# Using AI in Family History Research

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THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER

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# Overview

- What is Artificial Intelligence (AI)?
- Examples of Artificial Intelligence Tools
- How can AI Be Used for Genealogy?
- What AI Can't Do (for Genealogy)
- Copyright and Other Legal Concerns

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# What is Artificial Intelligence (AI)?

# Definition

- "the theory and development of computer systems able to perform tasks that normally require human intelligence, such as visual perception, speech recognition, decision-making, and translation between languages."

  -Source: Oxford Dictionary

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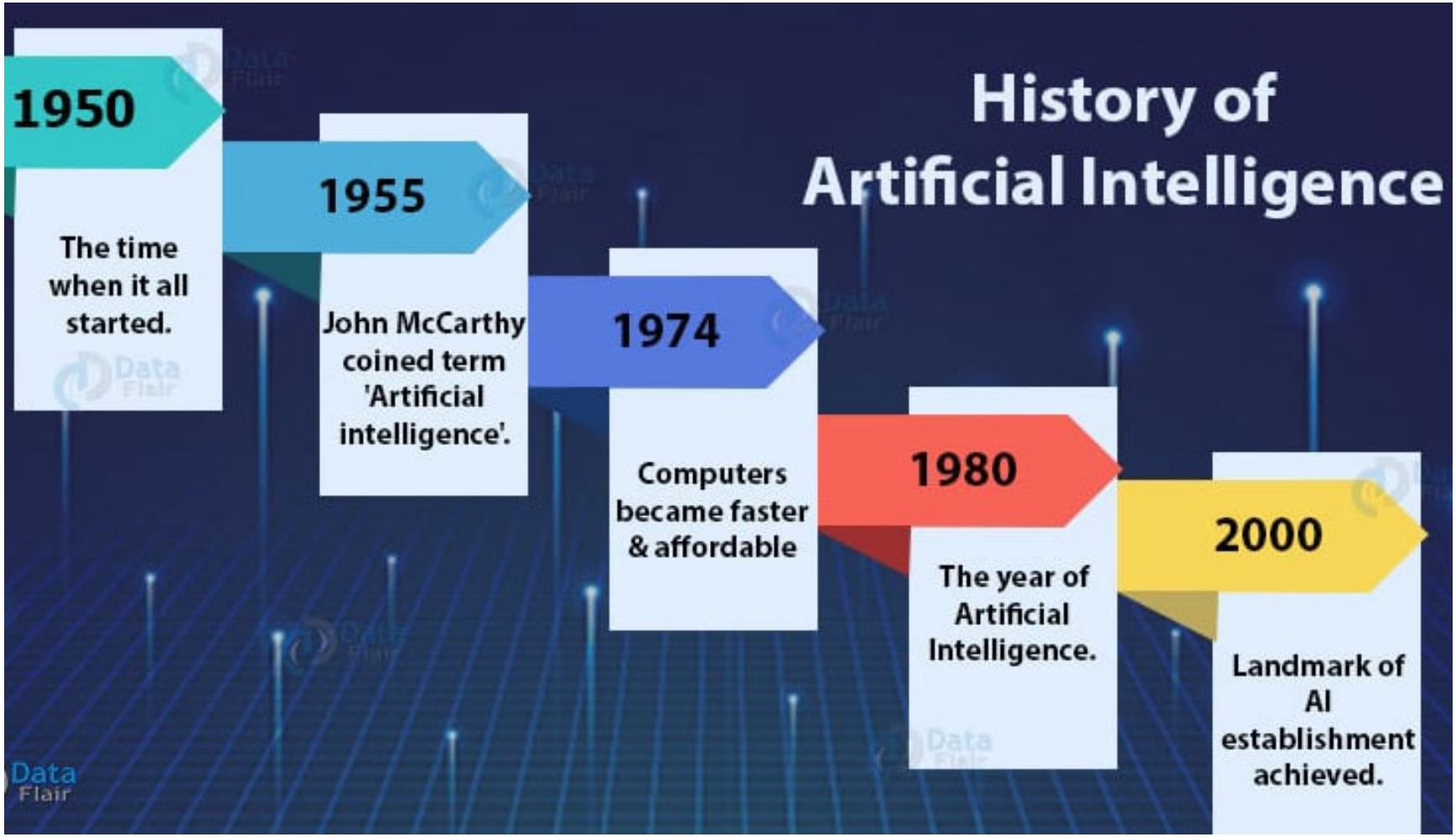
# History of AI




**Credit: https://data-flair.training/blogs/history-of-artificial-intelligence/**

# Examples of Artificial Intelligence Tools

# Chatbots

- Conversational platform where you can ask questions of an AI tool
- Provide instant responses to your questions, commands, etc.
- Available 24/7
- Personalized recommendations
- Used for customer service in many industries

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# AI Chatbots

- ChatGPT
- Gemini (Google)
- Bing Chat (Microsoft)
- Claude
- Perplexity
- Watson Assistant (IBM)
- ChatSpot (HubSpot)
- And many more!

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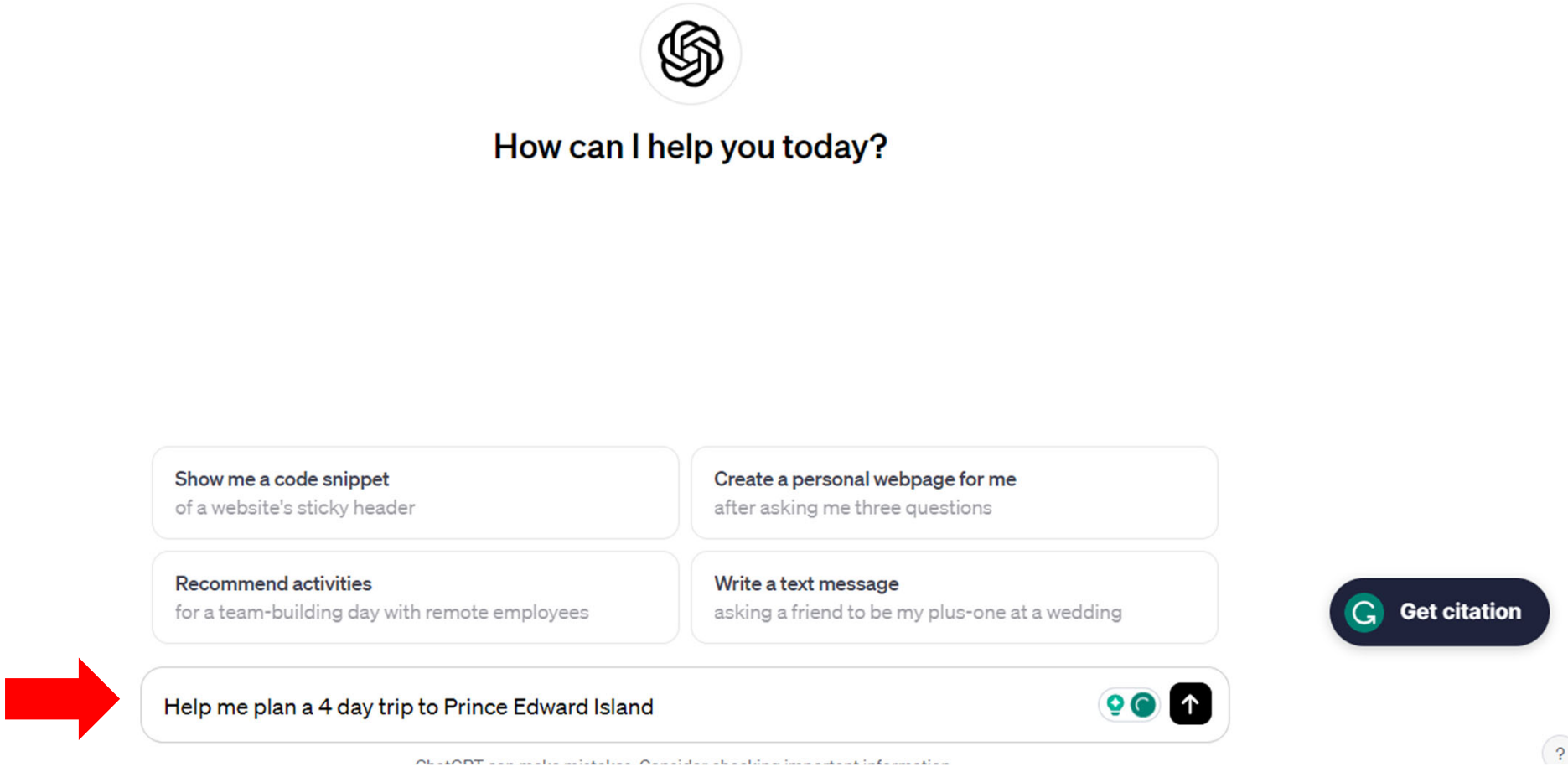


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**You**

Help me plan a 4 day trip to Prince Edward Island

**ChatGPT**

Absolutely! Prince Edward Island (PEI) is a beautiful destination with plenty to see and do. Here's a suggested itinerary for a 4-day trip:

### Day 1: Arrival and Charlottetown Exploration

- **Morning:** Arrive in Charlottetown, the capital of PEI.
- **Afternoon:** Explore the city:
  - Visit Province House National Historic Site.
  - Take a stroll along Victoria Row and visit local shops.
- **Evening:** Enjoy a delicious seafood dinner at a local restaurant.

### Day 2: North Shore Adventure

- **Morning:** Head towards the North Shore.
- **Mid-morning:** Visit Green Gables Heritage Place (inspiration for Anne of Green Gables).
- **Afternoon:** Drive along the scenic Gulf Sh Parkway, stop at Cavendish Beach, and enjoy the stunning coastal views.

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- **Evening:** Return to Charlottetown for dinner or try a local seafood spot along the way.

### Day 3: Eastern PEI Exploration

- **Morning:** Drive to East Point Lighthouse, the most eastern point of the island.
- **Midday:** Explore the nearby Basin Head Provincial Park and its "singing sands" beach.
- **Afternoon:** Visit the picturesque town of Souris and stroll around the harbor.
- **Evening:** Enjoy fresh seafood at a local restaurant.

### Day 4: South Shore and Departure

- **Morning:** Head to the south shore.
- **Mid-morning:** Visit the town of Summerside and explore its historic sites.
- **Afternoon:** Drive along the Red Sands Shore and visit any beaches or landmarks you missed earlier in the trip.
- **Evening:** Depending on your departure time, grab a last meal or snack before leaving PEI.

### Additional Tips:

- **Food:** Try local seafood, especially lobster, oysters, and mussels.
- **Scenic Drives:** Take advantage of the beautiful drives along the coastline.
- **Cultural Events:** Check for any local events, concerts, or festivals happening during your stay.

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# Other Types of AI Tools

- Translation tools (ex. Google Translate)
- Social media content creation (ex. Buffer)
- Image generators (ex. Bing Image Creator, DALLE (Open AI))
- Writing assistants (ex. Grammarly)

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# How Can AI Be Used for Genealogy?

# Examples

- Provide research assistance
- Summarize and extract information from text of a document
- Colorize black and white photos
- Translate records into another language
- Transcribing and indexing handwritten records
- Transcribing and indexing newspaper articles
- Create ancestor biographies
- And more!

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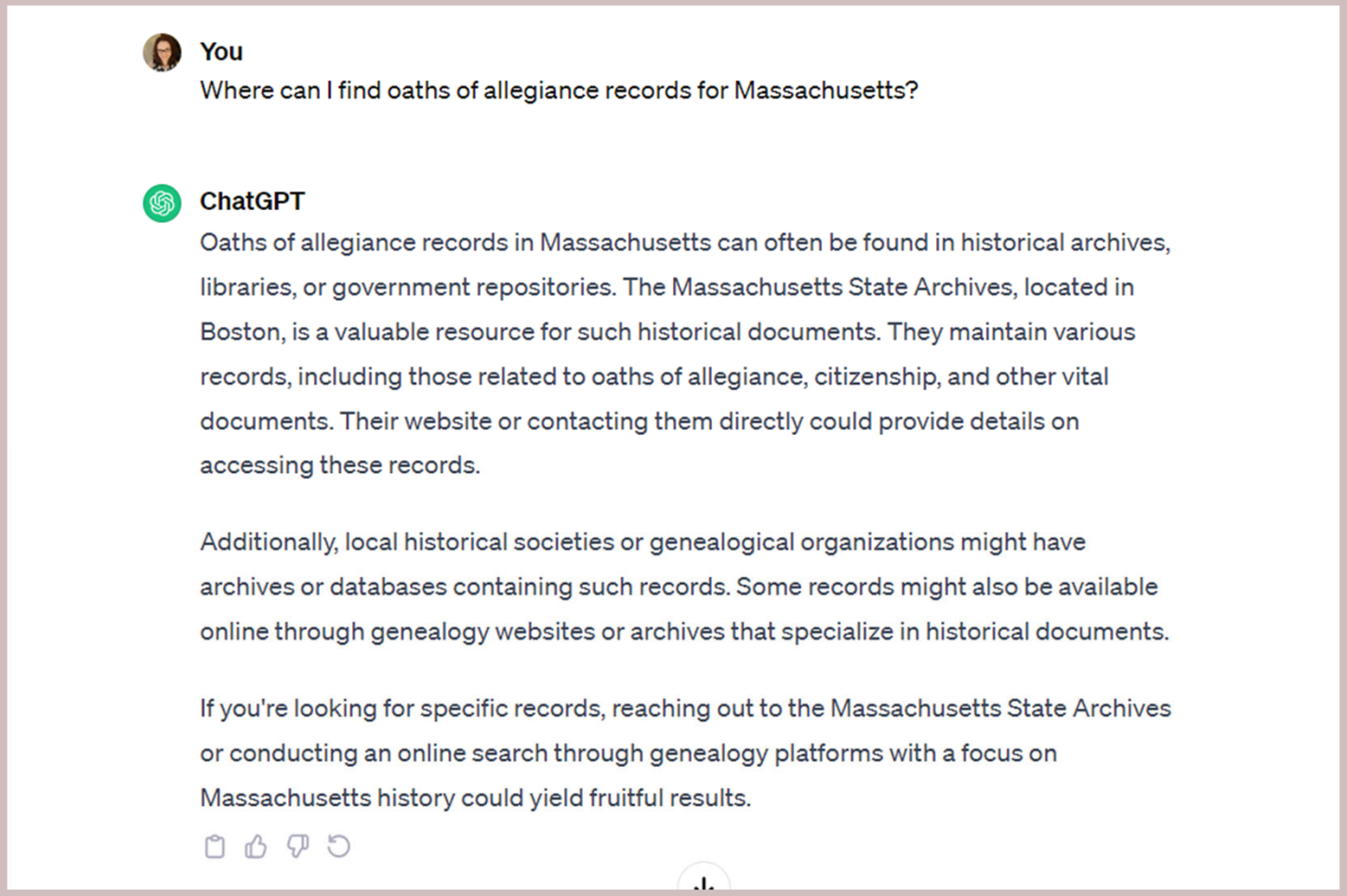
# ChatGPT

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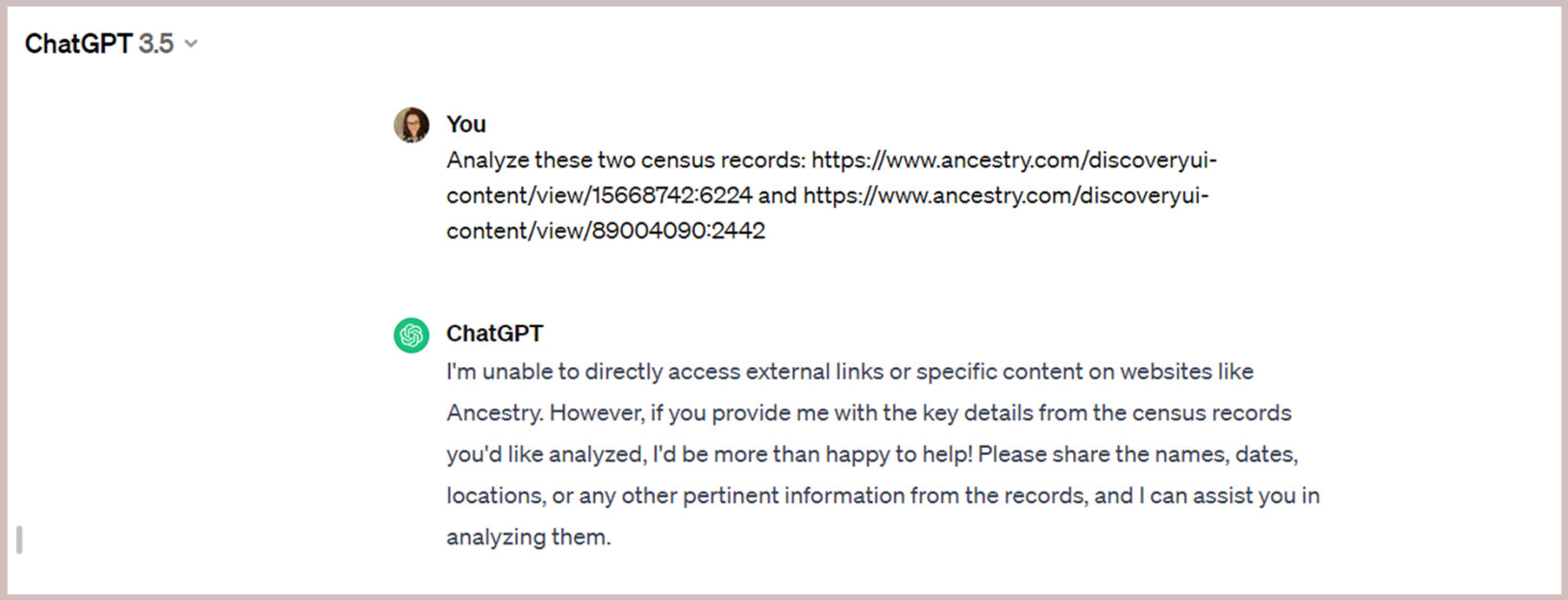
# Comparing Census Records

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# How to Compare Census Records

- Paste the details from the census transcription page from FamilySearch, AmericanAncestors, Ancestry, etc. into ChatGPT
- Ask ChatGPT to compare against another census and paste the other census details

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Age at First Marriage 26
Attended School No
Able to Read and Write Yes
Father's Birthplace Canada
Mother's Birthplace Canada
Language Spoken French
Immigration Year 1921
Naturalization First Papers
Able to Speak English Yes
Occupation Carpenter
Industry Bldg Contractor
Class of Worker Wage or salary worker
Employment Yes
Household Members (Name) Age Relationship
Patrick Chaisson 29 Head
Mary Chaisson
26
Wife
Margaret Chaisson
2
Daughter

Placid Chaisson
25
Brother

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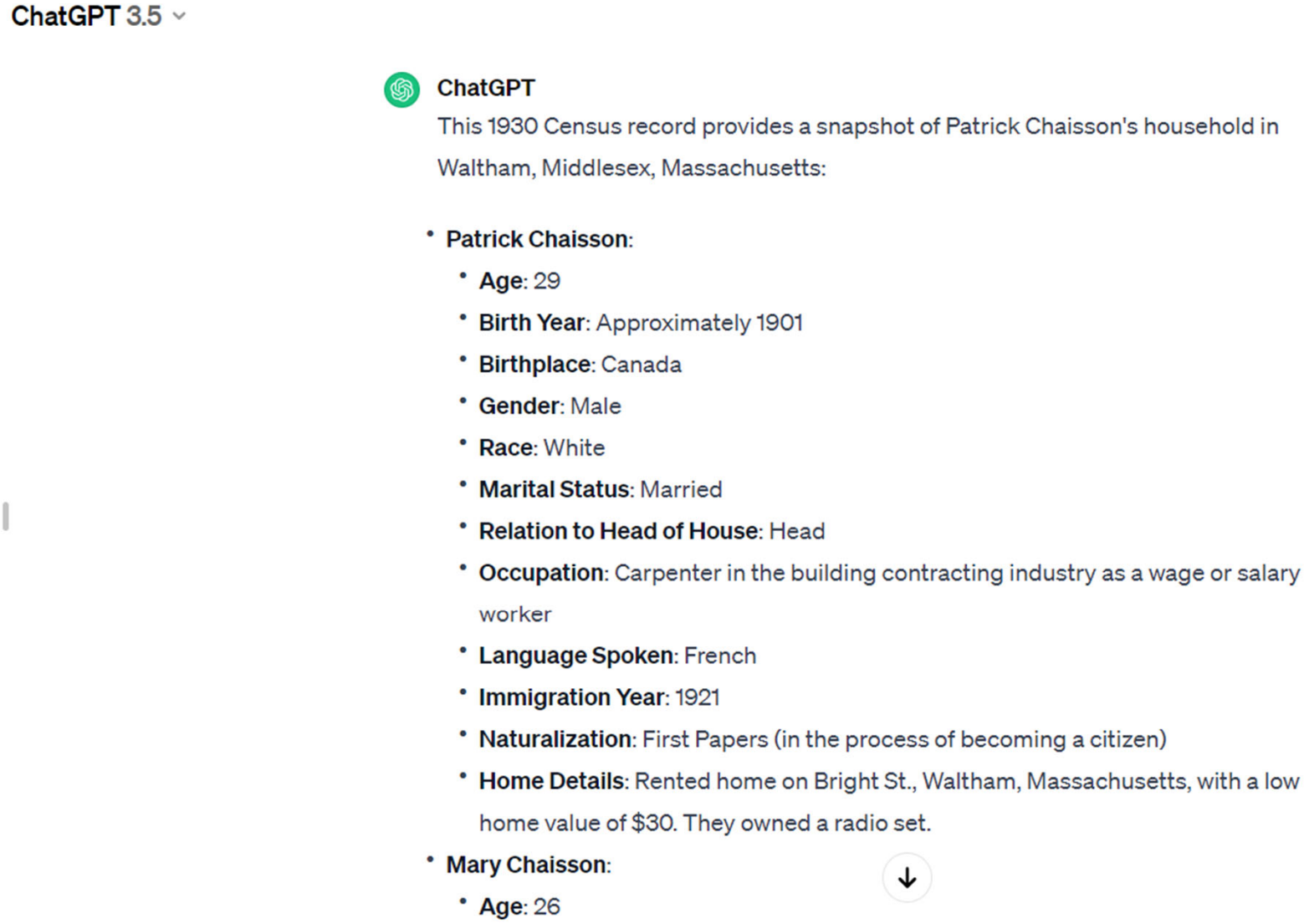


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ChatGPT 3.5

- **Mary Chaisson**:
  - **Age**: 26
  - **Wife** of Patrick Chaisson
- **Margaret Chaisson**:
  - **Age**: 2
  - **Daughter** of Patrick and Mary Chaisson
- **Rita Chaisson**:
  - **Age**: 1
  - **Daughter** of Patrick and Mary Chaisson
- **Placid Chaisson**:
  - **Age**: 25
  - **Brother** of Patrick Chaisson, living in the household

This record highlights details about the family structure, their residence, occupation, language spoken, and immigration history. Patrick, a carpenter working in building contracting, had arrived in the US around 1921 and was in the process of naturalization. The household consisted of his wife, two daughters, and his brother, Placid. They lived in a rented house with modest belongings, indicated by the low home value. The family seemed to maintain a connection to their French heritage, as indicated by the language spoken at home.

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**You**

Compare their change in status with the 1940 census details below for Patrick and his family: Name Patrick E Chaisson
Age 39
Estimated Birth Year abt 1901
Gender Male
Race White
Birthplace Canada French
Marital Status Married
Relation to Head of House Head
Home in 1940 Waltham, Middlesex, Massachusetts
Map of Home in 1940 Waltham, Middlesex, Massachusetts
Street Newton Street
House Number 210
Farm No
Inferred Residence in 1935 Waltham, Middlesex, Massachusetts
Residence in 1935 Waltham
Citizenship Naturalized
Sheet Number 1B
Number of Household in Order of Visitation 19
Occupation Carpenter
House Owned or Rented Rented
Value of Home or Monthly Rental if Rented
Attended School or College No

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Highest Grade Completed Elementary school, 8th grade
Hours Worked Week Prior to Census 48
Class of Worker Wage or salary worker in private work
Weeks Worked in 1939 45
Income 1750
Income Other Sources No
Neighbors View others on page
Household Members (Name) Age Relationship
Patrick E Chaisson 39 Head
Mary C Chaisson
35
Wife
Margareite T Chaisson
12
Daughter
Rita V Chaisson
11
Daughter
Mary C Chaisson
9
Daughter
Doris A Chaisson
8
Daughter

John C Chaisson
5
Son
Patricia D Chaisson
4
Daughter
Joseph P Chaisson
3
Son

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ChatGPT 3.5

**ChatGPT**

Certainly! Here's a comparison of the 1930 and 1940 census records for Patrick Chaisson:

**1930 Census:**

- **Patrick Chaisson** (Age 29):
  - **Occupation**: Carpenter in the building contracting industry.
  - **Family Members**: Wife (Mary), daughters (Margaret and Rita), and brother (Placid).
  - **Home Details**: Rented home on Bright St., Waltham, Massachusetts, with a low home value of $30.

**1940 Census:**

- **Patrick E Chaisson** (Age 39):
  - **Occupation**: Still a carpenter, now working 48 hours a week and earning an income of $1750 in 1939.
  - **Family Members**: Wife (Mary C) and several additional children (Margareite, Rita, Mary C, Doris A, John C, Patricia D, Joseph P).
  - **Home Details**: Rented home on Newton Street, Waltham, Massachusetts, with a reduced home value or rental cost of $

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ChatGPT 3.5

**Changes Observed:**

1. **Family Size**: The family has notably expanded. In 1940, Patrick and Mary have more children compared to 1930. There are now additional daughters (Mary C, Doris A, Patricia D) and a son (John C, Joseph P).
2. **Occupation and Income**: Patrick's occupation remains the same as a carpenter, but there's an increase in the number of hours worked per week (48) compared to the previous census. His income is also specified in 1939, showing an increase in financial stability.
3. **Home Details**: They've moved to a different rented home on Newton Street with a lower recorded home value or rental cost of $15, indicating a change in their housing situation.

The most significant changes involve the growth of the family, with more children born within the decade between the two census records. Patrick's work hours have increased, possibly indicating improved job stability or a rise in demand for his skills in carpentry. The move to a different rented home could suggest either a change in circumstances or a relocation for various reasons.

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# Claude

- Allows you to upload attachments in PDF, txt, csv file formats
- Size limit 10 MB
- Great for summarizing documentation when you don't have it available to copy and paste, or if the file is very long.

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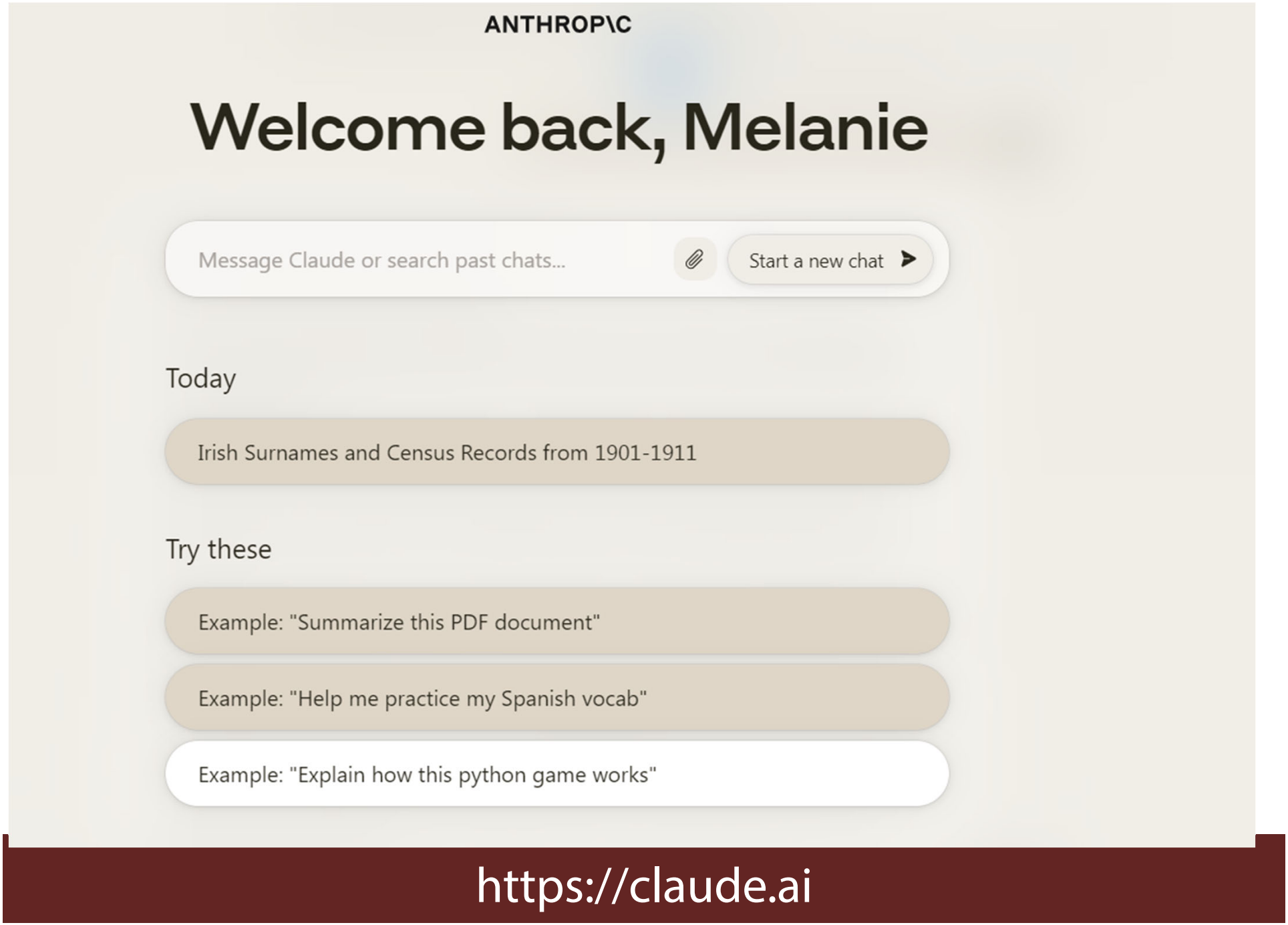


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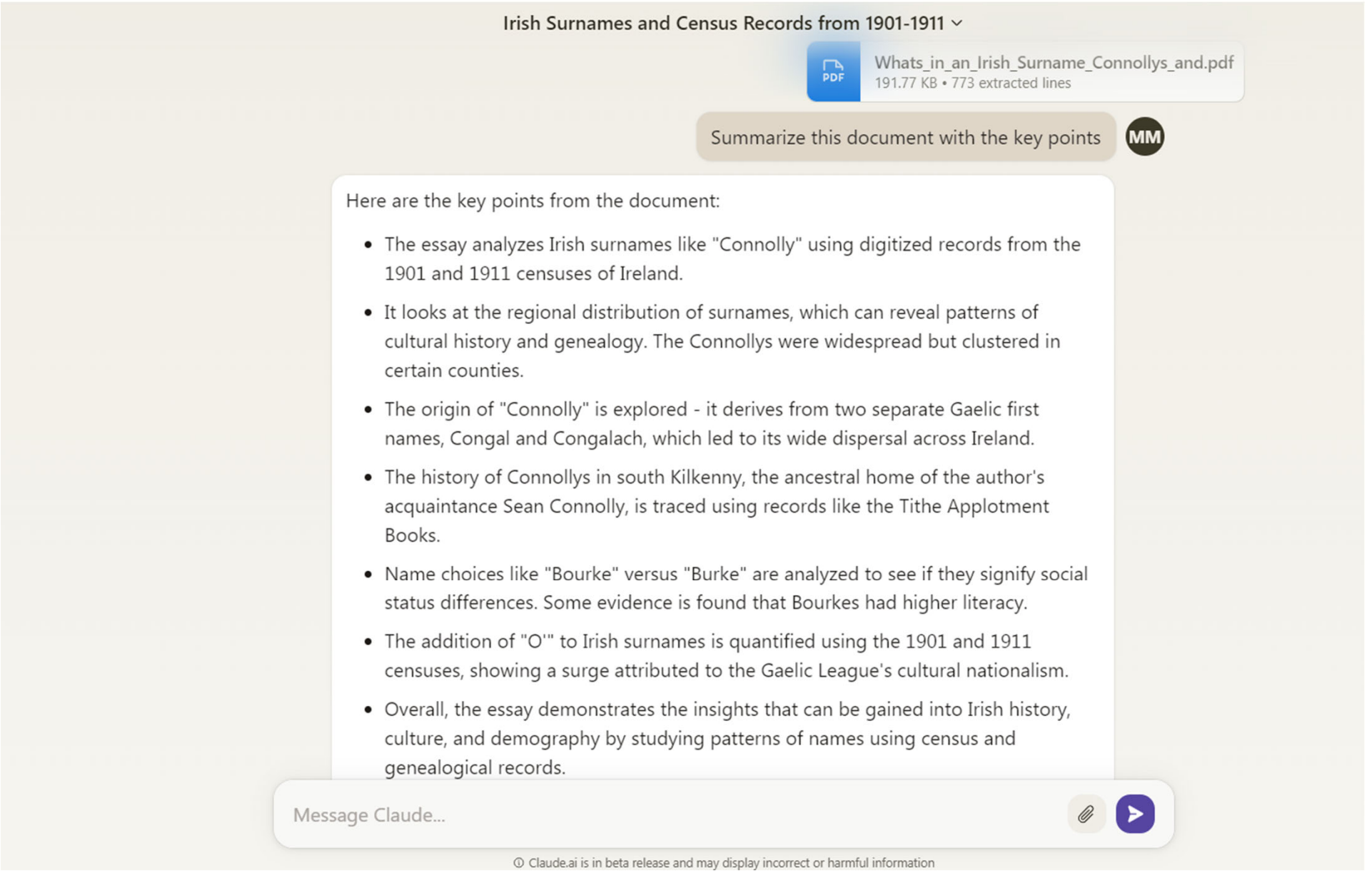


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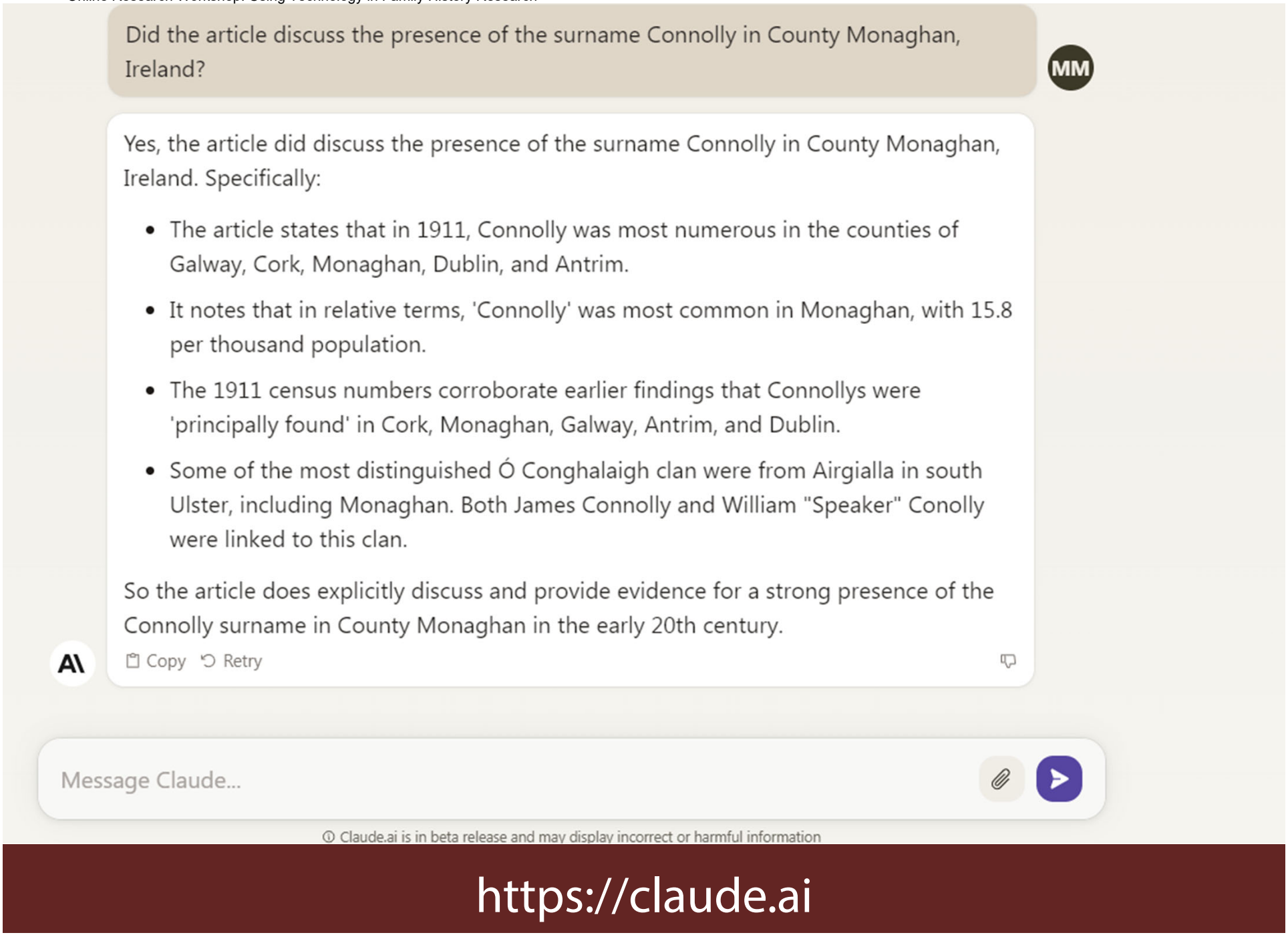


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# Extracting Information from a Newspaper Article

- Locate the OCR text (available on most digitized newspaper web sites)
- Copy into the chat prompt and ask the chatbot to extract out the necessary information and summarize.

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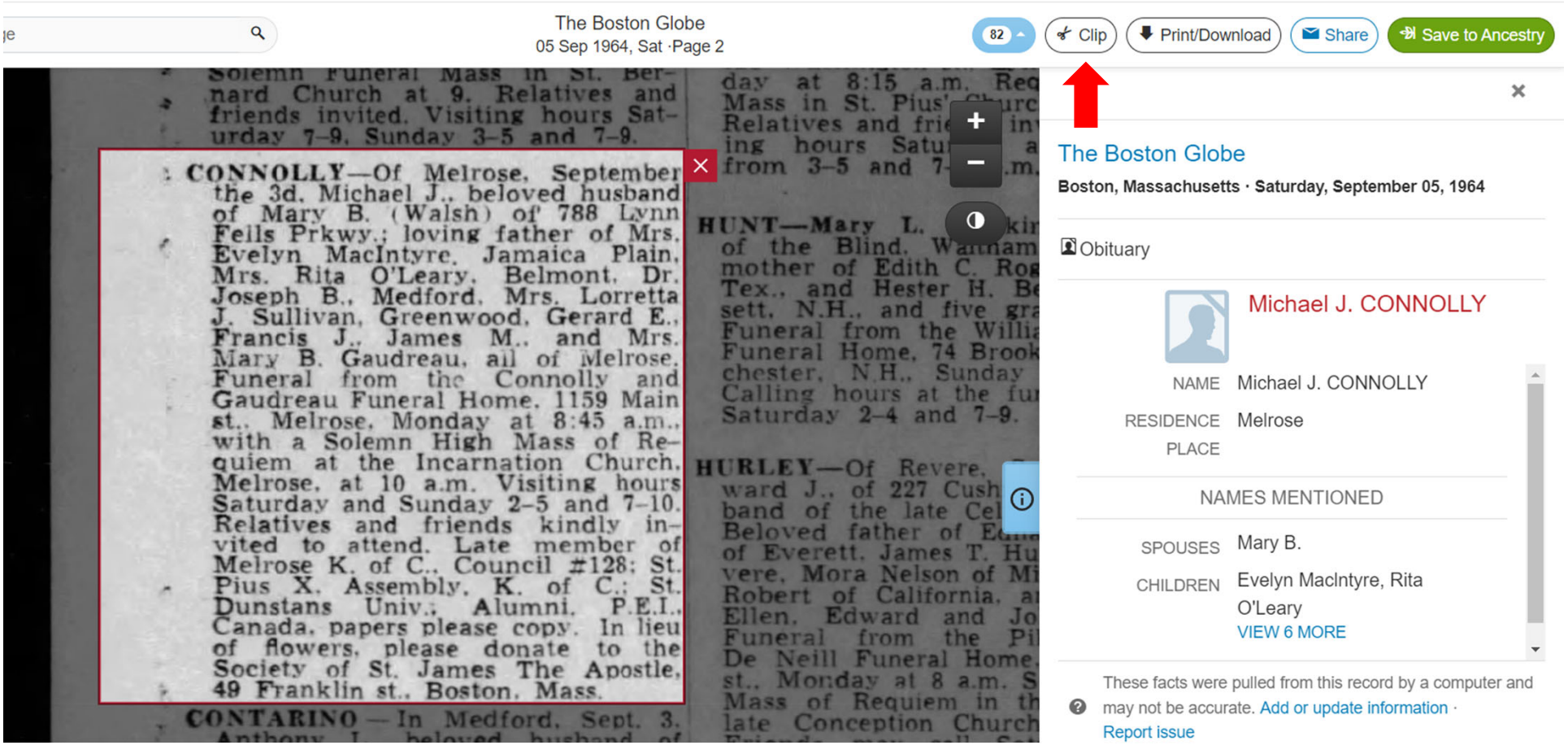


newspapers.com

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## *Article clipped from The Boston Globe*

Tags: Obituary

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CONNOLLY—Of Melrose, September the 3d, Michael J., beloved husband of Mary B. (Walsh) of 788 Lynn Fells Prkwy.; loving father of Mrs. Evelyn MacIntyre, Jamaica Plain, Mrs. Rita O'Leary, Belmont, Dr. Joseph B., Medford, Mrs. Lorretta J. Sullivan, Greenwood, Gerard E., Francis J., James M., and Mrs. Mary B. Gaudreau, all of Melrose. Funeral from the Connolly and Gaudreau Funeral Home, 1159 Main st., Melrose, Monday at 8:45 a.m., with a Solemn High Mass of Requiem at the Incarnation Church, Melrose, at 10 a.m. Visiting hours Saturday and Sunday 2–5 and 7–10. Relatives and friends kindly invited to attend. Late member of Melrose K. of C., Council #128; St.

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Hide Article Text (OCR) • Source Citation

1 CONNOLLY Of Melrose. September the 3d. Michael J.. beloved husband of Mary B. (Walsh) of 788 Lynn , Fells Prkwy.; loving father of Mrs.

Evelyn MacIntyre. Jamaica Plain. Mrs. Rita O'Leary. Belmont.

Dr. Joseph B., Medford. Mrs. Lorretta J. Sullivan, Greenwood, Gerard E., Francis J..

James M., and Mrs. Alary B. Gaudreau. ail of Melrose. Funeral from th? Connolly and Gaudreau Funeral Home.

1159 Main St.. Melrose, Monday at 8:45 a.m.. with a Solemn High Mass of Requiem at the Incarnation Church. Melrose, at 10 a.m. Visiting hours Saturday and Sunday 2-5 and 7-10.

Relatives and friends kindly invited to attend. Late member of Melrose K. of C. Council 128: St.! Pius X. Assembly.

K. of C: St.! Punstans Univ., Alumni. PE.I.i anada. papers please copy. In lieu of flowers, please donate to thei Society of St.

James The Apostle,! r 49 Franklin St.. Boston. Mass..

United States › Massachusetts › Boston › The Boston Globe › 1964 › Sep › 05 › Page 2 › **Article clipped from The Boston Globe**

newspapers.com

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ANTHROP\C

# Welcome back, Melanie

Acting as a professional genealogist, extract the relationships of the people in the below obituary text (correct for spelling) and summarize: 1 CONNOLLY Of Melrose. September the 3d. Michael J.. beloved husband of Mary B. (Walsh) of 788 Lynn , Fells Prkwy.; loving father of Mrs.
Evelyn MacIntyre. Jamaica Plain. Mrs. Rita O'Leary. Belmont. Dr. Joseph B., Medford. Mrs. Lorretta J. Sullivan, Greenwood, Gerard E., Francis J..
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Here are the extracted relationships and a summary:

- Michael J. Connolly was the husband of Mary B. Walsh and the father of Evelyn MacIntyre, Rita O'Leary, Dr. Joseph B. Connolly, Loretta J. Sullivan, Gerard E. Connolly, Francis J. Connolly, James M. Connolly, and Mary B. Gaudreau.
- Mary B. Walsh was the wife of Michael J. Connolly.
- Evelyn MacIntyre, Rita O'Leary, Dr. Joseph B. Connolly, Loretta J. Sullivan, Gerard E. Connolly, Francis J. Connolly, James M. Connolly, and Mary B. Gaudreau were the children of Michael J. Connolly and Mary B. Walsh.

Summary: The obituary is for Michael J. Connolly. He was married to Mary B. Walsh and had 8 children - Evelyn, Rita, Joseph, Loretta, Gerard, Francis, James, and Mary.

Copy Retry

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# What if You Don't have the OCR Text?

- You can convert the images using an OCR Converter (ex. OCR Online).
- You can find lots of free tools available from Google or from subscription products like Adobe.

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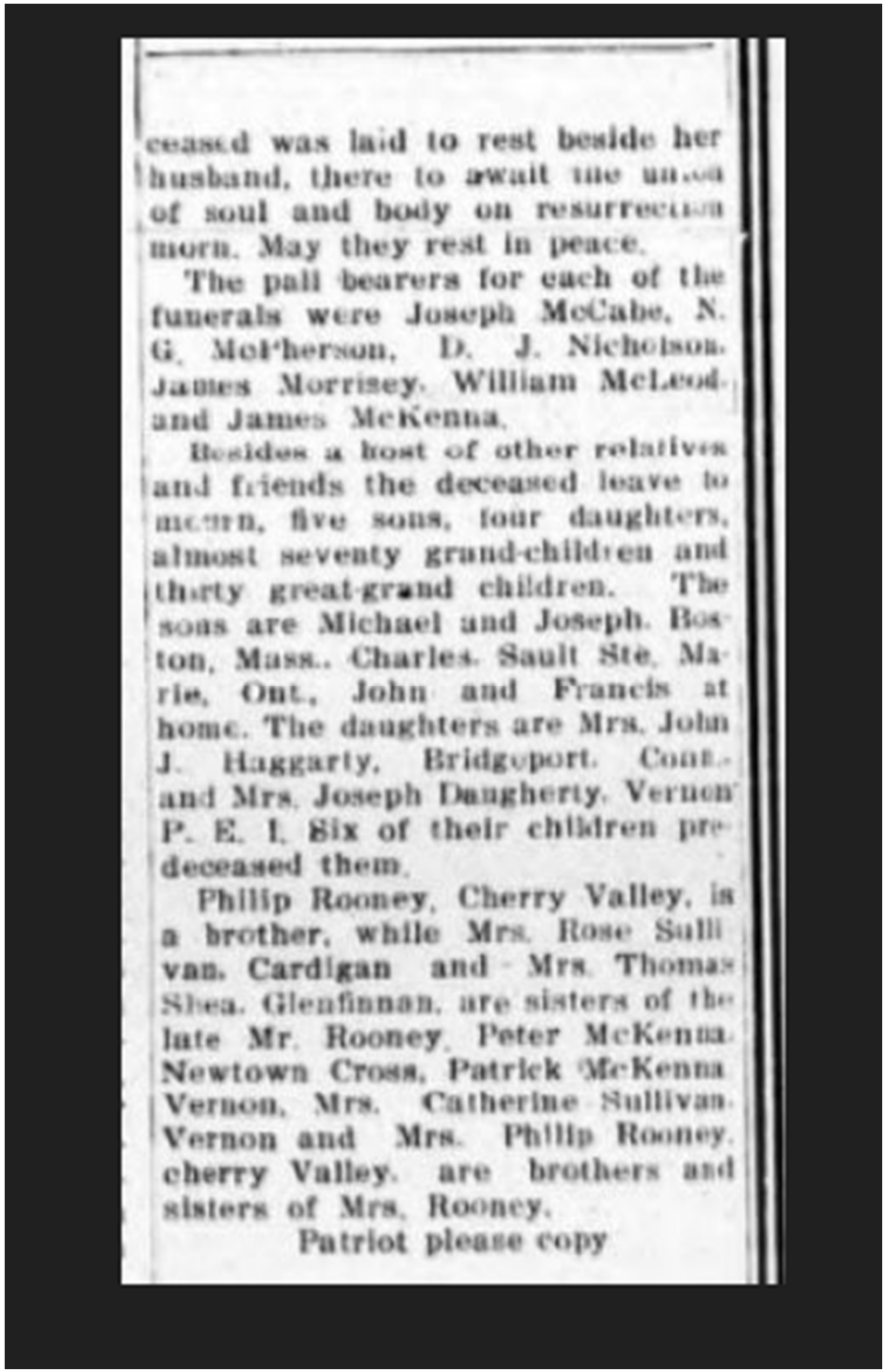


ceased was laid to rest beside her husband, there to await the union of soul and body on resurrection morn. May they rest in peace.

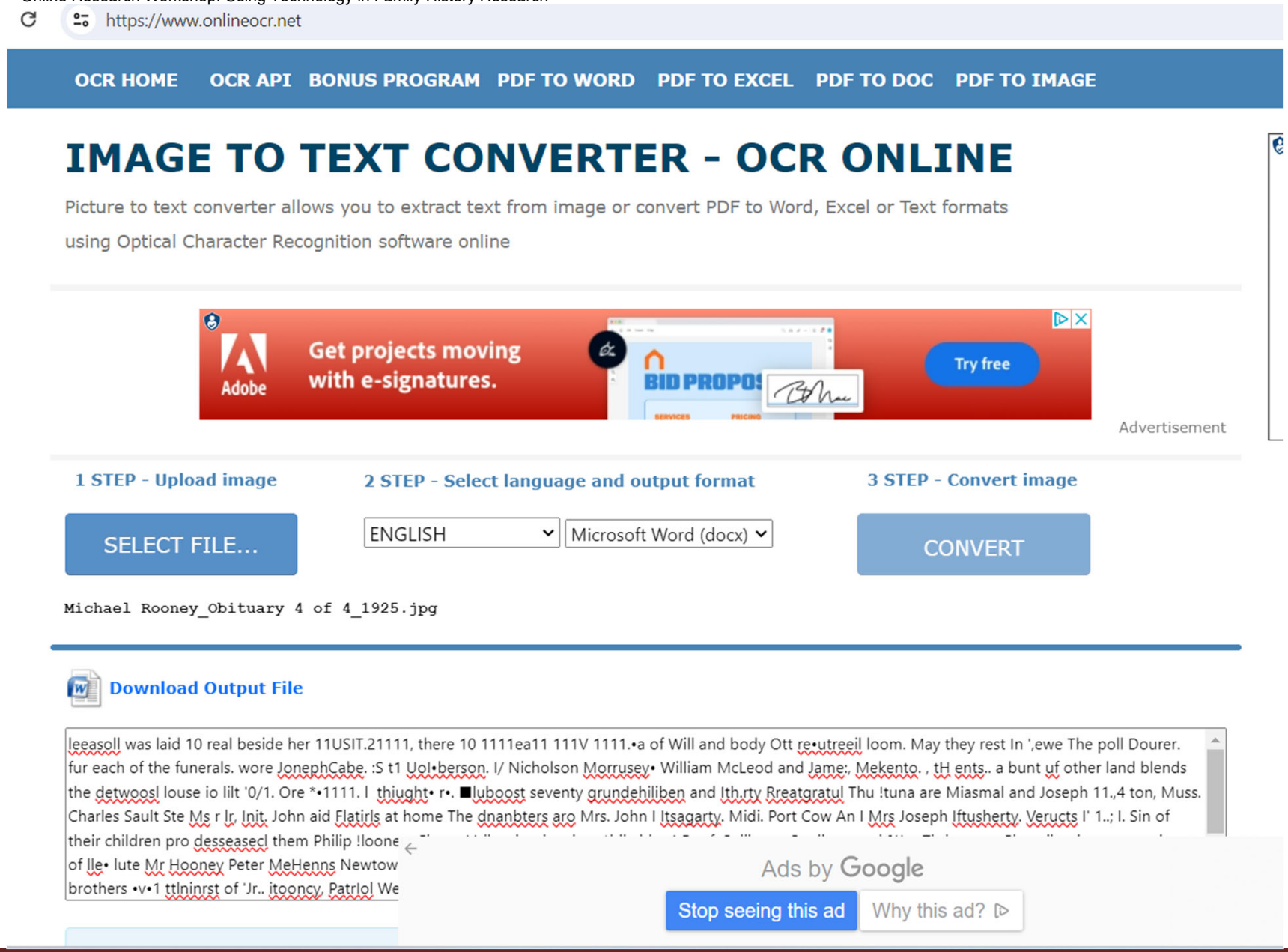
The pall bearers for each of the funerals were Joseph McCabe, N. G. McPherson, D. J. Nicholson, James Morrisey, William McLeod and James McKenna.

Besides a host of other relatives and friends the deceased leave to mourn, five sons, four daughters, almost seventy grand-children and thirty great-grand children. The sons are Michael and Joseph, Boston, Mass., Charles, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., John and Francis at home. The daughters are Mrs. John J. Haggarty, Bridgeport, Conn., and Mrs. Joseph Daugherty, Vernon P. E. I. Six of their children predeceased them.

Philip Rooney, Cherry Valley, is a brother, while Mrs. Rose Sullivan, Cardigan and Mrs. Thomas Shea, Glenfinnan, are sisters of the late Mr. Rooney. Peter McKenna, Newtown Cross, Patrick McKenna, Vernon, Mrs. Catherine Sullivan, Vernon and Mrs. Philip Rooney, cherry Valley, are brothers and sisters of Mrs. Rooney.

Patriot please copy

Michael and Mary Rooney Obituary sample, Charlotte Guardian 1925, via IslandNewspapers.ca

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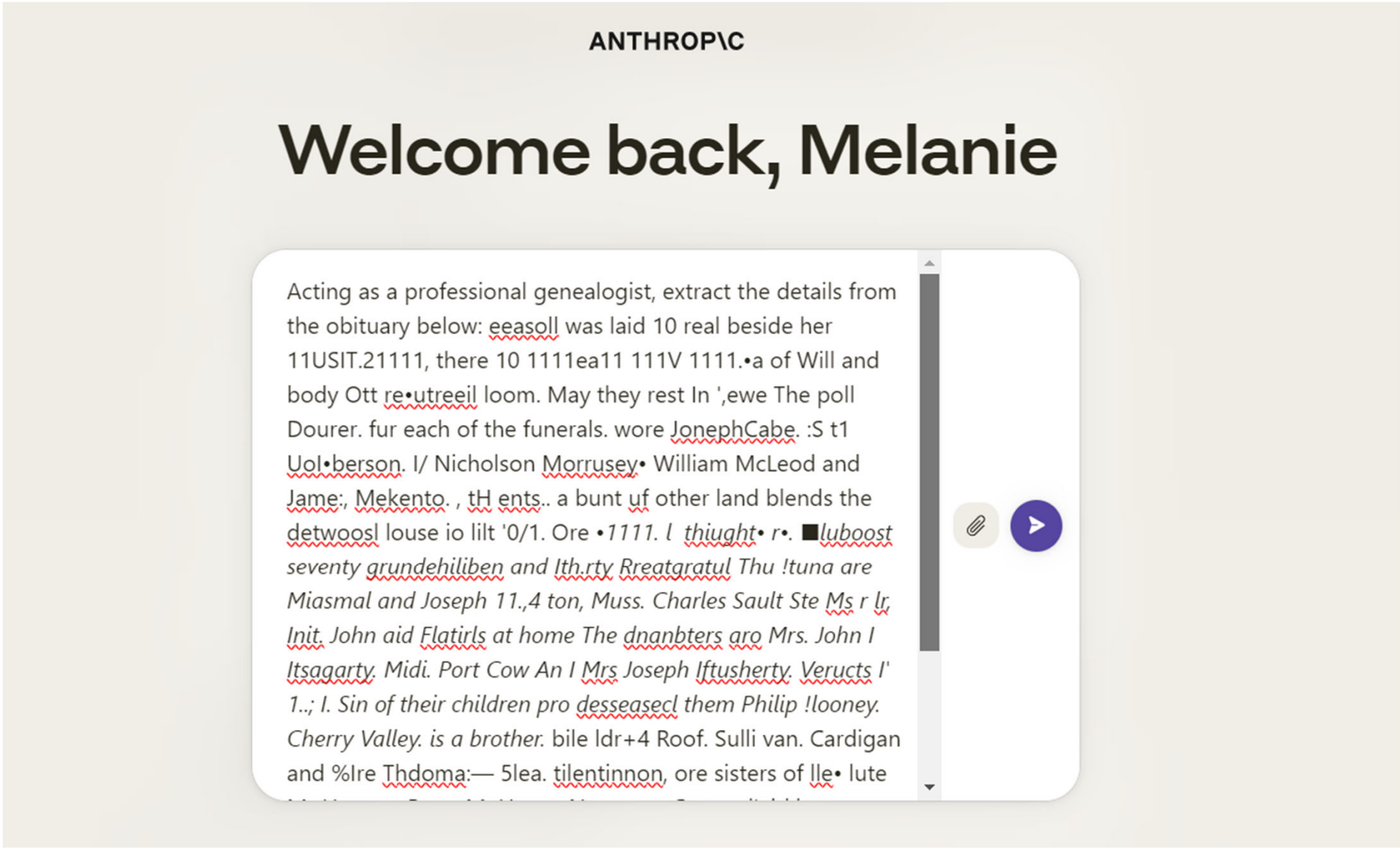


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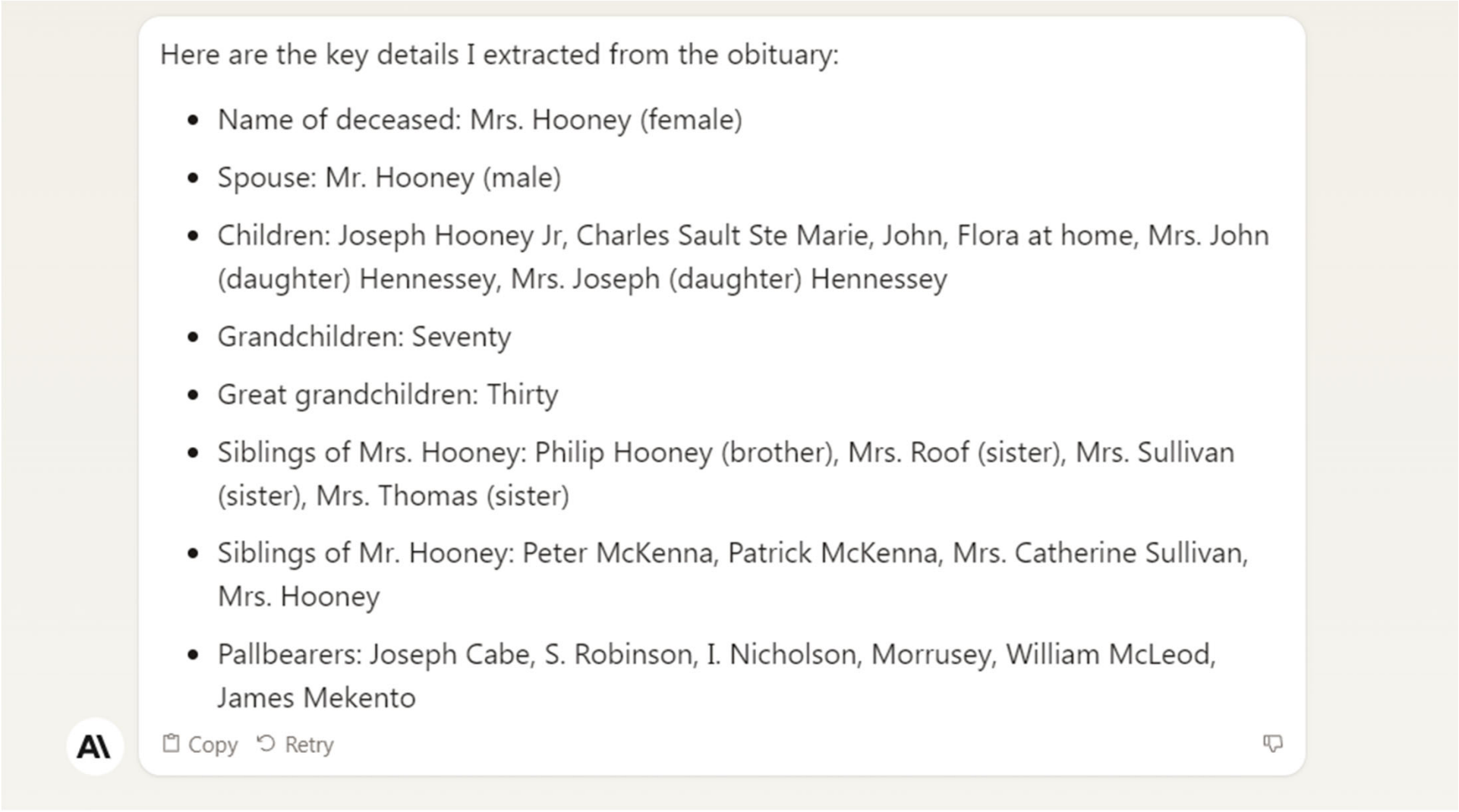


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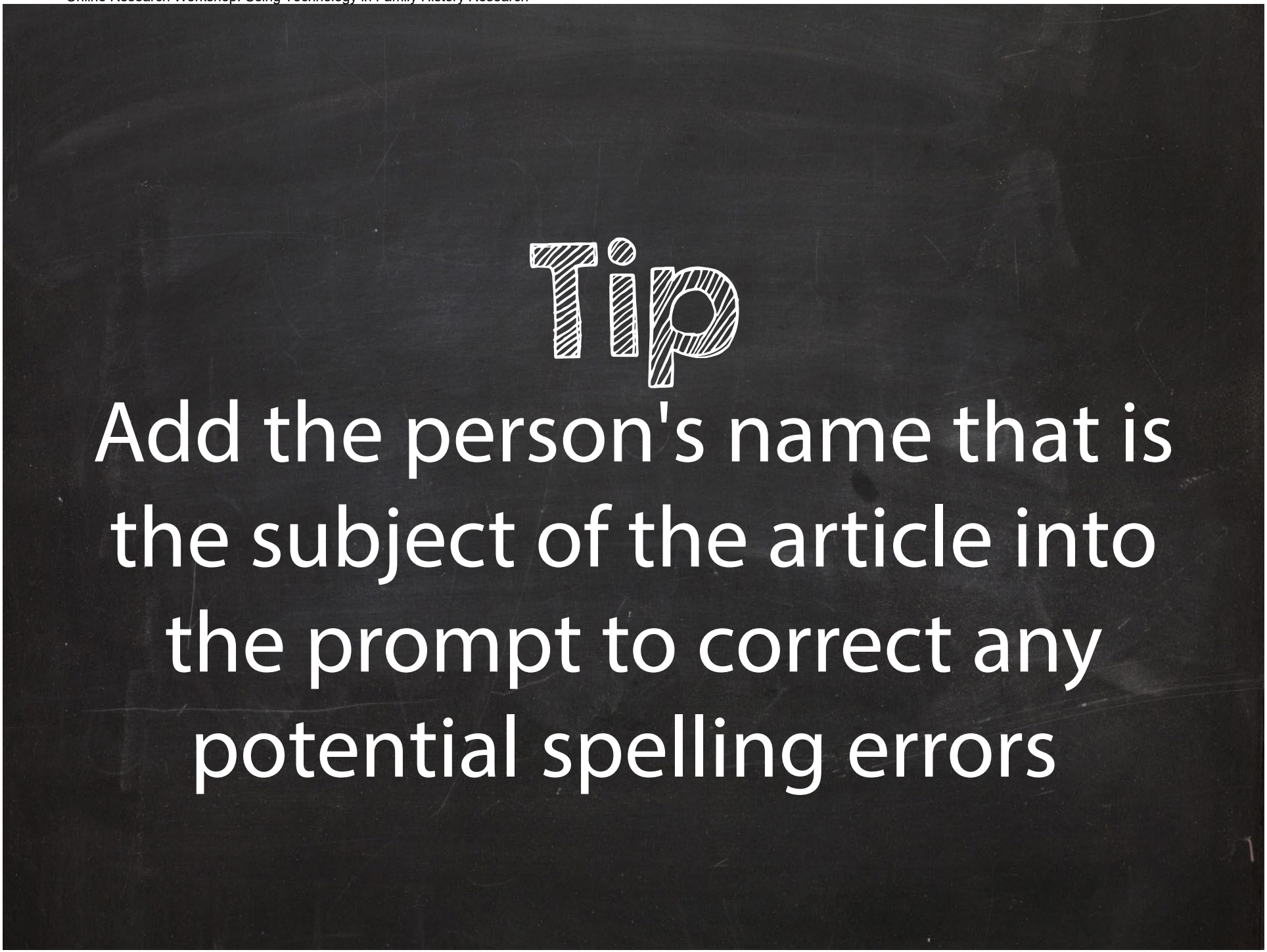
Tip
Add the person's name that is the subject of the article into the prompt to correct any potential spelling errors

Acting as a professional genealogist, extract the details from the obituary below for Michael and Mary Rooney: eeasoll was laid 10 real beside her 11USIT.21111, there 10 1111ea11 111V 1111.•a of Will and body Ott re•utreeil loom. May they rest In ',ewe The poll Dourer. fur each of the funerals. wore JonephCabe. :S t1 UoI•berson. I/ Nicholson Morrusey• William McLeod and Jame:, Mekento. , tH ents.. a bunt uf other land blends the detwoosl louse io lilt '0/1. Ore •*1111. l thiught• r•.* ■*luboost seventy grundehiliben and Ith.rty Rreatgratul Thu !tuna are Miasmal and Joseph 11.,4 ton, Muss. Charles Sault Ste Ms r lr, Init. John aid Flatirls at home The dnanbters aro Mrs. John I Itsagarty. Midi. Port Cow An I Mrs Joseph Iftusherty. Veructs I' 1..; I. Sin of their children pro desseasecl them Philip !looney. Cherry Valley. is a brother.* bile ldr+4 Roof. Sulli van. Cardigan and %Ire Thdoma:— 5lea. tilentinnon, ore sisters of lle• lute Mr Hooney Peter MeHenns Newtown Crown. l'airkk .McKenna Vernon. Mrs. Catherine Sullivan Vernon and Mrs 11011P Hoon•Y cherry Valley. arc brothers •v•1 ttlninrst of 'Jr.. itooncy, PatrIol Weave ropy

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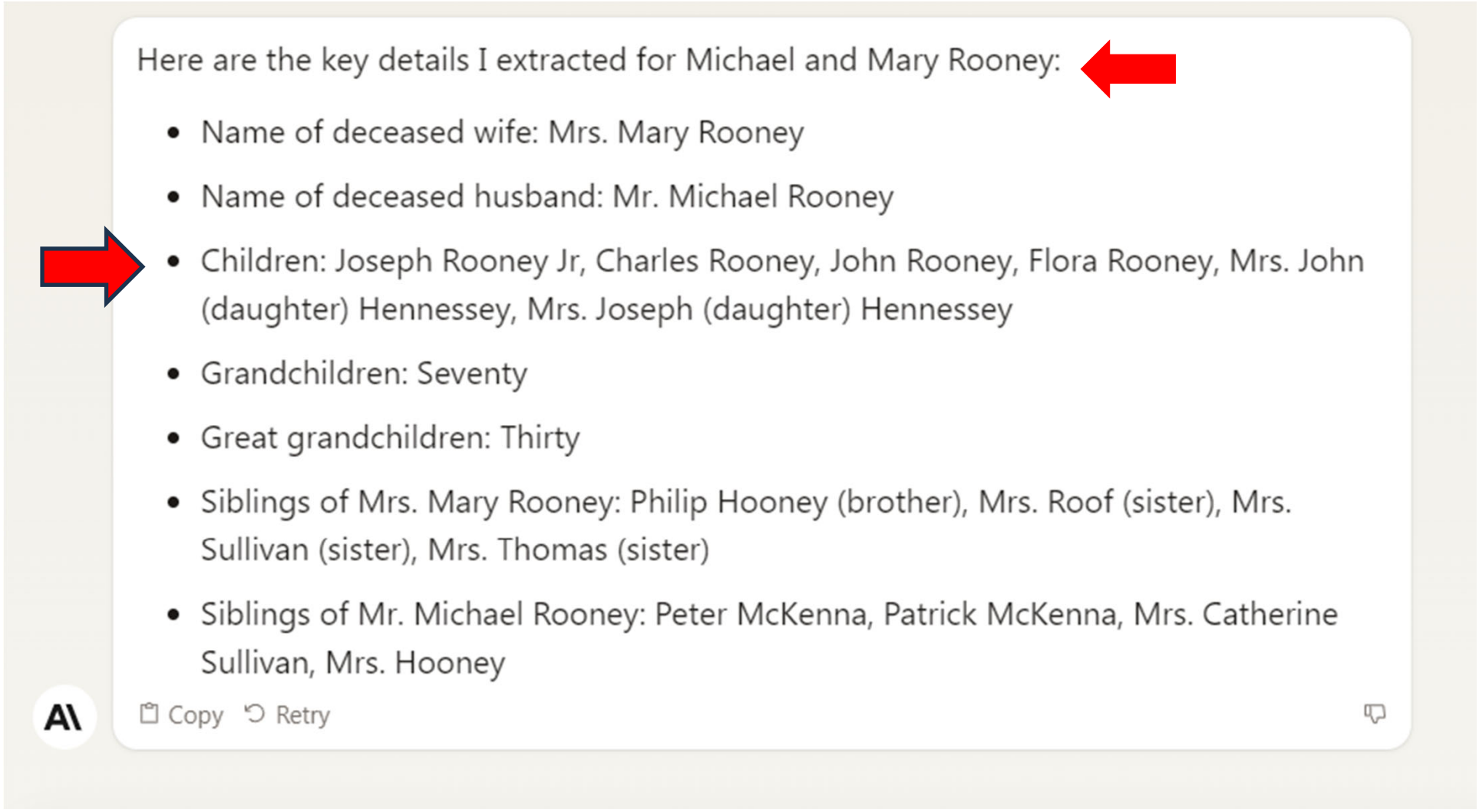


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# Google Translate

- Available on desktop or mobile
- Supports 133 languages!
- Can use your camera to take a picture (ex. street sign, document)
  - Used with Google Lens app
- Can be used for conversation with someone speaking another language
- Upload documents and images
- Translate text entered or copied/pasted
- Translate web sites

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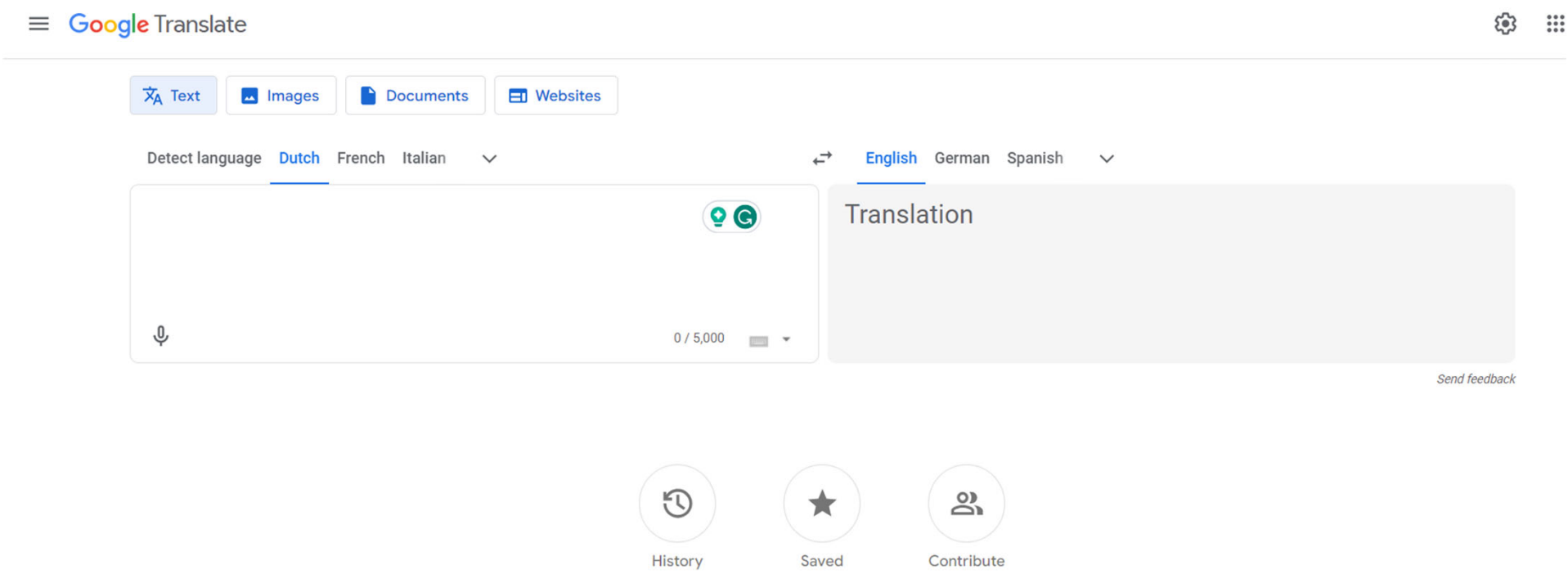


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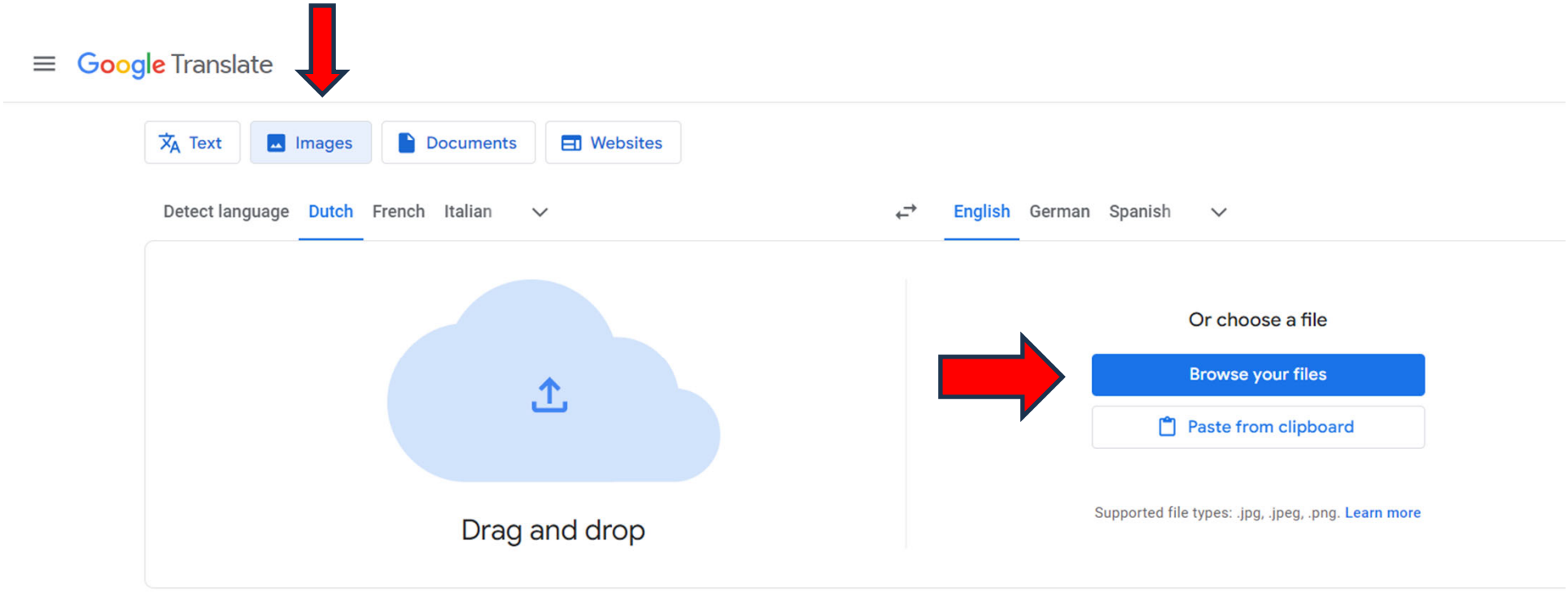


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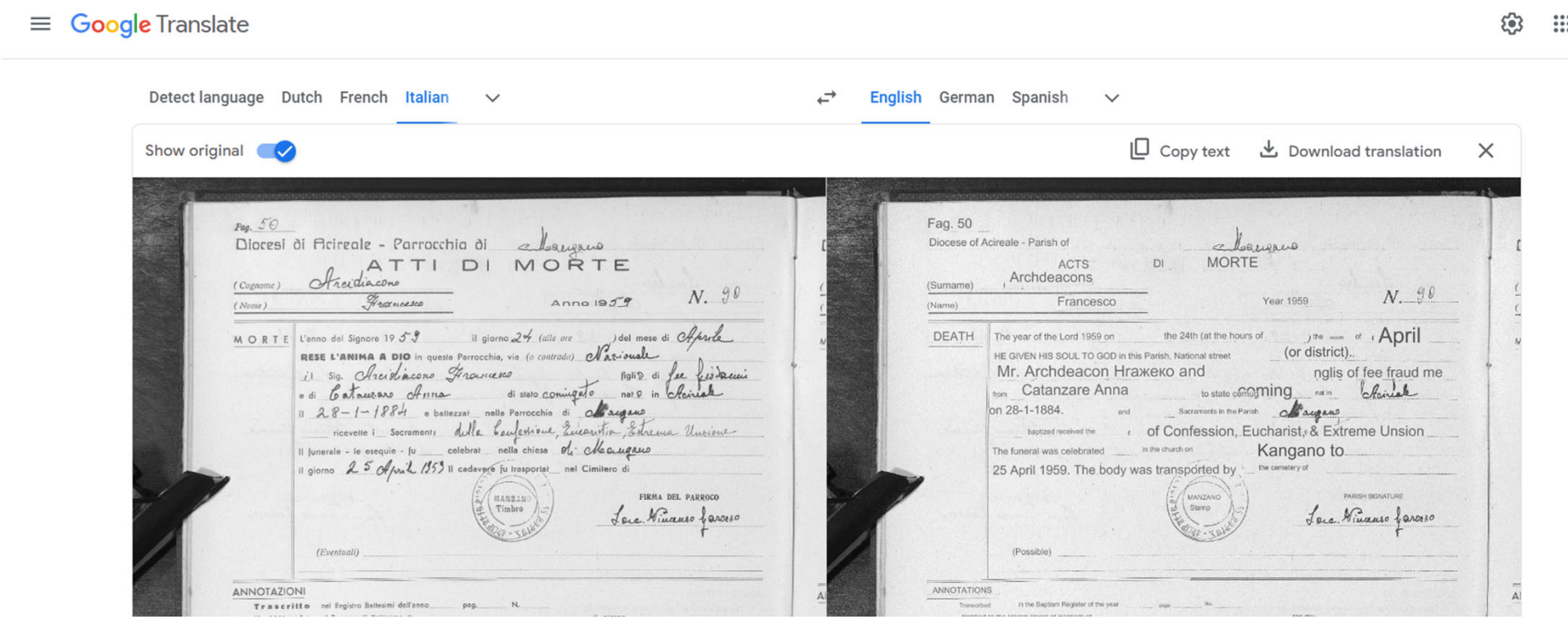
Google Translate
Detect language
Dutch
French
Italian
English
German
Spanish
Show original
Copy text
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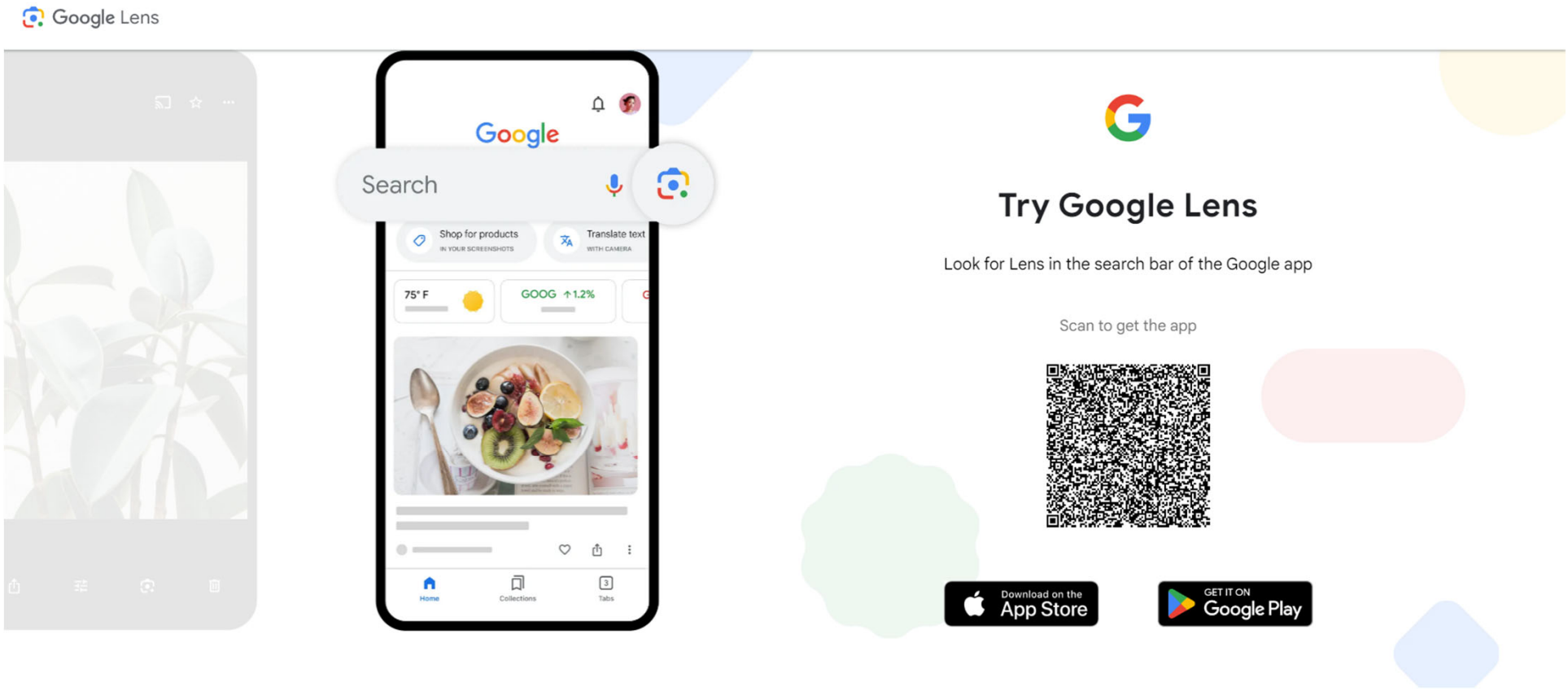
Fag. 50
Diocesi di Acireale - Parrocchia di Mangano
ATTI DI MORTE
(Cognome) Arcidiacono
(Nome) Francesco
Anno 1959
N. 90
MORTE
L'anno del Signore 1959 il giorno 24 (alle ore ) del mese di Aprile
RESE L'ANIMA A DIO in questa Parrocchia, via (o contrada) Nazionale
il Sig. Arcidiacono Francesco figlio di fee fiodanni
e di Catanzaro Anna di stato coniugato nato in Acireale
il 28-1-1884 e battezzat nella Parrocchia di Mangano
ricevette i Sacramenti della Confessione, Eucaristia, Estrema Unzione
Il funerale - le esequie - fu celebrat nella chiesa di Mangano
il giorno 25 April 1959 Il cadavere fu trasportat nel Cimitero di
MANZANO Timbro
FIRMA DEL PARROCO
Sac. Vincenzo Garozzo
(Eventuali)
ANNOTAZIONI
Trascritto nel Registro Battesimi dell'anno pag. N.
Fag. 50
Diocese of Acireale - Parish of Mangano
ACTS DI MORTE
(Surname) Archdeacons
(Name) Francesco
Year 1959
N. 90
DEATH
The year of the Lord 1959 on the 24th (at the hours of ) the month of April
HE GIVEN HIS SOUL TO GOD in this Parish, National street (or district)..
Mr. Archdeacon Нражеко and nglis of fee fraud me
from Catanzare Anna to state coming nat in Acireale
on 28-1-1884. and Sacraments in the Parish Mangano
baptized received the of Confession, Eucharist, & Extreme Unsion
The funeral was celebrated in the church on Kangano to
25 April 1959. The body was transported by the cemetery of
MANZANO Stamp
PARISH SIGNATURE
Sac. Vincenzo Garozzo
(Possible)
ANNOTATIONS
Transcribed in the Baptism Register of the year page No.




# lens.google

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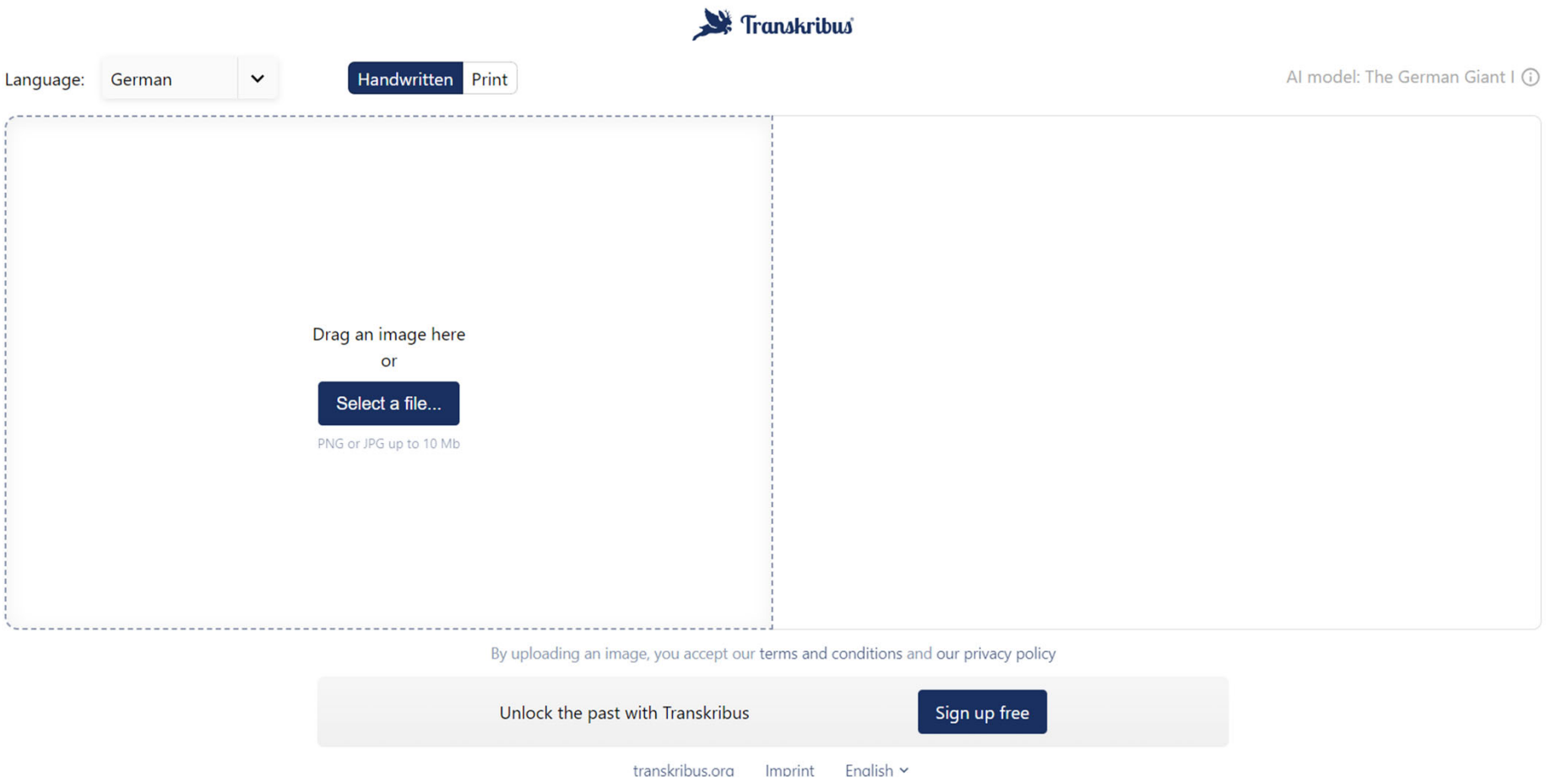


# transkribus.ai

# FamilySearch

- Handwriting recognition tool helps create an index of names and other information
- The tool notes when it's not sure of a transcription and needs review by an indexer
- The "Get Involved" indexing tool allows users like you to fix computer mistakes with the index
- Full Text Search (reviewed during demo)

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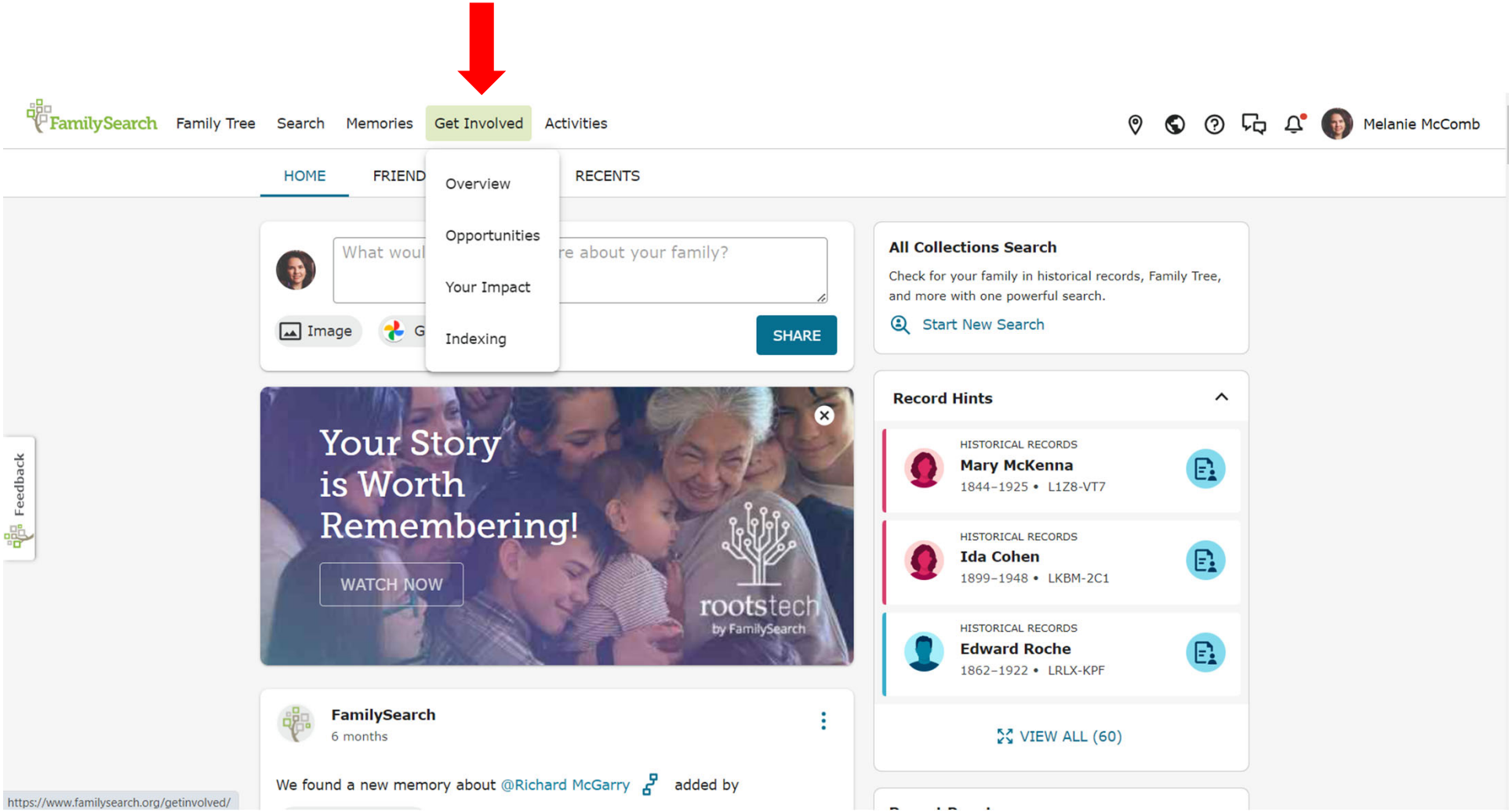


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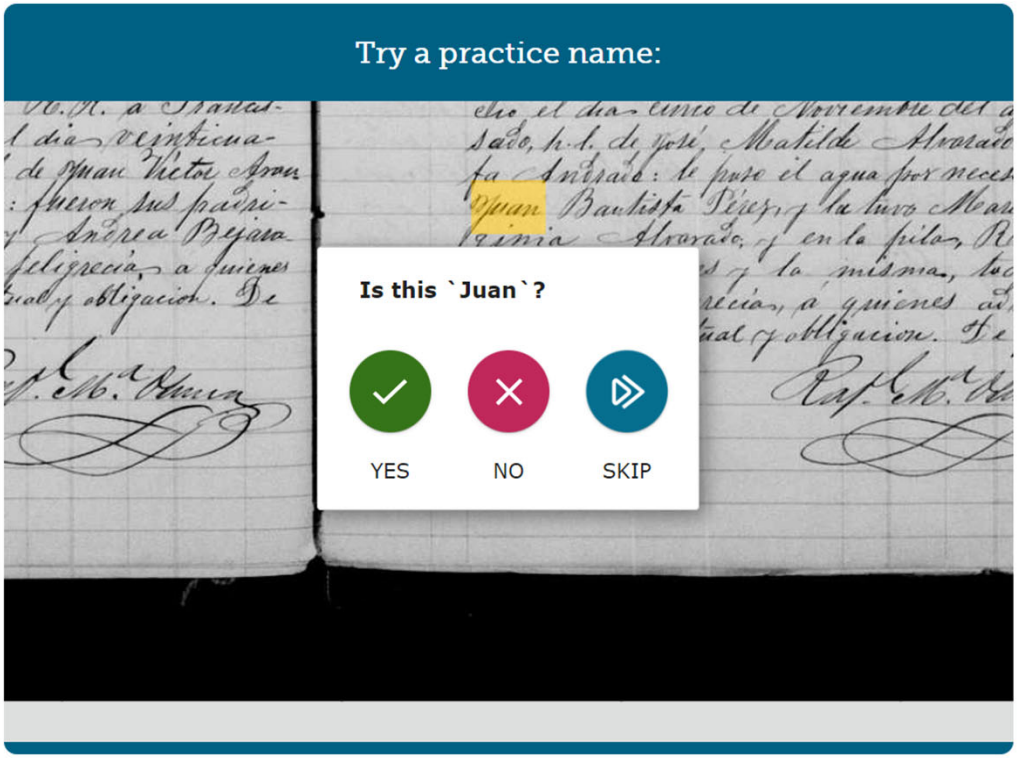
## How It Works

Our computers find names in old documents, but they often make mistakes. Reviewing the names and fixing the mistakes is an easy way to help others discover their ancestors.

NAME REVIEW

**Do you know people who would enjoy this activity? Invite them to participate.**

SHARE

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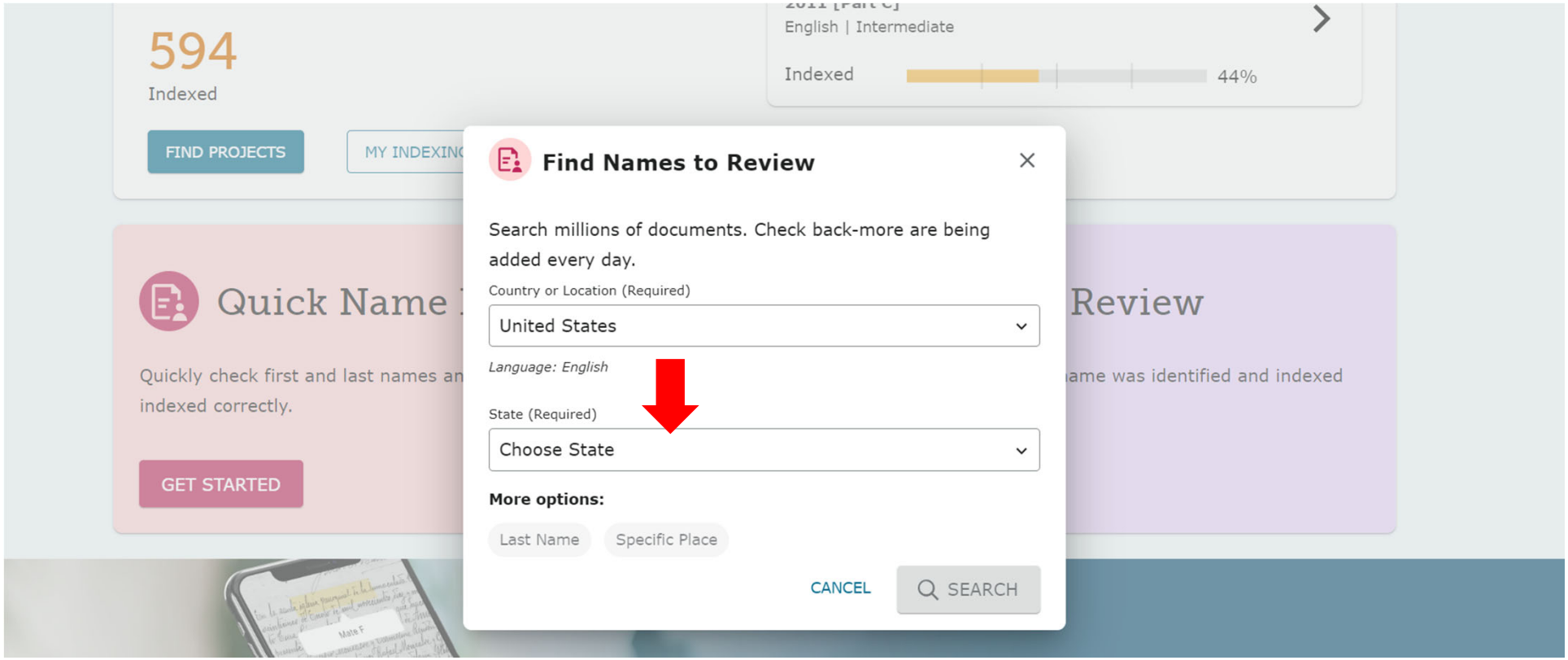


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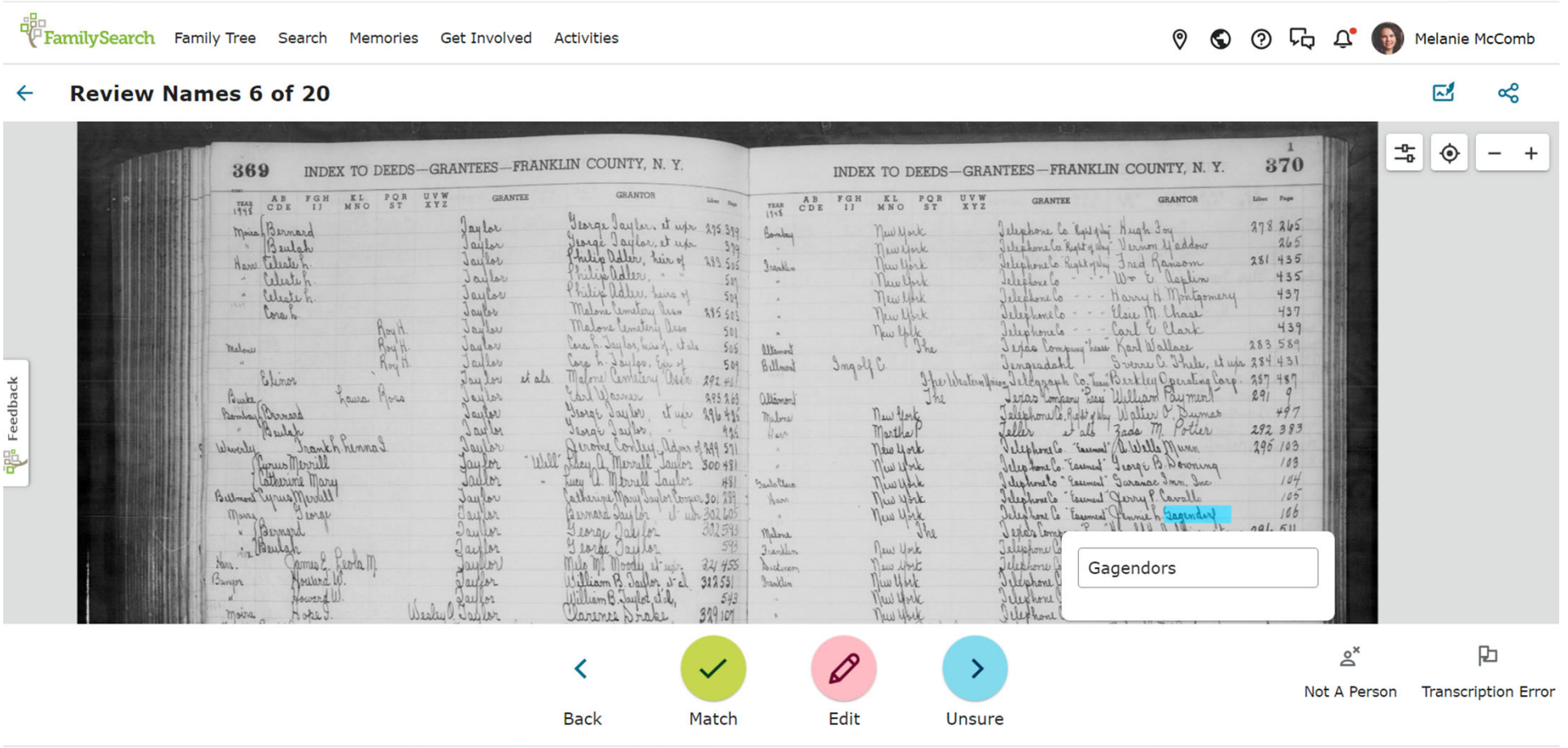


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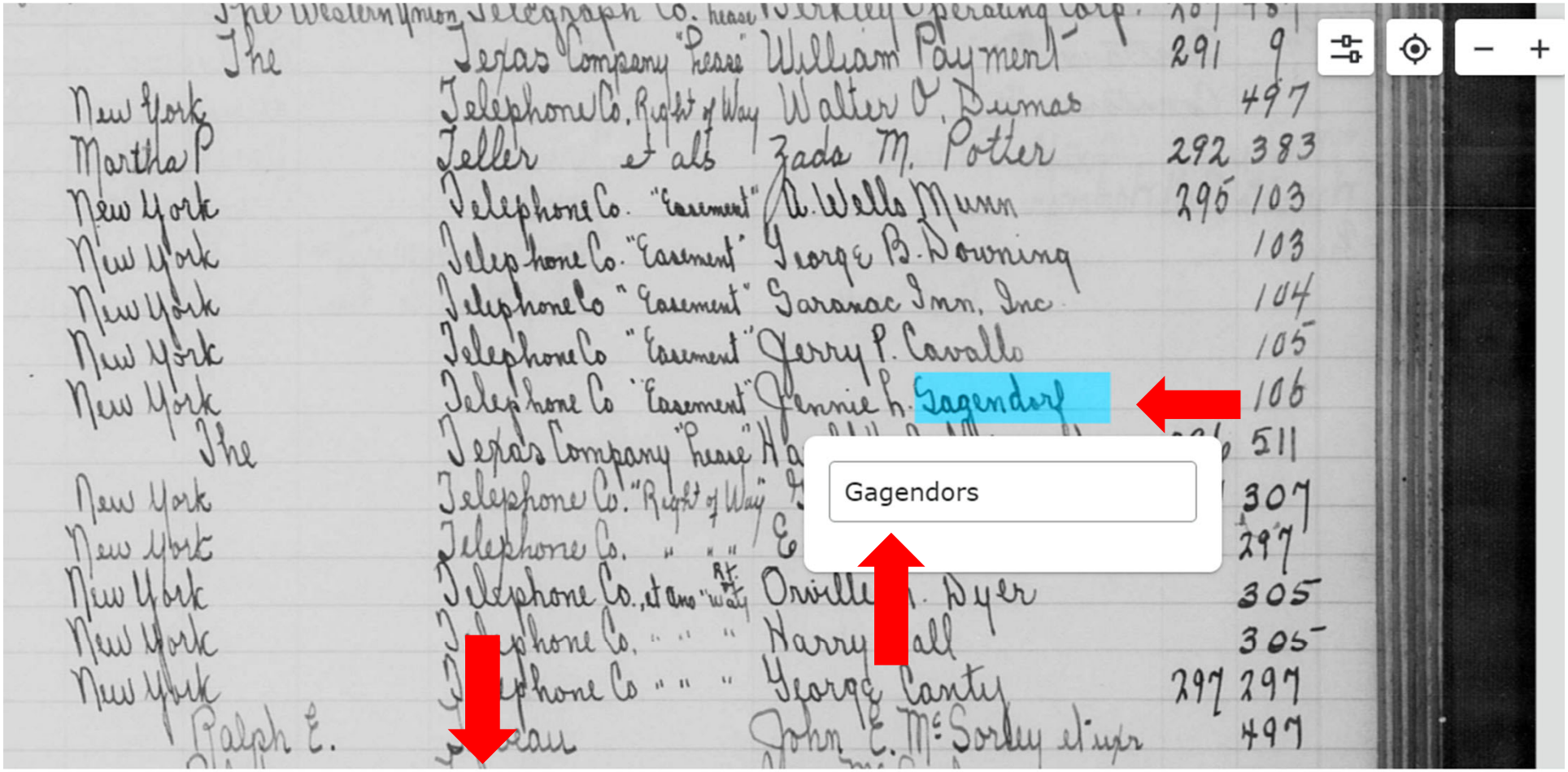


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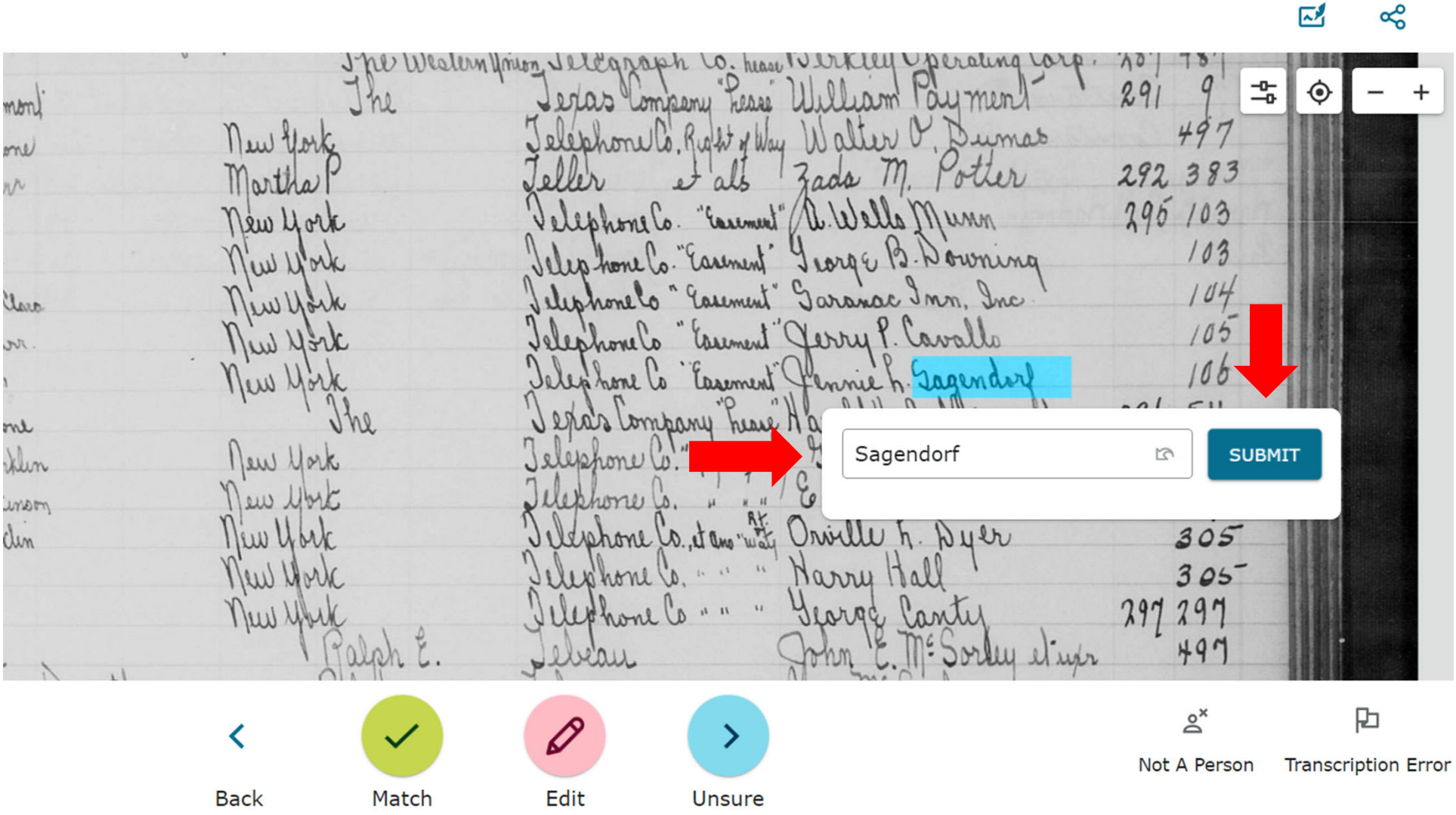


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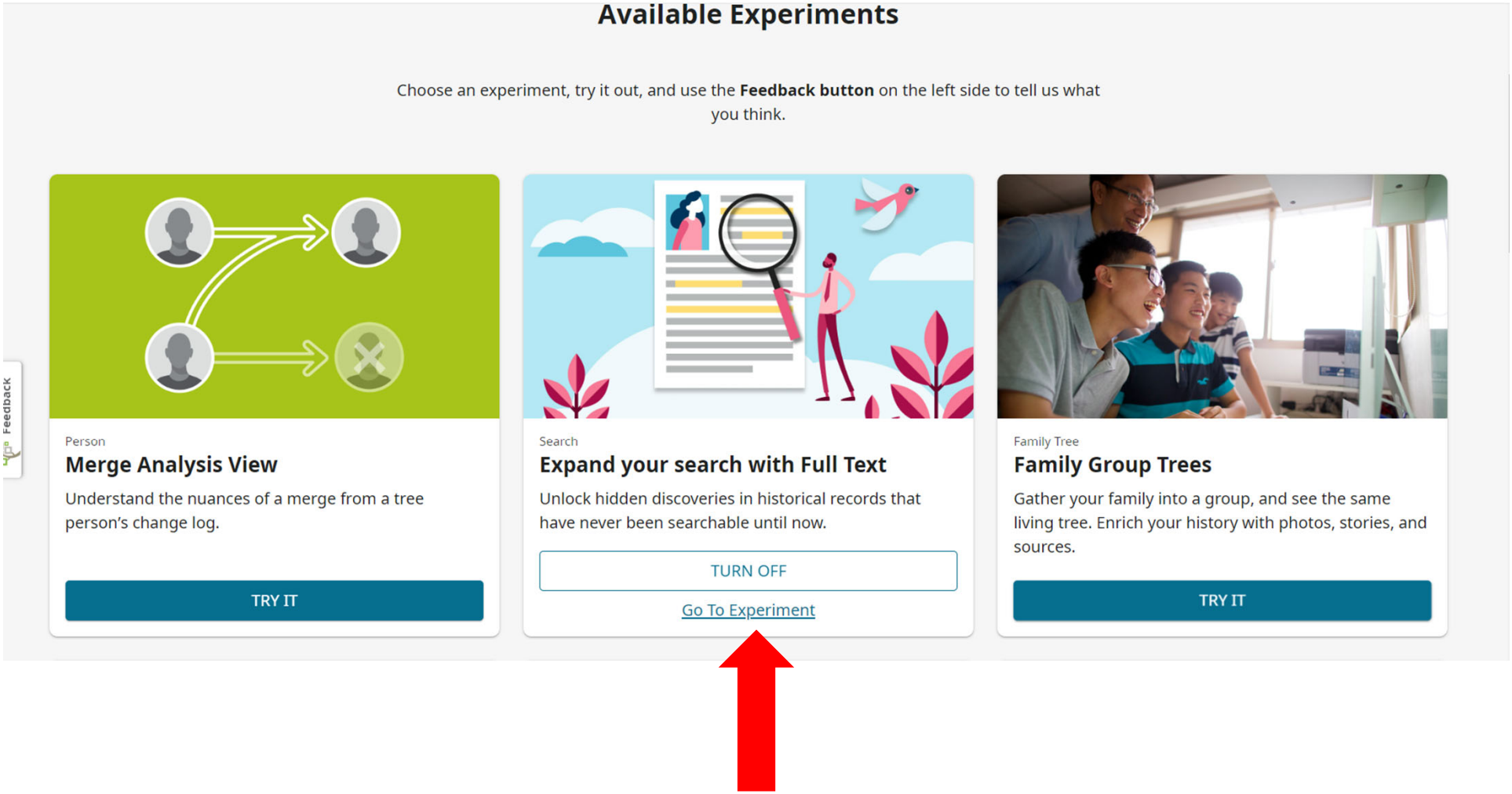


# www.familysearch.org/en/labs

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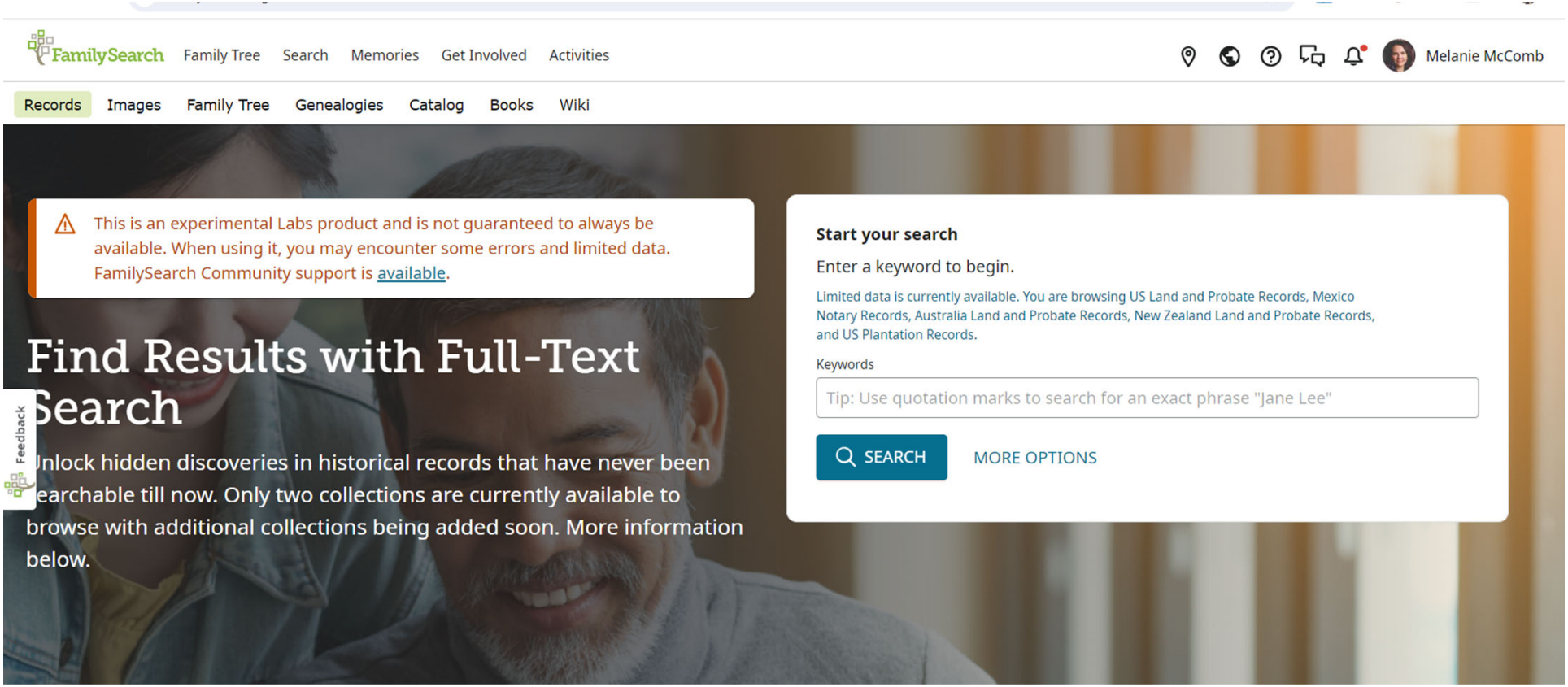


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# MyHeritage

- AI Record Finder
- PhotoDater
- AI Biographer

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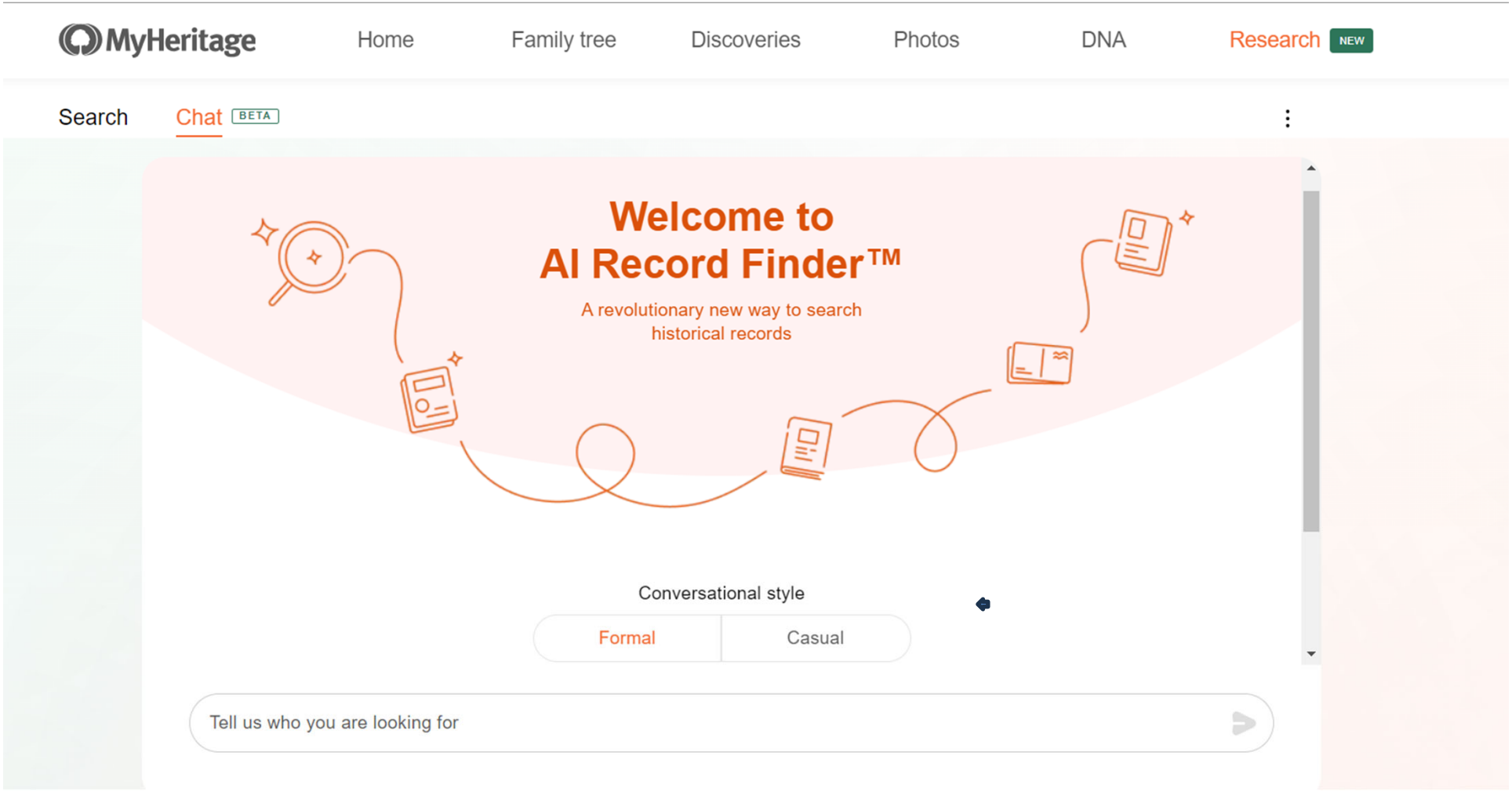


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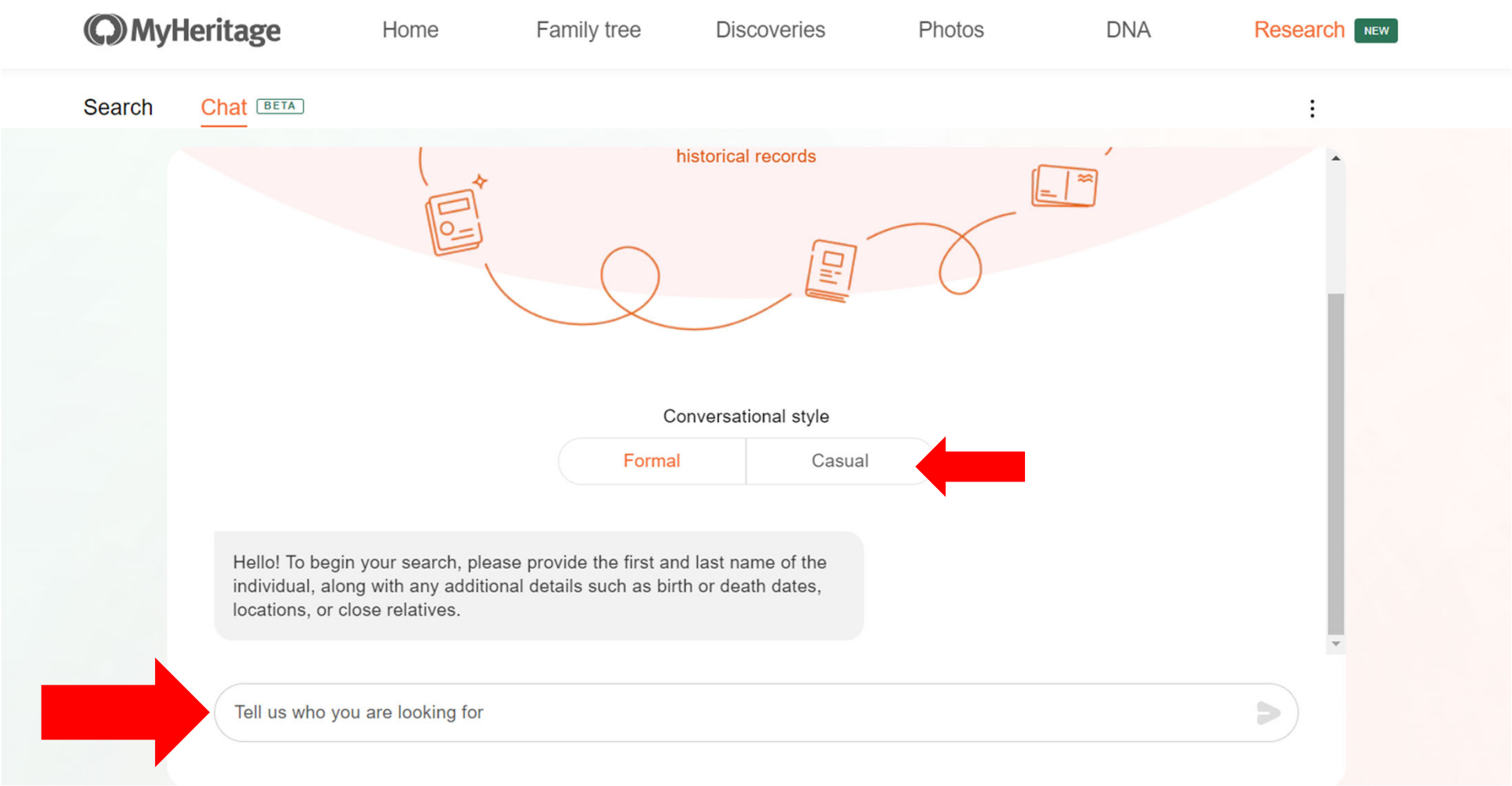


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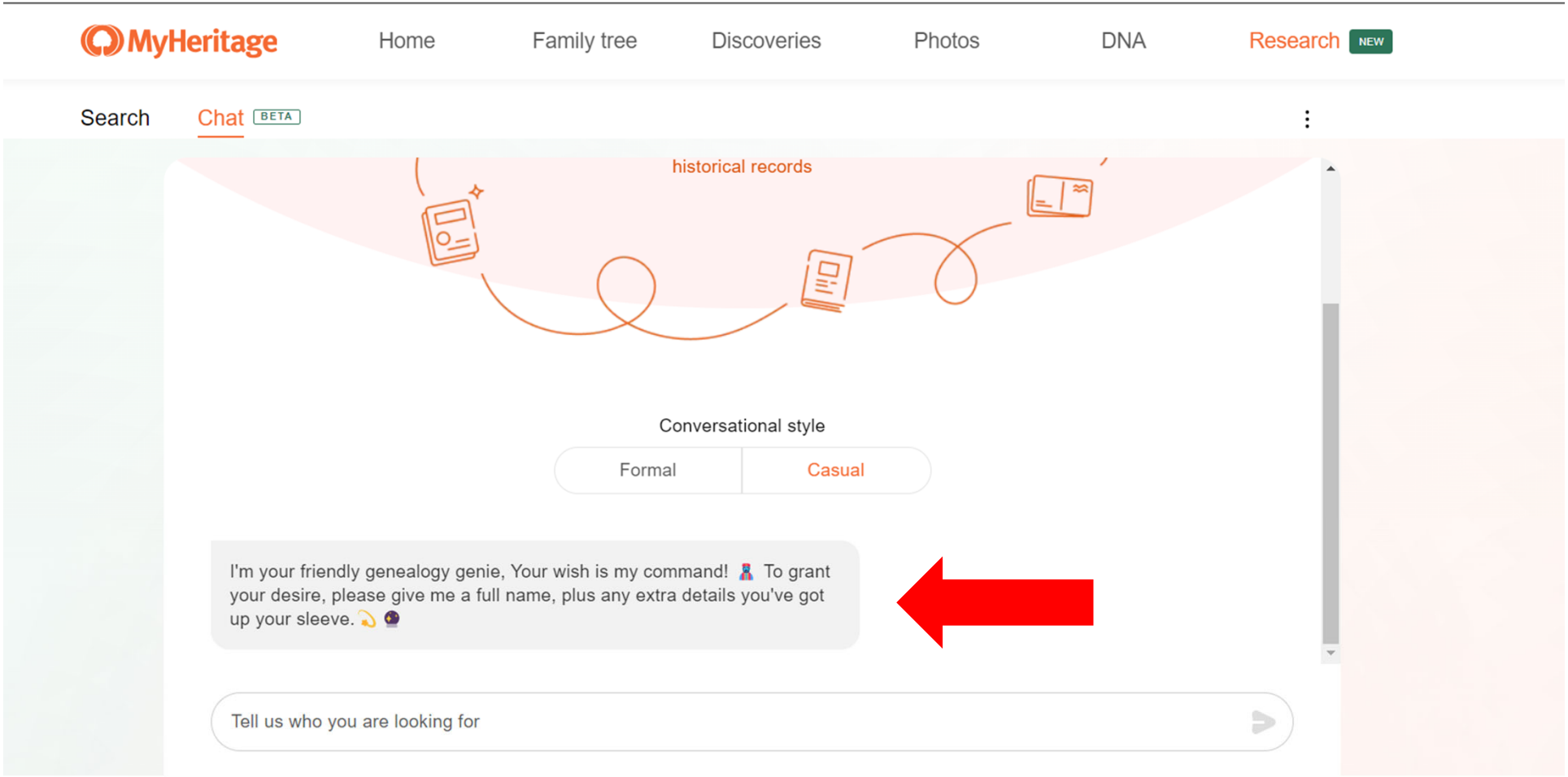


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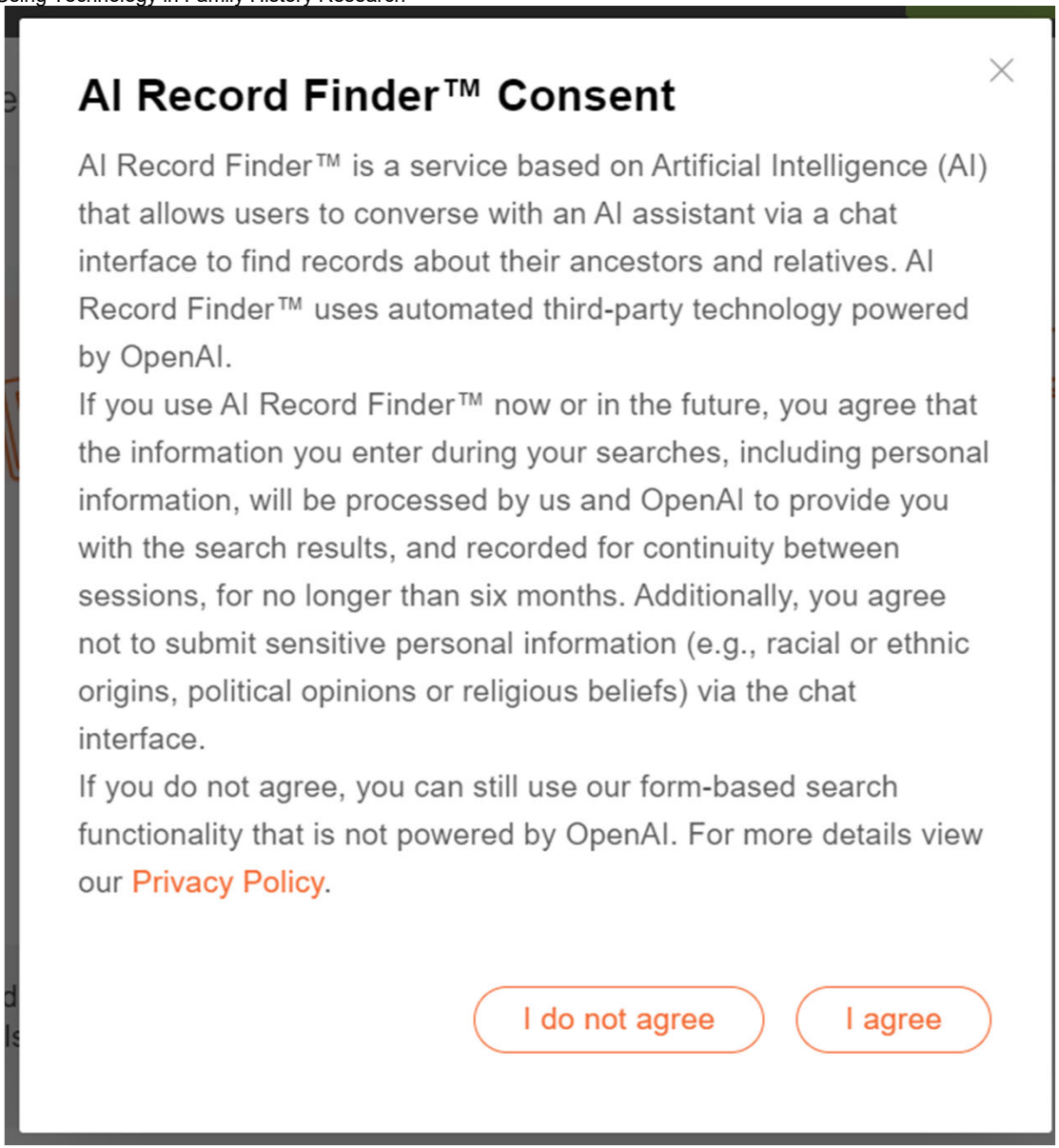


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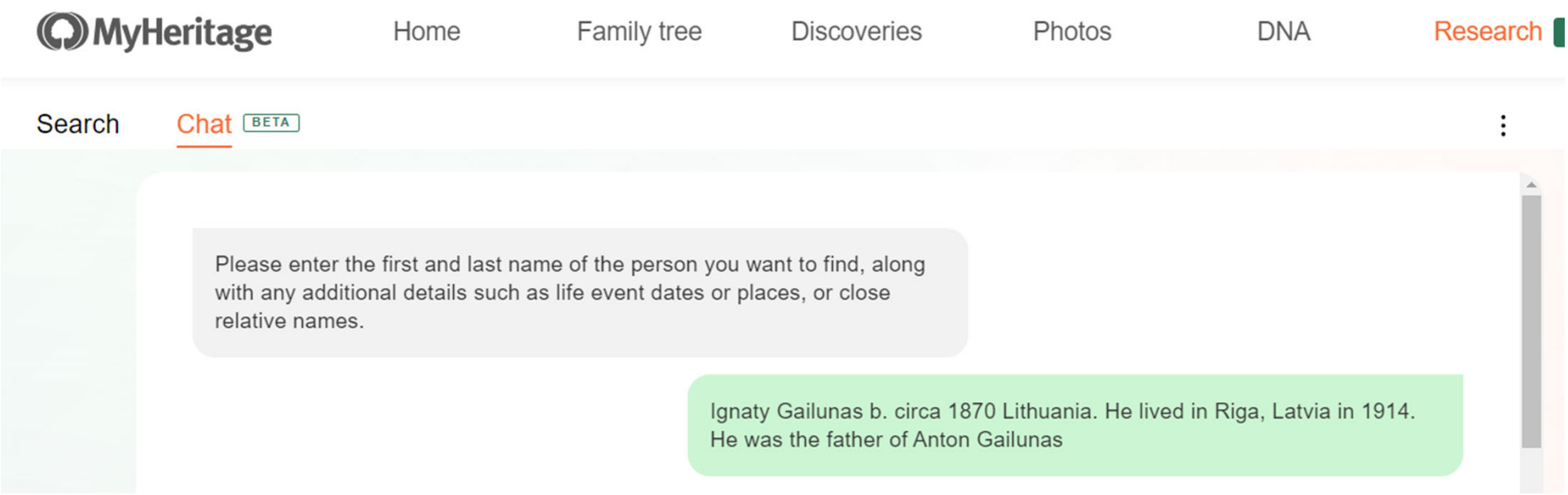


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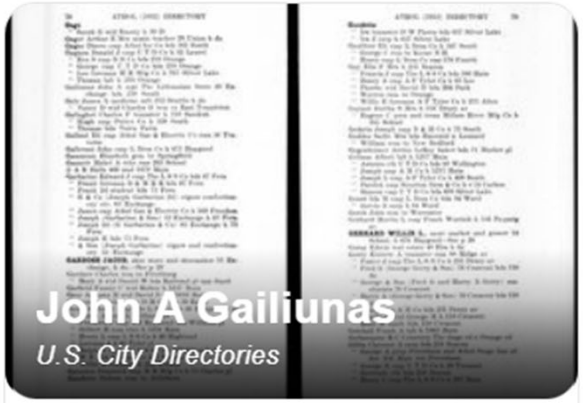
Here are the results found for the information you provided:

**Ignaty Gailunas**
*MyHeritage Family Trees*

| | |
|---|---|
| Wife | Johanna Gailunas |
| Son | Anton Gailunas |

**Ignaty Gailunas**
*FamilySearch Family Tree*

| | |
|---|---|
| Son | Anton Gailunas |




| | |
|---|---|
| Residence | Between 1912 and 1916 - Bds 238 South, Athol, Massachusetts, USA |
| Occupation | Manager |

The search has yielded four records that may pertain to Ignaty Gailunas, born circa 1870 in Lithuania and residing in Riga, Latvia in 1914. The top record indicates a marriage to Johanna Gailunas with one son named Anton. Further details can be explored within these records for potential connections and additional information.

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Does MyHeritage have death records for Latvia?

Yes, MyHeritage includes death records from Latvia in its collection. To locate a specific death record for Ignaty Gailunas, please ensure you have as much information as possible to refine the search, such as an approximate year of death or location within Latvia.

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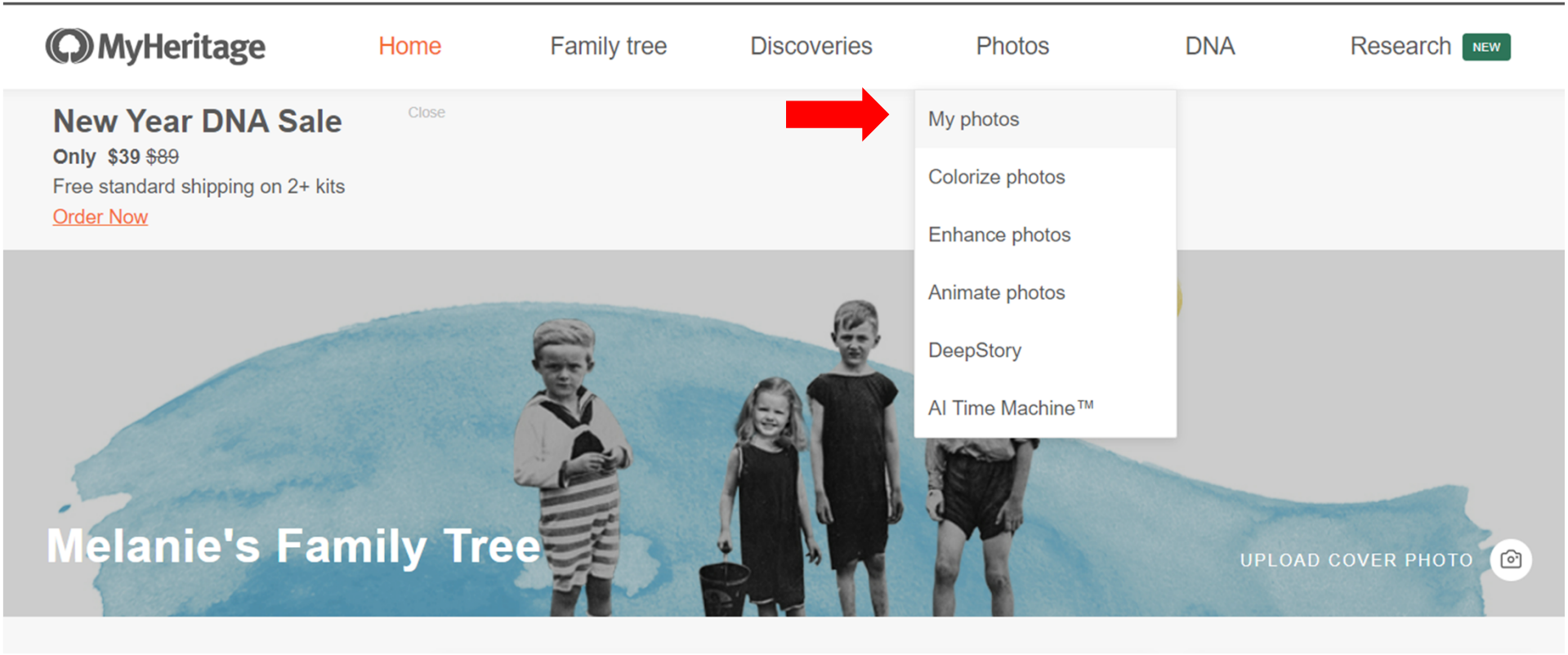


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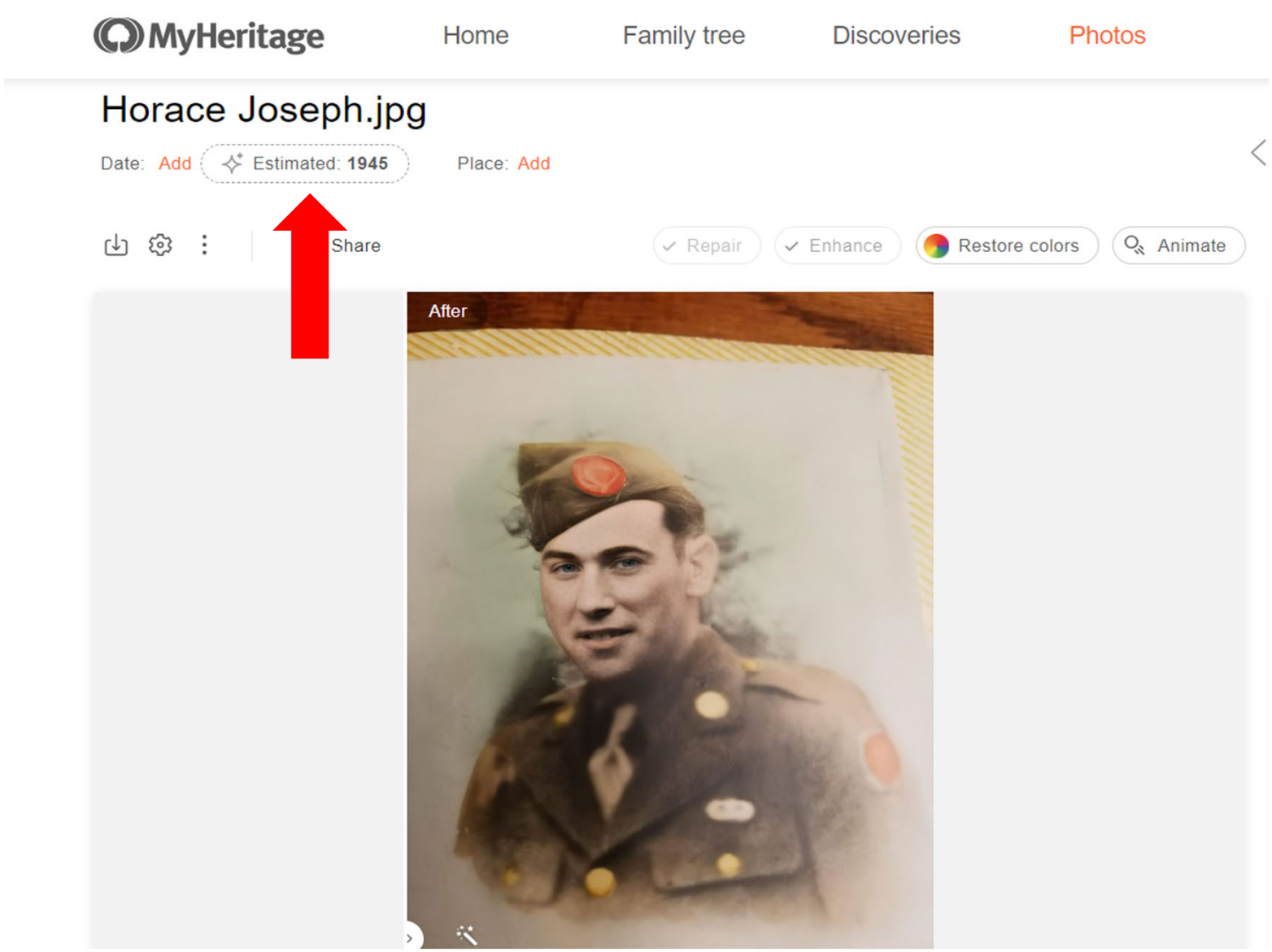


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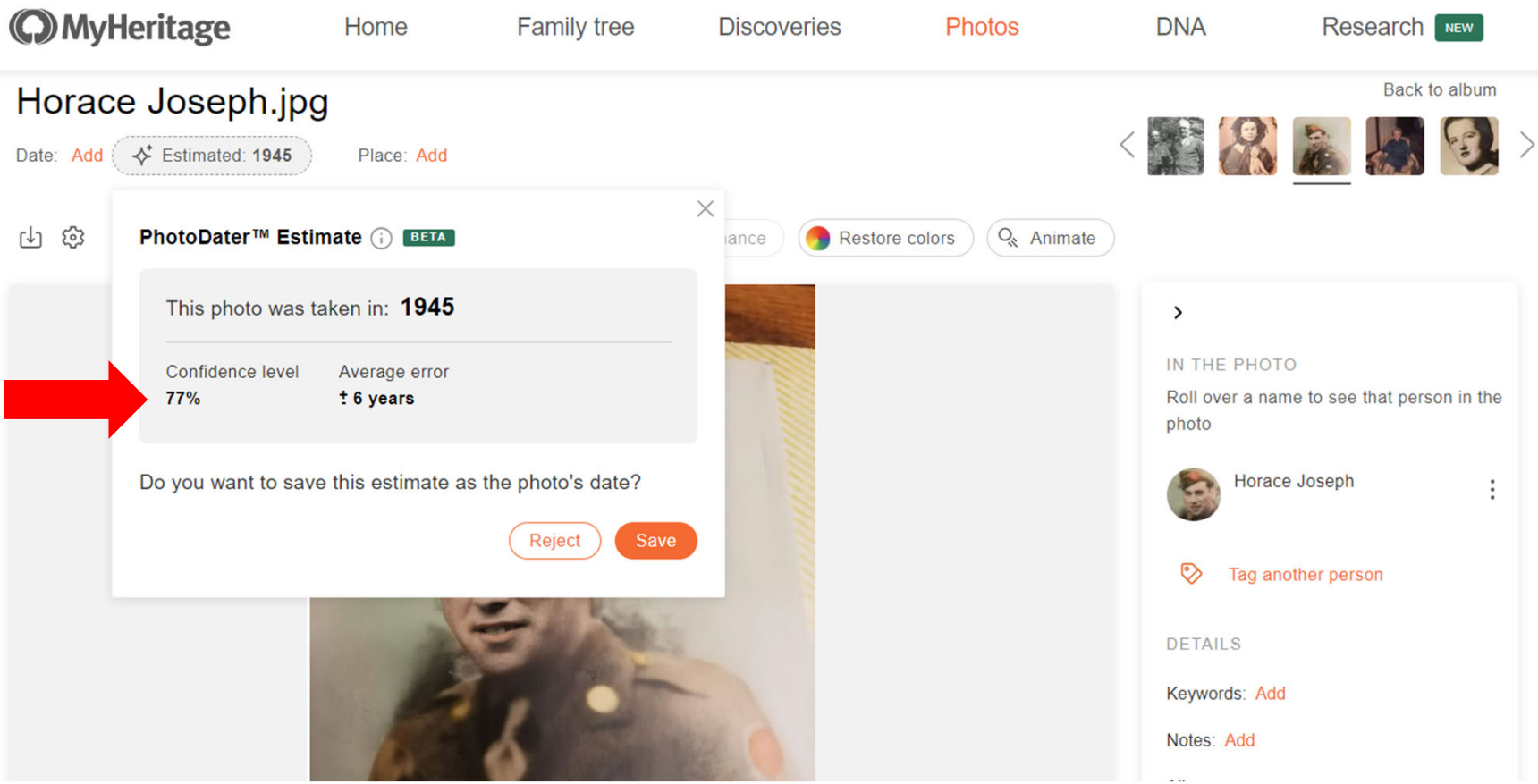


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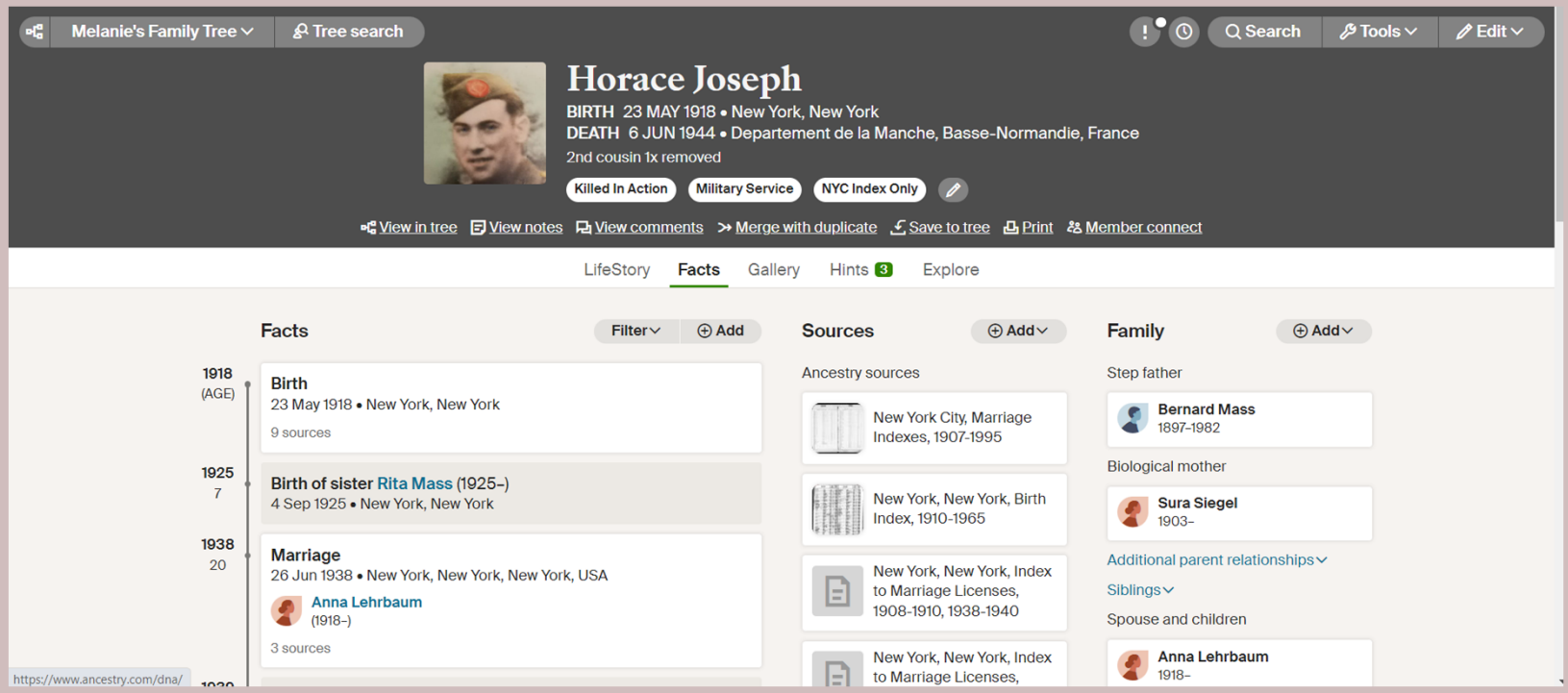
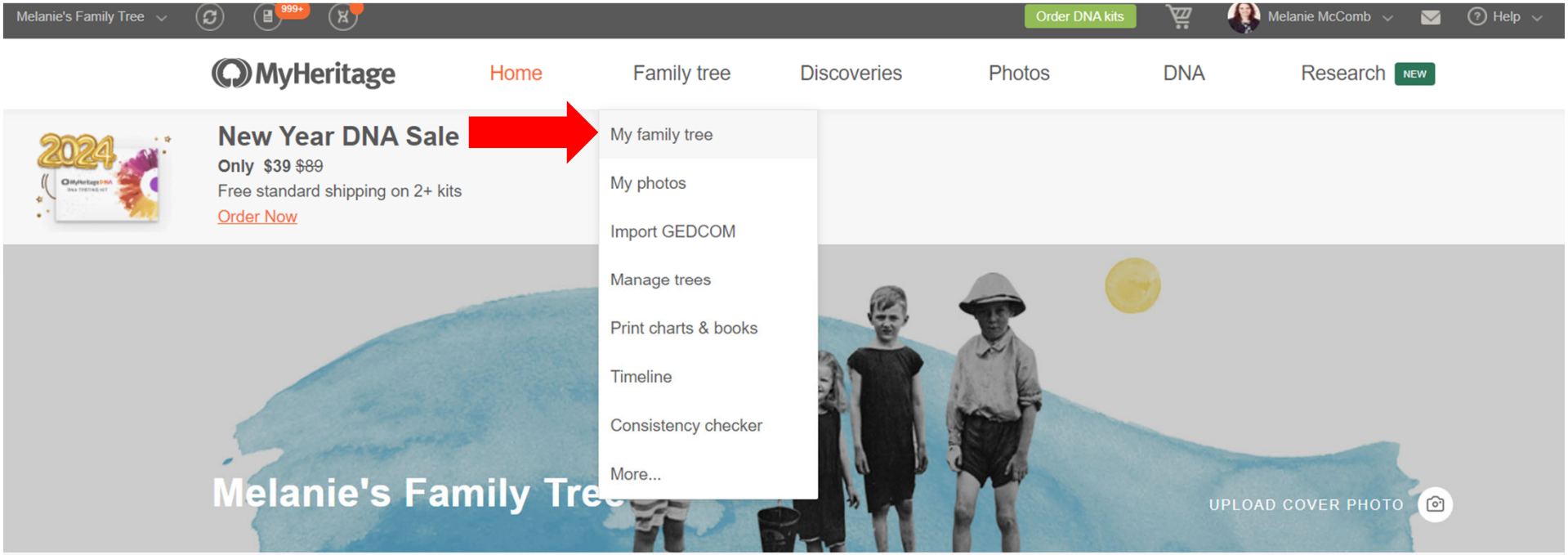
# Pretty Close!



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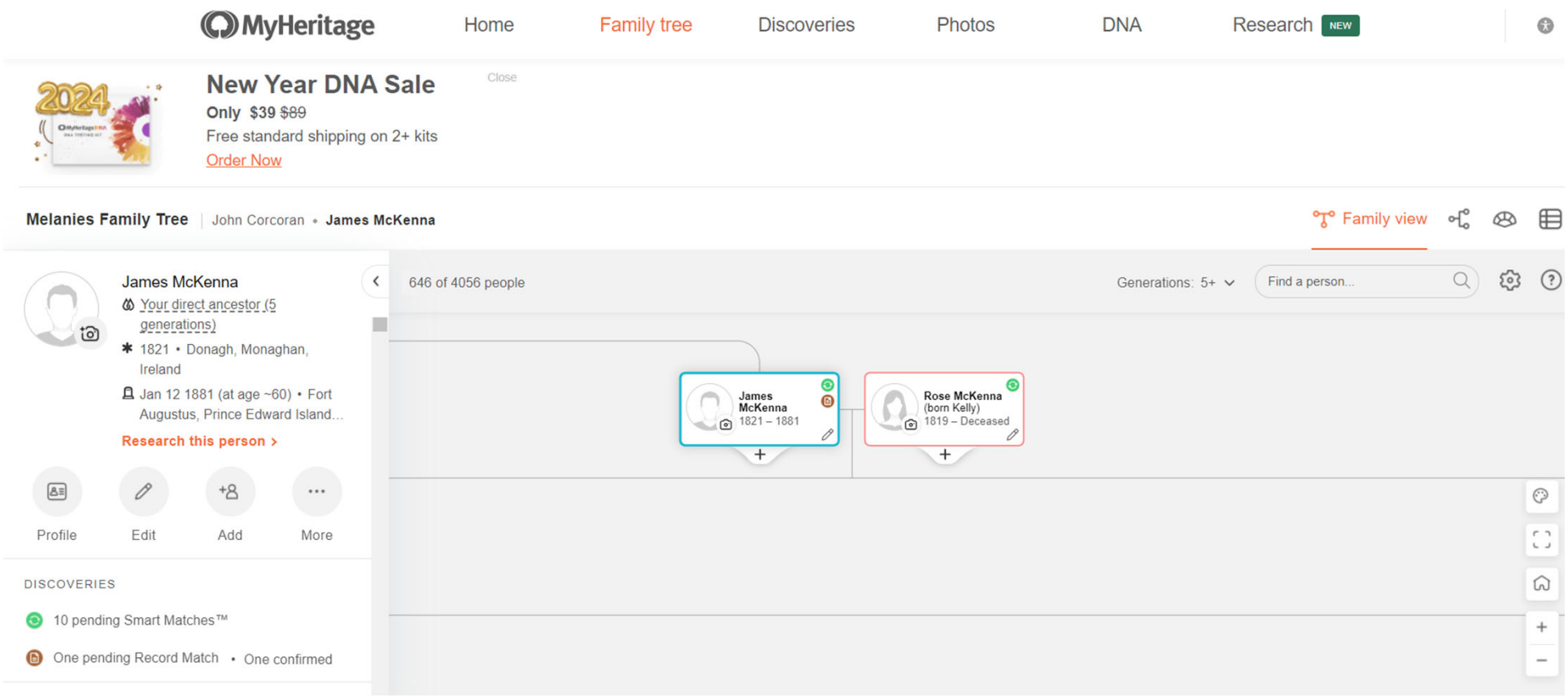


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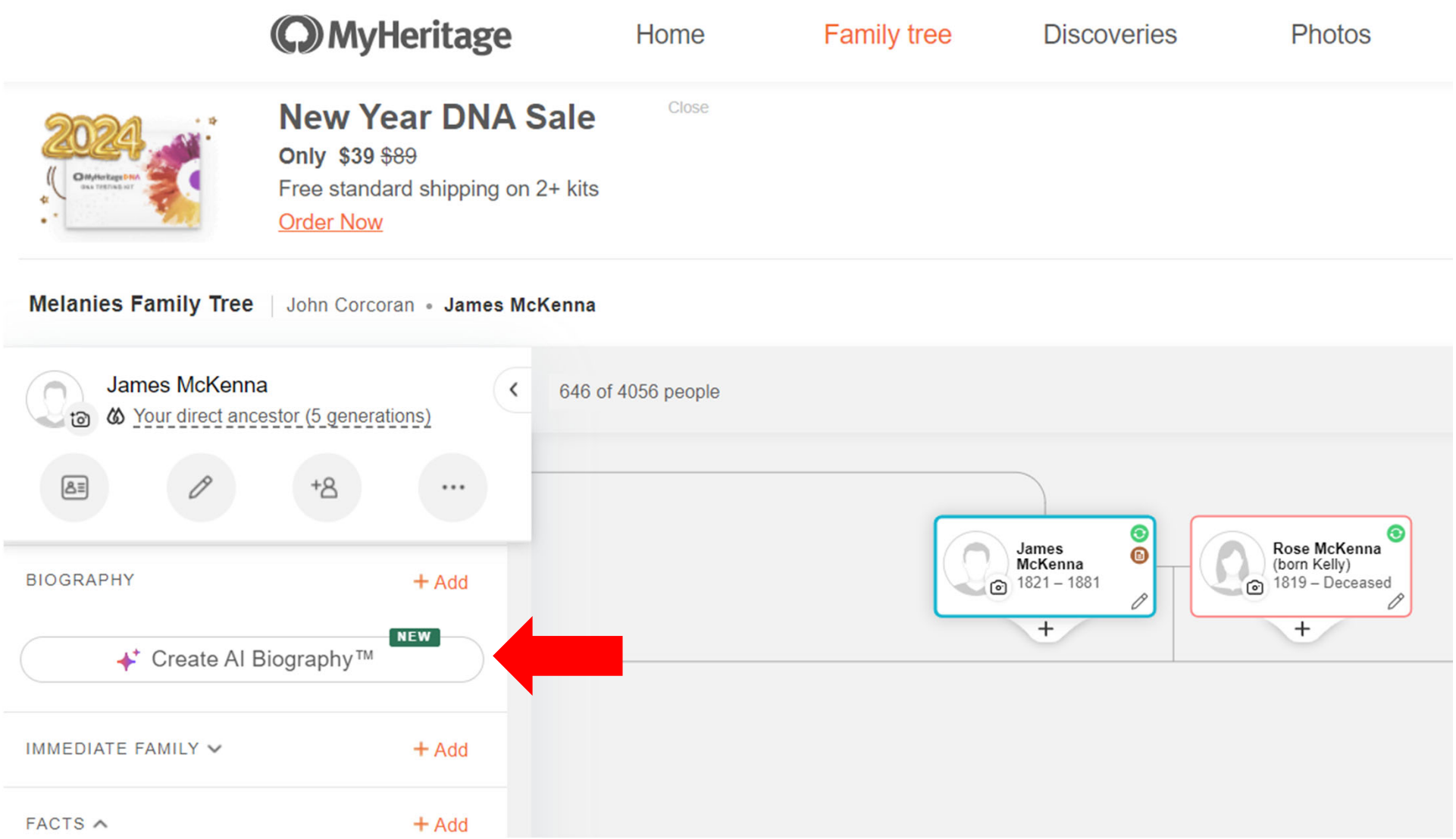


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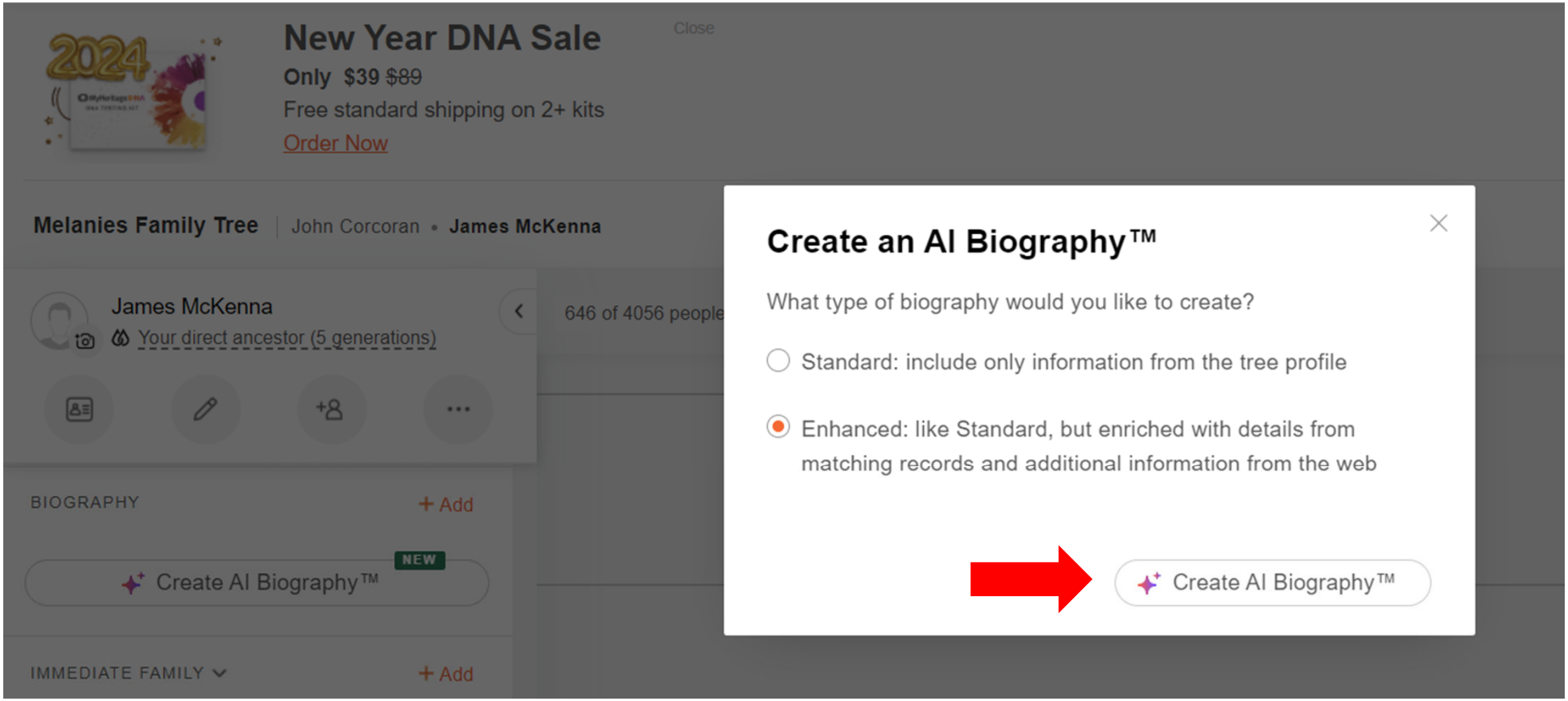


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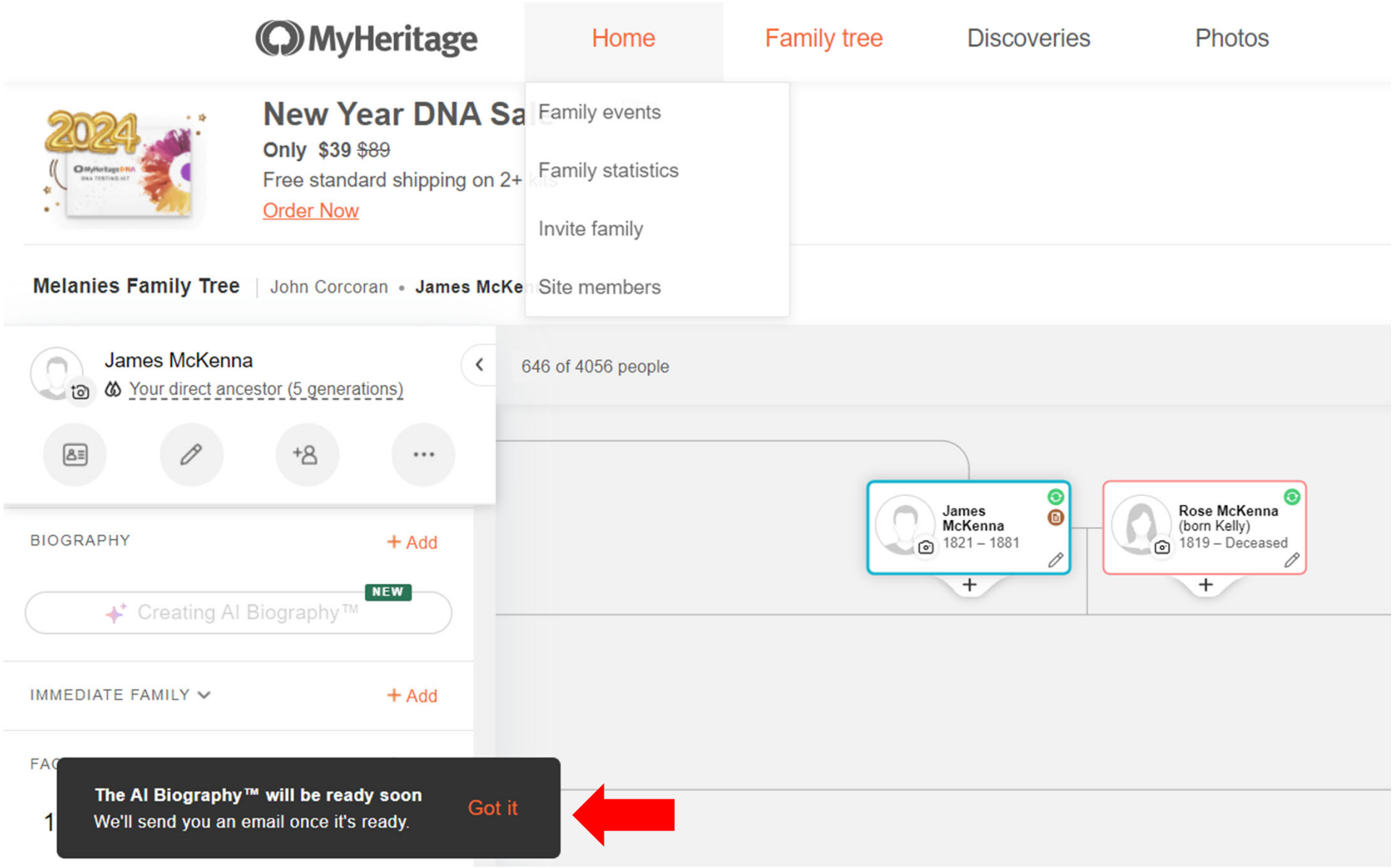


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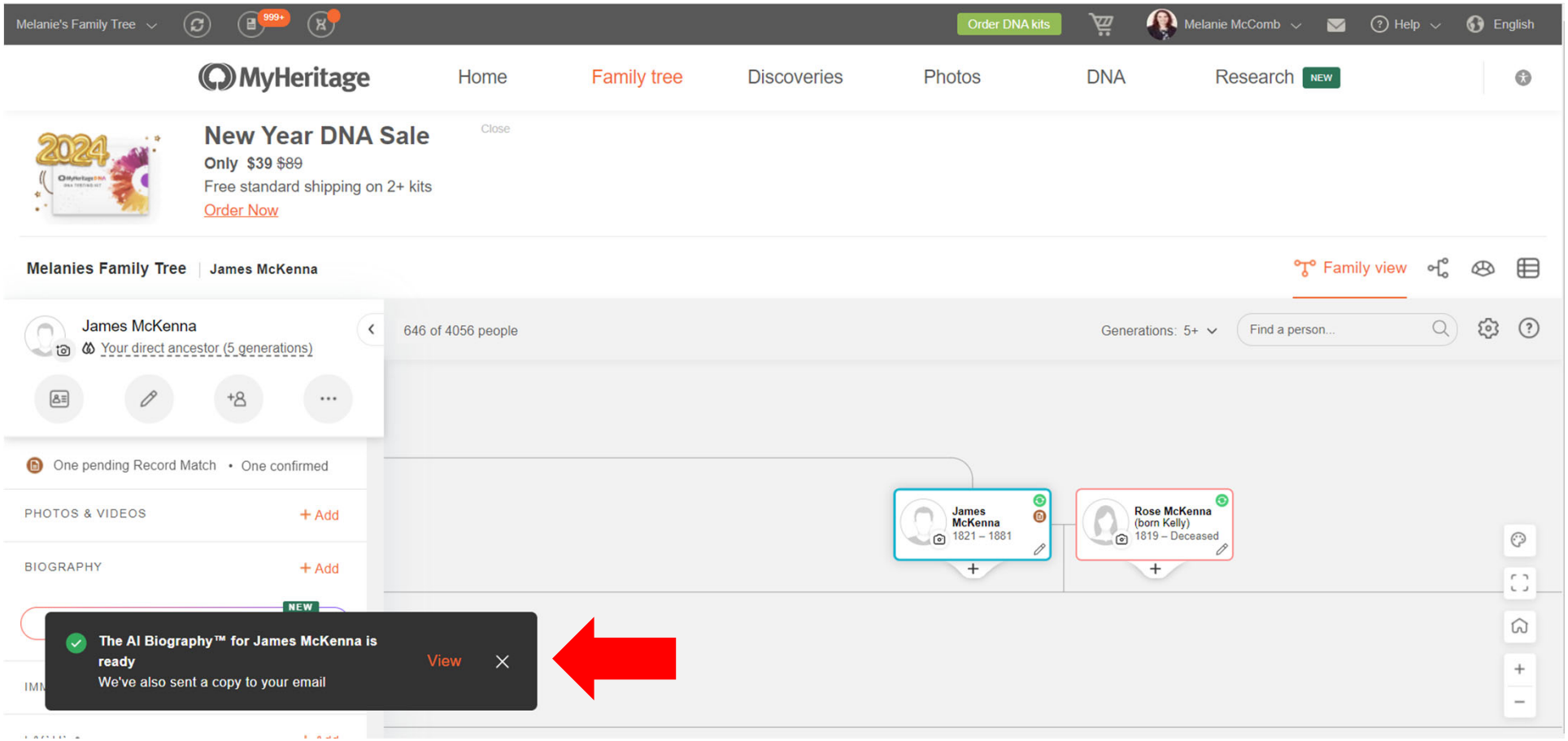


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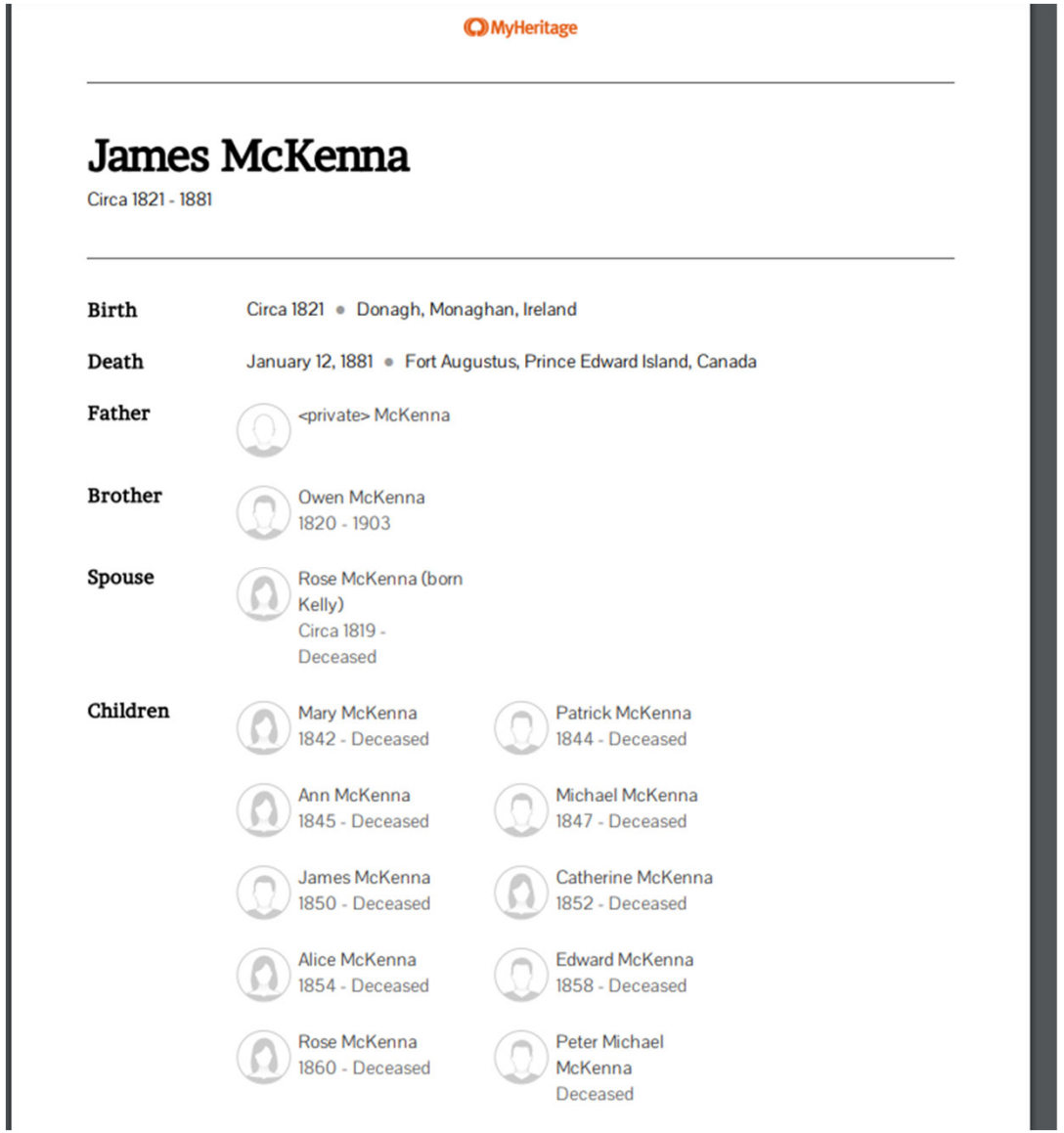

MyHeritage

# James McKenna

Circa 1821 - 1881

**Birth** Circa 1821 • Donagh, Monaghan, Ireland

**Death** January 12, 1881 • Fort Augustus, Prince Edward Island, Canada

**Father** <private> McKenna

**Brother** Owen McKenna
1820 - 1903

**Spouse** Rose McKenna (born Kelly)
Circa 1819 - Deceased

**Children**

- Mary McKenna
  1842 - Deceased
- Patrick McKenna
  1844 - Deceased
- Ann McKenna
  1845 - Deceased
- Michael McKenna
  1847 - Deceased
- James McKenna
  1850 - Deceased
- Catherine McKenna
  1852 - Deceased
- Alice McKenna
  1854 - Deceased
- Edward McKenna
  1858 - Deceased
- Rose McKenna
  1860 - Deceased
- Peter Michael McKenna
  Deceased

## MyHeritage AI Biographer Sample Page 1

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# Biography

James McKenna was born in 1821[1] or circa 1822[2], in Donagh, Monaghan, Ireland, to Mr. McKenna[1]. He had one brother named Owen, who was born on June 18, 1820, and died on August 11, 1903[1].

He married Rose Kelly, who was born in 1819[1], on June 23, 1839[1]. Together they had ten children: Mary (born June 5, 1842), Patrick (born March 1844), Ann (born 1845), Michael (born September 14, 1847), James (born April 1, 1850), Catherine (born March 22, 1852), Alice (born March 1854), Edward (born April 12, 1858), Rose (born August 23, 1860), and Peter Michael[1]. Additionally, records indicate three other children: Margaret, Michael, and Rose A., with birth years ranging from circa 1843 to circa 1851[2].

At some point, James McKenna lived at 200 Main Street in Bridgeton and resided in Glasgow, Calton, Lanarkshire, Scotland, on March 30, 1851[2].

He passed away on January 12, 1881, at the age of 60 in Fort Augustus, Prince Edward Island, Canada, and was buried there in Queens County[1].

MyHeritage AI Biographer
Sample Page 2

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## Historical Context

James McKenna's birth in 1821 or circa 1822 in Donagh, Monaghan, Ireland, occurred during a period of significant distress. The early 19th century was marked by widespread poverty and political unrest in Ireland. The country was still under British rule, which imposed various economic hardships on the Irish people through policies such as the Penal Laws that discriminated against Catholics. James' early life would have been shaped by these conditions, leading up to the Great Famine (1845-1852) that devastated Ireland during his young adulthood.

When James married Rose Kelly in 1839 and started their family, Ireland was on the cusp of the Great Famine. This catastrophic event led to mass emigration, with over a million Irish fleeing starvation and disease for new lives abroad, particularly in North America. It is likely that the struggles of this period influenced James and Rose's decision to seek better opportunities elsewhere, reflected in their eventual move to Scotland and later to Canada.

By 1851, when records show James residing in Glasgow, Calton, Lanarkshire, Scotland, the city was undergoing rapid industrialization and urbanization. Glasgow had become a hub for trade and manufacturing during the Industrial Revolution, attracting many Irish immigrants seeking work. However, living conditions for the working class were often poor, with overcrowded housing and unsanitary environments being common issues.

James McKenna's death in Fort Augustus, Prince Edward Island, Canada, in 1881 came after decades of significant change in the region. Prince Edward Island had only joined the Canadian Confederation in 1873, eight years before his passing. The island was primarily rural and agricultural, offering a stark contrast to the industrial cities of Britain. Immigrants like James played a role in shaping the community and economy of their new home.

# MyHeritage AI Biographer Sample Page 3

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## Last Name Origins

The surname McKenna is of Irish origin and is an anglicized form of the Gaelic name 'Mac Cionaoith', which means 'son of Cionnaith' or 'son of Cionaodh'. The given names Cionnaith and Cionaodh are derived from the Old Irish 'Cionaodh', meaning 'fire-born' or 'born of fire'. This personal name was borne by a number of early saints. The McKenna family were a branch of the southern Ui Neill and were lords of Truagh in County Monaghan, where they have been settled since at least the 14th century.

## Consistency Issues

1. The year of birth for James McKenna is inconsistent between sources: 1821[1] vs. circa 1822[2].
2. Rose Kelly's year of birth is given as 1819[1], while another record suggests she was born circa 1826[2].
3. There are discrepancies in the number and names of children: ten children are listed in one source[1], while only three additional children with different names appear in another source[2].
4. The place of residence during a certain period is only mentioned in one source, which states that he lived in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1851[2].

## Citations

1. Source: Melanie's Family Tree, managed by Melanie McComb
   https://www.myheritage.com/person-8000056_282007411_282007411/james-mckenna
2. Source: 1851 Scotland Census collection on MyHeritage
   https://www.myheritage.com/research/record-10980-238966/james-mckenna-in-1851-scotland-census

MyHeritage AI Biographer
Sample Page 4

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MyHeritage Home Family tree Discoveries Photos DNA Research NEW

# James McKenna

In 1851 Scotland Census

Save this record and choose the information you want to add to your family tree

Save record

| | |
|---|---|
| Name | James McKenna |
| Gender | Male |
| Birth | Circa 1822<br>Ireland |
| Residence | Mar 30 1851<br>Glasgow, Calton, Lanarkshire, Scotland |
| Address | House Number: 200<br>Street: Main Street |
| Age | 29 |
| Marital status | Married |
| Occupation | Agricultural Labourer |

1851 Scotland Census

2,329,558 RECORDS

The Scotland Census of 1851 was taken on 30 March 1851. Information listed in these records includes: name, gender, age, year and place of birth, year and place of residence, relation to head of hous... More

SEARCH THIS COLLECTION

myheritage.com

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## Household

| RELATION | NAME | BIRTH |
|---|---|---|
| Head | James McKenna | Circa 1822 |
| Wife | Rosey McKenna | Circa 1826 |
| Daughter | Margaret McKenna | Circa 1844 |
| Daughter | Rose A McKenna | Circa 1848 |
| Son | Michael McKenna | Circa 1851 |
| Lodger | John Connar | Circa 1821 |
| Lodger | Patrick Connar | Circa 1823 |

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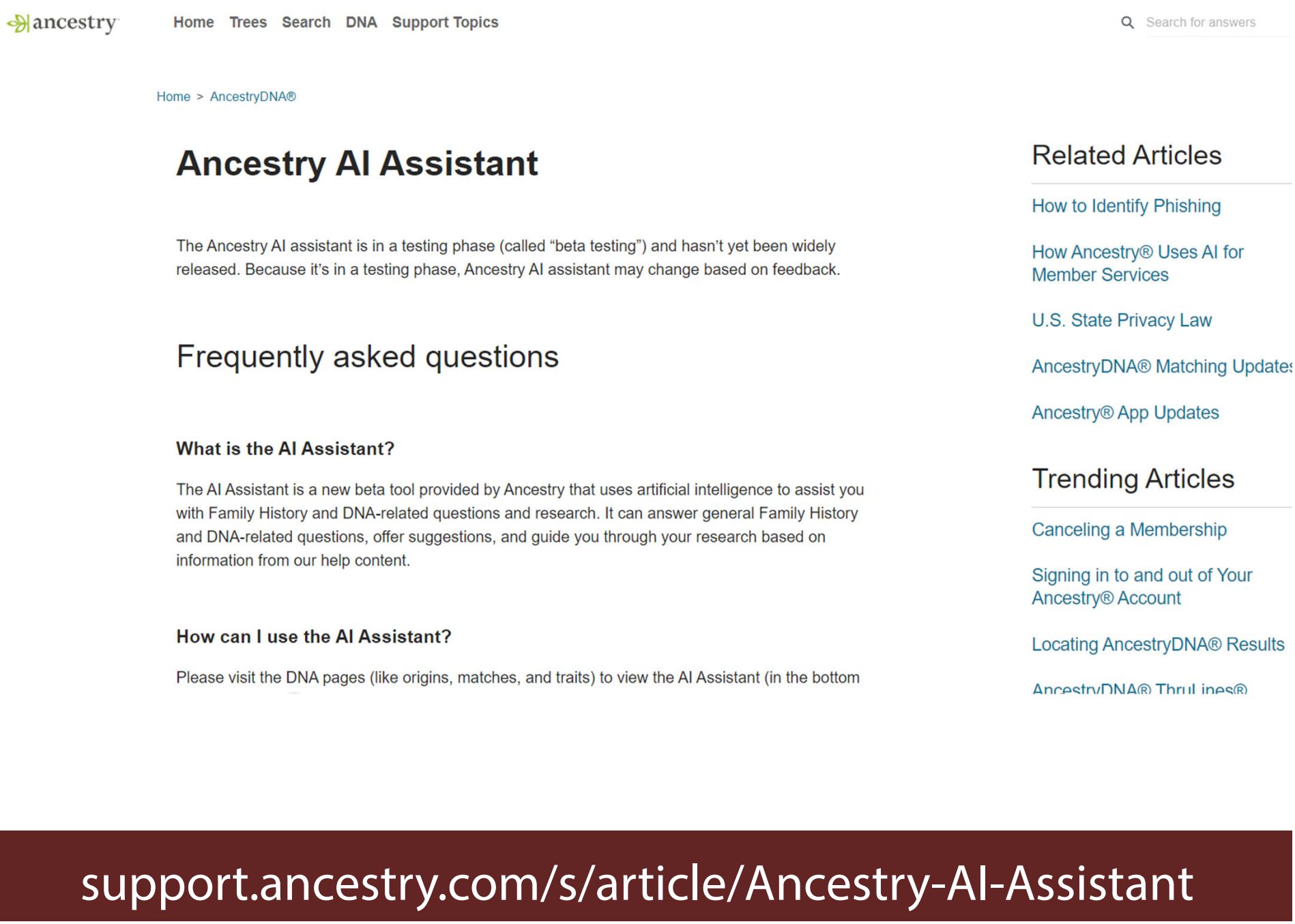
Ancestry




**support.ancestry.com/s/article/Ancestry-AI-Assistant**

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### What kinds of questions can I ask the AI Assistant?

The AI Assistant can answer family history- and DNA-related questions, but we may expand it to support other products and features over time.

Here are some examples of what you could ask:

- Why don't I have a region I know I have ancestors from?
- Why does a close family member have a community I don't have?
- How do I find common ancestors with my matches?
- How to research African American family history
- How do I search immigration records from 1930?
- Records from the California Gold Rush

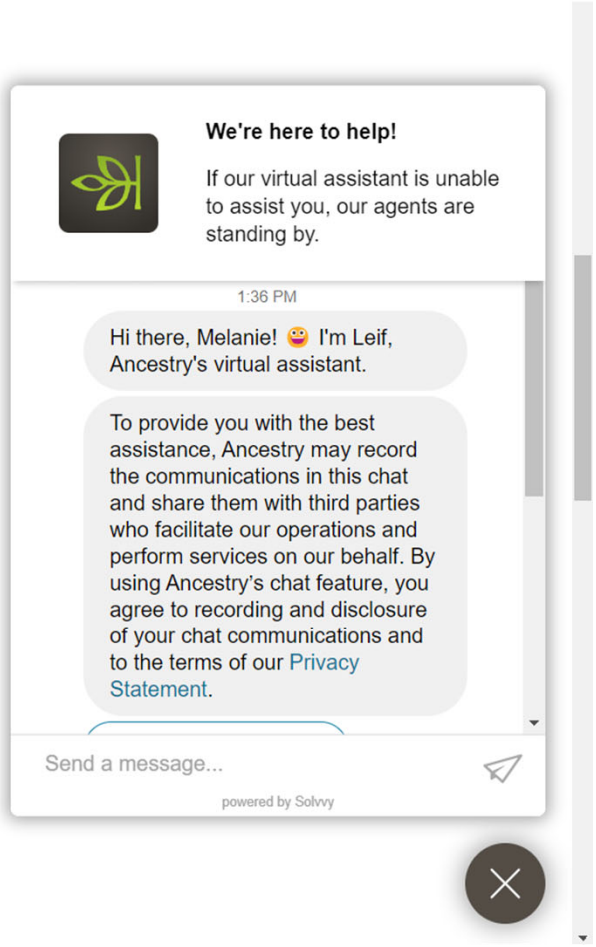
When asking the AI Assistant questions, please don't include any personal details or account information. The assistant cannot currently search records, but it can recommend collections based on your questions.

### How are the AI Assistant responses generated?

The AI Assistant learns from various help resources on Ancestry, such as support center articles, learning hub pages, blog posts, and more. It scans these sources to find information most relevant to your question and summarizes it in an answer using generative AI.

### Does the AI Assistant use my personal information?

No, the AI assistant does not have access to any of your personal information (such as family trees




**support.ancestry.com/s/article/Ancestry-AI-Assistant**

# What AI Can't Do (For Genealogy)

# Examples

- Replace Genealogy Research
  - Subscription sites can't be searched
  - Most AI platforms are not connected to the Internet to get real-time data
- Organize Your Genealogy Files
- Provide a deep analysis of your DNA Results

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# ChatGPT – Researching a Specific Person

**You**

When did Ignaty Gailunas (b. circa 1870 in Lithuania) die in Riga, Latvia?

**ChatGPT**

I don't have access to real-time information or specific records of individuals' deaths unless it's part of publicly available historical data until my last update in January 2022. Ignaty Gailunas's exact death date in Riga, Latvia, may not be readily available in general databases or public records accessible online. For such specific information, you might need to consult local archives, historical societies, or genealogical records in Lithuania or Latvia. They could have more detailed and updated information about individuals from that region and period.

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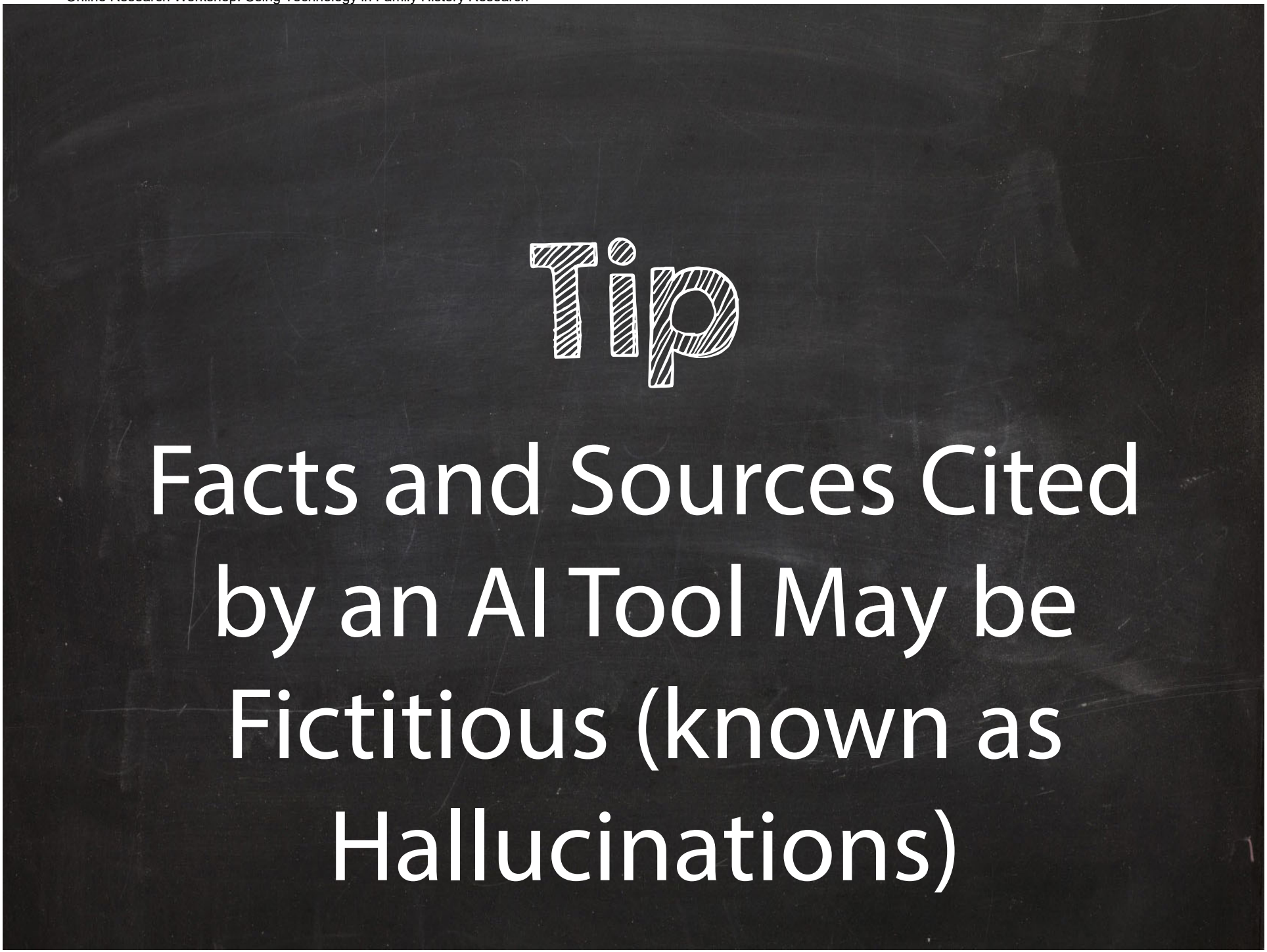
Tip
Facts and Sources Cited by an AI Tool May be Fictitious (known as Hallucinations)

# Copyright and Other Legal Concerns

# Can AI be Copyrighted?

- August 2023 ruling by U.S. District Judge Beryl Howell said that "Only works with human authors can receive copyrights"
- This ruling was sparked by the Copyright Office's rejection of an application filed by computer scientist Stephen Thaler for his AI tool (DABUS)

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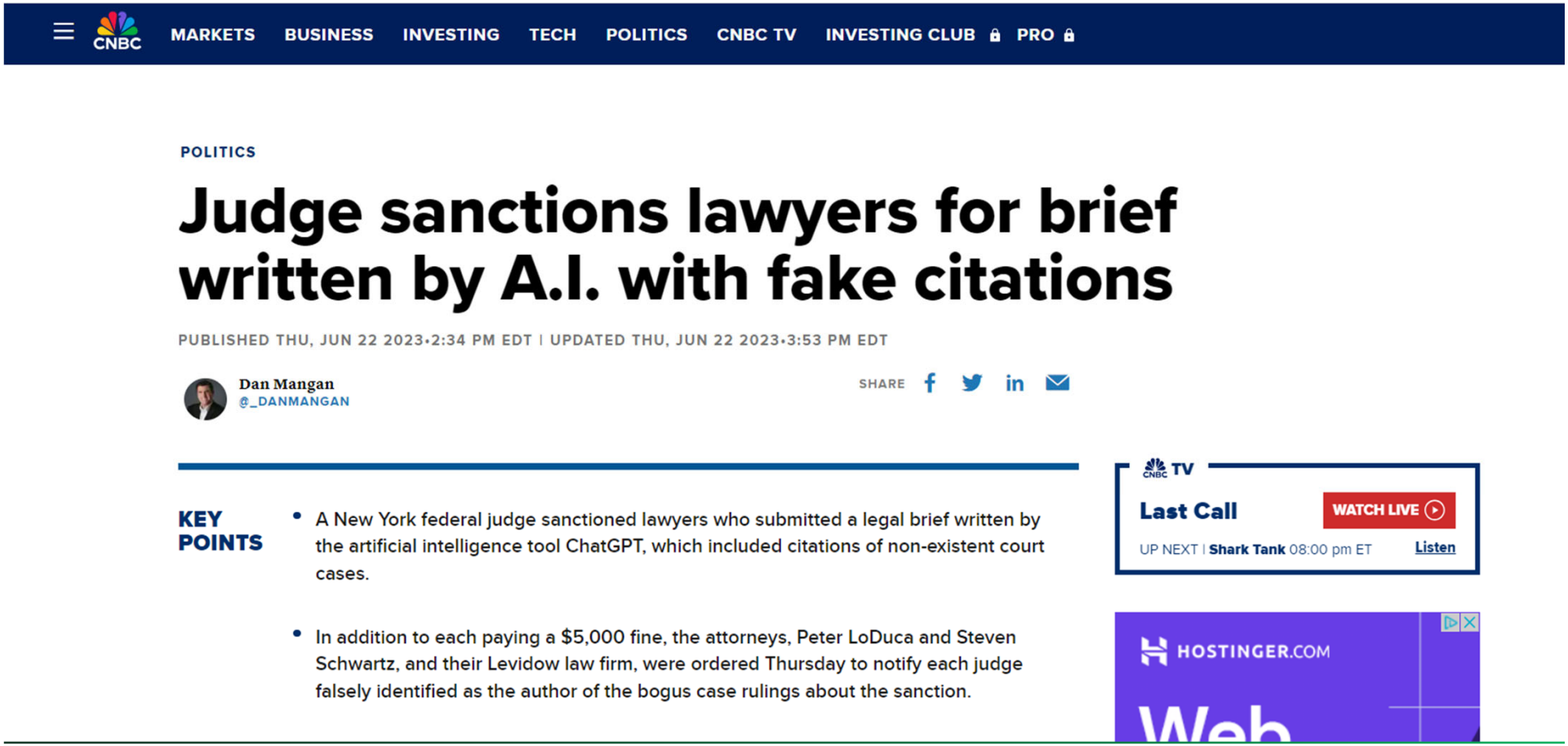
Legal

# US Supreme Court's Roberts urges 'caution' as AI reshapes legal field

By **John Kruzel**

December 31, 2023 6:04 PM EST · Updated 4 hours ago

reuters.com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Dan Mangan
@_DANMANGAN
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KEY POINTS
A New York federal judge sanctioned lawyers who submitted a legal brief written by the artificial intelligence tool ChatGPT, which included citations of non-existent court cases.
In addition to each paying a $5,000 fine, the attorneys, Peter LoDuca and Steven Schwartz, and their Levidow law firm, were ordered Thursday to notify each judge falsely identified as the author of the bogus case rulings about the sanction.
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# Tips

- Be aware that AI can and will likely make mistakes.
- Don't let the computer do all of the analysis. Review the results summarized and make any necessary edits.
- Don't rely on AI to generate reports for clients.
- Identify where and when AI was used when presenting materials with others.

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# Review

1. AI is a field that is evolving every day. Try out different tools to see which one fits best.
2. Consider some of the different ways that AI can save you time and/or give you hints with your research.
3. AI is a tool but NOT the only tool for genealogy.

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QUESTIONS?
Hire Research Services
research@nehgs.org
Chat with a Genealogist
AmericanAncestors.org/chat

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