

JULY 1, 2010

Genealogy Project -- Narrative Thoughts

1. Starts with Andrea hand drawn family tree.
2. Mom's favorite story and the results of our search.

An elderly man, was asked his name and replied, "Sean Ferguson". When told he neither looked nor sounded like "Sean Ferguson" he explained, "When I first got to the United States at Ellis Island I was tired and hungry and more than a little confused. The very nice agent at the desk asked me for my name and in my confused condition I replied, 'shoyn fergessen' (I forget), in Yiddish, because quite frankly I had momentarily forgotten my name. He wrote down, Sean Ferguson.

"I also have a friend from China named Sean Ferguson. He was right behind me in the line at Ellis Island, and when asked his name he simply said, "Sam Ting." Oops, another Sean Ferguson."

It is a cute little story that exposes the foibles of speech and communication between people of similar genetic makeup and very different cultures.

It turns out that all of our Grandparents, in their own way were "Sean Fergusons"

Saul Sussman, aka Shewel Sissman.
Adele Sussman, aka Gidle Sissman
Israel Aronoff, aka Israil Aronow
And finally,
Mary Trifon [Aronoff], aka Marya Tryan

This of course made our search a little more complicated and significantly more rewarding.

JULY 3, 2010

All TOPICS listed can be long (a page or more) or short (a brief paragraph). All topics are not created equal.

Topic – Names and relative importance and unimportance.

Topic – Importance of Joseph Trifon as a connecting link to Israel and Mary. Include 199 Forsyth (Now Forsythe) St. and Perth Amboy, NJ

Topic – Return to Odessa. Include brief summary of and reference to "The Pogrom of 1905 in Odessa"

Topic – Naturalization for Women and children – Include summary of and reference to archives.gov article "Women and Naturalization".

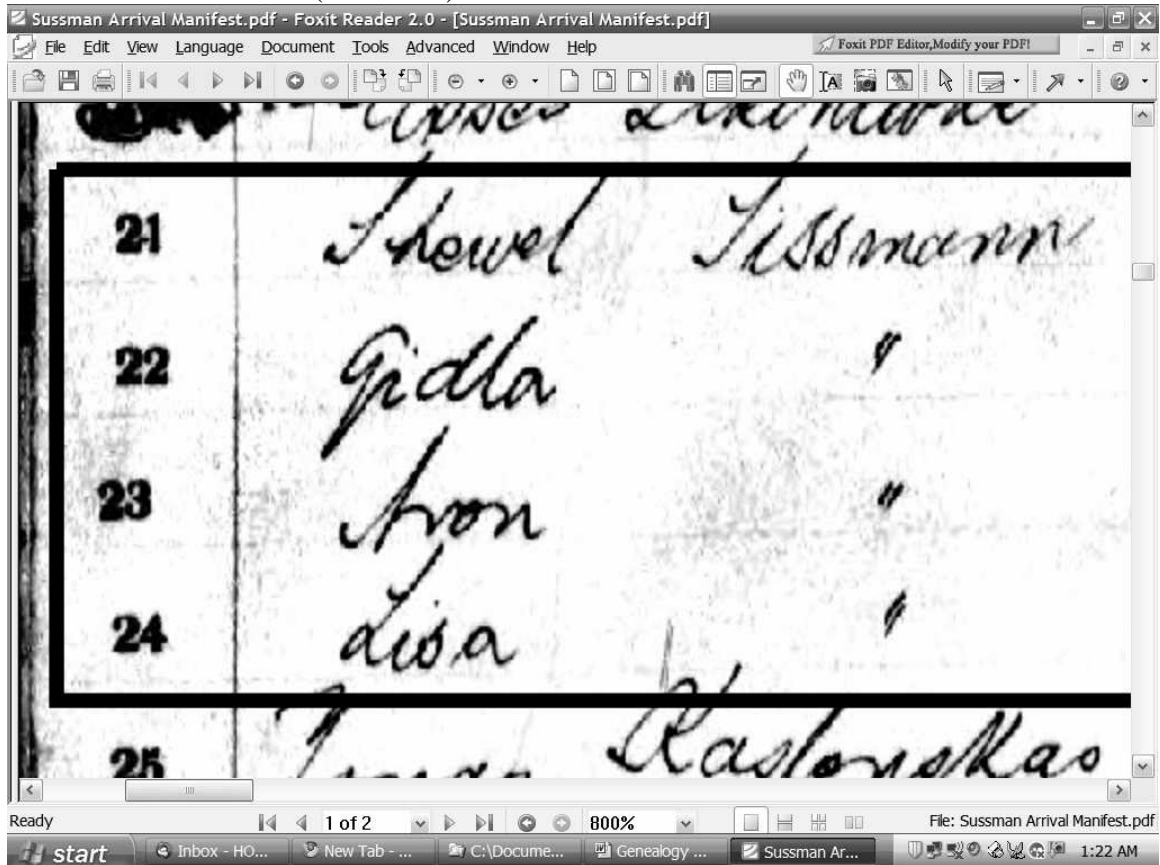
Topic – Geography and Barry Map of Towns of Europs

Topic – Where did Israel and Mary meet? Married after they got here.

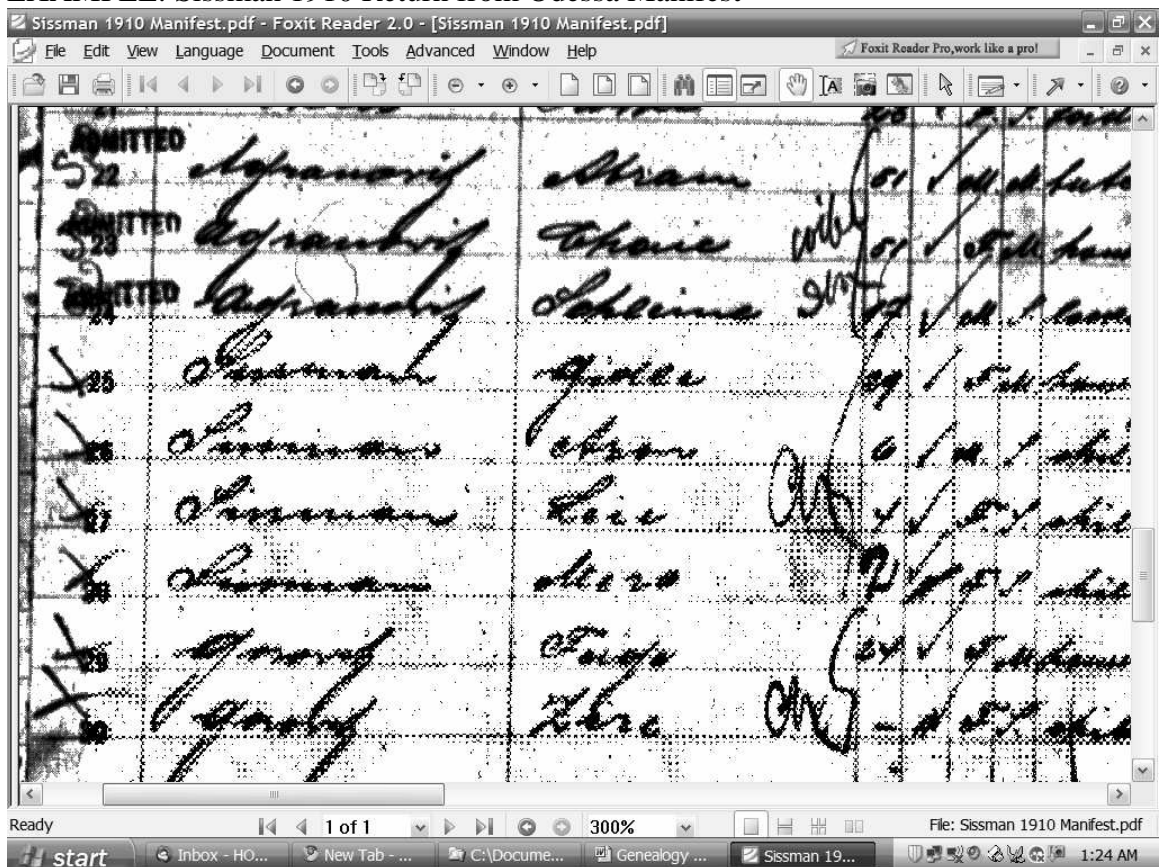
Topic – Saul draft card age? Why?

METHOD – Intersperse screen images of parts of documents.

EXAMPLE: Sussman (Sissman) Arrival Manifest 1906



EXAMPLE: Sissman 1910 Return from Odessa Manifest



Topic – Sequence of Finding Manifests.

1. Shewel and gang
2. Israel
3. Gidle and Children
4. Mary

Topic – Knowledge at beginning of project.

Topic – Knowledge now (at end of Phase 1)

Topic – Next Step(s)