

Family History/Genealogy Information

Compiled by Ida-Rose Langford Hall

Computerization Project
completed by Laurie K. Lilly
for David R. Hall
July 1996-October 1997

Summary

This project was undertaken in five parts:

- I. Typing in Family Group Sheets and Pedigree Charts
- II. Verifying Research and Continuing Work
- III. Computerizing Thousands of Pages of Research and Correspondence
- IV. Compiling up-to-date Family Records
- V. Publishing said Collections of Family Records

For over 40 years of her life, Ida-Rose Hall has been dedicated to the never-ending task of sorting through old papers, books, microfilms, and county courthouses in search of the next piece of the puzzle in the family genealogy. Her love for this work has been handed down to the next generation as several of her children have taken up the quest and given their efforts to the cause. Whether it is going through assigned registers to pick out family names in church archives and cemeteries in England or chasing the family lines back through early America, the Hall family has actively contributed to this storehouse of information.

Ida-Rose Hall has dedicated large contributions of both time and money to find her relatives, living and dead, and to compile their information in a great collection of connected family heritage. One of her greatest achievements was her book on Langford family genealogy. She spent years searching for her distant relatives, writing to them for information, and building family relationships with these cousins. She has collected hundreds of letters of correspondence, and has gathered information on generations present and past.

In her work on other family lines, she has hired researchers in northern Europe and several places in America to gather the information needed to piece their puzzles together. She has discovered a very colorful history in this process and has created huge stacks of paper work in the basement of the family home. There are thousands of family group sheets and pedigree charts, hundreds of pictures, and personal histories, as well as church and government records in her collection.

All of these family group sheets and charts have finally been connected and typed in computer format. This compilation is now being made available to the family as a database created with the genealogy program "Family Origins" distributed by Parsons Technology. The inevitable discrepancies between all of these sheets have been corrected to the best of our knowledge and some additional research has been done to provide as accurate a record as possible. The names of people and places have occasionally been corrected in order that future researchers may be a little further ahead when they continue the work. One example of such correction is the improved translation of some of the Swedish documents. A few compilations of early LDS records have also been consulted and that information added to clear up some of the confusion existing in the original family records.

In addition to the hours, weeks, and months of typing and verifying family groups, much time was also dedicated to scanning in and making computer files of all of the documentation, pictures, correspondence, research notes, newspaper clippings, histories, and certificates collected by Ida-Rose Hall. The Langford book was scanned in so that there is now a computer copy of it as well. There are dozens of Swedish christening, marriage, and burial records, which because they were photocopied and scanned in, are still in the original handwriting of the Lutheran priests. There are old English wills and English church records of the same quality as the Swedish. It is important to have these direct copies of the originals in order to combat the danger of losing information in transcription. That way when future researchers look at them they see what was originally written and not just what some one else said was written.

The records that Ida-Rose Hall inherited from her predecessors' research have also been scanned in, in order that this work not be lost either. Luckily the scanning was done now as these pages are getting older and more worn and would not have survived much longer.

Another major project was the collection of many of the descendants of one of the family ancestors, Lt. Thomas Tracy, an early colonizer of New England. As many of his descendants as the church has record of are now compiled together in our database.

The final compilation performed on this family, before the work was published was one in which you were all involved. We collected up-to-date family history information on all of the descendants of Howard Hall / Florence Almina Tracy and Ernest Fountain Langford / Zina Charlotte Chlarson. These records were completed in our database and have since been published. Since that time we have received many emails from family members continually updating this information and asking for more details. It is good to see that the work that we have done is being used.

As has been mentioned, the last part of this project has been the publication of our work. It is published on the Internet at the following sites, to help get the information to interested parties. In addition to these websites there are zip disks available for family members which contain the entire database of the Hall and Langford families.

"Descendants of Howard HALL"

<<http://www.parsonstech.com/genealogy/trees/dhall13/howdhall.htm>>

"Descendants of Ernest Fountain LANGFORD"

<<http://www.parsonstech.com/genealogy/trees/dhall14/eflngfrd.htm>>

"Ancestors of Howard HALL"

<<http://www.parsonstech.com/genealogy/trees/dhall15/hwrdhall.htm>>

"Ancestors of Florence Almina TRACY"

<<http://www.parsonstech.com/genealogy/trees/dhall16/flotracy.htm>>

"Ancestors of Ernest Fountain LANGFORD"

<<http://www.parsonstech.com/genealogy/trees/dhall17/ernslang.htm>>

"Ancestors of Zina Charlotte CHLARSON"

<<http://www.parsonstech.com/genealogy/trees/dhall18/zinchlar.htm>>

"Descendants of Lt. Thomas TRACY"

<<http://www.parsonstech.com/genealogy/trees/dhall12/thotracy.htm>>