

What they won't find on the tombstones: Adding Stories to your Family Genealogy.

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Stories from Home
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Why?

“I love the stories.”

Our stories tell us who we are.

**Stories connect us to one another, to life,
and to history.**



What is a personal or family story?

Something happens.

A universal element is present.

- **Emotions**
- **Experiences**
- **People**

**Structure gathers us up and carries us along,
then leaves us in a good space.**

Where do you find the stories?

**Stories are all around
Family, Friends, Neighbors**

Baby books

Bibles

Letters

Scrapbooks and Photo albums

In the names such as Sheribiah

Moments or Mementos

Electronic or Digital files

**How best to gather, sift, sort,
and fine tune the bits and pieces
to make stories.**

My favorites:

Pay attention

Ask

Record oral bits and pieces

**Consider written Treasures—a way to mine the
database and archive within each of us**

**Search newspapers and outside databases and archives
for documentation**

Samples from Treasures

88. Wringer washer. At Creston and then on the 40, we had a wringer washer and two rinse tubs. We did about 15 loads a week. There was nothing automatic. You turned the washer on and turned the wringer on and you remembered to come back and turn them off. You filled the tubs with a hose and the wringer swung in a circle so you picked out each item, fed it into the wringer and dropped it into the next tub until you dropped it into the basket and took it outside to hang it on the line. Freeze-drying worked but was no fun.

I remember the first clothes dryer on Creston. It had a rack that pulled out and you hung the things on the prongs then warm air was blown through the hanging clothes. One day a fire started at the outlet on the wall and I pulled the plug out and the fire went out.

I tipped that wringer washing machine over one day at the 40. Something was stuck in the wringer and I was trying to pull it out.

Mom was upset when the washer broke down the final time but Dad said it was a good thing because then we went to the Laundromat, did the 15 loads all at once, visited with others and used the dryers.

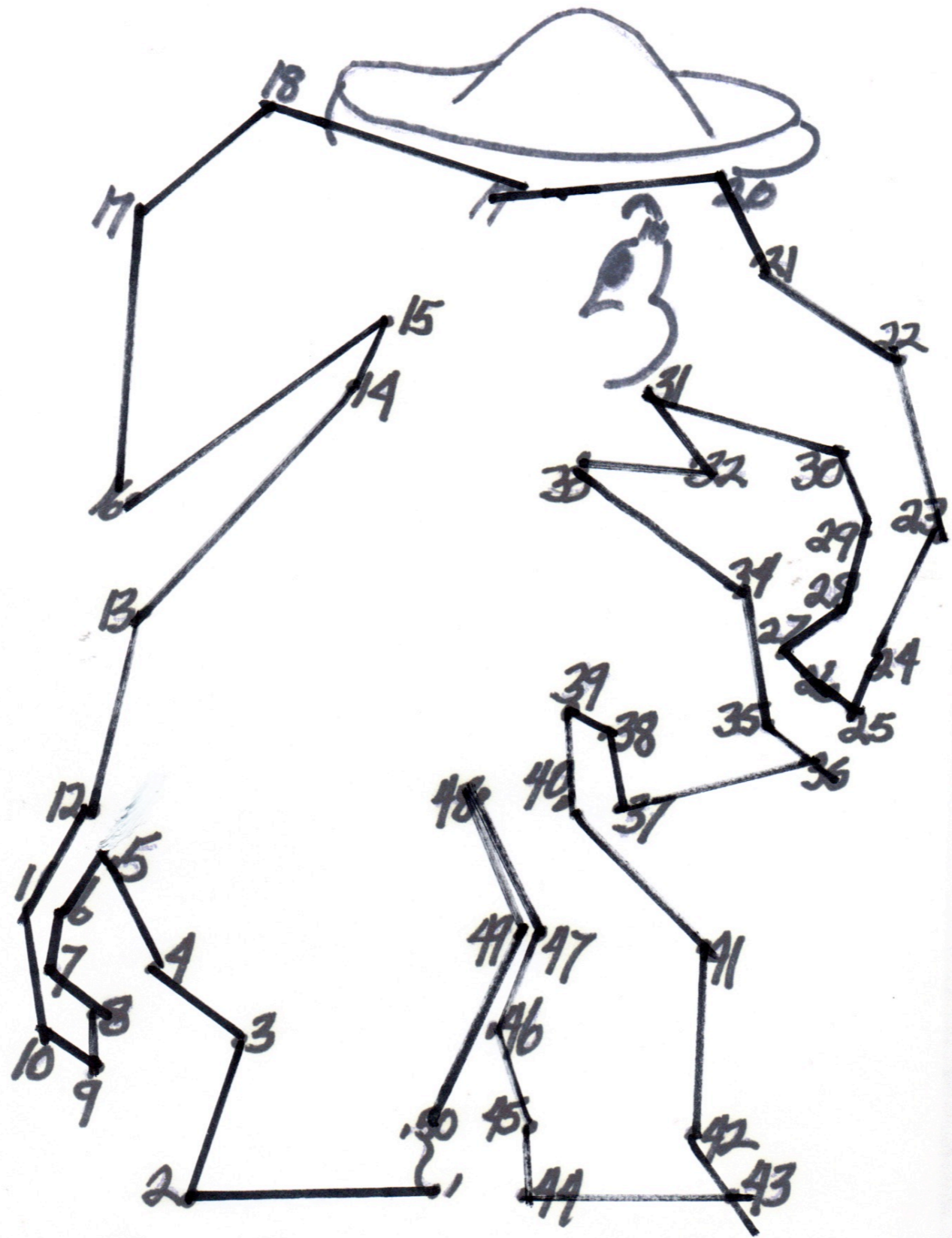
Mining the databases, archives, memories within.

- **Coffin the Dead**
- **We knew how bad the news was by the way he beat the horse as he rode in**
- **Dad said. Mom said.**
- **Cat spit in the cookies**
- **The Watchdog**





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Sheila Dailey Carroll said a very long time ago at Northlands:

- 1. Think it (Research goes here.)**
- 2. Talk it (Friends and dogs help—cats not so much.)**
- 3. Tell it (Friends, guilds, genealogists, and historians help.)**
- 4. Listen back**
- 5. Do some putting in, some taking out, and some rearranging**
- 6. Begin again to follow this set of steps until you are happy**
- 7. Love it, tell it, it is yours to share.**

10 Free Useful Websites for U. S. Genealogy Research

LDS genealogy.com

FamilySearch

Find a Grave

archive.org

Chronicling America

Fulton History

Atlas of Historical County Boundaries

WorldCat

ArchiveGrid

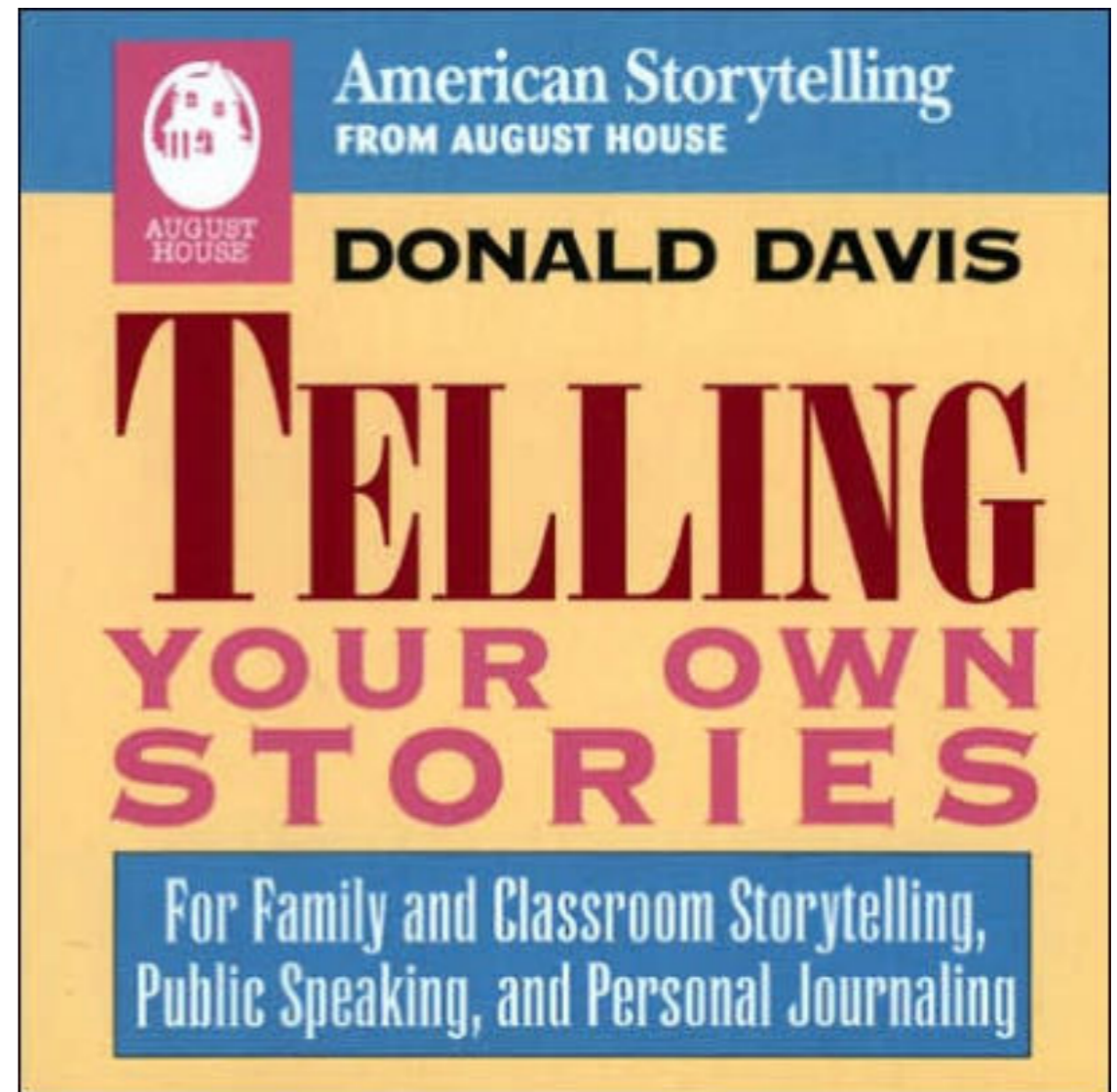
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Now you have an organized set of memories but there are sharp points—here is the way to smooth them into a story or two.

Sheila Dailey Carroll said to develop a story you create or discover:

1. Think it. (Research goes here)
2. Talk it.
(Friends and dogs will listen—cats not so much.)
3. Tell it.
(Friends and Genealogy Groups and Guilds help.)
4. Listen back.
5. Do some putting in, some taking out, and some rearranging
6. Begin again to follow this set of steps until you are happy
7. Love it, tell it, it is yours to share



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Love and laughter and sometimes tears
from one whose heart belongs to the Midwest.

