



Family History – A Concise Beginner’s Overview

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Introduction

This study guide is designed to provide an overview of the main types of records available for genealogical research. For additional information to supplement what is found in this study guide, please see the Lee County Library System’s other beginner’s study guide, *Beginning Genealogy Research Outline*. In addition to a wide variety of study guides, the LCLS also has how-to books for beginning genealogists of all ages. Beginner’s materials are shelved under the call number **929.1** and are found in the following collections:

1. Adult Non-Fiction.
2. Juvenile Non-Fiction.
3. Genealogy Reference.

Books shelved in Adult Non-Fiction and Juvenile Non-fiction can be checked out for four weeks. The *Beginning Genealogy Research Outline* guide features a bibliography of useful books for beginning genealogists. Those listed as genealogical reference are for in-house use only. Patrons may photocopy LCLS reference materials for a fee of 10 cents per page.

LCLS study guides have no copyright restrictions. Patrons may reproduce them or use them however they wish. **Note:** These study guides are not meant to be substitutes for reading an article, periodical or a book written by a subject specialist in the field of genealogy. It is normal to occasionally encounter brick walls in genealogy. Taking the time to read suggested books or articles or attending seminars presented by a genealogy subject specialist is the best long-term investment for success.

The Beginning Steps

To begin tracing one’s family, always start with oneself and work backward through the generations, creating a timeline of major events that occurred during each person’s lifetime and recording the information on an ancestor chart. Names and dates should be recorded on ancestor charts and family group sheets. The biggest mistake some beginning genealogists make is starting with a person (usually a famous person who shares their surname or has similar family traits or background) and working forward to the present.

Organization is the key to long-term success. Keep a research log of any work, and consider placing charts in a three-ring binder. Try to involve family members and be sure to interview elderly relatives. The following items are a sampling of home sources that family members may have. These items can provide important clues for research:

Award certificates
Birth certificates
Correspondence
Death certificates
Diaries
Family Bibles

Immigration/naturalization papers
Marriage certificates
Military enlistment papers
Photograph albums
School records/diplomas
Scrapbooks

The next step is researching records within the local community, state and national resources that may pertain to the family or ancestor in question. Consider joining a local genealogical society in the community where currently residing. Experienced genealogists also recommend joining a society in each community where one's ancestors have resided. Many genealogical societies offer beginning genealogy courses as part the membership. Another benefit is long-distance genealogical research to avoid travel expenses until there are enough records to justify making a trip to the community where ancestors have lived.

Locating Books on the Family

Many people beginning their genealogy search make the assumption that, at some point, a book was written on their specific family. They assume that finding information about their family will be as simple as searching for a biography. The reality is that, except for some very rare instances, research is seldom that easy, unless a person is related to royalty or a very powerful political family that has been able to retain their influence and power for centuries. Researchers may need to browse through a number of compiled genealogies, civil records, census records and religious records in order to piece together this type of information. In terms of family-related genealogies, published and unpublished family history research can be found in any of the following locations:

1. Public libraries.
2. Genealogical society libraries.
3. Family History Library system (Mormons)
4. Private genealogical collections.
5. Family association research facilities.
6. Ethnic or religious research facilities.

When visiting a local library in communities where ancestors have resided, search the library catalog under the following headings:

1. Family surname.
2. County/city-local history.
3. Genealogy.

When corresponding with libraries or other repositories, always enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and make no more than two specific requests at any single time. Many libraries limit written queries to one question at a time. When utilizing published genealogies, be aware of the fact that many will contain some inaccuracies.

Locating Accurate Local History Information

Public libraries that maintain collections of local telephone books or city directories usually maintain a local history file or collection of books. Many libraries keep copies of old telephone books or city directories for their town or county. The length of time may vary according to the size of storage space. Due to space limitations, some libraries may transfer materials to a local genealogical or historical society instead of keeping them in-house. Local history information may also be found in the following sources that most libraries will own for the city and/or county within their service area:

1. Local history books.
2. Newspapers.
3. School yearbooks.
4. Plat maps.
5. Church histories.
6. Local or county gazetteers.
7. Church records/histories.
8. Cemetery records/inscriptions.
9. Military histories/records of local regiments.
10. Local history and/or family files.

Other sources for local history information include community genealogical or historical societies, state archives, the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Family History Centers (located in all 50 states and worldwide) and the Library of Congress, which has the largest collection of U.S. City Directories. Fort Myers Regional Library is a registered borrowing affiliate of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. It is the only affiliate and Family History Center serving Lee and Collier counties that can borrow Family Search microfilm and microfiche from Salt Lake City.

Locating Vital Records

Vital records consist of birth, marriage, divorce and death records. All 50 states have been required to maintain these types of records since around 1900, although some started earlier. Enforcement of this requirement will vary, but for the most part, compliance was complete by 1920. Since vital records were usually created at or near the time of the event, they are considered valuable primary sources. Each county has an office that records vital statistics for all of its jurisdictions. Copies of all records and certificates are forwarded to the appropriate state office. Most genealogical queries are directed toward the state office. Some county vital records offices are located in county courthouses, while others are merged in with the local health department. The most accurate and current source for obtaining access information for vital records is via <http://www.vitalrec.com>.

Locating Church and Cemetery Records

Most local Catholic Church records are located at the main headquarters of the diocese. Protestant churches, such as Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopalian, also have older

records housed in a central location. However, Protestant churches, such as Baptist, Congregationalist, Pentecostal and Assemblies of God, tend to be organized on a more independent congregational basis with no central clearinghouse. The first step in this type of research is contacting the congregation, if it still exists. If the congregation no longer exists, contact the largest church in the area. They will usually be able to provide a specific repository where older records have been deposited. The Lee County Library System's companion study guide, *Genealogical Research Using Church Records*, provides specific details to assist in beginning this process. Sources for cemetery records include some or all of the following:

1. Cemetery management office.
2. County health department.
3. Local public library.
4. Local historical or genealogical society.

Any of these sources may provide information on cemeteries that either no longer exist or have merged. They often have tombstone inscriptions, maps, plot information and the names of funeral homes that handled final arrangements. Funeral homes can be excellent sources of information for genealogists seeking next-of-kin information.

Census Records and Genealogical Research

Census records are popular records used by genealogists. Census records exist at the local, state, federal, territorial, business and church levels. Federal censuses have been taken every decade since 1790, and they normally provide the most detailed information of interest to genealogists. Federal census records from 1790-1940 are now available to the public. The Lee County Library System's *Genealogical Research Using Census Data* study guide provides detailed information on the various types of census data available for research purposes. Census records on microfilm can be accessed at many research facilities throughout the country:

1. National Archives in Washington, **District of Columbia**.
2. Branches of the National Archives (refer to the *National Archives Library System* study guide).
3. Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana.
4. Family History Library (Salt Lake City or any Family History Center).
5. Western Reserve Historical Society Library in Cleveland, Ohio.
6. New England Historical and Genealogical Society in Boston, Massachusetts.
7. Large public libraries.
8. Genealogical society libraries.

When beginning genealogy research, look for the most recent indexed census that covers the time period and locality where an ancestor resided. It is important to know the state and county where an ancestor was living at the time the census was taken (there is no national index). The more recent the census, the more information provided.

Genealogists may search census data for decades later than 1940, but they must request special forms. Access will only be granted under special circumstances, and genealogical research is not considered an acceptable special circumstance. Many states have printed alphabetical census indexes covering the period from 1790-1870. The 1880-1940 censuses have been indexed using

the Soundex Coding System. This index enables one to search for a last name by sound rather than spelling. The Lee County Library System's *How to Use the Soundex/Miracode Indexing System* study guide provides more detailed information on this subject.

Research Using Military Record

There are four major types of military records that are useful to genealogists:

1. Military service records.
2. Military pension records.
3. Bounty land grants.
4. Unit or regimental histories.

Service, pension and bounty land records are located at the National Archives. Records dated before the Civil War may also exist at some state archives, since many units identified as federal may have actually been state units that served to supplement the federal army. If the unit was from a territory, the records would be on file at the state archives of the state from which the territory was created. State and local genealogical or historical societies may also have a wealth of information to supplement federal military records. Most information for Confederate soldiers can be found at the state archives of the units for which they served. The National Archives has a limited amount of information pertaining to Confederate veterans. The Lee County Library System's *Military Records Research* study guide provides detailed information on the subject.

Immigrant and Passenger List Information

In the process of emigrating from the Old World to America, most ancestors generated many records. Passenger lists and immigration and naturalization records have been collected at a number of genealogical research centers. The largest collections of ship passenger lists are on file at the National Archives. The largest collections of immigration and naturalization records before 1930 are on file with the Family History Library (Mormons). Before Sept. 27, 1906, the naturalization process was primarily enforced on the local and state levels. From this date forward, enforcement became a federal responsibility. The Lee County Library System has several study guides covering the varied circumstances pertaining to specific ship passenger lists, immigration records availability and the naturalization process.

Obtaining Information from Libraries, Genealogical and Historical Societies

Many public libraries have printed and internet sources that will provide researchers with contact information for genealogical societies, family associations, and research institutions around the world. Libraries also have printed sources that can provide researchers with holdings for major research institutions. This holdings information can be useful for patrons who want to borrow items from other library collections. These services enable genealogists to plan research trips or prepare queries to send to libraries for research assistance. When sending letters to libraries or other research facilities, the following guidelines provide the best chance for a timely response:

1. Include a stamped self-addressed, business-size (long, No.10) envelope for a response.
2. Ask no more than three short and specific questions.
3. Type rather than write questions.
4. Supply specific dates (day, month and year) when requesting a search of records or materials.
5. Keeps a correspondence log detailing the date, name of institution, the questions and a copy of the letter.

Keep in mind that many public libraries with genealogical collections have only one staff member assigned to the collection. Unless an inquirer can provide specific dates on a query, staff may not be able to provide assistance. Some libraries depend on the local genealogical society to staff the genealogical collection. Be sure to also inquire about charges for research queries. Most libraries will answer brief queries free of charge but, for more detailed queries, they may refer inquirers to professional researchers who typically charge a fee for their work. It is the inquirer's responsibility to ask about charges in advance.

Genealogical Source Overview and Checklist

This checklist is designed to assist beginning genealogists in compiling information from a variety of sources. Check the sources acquired or investigated for each family or individual. Every clue found from using these sources will speed up research and save researchers time and money.

1. Home and Family Sources

Personal Records

- Scrapbooks
- Heirlooms
- Journals/diaries
- Oral histories
- Personal histories
- Family histories (published or folders)
- Personal correspondence
- Photographs
- Funeral cards
- Obituaries
- Medical records
- Military records
- Employment records
- Social Security card/application form/receipts
- Labels/tags on trunks or baggage
- Films, slides or videos
- Tombstone photos or inscriptions
- Autograph books

School Records

- Elementary
- Secondary
- Vocational/trade
- College
- University
- Arts
- Private
- Ladies finishing
- Correspondence schools
- Yearbooks

Certificates

- Birth
- Military discharge
- School awards/achievements
- Marriage
- Death
- Adoption
- Graduation
- GED
- Divorce
- Citizenship
- Manumission (liberation or emancipation)

Insurance Records

- Life policies/applications
- Fire policies/applications
- Accident policies/applications
- Health policies/applications
- Miscellaneous policies

Religious Records

- Family Bibles
- Marriage
- Baptism/christening
- Confirmation
- Religious Office
- Religious achievement/awards
- Missionary activities
- Ministerial/priest papers
- Nunnery documents

Business/Legal

- _____ Accounting books/ledgers
- _____ Bills
- _____ Receipts
- _____ Correspondence
- _____ Credit applications
- _____ Citizenship papers
- _____ Passports/visas
- _____ Mortgage records
- _____ Deeds
- _____ Property titles
- _____ Rental/lease agreements
- _____ Bank applications/forms
- _____ Bank statements
- _____ Wills
- _____ Probate papers
- _____ Intestate courts papers
- _____ Legal briefs
- _____ Adoption papers
- _____ Court orders

Nondocument Record Sources

- _____ Military uniforms (insignia of organization, rank, service, ribbons, awards, etc.)
- _____ Dish and glassware (location of manufacturer, production dates and insignia)
- _____ Furniture (manufacturer location and production dates)
- _____ Photographs/portraits
- _____ Clothing
- _____ Quilts/stitchery with names
- _____ Jewelry
- _____ Flags, swords, guns, etc.

2. Sources of Research Done by Others

Personal Research

- _____ Pedigree charts
- _____ Family group sheets
- _____ Descendancy charts
- _____ Books of remembrance
- _____ Research notes

Periodicals

- _____ Genealogies
- _____ Historical items
- _____ Queries
- _____ Source extracts
- _____ Directories
- _____ Genealogical and historical society publications

Printed Resources

- _____ Family histories
- _____ Biographies
- _____ Genealogies
- _____ Pedigrees
- _____ County/local histories
- _____ State/local histories
- _____ City directories
- _____ Indexes

Family History Library Sources

- _____ Temple Index Bureau
- _____ Family History Library catalog
- _____ Family registry
- _____ International Genealogical Index
- _____ Ancestral File
- _____ Family group record archive

3. Church Sources

Religious Events

- Birth
- Baptism/christening
- Circumcision
- Confirmation
- Communion
- Bar mitzvah records
- Ordination
- Primary or secondary school
- Seminary
- Marriage
- Banns
- Divorce
- Annulment
- Death
- Burial
- Admissions
- Removals
- Disciplinary proceedings
- Subscriptions
- Church membership/transfers

Church Records

- Minister's records
- Mission reports
- Church minutes
- Contribution/tithing records
- Bishop's transcripts
- Church/congregational histories
- Anniversary/homecoming events

4. Private Sources

Newspapers

- ___ Indexes
- ___ Births
- ___ Marriages
- ___ Deaths/obituaries
- ___ Anniversaries
- ___ Advertisements
- ___ Local news events

Organizations

- ___ Fraternal/sororities
- ___ Clubs
- ___ Societies
- ___ Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts

Mortuary Records

- ___ Burial records
- ___ Death notices
- ___ Obituaries
- ___ Church funeral programs
- ___ Funeral cards
- ___ Registers

Historical Data Collections

- ___ Daughters of the American Revolution
- ___ United Daughters of the Confederacy
- ___ Sons of the American Revolution
- ___ Miscellaneous patriotic lineage societies
- ___ Oral histories
- ___ Personal papers/memoirs
- ___ Indexes
- ___ Correspondence/diaries
- ___ Surname files
- ___ Tombstone Inscriptions
- ___ Biographies

Legal Notices

- ___ Probate
- ___ Auctions
- ___ Courthouse/sheriff sales
- ___ Divorces
- ___ Bankruptcies
- ___ Court records
- ___ Slave records
- ___ Lawyer files

Institutional

- ___ Charities
- ___ Hospitals
- ___ Convents (nuns)
- ___ Seminaries
- ___ Libraries
- ___ Genealogical/historical societies
- ___ Missions
- ___ Orphanages
- ___ Reunion registers
- ___ Schools
- ___ Colleges/universities
- ___ Mental health/behavioral
- ___ Military
- ___ Corporate histories

Employment

- ___ Indentures
- ___ Apprenticeships
- ___ Licenses
- ___ Pensions
- ___ Awards
- ___ Personnel files
- ___ Accounts
- ___ Retirement data

5. Public Records

Censuses

- _____ State censuses (years will vary by state)
- _____ Territorial censuses (years will vary)
- _____ Church censuses
- _____ School censuses
- _____ Mortality censuses
- _____ Revolutionary War veterans
- _____ Union Army veterans
- _____ Agriculture censuses
- _____ U.S. Federal Census Index 1790
- _____ U.S. Federal Census 1790
- _____ U.S. Federal Census Index 1800
- _____ U.S. Federal Census 1800
- _____ U.S. Federal Census Index 1810
- _____ U.S. Federal Census 1810
- _____ U.S. Federal Census Index 1820
- _____ U.S. Federal Census 1820
- _____ U.S. Federal Census Index 1830
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- _____ U.S. Federal Census Index 1910
- _____ U.S. Federal Census 1910
- _____ U.S. Federal Census Index 1920
- _____ U.S. Federal Census 1920
- _____ U.S. Federal Census Index 1930
- _____ U.S. Federal Census 1930

Land Records

- _____ Grantor index
- _____ Grantee index
- _____ Bounty warrants
- _____ Tract books
- _____ Plat maps
- _____ Mortgages
- _____ Grants
- _____ Patents
- _____ Homestead papers
- _____ Surveys
- _____ Indian treaties

Court/Legal Records

- _____ Dockets
- _____ Minutes
- _____ Judgments
- _____ Orders, decrees
- _____ Case files
- _____ Indexes
- _____ Sheriff/police records
- _____ Justice of the peace
- _____ Lawyer briefs
- _____ Jail records
- _____ Guardian and ward
- _____ Orphan court records
- _____ Bankruptcy records
- _____ Certificates
- _____ Licenses
- _____ Chancery court records
- _____ Civil/criminal records
- _____ Prison records

Probate Records

- _____ Indexes
- _____ Wills
- _____ Administrations
- _____ Estate records
- _____ Inventories
- _____ Bonds
- _____ Settlements
- _____ Packets
- _____ Petitions

Tax Records

- _____ Personal property
- _____ Real estate
- _____ School
- _____ Poor rate
- _____ Tax exemptions
- _____ Poll tax (voting)
- _____ Householder's index

Miscellaneous Governmental Records

- _____ Birth records
- _____ Marriage records
- _____ Death certificates
- _____ Centennial celebrations
- _____ Native American records
- _____ Social Security records

Cemetery Records

- _____ Sexton records
- _____ Indexes
- _____ Monuments
- _____ Plat books
- _____ Tombstones
- _____ Memorials
- _____ Deeds

Military Records

- _____ Service record index
- _____ Pension index
- _____ Service records
- _____ Unit correspondence
- _____ Pension files
- _____ Bounty land grant awards
- _____ Discharge papers
- _____ Muster rolls
- _____ Regimental histories
- _____ Military campaigns
- _____ Desertion records
- _____ Burials
- _____ Dependents or personnel born abroad
- _____ Admiralty court records

Immigrant Records

- _____ Emigration (leaving the "Old World")
- _____ Passenger lists
- _____ Passports
- _____ Vaccination certificates
- _____ Alien registration
- _____ Change of name
- _____ Oaths of allegiance
- _____ Register of voters
- _____ Citizenship papers
- _____ Naturalization papers
- _____ Immigrant Aid Societies
- _____ Customs records
- _____ Ship logbooks
- _____ Border crossings

Newspapers

- _____ Obituaries
- _____ Biographical articles
- _____ News articles

Histories

- ____ State
- ____ County
- ____ Local
- ____ Business
- ____ Biographies
- ____ Church
- ____ Occupational/guild
- ____ Organizational
- ____ Society
- ____ Almanacs

Periodicals

- ____ Genealogical societies
 - ____ Historical societies
 - ____ Military organizations
 - ____ Military history societies
 - ____ State/locality news
 - ____ Family organizations
 - ____ Surname societies
 - ____ Local heritage
 - ____ Heraldic societies
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Suggested Readings

A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your African American Ancestors: How to Find and Record Your Unique Heritage by Franklin Carter Smith and Emily Ann Croom (Cincinnati, Ohio: Betterway Books, c2003, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 SMITH)

A Sourcebook for Genealogical Research: Resources Alphabetically by Type and Location by Foster Stockwell (Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland & Company, c2004, Genealogy Reference 929.1 STOCKWELL)

A Student's Guide to African American Genealogy by Anne E. Johnson (Phoenix, Arizona: Orxy Press, c1996, African-American Collection at Dunbar Jupiter Hammon Public Library, 929.1 JOHNSON)

A Student's Guide to British American Genealogy by Anne E. Johnson (Phoenix, Arizona: Orxy Press, c1996, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 JOHNSON)

A Student's Guide to Chinese American Genealogy by Colleen She (Phoenix, Arizona: Orxy Press, c1996, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 SHE)

A Student's Guide to German American Genealogy by Gregory Robl (Phoenix, Arizona: Orxy Press, c1996, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 ROBL)

A Student's Guide to Irish American Genealogy by Erin McKenna (Phoenix, Arizona: Orxy Press, c1996, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 MCKENNA)

A Student's Guide to Italian American Genealogy by Terra Castiglia Brockman (Phoenix, Arizona: Orxy Press, c1996, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 BROCKMAN)

A Student's Guide to Japanese American Genealogy by Yoji Yamaguchi (Phoenix, Arizona: Orxy Press, c1996, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 YAMAGUCHI)

A Student's Guide to Mexican American Genealogy by George R. Ryskamp (Phoenix, Arizona: Orxy Press, c1996, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 RYSKAMP)

A Student's Guide to Native American Genealogy by E. Barrie Kavasch (Phoenix, Arizona: Orxy Press, c1996, Adult Non-Fiction, at Cape Coral Lee County Public and East County Regional libraries, 929.1 KAVASCHE)

A Student's Guide to Polish American Genealogy by Carl Sokolnicki Rollyson and Lisa Olson Paddock (Phoenix, Arizona: Orxy Press, c1996, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 ROLLYSON)

A Student's Guide to Scandinavian American Genealogy by Lisa Olson Paddock and Carl Sokolnicki Rollyson (Phoenix, Arizona: Orxy Press, c1996, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 PADDOCK)

The American Census Handbook by Thomas Jay Kemp (Wilmington, Delaware: Scholarly Publishing, c2001, Genealogy Reference 929.1 KEM)

American Records & Research: Focusing on Families - Course One by the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (Salt Lake City, Utah: The Institute, c2007, Genealogy Reference 929.1 SALT)

American Records & Research: Focusing on Families - Course Two by the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (Salt Lake City, Utah: The Institute, c2008, Genealogy Reference 929.1 SALT)

Black Roots: A Beginner's Guide to Tracing the Family Tree by Tony Burroughs (New York, New York: Fireside Book, c2001, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1089 BURROUGHS)

Bringing Your Family History to Life Through Social History by Katherine S. Sturdevant (Cincinnati, Ohio: Betterway Books, c2000, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1072 STUDEVANT)

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy by Christine Rose (New York, New York: Alpha Books, c1997, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 ROSE)

Do People Grow on Family Trees?: Genealogy for Kids & Other Beginners, The Official Ellis Island Handbook by Ira Wolfman (New York, New York: Workman Publishing, c1991, Juvenile Non-Fiction 929.1 WOLFMAN)

Everything Family Tree Book: Finding, Charting, & Preserving Your Family History by William G. Hartley (Holbrook, Massachusetts: Adams Media, c1998, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 HARTLEY)

Family History 101: A Beginner's Guide to Finding Your Ancestors by Marcia Yannizze Melnyk (Cincinnati, Ohio: Family Tree Books, c2005, Genealogy Reference 929.1072 MELNYK)

Family History Made Easy by Loretto Dennis Szucs (Salt Lake City, Utah: Ancestry, c1998, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 SZUCS)

Family Tree Guide Book: Everything You Need to Know to Trace Your Genealogy Across North America (Cincinnati, Ohio: Betterway Books, c2002, Genealogy Reference 929.1 FAMILY)

Family Tree Guide to Finding Your Ellis Island Ancestors by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack (Cincinnati, Ohio: Family Tree Books, c2005, Genealogy Reference 929.1 CARMACK)

Family Tree Problem Solver: Proven Methods for Scaling the Inevitable Brick Wall by Marsha Hoffman Rising (Cincinnati, Ohio: Family Tree Book, c2005, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 RISING)

Family Tree Resource Book for Genealogists by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack (Cincinnati, Ohio: Tree Books, c2004, Genealogy Reference 929.1 FAMILY)

Finding Your African American Ancestors: A Beginner's Guide by David T. Thackery (Orem, Utah: My Family.com, c2000, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 THACKERY)

First Steps in Genealogy: A Beginner's Guide to Researching Your Family History by Desmond Walls Allen (first edition, Cincinnati, Ohio: Betterway Books, c1998, Adult Non-Fiction 929. ALLEN)

Genealogical Proof Standard: Building a Solid Case by Christine Rose (San Jose, California: CR Publications, c2005, Genealogy Reference 929.1 ROSE)

The Genealogist's Address Book by Elizabeth Petty Bentley (Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, c2009, Genealogy Reference 929.102 BENTLEY)

The Genealogist's Companion and Sourcebook by Emily Anne Croom (second edition, Cincinnati, Ohio:

Betterway Books, c2003, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 CROOM)

Genealogy: How to Find Your Ancestors by Paul E. Drake and Margaret Grove Driskill (Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, c2000, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 DRAKE)

Genealogy Online for Dummies by Matthew Helm and April Leigh Helm (second edition, Foster City, California: IDG Books, c1999, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 HELM)

Guide to Genealogical Research (third edition, Washington, District of Columbia: National Archives, c2000, Genealogical Reference 929.373 UNITED)

The Handybook for Genealogists: United States of America by George B. Everton (10th edition, Draper, Utah: Everton Publishers, c2002, Genealogy Reference and Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 HANDY)

How to Climb Your Family Tree: Genealogy for Beginners by Harriet Stryker Rodda (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Lippincott, c1972, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 RODDA) In spite of the age of the material, this is still considered one of the best books ever written on how to start searching. The concepts still apply today.

How to Do Everything With Your Genealogy by George G. Morgan (McGraw Hill-Osborne, c2004, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 MORGAN)

International Vital Records Handbook by Thomas Jay Kemp (fourth edition, Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, c2000, Genealogy Reference 929.1 KEM)

Land and Court Records by the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (Salt Lake City, Utah: The Institute, c2006, Genealogy Reference 929.1 SALT)

Locating Your Roots: Discover Your Ancestors Using Land Records by Patricia Law Hatcher (Cincinnati, Ohio: Betterway Books, c2003, Genealogy Reference 929.1072 HATCHER)

Long Distance Genealogy by Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer (Cincinnati, Ohio: Betterway Books, c2000, Genealogy Reference 929.1 CRAWFORD)

Organizing Your Family History Search: Efficient & Effective Ways to Gather and Protect Your Genealogical Research by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack (Cincinnati, Ohio: Betterway Books, c1999, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 CARMACK)

Plugging Into Your Past: How to Find Real Family History Records Online by Rick Crume (Cincinnati, Ohio: Betterway Books, c2003, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 CRUME)

Red Book: American State, County, and Town Sources (Provo, Utah: Ancestry, c2004, Genealogy Reference 929.1072 RED)

Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy by Greenwood, Val D. (third edition, Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, c2000, Genealogy Reference 929.1 GREENWOOD)

Shaking Your Family Tree: Basic Guide to Tracing Your Family's Genealogy by Crandall, Ralph. (second edition, Boston, Massachusetts: New England Historical Genealogical Register, c2001, Adult Non-Fiction 929.1 CRANDALL)

The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy by Loretto Dennis Szucs (third edition, Provo, Utah: Ancestry Publishing Company, c2006, Genealogy Reference 929.1 SOURCE)

The Sourcebook to Public Record Information (Tempe, Arizona: BRB Publications, c2006, Adult Reference 352.387 SOU)

State Census Records by Ann S. Lainhart (Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, c1992, Genealogy Reference 929.373 LAI)

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