

# Closet Skeleton Investigators

Genealogy Researchers from McAlester Public Library & the Pittsburg County Genealogical & Historical Society

We'd find you more interesting IF YOU WERE DEAD

# Genealogy on the Cheap

# Why Genealogy?

- It would be nice to know
- It would be nice for the kids
- I would like to know more about \_\_\_\_\_
- To preserve family traditions for future generations
- To learn or preserve cultural or ethnic history
- Knowing family medical history may help in the battle against genetic disease or defects

- To qualify for a lineage or heritage society
- To qualify for enrollment into a Native America tribe
- To write and publish your family history
- To discover that unique fact or solve a family puzzle
- To verify family lore



# Where Do I Begin

- Start with yourself, then add what you know about your parents, grandparents
  - full name
  - date and place of birth
  - date and place of marriage
  - names of children
  - date and place of death
- Record what you already know

- Review family records at home
- Talk to relatives
- Record everything, even if you don't think you will need it
- Always document when and where you obtained the information
- Get photocopies if possible; Take pictures
- Use charts

# Tips

- Talk to your relatives
- Cite your sources; make photocopies of everything and take pictures
- Question all information
- Information found on the internet must be verified
- Family legends must be questioned
- You're probable not descended from royalty or related to some famous
- Try multiple spellings of your surname
- Dig deeper, go past names and dates
- Beware of generic family history

# What am I looking for?

Recorded evidence of the existence of a person (related to them or not), and facts about the person and that person's relationship(s) with others.

# Organization

- Organize your files and records from the beginning – Start organized and stay organized
  - Notebooks
  - File Folders
  - Electronic
- Store originals separate from your working files
- Use charts

Talk is Cheap

In 1980 a 3 minute call on the weekend cost about a \$1 (or about \$2.40 in today's dollars)

- Today most cell phones have nationwide calling
- Cheaper: VOIP
- Cheaper: Skype or Google Hangouts
- Have you looked at gasoline prices the last couple of weeks, go visit a relative and talk genealogy (September 2015)

Keeping Notes  
Can Be Cheap



- Pencil and Paper – Okay
- Do you have a computer, tablet or smart phone that travels with you, then consider Evernote, Microsoft OneNote, Google Keep
- Use your cell phone's features such as voice recording and camera

# Cheap Genealogy Forms

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Genealogy\_Research\_Forms

Genealogy Research

FileEditViewFavoritesToolsHelp

x

Norton

familysearch genealogy forms

Safe Search

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History

Genealogy Research Forms

Edit This Page

Family history forms help to organize family history work. They help to track research efforts reducing duplication of effort and make research work quicker and more effective. There are a variety of free family history forms available to download. The following links are not a complete list. A more comprehensive list can be found by searching for family history forms or for genealogy forms using your internet search engine.

Contents [hide]

1

FamilySearch

2

Archives.com

3

Ancestry.com

4

GenealogyBank

5

Using Censuses to Track Ancestors

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Cyndi's List

7

The Bailey's Free Genealogy Forms

8

Family Tree Magazine

FamilySearch

**Census Worksheets** – The blank worksheets linked below have the same columns and headings as the respective census.

Learning Genealogy,  
also cheap,  
as in Free



# Principles of Family History Research [Edit This Page](#)

Return to [Main Page](#)

Genealogical [Main Page](#) history research is the process of searching records to find information about your relatives and using those records to link individuals to earlier and later generations.

This article describes a process for doing genealogical and family history research. In addition to following a process, research includes knowing about the different types of records that have the information you seek. For discussions of specific records to use in your research, see the "Topics" on this wiki for the country, state or province of interest. You also find information about records in the genealogical handbooks.

This article is intended for persons who are interested in learning more about family history research. For a brief overview of the research process, see [A Guide to Research](#).





# Family History Research Wiki

Get genealogical research advice, or learn where to find record collections in our **82,687** articles

**Search by place or topic**  
(or click on the map)

**Search Tips:**

- Start with broad localities, then click through to smaller ones  
*Example: England*
- Use keywords, not phrases  
*Example: Hispanic Resources*





Family Tree Memories Search

# Learning Center

Browse hundreds of online genealogy courses to help you discover your family history.

What course are you looking for?

## Place

[America, Europe](#) (4)  
[Argentina](#) (1)  
[Australia](#) (4)  
[Bosnia and Herzegovina](#) (1)  
[Brazil](#) (3)  
[Canada](#) (1)  
[China](#) (16)  
[Colombia](#) (4)  
[Croatia](#) (3)  
[Czech Republic](#) (11)  
[Denmark](#) (8)  
[England](#) (25)  
[Europe](#) (2)  
[France](#) (10)  
[Germany](#) (16)  
[Guatemala](#) (1)

Search Learning Center

Explain why family history research is worth

- A. To know who you are
- B. Respect for your ancestors and heritage
- C. To understand history better
- D. Genetics and health
- E. Religious reasons



1 hour 18 minutes

Beginning Research Techniques



5 Minute Gen  
15: Share with



Genealogy  
Software  
Cheap



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[Home](#) ▶ [Products](#) ▶ [RootsMagic Essentials](#)

## RootsMagic Essentials

*Free Genealogy & Family Tree Software*



Platform: Windows 10 / 8 / 7 / Vista / XP / 2000 [Mac OS X](#)

**Free!**

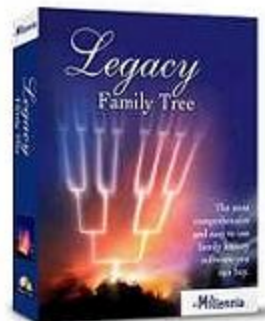
[Free Download](#)

RootsMagic Essentials is a free genealogy program that contains many core fe  
[RootsMagic](#) family tree software. Downloading RootsMagic Essentials is absol  
start tracing your family tree!

[Features](#)

## Easy to Learn and Use

RootsMagic Essentials' friendly screens and menus allow even the most inexperienced computer novice to get up-and-running quickly. Navigation is a breeze with both pedigree and family views, and RootsMagic Essentials lets you view and edit every piece of information about a person from



# Legacy 8.0 Family Tree

Setting a New Standard in Genealogy Software



Standard Edition  
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- **Origins Report** - See where you came from and the percentage of "blood" you have from your countries of origin with the new Origins Report.
- **Migration Mapping** - Legacy animates the ancestor's movement through time. Watch how they migrated from place to place. View their migration in street, a the balloon to see what happened in each location.
- **Shared Events** - Save time and avoid errors by sharing an event amongst all the individuals who participated in the event. You can specify each person's role
- **Source Quality** - Now record the quality (original vs derivative, primary vs secondary, etc., direct vs indirect) of each source as you attempt to prove your conclusions.
- **And much, much more!**
- [Click here to read more](#)
- [Click here to see the video Tour](#)





Build your family tree the *easy* way with My Family Tree.

Get it free

## What is My Family Tree?

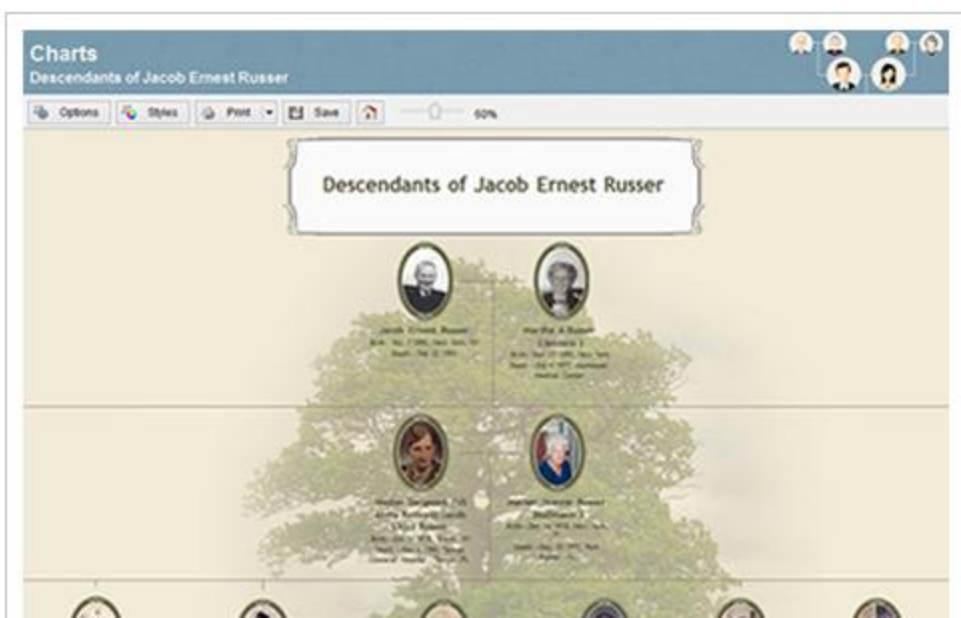
My Family Tree is a free genealogy application for Windows®. It has been carefully designed to provide a simple and intuitive interface. For those just starting out investigating their family history, it provides a family tree with photos, stories and basic facts about each person. More experienced genealogists can use the advanced search and options to transfer data using the GEDCOM file format.

## Screenshots





# The World's Most Popular Family History Software



Fam  
Used  
Family  
your fa  
and ac  
more.

Fre



# Lists of Free Family History Websites

(not blogs but sites with data)



http://genealogy.about.com/cs/free\_genealogy/a/free\_sites.htm



101 Ways to Research Your Family Tree

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about parenting

Search...

About.com > About Parenting > Genealogy > ... > Databases & Family Trees

# 101 Ways to Research Your Family Tree

Alternatives to Pay-For-Use Genealogy Sites on the Internet



By Kimberly Powell  
Genealogy Expert



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# 25 Free Family History Sites You Don't Miss

### NOW READING

25 Free Family History Sites You Don't Want to Miss



### CONTENTS

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## MyHeritage.com's Top 100 Genealogy

As mentioned [here](#), recently at MyHeritage.com we've been scanning the web, evaluating content, and identifying some of the best genealogy sites on the internet right now. We put a focus on finding hidden gems in the community, so there's a good chance that some of these are sites you won't have seen before. It's a testament to the vibrancy of the online genealogy community that even this selection of 100 sites had to leave out a lot of quality content. Nevertheless, these are the 100 we came up with, presented in alphabetical order. We hope you enjoy reading them!



### MyHeritage.com Top 100 Genealogy Sites

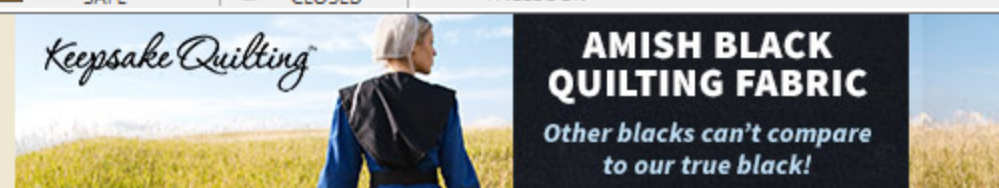
#### [Above the Trees](#)

The Above the Trees blog has grown out of the [Family Photoloom](#) website and offers regular musings on genealogy, with an emphasis on how images and photographs can play a role in family history.

#### [The Accidental Genealogist](#)

"The Accidental Genealogist is a blog that will help you to stay updated on genealogy news and resources, learn how to be a genealogist as I share my own genealogical findings, and be informed of my recent book and article publications."

#### [AnceStories](#)



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## Free Family Tree Chart Template

Sign up for our e-newsletter full of genealogy research tips, resources and news, and we'll give you a free, decorative family tree form PDF. Just download, type in ancestors' names and print!

July/August 2015

12 TOP WEBSITES for TRACING IRISH ANCESTORS

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## 101 Best Websites of 2010

5/17/2012

By David A. Fryxell

**From state vital records and censuses to historical books and immigration data, this year's 101 Best Websites list features tools that can bust your brick walls—but not your budget.**

In a bumpy economy, is there any more welcome word than free? When we took a break from checking our credit-card balances and 401(k)







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# Cyndi's List

A comprehensive, categorized & cross-referenced point you to genealogical research sites online

Your genealogy starting point for more than 18 years

Categories

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## Welcome to Cyndi's List

Cyndi's List has been a trusted genealogy research site for more than 18 years. Cyndi's List is **free** for everyone to use and it is meant to be a starting point when researching online.

- What exactly is *Cyndi's List*?
  - A categorized & cross-referenced index to genealogical research sites on the Internet.
  - A list of links that point you to genealogical research sites online.
  - A **free** jumping-off point for you to use in your online research.
  - A "card catalog" to the genealogical collection in the Internet.

# Free Genealogy Websites



Fan Chart



Photos



Family Tree



Search



# Search Historical Records

Search for a deceased ancestor in historical records to uncover vital information from their life.

**DECEASED ANCESTOR'S NAME**

First Names

Last Names

**SEARCH WITH A LIFE EVENT:**

Birth | [Marriage](#) | [Residence](#) | [Death](#) | [Any](#)

Birthplace

Birth Year (Range)  From  To

**SEARCH WITH A RELATIONSHIP:**

[Spouse](#) | [Parents](#) | [Other Person](#)

**RESTRICT RECORDS BY:**

[Location](#) | [Type](#) | [Batch Number](#) | [Film Number](#)

# Research

Click an area of the world map to view records from that area.



[Browse All Publications](#)





# Family History Books

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

- [Allen County Public Library](#)
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- [Brigham Young University Idaho David O. McKay Library](#)
- [Brigham Young University Hawaii Joseph F. Smith Library](#)
- [Church History Library](#)
- [Family History Library](#)
- [Houston Public Library - Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research](#)
- [Mid-Continent Public Library - Midwest Genealogy Center](#)
- [Historical Society of Pennsylvania](#)
- [Onondaga County Public Library](#)
- [University of Florida, George A. Smathers Libraries](#)



# DISCOVERING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

## Create a Free Account Now

I am a ...

☒ Female ☐ Male

My first name

My last name

My e-mail address

Create a password

NEXT STEP >



Home Search



Search the Entire U.S. Census

First Name

Last Name

Birth Year

Age

City

State

Gender

Race

Occupation

# FIND A GRAVE

The free Find A Grave mobile app is here.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## Find Famous Graves

See the graves of thousands of famous people from around the world.

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# BillionGraves

[sitemap](#)

[Search](#)



Help Make Family History  
Available to Everyone

**Collect** photos of the headstones in your local cemetery with our iPhone/Android camera app. Then upload the snapped-out photos here.

**Transcribe** information from uploaded headstone photos - then descendants everywhere can easily search for their ancestors.

**Search** for your ancestors' graves using our easy search. You can access their headstone records, photos of headstones, and accurate locations of all the graves.



0:00:00

## Headstone Search

[Check out the Advanced Search page](#)

## News Feed

3 hours(s) ago



**366 images added to Eglington Cemetery**

Clarksboro, New Jersey, United States

6 hours(s) ago



**99 images added to Saint Joseph Cemetery**

Shreveport, Louisiana, United States

http://www.legacy.com/ns/

Obituaries - Death

FileEditViewFavoritesToolsHelp

x

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familysearch

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More Options ›

Search

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A portrait of a woman with long, dark brown hair and bangs, smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing large hoop earrings. In the background, there is a bookshelf filled with various books.

A close-up shot of a person's hands wearing white football gloves, holding a dark brown football. The person is wearing white wristbands. The background is a blurred green field. Overlaid on the bottom left of the image is the text "MEMORIALS" in a small font and "NFL" in a large, bold, white font.



Finding our roots together.



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First Name

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### Search Ancestry.com

First Name

Last Name

## Getting Started

[Getting Started at RootsWeb](#)

[Ancestry Tour](#)

[RootsWeb's Guide To Tracing Family Trees](#)

[RootsWeb Review Archives](#) | [What's New](#)

## Search Engines and Databases

[RootsWeb Surname List/RSL](#) (Surname Listings)

[MetaSearch](#) (Multiple Databases and Files)

[U. S. Town/County Database](#) (Locations)

[WorldConnect Project](#) (Family Trees)

[Index of All Search Engines and Databases](#)

## Family Trees (WorldConnect)

[WorldConnect Project Main Page](#)

[Search Family Trees](#)

[Submit Your Family Tree](#)

[Edit Your Family Tree](#)

## Websites

[Websites at RootsWeb](#)

[Websites on RootsWeb's Freespace](#)

[Requests for Web Space](#)

## Other Tools and Resources

[ROOTS-L Library](#) | [State Resources](#)

[RootsLink URL Registry](#) | [Add A Link](#)

[Blank Charts and Forms](#)

[RootsWeb Graphics](#)

[Soundex Converter](#)

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[How to Volunteer](#)

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[World Archives Project](#)

[Books We Own](#)

[CanadaGenWeb](#)

[FreeBMD](#) (England and Wales)





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# National Park Service

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## The Civil War

### Explore This Subject

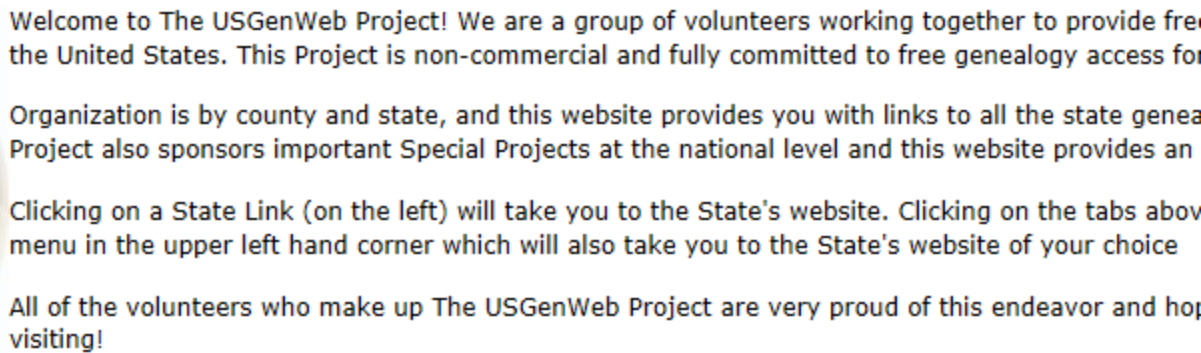
[Home](#)[Stories](#)[People](#)[Soldiers and Sailors Database](#)[Soldiers](#)[Sailors](#)[Battle Units](#)[Cemeteries](#)[Battles](#)

## Soldiers and Sailors Data

The Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System (CWSS) is a database of information about the men and women who served in the Union and Confederate armies during the Civil War. The database includes histories of Union and Confederate regiments, lists of soldiers and sailors, selected lists of prisoner-of-war records and cemetery records. The CWSS is a cooperative effort between the National Park Service and the American Civil War Roundtable, whose goal is to increase Americans' understanding of this important period in our history and make this information about it widely accessible.

[Learn more.](#)

- Pick a State**
- State Listings 



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**Celebrating in 2016 the 20th Anniversary of The USGenWeb Project!**  
**Look for us at the 2016 NGS Conference - Booth 431!**



Projects



After: November 16, 1907

**Pittsburg County, Oklahoma**

1855 to November 16, 1907 Source 2

**Tobucksy (root Tobaksi = Coal)**

**Moshulatubbee District, Choctaw Nation, Inc**

Formed November 16, 1907. Pittsburg County is located in the rolling



More and more people from all over the United States are researching to prove their emphasis is placed on minority hiring in private industry and other Government agencies.

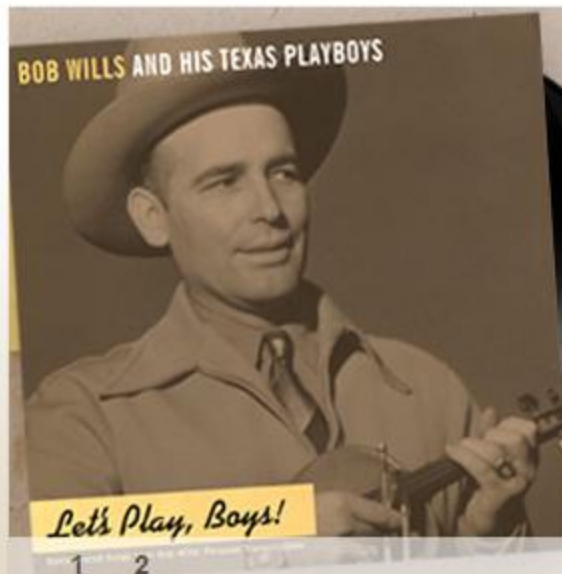


# Oklahoma Historical Society

*collect, preserve, share*

[Oklahoma History Center](#) [Research Center](#) [Museums & Sites](#) [State History](#)

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## BOB WILLS AND HIS TEXAS PLAYBOYS

### *Let's Play*

Rediscovered Songs from Bob Wills

## New Vinyl Album



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Connecting the world through genealogy!

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## Regional Websites

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## Welcome to the WorldGenWeb Project

The WorldGenWeb Project is a non-profit, volunteer based organization providing historical records and resources for world-wide access!



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## AMERICA'S FIRST IMMIGRATION CENTER

CastleGarden.org is an educational project of The Battery Conservancy, which has created an extraordinary database of information on 10 million immigrants who entered the year Ellis Island opened. More than 100 million immigrants entered the early immigration period.

Castle Garden, today known as Castle Clinton National Monument, is located at The Battery, the 25 acre waterfront park at the tip of Manhattan. It was America's first official immigration center, and it is now a National Historic Landmark in New York City.

CastleGarden.org is an invaluable resource for educators, scholars, students, family historians, and the interested public.

The Battery remains one of the oldest public open spaces in continuous use in New York City. Native Americans fished from its banks, and the first Dutch settlers built a low, stone wall with cannons, a battery, to protect the harbor and the fledgling city of New Amsterdam. The transformations of The Battery and the Castle tell the history of New York and, by association, the growth and development of our nation.





# The Statue of Liberty - Ellis Island Foundation, Inc.

ABOUT

HONOR YOUR FAMILY

STATUE OF LIBERTY

ELLIS ISLAND





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Advanced Search

All Digitized Newspapers 1836-1922

All states



+ from

1836

to

1922



+

enter one or more search words

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- [About the Site and API](#)
- [Recommended Topics](#)
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### More Resources

- [National Digital Newspaper Program](#)
- [NDNP Award Recipients](#)
- [Newspaper and Current Periodicals Reading Room](#)
- [Ask LC Newspaper & Current Periodicals Librarian](#)

[100 Years Ago Today: 9/21/1915 \(61 issues\)](#)





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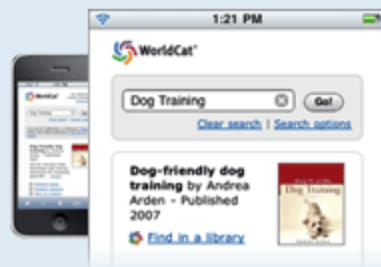
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and numerous other records

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[\[Volume 13\]](#) [\[Volume 14\]](#)

[\[Emigration in the 19th Century\]](#)

[City and County of Burgsteinfurt \(by name\), Passenger lists to the United States, 1850-1899](#)



# TheShipsList

FIND YOUR ANCESTORS Search Billions of Records

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TheShipsList website, online since August 1999, will help you find your ancestors on ships' passenger lists. We also have immigration reports and more; as well as hundreds of passenger lists to Canada, USA, Australia and even some for South Africa. Be sure to check the "special" pages. We have over 3,500 totally **free access** web-pages with new databases added regularly (see the links below between the big arrows). To make best use of your visit, use the **Navigation-bars (buttons and text)** which are on the **top** of every page, to help you find your way



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Nov 28, 1908 - Aug 25, 1917

Advertiser-News

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Oct 6, 1977 - Dec 27, 1979

The Age

32,807 issues

Oct 17, 1854 - Dec 31, 1989

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A'tome

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Feb 14, 1974 - Dec 19, 1974

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14,981 issues

Jan 1, 1846 - Dec 28, 1929

L'Acadien

922 issues

Dec 31, 1819 - Aug 13, 1929

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70 issues

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L'Action Sociale

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May 1, 1903 - Dec 30, 1915

The Adams County Record

110 issues

Dec 1, 2005 - Apr 15, 2009

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The Age-Sentinel

61 issues

Sep 7, 1905 - Apr 8, 1909

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L'Abeille

752 issues

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The Aberdeen Ti

363 issues

Nov 28, 1968 - Apr 15, 1974

L'Action

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Jan 3, 1963 - Feb 28, 1974

L'Action Libérale

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May 3, 1888 - Sep 26, 1974

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The Advertiser

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Jul 11, 1868 - Jan 3, 1974

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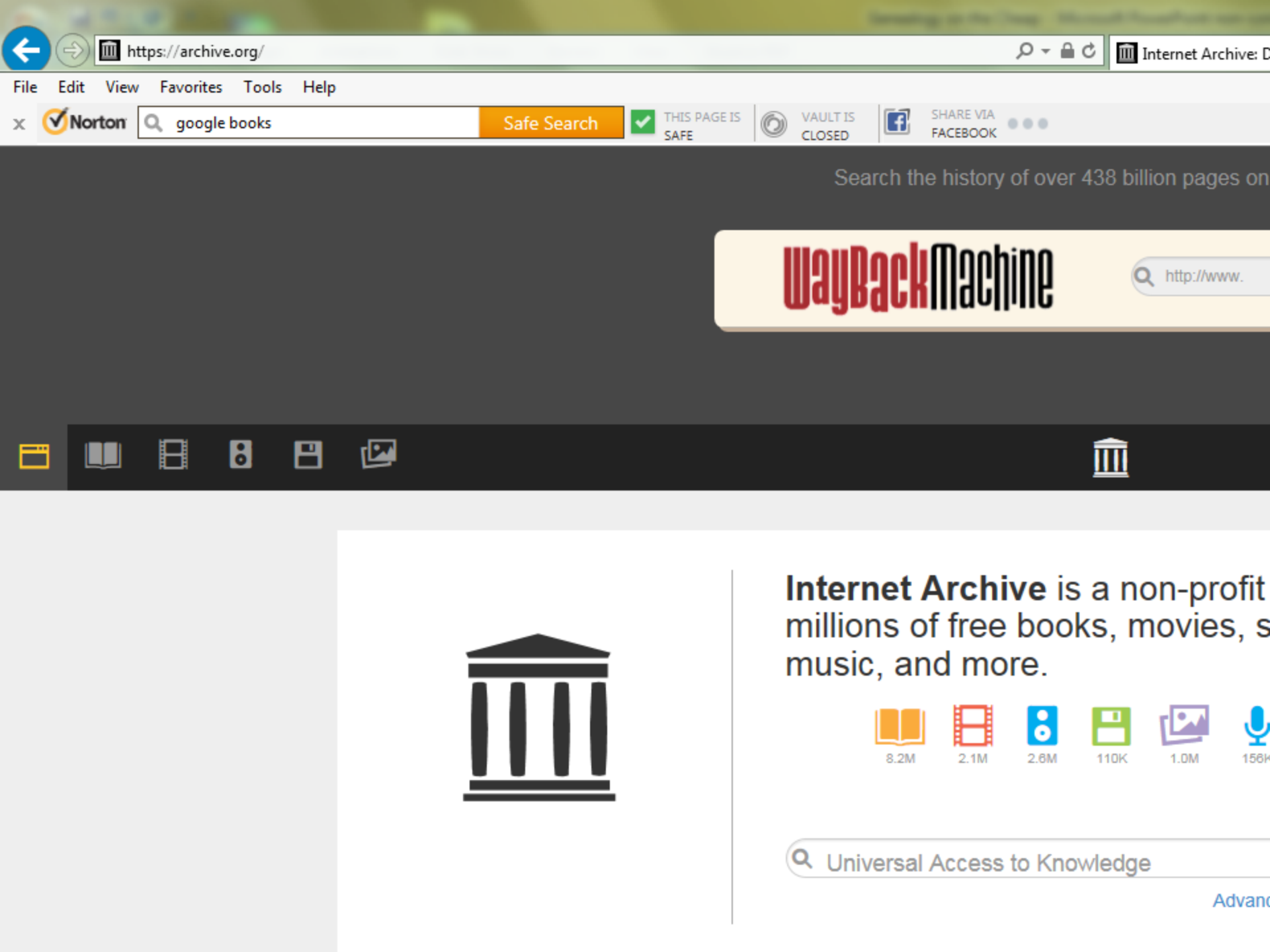
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Research Our Records

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## Resources for Genealogists

Home > Research Our Records > Resources for Genealogists

### The 1940 Census

Now online - [1940census.archives.gov](http://1940census.archives.gov)

#### Start Your Family Research



Learn how you can use the resources at the National Archives to explore your family's ancestry.

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### The Official Federal Land Records Site

Welcome to the Bureau of Land Management(BLM), General Land Office (GLO) Records Automation System. The system provides live access to Federal land conveyance records for the Public Land States, including image and text records. There are more than five million Federal land title records issued between 1820 and the present. We also have image records of survey plats and field notes, dating back to 1810. Due to organization of documents in the GLO collection, the system **does not** currently contain every Federal title record issued for the Public Land States.

#### Land Patents

**Federal Land Patents** offer researchers a source of information on the initial transfer of land titles from the Federal government to individuals. In addition to verifying title transfer, this information will allow the researcher to associate an individual (Patentee, Assignee, Warrantee, Widow, or Heir) with a specific location (Legal Land Description) and time (Issue Date). We have a variety of Land Patents on our site, including Cash Entry, Homestead and Military Warrant patents.



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# David Rumsey Map Collection

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Welcome to the David Rumsey Map Collection Database and Blog. The Map Database has many [viewers](#) and the Blog has numerous [categories](#).

The historical map collection has over 62,000 maps and images online. The collection includes rare 16th through 21st century maps of [America](#), [North America](#), [South America](#), [Europe](#), [Asia](#), [Africa](#), [Pacific](#) and the [World](#).

Popular collection categories are [antique atlas](#), [globe](#), [school geography](#), [maritime chart](#), [state](#), [county](#), [city](#), [pocket](#), [wall & case](#), [children's](#), and [manuscript maps](#). Search examples: [Pictorial maps](#), [United States maps](#), [Geology maps](#), [California map](#), [Afghanistan map](#), [America map](#), [New York City map](#), [Chicago map](#), and [U.S. Civil War maps](#). Browse [map categories](#): [What](#), [Where](#), [Who](#), [When](#). The collection is used to study history, art, genealogy, explorations, and family history.

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*Comparative View of the Lengths of the Principal Rivers of the World; Smith, C.; 1817;*

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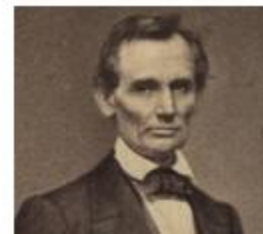
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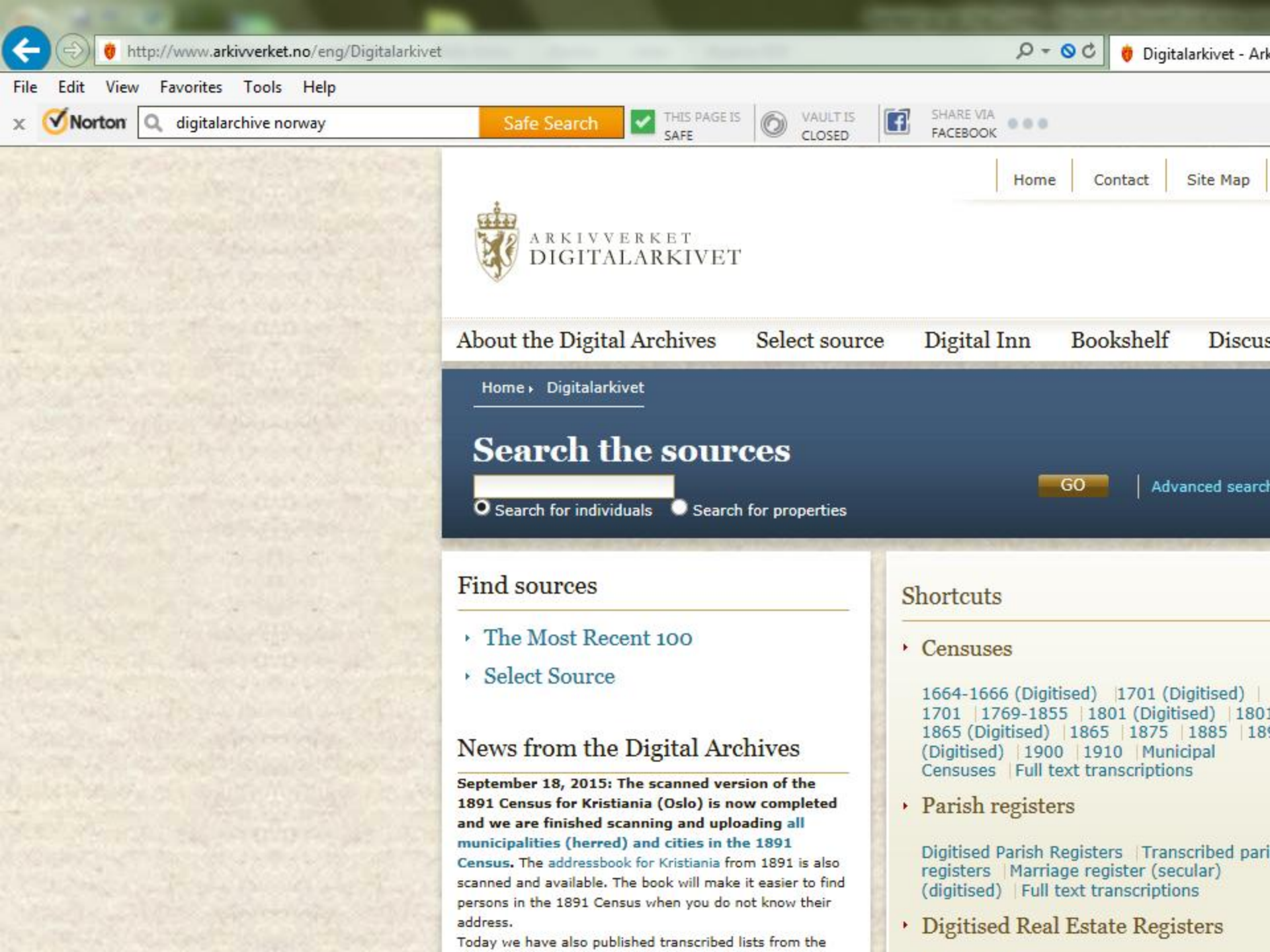
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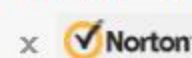


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News from the Digital Archives

September 18, 2015: The scanned version of the 1891 Census for Kristiania (Oslo) is now completed and we are finished scanning and uploading all municipalities (herred) and cities in the 1891 Census. The addressbook for Kristiania from 1891 is also scanned and available. The book will make it easier to find persons in the 1891 Census when you do not know their address.

Today we have also published transcribed lists from the

Shortcuts

Censuses

1664-1666 (Digitised) | 1701 (Digitised) | 1701 | 1769-1855 | 1801 (Digitised) | 1801 | 1865 (Digitised) | 1865 | 1875 | 1885 | 1885 (Digitised) | 1900 | 1910 | Municipal Censuses | Full text transcriptions

Parish registers

Digitised Parish Registers | Transcribed parish registers | Marriage register (secular) (digitised) | Full text transcriptions

Digitised Real Estate Registers

# Do not Limit your Search to the Internet

- Court Houses
- Cemeteries
- Vital Records
- Family History Centers
- Public Libraries
- Local Genealogical and Historical Societies





## Today's Events

LAP SIT [+]

FAMILY LAP SIT [+]

Community Action Teens (CATs)! [+]

MOVIE TIME [+]

[View All Upcoming Events](#)

Adult

Teen

Tween

Child



## Adult Programs

McAlester Public Library provides many adult programs. These programs are special events as well as regular programs. Examples include Mike Night, movie screenings, and computer classes.

## ***Pittsburg County Genealogical and Historical Society***



**113 East Carl Albert Parkway; McAlester,  
Oklahoma 74501-5039**

**The Pittsburg County Court House  
surrounds the Society's building on three  
sides.**

**Formerly:**

**Tobucksy County,**

**Moshulatubbee District,**

**Choctaw Nation,**

**Indian Territory**

**The Society's library is open**

**Wednesday & Friday: 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.**

**Thursday: 9 A.M. to 7 P.M.**

**[Quick Tour of Resources Available](#)**