

## What Records Give Me the Info I Need? Simplify the Hunt.

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1. If You Need	2. Look First In	3. Then Search
<b>LIFE EVENTS</b>		
<b>Age</b>	Census, Vital Records, Cemeteries	Military Records, Taxation Records
<b>Birth date</b>	Vital Records, Church Records, Bible Records	Cemeteries, Obituaries, Census
<b>Birthplace</b>	Vital Records, Church Records, Census	Newspapers, Obituaries
<b>Place of foreign birth</b>	Church records, Genealogy, Biography, Naturalization and Citizenship, Societies	Vital Records, Obituaries, History, Emigration and Immigration
<b>Country of foreign birth</b>	Emigration and immigration, Census, Naturalization and Citizenship, Church Records	Military Records, Vital Records, Newspapers, Obituaries
<b>County origins and boundaries</b>	FamilySearch Wiki for that location.	History, Maps, Historical Geography, Gazetteers
<b>Death</b>	Vital Records, Cemeteries, Probate Records, Church Records, Obituaries, Societies	Newspapers, Bible Records, Military Records, Town Records
<b>Immigration date</b>	Emigration and Immigration, Naturalization and Citizenship, Genealogy, Societies	Census, Newspapers, Biography
<b>Maiden name</b>	Vital Records, Church Records, Newspapers, Bible Records	Cemeteries, Military Records, Probate Records, Obituaries
<b>Marriage</b>	Vital Records, Church Records, Census, Newspapers, Bible Records, Town Records	Cemeteries, Military Records, Probate Records, Naturalization and Citizenship, Land and Property
<b>Occupation</b>	Census, Directories, Emigration and Immigration	Newspapers, Court Records, Biography
<b>FAMILY MEMBERS</b>		
<b>Parents, children, and other family members</b>	Vital Records, Church Records, Census, Phone Disc, Probate Records, Obituaries, Genealogy	Bible Records, Newspapers, Emigration and Immigration, Adoptions

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<b>Living relatives (and adoptions)</b>	Genealogy, Directories, Court Records, Obituaries, Internet, Adoptions	Census, Biography, Societies, Church Records, Probate Records
<b>ENHANCE YOUR STORY</b>		
<b>Physical description</b>	Military Records, Biography	Naturalization and Citizenship, Vital Records, Emigration and Immigration, Genealogy
<b>Place (town) of residence when you know only the state</b>	Census (indexed), Genealogy, Military Records, Vital Records, and other records with a statewide index	Biography, Probate records, History, Directories, Societies, Taxation
<b>Places family has lived</b>	Census, Land and Property, History, Directories	Military Records, Taxation, Obituaries
<b>Religion</b>	Church Records, History, Biography	Bible Records, Cemeteries, Genealogy
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Minorities, American Indians, Societies	Church Records, Emigration and Immigration, Naturalization and Citizenship, Periodicals
<b>Historical background</b>	History, Periodicals	Minorities
<b>FINDING AIDS</b>		
<b>Place-finding aids</b>	Gazetteers, Maps, Historical Geography	History, Periodicals

**Tips:**

1. Read all the information on the record for more clues.
2. Don't get sidetracked- stick with your research goal/question.
3. There are government and church census records.
3. Remember just because it is a record, doesn't mean it is always correct.
4. Verify facts with more than one source.
5. If you don't find the record, check back later. Most websites/repositories are constantly gathering records.
6. Evaluate the records- Primary Source or Secondary Source? Was it created near the event or by first hand knowledge?

**Resources:**

FamilySearch.org- research wiki. [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United\\_States\\_Record\\_Finder](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Record_Finder)