

# Jump Start Your Genealogy

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Genealogy connects the generations.

### 1. What do you want to know?

- a. Names
- b. Nationalities
- c. Locations
- d. Occupations
- e. Stories



### 2. What do you know?

- a. Names
- b. Facts
- c. Stories
- d. Photos

### 3. What Do Family Members know?

- a. Interview
- b. Informal conversations
- c. Photos & Documents
  - Ask for copies
  - Offer to scan



### 4. Getting Started

- a. Family Group Sheet \*
  - b. Ancestry Chart \*
  - c. Numbering (See Ancestry Chart)
  - d. Research Log \*
    - Second example from Thomas MacEntee - [www.geneabloggers.com /genreslog](http://www.geneabloggers.com/genreslog)
  - e. Organizing paper, digital, photos, and artifacts
- \* Printed from Legacy Software

### 5. Looking for: Names

- a. Love the Census (1790 - 1940) - United States conducted the federal census every ten years, starting in 1790.
  - 1850 was the first every name census.
  - 1880 started listing the relationship of each person to the head of this family
  - 1870 indicated whether parents were foreign born
  - Nativity of parents, started listing in 1880
  - Naturalization/Citizenship, started listing in 1890, but most of that year's census were lost in a fire.
  - Agriculture and manufacturing schedules
  - State Censuses

- b. Vital Record availability dependent on laws and practices of geographic location
    - Birth, Marriage, Death
    - Check person, parents, spouse, and informant.
    - Availability varies depending on location. Case Study: [CookCountyGenealogy.org](http://CookCountyGenealogy.org) vs St. Joseph County, Indiana
  - c. Plus
    - Probate
    - Church
    - Land
    - Social Security
6. Looking for: Nationalities
- a. Census records - Included in 1870 - 1940 documents
  - b. Immigration records - Include arrival and departure
    - Ellis Island - [www.libertyellisfoundation.org/](http://www.libertyellisfoundation.org/)  
1892 to 1954, 1897 fire; database with digital images
    - Castle Garden – [www.castlegarden.org](http://www.castlegarden.org)  
1855 to 1890; searchable database 1820-1913; no images
    - Steve Morse - <https://stevemorse.org/>  
Pulling from Ancestry (\$) and FamilySearch (Sign In)
  - c. Searching Overseas
    - You will need to understand how records were collected at their time in history. In many places, you will need to know the parish where records were collected.
  - d. Naturalization - <https://www.uscis.gov/genealogy>
  - e. DNA – Several options
    - Ancestry DNA, MyHeritage DNA, Living DNA, 23andMe, Family Tree DNA
    - Difficult to compare nationality categories and percentages across vendors.
7. Looking for Locations
- a. Census
  - b. Maps
    - Plat Maps & Atlas
    - Postal route maps
    - Sanborn Insurance Maps
  - c. Directories
  - d. Land records
8. Looking for: Occupations
- a. Census (1850 and after)
  - b. Death certificates
  - c. Newspapers
    - Newspapers.com
    - NewspaperARCHIVE.com
    - Illinois Online Historical Newspapers,  
<https://sites.google.com/site/onlinenewspapersite/Home/>
    - Chronicling America, <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/newspapers/>
  - d. Area Directories

## 9. Looking for: Stories

- a. Interview relatives
- b. Listen to stories
- c. Newspapers
- d. Obituaries
- e. Biographies

## 10. Fill in Missing Information

- a. Census
- b. Newspapers
- c. Ancestry.com (trees free, \$ for research)
- d. FamilySearch.org (Records and Wiki, free, but need account)
- e. Local resources: libraries, historical societies, genealogical societies, archives
- f. Cyndi's List – extensive and organized

## 11. Cautions

- a. Truth is relative - Not everyone tells or even knows the truth. Check the date or the record compared to the dates conveyed. Check the informant.
- b. May find surprises. Will you be OK if your ancestors were criminals, slave owners, or on the “wrong” side of a conflict.
- c. Hints vs Facts – Don't just grab details from user submitted information and trees.
- d. So, Curate information, analyze, don't just collect names
- e. Cite your sources so you and others can find the information.
- f. Track your research so you know what you've checked. It will make it easier to restart your research
- g. Internet isn't all that. While more and more information is being made accessible via Interest, not everything is online. Review catalogs for your online and brick and mortar repositories.
- h. Not everything is indexed – Go beyond a records search and browse the available images. Not every image is indexed or always indexed correctly. Even if you find your ancestor's record, look at the document or image to see additional details.

## 12. Continue to Learn

- a. FamilySearch Learning Center - [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) > Help > Learning Center
- b. Ancestry Learning Center, <https://support.ancestry.com>
- c. Live Streaming / Webinars
  - RootsTech Annual Conference (Feb 28 – Mar 3), <https://www.rootstech.org/live-stream-schedule>
  - Illinois State Genealogical Society, <https://ilgensoc.org>
  - FamilyTreeWebinars, <https://familytreewebinars.com>

## 13. Q & A

# Pedigree Chart for

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. \_\_\_\_\_ on chart no. \_\_\_\_\_

Chart no. \_\_\_\_\_

4 b. p. m. p. d. p.	8 b. p. m. p. d. p.	16 b. m. d. cont. _____
2 b. p. m. p. d. p.	9 b. p. d. p.	17 b. d. cont. _____
5 b. p. d. p.	10 b. p. m. p. d. p.	18 b. m. d. cont. _____
1 b. p. m. p. d. p.	11 b. p. d. p.	19 b. d. cont. _____
6 b. p. m. p. d. p.	12 b. p. m. p. d. p.	20 b. m. d. cont. _____
3 b. p. d. p.	13 b. p. d. p.	21 b. d. cont. _____
7 b. p. d. p.	14 b. p. m. p. d. p.	22 b. m. d. cont. _____
	15 b. p. d. p.	23 b. d. cont. _____
		24 b. m. d. cont. _____
		25 b. d. cont. _____
		26 b. m. d. cont. _____
		27 b. d. cont. _____
		28 b. m. d. cont. _____
		29 b. d. cont. _____
		30 b. m. d. cont. _____
		31 b. d. cont. _____

# Family Group Record

<b>Husband</b>			
Born	date:	place:	
Died	date:	place:	
Buried	date:	place:	
Father		Mother	
Married	date:	place:	
<b>Wife</b>			
Born	date:	place:	
Died	date:	place:	
Buried	date:	place:	
Father		Mother	
<b>Children</b>			
<b>1</b>	gender		
Born	date:	place:	
Died	date:	place:	
Buried	date:	place:	
Spouse	name:	married:	
<b>2</b>	gender		
Born	date:	place:	
Died	date:	place:	
Buried	date:	place:	
Spouse	name:	married:	
<b>3</b>	gender		
Born	date:	place:	
Died	date:	place:	
Buried	date:	place:	
Spouse	name:	married:	
<b>4</b>	gender		
Born	date:	place:	
Died	date:	place:	
Buried	date:	place:	
Spouse	name:	married:	
<b>Husband's Notes</b>			
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>			
<b>Wife's Notes</b>			
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