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CATHERINE B.W. DESMARAIS, CERTIFIED GENEALOGIST®

Certification

Certified Genealogist, Board for Certification of Genealogists®, Certificate 1016

Awarded 4 June 2011, successfully renewed 4 June 2016, 4 June 2021

Work Experience

Owner, Stone House Historical Research, 2008 – present

Specializing in kinship determination for the legal community and the U.S. military. Thousands of hours billable forensic experience in United States and International research. More than 1,000 Army repatriation cases completed. Accepted as an expert witness in New York County Surrogate's Court.

Military Repatriation Genealogical Contractor, 2012 – present

Department of Defense qualified genealogist, locating next of kin and eligible family DNA donors for servicemen missing from Korea and World War II with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

Leadership and Membership

Member, Association for Professional Genealogists (APG), APG New England Chapter, APG Forensic Genealogy Special Interest Group; National Genealogical Society

Vice-President, Association for Professional Genealogists (APG), 2014 – 2017

APG is an international organization dedicated to supporting those engaged in the business of genealogy through advocacy, collaboration, education, and the promotion of high ethical standards.

Council for the Advancement of Forensic Genealogy (CAFG), 2012 – 2015

Member of the Board of Directors and Mentor Program Coordinator. Mentored members' participation in pro-bono research projects for coroners' offices, ACT Dallas, and Purple Hearts Reunited.

Institute Teaching

Course Coordinator and Instructor: *Fundamentals of Forensic Genealogy*

Course Coordinator and Instructor: *Beyond Fundamentals: Hands-On Forensic Genealogy*

Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP), 2016-2023

Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG), Salt Lake City, 2020-2023

Instructor

Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, 2015-2023, Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh, 2014-2023

Selected courses in which I've taught:

Meeting Standards with DNA Evidence, coord. Karen Stanbary

Women and Children First: Research Methods for the Hidden Members of the Family, coord. Judy G. Russell, JD

Solving Problems Like a Professional, coord. Michael Hait

Advanced Evidence Practicum, coord. Angela McGhie

Digging Deeper in New England, coord. D. Joshua Taylor

Determining Kinship Reliably with the Genealogical Proof Standard, Thomas W. Jones

Ancestry Academy

"Vermont: Research in the Green Mountain State,"

A series of instructional modules created and filmed for *Ancestry*, October 2015, available at Ancestry.com

Educational Background

Master's Degree, Education, University of Vermont. Graduated Summa Cum Laude, 4.0/4.0 GPA
Earned 33 additional graduate credits in education after completion of this degree, maintaining 4.0/4.0.

Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP)

Chromosome Mapping and Visual Phasing, 2018; *Advanced Genetic Genealogy*, 2016; *Law School for Genealogists*, 2014; *Determining Kinship Reliably with the Genealogical Proof Standard*, 2013; *Advanced Genealogical Methods*, 2012

Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG), Salt Lake City

Advanced Land Tools: Maps, 2022; *Meeting Standards Using DNA Evidence*, 2021; *Establishing Genealogical Proof with DNA*, 2018

Who Do You Think You Are? Live, Birmingham, England, April 2016

Represented APG, attended sessions including an Irish DNA study and little-known Irish records.

Forensic Genealogy Institute, Dallas, Texas

Advanced Master Practicum, 2015, *Advanced Evidence Analysis*, 2014, *Foundations in Forensic Genealogy*, 2012

Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts

GEN 221, *Writing Narrative Family Histories and Other Genealogical Works*, 2011

APG Professional Management Conferences, 2010, 2014-2017, 2019

Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama, Institute for Genealogical and Historical Research

Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis, 2013, *Intermediate Genealogy...Studies*, 2009

Genealogical Institute on Federal Records (now Gen-Fed, then NIGR)

National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C., 2008

ProGen 1, Professional Genealogical Study Group, 18-month program 2008-2009

Attendee at numerous local, regional, and national genealogical conferences

Selected Publications

Desmarais, Catherine Becker Wiest. "Was Nancy a Northamer? DNA Helps Identify a Revolutionary War Militiaman's Daughter." *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, in press.

Desmarais, Catherine B. Wiest. "Not Forgotten: The Genealogist's Role in American Military WWII Repatriation." *Irish Lives Remembered*, issue 50 (Autumn 2020): 24-35.

Desmarais, Catherine Becker Wiest. "A Complex International Probate Case," companion piece to Michael R. Ramage, "Self-Authenticating Evidence: Rules You Need to Know." *Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly*, December 2019, 13-14.

Desmarais, Catherine Becker Wiest. "Hazen P. Day of Baltimore, Maryland, and Burlington, Vermont: His Neighbors Bring Him Home." *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, September 2017.

Desmarais, Catherine Becker Wiest and Noreen Alexander Manzella. "Who Fathered Jacob and William Northamer? Pennsylvania Tax Records Help Determine Kinship." *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 100 (June 2012), 123-32.

Desmarais, Catherine Becker Wiest. "Restoring the Identity of Elisabeth Bair of Lancaster, Pennsylvania: Was She a Northamer or a Wetsler, and Who Were Her Parents?," *Crossroads* 7 (Spring 2012): 6-15.