# FROM DRAFT TO PRINT:

The Educational Journey of Publishing in Genealogy Journals

Shannon Green, CG®, CGG<sup>SM</sup>, CGL<sup>SM</sup>





- Understand the journey
- Learn strategies
- Inspire you to submit



What research are you most proud of, and how could publishing it benefit you and the community?





Why and where of Publishing

Drafting a

Publishable Article

Navigating the Editorial Process

Learning from the Process



Why and Where of Publishing



# WHY PUBLISH?

- Educational Value: Learn through expert editorial feedback.
- Contribute to Scholarship: Share unique research to advance the field.
- Professional Credibility: Build your reputation as a genealogist.
- Preservation: Ensure your research is accessible for future generations.



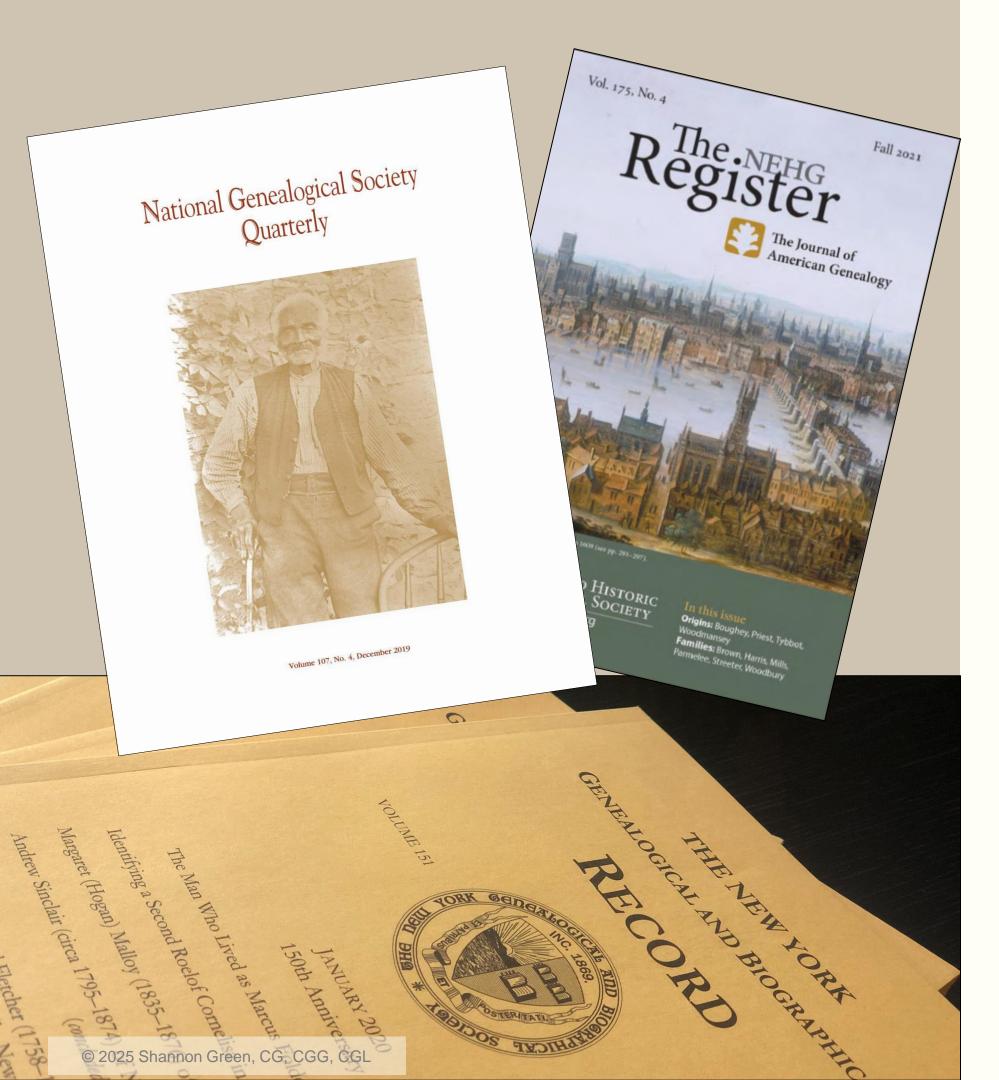
MAJOR JOURNALS

NGSQ, RECORD, REGISTER, TAG, TG REGIONAL JOURNALS

OSGQ, Indiana
Genealogist, Nutmegger,
Crossroads

ONLINE
BLOGS OR
TREES

Update the FS Family
Tree or personal blog



# MAJOR JOURNALS

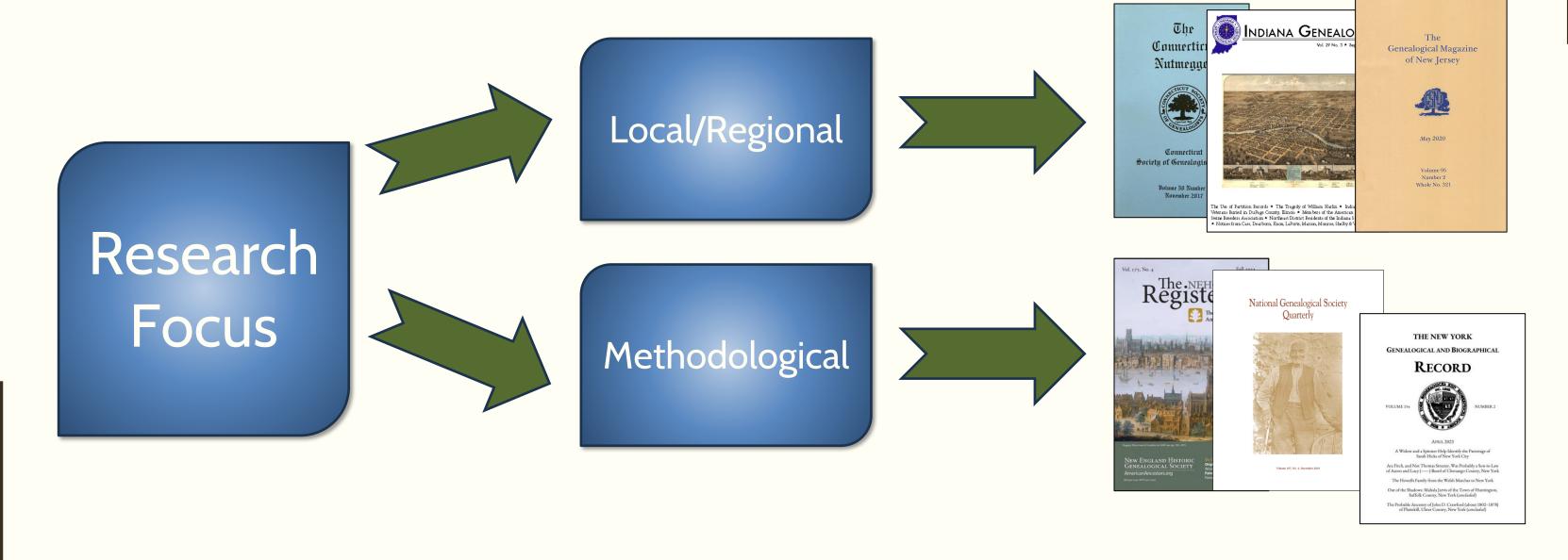
- National Genealogical Society
   Quarterly (NGSQ)
- The NEHGS Register (Register)
- The NYG&B Record (Record)
- The American Genealogist (TAG)
- The Genealogist (TG)



# REGIONALJOURNALS

- Accessibility: Easier acceptance rates for newer authors.
- Relevance: Perfect for localized studies or niche topics.
- Flexibility: Online options for timely publication and broader reach.

# CHOOSING THE RIGHT JOURNAL

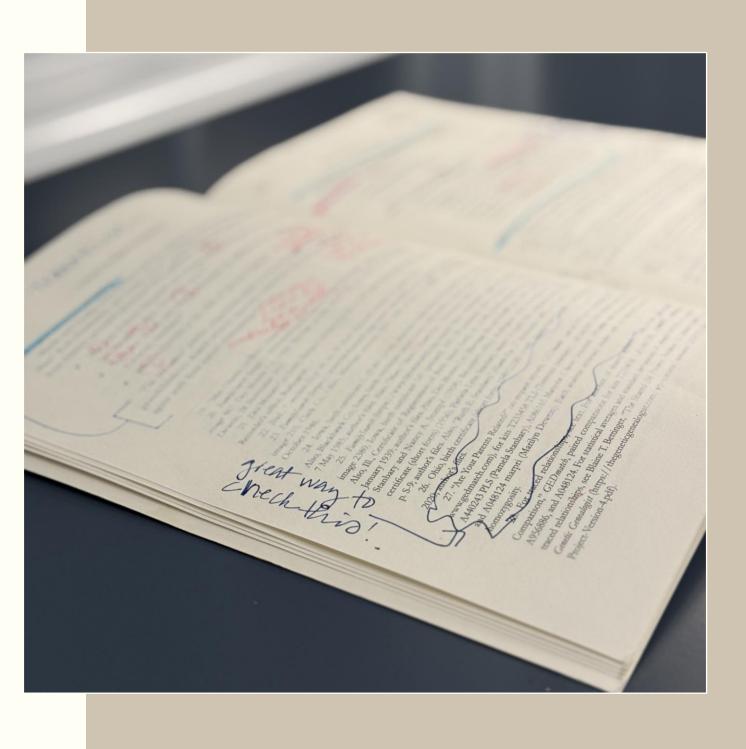


What journal do you think best fits your research?



Drafting a Publishable Article

# KNOW YOUR TARGET JOURNAL

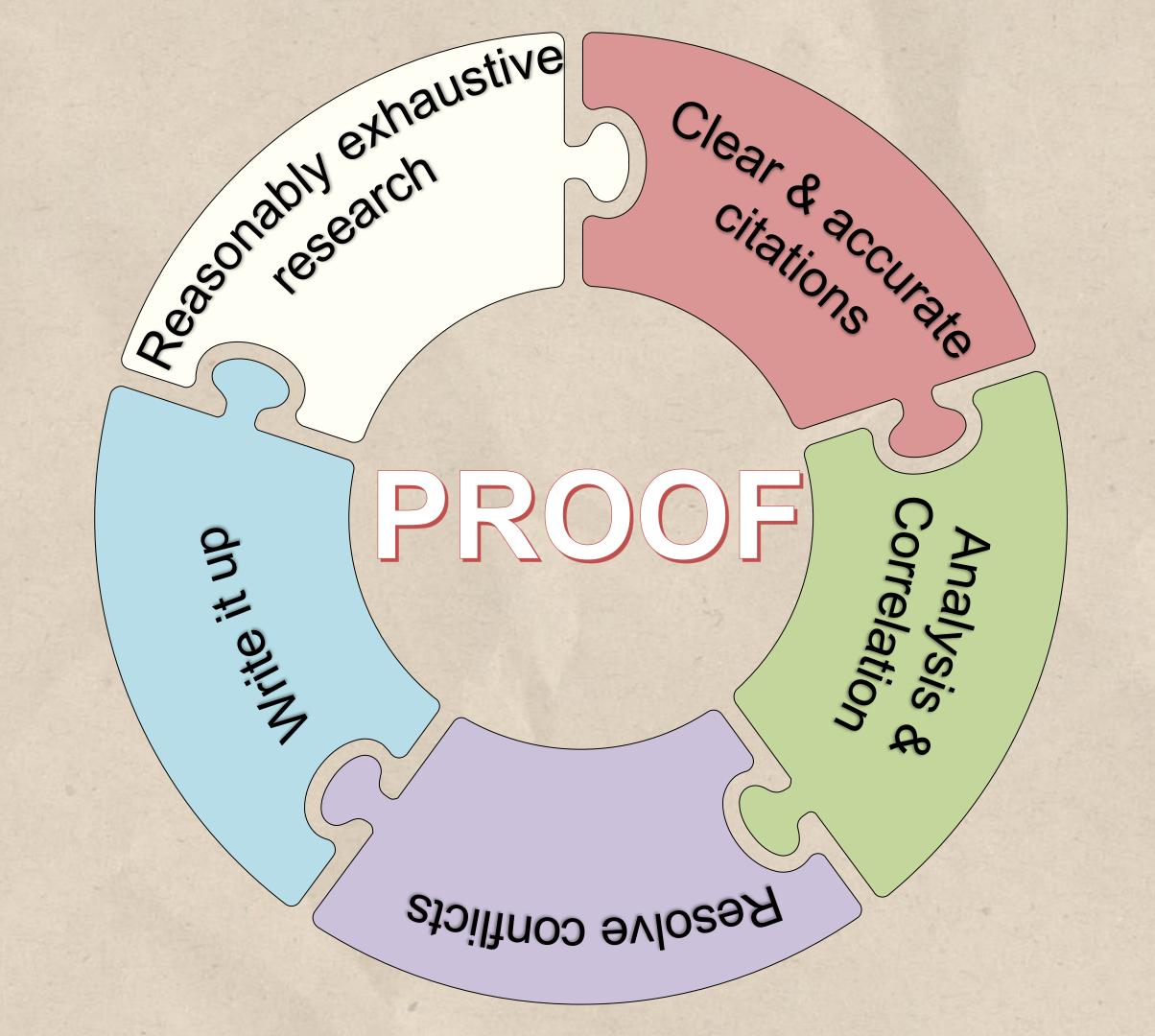


- Understand the journal's style and tone.
- Identify the types of articles they prioritize.
- Learn how successful articles are structured.

# MASTER THE AUTHOR GUIDELINES



- Why author guidelines matter:
  - Ensure your article meets their standards.
  - Align with the journal's expectations.
  - Avoid unnecessary delays in the review process.
- Tips for success:
  - Re-read guidelines at every stage of editing.
  - · Check for updates before submission.
  - Print the guidelines.





# WRITE FOR YOUR AUDIENCE

- Write in a clear, professional, and engaging style suitable for an academic audience.
- Edit for readability, ensuring smooth transitions and logical flow from problem to solution.
- Use headings to guide the reader.
- Follow Evidence Explained standards for citations or
  - better yet the journal's house style.



# REQUEST PEER FEEDBACK

- Why seek feedback?
  - Identify unclear arguments and gaps in research.
  - Gain fresh perspectives.
- Who to ask?
  - Trusted colleagues, mentors, or writing groups.
- Best practices:
  - Be specific about the type of feedback you want.
  - Be open to constructive criticism.

Once you have your well-defined research qui information, and completed your background

#### Developing the Research Plan Keeping your research question in mind, ask

- What records might answer my resea
- Where are the records located?
- Which records be accessed easily?

Develop a research plan based on the research research questions. If the goal is to identify w his baptismal sponsors might not help answe records are available, they should be excluded

An understanding of what records exist in yo you are looking for a birth record for someon not exist then. However, it might exist at the someone born in Connecticut in 1823 Deriva aids, and indexes are frequently included in a these derivative records, genealogists should and informative.

Knowing where the records are bloated is ess Connecticut and other New England states, r vital records and land records. In contrast, pr which changed many times over the years.

S I don't understand

Prioritization of your research plan is based of accessible and which records are most likely question. Records that are in your personal lift they cannot answer the research question, prepare you for ordita research. Another confrom what is known to the unknown. In other place as your starting point records, then exp This helps to ensure you are researching the other same name.

Research plans should be actionable, which n anyone should be able to pick up a research p plan and execute research all in one day. The research plan fully. My research plans usually expect to find in the record, and what action

Rephrose. It is not t

#### Tracing Land in

By Sk

Land records can provide evidence that stated or implied; understanding the dessential to extract evidence of kinship Douglaston-Little Neck, Queens County the Native Americans to the Dutch, to to of the Hicks family in five generations, instruments, including patents, deeds, entails, deeds of lease and release, life

Native Americans and the Dute In 1639, the Dutch "purchased" land fr become Queens County. The eastern be the years, there would be a variety of and native tribal leaders.

On 16 November 1644, the Governor of Kieft, granted a patent for the Hempst year, on 10 October 1645, Kieft granted patentees was John Hicks.\*

Border disputes over the years between Neck was sometimes part of Hempstea with the unclear borders described in I small peninsula in what used to be known as Little Neck Bay. Today, this propert

"Indian deed from the chief of Marossepinck, of land on Long Island," 15 Jan. 1639, Series At and deeds, Volume GG; New York Stare Archive (https://digitalcollections.archives.nysed.gov/

Por example, see Benjamin D. Hicks, Records Island, N.Y. (Jamaica, NY: Long Island Parmer History of the rown of Flushing, Long Island, N

Parsons and Co., 1868), 42-46.

4 Ibid, 48-51.

Boost Your Productivity

Have you found that you need more focus an feeling isolated in an industry where research feelings of isolation and a lack of focus and m help boost your productivity, consider joining

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An accountability group is when like-minded personal or professional focus. They creats a members set and pursue their go als and be h consist of a small group of peers who meet re have understood the power of peers for decade

There are many different types of accountable they are specifically called accountability gro a business, seeking certification, improving vestablish regular check-ins, either in person a motivation, offering a sense of community the

What are the Benefits of an Accou If you think that you do not have time for an might get from joining one. Individuals bene accountability group.

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address these

increased motivation. As a group of his fulfilling the group's purpose and suppressure can be inspiring and help motine as estimated as a groups is obviously to hold people according to the prograstination and prioritize your groups.

groups is obviously to hold people ac prograstination and prioritize your go have increased self-discipline to comdefined deliverables and periodic upon their projector plan.

 Share knowledge: Every person in perspective, background, expertise, as help members learn ways to approach

Green, Boost Your Productivity

# SHAMON

People are More Than Name: Techniques for Differentiating Identities

By Shanr peare, but I strongly distite when authors criticize genelysts. It appears that the author is

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#### By Shannon Green, CG

Many researchers accidentally conflate men of the same name by attaching records to someone based solely on their name. Recognizing that records pertain to multiple people requires the ability to distinguish different identities. Other researchers struggle to prove that someone in one location is the same person as someone in another area. The same skills required to distinguish different identities can also help merge identities. Researchers can confidently differentiate people using the concept of identity characteristics.

identities, and demonstrates these techniques using case studies.

#### Why does identity matter?

Identity matters because accuracy matters. The Board for Certification of Genealogists states,

"Accuracy is fundamental to genealogical research. Without it, a family's history would be
fiction." When someone's identity is unclear, there is a greater risk of making mistakes.

Family trees contain ancestors' names and the dates of vital events such as birth, marriage, and death. How can a researcher be sure that a record pertains to the correct person? Aside from the name-is-the-same, there must be a reason to associate records. Many researchers have learned the error of conflating same-named men. Days, weeks, and even years can be spent tracing the genealogy of the wrong man who happened to have the same name as the subject, which results in researchers cutting offentire branches of their family tree. On the other hand, brick walls can be built by an inability to see the parallels in the identity of two people in different locations.

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#### Identity characteristics defined

Identity characteristics, also called identity markers, are things genealogists can use to distinguish one person from another. The most common identity characteristic is a name, but many more aspects of a person's life can help identify them uniquely in their time and place.

Consider the following.

- Age or birthdates if there are people of the same name, but one person is twenty years
  older than another, use the age disparity to distinguish them. One could be noted as "Tr."
  and another as "Sr." Be warned that this does not necessarily mean that "Sr." is the
  father of "Tr.", historically, these suffixes reflect relative age.
- Middle name or initial: Does one person always use their middle initial? It could be
  intentional to distinguish them from someone in the county with the same name but a
  different middle initial.
- Family members and as sociates: People associate with the same people repeatedly, whether it's kin or neighbors. Track the family members and associates to distinguish people.

Board for Certification of Genealogists, Genealogy Standards, 2nd ed. rev. (Nashville, TN: 2021), xix

# No.

# DANDIE BY





Read recent issues



Review author guidelines



Meet the GPS



Polish writing

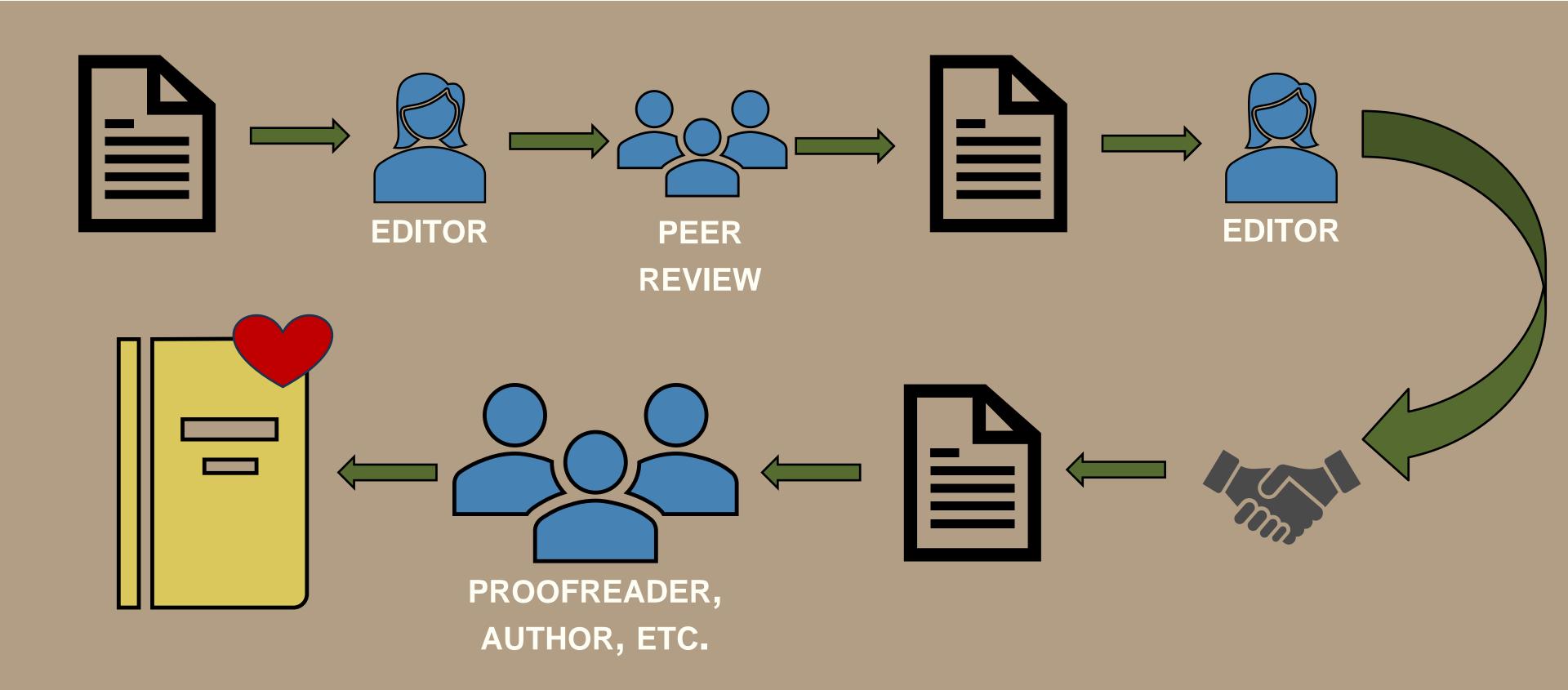


Incorporate feedback



Navigating the Editorial Process

# MANUSCRIPTJOURNEY





You are not in this alone!



# RESPONDING TO FEEDBACK

- Don't take feedback personally—view it as an opportunity for growth.
- Take time to process feedback before responding.
- Use constructive critiques to strengthen your analysis and argument.

# MY PROCESS

#### Reviewer #

#### Review of "Stephen Hicks of Flushing..." for NGSQ

This is a good article, and worthy of publication. The writing is cle esentation is appropriate, the use of uncommon sources is excellent, the tisfactory, and the conclusions are justified. Four minor and one major p

Figure 1 (the pedigree diagram) appears accurate but is unclear. It early.

"Geographies" (p. 2) is an awkward synonym for "places."

When Charity Hicks is first named (p. 4) she is identified as Thom this is in a section called "Thomas Hicks, Stephen's Son." Confusing, sinc grandson of the former. Calling Charity's father "the progenitor Thomas Hi problem.

Mary Hicks died intestate (p. 6), and it is stated that she had no leg could not be a legal heir of an intestate estate, but why could she not havel estate, such as a legal spouse? I note that the associated reference for this Law Dittioury, an American source, but to Blackstone's Communitario of the L the following major point makes this consideration unnecessary.

Major point: the will of Thomas Hicks, Mary's brother (p. 5), doe An entail constrains what a will's legatee can do with property that is beq example, an entail might specify that property must remain in a family in Thomas' will devising his real estate to Mary (and any legal children) appon what Mary could do with it, such as selling it. The will did name two event of Mary's death or failure to leave lawful issue: first, Mary's husban and, second (in the event of both Mary and Stephen's deaths or failure to Richard Penn Hicks. All these devises were in fee simple, not entailed, ev abolished entail in 1782. It would be good to quote the exact phrasing of Thomas' will to clarify this point. Giving the exact phrasing of the devise would be wise, too.

So wity out oxpener nices protective executor winder nices estateguard the devises in the wills of Mary's brother Thomas Hicks and hu Perhaps to discourage a potential claim on Mary's estate by William Smit cousin from her mother's family, thus to protect the interests of William stratagem evidently worked.

#### eviewer #3

#### The article is reasonably constructed and informative in nature. In particul strengths:

- The interpretation of legal codes and systems to understand and erecords.
- The use of sources to overcome known record loss.

  Effective application of work conducted by early 20th-century garagements.

  American family.

#### The article shows a few weaknesses, including:

- The occurrence of similar first names (Thomas and Stephen) requ
   The chart is helpful, though some additional identification or intro individuals might be helpful.
- The reliance upon transcriptions from the late 1800s might be troe
  published in The NYG&B Record, these materials have known defile.

   Though the article was written prior to Meverink's new 1698 "cen
- Though the article was written prior to Meyerink's new 1698 "cen publication by GPC (2024), a nod or consult might be useful to sl
   It does not appear that the Queens Library Archives
- It does not appear that the Queens Library Archives (https://www.queenslibrary.org/research/local-history/archives)
   "missing" records. While unlikely to be found, the repository mig

The writing is concise, with minor extraneous statements that might be be.
The article's conclusion is sound and specifically addresses extending reseathers.

#### Reviewer #2

#### Reviewer Comments: "Stephen Hicks of Flushing, Queens County, New"

- 1. A fuller description of the research subject, Stephen Hicks, at the would assist the reader rather than leaving the reader to piece togy information throughout the article. For example, start with what v show what this article's research corrected or accomplished in add author could introduce the ancestor and research question as "Steg as the son of Captain Thomas Hicks (c.1642-c.1741/2) of the Litt Flushing, Queens County, New York. Stephen was executor of h research indicates that Stephen was the thirteenth child of Thoma was possibly the man who married on 4 May 1727 at Januaica, Que Catharine Van Wyck.... [with citations, additional relevant backgredescribes new findings for..."
- In the article's current structure, the reader simply cannowhat was originally known and what the additional research.
- b. Make statements that clarify the purpose of the section, Colonial era Flushing are sparce to connect Stephen as the the fact that Stephen was the executor of Thomas carbier, and poor record keeping after. The statement on page 2 stated earlier, "With a scarcity of records for Flushing, re and at the state level helped piece together Stephen's life.
- and at the state level helped piece together Stephen's life."

  Footnote 2 assumes that the reader already is familiar with
  established family, but this is not the case. Start also with
  information about Thomas to establish the significance of
- Page 1, paragraph 4, bullet 3. Stating that "Deeds were not requ in New York" is an oversimplification of all of New York state. referenced in footnote 5
- (https://www.google.com/books/edition/Laws of the State of A]2hl=en, image 431, page 412) refers to the Acts of 1813 and 181 for the western counties as early as 1790, but compliance was unevalout how Queens County was affected as this point is made.
- about how Queens County was affected as this point is made.

  Footnote 12 is confusing. It states "Anne Van Wyck, Desendants of Flyck and Anna Palkemus (New York: Tobias A. Wright, 1912), 383 references the 1786 inventory of Stephen Hicks, however the invemisatributed to the wrong Stephen Hicks. In pertains to the estate son-in-law of Stephen Hicks who married Catherine Van Wyck? son-in-law actually married Catherine Van Wyck? So, who did the Thomas) amary? How did Stephen (Son of Thomas) and up with Stephen Hicks? Should it say, "...the son-in-law of Stephen Hicks Hicks?" This confusion between the men seems to be an importan of the ancestor, and a proof summary to support this conclusion of

- name name should be in the body of the article, not buried in a f that it will be handled later in the text (I finally see indications of 5).
- 4. Footnote 14 introduces the "Hicks family papers" collection at the History. This collection is critical to the records and conclusions a further discussion, especially since the biographical note at the we (https://findingaids.lib/argv.nyu.edu/cbh/arms 1978 031 hicks:/) a son of Robert Hicks. It may be important to distinguish betwee and the Stephen named as Robert's son. The article also does not Hicks who left the will of 1786 in the collection with Stephen (hus 1786 will in the collection match the one in footnote 54?
- 5. Page 4 states that "Stephen probably deed during the Revolution system was in disarray due to British occupation." Additional to Revolution should be included. The British controlled the area fr. November 1783. If the Hicks family were Loyalists (by choice o had an easier time? See Henry Onderdonk, Doammets and Latters Revolutionary Inidiants of Queens County, for examples of Hicks famil Internal Archive,
  https://priviee.org/desigle/documents/tres/f/Onoples/doam/11

#### https://archive.org/details/documentsletters00onderd/page/1 threatened with confiscation of lands or not?

- 6. The reasoning for Mary Hicks as an illegitimate child of Stephen is not clearly laid out. A table highlighting the main points might be it is a complicated issue with multiple layers of context. One ques final resolution on page 8: what happened to the property? The arbut it was confusing until the end when the evidence of the privat Some thoughts:
- a. In 1762, Charity (daughter of Stephen) named Mary as t Stephen and compared that with Charity's nephew Thoo as "son" [page 4]. The author correctly defined "natural illegitimate daughter using the 4" edition of Black's Law.
- b. Thomas (son of Stephen) left his real estate to Mary Hic in 1782. This property (or part of it) is presumed to be t Stephen in 1761, 100 acres of land in Hempstead.
- c. Thomas stipulated that if Mary had no children, the pre her husband Stephen Hicks "with the same stipulation" seems counterintuitive if Mary had no children, it woul automatically would have shared children with her?—wif stipulations were not met, to Richard Penn Hicks.
- d. On page 6, the author indicated that Mary had no childs Stephen had no children (by her). How? What in Mary's When did the husband Stephen die, and what did it say should make that clear earlier.

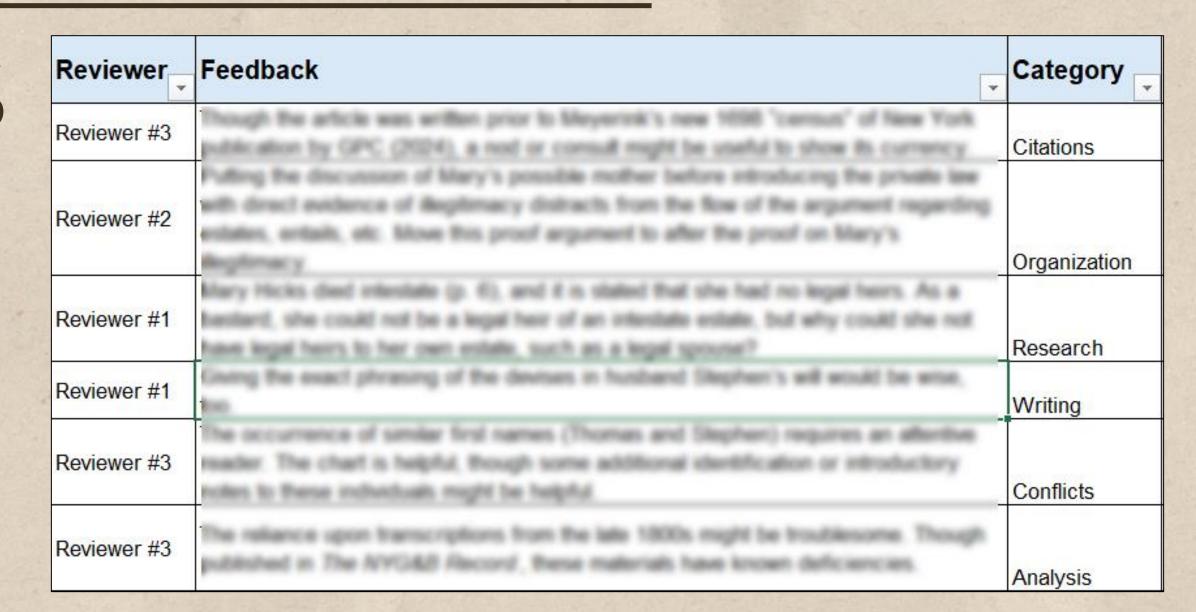
- e. The author seems to indicate that Mary, as an illegitimate bastard, could not inherit from anyone. The reference to the law seems to draw the conclusion that this was the reason the land escheated—but did it? The author seemed to stop short of proving who eventually did own the land after Mary's death: her husband, Richard, or the state? Also, it seems contradictory to the author's later claim on page 7 that Stephen Hicks' estate "would have included the Little Neck land." This whole
- argument for escheats is convoluted and could be written in better order. Furthermore, how did Wilaim Smith chain this estate in 1820 and make his case as her heir for the property if it had been claimed by the state? Did William Smith say who owned the property in 1820? Answer this to make it tie in more cleanly with the orieinal research question.
- g. The presentation of the private law as direct evidence of illegitimacy should have come earlier. Open the discussion with that and then explain how it happened. The author should also explain how the "fee tail" [transcribed as fail tail] converted fee circula.
- The Laws referred to in footnote 56 is online at Google Books, https://www.google.com/books/cdition/laws of the State of New York/7d8TAAAAY AAPhlen, chapter 100 n image 587.
- Putting the discussion of Mary's possible mother before introducing the private law with direct evidence of illegitimacy distracts from the flow of the argument regarding estates, entails, etc. Move this proof argument to after the proof on Mary's illegitimacy.
- 9. The argument for Amy Bartow as Mary's mother is based on a lot of supposition, and then introduced as "likely." It isn't strong enough for "likely" only "possibly" with heavy caveats.
  10. Named farms/plantations should be in italies, not quotes.
  11. Following the land Now Field forward is well done, but technically does not apply to the title
- 11. Following the land Naw Fidd forward is well done, but technically does not apply to the title of the article because it details the descendants of Thomas¹ not just his son Stephen. It does not need to be taken out, but maybe a sentence showing how the land—inherited eventually by descendants of Thomas¹ is part of the larger picture connecting Stephen's descendants to this familt.

Overall, the article is well researched and shows solid methodology for seeking original sources that are not digitized. The citations need work. What is obvious to the writer is not always apparent to the reader, inclusion of more starting point background is necessary. Mostly this needs of reorganization to lead the reader to follow and accept the conclusions.

#### REVIEW FEEDBACK

- Reading through it thoroughly
- Set it aside, if needed

# MY PROCESS



#### REVIEW FEEDBACK

- Reading through it thoroughly
- Set it aside, if needed

#### ORGANIZE FEEDBACK

- Copy and paste
- Categorize by GPS component

# MY PROCESS



#### REVIEW FEEDBACK

- Reading through it thoroughly
- Set it aside, if needed

#### ORGANIZE FEEDBACK

- Copy and paste
- Categorize by GPS component

#### **EDIT MANUSCRIPT**

- Start with additional research
- Then organization and analysis
- Save citations for last



# PRACTICAL EXAMPLE

Joseph died intestate 14 March 1825 at Lempster, there were no assets to distribute to his unnamed heirs, and he never moved to Ohio.

Joseph died intestate on 14 March 1825 at Lempster. No evidence suggests he moved to Ohio.



# PRACTICAL EXAMPLE

Did you consider Cynthia's proposed grandparents' probate records?

Do the parental consents for marriages still exist?



Learning from the Process

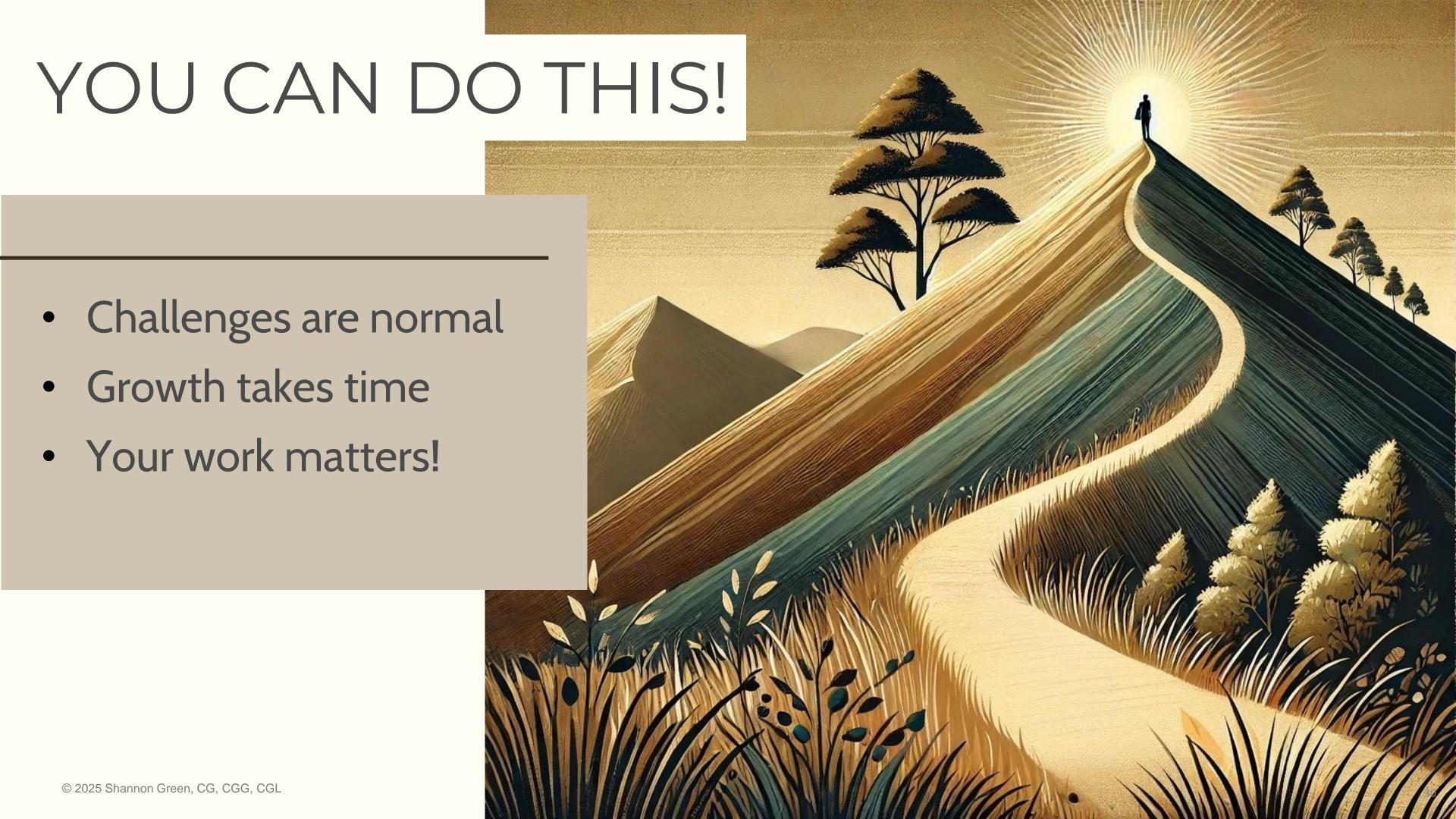
# REFLECTING ON FEEDBACK

#### A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

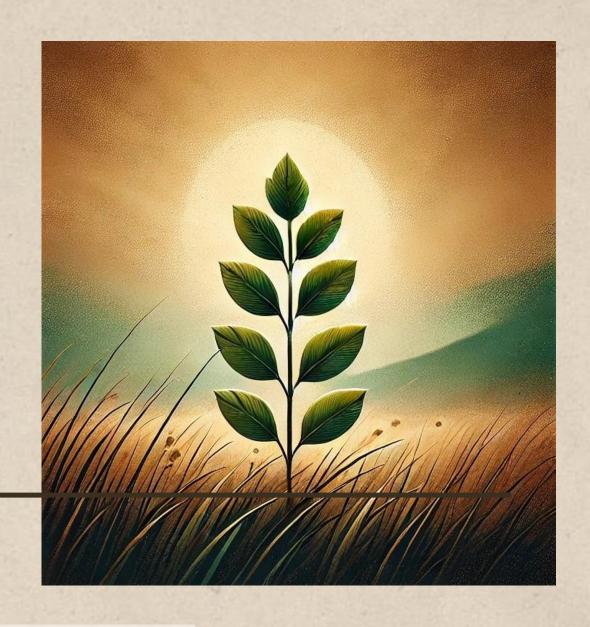
A collection of 1901 biographic states of prominity is a family for Cynthia and George Riley Parker who—the 1820s and later lived in Anthony Wilcoxon, had a state of George Riley, the san the sketch indicates the cult therefore he when his sketch others, the sketch provided the lowing details. Among license citizens published in 1901 provides to of the book's It profiles featured the subject of this study the san the subject of the sketch. The sketch indicates the cult therefore he when his sketch or or or of the book's It profiles featured the subject of the subject of the sketch. The sketch indicates the cult therefore he when his sketch or or or of the book's It profiles featured the subject of the book's It profiles featured the subject of the sketch. The sketch indicates the cult the sketch of the sketch. The sketch or or or of the book's It profiles featured the subject of the sketch. The sketch indicates the cult the sketch of the sketch. The sketch or or of the sketch of the book's It profiles featured the subject of the sketch. The sketch indicates the cult the sketch of the sketch. The sketch of the sketch of the sketch. The sketch of the sketch of the sketch. The sketch of the sketch of the sketch of the sketch. The sketch of the sketch of the sketch. The sketch of the sketch of the sketch of the sketch of the sketch. The sketch of the sketch. The sketch of the sketch

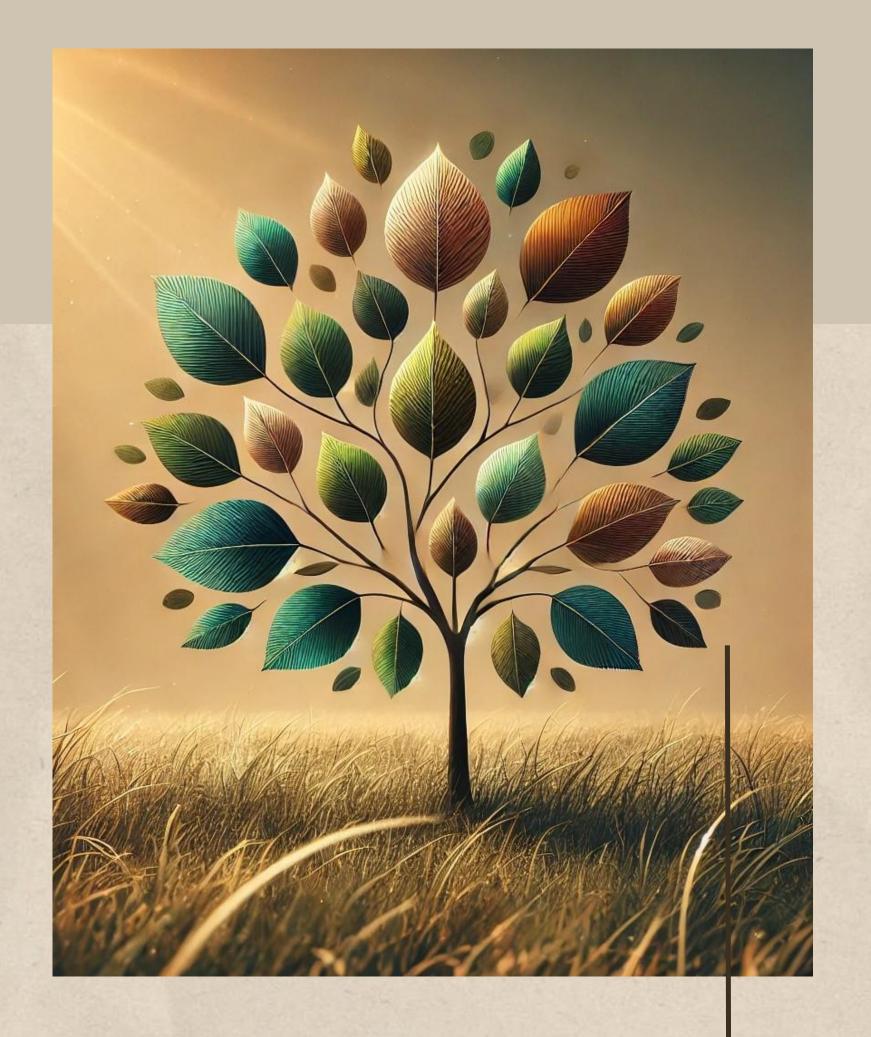
- George Riley Parker om on 30 Oct
   Hampshire.
- His father was, also named George Farker, was died on 30 January 1863 in Burton, George Cou.
- HisGeorge Riley Parker's mother was Rockset Hen
   Westminster, Vermont. She died on 29 March 1848 in

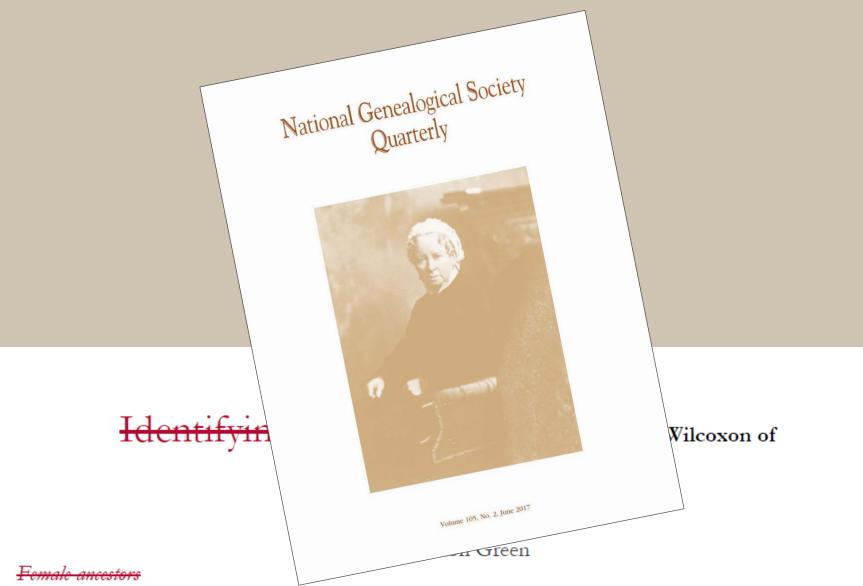
- What worked?
- What needed improvement?
- How can you grow?



# PERSONAL GROWTH







Women can be difficult to trace, particularly *in censuses before 1850* when they *were typically unnamed* are indicated in pre-1850 censuses only with tick marks *in a household*. Migrating families leave kin dispersed and disconnected *from each other*. Source analysis and correlation of information items helps clarify the genealogical value of *traditionally* frequently dubious sources.

Cynthia (Parker) Wilcoxon married in 1837 in Ohio and died in 1889 in West Virginia. Identification of her parents was hampered by incomplete research, incorrect information in multiple online family trees and the failure to see the value in an undocumented family bible. Another ostensibly suspicious source, a collection of biographical sketches of prominent citizens of Arizona, provided valuable clues. Despite the fact that no document directly names her parents, thorough research uncovered indirect evidence proving her parents were George and Rockset (Hendee) Parker of Vermont.

Cynthia's Records

# FIRST ARTICLE

4,200 words edited down to 1,400 words.

# National Genealogical Society Quarterly Yolune 107, No. 4, December 2019

Richard, son of Joseph

Richard, son of Joseph, was probated inperso bequests, Richard and his will. Among other

were to share a piece of land.40 Only one

Richard Bedell was enumerated appears in the 1790 Hempstead in 1790. It was likely this Richard as there were only two census, just three households enumerated between Richard and from Silvester in the 1790 census. They were likely Joseph's sons. 41

One Richard Bedell was enumerated in the 1800 census and only. Only one was assessed tax on real and personal estates 1799–1803. Richard's real estate was worth significantly more than Silvester's. This is consistent difference agrees with the terms of their father's will where he gave, which gives more of his real and personal estate property to Richard than to Silvester. There is no No evidence shows Richard sold the land he inherited from his father before 1820, so both the census and tax records likely refer to this Richard. Sinchard Similarly, the lone Richard

# SECOND ARTICLE

2,000 words edited down to 1,900 words.



- Publishing enhances your skills.
- Journals provide an opportunity to share your research.
- Each article is a step in your genealogical journey and personal growth.



What research are you most proud of, and how could publishing it benefit you and the community?





- Choose a research project you're proud of.
- Select the right journal to target.
- Take the first step—draft your manuscript!

# THANKYOU

Shannon Green, CG®, CGG, CGL shannon@greenwichgenealogy.com www.greenwichgenealogy.com

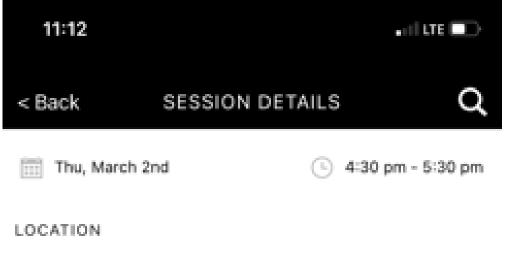
Happy publishing!



#### Feedback

### Remember to give feedback in the app!

- Find this session in the RootsTech Mobile App
- 2. Scroll down to Fill Out Survey
- 3. Let us know how this session was



Room 150

#### EVENT DETAILS

Searching for female ancestors can feel like playing a game of hide and seek in the leaves of the family tree. Name changes and the lack of records means genealogy researchers need to use a different set of strategies to reveal those female ancestors. Learn where to search and how to interpret the clues to the women in your tree.

\*All classes are first come, first seated. Adding to your planner does not guarantee a seat.

NOTES



