

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 <https://librarytechnology.org/libraries/>

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

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

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). <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's available varies by county and state. Also a world project: <https://www.worldgenweb.org/>

Free genealogy research portal (includes many how-tos in addition to links for searching): <https://theancestorhunt.com/>

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/>

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

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

Vital and probate records, links by states: <http://www.learnwebskills.com/patriot/vitalrecords1.htm>

\$ 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) https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w/index.htm?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) <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 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: <http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~fgris/family/brown/agecalc.html>

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 (began archiving 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/>

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>

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

Many states have statewide newspaper projects (often through a university library), theancestorhunt.com (see 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).

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

Old Fulton History: <http://fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html>. Don't like the site's search? 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

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

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>

Benefits of combining your raw DNA data: <http://www.beholdgenealogy.com/blog/?p=2717>

Best at-home DNA testing kits for ancestry, health, or genetics: <https://regenerationnet.com/best-at-home-dna-testing-kits-for-ancestry-health-or-genetics/>

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>

Upload raw DNA to multiple sites: <https://lisalouisecooke.com/2018/05/07/second-opinion-dna-test/>

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, and an Australian list at

<https://www.lonetester.com/2020/12/facebook-for-australian-history-and-genealogy-2/>

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.

Charts & forms

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

Genealogy 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>

Blank census forms (US, UK, Canada): <https://www.ancestry.com/cs/census-forms>

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 **1850-1930 census** records: <https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1850-1930.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>

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, 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, are you my cousin?: <https://lissalisson.com/blog/>

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

The barefoot genealogist, Crista Cowan (now works for ancestry and monitors the ancestry.com Facebook page): <http://cristacowan.com/>

Subscription sites: get on mailing lists for sites of interest; you will 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/>