

TMG Options for Adopted Children

Presented by David Walker

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Ottawa TMG Users Group

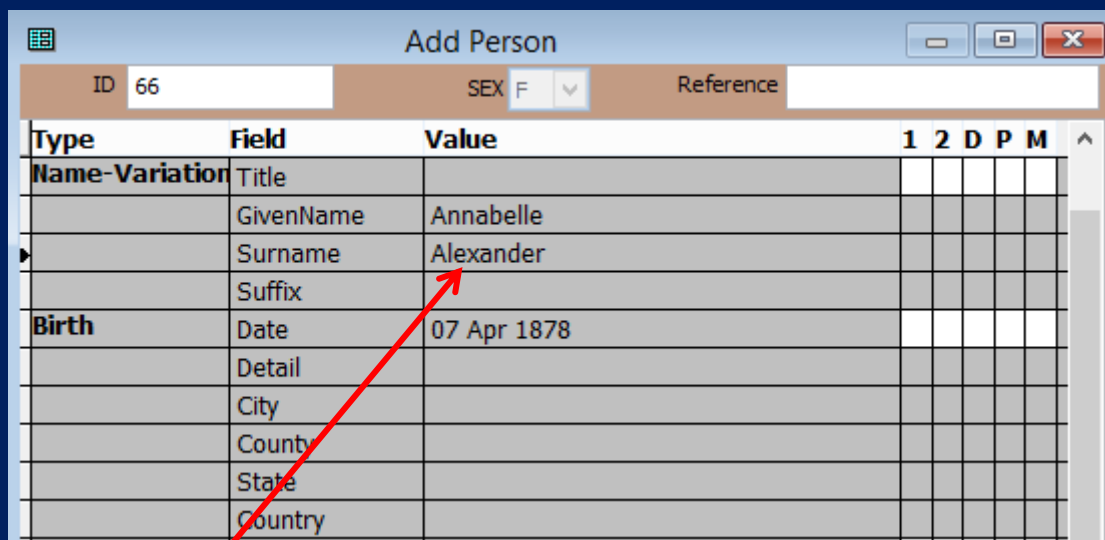
INTRODUCTION

There are two ways to record adopted children in TMG, either to be included as a blood relation, or not.

Although adopting parents would normally consider their adopted child as a member of the family equal to their biological children, the fact is that an ancestral chart for such a child would be inaccurate.

Case Study 1

Add new person as a son or daughter.



The screenshot shows a window titled "Add Person" with a form containing the following fields:

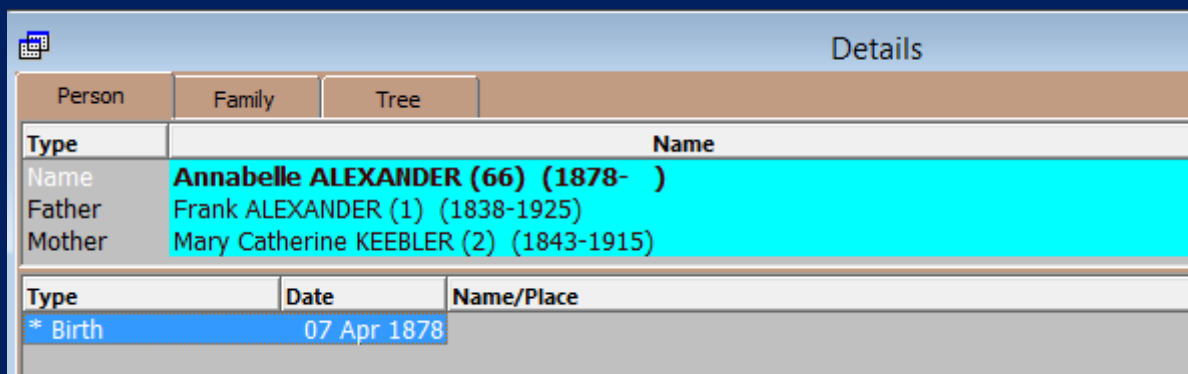
- ID: 66
- SEX: F
- Reference: (empty)

Type	Field	Value	1	2	D	P	M	^
Name-Variation	Title							
	GivenName	Annabelle						
	Surname	Alexander						
	Suffix							
Birth	Date	07 Apr 1878						
	Detail							
	City							
	County							
	State							
	Country							

A red arrow points from the text below to the "Surname" field in the table, which contains the value "Alexander".

The surname of the new child is that of the father, by default.

Case Study 1



The screenshot shows a 'Details' window for a person. At the top, there are three tabs: 'Person', 'Family', and 'Tree'. The 'Person' tab is selected. Below the tabs, there are two main sections. The first section has a header with 'Type' and 'Name'. It lists the person's name as 'Annabelle ALEXANDER (66) (1878-)', their father as 'Frank ALEXANDER (1) (1838-1925)', and their mother as 'Mary Catherine KEEBLER (2) (1843-1915)'. The second section has a header with 'Type', 'Date', and 'Name/Place'. It lists a birth event as '* Birth' on '07 Apr 1878'.

Type	Name
Name	Annabelle ALEXANDER (66) (1878-)
Father	Frank ALEXANDER (1) (1838-1925)
Mother	Mary Catherine KEEBLER (2) (1843-1915)

Type	Date	Name/Place
* Birth	07 Apr 1878	

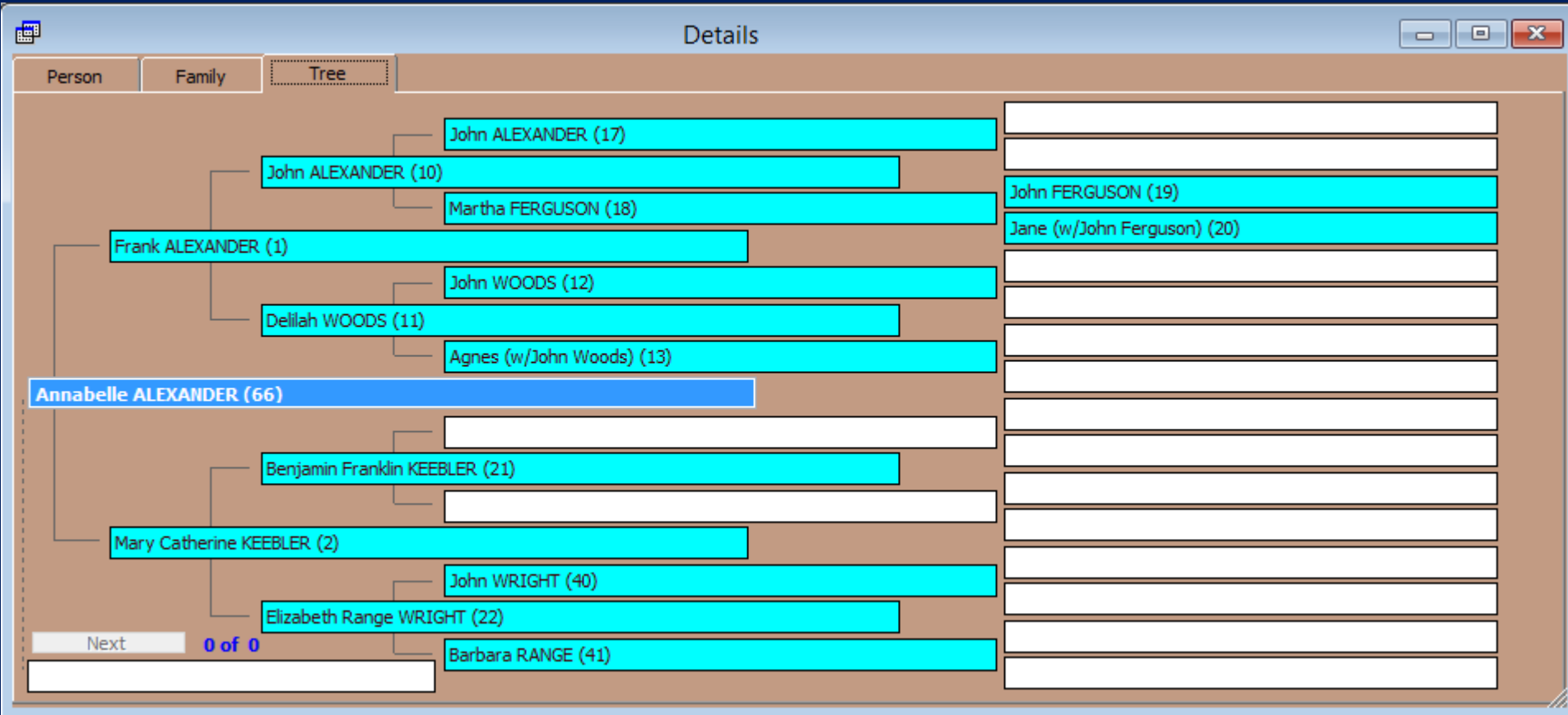
Details window for Annabelle Alexander, appearing as a biological daughter of Frank Alexander.

Case Study 1

Details										
Person			Family			Tree				
Type	Name					Type	Value			
Name	Frank ALEXANDER (1) (1838-1925)					Reference	SO 8			^
Father	John ALEXANDER (10) (1812-1876)					Children	9			
Mother	Delilah WOODS (11) (1817-1879)					Soundex	A425			v
Type	Date	Name/Place	Age	M	S	W	E	T		
* Marriage	24 Dec 1861	Mary Catherine KEEBLER (2); the John W. Tipton home, Elizabethton, Carter County,	23	✓	✓				^	
* Occupation	bt 1861-1910	Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee, Between 1861 and 1865, Frank Alexander	~47	✓	✓					
* Son-Biological	17 Dec 1862	Samuel Lee ALEXANDER (3); Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee	24		✓					
* Dau-Biological	13 Mar 1865	Lula Elizabeth ALEXANDER (4); Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee; at the time	26		✓					
Residence	bt 1865-1883	Marion, Smyth County, Virginia	~36		✓					
Occupation	bt 1865-1925	John ALEXANDER (10); Marion, Smyth County, Virginia, proprietors in a men's	~57	✓	✓					
* Son-Biological	10 Oct 1867	John Wright ALEXANDER (5); Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee	29		✓					
* Dau-Biological	10 Jan 1870	Annie Eliza ALEXANDER (6); Marion, Smyth County, Virginia	31		✓					
* Son-Biological	06 Nov 1871	William Franklin ALEXANDER (7)	33		✓					
* Dau-Biological	11 Mar 1874	Carrie Tipton ALEXANDER (8)	35		✓					
* Dau-Biological	13 May 1876	Mary Virginia ALEXANDER (9)	37		✓					
* Dau-Biological	07 Apr 1878	Annabelle ALEXANDER (66)	39							

New family addition appears as a biological daughter.

Case Study 1



In Tree View she appears to have the identical ancestry as her biological siblings.

Case Study 1

Person			Family			Tree			Details		
Type	Name										
Name	Frank ALEXANDER (1) (1838-1925)										
Father	John ALEXANDER (10) (1812-1876)										
Mother	Delilah WOODS (11) (1817-1879)										
Type	Date	Name/Place									
* Son-Biological	06 Nov 1871	William Franklin ALEXANDER (7)									
* Dau-Biological	11 Mar 1874	Carrie Tipton ALEXANDER (8)									
* Dau-Biological	13 May 1876	Mary Virginia ALEXANDER (9)									
* Dau-Adopted	07 Apr 1878	Annabelle ALEXANDER (66)									

The relationship role for Annabelle can be changed to Dau-Adopted.

Case Study 1

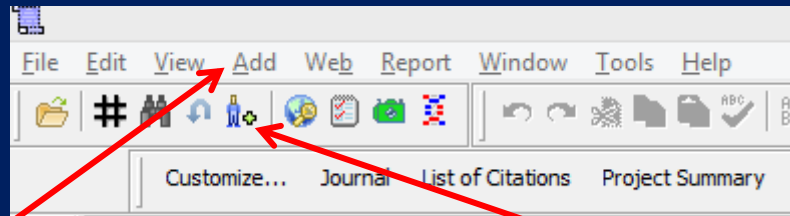
Children of Frank¹ Alexander and Mary Catherine Keebler were as follows:

- i. SAMUEL LEE² was born on 17 Dec 1862 at Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee. He married Sally Jones. He died on 29 Nov 1932 aged 69. He was buried at Round Hill Cemetery, Marion, Smyth County, Virginia.
2. ii. LULA ELIZABETH was born on 13 Mar 1865 at Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee. She married Robert Moore Baldwin on 22 Jul 1885 at Union, Smyth County, Virginia. She died on 18 Oct 1954 at Richmond, Virginia, aged 89.
- iii. JOHN WRIGHT was born on 10 Oct 1867 at Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee. He died on 3 Jan 1891 aged 23. He died on 4 Jan 1891 at Belfast Mills, Russell County, Virginia, aged 23. He was buried at Round Hill Cemetery, Marion, Smyth County, Virginia.
3. iv. ANNIE ELIZA was born on 10 Jan 1870 at Marion, Smyth County, Virginia. She married John Keys Fugate on 8 Dec 1896 at The Parsonage, Dickensonville, Virginia. She died on 11 Apr 1936 at Kingsport, Sullivan County, Tennessee, aged 66. She was buried at Bristol, Tennessee.
- v. WILLIAM FRANKLIN was born on 6 Nov 1871.
He was also called "WILLIE."
- vi. CARRIE TIPTON was born on 11 Mar 1874.
- vii. MARY VIRGINIA was born on 13 May 1876. She married Thomas Jefferson Houts on 11 Sep 1912 at New Blountville, Tennessee. She died on 12 Nov 1958 at Knoxville, Tennessee, aged 82. She was buried at Round Hill Cemetery, Marion, Smyth County, Virginia.
- viii. FRANK was born on 30 Aug 1882. He died on 19 Feb 1956 aged 73. He was buried at Round Hill Cemetery, Marion, Smyth County, Virginia.
- ix. ANNABELLE was born on 7 Apr 1878.

However, in a tree or report Annabelle still appears as a biological daughter.

Case Study 2

Add a new person as an adopted child



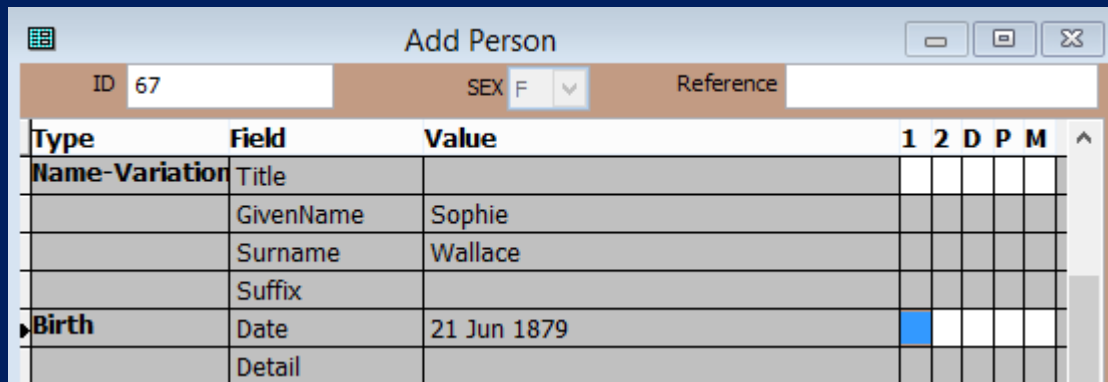
From the Add drop down menu, select New Person, or click on the 'person +' icon.

Case Study 2

Add the New Person as Unrelated.

The screenshot shows a window titled "Add Person Type" with a dropdown menu set to "1 : TMG Sample Data Set". A tree diagram illustrates relationships: "Unrelated" is selected and highlighted with a red arrow. Other options include "Son", "Daughter", "Children", "Wife", "Brother", "Sister", "Father", and "Mother". A text box contains "Frank ALEXANDER (1) b. 03 Oct 1838, d. 13 No". At the bottom, there are checkboxes for "Add multiple people of this type at once" and buttons for "New Family", "Cancel", and "Help".

Case Study 2

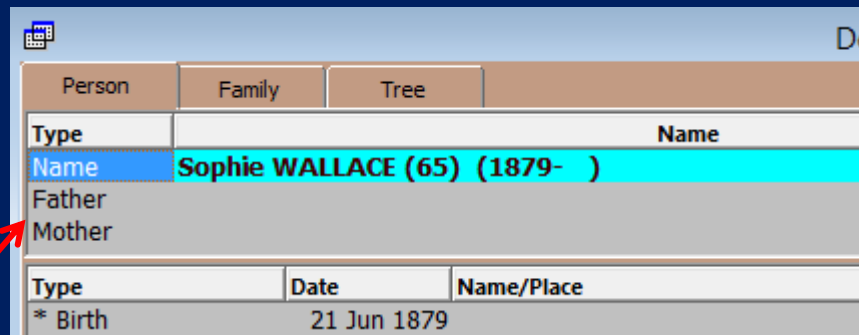


The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Add Person" with a grid of data. The grid has columns for "Type", "Field", "Value", and five columns labeled "1", "2", "D", "P", and "M". The "Name-Variation" section includes fields for Title, GivenName (Sophie), Surname (Wallace), and Suffix. The "Birth" section includes a Date field (21 Jun 1879) and a Detail field. A blue highlight is visible in the "1" column of the Birth Date row.

Type	Field	Value	1	2	D	P	M
Name-Variation	Title						
	GivenName	Sophie					
	Surname	Wallace					
	Suffix						
Birth	Date	21 Jun 1879					
	Detail						

Enter Given Name, Surname, Birth, etc. Click OK

Case Study 2



Type	Name
Name	Sophie WALLACE (65) (1879-)
Father	
Mother	

Type	Date	Name/Place
* Birth	21 Jun 1879	

Details window for New Person

If either or both biological parents are known, double click (or Highlight + Enter) each parent

Case Study 2

Tag Entry

Tag type Father-Biological

Parent :

Child : 65 Sophie WALLACE, (1879-)

Memo

No citation 1 2 D P M

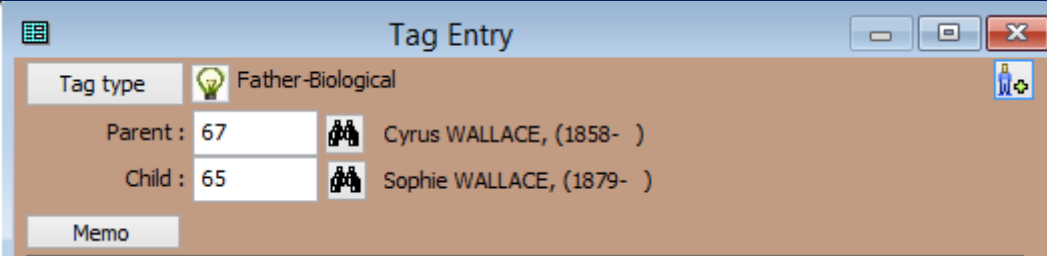
Max surety :

OK Cancel Help

Click here if the parent is known

Click here to enter a New Person

Case Study 2



The screenshot shows a 'Tag Entry' window with a light blue title bar and standard window controls. The main area has a light brown background. At the top left, there is a 'Tag type' dropdown menu set to 'Father-Biological' with a lightbulb icon. Below this, there are two rows of information: 'Parent : 67' with a male icon and 'Cyrus WALLACE, (1858-)', and 'Child : 65' with a female icon and 'Sophie WALLACE, (1879-)'. At the bottom left, there is a 'Memo' text area.

Field	Value
Tag type	Father-Biological
Parent	67
Child	65

Cyrus WALLACE, (1858-)
Sophie WALLACE, (1879-)


Memo

Tag Entry screen for Sophie & her biological father.

Case Study 2



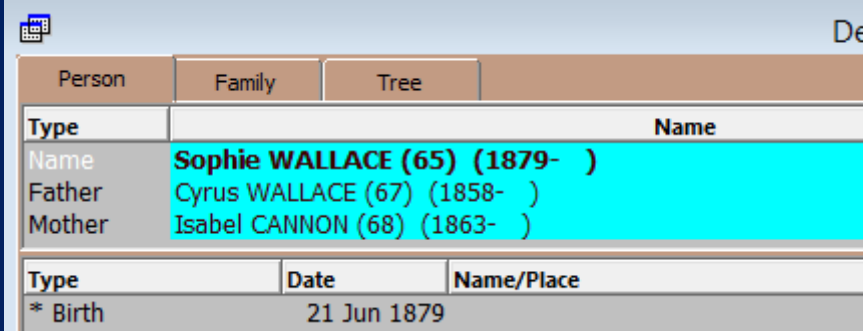
The screenshot shows a window titled "Tag Entry" with a standard Windows-style title bar (minimize, maximize, close buttons). The main content area has a light brown background. At the top left, there is a "Tag type" label next to a lightbulb icon and the text "Mother-Biological". To the right of this is a small icon of a person with a plus sign. Below this, there are two rows of information:

Parent :	68		Isabel CANNON, (1863-)
Child :	65		Sophie WALLACE, (1879-)

At the bottom left, there is a "Memo" label next to a text input field.

Tag Entry screen for Sophie & her biological mother.

Case Study 2



The screenshot shows a genealogy software interface with a 'Details' window for a person. The window has tabs for 'Person', 'Family', and 'Tree'. The 'Person' tab is active, showing a list of attributes. The first section has a 'Type' column and a 'Name' column. The second section has a 'Type' column, a 'Date' column, and a 'Name/Place' column.

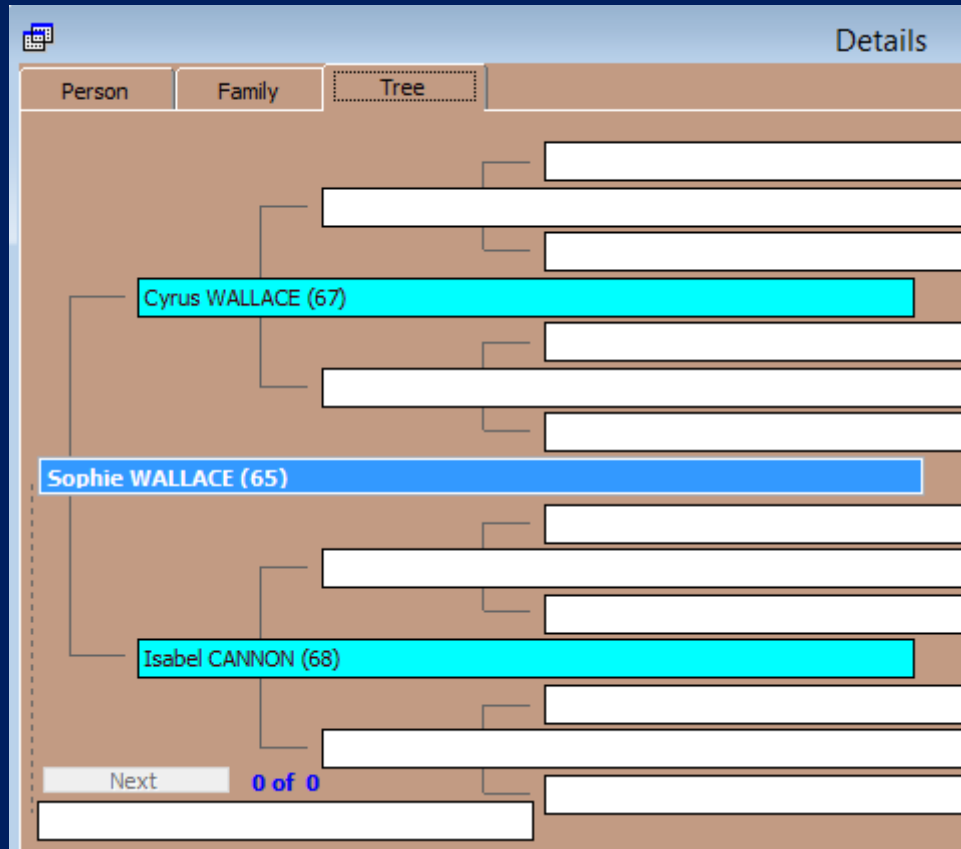
Type	Name
Name	Sophie WALLACE (65) (1879-)
Father	Cyrus WALLACE (67) (1858-)
Mother	Isabel CANNON (68) (1863-)

Type	Date	Name/Place
* Birth	21 Jun 1879	

Details window for Sophie & her biological parents.

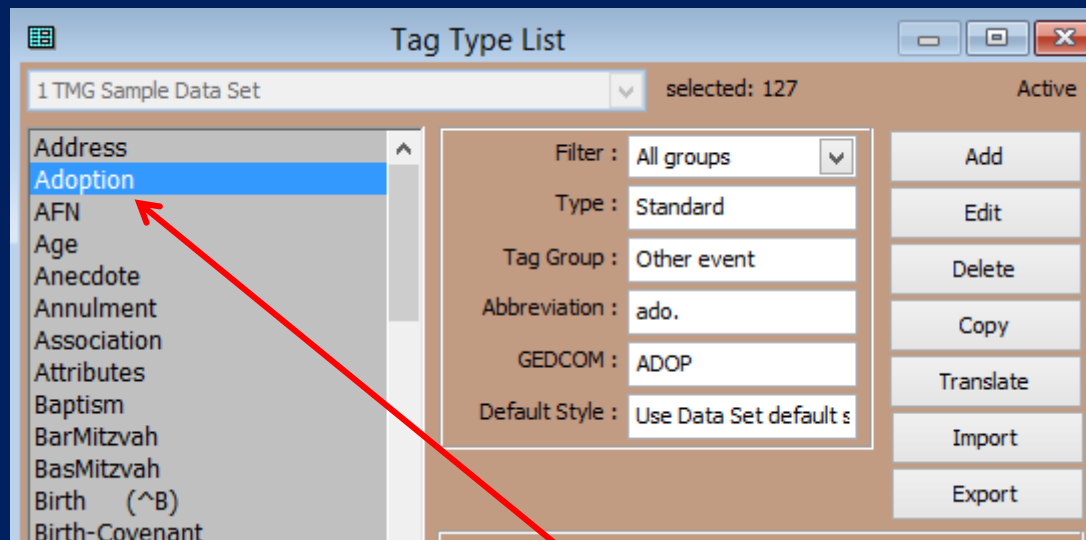
In the real world there will be variations of this scenario. Often the father is not known. Often the mother is still in school.

Case Study 2



A realistic Tree View for Sophie Wallace.

Case Study 2



From the Tag Type List select Adoption.

Case Study 2

Adopting parents are entered from the Add Witness window.

Enter the ID for the adopting father

Change role from Principal to Adopting Father

Preview sentence

Click OK

The screenshot shows the 'Add witness' window with the following details:

- Title:** Add witness
- ID:** 1
- Name:** Frank ALEXANDER (1) (1838-1925)
- Role:** Adopting Father
- Language:** English (U.S.)
- Sentence structure:** (Default) : [W] became [P1S] adoptive father <[D]> <[L]>
- Memo:** (Empty)
- Preview:** Frank Alexander became Sophie Wallace's adoptive father on 15 Aug 1879.
- Options:** Recalculate the preview with each keystroke
- Buttons:** OK, Cancel, Help

Case Study 2

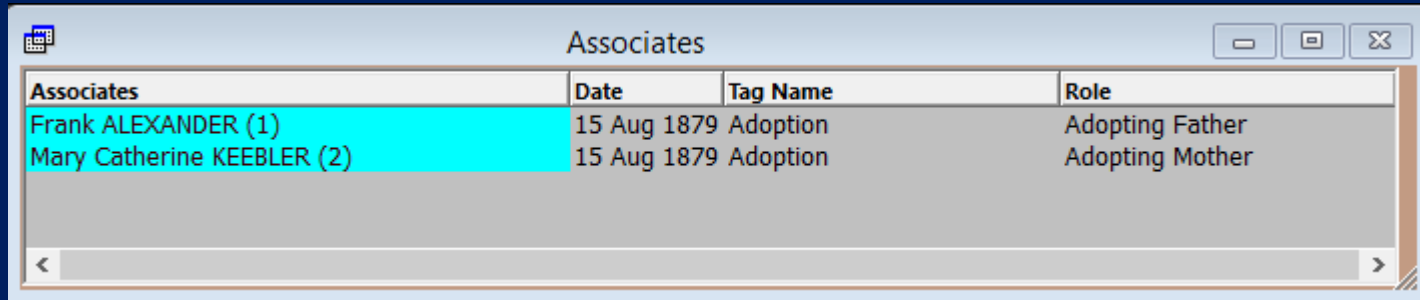
The screenshot shows a 'Tag Entry' window with the following details:

- Tag type:** Adoption
- Principal 1:** 65, Sophie WALLACE, (1879-)
- Principal 2:** 0
- Date:** 15 Aug 1879
- Sort date:** 15 Aug 1879
- Place style:** U.S. Standard Place
- Address fields:** Addressee, Detail, City, County, State, Country, Postal, Phone, LatLong, Temple.
- Witnesses:** 2 more witnesses
 - Frank ALEXANDER (1) 03 Oct 1838 13 Nov 1925 Adopting F
 - Mary Catherine KEEBLER (2) 06 Jun 1843 29 Nov 1915 Adopting M
- Other fields:** Memo, Sentence, No citations, 1 2 D P M.

A red arrow points to the name 'Mary Catherine KEEBLER (2)' in the witness list.

Adoption tag for Sophie Wallace and her adoptive parents.

Case Study 2

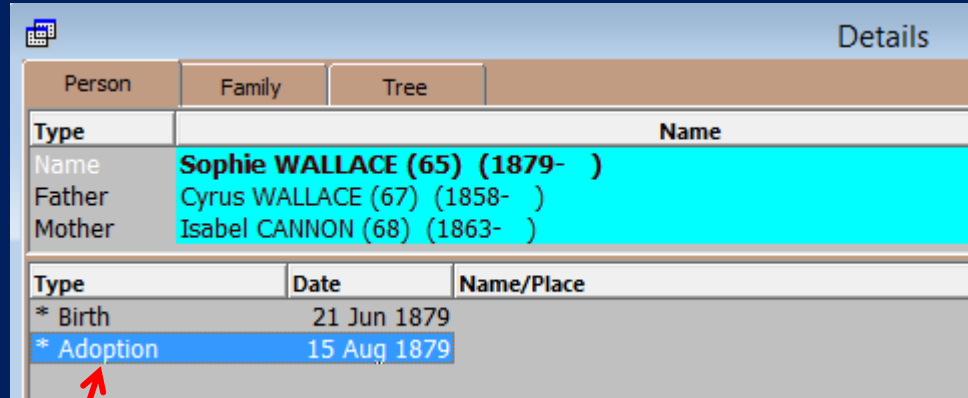


The screenshot shows a window titled "Associates" with a table containing two rows of data. The first row is highlighted in cyan. The table has four columns: Associates, Date, Tag Name, and Role.

Associates	Date	Tag Name	Role
Frank ALEXANDER (1)	15 Aug 1879	Adoption	Adopting Father
Mary Catherine KEEBLER (2)	15 Aug 1879	Adoption	Adopting Mother

The Associates window displays Frank Alexander & Mary Catherine Keebler as Adopting Father and Adopting Mother.

Case Study 2



Details		
Person	Family	Tree
Type	Name	
Name	Sophie WALLACE (65) (1879-)	
Father	Cyrus WALLACE (67) (1858-)	
Mother	Isabel CANNON (68) (1863-)	
Type	Date	Name/Place
* Birth	21 Jun 1879	
* Adoption	15 Aug 1879	

The Adoption tag now displays in the Details window for Sophie Wallace.

Case Study 2

The next stage in the life of Sophie Wallace is the likelihood that her surname would be changed to that of her adoptive parents. Perhaps her given name might be changed as well.

From the Tag Type List select Name-Change



The screenshot shows the 'Tag Type List' window. The title bar reads 'Tag Type List'. Below the title bar, there is a dropdown menu showing '1 TMG Sample Data Set' and 'selected: 127'. The main area is divided into two panes. The left pane is a list of tag types, with 'Name-Change' highlighted in blue. The right pane contains configuration options for the selected tag type: 'Filter' (All groups), 'Type' (Standard), 'Tag Group' (Name), 'Abbreviation' (empty), 'GEDCOM' (NAME), and 'Default Style' (Use Data Set default s). To the right of these options are buttons for 'Add', 'Edit', 'Delete', 'Copy', 'Translate', 'Import', and 'Export'. Below the configuration options are two text areas: 'Sentence' containing '[PP] name was legally changed to [N]' and 'Witness Sentence' (empty). At the bottom of the window are 'Select', 'Close', and 'Help' buttons. There are also checkboxes for 'Show LDS tag types' (unchecked) and 'Show deactivated tag types' (checked).

Case Study 2

Or, use Ctrl-V to access the Name options in the Tag Type List directly, then select Name-Change

The screenshot shows the 'Tag Type List' dialog box. The title bar reads 'Tag Type List'. Below the title bar, there is a dropdown menu showing '1 TMG Sample Data Set' and 'selected: 5' with an 'Active' status indicator. The main area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a list of tag types: 'Name-Baptism', 'Name-Change' (highlighted in blue), 'Name-Married', 'Name-Nick', and 'Name-Variation (^V)'. A red arrow points from the text on the left to the 'Name-Change' entry. The right column contains configuration fields: 'Filter : Name', 'Type : Standard', 'Tag Group : Name', 'Abbreviation :', 'GEDCOM : NAME', and 'Default Style : Use Data Set default s'. To the right of these fields are buttons for 'Add', 'Edit', 'Delete', 'Copy', 'Translate', 'Import', and 'Export'. Below the configuration fields are two text areas: 'Sentence : [PP] name was legally changed to [N]' and 'Witness Sentence :'. At the bottom of the dialog are three buttons: 'Select', 'Close', and 'Help'. At the bottom left, there are two checkboxes: 'Show LDS tag types' (unchecked) and 'Show deactivated tag types' (checked).

Case Study 2

Or, use Ctrl-V to access the Name options in the Tag Type List directly, then select Name-Change

The screenshot shows a 'Tag Entry' window with the following fields and values:

Field	Value
Tag type	Name-Change
Date	15 Aug 1879
Name style	U.S. Standard Name
Sort date	16 Aug 1879
GivenName	Sophie Mary Catherine
PreSurname	
Surname	Alexander
SortSurname	Alexander
SortGiven	Sophie Mary Catherine

Enter any change to her given name

Enter the surname of her adopting parents

Case Study 2

Details		
Person	Family	Tree
Type	Name	
Name	Sophie WALLACE (65) (1879-)	
Father	Cyrus WALLACE (67) (1858-)	
Mother	Isabel CANNON (68) (1863-)	
Type	Date	Name/Place
* Birth	21 Jun 1879	
* Adoption	15 Aug 1879	
Name-Change	15 Aug 1879	Sophie Mary Catherine ALEXANDER
Name-Comm	— — —	Sophie ALEXANDER

Updated Details window to reflect the Name Change

Case Study 2

Details		
Person	Family	Tree
Type	Name	
Name	Frank ALEXANDER (1) (1838-1925)	
Father	John ALEXANDER (10) (1812-1876)	
Mother	Delilah WOODS (11) (1817-1879)	
Type	Date	Name/Place
Witness	15 Aug 1879	Adopting Father; Adoption: Sophie WALLACE (65)

Updated Details window for Frank Alexander to reflect the adoption of Sophie Wallace.

Case Study 2

Frank Alexander appeared on the census on 1 Jun 1860 at Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee, in the household of John Alexander. He was educated at Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee. He was "a partner...in merchandizing..." between 1861 and 1865 at Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee. He lived between 1861 and 1865 at Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee. He was Between 1861 and 1865, Frank Alexander was "a partner...in merchandizing" in Elizabethton with Thomas C. Houts. Between 1865 and 1925, he and his father, John Alexander, were proprietors of a men's clothing store in Marion, Smyth County, Virginia. (This store remained in the family until 1967.) Between 1885 and 1910, Frank Alexander was a Methodist minister in the Holston Conference, covering parts of Virginia and Tennessee. During this period he had posts at Union, Floyd County, Virginia (1885); Lebanon, Russell County, Virginia (1885-1887); West Jasper, Marion County, Virginia (1887-1888); Dunlap, Sequatchie County, Tennessee (1888-1890); Pikeville, Bledsoe County, Tennessee (1890-1898); Castlewood, Russell County, Virginia (1898-1900); and Blountville, Sullivan County, Tennessee (1906-1907) between 1861 and 1910 at Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee. He lived between 20 Mar 1865 and 1883 at Marion, Smyth County, Virginia. He and John Alexander were proprietors in a men's clothing store in between 20 Mar 1865 and 1925 at Marion, Smyth County, Virginia. He became Sophie Wallace's adoptive father on 15 Aug 1879. He was a Methodist minister in the Holston Conference, covering parts of Virginia and Tennessee between 1885 and 1910. He lived between 17 Mar 1885 and 19 Nov 1885 at Union, Floyd County, Virginia. He witnessed the marriage of Robert Moore Baldwin and Lula Elizabeth Alexander on 22 Jul 1885 at Union, Smyth County, Virginia. He lived between 19 Nov 1885 and 27 Oct 1887 at Lebanon, Russell County, Virginia. He was also known as "Rev. Frank Alexander." He lived between 27 Oct 1887 and 18 Oct 1888 at West Jasper, Marion County, Tennessee. He lived between 18 Oct 1888 and 21 Oct 1890 at Dunlap, Sequatchie County, Tennessee. He lived between 21 Oct 1890 and 1898 at Pikeville, Bledsoe County, Tennessee. He witnessed the marriage of John Keys Fugate and Annie Eliza Alexander on 8 Dec 1896 at The Parsonage, Dickensonville, Virginia. He lived between 1898 and 1900 at Castlewood, Russell County, Virginia. He lived between 1906 and 1907 at Blountville, Tennessee. He lived after 1907 at Indian Springs, Tennessee. He wrote a letter on 8 Dec 1915 at Indian Springs, Tennessee.

Children of Frank¹ Alexander and Mary Catherine Keebler were as follows:

- i. SAMUEL LEE² was born on 17 Dec 1862 at Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee. He married Sally Jones. He died on 29 Nov 1932 aged 69. He was buried at Round Hill Cemetery, Marion, Smyth County, Virginia.
2. ii. LULA ELIZABETH was born on 13 Mar 1865 at Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee. She married Robert Moore Baldwin on 22 Jul 1885 at Union, Smyth County, Virginia. She died on 18 Oct 1954 at Richmond, Virginia, aged 89.
- iii. JOHN WRIGHT was born on 10 Oct 1867 at Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee. He died on 3 Jan 1891 aged 23. He died on 4 Jan 1891 at Belfast Mills, Russell County, Virginia, aged 23. He was buried at Round Hill Cemetery, Marion, Smyth County, Virginia.
3. iv. ANNIE ELIZA was born on 10 Jan 1870 at Marion, Smyth County, Virginia. She married John Keys Fugate on 8 Dec 1896 at The Parsonage, Dickensonville, Virginia. She died on 11 Apr 1936 at Kingsport, Sullivan County, Tennessee, aged 66. She was buried at Bristol, Tennessee.
- v. WILLIAM FRANKLIN was born on 6 Nov 1871.
He was also called "WILLIE."
- vi. CARRIE TIPTON was born on 11 Mar 1874.

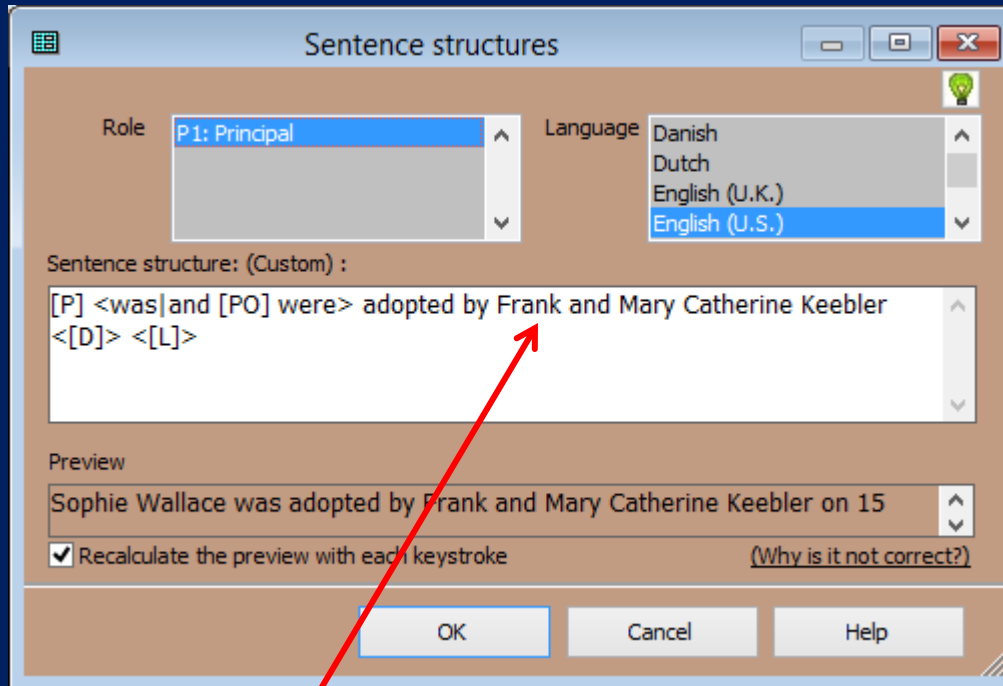
Case Study 2

Individual Narrative of Sophie Wallace

Sophie Wallace was born on 21 Jun 1879. She was adopted on 15 Aug 1879. Her name was legally changed to Sophie Mary Catherine Alexander. She was commonly known as Sophie Alexander.

Narrative report for Sophie Wallace

Case Study 2



Edit of sentence structure to include names of the adoptive parents.

Case Study 2

Individual Narrative of Sophie Wallace

Sophie Wallace was born on 21 Jun 1879. She was adopted by Frank and Mary Catherine Keebler on 15 Aug 1879. Her name was legally changed to Sophie Mary Catherine Alexander. She was commonly known as Sophie Alexander.

Narrative Report to include names of the adoptive parents.

Conclusion

Recording an adopted child using the suggested method here is the more accurate method to treat such a child from a genealogical viewpoint.

A similar technique can be applied for Foster, Step and Godparent relationships.

Refer to the book entitled *Getting the Most Out of The Master Genealogist*, by Lee Hoffman, page 111.

This presentation can be downloaded from <http://ottawa-tmg-ug.ca/>