

# Genealogy from Home: Making the Most of Online Sources

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## Getting Started - Online Resources

### Online Forms

- Family Tree Magazine – <https://www.familytreemagazine.com/basicforms/>
- FamilySearch - [https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Genealogy\\_Research\\_Forms](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Genealogy_Research_Forms)
- National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) - <https://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/charts-forms>
- Cyndi's List, Charts & Forms - <https://www.cyndislist.com/charts/>

### Oral History Resources

Conducting Oral Histories with Family Members - <https://www.library.ucla.edu/location/library-special-collections/destination/center-oral-history-research/resources/conducting-oral-histories-family-members>

Also, Google “Oral History Interview Questions” for genealogy

### Finding Aids

#### *Red Book, American State, County and Town Sources*

- Resource reference book for learning about records in the 50 states
- Full Book - [https://wiki.rootsweb.com/wiki/index.php/Red\\_Book:\\_American\\_State,\\_County,\\_and\\_Town\\_Sources](https://wiki.rootsweb.com/wiki/index.php/Red_Book:_American_State,_County,_and_Town_Sources)
- Rhode Island - [https://wiki.rootsweb.com/wiki/index.php/Red\\_Book:\\_American\\_State,\\_County,\\_and\\_Town\\_Sources](https://wiki.rootsweb.com/wiki/index.php/Red_Book:_American_State,_County,_and_Town_Sources)
- Also go to <https://wiki.rootsweb.com/> to find *The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy*

### FamilySearch Wiki

- Find resources for any location
- Helps with determining what records are available for any location and where they are available
- Built by volunteers so treatment of each place could be slightly different
- <https://wiki.familysearch.org>

## Major Database Sites

### MyHeritage

- Strong European collections
- Strong European customer base
- Excellent Newspaper collection
- DNA with chromosome browser
- Photo tools to enhance, colorize, color-correct or repair old photos
- Subscription site (\$\$)
- <https://www.myheritage.com/>

### Ancestry.com

- Ancestry – free institutional version from home (during pandemic). Check your local library.
- Strong United States Collection
- Most DNA test kits
- Strong family tree integration with records
- Subscription site (\$\$)
- Use the tree – beginners
- Use the card catalog (Under the “Search” tab)
- Use Death certificates to find females maiden or married names in difficult record states
- U.S., Historic Land Ownership and Reference Atlases, 1507-2000 - <https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1205/>
- Ancestry.com announcement “Working to Bring Black Family Histories Forward,” press release, 08 Feb. 2021 - <https://www.ancestry.com/corporate/blog/working-bring-black-family-histories-forward>
- Keep up to date with what’s new with Crista Cowan “the Barefoot Genealogist” at Ancestry with her YouTube channel - <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0xuz8BBkD4iXLa6xPYUeimX1CFUADnIx>
- <https://www.ancestry.com/>

### FamilySearch

- Free but you need to create an account
- Digitized all of its 2.4 million rolls of microfilm – but not all is accessible.
- For images not publicly available find a Family History center or affiliate library - <https://www.familysearch.org/fhcenters/locations/>
- Global Historical Record Collections List - <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/list/>
- Main site - <https://www.familysearch.org/>

## Crowd Sourcing

### Facebook Groups

- Genealogy Squad - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/genealogysquad>
- Technology for Genealogy - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/techgen>
- Genetic Genealogy Tips & Techniques - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/geneticgenealogytipsandtechniques>
- Genealogical Translations - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/GenealogicalTranslations>

### Twitter Chat

- Ancestry Hour - <https://twitter.com/ancestryhour>
- Ancestry Hour “About” page - <https://www.ancestryhour.co.uk/about.html>

## Online Education

### RootsTech Conference

- Cost – FREE
- March 3-5, 2022
- Completely online
- Well-known Keynote Speakers
- 1500 20-minute sessions
- <https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech>

### Legacy Family Tree Webinars

- 60-90 minute stand-alone classes
- 1-3 free live webinars per week
- Webinar replays free for 7 days
- Member library of over 1600 classes
- Cost - \$49.95/year
- <https://legacy.familytreewebinars.com>

### Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy

- In-depth Classes
- One full week of 1 evening for 6 weeks
- Choose one of up to 15 courses
- <https://www.slig.ugagenealogy.org/>

## Focus on Locations

### Oral History Collections

- Tales of Cape Cod – <https://voices.nmfs.noaa.gov/collection/tales-cape-cod>
- British Library, Survey of English Dialects 1950-1961 - <https://sounds.bl.uk/Accents-and-dialects/Survey-of-English-dialects>
- Library of Congress: After the Day of Infamy: "Man-on-the-Street" Interviews Following the Attack on Pearl Harbor - <https://www.loc.gov/collections/interviews-following-the-attack-on-pearl-harbor/>

Maps – MapsofUs.org - <https://www.mapofus.org/>

Historic American Building Survey (HABS) - <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/hh/>

Farber Gravestone Collection - <https://www.americanantiquarian.org/farber-gravestone-collection> or <https://www.davidrumsey.com/farber/>

## Trending Now

### Periodical Source Index (PERSI)

- Produced by the staff in the Genealogy Center at the Allen County Public Library (a premier genealogy library)
- Subject Index for Genealogy and local history periodicals
- Once again available from the ACPL and for Free
- <https://www.genealogycenter.info/persi/>

### 1950 Census

- Link to blank form - <https://www.census.gov/library/photos/1950a.html>
- Link to completed form - <https://usa.ipums.org/usa/voliii/form1950.shtml>
- Joel Weintraub videos - [https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL\\_YIY4IV14L6RdIX1Mk5UDW9vSzVZsWw5](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL_YIY4IV14L6RdIX1Mk5UDW9vSzVZsWw5)
- Lisa Louise Cooke – The 1950 Census for Genealogy - <https://youtu.be/87hGRjeZ5o4>
- Podcast episode – Genealogy Gems, episode 260, Your Guide & Update to the 1950 Census - <http://genealogygemspodcast.com/episode-260-your-guide-update-to-the-1950-census>