FINDING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY ON FAMILYSEARCH.ORG

Joseph Tritchler, M.S.

Email: ancestry.tracker@gmail.com
URL: https://ancestrytracking.com

Things EVERYONE who uses FamilySearch.org should learn how to do:

Tree Maintenance

1. Recover your username and/or password and edit your account settings.
2. Use the "Help and Learning" section to find answers to your questions.
3. Edit the "Vitals" information (name, birth, death, sex, christening, burial) for persons in Family Tree
4. Edit family relations
5. Add new persons to Family Tree (parents, spouse, children)
6. Identify and merge duplicate persons in Family Tree
7. Evaluate and add/reject source recommendations in the "Research Help" section of each profile
8. Add/edit profile notes and discussions ("Collaborate" section)
9. Add/edit sources from FamilySearch records as well as from other repositories (e.g. Ancestry.com, other websites, home sources, etc.)
10. Identify/contact contributors to a specific Family Tree profile

Research

1. Search the "Records" (collections) for potential sources
2. Search the "Catalog" for potential sources
3. Search for sources using "Full-Text" search
4. Search the "Genealogies" for helpful information
5. Search "Books" (digital library) for potential sources

Help and Learning   (?)

| **The Family History Guide**: https://thefhguide.com/ |
| Project 1: Learn FamilySearch – How to use Family Tree |

FamilySearch Support: 1-866-406-1830

(https://www.familysearch.org/en/fieldops/united-states-and-canada-contact-us)
Questions about how to work with the tools and resources (e.g. Family Tree or record collections) available on FamilySearch or problems with your account – **NOT** specific research questions

Contacting FamilySearch for Research Help

https://familysearch.org > (?) > Contact Us > United States and Canada > In-person Help > Research Consultations "Schedule Now" > Select an area geographic area of research and type of consultation   (Direct Link to free consultation: https://go.oncehub.com/ResearchStrategySession)

Helper Access

Another FamilySearch user can assist you with your Family Tree profiles if you accept their invitation to give them access to your FamilySearch account. While working as your "Helper" they can make changes to Family Tree and Memories. Any changes they make while signed in as your "Helper" will show your FamilySearch username as the contributor for those changes. Helpers can not access your settings or initiate chats or send messages under your name.

To grant permission to a Helper:
1. The Helper will send you an email message with a link to FamilySearch.
2. Click on the link and log-in to FamilySearch.
3. Grant permission for the Helper to access your account.

To remove a Helper's access:
1. Go to Settings (click your user name in the upper right corner and click Settings)
2. Click "Permissions" in the menu bar across the top center of the settings page.
3. Scroll down to the Helper Access/My Helpers section.
4. Click the ⊗ located to the right of the helpers name to revoke access.

Home Page

- "To-Do List"
- Recently Viewed (also available under the "Family Tree" menu (upper left menu line)
- FamilySearch Labs – VIEW EXPERIMENTS

Searching for records on *FamilySearch*

Search menu options
- [Historical] **Records**: searches all INDEXED records
  Search Historical Records (By name of individual) – This is the main search form that searches all **indexed** records.
  - Know who or what you want to find
  - Use the "**More Options**" to add additional search fields and vary what you include in the search fields
  - Check a variety of spellings, date ranges, and locations
  - Search for other members of the same family
  - If an image is available – examine it. The original record often has more information than the database entry
  Find* [Browse] *a Collection – Filter Collections to find the collection(s) that may be most useful.
  Search* [Browse] *a Place – Filter locations. Alternative: use CATALOG SEARCH for location records
- [Historical] **Images**: includes ALL records – indexed and unindexed (over 5 billion images)
  - Search images by location (Place)
- **Family Tree**
  - Search by name with more options
- **Genealogies**
  - Search by name or by specific collection and name

- **Catalog**
  - Search by location
- **Books**
  - Search by subject or book title

Full-Text Search

URL: https://familysearch.org > FamilySearch Labs > Expand your search with Full Text "Go To Experiment"
URL: https://familysearch.org/labs > Expand your search with Full Text "Go To Experiment"
URL: https://familysearch.org/search/full-text
Keywords

How to narrow the Search
- Use the Advanced Search Tips
- Use the Filters
- Select a Collection

Commonly Used FamilySearch features:

Home page	https://familysearch.org or <click> the *FamilySearch* logo in upper left corner
Records Search	https://familysearch.org/search
Catalog Search	https://familysearch.org/search/catalog
Books Search	https://familysearch.org/library/books
Full-Text Search	https://familysearch.org/search/full-text
FamilySearch Centers	https://locations.familysearch.org
FamilySearch Wiki	https://familysearch.org/wiki
RootsTech	https://familysearch.org/rootstech
Free Consultation	https://go.oncehub.com/ResearchStrategySession