

# Monthly Newsletter September 15, 2025



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



## Articles Published Since Last Issue

- [FamilySearch New and Updated Collections – August 1-31, 2025](#)
- [Ancestry New and Updated Collections – August 1-31, 2025](#)
- [MyHeritage New and Updated Collections – August 1-31, 2025](#)
- [1,295 Free Southern States Online Photo Archives Available](#)
- [1,510 Free Online Criminal Records from the United States](#)
- [10 Bits of Advice for New Genealogy Researchers](#)
- [11 Ways That Historical Photos Provide Clues About Our Ancestors Lives](#)
- [13 Ways to Find Physical Characteristics Without Photos](#)
- [15 Reasons to Research Funeral and Memorial Books](#)
- [16 Hidden Genealogy Clues That Help Determine Relationships](#)
- [16 Places Where You Can Find Genealogy and Family History Books](#)
- [19 Reasons Why You Should Research Passport Applications for Genealogy](#)
- [20 Tips for Using Google Search for Genealogy](#)
- [24 Places Where You Can Find Your Ancestors Occupation](#)
- [24 Ways to Find Ancestor Death Information](#)
- [25 Lodges, Clubs, or Secret Societies Your Ancestor May Have Been a Member Of](#)
- [26 Things That You Can Find in School Records](#)
- [27 Ways to Find Ancestor Marriage Information](#)
- [27,870 Free Online City Directories from the United States](#)
- [280 Old Occupations Used in the Census and Newspapers in the U.S. and U.K.](#)
- [3,000 United States Institutional Record Collections](#)
- [32 Ways to Find Ancestor Birth Information](#)
- [32 Ways to Find Ancestor Locations and Addresses](#)
- [4,160 Free Online United States Digital Archives](#)
- [4,195 Free Online Historical Photo Archives from the U.S.](#)
- [500 Free Library of Congress Digital Collections](#)
- [64 Genealogy Items to Collect from Your Home](#)
- [Alternatives for the Missing 1890 U. S. Federal Census](#)
- [Beyond the Search Engine: Using Google Databases for Genealogy Research](#)
- [Easy Cousin Relationship Chart](#)
- [Ethnic, National and International Genealogy Societies](#)
- [Historical Naturalization and Immigration Laws from 1790 through 1952](#)
- [How to Get the Most From the Social Security Death Index \(SSDI\)](#)
- [United States Genealogical and Historical Societies](#)
- [Using DP.LA for Family History Research](#)
- [Using The Internet Archive for Genealogy Research](#)
- [What Is Online in the National Archives Archival Databases](#)
- [When Were State Birth Records Started and Required](#)
- [When Were Statewide Death Registrations Required](#)
- [Why You Should Research Coroner Records and Where to Find Them](#)

## New From The Newspaper Corner

- [British Newspaper Archive Adds/Updates 64 Titles – July 2025](#)
- [British Newspaper Archive Adds/Updates 189 Titles – August/July 2025](#)
- [Chronicling America Updates – August 2025](#)
- [Elephind is on Its Way Back!](#)
- [Find My Past Adds/Updates 143 Historical Newspaper Titles – August 2025](#)
- [Find Newspaper Titles in 21 Largest Free and Subscription Databases](#)
- [Flemish historical newspapers now available to read online](#)
- [GenealogyBank Adds/Updates 65 Titles – September 2025](#)
- [Georgia Historical Newspapers Summer 2025 Update Adds 62 Titles](#)
- [Hoosier State Chronicles Adds/Updates 6 Titles – September 2025](#)
- [Illinois Digital Newspaper Collections Adds/Updates 57 Titles – September 2025](#)
- [NewspaperARCHIVE Update – August 2025](#)
- [Newspapers dot Com Update – August 2025](#)
- [Veridian Adds/Updates 275 Titles – September 2025](#)
- [Virginia Chronicle Newspaper Collection Adds/Updates 6 Titles – September 2025](#)
- [NEH Announces 2025 Awards for Continued Digitization of U.S. Newspapers as part of the National Digital Newspaper Program](#)

## Strange Newspaper Ads





## Useful Articles from Other Sources

- [10 Ethical Dilemmas in Genealogy: Navigating the Mine-field of Family History](#)
- [20 Tips for Deciphering Old German Handwriting](#)
- [23 AI Genealogy Prompts: Free Templates and Expert Advice](#)
- [6 Old Newspaper Articles \(Besides Obituaries\) Where You Can Find Your Ancestors](#)
- [7 Occupational "Endings" You Should Know in German Genealogy](#)
- [9 Tips for Getting Started on Writing Your Family History](#)
- [A Searchable Table of Available State Censuses](#)
- [Case Study: Using Censuses and Directories to Trace an Ancestor](#)
- [Family Tree Lite Is Being Retired](#)
- [Finding Female Ancestors: Common Brick Walls and How to Solve Them](#)
- [School Day Memories Around the World](#)

### ***Genealogy Did You Know***

Want a cool way to find info about your ancestors in classified ads? We certainly don't know the phone numbers of ancestors in the 20th century, but if you find it in an old phone book, you might find ads from your ancestors in newspapers by searching that phone number

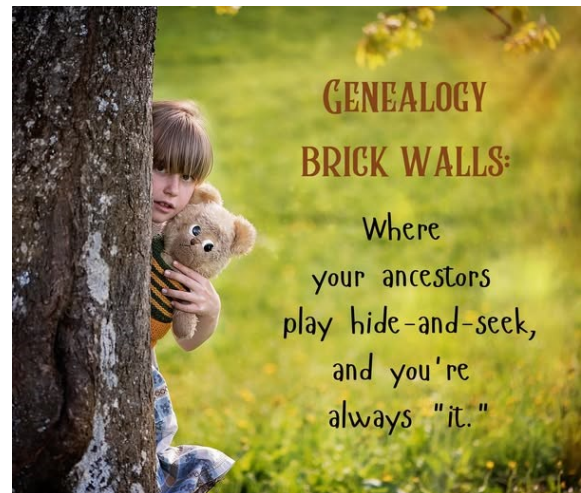
Research Your Family History With Help From The Ancestor Hunt at [www.theancestorhunt.com](http://www.theancestorhunt.com)

### ***Genealogy Did You Know***

Have you ever tried searching for a street address when searching old newspapers online? Try it. You might be pleasantly surprised. Make sure that you try the whole word, like "Street" or "Avenue", and also the abbreviations "St", and "Ave".

Research Your Family History With Help From The Ancestor Hunt at [www.theancestorhunt.com](http://www.theancestorhunt.com)

## Genealogy Memes to Live By



## Check out The Ancestor Hunt on Social Media



Thank You for being a loyal reader and visiting The Ancestor Hunt. To Subscribe, Click [HERE](#)

*This newsletter contains affiliate links. The Ancestor Hunt will be compensated if you purchase after clicking on these links. There is no additional cost to you. Thank you for supporting The Ancestor Hunt.*

## The Ancestor Hunt Launches The Newspaper Research Academy to Help Genealogists Develop Expert Skills



**Phoenix, Arizona – August 8, 2025** – The Ancestor Hunt, a leading free resource for genealogy researchers, today announced the launch of The Newspaper Research Academy, a new online hub providing genealogists and historians with expert tools and education to master historical newspaper research. The Academy combines decades of experience from The Ancestor Hunt's founder, Kenneth R. Marks, with a curated collection of resources from trusted genealogy and newspaper experts, making it easier for researchers to uncover a wealth of ancestor stories.

"My mission with The Newspaper Research Academy is simple: to share with everyone the tools and techniques I've learned," said Kenneth R. Marks, founder of The Ancestor Hunt. "Whether you're a genealogist eager to uncover precious family stories or a historian seeking deeper insights, my goal is to empower you to master this essential research skill."

The Academy is designed to serve researchers at every skill level through a tiered structure of resources:

- **Free Resources:** A vast, free collection of websites, tutorials, and reference guides from leading industry professionals and newspaper database companies.
- **Subscription Resources:** An exclusive offering for subscribers, featuring The Ancestor Hunt's On-Demand Webinars, comprehensive Research Guides, and an ad-free Browse experience across the entire website.
- **Premium Resources:** A curated list of top-tier, third-party resources, including advanced courses, books, and webinars from expert genealogy professionals and leading newspaper database vendors.

The Academy's resources are well-suited for both individual researchers and institutions such as libraries and genealogical societies. Institutions can offer access to the Academy's resources via The Ancestor Hunt website or directly from their own platforms, providing a valuable tool for their members and patrons.

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On the next page is a list of the first 50 Research Guides and On-Demand Webinars that are currently available for Subscribers. The regular price is \$47.99 per year. This includes the materials available at the time of registration PLUS all new materials created during the year. You can find out all about the Academy at <https://theancestorhunt.com/academy.html> including details about every Research Guide and On-Demand Webinar.

You can also find out all the details regarding subscribing at the [Subscription Page](#)

As a Newsletter Subscriber you can get a sizable discount that reduces the first year annual cost to \$39.99. Use the Discount Code **ACASUBS** at checkout.

## The Newspaper Research Academy Resources



Below is a list of All the Research Guides and On-Demand Webinars for Subscribers

RESEARCH GUIDES		ON DEMAND WEBINARS	
ACA20	Finding Obituaries	ACA01	Double Your Online Newspaper Research Results
ACA21	40 Online Techniques That Get Results	ACA02	The Easiest Way to Find Every Newspaper in America
ACA22	Search Nicknames As Well As Formal Names	ACA03	Exploring 95 Tips for Researching Historical Newspapers
ACA23	Abbreviations Are The Most Powerful Technique	ACA04	Mastering Chronicling America
ACA24	Deliberately Misspelling is Your Search Superpower	ACA05	Mastering Finding, and Analyzing Newspaper Obituaries
ACA25	How to Use a Newspaper Research Log	ACA06	How to Develop Critical Online Newspaper Research Skills (Coming Soon)
ACA26	Old State Abbreviations	ACA07	Using Abbreviations and Nicknames to Maximize Results
ACA27	Combination Searches - Property and Legal	ACA08	Deliberately Misspelling to Maximize Results
ACA28	Searching for Hyphenated Words	ACA09	Online Newspaper Research - Beginner
ACA29	Use These Obituary Words to Help Find More Obituaries	ACA10	Online Newspaper Research - Advanced (Coming Soon)
ACA30	Find Newspaper Titles in 20 Free and Subscription Data-bases	ACA11	How to Find All the Titles in Chronicling America
ACA31	50 Things You Can Find in Old Newspapers	ACA12	How to Find All the Titles in Newspapers.com
ACA32	Challenges in Downloading Newspaper Articles Correctly	ACA13	How to Find All the Titles in NewspaperArchive
ACA33	What to Consider When Selecting a Subscription Site	ACA14	How to Find All the Titles in GenealogyBank
ACA34	How to Properly Analyze the Vitals Section	ACA15	Getting the Most from GenealogyBank (Coming Soon)
ACA35	Analysis Traps with Old Newspapers	ACA16	Getting the Most from NewspaperArchive (Coming Soon)
ACA36	How to Save Money on Newspaper Database Subscriptions	ACA17	Getting the Most from Newspapers.Com (Coming Soon)
ACA37	Search Phonetically Spelled Surnames	ACA18	Getting the Most from MyHeritage's OldNews (Coming Soon)
ACA38	Combination Searches with Life Events	ACA19	Using AI to Improve Newspaper Research Results (Coming Soon)
ACA39	Combination Searches - Business and Occupational		
ACA40	Search Ethnic and Special Newspapers		
ACA41	Old Occupations and Their Meanings		
ACA42	Old Illnesses and Their Current Names		
ACA43	Searching Newspapers in HathiTrust		
ACA44	Searching Newspapers in Internet Archive		
ACA45	Searching Newspapers in Google Books		
ACA46	Use Proximity Search to Maximize Results		
ACA47	Dos and Don'ts When Researching Historical Newspapers		
ACA48	Use Boolean Searches for Better Results		
ACA49	Try Wildcard Searches for More Results		
ACA50	Find Ancestor Articles Without Searching a Newspaper Database		

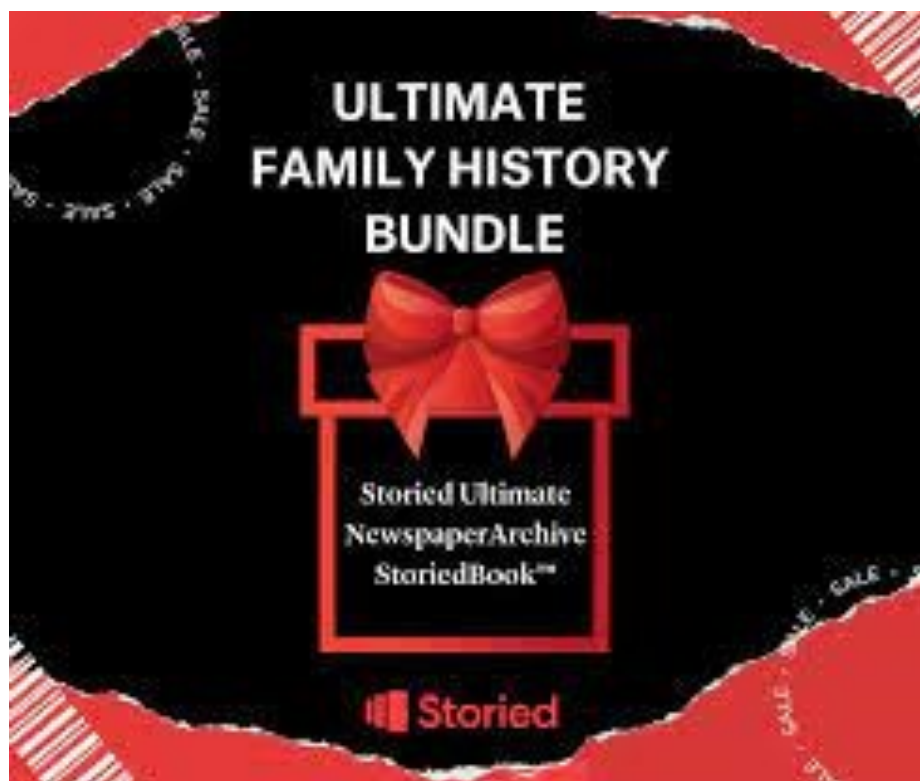


## Monthly Raffle

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

Congratulations to the Raffle Winner !

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](#)

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

# Distortion, Intention, and Education – Three Underappreciated Barriers in Newspaper Research



The other day, two words came into my mind, seemingly out of nowhere. They were Distortion and Intention. As soon as I recognized these two words, I knew what they were about – newspaper research.

I have been an aficionado, an evangelist, and an educator, trying to encourage more genealogy researchers to incorporate historical newspaper research into their research repertoire... for years.

I have strongly encouraged people to understand that the challenge of searching old newspapers is a significant one, primarily because of the quality (or lack thereof) of 100- or 200-year-old papers.

But there are finer points, and this is the reason for this article.

So let's look at three barriers to fulfilling newspaper research.

## 1. Distortion

- **Definition:** The accumulation of mechanical and technological imperfections that alter the original text between the author's pen and today's searchable digital record.
  - **Examples:**
    - OCR misreads caused by poor quality microfilm scans, ink smudges, broken type, faded paper.
    - Hyphenation at line breaks ("Mont-gom-ery") that creates index entries which don't match full words.
    - Mis-indexing due to word fragmentation or substitution ("Smith" indexed as "Snuth").
- **Impact:** Even if a researcher uses the exact correct search term, results may be buried, incomplete, or missing entirely.

## 2. Intention

- **Definition:** The evolving meaning and presentation of the article from the author's original purpose through every stage of production and reproduction.
  - **Examples:**
    - An editor alters a headline to fit column space, shifting emphasis or dropping a surname.
    - A typesetter introduces spelling changes, abbreviations, or errors.
    - Later, microfilm operators crop edges or lose content in shadows.
- **Impact:** The final searchable version of the article often no longer perfectly reflects the author's original intention, making discovery harder.

## 3. Education/Experience of the Researcher

- **Definition:** The researcher's skill, background knowledge, and creativity in navigating the above obstacles.
  - **Examples:**
    - Knowing to try variant spellings, wildcards, and combination searches.
    - Understanding local dialects, abbreviations, and newspaper publishing practices.
    - Recognizing the limits of OCR and compensating with browsing, page-by-page searching, or consulting multiple databases.
- **Impact:** Experience mitigates distortion and intention problems, but cannot eliminate them.

## Conclusion

# Distortion, Intention, and Education – Three Underappreciated Barriers in Newspaper Research

## Why This Matters

When genealogists complain that “the database must not have it,” the truth is more often that distortion (bad inputs) and intention (altered meaning) have combined to obscure what *is there*. The researcher’s skill helps—but the hidden traps lie deeper than the search box.

## The Moral of the Story

The answer, in lieu of AI coming on its white horse in the next few years to mitigate distortion issues (and maybe intention to a degree) is ...Education. Learn before you search.

## Conclusion

The answer, for now, is to educate yourself in order to craft winning searches and to develop the understanding (and the patience) to overcome distortion and appreciate intention.

How can you do that?

Try this... [The Newspaper Research Academy](#)

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## Find Newspaper Titles in 21 Largest Free and Subscription Databases

In order to succeed at newspaper research, you must search in the right location, and you must search in the appropriate date range. You **MUST** know before you search if the database includes titles in the locations that you are searching.

You must know where to find the titles to match the correct locations and date ranges. This is true in searching both free databases and subscription databases,

The PDF on the following page is a list of the 21 largest Free and Subscription Databases and the URL where you can discover their list of titles. They are from all over the world, with the preponderance from the United States, Canada, Australia, and a few countries in Europe.



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NAME	TYPE	LINK
GenealogyBank	Subscription	<a href="https://www.genealogybank.com/newspapers/sourcelist">https://www.genealogybank.com/newspapers/sourcelist</a>
Newspapers dot Com	Subscription	<a href="https://www.newspapers.com/papers/">https://www.newspapers.com/papers/</a>
NewspaperArchive	Subscription	<a href="https://newspaperarchive.com/search/publication/">https://newspaperarchive.com/search/publication/</a>
Paper of Record	Subscription	<a href="https://paperofrecord.hypernet.ca/papers.asp">https://paperofrecord.hypernet.ca/papers.asp</a>
British Newspaper Archive	Subscription	<a href="https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/search#countryFacet">https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/search#countryFacet</a>
Irish Newspapers	Subscription	<a href="https://www.irishnewsarchive.com/publication-list">https://www.irishnewsarchive.com/publication-list</a>
FindMyPast	Subscription	<a href="https://www.findmypast.com/newspapers">https://www.findmypast.com/newspapers</a>
Ancestry	Subscription	<a href="https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/catalog/?category=38">https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/catalog/?category=38</a>
OldNews	Subscription	<a href="https://www.oldnews.com/en/newspapers/browse-locations">https://www.oldnews.com/en/newspapers/browse-locations</a>
MyHeritage	Subscription	<a href="https://www.myheritage.com/research/category-8000/newspapers?s=OYYV6T5BZGMV3VPJ3UA4UYOTQ5LQO7Y">https://www.myheritage.com/research/category-8000/newspapers?s=OYYV6T5BZGMV3VPJ3UA4UYOTQ5LQO7Y</a>
Gale	Subscription	<a href="https://www.gale.com/primary-sources/historical-newspapers">https://www.gale.com/primary-sources/historical-newspapers</a>
Readex	Subscription	<a href="https://www.readex.com/products/americas-historical-newspapers-periodicals">https://www.readex.com/products/americas-historical-newspapers-periodicals</a>
NewsBank	Subscription	<a href="https://www.newsbank.com/publishers/solutions/digital-historical-news-archives">https://www.newsbank.com/publishers/solutions/digital-historical-news-archives</a>
ProQuest	Subscription	<a href="https://about.proquest.com/en/products-services/pq-hist-news">https://about.proquest.com/en/products-services/pq-hist-news</a>
Chronicling America	Free	<a href="https://www.loc.gov/collections/chronicling-america/titles/">https://www.loc.gov/collections/chronicling-america/titles/</a>
Advantage Archives	Free	<a href="https://communityhistoryarchives.com/">https://communityhistoryarchives.com/</a>
Veridian	Free	<a href="https://veridiansoftware.com/">https://veridiansoftware.com/</a>
Fulton History	Free	<a href="https://fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html">https://fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html</a>
Google News Archive	Free	<a href="https://news.google.com/newspapers">https://news.google.com/newspapers</a>
Our Digital World	Free	<a href="https://ourdigitalworld.org/">https://ourdigitalworld.org/</a>
Trove	Free	<a href="https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/?type=newspapers">https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/?type=newspapers</a>

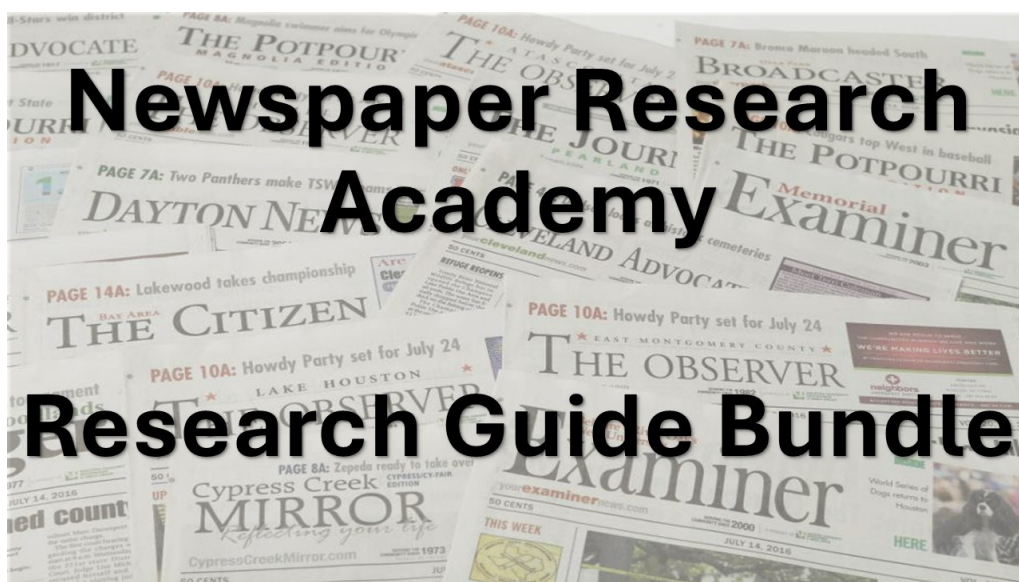


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Get the PDF (with clickable links) by Downloading [HERE](#)



## The Research Guide Bundle



Introducing the Research Guide Bundle. Get all Newspaper Research Academy Research Guides – Forever.

The normal subscription includes all Research Guides + all On-Demand Webinars + a no-ad experience whenever you use The Ancestor Hunt website. It is an annual subscription, and you can renew it every year to get the added materials.

### Why Purchase the Research Guide Bundle?

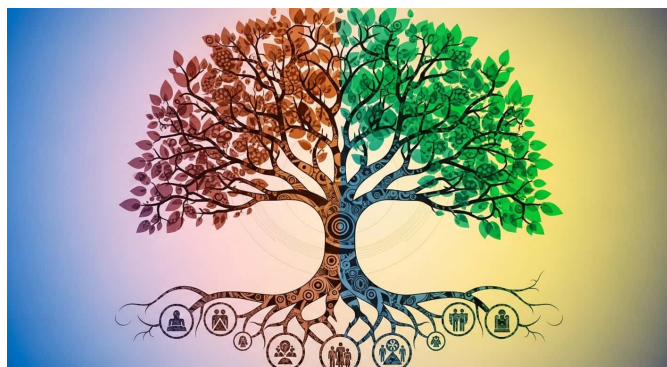
- It is a one-time **PERENNIAL** purchase. As long as you keep the Google Drive Link where all the Research Guides are stored, you get all of them **FOREVER**. If I add 50 more Research Guides in the next two years, you will receive **ALL** of them. There are **NO RENEWALS**.
- It is less expensive than the complete Newspaper Research Academy subscription.
- If you are familiar with the [Quicksheets](#) that I have published over the last 5 years, the Research Guides are similar in form, but they have much more detail and contain a significant amount of information. They generally range from 2 to 26 pages in length.
- Access is easy. After your purchase, I receive an email. I will then email you the link to Google Drive, where the Research Guide folder is stored. You can read and download the PDFs whenever you want. Just save the emailed Google Drive link, and you will have access to all the Research Guides that I add – forever.

You can purchase the Research Guide Bundle at <https://theancestorhunt.com/research-guide-bundle.html>

Currently it is discounted \$5.00

# The 'Cherokee Princess' in Your Family Tree And Why She's Probably Not Real

This article is shared with permission from Marc McDermott's [Genealogy Explained](https://www.genealogyexplained.com) website. I strongly urge you to subscribe to his website at <https://www.genealogyexplained.com/subscribe/> IMO his blog is one of the very best to follow daily.



How many times have you heard this story?

"My great-great-grandmother was a Cherokee princess."

Or maybe: "We have Native American blood on my mother's side."

Or this classic: "My ancestor married an Indian chief's daughter."

These stories are everywhere. Passed down at family reunions. Whispered with pride. Defended with passion.

Here's the thing: It's probably not true.

But wait—before you close this article in anger, before you defend grandma's honor, let me tell you something better.

The real story behind your family myth? It's likely more interesting than any princess tale.

## Every Family Has These Stories

Family myths are as American as apple pie.

They serve a purpose. They give us identity. Belonging. A sense of place in the vast American story.

Maybe yours isn't a Cherokee princess. Maybe it's:

A connection to the Mayflower

A Civil War hero

An escaped aristocrat

A famous outlaw's cousin's brother's wife

These stories get passed down like precious heirlooms. Each generation polishes them. Adds details. Removes inconvenient facts.

It's beautiful, really. It shows how much we want to matter. To belong. To be part of something bigger.

But sometimes, the truth is even better than the myth.

## How Family Legends Are Born

Take this person's story.

For generations, their family talked about a Cherokee princess in the lineage. DNA tests showed zero Native ancestry. Family members were heartbroken.

Then this family historian genealogist made a discovery: Great-great-great-grandmother's middle name was Cinderella. And She lived in Cherokee, Iowa.

Mystery solved.

The "Cherokee Princess" was probably a pet name. A family joke. A play on location and a fairytale name that lost context over time.

This is how myths are made:

Geographic confusion: Your ancestor lived in Cherokee County. Three generations later, they were Cherokee.

**Name evolution:** German "Vogelsong" becomes "Birdsong." Must be Native American, right?

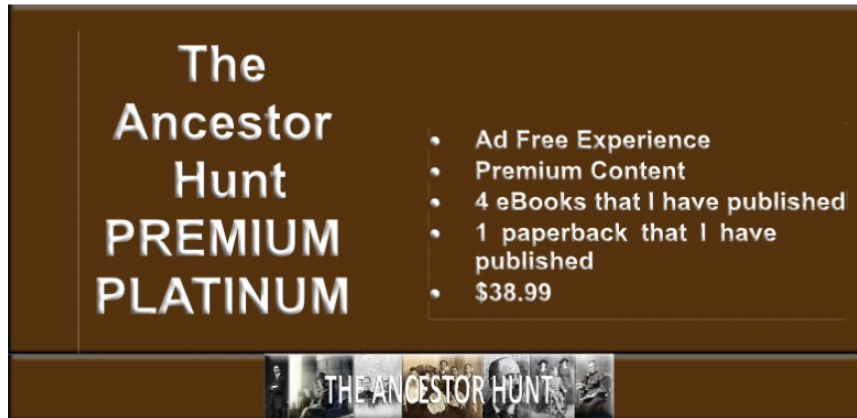
**Physical features:** Great-grandma had black hair and tanned easily. In 1890s Minnesota, that made you "exotic."

**Filling in blanks:** No records exist for grandma's mother. She was "mysterious." Mystery becomes mythology.

The remainder of this article (very long) can be read at <https://www.genealogyexplained.com/blog/the-cherokee-princess-in-your-family-tree-and-why-shes-probably-not-real/>



## The Platinum Premium Program from The Ancestor Hunt



Subscribers to the Platinum Level Premium service will receive:

- An ad-free experience while using The Ancestor Hunt website each year that you are a member
- A Paperback Book of your choice that I have published will be delivered to you.
- All 4 eBooks that I have published will be delivered to you in PDF format.
- Premium Content will be provided as it is published

Here are the details of how it will work:

### **Ad-Free Experience**

Upon successful registration, you must log in with your email address as your Userid and a Password of your choosing. The Login link will be on the upper right side of each page on the site. You will need to log in so ads will not be served while you are on the site and to receive Premium Content.

### **Free Published Paperback**

After you register, I will send you an email requesting which book you wish to be mailed to you and your mailing address. Only U.S. residents will be mailed the paperback version.

### **4 Published eBooks**

Get all 4 of my published books in PDF format without going through Amazon and get a significant discount.

### **Premium Content**

As I create premium content, members only will be able to access that content.

### **Cost**

The first year cost is \$38.99. Subsequent years will be \$11.99. There are no refunds if you cancel during any year you are a member.

### **Value**

The normal price of a paperback is \$19.99 plus sales tax and shipping. The normal price of the 4 eBooks through Amazon is \$36.00 plus sales tax.

### **Registration**

To register, please go to the Premium Page at <https://theancestorhunt.com/premium.html>





# Behind the Name

the etymology and history of first names

From the site:

Names. Everyone has one, most people have a vague idea what their own means, but few give them much more thought. The study of names is called onomastics, a field that touches on linguistics, history, anthropology, psychology, sociology, philology, and much more.

When people refer to the “meaning of a name”, they are most likely referring to the etymology, which is the original literal meaning. This website looks at the etymology and history of all types of given names.

**Behind the Name** is a website for learning about all aspects of given names. Its scope is broad: all given names from all cultures and periods are eligible to be included in the main name database. Names from mythology and fiction are also eligible. There are currently 27,404 names in the database (and additionally 189,437 in the submitted name database), a fraction of what the scope entails. There’s still much work to be done.

This site was created in 1996 by Mike Campbell. I wanted to put something on the web that was unique and, as far as I know, this was the first site that was quite like this when it was first created.

Here are the sub links available on the site:

[Browse names and their meanings](#)

[Etymological elements in given names](#)

[List of languages](#)

[Browse other topics in the glossary](#)

[Articles and current events about names](#)

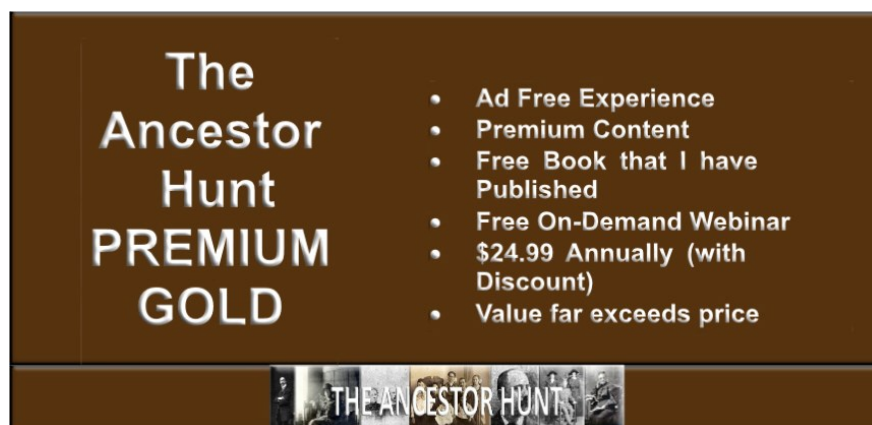
[Links about names](#)

[Frequently asked questions about names](#)

[Names for twins](#)

To access the main site, go to [Behind the Name](#)

## The Gold Premium Program from The Ancestor Hunt



Take advantage of the discount! Details at the bottom of the page.

The Ancestor Hunt Gold Premium level service is intended to provide members with an added level of service. Subscribers to the Premium service will receive:

- An ad-free experience while using The Ancestor Hunt website each year that you are a member
- A Book of your choosing that I have published will be delivered each year that you are a member
- An On-Demand Webinar of your choosing that I have created will be provided each year that you are a member
- Premium Content will be provided as it is published

Here are the details of how it will work:

### Ad-Free Experience

Upon successful registration, you will need to log in to The Ancestor Hunt website with your email address as your Userid and a Password of your choosing. The Login link will be on the upper right side of each page on the site. You will need to log in so ads will not be served while you are on the site and to receive Premium Content.

### Free Published Book and On-Demand Webinar

After you register, I will send you an email requesting which book you wish to be mailed to you and your mailing address. Only U.S. residents will be mailed the paperback version. If you choose an eBook or are an international member, you will be provided a link where you can download the PDF version of the book. You also will choose the On-Demand Webinar. A link to the chosen On-Demand Webinar will be emailed to you.

### Premium Content

As I create premium content, members only will be able to access that content.

### Cost

The annual cost is \$29.99. There are no refunds if you cancel during any year you are a member.

### Value

The normal price of a paperback is \$19.99 plus tax and shipping. The normal price of an hour-long On-Demand Webinar is \$15.00. You also receive an ad-free experience and premium content. Thus you are receiving \$34.99 of value plus the value of an ad-free experience and Premium Content.

### Registration

To register, please go to the Premium Page at <https://theancestorhunt.com/premium.html>

### Discount for Monthly Newsletter Subscribers

Enter the Discount Code TAHSUBS to receive a 20% discount. Only for Newsletter Subscribers





## Try These Common Words and Phrases When Searching Historical Newspapers For A Man's Name

This article is reprinted with permission from Jeff Kiley, The CEO of [Advantage Archives](#).



Finding references to men in historical newspapers requires understanding the evolution of language, social norms, and cultural practices over time. Over the last 300 years, terms and titles used to describe men have shifted dramatically. In earlier centuries, formal titles such as “Esquire,” “Master,” or “Gentleman” were common for those of certain social standing, while more utilitarian identifiers like “Farmer” or “Blacksmith” described tradesmen. As society evolved, so did the use of honorifics, occupational terms, and familial roles. For instance, the 19th century often used “Father of” or “Husband of” to describe men in relation to their families, while military or professional titles became more prevalent in the 20th century.

When searching for a man in historical newspapers, consider the time period and the context in which he lived. Formal terms like “Mr.,” “Dr.,” or “Reverend” may appear alongside descriptions of occupation, social contributions, or familial ties. Additionally, early newspapers often included only initials for first names, requiring searches to account for abbreviations like “J. Smith” instead of “John Smith.” Including variations in spelling, terms, and titles will significantly improve your chances of finding the individual or information you’re seeking.

Here is a list of over 100 terms commonly associated with men in historical newspapers, reflecting different roles, titles, and contexts over the centuries:

Mr. [name]	Esteemed	Actor
Esquire	Professor	Grandpa or Granddad
Master	Gentleman	Mister
Gentleman	Paternal	Superintendent
Dr. [name]	Head of house	Shoreman
Rev. [name]	Landowner	Laborer
Captain [name]	Statesman	Foreman
Colonel [name]	Distinguished	Deckhand
General [name]	Pioneer	Journeyman
Major [name]	Pa or Papa	Union
Father of	Veteran	Club leader
Husband of	War hero	Community leader
Son of	Banker	Respected figure
Grandfather of	Influential	Esteemed citizen
Uncle of	Chap	Born to [family name]
Brother of	Lad	Descendant of
He	Postmaster	Married to [wife's name]
His	Deacon	Graduate of
Him	Minister	Teacher at
Laborer	Preacher	Volunteer
Citizen	Elder	Orator
Shopkeeper	Coach	Loyal friend
Tradesman	Guy	Accomplished man
Businessman	Estate of	Pillar of the community
Widower	Member of	Prominent citizen
Honorable	Trustee	Well-known resident
Sire	Honored guest	Appointed to
Sir	Groomsman	Honored for
Senior	Pallbearer	Recognized by
Master	Nephew	Served as
Alderman	Uncle	Buried in
Provider	Male	Obituary for

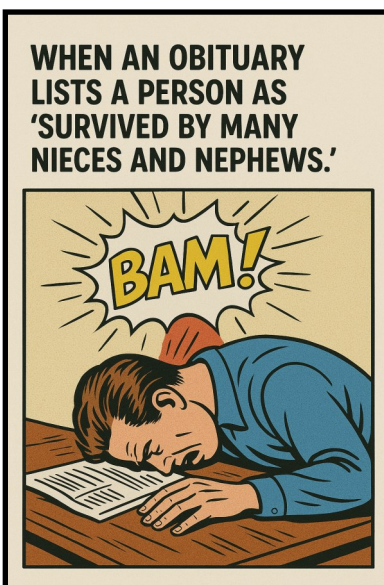
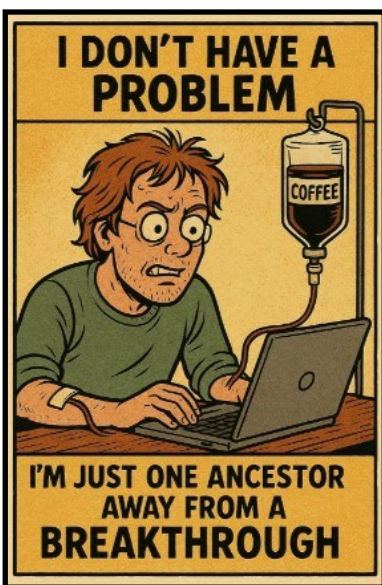
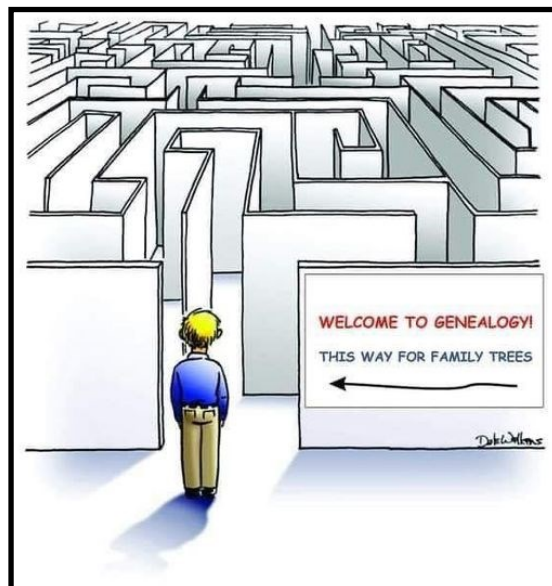
## Try These Common Words and Phrases When Searching Historical Newspapers For A Man's Name

### Using These Phrases Effectively

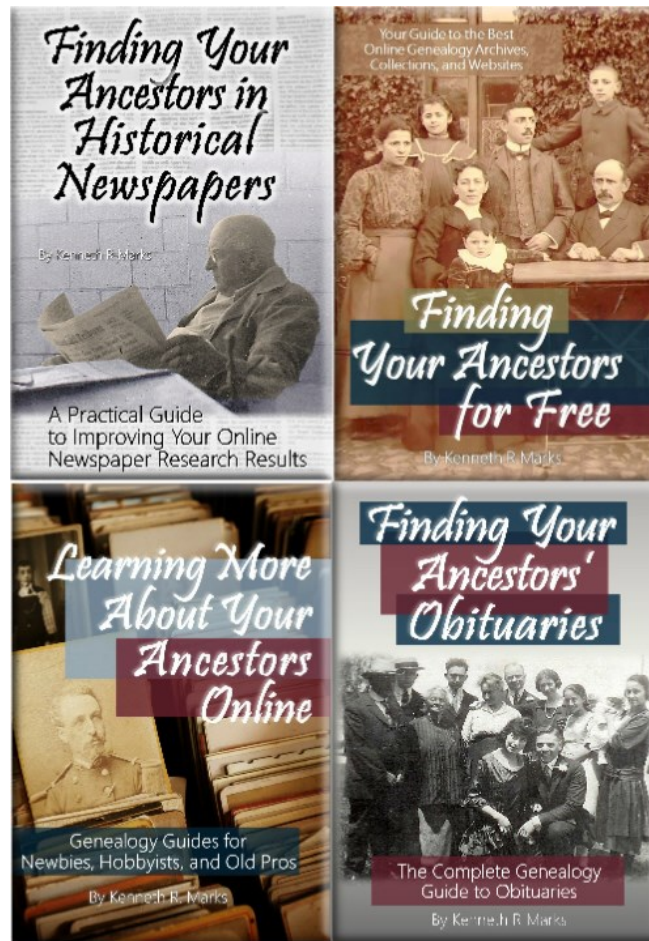
To locate a man in historical newspapers, adjust your search terms to match the era and context. In the 18th and 19th centuries, formal titles such as “*Esquire*” or “*Colonel*” were more common, while early 20th-century papers often included occupational or social roles like “*Mayor*” or “*Community Leader*.” For those of lower social standing, descriptors such as “*Farmer*” or “*Laborer*” were typical.

Searches combining names with familial or social connections—like “*Husband of Mary Smith*” or “*Son of John Smith*”—are particularly effective. If searching by first initials, try queries like “*J. Smith AND Farmer*” or “*Dr. J. Smith AND Graduate of Harvard*.” Use filters for date ranges, geographic locations, and publication types to refine your results and uncover the most relevant references.

### Genealogy Cartoons



## The eBook Bundle



If you were to purchase all 4 from Amazon as paperbacks, you would pay \$75.00 plus sales tax and shipping. If you were to purchase these as eBooks through Amazon, you would pay \$36.00 plus sales tax.

By purchasing all 4 eBooks here the price is \$27.00. All you need to do is purchase below. After doing so, I will email you links to all 4 books that you can download as a PDF (for each one).

Just go to [eBook Bundle](#) to see more details and to purchase.

All 4 books are still available in paperback at Amazon:

- Finding Your Ancestors for Free: Your Guide to the Best Online Genealogy Archives, Collections, & Websites <https://amzn.to/3GPcbf1>
- Improving Your Online Newspaper Research Results <https://amzn.to/4fMRZZI>
- Finding Your Ancestors Obituaries: The Complete Genealogy Guide <https://amzn.to/3JxiiWB>
- Learning More About Your Ancestors Online: Genealogy Guides for Newbies, Hobbyists, and Old Pros <https://amzn.to/3kUrebJ>



## Elephind is on Its Way Back!



Remember Elephind? The “search many newspaper databases all at once” search engine for online newspapers? It was taken down in March 2024, and it is coming back. I am regularly in touch with DL Consulting in New Zealand, who are the creators of Elephind and also the creator of Veridian Software, the software that powers the newspaper collections of California, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, New York, Virginia, Washington, and Wyoming. And country-wide collections, such as Estonia, Israel, New Zealand, Singapore, and Switzerland. Veridian’s databases number in excess of 200 million pages.

Here are some snippets from their Facebook Page that will give you many more details about Elephind 2.0

We’ve missed you!

While you’ve been busy piecing together your family tree, we’ve been working on a little transformation of our own

✨ New logo

✨ Sleeker look

✨ Fresh features to make your historical newspaper searches even easier (and more fun!)



We’re still fine-tuning a few things, but we’d love to hear from you:

What would YOU love to see in the new and improved Elephind?



Easier search tools?



Saved clippings?



Email alerts?



User forum?



A cupcake every time you find a long-lost relative? (Just kidding... unless?)

## Elephind is on Its Way Back!

To all our lovely new followers — you might be wondering:

What's so special about Elephind?

Elephind doesn't just search one newspaper collection — it helps you discover articles from libraries, universities, and cultural institutions

That's exactly why we built it: to make it easier to access the past, no matter where it was preserved.

And the best part? The content always stays with the original institution — we just help you find it faster.

Sound like something worth preserving?

As part of Elephind's upcoming relaunch, a new semantic search will go beyond simply matching keywords—it'll better understand what you're really looking for!

Think of it as having a research assistant who just gets you. 🗨️📖

Want to learn more about how semantic search works?

👉 Check out this article from Veridian, the team behind Elephind:

<https://veridiansoftware.com/knowledge-base/unlocking-semantic-search-in-digital-collections>

As part of Elephind's upcoming relaunch, we're introducing Ask Elephind — an AI-powered assistant designed to make your searches smarter and your discoveries richer.

It will help you quickly make sense of the information you find, uncover hidden connections, and explore related topics — all with links to the original sources.

Get ready for a faster, more intuitive way to explore history.

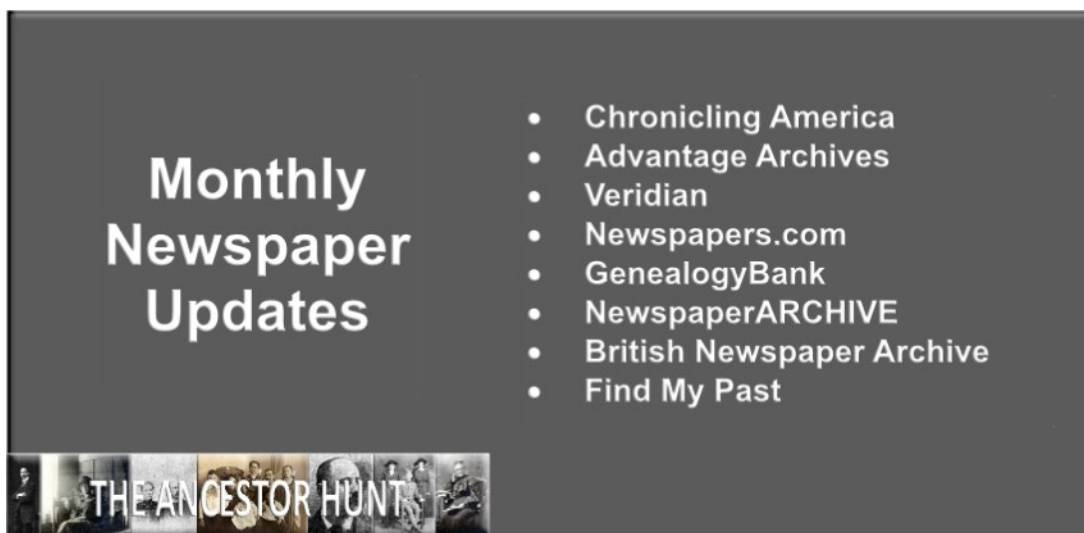
We've now uploaded 12,492,119 pages of historic newspapers into Elephind 2.0! 📰🐘

That's millions of family scandals, dramatic headlines, mysterious disappearances, and “you won't believe this” moments — way juicier than Netflix.

And the best part? We're still adding more every single day. Who knows how much drama we'll uncover next...

We don't have an exact launch date just yet, but it's getting close! Want front-row seats when Elephind 2.0 goes live? Subscribe here: <https://elephind.com/>

## Online Newspaper Database Updates for August/September



Over 1,500 New titles were added by various Free and Subscription databases in the last month. Here are links to all the updates:

**Chronicling America** - <https://theancestorhunt.com/blog/chronicling-america-updates-august-2025/>

**Advantage Archives** - Not Yet Published

**Veridian** - <https://theancestorhunt.com/blog/veridian-adds-updates-275-titles-september-2025/>

**Newspapers dot com** - <https://theancestorhunt.com/blog/newspapers-dot-com-update-august-2025/>

**GenealogyBank** - <https://theancestorhunt.com/blog/genealogybank-adds-updates-65-titles-september-2025/>

**NewspaperARCHIVE** - <https://theancestorhunt.com/blog/newspaperarchive-update-august-2025/>

**British Newspaper Archive** - <https://theancestorhunt.com/blog/british-newspaper-archive-adds-updates-189-titles-augustjuly-2025/>

**Find My Past** - <https://theancestorhunt.com/blog/find-my-past-adds-updates-143-historical-newspaper-titles-august-2025/>



## The Silver Premium Program from The Ancestor Hunt



If you don't want a free book or webinar and want to save some money, you can choose the Silver Level.

Subscribers to the Silver Level Premium service will receive:

- An ad-free experience while using The Ancestor Hunt website each year that you are a member
- Premium Content will be provided as it is published

Here are the details of how it will work:

### **Ad-Free Experience**

Upon successful registration, you must log in with your email address as your Userid and a Password of your choosing. The Login link will be on the upper right side of each page on the site. You will need to log in so ads will not be served while you are on the site and to receive Premium Content.

### **Premium Content**

As I create premium content, members only will be able to access that content.

### **Cost**

The annual cost is \$11.99. There are no refunds if you cancel during any year you are a member.

### **Value**

You are receiving an ad-free experience and Premium Content for less than \$1 a month.

### **Registration**

To register, please go to the Premium Page at <https://theancestorhunt.com/premium.html>

## The By Location Page

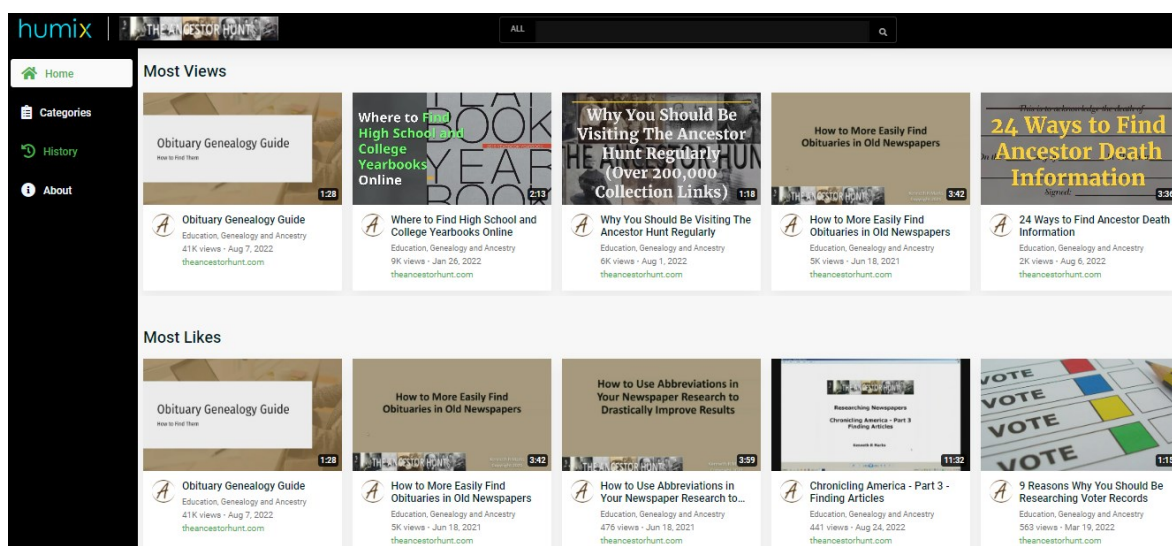
The easiest way to access a particular state's or province's list of collections and categories is via the [BY LOCATION](#) page.

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**

### 13 Ways to Find Physical Characteristics Without Photos

As we all know, there are no photos available for all of our ancestors, especially many of those who lived primarily in the 1800s or earlier. On the other hand, we may have photos in our collection in what I call my "Unknowns," where they have not been identified, and may never be identified.

So how do we know what our ancestors looked like if there are no identified photos? Well, there are several artifacts that are available to family historians and genealogists that at least describe their physical characteristics.

Below is a list of 13 different examples. I am sure that there are more.

- **World War I or II Draft Cards** – on the second page of the card, questions were asked about the applicant's physical characteristics: height, build, eye color, hair color, physical markings, physical deformities, and in one version whether he was bald.
- **Naturalization Records** – there have been a few variations of naturalization forms, but several of them asked for skin color, height, weight, eye and hair color, as well as distinctive marks.
- **Passport Applications** – although some applications indeed have photos (although less than high quality), a number of physical characteristics were requested of the applicant, such as stature, forehead, eye color, nose, mouth, chin, hair color, complexion, face characteristics, and distinguishing marks.
- **Military Discharge Records** – there are an abundance of forms in the military, and many of them record physical characteristics. My father's discharge from the Marine Corps included height, eye color, hair color, and complexion were noted.
- **Military Enlistment Records** – include height, hair and eye color, and complexion
- **Voter Registration** – in some voter registration logs, physical characteristic information was requested. In some records, applicants included their age, height, complexion, eye color, hair color as well as marks or scars.
- **Pension Applications** – In pension applications, there often is a place to enter physical characteristics. Examples for a Civil War pension, include a place to enter age, height, weight, complexion, and eye and hair color. In Surgeons Certificates, there is an abundance of health information as well.
- **Immigration Records** – In immigration records for specific years, some physical description info was required. In this example, health condition, deformities, height, complexion, eye and hair color, and identifying marks were required.
- **Prison Records** – The usual age, hair color, height, eye color, physical deformities, and I have seen one that includes temperament!
- **U.S. Customs Service Records** – for seamen, their physical description was included in the records.
- **Chinese Exclusion Act Case Files** – physical appearance information was included in the records.
- **Drivers and Other Licenses** – Licenses didn't always have photos but often include height, weight, hair color and eye color.
- **Hospital and Other Medical Records** – include height, weight, and race.



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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.

