

Monthly Newsletter November 15, 2024



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We Have a Winner!!!

Check out Page 4 for the Raffle Winner and their prize. Also about next months raffle

It's Finally Here!

My NEW Book - Published 11/14 - Details on Page 5



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



Articles Published Since Last Issue

- [Ancestry New and Updated Collections – October 1-31, 2024](#)
- [FamilySearch New and Updated Collections – October 1-31, 2024](#)
- [Free Florida Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – National Archives – Genealogy Research Topics](#)
- [Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Dead Fred](#)
- [9 Ways to Effectively Find Obituaries in Online Newspapers](#)
- [10 Bits of Advice for New Genealogy Researchers](#)
- [History Hub – A Crowdsourced History and Genealogy Research Platform](#)
- [Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Library of Congress Digital Collections](#)
- [The Ancestor Hunt's Top 100 Free Genealogy Websites](#)
- [Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – DP LA](#)
- [Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Internet Archive](#)
- [17 Things You Can Find in Criminal Records](#)
- [Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – LDS Genealogy](#)
- [Free Indiana Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Access Genealogy](#)
- [Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – New Horizons Genealogy](#)
- [24 Ways to Find Ancestor Death Information](#)
- [13 Ways to Find Physical Characteristics Without Photos](#)
- [Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – I Dream of Genealogy](#)
- [Read and Search Over 800 Genealogy eBooks](#)
- [80 Old Time Illnesses and Their Current Names](#)
- [New Great Lakes History Portal](#)
- [Genealogy Information in Probate Records and Wills](#)
- [Where to Find Ancestor Occupations](#)
- [Where to Find Genealogy and Family History Books Online](#)
- [Genealogy Collections at The Internet Archive](#)
- [Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – American History Genealogy project](#)
- [6,210 Southern States Free Online Probate Record and Wills Collections](#)
- [Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Patriot and Grave Registry](#)
- [27 Ways to Find Ancestor Marriage Information](#)
- [2,775 Mid West States Free Online Probate Record and Wills Collections](#)
- [Free Online Genealogy Website of the Day – Hathitrust](#)
- [32 Ways to Find Ancestor Birth Information](#)
- [505 New England States Free Online Probate Record and Wills Collections](#)
- [1,960 Mid Atlantic States Free Online Probate Record and Wills Collections](#)
- [895 Western States Free Online Probate Record and Wills Collections](#)
- [10,740 Free Online Probate Record and Wills Collections for the United States](#)
- [400 Free Online Divorce Record Collections for the Mid West States](#)

New From The Newspaper Corner

- [Colorado Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [Arizona Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [Kansas Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [Pennsylvania Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [New York Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [Michigan Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [8 Ways to Mess Up Your Newspaper Research](#)
- [Iowa Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [Florida Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [California Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [Texas Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [16,070 Free Southern States Online Historical Newspaper Titles Now Available](#)
- [10 Clever Ways to Find More Ancestor Newspaper Articles](#)
- [50,000 Free Online U.S. Historical Newspapers Now Available](#)
- [Newspapers dot Com Update – October 2024](#)
- [Historical Civilian Conservation Corps \(CCC\) Newspapers Online](#)
- [Chronicling America Updates – October 2024](#)
- [Find My Past Adds/Updates 62 Historical Newspaper Titles – October 2024](#)
- [British Newspaper Archive Adds/Updates 45 Titles – October, 2024](#)
- [NewspaperARCHIVE Update – October 2024](#)
- [4 Big Challenges in Downloading Historical Newspaper Articles](#)
- [Historical Jewish American Newspapers Online](#)
- [Historical German American Newspapers Online](#)
- [Historical American Farming Newspapers Online](#)
- [Historical African American Newspapers Online](#)
- [Saskatchewan Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [Historical Italian American Newspapers Online](#)
- [Historical Polish American Newspapers Online](#)
- [Historical American Labor and Union Newspapers Online](#)
- [Historical Nordic American Newspapers Online](#)
- [Nova Scotia Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [Advantage Archives Adds 550 Thousand Historical Newspaper Pages – October 2024](#)
- [Manitoba Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [Historical U.S. and Canada Free Online Catholic Newspapers](#)
- [Historical French American Newspapers Online](#)
- [Historical Indigenous and Native American Newspapers Online](#)
- [Historical U.S. Free Online Protestant Newspapers](#)
- [Historical U.S. College and High School Student Newspapers Online](#)
- [Alberta Online Historical Newspapers Summary](#)
- [Historical Japanese American Newspapers Online](#)
- [Historical Irish American Newspapers Online](#)
- [The One Magic Search Trick That Will Drastically Improve Your Newspaper Search Results](#)
- [Search Hyphenated Words in Historical Newspapers to Get Up To 30% More Results](#)



Useful Articles from Other Sources

- [The Emotional Rollercoaster of Finding an Ancestor's Will: From Excitement to Utter Confusion in 10 Seconds Flat](#)
- [8 Killer Ways to Organize Your Genealogy Documents and Photos \(That'll Make Your Ancestors Proud\)](#)
- [10 Best Websites for Italian Genealogy Research](#)
- [How to Find Italian Church Records](#)
- [10 Proven Techniques to Validate Your Sources](#)
- [8 Things an Expert Would Definitely Do to Your Family Tree](#)
- [How to Convince Your Spouse That Buying That 200-Year-Old Family Bible on eBay is a Sound Investment](#)
- [From Hoarder to Historian: Organizing Your Family Artifacts Like a Pro](#)
- [The Accidental Historian: How Genealogy Made Me Care About World Events](#)
- [A Genealogist's Guide to Finding and Using Historical Obituaries](#)
- [Gravestone Symbols and Their Hidden Meanings](#)
- [Genealogy Research: Fact and Fiction](#)
- [8 Census Records That Hide Extra Information in Plain Sight](#)
- [Researching Early American Witch Ancestors](#)
- [Your Irish Ancestor Was Not a Lucky Charms Leprechaun: The Most Hilarious Family Tree Photo Fails](#)
- [Quick Tips for Finding Your Ancestor's Missing Court-house Record](#)
- [38 Genealogy Records You Must Find in Person](#)
- [How to Use Free Library of Congress Images to Enrich Your Family History](#)
- [How to Trace Your Ancestors in Voter Records](#)
- [The Little-Known Trick For Filtering Your Ancestry Hints by Record Collection](#)
- [75 Best State Genealogy Websites of 2024](#)
- [AMERICAN MILITARY RESOURCES for Genealogists](#)
- [Genealogy Hints in Poll Tax & Voter Registration Docs](#)
- [From Potatoes to "Love at First Sip" Cocktails: What My Irish Ancestors Would Hate About Modern Weddings](#)
- [Organize Inherited Genealogy Research in 5 Steps](#)
- [Finding United States Military Service Records](#)
- [Why I Have More Photos of Dead People Than Living Ones](#)
- [What Is Transgenerational \(Transcending Generations\)?](#)
- [Family Tree Chart Types and Examples](#)
- [How to Create a Genealogy Source Citation](#)
- [7 Tech Tools to Organize Your Family History Collection](#)
- [How To Begin Your African American Genealogy Research](#)
- [Celebrating 130 Years of Discovery](#)
- [Conflicting Evidence? Here's How to Make the Right Call](#)
- [9 Tips for Finding Records in Your German Hometown](#)
- [Can't Find Your Ancestor? Genealogy Experts Suggest These 6 Tips](#)
- [10 True Genealogy Brick Walls and How to \(Possibly!\) Break Through Them](#)
- [Should You Take the Family Tree Hint? 12 Questions to Consider](#)
- [10 Rules for Accepting \(or Rejecting\) Online Family Tree Hints](#)
- [An Interview with Cemetery Research Expert Joy Neighbors](#)
- [FamilySearch Library Classes and Webinars for November 2024](#)
- [What's New Online at the Library of Congress: October 2024](#)
- [1890 Census Substitutes](#)
- [Search new South Africa records](#)
- [How \(and Why\) to Include Ancestral Places in Family Stories](#)
- [From Salt Lake City to Wherever You Are—RootsTech Is Worldwide!](#)
- [The Five People You Meet in Every Genealogy Facebook Group](#)
- [Hof- und Häusergeschichten: How Farm and Building Histories Can Help Your German Research](#)
- [Babies Left Behind: researching unknown G.I. fathers in the United Kingdom during WW2](#)
- [Gifts for Genealogists and Family Historians](#)
- [A Timeline of US Immigration Law for Genealogists](#)

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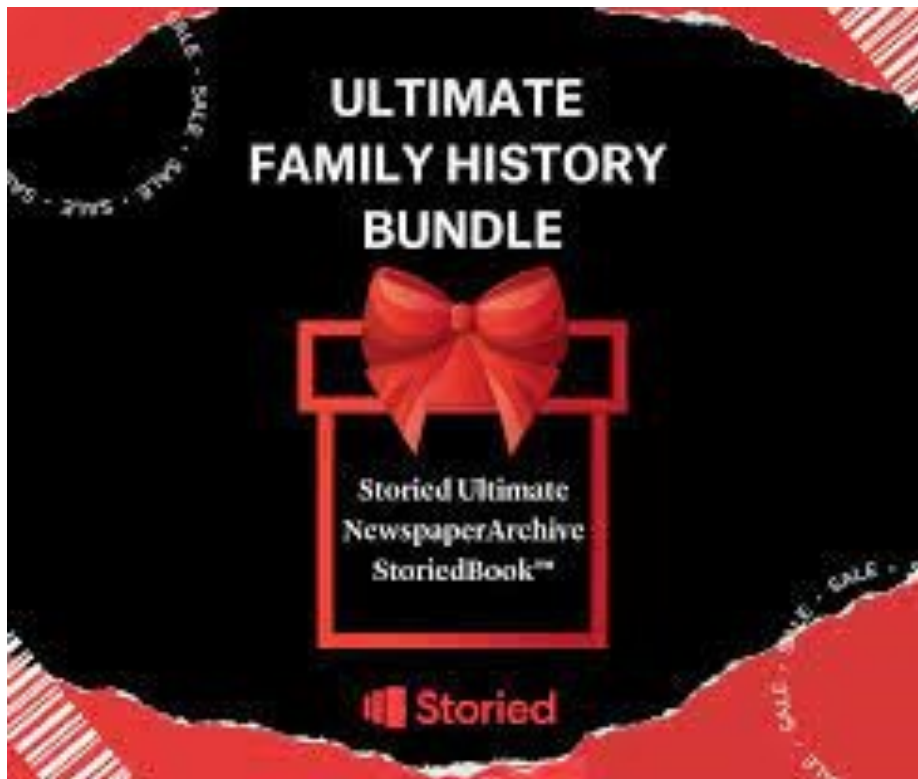


Monthly Raffle

This past month (October 15th through November 14th), I offered a raffle for all subscribers.

The winner of the raffle is Carol Scott from xxxxxxxx. Congratulations!

And what did they win?



Yes. A full year of Storied Ultimate—for free. Includes a full year of Storied, a full year of NewspaperArchive, and also the publication of your very own StoriedBook!

I have been a user of NewspaperArchive for over a decade, and have found hundreds of articles about my ancestors and relatives. I started using Storied over the last year to capture written stories, clippings, and photos of my ancestors (and myself). And I really like it. It is so easy.

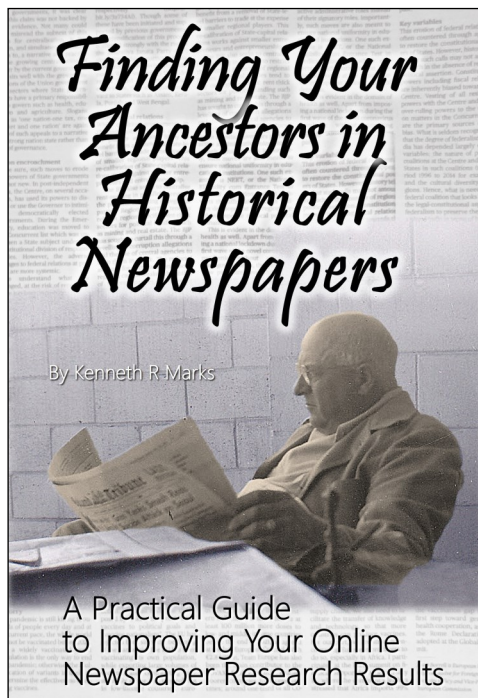
So I wanted to share these tools, and with the cooperation of the folks at Storied we are doing this.

To get an idea of what the winner is receiving and the details of all the options, please go to [STORIED](#)

BUT—There is more!

Next month's raffle will be for the same Storied Prize and will include Existing Subscribers as well as new subscribers

Just Published - Finding Your Ancestors in Historical Newspapers: A Practical Guide to Improving Your Online Newspaper Research Results



Why This Book?

Since I am a newspaper research aficionado, I have been working on this for 3 years.

This is why you should consider adding it to your collection:

Discover Hidden Stories: Learn how to find remarkable stories about your family that can be easily overlooked.

Master Powerful Techniques: Unlock advanced newspaper research methods that go far beyond basic surname searches. For example, using abbreviations, nicknames, misspellings, and hyphenated words.

Access Exclusive Resources: Gain a comprehensive list of historical newspaper databases that save you time and expand your research capabilities.

What You'll Find Inside

The information in this book is presented in seven sections, each designed to guide you step-by-step toward becoming a proficient newspaper researcher:

Section 1: Why Newspapers Matter — Discover the incredible secrets hidden in historical newspapers and why they are essential to successful genealogical research.

Section 2: What You'll Find in Historical Newspapers — Learn about the various types of information and articles available, including obituaries, local events, and personal stories that add depth to your family history.

Section 3: The Digitization Process — Understand how original newspapers are transformed into digital formats, helping you make sense of digital searches and what to expect from scanned content.

Section 4: Basic and Advanced Search Elements — Develop a thorough understanding of search techniques, from fundamental to advanced, enabling you to find even the most elusive articles.

Section 5: Tools and Techniques for Success — Master advanced search strategies, plus dozens of practical tips that will help you find the information you need efficiently.

Section 6: Software and Subscription Databases — Explore the various online software packages and subscription databases available, making your search more productive and informed.

Section 7: Historical Newspaper Databases — Access major online newspaper databases from the United States, Canada, Europe, and beyond, complete with direct links to each resource.

Available in Paperback and eBook. Get MORE INFO on Amazon at <https://amzn.to/4fMRZZI>

November Heritage Month - Native American Heritage



From the Library of Congress:

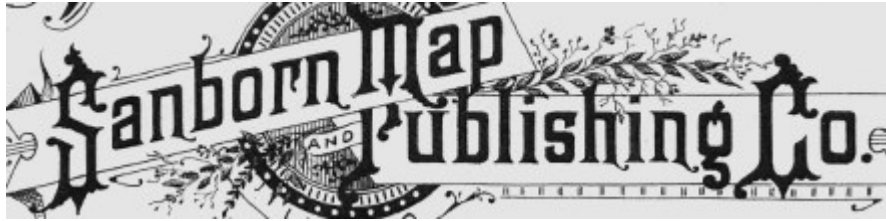
The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the rich ancestry and traditions of Native Americans.

- [Indigenous Peoples of the Americas: A Guide to Resources at the Library of Congress](#)
- [Road to Revolution: Native Americans and the American Revolution](#)
- [Native American Artists](#)
- [The Henry Rowe Schoolcraft Papers](#)
- [Native American Heritage Month - NPS Celebrates! \(U.S. National Park Service\)](#)
- [Native American Veterans](#)
- [National Endowment for the Humanities Teacher's Guide](#)



Images Courtesy of the Library of Congress

Free Genealogy Website of the Month - Sanborn Maps



The Sanborn Map Collection is available via the Library of Congress. There are maps available from all 50 states in the US, and DC, as well as Canada, Cuba, and Mexico.

From the website: *“The Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps Online Checklist provides a searchable database of the fire insurance maps published by the Sanborn Map Company housed in the collections of the Geography and Map Division. The online checklist is based upon the Library’s 1981 publication Fire Insurance Maps in the Library of Congress and will be continually updated to reflect new acquisitions.”*

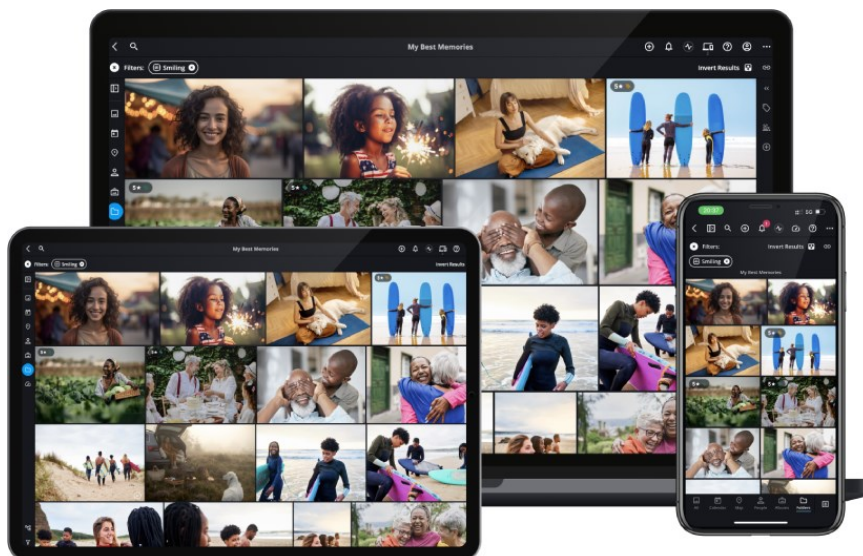
By clicking on the Collection Items link on the site, it displays over 35,000 online maps. Using the filters, you can narrow down the maps by date range and location, such as state and county.

There also are some Articles and essays with detailed information about the maps, including:

- Introduction to the Collection
- Sanborn Samplers
- Sanborn Time Series

To access the site, go to [LOC.gov/collections/sanborn-maps](https://www.loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps)

Interested in a full feature photo manager? Have you tried Mylio? I am trying it out right now and it is very promising for storing and managing my several thousand ancestor photos. They have a free trial worth checking out. Just click on the image for more info.



Advantage Archives New Directory is Fantastic!



Have you checked out the new Advantage Archives Community History Archives Directory site? In a word – it is fantastic!

From Advantage:

"I'm excited to announce the launch of the brand-new Community History Archives Directory! This directory is designed to make it easier for you and your community to access and explore a vast collection of historical resources. The directory can be found here: <https://communityhistoryarchives.com/>. It is a great resource to include in your website's digital resources section to inform your patrons about these free historical resources. We are working to change the link to direct people to the new directory on each archive and hope to have that link updated soon."

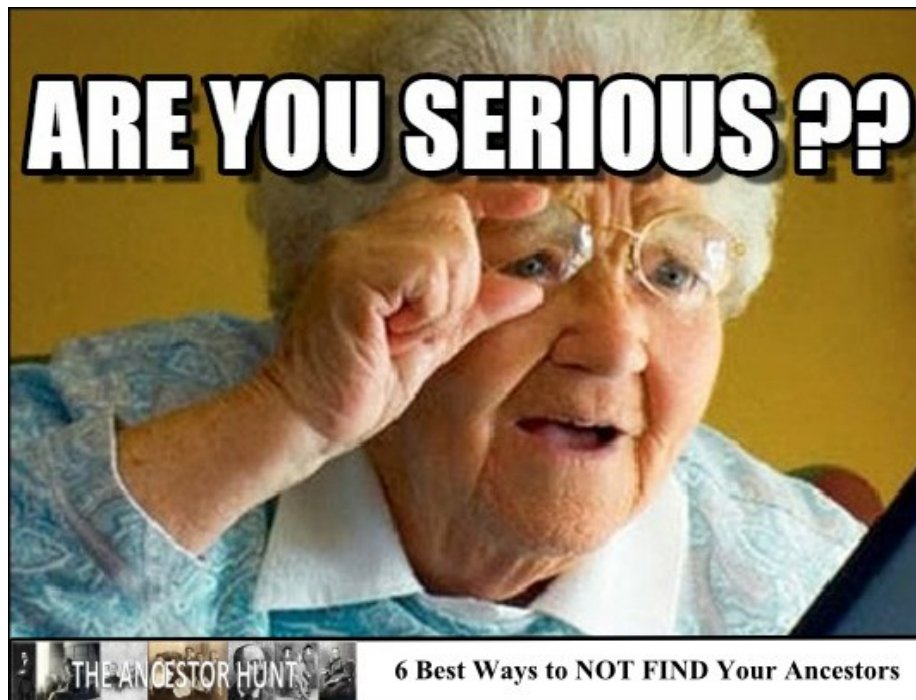
Here are some of the many features:

- One way to use the new Directory is via the **Map**. You can scroll in or out and select one of the over 1000 Community History Archives (CHA) by selecting a pin, which represents the location of the institution that has the CHA
- On the **Map** page, you can also search for a state and location. You will be presented with all the institutions for that location (and links to their CHA) as well as a map of the location with pins where the institutions are located
- The **Browse** tab is fantastic. All the states are represented by blocks with the number of CHAs in the upper right corner. Click on a state and all of the CHAs are listed as well as a map with pinned locations.
- Want to know how to use the new CHA software? A very detailed list of 40 tutorials is presented via the **Resources** tab.
- The **Profile** tab presents detailed information about Featured Partners and Archives.
- The **Settings Page** (Click on the *) is really cool. You can select CHAs by clicking on a state name, a content type, an institution type, and select institutions with CHAs via distance (in miles). So if you are searching for an ancestor in a specific area, you can look for CHAs within a chosen distance.

You can access the Community History Archives Directory [HERE](https://communityhistoryarchives.com/)



6 Best Ways to NOT FIND Your Ancestors



Genealogy research is hard; nobody cooperates; the database you want to research is the next county over; you have names that have thousands of duplicates; the online family trees are all over the place, etc. So you continue to not find your ancestors.

In the interests of keeping this losing streak alive, here are 6 ways to continue to not find your ancestors:

Don't interview your older relatives – I have 3 of them left and what a pain they are. They can't hear you. They suffer from CRS disease (Can't Remember Squat). If you bring a bunch of technology, like voice recorders, smartphones, iPads, laptops – they freak out. Don't bother showing them your old photos because most of the answers will be "I don't remember" or "I don't know." And that is if you can get them to stop crying over all their old friends and close relatives who have died. And make sure you argue with them when they tell you something about somebody that you know is not true. They are probably wrong anyway. They were "there" but their memory is failing so they are probably making stuff up. Make sure you ask them about all the "skeletons in the closet" stories that you heard about them and others. That will really get them to cooperate because at their age they like nothing better than to tell embarrassing stories about themselves that they forgot about 40 years ago. Yeah – older relatives – what a waste of time. And they will be mad at you afterward for dredging up old crappy memories.

Only search online – Everybody knows that everything is online, so why would you want to go to a library or an archive? You can't take pictures; you have to wear gloves, and forget going to a courthouse – all that dust and crabby people that work there? Not for me. And besides you have to get out of your pajamas, get dressed – shave, or put makeup on – no way. And it takes too darn long to look for things one boring page at a time. You can't read half the stuff anyway. Don't get me started with microfilm readers. So 20th century!

6 Best Ways to NOT FIND Your Ancestors

Always do exact searches – When you are searching online, like FamilySearch or that not free one – Ancestry? Or any other – make sure that you always do exact searches because those are the best. If you have written down that they lived in Georgia, why would you search in South Carolina – that's dumb. And oh yeah – regarding last name spelling – Imagine the census taker in the early 1900's. They show up at the door and ask your great-grandmother a bunch of questions. He says – “What's your last name? And she says “Mankiewicz”. He says “Huh?” She says “Mankiewicz” and knowing that most people have no clue how to spell it – she starts “M..A..N....” and he writes down the letters one by one. So no mistakes were made there. And even if she didn't spell it out for him, he was smart enough to know how to spell it. They paid those census takers a lot of money – so they were smart and also had to have exceptional penmanship to get the job. So you say – what about the data entry of documents into an index? Ever heard of two-pass verification or double data entry – problem solved – 99.5% success is pretty darn good. So you say – what about the changing of names at Ellis Island? Don't even get me started on that hocus pocus baloney. Of course, they were all changed – nobody could speak English, Duh!

Don't write down where you got stuff – all the experts tell you to write down where you found stuff – you know documents and things. Why? You already found it – so why would you write down where you found it? That's dumb. If you were walking down the street and found a twenty-dollar bill would you rush home and write down the address of where you found it? Heck no – you'd spend it. Look – I found it – you didn't. if you want to prove me wrong – go find it yourself. That's your problem, not mine. Why? Cause I already found it. That's another “Duh”. So you say – for future generations! Again that's their problem – you'll be dead anyway – what do you care?

Copy from every tree you can find – this is my favorite because it makes it so easy to not find any of the right ancestors. There are tons of already perfect family trees out there – on Ancestry, FamilySearch, WikiTree, My Heritage, and many more. I have always felt that if it is written down and/or published then it has to be correct. So you want to join all these sites and copy all of the trees and merge them with your tree. Then you will have tons of possible ancestors all in one place. What a goldmine of ancestors – most of whom aren't yours.

Don't try to find living relatives – Okay – you have been at this “not finding ancestors” thing for quite a while. Everybody says that you should try to find “cousins” – not necessarily first cousins, but 2nd, 3rd, removed ones, etc. Have you met my cousins? I don't need more cousins like them. But I digress. Here's the deal – if these so-called cousins were interested in genealogy wouldn't they have already contacted you? And if they haven't, then it means that they don't care. And let me tell you – some of these cousins make this “not finding ancestors” thing an art form. They hide old boxes of ancestor documents and photos in their garages and attics and claim to have no time to look through them. So don't even bother trying to find them and contact them. Keep your not finding ancestors streak alive.

FULL DISCLOSURE – everything written above is intended to be a joke. PLEASE do NOT do any of these things like I said. Meet with your older relatives NOW; don't rely on exact searches; get out of the house and to libraries and archives – that is where you will find some really great stuff; please write down your sources – if not for future generations but for yourself – so you don't have to ask yourself where you found it; be very careful with existing online family trees – use them as clues only and VERIFY; and yes – try to find other “cousins” – not only will you expand your tree but you will meet some great people who may indeed help you.

Most Important – Have Fun!



Newspaper Research Tip of the Month - 5 Things to Consider When Selecting an Online Newspaper Subscription Site

Finding information and articles in newspapers about your ancestors is incredibly rewarding. And the amount of information about your ancestors in old newspapers is likely more than we can find. If you follow this site, you know that I am “big” on using old newspapers as resources to find out about your family and their stories. And that there are over 75,000 links to Free Collections on the [Newspaper Links](#) page

But what about paid newspaper subscription sites? I have used the three large ones in the U.S. (Newspapers.com, NewspaperArchive, and GenealogyBank). There are other sites where newspapers are available, such as Ancestry.com, British Newspaper Archive, FindMyPast, MyHeritage, etc. There are pluses and minuses to all of these sites, but this article is not a comparison of these sites.

Why is that you ask? In my opinion, each person should make up their own mind as to what characteristics are important to them and how each of these sites fits their particular preferences.

What are the five most important characteristics? Here’s what you should consider:

- **User Interface and Searching Features** – every site mentioned above (and those not mentioned) has different user interfaces – some are simple and easy to figure out and use; some have richer capabilities and features. I always like to try the “Advanced Search” features because that generally indicates the total breadth of capability. And one MUST read the Help documentation for each of these sites. Generally, they will let you know what type of search criteria can be entered – for example Boolean and proximity searches. Quite honestly I have heard many subscribers complain about not finding anything when they haven’t even tried to learn all the search capabilities available to them.
- **Scan and OCR Quality** – the index that the site has created is only as good as the quality of the original scan and the OCR software that they use to build the index. Were the newspapers scanned from originals from microfilm, or from copies of microfilm? Some of the collections that I have seen have an extremely poor quality image displayed after selecting a search result. This indicates to me that the original image in which they applied the OCR process was degraded and hence the index certainly will suffer. In other words – your ancestor is mentioned but the scan was so lousy that the OCR process could not build an acceptable index entry with the correct spelling of the name.
- **Price and Billing Practices** – some of the aforementioned sites are 4 times as expensive as the others. Some have a monthly plan, some annually only. Some auto-renew and some do not. If you purchase a subscription it is incumbent on you to read the terms of the subscription as well as the fine print. As always with any purchase online – it is buyer-be AWARE. Many have a free trial period, which gives you a chance to try before you buy a long-term subscription.
- **Collections Available** – just as in Real Estate where the motto is “Location, location, location” – the motto for subscription newspaper research sites is “Database, database, database.” I get asked all the time if someone should purchase a subscription to site A. I always ask them first – for the states, cities, or areas that you are researching, as well as the dates that your ancestors lived there, does the site have a collection of newspapers available? If it doesn’t for a preponderance of your ancestors – if you purchase a subscription don’t complain when you can’t find anything. All sites have a list of what newspapers and dates are in their collections. Check those out before you buy.
- **Image Downloads** – this is critical. Can you download just the image? Can you download the entire page in pdf? How zoomable is the image or pdf after you download it? The reason this is critical is that some of the sites do not have an image or PDF that allows you to zoom in to make a larger image without distortion. I find this unsatisfactory when snipping obituary notices which tend to be quite small in size – and if there is distortion after making the obit larger, one can’t read it.

Most sites have some sort of free trial or a short-time subscription so you don’t have to plunk down money for a whole year if your resources are tight and you just want to check out the site.

So check out free old newspaper resources but don’t forget these historical newspaper subscription sites – they have different collections available than those on the free sites.

Your family history research will be enhanced by using all resources available to you.



State Digital Archives Updated

All relevant genealogy material doesn't fit into neat categories. These Digital Archives have abundant genealogy collections plus other collections such as scrapbooks, diaries, letters, family papers, oral histories, maps, rare manuscripts, etc. The Archives listed include state and local genealogy websites, library collections, and college and university collection websites.

I have completed adding and updating each states available online genealogy websites and online archives. Here are the links to all the states:

[Free Online Alabama Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Alaska Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Arizona Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Arkansas Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online California Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Colorado Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Connecticut Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Delaware Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online District of Columbia Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Florida Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Georgia Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Hawaii Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Idaho Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Illinois Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Indiana Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Iowa Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Kansas Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Kentucky Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Louisiana Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Maine Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Maryland Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Massachusetts Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Michigan Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Minnesota Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Mississippi Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Missouri Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Montana Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Nebraska Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Nevada Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online New Hampshire Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online New Jersey Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online New Mexico Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online New York Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online North Carolina Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online North Dakota Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Ohio Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Oklahoma Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Oregon Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Pennsylvania Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Rhode Island Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online South Carolina Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online South Dakota Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Tennessee Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Texas Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Utah Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Vermont Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Virginia Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Washington Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online West Virginia Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Wisconsin Digital Archives](#)

[Free Online Wyoming Digital Archives](#)

Webinars

MORE ON DEMAND WEBINARS

Can't make the scheduled Live Webinars? No problem. You can access the exact same content in an On-Demand Webinar, which means a recorded webinar that you can watch whenever you want. You can pause, rewind, or watch it as many times as you like. And you can ask questions during the recorded webinar by leaving Messages, which I will read and answer back to you via email. P.S. They are less expensive.

These are available On Demand:

- How to Develop Critical Online Newspaper Research Skills
- Using the New Chronicling America Version 2.0 – It is Different and It Is Better
- Exploring 95 Tips for Researching Online Historical Newspapers
- Mastering Finding, and Analyzing Newspaper Obituaries

All Details and Registration can be found at [Webinars](#)

LIVE WEBINAR SCHEDULE

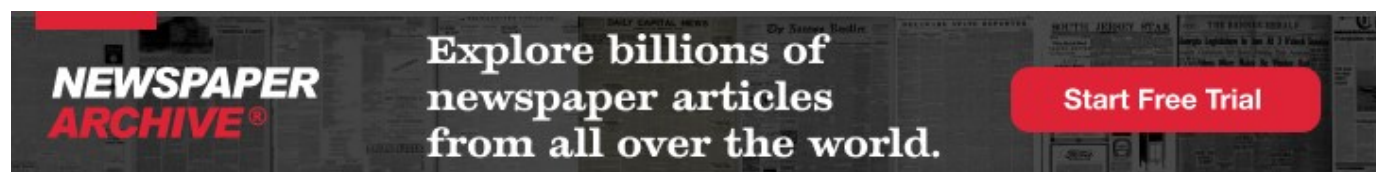
October 2024

November 19 - 1:00 PM EST – Exploring 95 Tips for Researching Online Historical Newspapers

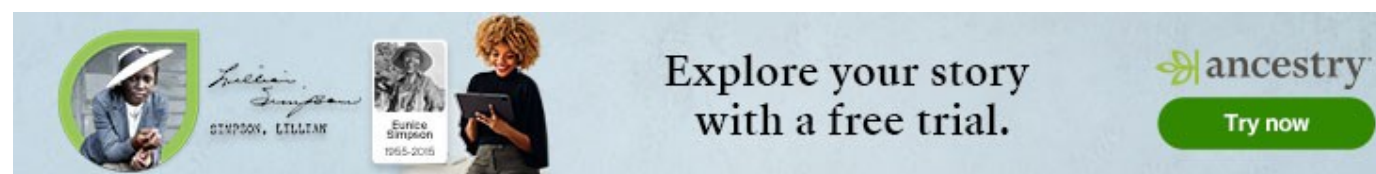
All Details and Registration can be found at [Webinars](#)

As always we are open for group sessions with genealogical societies and other institutions. Just email me at kenmarksology@gmail.com

Make Sure you check out our New Guided Courses on Page 16



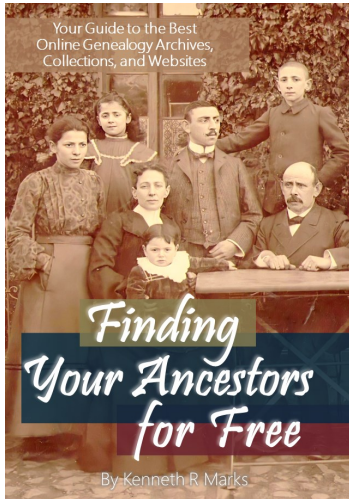
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My Genealogy Books Details



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?
- Disclosures

Nationwide Websites

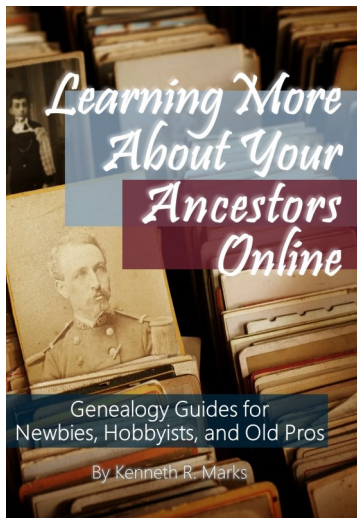
- Aggregation Sites
- Link Sites
- Library Sites
- Cemetery Sites
- Newspaper Sites
- Miscellaneous Sites

State Websites

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

Published in March, 2023

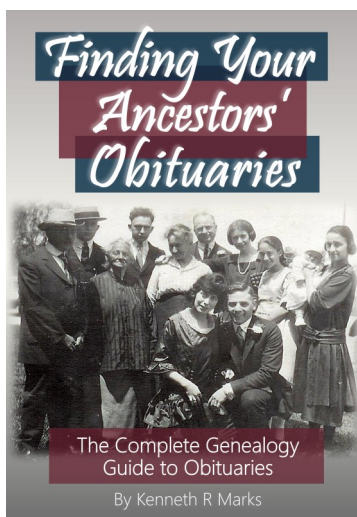
“Finding Your Ancestors’ Obituaries: The Complete Genealogy Guide to Obituaries”

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.



The Ancestor Hunt is Now Offering Guided Courses

Guided Courses

- **Born in Print: Hunting Down Birth Notices in Newspapers**
- **Newspaper Nuptials: Finding Marriage Records in Old Newspapers**
- **Beyond the Grave: Uncovering Hidden Tales of the Departed**



The Ancestor Hunt is pleased to offer three self-paced courses regarding acquiring vital information from historical newspapers. Find out about marriage notices, birth announcements, obituaries, and dozens more relevant newspaper article types.

This is a collaboration with Storied and the details can be found on the [Webinars](#) page.

Make sure that you apply the **ANCESTOR** coupon code for a significant discount!



The By Location Page

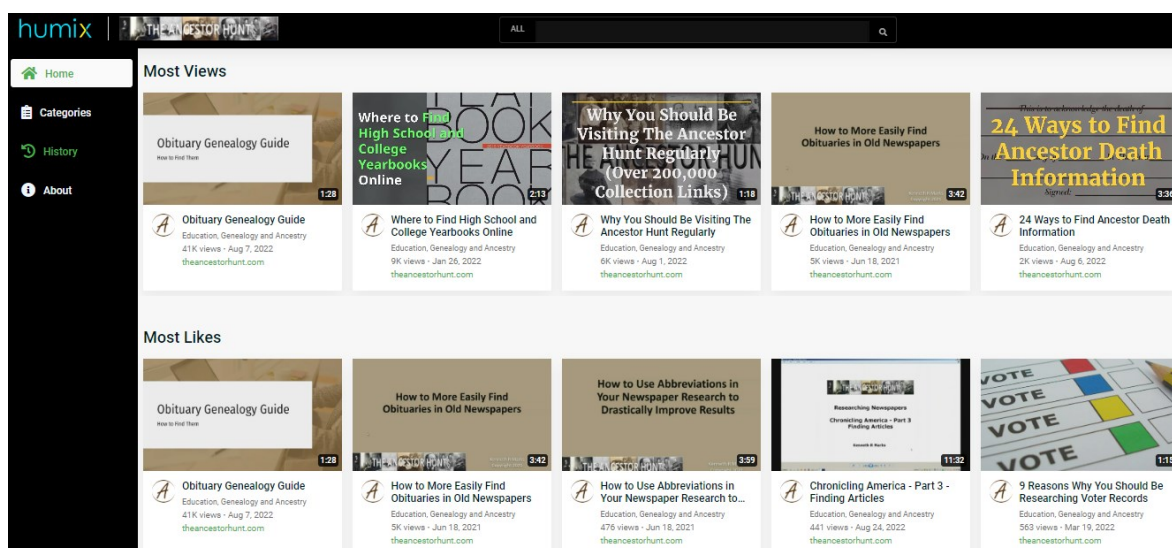
The easiest way to access a particular state's or province's list of collections and categories is via the [BY LOCATION](#) page.

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 60 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

When Were State Birth Records Started and Required

If you are looking for birth records, including certificates, you need to know the timing of each state's requirements. Each state in the U.S. started requiring birth registrations in different years. Generally, some type of records were created prior to the official state laws, either at the county, city, or town levels. But state records weren't required until a law was passed. Some states passed laws that mandated that records be kept at the local level, even though there was not mandated state registration. Furthermore, even though registrations and certificates were mandated, general compliance was not achieved by all entities for just a few years or even a few decades in some instance.

Below is a chart that lists for each state when registration was required, when it started at local jurisdictions, and when general compliance with the state law was achieved. Please note that local level registration and records were not adhered to by all local jurisdictions. If the year is blank, I could not find the information for that entry.

State	Year Mandated	Year Records Started at Local Jurisdiction	Year of General Compliance
Alabama	1908	1881	1927
Alaska	1913	-	-
Arizona	1909	1855	1926
Arkansas	1914	1881	Mid 1930s
California	1905	1800	-
Colorado	1907	1876	1920
Connecticut	1897	1630s	1915
Delaware	1881	1650	1921
District of Columbia	1874	-	-
Florida	1899	1865	1920
Georgia	1919	1875	1928
Hawaii	1842	-	1929
Idaho	1911	1907	1920s
Illinois	1916	1877	1922
Indiana	1907	1881	1920
Iowa	1907	1880	1924
Kansas	1911	1885	-
Kentucky	1911	1852	1917
Louisiana	1911	1790	-
Maine	1892	1700	-
Maryland	1898	1649	-
Massachusetts	1841	1600	1850
Michigan	1905	1867	1915
Minnesota	1908	1870	1915
Mississippi	1912	1879	1921

The source of these dates are a combination of each state's vital records website in conjunction with the FamilySearch Wiki. A great resource with more details can be found at:
[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/How to Find United States Birth Records](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/How_to_Find_United_States_Birth_Records)



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Get the Quicksheet PDF (with clickable links) by Downloading [HERE](#)



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 is my favorite tool 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.



Build your family tree with historical records and bring it to life with vibrant, collaborative stories

[Join for Free](#)

Get a 20% Discount for NewspaperArchive and Storied by using the "TAH20" coupon code.

Compare Pricing for Storied

Check out our pricing compared to other popular genealogy sites.

