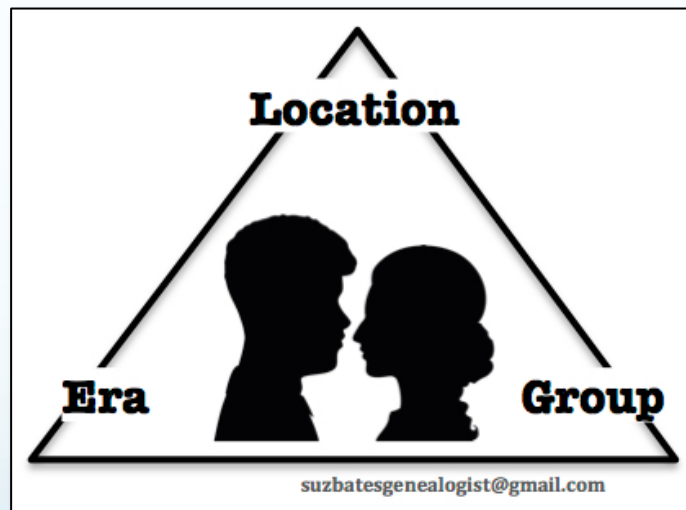


# Family History Beyond the Internet

by Suz Bates  
Elmhurst Public Library  
May 16, 2024



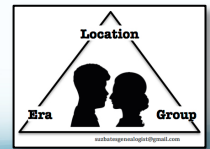
Suz Bates, Genealogist, Speaker, Family History Consultant  
| 630-923-6642 | suzbatesgenealogist@gmail.com | <https://genealogistsuzbates.weebly.com> |

# Extending Your Research Beyond Online

## The Other 90% of Genealogically Valuable Records

### Quick Start

updated May 2023



**Now focus on finding collections & databases, rather than finding an ancestor.**

✓ Check the Big Three Databases Sites

Be aware of what you are missing.

Extend the source when possible. Find the original, primary, source.

✓ Historical Context

Books, Videos, Maps and more

Referenced & Footnoted Sources

✓ How-To Research Your Location, Group, & Era

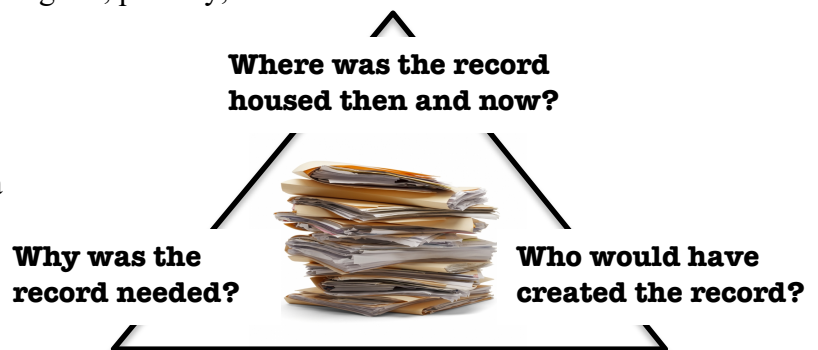
FamilySearch.org Research Wiki

County Formation

Record Availability

Hot Links

Other how-to sites such as Cyndi's List



✓ Google Search including social media such as LinkedIn and Facebook

**With this above research and your list of possible records, you are ready to ...**

☐ Check the Libraries and Archives

- WorldCat & Archivegrid
- Newberry & Allen County
- archive.org
- Local State, County, Township & City Libraries

☐ Check the Historical Societies & Museums

- obituary, photo, & newspaper collections, family files, family & local genealogies, local histories, a local historian etc.

☐ Check Other Societies such as DAR & other lineage groups, Railroad Workers Union and other corporate & union archives, Masons and other religious and cultural groups. Work your way down through National, District, State, Region to Local offices.

☐ Check the Government Offices

☒ Gather → the information for current contacts and accessing collections.

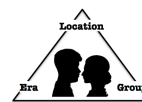
- **Online searchable databases** – national, state, county, township, city historical and vital record sites
- National, State, County, Township & City **Libraries, Historical, Lineage, Religious & Cultural Societies, Offices, Archives, Universities** – (Feel free to download *Visiting an Ancestor* log from my website.)

☒ Call → Do your research about the place before you call. Then, tailor your call to the person in the place you are calling i.e. the clerk, librarian, sexton. Do not ask about a specific ancestor unless the person asks you for a name. Ask about the records or collection of records. This is about finding collections not ancestors, yet. (Feel free to download *Calling for Records* log on my website.)

☒ Mail → Watch the payment method.

☒ Go → Plan Ahead

# So Many Documents to Find!



## Family Records

### Personal Family Records

- ☐ Account books
- ☐ Business Records
- ☐ Farm Records
- ☐ Clubs & organizations
- ☐ Employment records
- ☐ Family Bibles
- ☐ Heirlooms
- ☐ Journals/diaries
- ☐ Letters
- ☐ Medical records
- ☐ Military records
- ☐ Oral traditions
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Scrapbooks
- ☐ Travel
- ☐ Bills
- ☐ Newspaper Clippings

### Certificates

- ☐ Adoption
- ☐ Appraisal
- ☐ Authenticity
- ☐ Baptism
- ☐ Birth
- ☐ Blessing
- ☐ Burial
- ☐ Confirmation
- ☐ DAR & other societies
- ☐ Death
- ☐ Freedman
- ☐ Graduation & Diplomas
- ☐ Manumission
- ☐ Marriage
- ☐ Naturalization
- ☐ Passport
- ☐ Patents
- ☐ Social Security

### School Records

- ☐ Bachelorette
- ☐ College
- ☐ Elementary
- ☐ High School
- ☐ Private
- ☐ School Magazine
- ☐ School Newspaper
- ☐ Trade
- ☐ University
- ☐ Vocational
- ☐ Yearbooks

### Insurance

- ☐ Death
- ☐ Health
- ☐ Life
- ☐ Loss
- ☐ Marine
- ☐ Ownership
- ☐ Vehicle

## Vital Records

### Adoption

- ☐ Adoption Agency
- ☐ Adoption birth
- ☐ Advocacy Groups
- ☐ Bio birth
- ☐ Court Records
- ☐ Orphanages
- ☐ Social Services
- ☐ Philanthropic Groups

### Births & Deaths

- ☐ Announcement
- ☐ Church
- ☐ City, Township
- ☐ County, State certificate
- ☐ City, Township
- ☐ County, State extended birth

- ☐ Federal Overseas
- ☐ Hospital
- ☐ Military
- ☐ Police

### Marriage Records

- ☐ Announcements
- ☐ Applications
- ☐ Banns
- ☐ Bonds

- ☐ Consents
- ☐ Contracts
- ☐ Licenses
- ☐ Minister Returns
- ☐ Registries

### Divorces

- ☐ Decree
- ☐ Proceedings
- ☐ Announcement

## Burial Records

### Cemetery Records

- ☐ Church Cemeteries
- ☐ Deeds
- ☐ Family Plot Card
- ☐ Family Register
- ☐ Family Card
- ☐ Internment
- ☐ Memorial Cards
- ☐ Military
- ☐ Municipal Cemeteries
- ☐ Obituary Collection
- ☐ Overseas Cemeteries

- ☐ Ownership Records
- ☐ Perpetual Care
- ☐ Photos
- ☐ Plot Map
- ☐ Potters Field
- ☐ Private Cemeteries
- ☐ Relocation
- ☐ Sexton

### Funeral Home

- ☐ Flowers
- ☐ Memorials
- ☐ Obituary Collection

- ☐ Purchase Invoices
- ☐ Service Invoices
- City, Township, County, State, Federal**
- ☐ Coroner's
- ☐ Court
- ☐ FBI etc
- ☐ Local Monuments
- ☐ Military
- ☐ Overseas
- ☐ Police
- ☐ Sheriff's

### Monument Records

- ☐ Gravestone Cutters
- ☐ Stone Purchase
- ☐ Inscription
- ☐ Installation
- ☐ Military

### Transportation

- ☐ Aircraft
- ☐ Hearse Rental
- ☐ Train
- ☐ Military

## Compiled Indexes and Files

- ☐ (PERSI) Periodical Source Index from Allen County Library IN
- ☐ (AGBI) American Genealogical Biographical Index from Godfrey Memorial Library CT
- ☐ (SSDI) Social Security Death Index

### FamilySearch.org

- ☐ (IGI) International Genealogical Index
- ☐ (PRF) Pedigree Resource File
- ☐ (TIB) Temple Index Bureau
- ☐ Ancestral File
- ☐ FamilySearch Genealogical Index

## Published Sources

\_\_\_ Biographies  
\_\_\_ Business Directories  
\_\_\_ Business New Letters  
\_\_\_ City directories  
\_\_\_ County & Local histories  
\_\_\_ Digital Past  
\_\_\_ Family Histories  
\_\_\_ Genealogy Association

### Publications

\_\_\_ Genealogies & Family Histories  
\_\_\_ Pedigrees & Ahnentafels  
\_\_\_ Phone Books  
\_\_\_ School Directories  
\_\_\_ School Yearbooks

### Newspapers

\_\_\_ Advertisements  
\_\_\_ Anniversaries

\_\_\_ Births  
\_\_\_ Community New  
\_\_\_ Deaths  
\_\_\_ Divorce  
\_\_\_ Indexes  
\_\_\_ Marriages  
\_\_\_ Obituaries  
\_\_\_ Passenger Lists  
\_\_\_ Unclaimed mail

### Legal Notices

\_\_\_ Auctions  
\_\_\_ Bankruptcies  
\_\_\_ Convictions  
\_\_\_ Court claims  
\_\_\_ Divorces  
\_\_\_ Forced sales  
\_\_\_ Probates

### Census

\_\_\_ Agriculture Census  
\_\_\_ Death Schedule  
\_\_\_ Municipal Census  
\_\_\_ Slave Schedule

\_\_\_ School Census  
\_\_\_ State Census  
\_\_\_ Territorial Census  
\_\_\_ Military Enlistments

## Manuscript Collections

\_\_\_ Biographies  
\_\_\_ Colonial Collections  
\_\_\_ Correspondence  
\_\_\_ Genealogy Association Collections  
\_\_\_ Indexes  
\_\_\_ Personal papers  
\_\_\_ State Archives Collections  
\_\_\_ Surname Files  
\_\_\_ Libraries  
\_\_\_ Local Historical Society Collections  
\_\_\_ National Collections  
\_\_\_ University Collections  
\_\_\_ Business Records  
\_\_\_ Oral Histories  
\_\_\_ WPA Projects

\_\_\_ Military Deaths & Burial  
\_\_\_ Military Drafts  
\_\_\_ Federal Census

## Employment Records

\_\_\_ Account books  
\_\_\_ Apprenticeships  
\_\_\_ Indentures  
\_\_\_ Licenses  
\_\_\_ Pensions  
\_\_\_ Personnel files  
\_\_\_ Service awards

## Other Institutions' Records

### Institutional Records

\_\_\_ Charities  
\_\_\_ Hospitals  
\_\_\_ Convents  
\_\_\_ Seminaries  
\_\_\_ Libraries  
\_\_\_ Historical Societies  
\_\_\_ Genealogical

### Societies

\_\_\_ Cultural Clubs  
\_\_\_ Lineage Societies  
\_\_\_ Masons  
\_\_\_ Mission Societies  
\_\_\_ Orphan Agencies  
\_\_\_ Poor House  
\_\_\_ Reunion Registries

## Court & Court Related Records

### Probate Records

\_\_\_ Case files  
\_\_\_ Coroner Reports & Files  
\_\_\_ Clerk Indices  
\_\_\_ Decrees  
\_\_\_ Dockets  
\_\_\_ Index  
\_\_\_ Jail  
\_\_\_ Judgments  
\_\_\_ Jury  
\_\_\_ Justice of the Peace Files  
\_\_\_ Lawyers' briefs  
\_\_\_ Licenses  
\_\_\_ Minutes  
\_\_\_ Orders  
\_\_\_ Sheriff & Police

\_\_\_ Administrations  
\_\_\_ Bonds  
\_\_\_ Guardianships  
\_\_\_ Indexes  
\_\_\_ Inventories  
\_\_\_ Packets  
\_\_\_ Settlements  
\_\_\_ Wills  
\_\_\_ Personal property  
\_\_\_ Poll tax  
\_\_\_ Poor rate  
\_\_\_ Real estate  
\_\_\_ School  
\_\_\_ Tax Exemptions  
\_\_\_ Tax Index

### Land Records

\_\_\_ Deeds  
\_\_\_ Grantee & grantor indexes  
\_\_\_ Mortgages  
\_\_\_ Patents & grants  
\_\_\_ Surveys  
\_\_\_ Bounty Awards  
\_\_\_ Burial Registers  
\_\_\_ Discharges  
\_\_\_ Draft  
\_\_\_ Enlistment  
\_\_\_ Muster rolls  
\_\_\_ Pensions  
\_\_\_ Registries  
\_\_\_ Service files

### Immigration Records

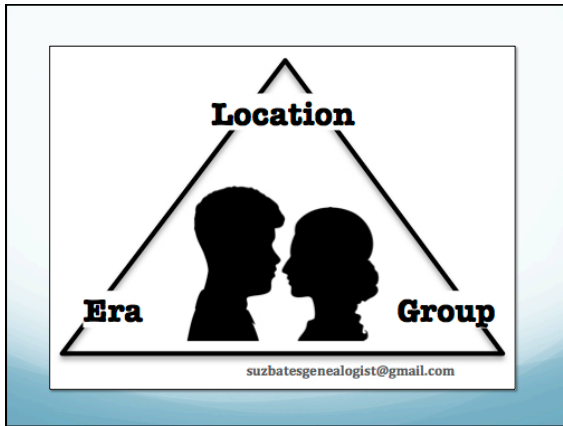
\_\_\_ Alien Registration Cards  
\_\_\_ Citizenship Papers  
\_\_\_ Customs  
\_\_\_ Immigrant Aid Groups  
\_\_\_ Logbooks  
\_\_\_ Naturalization 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>  
\_\_\_ Papers  
\_\_\_ Newspaper Arrival Notices  
\_\_\_ Oath of Allegiance  
\_\_\_ Passenger Lists –  
\_\_\_ Departure, Arrival,  
\_\_\_ Quarterlies  
\_\_\_ Passport Applications  
\_\_\_ Registry of Voters  
\_\_\_ Vaccination Certificates

## Church Records

\_\_\_ Admissions  
\_\_\_ Annulment  
\_\_\_ Banns  
\_\_\_ Baptism  
\_\_\_ Birth  
\_\_\_ Blessing  
\_\_\_ Burial

\_\_\_ Christening  
\_\_\_ Circumcision  
\_\_\_ Confirmation  
\_\_\_ Death  
\_\_\_ Disciplinary Courts  
\_\_\_ Divorce  
\_\_\_ Marriage

\_\_\_ Membership lists  
\_\_\_ Minutes  
\_\_\_ Mission reports  
\_\_\_ Ordination  
\_\_\_ Removals  
\_\_\_ Subscription lists  
\_\_\_ Tithings



---

---

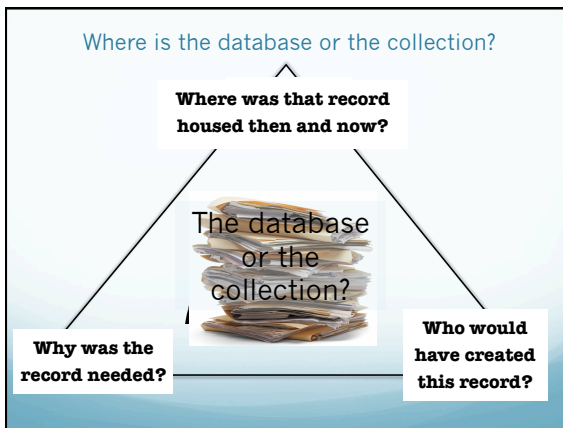
---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Your goal...

**Finding Databases & Collections and how to access them**

rather than finding an ancestor.

**Location**

**Era** **Group**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Gather the information for current contacts & accessing collections.

1. Find **Online searchable databases** at the national, state, county, township for historical and vital record sites
2. Find National, Regional, State, County, Township & City
  - Libraries
  - Historical Societies
  - Government Offices
  - Archives & Universities
  - Lineage, Culture & Religious Societies & Churches



---

---

---

---

---

---


---

Look Up ▲

BEFORE LEFT ◀ ▶ RIGHT AFTER

TURN IT OVER

DOWN ▼



---

---

---

---


---

---

---

Be Aware of the Big Two Databases!

Extend the source.  
Find the original!



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Historical Context

- Encyclopedias
- Histories & Journals
- Videos
- Maps
- Referenced & Footnoted Sources



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## How-To Research Your Location, Time and Group

- FamilySearch Research Wiki
- County Formation
- Record Availability
- Hot Links
- Other How-to sites such as Cyndi's List



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Google Searches & Social Media

**Finding Databases**  
**Finding Collections**  
**Finding out what's in them**  
**Finding how to access them**



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Libraries and Archives

- Colonial Compilations
- Library Catalog
- WorldCat & Archive Grid
- Newberry and Allen County
- National, State, County, Township and City libraries & archives
- Local Universities
- archive.org



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Societies, Unions, Corporations, Government Offices

Look for National, Territorial, Regional, District, State, Township, County and City level offices for their record collections and access process.

- Lineage Societies such as DAR & SAR
- Workers' Groups and Unions such as Railroad Workers and Motorola
- Religious and Cultural groups such as Churches, Masons, Ethnic
- Museums



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Make Some Calls!**  
**Mail some forms!**  
**Genealogy Road Trip!**



---

---

---

---

---

---

---



Suz Bates, Genealogist 630-923-6642  
genealogistsuzbates.weebly.com/      suzbatesgenealogist@gmail.com

Location Timeline for

### Using the Location Timeline workshop.

Enter the name of your ancestor in the top title blank line.

Census and City Directories are the backbone of genealogy research in the U.S. They will help you:

get an overview of the lifespan of your ancestors

be able to validate subsequent records you find

compare and create other lifespan timelines for family members

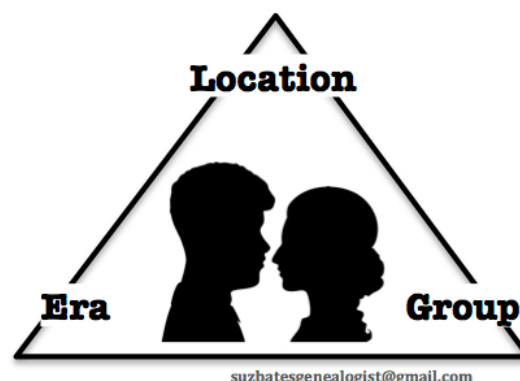
Please keep in mind, the federal government had a census every 10 years starting with the 1790 tax list, but many states, counties, schools, territories and other factors in U.S. history completed census. But start with the state and federal censuses.

Ancestry.com – free if you are in your public library

FamilySearch.org – free once you register

HeritageQuest.org – remote access through your public library

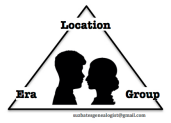
City Directories were created in many large and smaller cities. You can find these in many databases but start with the big two: Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org



Notes:

[illegible]

## Calling for Records



Which ancestor or family line? Dates and Facts \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Websites** you checked before calling so you have an idea of what records are found where.

✓FamilySearch.org Research Wiki ✓Local, District, Township, County &/or City Library, ✓Town Clerk,  
✓Local or Regional Historical Society &/or Museum, ✓Local Repositories & Archives, ✓Facebook pages

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Contact

What is your initial question? \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Facility & Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

Days & Hours of operation or when s/he is there \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number, extension, email \_\_\_\_\_

What records you are asking about? \_\_\_\_\_

Date and Notes \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date and Notes \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Follow-up

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Visiting My Ancestor in** \_\_\_\_\_

Which family line? \_\_\_\_\_

**Facility: #1** \_\_\_\_\_

Days & Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Facility: #2** \_\_\_\_\_

Days & Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Facility: #3** \_\_\_\_\_

Days & Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

