

Not an ancestry subscriber? Ancestry does have some free records (mostly indexes, use the catalog), as well as individual state records for state residents' access

Conference Keeper, genealogy- and family history-related conferences, events, calls for papers, contests, and volunteer opportunities: <https://conferencekeeper.org/>

Subscription sites: may have a free trial period for prospective subscribers. Also get on the mailing lists for sites of interest; you will be notified of subscription specials as well as times when access to records (or limited records) are free.

Download a variety of easy-to-use, free genealogy cheat sheets. Topics include: using google for genealogy, immigration records, military records, research and search strategies, using internet archive, city directories, yearbooks, census records, historical newspapers, occupations, German genealogy records, transportation resources, and more: <https://genealogybargains.com/free-genealogy-cheat-sheets/>

Of particular interest: strategies for saving money on genealogy

<https://genealogybargains.s3.amazonaws.com/10+Ways+to+Save+Money+on+Genealogy.pdf>

Libraries, city/county or university libraries, local library, as well as library where ancestors lived. May have subscriptions available online, generally available to patrons only (may require card#). Most libraries have onsite ancestry.com subscription

Heritagequest (multiple resources) available online through most libraries (library card required)

Other resources POSSIBLY AVAILABLE online at a library site: cemetery index, obituary index, marriage index--start search with surname only (possible relatives, maiden and married names). Other on-site resources: microfilmed newspapers, special in-house-created indexes; family files. Links to US library websites, <http://www.lib-web.org/>

Links to individual library web sites throughout the world <https://librarytechnology.org/libraries/>

Digital Public Library of America: public domain and openly licensed content held by U.S. archives, libraries, museums, and other cultural heritage institutions: <https://dp.la/> Also see online library at <https://openlibrary.org/> millions of free digital books

Worldcat connects to collections of 10,000 libraries around the world; locate where books are and their availability for inter-library loan: <https://www.worldcat.org/>

Assorted Genealogical Records

Free websites for genealogy research: <https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/free-resources/websites/>

US vital records, birth certificate, death record & marriage license - where to find (for fee). Always check to see if records are available at the county or town level, as they will be cheaper and faster. <http://www.vitalrecordsus.com/vital-records-states.html> or <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w/index.htm> or

Tutorial for researching family tree. Links to vital records:

<http://www.learnwebskills.com/family/vitalrecords1.htm>

Familysearch.org – LDS (Mormon) site, US and international records, marriage records, birth and death records. Set up a free account to access all files. Be creative with your searching. Remember that some records are not indexed, but are browsable. <https://familysearch.org/> To access catalog search <https://www.familysearch.org/catalog/search> - start with placename search

Genealogical research portal, search by location and/or topic, index of free and fee-based sites <http://www.cyndislist.com/>

Access genealogy includes black genealogy, cemetery, military, and census records, DNA, databases, and vital records, as well as extensive Native American records. <https://www.accessgenealogy.com>
Reclaim the records: genealogical and archival data sets from government agencies, state libraries, and municipal archives (very limited states): <https://www.reclaimtherecords.org/>
Joe Beine genealogy articles, tips and research guides: <https://www.genealogybranches.com/>; see also <https://www.genesearch.com/> for extensive links related to genealogy and family history
Historical maps (by place name/date): <https://www.randymajors.org/ancestry-historical-tools>

Death Indexes/Death Information (*death certificates generally more than 50 years old*)

Death index online directory, listed by state and county (death records, death certificate indexes, death notices and registers, obituaries, wills and probate records, and cemetery burials). Also information about searching Social Security Death Index online. <http://deathindexes.com/>

Funeral homes and local newspapers are good sources for recent obituaries. Recent newspaper obituaries (2000-current) <http://www.legacy.com/>

Death records listed by states: <http://www.learnwebskills.com/patriot/dipractice01.html>

Cemetery, graves database, (entered by volunteers, and may not always be accurate) <http://www.findagrave.com/>; also <https://billiongraves.com/>

Genealogy bank.com: while this is a subscription service, the SSDI portion of it is free <http://www.genealogybank.com/>; SSDI also available on <http://stevemorse.org/>

Immigration

Remember to check the port of emigration sites too. These records (probably not in English) may offer different/additional information than on the port of entry ship manifest.

One-step searching site for immigration records (mostly free, some on ancestry), more user-friendly access to Ellis Island and Castle Garden <http://stevemorse.org/> This site also offers free SSDI.

Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc., records starting 1892 www.ellisland.org

Castle Garden Immigration Center (1855-1890) <http://www.castlegarden.org/>

Ships' passenger lists: <http://www.olivetreegenealogy.com/ships/>

Historical Newspapers and Media

Newspaper how-tos and links, yearbooks, BMD records: <http://www.theancestorhunt.com/>

Google archives, old newspapers <http://news.google.com/newspapers>

Chronicling America (Library of Congress), old newspapers <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

Many states have statewide projects (often through a university library), theancestorhunt (above) for links organized by state. The following states have a central online repository: AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, KY, ME, NY, NC, OH, OR, SC, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, and WY. City, county and university libraries may be a source for newspapers (sometimes online).

Old Fulton history, historical US and Canada newspapers: <http://fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html>; use alternate search site for better results <https://fultonsearch.org/>

Out of copyright, county and/or family history books; archived websites: <http://archive.org> Site also offers digital "borrowing" of books still in copyright. Guide for using archive.org for genealogy research: <https://familyhistorydaily.com/free-genealogy-resources/internet-archive-for-genealogy/>

US city directories: <http://www.uscitydirectories.com/> <https://ldsgenealogy.com/city-directories/>; https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/City_Directories; <https://theancestorhunt.com/blog/14600-free-online-city-directories-from-the-united-states/>

Links to family/county histories: <http://www.learnwebskills.com/family/countyhistories1.htm>

Social Media and Genealogy Calendar of Events

Facebook: Genealogy and history (in English) Facebook groups/pages, a 436-page PDF file containing 16,700+ links (updated Jan 2021): <https://moonswings.files.wordpress.com/2021/01/genealogy-on-facebook-jan-2021.pdf> File includes a clickable table of contents. *Note:* As of January 2021, future updates and maintenance of list is being handled by Cyndi's List at <https://cyndislist.com/facebook>. Download a Canadian list that includes French-speaking groups at https://genealogyalacarte.ca/?page_id=10169, and an Australian list at <https://www.lonetester.com/2020/12/facebook-for-australian-history-and-genealogy-2/>

Helpful YouTube videos about using Facebook: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-n8O5mSFvE>, <https://www.wikihow.com/Use-Facebook>