

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
- ◆ Lost Cousins: <http://lostcousins.com> find cousins
 - Based on 1880 U.S. and 1841 British/Wales censuses and 1881 British*/Wales/Scotland/Canada censuses
 - must register;
 - *includes Channel Islands and Isle of Man

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>