Overview of FamilySearch.org

OBJECTIVES
2. Show how-to update, improve, or add to your pedigree in Family Tree.
3. Show resources in FamilySearch.org that will help you find answers to questions.

SIGN IN / CREATE ACCOUNT (FREE)

- Create Account: Fill in personal information fields, then verify with your e-mail or a code sent to your phone. REMEMBER your Username and Password for future sign ins.
- Sign In: You must sign in to view your Family Tree and some other resources.
  - Settings: Manage your account. (Account, Contact, Notifications, Preferences, etc.)
  - Source Box: Stores sources when you check Add to Source Box.
  - Sign Out: Close FamilySearch.org to automatically sign out, also.

TABS

- Family Tree - Find People on the collaborative FamilySearch Family Tree.
- Search - Find Records from many databases.
- Memories - Add your photos and records to FamilySearch.org.
- Indexing - Help make records searchable.
- Activities - Family History made fun for everyone.

- The Family Tree is one worldwide pedigree. This allows you to collaborate with cousins and others and share a more accurate and complete family genealogy. Every person created on FamilySearch.org has a computer-generated Personal Identification (ID) Number.
FAMILY TREE TAB

There are two main pages: The **Tree** page and the **Person** page.

- **Tree**: Choose from 4 Pedigree views under the arrow ▼

Options allows you to choose which features to show in the Tree view. Record Hints, Portraits, Data Problems, Print, etc.

Add family by selecting + Add Father, + Add Mother or click Children dropdown to + Add a Child or view children.

- **Person**: From the Tree View, single click any ancestor and an ID Card will appear. Click on the Name, or Person at the bottom of the ID Card to open the Person Details page.

Or choose Person from the Family Tree Tab.

View Tree: This ancestor will be in the primary position on the pedigree chart.

Watch: To Watch a person click on the open star and it changes to ★ Unwatch

When watching a person, you can see changes made by other users in Lists or configure settings to receive email notifications of any changes made by others to your shared ancestors.

View My Relationship: Traces up to 15 generations, to show how you are related, or if you share a common ancestor with this person.
PERSON VIEW TABS

- **Details**: Each section may be collapsed or opened with the arrow.

  - **Life Sketch**: Click the + Add to enter information.
  - **Vitals**: Click Edit to update any names, dates or places. You may also Tag any sources related to these changes, add a Reason Statement and SAVE.
  - **Other Information**: Click + Add Information to receive a list of options such as Alternate Names, Events and Facts.

- **Family Members**: The person you are viewing will be Bold. The Left fields show the person as an adult with or without known Spouses and Children. The Right field shows the bold person as a child with Parents and Siblings. To add family members, click on +Add Spouse, +Add Parent, or +Add Child.

- **Time Line**: The Time Line is generated from information entered in Details.

  - Choose Satellite view
  - Toggle the Map Button to view the map with locators and the number of events there.
  - + Add more events on the Time Line. This information will be updated on the Detail page.
  - Show Which events and relationships you want to view, including Historical Events.
  - Icons show Birth, Marriage, Residence, Death, etc. Also see Date and Age of the Person for each Event.
  - Show Route of migration.

- **Sources**: You can Add Sources with URL, Images, Citations, and Descriptions. Options allows you to sort Sources by Chronological or Custom Order.

- **Collaborate**: Share Notes and Discussions

- **Memories**: View or upload: photos, documents, etc. to this ancestor.
There are various ways to search for Historical Records.

- **FIND**: Discover your deceased ancestors in FamilySearch.org database. Find by Name, dates, locations, parents, etc. or Find by ID number.

- **LISTS**: View changes made to people you are watching.

**SEARCH TAB**

Records There are various ways to search for Historical Records.
Search Historical Records

Searches top tier, Indexed records.

Restrict (filter) records by:

- **First (and middle) Names. Last Names**
- **Life Event:** Birth, Marriage, Residence, Death. Any place by a date range.
- **Relationship:** Spouse, Father, Mother, Other Person. (You may leave previous Names of the primary ancestor blank).
- **Specific Location** (for example: United Kingdom and Ireland).
- **Record Type:** Birth, Baptism, Marriage, Death, Census, Immigration and Naturalization, Military, Probate, etc.
- **Batch Number:** Indexes are compiled and assigned a batch number. This is an alphabetical surname listing of the specific record. These indexes can be complete or partial.
- **Film Number:** Indexes are compiled and assigned a film number (Film-Microfilm numbers and/or DGS-Digital film number). This is an alphabetical surname listing of the record or records on a microfilm. These indexes can be complete or partial.
- **Country.** State or Province.

Research By Location: Click an area of the world to research a specific location.

Select a Country or State to research.
Find additional resources and records.

- **Learning Courses**
- **FamilySearch Wiki page**
- **Current Indexing Projects**
- **Indexed Historical Records**
- **Image Only Historical Records**
- **Catalog**
Find a Collection

- **Find a Collection**: to research a specific record collection enter the name of the collection in the Title field. (i.e: “United States Census”, “Revolutionary War”, etc.)

- **Browse All Published Collections**: Click this link to see all of the record collections and apply filters to narrow your search by Title, Place, Date and Collections group.

Images

Explore Historical Images. FamilySearch.org is now adding procured records from worldwide locations for online access in 24 hours! (This process used to take more than 8 months.)

Use a Simple or Advanced Search to find groups of imaged records in the world’s largest collection of historical documents, with over 4 Million images and counting.

Family Tree

This is same option as **Find**, used to locate ancestors already in Family Trees on FamilySearch.org database.

Genealogies

View other Genealogies, which may or may not be included on FamilySearch Family Tree from:
- Ancestral File
- Pedigree Resource File and
• Other patron or organization submitted trees and projects (Community Trees).

Catalog
The Catalog is a collection of FamilySearch.org holdings and other Library Catalogs.

Filter searches by one or more field: Places, Surnames, Title, Author, Subjects, and/or Keywords.

Search by (Family History Library) Call Number, and Fiche / Film Number.

Availability of collections Online, at a Family History Center or Any.

Use the links to other Major Library catalogs: OCLC WorldCat, Archive Grid.

Books
Family History Books is a collection of more than 200,000 digitized genealogy and family history publications from the archives of some of the most important family history libraries in the world. The collection includes family histories, county and local histories, genealogy magazines and how-to books, gazetteers, and medieval histories and pedigrees.

Research Wiki
Search by Place or Topic. A vast, free, online genealogy and family history guide that lists websites, provides research strategies, and suggests records and resources to help you find ancestors from all over the world from over 92,000 articles.

Learn more about topics you are researching. Find links to specific searchable databases.
MEMORIES TAB

- **Add** and Upload Photos, Stories, Documents, and Audio recordings to anyone on your Family Tree.
- **Gallery** is the collection of all Memories you have contributed.
- **Title** Memories and add **Data**: Topic Tags, Event Dates, Places, and Descriptions.
- **Tag** the Memory to the Person Page Memories of anyone in FamilySearch.org.
- See memories others have contributed under **People**.
- **Add** Audio recordings and Stories to Photos.
- **Add** up to 10 Photos to a Story.
- You may organize your pictures by using the **Album** tab.
- Documents may be added to a Person’s Memories and then the image attached to a source.
- Stories will endear the hearts of others to these family members.
- **Find** will allow you to search for Photos, Stories and Documents

INDEXING TAB

- Volunteer by Indexing records for a computer searchable index. Help others find records faster and more easily.
- See Overview to find a Project from beginning to intermediate in many languages.
- Try a Guided Tour
- Open a Batch to try indexing for two weeks. Anything not completed will be shared with another indexer.
- Track your indexing projects. Find Resources and Get Help.
ACTIVITIES TAB
In-home and online activities designed for the whole family to have fun discovering family history in a whole new way!

HELP
Find Answers to your Questions.

- **Getting Started**: Suggestions on getting started.
- **Help Center**: Help with any questions you might have concerning Family Tree, Memories, Search, Indexing, FamilySearch Account, Genealogy Assistance or Family History Centers.
- **Contact Us**: Live Chat, Call Us, Send Message, Find Local Help, Visit Family History Library.
- **Learning Center**: Browse hundreds of genealogy courses to help you discover your family history.
- **Community**: Get help from the community. Ask Questions. Join a Group for professional help and get answers to your questions.
- **My Cases**: Receive and send correspondence regarding any cases you submit.

Tips: If you ever get lost while on FamilySearch.org, click the FamilySearch logo and it will return you to the home page.

Tip: Click on **Recents** on the Person View or the Tree View to see the last 50 people you have viewed. Your name will always be at the top of the list.