

Herrick Family Association

Founded in 2001



Richard L. Herrick, Founder and President Emeritus

Kenneth Herrick, Vice President Emeritus

Joann Nichols, Editor Emeritus

Virgil Herrick, Counselor Emeritus

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Check our Web Page: www.Herrickfamilyassociation.org or find us on Facebook!

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Message from the President:

By Dale E. Yoe, HFA #62

March 2020

This is the beginning of a very special year for the HFA. We are celebrating our 19th year since our founding in 2001. We are about to meet in the place where our immigrant ancestor- Henrie Heyricke called home- Leicester England.

I am very excited as we have not been there since 2014. We will once again meet up with our dear friend- Irene Turlington and see the places Henerie probably walked. I am also excited about meeting up with all our wonderful members and exploring together our Viking Heritage. We may also meet up with some of our European cousins.

If you have not registered with Celtic Journeys, please do so soon so we can get a good reading on what our final cost will be. The event committee (Michael Herrick, Deb Nelson, Nancy Johnson and Alice Reynolds) have set a great plan for us to travel there in September and learn more about our Heritage- up close and personal. Be sure to check our website for the **Self-Guided tour of Herrick Family Historical Sites in the Leicester Area** to explore. Alice has created a wonderful guide for anyone visiting the area.

I also have received a wonderful letter from Dorothy R. Herrick, HFA #200. Dorothy has been a member of the HFA since 2015, is 93 and lives in Ohio. She has also been to Leicester and has suggested some places to visit. Dorothy also mentions the Herrick Chair at the Charnwood Museum and the Herrick Chapel at the Leicester Cathedral. She is unable to join us on the trip this time but hopes we have fun.

One thing, I wish we could see is the Herrick Bridal coach, built in 1740 for William Herrick of Beaumanor. It can no longer be found.



Leicestershire Archaeological & Historical Society
A beautiful engraving of the bridal coach built for William Herrick of Beaumanor Hall in 1740. The total for its construction came to £92 and 6s, or just under £10k today. For a list of its fixtures and fittings see <https://bit.ly/2GPF70z>

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Reminder that the final payment for the Herrick Leicester trip is due by July 27th.

If you have not registered with Celtic Journeys- please do so soon. The cost, not including air fare is \$1130. I will be making a list of all that is covered under that amount ASAP, But it does include the bus trip and hotels and breakfast each day.

Go to our website for details.

www.Herrickfamilyassociation.org

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Research Story

By Michael Herrick HFA #118

In fall of 1975. My grandma Herrick had just passed away and my father, Mahlon Herrick, went to the funeral and helped to clean out his boyhood home in Harbor Springs, Michigan. Three generations over 75 years of Herricks had lived in that house so there was much to sort through, discard and, as it turned out, to treasure. My father ventured in the attic of the house, which he rarely, if ever, ventured into as a kid. Two items caught his eye. One was an old painting of a Civil War soldier in a full bright blue union uniform, proudly holding a rifle as tall as he was. That soldier was my father's grandfather and namesake, Mahlon Herrick Sr. The other item that caught his eye was a little green book that was dusty and very worn. Picking up the book and dusting it off, he noticed the title. It was a title he never heard of before – A Genealogical Register of the Name and Family of Herrick by Jedediah Herrick. He noticed the publication date of 1846, so he knew it was old and possibly very interesting. Indeed it was.

He took the painting and the book down from the attic and started reading the book. His interest in history, particularly family history, kept him transfixed on the book for hours. After much investigation, he figured out how to navigate the book, but eventually was able to trace his direct line back from a Herrick family in Eaton County Michigan to Henry Herrick of Salem. From stories told to him by his grandfather, he knew that his family started in Eaton County where his grandfather was born. He also learned from his grandfather that his great grandfather's name was John. So, with these family stories and this newly found little green book, his was hooked on family genealogy.

But who was this John Herrick, his great great grandfather? Could he find more about him in the book? He looked and looked. Finally, he found an entry for a John P Herrick, son of Zadock Herrick of New York. Could this be his great great grandfather from Eaton County? Only one way to find out. Go to Eaton County and search records and cemeteries. Unfortunately, all records from the County Clerk's Office were destroyed in a fire decades before. So, it was off to every cemetery in the county. After days of exploring cemeteries, he found a tall obelisk shaped stone monument in the Charlotte Township Cemetery with the name Herrick on it. There it was. John P and his wife Orpha Herrick with all their children who did not survive childhood. Mahlon knew from his grandfather's stories that these were the names of his grandfather's brothers and sisters who did not survive to adulthood, and this John P and Orpha were surely his great great grandparents. Now at last, he had a direct lineage from Henry Herrick to himself along the Joseph line. However, his interest in family history had only begun. He continued for the rest of his life to search for cousins, aunts, uncles and anyone else associated with his line of Herricks. But most important to me was that he bequeathed that interest and family history information to me.

I became active in the Herrick Family Association (HFA) when I went to my first meeting in Salem in 2004. The more active I became in HFA, the more information I collected about the characters in my lineage. Then in 2014, HFA held their annual meeting in Leicester, England, the ancestral home of the Herrick family. It was here I discovered much more about our English roots, going back to the Viking settlements in England. I decided to write down all that I had learned in that trip along with all that I had learned from accumulated documents from

my Herrick line in America. This was to be my legacy for my children and grandchildren. The more I wrote, the more I researched; and the more I researched, the more I wrote. Finally, I decided that what I had was not a small journal as I expected, but a book. That book, titled *Echoes of the Past: A Family Story*, was published in 2019. It is a story of my direct line family history covering 1000 years of Herricks from early Vikings in England, to Henry Herrick of 1629 Salem, to the present. The book is available in many independent bookstores, Amazon, and from my professional website, www.herrickresearch.com. Or I can be contacted directly at herrickresearch@me.com.

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An Inquiry

Ithel Wayne Herrick, HFA #106

“Ithel Wayne. Herrick---Ephraim line. Entry number 7970 in Herrick Gemological Register.

My sister Cleo Eileen Herrick , entry number 7966, celebrated her 99th birthday on August 22, 2019.

I would like to determine if she has attained the greatest longevity of anyone with Herrick surname. I tried going through the volumes but gave up. She would be happy to know she is the oldest.

Thank you and I hope you can help me with this project. Regards, Ithel (Ike) Herrick”

Editor comment—If anyone knows of any Herricks older than 99 please let us know!

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Viking Treasure Story Spotted

By Rev. Karen Herrick HFA #148

Story originally published 11/23/2019 in the NY Times - *Viking Treasure Gets British Men Time in Prison*

Summarized here by the HFA Editor

More than 1,000 years ago, a Viking hoard of gold jewelry, coins and silver bars was buried for safekeeping.

The trove stayed hidden until 2015 when two men dug up a treasure in a field in Eye, near the town of Leominster, in western England, about 90 miles west of our ancestor’s town of Leicester.

The men, who were handed lengthy prison terms, used metal detectors to unearth the coins. They were punished for failing to follow Britain’s rules for reporting discoveries of treasure. Instead they hid some of the hoard, a mix of 9th and 10th century objects estimated to be worth millions of pounds and sold others to dealers.

They weren’t punished for discovering the historically significant trove. In fact rewards are often given to people who find treasure in Britain. Ironically if they had followed the correct procedures, they would have been in line to receive up to half of the value. Instead of following the rules the men began quietly selling the valuable coins to private collectors.

Experts said that the objects would have offered a unique window on a crucial moment of British history. Authorities have recovered a few coins and some pieces of jewelry during the years long investigation. The rest of the treasures are missing, presumed sold or hidden and will hopefully be discovered during the ongoing investigation.

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An Item of Interest Shared

By Susan Luraschi #134

Viking Hand

“I recently went to see a rheumatologist this year and as she examined my hands, she mentioned that I had a bit of Dupuytren's contraction. So I now know that I am an official Viking.”

Dupuytren's is named after Baron Guillaume Dupuytren – “the Napoleon of surgery” – who first identified the disease in the early 19th century. It is found mostly among northern Europeans, which is why it has sometimes been called the “Viking disease”. It has also been dubbed the “Celtic hand”.

More information about Viking Hand can be found here—

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/getting-to-grips-with-a-celtic-hand-1.546622>

Editor comment—Susan lives in Paris and she received a copy of F.J. Herrick's letter of inquiry in the 60s (in Paris!) and her father in Maine did as well. She doesn't remember any follow up information from F.J. but it spurred her dad on to join the HFA and to do some research himself.

F.J. Herrick's letters sure did go far and wide.

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Never Give Up!

By: James Nelson HFA #147

In some situations, “Time is of the essence.” In genealogy, “Time AND Patience are of the essence,” for sure. It has been said that “Patience is not the ability to wait, but the ability to keep a good attitude while waiting.”

Some of the trails we go down can be so frustrating and time consuming, yet so rewarding in the end. I'll share a couple of examples from my own experience.

In the HFA September 2019 Newsletter, the research of Robert FJ Herrick and a certain letter he had written back in the 70s came to our attention. In the December issue, I and another member replied to the inquiry. You can go back there for the details. But this inquiry took me back some 40 years to when a relative who knew that I held the family Bible of Cyprian Herrick contacted me for information.

This relative also introduced me to Richard Herrick who then introduced me to Robert FJ Herrick. Richard had previously photographed the family history recorded in the Cyprian Herrick Bible.

The time line regarding Richard, Robert and myself goes like this. On 29 March 1979, Richard wrote to me regarding information he had obtained from the Cyprian Herrick Bible and said he was sending the information to RFJ in Parma, Ohio “...as he (Robert) plans on publishing a third edition of the Herrick book”. At that time Richard lived in Jackson, Michigan and I lived in Burton, Michigan.

A week later on 7 April 1979, Richard wrote to me again after confirming the publication date of the Herrick Bible. He said that he could now validate the family information therein. The letter also says that he was sending the same to RFJ.

On 10 September 1979, Robert FJ wrote to me asking for more information for his book. I shared that letter with Richard.

These inquiries sparked my interest in family research and a 40-year relationship with Richard. These two gentlemen inspired me to pursue the fantastic pursuits of genealogy.

My Cyprian Herrick Bible provided Richard with the information he needed to follow Cyprian's line forward and correct the births of Cyprian's children as they had been incorrectly recorded in the 46HGR and 85HGR. (See HGR3, Volume 1, Part 2, Page 656.)

While RFJ Herrick through a few letters to Richard and myself filled a few gaps in my research, there was always a mystery about his work. He would send out these typewritten questionnaires asking what we had on certain people with deadlines for the information as he would say he was about ready to go to press with his Third Edition of the HGR. In fact, on 14 October 1979, Richard, in writing to RFJ and myself in the same letter, asks when will this work, "...go to press?" And further, in the same letter, Richard places an order "...for at least 6 copies".

Richard also tells RFJ that I will be visiting him on an upcoming trip to Phoenix. That I did in early 1980, I believe, and as I reported in the December 2019 news letter, RFJ had a room full of files, boxes and everything you would expect from one doing this kind of work without a computer. It was a great visit and he was very happy to meet me in person. But I did not see any evidence of his work, "Going to press" any time soon.

It was about this time, I believe, that Richard realized that if the HGR3 was going to be published he would have to do it himself.

When I moved to Phoenix in 1988, I intended to pay Robert another visit. I was very busy with work and family and likewise not active in genealogy at the time, and I waited too long. When I did attempt to visit, Robert had passed away and neighbors told me someone trashed all of his many years of work.

When I visited Robert years earlier, I had no idea that he would pass away and not provide for his work to pass on to others who could benefit from the same. Time was of the essence in this case. I should have followed up in 1988 when I moved here and I most likely could have been the beneficiary of his work, and probably could have helped Richard with more details in his vast project.

I learned a lesson there, and I have all of my own collection of research enumerated in my Will as to whom each volume will pass on to. The cover page on each volume also states the name and contact information of each beneficiary.

Finally, as for Robert Fisher Herrick, (I can't find what the "J" stands for) just through the inquiry of others over the past six months, I found out his birth, family, marriage and death information as well as a lot more.

I contacted the cemetery to verify his grave location and have created a profile of his information on Ancestry.com and Find a Grave.com to honor his life and work. Patience was not for naught.

Now for one more example of patience and diligence. When researching my Nelson heritage, I could not find anything on my great grand mother, Polly Ann Klock Nelson after my grandfather, James Wesley Nelson's third year. I knew that he did not grow up living with his parents and I was always told that she was buried at Cass City, Michigan, but I could not find her grave or for that matter anything else. Over something like 8 years, I traveled to every county seat from Wayne County in the South of Michigan and to every county North through the Thumb of Michigan. No sign of her.

Because of my acquaintance with Richard Herrick that resulted from the early mutual research with Robert FJ Herrick, I traveled from Arizona to the HFA annual meeting that was held in Lansing, Michigan in 2007. Richard spent a whole day with me at the library in Lansing researching a lot of my questions which included, "What happened to Polly"? We did not find the answer, but we cemented our relationship. I also met Dale Yoe and others who are still active in the HFA. In fact, thanks to Dale who helped me find the latest on RFJ Herrick.

Eight years later on 31 December 2015, I was changing my calendar to the new year, when I saw a note I had written to myself to check out new marriage records for Michigan on ancestry.com. Though I had already found out by this time that Polly Nelson had married James Hackett with no further trace, I spent that New Years Eve afternoon and evening rejoicing over my new find of a third marriage and death certificate for this lady. She was buried in Cass City with the name Anna LaCroix. I subsequently visited her grave in 2016, cleaned her obelisk, and have since had a new foundation installed to prevent further leaning of the monument. That culminated the 8 years of patience and hard work.

Therefore, never give up your quest for the interesting information that lies out there somewhere. And

remember to keep a good attitude and work in a timely fashion so that you may avail yourself of every opportunity that leads to the results that you desire. And along the way you will probably meet some terrific people who will help you. You might even be related to some of them. I have found 2 cousins that I had never heard of before. Both are deeply engaged in genealogy and we now share a great relationship as we help each other along this journey.

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Medieval Graffiti on the Herrick Memorial in St. Katharine's Chapel

By Irene Turlington, Our Leicester Area Friend of the HFA

From time to time we get visitors interested in the graffiti on the Herrick memorial. Last summer Robert and I went to a talk by James Wright from University of Nottingham who is an expert on medieval graffiti. James is building archaeologist. After the talk I asked James about the concentric circles on the Herrick memorial and he immediately suggested they are ritual protection marks.

Last month some visitors who were at a conference day at University of Leicester took photographs of graffiti in the cathedral. I wasn't there at the time so I didn't meet them They have since sent the link to where their photos can be seen:

<https://rakinglight.co.uk/uk/st-martins-cathedral-leicester/>

This website includes general photos of the cathedral and then as you scroll down you come to all the images of graffiti visible today in St. Martin's.

The concentric circles are one of the versions of 'apotropaic' or ritual protection marks. Nets, checkerboards, cross hatching marks were all believed to trap the evil spirit, witch etc inside the circles, or cross hatching, nets etc and they wouldn't be able to escape as there was no way out.

The 'VV' symbol was one of the most common symbols found in medieval churches. The 'V' symbol is associated with the cult of the Virgin Mary. 'VV' is likely to represent the term 'Virgo Virginum', meaning Virgin of Virgin's. Another form of this symbol is the inverted 'M' believed to represent 'Maria' a reference to the Virgin Mary as in Matthew Champion's book – 'Medieval Graffiti – Lost Voices of England's Churches.'

Mary was considered to be a powerful protector, and her depiction is in the Great East Window with the orphaned children. This memorial window installed in 1920 is now in the new Chapel of Christ the King at the east end of the Cathedral. It is a memorial to all those who were killed in WWI, because Mary was considered to be the protectress of the orphaned children in WWI.

The Herrick memorial in St. Katharine's also has a form of the Marian symbol on it.

James Wright has written several books on this subject.

I think this is all extremely interesting as it adds another dimension to medieval ideas and beliefs.

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Researcher's Corner

By Merrill Herrick HFA #169

One thing I believe we all have in common is family research. Whether you are a neophyte to genealogy or an experienced "old timer", we share an enthusiasm for research and I believe it would be helpful to share some of our techniques in hopes of helping others. I am beginning with an article on using www.familyresearch.org. I doubt there is a person reading this who hasn't used that website at some point in their research. Few of us have the time or money to travel to various locations to dig through probate and land records. But the family search

website allows you to do that from the comfort of your own home.

Follow these steps:

1. Go to www.familysearch.org. If you do not already have a FREE account then follow the instructions to create one.
2. After you have an account, go to the homepage and in the upper menu click on Search then down to Records.
3. In the new window look for the phrase "Browse all published collections". Click on it.
4. In the new window there will be two columns. In the left hand column click on United States of America. I have not tried the other countries but they are certainly worth exploring if you wish.
5. The new window will have a list of the States under United States of America. Click on the state you wish to explore. I have done CT, MA, and NY. NY is especially good.
6. Using NY as an example, click on New York Probate records. They will give you a page of all the counties in NY. Click on the county you wish to search.
7. At some point you will be asked to sign in with username and password. That is why you need the Free account.

If you have a problem please contact me at mherrick3@rochester.rr.com

I know many of you have tips that could help others. Please share them with us by sending them to me at the email address above or if you prefer:

Merrill Herrick
6707 St Johns Pkwy
Victor, NY 14564

We will sort them and put them in the RESEARCHER'S CORNER in future newsletters.

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Obituary

Penelope Wilson Grant Husson HFA#094

Sent in by Jim Hilton HFA #168

We've just learned that longtime HFA member Penny Husson died on April 15, 2018 in Las Vegas, Nevada. She was born on December 12, 1941, in Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. She was preceded in death by her father John Wilson Grant, mother Martha Elizabeth Hinemon Grant and brothers John Wilson Grant and Stephen Reynolds Grant. She is survived by her brother James David Grant, sons Matthew Alexander Husson IV, Stephen Grant Husson and Eric Thomas Husson and 8 grandchildren (Brea, Reilly, Cole, Stephen II, Cassidy, Holden, Emerie and Nixon). She was raised in Fair Haven, New Jersey and attended high school at Rumson Fair Haven Regional. She attended college at Mt. Ida Junior College in Massachusetts. She loved animals and used to ride and show horses. While in college she was part of the Angels on Horseback riding club.

Penny was an amazing woman and gave 110% to any endeavor that she pursued. She spent many long nights coaching basketball, baseball and soccer for her sons after working a full time job at Nevada National Bank. After raising three boys she set out on her own course of adventure with the Poodle Club of Las Vegas. She owned show poodles and spent many years traveling and having fun with her new found friends. She was also deeply involved with the Daughters of the American Revolution and family genealogy. She did volunteer work at the LDS family history library in downtown Las Vegas. Penny was an extremely caring and generous soul. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

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Membership Report

Jim Hilton, Membership Chair HFA #168

At present we have 173 active members including 7 new members who joined in 2019. Welcome! We continue to try to keep our rolls up to date and unfortunately, that required the removal of 4 members due to death. Including the dues that we received during the year from 31 current members, the total members in good standing are 83. That leaves 90 members unpaid. Some for last year's dues (2019) in addition to this year's (2020). The 2020 campaign will begin in April after a couple of our key people return from their winter escapes. We look forward to another year of revelations culminating in the trip to England in September.

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Message from the Editor:

Nancy Johnson *HFA #212*

Email NancyJohnson206@gmail.com

I would like to thank our members, Dale E. Yoe, HFA #62, Michael Herrick HFA #118, Ithel Wayne Herrick, HFA #106, Rev. Karen Herrick HFA #148, Susan Luraschi #134, James Nelson HFA #147, Irene Turlington, Our Leicester Area Friend of the HFA, Merrill Herrick HFA #169, Jim Hilton, Membership Chair HFA #168, for contributing to this newsletter. I'd also like to remind everyone that I'm happy to accept articles and stories for the next newsletter at any time.