: 4 King St., Warrington B: Rorcomma, Ireland R: Ditto B: Maho, Ireland R: Ditto B: Warrington R: Ditto B: Ditto R: Ditto B: Maho, Ireland
5. 1861 Census findmypast.com (Moderately High)	Martin Malony (Lodger) (Widower) age 40 Coal Mary (Lodger) age 10 (1851)	R: 20 School Lane, Ashton B: Ireland R: " B: Ashton in Mackerfield
7. 1861 Census findmypast.com (Moderately High)	Martin Malony (Head) age 30 Catherine (Wife) 30 Mary Ann (Daughter) 7 (1854) John F 5, Margaret 2	R: 24 Sparling St., Liverpool B: Ireland R: " B: Ireland R: " B: Liverpool R: " B: "
GRO INDEX (High) https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp#Results Volume 20 Page 976 Volume 21 Page 862	MALONEY, MARY MORAN HENRY	1850 S Quarter in WARRINGTON 1850 M Quarter in WIGAN UNION Possible Birth Index records; need original; only 1850 births Ashton area See Chart 2.

A map locating Mary Maloney's dates



And a timeline for Henry Potter

- For more information about timelines, see the video, Track Your Family with a Timeline by Diana Elder AG from RootsTech2020.
- Also, Kathryn Grant, The Time Grid: An Easy Way to Track, Organize, and Use Your Research, (1 May 2022) on youtube.com.

Person of Interest: Henry Potter 1844-1941 Sep 1844				
Research Goal: Find life events of Henry Potter, including marriages to both wives				
Event	Date	Place	Source	Notes
Birth	1 Sep 1844	Hindley Green, Lancashire	GRO Reference: Volume 21 Page 778	(DPD)
Baptism	5 Jan 1845	Hindley, All Saints, Lancashire	Wigan, England, Church of England Baptisms, 1813-1911	(OPD)
Residence	1851	Hindley, Lancashire, England	1851 England Census	(OPD)
Residence	1861	Aspull, Aspull, Lancashire, England	1861 England Census	(OPD)
Marriage to Mary Maloney	10 Jan 1870	St. Thomas, Ashton-In-Mackerfield, Lancashire	1. England, Select Marriages, 1538-1973; 2. Parish registers for Ashton-in-Mackerfield (FS Film # 004029980)	(DPD) (OPD)
Residence	1871	Parr, St Helens, Lancashire	1871 England Census	(OPD)
Residence	1881	Whiston, Lancashire, England	1881 England Census	(OPD)
Marriage to Sarah Davies	1 Jan 1885	Eyerton, St Peter, Liverpool, Lancashire,	Liverpool, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754-1935	(OPD)
Residence	1891	Prescot, Lancashire	1891 England Census	(OPD)
Residence	1901	Poulton cum Seacombe, Cheshire	1901 England Census	(OPD)
Residence	02 Apr 1911	Holywell Flintshire, Wales	1911 England Census	(OPD)
Residence	1939	Liverpool, Lancashire	1939 England and Wales Register	(OPD)
Death	April 1941	Liverpool South, Lancashire	England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916-2007	(DPD)
Burial	14 Apr 1941	Eyerton, Merseyside	England & Scotland, Select Cemetery Registers, 1800-2016	(DPD)

Narrative List

PERSON OF INTEREST: Henry Jason Harris

Question or Goal: Who were Henry Jason Harris' parents? Addendum: Was he illegitimate?

Conclusion: Mother: Eliza Owen; Father: Unknown ONGOING

Henry Jason Owen Harris went by Henry Harris, but on some records, his name is Henry Jason Owen Harris. Was his father Charles Harris?

- The GRO lists his birth as 1876 J Quarter in Newbury (Berkshire). The name is Henry Jason Owens and no mother's name is listed. This usually indicates an illegitimate birth. (GO Record, Volume 02C Page 237) (England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538-1975, Ancestry.com)
- Eliza Owens is found in the 1871 census as a boarder under the name Eliza Owens, age 13, Twine Spinner, with Sarah Davies as Head of Household. (1871 England Census, findmypast.com)
- Eliza Owens married Charles Harris Q4, 1877, in Newbury, Berkshire. (England & Wales Marriages 1837-2005, V2C, P544)
- In 1881, Henry is listed as Henry Owen, age 4, Wife's son, in the Census. (1881 England Census, Ancestry.com)
- In 1891 Census, he is listed as Henry Harris, age 15, Son of Charles and Eliza Harris, born in Thatcham Berkshire. Thatcham is in the district of Newbury. (1891 England Census, Ancestry.com)
- He was married in 1897 to Clara Turner. His name is listed as Henry Jason O. Harris. (England & Wales, Civil Registration Marriage Index, 1837-1915, V8c, P288)
- On the 1901 census, he is listed as Henry Harris, age 25. He is married to Clara (Turner) and living in Newton in Makerfield, Lancashire. (1901 England Census, Ancestry.com)
- On his death record, he is listed as Henry Harris, born 18 April 1875 (this is the incorrect year); his mother is listed as Elizabeth Owen and his father as Charles [Harris]. (Ontario Canada Deaths, Ancestry.com)

Example 4: A list for Henry Jason Harris' parents (Was he illegitimate?)

To SEARCH:

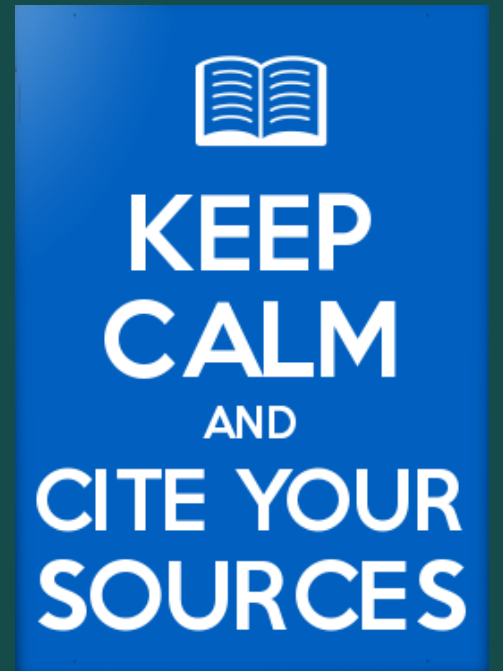
Churchwardens accounts, Vestry minutes, 1818-1940
Family History Library
British B1 Southeast #1849283
Items 14-18 8100586

Court leet presentments, 1855-1877
Family History Library
British B1 Southeast
Film #88331
DGS 8407755

You can cite formally in footnotes, of course.

Lists and Narrative Proof Summaries:

1. They are clear, complete, and accurate.
 2. They show that the genealogist bypassed no likely relevant source.
 3. They document all statements [using footnotes that cite all supporting sources, including at least two independent sources].
 1. They cite at least one original record .
 2. They refer to at least one primary information item.
 3. They cite no authored work, derivative source, or secondary information that could be replaced by a corresponding original record and primary information.
- Quoted from Jones, Thomas W, *Mastering Genealogical Proof*, National Genealogical Society: Arlington, VA, 2013



Can we correlate
the evidence and
draw a conclusion?

CONCLUSION





Be thorough.
Be logical.

Make it as accurate as possible
Share it with the world.



For more information, see *Mastering Genealogical Proof* by Thomas W. Jones