

RECORD TYPES

AND WHEN TO USE THEM

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DESCRIPTION

The types of records useful for genealogical research are abundant! This session will introduce beginning genealogists to the vast array, exploring everything from family sources, censuses and vital records, newspapers, and many, many more!

RECORD TYPES

While the following list is not comprehensive, it represents the most common valuable genealogical record types. Each of the record types below come with relevant articles in the FamilySearch Research Wiki or other resources for further education.

- FAMILY SOURCES (memories, stories, family Bibles, journals, certificates, photos, family bibles, memorabilia, oral interviews, letters, newspaper clippings, passports, tickets, scrapbooks, compiled genealogies, heirlooms, etc.)

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Collecting_Previous_Research_by_Others_Part_One:_Home_and_Relative_Sources

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Collecting_Previous_Research_by_Others_Part_Two:_Online_Family_Tree_Collections

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Collecting_Previous_Research_by_Others_Part_Three:_Digitized_Books

- CENSUSES

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Census_Records

- VITAL RECORDS (Kyra) [these include BMD records from Church and Civil/Government sources]

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Vital_Records

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Vital_Records#Births, Marriages, and Deaths](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Vital_Records#Births,_Marriages,_and_Deaths)

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Birth_Records#Introduction to Birth Records](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Birth_Records#Introduction_to_Birth_Records)

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Adoption#Finding Adoption Records](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Adoption#Finding_Adoption_Records)

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States, How to Use Marriage Records](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States,_How_to_Use_Marriage_Records)

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Death_Records#How to Find United States Death Records Using Guided Research](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Death_Records#How_to_Find_United_States_Death_Records_Using_Guided_Research)

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Church_Records

- NEWSPAPERS (Kyra)

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Newspapers#Information in Newspapers](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Newspapers#Information_in_Newspapers)

- PROBATE & COURT RECORDS

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Probate_Records

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Court_Records

- MILITARY RECORDS

*Fold3.com is a good website to start with for military records searching.

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Military_Records

- CEMETERIES (Kyra)

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Cemeteries#Information in the Records](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Cemeteries#Information_in_the_Records)

- LAND RECORDS (Kyra)

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Land_and_Property

- IMMIGRATION RECORDS

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Immigration_Records

- CITIZENSHIP/NATURALIZATION RECORDS
https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Naturalization_and_Citizenship
- CITY DIRECTORIES (Kyra)
https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/City_Directories
- SCHOOL & OCCUPATIONAL RECORDS (Kyra)
https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Schools_and_Education
https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Business_and_Occupations
- VOTER & TAX RECORDS
https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Taxation
https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Voting_Records
- DNA (Kyra)
https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/DNA_in_Genealogy_Research