

Some Presentations by Carol Prescott McCoy, Ph.D.

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Dr. McCoy will be pleased to give talks or workshops for your group. She has an informative, engaging and motivating style and uses many examples to enliven her talks. Some of her topics are listed below.

Using Deeds in Genealogy—A Goldmine of Information. Often overlooked, deeds and land records can provide useful clues to finding and learning about our ancestors. This is especially true for areas where Probate Records have been destroyed. Deeds can help you find ancestors who have escaped the census taker and can provide information on family relationships, migration patterns, wealth, neighbors and more. Learn how to find them, how to read them, and how to use them to solve genealogy problems.

Using Tax Records in Genealogy—How Taxes Can Be a Good Thing! Many dread tax day, but old tax records provide valuable clues to our ancestors' lives. Since the early days of America people were taxed to create roads, to support wars, and to provide needed revenue. Learn the types of records available, where to find them, and how they help solve genealogy problems.

Making the Most of Census Research. Learn tips and tactics to make the most of your census research. Learn how to avoid common pitfalls and use a variety of censuses to learn about your ancestors and track down those elusive relatives. Get beyond the census indexes and broaden your focus beyond a specific relative to get the whole story.

Strategies for Finding Your Family Roots in New England. Learn tips and tactics for locating your ancestors with New England roots. Find ways to maximize traditional resources, historical societies, family mementos, and the internet to learn about your family heritage. Create a solid research plan and avoid common pitfalls in genealogical research.

Finding Elusive Ancestors—Who Were the Parents of Mary Drummond—Oldest Native Negro in New Bedford, Massachusetts? This enlightening case illustrates how an extensive search led to a famous ancestor for Mary Drummond, "oldest native Negro in New Bedford, Massachusetts in 1928. Learn how to overcome false assumptions, use vital records, censuses, deeds, probate, poor house records, newspapers, cemetery records, and online resources to discover an ancestor's parentage.

Enriching Genealogy with Memorabilia and Pictures. There is only so much excitement that can be generated from ancestor charts and family group sheets. Pictures are indeed worth a thousand words. Find out types of memorabilia that can enrich your family history and become inspired to locate them! Share ideas of what others have done to enliven their stories to give people a feel for what their ancestors' lives were like.

Tracing Your Ancestors—Getting Started. This talk presents the fundamentals of genealogy and family research to help people get started on a solid foundation. Learn how to unravel family mysteries and avoid common pitfalls in genealogical research.

Creative Ways to Solve Genealogical Problems. Have you hit the proverbial brick wall or road block in your genealogical research? Is an ancestor or two eluding you and hiding from the census taker or the town clerk? Learn some solid strategies and ways to take a fresh look at what you've tried and what else you can do to find those pesky hidden ancestors.

The Maine-Canada-Ireland Connection —Seeking Rogers' Roots. An intriguing and entertaining case study shows how we discovered the Canadian and Irish roots of the Rogers' family who lived in Brewer Maine in 1850. Learn how US and Canadian census, land, probate, historical, cemetery, and newspaper records as well as archival material, online sites and databases and internet contacts can bring a complex family history to life.

Testimonials for Dr. Carol Prescott McCoy

"Thank you so much for your presentation at the Greater Portland Chapter of MGS. I don't think anyone else could bring such enthusiasm and spark so much interest in tax records as you did! I think we had a record turnout and certainly had a captivated audience. Thanks for sharing your stories, techniques and resources and for opening up a new avenue for research."

Deb Locke, Program Chair, Greater Portland Chapter, MGS

Carol McCoy spoke at the MSOG-Worcester Chapter on September 9, 2007 in Auburn, MA. She gave a wonderful, stimulating lecture on Strategies to use on New England Research! Her lecture was organized, detailed and beneficial to both new and experienced researchers. I would like to hear her lecture again in the near future. Carol is an enthusiastic speaker!

Karen Trearchis

I so thoroughly enjoyed your presentation on Strategies for New England Research at Auburn. Through your enthusiasm and humor, you have given me a fresh perspective to my research. I was particularly in need of your suggestions on organizing my research. Through my family lines I seem to find myself jumping around and often lose my focus. Your topic was especially valuable to me as 99% of my ancestors are New England based. I was really encouraged by your presentation and look forward to hearing you speak again. Thank you.

Elaine H. Benjamin

Carol, I attended your class on the Case of Mary Drummond--Finding the Elusive Female Ancestor at the RIHS on October 16th. At the end of the class you asked everyone what they had learned from the class and I said, "not to discount the Census Records prior to 1850". I had thought that their information to be too minimal. Well, I just had to let you know I took your advice, and found the clues I needed in the 1840 census to solve a two-year old problem. Also, I used a more open mind after your class and looked again at another puzzle. I took the marriage record of a female at face value--she had the same last name as her husband. They turned out to be first cousins. You cannot imagine how excited I was to see the names of the parents written correctly finally. So, Carol, I want to say "thank you" for opening new avenues of research and to let you know how much it has meant to me.

Sincerely, Maureen V., Pawtucket, R. I.

Carol's presentation to our chapter was excellent! She facilitated a discussion on the often-intimidating subject of public speaking, entitled "Keys to Successful Presentations." Not only was it interesting and helpful; it was fun! She has a real talent for drawing people into a discussion.

Diane Florence Gravel, CG, President, New England Chapter, Association of Professional Genealogists

Thank you for doing your talk on Sound Strategies for New England Genealogy Research for our historical society. It was a lot of fun and very informative. Your enthusiasm is contagious! You can really tell you thoroughly enjoy what you do. The response from the group after the meeting was very positive. Thanks again for a wonderful afternoon!

Mary Anderson, Program Committee Member, Limerick (Maine) Historical Society

We were pleased to have Carol McCoy as a speaker at our 2007 conference [Maine Genealogical Society 2007 Annual Conference]. She is a dynamic speaker whose enthusiasm in genealogical research is readily apparent and contagious. Carol's delivery of material, no matter its complexity, is well-grounded and straightforward. Her presentations are very easy to relate to because she makes extensive use of real-life experiences and examples to illustrate the subject matter. I have sat in on a couple presentations by Carol at other events and would pretty much sum up the experience as "Exciting and Motivating!"

Dale W. Mower President, Maine Genealogical Society

Dr. Carol McCoy was the main speaker at our Sixth Annual Genealogy Conference in August 2007. She also did a workshop in the morning. All the comments from participants were very positive with no

negatives — they said they learned a lot and that the handouts were extremely helpful. Carol was very organized, easy to talk to, on time and very prepared. Our Chapter would not hesitate to ask her to speak again.

Marilyn Dennis, Regent Silence Howard Hayden Chapter DAR

"Foundations of Genealogy" - Boston University Certificate Program in Genealogy
Carol McCoy taught the first module of the Boston University Certificate Program in Genealogical Research during its summer session in 2009. From the start, it was apparent that she was a skilled communicator with years of experience in the art of instruction. Carol adeptly covered the topics of evidence, sources, and the Genealogical Proof Standard laying a solid foundation for the ensuing class modules. She was knowledgeable, helpful, and a joy to learn from. I very much look forward to attending her future conference lectures.

Alexandra Stocker Principal, Tracelines Research

Hi Carol, Just wanted to say how much I enjoyed your talks today (Making the Most of the Census and Enriching Genealogy with Memorabilia.) You are so enthusiastic! Just makes one want to go home and get started on new things. I always learn something new at each conference. As always, I appreciate that you think 'outside of the box' and talk about some of the less used sources. You make it very clear that good documented research is not completed overnight, but takes a lot of well thought out work. So many thanks for all your work.

Janice Gower, Frequent contributor to Maine Families in 1790 and a member of the MGS Exec. Com.

Course: Finding Your Roots--Unpuzzling Your Past.

A wonderful experience which generated new information as well as new findings. I have taken a course with Carol before. She has "ways to wonder" that are most helpful. - *Deborah Goss*

Thumbs up for this course. The instructor was well prepared! - *Harold E. Leland*

Carol is a very knowledgeable instructor. She brings her passions and sense of humor to every class. Great tips and ideas on how to get started. This course is great for beginners and anyone who's been working for years in the field. I'm more focused after taking her class. - *Cindy Legassie*

This course helped me better understand possible resources and where to look. It is rich in case studies so it brings a good sense of reality. - *Barb Hager*

Dear Carol,

I wanted to send this note as a way of thanking you for the many benefits that I received from your genealogy class. You guided me toward the appropriate research tools and infused my research with an energy and excitement that I had not felt before. I will recommend your classes and professional services whenever the opportunity arises.

Thank you so much, Deb Goss