

# Monthly Newsletter November 15, 2023

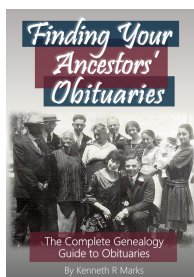


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Check out my NEW book!

[https://  
amzn.to/3JxiiWB](https://amzn.to/3JxiiWB)



Please Note: Hot Links are in **BLUE**





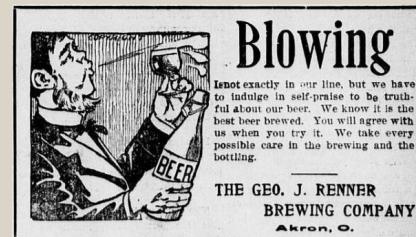
## Articles Published Since Last Issue

- [Ancestry New and Updated Collections – November 1-15, 2023](#)
- [FamilySearch New and Updated Collections – November 1-15, 2023](#)
- [MyHeritage New and Updated Collections – November 1-15, 2023](#)
- [Ancestry New and Updated Collections – October 1-31, 2023](#)
- [FamilySearch New and Updated Collections – October 1-30, 2023](#)
- [MyHeritage New and Updated Collections – October 1-31, 2023](#)
- [The Library of Congress Digital Collections](#)
- [175,000 Free Genealogy Books Available Online at the Internet Archive](#)
- [Where to Find Marriage Information](#)
- [20 Google Search Techniques Ideal for Genealogy](#)
- [6 Best Ways to NOT FIND Your Ancestors](#)
- [100 Best Free Genealogy Websites](#)
- [64 Genealogy Items to Collect From Home](#)
- [Genealogy Collections at DP.LA](#)
- [Google Databases for Genealogy Research](#)
- [National Archives Genealogy and Archival Databases](#)
- [What Alternatives Are There For The Missing 1890 Census?](#)
- [Where to Find Genealogy and Family History Books Online](#)
- [9,670 Free Online United States Death Records and Indexes](#)
- [1,560 Free Online Criminal Records from the United States](#)
- [13,285 Free Online Marriage Collection and Index Links for the United States](#)
- [4,175 Free Online Historical Photo Archives from the U.S.](#)
- [835 Free United States Mortuary and Funeral Home Records](#)
- [945 Free Online Mid West States Digital Archives](#)
- [870 Free Western States Online Photo Archives Available](#)
- [Free Mississippi Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [Free Online New York Digital Archives](#)
- [Free Online Ohio Mortuary and Funeral Home Records](#)
- [New York Online Historical Photos Research](#)
- [Free Tennessee Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [695 Free Online Mid Atlantic States Digital Archives](#)
- [Free Online District of Columbia Digital Archives](#)
- [Free Online Virginia Digital Archives](#)
- [Genealogy Collections at The Internet Archive](#)
- [Free Online Pennsylvania Digital Archives](#)

## New From The Newspaper Corner

- [British Newspaper Archive Adds/Updates 37 Titles – October, 2023](#)
- [NewspaperARCHIVE Update – October 2023](#)
- [Newspapers dot Com Update – October 2023](#)
- [Chronicling America Updates – October 2023](#)
- [Find My Past Adds/Updates 43 Historical Newspaper Titles – October, 2023](#)
- [GenealogyBank Adds/Updates 46 Titles – November 2023](#)
- [Advantage Archives Adds 1.6 Million Historical Newspaper Pages – October 2023](#)
- [Veridian Adds/Updates 308 Titles – November 2023](#)
- [Fulton Newspapers Update – 1,813 Titles](#)
- [North Carolina Adds Fill-In Newspaper Issues from 37 Titles](#)
- [4,400 Free Canada Online Historical Newspaper Links](#)

### Quirky Old Newspaper Ads



## 7 Day Free Trial

Explore billions of newspaper articles from all over the world.

Start Free Trial





## Useful Articles from Other Sources

### Researching Mid 19th Century Ancestors?

- [1850 Census Records Research Guide](#)

### Have You Acquired Old Handwritten Letters?

- [How to Preserve Old Letters](#)

### Interested in Online Cemetery Websites?

- [Find a Grave: Optimize Your Search Results](#)
- [What You Can Find On BillionGraves.com](#)
- [Interment.net's Grave Listings: A Quick Guide](#)

### "Russian" Ancestors?

- [Was Your Ancestor a "White Russian"?](#)

### Documenting Your Family History?

- [9 Tips for Getting Started on Writing Your Family History](#)

### European Ancestors?

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

### Visiting Cemeteries?

- [Tombstone Tourism: Planning Cemetery Visits for Genealogy](#)
- [Using Photo Software to Read an Ancestor's Headstone](#)

### Trying to use AI Tools for Genealogy?

- [Use ChatGPT to Identify Related People In Family Archives](#)

### Irish Ancestors?

- [The Evolution of Irish Surnames – Where your Irish Surname Fits](#)

### Native American Ancestors?

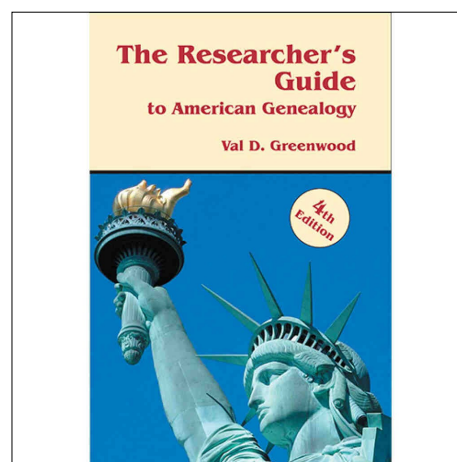
- [The Do's and Don'ts of Respectful Native American Research](#)

### WHAT I AM WORKING ON IN NOVEMBER

- FINISH BIRTH RECORDS UPDATE
- FINISH OBITUARY RECORDS UPDATE



From The Ancestor Hunt



Click to Find Out More about this Book of the Month

## Check out The Ancestor Hunt on Social Media



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## What Genealogy Resources Can You Use for Your Research at the Internet Archive?

[The Genealogy Project](#) at the Archive includes items from the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana; Robarts Library at the University of Toronto; the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Library; Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah; the National Library of Scotland; the Indianapolis City Library's Indianapolis City Directory and Yearbooks Collection, The Leo Baeck Institute Archives of German-speaking Jewry; and the Boston Public Library, just to name a few. There are 42,000 collections and items available.

So what types of information are available at [Archive.org](#) that are of interest to genealogists (not necessarily part of The genealogy Project)?

**Yearbooks**—there are over 78,000 references to yearbooks in the collection. The states of Massachusetts, Virginia, and North Carolina use it as the online archive for high school and college yearbooks.

**City Directories**—there are about 171,000 city, business, and other directories, as well as gazetteers and almanacs.

**Books**—there are over 19,000 genealogy books of all kinds and subjects.

**Local History**—there are 117,000 references to texts and audio regarding local history. Usually centering on a town, city, or county.

**Reclaim the Records**—there are about 2,500 collections of vital records in the Archive.

**Town Records**—there are over 62,000 town records (primarily from the New England states). Includes vital record information.

**Passenger and Crew Lists**—useful in immigration research, there are over 8,500 passenger and crew list documents.

**Parish Registers**—over 1,600 parish registers are in the Archive; most are from the U.K.

**Church Records**—over 14,800 items in the Archive; including marriages, funerals, baptisms, membership, and other church records.

**Census Records**—over 35,000 items in the Archive. It's not the most ideal way to find census records (we've been spoiled by the large collectors of census records providing us with indexes and search capability). But they are in the Archive.

**Pension Files**—payment cards and pension applications are included in collections numbering over 3,700.

**Passport Applications**—over 13,600 in this category.

**Family Genealogies**—over 26,500 collections of written materials about specific surnames.

**Probate**—there are over 2,700 references to probate records.

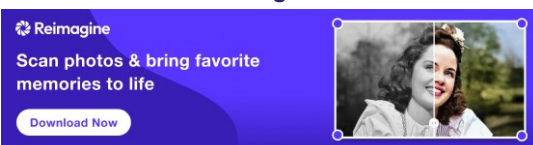
**Newspapers**—Over 2.3 million references in the newspapers at the Archive. Over 1.1 million from the U.S., and over 500,000 from China. Many are local titles; also included are a large collection of high school, college, and university student newspapers.

**Vital Records**—over 5,000 collections.

**Audio and Video**—there are old radio shows; newsreels from the past; old music; military radio shows; oral history interviews. Most are from the U.S. But there are many from other countries as well.

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Have you checked out the free version of Reimagine? Worth a little time to check out its excellent features





## 2023 Holiday Gift Guide for Genealogists

My friend, genealogist Julie Cahill Tarr has put together a massive list of dozens of gift ideas for the holidays. Click on the image to see her list. I already bought 3 of them!



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## Genealogical & Historical Mysteries

Julie is also a voracious reader of genealogy and family history mysteries and other related fiction. She also is kind enough to submit a review for many of the books. Click on the image below to see the list and reviews of about 150 genealogy fiction books (and some non fiction as well)!






## Free Obituary Research Log

The folks at [Storied](#) have created a Free Downloadable Obituary Research Log. From [Storied](#):

*"Researching obituaries just got a whole lot easier. Download our FREE Obituary Research Log and start documenting key details, sources, and notes in an organized and efficient manner. It's the perfect tool to help you piece together your family's history. Don't miss out on this valuable resource – grab your free Obituary Research Log now and take your genealogy journey to the next level!"*

You can download the PDF for the Log at <https://wp.storied.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Obituary-Research-Log-by-Storied.pdf>

# Obituary Research Log

A FREE RESOURCE FROM  Storied

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Researcher: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF SEARCH:

<input type="checkbox"/> Obituary	<input type="checkbox"/> Death Notice	<input type="checkbox"/> Funeral Notice	<input type="checkbox"/> Mortality Report
<input type="checkbox"/> In Memoriam	<input type="checkbox"/> Necrology Report	<input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks	<input type="checkbox"/> Chronologies

NOTES:

KEYWORDS USED:

<input type="checkbox"/> Alternate name spellings: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Birthdate & location: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Death date & location: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Age: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Marriage Date: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Maiden Name: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Names of family members: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Places person lived: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Education, schools attended, degrees received: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Organization memberships: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Occupation/employment: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Church affiliations: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Funeral arrangements: _____	

DID YOU REMEMBER TO...

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Broaden your search to newspapers in the area or large publications?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Search headlines if the event was big news?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Read other parts of the newspaper to get a feel for the life and times of the person?

For more info, click on





## Old Words, New Lessons: Helping Newspaper Researchers Navigate The Language Of The Past

Jeff Kiley, the CEO of Advantage Archives, has graciously permitted me to republish (with modifications) this terrific article about how language in old newspapers has changed through the years, which provides us with significant challenges trying to understand old words, phrases, and idioms as we try to discover our ancestors past via newspapers. The original article was geared towards student researchers and can be accessed [HERE](#).

Community newspapers serve as a treasure trove of information, encapsulating the essence of a period in the past. They often document everyday life and local events, making history feel more relevant and accessible to researchers. National and international news can be contextualized through them within a familiar local setting, heightening interest and understanding. Digitization and online access to these papers, along with a community's other historical pictures, books, and documents, has created access in a way that fosters a deeper connection between researchers and the past, allowing them to touch, feel, and understand history at a local and more personal level.

A critical first step is familiarizing ourselves with the distinctive characteristics of these primary sources. Everything from their language and reporting style to their cultural context and journalistic objectives can significantly diverge from what we are used to encountering in modern media. We might require guidance in interpreting these sources.

Historical newspapers are fascinating artifacts that offer a unique window into the past. However, deciphering their contents requires an understanding of the language and style of the era in which they were published, which can be markedly different from what we're accustomed to in today's media. Understanding historical newspapers goes beyond the literal interpretation of the words. It requires diving into the societal and cultural context that shaped the narratives. Different periods had different norms, influencing how events were reported, what language was used, and even what topics were considered newsworthy. As we navigate these waters, we start to comprehend the newspapers as a reflection of the times – not just carriers of news, but cultural and historical snapshots that embody the era's zeitgeist.



This understanding doesn't only aid in deciphering the text but also brings the past alive. It allows us to transcend the confines of the present, to understand the mindset of people in different eras, and to see the world through their eyes.

Language is a living entity, continually evolving and adapting. Consider something as commonplace as the pair of 'pants' we wear today. In the mid-19th century, a gentleman would have buttoned on his 'breeches', a term that later gave way to 'trousers' as the language evolved. By the 1930s, 'slacks' entered the vernacular, borrowed from the military term 'slack trousers.' Similarly, automobiles, once called 'horseless carriages', transformed into 'motor cars' and then simply 'cars'. Such shifts are not only an intriguing linguistic journey but also a way to perceive the world from a historical perspective.

Words that were common in the 19th century might be rarely used today, or their meanings might have evolved. For instance, in the 19th century, "awful" was commonly used to mean "awe-inspiring" or "full of awe." It conveyed a sense of wonder or reverence. For instance, a newspaper article from that era might describe a scenic landscape as "awful in its grandeur." However, in contemporary usage, "awful" has taken on a predominantly negative connotation, implying something unpleasant or terrible. This shift in meaning can lead to misinterpretation if readers are unaware of the historical context. Researchers relying on modern interpretations may misjudge the tone or intention of a newspaper article that uses "awful" in its original sense, missing the sense of admiration or reverence the author intended to convey. By understanding how language has changed, we can accurately grasp the author's intended meaning and appreciate the nuances within the text.

Words such as "cad," a term used in the 19th century to describe a dishonorable man, or "dandiprat", a phrase describing a young person or insignificant man, have largely fallen out of use. Similarly, "fopdoodle", an old term for a fool or simpleton is unlikely to be encountered in contemporary language usage (which is unfortunate because of how fun it is to say).

A researcher reading an article from a 1925 newspaper might be dumbfounded by a sentence that read: "The strapping young blade, full of pep and vinegar, headed to the hootenanny, ready to cut a rug and sweep the local tomato off her feet." If we had the equivalent of "Google Translate" for historical newspaper articles, the sentence might be translated as: "The strong, energetic young man, full of vitality and enthusiasm, headed to the lively gathering, ready to dance impressively and win the heart of the local attractive young woman."

But sadly, an "Old To New" translator doesn't exist (yet)! If it did, we would know that "The old coot, having had one too many giggle waters, started to blather about the need for temperance and moral fortitude in this calamitous season" really meant: "The elderly man, after having too many alcoholic drinks, started to talk excessively about the need for moderation and moral strength during these challenging times." This language originates from the Prohibition era in the United States, specifically the 1920s. Terms like "old coot" for an elderly man, "giggle water" for alcohol, and the emphasis on temperance and moral fortitude are indicative of the societal attitudes and vernacular of this period.



## Old Words, New Lessons: Helping Newspaper Researchers Navigate The Language Of The Past

Some time ago, I ran across an article from the early 19th century in the Quincy, Illinois archive, and I remember thinking, “Is this even English?”:

“Local Happenings: Sarah Jane, the filly, known by folks for her keen noodle, bested her classmates in the spelling match, flabbergasting the town’s swells, who thought such scholarly pursuits were beyond her ken. These same high hats and their dames left the gymnasium in a trice upon news of the Cross rolling in. The bigwigs, the townfolk, lollygaggers, and alike, gathered at the new depot, eager to see the new contraption that promised to change the world.”

It took me a few minutes to get the gist of it, and after looking through a few pages before and after the article, along with a little research, I was finally able to piece it together and learned a little more than I expected.

The article was written in 1838, and the language in these sentences is marked by significant societal and technological change. The use of terms such as ‘filly’, ‘noodle’, ‘swells’, ‘ken’, ‘lollygaggers’, and ‘bigwigs’ are indicative of colloquialisms popular during this period. Understanding the meaning and context of these terms is critical in interpreting historical newspaper reports and other primary source documents from this era. Once I had the reference for these words, I had a richer, more nuanced perspective of that community’s past, allowing me to see beyond the surface of the text and into the societal norms, attitudes, and transformations of the time. Those few sentences told a story of significance:

From what I could gather, a young girl named Sarah, likely poor or underprivileged, won a school spelling bee held in a local gym. Most people in town recognized Sarah as being very smart, but her victory surprised many of the town’s upper-class citizens, who believed such academic endeavors to be unusual for someone of her social status. The audience for the spelling bee left abruptly when the news spread that a train was pulling into town and would be stopping at the newly constructed train station, which was completed earlier that year. Its completion made a significant impact on the development and growth of Quincy and the entire region. Understandably, this was a big deal and the reason the gym cleared out so quickly, as no one in town had likely seen a train before. It was something that united both the common citizens and the influential elites, and they all gathered at the railroad station together, their eagerness palpable as they awaited their first glimpse of the innovative machine set to revolutionize their world.

Understanding these shifts in vocabulary can greatly enhance one’s comprehension of historical newspaper articles. Colloquialisms and Idioms serve as linguistic expressions that encapsulate cultural nuances and historical contexts. They can add color and richness to language but can also present challenges for researchers examining old newspapers. Idioms are phrases where the overall meaning goes beyond the literal interpretation of the individual words used. Instead, their meaning is culturally understood and may not be directly related to the words themselves.

Consider the idiom “the cat’s pajamas,” which gained popularity in the 1920s. This phrase refers to something or someone outstanding, excellent, or highly regarded. However, the meaning of this idiom is not immediately apparent to contemporary readers who are unfamiliar with its historical context. The phrase originated in the 1920s during the Jazz Age and is often associated with the flapper culture of that era. It was a playful and colloquial way to describe something as being top-notch or highly regarded. The phrase itself may seem nonsensical if interpreted literally, as cats don’t typically wear pajamas (at least mine doesn’t). However, in the context of the 1920s, the idiom gained popularity as a slang term used to describe something that was considered fashionable, stylish, or remarkable. It reflected the spirit of the time, which embraced novelty, excitement, and a departure from traditional norms. “The cat’s pajamas” became part of the vibrant slang vocabulary of the 1920s, alongside other expressions like “the bee’s knees,” “the cat’s whiskers,” or “the monkey’s uncle.” These idiomatic phrases were used to convey enthusiasm, admiration, or to highlight something as exceptional or trendy. Without understanding the specific cultural reference, researchers may struggle to decipher the intended message and overlook the significance or impact of the phrase in the context of the time.

Idioms are deeply rooted in the cultural and social milieu of their era. They reflect the attitudes, values, and shared experiences of a particular community or time period. Over time, idiomatic expressions can fall out of use or be replaced by new phrases, making them even more challenging for modern readers to understand without proper context. When researching old newspapers, encountering idioms that are no longer commonly used can pose a barrier to comprehension. Failure to grasp the meaning of these idiomatic expressions can lead to misinterpretation or a limited understanding of the author’s intended message. Consequently, researchers may miss out on the cultural insights, humor, or figurative language conveyed by these idioms. To overcome this barrier, it is essential for us to familiarize ourselves with the idiomatic expressions commonly used during the period. By consulting historical references, literature, and language resources specific to the era, researchers can gain a deeper understanding of the idioms employed in historical newspapers. Contextual clues within the newspaper article itself, such as surrounding text or recurring idiomatic patterns, can also provide valuable insights into the intended meaning.

We do however need to be mindful that historical records are not only full of unique vocabulary terms, they are often colored by inherent biases. They echo societal norms, attitudes, and cultural context of their era, subtly influencing our perception of the past. Bias, although often seen in a negative light, is inescapable and not necessarily detrimental. Understanding and identifying bias in historical records can provide a multi-faceted view of history, leading to richer and more nuanced understandings.

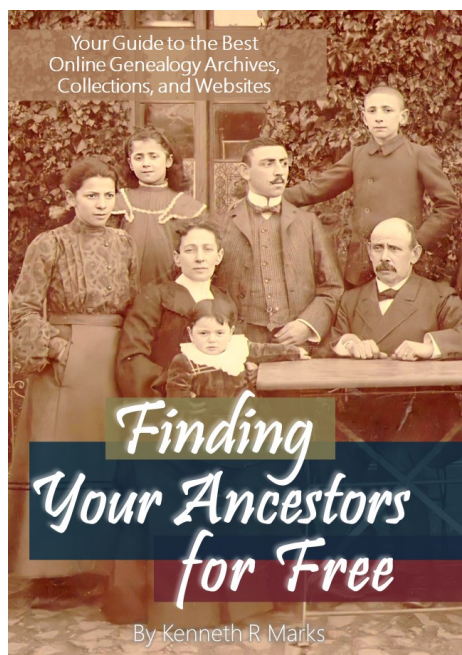


My next post in this series will explore bias in historical newspapers and how to identify underlying biases and perspectives, and how this critical thinking can be extended beyond our research. Remember, understanding our past is key to navigating our future, and understanding bias helps us to appreciate the complexity and diversity of perspectives that make up our shared history.





## 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

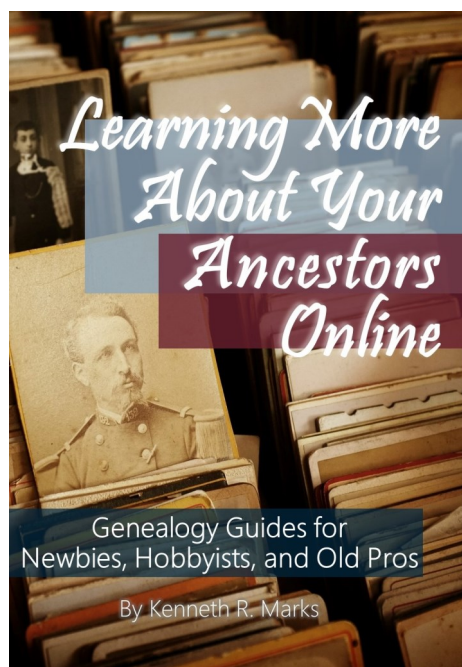
- About the Author
- Getting Started
- The History of Free
- Not All Records are Online
- Free Access to Subscription Databases
- Access to Free Collections for Residents
- Why Isn't Genealogy Always Free?

### 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.....



# Gathering Family History at Family Gatherings

Since the holidays are coming up which means lots of family gatherings, what better time to ask your relatives about genealogy related information? This article is republished with permission from [MyHeritage](#).

Family gatherings — such as holidays, lifecycle events, and reunions — are perfect opportunities to collect information for your family history research. You can interview relatives you don't get to see often, ask questions to help fill in gaps in your family tree, and update your tree with new developments, such as births and marriages. Simply chatting with your relatives may even yield interesting details and anecdotes you wouldn't have thought to ask about.

In this article, we'll explore how to prepare to gather genealogical information at family gatherings and provide some tips and advice on getting the most out of the event to enhance your family history research.

## Preparing ahead

It's a good idea to prepare ahead of time so you can stay focused, achieve your genealogy-related goals efficiently, and spend the rest of the gathering simply enjoying your time together with your relatives.

Here are some ways to prepare:

- **Take a look at your tree** and identify any gaps in information that somebody you'll be seeing at this gathering might be able to fill in. You can make a list of questions to ask various family members who may be attending.
- If possible and relevant, **ask family members if they can bring photo albums or other memorabilia** you haven't seen or documented to the gathering.
- **Pack some equipment** for recording genealogy information, whether it's a notebook, an audio recorder, a laptop, or your phone. The [MyHeritage](#) mobile app is perfect for taking quick notes and recording audio, and the Reimagine app is handy for scanning photos quickly.
- **Bring along some of your work**, whether it's a printout of your family chart, an album of colorized and enhanced family photos, or a collection of Deep Nostalgia™ animations of your ancestors. These can be a great conversation starter and help your family members understand what you've been up to. Improved and animated family photos can be especially helpful for engaging younger family members and getting them interested in your work.

## Making the most of the gathering

### Approaching the topic

As the family genealogist, you may be very eager to jump right in and get your questions answered immediately. Don't let your excitement get in the way of common courtesy! Make some small talk and get settled in before easing into the topic of genealogy. You don't want to give your relatives the impression that you care more about your research than about seeing them!

### Interviewing relatives

Once you've introduced the topic of genealogy and have your relatives talking, you can ask them the questions you prepared ahead of time, or simply encourage them to tell you what they know or remember about your topic of interest. Looking at old family photos together may help jog their memories and coax out stories you haven't heard before. You can read more about interviewing your relatives for genealogy here: [How to Interview Your Relatives for Family History Research](#)

### Documenting details

Don't rely on your memory to hold on to information and details. Make sure to record everything in whatever way you can. Some prefer to work the old-fashioned way and take handwritten notes, but you may find it easier to enter information straight to your MyHeritage tree. You can easily do this using the MyHeritage mobile app. If the gathering is taking place somewhere that doesn't have mobile coverage, or if you prefer to use your laptop and aren't confident you'll have wifi, you can always use Family Tree Builder and sync it with your online tree later.

### Audio recording

There are many advantages to recording information on audio: it's hands-free and doesn't interfere with the flow of conversation as taking notes might. Plus, having the recording could be very valuable later on when that relative isn't around anymore. Being able to hear a relative telling family stories in their own voice is priceless.

On the other hand, it may not actually save you work. You might have to transcribe and enter the information from the recording manually later. More importantly, family gatherings are not ideal settings for recording a person speaking! You may be able to solve the latter problem by taking your relative aside into a quiet room, but that's assuming such a room will be available.

If you do decide to utilize audio recording, once again, the MyHeritage mobile app can help with this, as you can record audio directly onto a person's profile in the tree. You can also use the Photo Storyteller™ feature to record a relative telling the story behind family photographs in your MyHeritage album. That brings us to the next item:





## Gathering Family History at Family Gatherings

### Scanning photos and documents

If the gathering presents an opportunity to take a look at some photos or documents you haven't seen before, you won't want to waste this chance to scan them. This will be easy to do if you scan them using your mobile device — and you can do this right from the MyHeritage app, too. See the following article for tips on scanning photos for genealogy: [How to Digitally Scan Old Pictures Using MyHeritage](#)

### Take new family photos

Don't pass up this opportunity to get some great photos of your relatives to upload to MyHeritage! You can take individual photos to fill in missing profile photos in your tree as well as group photos.

### Processing and organizing after the gathering

It's a good idea to block off some time shortly after you return from the gathering to process your notes, recordings, and scans and input them into your tree while your memory of these conversations is still fresh. Enter any details you uncovered into your tree, transcribe the parts of your recordings you think are important, and upload and tag your photos and documents.

Then, you can use what you gathered to move forward with your research. Perhaps a new Record Match will pop up because of a new date or place you were able to add to a profile? Maybe a new face in a photo you scanned will give your research a new direction? Explore the possibilities and enjoy!



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## Three Very Cool Online Collections from the National Archives

The National Archives recently announced the third in a series of online finding aid tools: the [Donated Collection Explorer](#).

Rather than me trying to explain it, please go to the link above. As of September 2023, there are **845,435** scans from Donated Collections online representing **3.1%** of the estimated total number of **27,266,434** estimated total textual pages. Yes, they have a ways to go, but it's worth taking a look at. There are bound to be some gems in there to aid in your genealogy research.

The other two online collections that have had more significant updates are:

[Record Group Explorer](#) includes all of NARA's Record Groups (over 600) and provides access to over 140 million of our digital pages. As of August 2023, there are **228,093,651** scans online representing **1.9%** of the **11,796,866,257** estimated total textual pages

[Presidential Library Explorer](#) includes 14 Presidential Libraries and provides access to over 1.6 million digital pages. As of September 2023, there are **1,423,028** scans online representing **1.8%** of the **78,900,875** estimated total textual pages across all Presidential Libraries.

It is worth your time to review these subcollections that have been digitized. There just might be some gems in their collections that further your research.





## The By Location Page

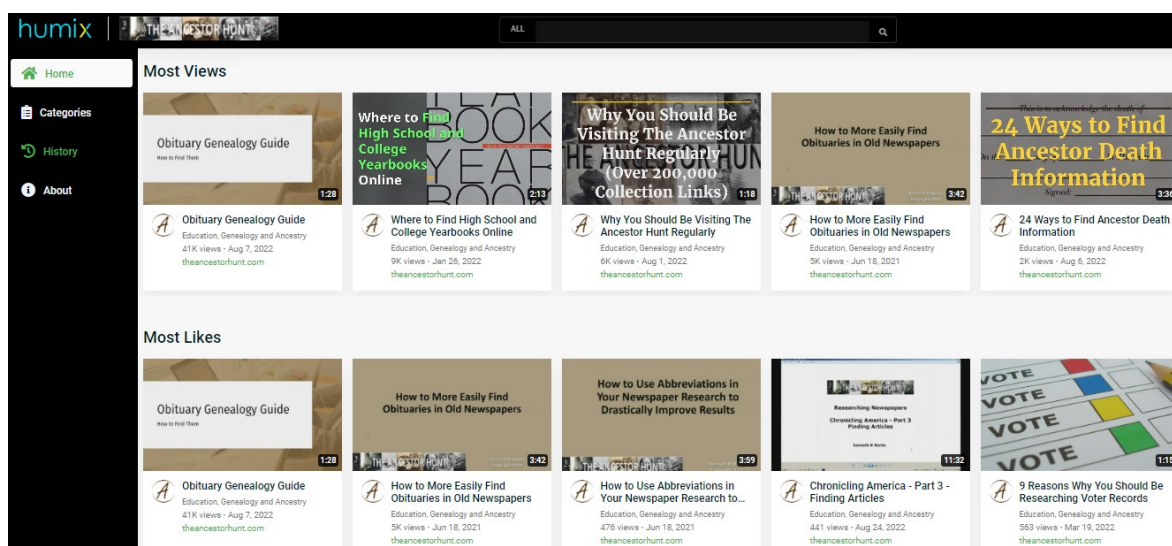
The easiest way to access a particular state's or province's list of collections and categories is via the [BY LOCATION](#) page.

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](#)

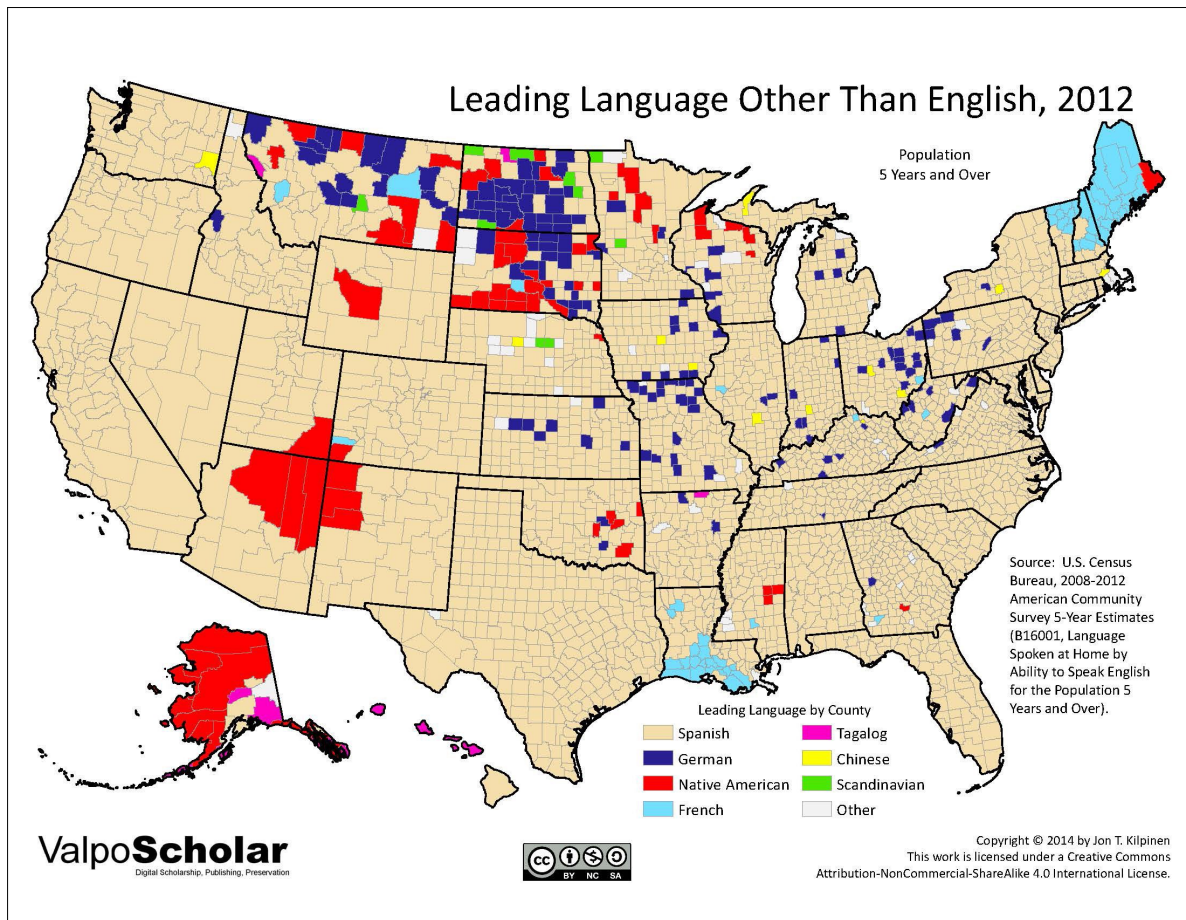
**FIND *your* ANCESTORS**  
Newspapers and more  
(1690 to today)

[Search Now](#)

**GENEALOGYBANK**



## Languages Spoken in the U.S. Mapped

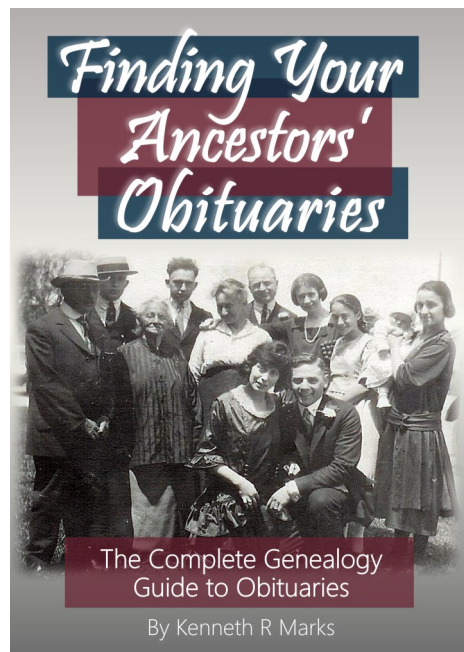


## Abbreviations to Use in Newspaper Research to Get 20% More Results

Eliz for Elizabeth	Capt for Captain	Jas for James
Wm for William	Pl for Place	Margt for Margaret
Sgt for Sergeant	Co for Company	Saml for Samuel
Ave for Avenue	Pres for President	Inc for Incorporated
Corp for Corporation	Ln for Lane	Geo for George
Jno for John	Col for Colonel	Robt for Robert
St for Street	Chas for Charles	Thos for Thomas
NYC for New York City	Benj for Benjamin	Genl for General
Jos for Joseph	Cpl for Corporal	Cpl for Corporal



## Newest Genealogy Book Details



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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Obituary Formats	• Newspapers in Places Previously Lived
Oddities	• Library and Society Indexes
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## 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.

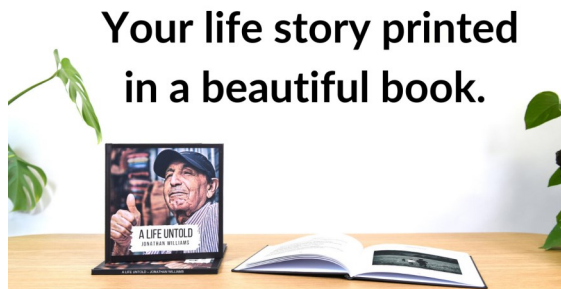
Whoowe is available from the AppStore and Google Play. Info at [whoowe.com](http://whoowe.com) Try it out for free. Discount coupon for readers coming soon.



### 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](http://www.storyspot.com). Try it out for free. 25% discount available by using "ANCESTOR" as coupon code.



Your life story printed  
in a beautiful book.

### 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](http://A Life Untold). Try it out. 10% discount available by using "HUNT as coupon code.

Record Your Autobiography With



AUDIOBIOGRAPHY

### 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](http://Audiobiography). Try it out. 10% discount available by using "HUNT as coupon code.

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