

Libraries, city/county or university libraries, local library, as well as where ancestors lived. Genealogical subscriptions may be available online (may be for patrons only and require a library card#). Most libraries have an ancestry.com subscription (in library use only). Other resources POSSIBLY AVAILABLE online: indexes: cemetery, obituary, marriage. Other resources onsite: microfilmed local newspapers.

Links to individual library web sites throughout the world <https://librarytechnology.org/libraries/>

To find worldwide libraries websites: <http://www.lib-web.org/>

General Resources

USC history research guides, US and Canada: <https://libguides.usc.edu/ushistory>

Ultimate beginner's guide can be found at <https://www.smarterhobby.com/genealogy/> **This is a good beginner resource and worth downloading.**

Free genealogy quick reference guides from *Family Tree Magazine*:

<https://familytreemagazine.com/free-quick-reference-guides-genealogy/>

Free research guides from ancestry: https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Free-Research-Guides?language=en_US

National Genealogy Society free genealogy resources, including a family relationship chart:

<https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/free-resources/>

National Archives resources for genealogists: <https://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy>

What you can do on ancestry with a free registered guest account:

https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Free-Registered-Guest-Accounts?language=en_US

Genealogy guides from the Library of Congress: <https://guides.loc.gov/genealogy>

Genealogy searches

Familysearch.org – LDS (Mormon) site, US and international records, marriage records, birth and death records. Set up free account to access all files. Some records are not indexed, but are browsable (see CATALOG search pulldown and search by place name and/or subject with place name).

<https://familysearch.org/>

Cyndi's List: Genealogical research portal, free and fee-based sites <http://www.cyndislist.com/>

Links to all states <http://usgenweb.org/> What records are available varies by county and state. Also a world project: <https://www.worldgenweb.org/>

Free genealogy research portal with a variety of databases by subjects, organized by state. Site also has a variety of resource guides: <https://theancestorhunt.com/>

Use this site for one-step webpages for calendars, maps, foreign alphabets, biographies, interviews, and more: <https://stevemorse.org/>

Vital Records

When obtaining records for a fee, remember that they are often cheaper (and will be sent much more quickly) at the town/county level than ordering from the state. Do a google search by location to locate resources.

⌘ How to obtain birth, death, marriage, and divorce records from state and territorial agencies (while this reference site is free to use, payment is required to obtain records)

<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w/index.htm>

Online US birth, death, and marriage records: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/blog/online-united-states-birth-marriage-death-records>

Historical vital records and probate records, links by states:

<http://www.learnwebskills.com/patriot/vitalrecords1.htm>

How to search vital records for free: <https://www.usbirthcertificates.com/articles/how-to-find-public-vital-records>

Death indexes/information, cemeteries:

Funeral homes, local newspapers are good sources for recent obituaries; library websites may offer a local index.

Recent newspaper obituaries (2000-current) <http://www.legacy.com/>

Cemetery listings by state and county: <https://www.accessgenealogy.com/cemetery-records>

Social Security Death Index (excludes most recent 3 years by law), but only those thru 2/2014 have actually been released. Genealogy bank, while a subscription service, the SSDI portion of it is free

<http://www.genealogybank.com>; also available on ancestry and family search; another source:

<https://www.stevemorse.org/ssdi/ssdi.html>

Cemetery, graves database, (entered by volunteers, and may not always be accurate)

<http://www.findagrave.com/>; also <https://billiongraves.com/> (primarily tombstone pictures) billion graves also includes a subscription (\$) option

Online death indexes, records, certificate indexes, death notices and registers, obituaries, wills and probate records, and cemetery burials. <http://www.deathindexes.com/>

US death indices and records:

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Online_U.S._Death_Indexes_%26_Records

Age calculator (from age of death on tombstone):

<http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~fgris/family/brown/agecalc.html>

Immigration

One-step searching site for immigration records (mostly free, but some for fee on ancestry.com), more user-friendly access to Ellis Island and Castle Garden, also permits printing of documents which other sites may not <http://stevemorse.org/> Ellis Island/Castle Garden free accounts required to see/print documents from those sites.

Castle Garden Immigration Center (1855-1890) <http://www.castlegarden.org/>

Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc., records starting 1892 www.ellisland.org

Immigration reports, newspaper records, shipwreck information, ship pictures, ship descriptions, shipping-line fleet lists; passenger lists to Canada, US, and Australia <http://www.theshipslist.com/>

Historical Newspapers and Media

Media out of copyright, county and family history books, download as a pdf; some newer books eligible for lending <https://archive.org/> Site also has a Wayback Machine with archived webpages of no-longer-available web pages (archiving began in 1996).

Google archives, old newspapers <http://news.google.com/newspapers>

Chronicling America (Library of Congress): Historical newspapers from 1790 to 1924. Also provides listing of newspapers (1690 to present) and where to find collections of them, either microfilm or hardcopy, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

US newspapers online: https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Newspapers

Links to free newspapers: <http://www.theancestorhunt.com/newspaper-research-links.html> This site has a variety of how-to resources too.

Free US small town newspapers: <https://www.accessgenealogy.com/america/small-town-newspapers.htm>

More US small town newspapers, fully searchable: <http://www.stparchive.com/landing.php>
Many states have statewide historical newspaper projects (often through a university library), theancestorphunt.com (see above) for links organized by state. Many states have statewide historical newspapers projects. The following states have a central online repository: AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, KY, ME, NY, NC, OH, OR, SC, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, and WY. City, county and university libraries may be a source for newspapers (sometimes online).
Old Fulton History: <http://fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html>. Don't like the site's search engine? Use alternate search site for possibly better results <https://fultonsearch.org/>

DNA Resources

Choosing a DNA testing company: [https://isogg.org/wiki/Choosing a DNA testing company](https://isogg.org/wiki/Choosing_a_DNA_testing_company)
Reviews of genetic testing and analysis services: <https://nebula.org/blog/category/reviews/>
Free DNA tests are sometimes available to encourage participation in surname projects, to check for your surname: [https://isogg.org/wiki/Free DNA tests](https://isogg.org/wiki/Free_DNA_tests)
International Society of Genetic Genealogy: <https://isogg.org/>
Download raw DNA from AncestryDNA, 23andMe, MyHeritage DNA, Family Tree DNA, and Living DNA, this video explains how <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Z4vyKuSXa4>
Upload raw DNA to multiple sites: <https://lialouisecooke.com/2018/05/07/second-opinion-dna-test/>
Benefits of combining your raw DNA data: <http://www.beholdgenealogy.com/blog/?p=2717>
Nebula Genomics, which offers whole genome sequencing, offers reviews of a number of genetic testing and analysis services at <https://nebula.org/blog/category/reviews/>
The best DNA testing kit (Dec 2022) <https://www.nytimes.com/wirecutter/reviews/best-dna-test/>
17 Best DNA upload sites for additional analysis on raw DNA data file in 2021 (including free ones) <https://blog.genomelink.io/posts/best-raw-dna-data-upload-sites>

Facebook:

Free webinar, [Ancestry Academy - Cousin Bait: Make Social Media Work for You](#): explores what to find on Facebook and Twitter. as well as other less obvious places to search
Genealogy and history (in English) Facebook groups/pages, a 436-page PDF file containing 16,700+ links (updated Jan 2021): <https://moonswings.files.wordpress.com/2021/01/genealogy-on-facebook-jan-2021.pdf> File includes hyperlinked table of contents. *Note:* Future updates and list maintenance is being handled by Cyndi's List at <https://cyndislist.com/facebook>.
Download Canadian list (includes French-speaking groups) at https://genealogyalacarte.ca/?page_id=10169.
Facebook groups such as Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (US and world), Random Acts of Photo Restoration, and Obituary Look-ups may be particularly helpful; also city/county/regional genealogy/historical society groups.

Specific Census Information

Tutorials for each census year: <http://genealogybybarry.com/?s=census+research&submit=Search>
Tips for census research success: <https://history.denverlibrary.org/news/one-way-find-ancestors-among-150-million-or-so-people-april-1-1950>
Learn how to use census records: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/blog/learn-how-to-use-u-s-census-records>
Clues in **1850-1940 census** records: <https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1850-1940.html>
"Secret" details you might be missing in the **1940 census**: <https://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-help-and-how-to/the-secret-details-in-the-1940-census-you-may-be-missing/>

Tips for getting most out of the **1940 census**: <https://ancestralfindings.com/tips-for-getting-the-most-out-of-the-1940-census/>

1950 census research tips and strategies: <https://history.denverlibrary.org/news/one-way-find-ancestors-among-150-million-or-so-people-april-1-1950>

Charts & forms

Free charts and templates, as well as how-tos [Free Charts and Templates - National Genealogical Society](#)

Blank census forms (US, UK, Canada): <https://www.ancestry.com/cs/census-forms> (subscription not required to access and download)

sGenealogy charts and forms and how to use them: <https://ancestralfindings.com/charts-forms-genealogy-use/>

Resources for genealogists: <https://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/charts-forms>

Genealogy Blogs and Newsletters

While most genealogy sites have an associated blog/newsletter, and you may want to get on their mailing lists, those below offer independent quality genealogy blogs and/or newsletters. Also check YouTube for genealogy instructional/informational videos.

Genetic genealogy, DNA, Blaine Bettinger: <https://thegeneticgenealogist.com/>

Online genealogy newsletter, Dick Eastman: <https://eogn.com/> (sponsored by myheritage)

Amy Johnson Crow, join the newsletter: <https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/join-the-newsletter/>

Lisa Lisson website Are You My Cousin?: <https://lialisson.com/blog/>

Lisa Cooke, also has a premium subscription service: <https://lialouisecooke.com/blog/>

The barefoot genealogist, Crista Cowan, who is employed by ancestry, so a good source of what's new on the ancestry website: <http://cristacowan.com/>

Subscription sites: get on the mailing lists for sites of interest. Yes, you will get marketing e-mails. However, you will also be notified of subscription special pricing for new subscribers, as well as times when access to records (or limited records) is free.

Resource for More Learning

Online calendar of genealogy events, including “conferences, informational sessions (in person and via Zoom), calls-for-papers, contests, grants and scholarships, tours and cruises, and more!”

<https://conferencekeeper.org/conference-keeper/>