Monthly Newsletter May 15, 2023
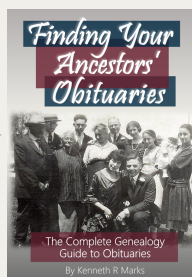

Contents for this Issue:

Check out my NEW book!

https://amzn.to/3JxiiWB

Finding Your Ancestors' Obituaries
The Complete Genealogy Guide to Obituaries
By Kenneth R Marks

Please Note: Hot Links are in BLUE

Articles Published Since Last Issue

- *Ancestry New and Updated Collections – May 1-15, 2023*
- *FamilySearch New and Updated Collections – May 1-15, 2023*
- *Ancestry New and Updated Collections – April 1-30, 2023*
- *FamilySearch New and Updated Collections – April 1-30, 2023*
- *Free Indiana Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *The Library of Congress Digital Collections*
- *Free Minnesota Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *Free New Jersey Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *175,000 Free Genealogy Books Available Online at the Internet Archive*
- *Free New York Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *Free Ancestry Obituary and Obituary Index Collections*
- *103 Million Online Obituary Records Available from FamilySearch*
- *Free Virginia Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *Free Georgia Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *Free North Carolina Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *1,625 Free Online United States Digital Archives*
- *310 Free Online Western States Digital Archives*
- *Free Online California Digital Archives*
- *175 Free Online New England States Digital Archives*
- *485 Free Online Southern States Digital Archives*
- *435 Free Online Mid West States Digital Archives*
- *350 Free Online Mid Atlantic States Digital Archives*
- *Free Online Pennsylvania Digital Archives*
- *Free Online Michigan Digital Archives*
- *Free Online Ohio Digital Archives*
- *Free Online Illinois Digital Archives*
- *Genealogy Information in Funeral and Memorial Books*
- *Genealogy Information in Tax Records*
- *450 Free New England States Online Photo Archives Available*
- *1,205 Free Mid West States Online Photo Archives Available*
- *Free Online Texas Digital Archives*
- *Free Online New York Digital Archives*
- *Massachusetts Online Historical Photos Research*
- *Ohio Online Historical Photos Research*
- *25 Lodges, Clubs, or Secret Societies Your Ancestor May Have Been a Member Of*
- *Free Online Georgia Digital Archives*

New From The Newspaper Corner

- *Genealogy Information in Newspapers*
- *Advantage Archives Adds 1.1 Million Historical Newspaper Pages – April 2023*
- *GenealogyBank Adds/Updates 47 Titles – May 2023*
- *Veridian Adds/Updates 273 Titles – May 2023*
- *Newspapers dot Com Update – April 2023*
- *British Newspaper Archive Adds/Updates 113 Titles – April, 2023*
- *NewspaperARCHIVE Update – April 2023*
- *Find My Past Adds/Updates 136 Historical Newspaper Titles – April, 2023*
- *Chronicling America Updates – April 2023*
- *Indiana Adds 26 New Historical Newspaper Titles to Hoosier Chronicles*

- *Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – New Horizons Genealogy*
- *280 Free Obituary and Obituary Index Collection Links for the New England States*
- *Free Massachusetts Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *Free Rhode Island Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *Free Connecticut Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *Free Maine Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – USGenWeb Archives*
- *3,775 Free Obituary and Obituary Index Collection Links for the Mid West States*
- *Free Online Rhode Island Birth Records and Indexes*
- *Free Ohio Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *Free Kansas Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *Free Iowa Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *Free Wisconsin Obituaries and Obituary Index Links*
- *Colorado Online Historical Photos Research*
- *Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – I Dream of Genealogy*
- *Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Hathitrust*
- *Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Google Databases*
- *4,430 Free Obituary and Obituary Index Collection Links for the Southern States*
- *1,215 Free Obituary and Obituary Index Collection Links for the Mid Atlantic States*
- *Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Reclaim the Records*

Useful Articles from Other Sources

Do You Listen to Genealogy Podcasts?

- [7 of the Best Genealogy Podcasts to Listen to Now](#)

Out of Wedlock Ancestor?

- [Illogical Dates, Missing Parents, Bastardy Bonds: What to Do If Your Ancestors Were Born Out of Wedlock](#)

Researching Civil War Ancestors?

- [21 Most Important Civil War Records](#)

Need Info About GEDCOM Files?

- [GEDCOM Files: Sharing, Merging, Exporting and More](#)

Interested in Really Old Photos?

- [Daguerreotype, Ambrotype and Tintype: Telling Them Apart](#)

British Ancestors?

- [The Top British Genealogy Websites](#)

Researching Jewish Ancestors?

- [How to Research Jewish Surnames](#)

Researching Ancestors Who Arrived in San Francisco's Angel Island?

- [Angel Island Research Books and Websites](#)

Irish Ancestors?

- [11 Best Websites for Researching Irish Ancestors (Both Free and Subscription Sites)](#)

Having a Hard Time Finding Your Ancestors Middle Names?

- [Caught In Between: Tips for Researching Ancestors' Middle Names](#)

Make Your Scanning Easy Peasy
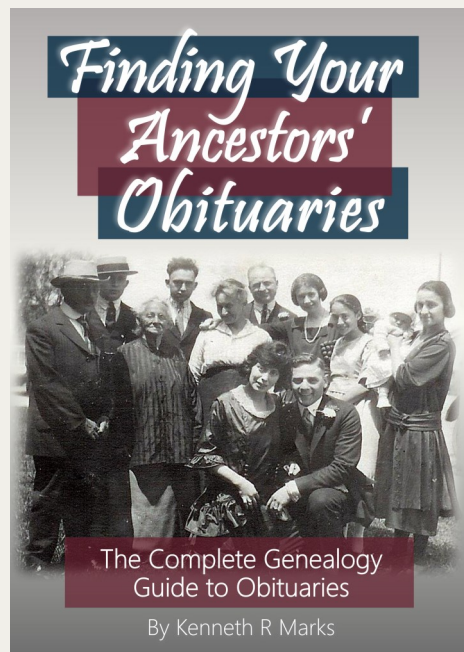
WHAT I AM WORKING ON IN MAY

- *COMPLETE PLACE FINDERS*
- *FINISH CHURCH RECORDS UPDATE*
- *UPDATE BIRTH COLLECTION LINKS*
- *UPDATE PHOTO LINKS*
- *UPDATE OBITUARY LINKS*
- *UPDATE PROBATE AND WILLS LINKS*

New Genealogy Book Details

Just Published - March 6th

"Finding Your Ancestors' Obituaries: The Complete Genealogy Guide to Obituaries"

Available via Amazon at **https://amzn.to/3JxiiWB**

In paperback, eBook, and you get a free PDF as a bonus.

Delve into the fascinating history of obituaries and discover what crucial information they contain, with real-life examples to help you understand their importance. You'll also learn expert techniques for finding and obtaining obituaries in both obituary databases and online newspaper archives, making your research easier than ever before.

But that's not all! With over 10,000 free online obituary databases and 50,000 historical newspaper titles for the United States and Canada in the Appendix, you'll have access to an incredible wealth of resources to aid your research.

This book isn't just about finding obituaries—it's about using them to gain a deeper understanding of your family's story. With helpful tips on analyzing obituaries and incorporating them into your genealogy research, "Finding Your Ancestors' Obituaries" is an essential part of any genealogy reference collection.

CONTENTS

Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day

On May 10th I started wring and posting an article daily featuring free online genealogy websites. You can always read these and all future websites by clicking on **Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day**. To get you started, here are the first six that were published.

Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Reclaim the Records

Reclaim the Records is a non-profit organization that strives to obtain genealogical record collections that "ought to be" in the public domain but are restricted by government organizations. They file FOIA and Open Data requests to obtain the records and if that fails to succeed, they go to court.

Once records are obtained, the organization digitizes the records and makes them available on repositories such as the Internet Archive for public use by genealogy researchers and anyone else who has an interest.

Here is a list of all their projects, many of which are completed and now available:

- **All Already-Digitized New York City Historical Records And Their Associated Text Metadata. (Yes, All.)**
- **Beneficiary Identification Records Locator Subsystem (Birls) Death File**
- **Billions Of Digital Images And Associated Text Metadata Created Through The United States National Archives And Records Administration's Digitization Partnership Program**
- **Brooklyn (Kings County) "Old Town" Records**
- **Geographic Index To New York City Births, Late 19Th To Early 20Th Centuries**
- **Index To Deaths In Albany, New York, 1880-1915**
- **Index To Deaths In Buffalo, New York, 1852-1944**
- **Index To Deaths In Yonkers, New York, C. 1870-1915**
- **Index To New York City Domestic Partnership Records, 1993-2017**
- **Index To New York City Marriage Licenses, 1908-1929**
- **Index To New York City Marriage Licenses, 1930-1995**
- **Index To New York City Marriage Licenses, 1996-2017**
- **Index To New York State Births (Outside Of New York City), 1881-1942**
- **Index To New York State Deaths (Outside Of New York City), 1880-1956**
- **Index To New York State Marriages (Outside Of New York City), 1881-2017**
- **List Of Registered Voters In New York City For 1924**
- **Missouri Birth Index, 1920(Ish)-2015**
- **Missouri Death Index, 1968-2015**
- **New Jersey Birth, Marriage, And Death Indices, 1901-1903 And 1901-1914**
- **New Jersey Death Index, 1904-2017**
- **New Jersey Marriage Index, 1901-2016**
- **New York City Birth Certificates, 1910-1917**
- **New York City Death Certificates 1949-1968 And Nullification Of Nyc Doh Records Access Rules**
- **Social Security Applications And Claims Index**
- **The Mississippi State Death Index (1912-1943)**
- **The Nebraska Death Index (1904-1968)**
- **The New Jersey Geographic Birth Index And Delayed Birth Index, 1901-1929**
- **Washington State Marriage, Divorce, And Death Indices, C. 1907-2017**
- **Wyoming Marriage, Death, And Divorce Indices, 1900-1965**

To access the site and get more details as well as other collections and projects in process, go to **https://www.reclaimtherecords.org/**

Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day

Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Hathitrust

HathiTrust began in 2008 as a consortium of 12 Mid-West universities that embody the Committee on Institutional Cooperation, and 11 universities from the University of California system. In essence, the goal was to create a digital repository of scholarly material and books. Copyright and other factors determine the availability of researchers to view documents in the repository.

Currently, there are over 17 million volumes in the database. 38% of the content is in the public domain.

Although certainly different in content, database software, and user interface, HathiTrust is similar in concept to Google Books, Internet Archive, and the FamilySearch Digital Library in that they all are digital repositories of book and document content.

HathiTrust is certainly worth a genealogist's time to research. There is a variety of pertinent content that this researcher has discovered. Examples of the most numerous include college yearbooks, city directories, and alumni and school records. Where HathiTrust really shines is in the area of local history books that have been digitized.

You can search the HathiTrust Catalog entries or perform a full-text search. Filtering of results can include Subject, Author, Language, Place of Publication, Date of Publication, Original Format, and Original Location.

To access the site, go to **www.Hathitrust.org**

Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – USGenWeb Archives

The USGenWeb Archives, in my opinion, is one of the top 5 free genealogy websites. Its pages are almost all the same, so the user experience is excellent. There are state websites, further divided into county websites. Each county website presents links to collections and records by category. The naming conventions are universal, and it is very easy to navigate.

From the USGenWeb Archives website: *"In June 1996, the USGenWeb Digital Library (USGenWeb Archives) was developed to present actual transcriptions of public domain records on the Internet. This huge undertaking is the cooperative effort of volunteers who either have electronically formatted files on census records, marriage bonds, wills, and other public documents or are willing to transcribe this information to contribute."*

The site also has developed some special projects that provide even more collections. The ones that are still active follow.

Census Project
USGWArchives.net/census

Pension Project
USGWArchives.net/pensions

Digital Map Project
USGWArchives.net/maps

Special Collections
USGWArchives.net/special

Obituaries Project
USGWArchives.net/obits

Marriages Project
USGWArchives.net/marriages

I highly recommend the usage of this website. The number of collections available is amazing.

To access the site, go to USGWArchives.net

Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day

Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – New Horizons Genealogy

New Horizons Genealogy is a site with links for every state in the US in various genealogy categories. It specializes in New England and New York Colonial American Ancestry.

From their website: *"New Horizons Genealogy specializes in New England and New York Colonial American Genealogy, Ancestry, and Family History. Our record collections include Vital records, Arnold Collection of Rhode Island Vital Records, Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records, Colonial and State Census records, Federal and State Census Mortality Schedules, Cemetery records, 1840 Census of Pensioners and Revolutionary War Soldiers Buried in New York State. We also include links to other quality genealogy records to help make these collections as complete as possible"*

They cover a wide variety of genealogy categories, such as:

Adoption	Immigration Records
Barbour Collection	Military and Pension Records
Biographies	Mortality Schedules
Cemetery Records	Newspapers
Census Records	Obituaries
Church Records	Vital Records
History	Wills/Probate Records

To access the site, go to **www.NewHorizonsGenealogicalServices.com**

Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – I Dream of Genealogy

The "I Dream of Genealogy" website is not very well known, but it has a set of its own collections and links to other collections. It started in 1998.

From the website: *"Here you will find free online genealogy databases, compiled family histories, vital record resources, famous and celebrity family trees, lost and found family heirlooms, genealogy search, and you can submit your own family records to the free databases.*

You can also search over 60,000 free genealogy databases – marriage records, cemeteries, vital records from the United States, Canada, Ireland, Europe, and Australia, just to name a few."

The Genealogy Resources section is the meat of the site. Generally, it is broken down by genealogical category and then by location. For the U.S., that would be the state, and then the county. There are some international collections on the site as well.

Here is a list of the categories of collections:

African-American Genealogy	Land Records and Maps
Biographies / Bibles/ Letters / Photos / Family Items	Marriage Records
Birth Records	Migration and Ship Passenger Lists
Cemetery Records	Military Records
Census Records	Native American Genealogy
Church Records	Newspapers
Court Records / Naturalization / Probate	Prison / Arrest Records
County and Town Histories	Recipes (Recipes of Ancestors)
Death Records and Obituaries	School Records
Directories and Residency Records	Surnames / Families
Divorce Records	Tax / Commerce / Financial / Business Directories and Records

A significant percentage of the links go to USGenWebArchives collections and records, but there is quite another significant percentage that cannot be found elsewhere. To access the site, go to: **www.IDreamOf.com**

Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day

Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Google Databases

Google has several search engines and databases that are very useful for genealogy researchers. Here is an overview of some of these databases and functions.

Google Books has a seemingly never-ending supply of digitized books. And there is an ample number of old books that can be used in your genealogy research. Generally, there are two types of entries: books that are digitized and full text of the entire book is available online, and books where only partial sections or pages are available, and only snippets of your resultant search results provide useful information.

The URL is **books.google.com**

Google Patents presents a search engine to find old patents from around the world. Personally, I found that five of my ancestors held patents, much to my surprise, and several of them were from the 1800s!

The URL is **patents.google.com**

Google Cache provides the ability to see a previous version of a web page. This is particularly useful when you get a 404 Error or a "File Not Found" page when going to a website. Just enter "cache:" in front (do not enter the quotes) of the desired webpages URL, and it will take you to a previous version of the page.

Google Scholar provides a simple way to broadly search for scholarly literature. From one place, you can search across many disciplines and sources: articles, theses, books, abstracts, and court opinions, from academic publishers, professional societies, online repositories, universities, and other web sites.

The URL is **scholar.google.com**

Google Images has over 28 billion images in its database. Similar search functions as in generic Google Search are available. There also is a reverse image search. This is particularly useful for genealogists as it may find other researchers who have the same or similar photo as that of your ancestor that you are performing the reverse image search for or even an image base somewhere with pertinent photos. This can also be used to find larger or better quality versions of the same image.

The URL is **images.google.com**

Google Maps and **Google Earth** are particularly useful for genealogists as we can see visually what a house, business, or other property looks like. Also creating custom maps of our ancestors' residences can also provide us with genealogical clues.

The URLs are **www.google.com/maps** and **earth.google.com/web**

Google Translate is very useful when attempting to convert written documents, letters, or other material from the language of the "old country" to current language. There are over 100 languages available.

The URL is **translate.google.com**

Google Alerts is an excellent resource for genealogy researchers. It is like having a constant search running all the time. It won't necessarily search inside databases or their records, but if a mention of a person, surname, or whatever else you set the Alert up for occurs in a new resource or news article, you will be sent an email. It can be your secret weapon!

The URL is **www.google.com/alerts**

Google News Archive provides search and browsing capabilities for over 2,300 newspaper titles, primarily from the U.S. and Canada. It is no longer updated as of several years ago. The search capability can be hit and miss for older newspapers published prior to 1970, but it is worth the effort.

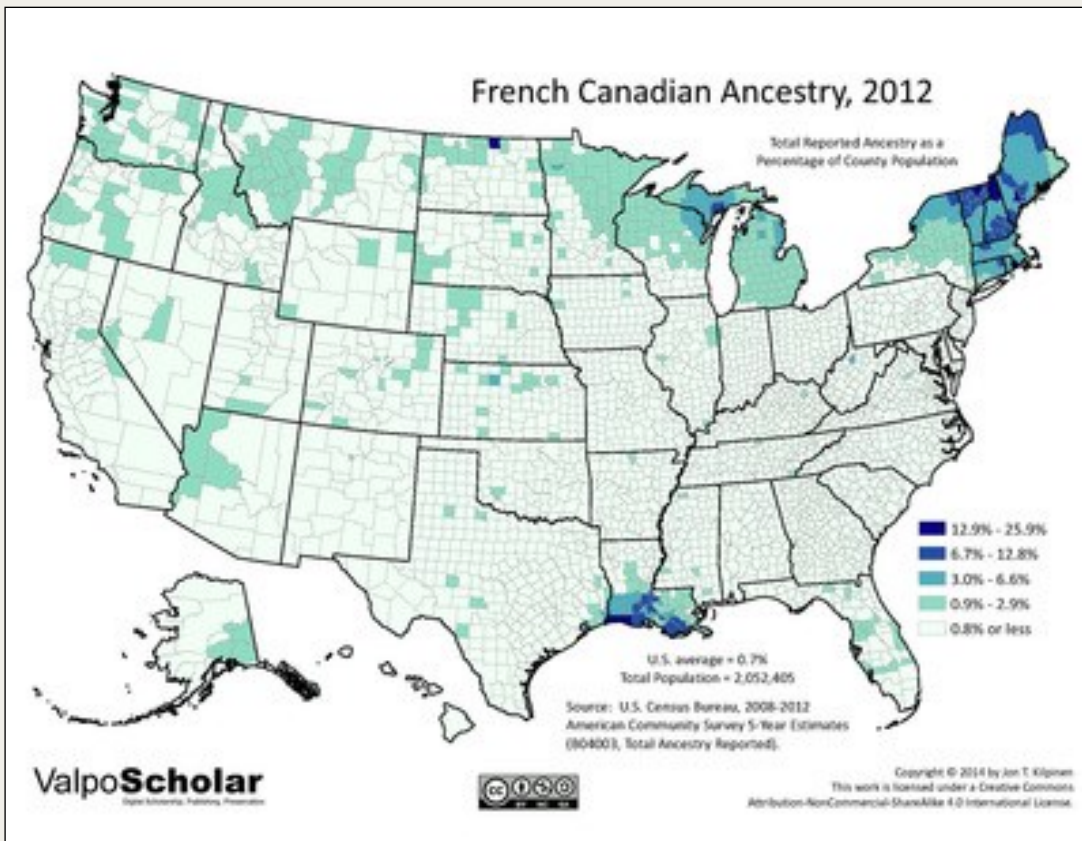The URL is **https://news.google.com/newspapers**

Google Search is the ubiquitous search engine that we all use, have used, or are familiar with. There are several tricks to optimize one's results, especially when searching for ancestors. A description of 17 different Google search techniques can be found at **Mastering Google Search for Genealogy**.

The URL is **https://www.google.com/**

French and French Canadian Ancestors in the U.S.

French Ancestry, 2012

Total Reported Ancestry as a Percentage of County Population

- 19.1% – 45.9%
- 10.2% – 19.0%
- 4.9% – 10.1%
- 2.4% – 4.8%
- 2.3% or less

U.S. average = 2.9%
Total Population = 8,903,184

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012
American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
(B04003, Total Ancestry Reported).

ValpoScholar

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French Canadian Ancestry, 2012

Total Reported Ancestry as a Percentage of County Population

- 12.9% – 25.9%
- 6.7% – 12.8%
- 3.0% – 6.6%
- 0.9% – 2.9%
- 0.8% or less

U.S. average = 0.7%
Total Population = 2,052,405

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012
American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
(B04003, Total Ancestry Reported).

ValpoScholar

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Genealogy Information in Yearbooks

People think yearbooks from high school or college are just for fun. And they are fun! They provide you with a ton of story-like information about your ancestor's life. What their interests were, what sports and clubs they participated in, and often some goofy snapshots of them before they became an adult.

But is there useful genealogical information that you can derive from old yearbooks?

Heck, yes. Check out this list of very useful info you can get from them:

Residential Location

The specific address and city are not presented, but typically the school is within 5 to 10 miles from their actual residence. Some smaller area schools may include their residential address. Some colleges may include their city of residence.

Interests

The clubs and other interests may provide a clue as to their future occupation, for example, 4-H Club. Were they in ROTC? Maybe this provides a clue as to which future military service they were a part of.

Signatures

Although autographs and the few words that are written may seem silly, there may be mention of what your person may do in the future. And who knows, if their siblings or cousins went to the same school and are also in the yearbook, mention of their relationship may be included. Maybe, just maybe, girlfriends and boyfriends in high school end up being spouses in the future. Don't underestimate the clues that may be in autographs.

Age

You will know the year of the yearbook and based on their class, e.g., senior, sophomore, etc. you can roughly estimate within a year their birth year. Of course, if they skipped a grade or were held back a year, that may make your estimate off a year or so. But again, it is a great clue.

Non-student information

Faculty and other employees are generally included in yearbooks. Maybe your ancestor/relative worked at a school for 30 years. This might provide you with a photo of them for multiple years!

Photos

This is the holy grail of yearbooks. But not only will you get "headshots", but also your ancestor/relative in sports, clubs, and other interesting scenes that help you fill out their life story.

Rural Schools

Might include younger students in a combined school that includes elementary or middle school grades. In the late 1800s and early to middle 1900s, many students didn't stay in school past the 6th or 8th grade.

"FAN" Club

Friends and acquaintances can be determined not just by the appearance of other students in the yearbook, but who autographed your ancestor/relative's yearbook may provide other research targets that might indicate a longer relationship into the adult years. Again, don't underestimate the clues that may be in autographs. They may be invaluable to your research.

Advertisements

May not necessarily provide direct information about your ancestor/relative, but may give you a sense of the community where they went to school.

Genealogy Information in Yearbooks

Nicknames

Generally, via autographs or other notations about your ancestor/relative, nicknames can be critical information to use when searching old newspapers and other genealogy databases. Maybe Richard Johnson was a left-handed baseball player nicknamed "Lefty". In newspapers, he might have been found as "Lefty Johnson"

Middle Names

Middle names are not generally found in yearbooks, but possibly. However, many students "went by" their middle name rather than their first name, so this might be helpful in future genealogy research about the individual.

Maiden Names

You've found the woman; you know what her married name is; and you know where she lived in her high school years. Check out the yearbooks in the area. If you know what she looked like, you might find her in a yearbook. Tedious yes, but a possibility. Maybe she married her high school sweetheart. Check out their yearbook.

Military Service

During World War 1 and World War 2, there might be separate lists in the yearbooks for students who were in the military.

Do you want to search or browse through almost 15,000 Schools with Free Online Yearbooks from the U.S. and Canada? Just go to the **Yearbooks Page** on The Ancestor Hunt website.

## The Ancestor Hunt Research Link Categories:

Newspapers	**Mortuary Records**
Obituaries	**Immigration**
Military Records	**Church Records**
Directories	**School Records**
Photos	**Voter Lists**
Yearbooks	**Coroner Records**
Divorce Records	**Probate and Wills**
Naturalizations	**Alumni Records**
Cemetery and Burial Records	**Birth Records**
Marriage Records	**Death Records**
Tax Records	**Criminal Records**
Institutional Records	**Digital Archives**

Check out The Ancestor Hunt on Social Media

Thank You for being a loyal reader and visiting The Ancestor Hunt. To Subscribe, Click HERE

Previous Genealogy Books Details
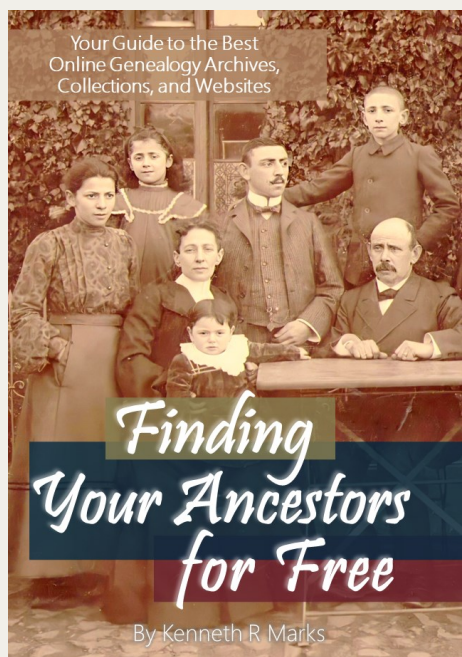
Published in November, 2022

"Finding Your Ancestors For Free - Your Guide to the Best Online Archives, Collections, and Websites"

Available via Amazon at **https://amzn.to/3GPcbf1**

In paperback, eBook, and you get a free PDF as a bonus.
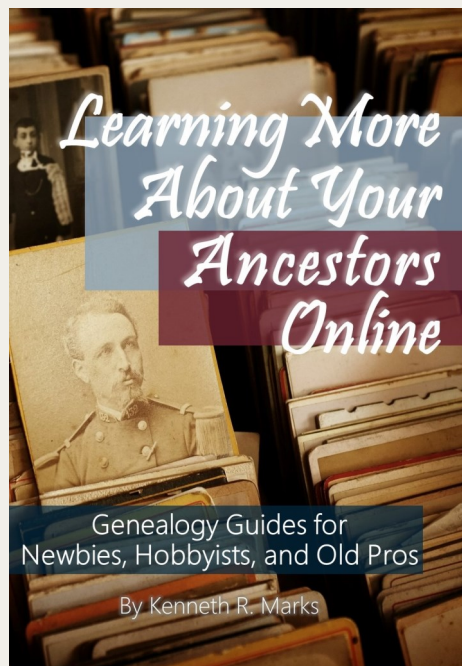
Introduction
- About the Author
- Getting Started
- The History of Free
- Not All Records are Online
- Free Access to Subscription Databases
- Access to Free Collections for Residents
- Why Isn't Genealogy Always Free?

Nationwide Websites
- Aggregation Sites
- Link Sites
- Library Sites
- Cemetery Sites
- Newspaper Sites
- Miscellaneous Sites

State Websites

Appendix

Published in November, 2021

"Learning More About Your Ancestors Online - Genealogy Guides for Newbies, Hobbyists, and Old Pros"

Available via Amazon at **https://amzn.to/3kUrebJ**

- Introduction
- Birth and marriage
- Death records and information
- General advice about genealogy research
- Immigration, naturalization, travel
- Military
- Miscellaneous records (societies, illnesses)
- Newspaper research
- Occupations
- Photos and physical description
- Residences and other locations
- Schools and yearbooks
- Resources

...and stay tuned for more in 2023. Am writing a book about Researching Historical Newspapers.

And 2024, there are plans for yet another two…...

Let's Talk About Copyright: Do The Right Thing

Newspapers especially, play a significant role in genealogy research. Copyright laws dictate what can be digitized and presented to the general public, and what cannot. This article is reprinted with permission form Advantage Archives.

When embarking upon a <u>digitization</u> project, careful consideration must be given to how you intend to provide access and what you can and cannot do under U.S. Copyright laws. You need to consider whether the publications are subject to copyright, whether you have permission to use the work, and whether the way you plan to use the materials falls within a copyright exception. I will preface this like I always do when the topic of copyright arises: **"I am not a lawyer."** Taking legal advice from me is similar to asking WebMD for a diagnosis….you will want to seek a second opinion.

That being said, **you do not need a lawyer** to tell you that copyright holders have rights regarding their intellectual property. You need to respect those rights and not infringe upon them when you provide access to <u>digitized newspapers</u> or other materials protected by copyright law.

Remember, **partnerships matter**. Developing a relationship with the right holder and seeking their permission to use any of their works not in the public domain should be explored. This is their property and remains so until their content enters the public domain. It remains theirs to dictate how, when, and where it can be used.

What is copyright?

United States copyright laws apply protection to the intellectual property of a <u>publisher, individual author, or artist</u>.

What is "public domain"?

In discussing newspapers, "Public Domain" refers to a <u>publisher's</u> works not protected by those intellectual property laws. The public owns these works, and anyone can responsibly use public domain work without obtaining permission, but no one can ever "own it."

It is clearly in the public domain if:

The copyright has expired (before 1927 or more than 95 years from publication)

However, it MIGHT BE in the public domain if:

Although copyright laws are well defined, there is an area of gray between 1924 and 1977. During this period, some publications were printed without notice of copyright or in compliance with the day's copyright laws.

The other way newspaper content has become public domain is if **the copyright owner has failed to comply with copyright renewal rules (1923-1989).**

If it was published before 1978 and did not have the © copyright symbol printed in the publication, **it could fall within the public domain.** Between 1924 and 1977, many newspapers were published without notice of copyright or did not register with the U.S. Copyright Office. Therefore, you will want to do your due diligence on these titles before <u>providing free digital access to this content</u>.

When Does New Content Enter The Public Domain?

Copyright was "frozen" at 1923 for the last 20 years.

On January 1st, 2019, new content entered the public domain for the first time since 1998, making 1924 content available.

On January 1st, 2020, content from 1925 became public domain, and every year since (and every year going forward), a new year's worth of content is free to use without restriction.

Let's Talk About Copyright: Do The Right Thing (Continued)

Are there copyright exceptions for libraries, archives, or museums?

The answer to this question is a little more complicated. However, it is understood that when it comes to providing access to digitized content, there are exemptions for these institutions IF specific and defined guidelines are followed.
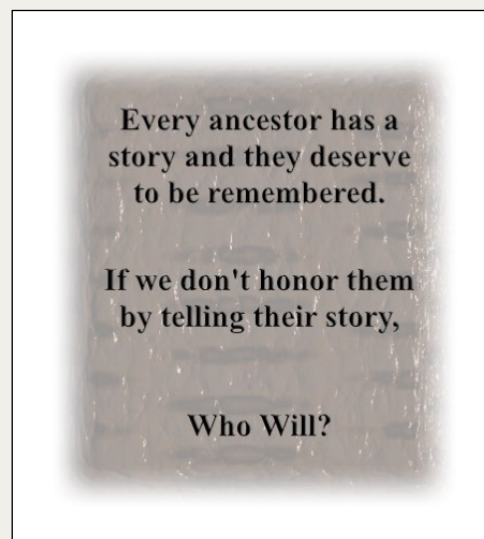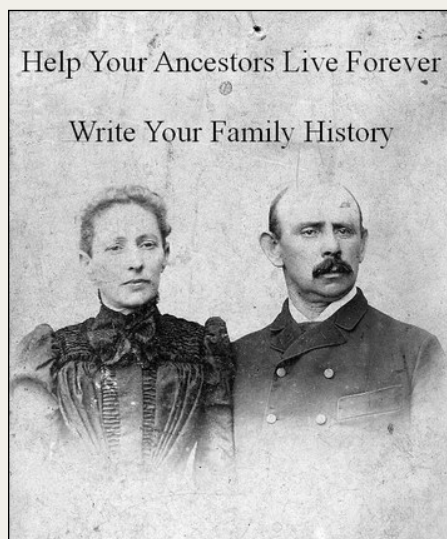
First, these exceptions apply only to libraries, museums, and archives that are open to the public or to unaffiliated researchers in a specialized field.

Title 17, section 108 of the U.S. Code permits libraries and archives to use copyrighted material in specific ways. These provisions are called "limitations" or "exceptions" because they limit the exclusive rights of copyright owners. In specified circumstances, they exempt libraries, archives, and museums from obtaining permission from copyright holders.

The critical thing to remember about these exemptions is that the digitized content MUST be used in the same manner, method, or intent as the original.

To provide access to newspaper content that is not clearly residing in the public domain, the qualifying institution MUST ensure that these publications are currently in the library or museum collections. This could either be the microfilmed copy in your holdings or hard copies of the papers.

The other important thing to understand is that any copy made in digital format may not be made available to the public in that format outside the library premises. Just like the microfilm in a library's collection, the newspapers not in the public domain must be restricted to use from within your physical location only. In practice, a restricted digital archive will be used in the same "manner, method, or intent" as using the physical materials, essentially becoming a "digital" microfilm reader.

Help Your Ancestors Live Forever

Write Your Family History

Every ancestor has a story and they deserve to be remembered.

If we don't honor them by telling their story,

Who Will?

The By Location Page

The easiest way to access a particular state's or province's list of collections and categories is via the **BY LOCATION** page.

This page has a dropdown for each state or province, with a link to the online collections links for every category available.

Video Channel

I have changed my Video platform from YouTube. It just wasn't providing what I needed from a modern Video platform. It also was getting too "junked-up" with a lot of superfluous "stuff". Enter Humix.

There are now over 50 videos. Check them all out at

The Ancestor Hunt Video Channel
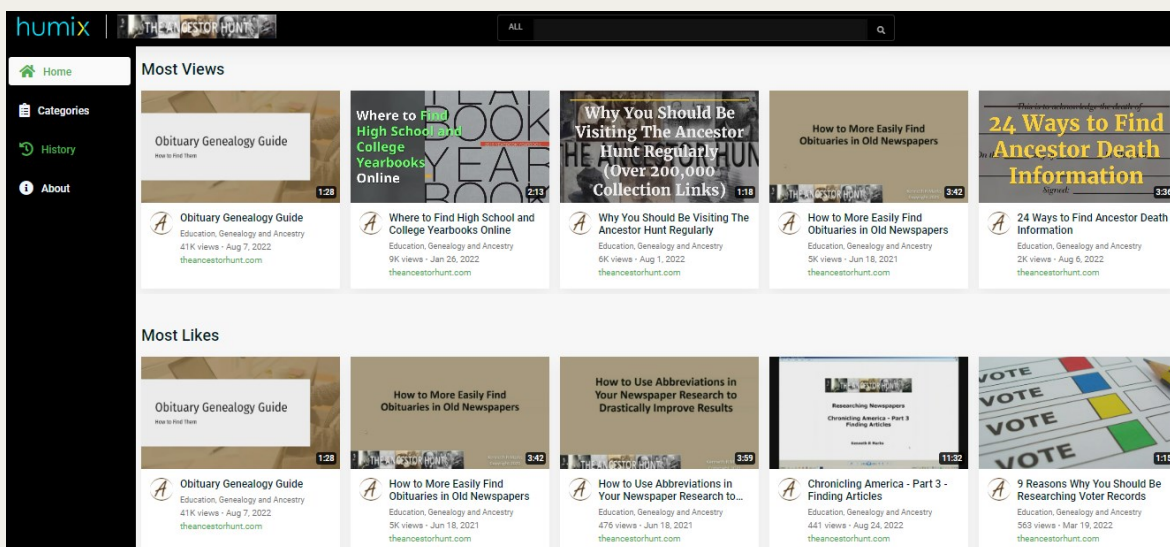
Place Finders

Do you often find yourself wanting or needing to know what county a city is located in or what places might be found in a specific county?

You could do a Google search but what if you had a handy list that included a list of all the cities, other places, and ghost towns that identified their corresponding county along with a list of the counties in a state that listed all of the places in that county?

What is a place? Besides cities and towns, you will find that the names of other places may vary from state to state. Most states have Census Designated Places, Unincorporated communities, Indian Reservations, and ghost towns. Other places may be known as villages, hamlets, historic districts, townships, boroughs, municipalities, and more.

Each state has a list of all the places in the state and their corresponding county. Each place has a link to a page that includes information about that place. The page may include geographical information, historical information, current information about the place and its surroundings, and much more.

Included also for each state, is a Downloadable PDF with two lists:

- A list of places and their corresponding county
- A list of counties with the places that are in that county

Check out **Place Finders**

Newly Completed States and Provinces with All Categories Created and Updated

- *6,749 Free Online Massachusetts Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *631 Free Online District of Columbia Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *5,931 Free Online Pennsylvania Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,624 Free Online Vermont Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *926 Free Online Rhode Island Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,224 Free Online New Hampshire Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *3,062 Free Online Connecticut Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *3,762 Free Online Wisconsin Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *8,332 Free Online Kansas Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *6,605 Free Online Iowa Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *8,139 Free Online Ohio Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,508 Free Online Nebraska Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *1,358 Free Online South Dakota Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *4,042 Free Online Tennessee Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *5,303 Free Online Indiana Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *7,311 Free Online Illinois Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *6,738 Free Online Georgia Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *641 Free Online Manitoba Collections Available in 6 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *804 Free Online Delaware Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *3,102 Free Online Alabama Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *1,604 Free Online North Dakota Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *420 Free Online Newfoundland and Labrador Collections Available in 6 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *5,620 Free Online Kentucky Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *3,470 Free Online Maine Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,740 Free Online New Jersey Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,447 Free Online Maryland Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *5,095 Free Online Ontario Collections Available in 6 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *730 Free Online Nova Scotia Collections Available in 6 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *9,369 Free Online New York Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *10,320 Free Online North Carolina Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *87 Free Online Territories Collections Available in 5 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *389 Free Online New Brunswick Collections Available in 6 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *992 Free Online British Columbia Collections Available in 6 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,227 Free Online Alberta Collections Available in 6 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,671 Free Online West Virginia Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,276 Free Online South Carolina Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *5,712 Free Online Missouri Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,273 Free Online Louisiana Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,539 Free Online Arkansas Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *3,687 Free Online Oklahoma Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *4,794 Free Online Quebec Collections Available in 6 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *203 Free Online Prince Edward Island Collections Available in 6 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *5,296 Free Online Michigan Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *3,637 Free Online Florida Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *5,393 Free Online Virginia Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,224 Free Online Mississippi Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *566 Free Online Saskatchewan Collections Available in 6 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *9,056 Free Online Texas Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *3,715 Free Online Minnesota Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,010 Free Online Utah Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *785 Free Online Nevada Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *715 Free Online Hawaii Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *3.050 Free Online Colorado Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,650 Free Online Washington Collections Available in 24 Genealogy Record Categories*

Help Your Ancestors Live Forever - Write Your Family History
And Write Your Own History While You're At It

One of my goals in my personal genealogy is to make sure that my ancestors are remembered. Many had no descendants, so absolutely no one alive remembers them. That's sad to me, which is why I created a couple of family history websites. But recently I have been seeking even better ways to memorialize their lives. Their stories are important to be documented, which might explain why I am such a fan of newspaper research.

In any case, here are a few tools that I have discovered that provide a unique means to memorialize our ancestors.

And guess what? We need to produce our own autobiographies. We aren't getting any younger and memories do fade.

WhooWe
Produce an online history easily with text, video, and audio from online questions on your phone. You can contribute content in minute or several minute increments.

Whoowe is available from the AppStore and Google Play. Info at whoowe.com Try it out for free. Discount coupon for readers coming soon.

StorySpot
Produce an online memorial with text, video, timelines, photos, favorite songs, and audio, and produce an optional book. Great for family reunions also

Available at www.storyspot.com. Try it out for free. 25% discount available by using "ANCESTOR" as coupon code.
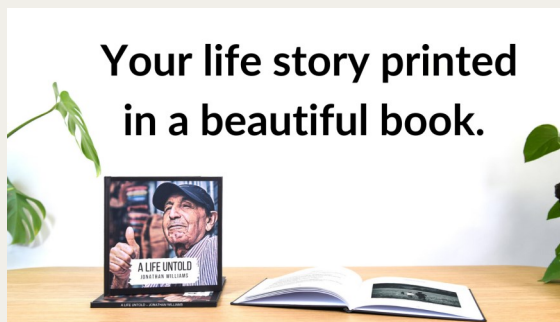
A Life Untold
Produce an online history easily with text, video, and audio from online questions. Proceed at your own pace, and add questions if you like. Very easy to use.

Available at A Life Untold. Try it out. 10% discount available by using "HUNT as coupon code.

Audiobiography
They say the closest you can feel to someone without touching them, is hearing their voice. Produce an online autobiography or memorial with audio; add photos and coordinate with a book.

Available at Audiobiography. Try it out. 10% discount available by using "HUNT as coupon code.

"The Ancestor Hunt" is an affiliate for several of these companies and may receive a small commission should you purchase through this newsletter or the website and/or if you use the coupon codes mentioned above.