

Starting Your Family Tree

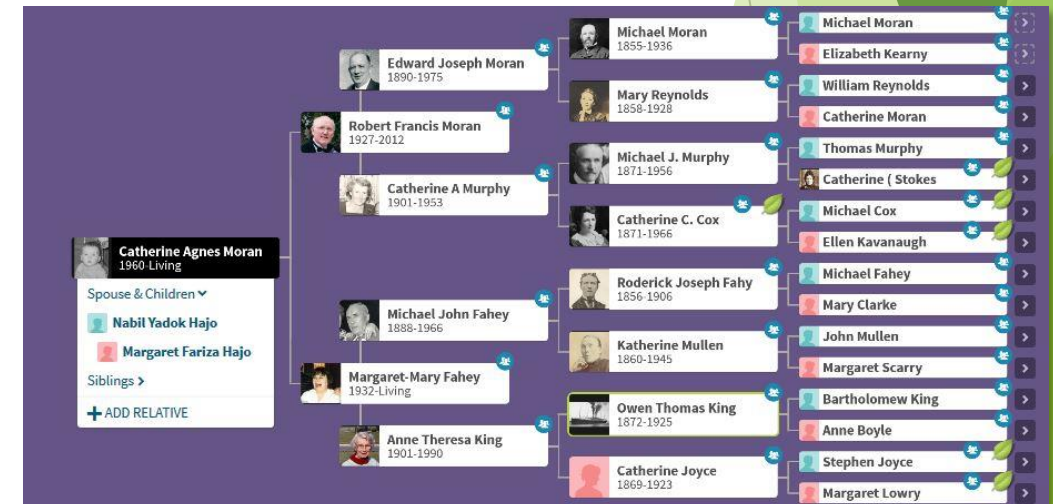
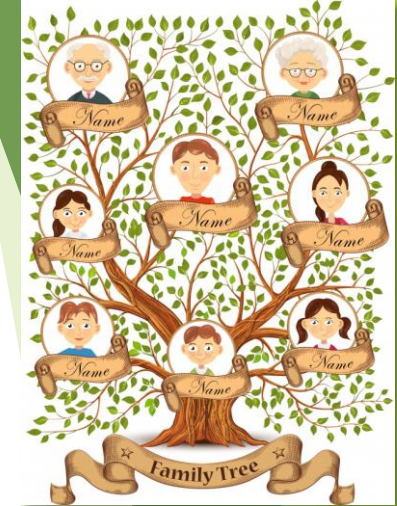
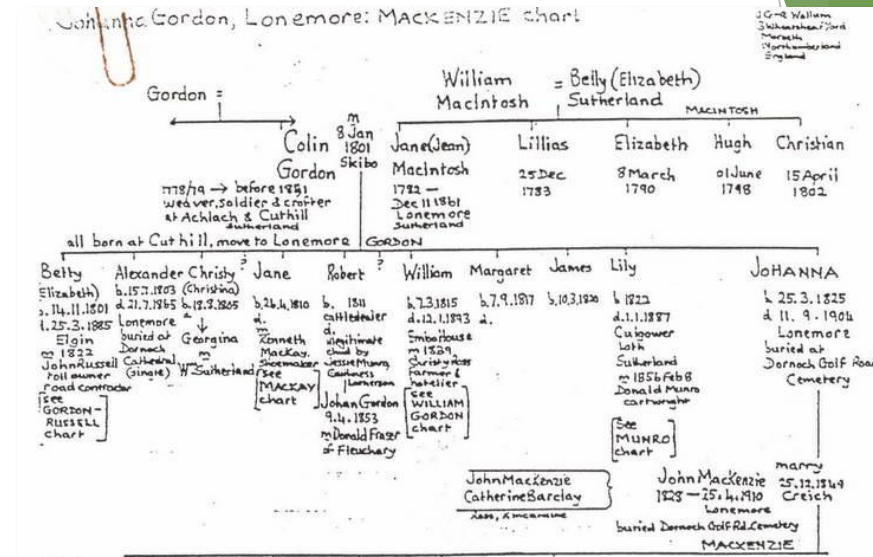
Cathy Moran Hajo, January 23, 2021

Mahwah Museum



Family Trees

- ▶ A family tree is a diagram that shows the relationships between people across generations.
- ▶ It is a place to store information, stories, images, and facts about your ancestors and descendants.
- ▶ You can record them on paper, word-processing files, using dedicated family tree software or a web-based genealogical service.



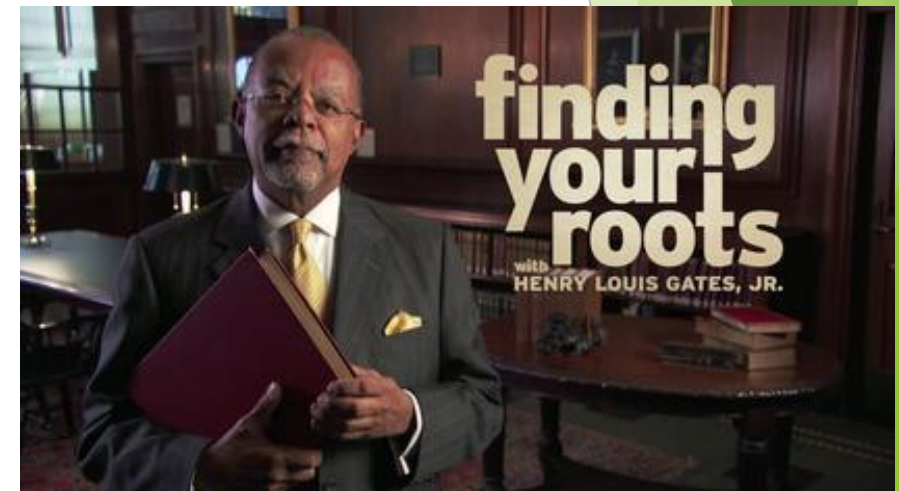
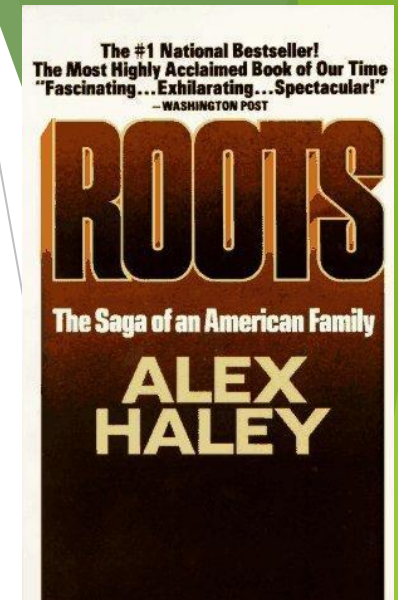
Family Trees

- ▶ Family trees can become pedigrees that trace your family back to the Mayflower, or to a line of kings, or... more likely a line of quite ordinary, but fascinating people.
- ▶ If you **are** descended from old families of note, you may be able to link your family to existing published genealogies.
- ▶ Even if you are not, web-based genealogy sites allow you to share and merge your research with other distant relatives to build much more extensive trees than we could do in the past.



It's A Good Time to be a Genealogist

- ▶ The second most popular hobby in the United States (after gardening)
- ▶ This interest began to grow in the 1970s with the book and television series *Roots* that traced the history of Alex Haley's African-American family back to 18th century Gambia.
- ▶ Shows like *Who Do You Think You Are* and *Finding Your Roots* research the families of celebrities.
- ▶ Businesses have stepped in to help—digitizing millions of records, making DNA testing available and affordable, and enabling genealogists to connect with one another.



The background features a dark blue-grey field on the left, transitioning into a series of overlapping, semi-transparent green triangles and polygons on the right. A thin white line runs diagonally across the lower right portion of the image.

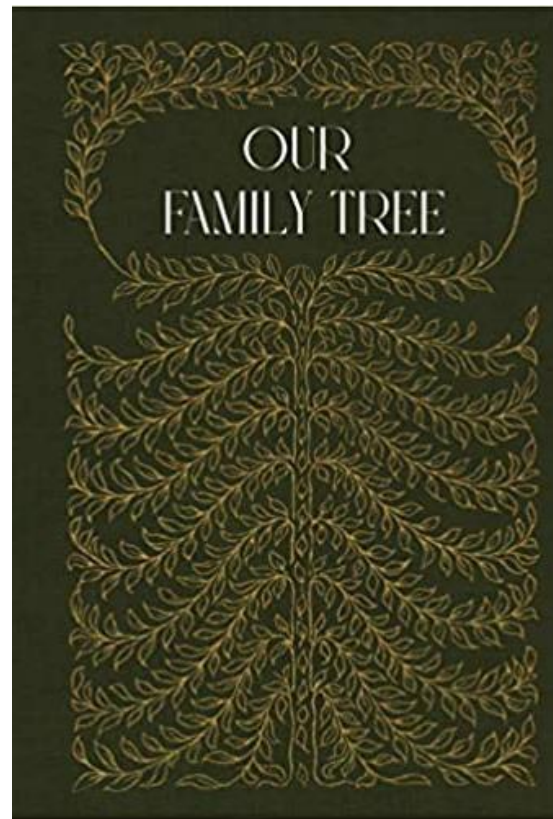
Set Yourself Up for Success

Start Locally!

- ▶ There is a tendency to want to jump into Ancestry, MyHeritage, Family Tree Search or other web-based genealogy sites as the first step.
- ▶ There's nothing wrong with this approach, but the records you find there aren't going anywhere.
- ▶ Starting with the unique resources that you and your family have will help preserve information that might be lost.



Has Anyone Already Made a Start?



- ▶ You might not be the first person in the family to think about doing some family history research.
- ▶ Look around for old hand-filled in books or charts that might have already been started.

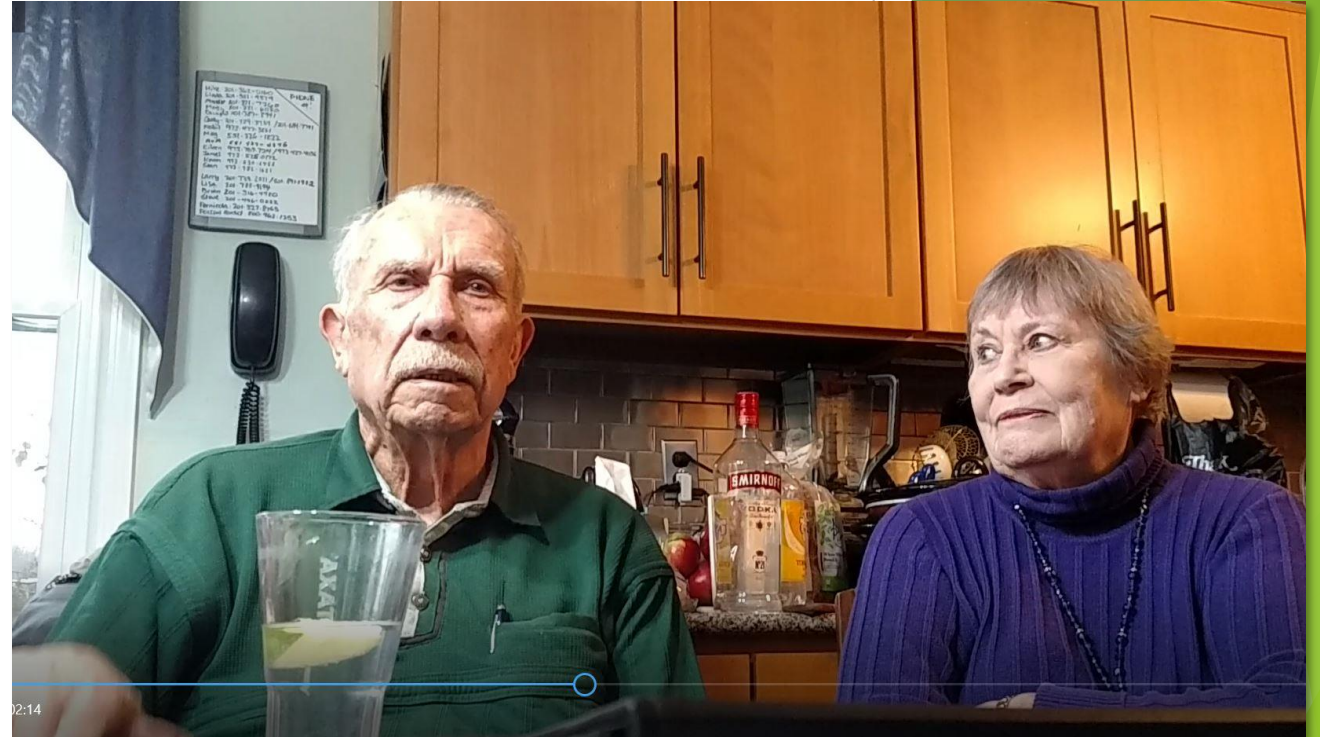
Talk to Your Relatives!

- ▶ Let them know that you are doing this!
- ▶ Let them know that you will be collecting records, photos, stories, etc.
- ▶ Have any of them done any research?
- ▶ Make it fun!
- ▶ Virtual conversations are easier than ever.



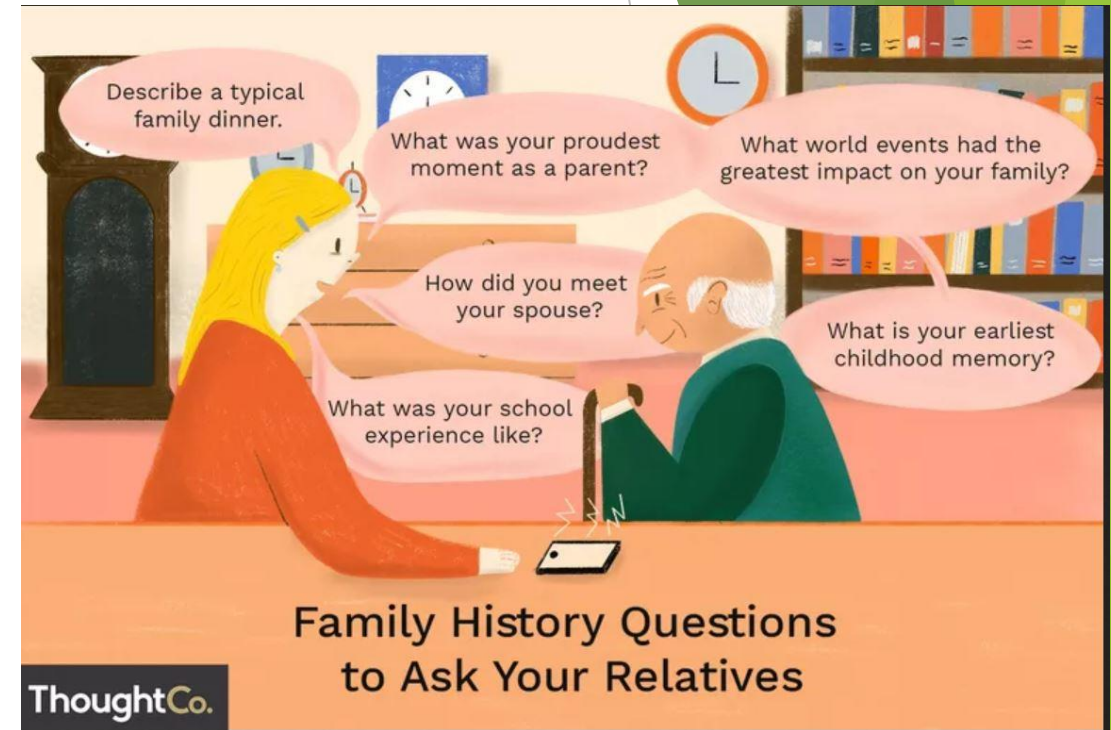
Talking to Elders

- ▶ The older members of your family are an incredible resource that won't be around forever.
- ▶ More important than dates and lineages, they can tell stories that can provide a real connection with the people who have passed away.
- ▶ People often put this off until they are older, when memories fade and relatives have passed on.



Talking to Elders

- ▶ Record the stories and verify them later.
- ▶ Ask open ended questions for the best results:
 - ▶ “What was it like during the Depression?”
 - ▶ What do you remember about your father?
 - ▶ Who was your favorite aunt?
- ▶ If they are reluctant to talk about some sensitive topics, ask them to write the story and seal it in a closed envelope, only to be opened after they are gone.



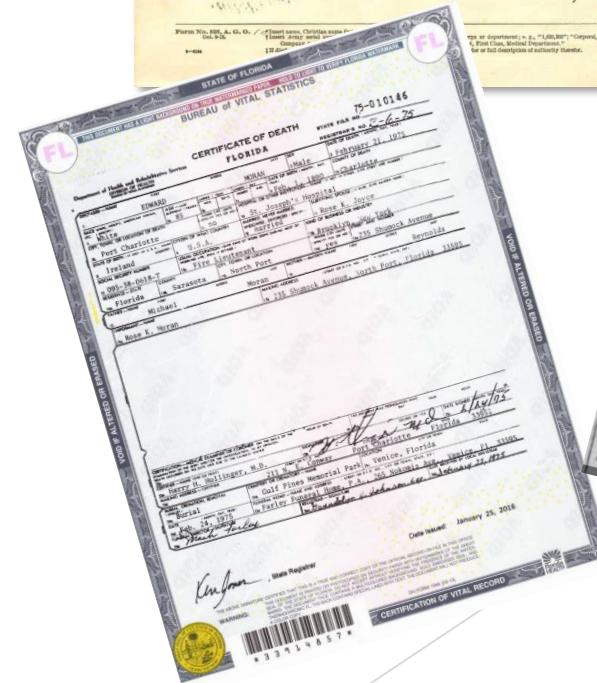
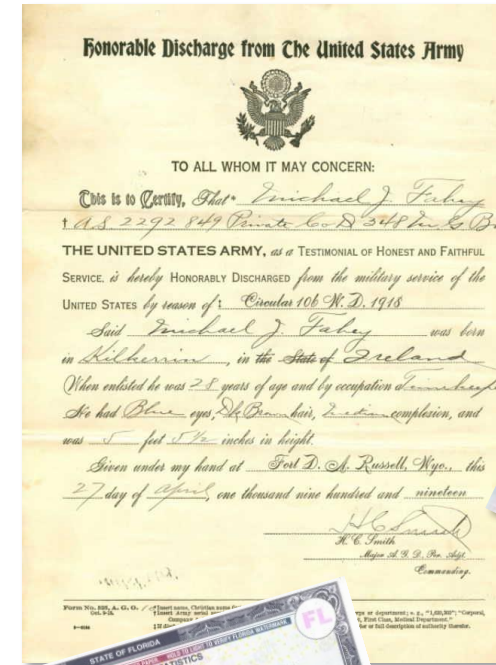
Talking to Elders

- ▶ Use photos and objects as prompts to help them remember people, places, and events.
 - ▶ Show them unlabeled photographs to see if they can help identify people and dates.
- ▶ If you are planning on using DNA for your family tree, introduce the idea to them and see if they are willing to participate.
 - ▶ The further up the family tree an individual is, the more useful their DNA will be to find distant relatives.



Gather and Organize Records

- ▶ Gather in one place all the records you can find.
- ▶ This will be an ongoing effort but starting with a plan will save you time later.
- ▶ Documents, like wedding licenses, death records, deeds to houses, military service materials or newspaper clippings.
- ▶ Options:
 - ▶ One family per folder (once a child marries they get their own family folder)
 - ▶ Binders for each major branch with dividers for families.
 - ▶ Scanning and organizing digitally with a family tree program or web service.



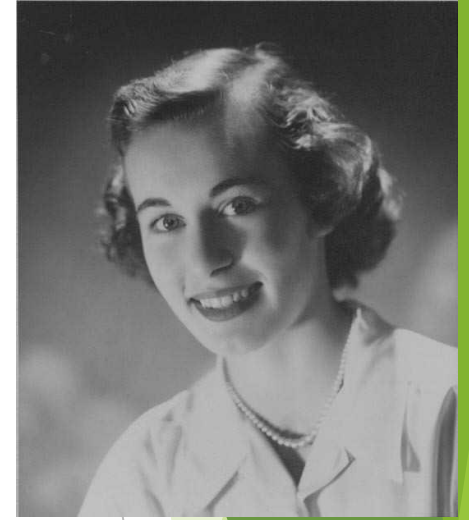
Gather and Organize Photographs

- ▶ Consistent system is more important than a perfect system
 - ▶ Goal is to be able to locate a photograph when you need it.
- ▶ Photographs are a little more difficult to organize manually than records.
 - ▶ More than one person/family can appear in one photo
 - ▶ Unknown people can appear with known people
- ▶ Assigning number to photo and creating a paper index or guide, then storing by number.
- ▶ Chronological system by decades and then family names



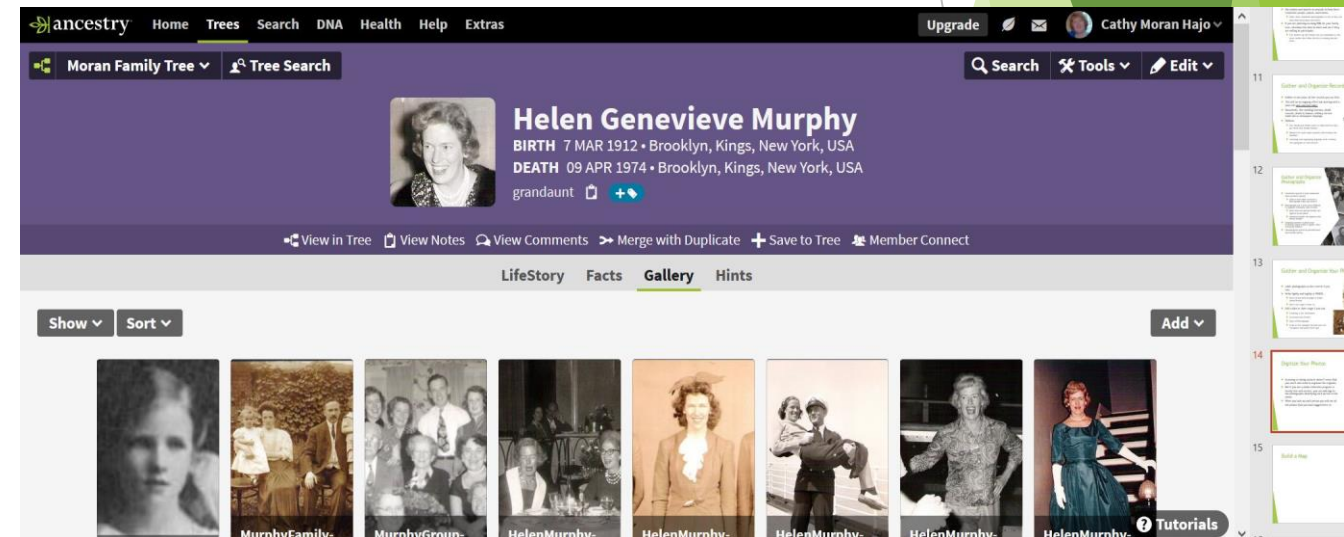
Gather and Organize Your Photographs

- ▶ Label photographs on the reverse if you can.
- ▶ Write lightly and legibly in PENCIL.
 - ▶ Don't press hard enough to make indentations
 - ▶ Don't use tape or Post Its
- ▶ Add a date or date range if you can.
 - ▶ Clothing, Cars, Hairstyles
 - ▶ Locations and Events
 - ▶ Type of Photograph
 - ▶ Look at the youngest person you can recognize and guess their age.



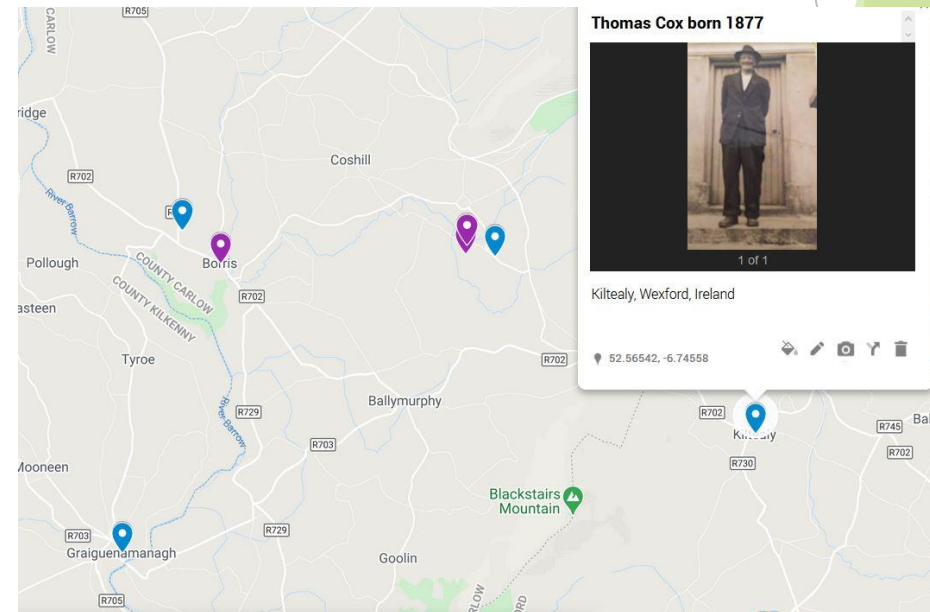
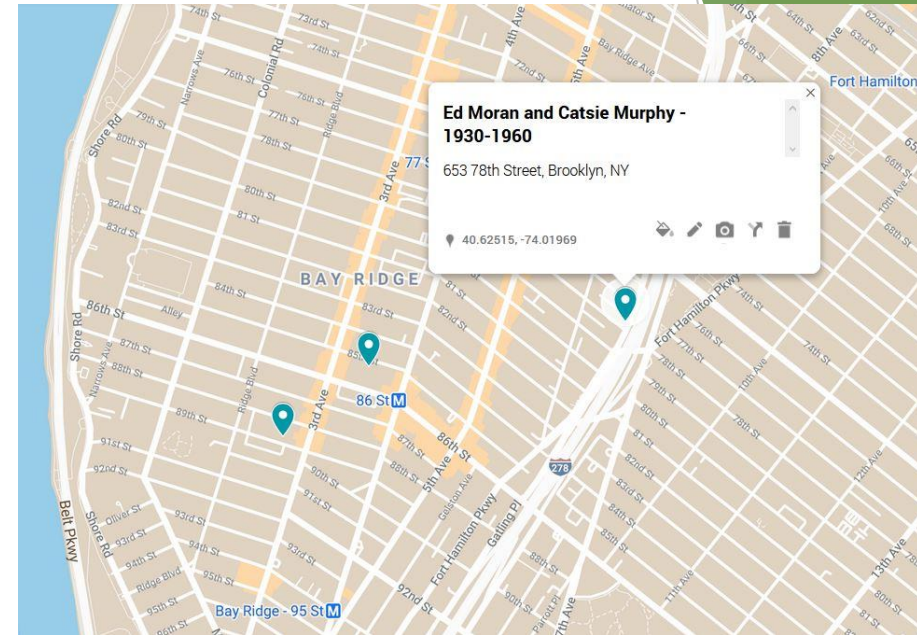
Digitize Your Photos

- ▶ Scanning or taking pictures doesn't mean that you won't also want to organize the originals.
- ▶ But if you use a photo collection program or family tree web service, you can add tags to the photographs identifying each person in the photo.
- ▶ When you look up each person you will see all the photos that you have tagged them in.



Build a Map

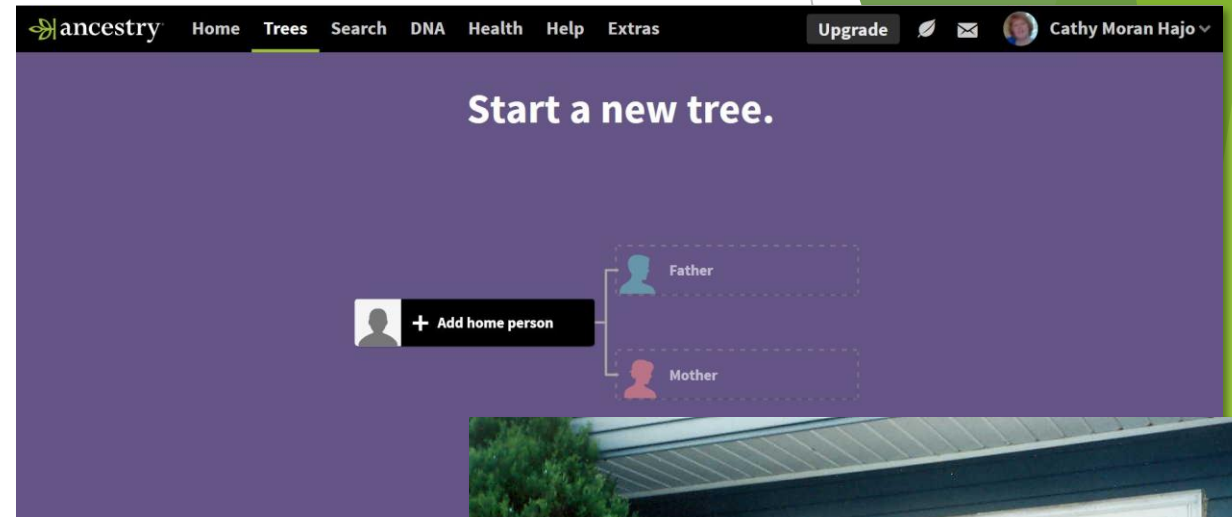
- ▶ If you are comfortable using [Google My Maps](#) or another mapping program you can build a family map.
 - ▶ Use different colored pins for different family branches
 - ▶ You can visit sites that you've located in records
 - ▶ It offers a better understanding of where people lived, how far apart they were, and where they came from.
 - ▶ Records like the census often have street addresses that you can find.
- ▶ You can try doing it on a paper map if your locations are close enough



Building Your Tree

Start with Your Immediate Family


- ▶ All trees have to start somewhere, and that somewhere is YOU!
- ▶ If you are married, add your spouse and children.
- ▶ Add your parents, any siblings, and aunts and uncles and their spouses and children.
- ▶ Add your grandparents, and their brothers and sisters, their children and grandchildren.
- ▶ Keep working backwards and forwards to fill out the story.





Family Group Sheets

- ▶ The Family Group Sheet, whether paper or digital is the basis for your tree. It tracks the family unit from birth until marriage.
- ▶ Fill in as much information for each person in the family as you can.
- ▶ Each couple in your tree should have a sheet where you can store data.

Family Group Sheet for Michael J. Murphy

Husband:	Michael J. Murphy	
Birth:	21 Feb 1871 in Moyvalley, Carlow, Ireland	
Marriage:	1900	
Burial:	1956 in Buried Holy Cross Cemetary, Brooklyn	
Death:	29 Nov 1956 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA	
Father:	Thomas Murphy	
Mother:	Catherine "Kitty" Stokes	

Wife:	Catherine C. Cox	
Birth:	01 Jul 1871 in Wexford, Ireland	
Death:	09 Jun 1966 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA	
Burial:	St. Ephrem's Church	
Father:	Michael Cox	
Mother:	Ellen Kavanaugh	

Children:		
1	Name: Catherine Agnes Murphy	
F	Birth: 14 Jan 1901 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA	
	Marriage: 1924 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA	
	Death: 27 Sep 1953 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA	
	Burial: 30 Sep 1953 in Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York City, New York	

Moran Family Tree

File Edit View Person Tools Help

Tree Person

Patrick Murphy

Thomas Murphy 1840 - 1883

Michael J. Murphy 1871 - 1956

Catherine C. Cox

Anne Kelly

James Stokes

Catherine "Kitty" Stokes 1843 - 1905

Bridget Hunt

Thomas & Catherine "Kitty"

Michael J. Murphy
Born: 21 Feb 1871
Moyvalley, Carlow, Ireland
Died: 29 Nov 1956
Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA

Michael & Ellen

Catherine C. Cox
Born: 01 Jul 1871
Wexford, Ireland
Died: 09 Jun 1966
Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA

Marriage: 1900

Go	Children: 6	Sex	Birth	Death
▶	Catherine Agnes Murphy	F	14 Jan 1901 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA	27 Sep 1953 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA
◀	Margaret Regina Murphy	F	20 Dec 1902 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA	30 May 1991 in Avon-by-the-Sea, NJ
◀	Thomas Francis Murphy	M	28 Dec 1906 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA	02 May 1988 in Staten Island, Richmond, New York, USA
◀	Mary Victorine "Minnie" Murphy	F	17 Feb 1907 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA	11 Jul 1992 in Avon-by-the-Sea, Monmouth, New Jersey, USA

Michael J. Murphy
Great grandfather of Catherine Agnes Moran

Name: Michael J. Murphy

Sex: Male Age: 85

Birth: 21 Feb 1871
Moyvalley, Carlow, Ireland

Death: 29 Nov 1956
Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA

Marriage to Catherine C. Cox

Marr: 1900

Next: Catherine C. Cox
Press Ctrl+Enter to add or edit the next person

Customize View...

Family Group Sheets



Family Group Sheet

Name and/or Date	Place
Husband:	
Born:	
Married:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Husband's Father:	Husband's Mother:
Wife:	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	Wife's Mother:
1st Child: Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	Wife's Mother:

[NGS Family Group Sheet PDF](#)

Thomas Murphy
1840 - 1883

Catherine "Kitty" Stokes
1843 - 1905

Michael Cox
1840 - 1887

Ellen Kavanaugh
1839 - 1910

Husband

+ Add another spouse

Wife

+ Add another spouse

Michael J. Murphy
BIRTH: 21 Feb 1871 in Moyvalley, Carlow, Ireland
DEATH: 29 Nov 1956 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA

[Profile](#) [Search](#) [Edit](#) [Focus](#)

Catherine C. Cox
BIRTH: 01 Jul 1871 in Wexford, Ireland
DEATH: 09 Jun 1966 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA

[Profile](#) [Search](#) [Edit](#)

Relationship Events

Marriage
1900

Children

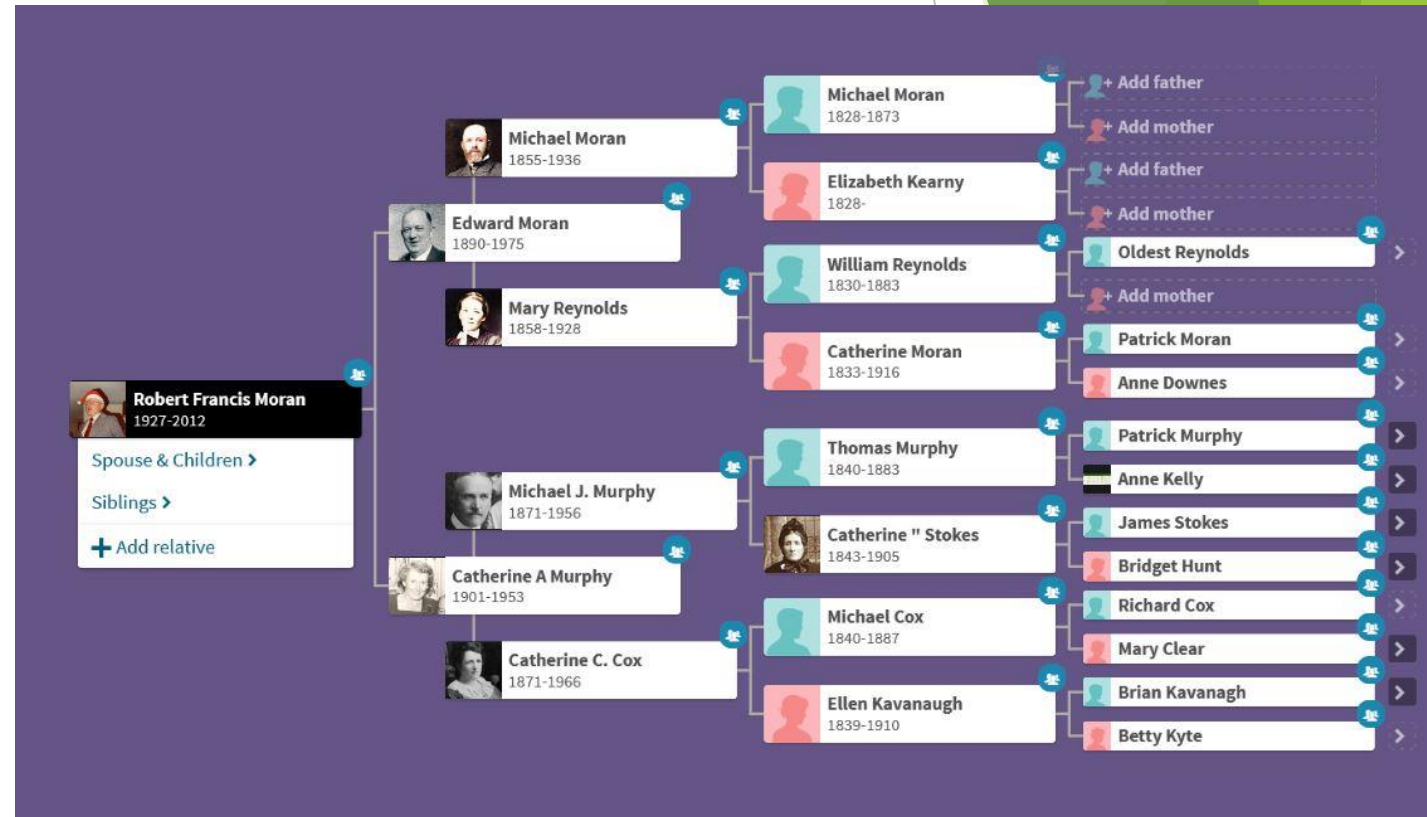
+ Add a child

Catherine Agnes Murphy
Daughter
BIRTH 14 Jan 1901 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA
DEATH 27 Sep 1953 in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA

Margaret Regina Murphy
BIRTH 20 Dec 1902 in Brooklyn, **DEATH** 30 May 1991 in Avon-by-

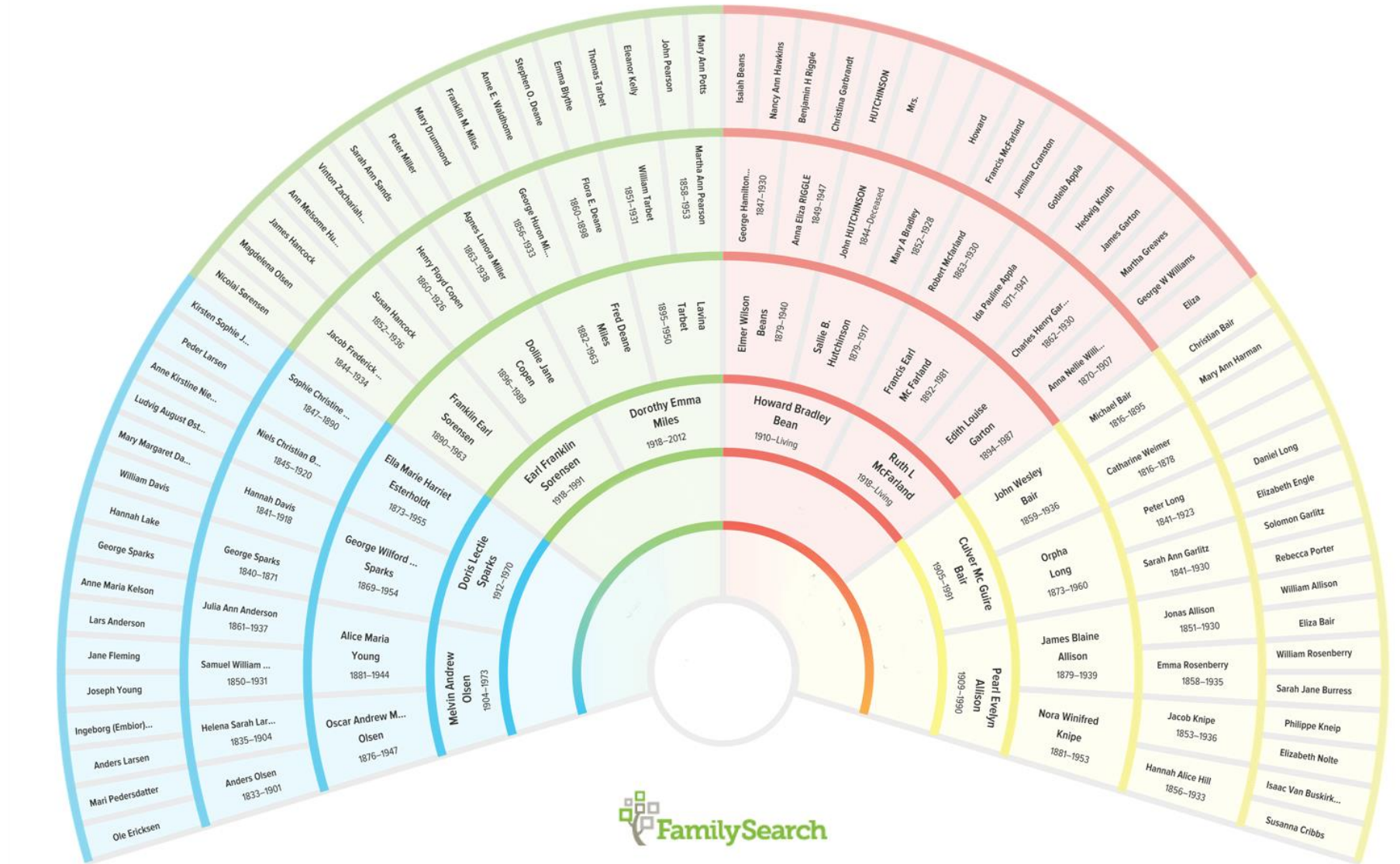
Ancestor Charts

- ▶ These start with you and show all your direct ancestors.
- ▶ They don't include siblings, uncles and aunts, cousins.
- ▶ They go back as far as you can trace.
- ▶ NGS Fillable Pedigree Chart



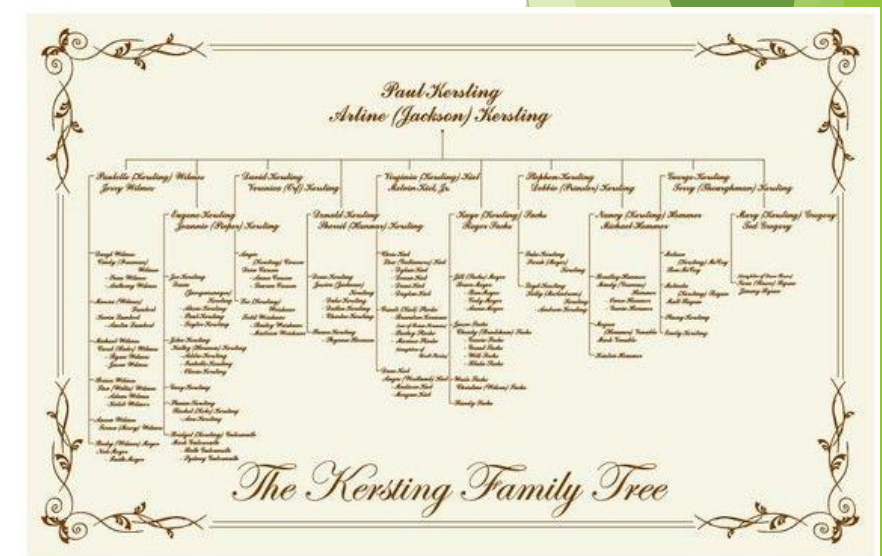
Fan Charts

- ▶ Fan charts are a specific style of ancestor chart.
- ▶ Each colored division represents the family of each of your four grandparents.



Descendant Charts

- ▶ Starting with your oldest ancestor, they trace all their children, grandchildren and so on.
- ▶ Includes siblings, spouses, cousins, etc.
- ▶ These trees can quickly become very unwieldy to manage on paper, especially with large families.



Documentation

- ▶ From the very start, it is critical to keep sources on your information.
- ▶ Once you come across conflicting information you need to know where you got the information from so that you can make an educated guess.
- ▶ Many genealogy programs let you enter the sources, or link to genealogical records, so that you can track this vital information.
- ▶ You should also take notes to remind yourself of guesses or decisions you might have made.

Michael J. Murphy
1871-1956

Fact Details
Media
Source Citations

Source Citations Attached to Michael J. Murphy.

- Passport
- 1930 United States Federal Census
- 1930 United States Federal Census
Year: 1930; Census Place: Brooklyn, Kings, New York; Roll: 1509; Page: 2A; Enumeration District: 1145; Image: 595.0; FHL microfilm: 2341244
- 1940 United States Federal Census
Year: 1940; Census Place: New York, Kings, New York; Roll: T627_2574; Page: 2B; Enumeration District: 24-1077B
- 1920 United States Federal Census
Year: 1920; Census Place: Brooklyn Assembly District 18, Kings, New York; Roll: T625_1172; Page: 8B; Enumeration District: 1083

< TreeTags™ Notes Comments

This is PROBABLY the brother of Michael Murphy, based on WATO analysis of DNA between Mary Whitty and Uncle Dick/Me. I ran it with him being a child of the possible first wife of Thomas Murphy, but the probability was 1, where for full siblings it is 5. Running it as a brother of Thomas Murphy's child is 0.

Notes can only be viewed by the owner and by those invited to the tree as an "editor".

ancestry Home Trees Search DNA Health Help Extras Upgrade Cathy Moran Hajo

Moran Family Tree Tree Search Search Tools Edit

Catherine C. Cox
BIRTH 01 JUL 1871 • Wexford, Ireland
DEATH 09 JUN 1966 • Brooklyn, Kings, New York, USA
great-grandmother

View in Tree View Notes View Comments Merge with Duplicate Save to Tree Print Member Connect

LifeStory Facts Gallery Hints

Facts Filter Add
Name Catherine C. Cox 10 Sources

Sources Add
Ancestry Sources
1910 United States Federal Census

Family Add
Parents
Michael Cox 1840-1887

MyTreeTags™ Notes Comments

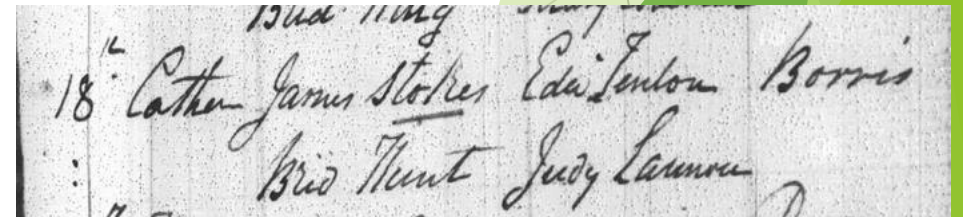
Also known in the family as "Mama Muppy"

Her Birth year is a question. 1900 Census has her born in 1873, and Michael in 1871, both have May as birth months, which doesn't match our records. 1905 and 1910 census show that she and Michael are the same age, but by the 1930 census she is 2 years younger than him.

The 1900 U.S. Census shows Katie Murphy, 27yrs. old, as a servant in the house of John Russell and his family, a dry goods salesman at 327 Rutland Road in Brooklyn. She arrived in U.S. in 1899 and is not naturalized yet. Michael Murphy is there, a 29 yr. old naturalized citizen who has been in the U.S.

Source Everything!

- ▶ **Everything** that you know about your family has a source.
 - ▶ Your father told you that his great-grandmother's name was Katherine Stokesbury
 - ▶ You found a birth record that said it was Cathern Stokes
 - ▶ You found a marriage record that calls her Kitty Stokes
 - ▶ There is nothing on the back of the only photograph
- ▶ How can you know which is right?
- ▶ Every piece of information can become this complex. Birth dates, death dates, places of birth...



Evaluate Your Sources

- ▶ Some sources are created by the person themselves. And might be more trustworthy... or not.
- ▶ Many records were created by others, census takers, priests and rabbis, immigration workers. They sometimes are misspelled, phonetically spelled, or mis-transcribed later.
- ▶ Whenever possible, look at the image of the original.
- ▶ As you gather more and more information, you might be able to narrow it enough to decide.

Moran, Edward.	Head	0	10,000	R	No	No	W.	40	No	94	No	Yes	Seaside
— Catherine	Wife H.				✓	W.	29	No	23	No	Yes	Brooklyn	

No. 3051

ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Department of Commerce and Labor
BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION
DIVISION OF NATURALIZATION

PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION
In the matter of the petition of Patrick Rooney to be admitted a citizen of the United States of America.

To the Court of the Eastern District of New York at Brooklyn, New York.

The petitioner of Patrick Rooney respectfully shows:

First. My full name is Patrick Rooney

Second. My place of residence is number 142 Convent Road Brooklyn New York City of New York

Third. My occupation is Barber

Fourth. I was born on the 15 day of March 1878 at Trullow, Cambridge, Ireland

Fifth. I emigrated to the United States from Ireland on or about the 10 day of April 1900

Sixth. I arrived at the port of New York in the United States on the 21 day of April 1900

Seventh. I declared my intention to become a citizen of the United States on the 21 day of April 1900

Eighth. I was married to Katherine Murphy in the County of Kings State of New York on the 10 day of April 1900

Ninth. I have no children.

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

REGISTRATION CARD
D. S. S. Form 1 (over) 16-17105

Francis J. Murphy (Registrar's signature)

Web-Based Services

Genealogy Web Services



- ▶ While you can do genealogy completely on paper, the old-fashioned way, web-based genealogy sites help you:
 - ▶ Organize your tree
 - ▶ Attach sources to the information
 - ▶ Include photographs and images of documents
 - ▶ Conduct research using digitized records
 - ▶ View other people's family trees and research
 - ▶ Contact other members of the site to collaborate on research
 - ▶ Test and compare DNA results to other members of the site.
 - ▶ Family Search is the only one that is free but it also creates one giant tree that you add to rather than controlling your own tree.



Choosing Which One to Use

- ▶ Cost: membership options (monthly, 6 months, annual); levels of membership (US/World; premium memberships, etc.)
- ▶ Strength of coverage for the locations you are interested in
- ▶ Number of subscribers (you are able to search their family trees too)
- ▶ Consider opening accounts on more than one even if you don't subscribe each year.
- ▶ Most (not Find My Past) allow you to build a family tree and download/back it up as a GEDCOM file that you can import into any of these sites. So you are not stuck forever in the one you choose first.

Ancestry.com

- US/Europe/Canada
- 3 million subscribers, >20 billion records.

My Heritage

- Europe/Canada/US
- 50 million users; worldwide; 13 billion records

Family Tree Search.org

- US/Europe/Canada
- 1.6 million users; 6.3 billion records.

Find My Past.com

- Britain and Ireland
- 2 billion records

Geneanet.org

- French
- 4 million members; 6 billion entries

Filae.com

- French records

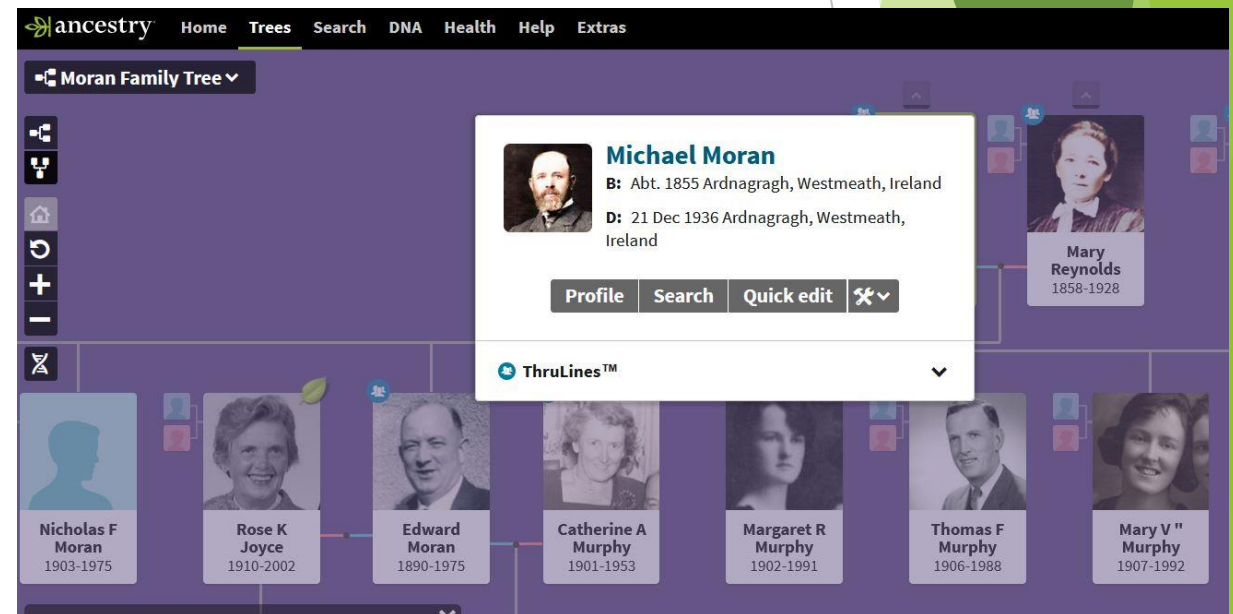
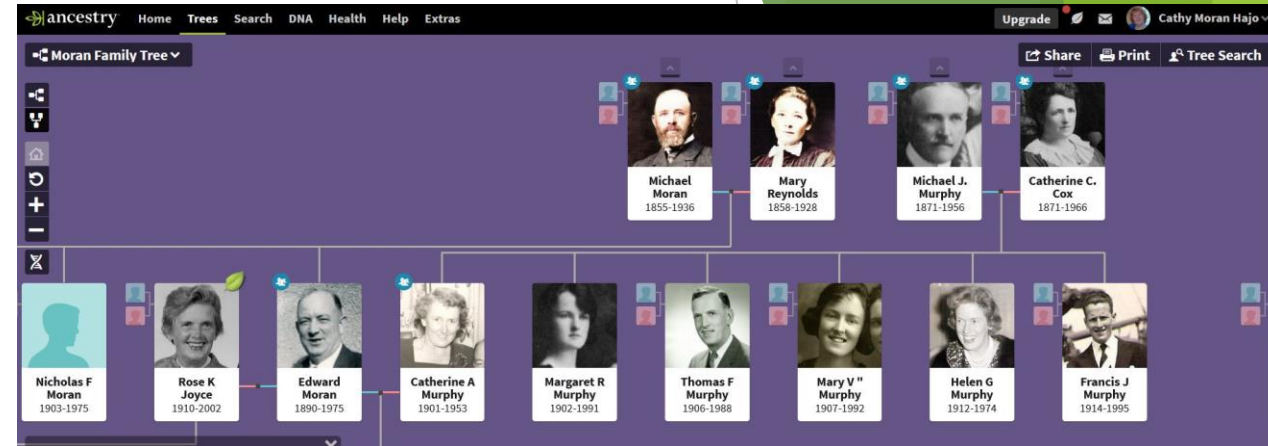
Adding DNA?

- ▶ DNA testing adds a unique and powerful way to make connections with other researchers and break down barriers.
- ▶ Companies like [23andMe](#) do testing but do not offer family trees resources on their site.
- ▶ MyHeritage and [Family Tree DNA](#) allow you to upload DNA to their sites, but Ancestry and 23andMe do not.
- ▶ If you are thinking that you want to use DNA as part of your family history research, this is another consideration.

- Ancestry - 15 million DNA kits
- 23 and Me - 9 million
- My Heritage - 10 million
- FamilyTreeDNA - 2 million
- AfricanAncestry - 500 thousand

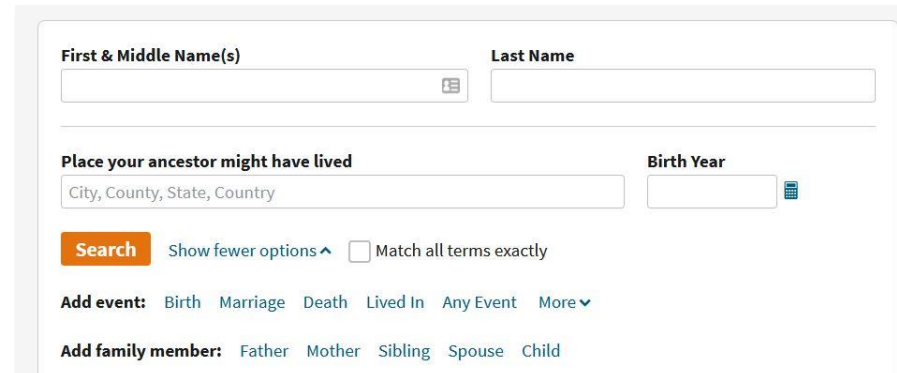
Creating Your Tree

- ▶ Each site looks a little different, but all are set to help you start a tree, adding your information and then expanding it through data entry, and searches of their records.
- ▶ Then add your parents, grandparents, siblings, etc. Adding photos can bring the tree to life.
- ▶ As you build the tree, you can then use the service's "search" functions to find historical records, or other trees with more information.
- ▶ Ancestry's well known "hints" that appear as leaves on your tree help to highlight places to find more information.



Searching Genealogy Services

- ▶ You can also search directly in the resource database.
- ▶ Most sites have similar search functions.
- ▶ Add the information that you know about the person and narrow the search by date or geographical region.



First & Middle Name(s) Last Name

Place your ancestor might have lived Birth Year

City, County, State, Country

Search Show fewer options ☐ Match all terms exactly

Add event: Birth Marriage Death Lived In Any Event More ▾

Add family member: Father Mother Sibling Spouse Child

Keyword
Occupation, street address, etc.

Gender Race/Nationality

-- Select --

Collection Focus
Canada



Search Historical Records
Search for a deceased ancestor in historical records to uncover vital information from their life.

Deceased Ancestor's Information
Name | [Alternate Name](#)

First Names Last Names

Search with a life event:
Birth | [Marriage](#) | [Residence](#) | [Death](#) | [Any](#)

Birthplace Birth Year (Range)
From To

Search with a relationship:
[Spouse](#) | [Father](#) | [Mother](#) | [Other Person](#)

Restrict records by:
Location | [Type](#) | [Batch Number](#) | [Film Number](#)

Country State or Province

Research By Location

Click an area of the world to start researching in a specific location.

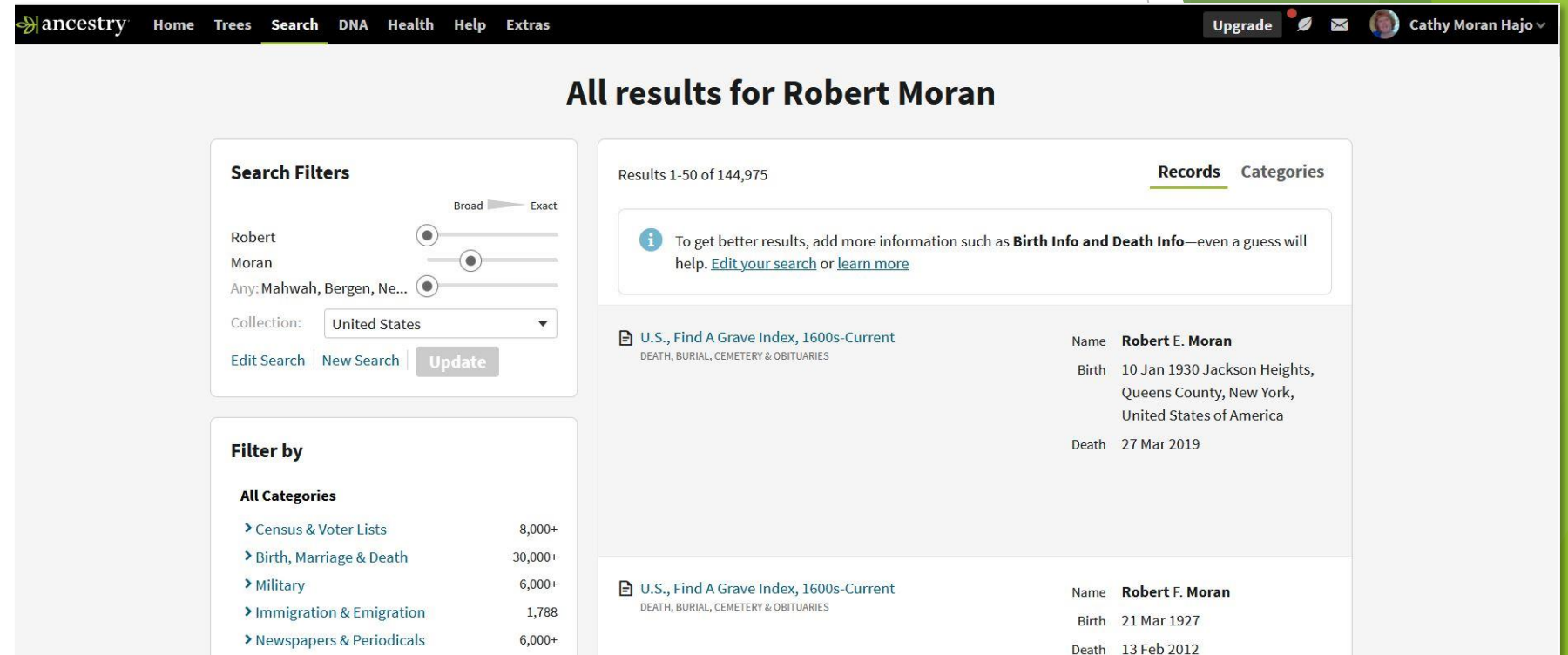


Find a Collection

Researching within a specific collection? Find it here.

Results Pages

- ▶ Results pages are sorted to try to present the closest matches at the top.
- ▶ Many people have the same names, and you need to take care to ensure that you have found the correct person.
- ▶ That preliminary research that you did will help here.



The screenshot shows the Ancestry website interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links: Home, Trees, Search, DNA, Health, Help, Extras. On the right of the navigation bar are links for Upgrade, a notification icon, an email icon, and a user profile for Cathy Moran Hajo. The main heading is "All results for Robert Moran". Below this, there are two tabs: "Records" (selected) and "Categories". The search filters on the left include: "Search Filters" with a slider from Broad to Exact, a text input for "Robert Moran", a dropdown for "Any: Mahwah, Bergen, Ne...", a dropdown for "Collection: United States", and buttons for "Edit Search", "New Search", and "Update". Below the filters is a "Filter by" section with "All Categories" and a list of categories with counts: "Census & Voter Lists" (8,000+), "Birth, Marriage & Death" (30,000+), "Military" (6,000+), "Immigration & Emigration" (1,788), and "Newspapers & Periodicals" (6,000+). The main results area shows "Results 1-50 of 144,975". The first result is from "U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current" and lists details for "Robert E. Moran": Name, Birth (10 Jan 1930 Jackson Heights, Queens County, New York, United States of America), and Death (27 Mar 2019). The second result is also from "U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current" and lists details for "Robert F. Moran": Name, Birth (21 Mar 1927), and Death (13 Feb 2012).

Search Filters

Robert
Moran
Any: Mahwah, Bergen, Ne...
Collection: United States
[Edit Search](#) [New Search](#) [Update](#)

Filter by

All Categories

- ▶ Census & Voter Lists 8,000+
- ▶ Birth, Marriage & Death 30,000+
- ▶ Military 6,000+
- ▶ Immigration & Emigration 1,788
- ▶ Newspapers & Periodicals 6,000+

All results for Robert Moran

Results 1-50 of 144,975

Records **Categories**

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current
DEATH, BURIAL, CEMETERY & OBITUARIES

Name **Robert E. Moran**
Birth 10 Jan 1930 Jackson Heights, Queens County, New York, United States of America
Death 27 Mar 2019

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current
DEATH, BURIAL, CEMETERY & OBITUARIES

Name **Robert F. Moran**
Birth 21 Mar 1927
Death 13 Feb 2012

Each service will have different ways to filter and narrow the search, to make it more accurate.

Be careful!

- ▶ It is easy to accept information that you find willy-nilly, but stop, look, and read before adding new people or information to your tree.
- ▶ Does it make sense with what you already know?
- ▶ Does it make logical sense? (ex. birth dates too soon after marriages, marriages when groom is only 13)
- ▶ Is there enough information to be sure that the person in the record is the right person? If not, look critically and carefully.
- ▶ Make notes if something seems a little hinky.

Children (5)

- Edward Joseph Moran B: 1925
- Robert Francis Moran B: 1927
- Richard James Moran B: 1929
- Paul Thomas Moran B: 1930

Parents

- Michael Moran B: 1855-1936
- Mary Reynolds B: 1858-1928

Other spouses (1)

Save Print Share

Edward Moran

in the U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007

No Image Text-only collection

Add or update information Report a problem

Name:	Edward Moran
Gender:	Male
Birth Date:	1 Jan 1890
Birth Place:	Drumraney We, Republic of Ireland
Father:	Michael Moran
Mother:	Mary Reynolds
SSN:	097382421
Notes:	Jun 1963: Name listed as EDWARD MORAN

Save

Source Information

Suggested Records ?

- 1940 United States Federal Census Edward Moran
- Florida, U.S., Death Index, 1877-1998 Edward Moran
- 1930 United States Federal Census Edward Moran
- Web: Ireland, Census, 1911 Edward Moran
- U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014 Edward Moran
- U.S., Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850-2010 Edward Moran

The birth date here is not correct. But everything else is.

Be especially careful!

- ▶ Copying whole families and individuals from other people's trees is incredibly easy.
- ▶ Stop and make sure that you trust the source.
- ▶ Just like your tree, the other tree should have sources linked to their information.
- ▶ So if your tree has a sourced death date and another tree has an unsourced date that is different. . . Who are you going to trust?
- ▶ It is easy to introduce errors, so take your time and go slow.

The image displays three different genealogical profiles for a person named Patrick Murphy, illustrating how information can be copied or misinterpreted across different family trees.

Gorman Family Tree
Owner: [D. Conaty](#)
Patrick Murphy
BIRTH Abt. 1810 Diocese of Ferns, County Wexford, Ireland
DEATH
sources (3) records (2)
Family Info:
Father James Murphy* (1770-)
Mother Mother 2
Spouse Anne Kelly* (1815-)
Married 1833
Children Mary (-)
Margaret (1836-)
Ellen (1839-)
Thomas (1840-1883)

Brasley Family Tree
Owner: [John Brasley](#)
Patrick Murphy
BIRTH 1814 Wexford, Ireland
DEATH Dec 1896 **DIFFERENT** Wexford, Ireland
Family Info:
Father Murphy
Mother
Spouse Anne Kelly (-1885)
Children Ellen (1839-1911)
Thomas (1840-)

Moran Family Tree
Your Tree
Patrick Murphy
BIRTH Abt. 1814 Wexford, Ireland
DEATH Abt. Nov 1896 Wexford, Ireland
sources (7) records (5) photos (2)
Family Info:
Father Oldest Murphy
Mother Mother ?
Spouse Anne Kelly (1815-1885)
Married 1833
Children Ellen (1839-)
Thomas (1840-1883)
Mary (1842-)

James Murphy*
BIRTH ABT. 1770 • Ireland
DEATH Unknown
LifeStory **Facts** Gallery
Facts:
Name James Murphy*
Gender Male
Birth Abt. 1770 • Ireland
* Gussed this could be a James based on traditional Irish naming custom prior to Great Famine
Sources:
No sources
Search on Ancestry

Saving Records to Your Tree

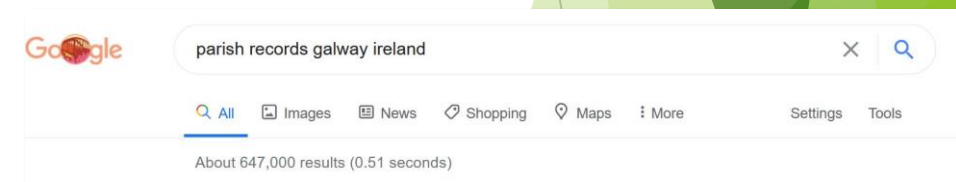
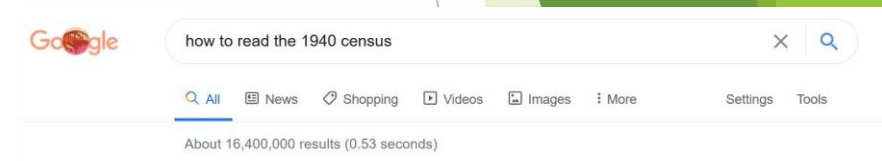
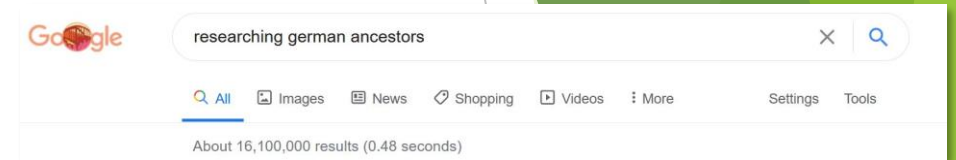
- ▶ To document the information you find in the records, most services allow you to “Save the Record to Your Tree.”
 - ▶ This updates and adds information from the record to the entry
 - ▶ And links the resource to the information.
 - ▶ You can also make notes about any discrepancies.

The screenshot displays the Ancestry.com profile for Edward Moran. At the top, a purple header contains a portrait of Edward Moran, his name, and key dates: BIRTH 12 FEB 1890 • Drumraney, Westmeath, Ireland and DEATH 21 FEB 1975 • Port Charlotte, Charlotte, Florida, USA. Below this, a navigation bar includes links like 'View in Tree', 'View Notes', 'View Comments', 'Merge with Duplicate', 'Save to Tree', 'Print', and 'Member Connect'. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'Facts' (with a 'Filter' and 'Add' button), 'Sources' (with an 'Add' button), and 'Family' (with an 'Add' button). The 'Facts' section shows 'Name' (Edward Moran, 11 Sources), 'Gender' (Male), and 'Birth' (12 Feb 1890 • Drumraney, Westmeath, Ireland, with a note: 'Specific area says Killinam. This is near Drumraney, which is where we thought he was from.' and 11 Sources, 2 Media). The 'Sources' section lists '1930 United States Federal Census' (with a 'View' button), '1940 United States Federal Census', 'Ancestry Family Trees', 'Florida Death Index, 1877-1998', and 'New York City, Marriage Indexes, 1907-1995'. The 'Family' section shows 'Parents' (Michael Moran 1855-1936 and Mary Reynolds 1858-1928), 'Siblings' (Catherine Agnes Murphy 1901-1953 and Edward Joseph Moran Jr. 1925-2009), and 'Spouse & Children' (Robert Francis Moran). A vertical timeline on the left shows the birth date 1890 (AGE) and the birth date 1890.

Other Web Resources

Web-Based Genealogical Resources

- ▶ There is a world of help out there! In 2014, USA Today reported that genealogy was the second-most visited category of websites (um, porn was #1)
- ▶ From basic guides to helping you get started to extremely detailed sites about specific families or places, there will be something to help you out.
- ▶ [Ancestry Academy](#) 5-minute videos on different records, countries, and methodologies are a good start.
- ▶ [National Genealogical Society Learning Center](#) offers written pages for help.
- ▶ [Family Search](#) has a wiki with almost 100,000 articles with guides to getting started, resources in various countries, and links to research tips.
- ▶ You can also buy books with lots more advice.



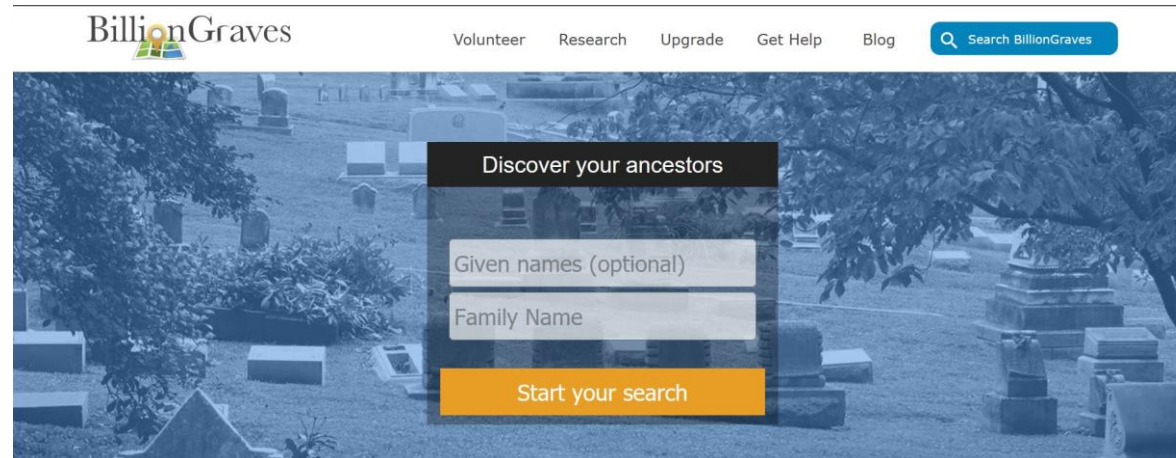
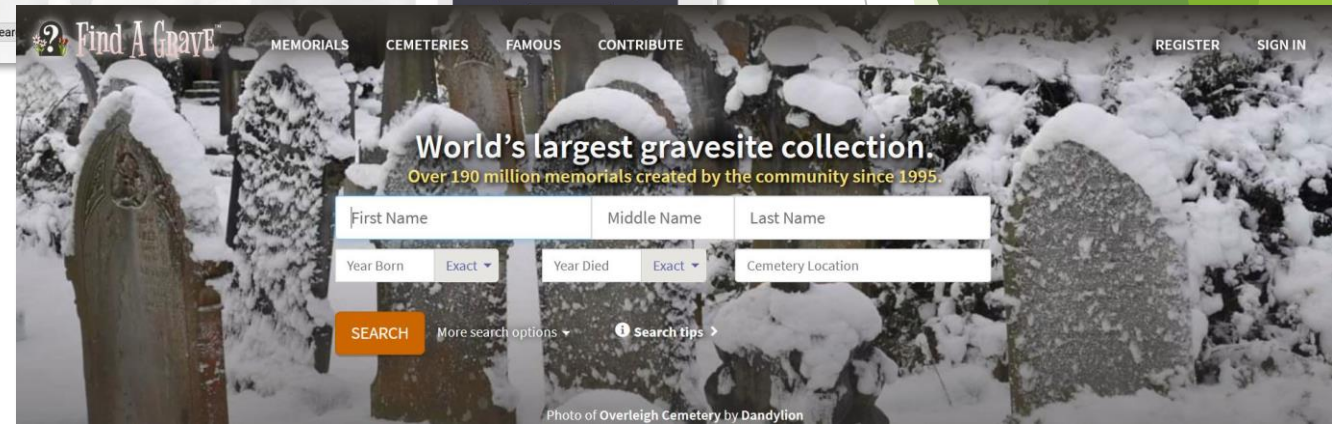
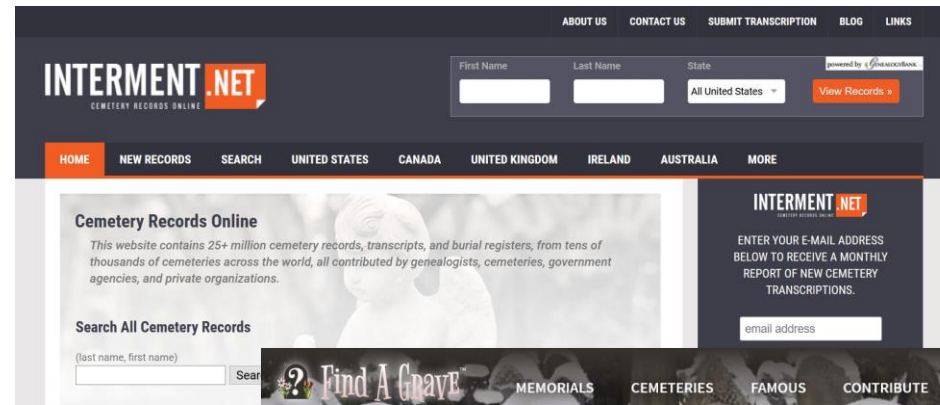
Newspaper Sites

- ▶ Newspapers are a great resource to pursue in addition to genealogical records.
 - ▶ Births, weddings, obituaries often provide details on other family members to help fill in tree.
 - ▶ Other news articles provide a deeper picture of a person and where they worked, worshipped, and what they did for recreation.
- ▶ More and more are being digitized both here and abroad.
 - ▶ With newspapers it is all about place unless your ancestor is extremely famous. Waiting for newspapers in a country, town, or state to be digitized can be frustrating, but using microfilm and papers copies with no search is no fun either!
- ▶ Ancestry integrates Newspapers.com searches in its results, but you have to purchase a separate subscription.
- ▶ Free newspaper searches almost always cover the pre-1925 years because of copyright.
- ▶ See [Newspapers.com](https://www.newspapers.com) (pay) and [Chronicling America](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov) (free) to get started.



Graveyard Sites

- ▶ Another great free internet resource are sites that record headstones. These can allow you to find images and other biographical materials that people post to help the genealogy community.
- ▶ Ancestry.com includes Find A Grave results in their searches with links.
- ▶ Internment.Net
- ▶ BillionGraves.com
- ▶ FindAGrave.com



Graveyard Sites

- ▶ Again, be careful. Sometimes these sites have more information than appears on the gravestone and it is not always sourced.
- ▶ And. . . Gravestones are not always correct. Likely the death date is accurate, but birthdates might be off.
- ▶ Graveyard sites also let you browse by cemetery, so that when you find one family member you can look to see if there are more.

Robert William Peterson

BIRTH 19 Dec 1925
Warren, Warren County, Pennsylvania, USA

DEATH 11 Feb 2006 (aged 80)
Salisbury, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, USA

BURIAL [Union Cemetery](#)
Ramsey, Bergen County, New Jersey, USA

MEMORIAL ID 13327496 · [View Source](#)

Photo added by [Decal](#)

SHARE + SAVE TO SUGGEST EDITS

+ Add Photos + Request Photo

MEMORIAL PHOTOS 2 FLOWERS 48

Author. Best known for his groundbreaking 1970 book, "Only The Ball Was White" which documented the history of the Negro Baseball League before Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier. He began his writing career as a journalist with the New York World Telegram but lost his job when they went out of business in 1966. He began writing freelance articles for various publications such as Boys Life and Scouting. Many of his freelance articles also appeared in the New York Times Magazine and Sports Illustrated. In 2002, Sports Illustrated listed "Only The Ball Was White" as one of the 100 best sports books of all time. Using his research method of relying primarily on oral histories, he also authored "The Boy Scouts: An American Adventure", "Cages To Jumpshots: Pro Basketball's Early Years", and "Pigskin: The Early Years of Pro Football".

Bio by: [Decal](#)

Added by Cindy

Decal
MEMBER FOR 18 years · 8 months · 24 days
FIND A GRAVE ID 46534001

Not accepting messages. [Follow](#)

Bio
The focus of a biography is memorializing the individual's life with preference to an originally written biography. Those who index and memorialize the deceased from newspapers and other third party accounts should do so with full respect of copyright, refrain from adding information about living people, and respond generously to the family of the deceased.

Following
[Gary](#) [Find a member](#)

Contributions

Memorials Added	16,441	Virtual Cemeteries	7
Memorials Managed	15,917	Famous Bios	64
Memorials per Week	17	Fame Ratings	6
Photos Added	21,596	Sponsorships	29
Volunteer Photos Taken	24	Followers	51
Flowers Added	2,392		

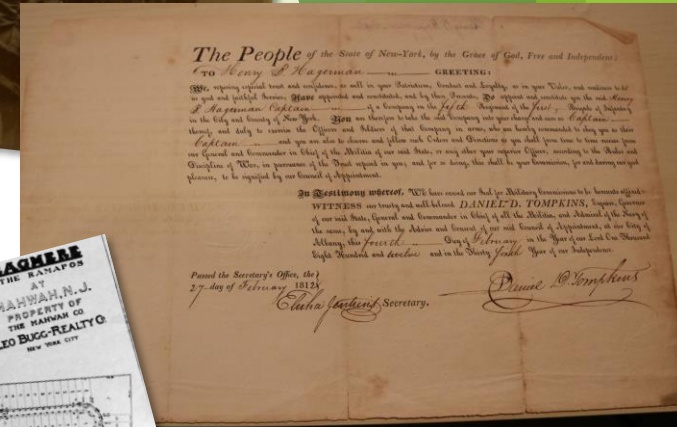
Advertisement

Search memorial contributions by Decal

First Name Last Name [Search](#)

Local History Groups

- ▶ Family history is often about place. Local history groups that focus on the region where your ancestors came from are a valuable resource.
- ▶ The **Mahwah Museum** has an amazing collection of photographs of residents in the 19th and 20th century, maps, and records that document tax payments, addresses and other information about early residents. (Website: <https://mahwahmuseum.org/research/>)
- ▶ Reach out to libraries, historical societies and museums in the areas that your family lived. Do give them as much information as you can about when and where they lived.



Genealogy Groups

- ▶ You can join genealogy groups on Facebook and other platforms that focus on the study of a particular surname or location.
- ▶ DNA-based groups are becoming more widespread as more people test. They often ask that members used GEDMATCH, a site where you can share DNA from different websites so that people can look for matches.



Dunmore DNA & Ancestry

Private group

About

Discussion

Announcements

Members

Events

FROM NOTIFICATIONS



Cathy Moran Hajo

March 18, 2018

Thanks for letting me join this group. My Dunmore ancestors are on my mother's side. Her mother was Anne King (1901-1990) the daughter of Owen King (1872-1921) and Catherine Joyce (1869-1923). My great-grandparents were Bartholomew King (1836-1923) and Anne Boyle (1838-1914), Stephen Joyce (1838-?) and Margaret Lowrey (1838-1911). We haven't got a lot of information on my grandmother's side, so am hoping that DNA will help to crack the case. She had two brothers, Stephen King...
[See More](#)



So Much Out There!

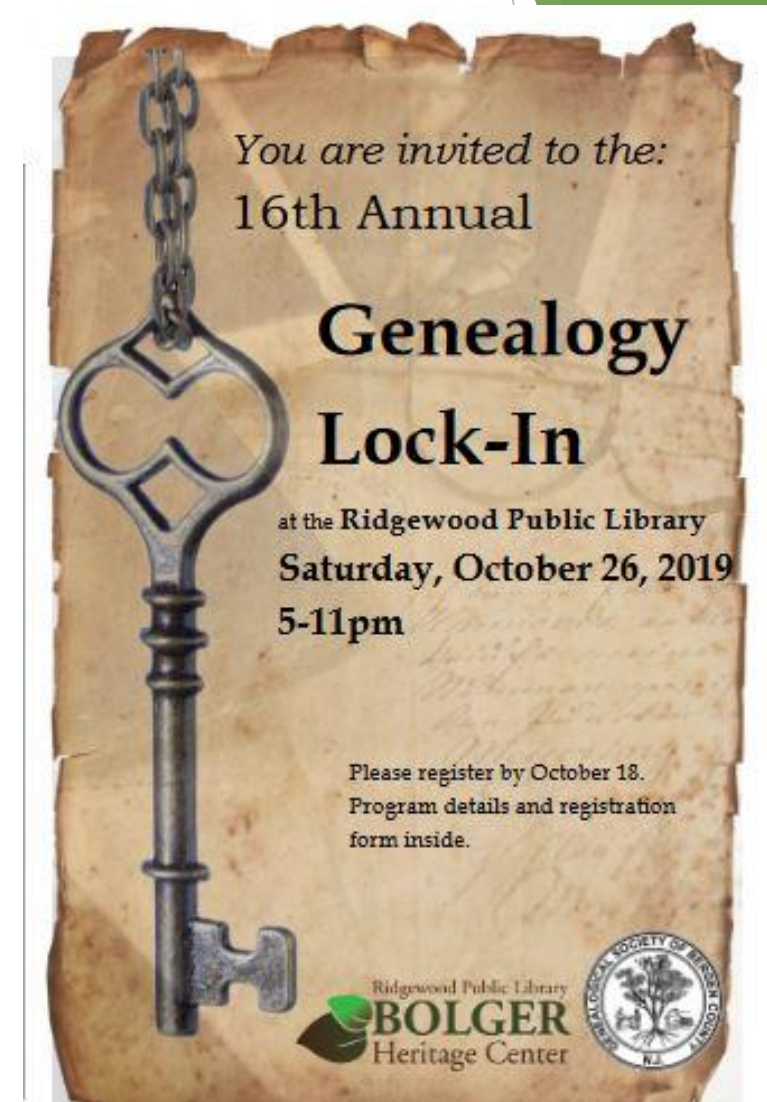
- ▶ Create a list of sites that you think you will use often so that you don't forget them.
- ▶ Participate in chats and discussion boards on genealogy to find more places to look.
- ▶ Take your time - you won't be able to keep up with all the new things that are added anyway!



Local Resources

Bolger Heritage Center

- ▶ There are some great local resources to help you as you expand your family tree.
- ▶ The Bolger Center at the Ridgewood Library is an amazing resource.
 - ▶ Subscriptions to Ancestry.com, Newspapers.com and other resources.
 - ▶ Local history archive if your family is from Bergen County.
 - ▶ Annual “lock-in” event. Virtual last year.
- ▶ Website:
<https://www.ridgewoodlibrary.org/localhistory>



Genealogical Society of Bergen County

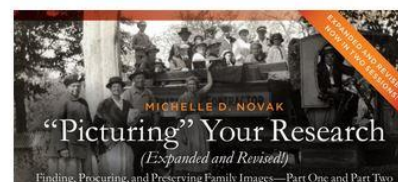
- ▶ Also housed at the Ridgewood Public Library, this group
- ▶ Puts on lectures and events of interest
- ▶ Free consultations with genealogical experts
- ▶ Newsletter with useful tips
- ▶ Website: <https://www.njgsbc.org/>



Genealogical Society of Bergen County, NJ
A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION



Read "Ellis Island and the Great Spanish Flu of 1918" by Torri Brouhard and Jim Peskin—A recent article published in "The Archivist"



Climb Your Family Tree!

- ▶ In no time, your tree will grow as you learn more and more about where your family came from.
- ▶ It is a very rewarding hobby that helps connect you to the past.
- ▶ These slides will be posted on the Museum's website with working links so you can follow up on any sites you are interested in.
- ▶ Any questions?!?

