

Genealogy by the Numbers

Mary-Lee Swan Gilliland 9/15/23

Remember when you were a childhood “Artist” using Paint by Numbers? Hopefully the numbering events here will help you along the way in your Genealogy!

Writing our Dates: American Style Mo-Day-Yr 6/1/1620
 Euro/World Day-Mo-Yr 31/8/1831

Months can be abbreviated, except June & July-- “CA” or “C” = Circa/ about Bef” = Before “Aft”= After

Abbreviated Latin terms **Gravestone Aging:** “Ye 64th year of his Age” –simply put, not yet age 65

Figuring a Birthdate from a Gravestone Age: Using the “8870” Formula

If a person died 5 Nov 1909 at 7 yr, 11 months and 0 days, you will write it this way

19091105 Year, month, day of death

-071100 Subtract by her age; as 5 days is less than 30, only the month needs adjusting by
 Subtracting “88” from the month column

19020005 Now subtract math constant

 -8800

19011205 Flip to day/mo/yr = 05 Dec 1901

America changes to the Gregorian (Modern) or “New Style “ Calendar in 1752; thus at 1 day old, you would now be 12 days old! [This topic gets so involved that it’s best to check Wikipedia if you’re dating any ancestor born between Jan 1 and Feb 29. There is more to it than even this!]

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gregorian_calendar or an even easier version from

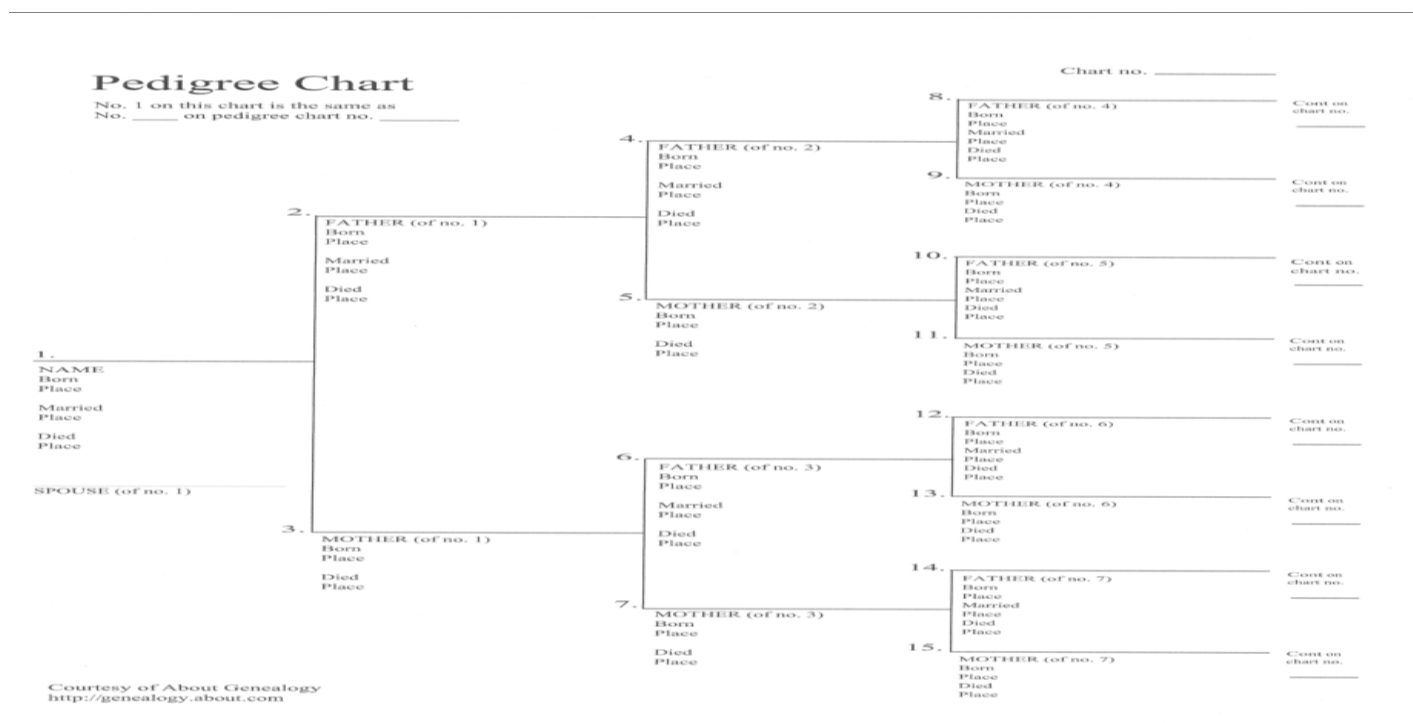
JULIAN 1582		October					Gregorian 1582
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
	1	2	3	4	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	

September						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
15:☉ 23:☽ 30:☾						

<http://libguides.ctstatelibrary.org/hg/colonialresearch/calendar>

If you were born on Jan 1-Mar 24 of 1790/91 you would now show your birth as 1791. Additionally, some groups, like Quakers referred to months as 1st=March, 2nd=April, 3rd=May and so forth. Dates were often referred to as “Double Dates” when a person was born January through March as depending on whether a family kept to the Old Style or New Style Calendar, one could be born 1791/1792. Depending on whether it was old style or new. Needless to say, much confusion ensued for many years after these changes.

The Ahnentafel Pedigree or Ancestor Table



Ahnentafel is German for “Ancestor Table”

Its benefits are Ease of Use as one number system works throughout, capturing all in-line Ancestors, making it easy to navigate between generations and very easy to trace back to yourself should you get lost several generations out. A simple math calculation helps you. Also the chart covers Birth-Marriage-Death dates and where they occurred. (If you’re on Ancestry you will have seen these last items included in their Pedigree chart selection.)

Header page numbers make it easy to link pages. You can organize your binders by generations. Or, to further differentiate each of your 4 ancestral lines you might color-code section dividers by your four Grandparents --- or simply put each set of Grandparents in different binders. If you color code within a single binder holding only your Ahnentafel, you may also want to color-match your numbers at the top and right side with the same color ink to help you know which quadrant –or Grand Parent’s line - you’re in.

You’ll see that from the starting person at the left (1) up through the male line, numbers double. Males will be even numbers on your father’s line and even again on your mother’s father’s line. This makes it easy to trace back to yourself should you get lost several generations out. All females, beginning with your mother –or you, if you are female, will be odd numbers.

Most online trees will simply add a number to each one you add on in succession. Without referring to an alphabetical list, there’s no usefulness in navigating up or down your line until you find someone whose line you can actually recognize.

Family Relationship Charts

Numbers at the top and left side represent the generations away from the common ancestor. To identify the relationship between any two people, identify the common ancestor of the two people. Locate the box in the upper left corner for the common ancestor. Follow the column straight down to find the relationship of one of the two people to the common ancestor. Across the top row of the chart, find the relationship of the second person to the common ancestor. It may be helpful to pencil in the names of the two persons for whom relationship is sought. Where the projected column and row intersect is the box that identifies their relationship. The highlighted boxes show persons of the same generation. "Removed" indicates that the two persons related are not of the same generation. This chart may be extended to identify more distant relationships.

	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	Common Ancestor	Child (son or daughter)	Grandchild	Great Grandchild	2 Great Grandchild	3 Great Grandchild
1	Child (son or daughter)	Sibling (brother or sister)	Nephew or Niece	Grand Nephew or Niece	Great Grand Nephew or Niece	2 Great Grand Nephew or Niece
2	Grandchild	Nephew or Niece	First Cousin	First Cousin once removed	First Cousin twice removed	First Cousin 3 times removed
3	Great Grandchild	Grand Nephew or Niece	First Cousin once removed	Second Cousin	Second Cousin once removed	Second Cousin twice removed
4	2 Great Grandchild	Great Grand Nephew or Niece	First Cousin twice removed	Second Cousin once removed	Third Cousin	Third Cousin once removed
5	3 Great Grandchild	Second Great Grand Nephew or Niece	First Cousin 3 times removed	Second Cousin twice removed	Third Cousin once removed	Fourth Cousin

Double Cousin may be fun – but they reduce the number of grandparents you have causing “Generation Collapse”

Finding a Birthday via the Censuses –

Even if your Grt Grt Grandpa was alive for the best census of 1850, you might still glean enough to figure his birth month and year, by tracking. I’m showing William Gilliland whose age reads 59 on the 28th of July 1860. I also gathered the 1850 and 1870 census. You’ll see from a quick subtraction that shows him being born in 1801 in each of these censuses. Thus the dates would begin Jan 1, 1801 until May 31, 1801. By comparing

actual Month of each census along with the year, one can often guesstimate the span of the month of birth, along with the year.

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SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in Prairie Beat in the County of San Juan of Texas enumerated by me, on the 28 day of July 1860. God Williams A Post Office Big Rock.

Dwelling-houses— numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	DESCRIPTION.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	VALUE OF ESTATE OWNED.		Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 yrs of age who cannot read & write.
			Age.	Sex.	White, black, or mulatto.		Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
563	567	Robt Grapery	36	m		Farmer	\$1800	26.24	Kentucky			
		M. A. Grapery	26	f					Virginia			
		M. C. Grapery	19	f					Texas		1	
		R. P. Grapery	8	m					Texas		1	
		Jos. W. Grapery	5	m					Texas			
		Nancy Grapery	3	f					Texas			
		J. W. Grapery	1	m					Texas			
564	570	A. Cockard	36	m		Farmer	\$800	88.6	Georgia			
		Mary M. Cockard	28	f					Virginia			
		Jos. A. Cockard	13	m					Mississippi		1	
		J. L. Cockard	10	m					Texas		1	
		W. A. Cockard	7	m					Texas		1	
		S. A. Cockard	5	f					Texas			
		M. C. Cockard	1	f					Texas			
565	571	A. Hall	38	m		Farmer	\$300	100	Kentucky			
		Jane H. Hall	20	f					Indiana			1
		R. H. Hall	6	m					Texas			
566	572	Wm. Gulliland	59	m		Farmer	\$1920	15.80	Kentucky			
		Frances Gulliland	59	f					North Carolina			
		W. B. Gulliland	26	m		Farmer	\$1200	865	Alabama			
		W. B. Gulliland	14	m					Texas			

Timeline comparisons determine between one possible parent or another.

Robert W. Gilliland		Alexander Gilliland B.1780 NC
Born 1810 KY		1st Taxed 1801 Warren, KY
Land Purchase 1831 AL		Marriage 1804 Warren, KY
Marr. Eliza Dunson 1835		Starts church 1806 Barren, KY and land purch.
1 st Child 1836 TN		1st Child 1807 KY
2 nd Child 1838 MS		Land grant 1814 Overton, TN
Moves to ARK by 1842		2nd Known child 1818 b. TN
Moves to TX by 1860 Hopkins TX		Census 1830 Lincoln, TN, son in 15-19 column, category just doors from Widow Dunson family)
Wife and infant die 1860		Land Purchase 1831 Jackson, AL (next to Rbt W)
Moves nr William & Remarries 1866 VanZant, TX		Moves Back 1835 Lincoln, TN
Dies 1874		Census 1840

Irish Naming Patterns

1st Dau named for Mtnl GMthr

1st Son for Ptnl GFthr

2nd Dau “ “ Patl GMthr

2nd Son “ Mtnl GFther

3rd Dau “ “ Mthr

3rd Son “ Father

4th Dau “ “ Eldst Aunt

4th Son “ Ptnl Eldst Uncle

5th Dau “ “ 2nd Aunt

5th Son “ Ptnl 2nd Uncle

This last page is just in case you haven't truly imagined yet what it means to "Do Your Genealogy"!

Grandparent Chart from 2nd Generation to approx.. 518 a.d./50 generations

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	20	30	50 generations
2								300y	600yrs	900ys	1500ys
	4										
		8									
			16								
				32							
					64						
						128					
							256				
								512			
									1,047,552		
Cum	Ttl									2,139,520,212	2,247,403,914,657,792
Ttl	GPs								1.049 Mill	2.141 Bil	2.248 Quadrillion*

* Note: Does not account for Generation collapse