

**Genealogy on the Web**  
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**I. Family Search** : Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) web site:

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

A computerized system of genealogical information that helps researchers identify their ancestors and organize family history information.

A. Ancestral File. A computer file containing names and other vital information (such as date and place of birth, marriage, or death) of millions of individuals who have lived throughout the world. Names are organized into family groups and pedigrees. To allow for coordination of research, the file also lists names and addresses of those who contributed to the file – mostly Mormons.

B. International Genealogical Index. A computer file that lists several hundred million names of deceased persons from throughout the world. It also lists some vital information, such as a birth or marriage date and place. Many names in the index come from vital records from the early 1500s to 1885. Others have been submitted by members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

C. Pedigree Resource File. A computer file that contains names; family relationships; and birth, marriage, and death information for millions of people. The information in this file appears as it was originally submitted and is not merged with information submitted by others. The file is indexed on the internet and full information is available on compact disc, some of which are at the Hayes Presidential Center. All submissions do not necessarily come from Mormons.

D. Family History Library Catalog. A catalog that describes the records available at the Family History Library for the whole world. The catalog provides a guide to family histories; birth, marriage, and death records; census records; church registers; and many other records that may contain genealogical information. These records may be in a book, on microfiche or microfilm, or in a computer file. Copies of most microfilm and microfiche records can be sent to Family History Centers.

E. Personal Ancestral File. A computer program used to record, manage, and share genealogical information. Personal Ancestral File was created and is distributed by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

**II. USGenweb and World Genweb** - [www.usgenweb.org](http://www.usgenweb.org), [www.worldgenweb.org](http://www.worldgenweb.org)

A. County-by-county access to genealogical information - always an important way to search - especially with common names. Easy to use. Logical

B. Wide variety of what is available at each site. Some have volunteers who have packed the site with raw data; others have only minimal information. Can change frequently. Keep checking back. Typical topics included on the sites: queries, surname lists, general information on the county and its resources, e.g. courthouse hours, free look-ups,

sometimes how to subscribe to a mail list for that county.

C. Genweb Archives - actual documents, databases. Also check out Statewide material.  
Example: USGenWeb Archives – NY- State Files – Prisons

**III. Rootsweb:** A vast clearinghouse of genealogical data, co-sponsored by Ancestry.com;  
[www.rootsweb.com](http://www.rootsweb.com)

A. Massive search engines that index a variety of databases.

B. Worldconnect – <http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com> - index to thousands of gedcoms, some of which you can download.

C. Immigrant Ship Transcribers Guild – <http://istg.rootsweb.com> - listing of ship passenger lists

D. Obituary Daily Times - <http://obits.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/obit.cgi> – listing of fairly current obituaries

E. Kris Kuhn's amazing personal page:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~ohio/links2.shtml>.

**IV. Cyndi's List:** Largest site for finding genealogical web pages by general topics – more than 100,000 links listed <http://cyndislist.com>

A. Order -

1. Main index – most detailed, arranged by general subject headings

2. Also has concise lists alphabetically and by topic

3. Some sites may be listed under more than one heading.

4. If you know the name of the web site, it may be better to search

Yahoo or Google. If you are not sure of the name, then Cyndi's subject arrangement would be easier to use.

5. For browsing recent web sites, use "What's New on Cyndi's List?"

B. Important areas to check under Cyndi's List

1. Databases, Search Sites, Surname Lists (Cyndislist.com -- Databases)

a. Commercial sites (Cyndislist.com—Databases-- Commercial)

Usually have to pay some how - buy the program, subscribe to the service, but often have sections of free material, sometimes for limited time.

b. [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) has free trial period of some resources before they go into pay-per-view section. Free overall search to contents. Quarterly \$19.95; Annual \$69.95 on up. Includes subscription to magazine. Hayes Library and Tiffin Seneca Public Library own subscription.

c. [www.genealogy.com](http://www.genealogy.com) - millions of names and data from genealogical books and images from the 1850 census. Hayes Library owns a subscription to this and the Immigration and Passenger Service. Subscriptions range from \$49.99 on up annually.

d. [www.everton.com](http://www.everton.com) - costs \$15.00/ month or \$49.50 a year.

2. General (Cyndislist.com—Databases--General)

Surname databases

3. Locality specific (Cyndislist.com—Databases--Locality Specific)

Lists of surnames geographically oriented

4. Military (Cyndislist.com—Databases--Military)

Lists of soldiers

See also specific wars.

5. Records - Census, cemeteries, land, obituaries, taxes, vital

6. Roots-L - surname list – [www.rootsweb.com/roots](http://www.rootsweb.com/roots)

### **C. Libraries, Archives, Museums (Cyndislist.com -- Libraries, etc)**

Important to know these sites exist. May be able to find out whether a book exists on your family or in your area of interest and where that book is located. May be able to get that book on interlibrary loan.

1. Ohio Public Libraries (Cyndislist.com -- Libraries, etc -- O ) - OPLIN - [www.oplin.lib.oh.us](http://www.oplin.lib.oh.us) - gives web sites for public libraries in Ohio if they have one. Look under “libraries” in the topics field.
2. Allen County Public Library (Cyndislist.com -- Libraries, etc – A) [www.acpl.lib.in.us/](http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/) - Fort Wayne, Indiana’s huge genealogy library; good to check here for specific titles before visiting; also they will make copies of material for a small fee.

### **D. Other sections of Cyndi’s List of interest**

1. Biographies - large lists and also specific individuals
2. Books, microfilm & microfiche - mostly catalogs of books available for purchase (includes out-of-print titles).
3. Cemeteries & funeral homes
4. Family Bibles
5. Land records, deeds, homesteads, etc. - esp. Bureau of Land Management site.
6. Marriages - lists of marriages by location
7. Newspapers
8. Obituaries - current and old obits.
9. Personal home pages - organized by title of page - not necessarily by family name
10. Primary sources - online sources, such as list of Canadian Expeditionary Force
11. Religion and Churches
12. Surnames, family associations, and family newsletters.
13. Wills and probate

### **V. Additional sites that deserve mention:**

A. Hayes Presidential Center - [www.rbhayes.org](http://www.rbhayes.org) - President Hayes’ genealogy and gedcom online and five volumes of *Hayes Diary and Letters* (3000 pages), which includes a keyword search engine.. Also we now have the obituary index of over 210,000 area names on the web site: [www.rbhayes.org/index](http://www.rbhayes.org/index).

B. Ohio Historical Society - [www.ohiohistory.org/resource/database/](http://www.ohiohistory.org/resource/database/) - various databases available, including an index to Ohio death certificates in the 1900's

C. Ohio Genealogical Society - [www.ogs.org](http://www.ogs.org) - access to databases limited to members, but other material free

D. Center for Archival Collections at BGSU – [www.bgsu.edu/colleges/library/cac/cac.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/colleges/library/cac/cac.html) - includes listings of their local government records, church records and newspapers for northwest Ohio and also an index to Wood County obituaries.

E. Bowling Green State University’s library catalog includes the book catalog of the Hayes

Presidential Library. <http://maurice.bgsu.edu>

F. Genealogy Resources on the Internet by Chris Gaunt and John Fuller –  
[http://www-personal.umich.edu/~cgaunt/gen\\_int1.html](http://www-personal.umich.edu/~cgaunt/gen_int1.html)

H. For free look-ups for CD-Roms, especially Family Tree Maker CDs:  
<http://loricase.com/CDs/cdwftlist.html> – for World Family Tree CDs

\*\*\*New\*\*\* - [www.ellislandrecords.org](http://www.ellislandrecords.org) – Ellis Island Records – from 1892 to 1924 – 22 million passengers who came through New York City.

**The internet is an exciting tool full of unique information but there is only a fraction of available material (births, deaths, marriages, census records, deaths, wills, etc) online. Be careful of the material you find and examine the source to determine its validity. When you find something it is wonderful, but remember nothing will ever replace a visit to the actual place where your ancestors came from and visiting the courthouse, library, and cemeteries.**

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