

# Exploring the FamilySearch Research Wiki

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FamilySearch Research Wiki is a treasure trove of information (84,985 articles) about localities, record types and topics which can be found at [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org) > Search > Wiki.



A Dallas Genealogical Society Newsletter titled an article, “New Locality: You’re a Beginner Again” Use the Wiki to become familiar with their history, records, and area before beginning to search a new location, or even locations that are not new to you. Be sure to check state, county, and city as there are different features on each.

Anyone can use the FamilySearch Research Wiki (wiki means quick in Hawaiian)  
 Only FamilySearch registered users may edit some of the content  
 Some pages are managed by a person or organization, and are responsible for the content  
 Only when “Edit” appears over a section can it be edited by a viewer.  
 Please *study* the instructions before making edits.



## **Wiki Tools**

**Notifications of Changes – Watching Pages; Categories; Talk Pages; Navigating the Wiki**

## **Online Genealogy Records**

**This section provides links to websites by country, states, Canadian provinces, British countries, English shires, and record types. When sites have a cost involved a \$ will appear in the listing.**

## **Browse by Country**

**Select country and then can select state, province, shire, etc.**

## **Locality Sites**

**Shows: State basic information and more detailed County information such as Online Records; Quick Dates (beginning dates for county records); County Courthouse (which offices keep which records with contact information); County History; Boundary Maps; Record Losses (with links to *Burned County Research* in the FamilySearch Research Wiki; Arlene Eakle, *When the Records are Gone* in the *Tennessee Genealogy Blog*; Michael John Neill, *Burned Counties* in *Family History Circle*; Neighboring counties: Populated places; Links to county records on FamilySearch; and more depending on the county. Also included are links to State related links. Family History Centers also have their sites.) and MUCH more.**

**Record Types - States have different names for record types and different offices responsible for recording them. Virginia has many independent cities which, in effect, are equal to a county. Some cities, in other states keep some of their records separate from the county. Search for record types by country and state, province, county, etc.**

## **Browse All Wiki Content**

**Articles by Location: United States topics such as: Archives and Libraries; Cemeteries, Census, Colonial Period; Completed Genealogy, County Creations, Directries, Emigration & Immigration; Ethnic Groups, Historical Records, History Land and Property, Migration Internal, and many more**

## **Resources for Individual Help**

**Family History Centers – In person Help; Online Research Communities**

## **Research Resources**

### **Beginning Genealogy**

- **Start Your Family History**
- **Organize Your Genealogy**
- **Select Computer Software**
- **Principles of Family History Research**
- **More Research Helps**
- **Poster: Identifying Your Ancestors, and Overcoming Hurdles - a process summary of multiple best-practice FamilySearch articles written by experienced genealogists Expanded Printable References**

## Research Tools

- **Research Outlines: Country, State, Province & Shire**
- **Research Forms: Census Work Sheets, Family Group & Pedigree Forms; To Do Lists; Analysis Chart, Time Line; Federal Census Forms; Non-Population Census Forms; Mortality Census Forms; Immigrations Forms; Military Forms: Additional forms from Archives.com; Ancestry.com; GenealogyBank, Cyndi's List; The Bailey's Free Genealogy Forms, and Family Tree Magazine**
- **Census Records**
- **Using the Wiki in FamilySearch Centers**
- **Online Genealogy Records by Location**
- **Locating Online Databases Part One: FamilySearch Wiki Sources**
- **Locating Online Databases Part Two: FamilySearch Historical and Library Records**
- **Locating Online Databases Part Three: Digitized Books**
- **Locating Online Databases Part Four: Internet Sources**
- **Collecting Previous Research by Others Part One: Home and Relative Sources**
- **Collecting Previous Research by Others Part Two: Online Family Tree Collections**
- **Collecting Previous Research by Others Part Three: Digitized Books**
- **Collecting Previous Research by Others Part Four: FamilySearch Wiki Tools**

FamilySearch:Contributing to the Wiki

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**Become a FamilySearch Research Wiki Contributor**

The FamilySearch Research Wiki is a free, online genealogical guide that lists websites, explains records, gives research strategies, and suggests other resources to help you find your ancestors from countries around the world. The Research Wiki is a community project, and we welcome all of those interested in sharing their genealogical knowledge to add to the Wiki.

**Share your knowledge**

You can help us by adding content to the Research Wiki to help others. This can be done through fixing broken URLs, adding content about a record type, listing new resources available or giving strategies for locating records.

There are different ways you can add this information:

**Submit Wiki Content**

If you would like to submit a resource, URL, or even a paragraph on a topic in the Research Wiki, you can use our [online form](#). A volunteer will add the information to the Research Wiki in the appropriate place.

**Report a Problem**

Found some incorrect information on the Wiki? You can either [edit the Wiki](#) yourself as listed below or fill out this [form](#). A Wiki volunteer will fix the information for you.

**Edit Directly to the Wiki**

To edit the wiki, you must be assigned the wiki role of editor and page creator. You need only request this once. Once you are an editor and page creator, you will remain so as long as you follow Wiki Guidelines and Policies. To request to be an editor of the Wiki, [click here](#). Once your FamilySearch account is verified and the role of editor and page creator is granted, you should receive an email within 48 hours confirming your editing status.

**More Information About Editing the Wiki**

There are many Wiki Help articles teaching you how to edit the Wiki:

- [Edit a Wiki Page](#)
- [Editing a Wiki Page using VisualEditor](#)
- [Adding Website Links](#)
- [Wiki Guiding Principles and Policies](#)

**Wiki University**

The Wiki University contains a series of lessons on how to edit the Wiki using either VisualEditor, a simplified way to edit the Wiki or Wikitext, using simplified html code.

Category: Wiki Help

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**Check Rookie Mistakes for practices to avoid when searching for family.**

**NEW ADDITIONS:** “Guided Research” (vital records sources for areas currently available in North America, Great Britain, Scandinavia Netherlands and Italy, with more areas to come) and (Listed under Help) “Community” – if you need help researching in a specific location, similar to the old “Forums”.