

Things to Remember from “Searching FamilySearch” Presentation

There are two levels of resources available for you search:

Level one – open access to all public FamilySearch collections

Level two – access to your ancestors that have been sourced by others and entered into the shared FamilySearch Family Tree

Using Level Two – FamilySearch Family Tree - You must open a FamilySearch Account to have access, – which is free of charge

- 1 – This gives you access to sources already attached to your ancestor or person of interest
- 2 – Identifies who entered the source or other information
- 3 – Provides communication links to others that share your common ancestor or person of interest
- 4 – May extend lines of your ancestors that are held in common with others

Using Level One – Open Access to all FamilySearch records – This top level includes, under the search tab:

Records – The doorway to indexed and searchable historical records in the entire FamilySearch collection – **First!** Read Search Tips before proceeding with your search

- 1 – **Search by person** – Quick search through all collections (Use basic or advance search options)
- 2 – **Search by place (location)** - You will find five top collections relative to your inquiry – click to expand to all collections for this location or place!
- 3 – **Go directly to collections** - Pick your choice of over 3,100 collections shown in the alphabetical listing

Note - For item 2 – or 3 above, once a collection is identified, first open “*How to Use This Collection*”

Images – Films in the FamilySearch collection that are scanned (digitized) but not yet indexed. This is like using old microfilm readers to review rolls of microfilm but now it can be done on your computer more easily and more quickly

Search Hints:

- 1 - Look for internal indexing within the film, (many have a description of contents), if none,
- 2 – Determine order of data in the film, for example alphabetical or chronological, then advance through film to area of interest

Genealogies – Usually User Submitted Data and /or older archived records from prior programs.

- 1 - Includes searchable Ancestral File, Pedigree Resource File (including current submissions), International Genealogical Index (IGI), Oral histories and other miscellaneous collections

2 - Allows upload of your GEDCOM file for storage and comparison with the common FamilySearch Family Tree

Family Tree – see Level Two discussion above

Catalog – Covers records in the entire FamilySearch system (formerly Utah Genealogical Society collection) and subsequent acquisitions. Includes item in the granite mountain vault and all FamilySearch libraries

1 - One can search for records found in main library in Salt Lake and all of its sub-locations churchwide

2 - Or search only for those available Online

3 - Or search only for those at any local location (Las Vegas FamilySearch Library, for example)

Note: The catalog is searchable by Place, Surname, Title, Author, Subject, or Keyword

Books – Includes digital copies of books in five participating libraries, include FamilySearch, which can be read online.

Note: - Depending on copyright conditions and restriction, may be only readable in Salt Lake, or at a local FamilySearch library.

Wiki – When all else fails