

March 2017 Features Update

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Global

The sudden death of my wife interrupted the focus I required to maintain this log of changes, so this report covers an entire year of enhancements.

Originally the Javascript files that implemented the dynamic functionality of the pages were included at the top of the file. This delayed the display of the page until all of those files had been loaded. Therefore the Javascript files are now included at the very bottom of the page after all of the HTML has been included. The contents of the page are displayed more quickly, although the user still has to wait until the dynamic initialization code has completed before some of the functionality is available.

To make the code more compact and easier to read the class methods used to get and change the value of individual fields in a record are renamed to `get` and `set` from `getField` and `setField`.

There is a new script in the top level directory, `getRecordJson.php` which is run to obtain the contents of an object as a JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) document. This is a more efficient way for other web-sites to access the information on this site through Asynchronous JavaScript and XML (AJAX), since the resulting JSON document can be embedded directly into a JavaScript file as an object. The script `getRecordJson.php`, and the existing script `getRecordXml.php` are extended to support almost every table on the web-site. These two scripts share functionality in the script `getRecordCommon.php`. The former distinct implementations of `getRecordXml.php` in the `/database` and `/Ontario` directories are removed. See [getRecordXmlHelp.html](#) and [getRecordJsonHelp.html](#) for instructions on how to use the scripts.

All classes, including the base class `Record`, which implement a method `toXml` which is called to obtain the contents of the object as an eXtended Markup Language (XML) document, now also implement a method `toJson` which is called to obtain the contents of the object as a JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) document in support of the new script `getRecordJson.php`.

The global function `getSurnameChk` has been superseded by `Record::getSurnameChk`.

The information in the global array of vital statistics administrative domains has been replaced by the class `Domain` which loads its information from the new database table ``Domains``. A new table management page is added so support managing this table.

The information in the global array of countries has been replaced by the class `Country` which loads its information from the new database table ``Countries``. A new table management page is added so support managing this table.

If the maiden surname of a person is not known it is set to “Wifeof<husband’sname>”. Previously this was set as the “middle” given name and the surname was left empty, but this made searching difficult.

SQL commands are migrating to the use of prepared statements to provide greater data integrity.

In preparation for migration to PHP 7 all remaining uses of the obsolete POSIX compliant extended regular expression support, typically through functions starting with `ereg`, is replaced by the equivalent Perl Compatible regular expression (PCRE) support, typically using functions starting with `preg`. Perl-compatible regular expression syntax supports non-greedy matching, assertions, conditional sub-patterns, and a number of other features not supported by the POSIX-extended regular expression syntax.

Family Tree Enhancements

The display of a list of individuals, which is presented in a number of selection dialogs, is improved in performance by ensuring that the surname of the first individual displayed is a surname defined in the database, even if the surname requested in the search is not in the database. This avoids an occasionally extended retry sequence as the script searches for the first individual to display.

The note associated with an alternate name is now displayed on the main page for an individual if one is present.

There are a number of idiosyncrasies to the Google® Maps geo-location algorithm. In particular to include a county name in a search the word “county” must be included after the county name. This is now addressed in the initial search.

The deprecated original interfaces to the `LegacyIndiv` and `LegacyFamily` constructors now generate warning messages and all known uses of those interfaces have been replaced with use of the preferred parameters.

If the `LegacyNames.php` script is invoked with a given name prefix parameter then the list of breadcrumbs in the header and footer include an extra entry link to the complete list of individuals with that surname.

The `editMarriages.php` and `editParents.php` scripts now permit defining a family with no husband/father, and `detach husband/father` can be used to remove the male spouse without forcing creation of a dummy male spouse. In a genealogical context there is no meaning to a family does not have a mother.

When you delete a family from the point of view of one spouse, the other spouse is deleted from the database if the family was the only connection the other spouse had to the family tree. If the spouse whose family was deleted no longer has any other connections to the family tree then a button appears permitting immediately deletion of the individual. This is a common situation where the parents of an individual were initially created based upon the parents named in a marriage license or registration who were later determined to match an already existing couple.

The also known as note is displayed for alternate names on the main page for an individual.

Census Database Enhancements

When you link a row of a census page to an individual in the database then in addition to defining the link from the census to the individual, a citation to the census page is added to the birth event of the individual.

The birth year column in the 1901 and 1911 censuses can be explicitly set to blank.

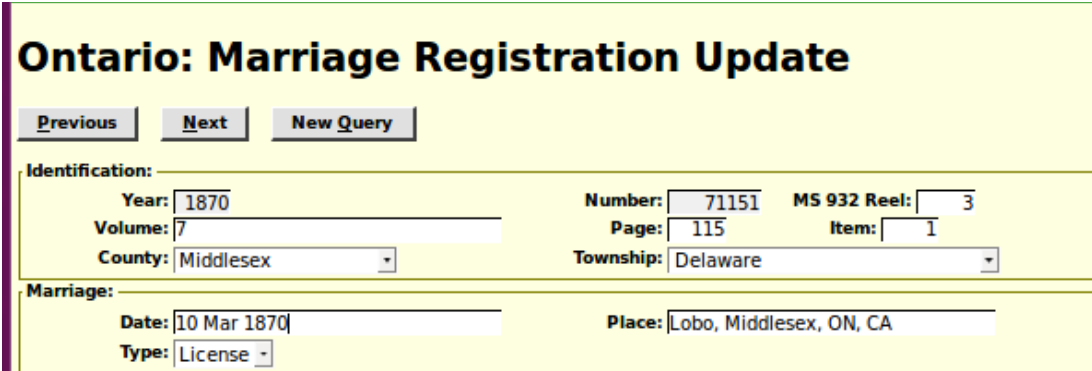
Flag columns are changed so they can only be set to 'Y' or 'N'. Any value entered other than 'N' is converted to 'Y'.

The new class `Country` is used to validate census identifiers.

Vital Statistics Enhancements

For efficiency a method `County::getDomainObj` was added so that scripts that have an instance of class `County` do not have to create a new instance of class `Domain`. The `Domain` class represents an administrative domain for vital statistics, such as a Canadian Province or US State.

The Ontario Registrar of Vital Statistics did not assign registration numbers to marriages registered prior to 1873. In addition there are a handful of marriage registrations from 1873 on which were accidentally never numbered. These marriage registrations can only be identified by the original bound volume number, the page within the volume, and the column number on the page. Index fields for the original volume, page, and item number on the page are added to the Marriage record and displayed in the detailed page for each Marriage registration. Marriage records can now be identified by the volume number, page, and item.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Ontario: Marriage Registration Update". At the top, there are three buttons: "Previous", "Next", and "New Query". Below the buttons, the form is divided into two main sections: "Identification:" and "Marriage:".

Identification:

Year:	<input type="text" value="1870"/>	Number:	<input type="text" value="71151"/>	MS 932 Reel:	<input type="text" value="3"/>
Volume:	<input type="text" value="7"/>	Page:	<input type="text" value="115"/>	Item:	<input type="text" value="1"/>
County:	<input type="text" value="Middlesex"/>	Township:	<input type="text" value="Delaware"/>		

Marriage:

Date:	<input type="text" value="10 Mar 1870"/>	Place:	<input type="text" value="Lobo, Middlesex, ON, CA"/>		
Type:	<input type="text" value="License"/>				

Illustration 1: Pre-1873 Marriage Registration

Observe that each marriage registration that does not have a registration number assigned by the Ontario Registrar is assigned an internal identifier which can also be used to uniquely identify the marriage registration transcription. The above transcription can therefore be cited either as “1870-71151” or by “[Vol 7 page 115 item 1](#)”. For marriage registrations after 1872 if the Ontario Registrar did not assign a registration number you can cite the transcription as “[1899 Vol F Page 598 Item 1](#)”. The year is necessary to qualify volume identifiers for these later registrations. In theory this support could be used for transcribing marriage registrations from administrative domains that do not assign registration numbers, but does require page numbers.

The year of birth calculated from the age for each spouse is now displayed as straight text rather than in a read-only input field. This saves a little bit of time when tabbing through the fields.

Prior to 1869 Ontario marriage registrations were administered at the county level, from 1852 to 1868, or at the militia district level prior to 1852, as annual reports from ministers of religion, which were bound into volumes. The site organizes these by volume number, sequential report number within the volume, and item number within the report. Two columns have been added to the display of reports within a volume to display the number of marriages transcribed for each report and the percentage of the marriages that have been linked into the family tree. To avoid the volume summary from becoming excessively wide to conveniently display, some of the less important columns have been moved to a separate detailed edit/display page. The volume summary now looks like:

Canada: Ontario: Marriage Report Update

[? Help](#)

[<-- Volume 35](#)

All of Volume 36

[Volume 37 -->](#)

Volume	Report	Page	Given Names	Surname	Marriages	% Linked	Details		Delete
36	1	1	John B.	Wilson	4	75.00%	Details	Marriages	Delete
36	2	1	William R.	Sutherland	14	50.00%	Details	Marriages	Delete
36	3	1	William	Deas	4	75.00%	Details	Marriages	Delete
36	4	1	Dugald	Sinclair	3	0.00%	Details	Marriages	Delete
36	5	1	Robert	Stevenson	4	0.00%	Details	Marriages	Delete
36	191	105	James	Caswell	3	33.33%	Details	Marriages	Delete
36	192	105	William	Gundy	1	100.00%	Details	Marriages	Delete
36	193		New Minister				Details		

[Update Database](#)

Also see:

[District Marriage Registers - 1780-1858](#)

[County Marriage Registers - 1858-1869](#)

Illustration 2: County Marriage Volume Summary

Clicking on the “Details” button displays the following new edit/display page.

Canada: Ontario: Marriage Report Update

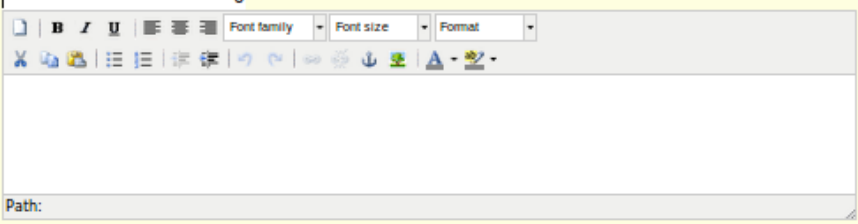
[? Help](#)

[<-- Report 2](#) Volume 36 Report 3 [Report 4 -->](#)

[Update Database](#)

Domain: CAON
 Volume: 36
 ReportNo: 3
 Page: 1

GivenNames: William
 Surname: Deas
 Faith: United Presbyterian
 Residence: Warwick & Adelaide
 Image URL: https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS76-Q9TT-5
 IDIR: 0

Remarks: 

Path:


[Contact Author](#)  54 people like this. Be the first of your friends.

Illustration 3: County Marriage Report Details

This permits you to see and modify the details about the marriage report including the image of the original page.

Additional information is now recorded about the individual marriage registrations because the later reports included information about the age of the spouses, their birth places, and their parents.

Canada: Ontario: Marriage Report Volume 36 Report No. 3 Update

[? Help](#)

[← 2](#)

Volume 36 Report 3: Marriages performed by William Deas, United Presbyterian minister, of Warwick & Adelaide, on page 1

[4 →](#)

[See Original Image](#)

Item	Role	Given Names	Surname	Age	Residence	Birth Place	Father	Mother	Date	B/L	Witness	Remarks	Details	Delete	Link
1	F	Daniel	Lawrence	22	Ferguson	Could Not Tell	S. Lawrence	J. Lawrence	17 Feb 1858	J.			Details	Delete	Tree Clear
1	B	Margaret Ann	Frank	23	Adelaide	Adelaide	Adoniram Frank	M. Frank	17 Feb 1858	J.			Details	Delete	Tree Clear
2	F	Alfred Maitland	Smith	19	Adelaide	Barbados	George Smith	Jane Maitland	12 Apr 1858	J.			Details	Delete	Find
2	B	Elizabeth Mary	McCraken	25	Adelaide	Londonderry, Ireland	John McCracken	Rebecca Kirk	12 Apr 1858	J.			Details	Delete	Find
3	F	David	Wilkins	21	Adelaide	Adelaide	Matthew Wilkins	Sarah Wilkins	2 July 1858	J.			Details	Delete	Tree Clear
3	B	Margaret Jane	Wilson	21	Adelaide	Kilensby, Ireland	Hugh Wilson	Jane Cuddie Wilsc	2 July 1858	J.			Details	Delete	Tree Clear
4	F	James	Cuddie	23	Adelaide	Adelaide	James Cuddie	Violet Smithson C	2 Oct 1858	J.			Details	Delete	Tree Clear
4	B	Sarah	Trueman	25	Metcalfe	Riviere Du Loup,	John Trueman	Sarah Trueman	2 Oct 1858	J.			Details	Delete	Tree Clear

Illustration 4: List of Marriages in a County Marriage Report

The “Link” column contains a button which will search the family tree for potential matches or, if a match has already been found, display the individual.

A button has been added to the Wesleyan Methodist Baptisms query page to display a high-level summary of the transcription effort.

Volume	Pages	Done	View
0	259	2	View
1	815	28,735	View
2	858	28,315	View
3	810	27,209	View
4	487	11,836	View
Total		96,097	

Illustration 5: Volume Summary for Wesleyan Methodist Baptisms

This displays the number of the original hard-copy volume, the highest page number in each volume, and the number of baptisms transcribed from that volume. When you click on the “View” button you see:

Ontario: Wesleyan Methodist Baptisms Status: Volume 2

[Help?](#)

Page	Done	Linked	Percent	Details
1	41	0	0.00%	Details
2	45	0	0.00%	Details
3	48	0	0.00%	Details
4	43	0	0.00%	Details
5	44	0	0.00%	Details
6	46	0	0.00%	Details
7	40	0	0.00%	Details
8	42	0	0.00%	Details
9	40	0	0.00%	Details
10	42	0	0.00%	Details
11	41	0	0.00%	Details
12	48	0	0.00%	Details
13	44	0	0.00%	Details
14	41	0	0.00%	Details
15	43	0	0.00%	Details
16	41	0	0.00%	Details
17	43	0	0.00%	Details
18	40	0	0.00%	Details
19	45	0	0.00%	Details
20	53	0	0.00%	Details
21	42	0	0.00%	Details
22	40	0	0.00%	Details

Illustration 6: Wesleyan Methodist Baptisms Volume Summary

This displays a row for each page in the original volume, the number of baptisms transcribed from each page, the number of baptisms that are linked to an individual in the family tree, the percentage of the baptisms on that page that are linked, and a button to see all of the baptisms on that page. When you click on that button you see the following:

Wesleyan Methodist Baptisms Update

[Help?](#)

This tool is an alternate and **unauthorized** interface to the transcription © Ida Reed, 2001 and made [available on Rootsweb](#) by Bill Martin.

<--- displaying rows 1 to 88 of 88 --->

Volume	Page	Surname	Given Names	Birth Place	Birth Date	Details
2	88	Aptlow	Luke Thomas Francis	McGillivray	24 Mar 1855	Details
2	88	Arthurs	Catharine	McGillivray	15 Feb 1855	Details
2	88	Beswitherick	Melia Ann	McGillivray	22 July 1854	Details
2	88	Burgess	Mary Alice	McGillivray	17 Apr 1863	Details
2	88	Carruthers	Margaret	McGillivray	13 Nov 1854	Details
2	88	Carter	Maria Anna	McGillivray	10 July 1843	Details
2	88	Cassiday	John	McGillivray	17 Feb 1849	Details
2	88	Cassiday	Lucinda	McGillivray	15 Jan 1851	Details
2	88	Cassiday	William	McGillivray	27 Oct 1854	Details
2	88	Patton	John	McGillivray	25 May 1854	Details
2	88	Peasy	Rosanna Jannet	McGillivray	6 May 1852	Details
2	88	Porte	Francis Mariah	Irishtown	8 Feb 1857	Details
2	88	Porte	William John	London	23 Oct 1857	Details
2	88	Portus	Mary Jane	McGillivray	26 Oct 1857	Details
2	88	Prichard	John Henry	McGillivray	11 Nov 1851	Details
2	88	Reeder	Elizabeth	McGillivray	11 Feb 1837	Details
2	88	Reeder	Maria	McGillivray	17 Sep 1843	Details
2	88	Reeder	Moses	McGillivray	02 Feb 1845	Details
2	88	Reeder	Susannah	McGillivray	12 Aug 1839	Details
2	88	Rice	Elizabeth	McGillivray	1851-05-20?	Details
2	88	Rice	Harriet	McGillivray	15 Oct 1853	Details
2	88	Rice	Josiah	Flamboro	1844?-09-06	Details
2	88	Rice	Sarah	Flamboro	8 Feb 1843	Details
2	88	Rice	Thomas	Flamboro	4 Aug 1847	Details
2	88	Richmand	Rebecca	McGillivray	28 Nov 1857	Details
2	88	Ridley	Eveline I. M.	Pickering	4 July 1884	Details
2	88	Robinson	Andrew J.	McGillivray	3 Feb 1869	Details
2	88	Robinson	Clara	Trafalgar	17 Mar 1866	Details
2	88	Robinson	David	McGillivray	28 Apr 1853	Details

Illustration 7: A Full Page of Transcriptions from the Wesleyan Methodist Baptisms

As previously mentioned the baptisms are displayed in alphabetical order, not the original order on the page. I have interrupted the display, which would not fit on this page, so you can see how baptisms that are linked to the family tree appear as hyper-links into the tree. The left and right arrows at the top permit browsing to the preceding and following pages of the transcription. When you click on the “Details” button you see the following dialog:

Wesleyan Methodist Baptism: Update [? Help](#)

Volume:
Page:
District:
Area:
Name: Given:
Family:
Birth Date:
Birth Place:
Link: [Elizabeth Reeder \(11 Feb 1837—\)](#)

Baptism Date:
Baptism Place:
Father's Name:
Mother's Name:
Residence:
Minister:

Illustration 8: Individual Wesleyan Methodist Baptism Transcription

On this page the hyper-link to the family tree is color-coded by gender.

The duration of cause of death field on the death registration transcription page is expanded to 64 characters maximum length.

The Birth Registration and Death Registration status reports add a column to report the percentage of transcribed registrations that are linked to the family tree.

A form is added to manage the table of countries.

Bug Fixes

- `CountyMarriageReport::toXml` did not output the document when requested.
- Index response to `District::getDistricts` by district id.
- `LegacyIndiv::getName` sometimes returned a null birth date.
- Surnames starting with "Wifeof" and "Motherof" are excluded from surname searches.
- Field values containing an ampersand (&) were sometimes converted to &.
- The value of field `eventsd` was incorrect in death and buried events built from an individual record.
- Null events were saved creating a need to clean them up.
- The search for individuals by a name including a nickname in quotes (") did not honor the table of commonly misspelled given names.
- Several class implementations of method `toXML` did not handle the second parameter option to print the output correctly. Also some implementations did not return the contents of the generated document.
- In `LegacyIndiv::save` the INSERT statement formerly used an SQL subquery to initialize the ID and IDIR fields, but this is not supported by MySQL after release 5.6.
- The MySQL SOUNDEX function can return a value that is more than 4 characters long, but the database search only uses 4 characters.
- In `LegacyIndiv::getWhere` the empty surname is treated as a search for individuals with no surname.
- In `LegacyIndiv::getWhere` if multiple given names are supplied then for the specific surname only individuals who have **all** of the given name strings present match. For example "Ma Jane" might match "Mary Jane" or "Emma Jane" or "Margaret Jane" or "Jane Maria" but not just "Mary" or "Jane".
- Invalid call to method `getMessage` in `common.inc`.
- Do not check `$_SERVER['HTTP_USER_AGENT']` if not invoked from browser in `common.inc`.
- Fix undefined `$stylesheet` in `common.inc`.
- Debug output from `class Township` was immediately printed rather than saved in `$warn` for display by function `showTrace`.
- `County` constructor supports being called with just county code or with Canadian province or US state plus county to avoid confusing `$dbrow` not defined error.
- The fields `husborder` and `wifeorder` were not set correctly when a new instance of `LegacyFamily` was created.
- `LegacySurname::getSurnames` now supports searching on any combination of fields.

- Do not throw exception for bad IDLR value in class `LegacyLocation`.
- There was an undefined `$unknownChildRole` reference in `legacyIndivid.php`.
- Undefined IDIR values in events are handled better in `legacyIndivid.php`.
- Null status value is handled better in `legacyIndivid.php`.
- Buried events sometimes displayed before the death event in `editIndivid.php`.
- The length of the date input fields in added children was slightly shorter than in children who already existed when the `editMarriages` and `editParents` pages were displayed. This threw off the appearance.
- The calculated birth date for each of the spouses in a transcribed marriage registration, although not editable, since it is calculated from the age, is now displayed as text rather than an input field, so it is skipped when tabbing through the input fields, and cannot be selected by the mouse.
- The method `LegacyEvent::updateEvents` did nothing when called. As a result any function which called it would generate incorrect output. The most important consequence was that when two individuals were merged none of the events, other than vital statistics, were copied from the deleted individual.
- You can now create a family with only one spouse by leaving the name of the other spouse blank.
- The detach spouse function on the edit families and edit parents dialogs now permits you to change a family to have only one spouse.
- The variable `$unknownChildRole` was undefined in `legacyIndivid.php`
- `legacyIndivid.php` did not handle a null status value
- `legacyIndivid.php` now handles an invalid IDIR in function `showEvent`.
- Pad short SOUNDEX values in `LegacySurnames.php` to avoid error.
- Handle exception thrown by `LegacyLocation::getLocations` in `LegacyLocations.php` script.
- Handle exception from `LegacyEvent::getAssociatedRecord` in `getIndividualsByLocation.php`.
- Activate edit and delete citation buttons in the `editName.php` script.
- Choose Mother didn't work in `editParents` script.