



Crown Jewels

These 101 Best Genealogy Websites
will give your family history the royal treatment.

by DAVID A. FRYXELL

It's been a royal few years,

from Netflix's dramatic series "The Crown" to Prince Harry's tell-all *Spare* to King Charles III's coronation. Given Americans' fixation on British royalty, it's almost as though we colonials would rather just forget all that unpleasantness back in 1776.

Fittingly, then, this year's annual celebration of the 101 best genealogy websites presents the "crown jewels" of online family history. We've hand-picked the sites whose offerings are fit for a king—and those virtually guaranteed to help resolve the royal pains in your ancestral research. If your pedigree isn't quite as well-preserved as that of the Prince of Wales, these digital destinations can help separate true blood relatives from pretenders.

This year's honorees, by default, are largely free to use, unless noted otherwise with a dollar sign (\$). Those premium sites require a subscription or other payment to really get the most value from their content.

As usual, we've marked sites that were not in last year's list with an asterisk (*). These 18 new discoveries (or honorees returning after an absence) are worthy of royal recognition. And we've spun off a separate list for US state-specific websites; find entries on pages 20 and 21 or at <www.familytreemagazine.com/best-state-genealogy-websites>.

Ready to explore the 101 sites crowned this year's best? We begin, of course, with the winning websites for researching ancestors from the British Isles.

UK and Irish Genealogy Websites

The National Archives (UK)

<www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

More of a how-to resource than a data trove, this site does enable downloads of military records, wills, migration records and more for free. See our guide <www.familytreemagazine.com/heritage/english/uk-national-archives>.

* \$ Deceased Online

<www.deceasedonline.com>

This "central database for UK burials and cremations" lets you search digitized registers by location, burial authority, and crematorium. You can also find photos and maps of graves and memorials. A basic annual subscription (about \$125) buys 450 record views, or you can purchase records a la carte.

\$ FamilyRelatives.com

<www.familyrelatives.com>

This subscription site (\$44.95 per year) covers 1.2 billion records from 18 countries, but it's by far strongest on the United Kingdom and Commonwealth countries. Basic census, military and parish records are here, along with more-obscure resources such as trade directories and probate registers.

* GENUKI

<www.genuki.org.uk>

Short for "GENealogy for the United Kingdom and Ireland," this volunteer-run "virtual reference library" has grown since its 1995 founding to more than 110,000 information-packed pages. Content ranges from getting-started guides and gazetteers to advice and links for all parts of the British Isles, even the Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

The National Archives of Ireland

<genealogy.nationalarchives.ie>

Start your Irish ancestral quest with this site's censuses (1901, 1911 and surviving fragments), marriage license bonds, crew lists, will registers, tithe applotment books, Catholic convert rolls and more.

National Library of Ireland

<www.nli.ie>

After exploring the old photos, newspapers and manuscripts, hop over to the browse-only Catholic parish registers, accessible by clicking on the map at <registers.nli.ie>.

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland

<www.nidirect.gov.uk/proni>

Use the Name Search to scour early wills and censuses with a single click, or research in will

calendars and freeholders' records. Old maps and street directories can also help you zoom in on your Ulster kin.

RootsChat

<www.rootschat.com>

The United Kingdom's "busiest, largest free family history forum site" boasts more than 6.6 million posts from some 288,000 members. Register for free to join in.

\$ RootsIreland

<www.rootsireland.ie>

You can spend a day searching here for \$18 or subscribe for a whole year (\$264) to access "the most extensive and easily searchable database of Catholic Church records anywhere online"—23 million in all, collected from 34 county genealogy centers.

\$ ScotlandsPeople

<www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk>

Emigration and 1881 census records at this National Records of Scotland site are totally free. But you'll need to pay to view other types of records, including other censuses (such as the recently released 1921 census), church records, wills, and valuation records. Pay-per-view options start at 30 credits for about \$9.50. "Quick People Search" looks for your Scottish ancestors in all collections that have personal names using a single click.

*** Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland**

<www.virtualtreasury.ie>

Launched in 2022, this ambitious project aims to re-create records lost 100 years ago when the Irish records office at Four Courts burned. You can search across manuscript and text records of 50-plus million words, and even virtually "walk" through the old, multistory archives building to retrieve records from their original locations.

Big Genealogy Websites

\$ Ancestry.com

<www.ancestry.com>

Still the king of subscription database collections, Ancestry.com now boasts more than 30 billion records, plus 100 million hosted family

trees. Full global access to records runs \$480 per year, but keep an eye out for deals (including a discount for bundling with Newspapers.com and Fold3). AncestryDNA (\$99) has over 23 million people in the world's largest consumer DNA network.

FamilySearch

<www.familysearch.org>

Drawing on the vast resources of the FamilySearch Library (formerly the Family History Library), FamilySearch added nearly 2 billion searchable names and images in 2022 for a total of 16.3 billion historical records and images. Plus its Digital Library <www.familysearch.org/library/books> of full-text, searchable scanned books now totals more than 550,000 volumes, and its collaborative family tree (see page 26) covers nearly 1.5 billion individuals.

\$ Findmypast

<www.findmypast.com>

Though not as big as Ancestry.com or FamilySearch, Findmypast exceeds the competition in British Isles coverage. Recent additions include more British military records, 21st-century death records, entries from the 1939 Register, and Britain's 1921 census (Premium only, \$240 per year). Findmypast is also useful for US and Commonwealth research.

\$ MyHeritage

<www.myheritage.com>

Rapid expansion for this site has boosted MyHeritage to more than 19 billion records, with notable additions of Scandinavian and French data. It still offers tree-hosting and -building, and will use your trees to generate alerts to possible record matches and connections to others' trees. MyHeritage also has various tools for old family photos, and offers its own \$89 DNA test.

US and Canadian Genealogy Websites

\$ American Ancestors

<www.americanancestors.org>

This subscription site (\$99.95 per year) from the New England Historic Genealogical Society remains the go-to destination for regional research. Its more than 1.4 billion records also

extend beyond New England, including the largest searchable collection of published genealogical research journals and magazines.

* **Congregational Library & Archives**

<www.congregationallibrary.org/nehh/main>

This new-in-2022 online digital collection features tens of thousands of church birth, death and marriage records from New England, mostly spanning 1634 to about 1850.

Ellis Island Passenger Search

<heritage.statueofliberty.org/passenger>

Find your immigrant ancestor among the 65 million records of arrivals through the Port of New York searchable here.

Genealogy Trails

<www.genealogytrails.com>

Launched in 2000 to transcribe Illinois records, this volunteer site has grown into a nationwide transcription resource, with state sites similar to USGenWeb. Recent additions include Revolutionary War veterans' obituaries, prisoner rolls, biographies and even chuckwagon recipes.

Library and Archives Canada

<www.bac-lac.gc.ca>

A 2022 facelift makes this website—an essential resource for all things Canadian—even easier to explore: censuses (including the newly released 1931 count), vital records, immigration and passenger records, land transactions, military service records and more.

Library of Congress

<www.loc.gov>

Explore old photos and maps (including Sanborn fire insurance maps for all 50 states plus some locations in Mexico, Canada and Cuba), music, Americana and much more.

National Archives and Records Administration

<www.archives.gov>

The “nation’s attic” now boasts a faster, completely redesigned catalog and enhanced image-viewing. Learn about the now-available 1950 census, discover old maps and historic photos, order veterans’ records, research WWII enlistments and immigrant arrivals, request Social



Victoria, 1837

Security records, and more. Check out our complete guide in the September/October 2022 issue <www.familytreemagazine.com/websites/archives-gov>.

* **NYC Historical Vital Records Project**

<a860-historicalvitalrecords.nyc.gov>

After years of severely restricting access, the New York City Municipal Archives has launched a mass-digitization project. Already more than three-quarters complete, it will include 13.3 million historical birth, death and marriage records 1900s, with coverage of all five boroughs. You can search images by name or certificate number, or browse by borough, year range, or certificate type.

\$ **Programme de Recherche en Démographie Historique**

<www.prhdh-igd.com>

Find your Quebec ancestors in this site from the Drouin Institute, featuring Catholic baptisms and burials as well as all Quebec marriages for 1621 to 1849. Viewing results starts at \$19.99 for 100 hits.



Henry VIII, c. 1537

USGenWeb

<www.usgenweb.org>

Established in 1996 as a free directory for text-based genealogy resources, this volunteer site has grown into a network of over 3,000 linked state and county websites. You'll find photos, maps, transcriptions, historical documents and helpful links, plus census and cemetery projects. Use the drop-down at top-right to visit the website of each state's affiliate project.

Western States Marriage Record Index

<abish.byui.edu/specialcollections/western-states/search.cfm>

BYU—Idaho has been indexing marriage records from 12 western states for nearly three decades. The result of those labors now totals more than 913,000 searchable records. Researchers with happy couples in Arizona, Idaho and Nevada should especially take note.

African American Genealogy Websites

Digital Library on American Slavery

<dlas.uncg.edu>

Search this site for tens of thousands of records

relating to all 15 slave states and Washington, DC, plus some northern states. With an expanded collection of race and slavery petitions, the project now contains information about more than 150,000 individuals, including enslaved people, enslavers, and free people of color.

Enslaved

<www.enslaved.org>

This handsome site lets you reconstruct the lives of individuals who were enslaved, owned slaves, or participated in the slave trade. Search people, places and events and more. The Family Tree Magazine podcast featured an in-depth look of the site in February 2023 <www.familytreemagazine.com/podcasts/best-websites-enslaved-org>.

International African American Museum Center for Family History

<cfh.iaamuseum.org>

In preparation for the museum's opening, this site serves up videos, photos, lessons for all ages, and blog posts, plus searchable marriage records, obituaries, Bible records and more.

* SlaveVoyages

<www.slavevoyages.org>

Collections include 36,000 voyages, 90,000 names of Africans removed from slave ships and trading sites, and 60,000 names of people captured throughout the United States and transported to New Orleans.

Genetic Genealogy Websites

\$ 23andMe

<www.23andme.com>

This popular health-testing website also offers ancestry testing (\$99) and can automatically generate a family tree that visualizes genetic relatives who have opted in to the DNA Relatives feature.

DNAeXplained

<www.dna-explained.com>

Genetic genealogist Roberta Estes offers case studies of DNA ancestry answers along with testing tips and advice on which test is right for you.

**We've hand-picked
the sites whose offerings
are fit for a king—
and those virtually
guaranteed to help resolve
the royal pains in your
ancestral research.**

*** DNA Painter**

<www.dnainter.com>

Demystify your test results with color-coded family trees, chromosome-mapping, tools to measure shared centimorgans, and relationship calculators. Most features are free, but a \$55 annual upgrade gets you even more. Listen to the November 2022 episode of the Family Tree Podcast for more on the website <www.familytreemagazine.com/podcasts/build-your-family-tree-with-dna>.

\$ Family Tree DNA

<www.familytreedna.com>

Boasting “the world’s most comprehensive DNA matching database,” this service is the only major company to offer autosomal DNA, Y-DNA and mtDNA testing. Kits range from \$79 to \$159, with more-expensive options for higher-level Y-DNA tests.

GEDmatch

<www.gedmatch.com>

Renowned for its role in cracking “cold cases” with genetic genealogy, GEDmatch can also help solve your ancestral mysteries. Upload your data from most popular testing services and join 1.4 million members who use the site’s dozens of DNA tools. Users have also uploaded GEDCOMs that include 350 million people.

**International Society
of Genetic Genealogy Wiki**

<www.isogg.org/wiki/Wiki_Welcome_Page>

Don’t know your mtDNA from your tRNA?

Turn to the guides and 700-plus expert articles here. You’ll also find links to genetic genealogy blogs, testing companies and DNA projects.

Your DNA Guide

<www.yourdnaguide.com>

Can DNA research be fun? This lively site answers in the affirmative, with friendly explanations from expert Diahan Southard. Basic info is free, but you can also buy Southard’s book, join the DNA Academy, or sign up for one-on-one coaching. Southard also writes *Family Tree*’s DNA Q&A column; see page 71.

Cemetery Websites

BillionGraves

<www.billiongraves.com>

The world’s largest resource for searchable GPS cemetery data invites you to help reach its 10-figure goal. Basic searching of cemetery data and photos is free, or upgrade to a “Plus” account for \$59.99 per year.

Find a Grave

<www.findagrave.com>

Volunteers here have transcribed more than 225 million gravesites since 1995, covering the United States as well as many other countries. Most include photos and many have additional genealogical notes.

Interment.net

<www.interment.net>

With “only” 25 million-plus cemetery records, transcripts and burial registers, it’s easy to overlook this long-time collection. But its less-familiar sources—records from fraternal groups, historical societies and governments—that supplement volunteer transcriptions make it a must-check.

Military Records Websites

American Battle Monuments Commission

<www.abmc.gov>

In addition to searching the overseas burial sites and memorials for more than 200,000 Americans who died in the World Wars, you can explore their stories through videos, photos and interactive experiences.

Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System

<www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>

Start your research for Civil War ancestors in this database of 6.2 million soldiers, Union and Confederate, from 44 states and territories. More than 4,000 linked unit histories record what they went through in America's deadliest conflict.

Daughters of the American Revolution

<www.dar.org>

The DAR Genealogical Research System (GRS) <www.dar.org/national-society/genealogy/using-genealogical-research-system-grs> includes free online databases containing information on Revolutionary patriot ancestors and descendants of those patriots, as well as an array of genealogical resources from the DAR Library.

\$ Fold3

<www.fold3.com>

From the Revolutionary War to Vietnam, this Ancestry.com-owned subscription site (\$79.95 per year) has everything military. Despite its US-flag-inspired name, you'll also find military records from the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Mexican War Soldiers & Sailors Database

<www.nps.gov/paal/learn/historyculture/search-usmexwar.htm>

The smaller (but essential) sibling of the Park Service's Civil War database covers this earlier war, with a searchable database of more than 89,000 US and Mexican troops.

Nationwide Gravesite Locator

<gravelocator.cem.va.gov>

Not finding your veteran in the American Battle Monuments Commission database? Search closer to home in this U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs collection of burials in VA National Cemeteries, state veterans' cemeteries, or other US locations—updated daily.



For a comparison of the top newspaper websites, see <www.familytreemagazine.com/records/newspapers/historical-newspaper-websites-compared>.

Historical Newspaper Websites

\$ The British Newspaper Archive

<www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk>

Search or browse more than 66 million pages from British publications from the 1700s onward. Subscriptions run about \$107 annually or \$16 per month.

Chronicling America

<chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>

The Library of Congress has been relentlessly digitizing US newspapers at this free site, now totaling more than 20 million pages dating from 1770 to 1963. Don't miss the companion Newspaper Navigator <news-navigator.labs.loc.gov/search>, where you can search more than 1.5 million newspaper photos.

* Fulton History

<fultonsearch.org>

Started by Thomas Tryniski in 1999 as a project to digitize his local newspaper, Fulton History (named for his original site of old Fulton, N.Y., postcards) has grown to more than 47 million pages from more than 1,000 titles. New York remains best-represented, but Tryniski has titles from most states—and accessing them is free.

\$ GenealogyBank

<www.genealogybank.com>

A subscription (\$99.90 annually) unlocks more than 15,000 digitized newspaper titles—many not available elsewhere—plus 260 million obituaries, along with censuses, historical books and government documents.

* \$ NewspaperArchive

<www.newspaperarchive.com>

In the newspaper-digitizing business since 1999, this subscription site (\$139.99 per year) boasts nearly 10 billion searchable names in 16,000 titles and 280 million pages dating from 1607 to the present.

\$ Newspapers.com

<www.newspapers.com>

This Ancestry.com subscription offering (\$44.95 for six months) now offers 816 million pages from 25,500 titles, 1690 to today. To access them

all, you'll need the Publishers Extra subscription option (\$74.90 for six months), which adds titles—many of them, more-recent—licensed from publishers.

European Genealogy Websites

Arcanum Maps

<maps.arcanum.com/en>

Need a map of Budapest circa 1745? How about the Kingdom of Greece in 1885? You'll find those and many more historical maps of Europe here, including country, city and land (cadastral) maps. Online viewing is free, or you can purchase and download full-resolution scans.

\$ Archion

<www.archion.de/en>

Find your German Protestant ancestors in more than 140,000 digitized church books, or find help in English-friendly forums. One month costs about \$22.

\$ ArkivDigital

<www.arkivdigital.net>

Search the most-complete collection of Swedish church books, military records and more—more than 94 million full-color scans—at this subscription site (about \$38 per month). Features include a growing collection of searchable indexes, online family trees, and aerial photos.

Danish Demographic Database

<ddd.dda.dk/ddd_en.htm>

Explore your Danish ancestry in censuses spanning 1769 to 1930, along with some probate indexes. Don't miss the link to emigration records collected by the Copenhagen police.

Digitalarkivet

<www.digitalarkivet.no/en>

Digitized parish records and censuses are only the beginning at this extensive site from the National Archives of Norway. Searching for ancestors or specific record groups is simple, and English text is available throughout.

Filae

<en.filae.com>

Start by building a tree for your French ancestors, then dive into the largest online source of



Elizabeth II, 1953

French archives—more than a billion civil registrations, censuses, early church records and other records, including those from 60 partner associations. To get the most from Filae, spring for premium access at a little over \$15 per month.

* Find Lost Russian and Ukrainian Family

<lostrussianfamily.wordpress.com>

This helpful, tip-filled blog delivers the latest on ways to research Russian and Ukrainian families, including records from the former Soviet Union.

Genealogy Indexer

<www.genealogyindexer.org>

Don't be fooled by the plain appearance of this collection of Central and East European records. Under the hood, you'll find 1.9 million pages of 3,500 historical directories, plus memorials to Jewish communities (yizkor books), military lists, community and personal histories and school resources.



75 Best State Websites of 2023

COMPILED BY RICK CRUME

Each year, we also publish a list of the best websites for each US state and territory. All the websites here are free, making them first-rate research destinations. See the full list (including short descriptions about each) at www.familytreemagazine.com/best-state-genealogy-websites.

ALABAMA

Alabama Department of Archives & History
<digital.archives.alabama.gov>

AlabamaMosaic
<www.alabamamosaic.org>

ALASKA

Alaska State Archives: Genealogy
<archives.alaska.gov/genealogy/genealogy.html>

AMERICAN SAMOA

American Samoa Genealogy
<americansamoagenealogy.atwebpages.com>

ARIZONA

Arizona Memory Project
<azmemory.azlibrary.gov>

ARKANSAS

Arkansas Digital Archives
<digitalheritage.arkansas.gov>

CALIFORNIA

Calisphere
<calisphere.org>

Online Archive of California
<www.oac.cdlib.org>

COLORADO

Denver Public Library Digital Collections
<digital.denverlibrary.org>

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Digital Archive
<collections.ctdigitalarchive.org>

CT State Library
<cslib.contentdm.oclc.org>

DELAWARE

Delaware Public Archives
<archives.delaware.gov>

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DigDC
<digdc.dclibrary.org>

FLORIDA

University of Florida Digital Collections
<ufdc.ufl.edu>

GEORGIA

Digital Library of Georgia
<dlg.usg.edu>

Georgia Archives
<www.georgiaarchives.org>

GUAM

Guam Genealogy
<guamgenealogy.atwebpages.com>

HAWAII

Hawai'i State Archives
<ags.hawaii.gov/archives>

IDAHO

Idaho State Historical Society
<history.idaho.gov/searchable-indexes>

ILLINOIS

Illinois Digital Archives
<www.idaillinois.org>

Illinois State Archives Databases
<www.ilsos.gov/departments/archives/databases/home.html>

INDIANA

Indiana State Library: Genealogy Collection
<www.in.gov/library/collections-and-services/genealogy>

IOWA

Iowa Digital Library
<digital.lib.uiowa.edu>

The Iowa Heritage Digital Collections
<www.iowaheritage.org>

KANSAS

Kansas Memory
<www.kansasmemory.org>

KENTUCKY

Kentucky Digital Library
<kdl.kyvl.org/digital>

LOUISIANA

Louisiana Digital Library
<www.louisianadigitallibrary.org>

MAINE

DigitalMaine Repository
<www.digitalmaine.com>

Maine Genealogy
<www.maine-genealogy.net>

Maine Memory Network
<www.mainememory.net>

MARYLAND

Digital Maryland
<www.digitalmaryland.org>

Maryland State Archives
<msa.maryland.gov>

MASSACHUSETTS

Digital Commonwealth
<www.digitalcommonwealth.org>

MICHIGAN

Michigan County Histories and Atlases
<quod.lib.umich.edu/m/micounty>

Michiganology
<michiganology.org>

MINNESOTA

Minnesota Digital Library
<www.mndigital.org>

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Digital Library
<www.msdl.org>

MISSOURI

Missouri Digital Heritage
<www.sos.mo.gov/mdh>

**The State Historical Society
of Missouri Digital Collections**
<digital.shsmo.org>

MONTANA

Montana Historical Society
<mhs.mt.gov/research/
onlinecollections>

NEBRASKA

History Nebraska
<history.nebraska.gov/
collection_section/
research-resources-databases>

NEVADA

Nevada Library Cooperative
<nvlibrarycoop.contentdm.oclc.org>

NEW HAMPSHIRE

New Hampshire Genealogy & History
<www.nh.searchroots.com>

NEW JERSEY

New Jersey State Archives
<www.nj.gov/state/archives>

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Digital Collections
<econtent.unm.edu>

NEW YORK

**New York Heritage
Digital Collections**
<www.nyheritage.org>

**The NYC Historical
Vital Records Project**
<a860-historicalvitalrecords.nyc.gov>

NORTH CAROLINA

Digital Library on American Slavery
<dlaas.uncg.edu>

DigitalNC
<www.digitalnc.org>

North Carolina Digital Collections
<digital.ncdcr.gov>

**University of North Carolina:
The Southern Historical Collection**
<dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/archivalhome/
collection/00ddd>

NORTH DAKOTA

Digital Horizons
<digitalhorizonsonline.org>

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Northern Mariana Islands Genealogy
<northernmarianaislandsgenealogy.
atwebpages.com>

OHIO

Ohio Memory
<www.ohiomemory.org>

OKLAHOMA

Digital Prairie
<www.digitalprairieok.net>

The Gateway to Oklahoma History
<gateway.okhistory.org>

OREGON

Oregon Digital
<www.oregondigital.org>

**Oregon Historical Society
Digital Collections**
<digitalcollections.ohs.org>

PENNSYLVANIA

State Library of Pennsylvania
<www.statelibrary.pa.gov/
generalpublic/collections>

PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico en Breve
<geneal.preb.com>

RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island Historical Cemeteries
<www.rihistoriccemeteries.org>

SOUTH CAROLINA

**South Carolina Department
of Archives and History**
<www.archivesindex.sc.gov>

The South Carolina Digital Library
<www.scmemory.org>

SOUTH DAKOTA

Digital Library of South Dakota
<explore.digitalsd.org>

TENNESSEE

Tennessee Virtual Archive
<teva.contentdm.oclc.org>

TEXAS

The Portal to Texas History
<texashistory.unt.edu>

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

Caribbean Genealogy Library
<cgl.vi>

UTAH

Utah State Archives Name Indexes
<archives.utah.gov/research/indexes>

**Utah State Cemeteries
and Burials Database**
<history.utah.gov/cemeteries>

VERMONT

Vermont History
<www.vermonthistory.org/
digital-resources>

VIRGINIA

Library of Virginia
<lva.virginia.gov>

WASHINGTON

Washington Rural Heritage
<www.washingtonruralheritage.org>

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia Archives and History
<www.wvculture.org/history/
archivesindex.aspx>

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin Historical Society
<www.wisconsinhistory.org/
genealogy>

WYOMING

**Wyoming Digital
Newspaper Collection**
<www.wyomingnewspapers.org>



Elizabeth I, 1600

Geneanet

<en.geneanet.org>

The other heavyweight in French research, Geneanet emphasizes user-submitted trees. You can also explore genealogical society indexes and resource guides; premium members (from \$12.50 every three months) get advanced search tools and access to Genealogy Library records.

Geneteka

<www.geneteka.genealodzy.pl>

Click your ancestors' province on the map of Poland to start searching more than 47 million names in registers from more than 4,500 parishes.

* GenTeam

<www.genteam.at/index.php?lang=en>

Free registration unlocks more than 21 million documents, focused on Austria. The brainchild of professional genealogy researcher Felix Gundacker, GenTeam contains resources from the leading online gazetteer of Austrian lands to indexes of church records.

Hungaricana

<www.hungaricana.hu/en>

Clues to your Hungarian ancestors await in digitized publications, old maps, and census pages. While you're here, explore the folk music collection and the "Budapest Time Machine."

JewishGen

<www.jewishgen.org>

Though not limited to Europe, this essential site for Jewish genealogy is particularly strong there, with databases of East European towns, Jewish surnames, Holocaust victims, and families. Those who have Ukrainian ancestors can learn about the latest efforts to preserve records there against wartime destruction, with 100,000 records uploaded monthly.

Portale Antenati

<antenati.cultura.gov.it/?lang=en>

Italian for "The Ancestors Portal," this site offers name or location searches of more than 132 million images and 1.6 million registries from 83 Italian archives.

Routes to Roots Foundation

<www.rtrfoundation.org>

Collections of archives, surnames, digitized images and Holocaust victims cover Jewish and civil records in Poland, Belarus, Ukraine, Lithuania and Moldova. Maps, articles and expert insights will help you.

Wie Was Wie

<www.wiewaswie.nl/en>

Initially a database destination for Dutch civil registrations, this site has grown to cover more than 230 million individuals' records, adding population records, church books and more.

Genealogy Websites for Asia and the Pacific

CoraWeb

<www.coraweb.com.au>

Home to Cora Num's ever-growing list of Australian and related genealogy links since 1997, this site covers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as well as New Zealand, India and Sri Lanka.

* Filipino Genealogy Project

<www.filipinogenealogy.com>

Start your sometimes-challenging quest for Filipino ancestors with this friendly blog that covers everything from ethnic surnames to the Philippines' president's family tree.

Trove

<trove.nla.gov.au>

This collaboration between the National Library of Australia and hundreds of partner organizations includes digitized newspapers, maps, photos, books, diaries and letters.

Geography and Historical Map Websites

Atlas of Historical County Boundaries

<digital.newberry.org/ahcb>

Follow your ancestors' county records across shifting boundary lines with this essential tool from Chicago's Newberry Library.

Bureau of Land Management General Land Office Records

<www.glorerecords.blm.gov>

The ultimate resource for land-records research offers images of more than 5 million federal land title records, survey plats and field notes, land status records, and control document index records. Check out our guide in the March/April 2023 issue <www.familytreemagazine.com/records/land/general-land-office-tutorial>.

David Rumsey Map Collection

<www.davidrumsey.com>

A collaboration with Machines Reading Maps will make nearly half of this site's 121,000 online historical maps text-searchable.

Gazetteer of British Place Names

<gazetteer.org.uk>

Find your British ancestors' places with this guide to more than 280,000 locales. Each entry includes a place's historic county and main administrative areas, plus notes about changing boundaries and postal codes.

Historic Map Works

<www.historicmapworks.com>

Search more than 1.6 million historic maps and images (including old property maps and directories), some matchable with modern Google maps. You can order prints, and paid subscribers can upgrade their viewing tools.

*\$ HistoryGeo

<www.historygeo.com>

Subscribers (\$20 for three months) can search the 12.3 million property owners across 30 states in the First Landowners Project, or explore thousands of antique maps.

Meyers Gazetteer

<www.meyersgaz.org>

Searching places in the German Empire (1871 to 1918) couldn't be simpler—no need to use diacritical marks, but try as many asterisk wildcards as you want.

US Geological Survey

<www.usgs.gov/products/maps/all-maps>

One click lets you explore all USGS maps, new and old. Other links here take you to the agency's Geographic Names Information System and the National Map.

Best Family Tree and Sharing Websites

Geni

<www.geni.com>

The World Family Tree connects more than 177 million people worldwide, past and present. Collaborate on family research, stay in touch with family members, and be reminded of family birthdays and anniversaries.

TribalPages

<www.tribalpages.com>

This site emphasizes tree-building, complete with photos and charts. Only invited family members can view or edit your tree. Basic trees with up to 50 images are free, or upgrade for an annual fee of \$36 or \$48.

WeRelate

<www.werelate.org>

Boasting a "shared approach" to genealogy, this site from the Foundation for On-Line Genealogy



For clickable links, read the online version of this list <www.familytreemagazine.com/best-genealogy-websites>.

aims to “build a unified family tree containing the best information from all contributors.” Even if you don’t pitch in, you can still search its more than 3 million individual entries.

WikiTree

<www.wikitree.com>

This other ambitious effort to build a “single family tree” for humanity encompasses nearly 34 million profiles, more than 11 million that have DNA test connections. It’s free to add your own tree or search what’s already there. We interviewed WikiTree’s founder and president in the December 2022 episode of the Family Tree Podcast <www.familytreemagazine.com/podcasts/how-witness-records-can-guide-your-genealogy-research>.

Genealogy Tech Tools

AncientFaces

<www.ancientfaces.com>

With a mission of “everyone deserves to be remembered,” this site has been sharing family photos since 2000. Among popular features are school photos, plus mystery photos seeking identification and their owners. Listen to our interview with the site’s co-founder at <www.familytreemagazine.com/podcasts/best-websites-ancientfaces>.

*** ArchiveGrid**

<researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid>

This free online catalog covers 7 million archival materials from more than 1,400 archives around the world. Among its listings are diaries, travel narratives, local censuses, photographs, maps, and all sorts of other genealogically rich records.

*** Artifacts**

<www.artifacts.com>

Artifacts is where “stuff and stories meet, because otherwise stuff is just stuff.” Upload photos of your family heirlooms along with the stories behind them. Getting started is free; unlimited uploads are \$89 per year.

Cyndi’s List

<www.cyndislist.com>

If you can’t find a helpful link among the 317,000

links in 229 categories that Cyndi Ingle has been cataloging for more than 25 years, you might really have hit a brick wall. Read our interview with Cyndi on page 5.

DeadFred

<www.deadfred.com>

More than 3,200 people have found ancestral images in this genealogy photo archive, home to 154,000 entries representing 22,000 surnames. We interviewed the founder of DeadFred in the October 2022 episode of the Family Tree Podcast <www.familytreemagazine.com/podcasts/old-world-town-of-origin>.

Internet Archive

<www.archive.org>

That gone-but-not-forgotten genealogy site still lives among the more than 800 billion pages archived in the “Wayback Machine.” Other treasures here include media of all types, old books and family and local histories. See our guide in the November/December 2022 issue <www.familytreemagazine.com/websites/internet-archive-genealogy>.

One-Step Webpages by Stephen P. Morse

<www.stevemorse.org>

Steve Morse’s web wizardry lets you do a deep dive into resources such as censuses, vital records, and passenger lists with a single click. The site is also worth a visit for help with old calendars, foreign alphabets, old maps and more.

Reclaim the Records

<www.reclaimtherecords.org>

“We want our records back!” this advocacy group proclaims, and to date it’s secured millions of vital and other records blocked by government rules. Their site links to newly freed record collections, and shares updates about ongoing records requests and lawsuits.

\$ RootsPoint

<www.rootspoint.com>

Just \$1.99 buys you a one-week pass to this wide-ranging digitization site. (You can get a whole year for \$9.99.) Collections include marriage, military, England and Wales, and immigration records, plus 9,300 digitized books such as family and local histories.



WorldCat

<www.worldcat.org>

Search 405 million book titles, 6 million maps, 30 million theses and dissertations, and more, then find the closest library for access among the thousands of repositories worldwide that are cataloged here.

Genealogy News Websites and Blogs

* The Family Curator

<www.thefamilycurator.com>

If you're the family member who's been stuck with all "the stuff," let Denise Levenick show you how to adapt professional archival techniques to preserve your family keepsakes. Levenick also writes the Family History Home column for *Family Tree* (see page 66).

\$ Genealogical.com

<www.genealogical.com>

Though not a "news" website in the conventional sense, this longtime genealogy book publisher shares plenty of how-to advice. A subscription (\$135 per year) buys you access to 800 titles in ebook form, ranging from classics in the field to transcriptions of old records not available elsewhere. You can also shop for individual titles (both print and ebook).

Genealogy Guys

<www.genealogyguys.com>

With more than 400 podcast episodes and counting, experts George G. Morgan and Drew Smith will keep you up to date on family-history happenings. Their site also features blog posts, courses and webinars.

Genealogy Gems

<www.lisalouisecooke.com>

Join *Family Tree Magazine* contributor Lisa Louise Cooke for on-demand videos and podcasts, weekly YouTube shows, and how-to guides. (See her "Lisa's Picks" column on page 8.)

The Legal Genealogist

<www.legalgenealogist.com>

Who knew there were so many legal issues in genealogy? Judy G. Russell, J.D., regularly shares her thoughts on DNA, record access, cemeteries, copyright and more.



George III, 1768

* The Photo Detective

<www.maureenataylor.com>

Longtime *Family Tree Magazine* old-photo expert Maureen A. Taylor (see page 59) shares mysteries, tips and discoveries in blog posts and podcasts. Topics range from cyanotypes to ChatGPT image-generation.

RootsTech

<www.rootstech.org>

This top genealogy tech conference has a massive archive of 2,200 free presentations from past conferences, including this year's event in Salt Lake City.

* \$ Virtual Genealogical Association

<www.virtualgenealogy.org>

If you don't have a local society (or just can't get enough genealogy!), you might love this society. Its member offerings (\$20 annually) include monthly presentations from nationally known speakers as well as Zoom social events like virtual hangouts and a book club. ●

Family Tree Magazine founding editor **David A. Fryxell** is the author of *The Family Tree Scandinavian Genealogy Guide* (Family Tree Books) and *MicroHistory* (Continental Divide Publishing).

