

## Chat Log 26 Feb 2019

### What's in a Surname The History of Surnames and How They Help in Family History Research by Alejandro T. Rubinstein

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:24 PM: syncope - means cutting up - losing one or more sounds

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:25 PM: apocope - shorten a name

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:25 PM: Great example :) Worcester --> Wooster

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:27 PM: apheresis - loss of one or more sounds from the beginning of a word

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:27 PM: example - knife pronounced "nife"

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:30 PM: African patronymics - Ethiopia, Nigeria, Zulu, etc use patronymics. Family name followed by the father.

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:32 PM: Asian patronymics - some of the oldest surnames. Uses word to connect the first name to the name of the father, such as "ibin" or "bar"

**Audience Question:**

**Q:** in Ireland fitz also represents "son of" from the Anglo-Norman families comes from "fils de"

**A:** thanks

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:35 PM: European patronymics - son or fils (French), mac, fitz.

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:35 PM: Welsh didn't use surnames until 1500s

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:37 PM: Spanish and Latin America use patronymics - most surnames end with -ez. Though ending with -s come from Galicia or Portugal.

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:38 PM: Look for the ending of the surname to determine patronymic or geographic.

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:39 PM: Matronymics - line of the mother.

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:43 PM: Toponymics = place names

**Audience Question:**

**Q:** This is fascinating! I know you're enjoying it, too, Marian. And thank you for taking these notes for us!

**A:** Yes, the global view is unexpected but fascinating! Must have taken a long time to learn all this.

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:45 PM: Guzman is a surname that has Coats of Arms. de Guzman does not have heraldry.

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:47 PM: Occupational names - professional, commerce, industrial, clergy, government, nobility, and unskilled jobs.

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:49 PM: Occupational - chevalier, archer, roper, rector, sandler, saddler, schmidt, schuster, snyder, schneider, stalarski,

**Audience Question:**

**Q:** wish I could have a long talk with the speaker, asking many questions

**A:** :)

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:50 PM: Characteristic and artificial surnames - physical features, human qualities or defects, circumstantial, color, derogatory, funny and Napoleon's Decree on surnames

**Audience Question:**

**Q:** I heard recently that Fitz meant a bastard son/child

A: interesting

Audience Question:

Q: Fitz is Recognised son... such as in Henry FitzRoy.

A: ...

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:53 PM: The History of English podcast talks about English surnames here: <http://historyofenglishpodcast.com/2018/10/16/episode-117-whats-in-a-name/>

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:54 PM: And it talks about trade names here: <http://historyofenglishpodcast.com/2018/11/19/episode-118-trade-names/>

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:54 PM: Rubinstein = ruby + stone

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:55 PM: stems, prefixes and suffixes are very important for understanding surnames.

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:56 PM: But surnames evolved over time.

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:56 PM: They can be translated by adoptive countries.

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:57 PM: There can be alternative surname spellings.

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 2:58 PM: Ex. Barton --> Burton, Barker, Barden

**Marian Pierre-Louis (to All - Entire Audience):** 3:05 PM: Oxford dictionary of English surnames

Audience Question:

Q: How many attendees did you have today?

A: lots :)

Audience Question:

Q: Surnames as a quantitative resource: The geography of British and Anglophone Surnames. <http://www.casa.ucl.ac.uk/surnames/papers.htm>

A: ....