

2019 Abrams Foundation Family History Seminar

Friday, July 12 - Saturday, July 13

Archives of Michigan

Featuring Tina Beard, MLIS

Welcome to the Abrams Foundation Family History Seminar, featuring Tina Beard, and hosted by the Archives of Michigan and the Michigan Genealogical Council.

Seminar attendees will have the opportunity to pick from a variety of outstanding speakers and family history topics over the two-day event. Here is the program schedule:

Friday, July 12

1:00 – 1:45p

A. **Break into the Past: A Game for Genealogists**

Inspired by the escape room phenomenon, this game has players solve a puzzle using a series of clues, including genealogical resources.

B. **Archives of Michigan Tour**

Join the Archives of Michigan staff for a behind-the-scenes tour of the collections, including original manuscript records and the Abrams Foundation Historical Collection.

2:00 – 3:00p

C. **Wills, Thrills, and Chills: Digging into Probate Records**

– Kris Rzepczynski, Archives of Michigan

This session will provide an overview of probate records, the different types of records created, including wills, inventories, and calendars, the family history content to be discovered, and where to find them online and onsite.

D. **DNA 101: Beginning DNA Research**

– Daniel Earl, MS

So you got a DNA kit for the holidays. Now what? Not sure which company to test with? What's Y-DNA? What's mtDNA? This program will teach you what DNA is, how it's used in genealogical research, and what to expect in terms of results. The different testing companies and their strengths will be discussed. Different third party tools, sites that can be used to help compare and interpret DNA results will also be discussed.

E. **Census Records and Non-Population Schedules: Understanding Our Ancestor's Experiences**

– Thomas Koselka, Michigan Genealogical Council

We have all used the US Population Census in our research. Do you want to add additional information to your family story? Your family may have been enumerated in one of several supplemental census schedules. This presentation examines why they were created and what information may be gleaned from these supplemental schedules.

3:30 – 4:30p

F. **FREE LAND: Homesteading on the Frontier**

– Tina Beaird, MLIS

The Homestead Act of 1862 allowed any qualified individual to claim up to 160 acres of free land. Over 1.6 million people rose to the challenge and claimed 270 million acres of land of which an estimated 17 million Americans are descendants. Original homestead claims are a fantastic collection of documents, including applications, land descriptions, citizenship affidavits and more. Learn how to access these great records and how they can fill in the gaps to your research.

Saturday, July 13:

Barbara J. Brown Family History Day

Educational programs and family fun activities throughout the Michigan History Center, held concurrently with the Abrams Foundation Family History Seminar, including an oral history recording booth and handwriting station.

As the longtime President of the Abrams Foundation, Barbara Brown's commitment to family history and generous support helped make the Abrams Foundation Historical Collection the destination collection that it is today.

9:30 – 11:00a

Welcome & opening comments

G. **Recreating the Great War: Finding Military Service Information for Your WWI Veteran**

– Tina Beaird, MLIS

Many federal WWI personnel records were destroyed in a National Archives fire in the 1970s. This session will offer ways to locate copies of peripheral federal military records and provides solutions for recreating some of the lost history in these “fire” records by using local government documents, newspapers, base records and more.

11:15a – 12:15p

H. **Seeking Michigan Becomes Michiganology**

– Jill Arnold, Archives of Michigan

The Archives of Michigan's digital platform is undergoing major change! By the end of 2019, SeekingMichigan.org will become Michiganology. This session will review what things will stay the same, what features will improve, and why the Archives of Michigan is making these important changes. Attendees will also get a sneak preview of Michiganology during the session.

I. **Records of New York City's Emigrant Savings Bank**

– Katherine Willson, Researcher & lecturer

In 1850, officers of New York City's Irish Emigrant Society founded the Emigrant Savings Bank as a safe place for Irish and other immigrants to keep their money. Learn about the types of records kept for borrowers and depositors (containing detailed genealogical information), as well as how and where to access these records.

J. **Township Records: An Untapped Source**

– Shirley Hodges, Eaton County Genealogical Society

1:00 – 2:00p

K. **Illinois Digital Resources**

– Tina Beard, MLIS

There are several Illinois websites for finding your Land of Lincoln ancestors. From CARLI to IDA, Tina will show you how to find maps, newspapers, phone books, company magazines, yearbooks and more. Illinois has it all! Learn how to dig into these online resources and get to know your Illinois ancestors.

2:30 – 3:30p

L. **Juvenile Records & Open Access: State Training School Records at the Archives of Michigan**

– Annakathryn Welch, Archives of Michigan

The Archives of Michigan has long held records from the Michigan Boys Training School and the Girls Training School at Adrian. Until recently, these records were closed. However, due to new policy changes, state training school records that are more than 75 years old are available for research. This presentation will cover the types of records found in these collections, the information those records contain, the procedure for accessing these records, and a case study.

M. **Fold3 - Discover Your Family's Military Past**

– James Jackson, Professional researcher

With over 500 million images there are records of soldiers serving in every conflict from the American Revolution to Iraq, Afghanistan and the Persian Gulf War. But there is much more than just military records on fold3 and much if is available from home, for free.

N. **Finding Non-Traditional Records**

– Jessica Trotter, Researcher & blogger

We all know that vital records, census records, etc. are the go-to's for genealogical information. But what else is out there that might give you those needed bits of information, and how do you find those records?

Registration:

- The full two-day seminar registration is \$70. This includes full attendance for the seminar and a seminar syllabus as a downloadable file.
- Single-day registration is \$30 for Friday, July 12 and \$40 for Saturday, July 13. This includes full attendance for that day of the seminar and a seminar syllabus as a downloadable file.
- A boxed lunch on Saturday is available as an add-on for \$10. Attendees have the choice of Grand Traverse Club, Ham & Swiss, Roast Beef & Swiss, or Mediterranean Veggie.
- Early bird-registration is available through May 31, 2019. Full registration at the early-bird rate is \$60; single-day registration at the early-bird rate is \$25 for Friday and \$35 for Saturday.
- Registration opens one hour before each day's first event.

2019 Abrams Foundation Family History Seminar Registration Form

To register, please fill out this form and mail to:

Michigan History Foundation
P.O. Box 12331
Lansing, MI 48901

Please make check payable to: Michigan History Foundation.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name on Badge: _____

Seminar: Full:	\$70	_____
Single-day (Friday only):	\$30	_____
Single-day (Saturday only):	\$40	_____
Early-bird Full:	\$60	_____
Early-bird Friday only (31 May deadline):	\$25	_____
Early-bird Saturday only (31 May deadline):	\$35	_____
Saturday boxed lunch:	\$10	_____

Amount enclosed: _____

Each boxed lunch comes with a sandwich, chips, cookie, and drink. Please circle one:

Grand Traverse Club Ham & Swiss Roast Beef & Swiss Mediterranean Veggie

Programs (please circle one for each time slot):

Fri., 7/12: 1:00 A B 2:00 C D E 3:30 F

Sat., 7/13: 9:30 G 11:15 H I J 1:00 K 2:30 L M N

For more information, please contact the Archives of Michigan at (517) 335-2576 or by email at archives@michigan.gov.