



*And those who were laid at rest,
Oh! Hallowed be each name;
Their memories are forever blest —
Consigned to endless fame.*

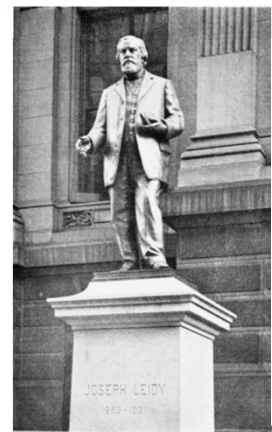
ROBERT EMMET
Arbour Hill, c. 1798



**U3A Brisbane
C01 - Use computers to
research family genealogy
and world history**

2019

Ray Sarlin



b4uc.xyz

Miscellaneous

Genetoons¹

GENE TOONS

by Wendell Washer

GENE TOONS

by Wendell Washer



Patronymic names.



Phil had preconceived notions.

GENE TOONS

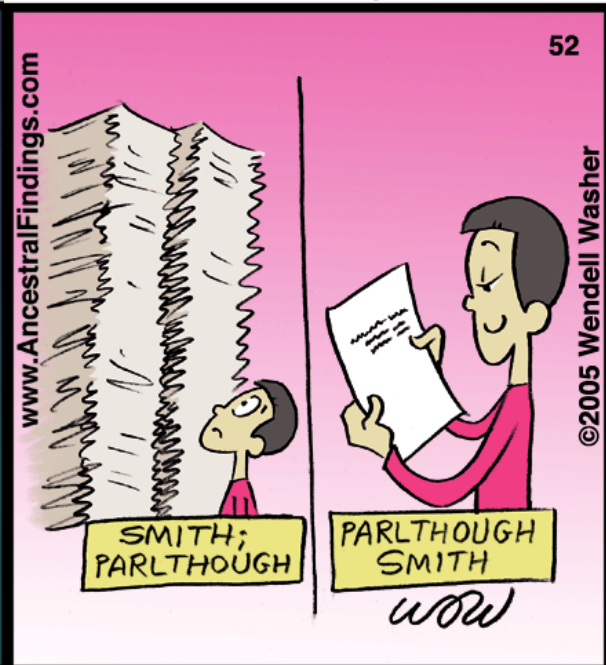
by Wendell Washer

GENE TOONS

by Wendell Washer



Disappointing branch of family tree.



In a search, put the uncommon word first.

¹ Washer, Wendell. "Genetoons." 2004-2018. *Ancestral Findings*. www.ancestralfindings.com.

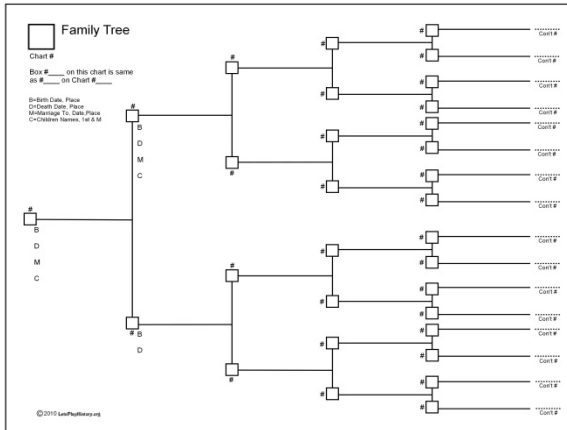
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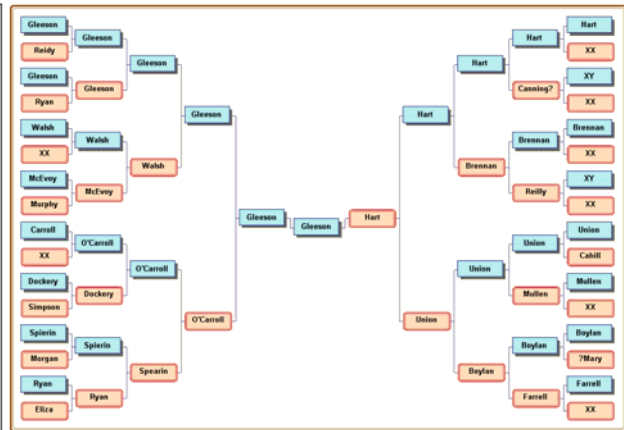
² Much of the material in these two sections is adapted from: Dunn, Michael. *A Beginner's Guide to Online Genealogy*. Avon, Massachusetts: Adams Media, 2014. eBook.

Typical Family Tree Formats

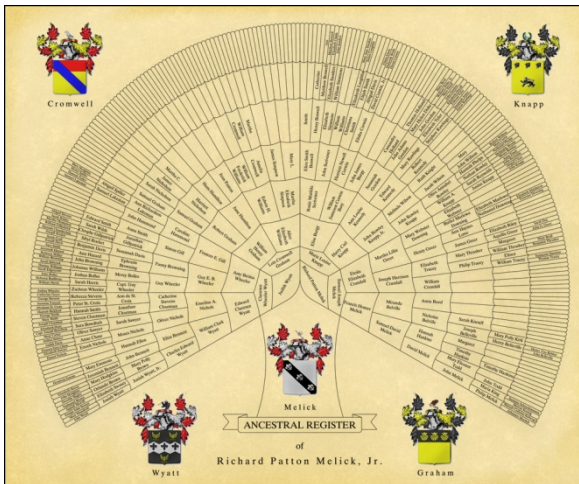
These are a few of countless varieties. Refer to Page 5 for explanations of each format.



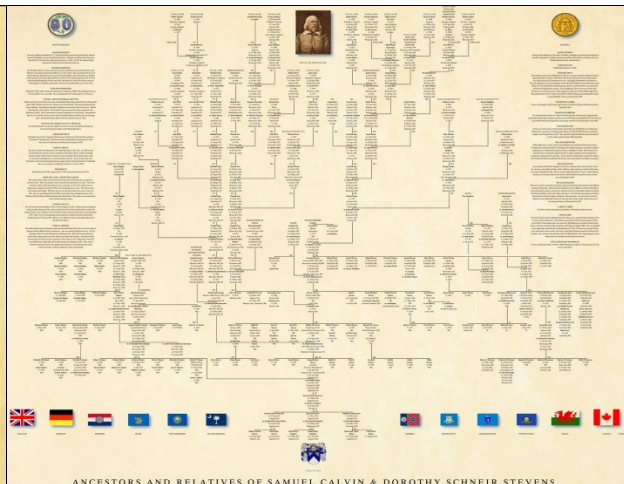
Direct Lineage (Ascendant Tree)



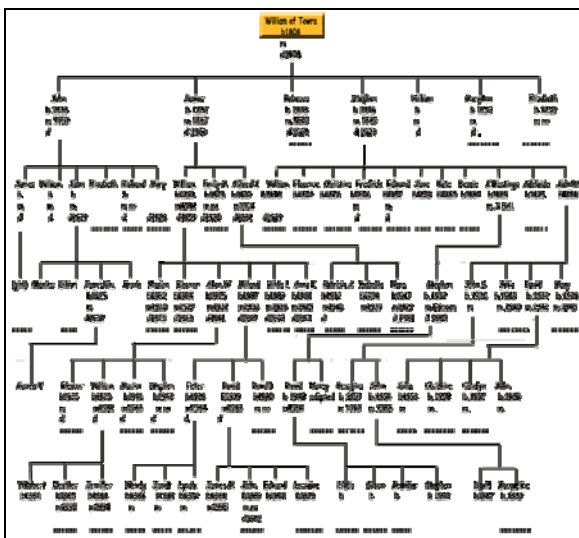
Bow-tie Chart (Double Ascendant Tree)



Circular Ascendant Chart



Collateral Genealogy

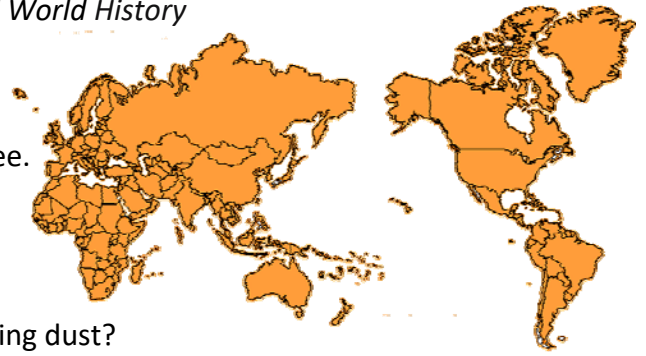


Family Lineage (Descendant)



Descendant Tree

Introduction



Many of us want to know more about our family tree.

- Where is my family from?
- Am I related to anybody “famous”?
- What family mysteries will research reveal?
- What can I do with those old documents gathering dust?

This booklet has been written to accompany the University of the Third Age course C01 entitled, “Use computers to research family genealogy and world history.” What immediately stands out from the title is that it deliberately confuses three distinct terms:

- Genealogy.** Genealogy is a technical term that may be legally defined as the summary history or table of a house or family, showing how named persons are connected. It is founded on the idea of a lineage or family. Persons descended from the common father constitute a family. Under the idea of degrees is noted the nearness or remoteness, of relationship, in which one person stands with respect to another. A series of several persons, descended from a common progenitor, is called a line.
- Family history.** Family history, on the other hand, is not a technical term. It can, therefore, include not only genealogy but also address what is known of the lives of the people who make up one’s lineage or family tree.
- World history.** World history is a distinct academic field of study. Also known as global or transnational history, world history examines history from a global perspective by searching for the trajectory of common patterns that emerge across all cultures to explain change across time.

So this course demonstrates how to use personal computers to research family genealogy, expand the research to document personal family history and examine related world events that may have prompted family changes like migration. Rather than “reinvent the wheel;” we merely recognise the inextricable linkages of these areas.

An ancestor’s actions may have been motivated or influenced by a historical event. Historical research may then uncover the involvement of one’s relatives in the historical event, which may have caused the action (e.g., migration) identified by genealogical fact.

EXAMPLE

I recently came into possession of a manuscript that my mother had typed in 1987 from the recollections of my great-aunt Frieda (1891-1987). I was surprised to learn that my great-uncle Al (1875-1961) was originally Irish and that his “*grandmother’s sister was married to the famous Irish rebel Robert Emmet who fought against England in 1803. The rebellion failed. He died and was secretly buried. His grave will, according to Northern Ireland legend, never be revealed until Ireland is again free from the English yoke.*”

Needless to say, I spent many hours in further diligent research getting to the bottom of this “family lore” and discovered blood relatives who had actually introduced the star-crossed couple and later went on separately to make their names as emigres in Europe, where one featured in a thrilling historical fiction series as well as some non-fiction books.

C01 Use Computers to Research Family Genealogy and World History

This will be a hands-on course, offered as a computer course. Its open participative approach will provide research guidance, examine varied free and subscriber genealogy software programs, offer opportunities to share findings with classmates, and offer limited hands-on computer time to dig for genealogy pay dirt... all while having fun.

Years ago, you could have spent thousands of dollars and countless hours thumbing through piles of paper in a distant town or even foreign countries trying to get to the bottom of your family history. Times have changed. Today, you can access millions of historical records from the comfort of your own home with just the click of a mouse. But how do you search through all that data to find what you really need? How do you find information on *your* family, when there's so much information on everybody's families out there?

Hopefully as you progress through this practical course, you will gain both confidence and competence in researching your family. You'll use the internet to plan your project, track down your ancestors (even if they lived overseas) using whatever clues you have on hand and the power of the world wide web, and document your findings. You'll also discover a wide variety of tools that enable you to share your family history with others.

In addition, you'll learn how to use specialised software that makes it easy to keep track of hundreds or thousands of tangled family connections. You'll be able to access satellite images that can help you visualize the places where your ancestors once lived. And you'll gain access to any number of online sites that can help you find military and death records, immigration passenger lists, and census reports to keep you moving forward.

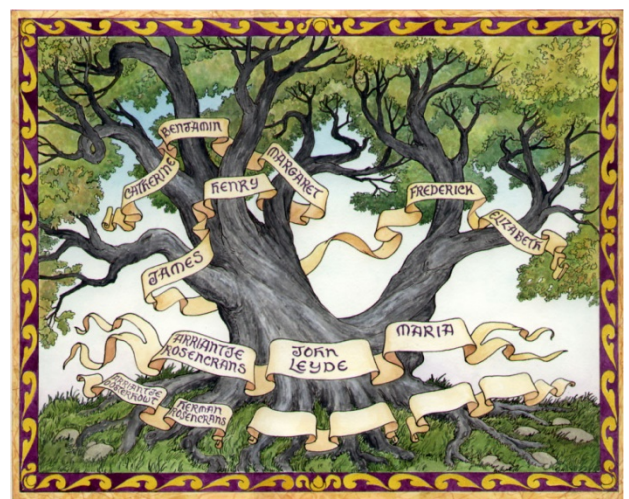
As your search progresses, you'll make many interesting discoveries about both your ancestors and yourself. Your ancestors may have manned the barricades, like Uncle Al's great auntie's man. They may have led quiet, ordinary lives. They may have escaped the noose by deportation to an Australian penal colony, or they may have guarded those being deported. They may have been caught up in floods or famines or wars, or risked all to flee religious persecution. They may have been farmers or shopkeepers, ship's officers or solicitors, peasants or nobility. Every story is fascinating in its own right, and history comes alive when you know that your ancestors were participants.

Once your family history starts clarifying, we'll discuss how you can memorialise or immortalise their stories so that they aren't lost to time. You may post them on the web, possibly on a family website. Maybe you'll write short stories or build a memoir as my great-auntie did. Perhaps, publish a book.

You may find that creating a rendition of your family tree, one that you can present to your children and grandchildren, may be enough.

Or perhaps you'll start speaking in brogue and wearing the clan tartan.

After all, their stories are your stories. They contributed to who you are today.



Enjoy the journey!

C01 Computers, Family and History

Workshop outline

C01 Use Computers to Research Family Genealogy and World History is designed for people interested in their own family histories, genealogy in general, and/or world history.

You will learn how to research family history accurately and efficiently using the growing range of online family history resources. Expect to be surprised at what you discover. Some things you'll simply want to share with family and friends.

On successful completion of this unit you will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of family history principles
- Plan and implement a family history project
- Locate and use major family history websites, repositories and records
- Evaluate sources for accuracy and reliability
- Identify and discuss genealogical problems and develop plans for solving them
- Present your genealogical work in a manner that is ethical, clearly written and appropriately referenced.

Each session will feature a brief tutorial that introduces an aspect of computerised genealogical research that may be encountered during that day's session. Questions and discussion with class participants is encouraged, keeping in mind the paramount overall interests and welfare of all participants.

The bulk of each session will feature hands-on computer work. The basic course design features two people sharing each computer, working cooperatively and collaboratively with each other and sharing the computer usage equally. Perhaps the majority of one session is on one member's family and the bulk of the following session is on the other's.

Communication

This is an adult learning program, and in the unlikely event of disruptive behaviour, miscreant(s) may be asked to leave in consideration of the rights of the participants as a whole. Serious or continued problems may result in disenrollment from the course.

It is anticipated that the workshop will roll over from semester to semester, with room for both returning and new participants. There are no quizzes, examinations or assignments, and everyone will be welcome, if they choose, to briefly present and discuss their family history findings (or problems encountered) during class to the whole group.

All participants are to clear out of the classroom within five minutes after the scheduled class completion time. Whenever possible, the tutor will briefly be available in the Tea Room after class should participants have questions, comments or suggestions.

Outlines and class notes will be posted after each class on the tutor's unofficial educational website www.b4uc.xyz, which is freely available to all course participants.

Getting Started

Millions of digitized images, from birth, marriage and death marriage certificates to military service records, can be viewed online. Published genealogies allow family historians to extend their family tree by generations in just a few minutes. The Internet has many resources to help record the information you find and build your family tree.

Once you start your family research, you may soon find yourself searching for more traditional genealogical resources as well, things like old family records, library reference books, newspaper clippings, or family historical societies. It's important to keep in mind throughout this course that the Internet is just another tool in a genealogist's toolkit.

The most important tool that a genealogist has is you. Your inquisitiveness, energy, drive and persistence will garner results even when it may at times seem hopeless. And one thing that you can do better than anyone else on this planet is plan your own work.

Plan Your Project

What do you hope to learn from your family history? Why are you interested? What outcomes do you desire?

Perhaps you want to find out more about where your family came from or who they were. Maybe you're intrigued by a mythological family story about a famous or infamous relative. Possibly you simply want to see how many ancestors you can identify or how far back in history you can track them. It may be that you simply want to record your family history to benefit your own descendants.

You'll quickly learn that researching your family can be compared to the proverbial *bag of worms*. We seem to constantly try to answer the question, "how long is a piece of string?" Even a cursory study can entangle you in a bewildering maze of family branches. Just going back three generations in a direct line will involve researching 14 different people, your two parents, four grandparents, and eight great-grandparents, not including the siblings of each generation. Going back 10 generations will yield 2,046 direct line ancestors with as many as 1,024 different surnames.

It's imperative to
be organised!
**Defining what
you want to
accomplish is a
critical first step.**

And as noted, that's just "ancestors", those people from whom you are directly descended. When "blood relatives" (ancestors plus their siblings and offspring) are added along with "in law relatives" (persons related by marriage to blood relatives), one could find a family tree over 60,000 strong covering just the last three or four centuries.

So it's imperative to be organised! Defining what you want to accomplish is a critical first step.

Even if your goal is to trace your entire family tree, it is practical to begin with one family line at a time. There are many different approaches that you can take when beginning a family tree. The format you choose to follow should be based on your research goals.

Looking backward	<p>Direct Lineage</p> <p>A direct lineage, alternately called a pedigree or ascendant tree, typically begins with you, a parent, or grandparent, and then follows a single surname or bloodline back through several generations in a direct line. This can also be expanded to include multiple direct lines, both of your parents, both of their parents, and so on. This is what most people think of when they refer to a family tree.</p>	<p>Family Lineage</p> <p>Take the direct lineage family tree and throw in siblings; the siblings of your parents (your aunts and uncles), the siblings of your grandparents (your great-aunts and -uncles), and so on. This type of genealogy provides a more complete picture of the “family” going back through generations, rather than focusing only on the individuals from whom you directly descend.</p>
	Looking forward	<p>Descendant Tree</p> <p>A descendant tree is the reverse of the traditional family tree. It usually starts with an ancestral couple pretty far back in the family tree and works forward to the present, attempting to account for all known descendants in all lines, both male and female. This is a popular approach for published family histories and for those looking to find relatives to plan a family reunion.</p>
Direct ancestors only		Includes other relatives

Figure 1. Hopefully helpful terminology.

If you could trace all ancestors in every generation, genealogy wouldn't be daunting. Unfortunately, as you delve deeper into the past, reliable resources for ancestors start to dry up unless your family was of the nobility. Even then, many countries' records are not available at all or have been destroyed over the years from wars or other disasters.

Going further back, it may seem difficult or impossible to locate “regular” people in your ancestry. Marriage may not have been customary or, even when formalised, widows or widowers may have remarried (often numerous times) as a form of social welfare.

Most medieval European countries kept impeccable records of the very wealthy and the aristocratic and noble. If you find a wealthy relative from centuries ago, you may be on the path to finding a treasure trove of historical records. Similarly, you may start finding traces of criminals, cads, scoundrels or worse. Ah, if only we all could be so lucky!

Centuries and millennia ago, people tended to be class-bound. Royalty only married royalty until it became inbred. Nobility didn't marry commoners. People were limited in marriage alliances that could be made. Many societies came up with tribal, clan and class rules about who could or couldn't marry to avoid the problems of inbreeding.

On the Indian Reservation where I grew up, conversations among strangers began by identifying their clan affiliations, a verbal tradition designed to keep the bloodline healthy.

The net result is that you may start seeing patterns emerge in your family tree as familiar names start recurring amongst “acceptable” or “available” spouses present in a limited marriage pool. Numerous ancestral lines may track back to a common ancestor, leading to a compacting of the family tree instead of it spreading out. This is but one genealogical pattern that can provide immense intellectual satisfaction.

Genealogical patterns reveal insights into the cultures in which your ancestors lived and died. These insights can provide important clues to unravelling family mysteries, such as why 34 distant relatives in the 17th century family found themselves crossing the stormy Atlantic in a transport ship captained by, you guessed it, another distant relative.

So your first step once you’ve documented your genealogy with what you already know or have on hand is to focus your research. Where do you want to go next?

What’s next? Basic Research Steps

A typical research project often ends up incorporating elements of the approaches discussed above. An ancestral family tree is usually the starting point for research.

Select a particular individual, couple, or family line that you want to research further. Once you’ve selected this starting point, genealogy research follows a fairly standard pattern of steps:

1. Define your objective. A good rule of thumb in genealogy is, “If it hasn’t been written, it hasn’t been said.” **Write your objective down as a management question.** What do you wish to find out? This provides a focus for your research.
2. Review the information that you have collected to date to determine what you already know about your ancestor and what you still have left to learn. Select a fact that you want to try to uncover. **Write each prospective fact down as a separate research question.**
3. Identify possible records or sources to answer each specific research question. **Write down each possible source on a research list.**

If you want to learn a death date, search for a death record or obituary. If you’re looking for the names of a couple’s children, look for the family in a census. And you can always enter the name in a search engine to troll for whatever arises.

4. Locate and search the record or source. Determine where and how you can access the record or source. Then search for your ancestor in the record. **Record your results, whether positive or negative.** This ensures that you will not waste time by doubling back on the same track later. Remember, if you have trouble locating him or her now, later clues may help you refine your search strategies.
5. If you found records, photographs, **transcribe and/or extract the important details from the document or source, or make a photocopy.** If it is a digital image or a web page, print a copy or save it to your computer. If the source does not contain information on your ancestor, make a note to that effect. **Record a full citation** in your research notes, as well as on any document copies.

REMEMBER

What has **not** been **written** has **not** been **said!**

Did your research enable you to answer your **research questions**?

- If yes, move on to Step 6.
 - If not, return to Step 2 to reassess your whole approach and identify other sources that may work. Be prepared to cycle through Steps 2 to 5 several times.
6. Analyse and evaluate the new information. How does this fact relate to what you already know? Are all **research questions** answered? Does the new fact match up or contradict other things you know about the individual? Is the source credible? Use this new information to decide what you need to research next.

Write your findings down.

It's important to record your experience as you go along. For example, if you fail to record where a particular fact came from or fail to add a printout to project files, you'll eventually find yourself overwhelmed. Your brain just can't hold it all.

Most genealogists use research logs or genealogy software to keep track of the sources they've searched and the information they've found. You'll appreciate the logs when you pick up a research strand weeks or months or even years later.

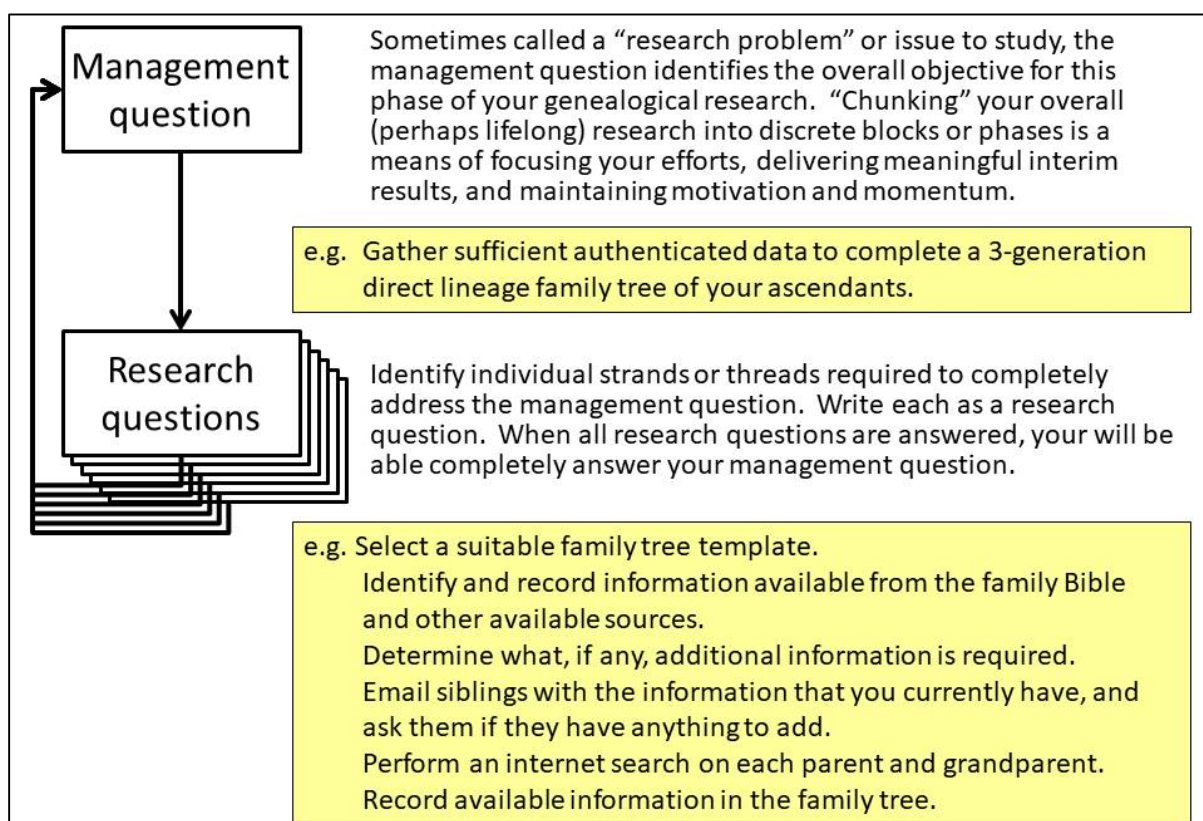


Figure 2. Overview of the suggested research methodology.

Did your research answer your **management question**? Did you find what you sought?

- If you've adequately answered the **management question** you formulated in Step 1, select a new goal and begin the genealogical research process over again.
- If you can't yet answer the **management question**, or feel that you need further evidence to support your findings, return to Step 2 and get back to work with some new **research questions** to focus your efforts.
- If you've exhausted every source you can think of and still haven't found the answers you seek, don't get discouraged. **Document everything** so that you can pick it up later and return to Step 1 to consider another **management question**.

Collect and Validate Information

Written records are the lifeblood of genealogy research. They document the vital events in an individual's life, from birth to marriage to burial. They provide data on property ownership, military service, taxation, school attendance, census, church membership, and other important aspects of day-to-day life.

- Official records contain many of your ancestors' details.
- Documentary evidence from less "official" sources, including newspapers, photographs, tombstones, family Bibles, school yearbooks, church membership lists, and even oral family histories, contain other valuable details.

The Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG) classifies sources as either original or derivative. Unlike the more familiar terms "primary source" and "secondary source," the terms "original" and "derivative" refer to the physical form and provenance of a document or record, not the information that it contains.

Original sources

An original source is one that exists as it was originally recorded. Examples might include an oral recorded history, a handwritten will, a baptism recorded in the church records, a diary, or a photograph.

A digital image that has been scanned or created from an original source is generally considered by genealogists as equivalent to the original as long as no evidence suggests that the image has been manipulated or altered, other than to enhance readability. Thus, there is generally no need to view both the microfilm and digitized version of the same record, unless there's a legibility issue or something appears to be missing.

If possible, it is best to view the original source. Each time a record is transcribed, copied, or manipulated in some way there is a chance for errors to creep in. Handwriting can be difficult to interpret. Typographical errors are easy to make. Vital information can easily be skipped by accident or left out because it isn't considered important.

Derivative sources

A derivative source is produced by reproducing some or all of the content contained in an original source. Photocopies, abstracts, extracts, transcriptions, databases, indexes, and authored works such as genealogies and histories are generally considered to be derivative sources, as is most information found on the Internet. Examples include a transcript of an obituary, a database of marriage records, or a published genealogy.

The majority of the records we deal with are derivative, but this doesn't mean they are not reliable. If you can, consider derivative sources as a clue for further research and not a statement of absolute fact. Look for a citation to the original source from which the information was derived so you can evaluate the source for yourself.

Primary and Secondary Sources

Most genealogists use the terms "primary" and "secondary" to classify information, rather than sources. This is because any single source may include both primary information and secondary information.

C01 Use Computers to Research Family Genealogy and World History

Primary information typically arose close to the time of an event by someone with firsthand knowledge of the reported facts. A birth date recorded on the birth certificate by a doctor or parent present at the birth is an example of primary information.

Secondary information is provided by someone with second-hand knowledge or is information recorded well after the event occurred. A birth date recorded on a death certificate is an example of secondary information. This doesn't mean the information is incorrect, just that there may be sources of the information that are more valid.

Each piece of data should be evaluated separately to determine whether it is primary or secondary. This classification simply refers to the probability of its accuracy. The quality or weight of the information should be further assessed based on who provided the information, knowledge of the informant, and how closely the information correlates with information provided by other sources.

Second-hand information is often correct. And firsthand information can sometimes be inaccurate, as these examples illustrate:

- Eyewitnesses to a car accident often tell slightly different versions of the story.
- A couple may seek to cover up an illegitimate birth by “miss”-recording their marriage date in the family Bible.

Evaluate Sources

Beyond classification as original or derivative and primary or secondary, how can we evaluate sources? Here are some questions³ to ask of both online and written sources:

- **Authority**
 - Is the originator or sponsor of the data reputable?
 - Is the author an expert? Are his or her credentials listed?
- **Accuracy**
 - Does the information seem on surface to be reasonable (trust your instincts; face validity is an extremely important factor)?
 - Is it well-written and grammatically correct?
 - How does information compare with other research?
- **Currency**
 - When was the information created, copyrighted, or last revised?
 - Is the information current?
 - If a webpage, does it have hypertext links to sources? Do they work?
- **Objectivity**
 - Does the information show an obvious bias?
 - Is it designed to convey information, sway opinion, or both?
- **Coverage**
 - Is the information relevant to your management question or research questions?
 - Do you find yourself influenced more by the presentation than by the scope and depth of the information itself?

³ Adapted from Susie den Kinderen (2018). U3A Course Notes entitled, “Who’s your Daddy?”

Organise the Search

Many prefer to maintain traditional hardcopy paper and document files. This may still be necessary for many artefacts, although scanning documents enables them to be stored, searched and sorted on the computer.

A computer can be of tremendous benefit in organising the overall research, managing the data generated, and presenting results.

1. One major benefit is that everything is in one place and can be backed up.
2. A properly organised computerised database can be efficiently sorted and searched.
3. Specialised genealogy programs also enable you to select specific data to report on in a variety of formats:
 - a. Graphics – e.g., in any of a number of family tree or graphical formats
 - b. Text – output can be sorted alphabetically or as otherwise desired
 - c. Tables – information can be presented in tabular form.
 - d. Reports or articles
 - e. Genealogy books
4. Another benefit is that information can be stored in a special genealogical file format called GEDCOM that can be shared online and with other family members that have caught the genealogy addiction.

GEDCOM

GEDCOM is an acronym for **GE**nealogical **D**ata **COM**munication, a special file format that is used by professional and most available genealogy programs. It allows transfer of your genealogy and family tree files from one program to the other.

Genealogy Software

The birth of the personal computer in the 1970s, the graphical user interface in the 1980s, the World Wide Web in the 1990s and today the 'Internet of Things' have launched our global society into the so-called 'information age'. There's a paradox: as computer technology becomes both more complex and miniaturized, we become more and more dependent upon it even as fewer and fewer people actually understand it.

That's actually good for us in this course. We don't need to understand how genealogy software works, merely how to get it to do what we want it to do.

The software companies are well aware of this, and strive to provide applications that, no matter how complex they are "beneath the hood", are not that difficult to learn to use in a basic way... that is, inputting, searching, updating and spitting out family trees.

There are many good genealogy software programs available for free, so there really isn't a technical reason not to use genealogy software.

There are also many cost-effective subscription genealogy programs that place enormous databases, billions of files, at your fingertips for personal family research. Most of these are available for free trial or have a limited freeware version available.

Your family tree can be stored on your personal laptop using a stand-alone application, stored online through a website that you control, or stored as a tiny part of a large scale family tree operation owned and operated by an organisation like the LDS Church.

Each of these options has strengths and weaknesses. For example, a free stand-alone version keeps your family details confidential, but requires significant research and administrative effort to set up and maintain. Shared online hosting provides many tools to simplify your effort and expand your family tree back numerous generations, but comes with a membership fee. Collaborative software like FamilySearch, geni or WikiTree ties your family's tree in with millions of families to help identify lost relatives, dramatically multiplying your efforts, but your records are no longer just yours alone.⁴ Of course, the situation is far more complicated than implied by this simplistic analysis.

All options enable you to build, print and share family trees with your family. Many features are available, like free mobile apps, family databases including photographs, vital records and other information about your ancestors, and production of output in the form of family trees, ancestry charts in numerous formats, records of individuals, or even books on your family ready for final edit before printing and distribution.

The key principle here is *caveat emptor* (let the buyer beware). A clear understanding of both your needs and what the marketplace offers gives you the best chance to proceed.

So which genealogy software is best? Sorry, there isn't a clear-cut answer. Your choice should depend upon your individual goals and preferences. Try before you buy.

Free Stand-alone Software

NOTE: Typical websites are shown for information only. No recommendation is intended.



My Family Tree

My Family Tree helps quickly create family trees by providing an easy way to visualise and share your family tree with photos, stories and basic facts about each person. More experienced genealogists will find full support for citations and evidence and options to transfer data using the GEDCOM file format.



MyHeritage Family Tree Builder (see MyHeritage)

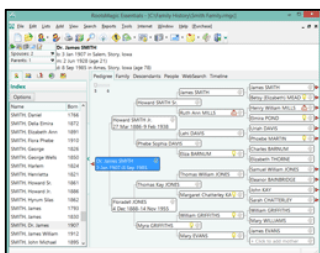
Used by millions of people worldwide, Family Tree Builder helps you research your family history, build your family tree and add photos, historical records and more. It is compatible with the MyHeritage pay site with tree syncing (update in one updates the other). Smart Matches and Record Matching help grow your family tree rapidly.



Family Tree Wheel

Family Wheel lets you construct a basic family tree through a user-friendly interface. The purpose of this software is to present a circular ancestry chart diverging from a central circle. The circle represents the person about whom you are currently researching. You can link Flickr photos from your account. It is GEDCOM capable.

⁴ International and most national copyright laws do not allow facts (e.g., family lineage) to be copyrighted.



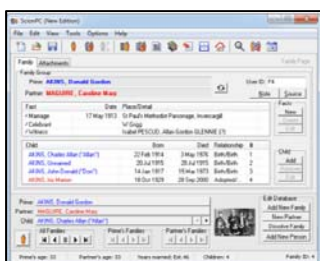
RootsMagic Essentials

Friendly screens and menus allow everyone 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 a single, easy-to-use screen. Enter unlimited facts, notes, sources, and multimedia items. RootsMagic Essentials is GEDCOM capable and supports Unicode characters.



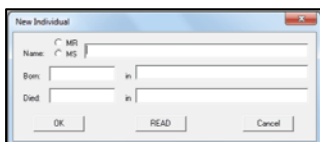
Legacy Family Tree

This free genealogy software has virtually unlimited capacity and creates a wide variety of reports, charts, calendars and books. With a powerful search capability and high degree of customization, it is fully-featured, including GEDCOM capable. HTML allows users to create online pages. Pricing is reasonable for extra features.



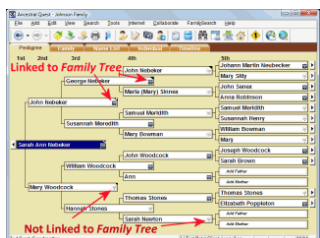
Scion PC

ScionPC is fully-featured, genealogy software with a modern interface for both the novice and the experienced genealogist. Databases from other family tree programs can be imported using GEDCOM. The program is totally secular to accommodate leftist political correctness (e.g., prime and partner vice husband and wife).



Simple Family Tree

Simple Family Tree enables you to create and/or view a family tree. It displays ancestors and descendants of any selected individual (it reads and writes files in GEDCOM format). You can enter notes, photos, events, marriage details, and alternate names.



Ancestral Quest

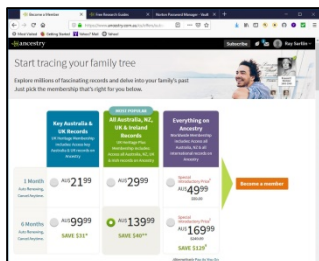
This Utah based software offers a full-featured genealogy records manager. It has strong reporting capabilities and advanced source documentation abilities, as well as scrapbooking, video and audio clip storage and offers optional collaboration with other AQ users.

Caveat emptor

As with everything in today's computer industry, products are continually being upgraded whilst others are being bought-out by larger "fish" and rebranded or simply no longer supported to ensure that their new owner's products no longer face competition.

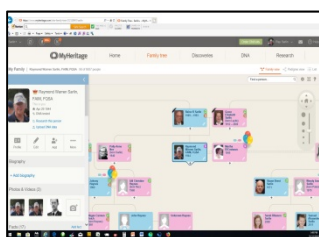
For Profit Genealogy Sharing Websites

All information is publicly viewable, but is only available for display as only you can change the family tree. You retain ownership of the genealogical data, which only you can add or delete. Some sites allow information on living people. GEDCOM uploads are generally unlimited.



Ancestry.com.au (part of Ancestry.com)

Australia and NZ's leading family history website offers members access to one billion searchable Australian, NZ and UK records like convict and free settler lists, passenger lists, electoral rolls and military records, English, Welsh and Scottish censuses, birth, marriage and death records. DNA support. 14-day free trial.



MyHeritage

The leading global destination for discovering, preserving and sharing family history, the platform and DNA kits make it easy for anyone to embark on a meaningful journey into their past and treasure their family stories for generations to come.

Collaborative Genealogy Websites

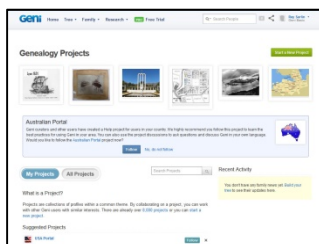
Ownership of data mostly passes to the site. All information is public and can be amended by the community at large. Information for living people is not made public. Deletion may be possible but only for individuals unedited by other members. GEDCOM uploads are limited in size due to the necessity of merging individuals with others already in the site.

The free online genealogy sites have an advantage in that you can collaborate or share with others on your family tree research. They are structured like Wikipedia. Information about living individuals that might be inappropriate for sharing with the public should be excluded.



FamilySearch.org (website of the Mormon Church)

LDS members use family history records for numerous religious purposes.⁵ This church website accesses the world's largest collection of genealogical and historical records and offers family tree and search capabilities. Over 4 billion names are recorded.



Geni.com (a MyHeritage company)

Geni.com is an online family tree with some 115 million profiles listed, including 13 million in one tree. The free tool allows basic use and additional pay services access enhanced research tools and support.

⁵ The wealthy Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) is the world leader in genealogical research and owns, has interests in, or is pursuing nearly every significant genealogy software application available.

The Genealogy Research Log

A research log is where you keep track of your research, from planning stage through to completion. It may be hardcopy or computerised. You may also choose to include a record of any correspondence (e-mails, letters, and so on), although some genealogists choose to maintain a separate correspondence log. You can track all of your research in a single log, or maintain separate research logs for individuals, families, or surnames.

Use a Genealogy Research Log

The principal use of a genealogy log is to help you organise your research activities. Not only does it afford an opportunity to keep things sorted, it helps you can pick up where you left off and avoid rechecking the same sources. It's also a good place to record tasks (both those "to do" and those "have done") in one place.

The biggest potential danger with a research log is having it take over the world. Like the computer itself, the research log should merely be a tool that makes things easier.

The log lists sources you've already searched or plan to search, including the purpose of each search; a summary of what you did or didn't find; the related person or family and where they lived; notations and source citations; and comments about your search strategies, suggestions, questions, analyses and discrepancies.

Properly formulated, it can be a vital tool. Here are a few considerations.

Decide on the media you'll use

Ideally, the log will allow data to be sorted (so you can group together like entries) and searched (e.g., to find a term, name or date).

Depending on the extent of your research, you also might want the flexibility to set up separate sections or identifiers for different ancestors, branches of your tree or record groups. You may have one family per workbook, assigning each ancestor a sheet.

Common applications like Excel, Access and even smart PDFs may be suitable for a log.

Research logs can be maintained in the cloud using a variety of tools (e.g., Google Drive, Evernote or Dropbox). If so, you'll be able to use them anywhere with Internet access.

Alternatively, maintain your log on your mobile device (if your eyes are good enough).

Consider which columns to use

You'll need to plan what information you want to keep in a research log. Here's one suggestion from one online article⁶:

- **Date entered:** Note the date you enter the item into your to-do list.
- **Given name:** Record the full name of the person who's the subject of this entry.
- **Surname:** Enter the relative's surname (include a woman's maiden and married names in case she used one or the other in the record you're seeking).
- **Record or resource:** Enter title, date and details for the resource you're seeking.
- **Information sought:** Note what you're looking for.

⁶ Lisa, A Alzo. "Using a Genealogy Research Log ." 5 December 2012. *Family Tree Magazine*. 18 December 2018. <<https://www.familytreemagazine.com/premium/using-a-genealogy-research-log/>>.

C01 Use Computers to Research Family Genealogy and World History

- **Repository/Website:** Record the archive or website you need to visit to complete the task. Include contact information such as URLs and phone numbers.
- **Date completed:** Leave this column blank until you check the item off your to-do list.
- **Outcome:** Note whether your search was successful and what you discovered.
- **Source citation:** Compose a source citation you can copy and paste into your genealogy software once you consult the resource.
- **Source number:** numbering your sources per a filing system can facilitate filing.
- **Notes:** Add any other helpful information about the person, repository or record.

Create the document

Copy your research log template and rename it something simple, like the name of the person or family being researched. If you research numerous people at a time, it may be useful to key each file to an overall system like a family tree.

When your research log is set up, you may wish to share it with collaborators. This can be done by emailing the file or using a collaboration app as discussed in “Decide” above.

The key to effective collaboration is having good two-way communication to keep everyone informed of what’s planned, in process, and completed. Part of this is for each person to understand each other’s role, capabilities, limitations and expectations. These things are far more about interpersonal relations than technology; as always, it is best if new-beaut technology is merely a tool rather than in the driver’s seat of your project.

Maintain your log

This is the most important step of all! A log is worthless if it isn’t used.

Keep the log handy whenever you think about working on genealogy. Keep a *to do* list handy so that you can jog down any brief flashes of inspiration before they fizzle away. Have one by the bedside at night, so that when you sit bolt upright with a crystal clear plan of action, you can jot it down before you collapse in forgetful slumber.

Keep copies of your management and research objectives at hand. If great ideas pop up that don’t relate to them, write them down on your *to do* list for future implementation. Try to maintain the discipline to stay focused on your objectives as best you can to avoid wandering off on diversions and ultimately losing interest. Remember, not only is family history meaningful, it should be interesting and enjoyable.

Whenever you have a few free minutes, check your research log for suitable tasks (like specific online searches) that you might do.

Research logs can be useful in endless ways. However you choose to use it, customise your log to your research needs. Once you’ve found a system that works for you, you’ll make the most efficient use of your precious research time. With a research log, you can search with a purpose.

And now for the good news! Most of the higher end genealogy programs automatically record each change that you make to your database. This cuts out a lot of the simple drudge work that used to accompany research. This lets you focus on the areas that are most challenging and rewarding – planning the research and actually doing it.

NOTE

The memory stick that comes with the U3A course includes a variety of Excel templates.

Understanding Kinship Terms

From the common ancestor (blue), the descendants (orange) span to the right and to the bottom. Descendants' relationships with one another are displayed in the middle in green.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Common Ancestor	Son or Daughter	Grandson or Daughter	Great Grandson or Daughter	2nd Great Grandson or Daughter	3rd Great Grandson or Daughter	4th Great Grandson or Daughter	5th Great Grandson or Daughter	6th Great Grandson or Daughter	7th Great Grandson or Daughter
2	Son or Daughter	Siblings (Brother or Sister)	Nephew or Niece	Grand Nephew or Niece	Great Grand Nephew or Niece	2nd Great Grand Nephew or Niece	3rd Great Grand Nephew or Niece	4th Great Grand Nephew or Niece	5th Great Grand Nephew or Niece	6th Great Grand Nephew or Niece
3	Grandson or Daughter	Nephew or Niece	First Cousin	First Cousin Once Removed	First Cousin Twice Removed	First Cousin Three Times Removed	First Cousin Four Times Removed	First Cousin Five Times Removed	First Cousin Six Times Removed	First Cousin Seven Times Removed
4	Great Grandson or Daughter	Grand Nephew or Niece	First Cousin	Second Cousin	Second Cousin Once Removed	Second Cousin Twice Removed	Second Cousin Three Times Removed	Second Cousin Four Times Removed	Second Cousin Five Times Removed	Second Cousin Six Times Removed
5	2nd Great Grandson or Daughter	Great Grand Nephew or Niece	First Cousin	Second Cousin	Third Cousin	Third Cousin Once Removed	Third Cousin Twice Removed	Third Cousin Three Times Removed	Third Cousin Four Times Removed	Third Cousin Five Times Removed
6	3rd Great Grandson or Daughter	2nd Great Grand Nephew or Niece	First Cousin	Second Cousin	Third Cousin	Fourth Cousin	Fourth Cousin Once Removed	Fourth Cousin Twice Removed	Fourth Cousin Three Times Removed	Fourth Cousin Four Times Removed
7	4th Great Grandson or Daughter	3rd Great Grand Nephew or Niece	First Cousin	Second Cousin	Third Cousin	Fourth Cousin	Fifth Cousin	Fifth Cousin Once Removed	Fifth Cousin Twice Removed	Fifth Cousin Three Times Removed
8	5th Great Grandson or Daughter	4th Great Grand Nephew or Niece	First Cousin	Second Cousin	Third Cousin	Fourth Cousin	Fifth Cousin	Sixth Cousin	Sixth Cousin Once Removed	Sixth Cousin Twice Removed
9	6th Great Grandson or Daughter	5th Great Grand Nephew or Niece	First Cousin	Second Cousin	Third Cousin	Fourth Cousin	Fifth Cousin	Sixth Cousin	Seventh Cousin	Seventh Cousin Once Removed
10	7th Great Grandson or Daughter	6th Great Grand Nephew or Niece	First Cousin	Second Cousin	Third Cousin	Fourth Cousin	Fifth Cousin	Sixth Cousin	Sixth Cousin	Eighth Cousin

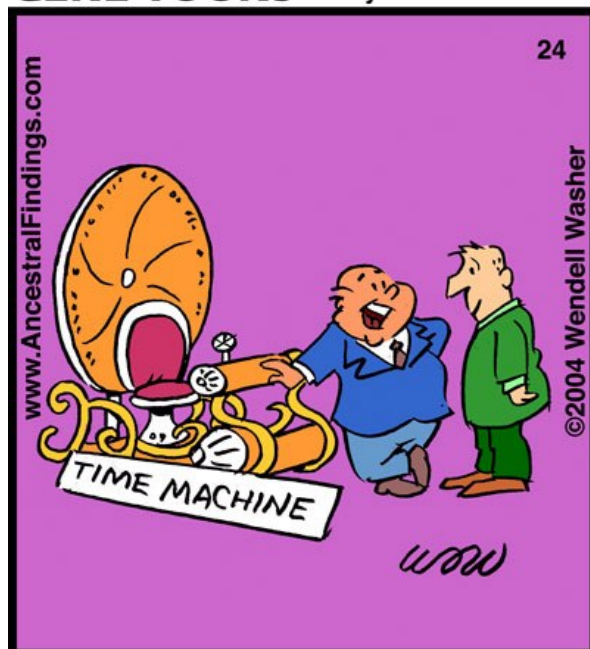
Genealogy glossary

Term	Definition/Description
Ancestor	A person from whom you descend directly, such as a grandparent or a great-grandparent.
Ancestry	Denotes all of your ancestors from your parents as far back as they are traceable. Estimates suggest that everyone has approximately 65,000 traceable ancestors, meaning ancestors whose existence can be documented in surviving records.
Banns	Public announcement of an intended marriage, generally made in church.
Collateral Relations	Those relatives who are linked by a common ancestor, such as aunts, uncles, or cousins.
Common Ancestor	Person through whom two or more persons claim descent or lineage.
Connections	Those who have a relative in common but who are not themselves related by blood.
Cousin	A relative descended from a common ancestor, such as a grandparent. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First cousins share a set of grandparents (they are the children of siblings).• Second cousins share the same great-grandparents; they're the children of first cousins.• Third cousins share the same great-great-grandparents; they're the children of second cousins.
Descendant	Anyone to whom an individual is an ancestor. For example, any person who descends directly from you, such as a grandson or granddaughter.
Direct Line	Line of descent traced through persons who are directly related to one another as a child and parent.
Double Date	More than one date given for an event. The practice of writing double dates resulted from switching from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar. This also relates to the fact that not all countries and people use the same calendars or accepted a new calendar at the same time.
Dowager	Widow holding property or a title received from her deceased husband; title given in England to widows of princes, dukes, earls, and other noblemen.
Emigrant	Person leaving one country to reside in another country.
Evidence	Any kind of proof, such as testimony, documents, records, certificates, material objects, etc.
Family History	A book that details basic genealogical facts about one or more generations of a particular family; it may include other family details.
GEDCOM	Acronym for [GE nealogy Data COM munications], a standardised format for genealogy databases that allows the exchange of data among different software programs and operating systems.

Term	Definition/Description
Genealogy	Study of one's ancestry; a summary history or table of a person's ancestry. (NOTE: whilst technically distinct, "genealogy" and "family history" are often used interchangeably.)
Grand versus Great	The terms great and grand indicate separation of generations. These days most people do not use the term grandniece or grandnephew, or great-grandniece, etc. The word "grand" has been popularly replaced by "great".
Grandaunt or Granduncle	The brother or sister of your grandparent.
Grandnephew and Grandniece	The grandchild of your brother or sister.
Great-Grandaunt or Great-Granduncle	The sister or brother of your great-grandparents.
Half Sister or Half Brother	The child of your mother and stepfather or the child of your father and stepmother, or of either parent by a former marriage.
Immigrant	Person moving into a country from another country.
In-Laws	Your connections by the law of marriage (as distinct from relatives by blood) in particular, your husband's or wife's relatives and your own brother's wife or sister's husband.
Intestate	Denotes a person who died without leaving a will.
Issue	Children, descendants, offspring.
Lineage	Direct line of descent from an ancestor; progeny.
Lineal Relations	Those in a direct line of ascent or descent, such as a grandfather or granddaughter.
Local History	A book or other information source about a particular town or county. Local histories were quite popular in the late 19 th century. They give the history of the development of the area, and usually also include some information about the important families who lived there.
Maternal Line	Line of descent traced through the mother's ancestry.
Oral History	A collection of family stories told by a member of the family or by a close family friend. Normally, an oral history is transcribed onto paper, or is video or tape recorded. Oral histories often yield things that you won't find written in records.
Paternal Line	Line of descent traced through the father's ancestry.
Patronymics	The formerly-common practice of creating last names from the name of one's father; for example, Robert, John's son, would become Robert Johnson. His son Neil would become Neil Robertson.
Pedigree	A person's ancestry, lineage, family tree.
Pedigree Chart	A chart showing a person's ancestry.
Primary Evidence	Original or first-hand evidence; the best evidence available that must be used before secondary evidence can be introduced as proof
Primary Source	Records created at the time of an event. For example, a primary source for a birth date would be a birth certificate. While you can find birth dates on other documents, such as marriage certificates, they would not be primary sources for the birth date, because they were not created at the time of the birth.

Term	Definition/Description
Primogeniture	Insures the right of the eldest son to inherit the entire estate of his parents, to the exclusion of younger sons.
Progenitor	A direct ancestor.
Removed	In cousin relationships, the term removed indicates the separation of a generation. My first cousin is of the same generation as I am, so my first cousin once removed would be either my parent's first cousin or my first cousin's child.
Secondary Evidence	Evidence that is inferior to primary evidence or the best evidence.
Secondary Source	A record that was created a significant amount of time after an event occurred. For example, a marriage certificate would be a secondary source for a birth date, because the birth took place several years before the time of the marriage. However, that same marriage certificate would be a primary source for a marriage date, because it was created at the time of the marriage.
Siblings	Relatives with parents in common (i.e., brothers and sisters).
Source	A document, record, publication, manuscript, etc. used to prove a fact.
Stepchild	The child of your husband or wife by a former marriage.
Stepfather or Stepmother	The husband of your mother or the wife of your father by a subsequent marriage.
Stepsister or Stepbrother	The child of your stepfather or stepmother.
Vital Records	Birth, marriage, death and divorce records.

GENE TOONS by Wendell Washer



This baby'll help you find those hard-to-place ancestors!

GENE TOONS by Wendell Washer



Great Uncle Bertrand didn't have a computer in 1880, so how will you find him on line?

Genealogy and family history societies

Membership of a family history society can significantly assist personal research.

- Local societies hold specialist collections of material for their specific areas.
- Family history societies educate in family history research skills and information.
- They may be able to provide assistance in tracing your family tree.
- Societies often have special interest research groups.

International



The **Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations** (AFFHO; see www.affho.org) is the umbrella organisation for family history societies in the region. AFFHO was established in 1978 to coordinate and assist the work of Australian and New Zealand groups with interests in family history, genealogy, heraldry and related subjects.

Australian



The **Society of Australian Genealogists** (SAG; see www.sag.org.au) has been helping people trace family history for over 80 years. SAG has a world-class library and manuscript collection. They run an active programme of lectures, workshops, seminars and tours.

Queensland



The **Royal Historical Society of Queensland** (www.queenslandhistory.org) is dedicated to promoting Queensland's history for the benefit of our members, affiliated societies and the broader community.



The **Queensland Family History Society - Brisbane** (www.qfhs.org.au) was formed to promote the study of family, and local history, genealogy, and heraldry, and encourage the collection and preservation of records relating to the history of Queensland families.



The **Genealogical Society of Queensland's** (www.gsq.org.au) mission is 'helping to discover your family history'. It specialises in family history in the Australian state of Queensland.



History Queensland (www.historyqueensland.org.au/) acts as an umbrella group that gives local and family history societies operate throughout Queensland a united voice in promoting the interests of family historians, local historians and genealogists.

Local

Most Queensland districts and shires have active local history societies, groups, and/or centres. These include Beaudesert, Burdekin, Caboolture, Cairns, Central Queensland, Cooktown, Cooroy-Noosa, Dalby, Gladstone, Gold Coast, Goondiwindi, Gympie, Ipswich, Kingaroy, Mackay, Mareeba, Maryborough, Mount Isa, Proserpine, Redcliffe, Rockhampton, Roma, Rosewood, South Burnett, Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba & Darling Downs, Toowoomba, Tweed Gold Coast, and Wynnum Manly.