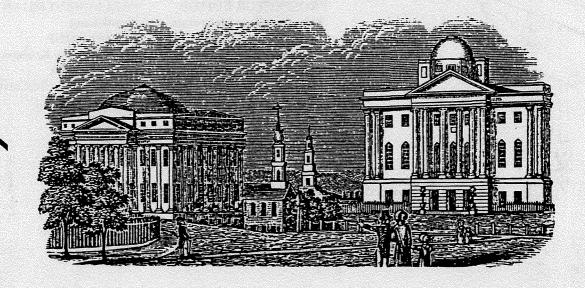
THE PROSPECTOR

VOL. 10 No. 2

CLARK COUNTY NEVADA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

APRIL 1990

Preserving for Posterity since 1976



COURTHOUSE RESEARCH

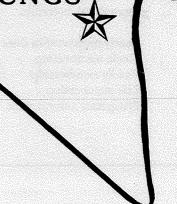
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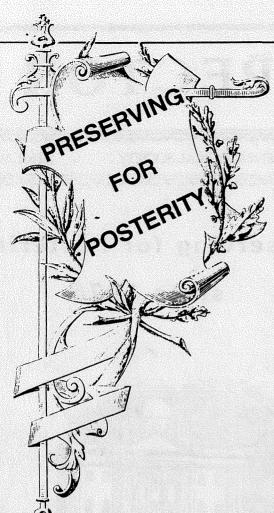
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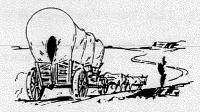
Clark County Nevada Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 1929
Las Vegas, Nevada 89125

CCNGS, a non-profit organization, meets on the second Tuesday of each month, in the Drawbridge Room of Commercial Center, 900 East Karen, Suite A-210, Las Vegas, Nevada, at 7:00 p.m. A business meeting is held, followed by a guest speaker and refreshments. Our purpose is to provide instruction for collecting, preserving and publicizing genealogical, historical and geographical materials.

Yearly membership dues are as follows:

Single membership \$ 12.00 Family membership \$ 15.00 Life membership \$120.00 Prospector subscription \$ 5.00 The **PROSPECTOR** is published quarterly in January, April, July and September. Copies are free to members and \$1.50 for non-members. A membership list is included in the January issue.

QUERIES are free to CCNGS members and \$1.00 for non-members. There is a limit of three queries per issue, per person. Queries must be resubmitted to reappear. Deadline for PROSPECTOR material is the 15th of the month prior to the month of issue.





from the president's pen....

The Las Vegas area is most fortunate to have the mild winters for which we have become so fond. Just when the weather becomes too cold, up comes a "spring-like" day that is just unbelievable!

A few nice days just like that this winter had me thinking of Spring and somehow "spring cleaning" came into the picture and a good project for all of us to do also came to mind. SPRING CLEAN YOUR GENEALOGY FILES!

Take time to get your files in order. There are numerous ways to set them up so they will be organized. You will be amazed at what you will find, had forgotten you had or did not realize you had.

Ask your genealogy friends how they have their files set up, check our different methods and decide which one best suits you. Then clean away!



The CLARK COUNTY NEVADA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY is most pleased to announce the addition of another "Life Member", Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Pickering. Mr. and Mrs. Pickering began with the Society in it's early stages. Hosting the memberships numbers of 28 and 29, they have participated in many CCNGS meetings and events. We wish to thank them for their faith and support in our Society and welcome them now as a "Life Member".

Welcome new members...

Arthur & Janet Drake #213 2182 N. Pecos Rd. Sp. 19 Las Vegas, NV 89115

George & Mary Swanick #214 P. O. Box 29179 Las Vegas, NV 89120

Mabel Hoover #215 42 Chesney Dr. Henderson, NV 89014

William J. Meyer #219 2675 Sherwood St. #18 Las Vegas, NV 89109 Caroline Fitzpatrick #216 7720 W. Horse Dr. Las Vegas, NV 89131

Helen Jytyla Smith #217 26 Quail Hollow Dr. Henderson, NV 89014

Ed B. Ashe #218 761 E. Twain #22A Las Vegas, NV 89109

Richard Morrissey - Subsc. only 28656 Murrieta Rd. Sun City, CA 92381

CLARK COUNTY COURTHOUSE NEWS

The Nevada State Historical Society, in particular David Millman and Frank Wright, has provided us with information about the Clark County Courthouse through the use of microfilm newspaper files of the "Las Vegas Age", an early 1900's newspaper of the Las Vegas area.

From the April 17, 1909 issue this was filed:

"In carrying out their pledges to the taxpayers of the county, made at the time the county division campaign was began, the people of Vegas will build a temporary court house on the block set apart for that purpose and give the county the use of the same free of charge for three years."

Newspaper reports show the original courthouse sat on the site of land of the current courthouse.

Important dates in the building of the courthouse:

April 17, 1909 - bids accepted for the building of the courthouse.

April 24, 1909 - Court house to be built at once on the Courthouse Square.

May 1, 1909 - Bids opened.

Proposals-

Fullington & Emerson \$2,293.65 Moore & Rhodes \$2,006.85 W. K. Moore \$1818.00 George Swandener \$2689.00

May 8, 1909 - Work begins under Contractor W. K. Moore

June 12, 1909 - Moore & Rhoads push work to complete temporary court house.

(Note: How did Rhoads enter the scene and note the change of spelling of the name)

August 9, 1913 - Plans for the new court house presented by F. J. De Longchamps accepted.

November 1, 1913 - Bids for construction will open December 1st. Estimated cost \$75,000.

December 6, 1913 - Bids opened.

December 13, 1913 - Contract goes to Campbell & Turner of Sacramento, cost \$50,826.00.

January 24, 1914 - Dirt flies at court house.

February 14, 1914 - Delay at court house due to wooden water pipe breakage.

May 16, 1914 Furniture order for new court house.

November 21, 1914 - Court house completed.

December 12, 1914 - Court house dedicated, Chairman C. C. Ronnow, master of ceremonies. John M. Bunker, speaks for the commissioners.

Information in regards to researching our county vital statistic records:

Clark County Recorder, 309 South Third St. Las Vegas, NV 89155

Marriage certificate available for genealogical research. Yearlyindex. (Ed. note: 63,000 marriages in 1897 in the county.) They will search up to 10 yearly indexes per request, They do have on-line computer searching and receive many long distance calls. Telehone number 702-455-4337. The parent's nmaes did nor appear on the marriage application until 1975.

Costs: Certified copy \$3.00 and \$1.00 per year searched. SASE

Lincoln County Recorder, P. O. Box 218, Pioche, NV 89043

Lincoln is the parent county for Clark, which was formed in 1909. There is a wealth of information in the Recorder's office which is available for public use. Some of the records are as follows:

Birth and death from 1887; Marriage and Newspapers from 1872

Real Estate Deeds from 1860's; Mining records from 1878

Mortgage indexes and various other Miscellaneous indexes

A glimpse of the past.... OUR NEVADA

by Joyce Kelley Morris

Richard Edmonson has accepted to position of Research Chairman for CCNGS and the results he has accomplished for requestees had been tremendous. We use information he furnished one correspondent for our "Nevada" page of this issue....

When the Clark County, NV, Genealogical Society receives requests for research assistance, we try to give correspondents a helpful reply. In seeking answers to the questions posed, we sometimes run across interesting bits of the past which are of wider interest than merely answering our correspondent. A correspondent from Georgia asked for help in locating a record of the marriage of ancestors in Panaca, NV, in the 1860's. This is one of those cases. What follows comes from our answer.

Panaca is near Pioche, the county seat of Lincoln County, NV, some 150 miles north of Las Vegas and about twenty miles from the Utah border. We had to advise the writer that records of marriages in Washington County, Utah, and Nevada counties other than Clark County are not available in Clark County. We did provide information which might help in his search but it will not be simple and may not be successful. Here's why...

Because of the many changes which occurred in the area of Panaca, NV during the 1860's and 1870's, a record of the marriage of his ancestors m ay appear in one of several places.

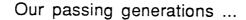
- 1. The area around Panaca was a part of Washington County, Utah Territory, from 1852 until 1861. Although Washinton County was organized in 1852, marriage records date only from 1887, according to *The Handy Book for Genealogists*. Why records are not available during the thirty five years from the time the county was organized until 1887 is not stated.
- 2. What is now Nevada was taken from Utah Territory, organized as a territory in 1861 and became a state in 1864. The area just west of Panaca was a part of Esmeralda, an original county, from 1861 until 1864.
- From 1864 until 1866, the area just west of Panaca was a part of Nye County.
- 4. Finally, in 1866, the area became a part of its present county, Lincoln County.

In addition to all of these changes, another change caused this are to be disputed during these years. Panaca was founded in 1864 by Mormon farmers followed shortly by substanial numbers of non-Mormon miners, During all of the changes in the first half of the 1860's involving the formation of Nevada Territory and its various counties, Panaca remained a part of Utah Territory. On 5 May 1866, the U.S. Congress moved the eastern boundary of Nevad one degree east to 114 degrees west longitude, the present boundary. Panaca officially became part of Lincoln County, NV, but the new line had not been surveyed and there was a question about its exact location. Since it was not certain whether Panaa was in Utah or Nevada, the Mormon settlers refused to pay taxes assessed by Lincoln County, NV, and continued to pay taxes to Washington County, UT. The dispute involved much legal activity including seizures and imprisonment until 4 December 1871 when the Panaca tax cases were finally settled in court. Many of the Mormon settlers moved east back to Washinton County because they did not want to live in Nevada. Those who remained paid Nevada taxes after that date.

This dispute over taxes might have effected residents who were not Mormon and might have affected other legal matters, such as obtaining a marriage license. Since the area was in dispute during the years our correspondent believes the marriage took place, both Nevada and Utah will have to be included in the search.

We wish our correspondent success but the history of this turbulent frontier era with its many geo-political changes and incomplete records certainly conplicates his search. He has written to all of the possible locations and we can join him in hoping he gets favorable results.

Note: The CCNGS at this time does not charge a fee for this service to other genealogists, however from time to time there are many copies to be made and we will, at the descression of our Research Chairman, charge a fee for these copies.



MY DAD

by Francis "Frank " Lang

My dad was George William Lang, the son of John J. Lang and Georgiana Kelly. He was born in St. Regis Falls, Franklin Co., N.Y., 12 October 1888. He was schooled in this village until the sixth grade and at the age of sixteen he went to work as a stave joiner. (Assembling wooden barrels for the shipment of potatoes and apples)

At the age of 21 or 22, he left St. Regis Falls and went to work in a logging camp as a kitchen helper. There he met and married Victoria Soulia/Sulia the daughter of Nepoleon "Peter" Soulia and Marcellina Blair.

Dad and Mother married in 1911 in St. Regis Falls and moved to St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., where the new lumbering town of Conifer was to be built. Dad worked for Emporium Lumber Co. until 1931. In the mean time they had nine children, four girls, the first girl born lived eight days, and was the first girl born in that town. The other three girls died at birth. Five boys, all lived and had families.

In May of 1931 the family moved to Oswego, Oswego Co., N.Y. Farming got bad and the family moved to Dexterville, Oswego Co., N.Y. and stayed there until 1935, then moved to Scriba, Oswego Co., N.Y. In 1940 we moved to Waterloo, Seneca Co., N.Y. because work was much easier to come by.

Dad died in 1949 and is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery, Seneca Co., N.Y.

I must add that my mother was born in a log cabin with a dirt floor on Blue Mt. Franklin Co., N.Y. and is still living.

Editor's note: Since the writing of the article Frank Lang's mother has passed away. She was 91 years old and will be greatly missed by her family.

GEORGE WILLIAM LANG

VICTORIA SOULIA LANG

12 October 1888 19 July 1949

23 January 1894 12 January 1990





WILLS AND PROBATE PROCEEDINGS

by Dick Edmonson

Helen Richwine Edmonson, my mother, saved several folders which were handed out at family reunions during the 1920's. The most comprehensive of these bore the title, History of the Gideon Richwine Family. The two page document begins, "In the latter part of Seventeen hundred, Jacob Richwone, Father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania." This starting point soon led to Lancaster County, PA, and the will of Johan Georg Reichwein, Gideon Richwine's grandfather. The Richwine name evloved from the German name Johan Georg Reichwein to the Anglicized John George Richwine between the time of his arrival in Phildelphia in 1751 and his death in Lancaster County, PA, about 1882. One of the key sources of information about the early years of the Richwine family in America was John George Richwine's last will and testament.

The will was located through the Las Vegas LDS Family History Center copy of the Salt Lake City LDS Locality Catalog. A number of counties in Pennsylvania were searched before the will of George Reichwine was located in the Lancaster County, PA, Index to Wills, Surnames L-Z, 1729 to 1947 (Roll number 0021353, one of 31 tools documenting wills in the county).

The Handy Book for Genealogists, (The Handy Book for Genealogists, 7th Edition, George B. Everton, Sr., The Everton Publishers, Logan, UT, 1986), indicated that in Lancaster County the Register of Wills has probate records from 1929, when the county was formed, and that the mailing address is Lancaster, PA 17602.

The records received back from the Register of Wills included a copy of George Richwine's will written September 8, 1774, and the probate procedure "proving the will," November 5, 1788. The will is in German but fortunately for me, a translation was filed when the will was proved.

The will itself told me that, when the will was written in 1774, George had some debts ("As I am yet in debt, I will that my wife pay my debts..."); that his wife was living; that he had five living children ("...my five children shall divide all my estate..."); that George was a weaver and his oldest child, Henry, was not yet twenty-one ("...Until he is Twenty one Years of age, he then shall have a loom..."). Since other evidence points to the death date as about 1782, it appears that the family did not submit the will to the court until several years after George's death. The age of his wife and the need to clear land title may have prompted the family to submit the will to the court for proving in 1788. His wife was appointed executrix, proof that she was still living at that date. These documents became vital keys in identifying this line of ancestors.

There is an excellent discussion of wills, guardianships, probate proceedings, and probate law on pages 177-187 of *The Source* (The Sourcem A Guidebook to American Genealogy, Arlene Eakle and Johni Cerney, Ancestry Publishing Company, Salt Lake City, UT, 1984). The article also summarizes many things that can be deduced from the contents of a will as well as the ease with which incorrect conclusions can be drawn.

If the date and place of the death of your ancestor are known, The Handy Book for Genealogists, or the more recent article, 'Where to Write for Vital Records', (Heritage Quest, Issue #14, January/February 1988, pages 35-52), will tell you whom to contact to obtain copies of the probate proceedings and will, if there was one. If a will was admitted to proof, there will be a record of the appointment of an executor(trix); if there was no will but there was real estate or other substantial property, there will be a record of appointment of an administrator(trix) to manage the estate. In wither case, reports of the persons(s) appointed will be filed from the time of first hearing by the court until final settlement of the estate.





COURT HOUSE STAFF.... princes or prunes?



by Carl Jarnberg

Some time after any genealogist begins their research, they will need to contact a court house either by mail or in person. Just as the general population has a variety of personalities, so do court houses. Some that I have worked with have been more than helpful while others were so incompetent as to block me from obtaining the copies of existing records.

My worst experiences have been with large cities when I used the mail to request searches and copies of vital records. I can only assume my paper request becomes a task someone needs to perform, not an opportunity to provide a service which is unavailable anywhere else to a customer waiting at the counter. It is too easy to send back the written request with a message of "Record not found". But it is much more dufficult to say that to you face-to-face knowing that you will question them especially when you know the record should be there.

My best results have been with smaller county court houses in person especially if you establish a rapport and mention whatever distance you have traveled to get there. Often only they know of secondary records that can be searched if the primary records do not reveal the activities of the past. There is also the extra benefit for the court house staff of having you perform the record search where permitted, not them. I perfer the satisfaction of knowing positively for myself that if I can't find an entry, that it just is not there instead of always wondering if the person who did the searching actually did a thorough search.

Of course, the attitude of the people can change when there is a change in the head of the department. An example is a county in Wisconsin. Under the previous Recorder of Deeds, the quality, speed and extent of their mail reply was excellent. A great deal was accomplished by mail. But then the new man took over. What a difference. As with all political offices, he, too, shall pass. The sooner the better in my opinion.

The best advice I can give is to be complete, but brief with the information that you supply for your request. And be patient, but persistent. Until you receive your reply, you won't know whether they are princes or prunes.



BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

The program for the CCNGS November meeting was provided by the Bureau of the Census' Steven Brooks and Patty Gullickson. Steven Brooks told us about how the Census Bureau works, ie., recruiting, handling of records, and the importance of the census to our area while Patty Gullickson told us about using the available censuses in our research.

The CCNGS was most pleased to have been included in the "Open House" festivities for the Bureau of the Census held on February 28, 1990. The Bureau 's theme was "America's Bicentennial Census".

Not only is the census important to the ever-increasing population of our area but genealogists will be able to benefit from this census in as little as seventy two years. (Don't worry,it will pass sooner than we think!)

The CCNGS was able to have display table of material set up to show how the census helps us in our research and material such as full page census and slave schedules were also on display from the personal collection of Mel Davis of the Bureau.

Local community leaders participated in the event with Mayor Ron Lurie giving the keynote speach. We appreciate the Bureau of the Census including us in their open house.

BITS & PIECES

One of the most important aspects of genealogical research is the sharing of information. Exchanging of quarterlies is an excellent way to do just this. We will attempt to include in each issue of the PROSPECTOR, information we receive from other societies and hope they will pass on information with their exchanges as well

The CLARK COUNTY NEVADA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY extends an invitation to other societies to send information about their society's events to be included in the PROSPECTOR. Deadline for PROSPECTOR material is the 15th of the month prior to the month of issue.

FEDERAL ARCHIVES INFORMATION

When submitting forms to the Federal Archives for Military Records you should include the wording, "Send Complete Medical File." Medical records are not filed with the military records. If the veteran was injured, hospitalized or received a medical discharge, there could be helpful information in the medical file, but you must request it.

Iowa Genealogical Society

BIRTH/DEATH/MARRIAGES - NEW YORK CITY

Births, Deaths and Marriages in New York City are indexed according to locality (borough) in which they were initially filed. The 1890 New York City (Manhatten only) Police Census can be searched for a fee as well as City Directories for Manhatten and Brooklyn. Manhatten directories started in 1873 and Brooklyn in 1796. Write City of New York, Department of Records and Information Services, Municipal Archives, 31 Chambers, Rm. 103, New York, NY 10007. Niagara County Genealogical Society

U.S. MILITARY CEMETERIES ABROAD

Those seeking the graves of U. S. servicemen buried overseas should be aware of the existance of the American Battle Monuments Commission.

According to the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration, the Commission is responsible for the constructin and maintenance of American military cemeteries on foreign soil.

The Commission will give the exact location of a grave and other information to members of the general public, and arrange for the placement of flowers. They will also tell you the best routes and modes of travel to the foreign cemeteries. There are also special services for next of kin and members of the immediate family. The Commission will provide photographs of the cemetery and the grave marker, escort within the cemetery, and authorization of "non-fee" passports.

Congressional Quarterly's Washington Information Directory (1986-87) lists American Battle Monuments Commission (Executive Office), 20 Massaachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20314, or call (202) 272-0533 for information.

The Federal Register says one may contact the Director of Operations and Finance, Col. William E. Ryan, Jr., American Battle Monuments Commission, 5127 Pulaski Building, Washington, D.C. 20314, or call (202) 272-0536.

One can also contact the overseas offices directly. For cemeteries in England, France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, contact the European Office, Brig. Gen. John W. Donaldson, USA (Ret.), at 68, rue 19 Janvier, 92 Garches, France, or C/O American Embassy, APO New York 09777.

For cemeteries in Italy and Tunisia contact Col. James H. Brown, Mediterranean Office, via Veneto 119/a, Rome, Italy, or C/O American Embassy, APO New York 09794.

For the Philippines, contact William J. Graulty, American Military Cemetery, Manila, Republic of the Phillipines, or APO San Francisto 96528.

Fox Valley Genealogical Society, Appleton, WI.

BITS & PIECES

CEMETERY AND OBITUARY INFORMATION

The Hancock County chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society has over 38,000 entries in a data base filled with cemetery and obituary information. This appears to be an ongoing project, and is not yet a complete reference. It would be worth checking, if you have ancestry in that area. Cost is 20 cents per printout sheet plus a SASE. For more information, send to Hancock County Chapter, Ohio Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 672, Findley, OH 45839-0672. Ohio Genealogical Society

CENTAPH

If this is engraved on a tombstone, it indicates an empty grave. The stone was erected in memory or in honor of a person buried elsewhere, such as at sea. N. W. Suburban Council of Genealogists, IL

CZECHOSLOVAKIAN RESEARCH

If your Czechoslovakian Ancestor seem to have disappeared from the Chicago area around the turn of the century, try searching in eastern Nebraska (Saline, Seward, Saunders and Douglas counties, etc.) where there were large settlements of Czechs. The Chicago Public Library, now at 400 N. Franklin St., has Czech telephone books in its collection with maps that show even the tiniest villages that are not shown on usual Czech maps. Chicago Genealogical Society

READER'S EXCHANGE COLUMN

While reading one of my favorite magazines, *Country Living*, I was extremely pleased to find they have added a "Reader's Exchange" column. The column is a monthly bulletin board for "folks looking to swap or sell anntiques, trace a relative, or announce a reunion."

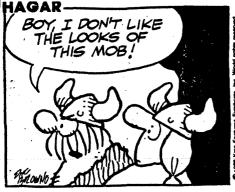
This column had surnames of two of our members, Frank Lang and James Shaffer. I hope they are part of their families.

Submissions may be sent to "Reader's Exchange," care of *Country Living* Magazine, 224 W. 57th St. New York, N.Y. 10019.

Besides the new column, you will enjoy the entire magazine.

Joyce Kelley Morris

FROM OUR COMEDY CORNER





QUERIES ...



PURDIE, BRASHEARS: Need info on parents of Sarah Elizabeth PURDIE, b. 1822; possibly Cambrridge, MD, d. 31 Jul 1885, m. William BRASHEARS 17 Oct 1842. William BRASHEARS was born 18 Dec 1817; Laural, MD. Reply to James Frederick SHAFFER, III, S-394, 4329 Malaga Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89121-6518

WHITE, ROSS: Need info on parents of Capt Joseph L. White, b. 1773?; Portugal?, d. 23 Feb 1860; Baltimore, MD. Buried Baltimore Cemetery. Joseph was married to Elizabeth ROSS in Annapolis, MD, 1 May 1820 and they had at least two daughters, Mary E. b. 1828? and Sarah Ann WHITE b. 3 Dec 1823. The Baltimore City Directory listings shows "Captain" Joseph L. WHITE at various locations in and around Balitimore-Fell's Point. Reply to James Frederick Shaffer, III, S-392, 4329 Malaga Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89121-6518.

KELLEY, WINBURN, HUGHES: Need info on James A. KELLEY b. 1855, NC, son of Jack KELLEY and Susanna HUGHES. Married to Mary Elizabeth WINBURN, b. 1865, d. 1917, AR. Reply to Joyce Kelley MORRIS, 6439 Pine St., Las Vegas, NV 89120.

MORRIS, O'DANIEL: Need info on William Henry MORRIS, b. 30 Mar 1842, TN, d. 21 Mar 1927, Muskogee, OK. Married to Mary Jane O'DANIEL, 12 Aug 1869, Newton Co. AR., b. 1845, AR. Reply to Joyce Kelley MORRIS, 6439 Pine Street, Las Vegas, NV 89120.

HOLUBAR, THIENES, MORRISSEY, AYRES, NOWLAN, VOBORNA, KLUCZEK, KLEES: Where is the first mention of Franz HOLUBAR who m Klara VOBORNA in 1832 at Cesky-Krumlov, Czechoslovakia? When did Josef HOLLUBAR and Frances KLUCZEK moved to San Francisco? Lucas HOLUBAR born 1646 in Ceske-Budejovice, m Dorota. Who has info on Nicholas Thienes who m Katharina Klees in 1803 at Wittlich, Rheinland, Germany? Eleanore MORRISSEY b 1764, m 20 May 1783 to John NOWLAN, Stradbally Parish, Co. Waterford, Ireland. Lived in Carrickon-Suir. Were Bridget and Elenore daughters of Mary AYRES and sea captain Edward MORRISSEY m 30 March 1754 at Arundel Square, city of Waterford, Ireland? Reply to Richard Morrissey, 28656 Murieta Rd. Sun City, CA 92381.

WEIRD NEWS INDEED!

From one of our local newspapers this story has appeared:

"In a training evercise, Winthrop, Maine, firefighters deliberately set fire to the oldest house in town, a 220 year-old Cape Cod house that is featured on the town's official logo. Said Deputy Chief Dave Ketchen, "It's just an old building as far as I'm concerned."

Las Vegas Sun, Friday, April 6, 1990, "News of the Weird"

ATTENTION!! Kennebec Co., Maine! Please alert your local officials of the importance of preservation! If all people had the attitude of Deputy Chief Ketchen we would not be able to accomplish the research we all enjoy. Preservation is important whether it be a 220 year-old building or a 220 year old document. Mr. Ketchen, please don't go near the National Archives!

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SPRING PICNIC



The Clark County Nevada Genealogical Society will host a Spring Picnic, May 5th at the Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, Blue Diamond, NV. The picnic hours are 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. There will be lots of FUN!! A small cemetery of one of the original families is on the grounds and is included in a tour given be the park rangers. Call Edie Kraemer of details, 877-5485.

THE PROSPECTOR

