Professional Genealogy: A Manual for Researchers, Writers, Editors, Lectureres, and Librarian

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Professional Genealogy
reviewed by Kip Sperry, CG, CGI, AG, FASG, FNGS, FUGA

Popularly known as “ProGen,” this guidebook was written for serious students, professional genealogists, librarians, researchers, authors, and editors. It answers most of the questions relating to professionalism, ethics, genealogical education, certification and accreditation as a genealogist, careers as a professional genealogist, methodology and research skills, writing genealogical articles and book reviews, editing, publishing, genealogical education, and many other aspects of genealogical research.

Each chapter was written by experienced and professional genealogists, authors, editors, and scholars. The list of authors represents a Who’s Who in genealogy today. Most of the authors are either certified by the Board for Certification of Genealogists in Washington, D.C., or accredited by the International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Included in this attractive reference guidebook are notes, bibliographies, illustrations, and many practical examples for researchers, writers, editors, and reference librarians. The source citations are to some of the best books and articles on the subjects covered and provide a valuable reference source for serious researchers. Appendixes include genealogical abbreviations and acronyms; and codes, guidelines, and standards of genealogical organizations, such as the National Genealogical Society and others. The book is nicely indexed.

This reference manual should be on the desk of advanced family history students, serious genealogists, and reference librarians. Elizabeth Shown Mills, editor of the National Genealogical Society Quarterly, deserves a lot of credit for her expert writing and editing. This book will be cited as “The Reference Source” for many years to come. It is one of the major genealogical reference sources in the new millennium.

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