

## [International Society for British Genealogy and Family History spring institute 2021](#)

Discussion published by Matthew Gilmore on Monday, February 22, 2021



**The spring virtual institute is just a month away. This year the learning is all about Quaker research. The learning takes place March 15 & 16, 2021**

#### **Profile of a Quaker - Finding a Friend in Colonial America**

The profile of a Quaker (Friend) can be as distinctive as a fingerprint with their unique ethnic origin, belief system, marriage practices, and separate record structure. This session will teach you the profiling techniques you'll need to spot a Quaker in colonial America. In fact, Ancestry believes that about half of the US population - with an ancestor living in or moving through the Mid-Atlantic region between 1680 and 1780 - had at least one Quaker ancestor! Finding a Quaker ancestor in your family tree may blow open multiple brick walls.

#### **History of Quakerism - Testimonies and Beliefs**

The Society of Friends (called Quakers) was inspired by George Fox in northern England during a chaotic period of the mid-1600s. The religion rejected many norms of the established Church of England. Its rejection of priests and sacraments and adoption of a theology of the 'Inner Light' threatened British society. Many Quakers were persecuted for their faith and as a result sought sanctuary in North America. This lecture highlights key historical events of the Friends, its leaders, and the evolution of their belief system. This background will equip you to find the records of your Quaker ancestors in Britain and North America.

#### **Simply Amazing - US and Canadian Quaker Records Online**

Quakers were one of the largest religions in colonial America. Learn the basics of their record keeping and meeting hierarchy. In addition to the traditional vital records - hatched, matched and dispatched - Friends kept meeting minutes for both men and women. This was radical for its time. Friends also collected some unique records, including travels between meetings (called Removals); and events of early religious persecution (called Sufferings). Discover how wonderfully rich Quaker records can be.

#### **Y<sup>e</sup> Best Books for Quaker Research**

Historically, Quakers often used handbills and books as a means to advance their religion. This lecture provides an essential overview of the available Quaker memorabilia. Key historical texts will be highlighted, along with other major works from both sides of the pond. An extensive bibliography of printed and digital Quaker texts is also provided.

#### **Locating Quaker Records using the Family History Library Catalog and QuakerMeetings.com**

The Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, has hundreds of resources for Quaker research, both in Britain and North America, many of which have been digitized. The website QuakerMeetings.com provides the best on-line resource for locating Friends meetings records in North America. Dig into the site to make sure you are mining the most out this amazing resource. Using QuakerMeetings.com in conjunction with the catalog of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City opens up a whole world of resources to further your research in both Britain and North America.

#### **Exploring Quaker Records in Ireland and Britain**

American Quakers most often trace their ancestors back to Ireland and the British Isles. Their Friends records were collected similar to those in the States and Canada, with some important differences. Quaker records in Ireland were more centralized, and some surnames come with a detailed pedigree. Whereas those from England and Wales are collected within the Non-Conformist Records, and originally organized by county. Learn how to navigate both which are now available on *FindMyPast*.

#### **Irish Quaker Migration to Pennsylvania - Uncovering an Ulster Family Story**

Family traditions can create powerful imagery of a family long dead. The family becomes as full of life as any living relatives. Such is the effect of the Starr family of Pennsylvania on many of its distant descendants. There is ample evidence that five Starr brothers sailed to the Delaware River Valley before 1718 as Quakers from Ireland. However, locating historical records in post-Cromwellian Ireland is challenging at best. It is only by using Quaker records that this family's origins, travels within Ireland, and their migration to the American colonies can be confirmed.

#### **The Treasures of Onsite Research - In Ireland and the United Kingdom**

Are you ready to locate original records overseas? This light-hearted tale will help you determine if your travels skills are ready for such an adventure. Also, explore other cost-effective options such as a genealogy tour group, or just stay home by hiring an agent! Having crossed the pond no less than six times, one picks up some tricks for carrying out primary research in Ireland and United Kingdom. So, sit back, soak up some new skills, and enjoy this travel guide to harvesting records on the other side of the pond.

#### **Digging Deeper - Into Quaker Sufferings and Removals**

Quakers created records which were unique to their faith. This session explores two in detail. 'Sufferings' were records of the religious persecution that Quakers experienced. These are critical in locating ancestors, since they were often the first census of active members. 'Certificates of Removal' documented their travels and served as a Quaker passport. Discover how to transform raw records into databases, so you can uncover previously unknown facts about your ancestor and their Quaker associates.

THE INSTITUTE INSTRUCTORS ARE STEVEN W. MORRISON AND ANNETTE BURKE LYTTLE

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