



INTERNET GENEALOGY LOOKS AT WEBSITES AND RELATED NEWS THAT ARE SURE TO BE OF INTEREST

Net Notes

NAME CHANGES BRITISH MANDATE PERIOD

www.isragen.org.il/siteFiles/1/153/4971.asp

WHEN I FIRST READ a notice about the above, I needed some "historical" context. What I learned is "During the period of the British Mandate in Palestine (1921-1948) people who legally changed their name had this information posted in the British/Palestinian publication called the *Palestine Gazette*. 28,256 names were published showing the old name, new name and sometimes country of origin. Not everyone legally changed their name, perhaps fewer than 50 percent did so. Most of them were Jews."

Back in the 1980s, the names were indexed and published on microfiche by *Avotaynu*. This index is now online and is of great value to genealogists who know that relatives went to Eretz Yisrael and changed their name, but the new name is not known.

Without such information, you may have gotten stuck in Tel Aviv and not been able to research your ancestor's line back any further.

— DIANE L. RICHARD

ITALIAN GENEALOGICAL GROUP

www.italiangen.org

THOUGH THE ITALIAN GENEALOGICAL Group is an organization dedicated to furthering Italian family history and genealogy and most members are from the New York City metropolitan area, it is an important resource for anyone doing genealogy in the New York City metropolitan area.

I use this resource regularly and I have yet to research one person of Italian ancestry in doing so! So, what is drawing me here? Databases. This website contains several excellent databases and its collection is constantly growing.

The main types of databases are:

- Naturalization Records — covering the applicable District Courts, Supreme Courts, County Courts and other entities which were sanctioned to grant naturalizations

- Vital Records — NYC Death and marriage (bride and groom), Suffolk and Nassau County marriages and other databases

Information is provided on which genealogy societies contributed to the data in the database and the scope and type of information included in each database. There are also printable forms available that you can use to request the original documents for the index entries found.

Do recognize that these databases are available to you for FREE and that they have and do require funding and the efforts of many dedicated volunteers

If you are researching anyone who stepped foot in or lived in the New York City metropolitan area, do check out these databases and do so every time you resume your research. — DIANE L. RICHARD

FEDERAL REGISTER 2.0 (US)

www.federalregister.gov/

MANY OF YOU MAY wonder about a Net Note concerning the Federal Register. The notices, pending rules, final rules and Presidential documents are very important to genealogists.

Published by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), the Federal Register is the official daily publication for rules, proposed rules, and notices of Federal agencies and organizations, as well as executive orders and other presidential documents. It is updated daily by 6 AM and is published Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. GPO Access contains Federal Register volumes from 59 (1994) to the present.

For example, the notices category encompasses non-rulermaking documents that are applicable to the general public and include notices of public meetings, hearings, investigations, grants and funding,

environmental impact statements, information collections, statements of organization and functions, delegations, etc.

Want to know which states will be next digitizing newspapers for the Chronicling America project — check the Federal Register. Has an entity in your state received a grant to organize, make publicly accessible or digitize some element of its previously inaccessible collection — check the Federal Register. Is there legislation pending that will impact the operations of the National Archives? Check the Federal Register. These are just a few examples of how we, as genealogists, are impacted by what is published in the Federal Register.

Learn what the US Federal Government is doing to both preserve historically significant content and make that content more accessible to individual researchers. — DIANE L. RICHARD

X1

www.x1.com

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT you, but I have a lot of genealogy information stored on my computer. Some of it is in document files, some of it is PDFs, some of it is e-mails received, etc. And, a lot of it crosses surname or county/state lines. Given this, I always struggle with how to best "file" this information so that I can easily retrieve it should I need it later. (I can guarantee you that no matter how good my filing system is, there is always something I put in a really "good" place, but then can't subsequently find!) Several years ago, I was introduced to X1 and I have used it ever since for this exact purpose.

X1 is a software product that allows you to search across your entire computer on any term, file type or location, and so much more. And, it's more than that; you can search computer-wide (or now attached network elements-wide), you get a preview of the found document, so that you can make sure that it is the one you seek, and then you can "open it" or "go to folder" (and there are other options, also).

The two ways that I mainly use it are: 1. Searching for an e-mail from someone that I can-

not find — sometimes I search on the topic, sometimes on their name or e-mail address. Once I find the desired e-mail, I typically opt to "go to folder" so that I can re-read not only that e-mail, but any others we exchanged. 2. Searching for a document or a reference in a document. I put in a keyword, words or a phrase (sometimes an ancestors' name), and see where it's found.

As with other search engines, you can put as much or as little into the search field and you can use quotations and other methods for limiting the number of results you get. I can't tell you how many times I have looked in what I consider the obvious places where I "thought" I filed an e-mail or document, not found it, used X1 and

quickly got my hands right on it! Sometimes I even get other "surprise" hits for the same term and discover a hidden gem that had "fallen through the cracks" of my own computer.

I consider it a bargain at \$49.95 (US). My most recent version is from 2008 and still works like a charm!

— DIANE L. RICHARD



SHADES OF THE DEPARTED

www.shadesofthedeparted.com



THIS IS AN ACTIVE BLOG — also accessible via Facebook, http://apps.facebook.com/blognetworks/blog/shades_of_the_departed/ — and since late 2009, also the publisher of an online magazine called *Shades of the Departed*. On the blog, you learn that "In one of the city photography galleries, the proprietor had a showcase in which he exhibited pictures which the sitters failed to call for, he labeled it, "Shades Of The Departed." Abraham Bogardus, 1895.

So, it's a blog and magazine about photo-

graphs and how special they are to us, how to interpret them and so much more. All the back issues are available on the website — do check them out!

— DIANE L. RICHARD