

Books, Periodical/Newspapers, and Special Collections

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BOOKS

Online or Offline Sources

- **WORLD CAT**
www.worldcat.org
Worldcat is the world's largest network of library content and services. Search many library and archive catalogs at once and locate the item in the facility closest to you. Note: Not all libraries are WorldCat members.
- **LIBRARY OF CONGRESS ONLINE CATALOG**
<https://catalog.loc.gov>
The Library of Congress catalogs uses a different search method than WorldCat. This is another good resource to identify relevant resources.
- **INTERLIBRARY LOAN (NASSAU COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY)**
nassaureads.com
Search the local library for sources you have identified. If the book is not available on the shelves, it can be requested through Interlibrary Loan (ILL) from tab "I Need Material" on catalog search page. The ILL request form can be sent online or submitted through a written form available at the library branch

Online Sources

There are many digital books sites. The following five are a representative example of the wide range of search options and other features.

- **GOOGLE BOOKS**
<https://books.google.com>
Google Books contains a wide range of published materials. The different types of books determine how much of the text you can see. Search words or phrases are highlighted. Although there are links to online book sellers, don't forget to check eBay. The view of a book that is available in entirety can be changed from a single page (or zoom) to a multi-page screen – this is

an excellent mode for browsing. Books also may be available in downloadable format, such as PDF. It is possible to search within a single book selection for additional words or phrases.

- **HERITAGE QUEST BOOKS** [via Alachua County Library District]

www.aclib.us

www.aclib.us/cards

Heritage Quest is not available through the Nassau County Public Library; however, it may be viewed through the Alachua County Library District website. ACLD offers a free library card to any Florida resident – this must be obtained in person, with ID/proof of residence, at an ACLD branch. To view the database with an account, from the Home page, follow “Research” then “Genealogy” tabs. Heritage Quest includes several databases, one of which is Books. This category can be searched by Publications, Places, or People (or a combination). Results are sorted by relevancy, author, title, or publication date. Individual search results (citation pages) will include hot links to search word ‘hits’. In addition, the book may be viewed page by page (subject to restrictions). Portions of books may be downloaded.

- **FAMILYSEARCH HISTORICAL BOOKS**

<https://www.familysearch.org>

<https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/>

Family Search Historical Books may be accessed from the Family Search home page. It is possible to search within the document with their online tools, or to download a pdf version of the book for saving or printing.

- **INTERNETARCHIVE**

<https://archive.org/>

<https://archive.org/advancedsearch.php>

InternetArchive has a very large collection of genealogical material which may be borrowed, downloaded, and read. When available for download, the content can be read by a variety of devices, and is not limited to pdfs.

- **ACCESSGENEALOGY**

<https://accessgenealogy.com/>

The author’s award winning genealogy website which provides links and access to troves of free genealogy books. Sorted by location, topic, and sometimes even surnames.

PERIODICALS

PERSI

[see HeritageQuest information above]

PERiodical Source Index one of the features of Heritage Quest product. It is an index-only database of over 2 million articles from over 6,500+ genealogical and local history periodical articles covering primarily, but not exclusively, the United States and Canada. It is maintained by the Allen County Public Library of Ft. Wayne, Indiana in an alliance with ProQuest. ACPL

owns copies of the periodicals which have been indexed. The database is searchable for subject, surname, location and research methodology. Photocopies of the articles are available from the ACPL for a fee.

PERSI is not up-to-date. The newest indexed items may be several years old. It may be advantageous to search the web for the publisher's web site after identifying an article and publication. In many cases it is possible to order articles directly from the original source, such as a genealogical society.

- **FINDMYPAST**

<https://www.findmypast.com/>

Persi is now also available online through a paid subscription to FindMyPast. Prices vary, and specials are frequently offered. One of the new features is the linking of actual articles to the article. While this is not complete, where it does occur, it is an extremely helpful feature.

Newspapers

Newspapers are excellent sources to move beyond the 'hatched, matched, and dispatched' genealogical basics. A short list of items found contains voter schedules, social notes, graduations, probate and other legal actions, building permits, epidemics, crimes, church events, military happenings, tax sales and community history.

A successful newspaper search is best begun with facts: who, where, and when (or a combination). Both offline and online searches follow the same procedure: find the newspaper, find the index, search the index, and find the article. If you are starting from scratch, the first step is the same for both.

Find the Newspaper

- **LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/CHRONICLING AMERICA**

chroniclingamerica.loc.gov

chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/search/titles/

The Library of Congress Chronicling America site is an ongoing project to identify (and someday digitize) all extant historic newspapers. See the "US Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present" tab to determine if a newspaper is available for the location and dates that you are interested in.

Search results include an accounting of available dates as well as the location of libraries which have the newspaper in their collection in some form. The listing is not complete – it is always best to contact a library close to the newspaper's location for additional availability. The name of the publication may be inserted into the WorldCat search (see above) for other holdings. A search of a local library's online catalog may have information as well.

After you have identified a library which owns the resource, it is imperative to first look for printed indexes. These offer a wide variety of results; however, the best will include clear and precise indexing with identification of the issue and page. This information will aid in narrowing the search on microfilm or bound copies. Libraries usually offer copy services. It also may be possible to take digital photos of a bound source with permission. If you do not live near a

library with the source you need, it may be possible to contact a distant library or society for look-ups and copies.

Offline: Search The Library

- **DIGITAL INDEXES**

<http://ufdc.ufl.edu/> [Example: University of Florida Digital Collections]

Larger libraries may have online indexes which allow identification of articles of interest which may then be purchased through the library. Obituaries are a common subject, but other indexes may include newspaper photographs or historic buildings.

Online: Finding The Source

Online digitized information falls into a wide range of price points.

- **THE ANCESTOR HUNT**

<http://www.theancestorhunt.com/>

<http://www.theancestorhunt.com/newspaper-research-links.html>

As of November, 2018 there are approximately 28,300 links to free newspapers in these lists

- **GOOGLE**

<https://www.google.com>

The simplest (and least expensive) search may be a phrase or word search in a standard search engine such as Google. Results may include articles posted by volunteers or information that links to a larger genealogical site.

- **GOOGLE NEWS**

<https://news.google.com>

The Google News feature is another source. Search results allow further focus by archives and/or decade. These searches will bring up free and for-pay sites; however, identifying information may be a source of clues without having to purchase the article.

Online: Indexes And Articles

- **ANCESTRY NEWSPAPER COLLECTION**

<http://www.ancestrylibrary.com/default.aspx> [Service available at NCPL branch designated computers.]

The Library Subscription version of Ancestry available to Nassau County Public Library card holders -- on NCPL branch designated computers -- does not include the in-depth Newspaper collection; however, it doesn't hurt to try a search. The full collection is available for individuals with subscriptions. It is important to try different search combinations to identify the greatest number or results. Detailed information is available on publication dates included in the collection (collections may not be complete). In most cases the resulting articles have highlighted search words, with varying results!

- **READEX/AMERICA'S HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS**

As this is a Newsbank product and available to subscribers only, such as a database offered with a New England Historical Genealogical Society membership, a site link is not included. The

database is shown for an example of differing search styles.

- **NEWSPAPER ARCHIVE**

newspaperarchive.com

Newspaper Archive is a large and well-designed collection for genealogical researchers. Newly digitized offerings are uploaded on a regular basis. A subscription can run from \$20/mo. or \$75/6 mos. and may offer limited-views subscriptions as well. Results are in PDF format.

- **NEWSPAPERS.COM**

www.newspapers.com

One of the newer newspaper databases with entries from 1700s to the 2000s. Subscriptions run \$8/mo. or \$45/6 mos. through \$20/mo. or \$75/mo. Keep your eyes open for a free trial, or specials, especially around holidays.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Manuscripts, Family Papers, Oral Histories

Special collections are an under-utilized and under-appreciated facet of library offerings, and patience is key when perusing them. It may be necessary to 'drill down' through several layers or categories before finding useful results.. It is important to consult the individual catalogs of universities and state archives (not just WorldCat) to determine what is available. These resources usually take a longer time to search, but well worth the effort if you make a find. Items in special collections may include donated family papers, manuscripts (unpublished books), and oral histories (audio and/or transcriptions). Some libraries and archives have begun digitizing these unique sources, but it is most common to request photocopies. Web sites will include information on duplication options, costs, and citation examples. Researchers commonly will be required to sign application to research and/or permission to publish forms before duplication.

- **NUCMC**

www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/

The National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections is searchable through the Library of Congress site. Please note that NUCMC does not include all manuscript collections – it is a voluntary/cooperative cataloging program.

- **GOOGLE**

<https://www.google.com>

A search with a major search engine can identify much more specific results with a smaller frustration factor; however, one must then search the individual sites – treasures waiting to be uncovered!

- **LIBRARY OF CONGRESS DIGITAL COLLECTIONS**

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/>