

Ancestry Library Edition
Outline for Public Internet Class
Santa Clara City Library Technology Center, April 5, 2008

Home tab

Use it mainly to go to:

Specific census year
Review recent databases added or updated

Search tab

Use it for access to:

Card Catalog : Let us help you find the database you need. For quick results, simply enter keywords or other information you're seeking below and click "Search." You may use the * symbol to truncate a word, e.g.: Mexic* to get databases with either the word Mexico or Mexican. Or, Naturalization* to get databases with either the word Naturalization or Naturalizations in the title.

Advanced Search: Advanced Search allows you to search all records on the site and allow selected fields to match your search criteria exactly. You can make some of your criteria exact match only but other criteria soundex.

Clickable State Map: Lets you browse by location, list all the databases pertaining to a particular state that you click on.

Browse categories:

Historical Records: Find census, birth, marriage, death records and more, these are the categories of Historical Records:

Census & Voter Lists: Few, if any, records reveal as many details about individuals and families as do government **census records**. Substitute records can be used when the official census is unavailable. Types of databases in this category: U.S. Federal Census Collection, U.K. Census Collection, 1890 Census Substitute, special censuses of certain states

Birth, Marriage & Death: **Birth records**, **marriage records**, and **death records** are connected with central life events. They are prime sources for genealogical information. Look also for baptism, christening, and burial records in this collection. Types of databases in this category: Social Security Death Index, California Death Index, 1940-1997, lots of indexes for various vital records in states such as Virginia, Massachusetts, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, and more plus some parish records, e.g.: Mexican Parish Records, various English Parish Records, Ontario-Canada vital records, etc...

Immigration & Emigration: **Immigration records** help the family historian to understand the movements of their ancestry as they relocated to different parts of the world. Types of databases in this category: New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Charleston and Galveston port of entry passenger lists or indexes, U.S. Passport applications, some naturalization indexes.

Military: **Military** and **civil service records** provide unique facts and insights into the lives of men and women who have served their country at home and abroad. Types of databases in this category:

World War I draft registration cards, Civil War Service Records, World War II casualties and prisoners of war, Virginia Militia, War of 1812 Service Records, and more.

Directories & Member Lists: Printed directories of various types have been joined in recent years by electronic databases of individuals with addresses and phone numbers. Types of databases in this category: Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, Vermont, New York City, Utah directories, and more plus many German town directories in German.

Court, Land, Wills & Financial Records: Researchers often overlook the importance of **court records**, **probate records**, and **land records** as a source of family history information. Types of databases in this category: Index of land records for various counties in states such as Texas, Wisconsin, Illinois, Virginia plus wills or will and probate indexes for states such as Kentucky, Missouri, Alabama, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey plus indexes to Irish Wills and English Estates of American Colonists.

Dictionaries, Encyclopedias & Reference: Reference materials including **dictionaries**, **maps**, and **gazetteers** help family historians find and understand genealogical records. Types of databases in this category: The Source, ABGI, Ancestry's Red Book, Midwest Pioneers, many Country Studies, U.S. Cemetery Address Book and more.

Stories & Publications: Find newspaper, historical stories and more

Stories, Memories & Histories: Family & Local History Records --You can now use quotation marks to search for exact phrases.

Example: "Lincoln Assassination" or "World War". Use a wildcard to view all words that begin with the same stem. You can use an asterisk for up to six characters. For example, a search for "fran*" will return matches such as Fran, Franny, Frank, Frannie, and Frankie. Use a question mark for a single character. For example, a search for "Hans?n" will return matches such as Hansen and Hanson. Types of databases in this category: Lots of local history books, Slave Narratives, Notes and Queries, and more.

Newspapers & Periodicals Records: **Newspapers** and **periodicals** are the diaries of local communities. They are excellent sources of family history details - often recorded nowhere else. Look for obituaries, marriages, legal notices, and more. Types of databases in this category: Some vital records extracted from selected years of Sacramento Bee, selected obituaries from Leavensworth Times (Kansas) newspaper. Also some extracts from genealogical journal such as Maine Historical & Genealogical Recorder. **NOTE: Ancestry Library Edition does not offer any full-text searchable newspapers. The Historical Newspaper Collection is one of the Ancestry.com databases not included in Ancestry Library Edition.**

Photos & Maps: View historic photos, maps, yearbooks, baseball cards, and more.

Pictures: Types of databases in this category: Library of Congress Photos, African-American Photos, Postcards, Passenger Ship Photos and Images, some U.S. Headstone photos, U.S. Panoramic photos, images of some Professional Baseball players, a selection of school yearbook photos -- limited years. For instance, for Santa Clara High, only the 1944 school yearbook has been digitized and is available.

Maps, Atlases & Gazetteers: The map collection contains a variety of historical maps to aid your research. You can find maps depicting:

- U.S. state, territory, county, and city boundaries
- U.S. migration and transportation routes
- Distribution of various churches in the United States
- Indian reservation locations
- Ethnic populations in the United States
- Battles from the American Revolution and Civil War

You can search the map collection in a variety of ways. Search for maps in a specific location by entering the country, state, and city or county into the appropriate fields. Use the drop down box to search by map. Or, to search for a specific map subject, enter a keyword (i.e., American Revolution). Limit your search by adding a year range in the appropriate fields.

Trees & Community: The Ancestry World Tree contains nearly 400 million names in family trees submitted by our users. The Ancestry World Tree is the largest collection of its kind on the Internet. Ancestry Library Edition provides read-only access.

Message Boards: The world's largest online genealogy community with over 17 Million posts on more than 161,000 boards. Ancestry Library Edition provides read-only access.

Charts & Forms tab

Use this to access blank forms that you can print off and use to record and document your genealogy. These forms are available:

Ancestral Chart: Allows you to record the ancestors from whom you directly descend.

Research Calendar: Gives an account of every record source you have searched.

Research Extract: Summarizes information which may be time-consuming or difficult to reread quickly.

Correspondence Record: Helps you keep track of those with whom you have corresponded.

Family Group Sheet: Enables you to compile complete, correct and connect families.

Source Summary: Provides quick reference to information and sources you have found for a particular family.

U.S. Census Forms: Allows you to read column headings and record information from the US Census.

U.K. Census Forms: Allows you to read column headings and record information from the UK Census.

Canadian Census Forms: Allows you to read column headings and record information from the Canadian Census.