

1872 Brewer-Winney Accident

The Daily Saratogian Newspaper, Friday Nov. 8, 1872

"Horrible Accident. George Brewer, of Wilton, met with a horrible fate Thursday evening. He left this village for the purpose of returning to his home at Van Wagoner's in the north-east part of Wilton, where he was employed. Later in the day his mangled and lifeless remains were found on the Rensselaer & Saratoga R.R. between the John D. Perry place and Ingerson's crossing, which showed that he had been run over and instantly killed by one of the evening trains. Brewer commonly went by the name of George Winney, under which name he enlisted and served in Company D, 77th N.Y.S.V., during the war. An inquest was held over his remains and a verdict rendered in accordance with the facts." (Note: George W. Winnie is listed as Private, Company D, 77th Regiment New York Infantry.) Submitted by Alice Zetterstrom

Websites for Obituaries

Here are a few of the several obituary websites specific to geographic region or religious affiliation.

American Friend Obituary Index

www.earlham.edu/~libr/quaker/obituaries/

The *American Friend* was published between 1894 and 1960. The paper was published in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, until 1912, when the Five Years Meeting of Friends assumed ownership. The compilers of the database have attempted to index every death found in the *American Friend*, not just those found in obituary columns. Nearly all of the obituaries in this database are of members of the Five Years Meeting. It should be noted that obituaries of Conservative or Hicksite/Friends General Conference meetings may be found in the *Philadelphia Friend*, *Friends' Intelligencer*, or *Friends Journal*, which are indexed in *Quaker Necrology* (Boston, 1961).

Each entry includes the name of the deceased and may also include parents, survivors, dates and places of birth and marriage, maiden names of women, meeting affiliation, and previous residences. You will also find a list of the abbreviations used in the index on the obituary index main page. You can browse the index alphabetically or you can search by any of the words that you might expect to find in a record. Contact information is provided so that you can request a photocopy of an individual obituary. There is a charge of \$5 for each obituary requested.

The following obituary databases are only a few of the many databases found on the JewishGen website <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/>. Click on America in the menu bar to find them.

Boston Jewish Advocate Obituary Database

www.jewishgen.org/databases/USA/advocate.htm

This database is an index of 23,741 obituary notices from the *Boston Jewish Advocate*. The index covers the entire run of the newspaper from 1905 to January 2004. Each entry in the index contains the name of the deceased, maiden name (if given), birthplace (if given), age, surnames of related family members named in the obituary, and the date that the obituary was published.

Cleveland Jewish News Obituary Database

www.jewishgen.org/databases/USA/cleweb.htm

This database contains 25,493 obituary notices that appeared in the *Cleveland Jewish News* between October 30, 1964 and July 30, 2004. Each entry contains the deceased's name, date of death, and the issue of the *Cleveland Jewish News* in which the obituary appeared. The deceased's age, birthplace, maiden name, and the name of the cemetery may also appear. Photocopy fees are \$15 for up to three obituary requests made at one time. Contact information for the newspaper is on the website.

Chicago Obituary Database

www.jewishgen.org/databases/USA/chicago.htm

This database contains 8,800 obituary notices for the Chicago, Illinois, area. This contemporary index covers the period from December 1994 through September 1998. Each entry contains the deceased's name and date of death. Entries may also contain such information as the deceased's age, birthplace, maiden name, and, at times, the name of the cemetery.

American Jewish Year Book Cumulative Index of Obituaries

www.jewishgen.org/databases/ajybweb.htm

The *American Jewish Year Book* began publication in 1899. The *Year Book* is "a review of the year's events relating to Jewish matters in America and other countries." Its current publisher has compiled a "Cumulative Index of Obituaries" from volumes 51 to 96. This index of over 3,000 notable Jews who died between 1948 and 1998 is now online. Each entry contains the deceased's surname, given name, year of death, and volume and page numbers. To view the full obituary you can consult the *American Jewish Year Book*, which may be found in many libraries around the country.

Under Utilities on the main database page, you will find a link to several "calculators", which may prove useful in running searches, particularly the Daitch-Mokotoff and National Archives soundex calculators.

Mennobits

freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~mennobit/index.html

This website is useful to anyone researching Amish and Mennonite families. The database currently contains 74,624 obituaries from the *Herald of Truth* (1864-1908), *Gospel Witness* (1905-1908), and *Gospel Herald* (1908-1998), the weekly newspapers of the Mennonite Church in North America. Obituaries from *The Mennonite* (to 2002) and *Mennonite Weekly Review* (partial) are also included in the database. The collection covers mostly members of the Mennonite Church (MC) and Amish or Amish-Mennonite groups.

Click on the link to the Index Pages on the home page to access the indexes. The Main Index is organized by alphabetically by surname. The dates in the index refer to the date of publication in the paper, not the date of death. Clicking on a linked date of death will bring you to the page on which the individual's obituary is located. There is also a Maiden Name Index and Year Indexes, which are subsets of the Main Index. From the Index Page you can also access off-site links to other Mennonite obituary indexes. One will take you to Bethel College, which has an index to obituaries from the *Mennonite Weekly Review* (1923-1999) and an index to a German newspaper. The other is a link to the Mennonite Genealogy Data Index for Canada.

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