

Spotlight On California genealogical research facilities

A series of articles about places to do research around the state

Southern California Genealogical Society Family Research Library

417 Irving Drive, Burbank, CA 91504-2408

(818) 843-7247; website: www.scgsgenealogy.com

Hours: Tues. 10 am to 9 pm, Wed. -Fri. 10 am to 4 pm, 1st and 2nd Sun. and 3rd and 4th Sat. 10 am to 4 pm . Closed on Mondays and 5th Saturday and Sunday.

With nearly 35,000 volumes, the SCGS Family Research Library in Burbank, CA, holds one of the largest genealogical collections in the southwestern US. The facility seats 60 and is handicapped accessible. Free off-street parking adjoins the building. The Society is a 501(c)(3) organization and is entirely supported by the efforts of a dedicated, experienced group of volunteers.

SCGS has received official designation as an official FamilySearch Center. This designation permits SCGS to rent microfilm and fiche from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City on behalf of the SCGS Library patrons.

The collection includes geographic records and family histories in books, periodicals, manuscripts, microform, CDs and maps. Included are materials from every state and many countries, and we aim to have at least one resource for every county in the United States. The library's catalog can be found on our website at www.scgsgenealogy.com.

SCGS members enjoy free access to high-speed wireless Internet and onsite use of online databases at the SCGS

Library, including Ancestry Library Edition, Heritage Quest, NEHGS, Footnote.com, World Vital Records/FamilyLink, Historical Los Angeles Times, Proquest Obituaries, NewspaperARCHIVE and others.

Patrons may also draw on the special expertise and consultation available from the many interest groups and organizations that use the SCGS Family Research Library: The Master Genealogist Software User Group, Legacy Family Tree Software User Group, RootsMagic Software User Group, Family Tree Maker Software User Group, German Interest Group, Irish Interest Group, DNA Interest Group, Kids Family History Camp, Writers Group, GENEii Family History Writers Contest, Genealogical Society of Hispanic America - SoCal, French-Canadian Heritage Society-CA, French-Canadian / Acadian / Metis / Cajun Heritage DNA project, United Daughters of the Confederacy, and International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG).

Libraries...

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Henry County, Virginia with so little time left before the FHL closed for the evening. I strolled back into the stacks and spotted a black book that looked like it might be part of a set matching one of the three books I'd used earlier. I was limited on weight I could carry with my recovering wrist so missed it before.

OK, I should look at this one. But, was it worth hauling all the way back to the table? You get tired by the end of the week. I looked in the index — Thomas Jones, page 8. I couldn't spot his name right off, but did see a Daniel Rice as a witness on a record. To this day I don't know why I followed up on this name. Now, you have to understand my Daniel Rice, and wife Judith joined the Big Pigeon Baptist Church in 1789 in what later was East Tennessee. We were stuck there, not knowing if they came from North Carolina, Virginia or another state. But I went

ahead and checked the index. Only one other page for a Daniel Rice. I flipped to that page. Daniel Rice and Judy his wife were selling land in 1785. Surely you heard me scream all the way back to California, right? My roommate said she'd never seen me so happy and excited.

When I got home, I thought maybe these people were out there on the internet. Everyone says you can find what you need on the internet. Maybe I just hadn't spotted them because I didn't know about Henry County, Virginia. No, they were not out there. Well, Daniel is now, as I've posted queries on him all over the place. Without those books I would never have found Daniel and his wife.

The big question for the next trip, should I work some more on Thomas Jones, or focus on Daniel Rice? These aren't the first finds I've made in a library and hopefully not the last. Libraries, here I come.