Getting Started

• Get organized
• Read about genealogy
• Connect with a genealogy group
• Decide on an approach
Do Your Homework

• Identify what you already know
• Start with yourself and work backwards
• Talk to your relatives
• Locate family documents and public records
http://familyecho.com/
Useful Family Documents for Genealogical Research

• Family Bibles
• Birth, baptism, marriage, and death certificates
• School report cards and diplomas
• Old family letters
• Scrapbooks and photographs
• Diaries and Journals
Useful Public Records for Genealogical Research

- Church registers
- Newspapers
- Municipal, state, and federal records - census, naturalization papers, vital statistics
- Local and state archives, historical societies, and libraries
Useful Internet Sources for Genealogical Research

• Genealogy.com - http://www.genealogy.com

• FamilySearch.org - http://familysearch.org

• Ancestry.com - http://www.ancestry.com

• HeritageQuest.com - http://www.heritagequestonline.com


• East Carolina Roots - http://eastcarolinaroots.com/
American Indian Genealogy
Beginning Research

• Requires a cross-disciplinary approach
• Very few census records have notations about Native Americans
• Church and local records often contain more information
• Tribal histories and records are very important
• Family History Library in Salt Lake City contains many American Indian records
American Indian Genealogy Record Types

- Correspondence
- Maps
- Removal Records
- Enrollment Records
- Oral Histories
- Treaties
- Tribal Office Records
- Bureau of Indian Affairs records - often available through national and regional archives (also Department of War, Department of the Interior, Department of State)
African-American Genealogical Sources

- Transportation Records
- Civil War military records
- Records of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company
- Slave ownership and manumission records and wills
- Look for name changes after the Civil War
- Afrigeneas - http://www.afrigeneas.com/
Features of Ancestry Library Edition

• United States records of all kinds

Quick Links

Public Member Trees
Birth, Marriage & Death Records
Military
Tax, Criminal, Land & Wills
Stories, Memories & Histories
Pictures
Message Boards

City Directories
Immigration & Travel
Schools, Directories & Church Histories
Reference, Dictionaries & Almanacs
Newspapers
Maps, Atlases & Gazetteers
Recently Added/Updated Collections

• Records from other countries
Suggested Hints for
Maternal Lineage - Aspinwall, Taylor, Todd, Mitchell

1910 United States Federal Census
Frances Utah Todd 1888 - 1975
great-grandmother

Florida, State Census, 1867-1945
Frances Utah Todd 1888 - 1975
great-grandmother

1920 United States Federal Census
Frances Utah Todd 1888 - 1975
great-grandmother

http://home.ancestry.com/
Features of Ancestry
Personal Edition

- Family Trees
- Searching for Information
- DNA
- Hints
- Profile View
- Lifestory
Finding Surprises

First Row: Walter Browne, Fanny Jarvis Sanford, Barbara Altman, Dorothy Matthews, Barbara Buchanan, Leona Samson, Artye Futselle, Miss Irma Stockwell, Donald Gilhart. Second Row: Elizabeth Goff, Doris Singer, Maxine Browning, Joyce Williams, Bettie Jeanne Lanier, Joyce Haddock, Miriam Portnoy, June Taylor, Jackie Peebles.
Other Tips and Tricks

• Women usually listed under maiden name
• Spelling variations
• When in doubt - start with the U.S. Census
• Less is often more
• Look at originals when possible - don’t rely on transcriptions
• Not all databases are indexed (e.g. FamilySearch’s North Carolina County Records 1833-1970 Collection - https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1916185.)
## Common Abbreviations in Genealogy

Below are some commonly used abbreviations you will encounter during your family history research.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ab./abt.</td>
<td>about</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Æ, ae</td>
<td>age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bap., bp.</td>
<td>baptized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bur.</td>
<td>buried, burial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>co.</td>
<td>county, company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td>died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>div.</td>
<td>divorced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d/o, s/o</td>
<td>daughter of, son of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.s.p.</td>
<td><em>decessit sine prole</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(died without issue/children)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>et al.</td>
<td>and others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>int.</td>
<td>intention of marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m.</td>
<td>married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>née</td>
<td>maiden or birth name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n.f.r.</td>
<td>no further record (after marriage)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N.S.</td>
<td>New Style (Gregorian) calendar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O.S.</td>
<td>Old Style (Julian) calendar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sic</td>
<td>copied exactly from original</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unm.</td>
<td>unmarried</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unk.</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viz.</td>
<td>namely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yeo.</td>
<td>Yeoman (farmer)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reading Older Writing

• Spelling not always standard
• “ss” looks like “fs”
• “Ye” often means “the” and vice versa
• Many older words no longer in use
• Compare letters

attention also to such things as you shall con-
ceive a fit subject for communication on the oc-
casion, and instep them as they occur
that you would be so good as to furnish me
and then in time to be prepared, and enjoin
hed with others for the opening of the session.

With very sincere and
Affectionate regard

Yours ever,

Washington

James Madison for Esq
Useful Books for Genealogical Research

• Unpuzzling Your Past: The Best-Selling Basic Guide to Genealogy - Emily Anne Croom

• The Genealogist’s Companian and Sourcebook - Emily Anne Croom

• The Researcher’s Guide to American Genealogy - Val D. Greenwood

• The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy - Sandra Hargreaves Luebking and Loretto Dennis Szucs

• The Everything Guide to Online Geneaology: A Complete Resource for Using the Web to Trace Your Family History - Kimberly Powell

• Geneology 101: How to Trace Your Family’s History and Heritage - Barbara Renick
Other Useful Genealogy Web Sites

- Genealogy Gopher’s Free Genealogy Book Search - [https://www.gengophers.com/#/](https://www.gengophers.com/#/)
- Genealogy Today - [www.genealogytoday.com](http://www.genealogytoday.com)
- Ancestral Findings - [www.ancestralfindings.com](http://www.ancestralfindings.com)
- Access Genealogy - [https://www.accessgenealogy.com](https://www.accessgenealogy.com)
- Find a Grave - [http://www.findagrave.com/](http://www.findagrave.com/)
- Genealogical Blogs like [https://blog.eogn.com/](https://blog.eogn.com/)