Monthly Newsletter July 15, 2023
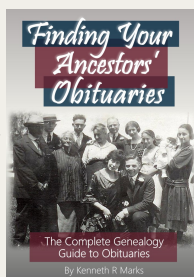

Contents for this Issue:

Check out my NEW book!

https://amzn.to/3JxiiWB

Please Note: Hot Links are in BLUE

Articles Published Since Last Issue

- *Ancestry New and Updated Collections – July 1-15, 2023*
- *FamilySearch New and Updated Collections – July 1-15, 2023*
- *9,760 Free United States Online Church Records*
- *2,370 Free Mid Atlantic States Online Church Records*
- *9,005 Free Mid West States Online Cemetery and Burial Records*
- *Ancestry New and Updated Collections – June 1-30, 2023*
- *FamilySearch New and Updated Collections – June 1-30, 2023*
- *Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Freedmen's Bureau Online*
- *Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in North Carolina*
- *565 Free Online Naturalization Collections from the Mid Atlantic States*
- *3,575 Free Online Naturalization Collections for the United States*
- *645 Free Online Naturalization Collections from the Western States*
- *580 Free Online Naturalization Collections from the New England States*
- *1,390 Free Online Naturalization Collections from the Mid West States*
- *Free Ohio Online Naturalization Records*
- *Free California Online Naturalization Records*
- *450 Free Western States Online Church Records*
- *Free New York Online Naturalization Records*
- *Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Illinois*
- *New Great Lakes History Portal*
- *3,540 Free Mid West States Online Church Records*
- *Free District of Columbia Online Naturalization Records*
- *Free New Jersey Online Naturalization Records*
- *Free Ohio Online Church Records*
- *Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Minnesota*
- *Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – FamilySearch Wiki*
- *Free Pennsylvania Online Naturalization Records*
- *Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Veridian*
- *375 U.S. Coroner Records in Recent Update*
- *Free Texas Online Church Records*
- *Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Michigan*
- *Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Interment.net*
- *Free Indiana Online Naturalization Records*
- *Free Minnesota Online Naturalization Records*
- *Free Online Maryland Military Records*
- *Free Wisconsin Online Cemetery and Burial Records*
- *Free Missouri Online Cemetery and Burial Records*

New From The Newspaper Corner

- *Veridian Adds/Updates 357 Titles – July 2023*
- *Advantage Archives Adds 1.2 Million Historical Newspaper Pages – June 2023*
- *GenealogyBank Adds/Updates 15 Titles – July 2023*
- *Newspapers dot Com Update – June 2023*
- *British Newspaper Archive Adds/Updates 66 Titles – June, 2023*
- *Chronicling America Updates – June 2023*
- *Find My Past Adds/Updates 104 Historical Newspaper Titles – June, 2023*
- *NewspaperARCHIVE Update – June 2023*
- *Connecticut Online Historical Newspapers Summary*
- *Virginia Online Historical Newspapers Summary*
- *Arkansas Online Historical Newspapers Summary*
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- *Mississippi Online Historical Newspapers Summary*
- *Kentucky Online Historical Newspapers Summary*
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- *Alabama Online Historical Newspapers Summary*
- *Louisiana Online Historical Newspapers Summary*
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- *Texas Online Historical Newspapers Summary*
- *South Carolina Online Historical Newspapers Summary*
- *Illinois Online Historical Newspapers Summary*
- *New Jersey Online Historical Newspapers Summary*
- *West Virginia Online Historical Newspapers Summary*

Quirky Old Newspaper Ads

No More Rain-Soaked Cigarettes! MANY are the inventions devised to insure a dry smoke, but it has remained for a clown appearing with a circus in England to solve the problem. An umbrella over the smoke keeps off water and a spigot drains off excess moisture.

7 Day Free Trial

Eastern European Ancestors?

- [13 Overlooked Eastern European Genealogy Records](#)

German Ancestry?

- [6 Ways to Find Your German Ancestor's Place of Origin](#)
- [German Naming Traditions Genealogists Should Know](#)

Want to Know the Best Websites?

- [101 Best Genealogy Websites of 2023](#)

Interested in DNA Research?

- [What DNA Test Should I Take for My Genealogy?](#)

Wanna Write a Book?

- [How to Self-Publish Your Family History Book](#)

Researching Polish Ancestors?

- [10 Websites for Polish Genealogy Research](#)

Looking to Hire a Professional?

- [5 Questions to Ask a Professional Genealogist Before Hiring](#)

Canada Research?

- [Your Guide to the 1931 Census of Canada](#)

French Canadian Ancestry?

- [5 Records for Finding French Canadian Ancestors](#)

Eastern Europe Research?

- [13 Overlooked Eastern European Genealogy Records](#)

WHAT I AM WORKING ON IN JULY

- *COMPLETE PLACE FINDERS*
- *FINISH MILITARY UPDATE*
- *FINISH CEMETERIES UPDATE*
- *COMPLETE NEWSPAPERS UPDATE*
- *TAKE A VACATION*
- *WORK HARDER*
- *TAKE ANOTHER VACATION*
- *RETIRE*
- *OOPS—I'M ALREADY RETIRED*
- *RETIRE AGAIN*
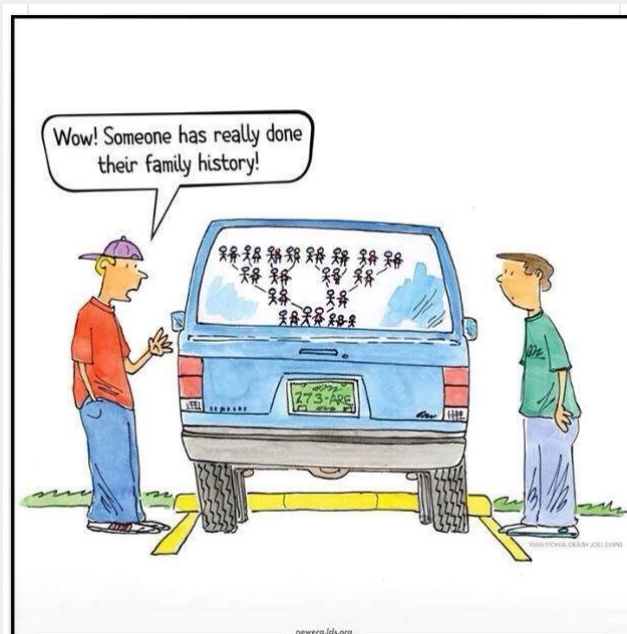
Check out The Ancestor Hunt on Social Media
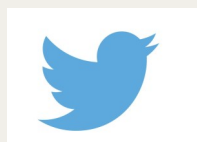
Thank You for being a loyal reader and visiting The Ancestor Hunt. To Subscribe, Click [HERE](#)

Free Ways to Find Patents from Your Inventor Ancestor

I knew that my Dad had several patents, and that his grandfather possibly held one or two. So a few years ago I started searching and found two additional ancestors that had filed for and gotten approved a few more patents. I would suggest that you search these five free databases that have patent documents from all over the world. You just might be surprised!

Google Patents Search – is generally the "go to" website to search for patents. It has over 18 million documents and has patent documents world-wide, not just the U.S. It gets the nod over the US Patent Office because older patents are text-searchable with Google Patents and are not via the USPTO. Google Patents has documents starting from 1790.

Just go to https://patents.google.com/ It is free.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) – One can search for patents via text for patent documents newer than 1976. But if you have the Patent number, you can get the image online for patents older than 1976. To be more specific for patents prior to 1976, Patents from 1790 through 1975 are searchable only by Issue Date, Patent Number, and Current US Classification.

Just go to https://patft.uspto.gov/netahtml/PTO/search-bool.html It is free.

European Patent Office – Espacenet provides free access to over 130 million patent documents from 1782 to the present. It includes patents from the U.S., as well as world-wide.

Just go to https://worldwide.espacenet.com/ It is free.

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) – Has a service called PATENTSCOPE that provides search of 100 million patent documents including 4.2 million published international patent applications.

Just go to https://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/ It is free.

LENS – is a scholarly database that serves over 225+ million scholarly works, 127+ million global patent records, and more than 370+ million patent sequences. There are over 136 million Patent Records from 106 jurisdictions around the world.

Just go to https://www.lens.org/lens/search/patent/structured It is free.

Try out one or more of these databases. You might be pleasantly surprised like I was!

Have You Checked Out History Hub?

Have you checked out History Hub (https://historyhub.history.gov) to visit their communities and ask questions that could help further your genealogy research?

History Hub is sponsored by the National Archives and was developed by them in 2016 as a community crowdsourced support platform where people can ask questions, get help with research and share their knowledge and information they have. National Archive staff respond to many of the questions with information about resources found at the National Archives and sometimes include information about other resources. Genealogists, citizen archivists, historians, etc. are also welcomed to help answer questions. There are 19 community pages which are listed below. On the community pages you will find an overview, existing questions and answers, a place to ask your question, and links to relevant blog posts.

Communities

- **African American Records**
- **Army and Air Force Records**
- **Census Records**
- **Citizen Archivists**
- **Court Records**
- **CROWD**
- **Foreign Affairs Records**
- **Genealogy**
- **Immigration and Naturalization Records**
- **Land Records**
- **Legislative Records**
- **Military and Civilian Personnel Records**
- **Military Records**
- **Native American Records**
- **Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard Records**
- **Presidential Records**
- **Researchers Help**
- **Technical Help and Support**
- **Women's Rights and Suffrage**

In addition to the communities, there are blog posts and a section for Citizen Archivists where you can ask and answer questions and learn about opportunities to transcribe and tag digitized items for the Library of Congress.

Citizen Archivists   **Content (blog posts, polls, videos, discussions)**

New Genealogy Book Details
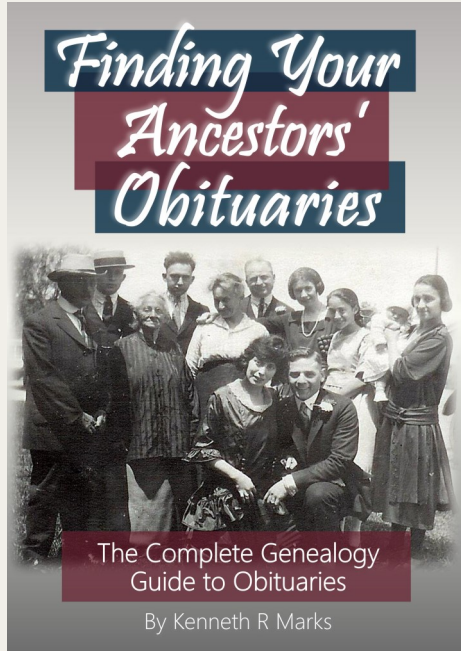
Just Published - March 6th

"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.

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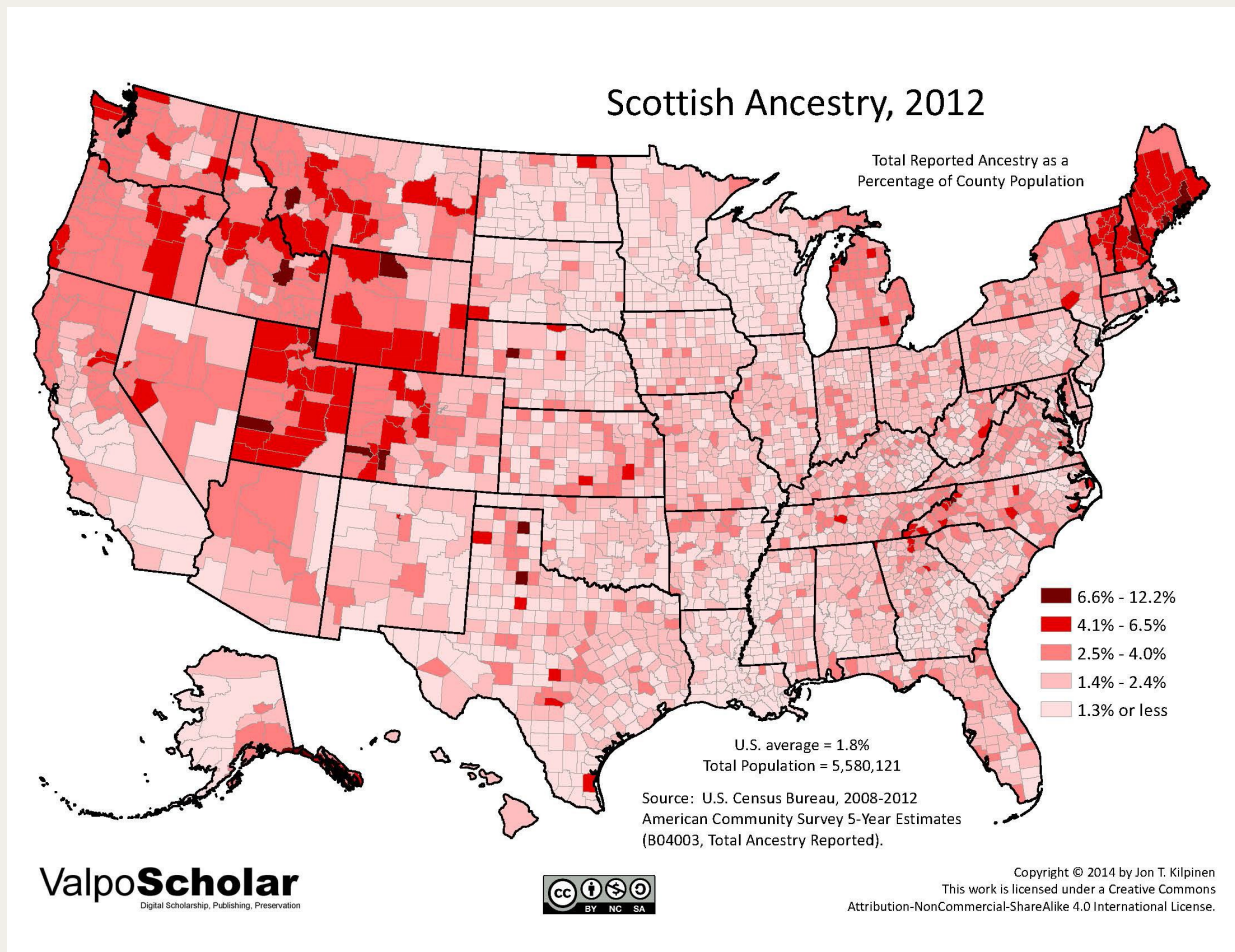</table>

Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day

On May 10th I started writing 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 links to all that have been published to date:

- **Access Genealogy**
- **Advantage Archives**
- **American History & Genealogy Project**
- **AncientFaces**
- **Chronicling America**
- **Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Database**
- **Cyndi's List**
- **David Rumsey's Historical Maps**
- **Dead Fred**
- **Death Indexes**
- **DP LA**
- **Ellis Island**
- **FamilySearch**
- **FamilySearch Catalog**
- **FamilySearch Digital Library**
- **FamilySearch Wiki**
- **FindaGrave**
- **Freedmen's Bureau Online**
- **Fulton History**
- **Genealogy Trails**
- **Google Databases**
- **Hathitrust**
- **I Dream of Genealogy**
- **Interment.net**
- **Internet Archive**
- **LDS Genealogy**
- **Library of Congress Digital Collections**
- **Linkpendium**
- **National Archives – Archival Databases**
- **National Archives – Genealogy Research Topics**
- **National Cemetery Administration**
- **New Horizons Genealogy**
- **Patriot and Grave Registry**
- **Reclaim the Records**
- **Sanborn Maps**
- **The Official Land Records Site**
- **USGenWeb**
- **USGenWeb Archives**
- **Veridian**

Scottish Ancestors?

Scottish Ancestry, 2012

Total Reported Ancestry as a Percentage of County Population

■	6.6% - 12.2%
■	4.1% - 6.5%
■	2.5% - 4.0%
■	1.4% - 2.4%
■	1.3% or less

U.S. average = 1.8%
Total Population = 5,580,121

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

ValpoScholar
Digital Scholarship, Publishing, Preservation

Scottish Genealogy
5 Free Online Resources

#1 ScotlandsPeople (search is free)
https://scotlandspeople.gov.uk

#2 Scottish Indexes
https://scottishindexes.com

#3 Scottish Post Office Directories
https://digital.nls.uk/directories

#4 Scottish Emigration Database
https://abdn.ac.uk/emigration

#5 Histories of Scottish Families (NLS)
https://digital.nls.uk/histories-of-scottish-families

Genealogy In Action with Julie Cahill Tarr
GenealogyInAction.com

Do You Elephind?

What is Elephind? It is a search of multiple online newspaper databases, all at once. This ius commonly called a "Federated Search". It is a service provided by DL Consulting of New Zealand, the company behind Veridian Software. The material below is reprinted with permission from DL Consulting.

The goal of **Elephind.com** is to make it possible to search all the world's online historic newspapers from one place. We aren't there yet, but we are adding more newspapers every day.

With Elephind.com it is now possible for family historians, genealogists, and researchers to search historic digitized newspaper archives from around the globe. Elephind.com is much like Google, Bing, or other search engines but is focused on only historical, digitized newspapers. It enables you to search, for free, across many newspaper sites simultaneously, rather than having to visit each site separately. By clicking on the Elephind.com search result that interests you **you'll go directly to the newspaper site which hosts that story**.

Many of the smaller newspaper sites are not well known and may be difficult to find with the usual search engines but are searchable from Elephind.com. We're continuing to add more newspapers to Elephind.com, so if at first you can't find what you're looking for, please check back later.

Here is a list of resident individual newspaper collections that make up the Elephind database, as well as some statistics.

Sources	Titles	Newspapers	Items	Earliest	Latest
Trove [National Library of Australia]	681	1,304,024	117,900,774	5 March 1803	1 November 2007
Chronicling America [US Library of Congress]	1,060	913,141	6,877,673	5 January 1836	31 December 1922
California Digital Newspaper Collection [UC Riverside]	140	319,362	27,055,129	15 August 1846	12 September 2019
Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection (CHNC)	394	241,105	19,371,580	23 April 1859	1 November 2017
The Portal to Texas History	670	171,418	1,450,418	25 September 1829	1 August 2013
Illinois Digital Newspaper Collections (UIUC)	146	161,031	8,338,294	29 May 1819	31 March 2011
Library of Virginia	395	159,908	1,337,214	29 September 1787	28 February 2019
Indiana Digital Historic Newspaper Program (Indiana State Library)	296	147,140	1,261,292	7 August 1804	25 2011
Hoji Shinbun Digital Collection - Japanese Diaspora Initiative	127	85,262	695,276	18 November 1887	10 December 1963
Pennsylvania State University	85	54,949	4,265,084	28 February 1831	7 December 2010
Washington Digital Newspapers	73	54,023	1,215,025	4 February 1854	29 December 2010
Digital Michigan Newspapers	81	47,615	495,545	31 May 1830	29 December 2016
Hudson River Valley Heritage Historical Newspapers	56	46,997	1,773,411	24 March 1831	5 December 2013
Catholic News Archive	17	23,431	1,334,528	22 October 1831	1 December 2016
Purdue University Libraries	1	20,591	336,376	15 December 1889	14 December 2017
The Stanford Daily Archive	1	18,931	1,126,603	19 September 1892	13 June 2014
Columbia University	1	16,383	658,475	1 July 1877	10 December 2012
Hawaiian Newspaper Collection	48	11,934	413,782	14 February 1834	1 December 1980
Kent State University	6	10,127	566,290	25 February 1926	8 December 2016
Boston College	23	8,493	560,703	5 September 1829	1 September 2019
Cambridge Public Library, Massachusetts	4	8,171	886,796	7 May 1846	13 December 1947
The Brown and White	1	6,617	312,078	16 January 1894	1 May 2020
Case Western Reserve University Archives	9	6,263	351,783	1 December 1862	23 April 2010
Door County Library	12	6,234	46,329	22 March 1862	13 February 1925
University of Missouri School of Journalism [Missouri Digital Heritage]	1	5,594	891,773	14 September 1908	31 December 1985
Vassar College Digital Newspaper Archive	8	4,744	234,950	1 April 1872	1 January 2015
The Vidette Newspaper Archive	1	4,439	149,668	1 February 1888	17 December 1980
University of Richmond	1	2,664	147,824	25 November 1914	18 April 2013
The Cornell Daily Sun - Keith R. Johnson '56 Archive	1	1,902	118,696	4 January 1894	6 December 1985
University of California, San Francisco	1	1,466	57,698	1 April 1957	30 May 2013
Upper Hutt City Library	1	1,061	55,726	6 January 1939	23 December 1964
The Columbia Record	1	993	22,019	13 September 1973	1 June 2016
Papers Past [National Library of New Zealand]	3	94	2,400	1 November 1870	17 December 1925
	4,345	3,866,107	200,311,212	29 September 1787	1 May 2020

To access the Elephind database, simply click on this link:

Elephind.com

Previous Genealogy Books Details
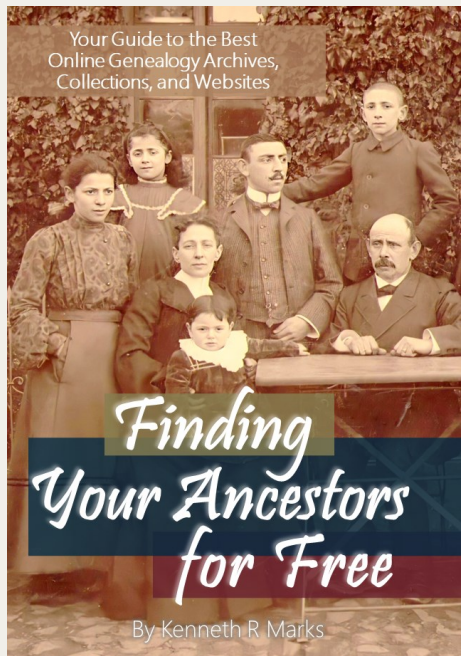
Published in November, 2022

"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
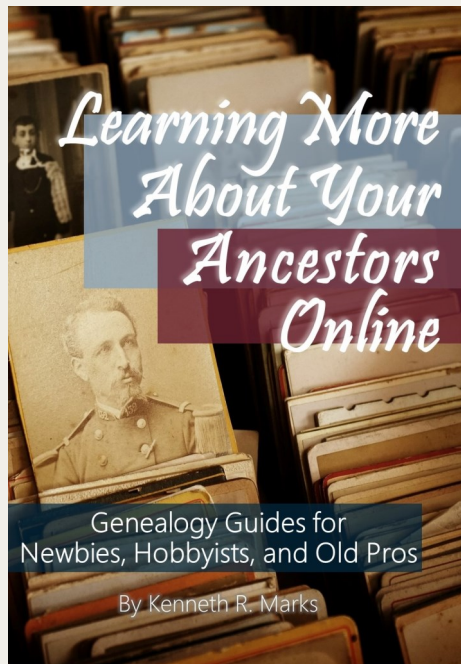
Published in November, 2021

"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…...

Easy Cousin Relationship Chart

Determining a "Cousin" Relationship between two people is quite easy if you have a proper chart. Many of the charts can be confusing. The one below is quite easy. All you have to do is follow 3 steps:

1. Determine the common ancestor between two people.
2. For the first person, select the common ancestor's relationship to them across the top row.
3. For the second person, select the common ancestor's relationship to them down the left column.

Where those two selections intersect is their relationship.

See? Easy Peasy!

Common Ancestor	Grandparent	Great Grandparent	2nd Great Grandparent	3rd Great Grandparent	4th Great Grandparent	5th Great Grandparent
Grandparent	1st Cousin	1st Cousin Once Removed	1st Cousin 2X Removed	1st Cousin 3X Removed	1st Cousin 4X Removed	1st Cousin 5X Removed
Great Grandparent	1st Cousin Once Removed	2nd Cousin	2nd Cousin Once Removed	2nd Cousin 2X Removed	2nd Cousin 3X Removed	2nd Cousin 4X Removed
2nd Great Grandparent	1st Cousin 2X Removed	2nd Cousin Once Removed	3rd Cousin	3rd Cousin Once Removed	3rd Cousin 2X Removed	3rd Cousin 3X Removed
3rd Great Grandparent	1st Cousin 3X Removed	2nd Cousin 2X Removed	3rd Cousin Once Removed	4th Cousin	4th Cousin Once Removed	4th Cousin 2X Removed
4th Great Grandparent	1st Cousin 4X Removed	2nd Cousin 3X Removed	3rd Cousin 2X Removed	4th Cousin Once Removed	5th Cousin	5th Cousin Once Removed
5th Great Grandparent	1st Cousin 5X Removed	2nd Cousin 4X Removed	3rd Cousin 3X Removed	4th Cousin 2X Removed	5th Cousin Once Removed	6th Cousin

To download this chart in pdf format, go to **https://theancestorhunt.com/blog/easy-cousin-relationship-chart/**

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

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, and; A list of counties with the places that are in that county.

Check out **Place Finders**

Finding Free Online Collections, Archives, Records, Libraries by State

If you follow The Ancestor Hunt, you know that we specialize in curating and presenting links to Free Online Genealogy Records, Collections, and Indexes by genealogical category. Everything that is online for free has not been captured in our link lists, as there are specific categories and resources that have not been curated as yet, or we may never do. However, there are archives, libraries, unique document collections, and specialized genealogy websites throughout the State. With the list below, you should have exposure to the great majority of free online resources for the chosen state.

Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Alabama
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Alaska
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Arizona
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Arkansas
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in California
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Colorado
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Connecticut
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Delaware
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in District of Columbia
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Florida
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Georgia
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Hawaii
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Idaho
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Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Rhode Island
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Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in South Dakota
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Tennessee
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Texas
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Utah
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Vermont
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Virginia
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Washington
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in West Virginia
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Wisconsin
Finding Free Online Genealogy Collections in Wyoming

Advantage Archives and The Benefits of Digitizing Yearbooks

Yearbooks are one of my very favorite genealogy resources. There is more to these fun documents than meets the eye. But that's a discission for another day. Advantage Archives has permitted me to reprint this article that they published about how they approach digitizing yearbooks, and why a library or other community might want to do so.

Yearbooks are a window into the past of your community. More than any other material, they offer a snapshot of what life was like at a particular time or moment, on a local level. They open the door to a familiar past for individuals diving into genealogical research, or just reminiscing about their high school or college years.

Due to the popularity and value the community places on them, scanning yearbooks and making them available online has become one of the most sought after offerings by alums, libraries, schools, institutions, and organizations of all sizes.

Yearbooks are more than just a record of ambitions, activities, and questionable fashion. They have become a valuable resource for genealogists, local historical preservation societies, media outlets, and community cultural organizations. In addition, a community's yearbooks offer a uniquely personal perspective on the past that other historical records often overlook or fail to capture.

Yearbooks can help researchers understand local and national events from the perspective of the youth at the time. They can also be used to understand the public sentiment on social issues at various times throughout the community's history.

There are many reasons to digitize yearbooks, but we'd like to emphasize just a few:

Digitization serves as a backup that also happens to steal the spotlight. Life is full of unexpected events, and unfortunately, many of those can destroy precious pieces of history. Fires, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, and an array of other events could endanger your community's history. Natural disasters are far from the only thing that can ruin historical items. Lending out a yearbook could result in an inconsiderate individual returning it with pages missing, pictures cut out, or even it not being returned at all. All this is not even to mention the accidents that can happen from handling paper, even by well-meaning patrons.

Paper is a fragile medium, even perfectly preserved, it will eventually erode away, and with it, the history that is kept on it. Digitizing these items with Advantage Archives provides you with a digital backup that runs on Microsoft's cloud system. So long as the internet exists, your history will be safe. Advantage Archives also uses a non-destructive yearbook scanning process, featuring a V-shape cradle to ensure the spine of the yearbook is never overextended. This minimizes the possibility of damage or wear and tear, ensuring your hard copy can live a long and happy life.
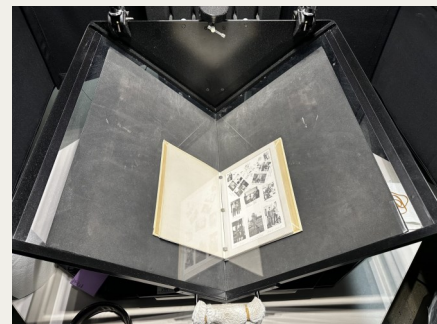
Advantage Archives and The Benefits of Digitizing Yearbooks

Stealing the spotlight

Digitization is fantastic as a backup, but that's not it's only benefit. Digitization offers perks that hard copies cannot. Every item Advantage digitizes is run though our OCR (Optical Character Recognition) program. This converts the text into a searchable database. Not only will you be able to find the person you are looking for, you'll be able to find them in multiple places, in multiple yearbooks, all with a single search.

To ensure the quality of the digital image accurately reproduces the original, the yearbook is lit uniformly using "cold" LED lighting. Utilizing these LED lights does not expose the book's pages to excessive heat or exposure to the harmful wavelengths produced by some traditional lighting methods. This approach also removes the risk of handwritten notes in ink or pencil fading or becoming difficult to read in the digital images. In addition, the lights are positioned and turned to provide proper depth of color, remove hot spots and shadows, and in a manner that produces glare-free results, even on glossy materials.

Advantage does not use autonomous scanning technologies, meaning; only experienced scanning technicians will carefully handle your yearbooks throughout the process, removing any of the "unknowns" associated with fully automated scanning tech, or that rely on mechanisms to turn the pages of the book. The gentle touch of our human operators ensures your yearbooks do not get damaged in the process.

Online access solutions for previously digitized yearbooks

A growing number of libraries have digitized their yearbooks or are in the process of doing so. Unfortunately, many of these digitized collections are contained on DVDs or saved as multi-page PDFs in a folder structure on a local computer with little or no search capabilities. In most cases, these collections are only accessible to the community if they are on the institution's premises.

Advantage has many partnerships with institutions possessing digital files created by other vendors, yearbooks scanned in-house, or participating in service projects like Oklahoma Correctional Institution's (OCI) Yearbook Project.

Previously digitized content is easily converted, indexed, and made fully searchable via a Community History Archive, creating a practical and easy-to-use solution for patrons to access this content in a way in which information they seek is much more discoverable.

Connect with your community

Online access to yearbooks is a potent engagement tool and often generates considerable interest and interaction. By integrating yearbook content into an existing social media or content creation strategy, access to yearbooks can capitalize on the community's sense of nostalgia and even provide a laugh or two.

Encourage your audience to share their findings, and post pictures found in the archives of themselves, family members, old friends, or even prominent members of the community as they were in their school days. For example, hairstyles and fashion choices of the day generally generate comments like "what in the world was I thinking…"

Use of digitized yearbooks ranges from genealogical researchers trying to connect the dots of their family history to those reliving their glory days as high school athletes or start students. The archive can also be a fun tool to be used by reunion committees or celebrating anniversaries or milestones of a school, club, athletic, or arts programs.

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.*
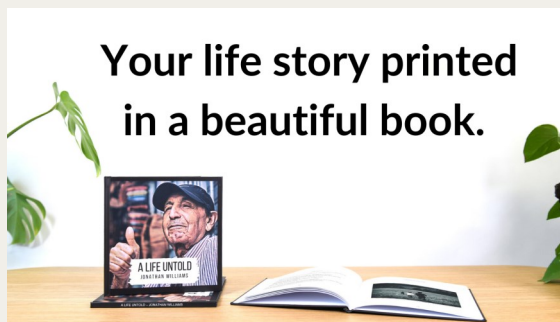
A Life Untold
Produce an online history easily with text, video, and audio from online questions. Proceed at your own pace, and add questions if you like. Very easy to use.

*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.*

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