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CATHERINE B. W. DESMARAIS, CERTIFIED GENEALOGIST®

Certification

Certified Genealogist, Board for Certification of Genealogists® (BCG), certificate no. 1016
Awarded 4 June 2011, successfully renewed by peer review 4 June 2016 and 4 June 2021

Work Experience

Owner, Stone House Historical Research, 2008 – present

Our skilled team specializes in kinship determination for the legal community and the U.S. military. Thousands of hours billable forensic experience in United States and Internationally. Accepted as an expert witness in New York County Surrogate's Court. Department of Defense qualified genealogist since 2012. The Stone House Historical Research team has located next of kin and eligible family DNA donors for more than 1,200 servicemen missing from Korea and World War II.

Leadership and Membership

Member, Standards Revision Committee; DNA Committee, BCG, 2023 – present

Advisory Board, Investigative Genetic Genealogy Accreditation Board, 2023 – present

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. Founding member and program committee for the APG Forensic Genealogy Special Interest Group.

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

Member of the Board of Directors and Mentor Program Coordinator.

Institute Teaching

Course Coordinator and Instructor: *Fundamentals of Forensic Genealogy*

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

Texas Institute of Genealogical Research (TIGR), 2023

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

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

Instructor, 2014-2023 Selected courses in which I've taught:

Meeting Standards with DNA Evidence; Integrating DNA Evidence to Resolve Complex Cases, Stanbary CG

Writing and Documenting for Peer Review, Karen Mauer Jones, CG

The Art of Writing Client Reports, Angela McGhie, CG and Debra Hoffman

Women and Children First: Research Methods for the Hidden Members of the Family, Russell, JD, CG, CGL

Solving Problems Like a Professional, Michael Hait, CG

Advanced Evidence Practicum, Angela McGhie, CG

Digging Deeper in New England, D. Joshua Taylor

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.

Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, Salt Lake City, and Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh

*Integrating DNA Evidence to Resolve Complex Cases, 2023; Advanced Land Tools: Maps, 2022; Meeting Standards Using DNA Evidence, 2021; Establishing Genealogical Proof with DNA, 2018
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*

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

Adv. Master Practicum, 2015, Adv. 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, 2023 (speaker and attendee)

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

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

Ramage, Michael S. and Catherine Becker Wiest Desmarais. *Forensic Genealogy: Theory & Practice.* National Genealogical Society, 2024 (in press).

Desmarais, Catherine Becker Wiest. "Was Nancy a Northamer? DNA Helps Identify a Revolutionary War Militiaman's Daughter." *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 111 (June 2023): 129-145.

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* 105 (Sep. 2017): 181-190.

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.