

## **Information About Ancestors What Do You Want to Know?**

- ◆ *Vitals (birth/baptism, marriage, death, burial)*
  - *The Basics: Who, What, When and Where?*
- ◆ *Exactly where did they live and history of place*
- ◆ *Serve in military?*
- ◆ *The person's character and prosperity*
- ◆ *Migration; Foreign Town of Origin*

### **Where to look for it**

- ◆ *Other genealogies (Has it already been done?)*
- ◆ *Partial pedigrees: Individual submissions*
- ◆ *Books, periodicals, newspapers, letters*
- ◆ *Database transcriptions: find original record*

## **Has it already been done?\***

- ◆ **First: talk to all the relatives to learn**
    - **Who, when, where, tales, photos, relationships**
    - **Sometimes: your only source, possibly best one**
  - ◆ **Research Web for Genealogies (general searches)**
    - Largest Sources (Choose "Advanced Search"):**
      - **LDS on-line: <http://familysearch.org> and**  
**"Library" tab: connects surnames to places**
      - **Rootsweb: <http://www.rootsweb.com> Headings: Searches, Family Trees, Mailing Lists, Message Boards, Web Sites**
      - **Ancestry World Family Tree: 400 million names**
      - **HeritageQuest: PERSI; 25K Gen/Hist Books**
- \* Have you found the original document?**  
*- genealogy books, on-line, hearsay are secondary sources*

## Surname Searching

### Search “all” pertinent databases for surnames

- ◆ Social Security Death Index: <http://ssdi.rootsweb.com>
- ◆ Local databases (where your ancestor lived), use
  - <http://usgenweb.org> (county) find local databases
  - BYU: <http://www.lib.byu.edu/fhc> LDS genealogies
  - also <http://gencircles.com>
- Surname or “surname family”+ place (year?) on <http://google.com> or <http://google.com> + images:  
<http://www.google.com/imghp?hl=en&tab=wi&q=>
- MyHeritage <http://www.myheritage.com> free
  - searches >400 web databases at once (must login)
- Godfrey Library: <http://godfrey.org> many local links

## Surname Searching

### Some Additional Databases for Surnames

- ◆ Key database links on class page - middle frame
- ◆ Library of Congress: <http://lcweb.loc.gov>
- ◆ Census Name Distribution (1850,1880,1920,1990):  
<http://hamrick.com/names> “All Years” for migration
- ◆ Regional databases, e.g. <http://newenglandancestors.org>
- ◆ Foreign databases: e.g. <http://worldgenweb.org>
  - Godfrey Library: <http://godfrey.org>
- ◆ Immigration: ancestry.com passenger lists
  - Castle Garden 1830-1913 <http://www.castlegarden.org>
  - Ellis Island 1892-1924 <http://www.ellislandrecords.org>