

Suggested Steps For Beginning Your Genealogy

1. Start with yourself; interview yourself
2. Gather information
3. Organize your information into charts
 - a) Ancestor/Pedigree Chart(s)
 - b) Family Group Charts
4. Create an **on-going detailed** "To-Do" List based on:
 - a) Gaps you find in your charts
 - b) Questions that come to mind as you research and when you review the information that you have discovered
5. Contact & interview family members who are willing to talk
6. Find vital records (birth, marriage, divorce & death) of family members
7. Find federal census records for your family groups
8. Create an on-going "**Soundex Code**" list for all the surnames you discover
9. Research city directories if your family lived in the city
10. Read books and/or magazines on genealogy
11. Find & join an historical and/or genealogical group for the locations that you are researching

From Noreen Goodson of Baltimore AAHGS chapter

Headings found on the Census forms:

1790: Head of family, Free white males, Free white females, All other persons, Slaves

1800-1810: Head of family, Free white males, Free white females, All other persons, Slaves

1820: Head of family, Free white males, Free white females, Foreigners not naturalized, Agriculture, Commerce, Manufactures, Free Colored, Slaves

1830-1840: Head of Family, Free white males, Free white females, Slaves, Free Colored, Foreigners not naturalized.

1850: Dwelling #, Family #, Names, age, Sex, Color, Occupation, Value-real estate, Birthplace, Married within year, School within year, Can't read or write, Enumeration date

Slave schedules were also made giving the name of the slave owner and number of slaves, age, sex, color

1860: Dwelling #, Family#, Names, Age, Sex, Color, Value-real estate, Value personal property, Birthplace, Married in Year, School in year, Can't read or write, Enumeration date

Slave schedules were also made giving the name of the slave owner and number of slaves, age, sex, color

1870: Dwelling #, Family #, Names, age, Sex, Color, Occupation, Value-real estate, Value-personal property, Birthplace, Father foreign born, Mother foreign born, Month born in year, Month married in year, School in year, Can't read or write, Eligible to vote, Date of enumeration

1880: Dwelling #, Family #, Names, Color, Sex, Age, Month of Birth if 1880, Relationship to head of household, Single, Married, widowed, Divorced, Married in census year, Occupation, Misc info, Can't read or write, Place of birth, Place of fathers birth, Place of mothers birth, E-date

1890: Census was destroyed in a fire

1900: Location, Name, Personal description, Nativity, Citizenship, Occupation, Education, Home owned or rented, Home owned free or mortgaged, Farm or house

1910: Location, Name, Personal description, Nativity, Citizenship, Occupation, Education, Home Ownership, Union/Confederate Veteran, Blind, Deaf & Dumb

1920: Place of abode, Name, Relation, Tenure, Personal description, Citizenship, Education, Nativity and mother tongue, Occupation

1930:

Genealogy Books to Read

"Black Roots," by Tony Burroughs, New York: Simon & Schuster, Fireside Publishing: 2001

"Black Genealogy," by Charles Blockson, Black Classic Press: 1991

"How to Trace Your African American Roots," by Barbara Thompson Howell, Citadel Press: 1999

"Tracing Your Family History," by Readers Digest: 2006

"In Search of Our Ancestors," by Megan Smolenyak, Adams Media Corp: 2000

"Honoring Our Ancestors," by Megan Smolenyak, Ancestry Publishing: 2002

"Genealogy," By The Boy Scouts of America 2008

"Introduction to African American Photographs," by Ross Kelbaugh Thomas press:2005

"Tracing Your West Indian Ancestors," by Gut Grannum Pro Publications: 1995

"Family Pride: The Complete Guide to Tracing African-American Genealogy," by Donna Beasley
New York: Macmillan, 1997

"Finding A Place Called Home: A Guide to African-American Genealogy and Historical Identity,"
by Dee Woodtor, New York: Random House, 1999

Resource Books

"Before The Mayflower," by Lerone Bennett, Jr. 1988 Penguin Books

"The Underground Railroad," by William Still 2005 Plexus Publishing

"Black Indian Genealogy Research African American Ancestors Among The Five Civilized Tribes," bt
Angela Y. Walton Raji

Genealogy Research Sites

Ancestry.com

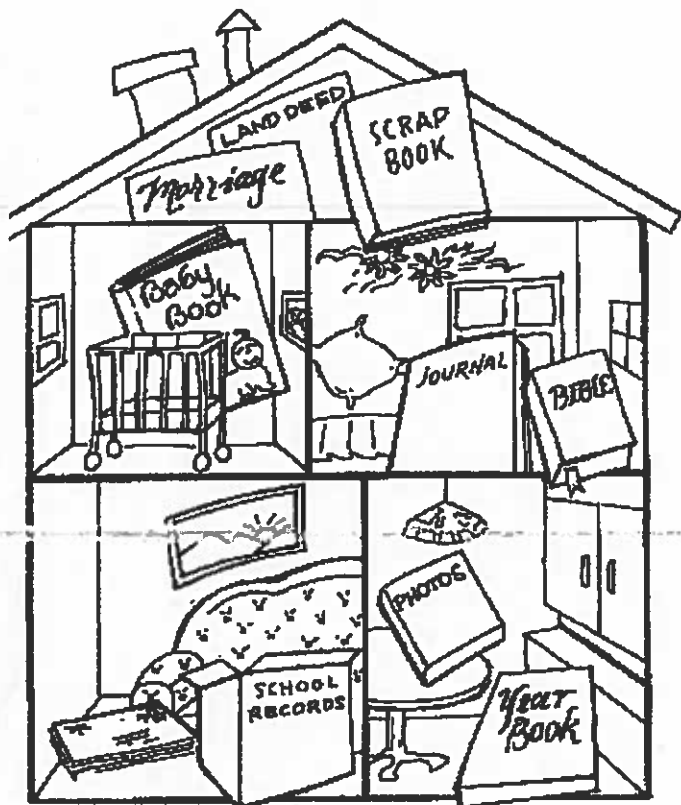
Ellisland.org

HeritageQuest, via local library

Familysearch.com

Family and Home Information Sources Checklist

Use this checklist as a guide to sources of information you might find in your home or the home of a relative.
Check each source you find.



Sources of information about ...

... Birth

- Baby Book
- Adoption Record

... Marriage

- Wedding Announcement
- Wedding Book
- Anniversary Announcement

... Divorce

- Papers

... Death

- Obituary
- Funeral Book
- Will
- Memorial Cards

... School

- Report Cards
- Honor Roll
- Awards
- Graduation Diplomas
- Transcripts
- yearbooks

... Religious Activity

- Blessing
- Baptismal Record
- Christening Record
- Confirmation Record
- Ordination Record
- Ministerial Record

... Every Day Life

- Journal
- Diary
- Biography
- Letters
- Photographs
- Autograph Album

- Publications/ newspaper clippings (about the person)
- Scrapbooks

... Employment

- Social Security Card
- Apprenticeship Records
- Citations
- Achievement Awards
- Disability Records
- Pension Records
- Membership Records
- Income Tax Records
- Union Records
- Severance Records
- Retirement Records

... Military Service

- Selective Service Records
- Pension Records
- National Guard Service Records
- Citations
- Disability Records
- Service Medals
- Ribbons
- Insignias
- Discharge Records
- Sword
- Firearms
- Uniform

... Land and property ownership

- Deeds
- Land Grants
- Water Rights
- Mortgages
- Leases
- Tax Notices
- Abstracts of Title
- Estate Records
- Financial Records

... Civil and Legal Activity

- Bonds
- Summons
- Subpoena
- Guardian Papers
- Contracts
- Bounty Award

... Family

- Bible
- Lineages
- Genealogies
- Histories
- Bulletins/ newsletters
- Coat of Arms

... Health

- Hospital Records
- Medical Records
- Immunization Records
- X-Rays
- Insurance Papers
- Vaccination Records

... Household Items

- Engraved Items
- Dishes
- Silverware
- Stitched Sampler
- Tapestries
- Quilts
- Needlework

... Licenses

- Business
- Occupation
- Professional
- Hunting/Fishing
- Firearms
- Drivers
- Motor Vehicle

... Citizenship Papers

- Naturalization Papers
- Alien Registration
- Deportment Papers
- Passport
- Visa

Quotations That Made History

"To be ignorant of what happened before you were born is to remain forever a child. For what is the value of human life unless it is woven into the lives of our ancestors by the records of history."

Marcus Tullius Cicero 46 B.C. Rome

"The whole world is your family when you discover your roots."

Unknown

"Those who do not study history are doomed to repeat it."

Satayana

"People with access to well documented stories of a heroic past are greatly sustained by them, with a benefit that reaches across time into the futures of generations yet unborn...descendants of slaves should have memories of their brave ancestors preserved as testimony to the mettle of the race."

William Still

"Those who have no record of what their forebears have accomplished lose the inspiration which comes from the teaching of biography and history."

Carter G. Woodson

"In all of us there is a hunger to know our heritage, to know who we are and where we have come from. Without this... there is a hollow yearning."

Alex Haley

"We are not makers of history, We are made by History."

Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr.

"A man without knowledge of himself and his heritage, is like a tree without roots."

Dick Gregory

"No race of people should be deprived of the knowledge of itself." "Historical knowledge must be given unto the world to whomever will accept it."

Charles L. Blockson

"As Blacks unearth more of their history, less will be left to dumbfound the rest of America about American history."

Loretta Dabbs

"Every time an old person dies it is as if a library has burned down."