The Collection of Fitzpatrick Research
Fourth Edition – 2026

Steve Zalewski

Nearly five years have elapsed since The Collection was last published and it is time for the next update. The fourth edition of The Collection will be released in the first quarter of 2026. To ensure that your research is included, please submit your new or updated information to me before December 1, 2025. This document will describe the database and what is required to add/update your Fitzpatricks in the existing database.

Overview

The Collection of Fitzpatrick Research is a database of Fitzpatrick names, events, dates and places contributed by about 130 Fitzpatrick researchers worldwide and currently contains nearly 12,000 Fitzpatrick events. These events include, but are not limited to, births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, and burials. The Collection standardizes the format of the information submitted and organizes the resultant data for flexible searching. You must have a current version of Microsoft Access to use the PC application and the application will be provided that makes searching by given name, year, and/or location easier. Unlike prior versions, Version 4 will now be available to the general public. In order to preserve the privacy of the contributors and those living, only the events over 100 years ago will be included in The Collection. A different process and database, *The Fitzpatrick Nation Genealogy Register*, is required to search for living persons and more recent events and this will be described in a separate document. The Collection is for the use of family and historical researchers to augment their research and is expressly forbidden to be published on the internet or reproduced in any publication or in any electronic media.

Objectives

The objective of The Collection is to consolidate the Fitzpatrick research of all participants into a single location and make this available to the public to facilitate family and/or historical research. To ensure the privacy of contributors to The Collection and those names and events contributed, only those non-living individuals or events over 100 years old are included.

The methodology collects research submitted and converts it into a common format for searching. Placing an individual in a known location at a known year is the goal for each event entry. Names, events, dates, and locations are the primary data items for each entry. In some cases, other information may also be included.

Screening Criteria

Files may be submitted in GEDCOM, CSV, TXT, or spreadsheet format and each file will be converted into the standard format. This format will contain a surname, given name, event, date, and location. All items must be present to be included in The Collection. In addition, the following criteria must also be met:

Surname: Must be a Fitzpatrick surname or close variant.

Given name: Must be a viable name or an initial. Cannot be blank, "Unknown", "?", "child", "son", "daughter" or similar names.

Event: An event in a person's life that creates a document that can corroborate the name, date and location of the event. Common events are births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, and burials but may also include immigration, christenings, censuses, court proceedings, et. al.

Date: The date of the event with the right-most 4 characters indicating the year.

Location: The place of the event. The location may have up to four jurisdictional levels separated by commas. The smallest jurisdiction is at the left, larger jurisdictions to the right. A maximum of 30 characters per jurisdiction is permitted.

A minimum of 4 complete Fitzpatrick name, date, event, and location groups must be submitted by a contributor to be included in The Collection. Each entry satisfying the screening criteria will then be added to The Collection.

Acceptable Data Formats

Files may be submitted in GEDCOM, spreadsheet, or document format as described below. These files should be emailed to me at szalewski2000@yahoo.com before December 1, 2025. No files will be accepted after that date. See your genealogical program's "Help" file for instructions for creating a GEDCOM file. It is not necessary to remove all non-Fitzpatrick names from your GEDCOM file, but only Fitzpatricks and close Fitzpatrick variants will be included in The Collection.

Spreadsheets (XLS, XLSX or CSV) and document (DOC, DOCX, or TXT) files must have a Fitzpatrick surname or close variant, given name, event, date, and location. One name/event/date/location combination per line is required as noted below. The order of these columns is unimportant, but a description of the column must be listed as the first line in the file. If you have an entire file that contains the same event, for example, a file of only Fitzpatrick births from Church of the Holy Rosary in Co. Limerick, please name the file as such, e.g., "Fitzpatrick Births-Church of the Holy Rosary Co Limerick.XLS" or "Fitzpatrick Births-Church of the Holy Rosary Co Limerick.DOC". Text files must have double quotes around each field and commas between the different information types. For example, a text file might look like this:

Surname, GivenName, Event, Date, Place1, Place2, Place3, Place4
"Fitzpatrick","James Emmett","Birth","9 Feb 1891","Chicago","Cook Co","Illinois","USA"
"Fitzpatrick", "James Stanley", "Marriage", "5 Mar 1970","London","England",,

Note that in the marriage line above, only 2 Place Levels are given for location. In these cases, use commas if necessary to indicate that places 3 and 4 are not included. Always enter Place1 before Place2, Place2 before Place3, and so on.

A spreadsheet file with the same individuals recorded might look like this:

Surname	GivenName	Event	Date	Place1	Place2	Place3	Place4
Fitzpatrick	James Emmett	Birth	9 Feb 1891	Chicago	Cook Co	Illinois	USA
Fitzpatrick	James Stanley	Marriage	5 Mar 1970	London	England		

If using a spreadsheet like Excel, enter all dates beginning with a single quote. This tells the software that your date is text, whether it is or not. Otherwise, a date entered as "5/3/1904", when formatted as text, becomes "1585" in Excel. All dates are converted to text prior to loading into the database so it's best to handle this when entering the data.

If you have comments or sources that relate to individual rows, they may be optionally added in the file by adding new Comment or Source columns. In document files, comments or sources may be added following commas for each at the end of the line. You will receive a report with the entries that were added to The Collection.

If you are updating a file or GEDCOM from a prior contribution to The Collection, please indicate the old email address, if different, in the email that accompanies the file. I will remove the data from the old email address and replace it with data from the new file. In addition, if you are sending a file that contains someone who is part of the Fitzpatrick DNA study, please include the name AND birth date in the email and which Fitzpatrick group he/she belongs to if known.

Contact me at szalewski2000@yahoo.com for any questions.

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