

TMG

How to say or show WHERE it happened

★ Use TMG place fields for physical locations only

Bob Velke recommends that we think of the place fields as somewhere we could actually stand. Leave comments to the memo field. Previously we covered the following topics on places:

- Set and follow data entry standards - especially, be consistent
- Review and edit through the Master Place List (MSL)
- Use repeat keys, F3 and F2

★ Use all of the Place subdivisions

Most tags have room for a Detail, City/Town, County, State and Country. Using these consistently allows searches, sorts and reports for each segment. The lat/long (latitude and longitude) field can be used as intended or as a special field. The Detail can even be broken down into up to nine subdivisions separated by || (double "pipes", the upper character of the back slash on most keyboards). If these labels don't fit your places (such as parishes in Louisiana), the labels can be changed. Further customization is available with Place Styles.

★ Record information on the changes of place names

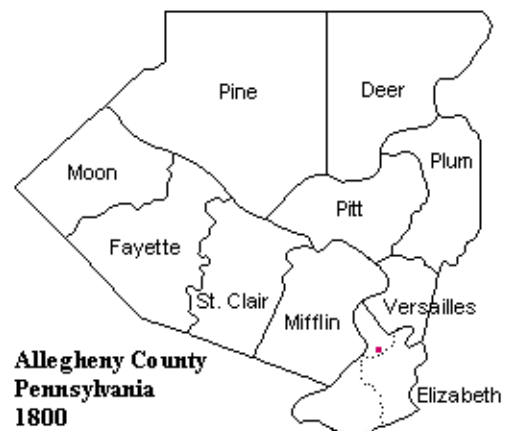
Lee Hoffman one time proposed, on the TMG mailing list, a simple way to add information on place names that have changed. Both old and new names would show up in your narratives and the MSL. He agreed to share it here, but it will also appear in a future TMG column in Everton's Family History Magazine. When you record an event in a place whose name has since changed, most of us think you should report the name at the time of the event. Lee has an idea to streamline an explanation of the change as follows (where [M] is memo, [L] is location and [D] is date):

"Following [the tag with the old place name], you would add another tag showing the new or current place name. This tag would be a Custom tag called (possibly) 'SamePlace'. The Sentence for it might be 'The name of [M] was changed to [L] <[D]>'. There are a number of variations of this that could be used. The Date of the change would be entered in the Date field but the Sort Date would be one day later than the first tag above to ensure that it immediately follows that tag. Thus you might have a Birth tag followed by a SamePlace tag. The result in a narrative might be something like: 'He was born in 1879 in Ticktown. The name of Ticktown was changed to Jeffersonville in 1935'.

"The second tag would allow both place names to be in the Master Place List and both easily found on their own. If the user did not want the second sentence to be printed, they could easily just de-select it for printing in the Report Definition."

★ Show the places with map exhibits

Add maps to your narrative reports (word processor and html only) by adding map images as exhibits either to a person or to a tag. They may be internal or external to the TMG dataset or you can add a special tag to remind you to put the map in yourself.



TMG v 6.11 now available, including bug fixes for the recent 6.10

