

Thousand Oaks Library Genealogy Resources

Ancestry Library Edition

This is the most common starter database for genealogy searches. Ancestry is a commercial subscription service. You can access it at the Library to do some searching. Family trees can only be made if you purchase a subscription. United States Census; military records; court, land and probate records; vital and church records; directories; passenger lists and more.

Ancestry Library Edition is slightly different from a trial subscription or a full subscription to the database. Ancestry specifies that we can offer this database only to users within the Thousand Oaks Library and Newbury Park Library. You can also use the database on your personal computer or tablet while you are connected to the Library WIFI service.

Ancestry Library Edition key differences from Member (U.S.Discovery level) subscriptions –

1. Services not included: Family Tree creation, Collaboration with others, DNA service, publishing service, Ancestry shop, and access to hire an expert.
2. Databases not included: Family trees, obituaries, people finder, family facts, Historic newspapers, passenger & immigration lists, worldwide (international) records, and a few other sources.

If you are curious about subscriptions, Ancestry currently states that it has the following levels of membership:

	U.S. Discovery	World Explorer	All Access
Grow a family tree with exclusive search tools.	X	X	X
Connect with fellow members to share questions and advice.	X	X	X
Access 15+ billion records from all 50 U.S. states.	X	X	X
Expand your search with 3+ billion worldwide records.		X	X
Find stories among 112+ million pages in the Newspapers.com Basic subscription.			X
Explore 487+ million original military records on Fold3.com.			X
Enjoy premium support with a dedicated 1-800 number.			X

*If you are interested, you can go online to [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) see prices, this graphic is just to show the difference in services.

Technology Training

How to begin:

1. Do your homework!
Find out any and all information available to you from sources at hand – family documents, discussions with family members, old address books, photos, clippings, scrapbooks and yearbooks.
2. Write out what you find – or type it up in a document...
This is the beginning of your family history. You might want to start with two lists – your mother's side and your father's side of your family.

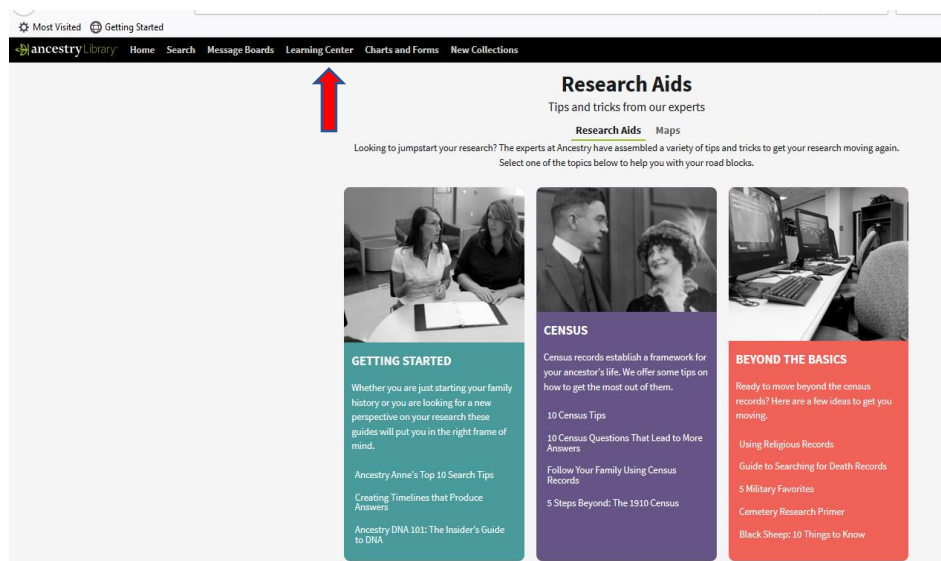
You might not have a lot to begin with, but write down anything, memories, guesses, stories. Things like addresses or cities where your family used to live can help you decide if a person is your relation, or just someone with the same name.

Having a word file with your notes can be a help when working with Ancestry Library Edition. Since you can't build a family tree inside Library Edition, you will want to save documents and work on your tree elsewhere.

On a computer, you can open both Library Edition, and your Word file, and copy information. I suggest using a USB drive for storage, as this will be efficient for capturing files you find on Library Edition.

Note: See the handout "Ancestry Anne's tips" for more information, but please note that the Library Edition will not support entering your family information into "Family Tree." This is one reason I suggest creating a Word file for your ancestry work.

There are more guides to help you with your research, just click on the "Learning Center" link at the top of the Ancestry screen.



Technology Training

Let's Get Started! Using Library Edition

The screenshot shows the AncestryLibrary website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like Home, Search, Message Boards, Learning Center, Charts and Forms, and New Collections. Below this, a large banner features a group of people and the text "Searching for that right moment". A red arrow points to a green "Begin Searching" button. To the right of the banner, there's a "Receive Records at Home" section with a "Send Your Find Home!" form. Below the banner, there are four search categories: SEARCH CENSUS, SEARCH VITALS, SEARCH MILITARY, and SEARCH IMMIGRATION, each with a brief description and a "Search Now" link. At the bottom, there's a "Quick Links" section with various record types and a "U.S. Census Records" section with a list of years from 1790 to 1900.

I suggest you begin with the most general search to get started.

Technology Training

Search

First & Middle Name(s) Last Name

Place your ancestor might have lived Birth Year

City, County, State, Country

Search Show fewer options Match all terms exactly

Add event: Birth Marriage Death Lived In Any Event More

Add family member: Father Mother Sibling Spouse Child

Keyword

Occupation, street address, etc.

Gender Race/Nationality

-- Select --

Historical Records Family Trees

Stories & Publications Photos & Maps

Search Clear search

Explore by Location

Special Collections + Card Catalog

Historical Records

Birth, Marriage & Death

Birth, Baptism & Christening

Marriage & Divorce

Death, Burial, Cemetery & Obituaries

Census & Voter Lists

U.S. Federal Census Collection

UK Census Collection

Canadian Census Collection

More...

Immigration & Travel

Passenger Lists

Citizenship & Naturalization Records

Border Crossings & Passports

More...

Military

Draft, Enlistment and Service

Casualties

Soldier, Veteran & Prisoner Rolls & Lists

More...

Schools, Directories & Church Histories

Start with the person for whom you have the most existing information.

Sometimes one accurate result can help you find other people in your tree.

Search

First & Middle Name(s) Last Name

merritt mccoon

Exact... Exact...

Place your ancestor might have lived Birth Year

new york 1840

Exact Exact +/-...

Search Show fewer options Match all terms exactly

Add event: Birth Marriage Death Lived In Any Event More

Year Location

Birth 1840 New York, USA

Exact +/-... Exact to...

Any Event new york

Exact

Add family member: Father Mother Sibling Spouse Child

Keyword

Occupation, street address, etc.

Gender Race/Nationality

-- Select --

Historical Records Family Trees

Stories & Publications Photos & Maps

Special Collections + Card Catalog

Historical Records

Birth, Marriage & Death

Birth, Baptism & Christening

Marriage & Divorce

Death, Burial, Cemetery & Obituaries

Census & Voter Lists

U.S. Federal Census Collection

UK Census Collection

Canadian Census Collection

More...

Immigration & Travel

Passenger Lists

Citizenship & Naturalization Records

Border Crossings & Passports

More...

Military

Draft, Enlistment and Service

Casualties

Soldier, Veteran & Prisoner Rolls & Lists

More...

Schools, Directories & Church Histories

City & Area Directories

Professional & Organizational Directories

Here is an example of a general search – if you don't know a birthdate, go ahead and guess the decade.

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Sample result – I have one accurate match, near the top of my result:

Search Filters: Broad Exact

meritt
mccoone
BORN: 1840
IN: New York, ...
ANY: new york

COLLECTION: All Collections

Edit Search New Search Update

All Categories

- Census & Voter Lists +5,000
- Birth, Marriage & Death +5,000
- Military +5,000
- Immigration & Travel +5,000
- Newspapers & Publications 148
- Pictures 76
- Stories, Memories & Histories 283
- Maps, Atlases & Gazetteers 303
- Schools, Directories & Church Histories +5,000
- Wills, Probates, Land, Tax & Criminal +5,000
- Reference, Dictionaries & Almanacs 72
- Family Trees +5,000

Shortcut Keys

Results 1-20 of 140,293

Records Categories

Record	Name	Birth	Residence
1860 United States Federal Census	M McKoon	abt 1835 - New York	1860 - Steuben, Marshall, Illinois, USA
1850 United States Federal Census	Jane M McKoon	abt 1836 - New York	1850 - Schroepel, Oswego, New York
1920 United States Federal Census	Isabella Mccoone	abt 1839 - New York	1920 - Queens Assembly District 3, Queens, New York, USA
1860 United States Federal Census	Merritt P McKoon	abt 1845 - New York	1860 - Delhi, Delaware, New York, USA
1880 United States Federal Census	Jennie Mccoone	abt 1840 - New York	1880 - Omaha, Douglas, Nebraska, USA
1880 United States Federal Census	Lillis Mccoone	abt 1840 - New York	1880 - Napoli, Cattaraugus, New York, USA
1870 United States Federal Census	Willett Mccoone	abt 1840 - New York	1870 - Hempstead, Queens, New York, USA

If I “Hover” over the link to the Census record, it will show some helpful information:

Search Filters: Broad Exact

meritt
mccoone
BORN: 1840
IN: New York, ...
ANY: new york

COLLECTION: All Collections

Edit Search New Search Update

All Categories

- Census & Voter Lists +5,000
- Birth, Marriage & Death +5,000
- Military +5,000
- Immigration & Travel +5,000
- Newspapers & Publications 148
- Pictures 76
- Stories, Memories & Histories 283
- Maps, Atlases & Gazetteers 303
- Schools, Directories & Church Histories +5,000
- Wills, Probates, Land, Tax & Criminal +5,000
- Reference, Dictionaries & Almanacs 72
- Family Trees +5,000

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1880 United States Federal Census	Jennie Mccoone	abt 1840 - New York	1880 - Omaha, Douglas, Nebraska, USA
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1870 United States Federal Census	Willett Mccoone	abt 1840 - New York	1870 - Hempstead, Queens, New York, USA

1860 United States Federal Census

See More

NAME: Merritt P McKoon
AGE: 15
BIRTH YEAR: 1845
GENDER: Male
BIRTH PLACE: New York
HOME IN 1860: Delhi, Delaware, New York
POST OFFICE: Delhi
DWELLING NUMBER: 1021
FAMILY NUMBER: 1073
ATTENDED SCHOOL: Yes
HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS:

NAME	AGE
Lewis Fitch	60
Louisa Fitch	52
Hannah McKoon	40
Samuel F McKoon	20
Merritt P McKoon	15

I know there's a Hannah in the family, so this helps identify this result as the correct person!

Technology Training

If I Click the link to the Census, I will see a copy of the record, from microfilm that has been digitized.

The 1860 census does not have as much detail as some later census images.

1860 United States Federal Census for Merrit P McKoon
New York > Delaware > Delhi

Page No. 52

SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in Delhi Village in the County of Delaware State
of New York enumerated by me, on the 26th day of July 1860. B.B. Brown Asst Marshal
Post Office Delhi

1	2	3	4		6	7	8		10	11	12	13	14
			Age	Sex			Value of Real Estate	Value of Personal Estate					
1019/1020		James H. Adams	26	m	Merchant		1000		NY				
		Ellen "	18	f					"				
1071		Sarah Fisher	58	f	Seamstress	2000	500		"				
		Arthur "	8	m					"				
1020/1021		David H. Parker	18	m	Farmer	1200	5000		NY				
		Sophronia "	54	f					"				
		Mary Edmuth	32	f					"				
		Minnie C. "	14	f					"				
		Lydia Hitchcock	13	f					"				
1024/1025		Levi H. Smith	40	m	Butcher	1200	500		"				
		Lucina "	52	f					"				
		Hannah McKoon	60	f					"				
		Samuel T. "	20	m	Bank Clerk				"				
		Merrit P. "	15	m					"				
1028/1029		Samuel Graham	42	m	Merchant	5400	500		"				
		Lucinda "	51	f					"				
		Edw. L. "	18	m					"				

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How to save –

When you do not have a personal account in Ancestry, you can't save records to your own tree or "shoebox" for future reference. But, you can save the information two ways:

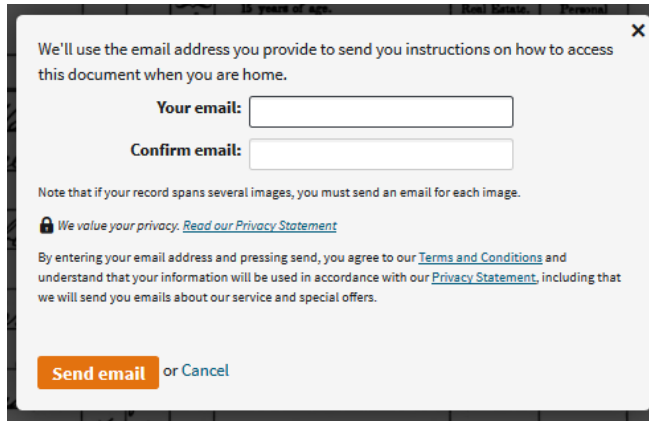
Click the green "SAVE" button at the upper right corner of your screen, and you will see two options:

Send Image Home

Save to This Computer

Technology Training

I recommend “Send Image Home” if you are using a Library computer, and do not have a usb drive with you. You will get instructions to input your email address, and a link will be sent that you can access from any Internet connected computer.




We'll use the email address you provide to send you instructions on how to access this document when you are home.

Your email:

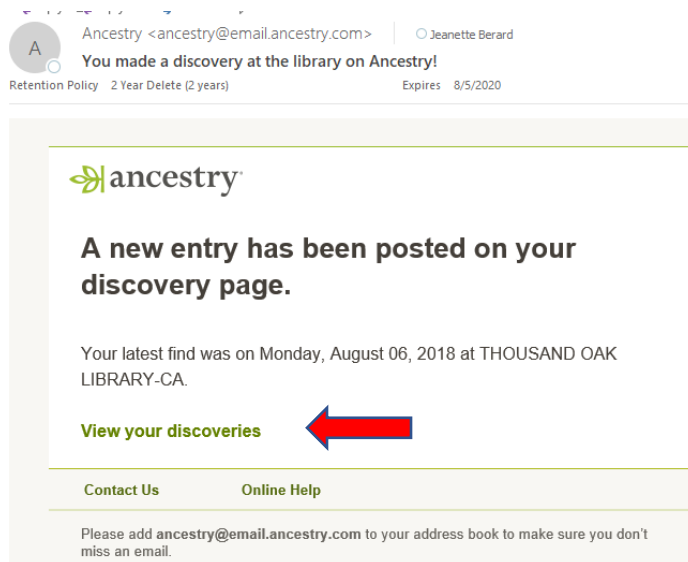
Confirm email:

Note that if your record spans several images, you must send an email for each image.

 We value your privacy. [Read our Privacy Statement](#)

By entering your email address and pressing send, you agree to our [Terms and Conditions](#) and understand that your information will be used in accordance with our [Privacy Statement](#), including that we will send you emails about our service and special offers.

[Send email](#) or [Cancel](#)



The email will arrive with a link. When you click the link, it will open an Internet browser to a page called, “My Discoveries”

Technology Training

1st Visited Getting Started

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My Discoveries

Merritt C. McKoon
U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865
Military: New York
Found Aug 7, 2018 at THOUSAND OAK LIBRARY-CA

Printer Friendly

Merritt G McKoon
U.S., School Catalogs, 1765-1935
Residence: 1859 - Massachusetts
Residence Place: Delhi, N Y
Found Aug 7, 2018 at THOUSAND OAK LIBRARY-CA

Download Image
Printer Friendly

Merritt P McKoon
1860 United States Federal Census
Relative: Lewis Fitch
Birth: 1845 - New York
Residence: 1860 - Delhi, Delaware, New York, USA
Found Aug 6, 2018 at THOUSAND OAK LIBRARY-CA

Download Image
Printer Friendly

Welcome to your Discovery Page
On the left you should find links to all of the documents you requested to be sent to you.

I don't see a Download Image button. Why is that?
If you don't see a Download Image link, this image is either not available for download or there is no image. Click on Printer Friendly and you will see a page with all of the transcribed information for this document as well as source information.

How often will I get an email with the link to my Discovery Page?
We don't want to clog your inbox with lots of emails, so we only send you an email with the link to your Discovery Page once every 12 hours when you are at the library searching for your ancestors.

Simply refresh the page to see your latest finds. And you might want to bookmark

But – Where's my File?

If there's no "Download Image" button, you can still get the citation, by clicking "Printer Friendly." You can copy and paste the citation to a Word document to save it.

If you do get the "Download Image" button, then click "Download Image" to get the file. It may not be immediately obvious where the file went.

If you are using FireFox, you may need to click the Download button (arrow at upper right corner of screen) to show the files you have downloaded

1st Visited Getting Started

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My Discoveries

Merritt P McKoon
1860 United States Federal Census
Relative: Lewis Fitch
Birth: 1845 - New York
Residence: 1860 - Delhi, Delaware, New York, USA
Found Aug 6, 2018 at THOUSAND OAK LIBRARY-CA

Download Image
Printer Friendly

Welcome to your Discovery Page
On the left you should find links to all of the documents you requested to be sent to you.

How Things Work: Inside Out: →

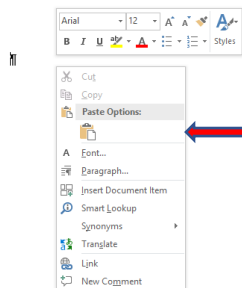
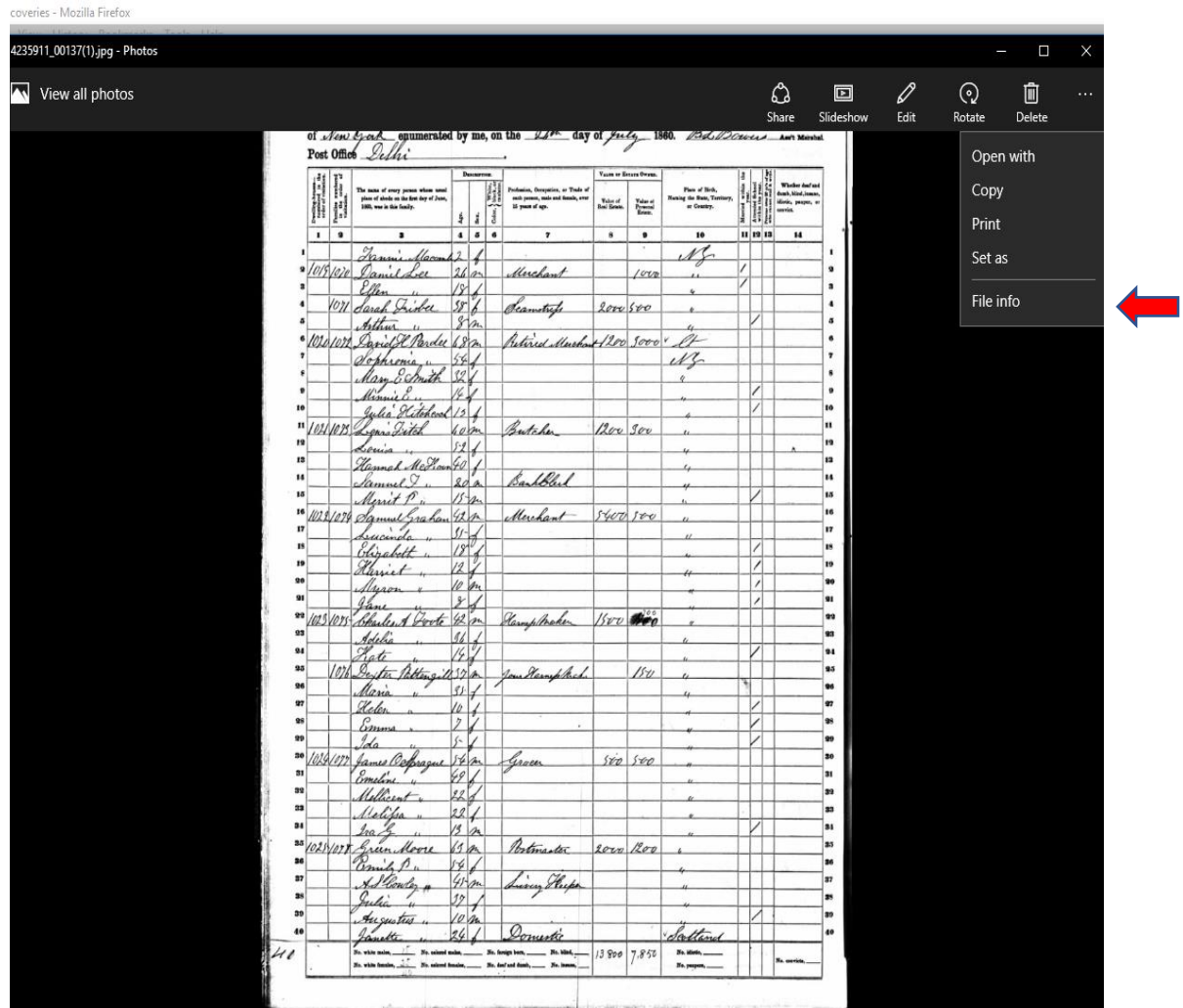
4235911_00137(2).jpg
Completed — 1.4 MB

4235911_00137(1).jpg
Open File

4235911_00137.jpg
Completed — 1.4 MB

Show All Downloads

Technology Training



Page No. 52

SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in Delhi Village in the County of Delaware State
of New York enumerated by me, on the 21st day of July 1860. Bob Brown Ass't Marshal.
Post Office Delhi

1	2	3	4			7	8		10	11	12	13	14
			Age	Sex	Color		Value of Real Estate	Value of Personal Estate					
		<u>Fannie Maccomb</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>NY</u>				
<u>1015/1070</u>		<u>Daniel Lee</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>m</u>		<u>Merchant</u>		<u>1000</u>	<u>"</u>				
		<u>Ellen</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
	<u>1071</u>	<u>Sarah Frieser</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>f</u>		<u>Seamstress</u>		<u>200 500</u>	<u>"</u>				
		<u>Arthur</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>m</u>					<u>"</u>				
<u>1020/1072</u>		<u>David H. Pardee</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>m</u>		<u>Retired Merchant</u>		<u>1200 5000</u>	<u>CT</u>				
		<u>Daphronia</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>NY</u>				
		<u>Mary E. Smith</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Minnie E.</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Julia Ditcher</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
<u>1021/1073</u>		<u>Johna Fitch</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>m</u>		<u>Butcher</u>		<u>1200 300</u>	<u>"</u>				
		<u>Louisa</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Hannah McLean</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Samuel T.</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>m</u>		<u>Bank Clerk</u>			<u>"</u>				
		<u>Merrit P.</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>m</u>					<u>"</u>				
<u>1022/1074</u>		<u>Samuel Graham</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>m</u>		<u>Merchant</u>		<u>5400 800</u>	<u>"</u>				
		<u>Leucinda</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Elizabeth</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Harriet</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Margon</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>m</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Jane</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
<u>1023/1075</u>		<u>Charles A. Forte</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>m</u>		<u>Harmonizer</u>		<u>1500 300</u>	<u>"</u>				
		<u>Adelia</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Kate</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
<u>1076</u>		<u>Dexter Pittenger</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>m</u>		<u>Iron Harmonizer</u>		<u>150</u>	<u>"</u>				
		<u>Maria</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Helen</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Emma</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Ida</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
<u>1024/1077</u>		<u>James Oelprague</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>m</u>		<u>Grocer</u>		<u>500 500</u>	<u>"</u>				
		<u>Emeline</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Mellicent</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Melissa</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Ernest</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>m</u>					<u>"</u>				
<u>1025/1078</u>		<u>Gran Moore</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>m</u>		<u>Postmaster</u>		<u>2000 1200</u>	<u>"</u>				
		<u>Emily P.</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>A. S. Lowley</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>m</u>		<u>Living Keeper</u>			<u>"</u>				
		<u>Julia</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>f</u>					<u>"</u>				
		<u>Augustus</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>m</u>					<u>"</u>				
<u>40</u>		<u>Janette</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>f</u>		<u>Domestic</u>			<u>Scotland</u>				

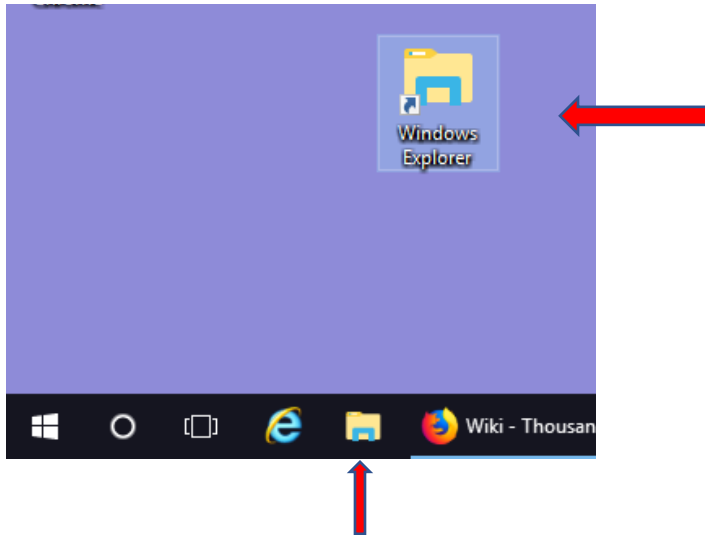
No. white males, 15 No. colored males, _____ No. foreign born, _____ No. blind, _____
 No. white females, 25 No. colored females, _____ No. deaf and dumb, _____ No. insane, _____
 No. paupers, _____ No. convicts, _____

The result of "pasting" the document into your Word file.

Be sure to save your Word file to your USB drive!

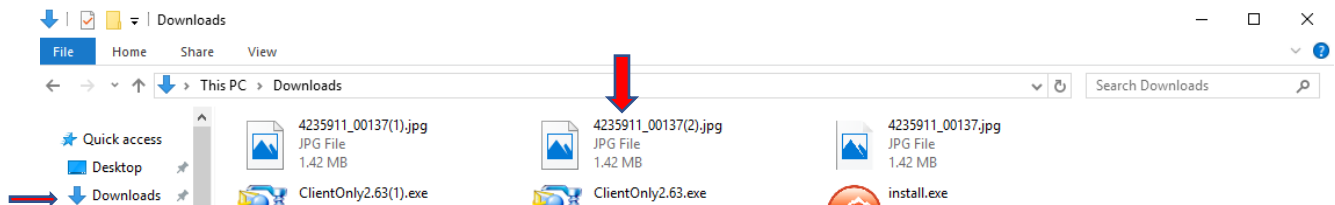
Working with Downloads:

If you have a Windows 10 computer, the downloaded files are relatively easy to find, click on “Windows Explorer”



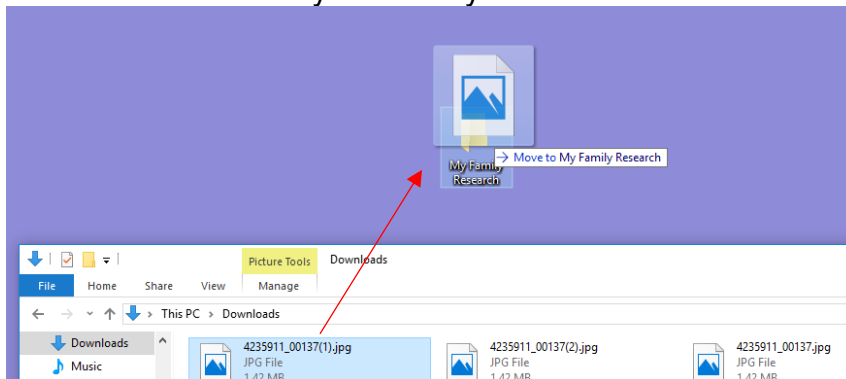
You may see “Windows Explorer” on your task bar at the lower edge of the computer screen, or it may appear as a “shortcut” on your desktop. It looks like a file folder.

Then click on “Downloads”



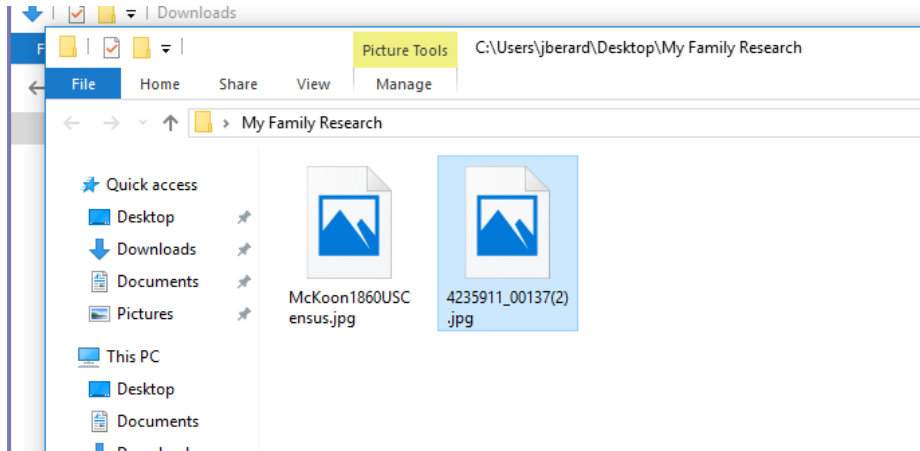
Note the Ancestry downloads have weird numbers instead of a name. I suggest you save these to another file, and give them a name so they are easier to locate.

You can simply drag and drop the download into the file, and then rename it, to drag, click and hold down the left mouse key, and once you are over the destination file, release the mouse key. You may see the words “Move to” appear

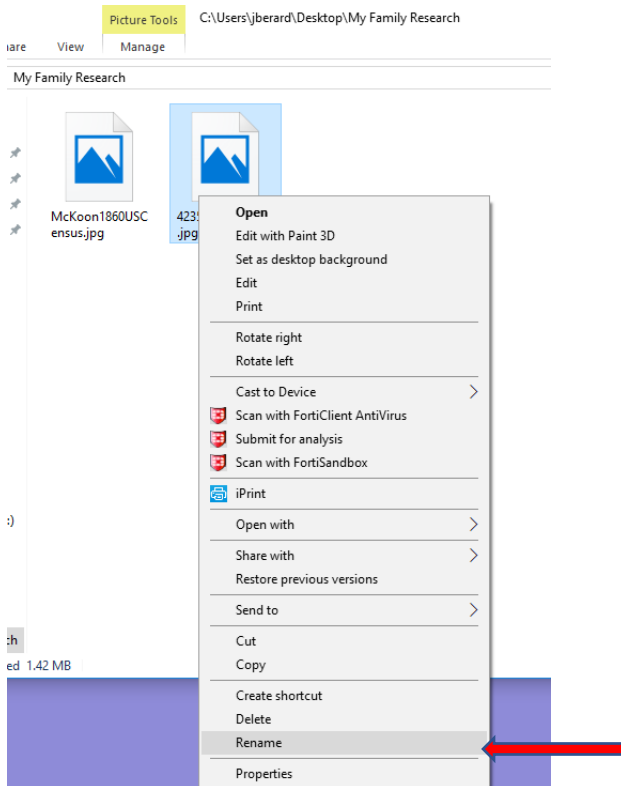


Technology Training

Rename the file:



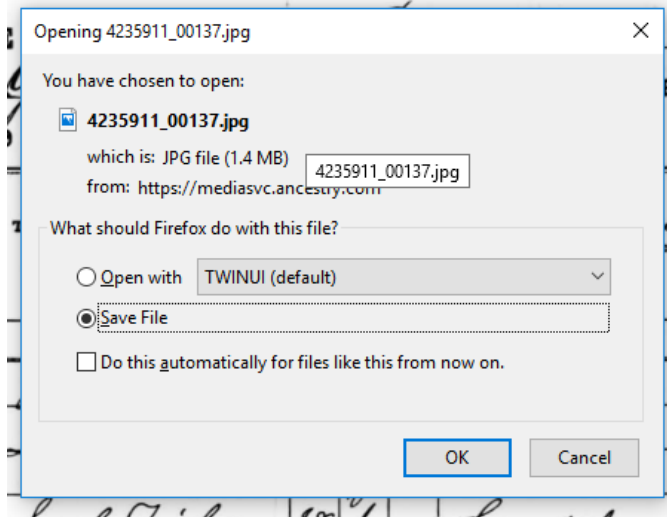
The file on the left has been renamed as an example. To rename a file you can click on the existing name – two slow clicks – click, pause, click. Or you can use the Right mouse key to select the option, “Rename”



I like to name the files using the person's name, date of the document, and type of document. It is good practice to leave no blank spaces, and do not use punctuation. The underscore can be used to separate words if needed.

If you are using your own computer, or if you have a usb drive connected to the Library computer, you can do the shorter process.

Click “Save to this Computer” you will get a jpeg (image) file, this will usually save to your downloads, and then you can move it and rename it following the process above.



A jpeg file is an image file – it is not saved as text, and is not searchable.

This is a good reason to “copy” the image, and “paste” it into a Word document, so you can add notes about the files. (Even when an image file is pasted into Word, it is still an image, it won’t convert to text.)

Working with your search results

Census records – these can show family groups, occupations, and addresses. They give a relative age of the individuals, and may show family relationships, for example:

- Head – person who is the principal owner/renter of the address
- Wife –
- Son
- Daughter
- in Law
- Renter
- Servant

What does it mean? The census taker had a form, and posed questions to whomever was at home at the time. That person would give answers which were not verified.

Names/spellings may be incorrect – often the census taker went purely on what they heard and did not ask for spellings (and some respondents may not have known accurate full names or may not have been willing to give them).

Ages, are usually roughly correct, based on the year, rather than actual birthdate. Some respondents may have obscured the age(s) of persons in the household.

Where were they from? This may have been assumed by the census taker, or it may have been asked. Some countries may have changed names since the time the information was given, and some country names may be mistaken for others. Sometimes you need to see several census years to get a consensus on the country of origin. If the geographic location isn't familiar, try Googling it, usually it will show the relationship to current countries.

How to get unstuck? Try variant names, try adding or omitting initials. If the person is female, try using original surname as well as married name. Try varying the year of birth or location of birth. If you know parent's or sibling's names, try locating those – sometimes a spelling error will be revealed by finding a family member.

Cyndi's list <https://www.cyndislist.com/us/> and Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness <https://raogk.org/> online may help you to resolve some mysteries.

Family Search

Family Search is a free online service related to Ancestry.com, which anyone can use by creating a free account by filling in the online form:

Note that the form asks if you are a Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints member – if you click the (i) button, the site will tell you this is because:

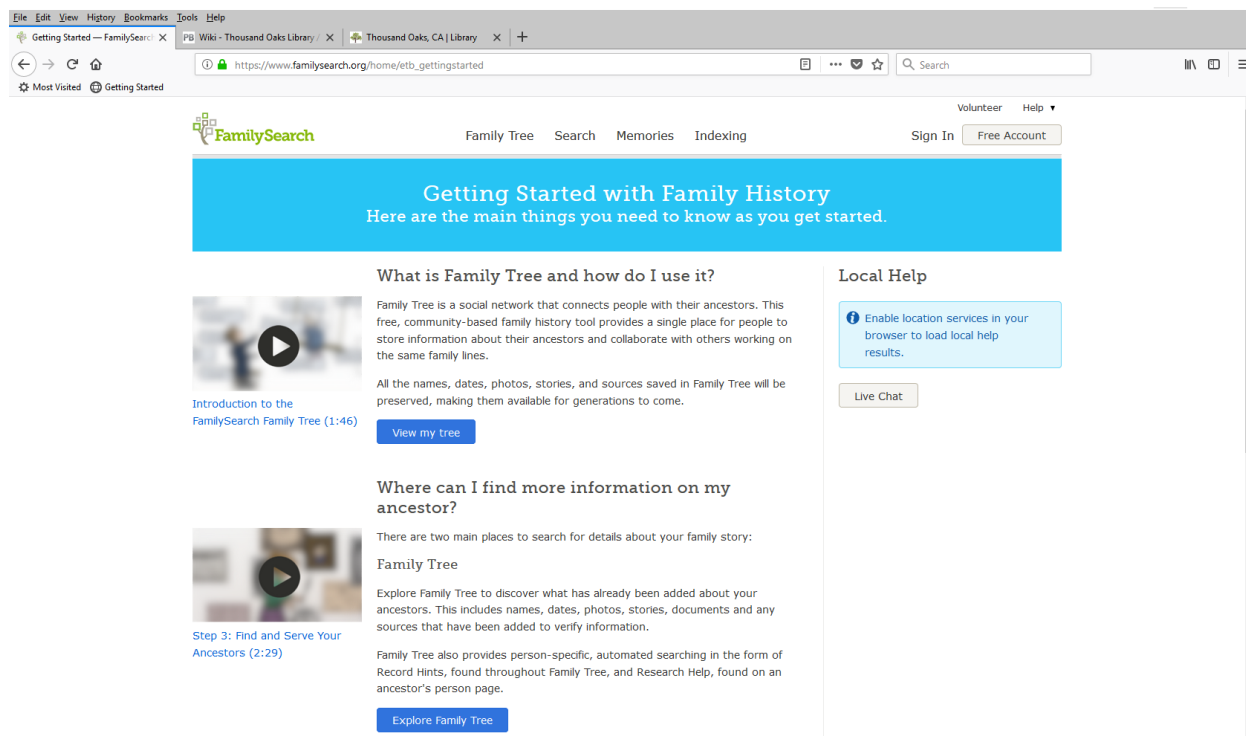
“Some collection owners have granted family history centers and church members access to their records in exchange for preservation services provided by the Church.”

There is now free training available from FamilySearch RootsTech, see them at <https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/rtc2021>

You can see some information about using FamilySearch by clicking the help button, and selecting “Getting Started” from the menu.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the FamilySearch website. The main heading is "Create a Free FamilySearch Account". The form includes fields for "First Name" and "Last Name", a "Birth Date" section with "Month", "Day", and "Year" dropdowns, and a "Sex" section with "Male" and "Female" radio buttons. There is a checkbox for "I am a Member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints." and a "Continue" button. A "Help" dropdown menu is open, showing options: "Help Center", "Getting Started" (highlighted with a blue arrow), "Contact Us", "Learning Center", "Community", "My Cases", "Research Wiki", "What's New", and "Consultant Resources". A "Volunteer" button is also visible in the top right corner.

Technology Training



If you click on “Getting Started” you can watch videos on how you use the various tools available.

Using FamilySearch is fairly similar to using Ancestry Library Edition, and accesses a lot of the same records, but they are presented in different views, and work off a central family tree that the user creates.

Some differences are that in viewing census results, the person you are searching is not highlighted in the result, and when you hover over the census columns the text view of handwritten entries does not exist. This can make it more difficult to use and interpret.

The FamilySearch Library in Los Angeles

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Los_Angeles_FamilySearch_Library#Los_Angeles_California_FamilySearch_Library

They now offer live assistance online, research requests and training

Handouts – Sample forms, tips

Sample Form #1, Family Group Record. This is an example of a very standard form for recording a family group. You can photocopy the form and use it to hand write information, or you can use it as a pattern to create your own word document to enter information. From Powell, Kimberly. *The Everything Family Tree Book*, Adams Media, MA, 2006, p. 299.

Sample form #2, Chart for plotting your Family Tree. This is another very standard way of recording your family members. It doesn't give as much information as the Family Group Record, but it helps to show the relationships between people in your tree. From Powell, Kimberly. *The Everything Family Tree Book*, Adams Media, MA, 2006, p. 298.

Tip sheet – these tips are extremely helpful to keep in mind as you start researching your family history. From Powell, Kimberly. *The Everything Family Tree Book*, Adams Media, MA, 2006, p. x

Ancestry Anne's Top 10 Search tips – tips from the Ancestry website. (Note: some of the tips are only for those with personal accounts.)

Books to help you in your genealogy search – a bibliography of some starter genealogy titles found in the Thousand Oaks Library.

Other Genealogy resources here at the Library and online.

American Ancestors

Databases of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. Highlights include full-text access to the New England Historical and Genealogical Register (1847-1994), and New England state vital records and index resources. Sponsored by the Conejo Valley Genealogical Society. **(Note – this resource is discussed in detail in the Intermediate Genealogy Class)**

Los Angeles Times (1881- current)

Access to obituaries and other information related to California and Los Angeles. If your family may have been from the greater LA area, finding birth, death, marriage, and divorce records may be possible with this resource. You may also be able to find supporting information for family lore, such as businesses, major events, and social connections.

Local News Index

Get very local stories about the Conejo Valley. Local newspapers indexed by Thousand Oaks Librarians, including obituaries 1982-2016. Like the LA Times, this index can help you find local family records. Note this is an index, not a database. Once you locate a citation, you will need to view the microfilm, which can be requested from the Reference Desk.

In addition, more resources are found on our Virtual Library
<https://research.tolibrary.org/az.php?a=all&s=154645>

Technology Training

eResources: Genealogy

A

America's News Search local, state and national full-text articles on issues, events, business, government, health and more with over 1,400 news sources, newspapers, videos, newswires, and web-only content including the Daily News (10/1/85-Current), Ventura County Star (1997-Current), and USA Today (7/1/87-Current). The "Access World News" also includes a comprehensive full-text database with sources from 172 countries.

American Ancestors Databases of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. Highlights include full-text access to the New England Historical and Genealogical Register (1847-1994), and New England state vital records and index resources. Sponsored by the Conejo Valley Genealogical Society.

Ancestry Library Edition Ancestry Library Edition provides narratives, oral histories, indexes and abstracts, a vast collection of U.S. and international documents online. Remote access is temporarily enabled with library card and PIN during the library closure.

G

Gale Primary Sources: Archives Unbound Archives Unbound presents digital content from: "County and Regional Histories & Atlases: California, 1867-1910"; and "Through the Camera Lens: The Moving Picture World and the Silent Cinema Era, 1907-1927."

H

HeritageQuest Online Genealogy collection of family and local histories.

L

Local News Index Local newspapers indexed by Thousand Oaks Librarians, including obituaries.

Los Angeles Times (1881-current) Full-text articles published in L.A. Times beginning 1881 to current.

Research by Topics

- eResources A to Z
- Arts & Entertainment
- Biography & History
- Business & Finance
- Education & Test Preparation
- Genealogy
- Health Resources
- Homework Help
- Jobs & Career Development
- Language Learning
- Legal Resources
- Literature, Books and Reading
- Magazines & Newspapers
- Quick Reference
- Reader's Advisory
- Science
- Social Studies & Government

A note about USB drives as storage – USB drives are great for portability, but they are **NOT** a long-term storage solution. Never have your only copies of important information stored on a USB (e.g. thumb drive, memory stick, etc). When USB drives fail, it is typically permanent. These drives rely on magnetic memory, which can be damaged by magnetic fields, electrical fields (static electricity, power surges) and by dropping the device. Just like two magnets will often pop apart if you drop them, magnetic data may be jolted apart by a hard fall. We recommend you back up USB drives to a cloud drive or hard drive on a regular basis. Most email servers offer cloud storage these days (gmail=Google Drive, MSOutlook=OneDrive, etc.)

A word about DNA – This can be a useful tool, especially if you are stuck, or trying to locate lost family members. I suggest you don't start with DNA, save it for after you have worked out the basics of your family tree. If you want to pursue DNA linking, it functions better if you have a paid subscription account at one of the genealogy services.

If you find you are interested in DNA testing, I recommend you read some of the current articles about the process prior to making a decision and selecting a test company. Science News has a very helpful review of the process.

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/consumer-genetic-testing-dna-genome>

Once the DNA genie is out of the bottle, it can't be put back.