

New Tools and Ideas in Research

D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS | jtaylor@brightsolid.com

Time Management

While an organization system is key to managing our research time correctly, several other steps can be taken to ensure we maximize the time spent researching, analyzing, and compiling our family history. Proper time management ensures that we develop something to pass on to future generations of genealogists beyond a file cabinet stuffed with notes, pictures, documents, and other incomplete materials.

On average, for every hour you spend in a library, plan to spend at least two hours preparing to research, analyzing data, and compiling your results. Keys to time management for genealogists include developing goals, prioritizing, collaborating, delegating, and planning ahead.

Develop Manageable Goals

Like any task, breaking family history into manageable pieces is key to managing your time. Select a few specific research problems, individuals, or families to focus on at one time. Commit yourself to **producing a finished product** rather than simply filling out a pedigree chart or genealogical database for each of these tasks.

Final products could include a short narrative on the family (which would later be combined with others to produce a book or digital publication) or adding information to a wiki page. Once selected, break your larger goals and the final product into smaller tasks by developing a research (or action) plan.

While it can be hard to "set-aside" a family or project, or pick just a few families to focus on, avoid researching too many ancestors at once. Focusing on a specific goal (or small set of goals) provides time to adequately digest and understand historical and geographical contexts for a family, and can increase your efficiency at research. Time yourself when searching through different record sets in order to develop a more accurate idea of how long your research might take, while also providing avenues for flexibility (as research is often unpredictable).

Prioritize

An essential part of time management for genealogists is to prioritize your research, especially when visiting a library or archive. Create your own system for prioritizing onsite research (such as numbers or letters) and incorporate it into your research logs. In many instances, when looking at the individual elements of a research project it might seem logical to do complete some plans before others. For example, gathering historical and geographical context might be necessary before actually searching in printed or original records.

Plan Ahead

To make the most of your research time, ensure you plan ahead when visiting a repository – even those you frequent for genealogical research. Develop a prioritized research log **before** arriving at a repository or conducting research online. Find an online catalog (or e-mail ahead) to gather call numbers or collection location, access information, and other details. Keep materials organized in bags, binders, or envelopes, following the guidelines of the repository you are visiting. When making a first visit to a repository, plan for an hour or two to become acclimated to the facility. Identify copy machines, restrooms, reference desks, collection locations, and other key elements that you will need during your time there.

Plan and schedule time to continue your genealogical education through online webinars, onsite conferences, magazines, and other avenues. Select opportunities that directly benefit your current research goals while also providing general resources that will benefit your overall research. After a session, develop a short action plan, combining your current goals with the resources you just learned.

It is easy to become distracted by an interesting individual, record source, or a particularly tough research problem - plan for the unexpected. Tracing information that is not part of your original list can be very beneficial, so long as you recognize that you are straying from your intended plan. Always **reprioritize** your task list, as needed, when your research takes you into unplanned territory.

Collaboration - Using the Cloud

References to "cloud computing" in today's world are commonplace. Storing data and applications on a central repository away from your computer allows you to share information with greater efficiency, while also enabling you to keep an easy backup of your data. Current options include DropBox <<http://www.dropbox.com>>, SugarSynch, Apple's iCloud, and other services.

GoogleDocs <<http://www.docs.google.com>> allows users to share documents, presentations, and spreadsheets between one another. Using GoogleDocs visitors can share a document with any e-mail address granting "viewer" or "collaborator" rights. The service tracks every change and even allows documents to be published directly to an e-mail or blog.

Other services, such as Zoho <<http://www.zoho.com>> provide online applications to create spreadsheets, word processing documents, presentations, and other documents that can easily be shared with others.

Your Research Log

Whether searching in a database such as JSTOR, images at FamilySearch.org or Ancestry.com, or websites on Google, reframing your search approach is a key step in conducting advanced research on the Internet. In order to conduct better searches, keep a thorough research log to analyze your progress. Include several categories:

Search Parameters

If you limited your search to domains that end in ".edu," or PDF files, or limited language settings ensure you note this in your log.

Record Exact Search Phrases

Copy the exact search phrase, including any quotations, parenthesis, or asterisks into your research log. This information is key for future analysis.

Search Results

While you might already record the number of results a search generated, ensure you carefully record how many of those results you actually examined - and how in-depth you examined each result.

Keep a research log for **every site** you search - including subscription websites, search engines, or other resources. Once you have begun tracking these advanced categories and other websites on your research log, ensure you spent time examining your searches. Use your research log to become a more efficient online searcher - rather than simply avoiding repeating searches.

Approaching Your Searches

Most online researchers focus on finding ancestors through online databases and search boxes. Instead, consider approaching the Internet and its search engines as you would a library catalog - as a listing of potential resources to examine. Instead of searching for names, approach your searches by:

Localities

Searching for data relating to a particular locality allows you to find information not easily retrieved through a name search. Localities can include countries, states, counties, or towns and should be linked with a broad subject.

Sample search strings include:

- (Gallia AND Oh*) AND (history OR family OR genealogy OR "family history")
- (Boston AND Mass*) AND revolution*
- "War of 1812" AND Washington ("New York" OR NY) NOT "George Washington"
- Baptist* AND Church AND Will (County OR Cty) AND (Illinois OR IL)
- Migration AND York (County OR Cty) Penn* AND Irish

Record Types

Searching for specific record types provides access to information about records that might not be available in a digital format that are included in an online catalog, article, or other resources. Combine searches for locality and records:

- Cemetery* AND Tompkin* AND ("New York" OR NY) AND (transcript* OR photo*)
- (Diar* OR Letter*) AND "Putnam Co*" AND Missouri
- Church AND Caldwell AND (Idaho OR ID) AND Record*
- Baptist* AND Church AND Will (County OR Cty) AND (Illinois OR IL) AND (records OR history OR archives OR library)

Expanded Online Resources

As online tools emerge, new resources for genealogical research are created at a frequent rate. By using social networking, wikis, online video, and other technologies these resources provide powerful tools for every genealogist. Key resources are:

WeRelate.org

WeRelate.org <<http://www.werelate.org>> is a free wiki-based website. Users can browse a variety of wikis including articles, people, families, images, places, sources, personal sources, and user pages. Registered users can import their own GEDCOM file to the website and create wiki pages for individual ancestors or entire families. Other users can then visit pages and make comments and/or corrections to the information. Sources, images, and other files can also be added to the wiki pages.

Visitors can search by given name and surname for individuals, narrowing results by place, related names, keywords, and other features; as well as browse individual user pages by title. Using the wiki format, individual pages can contain links to other websites, page histories, track visitors, and save discussions relating to the page.

Mashups

A mashup is the creation of an application (or website) that combines data or functions from other external sources to create something new. For example, you could easily combine the resources of GoogleEarth with locations in your family tree to share a visual image of where a family (or several families) lived.

YouTube

Share your research by creating a short video and placing it online at YouTube <<http://www.youtube.com>> or a similar website. Videos could contain a series of documents, with your analysis of each, or a series of audio and video recordings made during your actual research. Inviting comment and feedback from other genealogists (and relatives) might lead to a few more clues in your research.

Bridging the Gap

Tracing Families in the United States between 1780 and 1830

D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS | jtaylor@brightsolid.com

Understanding the Gap

Before understanding how to bridge the gap between 1780 and 1830 it is important to know and understand why the "gap" commonly occurs. While the United States was working to develop record keeping systems (both local and nationally), the country was rapidly expanding in both size and population. The former British colonists began to move west towards the Ohio River Valley and beyond.



At the same time, a shift in the role of religion in communicates also changed. Immediately following the Revolution it is estimated only 1 in 4 (25%) of Americans were members of a particular religious group. This fact affected the recording of marriages, baptisms, and burials throughout the country. These factors created a "gap" in many genealogical records.

Strategies for Overcoming the Gap

Several strategies exist for overcoming the gap between 1790 and 1830. These methods and strategies often require genealogists to reexamine previous research, while conducting additional research in original records, and most important analyzing research results. Strategies include:

Analyze Existing Records and Research

It is important to analyze records that have been compiled for the region(s) or surname(s) being researched. This process includes re-reading personal research notes and analyzing records you have already examined. This strategy also includes finding the original sources to any compiled, abstracted, or transcribed records.

Recognize Limitations

In order to bridge the gap genealogists must recognize the realities of any situation. Just because regions may be filled with individuals with matching surnames, there is no guarantee that they are all "brothers" or family members who "migrated together."

Expand the Search

Genealogists should learn to search materials beyond standard genealogical records and resources. In addition, a family's events and surroundings should be placed within historical context as research progresses. Reading articles and other publications written by professional genealogists and/or historians can assist in this strategy. JSTOR <<http://www.jstor.com>> is an online databases containing digitizes pages from

hundreds of scholarly publications, and is generally available through public and/or college and university libraries.

Collections can also be found in special collections and archival repositories across the United States that can be key for researching during this time period. Resources to find these materials include:

- ArchiveFinder: Subscription service containing a directory of 5,596 repositories including the *National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections* (NUCMC). Available at most major libraries and universities.
- ArchiveGrid: A service provided by RLG, containing thousands of collections from repositories throughout the United States.

Records for Bridging the Gap

Several records, including traditional genealogical sources, can be used to bridge the gap. Often when working with traditional genealogical sources, new and different methods of researching or analyzing records are needed. Records that can be used to bridge the gap are:

Church Records

During this period church records become key to finding birth, marriage, and death records. In addition, the Second Great Awakening offered our ancestors a multitude of churches to join, leading to the creation of records in minute books, diaries, and other accounts.

Early American Imprints

Single page broadsides, pamphlets, and multi-volume works comprise what is referred to as Early American Imprints. Currently, these imprints are available online in two series. The first, Series I, is known as "Evans," and covers 1690-1800. The second, Series II, is known as "Shoemaker-Shaw" and covers the periods between 1801 and 1819.

Imprints often contain pertinent genealogical information that is useful in bridging the gap, including sermons, laws, cookbooks, music, court records, histories, etc. They can also contain names, dates, locations, events, and are also helpful in establishing and building historical context. These databases are generally available at major public libraries, universities, and other major research repositories, and are part of the Archive of Americana database group produced by Readex.

Tax Records

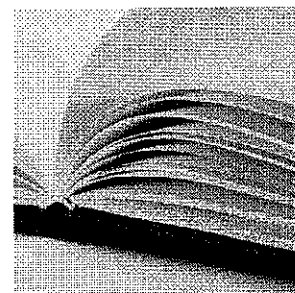
While tax records do not provide detailed genealogical information, collectively they can provide information regarding ages, probate processes, and other sources. Changes in an individual's taxes can indicate land sales, inheritance, or other information. Like other records a careful examination of the tax records for an ancestor is an important step in bridging the gap.

Land Records

Land records can provide information beyond the selling and buying of land. It is important to fully analyze deed records, and to trace the origins of the property bought by those in "the gap."

Compiled Genealogies

It is important to know that compiled genealogies were not generally gathered from primary documents, but from secondary information. Therefore, if a brother, sister, uncle, or aunt, had moved away from the family, information regarding them may have been difficult to gather for the publication of a compiled genealogy.



Listings, especially between the years of 1780 and 1830, are not always "complete," as presented in a compiled genealogy. Research has proven that authors of compiled genealogies did not have the resources to examine complete probate, land, vital, or other records when producing their works. In short, the compilation of a complete record of descendants from an American colonist was a huge undertaking at the turn of the twentieth century, and in many cases was simply not possible, even by the greatest genealogists of the time.

Newspapers

Thousands of local newspapers have been digitized and fully indexed in a variety of online databases. *Early American Newspapers* and *19th Century U.S. Newspapers* are just two databases containing a vast collection of these materials. Newspapers can contain notices of estates, vital events, legal proceedings, and other important details.

Local Histories

While some local histories contain genealogical sections, which might include detailed family sketches, it is also important to read and "digest" the historical information provided about any areas where a family might have lived. Just because a printed local history does not contain any direct references to an ancestor, does not mean that it cannot be used effectively in research.

Probate Files

Understanding the elements of the probate process is essential to effectively use probate records to bridge the gap. It is always important, when researching in probate records, to obtain the full probate packet – rather than one or two pages from the probate books. Also important in the process is to carefully examine the debts and credits from the accounts, as they often can include family members, in-laws, or other close relations of an individual and can help to bridge the gap.

Revolutionary War Pension Files

When applying for pensions revolutionary war soldiers often had to provide proof of their service, and turned to fellow soldiers to offer evidence of it. Do not disregard

these records, as an ancestor may have provided an affidavit or other document detailing Revolutionary War service. If a direct ancestor did not file for a pension record, look for pension files of other men who served in the same unit or company, as that ancestor - as the files may include documents relating to other individuals. The pension files for all Revolutionary War soldiers are available online at most public or university libraries through HeritageQuest <<http://www.heritagequestonline.com>>. The files are also digitized and completely indexed at Fold3 <<http://www.fold3.com>>.

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Records

Resources available from the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) <<http://www.dar.org>> include in-depth lineage applications which often contain key information not available from other locations. In addition, records from the Genealogical Records Committee (GRC), available onsite at the DAR Library in Washington, DC often include unique transcription from cemeteries, bibles, and other key sources.

Political Affiliations

Understanding the issues and contexts an ancestor lived within can help provide clues as to their political affiliations and provide information to bridge the gap. Some affiliations can be quickly identified in membership lists and published corresponded while other affiliations can only be determined after careful genealogical and historical analysis of existing records.

Most ancestors will reveal their strongest affiliations in local party politics. An important step in discovering which parties an ancestor affiliated with is to discover the local political environment in which they lived. Several resource exist to determine this information:

- Statewide or regional histories often include entire sections devoted to the political atmosphere in the area.
- Scholarly articles and studies often detail political atmospheres in towns, counties, or states.
- Local newspapers usually print election results, party propaganda, platforms, and other information regarding local political issues.
- Party histories published directly by the political party may provide local information.
- Congressional District Maps can help to determine which district an ancestor may have voted in, good resources for finding district maps include:
 - Martis, Kenneth C. and Clifford Lee Lord, *The Historical Atlas of United States Congressional Districts, 1789-1983*. New York: Collier Macmillan, 1982.
 - Parsons, Stanley B. *United States Congressional Districts, 1788-1841*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishing Group, 1978.

Successful Searching Online

Clustering for Genealogists

D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS | jtaylor@brightsolid.com

Infoglut, Genealogy, and the World Wide Web

The Internet has revolutionized the way genealogists conduct research. Millions of names can now be found online in a variety of resources. However, the plethora of resources can create **infoglut**, a term used for an overwhelming number of search results. Recently, some search engines have been created specifically for genealogists. **Mocavo** <<http://www.mocavo.com>> allows GEDCOM integration and other features and is tailored specifically for those researching family history. When using Google and other databases there are steps and tools anyone can use to avoid "infoglut" when searching on the Internet including developing search strings, expanding search strings, and clustered searching.

When working with electronic images, it is important to remember that each digital image cannot be found without the creation of **metadata**. Metadata can be simply defined as "data about data," and is used to index and find electronic documents.

Because of the large number of materials online, it is essential to **expand and cluster** your searches. Whether using online databases, search engines, or other electronic resources it is essential to expand your searches beyond a basic first and last name approach. Considering possible abbreviations, locations, and alternative spellings can help yield more productive results.

Consider taking a clustered approach through Vivísimo's web search engine **Yippy** <<http://www.yippy.com>>. Results are categorized based upon their titles and abstracts. Yippy uses four qualifiers to develop its results: concise, understandable, accurate, and distinctive. Because Yippy divides and categorizes your search results, it prevents you from scrolling through thousands of results. The process can also help you to limit or expand your searches based upon an examination of results your search string generated.

Approaching Your Searches

Most online researchers focus on finding ancestors through online databases. Consider approaching the Internet and its search engines as you would a library catalog – as a listing of potential resources to examine.

Instead of searching for names, approach your searches by:

Localities

Searching for data relating to a particular locality allows you to find information not easily retrieved through a name search. Localities can include countries, states, counties, or towns and should be linked with a broad subject.

Sample search strings include:

- (Gallia AND Oh*) AND (history OR family OR genealogy OR "family history")
- (Boston AND Mass*) AND revolution*
- "War of 1812" AND Washington ("New York" OR NY) NOT "George Washington"
- Baptist* AND Church AND Will (County OR Cty) AND (Illinois OR IL)
- Migration AND York (County OR Cty) Penn* AND Irish

Record Types

Searching for specific record types provides access to information about records that might not be available in a digital format that are included in an online catalog, article, or other resources. Combine searches for locality and records:

- Cemeter* AND Tompkin* AND ("New York" OR NY) AND (transcript* OR photo*)
- (Diar* OR Letter*) AND "Putnam Co*" AND Missouri
- Church AND Caldwell AND (Idaho OR ID) AND Record*
- Baptist* AND Church AND Will (County OR Cty) AND (Illinois OR IL) AND (records OR history OR archives OR library)

Back to Basics

Step 1: Write Down What You Want to Find

Remember that you are asking the search engine to answer a question. Clearly state and describe what you want to find in a sentence.

Examples:

- "I am searching for the ancestors of Charles Magin, born about 1750 who died in 1827, likely in Adams County, Ohio.
- "I want to find out how to research my family from Portsmouth, Rhode Island."
- "How many children did Franklin B. Smith have?"
- "When and where did John Shoup marry Mary E. Price"

Step 2: Identify and Underline Keywords in Sentences

Look at the sentence describing what you want to find and highlight keywords and other information you believe is essential to retrieve the answer to your question. Names, dates, places, and objectives are generally good keywords to use.

Examples:

- "I am searching for the ancestors of Charles Magin, born about 1750 who died in 1827, likely in Adams County, Ohio.
- "I want to find out how-to research my family from Portsmouth, Rhode Island."
- "How many children did Franklin B. Smith have?"
- "When and where did John Shoup marry Mary E. Price"

Step 3: Develop a Basic Search String

Remove words that were not identified as keywords in your sentences. These words will become the basis for your search string.

Examples:

- searching, ancestors, Charles Magin, 1750, 1827, Adams County, Ohio.
- research, family, how-to, Portsmouth, Rhode Island
- children, Franklin B. Smith
- John Shoup marry Mary E. Price

Expanding Your Search String

Step 1: Determine Synonyms, Alternate Spellings, and/or Abbreviations

Determine alternate spellings, synonyms, and abbreviations for your keywords in order to find better results.

Examples:

- "I am searching for the ancestors of Charles Magin, born about 1750 who died in 1827, likely in Adams County, Ohio.
 - searching = research, information, data, facts, statistics, research, source, details
 - ancestors = family history, genealogy, family, children, ancestry, family tree, pedigree
 - Charles Magin = Charles McGin, C. Magin, Chas. Magin, Charles MacGin, Charles Megin
 - 1750 = 1750's, 18th century, eighteenth century
 - 1827 = eighteen-hundred and twenty-seven, year, 19th century,
 - Adams County, Ohio = Adams Cty., OH, Ohio, Adams Co., OH, Adams Co., Ohio, Adams County, OH
- "I want to find out how to research my family from Portsmouth, Rhode Island."
 - research = find out, learn, determine, search, study, explore, seek
 - family = children, genealogy, local history, genealogy, family history
 - how-to = guide, learn, tutorial, explain, process
 - Portsmouth = Portsmouth, Portsm., Portsmouth
 - Rhode Island = RI, R.I., Rhode Isl.
- "How many children did Franklin B. Smith have?"
 - children = kid, male, female, boy, girl, child, infant, unknown
 - Franklin B. Smith = Frank B. Smith, Franklin Smith, F.B. Smith, Frank Smith, Franklin B. Smyth, Frank B. Smyth, Franklin Smyth, F.B. Smyth, Frank Smyth
- "When and where did John Shoup marry Mary E. Price"
 - John Shoup = John Shoup, John Sharp, John Shopp, Jno. Shoup, John Shoupe, John Shoop, Jon Shoope
 - marry = place, location, married, date, spouse, engaged, bann, intention
 - Mary E. Price = M.E. Price, Mary Price, Mary Pryce, Mary E. Pryce, M.E. Pryce

Step 2: Create Multiple Search Phrases

Searching with just one search string does not return all of the potential results pertaining to your topic. Use Boolean searching, truncation, and other methods to create multiple search strings from your keywords and their synonyms.

Boolean Operations

Combine similar words with OR, enclosed by parentheses.

ex: marry OR married OR intention OR spouse OR bann)

Combine similar words together with AND, enclosed by parentheses.

ex: (married AND date AND place)

Parentheses and Quotation Marks

Use parentheses or quotation marks to search for an exact phrase:

- "family history" or (family history)
- "Adams County, Ohio" or (Adams County, Ohio)
- "John W. Shoup" or (John W. Shoup)

Truncation

Place an asterisk (*) after a series of letters to search for multiple endings to the series:

- genealog* will return genealogy, genealogist, genealogies
- Oh* will return OH, Ohio
- Thom* will return Thom, Thomas, Thompson
- Thorn* will return Thorn, Throne, Thornapple

Incorporate

Combine Boolean operations, truncations, and other tools to create a search phrase. Google and other search engines usually allow a maximum of 32 words in a search query. An example of a complete query is:

("John Shoup*" OR "Jno. Shoup*" OR "John Shoop OR "John Shup*")
AND (marry OR married OR intention OR spouse OR bann) **AND** "Mary E.
Price" OR "Mary Price" OR "Mary Pryce" OR "Price, Mary E." OR Price,
M.E.")

Expanding Your Research Log

Keep a research log for **every site** you search - including subscription websites, search engines, or other resources. Once you have begun tracking these advanced categories and other websites on your research log, ensure you spent time examining your searches. Use your research log to become a more efficient online searcher - rather than simply avoiding repeating searches.

Locating Your Ancestors Underground!

Grave and Spiritual Dowsing

By Robert (Bob) Larson

Email: FTM@lcsco.org

Copyright 2009-2012

Introduction

The art of dowsing is several millennia old!

Dowsers have used many tools to find hidden objects or even water

Scientists claim no evidence supports that dowsing works!

History of Dowsing

Bible indicates Moses finds water using a Mosiac rod!

Dowsing has been recorded on paper since 15th century

Since then, dowsing has been used for locating objects, water, bodies, etc

Military and different industries uses dowsing for locating objects

Possible Pitfalls of Dowsing

Scientists claim the ideomotor principle is main reason why dowsing doesn't work

However dowsers claim 90% accuracy, but not without pitfalls.

Some use a willow branch, but others use metal dowsing rods to find water and graves

Per past articles, dowsing works for 75% of people with 90% success rate

Methods of Grave Dowsing

Pendulums not as reliable due to possible ideomotor principle

Divining rods work best and more stable for most people

Making Dowsing Rods

Easy to make with coat hangers

Can use copper, brass, plastic, glass, or most any material

Locating Known or Missing Graves

Do self test at any cemetery

Differentiating between buried people, animals, and water

Locating Your Ancestors Underground!

Determining Gender

Two methods using a single rod

Audience Demonstration

Quick audience demonstration

Talking to Your Ancestors

Wouldn't it be great to overcome brickwalls with ancestors?

Per Jeff Belanger, lots of methods to communicate with the dead

Thomas Edison's spiritual communication machine

How James Van Praagh and other famous mediums communicate

Non mediums can simply use divining rods to communicate

My Great Aunt Mame Mystery

Had several brickwalls with my aunt and her mother

Finally located her using IGI at FHL website

Requested Lewistown newspaper article on her apparent suicide

Used grave dowsing to locate their unmarked graves

Mystery solved using spiritual dowsing method

Summary & Quesitons

Grave Dowsing Demonstration Notice

At local cemetery on Saturday Afternoon

Bibliography on Dowsing, Spiritual Communications, and Mediums

Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dowsing>

North Forty News: <http://www.northfortynews.com/Archive/A200402photoDowsing.htm>

Grave dowsing articles: <http://www.tommymarkham.com/gravedowsing.htm>

Grave dowsing video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sddJAHN9m9Q&feature=related>

<http://www3.wsu.org/television/infocusarchive/detailinfo.php?record=196>

Spiritual dowsing video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnMfSOAuFYw&feature=related>

Popular medium James Van Praagh: www.vanpraagh.com

Popular medium Allison DuBois: <http://allisondubois.com/>

Book: *Communicating with the Dead* by Jeff Belanger

Are You My Great Grandfather? DNA and Your Genealogy

by Robert (Bob) Larson, ISOGG member

Email: FTM@lcsco.org

Introduction

What is DNA?

DNA Simplified

Chromosomes, genes, mitochondria, STRs, & SNPs

Haplotypes & Haplogroups

Human Genome Project

What we learned?

Benefits of DNA

Genetic Genealogy Is Born

DNA Genealogy Relationships

Why Do DNA Testing?

What DNA Gene Tests Reveal or Won't Reveal

DNA Tests and Costs

Y DNA for males

mtDNA for females

Are You My Great Grandfather? DNA and Your Genealogy

autosomal tests for males and females

Recommended Testing Labs in the United States

FamilyTree DNA

Ancestry DNA

23andme

Importance of Surname Projects

How DNA Helped My Research

My Pierson brickwall

DNA testing comes to the rescue!

International Genographic Project

Migration paths of our ancestors

Future of DNA

Summary