Analyzing Your Research BYU Family History Library 8 February 2024

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I. Vital Records

- A. Do not depend on indexes; when possible, look at the original.
- B. Cause of death, registration date, etc.
- C. Prove the information.

II. Church Records

- A. FamilySearch
 - 1. Genealogical Word Lists.
 - 2. Research Wiki.
- B. Don't forget the witnesses and sponsors.

III. U. S. Census Records

- A. Look at the complete enumeration, not just the index.
- B. Check EVERY census for which a person is alive.
- C. Who were the neighbors.
- D. Questions that were unique to each census.
 - 1. 1850 and 1860 Value of real estate owned
 - 2. 1850, 1860 and 1880 Was the person married within the year
 - 3. 1860 and 1870 Value of personal estate
 - 4. 1870 If born or married within the last year, what month
 - 5. 1900 and 1910 Number of years married
 - 6. 1900 and 1910 For married women, number of children born and number still living
 - 7. 1930 and 1940 Value of home or monthly rent
 - 8. 1930 Did the household have a radio
 - 9. 1930 Age at 1st marriage
 - 10. 1940 Where did the person live on 1 April 1935
 - 11. 1940 What is the highest school grade the person completed

IV. "Home Sources"

- A. Handwriting helps.
- B. Look for the relationships and locations.

V. Obituaries and News Articles

- A. The Big Five online newspaper sites.
 - 1. Chronicling America, free (chroniclingamerica.loc.gov)
 - 2. Newspaper Archive, subscription, free at FamilySearch Centers (newspaperarchive.com)
 - 3. Newspapers, subscription (newspapers.com)
 - 4. GenealogyBank, subscription (genealogybank.com)
 - 5. Heritage Hub, formerly America's Otituaries and Death Notices, available at some local libraries
- B. Finding other newspapers, journals, etc.
 - 1. Chronicling America
 - 2. FamilySearch Research Wiki
 - 3. PERSI, free (genealogycenter.info/persi)
- C. Always prove relationships.

VI. Searching Online Resources

- A. Check search tips for each website, including the use of wildcards.
- B. Identify the information requested for the record; use that for your search parameters.

FamilySearch Research Wiki

A Genealogy Resource Guide

Find the birth, death, marriage, census records, and other genealogy resources for your ancestor by selecting the region and country below.



