



Ohio Genealogical Society Quarterly

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Using Indirect and Negative Evidence to Identify John Noggle as Sarah Noggle's Father in Early Nineteenth-Century Wayne County, Ohio

by Jan Joyce, DBA, CG, CGL, AG

Sarah Noggle was born in a time and place when little information was created or retained indicating the identity of relationships, especially for those of women. Thus, nothing documents Sarah and her father's relationship explicitly. Sarah's early death in her mid-thirties as a married woman also curtailed evidence of her parentage. Through probates, land transactions, onomastic cues, burial proximities, and census household correlation with Sarah's siblings, children, and parents, Sarah's father was identified.

Sarah was born in Pennsylvania between 1813 and 1814, most likely in Greene Township of Franklin County.¹ Around age twenty-one on 01 January 1835, she and George Hile wed in Wayne County, Ohio, probably in or near Mohican Township.² Sarah likely died between 14 August 1850, after an enumeration, and 21 January 1855, when George married again.³

John Noggle's 1833 Land Purchase in Mohican Township, Wayne County, Ohio

In 1833, a John Noggle bought 313 acres of land in Mohican Township.⁴ John first started paying property taxes in Mohican in 1837.⁵ However, that doesn't indicate that he resided there yet. The federal government promoted homesteading by removing the tax burden on settlers for the first five years of ownership.⁶ This benefit may have been in place at the point John purchased land.

John's 1846 Death and Probate Hint at Familial Relationships

John Noggle died between 03 June and 25 September of 1846.⁷ William Noggle was appointed as administrator, and a widow survived.⁸ The "next of kin" was

recommended legally as well as traditionally in this geographic area and time.⁹ Often when a wife survived, she declined administering the estate, and a son was appointed. Thus, it seems likely that William was John's son.

Receipts for disbursements by the estate administrator are included in the probate file. Receipt "number 3" paid a woman named Mary Noggle \$20.00 on 2 October 1846. And receipt "number 19" paid her \$41.63. On a summary page, items 3 and 19 both include the note "paid widow" and therefore linking the widow and Mary Noggle as one.¹⁰

John's Death Triggers Sale of Land in 1846

By 1846, that same land John purchased in 1833 was divided via quit claim deeds among five inferred heirs.¹¹ Each of the five deeds was dated 14 November 1846 and referenced "the lands of John Noggle, deceased." However, relationships between the parties were not discussed (see table 1 on page 187).

The five grantees were William Noggle, Jacob Noggle, Michael Ely, George Hile, and Ira C. Kennedy. As grantees, wives' names were not customarily included. However, as grantors they did.¹² Four of these five men were married at the time:

- William Noggle's wife was Eliza (Ritter).¹³
- Michael Ely's wife was Susanna (Noggle).¹⁴
- George Hile's wife was Sarah (Noggle).¹⁵
- Ira Kennedy's wife was Nancy (Noggle).¹⁶
- Jacob Noggle was not married.¹⁷

Parcel size of the five segments varied little and measured between sixty-one and sixty-three acres each. This south half of section three where it meets section ten was described as "Hilly, W & B [white and black] Oak, Hickory" per an 1807 survey. But no further distinction within the section described the land's quality.¹⁸

Table 1
1846 Distribution of John Noggle's Land for Range 15, Township 21, Section 3
in Mohican Township, Ashland (previously Wayne) County, Ohio²⁴

Grantee	Grantors	Date	Price	Acreage	Description	Date Recorded
William Noggle^a	Michael & Susan Ely George & Sarah Hile Ira C. and Nancy Kennedy Jacob Noggle	14 Nov 1846	\$1,080 (\$270 to each party)	62-62/100	Part of the SE quarter	30 Nov 1846
Jacob Noggle^b	Michael & Susan Ely William & Eliza Noggle George & Sarah Hile Ira C. & Nancy Kennedy	14 Nov 1846	\$1,200 (\$300 to each party)	61-70/100	Part of South Half	30 Nov 1846
Michael Ely^c	William & Eliza Noggle Ira C. and Nancy Kennedy George & Sarah Hile Jacob Noggle	14 Nov 1846	\$1,260 (\$315 to each party)	61-49/100	Part of the SW quarter	22 Mar 1847
George Hile^d	William & Eliza Noggle Michael & Susan Ely Ira C. and Nancy Kennedy Jacob Noggle	14 Nov 1846	\$1,200 (\$300 to each party)	62-43/100	Part of the SE quarter	19 Nov 1847
Ira C. Kennedy^e	William & Eliza Noggle Michael & Susan Ely George & Sarah Hile Jacob Noggle	14 Nov 1846	\$1,680 (\$420 to each party)	61-25/100	Part of the SW quarter	25 Feb 1848
^a "Deed records, vol 1, 1846-1847," p 233, Michael Ely Deed to William Noggle (1846); "Deed records, 1846-1847; index, 1847-1901 (Ashland County, Ohio)," images, <i>FamilySearch</i> (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSLX-T3W8-L : accessed 05 August 2022), image 152 of 383, FHL film 008193359. ^b "Deed records, vol 1, 1846-1847," pp 235-236, Michael Ely to Jacob Noggle (1846); "Deed records, 1846-1847; index, 1847-1901 (Ashland County, Ohio)," images, <i>FamilySearch</i> (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSLX-T37B-M : accessed 05 August 2022), image 153 of 383, FHL film 008193359. ^c Deed records, vol 1, 1846-1847," p 351, William Noggle & wife Ira C. Kennedy & wife George Hill & wife & Jacob Noggle to Michael Ely (1846); "Deed records, 1846-1847; index, 1847-1901 (Ashland County, Ohio)," images, <i>FamilySearch</i> (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSLX-T3WS-Y : accessed 05 August 2022), image 212 of 383, FHL film 008193359. ^d Deed records, vol 2, 1847-1848," p 113, William Noggle & wife Deed to George Hile (1846); "Deed records, 1846-1897, index, 1847-1901 (Ashland County, Ohio)," images, <i>FamilySearch</i> (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSLX-Y95C-S : accessed 05 August 2022), image 66 of 346, FHL film 008193360. There is an incorrect date of 14 March 1846 in the record; it should be 14 November 1846 and was likely a copying error. ^e Deed records, vol 2, 1847-1848," pp 271-272, William Noggle & others to Ira C. Kennedy (1846); "Deed records, 1846-1897, index, 1847-1901 (Ashland County, Ohio)," images, <i>FamilySearch</i> (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSLX-Y95V-K : accessed 05 August 2022), image 147 of 346, FHL film 008193360.						

Mary Noggle's 1850 Residence and 1852 Burial Provide Insights

After John's death, his widow Mary likely allowed John's land to be distributed to heirs without utilizing any herself.¹⁹ Perhaps Mary relinquished her dower rights to one third of the real estate in lieu of more of the personal estate.

By 1850, John's widow, Mary Noggle, lived with Sarah and George Hile in Washington Township, Holmes County, Ohio.²⁰ Mary did not remarry.²¹ She died in 1852 and left no probate.²²

Both Mary and John Noggle were buried in 188-headstone Meng Cemetery in Jeromesville, Ashland County, Ohio.²³ Other Noggles were also buried there:

- Jacob Noggle, their son, who died in 1853.²⁴
- Susanna Noggle Ely, their daughter, who died in 1880.²⁵
- Samuel Noggle, their grandson and the son of William Noggle, died in 1848, aged five.²⁶

From PA to OH - Six Decades of Census Records Support the John Noggle Family Composition

For at least thirty years, John Noggle resided in Greene Township, Franklin County, Pennsylvania. John's hypothesized family over five decades includes an unidentified first wife, his second wife Mary, and the five heirs (inferred children) who sold John's land from the 1846 distribution between Jacob, Susanna, William, Sarah, and Nancy. However, with few relationships stated explicitly, do John's households over five decades confirm the hypotheses? See table 2 on page 189.

There are only two discrepancies (shown as shaded cells) to the anticipated household composition with hypothesized explanations:

- John's age range in 1810 appears to be either miscalculated or an error. He should be in the over-45 age group and was in the 26-45 category.
- In 1820, the females that are likely daughters Sarah and Nancy should have been categorized as 1811-1820, not 1804-1810.

Both errors are minor and perhaps caused by the enumerator or the informant. With those exceptions, all family members and the overall composition appear consistent. (see table 2 on page 189).

Noggle Probates Appoint One Administrator Signaling Kinships

Three Noggle deaths link several of the Noggles together. In each of the three, William Noggle was appointed the administrator (see table 3 on page 190).

William Noggle served three times as administrator to Noggle estates, signaling that he was almost certainly John's son and a brother to Jacob and Susanna, both of whom had no closer living heirs. In addition to these relationship indicators from probates, naming conventions also provide support for relationships.

Onomastics Support John Noggle as Father

Of John's five hypothesized children, only three of them had children of their own:

- Jacob appeared to neither marry nor have children.²⁷
- Susanna was married to Michael Ely, but he was a widower at the time and had children only prior to his marriage to Susanna.²⁸
- William and Eliza (Ritter) Noggle named their eldest son John and their eldest daughter Mary.²⁹
- Sarah (Noggle) and George Hile named their eldest son John and their eldest daughter Mary.³⁰
- Nancy (Noggle) and Ira Kennedy named their eldest son John and their eldest daughter Mary.³¹

Even though the names John and Mary were common, it is highly unlikely that all the siblings randomly chose these same names for the eldest son and daughter. This strongly suggests that John was the father of William, Sarah, and Nancy.

John Noggle Was Not Sarah's Grandfather

John was about fifty years old when Sarah was born in 1814, and thus, he was old enough to be her grandfather.³² If Jacob Noggle—born 1799—was John's first child, then John likely first married within a couple of years before his birth. Marrying first in his mid-thirties was uncommon but not unlikely. John had at least two more children within four years of Jacob's birth.

These three children—Jacob, Susanna, and William—born in 1799, 1801, and 1803, were likely from a first wife.³³ That first wife was in John's 1800 household and was in the same birth year range as John of 1756-1774.³⁴

Table 2
Household Compositions for John Noggle's Family –
Showing Birth Year Range for 1800-1840 Censuses

Name Birth-Death Dates	1800 ^a	1810 ^b	1820 ^c	1830 ^d	1840 ^e
John Noggle 1764-1846	1756-1774	1766-1784	<1775	1761-1770	1761-1770
1st Wife [—?—] Born between 1756-1774 Died 1803-1806	1756-1774	---	---	---	---
2nd Wife Mary/Polly [—?—] 1783-1852 ^f	---	1766-1784	1775-1794	1781-1790	1781-1790
Children:					
Unidentified female	1791-1800	---	---	---	1791-1800
Jacob Noggle (1799-1853)	1791-1800	1795-1800	1794-1804	1791-1800	Separate Household ^g
Susannah Noggle (Ely) (1801-1880)	---	1801-1810	1794-1804	1801-1810	1801-1810
William Noggle (1803-1888)	---	1801-1810	1802-1804	Separate Household ^h	Separate Household ⁱ
Sarah Noggle (Hile) (1814-1850/5)	---	---	1804-1810	1811-1815	Separate Household ^j
Nancy Noggle (Kennedy) (1815-1878)	---	---	1804-1810	1811-1815	Separate Household ^k
<p>a. 1800 U.S. census, Franklin, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Greene, p 38, last line on page, Tom Hogle [sic]; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/402070:7590 : accessed 05 August 2022); citing NARA microfilm publication M32, roll 38.</p> <p>b. 1810 U.S. census, Franklin, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Letterkenny (Greene within Letterkenny), unpaginated, second line from bottom, John Nagle; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/510361:7613 : accessed 05 August 2022); citing NARA microfilm publication M252, roll 54.</p> <p>c. 1820 U.S. census, Franklin, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Greene, p 463 (penned, crossed-out), alphabetically sorted with N heading, John Nagle; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/867608:7734 accessed 05 August 2022); citing NARA microfilm publication M33, roll 101.</p> <p>d. 1830 U.S. census, Franklin, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Greene, p 199A (penned), line 15, John Nogle; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/481540:8058 : accessed 05 August 2022); citing NARA microfilm publication M19, roll 151.</p> <p>e. 1840 U.S. census, Wayne, Ohio, population schedule, Mohican, p 16 (penned), John Noggle; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1762888:8057 : accessed 05 August 2022); citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 432.</p> <p>f. John's first wife likely died between 03 February 1803 when William's was born and 29 May 1806 when no wife was included as a grantor on a deed with John. For William's birthdate, see: <i>Find A Grave (Find A Grave)</i> (https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/40442797/william-noggle : accessed 05 August 2022), 40442797. For the deed, see: "Franklin County, Register of Deeds, Deeds, 1784-1883 ; Index 1784-1963," images, <i>FamilySearch</i> (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3T-69HN-F : accessed 05 August 2022), citing Deeds, vol 7-8, Aug 1805-Mar 1810, p 146-147, Nagle et al to Powl [sic].</p> <p>g. 1840 U.S. census, Wayne, Ohio, population schedule, East Union, p 163, Jacob Noggle; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1767066:8057 : accessed 05 August 2022); citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 432.</p> <p>h. 1830 U.S. census, Franklin, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Greene, p 199A (penned), line 13, William Nogle; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/481538:8058 : accessed 16 July 2022); citing NARA microfilm publication M19, roll 151.</p> <p>i. 1840 U.S. census, Wayne, Ohio, population schedule, Mohican, p 16, William Noggle; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1762889:8057 : accessed 05 August 2022); citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 432.</p> <p>j. 1840 U.S. census, Wayne, Ohio, population schedule, Mohican, p 16, George Hete [sic]; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1762886:8057 : accessed 05 August 2022); citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 432.</p> <p>k. 1840 U.S. census, Wayne, Ohio, population schedule, Mohican, p 16, Ira Roberds [sic]; digital image, <i>Ancestry</i> (https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1762885:8057 : accessed 05 August 2022); citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 432.</p>					

Table 3
William Noggle Appointed as Administrator on Multiple Probate Accounts

John Noggle's Probate	William Noggle was appointed as John Noggle's administrator in 1846. ^a Ohio statutes note that in intestate cases, the next of kin shall be appointed as the probate administrator. ^b This could be the widow but is often the children with the duty usually falling to a son.
Jacob Noggle's Probate	Jacob Noggle died in 1853 seemingly without marrying or having children. Thus, upon his death, the next of kin appointed as administrator would be a parent or a sibling. Since both of Jacob's parents were dead and he had no wife nor children, then William Noggle, likely Jacob's brother, was appointed. ^c
Susanna Noggle Ely's Probate	Susanna Noggle Ely died without children. Her marriage to Michael Ely likely did not result in any children and certainly none who were living at the time of her 1880 death. ^d Thus, upon her death, which was decades after her husband Michael's, her next of kin was also almost certainly a sibling. William Noggle was appointed as her probate administrator. ^e
<p>a. For proof of William as the administrator, see: "Ashland County Ohio Probate Case Files 1846-1935, 20-122, 17 Aug 1846-13 Oct 1847," no. 34, for John Noggle, Administrator's Bond; "Ohio, Ashland County, probate case files, 1846-1936," <i>FamilySearch</i> (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSP3-CTNX), image 181 of 1450, FHL film 104202339.</p> <p>b. For "next of kin" being appointed as estate administrator, see: Joseph Rockwell Swan, "Executors and Administrators," <i>Statutes of the State of Ohio of a General Nature</i>, vol XXIX (Columbus: Samuel Medary, 1841), 341, 12 Sect. III; <i>Google Books</i>, images, (https://www.google.com/books/edition/Statutes_of_the_State_of_Ohio_of_a_Gener/psU5AQAAAMAJ).</p> <p>c. As an example of Jacob's parents as deceased, for John, see: <i>Find A Grave</i>, database with images (https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39592831/john-noggle), memorial 39592831, John Noggle (1764-1846), Meng Cemetery, Jeromesville, Ashland County, Ohio; photograph and created by Bill Miller on 18 July 2009, maintained by Bill Miller's Dan.</p> <p>For Mary, see: <i>Find A Grave</i>, database with images (https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39592832/mary-noggle), memorial 39592832, Mary Noggle (1852), Meng Cemetery, Jeromesville, Ashland County, Ohio; photograph and created by Bill Miller on 18 July 2009, maintained by Bill Miller's Dan.</p> <p>Jacob's probate identified no children. No administrator's bond is in the probate file, but William Noggle is noted as administrator multiple times, as an example, see: "Ashland County Ohio Probate Case Files 1846-1935, 673-761 Probate, 17 Oct 1857-3 Sep 1859," no. 721, for Jacob Noggle, Receipt from Probate Judge; "Ohio, Ashland County, probate case files," <i>FamilySearch</i> (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS54-Z9YZ-7), image 1125 of 2426, FHL film 104320017.</p> <p>d. For William Noggle as the only heir living at the time of Susanna Noggle Ely's death, see: "Ashland County Ohio Probate Case Files 1846-1935, 3757-3817 Probate, 24 Nov 1880-3 Jan 1881" no. 3777, for Susan Ely, Administrator's or Executor's Accounts, second page; "Ohio, Ashland County, probate case files," <i>FamilySearch</i> (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSTW-BVWH), image 695 of 2942, FHL film 104674358. Noted: "William Noggle Sr. being the only heir there is due him the sum of & paid \$2,797.06."</p> <p>e. or William Noggle as the estate administrator, see: "Ashland County Ohio Probate Case Files 1846-1935, 3757-3817 Probate, 24 Nov 1880-3 Jan 1881" no. 3777, for Susan Ely, Administrator's Bond; "Ohio, Ashland County, probate case files," <i>FamilySearch</i> (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSTW-BV8J), image 670 of 2942, FHL film 104674358.</p>	

It is highly improbable that these three inferred children were grandchildren. John would have fathered a child at age eighteen who then had a child at age eighteen, and who then died, leaving grandchildren for John to raise. There is no indication of the existence of this situation.³⁵

A large gap in the birth of children occurred between third-born William's 1803 birth and fourth-born Sarah's 1814 birth.³⁶ The death of a first wife likely occurred sometime between 08 February 1803 and 09 March 1806.³⁷

When John executed a deed on 17 May 1810, he was not married.³⁸ But by mid-1811, John was married to someone younger born between 1755 and 1784, surely Mary. By 06 August 1811, he was married to someone named Polly, a common nickname for Mary and therefore likely the same person.³⁹

If Jacob, Susanna, and William were John's children but Sarah and Nancy were not, could another relationship exist? Sarah and Nancy would not have been the children of Jacob, Susanna, or William given their minimal age

difference of between 11 to 15 years.⁴⁰ It is possible that John had a child, since deceased, older than Jacob, Susanna, and William, who was the parent to Sarah and Nancy.

However, if that was the case, Sarah and Nancy would have had a lesser degree of consanguinity to John's estate. John's children would have received an equal share between them, and Sarah and Nancy would have split one share, not each have a share equal to the three older children.⁴¹ Thus, Jacob, Susanna, William, Sarah, and Nancy all must be siblings, full or half.

Summary

- Although slightly older than average parenting age, John was an appropriate age to be Sarah's father, especially with a hypothesized younger second wife.
- John resided in Pennsylvania when and where Sarah was born.
- A female of Sarah's age resided in John's 1830 household.
- Five heirs – siblings – exchanged nearly identical parcels of John Noggle's land, indicating the same degree of consanguinity.
- Each of John's children who had their own children named their first son John and their first daughter Mary.
- A Mary Noggle was identified and named as the widow of John. She lived in Sarah Noggle Hile's 1850 household and was of an appropriate age to be Sarah's mother.
- Sibling relationships between Jacob, Susanna, William, Sarah, and Nancy were established:
 - The probate files for John, as well as two of his children – Jacob and Susanna – identified William Noggle as the estate administrator. This responsibility, suggested by law and custom, falls to the closest of kin.
 - Five 1846 quitclaim deeds transferred property between the

five siblings after John's death.

- William Noggle was appointed administrator for siblings Susanna and Jacob.
- Susanna and Jacob were buried in the same small cemetery as their parents John and Mary Noggle.
- Sarah named one of her daughters Nancy and one of her sons Ira (Nancy's husband).
- Nancy named one of her daughters Sarah and one of her sons George (Sarah's husband).

John Noggle was Sarah's father.

Known children of Sarah/ Noggle and George Hile can be viewed at: <https://genealogically.com/hile-children-list>.

Endnotes

The author would like to thank Pam Anderson, CG®, for guidance on, and record pulls in, the Franklin County, Pennsylvania area, and to Shannon Green, CG® and Ann Rayment, CG® for editorial feedback. The surname Noggle has many spelling variants, all of which were used in searches. In the body of the text Noggle was be used. Variants include: Naugle, Nagle, Nagel, Nogle, and Nogel. Pennsylvania did not record births and deaths consistently until done at the state level in 1908. *Library of Congress*, Research Guides (<https://guides.loc.gov/pennsylvania-local-history-genealogy/vital-records>), "Pennsylvania: Local History & Genealogy Resource Guide, Vital Records." Ohio did not begin recording births and deaths at the county level until 1867. Ohio History Connection, *Ohio History* (<https://ohiohistory.libguides.com/vital>), "Vital Records." Access dates for all websites was 10 October 2022.

1. For Sarah's birth year calculation and Pennsylvania location, see: 1850 U.S. census, Holmes, Ohio, population schedule, Washington, p 294A (stamped), dwelling 611, family 622, Sarah Hill [*sic*]; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13921060:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 696. For Greene Township as Sarah's likely place of birth, see John Noggle's 1810 household: 1810 U.S. census, Franklin, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Letterkenny (Greene within Letterkenny), unpaginated, p 1, second line from bottom, John Nagle; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/>

discoveryui-content/view/510361:7613); citing NARA microfilm publication M252, roll 54. Also, see John Noggle's 1820 household: 1820 U.S. census, Franklin, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Greene, p 463 (penned, crossed-out), alphabetically sorted with N heading, John Nagle; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/867608:7734>); citing NARA microfilm publication M33, roll 101. Also, see this profile in which William's (Sarah's brother) son, William Noggle (junior), mentions his parents' nativity from Greene Township: A. J. Baughman, *History of Ashland County, Ohio* (The S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1909), 556-558; digital images, *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/details/historyofashland00baug/page/556/mode/2up>). See the narrative for proof of William as Sarah's brother.

2. "Wayne County, Ohio, Marriage Record 1826-1834, vol 3, p 316, George Hile to Sarah Noggle, 01 January 1835; "Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-2016," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XZKM-CR5>), image 179 of 191, FHL film 004260647. Early Ohio marriage records, such as this one, do not include names of parents. The county marriage did not specify a township location; however, the marriage was performed by Benjamin Bunn, a Minister of the Gospel. Bunn resided in Mohican Township. As an example, see: 1830 U.S. census, Wayne, Ohio, population schedule, Mohican, p 14 (penned), line 18, Benjamin Bunn; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/399419:8058>); citing NARA microfilm publication M19, roll 142. Also, George Hile resided in Mohican Township in 1840, see: 1840 U.S. census, Wayne, Ohio, population schedule, Mohican, p 16, George Hete [*sic*]; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1762886:8057>); citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 432.

3. The official enumeration date for the 1850 census was 01 June; however, Sarah's enumeration date was 14 August 1850. She was most likely alive on that date despite enumerator instructions to include people in the household as of 01 June 1850. For the enumeration instructions, see: *United States Census Bureau* (<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/technical-documentation/questionnaires/1850/1850-instructions.html>), "1850 Census Instructions to Enumerators," section 3. For Sarah Hile's 1850 census date, see: 1850 U.S. census, Holmes, Ohio, population schedule, Washington, p 294A (stamped), dwelling 611, family 622, Sarah Hill [*sic*]; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13921060:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 696. Sarah Noggle Hile almost certainly died after the 1850 enumeration and before

George Hile married Margaret Staver on 21 January 1855, see: "Holmes County, Ohio, Marriage Records 1850-1859, vol 3, p 130, George Hile to Margaret Staver, 21 January 1855"; "Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-2016," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939K-PFCV>), image 97 of 158, FHL film 004701450. No record of a divorce has been found for George and Sarah, see: "Ohio, U.S., Compiled Marriage Index, 1803-1900," *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/5194/>), for Sarah Hile. This database includes divorce records. Negative findings for a burial, see: *Find a Grave* (www.findagrave.com) in a search for any death of a person named Sarah before 1856 or with an unknown death date in both Holmes County and Wayne County, Ohio. Negative findings for a burial in a by-page search of the indexed Washington Township Cemeteries in Holmes County, Ohio: *Holmes County Cemeteries*, (<http://www.holmeslibrary.org/cemeteries/townships/washington/>), "Washington Township." Negative findings for an obituary, see: *Community History Archive*, "Holmes County Farmer," "Farmer and Democrat," and "Holmes County Farmer Free Press," (<http://holmescounty.advantage-preservation.com/>). Negative findings for a church death, see: "U.S. Church Records," *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/categories/uschurch/>). Negative findings for mention in a county history: Ben Douglass, *History of Wayne County, Ohio, From the Days of the Pioneers and the First Settlers to the Present Time*, (Indianapolis: Robert Douglas, Publisher, 1878). Also, Holmes County Historical Society, *Holmes County Historical Sketches*, (Walnut Creek: Carlisle Printing, 2002). Also, Holmes County History Book Committee, *Holmes County Ohio to 1985*, (Salem, WV: Walsworth Publishing, 1985).

4. "Deed books, vol 9-10 1831-1835," vol 10, pp 376-377, Christopher Ensperger to John Noggle (1833); Wayne County (Ohio), Recorder, "Deed records, 1813-1910, index to deed records, ca. 1813-1914," images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSQH-NZ7Q>), image 501 of 645, FHL film 007842212. The description in the deed provides a location that is based in Mohican Township, Wayne County (now Ashland County), Ohio. *Randymajors.org Research Lab*, (www.randymajors.org), "Map Tools: Section Township Range." Use "Find Parcel" tool applying data: Section 3, Township 21 North, Range 15 West, Ohio.

5. "Tax records, 1837-1838," (1837), vol 1406, p 217, Mohican Township, John Noggle; "Tax records, 1816-1838," [Wayne County, Ohio] images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GPPX-94CV>), FHL film 4849195, image 241 of 559.

6. E. Wade Hone, *Land & Property Research in the United States*, "Chapter 8 – Organization of Federal Lands," (Salt Lake City : Ancestry Incorporated, 1997), p 102.

7. The death date on John Noggle's headstone reads 1846: *Find a Grave*, database with images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39592831/john-noggle>), memorial 39592831, John Noggle (1764-1846), Meng Cemetery, Jeromesville, Ashland County, Ohio; photograph and created by Bill Miller on 18 July 2009, maintained by Bill Miller's Dan. The death date is corroborated in John Noggle's probate file. A 03 June 1846 receipt from a blacksmith for nails for a purchase made by John shows he was living at that time. And the first documented probate activity of the administrative bond is dated 25 September 1846. So, John died between those two dates. "Ashland County Ohio Probate Case Files 1846-1935, 20-122, 17 Aug 1846-13 Oct 1847," no. 34, for John Noggle, Receipt No 16 for \$.50; "Ohio, Ashland County, probate case files, 1846-1936," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSP3-C1G2>), image 215 of 1450, FHL film 104202339.

8. For proof of William as the administrator, see: "Ashland County Ohio Probate Case Files 1846-1935, 20-122, 17 Aug 1846-13 Oct 1847," no. 34, for John Noggle, Administrator's Bond; "Ohio, Ashland County, probate case files, 1846-1936," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSP3-CTNX>), image 181 of 1450, FHL film 104202339. As an example that a widow survived John, see: "Ashland County Ohio Probate Case Files 1846-1935, 20-122, 17 Aug 1846-13 Oct 1847," no. 34, for John Noggle, List of Payments [untitled], line no 3; "Ohio, Ashland County, probate case files, 1846-1936," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSP3-CTB4>), image 240 of 1450, FHL film 104202339.

9. Joseph Rockwell Swan, "Executors and Administrators," *Statutes of the State of Ohio of a General Nature*, vol XXIX (Columbus: Samuel Medary, 1841), 341, 12 Sect. III; *Google Books*, images, (https://www.google.com/books/edition/Statutes_of_the_State_of_Ohio_of_a_Gener/psU5AQ_AAMAAJ).

10. "Ashland County Ohio Probate Case Files 1846-1935, 20-122, 17 Aug 1846-13 Oct 1847," no. 34, for John Noggle, List of Payments [untitled], lines no 3 and 19; "Ohio, Ashland County, probate case files, 1846-1936," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSP3-CTB4>), image 240 of 1450, FHL film 104202339.

11. Henry Campbell Black, M.A., *Black's Law Dictionary: Revised Fourth Edition*, (St. Paul: West Publishing Co., 1968), 1417, "quitclaim deed." "A

deed of conveyance operating by way of release; that is, intended to pass any title, interest, or claim which the grantor may have in the premises, but not professing that such title is valid, nor containing any warranty or covenants for title." A quitclaim deed is often used to transfer property between family members.

12. See Ohio law which stated, in part: "...shall be signed and sealed by the husband and the wife..." This passage refers to the property as the "...conveyance or incumbrance of the estate of the wife..." but was also used for all property transfers in the author's experience. Joseph Rockwell Swan, "Deeds and Mortgages," *Statutes of the State of Ohio of a General Nature*, vol XXIX (Columbus: Samuel Medary, 1841), 265, 2 Sect. II; *Google Books*, images, (https://www.google.com/books/edition/Statutes_of_the_State_of_Ohio_of_a_Gener/psU5AQ_AAMAAJ). No statute was found that indicated a wife, as a grantee, need not be identified in a deed. However, it is the author's experience in Ohio research that during this time, that wives, as grantees, were not included on deeds.

13. William Noggle and Eliza Ritter married in Pennsylvania at a time when civil marriages were not recorded. Pennsylvania did not record marriages consistently until done at the county level in 1885, see: "Timeline of Vital Records," *Library of Congress*, Research Guides (<https://guides.loc.gov/pennsylvania-local-history-genealogy/vital-records>). For proof of William and Eliza's marriage, see this genealogy in which William and Eliza's son, William Noggle (junior), is profiled and mentions his parents' names and nativity: A. J. Baughman, *History of Ashland County, Ohio* (The S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1909), pp 556-558 for William Noggle; digital images, *Internet Archive* (https://archive.org/details/historyof_ashland_00baug/page/556/mode/2up). See also a deed with Eliza's signature and her designation as William's wife: "Deed records, vol 2, 1847-1848," pp 271-272, William Noggle & others to Ira C. Kenedy (1846); "Deed records, 1846-1897, index, 1847-1901 (Ashland County, Ohio)," images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSLX-Y95V-K>), image 147 of 346, FHL film 008193360.

14. "Wayne County, Ohio, Marriage records 1835-1851, vol 4B, p 28," Michael Ely to Susanna Noggle, "Married on the 14th" [month and year not given]; "Ohio County Marriages, 1789-2016," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939K-BJ9P-FG>), image 39 of 321, FHL film 004260649. The date states "married on the 14th" only, with a hypothesized year of 1841 or 1842 based on a review of surrounding records.

15. "Wayne County, Ohio, Marriage Record 1826-1834, vol 3, p 316, George Hile to Sarah Noggle, 01 January 1835;" "Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-2016," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XZKM-CR5>), image 179 of 191, FHL film 004260647.

16. "Wayne County, Ohio, Marriage records 1835-1851, vol 4A, p 27, Ira C. Heneda to Vaney Vaggle [*sic*], 26 May 1835;" "Ohio, County Marriages, 1789-2016," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939K-BJ95-YN>), image 36 of 310, FHL film 004260649.

17. When Jacob was a grantor in the 1846 deeds (see table 1), no wife was indicated for him, yet was for the other siblings. Jacob's probate identified no wife, see: "Ashland County Ohio Probate Case Files 1846-1935, 673-761 Probate, 17 Oct 1857-3 Sep 1859," no. 721, for Jacob Noggle; "Ohio, Ashland County, probate case files," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS54-Z9YF-Q>), image 1125 of 2426, FHL film 104320017.

18. Bureau of Land Management, "Survey Search," images, *General Land Office Records* (https://glorerecords.blm.gov/details/survey/default.aspx?dm_id=402031&sid=vvblhnam.vlv#surveyDetailsTabIndex=1) Original Survey DM 402031 (1807), Township 21 N, Range 15 W, Ashland County, Ohio.

19. Mary appeared to receive no real property distribution, so perhaps she received more of the personal property (see table 1). However, the distribution of John Noggle's estate proceeds is not included in the probate file; see: "Ashland County Ohio Probate Case Files 1846-1935, 20-122, 17 Aug 1846-13 Oct 1847," no. 34, for John Noggle; "Ohio, Ashland County, probate case files," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSP3-C1C7>), FHL film 104202339, image 180 of 1450.

20. For Mary Noggle's presence in Sarah and George Hile's household, see: 1850 U.S. census, Holmes, Ohio, population schedule, Washington, p 587 (penned), dwelling 611, family 622, Mary Aryle [*sic*]; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13921070:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 696.

21. Negative findings for any marriage of Mary Noggle between 1846 and 1852 in "Ohio, Marriages, 1803-1900," database, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com); and also in Ohio, Probate Court (Holmes County), "Marriage records, 1821-2016" *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org); and also in Ohio, Probate Court (Wayne County), "Marriage records, 1813-1951," *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org); and also in Ohio, Probate Court (Ashland County), "Marriage records, 1846-1953; index, 1846-1860,"

FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org).

22. For Mary Noggle's death, see: *Find A Grave*, database with images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39592832/mary-noggle>), memorial 39592832, Mary Noggle (1852), Meng Cemetery, Jeromesville, Ashland County, Ohio; photograph and created by Bill Miller on 18 July 2009, maintained by Bill Miller's Dan. Searches were conducted in Ashland, Holmes, and Wayne Counties with negative findings for a probate file for Mary Noggle. For Holmes, see: Ohio Probate Court (Holmes County), "Probate records 1824-1867," and "Probate records, 1848-1935," *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org). Also, Ohio Probate Court (Wayne County), "Probate journals, 1852-1898," and "Will records, 1816-1911," and "General index to court cases, 1808-1950," and "Estate papers, 1808-1939," and "Final record, 1852-1919," *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org). Also, Ohio Probate Court (Ashland County), "Ohio, Ashland, probate case files, 1846-1936," *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org).

23. For John's burial, see *Find a Grave*, database with images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39592831/john-noggle>), memorial 39592831, John Noggle (1764-1846), Meng Cemetery, Jeromesville, Ashland County, Ohio; photograph and created by Bill Miller on 18 July 2009, maintained by Bill Miller's Dan. Ibid. For Mary's burial, see: (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39592832/mary-noggle>), memorial 39592832, Mary Noggle (1852).

24. Ibid. For Jacob's burial, see: (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39592833/jacob-noggle>), memorial 39592833, Jacob Noggle (1799-1853).

25. Ibid. For Susanna's burial, see: (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39592745/susannah-ely>), memorial 39592745, Susanna Ely (1801-1880).

26. Ibid. For Samuel's burial, see: (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39592830/samuel-noggle>), memorial 39592830, Samuel Noggle (1848).

27. As an example of Jacob's parents deceased, for John, see: *Find a Grave*, database with images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39592831/john-noggle>), memorial 39592831, John Noggle (1764-1846), Meng Cemetery, Jeromesville, Ashland County, Ohio; photograph and created by Bill Miller on 18 July 2009, maintained by Bill Miller's Dan. For Mary, see: *Find a Grave*, database with images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39592832/mary-noggle>), memorial 39592832, Mary Noggle (1852), Meng Cemetery, Jeromesville, Ashland County, Ohio; photograph and created by Bill Miller on 18 July 2009, maintained by Bill Miller's Dan. Jacob's probate

identified no children. No administrator's bond is in the probate file, but William Noggle is noted as administrator multiple times; as an example, see: "Ashland County Ohio Probate Case Files 1846-1935, 673-761 Probate, 17 Oct 1857-3 Sep 1859," no. 721, for Jacob Noggle, Receipt from Probate Judge; "Ohio, Ashland County, probate case files," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS54-Z9YZ-7>), image 1125 of 2426, FHL film 104320017.

28. For Susanna Noggle's marriage, see: "Wayne County, Ohio, Marriage records 1835-1851, vol 4B, p 28, Michael Ely to Susanna Noggle, married on the 14th" [month and year not given]; "Ohio County Marriages, 1789-2016," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939K-BJ9P-FG>), image 39 of 321, FHL film 004260649. The date states "married on the 14th" only, with a hypothesized year of 1841 or 1842 based on reviewing surrounding records. For evidence of a family in Ely's household prior to his 1841 marriage to Susanna Noggle, see: 1840 U.S. census, Wayne, Ohio, population schedule, Mohican, p 10 (penned), Michael Eley; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1763068:8057>); citing NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 432. For children in the Ely household old enough to be only from a marriage prior to that between Susanna Noggle and Michael Ely, but after Michael Ely's death, see: 1850 U.S. census, Ashland, Ohio, population schedule, Mohican, p 118 (penned), dwelling 45, family 47, Susan Elly [sic]; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13145660:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 658. For no living heirs and William as the closest living heir to Susannah, see: "Ashland County Ohio Probate Case Files 1846-1935, 3757-3817 Probate, 24 Nov 1880-3 Jan 1881" no. 3777, for Susan Ely, Administrator's or Executor's Accounts, second page; "Ohio, Ashland County, probate case files," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSTW-BVWH>), image 695 of 2942, FHL film 104674358. Noted: "William Noggle Sr. being the only heir there is due him the sum of & paid \$2,797.06."

29. For William Noggle's oldest son named John and oldest daughter named Mary, see: 1850 U.S. census, Ashland, Ohio, population schedule, Mohican, p 118 (penned), dwelling 43, family 45, Wm Noggle; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13145654:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 658.

30. For Sarah Noggle Hile's oldest son named John and oldest daughter named Mary, see: 1850 U.S. census, Holmes, Ohio, population schedule, Washington, p 294A (stamped), dwelling 611, family

622, Sarah Hill; [sic] digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13921060:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 696.

31. For Nancy Noggle Kennedy's oldest son named John and oldest daughter named Mary, see: 1850 U.S. census, Richland, Ohio, population schedule, Madison, p 261 (penned), dwelling 526, family 529, Ira Kennedy; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/14430087:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 724.

32. As an example of John's age, see: *Find a Grave*, database with images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39592831/john-noggle>), memorial 39592831, John Noggle (1764-1846), Meng Cemetery, Jeromesville, Ashland County, Ohio; photograph and created by Bill Miller on 18 July 2009, maintained by Bill Miller's Dan. For Sarah's age, see: 1850 U.S. census, Holmes, Ohio, population schedule, Washington, p 294A (stamped), dwelling 611, family 622, Sarah Hill [sic]; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13921060:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 696.

33. For Jacob's birth year, see: 1850 U.S. census, Wayne, Ohio, population schedule, Plain, p 719 (penned), dwelling 77, family 79, Jacob Noggle; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/14733805:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 740. For Susanna's birth year, see: 1850 U.S. census, Ashland, Ohio, population schedule, Mohican, p 118 (penned), dwelling 45, family 47, Susan Elly [sic]; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13145660:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 658. For William's birth year, see: 1850 U.S. census, Ashland, Ohio, population schedule, Mohican, p 118 (penned), dwelling 43, family 45, Wm Noggle; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13145649:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 658.

34. For an inferred wife in John Noggle's 1800 household, see: 1800 U.S. census, Franklin, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Greene, p 38, last line on page, Tom Hogle [sic]; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/402070:7590>); citing NARA microfilm publication M32, roll 38.

35. Negative findings for Orphans' Court records that would name John Noggle as a guardian for grandchildren, see: "Orphans' Court dockets, 1785-1893: with general index," Franklin County, General index, vol I-M General index, vol Mc-R General index [sic] vol S; "Pennsylvania Probate Records, 1683-

1903,” images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-L99B-2J8M>), FHL film 005534531.

36. William was born in 1803, and Sarah was born in 1814, thus a difference of eleven years. For William’s birth year, see: 1850 U.S. census, Ashland, Ohio, population schedule, Mohican, p 118 (penned), dwelling 43, family 45, Wm Noggle; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13145649:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 658. For Sarah’s birth year, see: 1850 U.S. census, Holmes, Ohio, population schedule, Washington, p 294A (stamped), dwelling 611, family 622, Sarah Hill [*sic*]; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13921060:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 696.

37. John’s first wife likely died between 03 February 1803 when William’s was born and 29 May 1806 when no wife was included as a grantor on a deed with John: For William’s birthdate, see: *Find A Grave (Find A Grave)* (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/40442797/william-noggle>), 40442797. For the deed, see: “Deeds, 1784-1883, Index 1784-1963,” pp 146-147, Nagle et al to Powl [*sic*]; “Deeds, vol 7-9, Aug 1805-Mar 1810 [Franklin County, Pennsylvania]” images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3T-69HN-F>), image 84 of 562, FHL film 007837464.

38. John, with no wife included, executed a deed as the grantor on 17 May 1810, see: “Deeds, vol 9, Mar 1810-Oct 1812,” p 150, Nagles – Sell & wife Forney & wife to Nagle (1810); “Deeds, 1784-1883, Index 1784-1963 (Franklin County, Pennsylvania),” images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSXB-69XS-X>), image 84 of 329, FHL film 008035193.

39. For the deed that includes Polly as John’s wife, see “Deeds, vol 9, Mar 1810-Oct 1812,” p 313, Nagle & others to Alsop (1811); “Deeds, 1784-1883, Index 1784-1963 (Franklin County, Pennsylvania),” images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSXB-69X9-C>), image 168 of 329, FHL film 008035193.

40. For calculating the age difference between William and Sarah, for William’s birth year, see: 1850 U.S. census, Ashland, Ohio, population schedule, Mohican, p 118 (penned), dwelling 43, family 45, Wm Noggle; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13145649:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 658. For Sarah’s birth year, see: 1850 U.S. census, Holmes, Ohio, population schedule, Washington, p 294A

(stamped), dwelling 611, family 622, Sarah Hill; digital image, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13921060:8054>); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 696.

41. For the Ohio statute describing consanguinity per capita, see: Joseph Rockwell Swan, “Descent and Distribution,” *Statutes of the State of Ohio of a General Nature*, vol XXIX (Columbus: Samuel Medary, 1841), 288, 11 Sect. X; *Google Books*, images, (https://www.google.com/books/edition/Statutes_of_the_State_of_Ohio_of_a_Gener/psU5AQAAMAAJ).

About the Author

Jan Joyce is a board-certified genealogist whose journey began in 1998 while managing the marketing initiatives at *Genealogy.com*. Her personal research delves into ancestral roots across Iowa, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, tracing lineages back to England, Germany, Ireland, and Norway. She holds the CG and CGL certifications from the Board for Certification of Genealogists (“BCG”) and the AG accreditation from ICAPGen.

Specializing in research methodology, Jan divides her time between personal research, writing, and education. She developed the comprehensive "Assemblage" course for the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, which guides students through preparing, writing, and revising case studies and includes artificial intelligence. Her innovative “Document Work Workshop” helps aspiring genealogists prepare for BCG certification. In addition, Jan pioneered the new institute course, "Merging & Separating Identities: Strategies and Tactics to Solve" to advance the field's research strategies and tactics. She also volunteers in the industry, including managing the ProGen Study Groups program.