# **Beginning Genealogy**

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Libraries, city/county or university libraries, local library, as well as where ancestors lived. Genealogical subscriptions may be available online (may require card#). Most libraries have an 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 <a href="https://librarytechnology.org/libraries/">https://librarytechnology.org/libraries/</a>
To find US libraries websites: <a href="http://www.lib-web.org/">http://www.lib-web.org/</a>

Ultimate beginner's guide can be found at <a href="https://www.smarterhobby.com/genealogy/">https://www.smarterhobby.com/genealogy/</a>

# **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). <a href="https://familysearch.org/">https://familysearch.org/</a>

Cyndi's List: Genealogical research portal, free and fee-based sites <a href="http://www.cyndislist.com/">http://www.cyndislist.com/</a>
Rootsweb.org — Free branch of ancestry.com (linear family trees) <a href="http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/">http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/</a>
includes message boards, but used less frequently than other sites

Links to all states <a href="http://usgenweb.org/">http://usgenweb.org/</a> What's available varies by county and state. Also a world project: <a href="https://www.worldgenweb.org/">https://www.worldgenweb.org/</a>

Free genealogy research portal: <a href="https://theancestorhunt.com/">https://theancestorhunt.com/</a>

## **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 <a href="http://stevemorse.org/">http://stevemorse.org/</a> Ellis Island/Castle Garden free accounts required to see/print documents from those sites.

Castle Garden Immigration Center (1855-1890) <a href="http://www.castlegarden.org/">http://www.castlegarden.org/</a>
Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc., records starting 1892 <a href="http://www.ellisisland.org">www.ellisisland.org</a>
Immigration reports, newspaper records, shipwreck information, ship pictures, ship descriptions, shipping-line fleet lists; passenger lists to Canada, US, and Australia <a href="http://www.theshipslist.com/">http://www.theshipslist.com/</a>

#### **Vital Records**

If you are obtaining records for a fee, remember that they are often cheaper at the town/county level than ordering from the state. Do a google search by location to locate resources.

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

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

Vital and probate records, links by states: <a href="http://www.learnwebskills.com/patriot/vitalrecords1.htm">http://www.learnwebskills.com/patriot/vitalrecords1.htm</a>
\$ How to obtain birth, death, marriage, and divorce records from state and territorial agencies (while this reference site is free to use, payment required to obtain documents) <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w/index.htm">https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w/index.htm</a>?CDCAA refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fnchs%2Fw2w.htm

# Death indexes/information, cemeteries:

Funeral homes, local newspapers good sources for recent obituaries; library websites may be helpful. Recent newspaper obituaries (2000-current) <a href="http://www.legacy.com/">http://www.legacy.com/</a>

Cemetery listings by state and county: <a href="https://www.accessgenealogy.com/cemetery-records">https://www.accessgenealogy.com/cemetery-records</a>
Social Security Death Index (excludes most recent 3 years by law), but only thru 2/2014 has been released. Genealogy bank--while a subscription service, the SSDI portion of it is free <a href="http://www.genealogybank.com">http://www.genealogybank.com</a>; also available on ancestry and family search; another source <a href="https://www.stevemorse.org/ssdi/ssdi.html">https://www.stevemorse.org/ssdi/ssdi.html</a>

Cemetery, graves database, (entered by volunteers, and may not always be accurate)
<a href="http://www.findagrave.com/">http://www.findagrave.com/</a>; also <a href="https://billiongraves.com/">https://billiongraves.com/</a> (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. <a href="http://www.deathindexes.com/">http://www.deathindexes.com/</a>

US death indices and records:

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Online U.S. Death Indexes %26 Records Age calculator: http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~fgris/family/brown/agecalc.html

# **Historical Newspapers and Media**

Google archives, old newspapers <a href="http://news.google.com/newspapers">http://news.google.com/newspapers</a>

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/

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

More US small town newspapers, fully searchable: <a href="http://www.stparchive.com/landing.php">http://www.stparchive.com/landing.php</a>
Links to free newspapers: <a href="http://www.theancestorhunt.com/newspaper-research-links.html">http://www.theancestorhunt.com/newspaper-research-links.html</a>
This site has a variety of other resources too.

US newspapers online: <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United States Newspapers">https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United States Newspapers</a>
Media out of copyright, county and family history books, download; some newer books eligible for lending <a href="https://archive.org/">https://archive.org/</a>

Many states have statewide newspaper projects (often through a university library), theancestorhunt (above) for links organized by state. 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, and WY. City, county and university libraries may be a source for newspapers (sometimes online).

Old Fulton History: <a href="http://fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html">http://fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html</a>; use alternate search site for better results <a href="https://fultonsearch.org/">https://fultonsearch.org/</a>

## Facebook:

Genealogy and history (in English) Facebook groups/pages, a 436-page PDF file containing 16,700+ links (updated Jan 2021): <a href="https://moonswings.files.wordpress.com/2021/01/genealogy-on-facebook-jan-2021.pdf">https://moonswings.files.wordpress.com/2021/01/genealogy-on-facebook-jan-2021.pdf</a> File includes hyperlinked table of contents. Note: Future updates and list maintenance is being handled by Cyndi's List at <a href="https://cyndislist.com/facebook">https://cyndislist.com/facebook</a>. Download Canadian list (includes French-speaking groups) at <a href="https://genealogyalacarte.ca/?page\_id=10169">https://genealogyalacarte.ca/?page\_id=10169</a>, and an Australian list at <a href="https://www.lonetester.com/2020/12/facebook-for-australian-history-and-genealogy-2/">https://www.lonetester.com/2020/12/facebook-for-australian-history-and-genealogy-2/</a>

FB 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.

#### **Charts & forms**

Free charts and templates, as well as how-tos <u>Free Charts and Templates - National Genealogical</u>
Society

Genealogy charts and forms and how to use them: <a href="https://ancestralfindings.com/charts-forms-genealogy-use/">https://ancestralfindings.com/charts-forms-genealogy-use/</a>

Resources for genealogists: <a href="https://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/charts-forms">https://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/charts-forms</a>
Blank census forms (US, UK, Canada): <a href="https://www.ancestry.com/cs/census-forms">https://www.ancestry.com/cs/census-forms</a>

## **Specific Census Information**

Tutorials for each census year: <a href="http://genealogybybarry.com/?s=census+research&submit=Search">http://genealogybybarry.com/?s=census+research&submit=Search</a>
Tips for census research success: <a href="https://history.denverlibrary.org/news/one-way-find-ancestors-among-150-million-or-so-people-april-1-1950">https://history.denverlibrary.org/news/one-way-find-ancestors-among-150-million-or-so-people-april-1-1950</a>

Learn how to use census records: <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/en/blog/learn-how-to-use-u-s-census-records">https://www.familysearch.org/en/blog/learn-how-to-use-u-s-census-records</a>

Clues in **1850-1930** census records: <a href="https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1850-1930.html">https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1850-1930.html</a> "Secret" details you might be missing in the **1940** census: <a href="https://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-help-and-how-to/the-secret-details-in-the-1940-census-you-may-be-missing/">https://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-help-and-how-to/the-secret-details-in-the-1940-census-you-may-be-missing/</a>

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

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

**Subscription sites**: get on mailing lists for sites of interest; you will be notified of subscription specials as well as times when access to records (or limited records) are free.

# **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 videos

Genetic genealogy, Blaine Bettinger: <a href="https://thegeneticgenealogist.com/">https://thegeneticgenealogist.com/</a>

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

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

Lisa Lisson, are you my cousin?: https://lisalisson.com/blog/

Lisa Cooke, also has a premium subscription service: https://lisalouisecooke.com/blog/

The barefoot genealogist, Crista Cowan: <a href="http://cristacowan.com/">http://cristacowan.com/</a>

## Finding Live People (free)

Determine first that person has not passed away, as digital presence may live long after death. Use social media and/or google search to search for live people.

Find people by name, address or reverse lookup by phone number: <a href="https://www.anywho.com/">https://www.anywho.com/</a>
The two sites below use the same database

Address, phone, including cell), age (month and year of birth), some e-mails; reverse look-ups for address and phone: <a href="https://www.truepeoplesearch.com/">https://www.truepeoplesearch.com/</a>

Associated names, relatives, year of birth, address and phone (including former addresses and phones) https://www.familytreenow.com/