Building Your Genealogical Skills

Class 2: Researching

Ann G. Lawthers, Genealogist

THE BRUE FAMILY **LEARNING CENTER**

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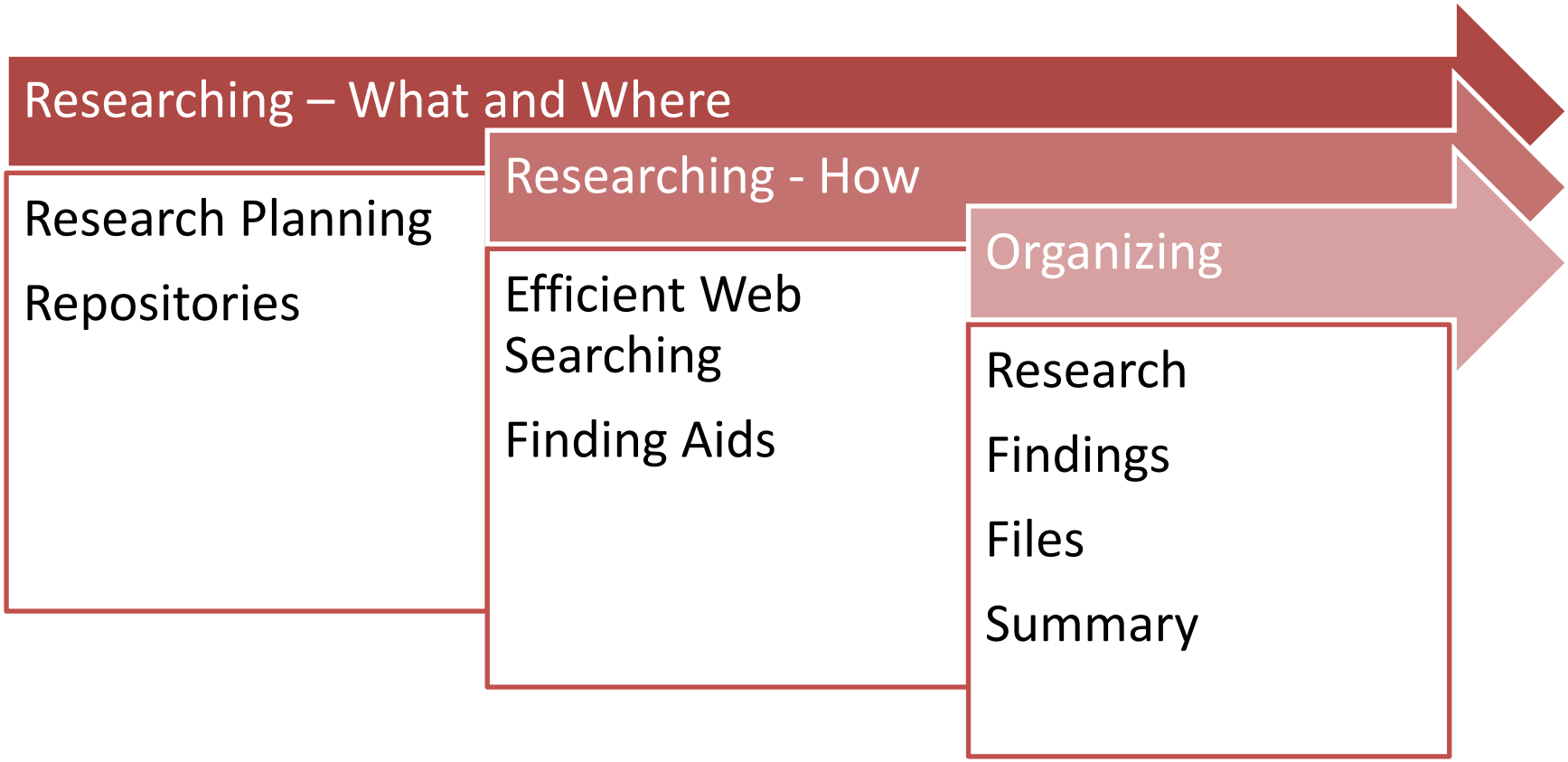
Session #2 Roadmap



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But First. . .

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Homework

- What were your research questions?
- What records did you need?
- Where would you look for those records?

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Recap

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Steps for Researching Your Family

Step 1
- Identify what you know

Step 2
- Decide what you want to learn (Research goal)

Step 3
- Identify and locate your sources

Step 4
- Research!

Step 5
- Analyze

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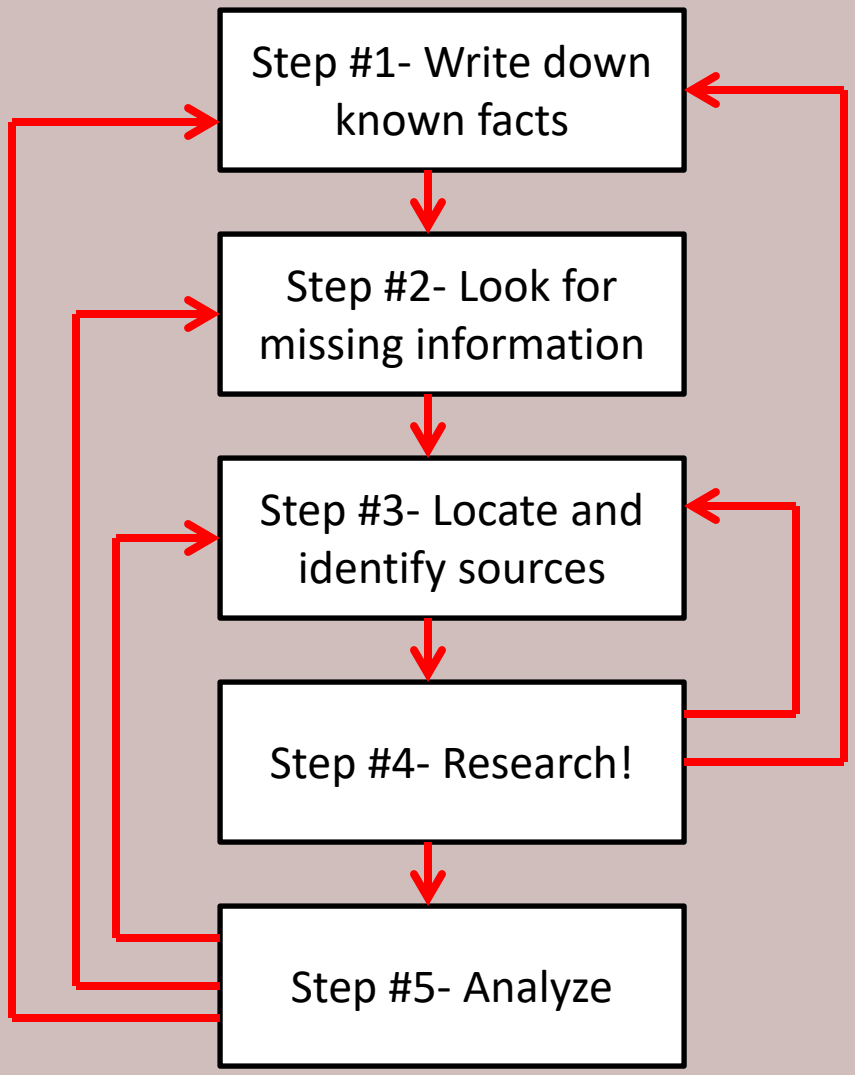

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This Class - Focus on Step 4: Research!

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Step 4: Research!

- Is more than "searching"
- What: Make a plan to begin answering your questions
- Where: Online and other repositories
- How: General principles
  - Consult multiple sources
  - Gather as many records as possible about a family or individual that you can find
  - Track your work! (Research log)

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What: Researching Planning

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Make a Plan

Step 1

- What do you want to learn? (Goal)

Step 2

- What do you already know?

Step 3

- Do your background homework

Step 4

- Create your plan

Step 5

- Execute and fine tune your plan

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Creating Good Research Questions

- Make the question specific, answerable, realistic, timely
- Include name, place and date in the question
- Focus on genealogical questions, e.g.:
  - Identity
  - Kinship
  - Events
- Focus on a person

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What Do You Already Know?

- About Subject
  - Identify the *Where* and the *When* for your subject
    - Helpful to list vital events – with *place*
    - Name of spouse(s)
    - Names and dob(s) for children
- About the Question
  - Not just what you know, but HOW you know it
  - Focus on what is relevant to the Research Question

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Who Are the Parents of Elizabeth Harris?

Research Subject:			
Name:	Birth and place:	Marriage and place: Name of spouse:	Death and place:
Elizabeth Harris	Ca 1738, place unknown	1 Mar 1778, Manchester, Vermont Martin Powell	Unknown
Names and birthdates of children: Silas b. ca 1779 Electa b. ca 1781 Sarah b. ca 1782			
Additional Information			

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What is Known About the Question?

Research Question:	
Who are the parents of Elizabeth Harris?	
What Is Known About the Question?	
Fact	Source of Fact:
Her husband, Martin Powell was born in Amenia, NY	Find a Grave
Martin's first wife was Rhoda Thompson who died in 1777	Vermont Vital Records
She may have married in Amenia	Ancestry tree

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Background Homework

- Learn about the place and time
- Learn about the geography (get a map)
- What do we think happened?
- Which records are most likely to have the answer?
- Where are those records? Which repositories?

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Hypothesis Example

What is the Working Hypothesis?
1. Elizabeth Harris was a widow when she married Martin Powell in 1778 2. Elizabeth Harris was a spinster when she married Martin Powell

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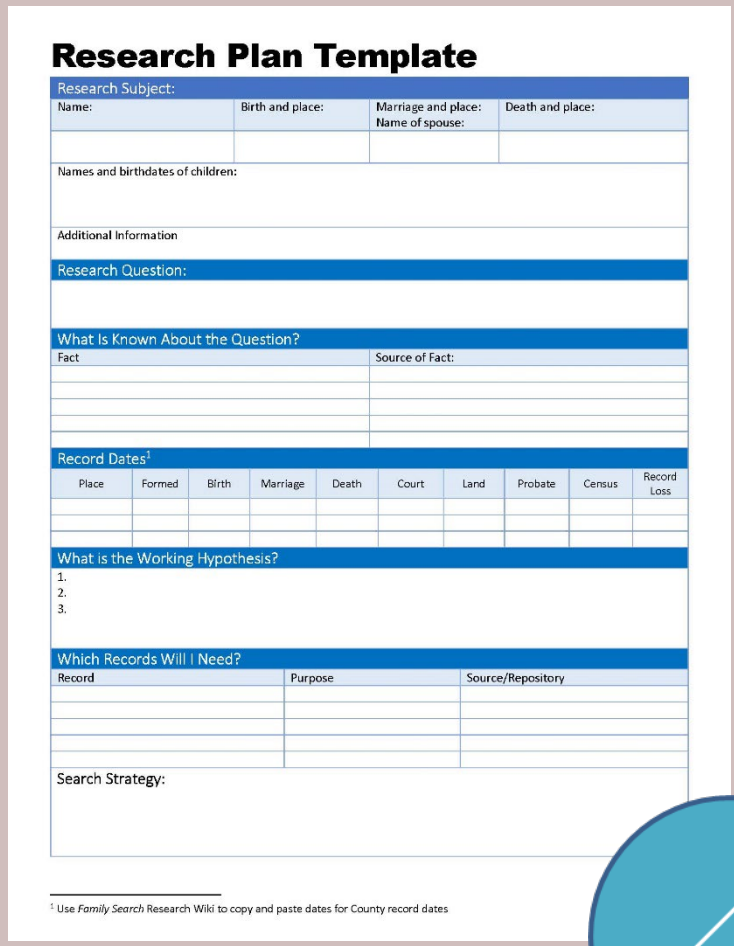
Put it Together and Create the Plan

- ✓ Research subject
- ✓ Research question
- ✓ What is known about the question (and how it is known)
- ✓ Record dates – for reference
- ✓ Working hypotheses
- • Which records will I need
- • Search strategy



Research Plan Template

Research Subject:			
Name:	Birth and place:	Marriage and place: Name of spouse:	Death and place:
Names and birthdates of children:			
Additional Information			

Research Question:

What Is Known About the Question?	
Fact	Source of Fact:

Record Dates[1]									
Place	Formed	Birth	Marriage	Death	Court	Land	Probate	Census	Record Loss

What is the Working Hypothesis?
1. 2. 3.

Which Records Will I Need?		
Record	Purpose	Source/Repository

Search Strategy:

[1] Use *Family Search* Research Wiki to copy and paste dates for County record dates

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Which Records (Basic)

Which Records Will I Need?

Record	Purpose	Source/Repository
Marriage records of Manchester Vermont	First marriage of Elizabeth Harris	FamilySearch.org, AmericanAncestors.org or Ancestry.com
Vital records of Amenia, NY	First marriage or any mention of Harris family	FamilySearch.org, AmericanAncestors.org or Ancestry.com
Town history of Manchester, VT	Any mention of the Harris family	HathiTrust.org or local historical society

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Which Records (Adanced)

Which Records Will I Need?

Record	Purpose	Source/Repository
Card index to vital statistics in the early land and town records books	First marriage of Elizabeth Harris	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/664510?availability=Family%20History%20Library
Vital records, 1749-1786 of Amenia, NY	First marriage or any mention of Harris family	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/380341?availability=Family%20History%20Library
John S. Pettibone, "Early History of Manchester," Proceedings of the Vermont Historical Society 1930 Vol 1 (4), page 158	Any mention of the Harris family	https://vermonthistory.org/journal/misc/EarlyHistoryOfManchester.pdf

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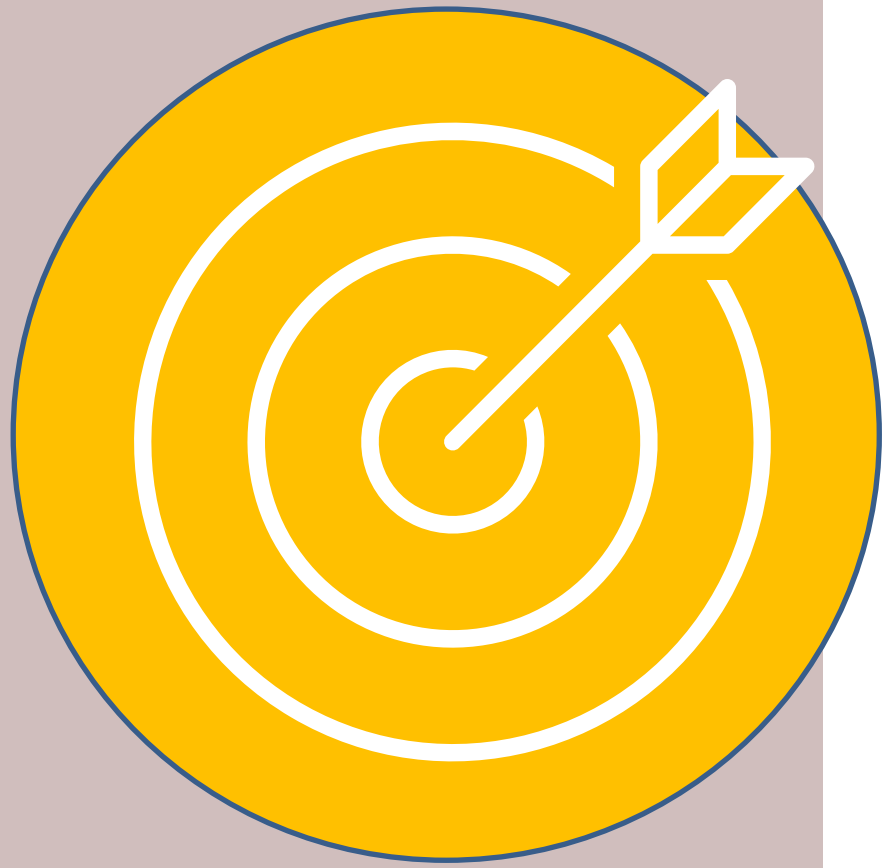
Keep a Research Log

- Keeps track of what you have searched and what you have found
  - Write down search strings
- Prevents rework
- Record negative findings
- Cites sources
- Can be a roadmap for the research process



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Research Log

Repository: _____ **Date:** _____

Source Information (title, author, publisher, publication date, etc.)	**Call Number** (film number, URL, etc.)	**Objective**	**Results**

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What to Fill In Before Viewing a Record

- Person/Place/Event focus of search
- Date
- **Source/Repository** – e.g. Ancestry: 1870 census – New Albany, Indiana
- Call Number (if any)
- **Objective** - write the person or event you seek for **each** search so you will later know whether you need to search the same source again for a different person or event.

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Person

Research Log

Repository: Henry D. Clark **Date:** June 20, 2021

Source Information (title, author, publisher, publication date, etc.)	Call Number (film number, URL, etc.)	Objective	Results
NYGB:: South Reformed Dutch Church (in Garden Street to 1835, in Murray Street 1837-48),1812-1853	https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/online-records/new-york-county-religious-records/535-021/65	Baptism of Henry D. Clark	
NYGB: Christ Protestant Episcopal, 1793-1848, vol. 1	https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/online-records/new-york-county-religious-records/535-017/11	Baptism of Henry D. Clark	

Cut and Paste From Your Research Plan to Start Your Log!

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Where: Repositories

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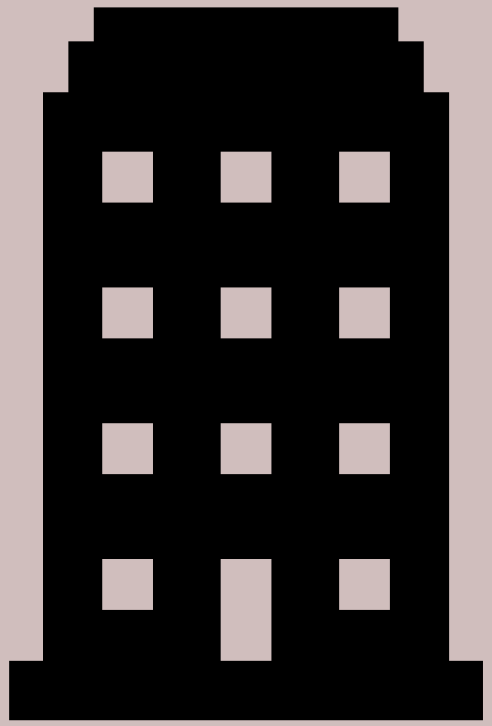
Types of Repositories

Brick and Mortar



Online

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Selected Types of Brick-and-Mortar Repositories

- Your house!
- Federal and State Archives
- Town or City Halls
- Local Historical Societies
- Public or Private Libraries
- College or University Archives
- Lineage Societies
- Genealogical Societies
- Regional Museums

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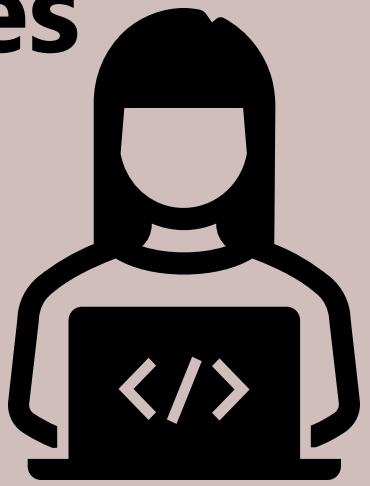
Online Repositories



- "Big 3" general genealogy websites
  - *Ancestry.com* ($)
  - *FamilySearch.org* (free)
  - *AmericanAncestors.org* ($, guest option)
- Location-specific websites
  - Archives of a particular state, county, or city, e.g., Washington State Digital Archives, Missouri Digital Heritage, Baton Rouge Digital Archive
  - Also applies to other countries, e.g., IrishGenealogy.ie
- Record-specific websites
  - Fold3.com (military records)

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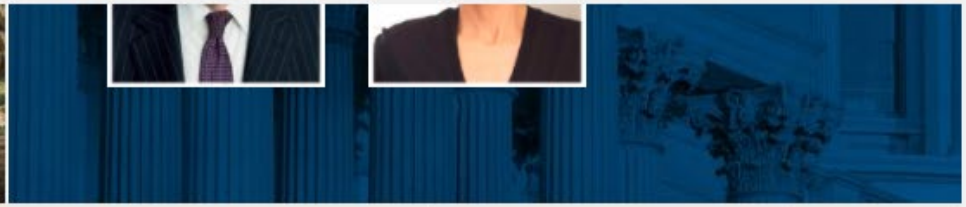

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Searching the Databases

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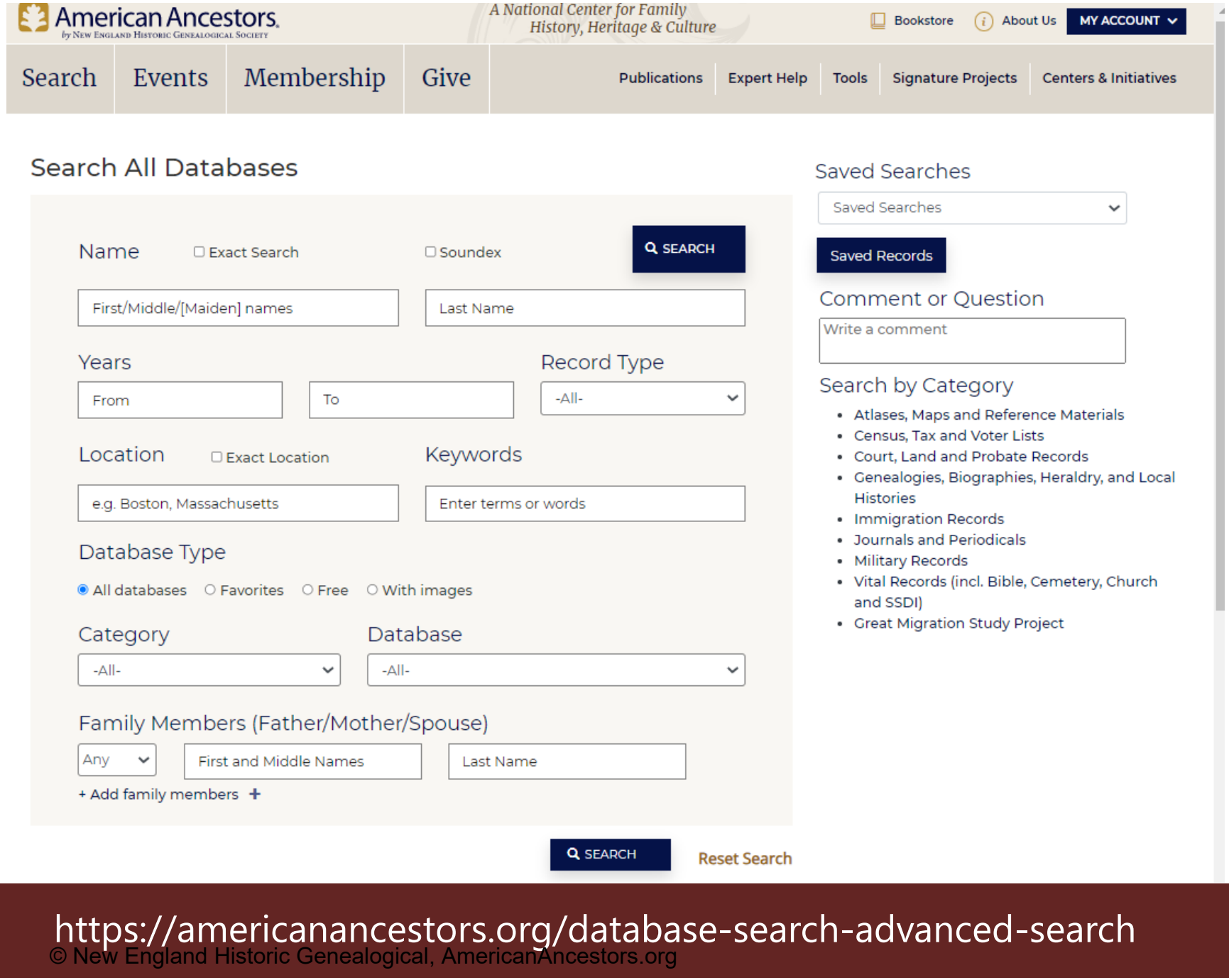

https://americanancestors.org/database-search-advanced-search

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Go to Search →

What content sources can I search?

A to Z list of all databases

External databases

Library Catalog

Digital Library & Archive

Jewish Heritage Center

Search 1.4 Billion Names

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New! Search Content by Topic

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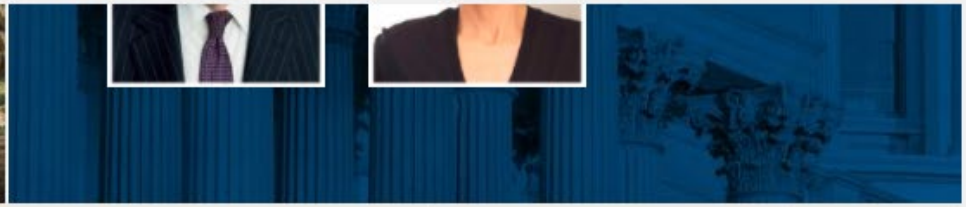

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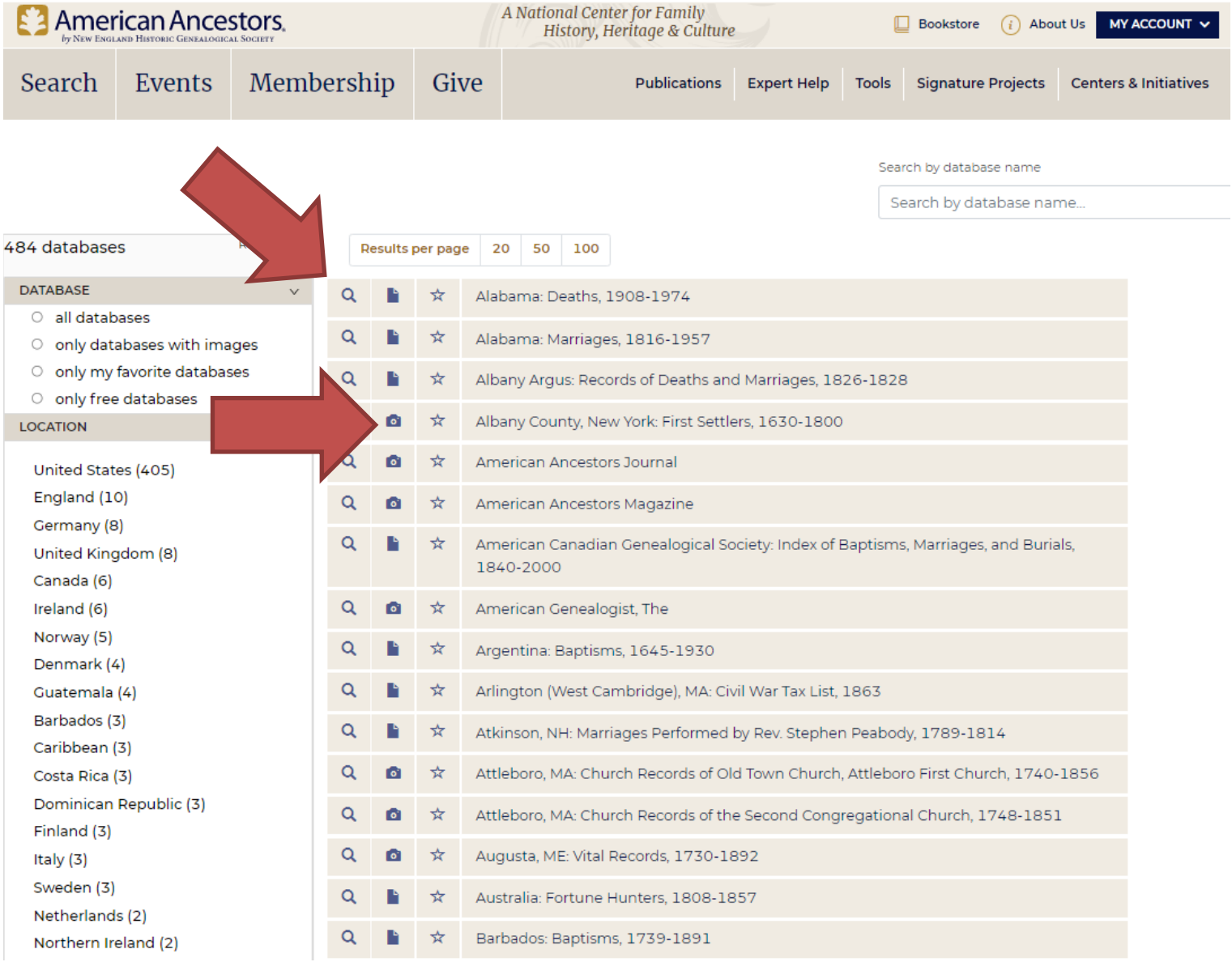

Browse Databases

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KEY TO THE NAMES OF PERSONS

OCCURRING

In the Early Dutch Records of Albany and Vicinity

PREFACE.

The student who searches the early Dutch records meets with many difficulties, none of which are more vexatious than their personal names. The majority of the First Settlers ordinarily used no surnames, some evidently had none. In these cases individuals were often distinguished by personal peculiarities, trades, &c., which, though sufficient for the time, give little or no aid to one tracing the pedigree of a family. It is only after great familiarity with the early writings and a careful noting of the use of surnames as they are sometimes subscribed to wills, conveyances, and other important papers that any connection can be established between a first settler and his later descendants.

But while many individuals had no surnames whatever apparently, a few families had two or more. Marcelis Janse Van Bommel was farmer of the burger and tapster's excise of liquors in Beverwyck many years. Some of his children took *Marcelis* as their surname, others *Van Iseren*; without a knowledge of this fact it would be quite impossible for his descendants to trace back their pedigree to him. A similar case occurred in the Albany branch of the Bratts. In the passage over from Holland one child was born at sea in a storm and he was named Storm Van Derzee, which epithet he and his descendants have since used as a surname.

It was not uncommon for the same individual to have two or more surnames and to use them indifferently. Jan Barentse Wemp [Wemple] was sometimes called Poest; he had a mill on the Poesten-kil which perhaps derived its name from him rather than from the Dutch word *poesten*. After his death in 1663 his widow Maritie Myndertse married Sweer Teunise. He had two surnames, Van Velsen and Van Westbroeck. Jan Fort of Niskayuna had the following *aliases:* Jan La Fort, Jan Vandervort and Jan Libbertse.

The change in the spelling and pronunciation of names is likewise a source of considerable embarrassment. Who would recognize the ancient Du Trieux (pronounced Du Troo) in the modern Truax, or Beaufils in Bovie, or Barrois in Barroway, or finally the familiar name of Jones in such laughable disguises as TSans, TJans, and Shawns.

The system of nomenclature in common use among the early Dutch settlers consisted in prefixing the child's to the father's Christian name, terminating in *se* or *sen*; in baptism but one name was usually given; the patronymic was used by custom in all cases, and in the absence of a surname was sometimes adopted as such. Thus the children of Rutger Jacobsen (Van Schoenderwoert or Van Woert) were respectively Margaret *Rutgers*, Engel *Rutgers*, and Harmen *Rutgers*, and *Rutgers* was subsequently assumed as the family name. The two sons of the First Settler Wynant Gerritse (Vander Poel) were Melgert *Wynantse* and Gerrit *Wynantse*. The First Settler, Harmen Tomase Hun (Van Amersfort) had a son named Tomas *Harmense* and a daughter Wyntie *Harmense*. The First Settlers Philip and David Schuyler, were more commonly called Philip and David *Pieterse*, being sons of Pieter Schuyler.

Occasionally two patronymics were used, as Samuel Arentse Samuelse Bratt; i. e., Samuel Bratt the son of Arent, who was the son of Samuel.

The use of surnames gradually increased among the Dutch from the time the Province was occupied by the English in 1664, and after the first quarter of the following century few names were written without the addition of a family name.

The following list is intended to serve as a key to such surnames as are occasionally or almost constantly omitted in the ancient Dutch Records of Albany and Schenectady. It is as nearly full as the compiler, after a somewhat careful reading of these documents, can make it. The names of persons without surnames, or if having them were not entered in those records, will not of course be found here; unfortunately these are somewhat numerous. Another embarrassment in the identification of persons arises from the fact, that some bear the same Christian name. When such cases occur in the following list, the dates annexed will sometimes aid in solving the difficulty. Thus the surname of Jacob Abrahamse, found in documents dating 1665-84, was Vosburg *alias* Kuyper; in those of date 1705, it was Van Deusen. But where there is little or no difference in the dates this help fails, and all is left to conjecture.

J. F.

SCHENECTADY, OCT. 18, 1870.

Clicking on Camera Icon

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Family Search

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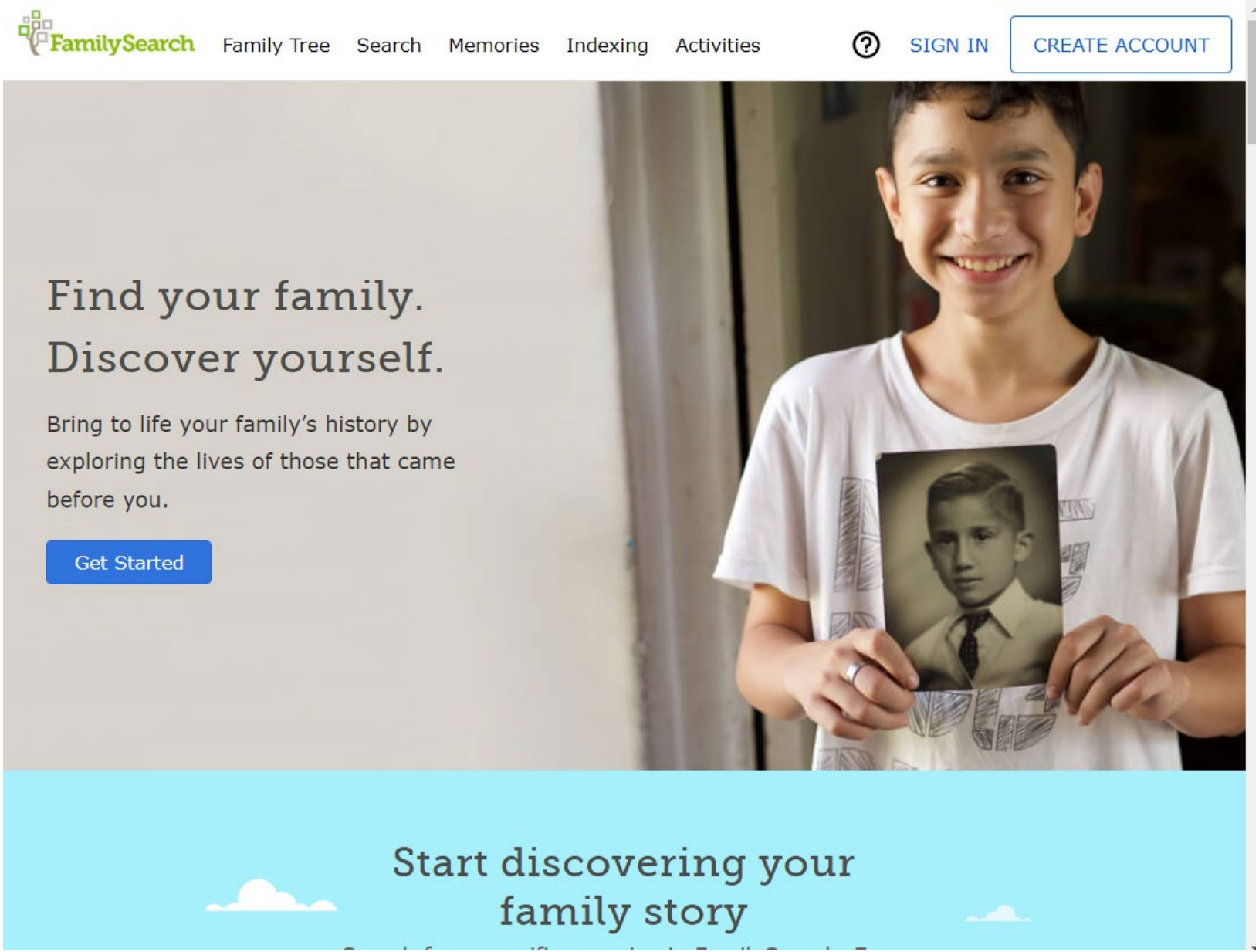

Maximizing Family Search

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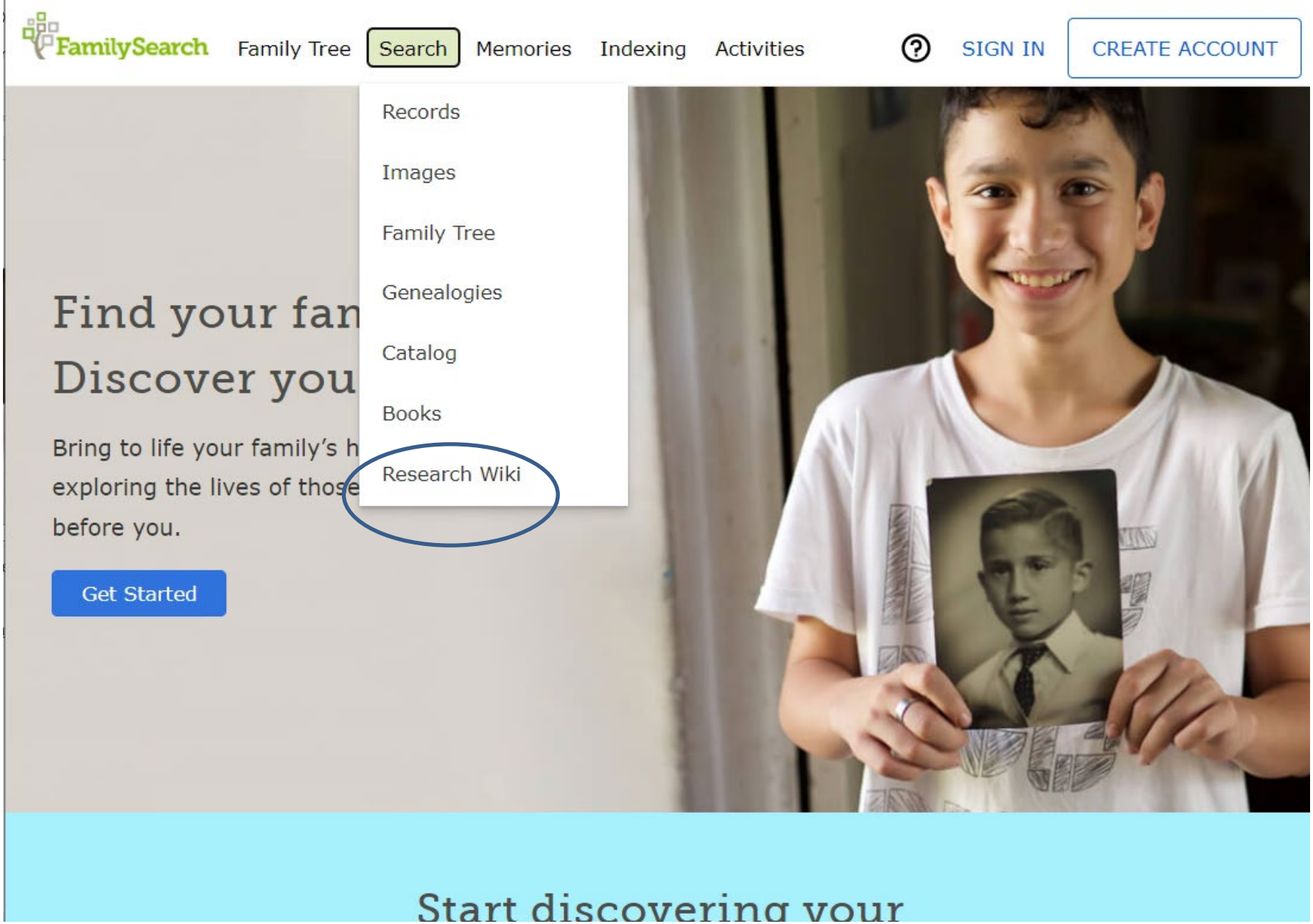

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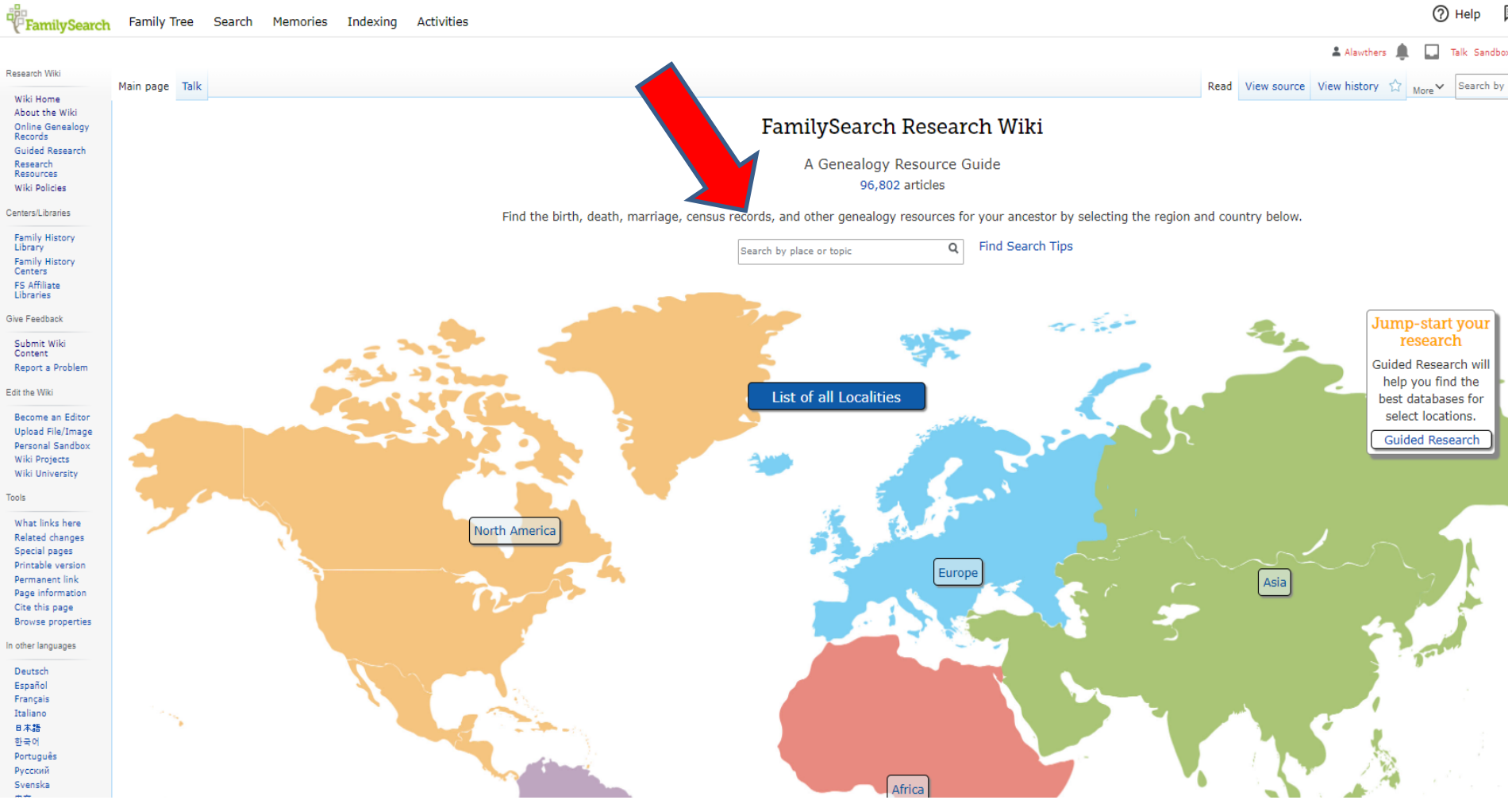

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US Migration Canals

Most Significant United States Canals Used by Settlers
Champlain Canal · Erie Canal · Schuykill Canal · Union Canal · Ohio and Erie Canal · Louisville and Portland Canal · Beaver and Erie Canal · Pennsylvania Canal (Main Line) · Delaware and Raritan Canal · Chesapeake and Ohio Canal · Wabash and Erie Canal · Pennsylvania and Ohio Canal · Miami and Erie Canal · Illinois and Michigan Canal

United States → Migration → Canals

===

Champlain Canal ·
Portland Canal · Be
Canal · Chesapeak
and Erie Canal · Illi

Historic Backgroun

Transportation cana
Settlers flooded into
New York City to the
length of the Ohio R
settlers.[1]

Understanding the t
railroads to look for

List of Signifi

Some of the most s

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Great Valley Road

United States → Migration → Migration Trails and Roads → **Great Valley Road**

Adopt-a-wiki page

This page adopted by: PA Roots and its members who welcome you to contribute.

PA-Roots

Adopt a page today

The **Great Valley Road**, also called in various parts the "Great Wagon Road," "Great Warriors' Path," "Valley Pike," "Carolina Road," or "Trading Path," was the most important Colonial American route for settlers of the mountainous back country of the southern British colonies. It went from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania over to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia forking into the Tennessee Valley and Knoxville. The other fork went more south into the Piedmont Region of North Carolina, and then to its terminus on the Savannah River at Augusta, Georgia. From Philadelphia to Augusta was 735 miles (1183 km). Several other important early pathways merged with, or split off from the Great Valley Road.[1]

Contents [hide]
1 Historical Background
2 Route
3 Settlers and Records
4 Internet Sites
5 Other Wiki Pages
6 Sources

The **Great Valley Road** went from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Roanoke, Virginia. There it split with one fork going to Knoxville, Tennessee, and the other to Augusta, Georgia.

Historical Background

The American Indians developed a network of eastern trade and warrior trails stretching from the Great Lakes to the Gulf Coast. One of these trails, the Great Warrior Path from New York to the Carolinas, also served as the western boundary of British settlement until 1744. In that year a new treaty gave control of the east side of the trail to European colonists in Virginia. This opened the way for the trail to evolve into one of the most important roads for settlers in Colonial America.[2] By 1765 the road was cleared for use by horse drawn wagons.[3]

After 1744, the Great Valley Road was most heavily used by Ulster-Irish immigrants called Scots-Irish in America to spread through most of Appalachia bringing their Presbyterian religion.[3] Pennsylvania Germans also used the trail to spread into the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. The Moravians of Pennsylvania followed the road to settle the Wachovia region of North Carolina starting in 1753. The first settlements of Virginians in Tennessee were associated with the end of the trail in that region in the 1760s.

In 1746 the Pioneer Road first crossed the Blue Ridge Mountains from Alexandria to Winchester, Virginia, where it fed into the Great Valley Road.[4] The Wilderness Road opened in 1775 into central Kentucky, and branched off the Great Valley Road in southwest Virginia at Bristol (Sapling Grove).[5] Starting in the late 1770s explorers and pioneers at Staunton, Virginia started using the Kanawha Trail which followed the New River/Kanawha River into West Virginia.[6] From the terminus of the Great Valley Road at Knoxville, Avery's Trace to Nashville opened in 1788, and the Georgia Road to Athens opened in 1805.

Route

(Northeast to Southwest)[7]

- Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (often called the Philadelphia Wagon Road through Pennsylvania)
- Lancaster, Lancaster, Pennsylvania
- Gettysburg, Adams, Pennsylvania
- Hagerstown, Washington, Maryland (crosses Cumberland Road)
- Winchester, Frederick, Virginia (Pioneer Road from Alexandria joined here)
- Staunton, Augusta, Virginia (start of Kanawha Trail to West Virginia)
- Roanoke, Roanoke, Virginia (trail forks toward Knoxville and Augusta)

Wiki Page

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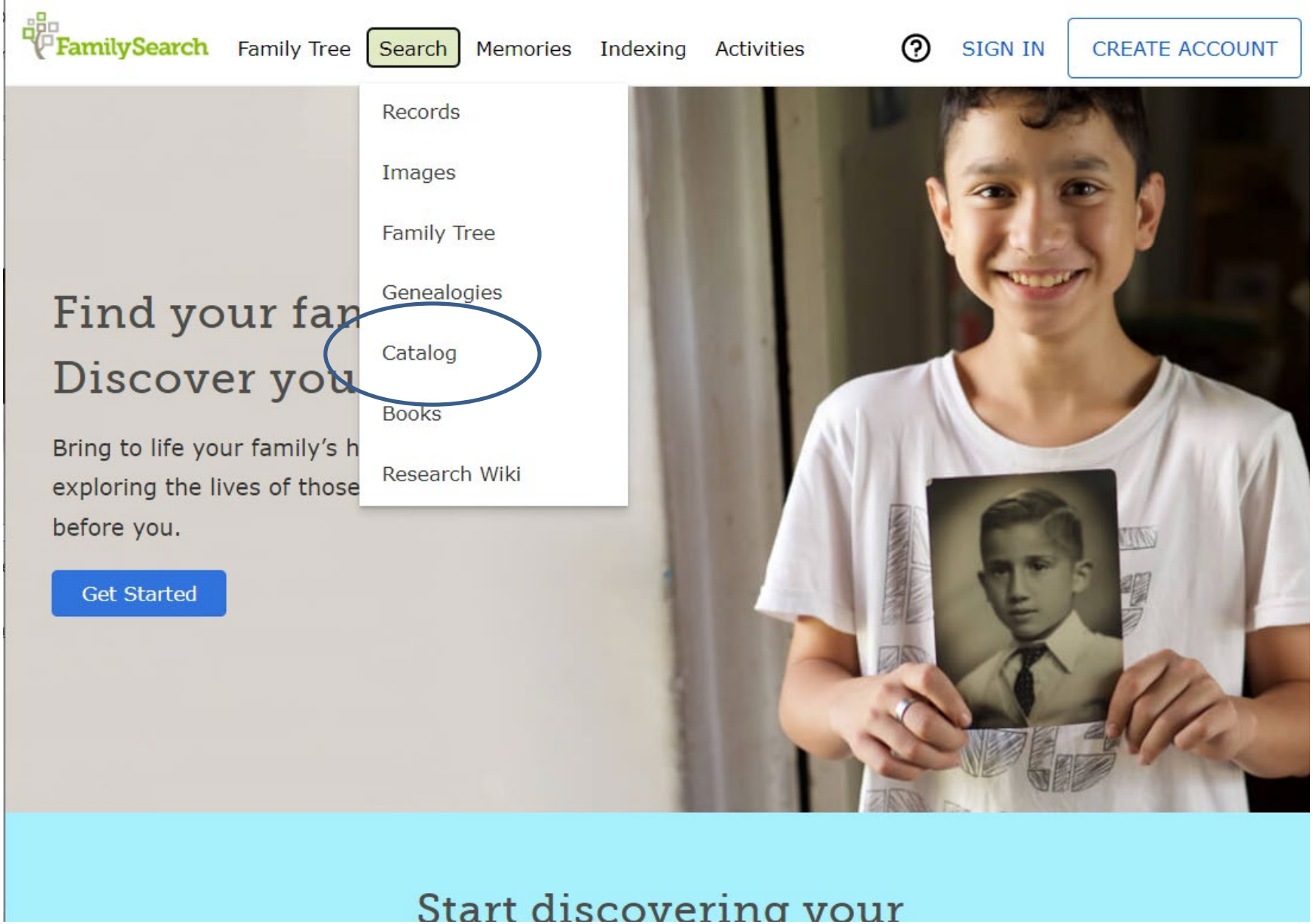

Family Search Catalog

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https://www.familysearch.org/search/

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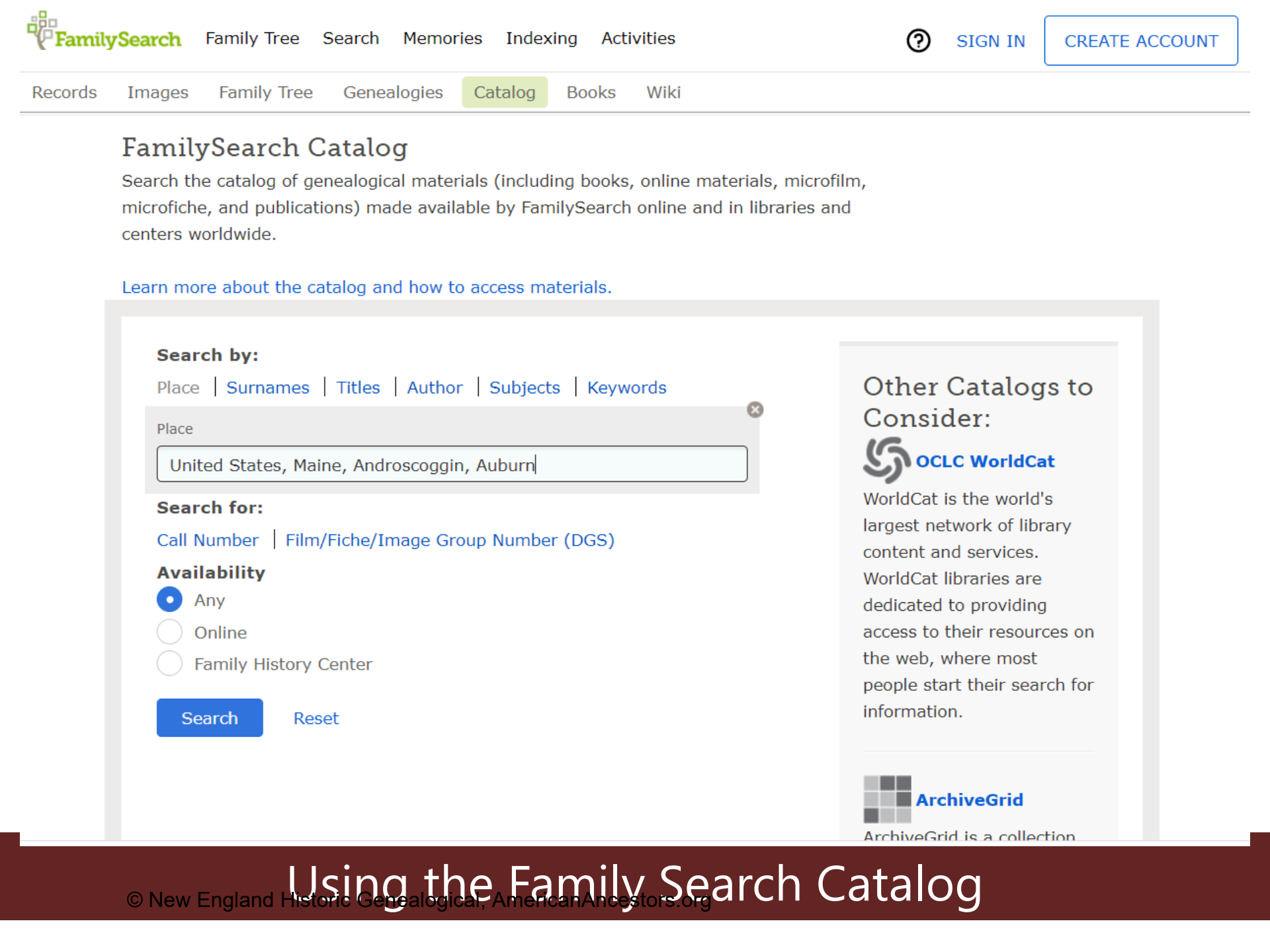

Using the Family Search Catalog

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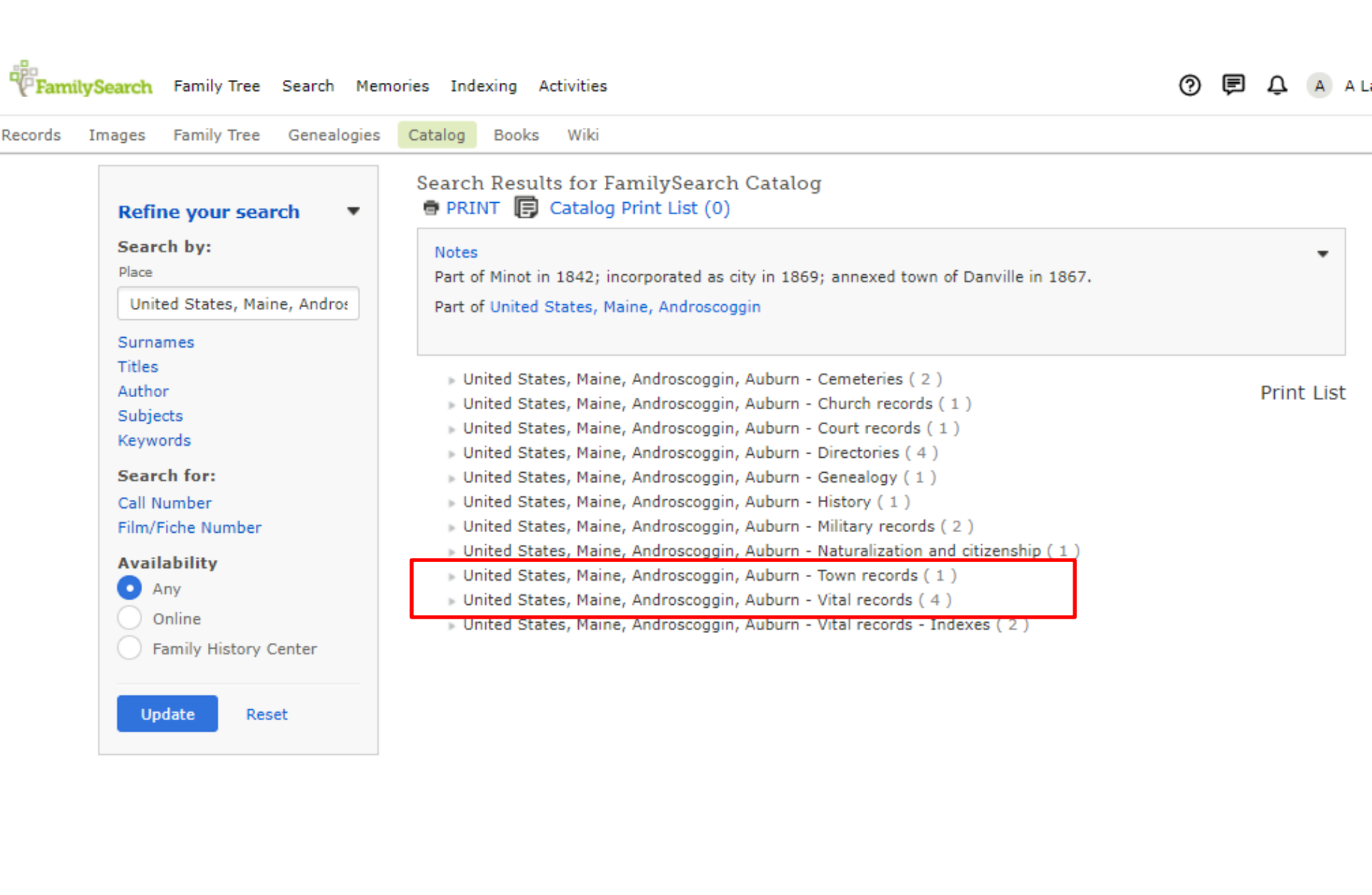

Town of Auburn, formerly Danville, Maine at FamilySearch

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United States, Maine, Androscoggin, Auburn - Town records (1)

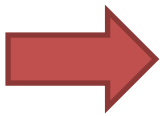
Account book of Treasurers of Auburn (then Pejepscot and Danville) from 1802-1858 — Add

Author: Danville (Maine). Town Treasurer; Pejepscot (Maine). Town Treasurer

United States, Maine, Androscoggin, Auburn - Vital records (4)

Old Danville journal — Add

Pejepscot, Maine, vital records — Add



Records of births, marriages, and deaths, ca. 1751-1867 (Auburn, Maine) — Add

Author: Danville (Maine). Town Clerk

Vital records, 1838-1896 (Auburn, Maine) — Add

Author: Auburn (Maine). Town Clerk

United States, Maine, Androscoggin, Auburn - Vital records - Indexes (2)

Clicking on a Heading

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BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS

PRINT Catalog Print List (0)

Records of births, marriages, and deaths, ca. 1751-1867 (Auburn, Maine)

Add to Print List

Authors:	Danville (Maine). Town Clerk (Main Author)
Format:	Manuscript/Manuscript on Film
Language:	English
Publication:	Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1956
Physical:	on 2 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

Notes

Microreproduction of original records in the city hall, Auburn, Maine.

Before 1818 Danville was known as Pejebscot. Danville became part of the city of Auburn in 1867.

Indexes are found within some volumes.

View this catalog record in WorldCat for other possible copy locations

Subjects

Locality Subjects

United States, Maine, Androscoggin, Auburn - Vital records

Film/Digital Notes

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	DGS	Format
Records of births, marriages, deaths arranged by family, 1751-1834; marriages 1804-1824; intentions of marriage 1802-1836	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	10822 Item 1	7595342	
Records of births, marriages, deaths arranged by family, 1757-1860, marriages 1816-1860; marriages and marriage intentions 1837-1867	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	10823	7595341	

Clicking on a Listing

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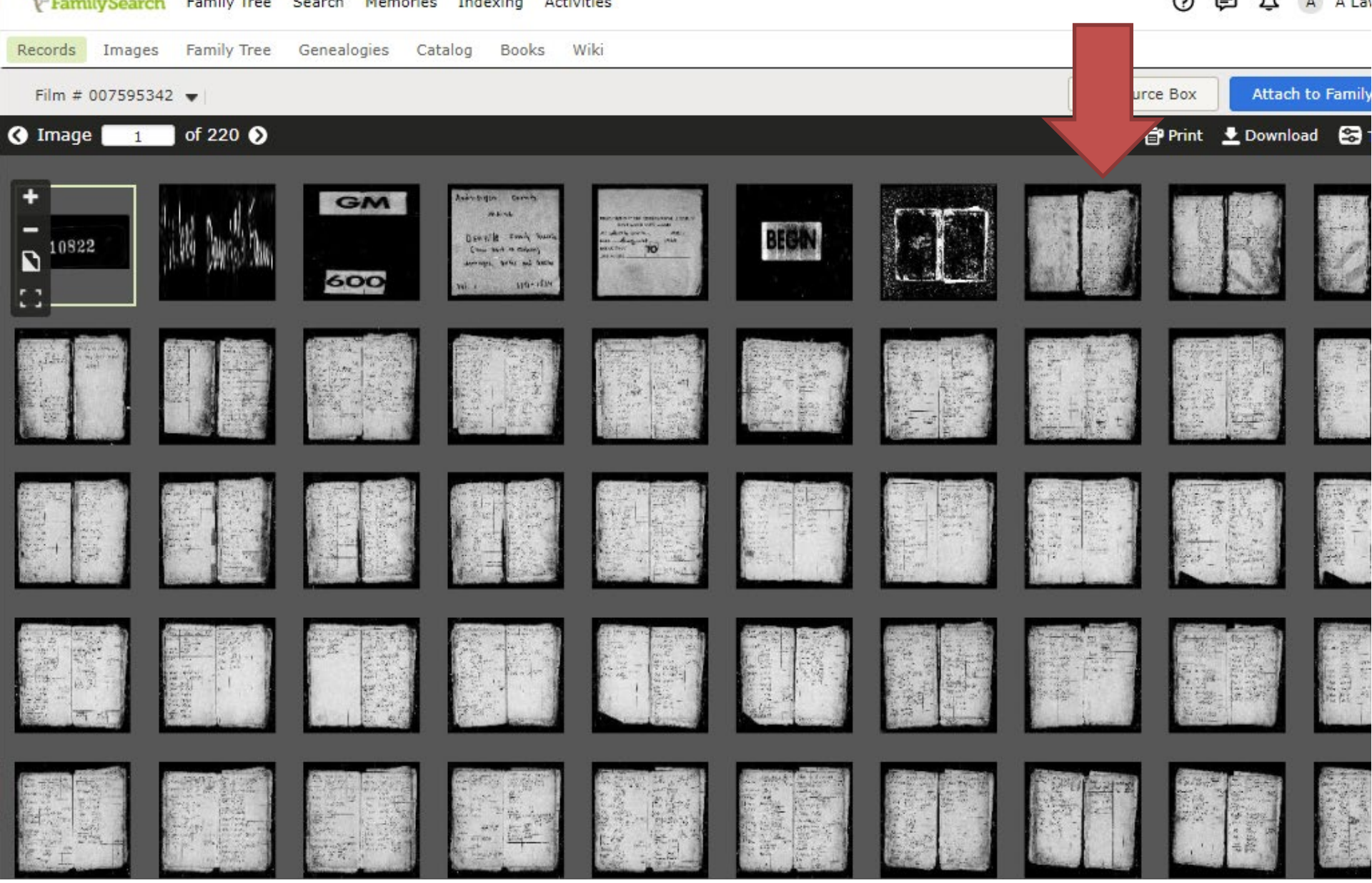

Clicking the Camera

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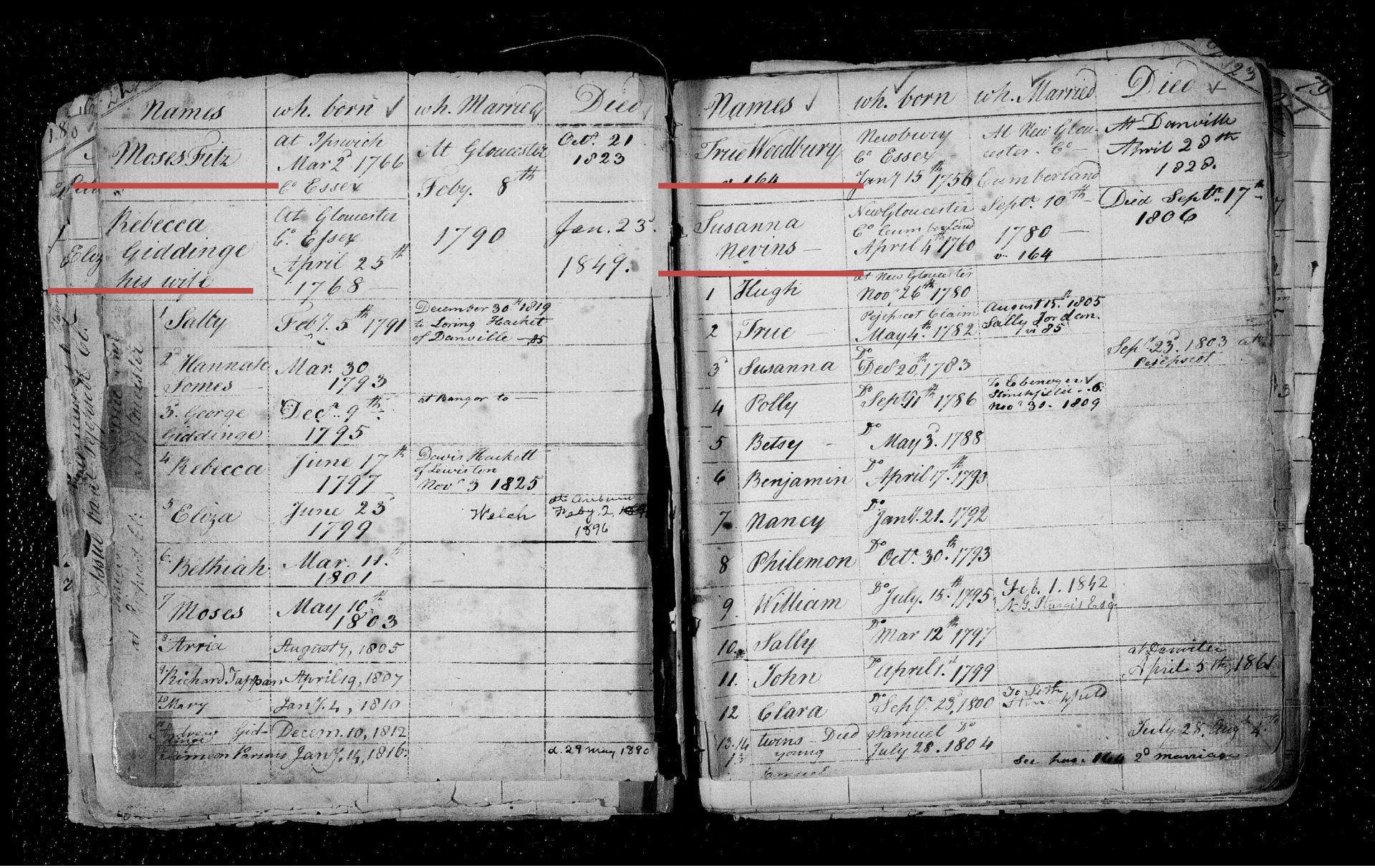

Names	wh. born	wh. Married	Died
Moses Fitz	at Ipswich Mar 2d 1766 Co Essex	At Gloucester Feby. 8th 1790	Oct. 21 1823
Rebecca Giddinge his wife	At Gloucester Co Essex April 25th 1768		Jan. 23. 1849.
1 Sally	Feb. 5th 1791	December 30th 1819 to Loring Hackett of Danville	
2 Hannah Jones	Mar. 30 1793	at Bangor to —	
3. George Giddinge	Dec. 9th 1795		
4 Rebecca	June 17th 1797	Dower Hackett of Lewiston Nov. 3 1825	
5 Eliza	June 23 1799	Welch	at Auburn Feby. 2, 1896
6 Bethiah	Mar. 11th 1801		
7 Moses	May 16th 1803		
8 Arria	August 4, 1805		
9 Richard Sappan	April 19, 1807		
10 Mary	Jan. 4, 1810		
11 Andrew Gid- dinge Lemon Parsons	Decem. 10, 1812 Jany. 14, 1816		d. 29 May 1890

Names	wh. born	wh. Married	Died
Isac Woodbury	Newbury Co Essex Jan 7 15th 1756	At New Gloucester Co —	At Danville April 29th 1828.
Susanna Nevins —	New Gloucester Co Cumberland April 4th 1760	Sept. 10th 1780 —	Died Sept. 17th 1806
1 Hugh	At New Gloucester Nov. 26th 1780		
2 Isac —	Pejepscot Claim May 4th 1782	August 15th 1805 Sally Jordan	
3 Susanna	Do Dec. 20th 1783		Sept. 23. 1803 at Pejepscot
4 Polly	Do Sept. 11th 1786	To Lebanon Androscoggin Co. Nov. 30. 1809	
5 Betsey	Do May 3. 1788		
6 Benjamin	Do April 7th 1790		
7 Nancy	Do Jan. 21. 1792		
8 Philemon	Do Oct. 30th 1793		
9 William	Do July. 15th 1795	Feb. 1. 1842 N. G. Hunt Esq	
10 Sally	Do Mar 12th 1797		
11 John	Do April 1. 1799		at Danville April 3d 1864
12 Clara	Do Sept. 23, 1800	To Lewiston	
13. 14 twins	Died young	Samuel Do July 28. 1804	July 28. Aged 4.

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Clicking on an Image

FamilySearch Database Searching

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Tip

Spelling DOES NOT count – Sound does

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Unique Family Search Features

- Alternative names
- Search with relationship
- Search by more than one collection
- Export results to Excel

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Wildcards

- Symbols used to replace or represent one or more characters
- ? = 1 character
- * = 1 or more character
- Ex. To search for ”Lawthers", you can use some of the following variations:
  - L*w*s
  - L*w*r*
  - L?wthers

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FamilySearch Search Page – BASIC SEARCH

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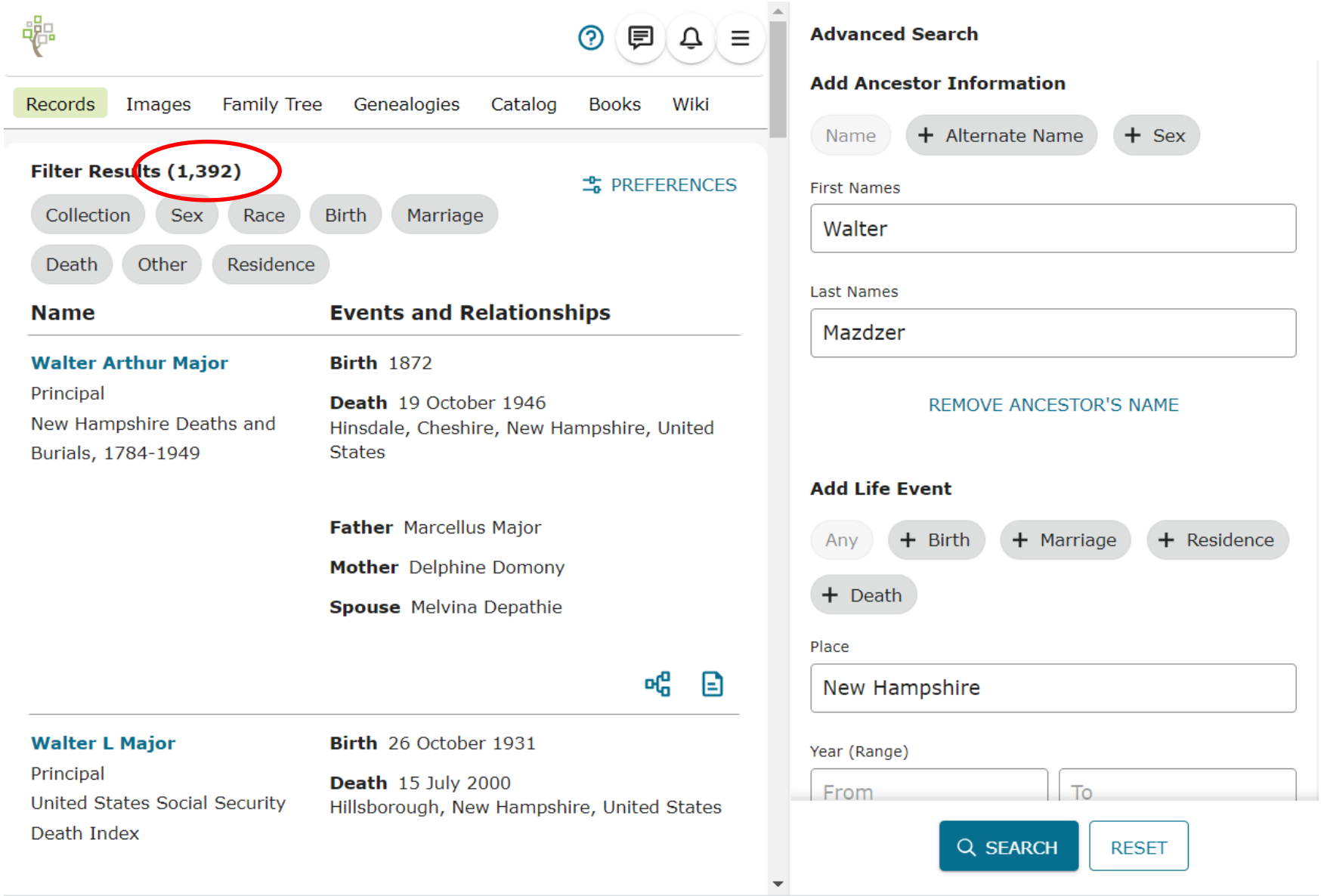

Results Page – Name, Birth, Residence

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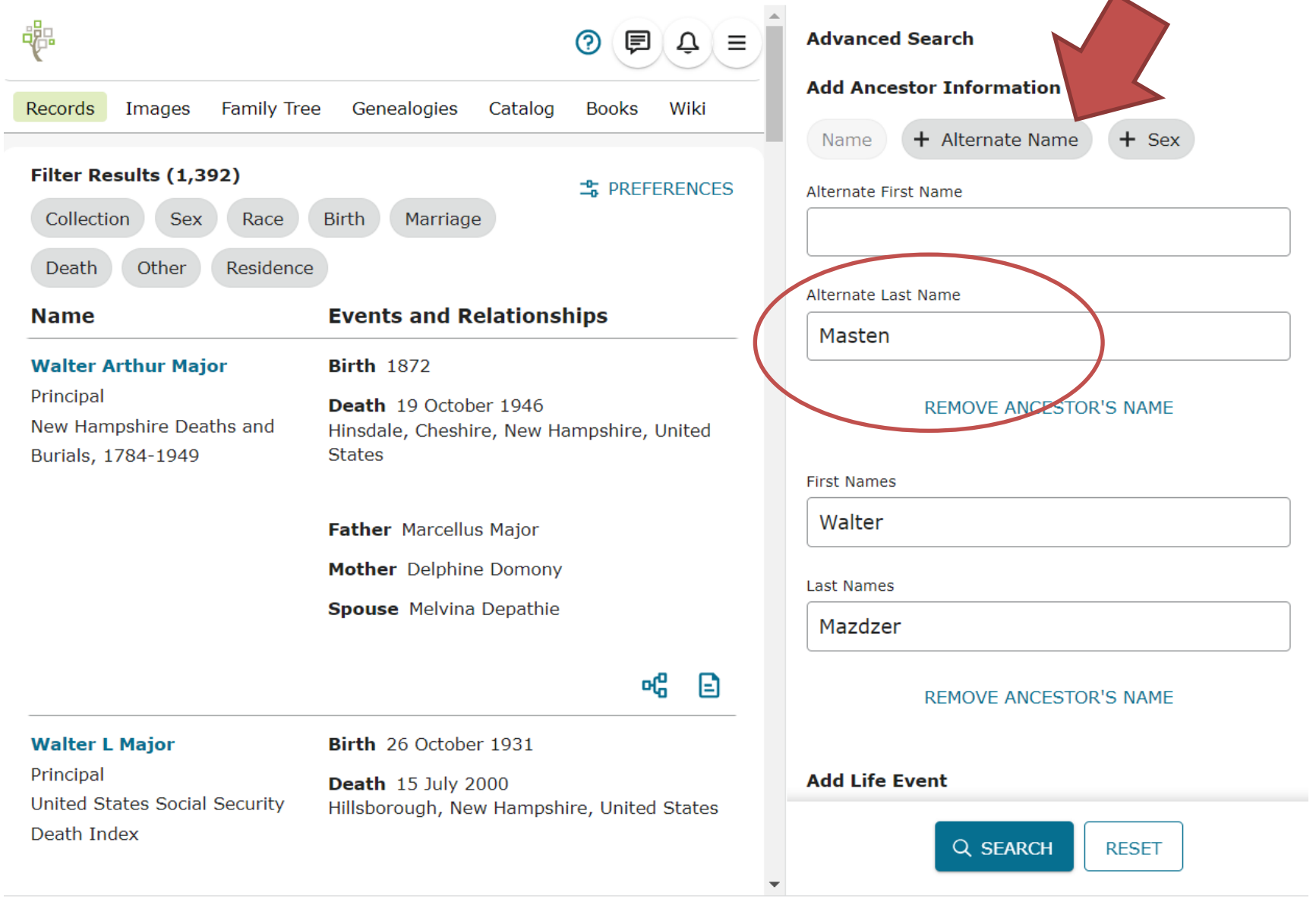

Alternate Name

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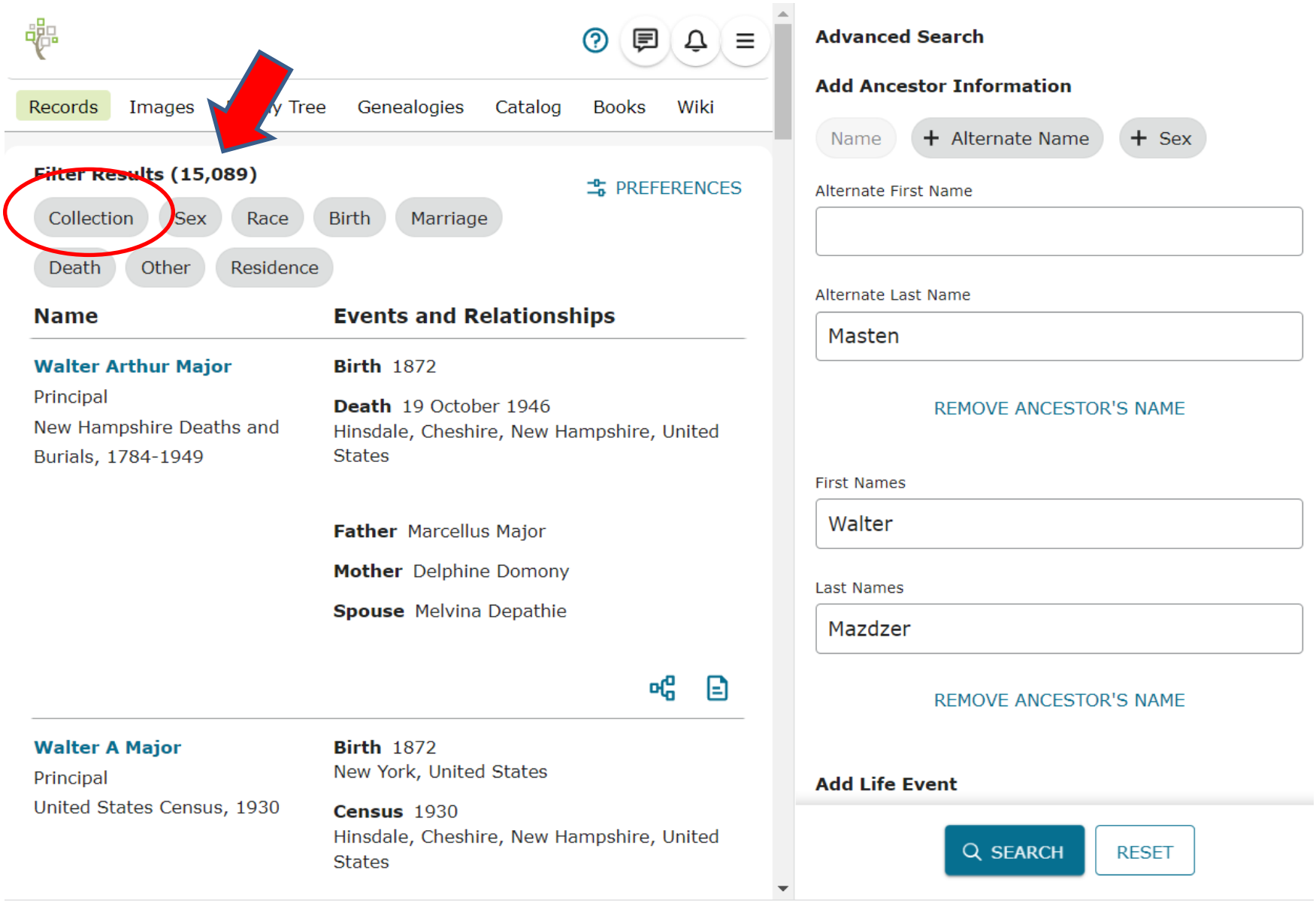

Alternative Name Results Page

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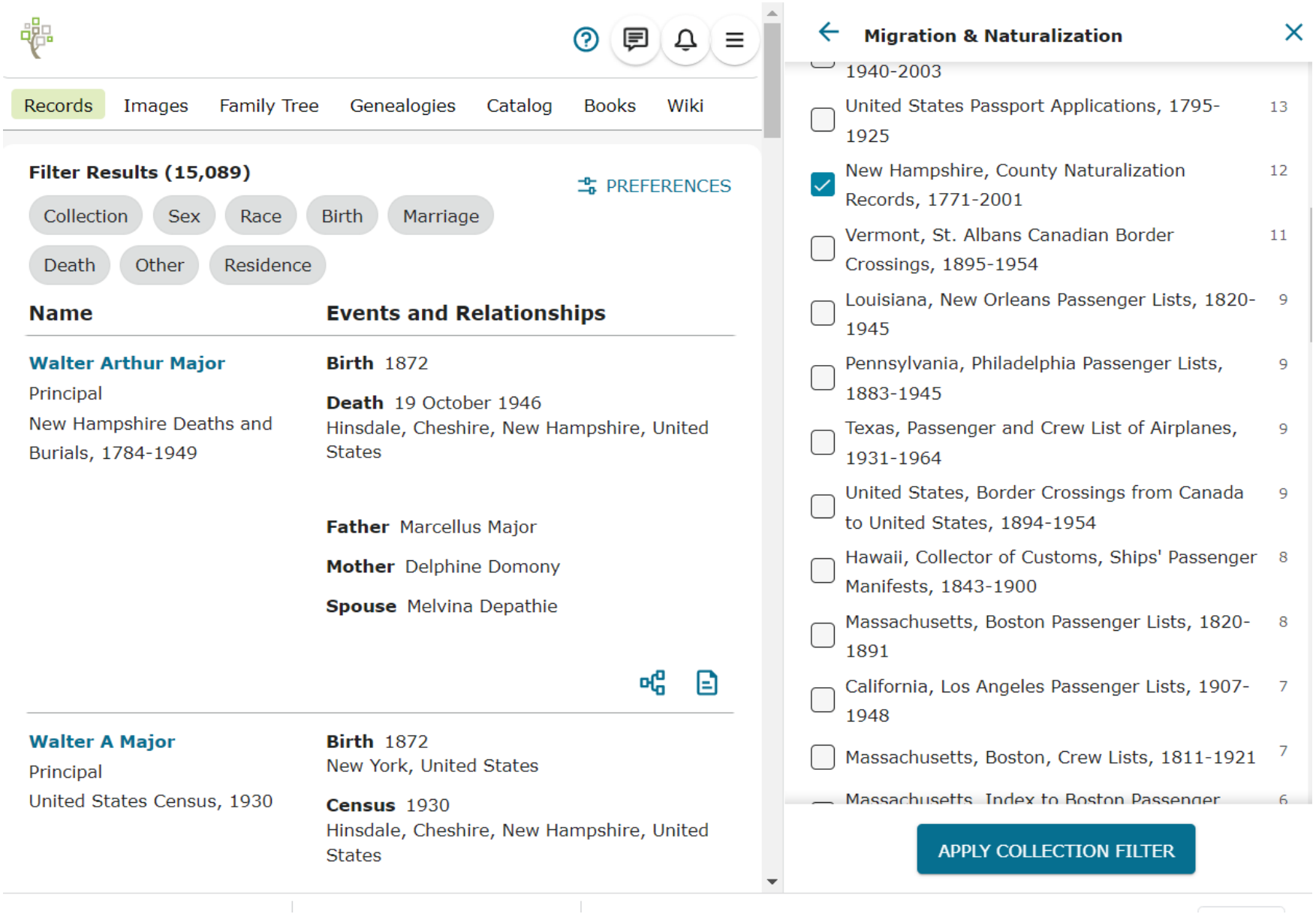

Filtering by Collection

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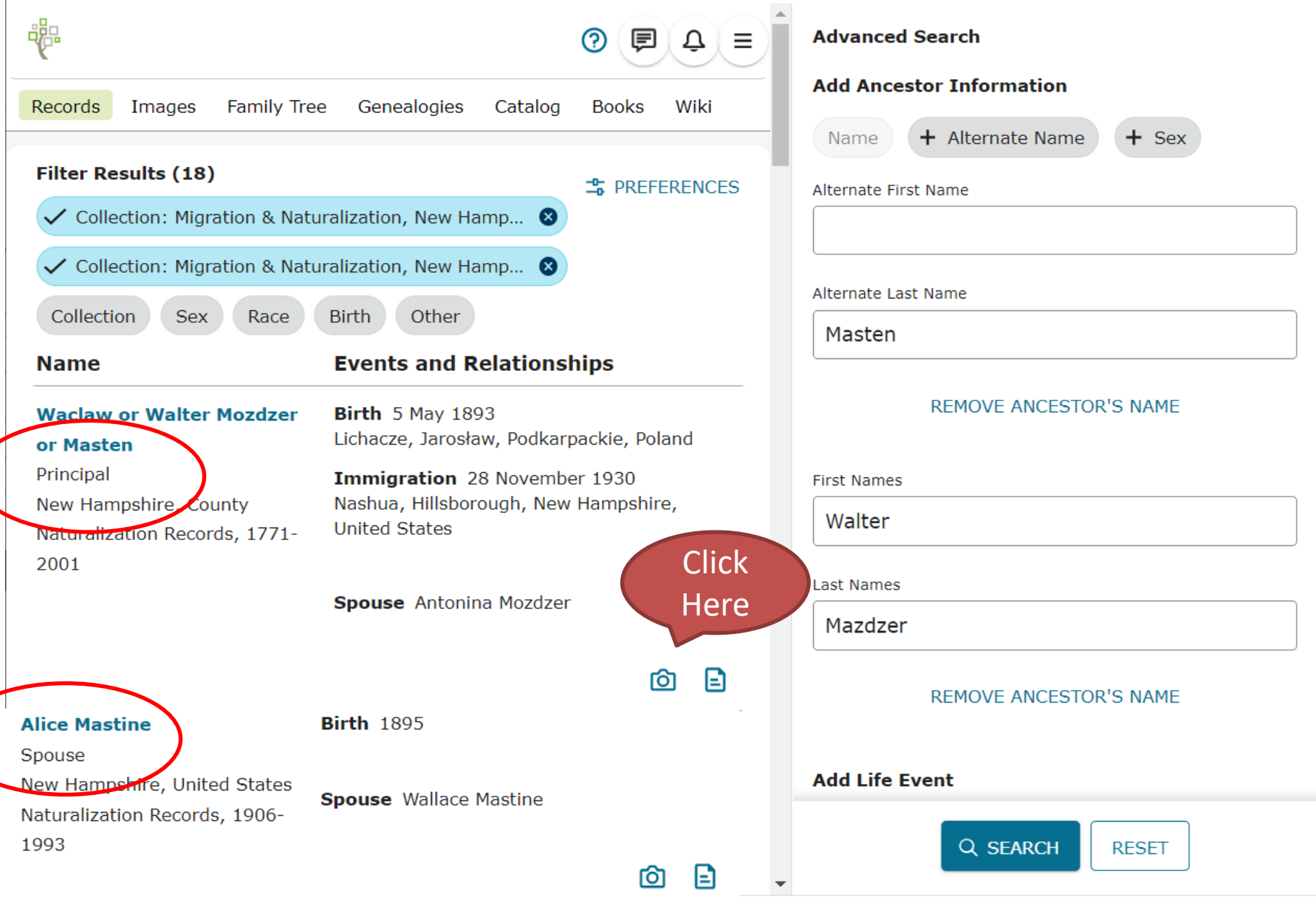

Results

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Tip
Always look at the original

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ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 4485

PETITION FOR CITIZENSHIP

To the Honorable the Superior Court of New Hampshire at Nashua

The petition of Waclaw Mozdzer, hereby filed, respectfully shows:

(1) My place of residence is 35 Gilman St. Nashua, N. H. (2) My occupation is laborer

(3) I was born in Lichacze, Poland on May 5, 1893 My race is Polish

(4) I declared my intention to become a citizen of the United States on May 25, 1928 in the Superior Court of New Hampshire, at Nashua

(5) I am ..... married. The name of my wife or husband is Antonina Mozdzer

we were married on July 6, 1919 at Nashua, New Hampshire & he was born at Lichacze, Poland on October 15, 1898; entered the United States at New York, N. Y. on May 29, 1914 for permanent residence therein, and now resides at Nashua, New Hampshire I have 2 children, and the name, date, and place of birth, and place of residence of each of said children are as follows: John born Sept. 28, 1921; Edward born Dec. 8, 1927; both born and reside at Nashua, N.H.

(6) My last foreign residence was Lichacze, Poland I emigrated to the United States of America from Libau, Latvia My lawful entry for permanent residence in the United States was at New York, N. Y., under the name of Walzlaw Mosher on November 13, 1912, on the vessel Russia as shown by the certificate of my arrival attached hereto.

(7) I am not a disbeliever in or opposed to organized government or a member of or affiliated with any organization or body of persons teaching disbelief in or opposed to organized government. I am not a polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy. I am attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the United States. It is my intention to become a citizen of the United States and to renounce absolutely and forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly to

The Republic of Poland

of whom (which) at this time I am a subject (or citizen), and it is my intention to reside permanently in the United States. (8) I am able to speak the English language. (9) I have resided continuously in the United States of America for the term of five years at least immediately preceding the date of this petition, to wit, since November 13, 1912 and in the County of Hillsborough this State, continuously next preceding the date of this petition, since May 19, 1919, being a residence within said county of at least six months next preceding the date of this petition.

Click Through To Image

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Export search results into Excel

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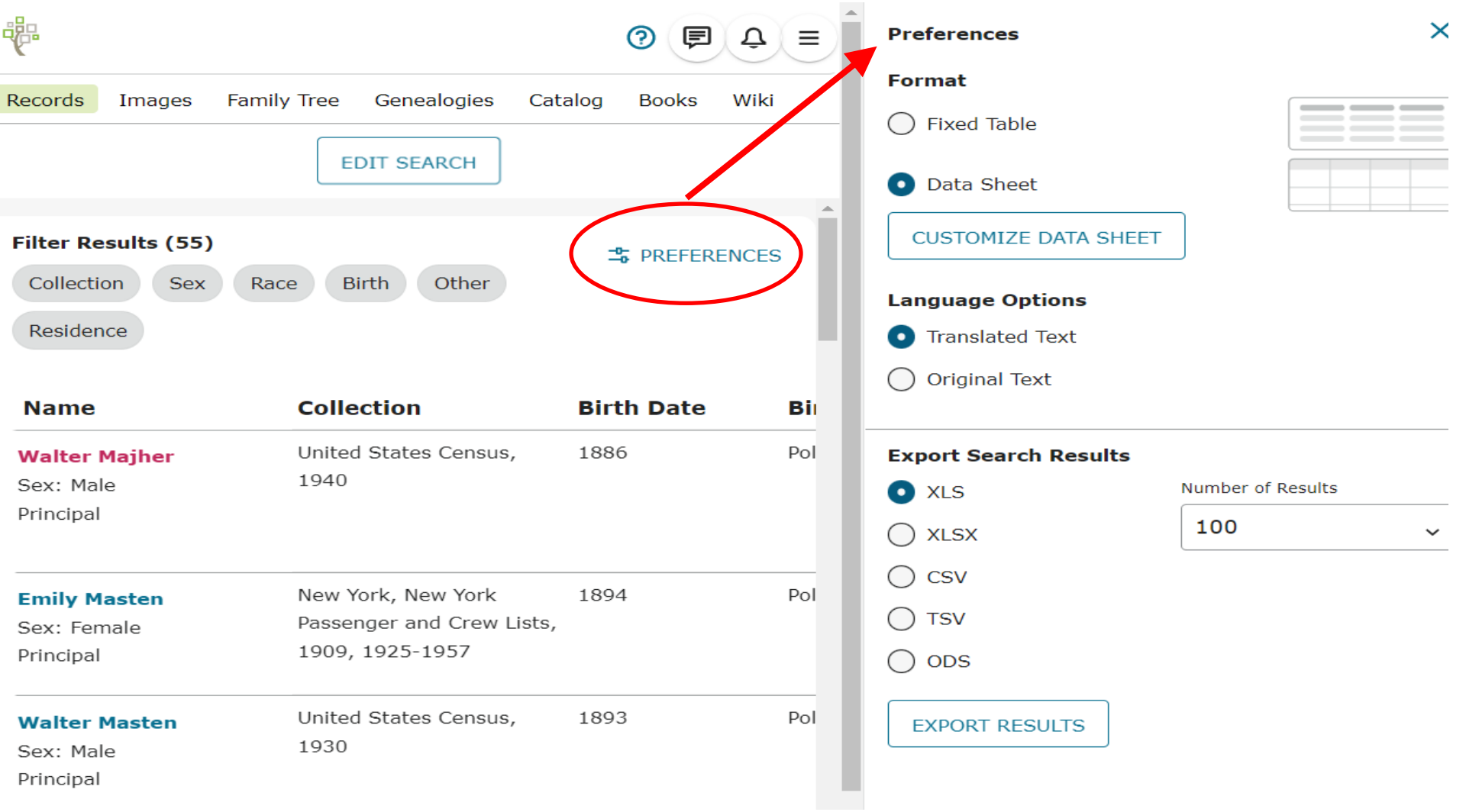

Mazdzer or Masten; New Hampshire or Vermont or New York

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score	arkId	sourceMed	batchNum	roleInReco	relationshi	fullName	sex	birthLikeDa	birthLikePl	chrDate	chrPlaceTe	residenceD	residenceF	marriageLi	marriageLi	deathLikeD	deathLikeF	burialDate	burialPlace	fatherFullN	motherFull	spouseFul	parentFull	childrenFu	otherFullNa	otherEvents
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3.1060002	ark:/61903	image/jpeg		Principal	Wife	Sarah Mei	Female	1884	Poland				The Bronx,									Nat Meiste				
3.1060002	ark:/61903	image/jpeg		Principal	Head	Jeremiah M	Male	1880	Poland				The Bronx,									Ethel Mist				
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3.1060002	ark:/61903	image/jpeg		Principal	Head	Frank Mag	Male	1891	Poland				Batavia, G									Gladys Ma		Walter Ma	Joanna Ma	
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3.1060002	ark:/61903	image/jpeg		Principal	Wife	Alexandra	Female	1883	Poland				Troy, Rens									Anthony M		Theodore M		
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3.1060002	ark:/61903	image/jpeg		Principal	Head	Blanche M	Female	1892	Poland				Buffalo, Er											Viola Majo		
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3.1050003	ark:/61903	image/jpeg	N03918-0	Principal	Wife	Josephin M	Female	1892	Poland			1930	Batavia, G									Stanley Ma		Jane Majer		IMMIGRATION/1914//
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Sample Search Result Export

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Ancestry

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Power Searching at Ancestry

- Use wildcards
- Filter by database type (Categories on Ancestry)
- Use sliders
- Use the card catalog

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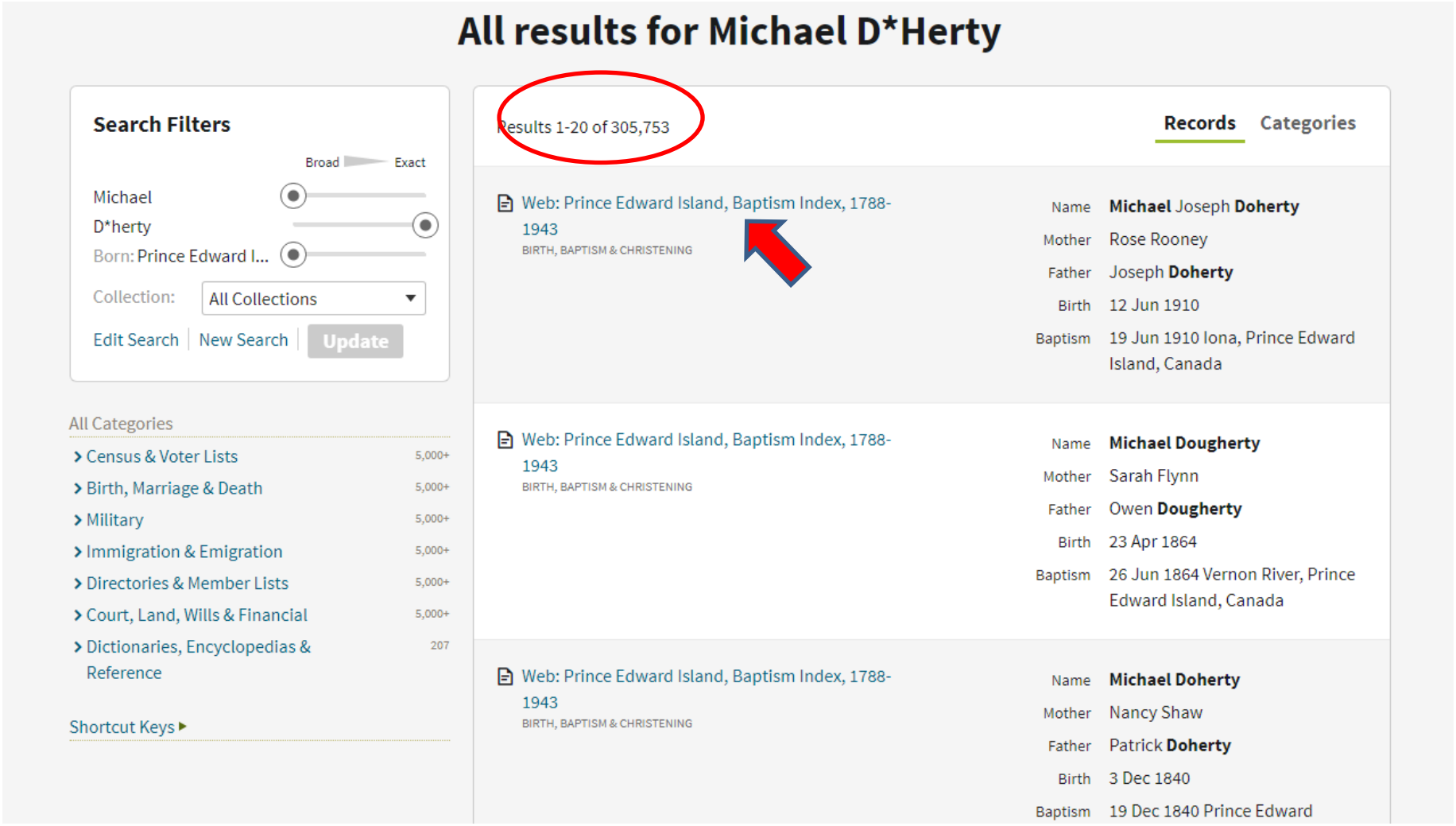

Ancestry Results for Michael D*herty, born PEI

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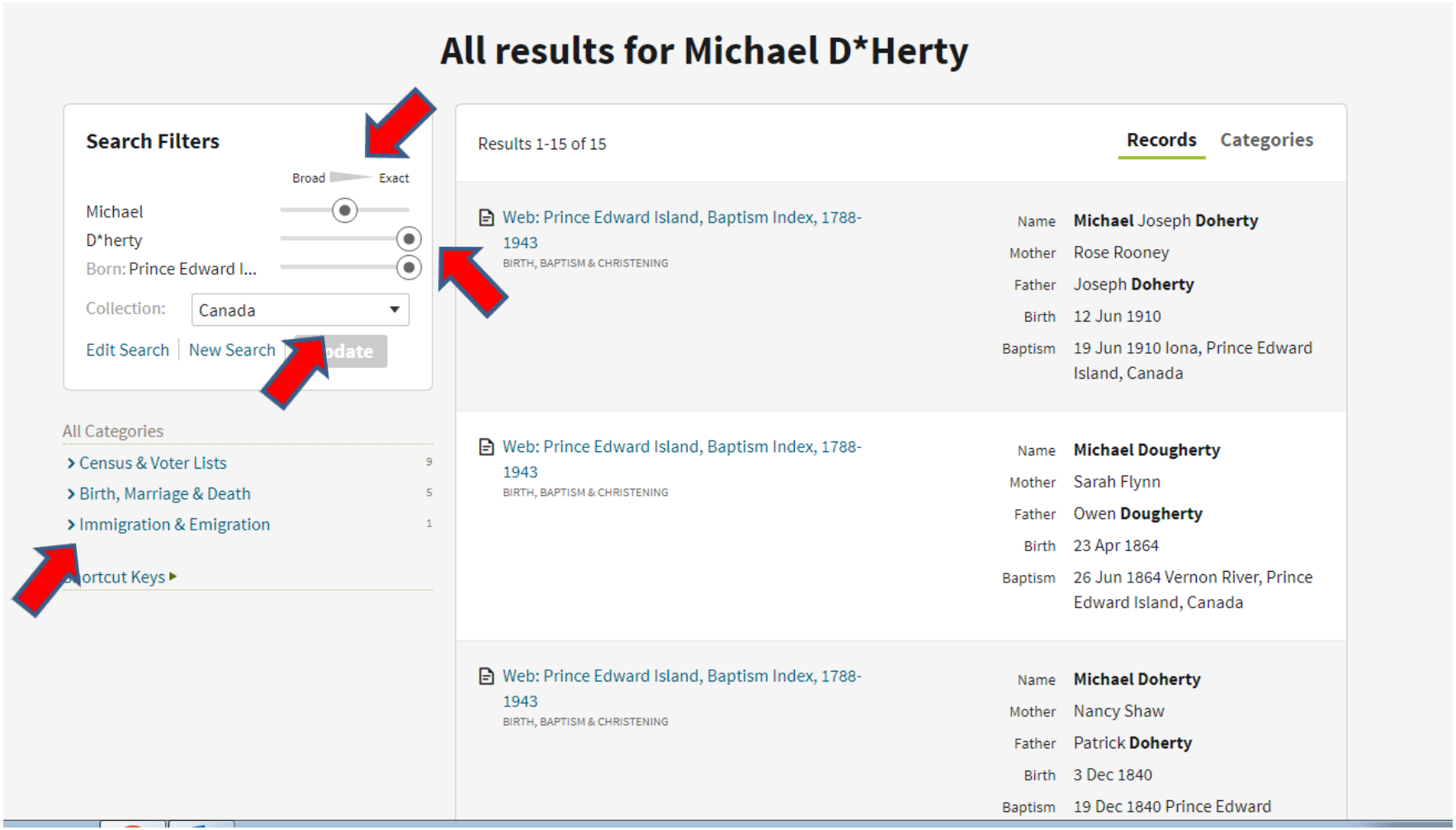

Using Sliders to Focus Search

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Filter on Categories

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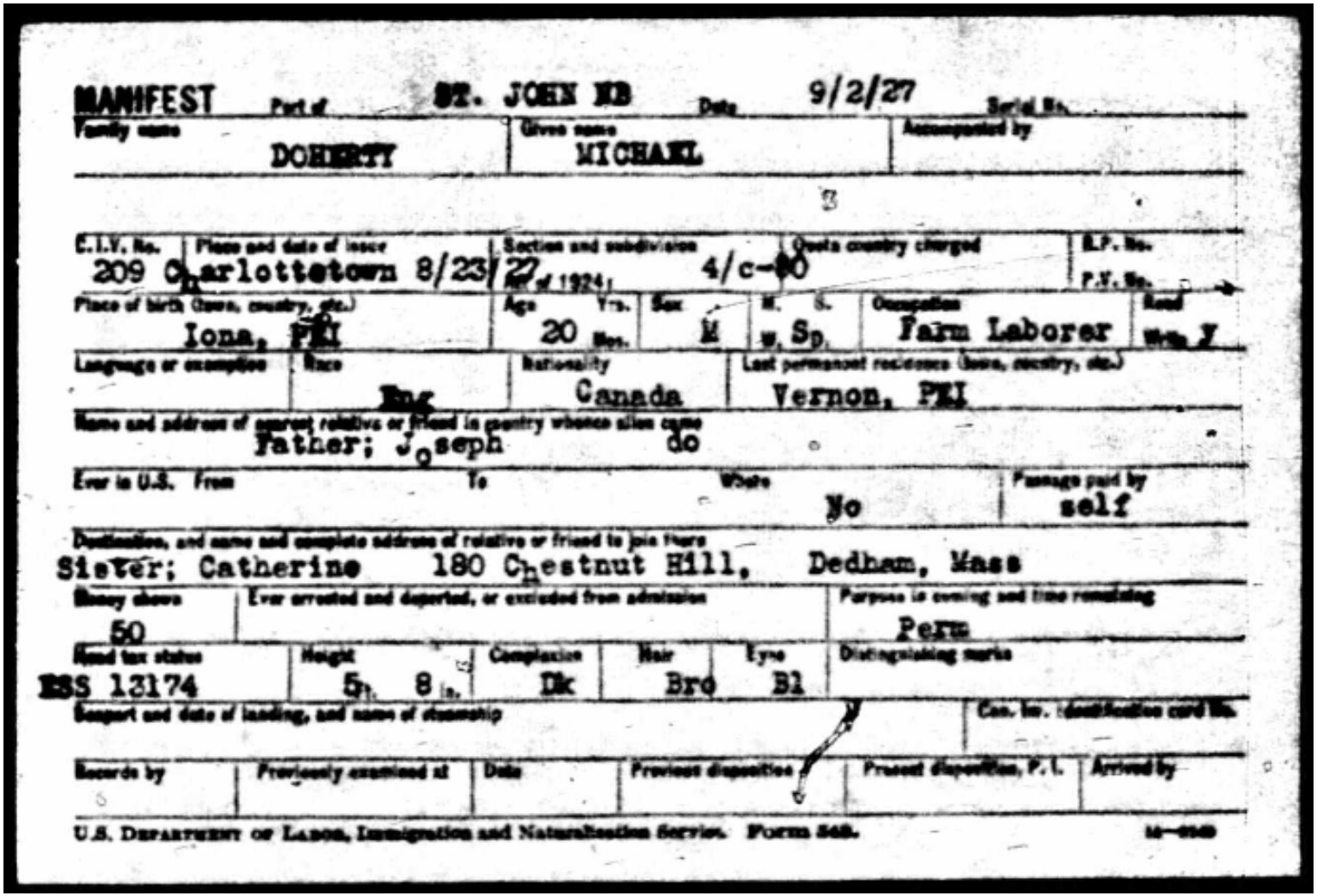

MANIFEST Port of ST. JOHN NB Date 9/2/27 Sheet No.

Family name	Given name	Accompanied by
DOHERTY	MICHAEL	

3

C.I.V. No.	Place and date of issue	Section and subdivision	Quota country charged	L.P. No.
209	Charlottetown 8/23/27 (Act of 1924)	4/c-60		P.V. No.

Place of birth (town, country, etc.)	Age Yrs.	Mos.	Sex	M. S.	Occupation	Read Write
Iona, PEI	20		M	w, Sp.	Farm Laborer	Y

Language or examined	Race	Nationality	Last permanent residence (town, country, etc.)
	Eng	Canada	Vernon, PEI

Name and address of nearest relative or friend in country whence alien came: Father; Joseph do

Ever in U.S. From	To	Whole	Passage paid by
		No	self

Destination, and name and complete address of relative or friend to join there: Sister; Catherine 180 Chestnut Hill, Dedham, Mass

Money shown	Ever arrested and deported, or excluded from admission	Purpose in coming and time remaining
50		Perm

Head tax status	Height	Complexion	Hair	Eyes	Distinguishing marks
BBS 13174	5 ft. 8 in.	Dk	Brn	Bl	

Passport and date of issuing, and name of steamship | Can. Im. identification card No.

Records by	Previously examined at	Date	Previous disposition	Present disposition, P. I.	Arrived by

U.S. Department of Labor, Immigration and Naturalization Service. Form 548. 16-6949

Pre-Examination Manifest for Michael Doherty

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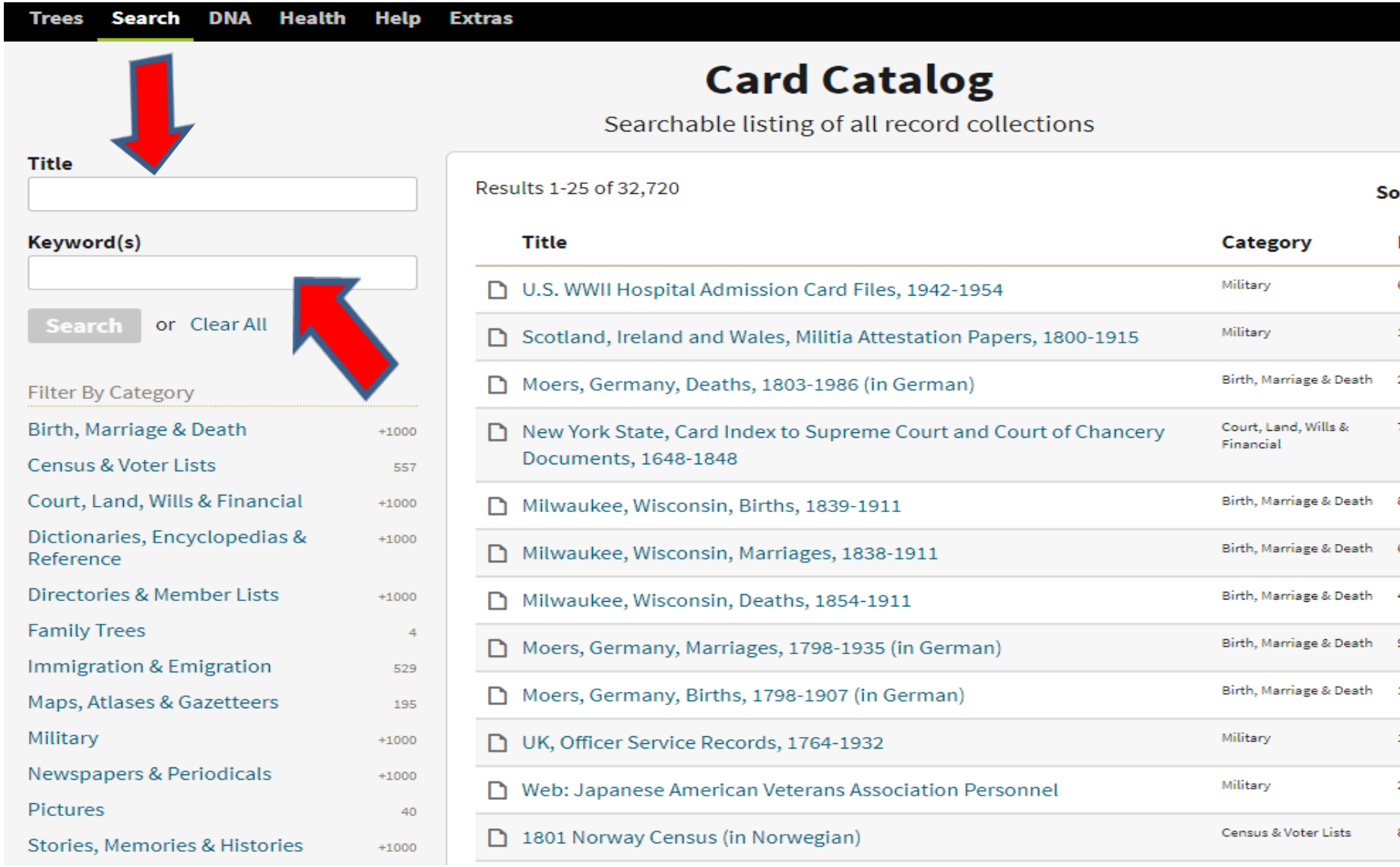

Using the Card Catalog

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Other Research Aids

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Finding Aids

- Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research
- New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer
- County and town histories

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Digital Book Sources

- https://www.hathitrust.org/
- https://books.google.com/
- https://archive.org/index.php
- https://openlibrary.org/
- https://books.familysearch.org
- http://library.si.edu/digital-library

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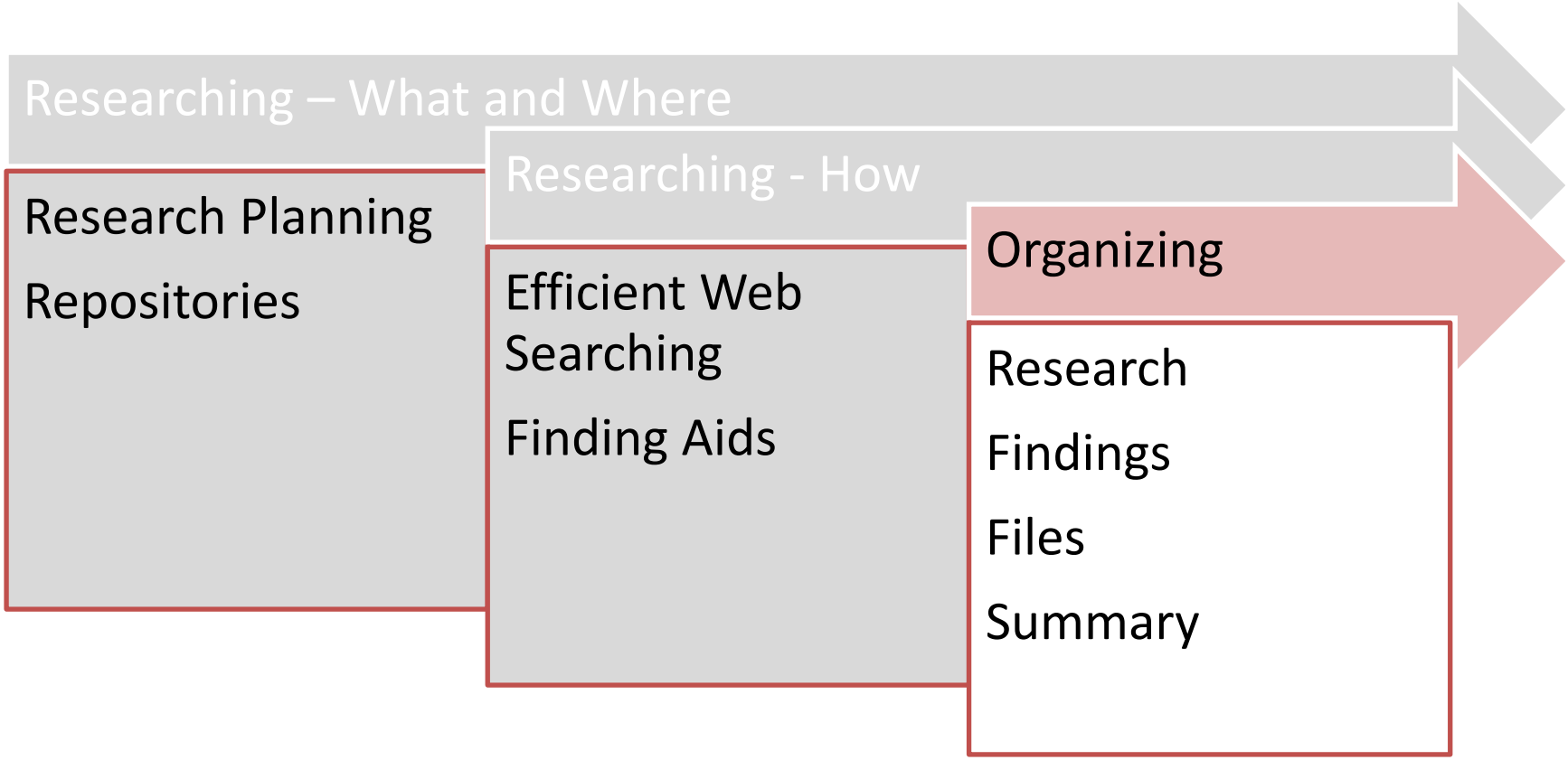
Session #2 Roadmap



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KIS: Rule #1 for Organizing

- KIS – "Keep it simple"
  - Make it easy to do the right thing
- Organizing Your
  - Research
  - Findings
  - Files
  - Summary

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Organizing Your Research

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Reminder – Use the Basic Tools!

- Pedigree chart
- Family Group sheet
- Research Plan
- Research Log

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Organizing Your Findings

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Tasks Lists and To-Dos

- Suggestion 1: Keep a dedicated research notebook
- Suggestion 2: Use a word processing program, spreadsheet or database program
- Suggestion 3: Use your genealogy software program's task lists, etc.

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Evernote or OneNote

- **Note:** A single item stored in Evernote or OneNote software
- **Notebook:**
  - Evernote – a collection of notes, stacks of notebooks
  - OneNote – a collection of sections, pages, notes
- **Tags:** Descriptive topic words, e.g.
  - Probate
  - Connecticut
  - Patrick Higgins
  - Birth records

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What to Do With "Orphan" Documents?

- Paper:
  - File in a folder under something like "work in progress" or "holding file" or "ongoing research"
- Digital
  - Folder with "holding" or similar name
    - Subfolders by surname
  - Excel sheet
    - Three columns
      - Surname
      - Citation and document link
      - Why important – track your thought process!!!

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Organizing Your Files

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Paper Versus Digital Organization

- Use a system you can maintain. There is no one "right" way to organize. It has to work for you.
- Consistency is key
- Leave a "paper" trail
- Write down your organizing decisions

Rhonda R. McClure, *Portable Genealogist: Organizing your Research*, (Boston, MA: NEHGS, 2013)

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FamilySearch.org Tips

- Do NOT change your old files to a new note keeping system all at once.
  - Start slowly with just the one family you are researching right now.
  - Wait to organize the file of another family until you start research on that family.

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https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Organizing_Your_Files

Paper Choices

- Option 1: One folder per person
- Option 2: One folder per couple
  - Individual stays with birth family until marriage
  - Family group sheet
  - Photocopies of records with source citations
- Option 3: Binders

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Paper System
Color Coding

- Mary Hill created the system
- Organize according to the five-generation chart
  - Father's father's line is BLUE
  - Father's mother's line is GREEN
  - Mother's father's line is RED
  - Mother's mother's line is YELLOW
- Start by sorting your "stuff" into four groups/piles/boxes based on grandparent surnames

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Digital File Organization Example

- Top Level - Branch
  - First Level – Surname
    - Second Level – Given name and birth year
      - Third Level – Type of record, e.g. Vitals, Military, Land, Probate

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Sample Digital Structure

Family Structure

- Higgins
  - Higgins
    - John _1950
      - [List of Record Types]
    - John_1903
    - Patrick_1876
  - Crotty
  - Cassidy

Record Type Structure

- Census
- Vitals
- Church
- Military
- Newspaper
- Immigration
- Land
- Probate

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File Naming

Who, When, What, Where

- HomerJacobJr-1837-will-MercerPA.jpg
- HomerJacob-1810-landsale-EmmitsburgMD.pdf
- HomerFred-1903-newspaper_death-GreenvillePA.pdf

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Other Templates

- Date First
  - Material automatically sorts by chronological order
  - 1837-HomerJacobJr-will-MercerPA.jpg
  - 1810-HomerJacob-landsale-EmmitsburgMD.pdf
- Place First – state/county/place
  - Very helpful when have multiple surnames

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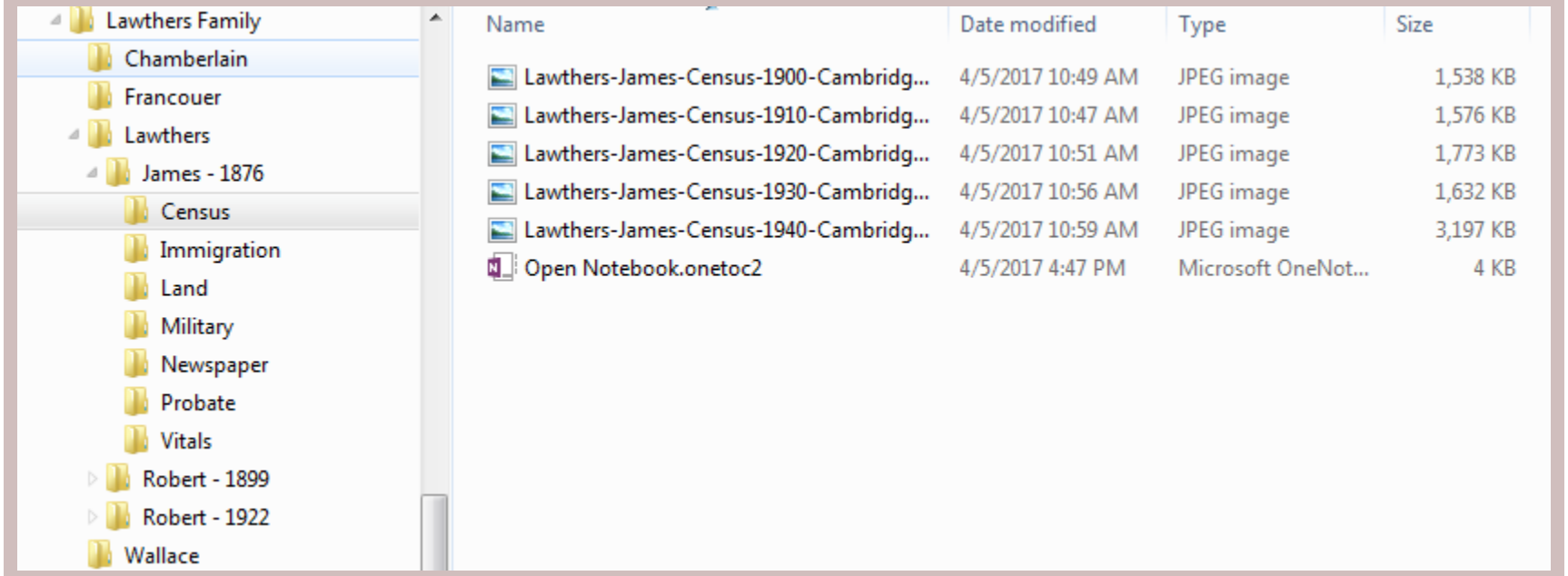
Digital Tree – Lawthers Family



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Organizing Your Summary

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Genealogical Numbering Systems

- Why bother?
  - You need to be able to use compiled genealogies
  - If you write your history for family, you will need to use a system to organize the presentation
- Numbering systems
  - Ahnentafel
  - Register
  - NGSQ/Modified Register

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Ahnentafel

- Starts with a person and works back – see pedigree chart
- Males always even number, females always odd number
  - Father's number, take the subject's number and double it
  - Mother's number, father + 1

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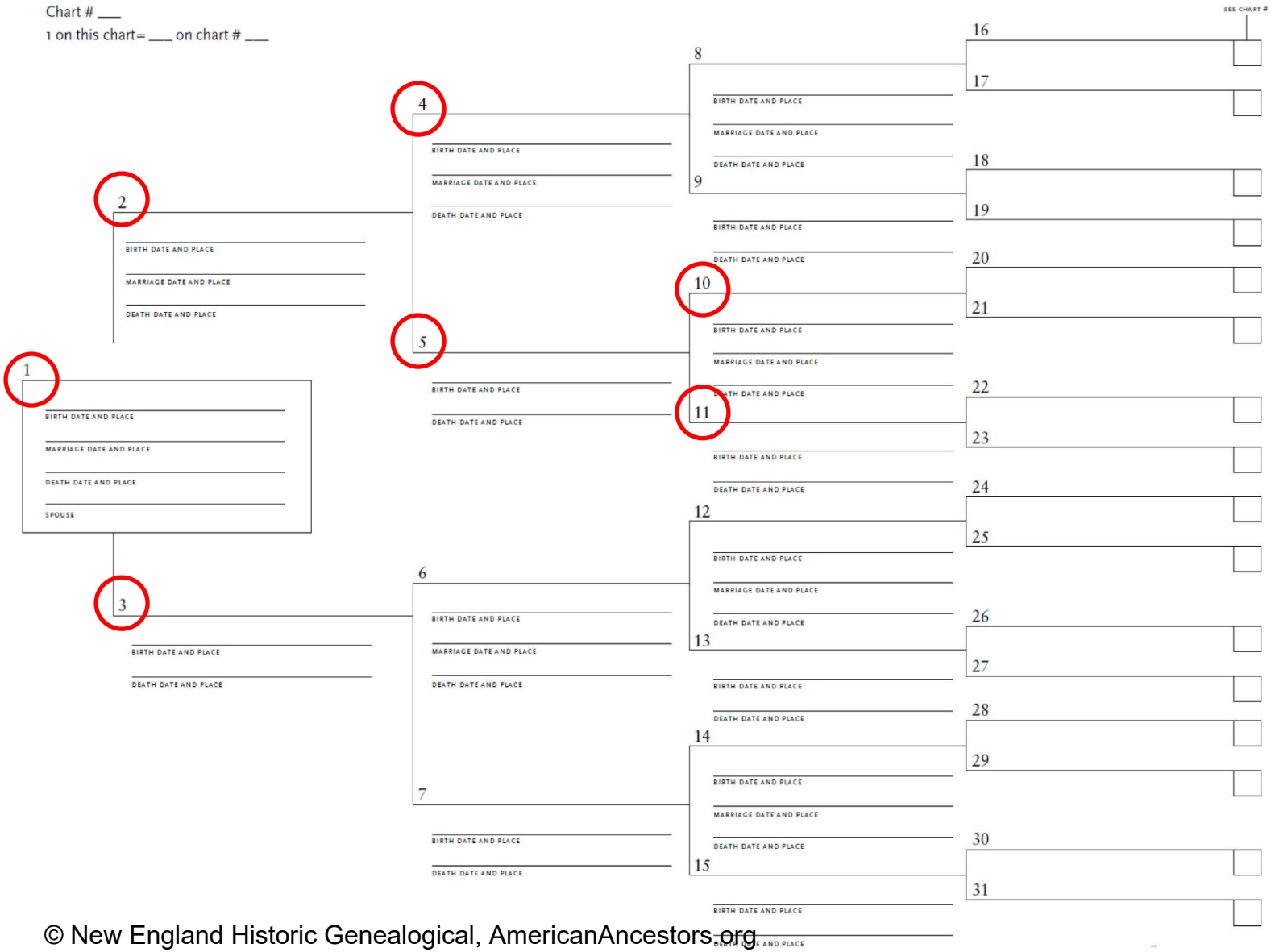
Chart # ___
1 on this chart= ___ on chart # ___



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Register

- Descending numbering system with children assigned numbers if they have their own sketch

Genealogical Summary

1. **HENRY[1] DISPAW/DESPER** was born say 1618 (assuming marriage at 25), and died in Lynn, Massachusetts, in October 1676.[10] He married in Horsemonden, Kent, 10 April 1643, **HELEN JARRET,** who died probably prior to 1673 when her husband and son Henry, both potters, immigrated to Massachusetts.

Henry Dispaw left a will dated 27 February 1674[/5?], proved 26 June 1677, mentioning sons Henry and Edward. The other children, whose baptisms are shown below, evidently died or remained in England.

Children of Henry[1] and Helen (Jarret) Dispaw/Desper, all baptisms in Horsemonden:

2. i. HENRY[2] DISPAW, b. ca. 1644; m. (1) _____; (2) CATHERINE _____.
ii. JOAN DISPAW, bp. 13 Sept. 1646.
3. iii. EDWARD DISPAW, bp. 24 March 1649/50; m. SARAH _____.
iv. CHRISTOPHER DISPAW, bp. 7 Feb. 1654.
v. WILLIAM DISPAW, bp. 27 March 1657.

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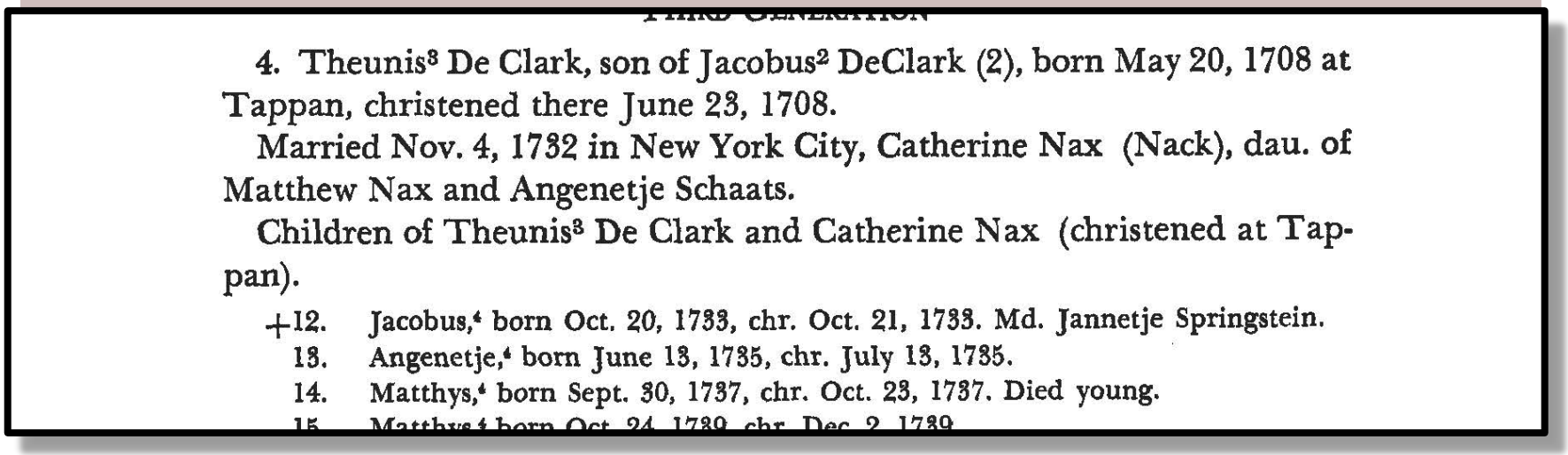
NGSQ (AKA Modified Register)

- Descending numbering system, every child receives a number based on birth order
- Plus signs or asterisks show children with their own sketch



4. Theunis[3] De Clark, son of Jacobus[2] DeClark (2), born May 20, 1708 at Tappan, christened there June 23, 1708.

Married Nov. 4, 1732 in New York City, Catherine Nax (Nack), dau. of Matthew Nax and Angenetje Schaats.

Children of Theunis[3] De Clark and Catherine Nax (christened at Tappan).

+12. Jacobus,[4] born Oct. 20, 1733, chr. Oct. 21, 1733. Md. Jannetje Springstein.
13. Angenetje,[4] born June 13, 1735, chr. July 13, 1735.
14. Matthys,[4] born Sept. 30, 1737, chr. Oct. 23, 1737. Died young.
15. Matthys,[4] born Oct. 24, 1739, chr. Dec. 2, 1739.

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Homework

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Research Plan and Log

- Retrieve your 5 generation chart for your family
- Complete a full research plan template for one of the questions you want to answer
- Execute your plan
- Use a research log to track your progress
- Come prepared to talk about both the negative and positive aspects of using both a plan and a research log

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