

WIKI: BRIMMING WITH INSIGHTS INTO THE PAST!

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FamilySearch Research Wiki:

A treasure trove of information, Wiki is filled with the help you need to be successful in your family history research.

- Located under **Search** on the FamilySearch home page or at: **wiki.familysearch.org**
- A vast information depository containing 85,000+ articles on everything genealogy and family history. Enables you to learn about 1000's of subjects, research methods, history, 244 countries, and more.
- **Not** where you find names. You find information and links to databases containing the names.
- Filled with links to other Internet sites & databases for millions of records
- Allows feedback from users

Learning how to use Wiki: On the home page, underneath the map is an icon of a TV with a book on the screen. Under that is the question: **New to the Wiki?** Underneath that is the question: **How to Use the Wiki.** This opens a page listing several Wiki help articles. Explore them. For basics select: **Getting Started on the Wiki.**

Basic Navigation:

Search Windows on the Wiki home page and in the upper right hand corner of all other pages navigate you through the site. When searching, enter a Topic or Place. You will be taken to either a main page for that topic or the Search Results page that lists multiple articles relating to your entry.

Links/Internal and External: Found throughout Wiki, they are identifiable because the words are blue. They link you to other articles within Wiki as well as other websites. If the link is external it will also be followed by a small blue square with an arrow pointing out of it. This indicates that clicking on the words will navigate you off of FamilySearch and to a different site on the Internet. If there is also a dollar sign after the link it means using the site is not free.

Wiki Home: On the left side of every page within Wiki is a menu titled Research Wiki. This contains many links to areas of Wiki as well as one back to the Wiki Home.

Maps: On the home page and in many of the articles there are maps. These are clickable. Clicking on an area will take you to specific information about the area.

Search Results: This is a special page that lists the articles relating to what was entered in the Wiki search window. Its format is very similar to the search results on Google and other search engines.

Vary the Search Window Entry: If you do not get the results you want after entering something in the search window, reword your entry. Try again.

Searching Help: Wiki contains many articles relating to searching. Some can be accessed by entering the following titles in the search window:

Help:Search Tips

Help:Advanced Searches in the Wiki

Wiki is Vast: Examples of things that can be found using Wiki...

- Help with Research Methods
- Historical Information
- Geographical Information: specific countries
- Historical Geography, Maps
- Name Variation Clues
- Genealogical Word Lists
- Translation Help
- Ship Passenger Lists
- Information on What Is Available, Places and Time Periods
- Organizational Tips and Forms for your Researching
- Forms for Cataloging Heirlooms
- Ideas for Gathering and Writing Stories
- Explanations of Land Records & How to Use Them
- Descriptions of Census Types
- Record Selection Tables
- Emigration Information
- Clues to Using Naturalization Papers
- Data on and Links to Newspaper Collections
- Websites and/or Information on Family History Centers
- Connections to Genealogical Societies
- Links to Hotel Registries
- Listings of Classes and Webinars at the Salt Lake FH Library
- Explanations of and Links to Church Records
- Family History Games
- Using Military Records
- AND MORE!

Examples of Success Using Wiki: Reading of other's successes in using Wiki will stimulate your mind and help you find success also. To read some examples, in the search window enter: FamilySearch Wiki:Success Stories

Things to Remember When Using Wiki:

- As with any Family History task, **THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX** and **RETHINKING** are vital!
- Records and sources of data vary by locality, type, and time period. Read the Historical and General Information provided on Wiki pages to stimulate your mind, thus helping you think of places to look for data.
- Using Wiki can lead to unexpected treasures of the past. Try, try, and try again! You will find Wiki interesting, intriguing, informative and incredible!