

# Genealogical Skills Bootcamp

*Pre-Bootcamp Preparatory  
Presentation*

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



**American Ancestors**<sup>®</sup>  
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

# Meet today's presenters



**Melanie McComb**  
Senior Genealogist



**Kathleen Mackenzie**  
Education & Programming  
Manager

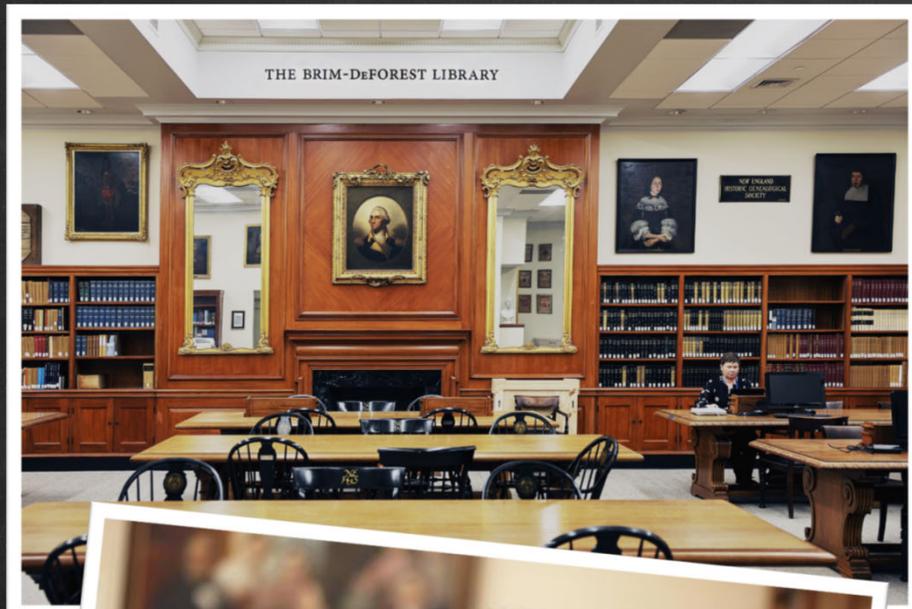
# OVERVIEW

- **Presentation (45 mins.)**
  - Goals of the program
  - Getting to American Ancestors headquarters and navigating the area
  - Program overview
  - Research preparation
  - Next Steps
- **Q&A (15 mins.)**

# Goals & Overview



*Voice of*  
Kathleen Mackenzie, Education &  
Programming Manager





**David Allen Lambert**  
Chief Genealogist



**Rhonda R. McClure**  
Senior Genealogist



**Melanie McComb**  
Senior Genealogist



**Kathleen Mackenzie**  
Education & Programming Manager

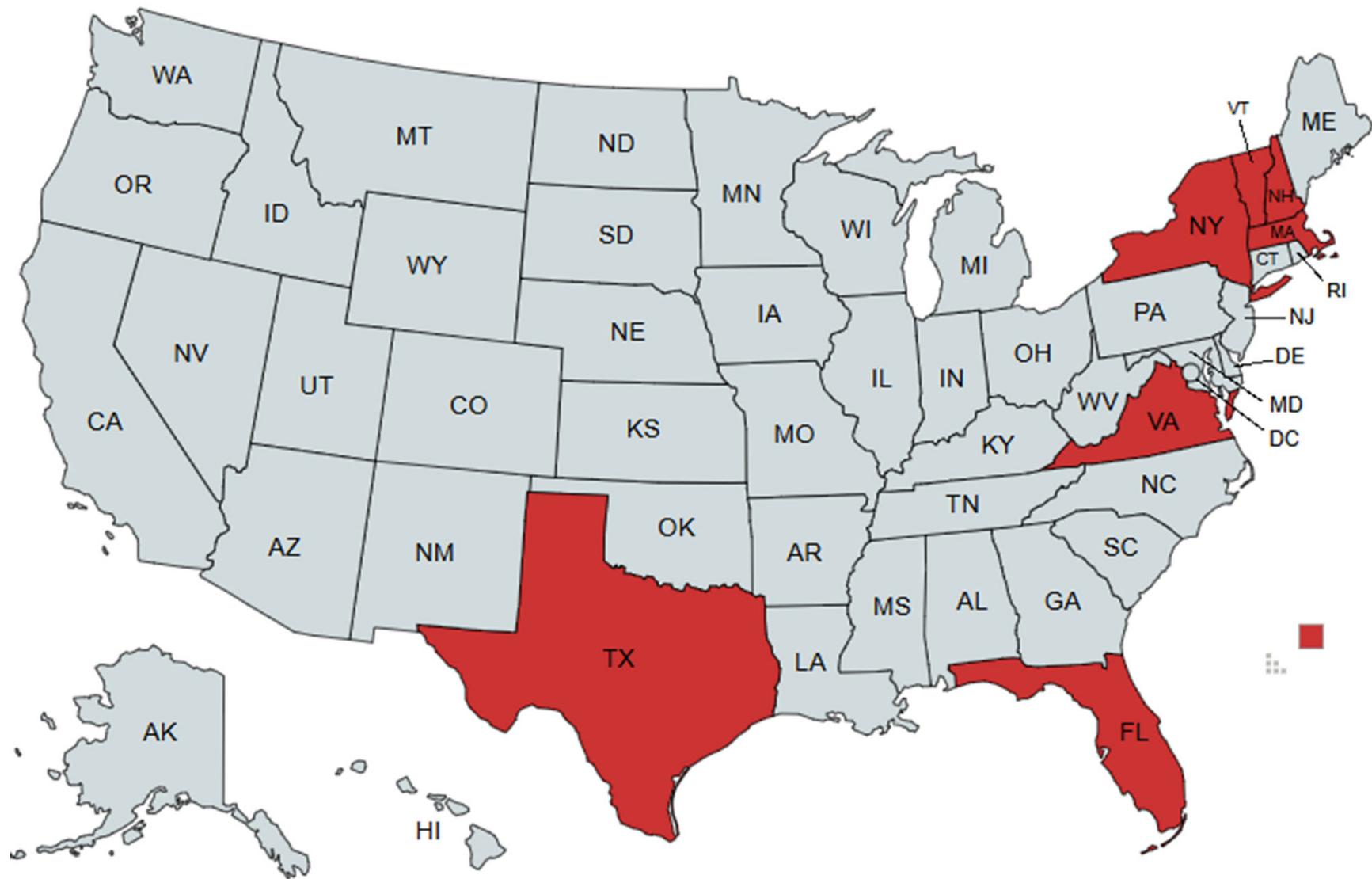
# At-a-Glance

**February 20-22 at American Ancestors headquarters in Boston**

## **Bootcamp includes:**

- In-depth lectures and hands-on activities
- Two, 30-minute consultations with expert genealogists (one virtual pre-tour consultation, one on-tour consultation)
- Resource packet with detailed handouts, exercises, and articles
- Group meals (daily breakfast, opening reception, and closing luncheon)
- Certificate of completion
- Pre-program preparatory webinar and resources

# Navigating the Local Area



## Navigating Boston



American Ancestors is located at 97 Newbury Street in Boston, MA 02116. We are in the heart of Boston's Back Bay neighborhood, close to many restaurants, the Boston Public Library, the Boston Public Gardens, the Boston Common, and more. It's a very fun and safe area to explore! If you have any questions about the local area please feel free to reach out to Education & Programming Manager Kathleen Mackenzie at [kathleen.mackenzie@americanancestors.org](mailto:kathleen.mackenzie@americanancestors.org).

### Directions & Parking

American Ancestors is located very close to the Copley T stop on the green line, as well as the Back Bay stop on the orange line. You can find **detailed directions here**. If you are driving, you may wish to park at the end of an MBTA line and take the T in. Otherwise, there are **parking garages nearby**.

### Accommodations

If you are travelling from afar, you may wish to book a hotel in the area. You can find **a detailed list of local accommodations on our website here**, categorized by price type. American Ancestors members also receive special offers at a few local hotels, which are specified at the top of the list.

### Dining

There are many dining options close to American Ancestors to keep you fueled while you're busy researching! Here are just a few notable options that are especially close:

- Caffè Nero, next door to American Ancestors*
- Thinking Cup, just a couple doors down from American Ancestors*
- Trader Joe's at 500 Boylston Street, a 4-minute walk from American Ancestors*

[www.AmericanAncestors.org/genealogical-skills-bootcamp-2025](http://www.AmericanAncestors.org/genealogical-skills-bootcamp-2025)

# Accommodations Near American Ancestors Headquarters

Special Offers for Members & Visitors

Boston-area Hotels

## Special Offers for Members and Visitors



### Historic Hotels of America

Thanks to an agreement between American Ancestors and Historic Hotels of America, our members can now enjoy overnight accommodations at some of the country's finest historic hotels, inns, and resorts at discounted rates up to 30% off. [Learn More](#)

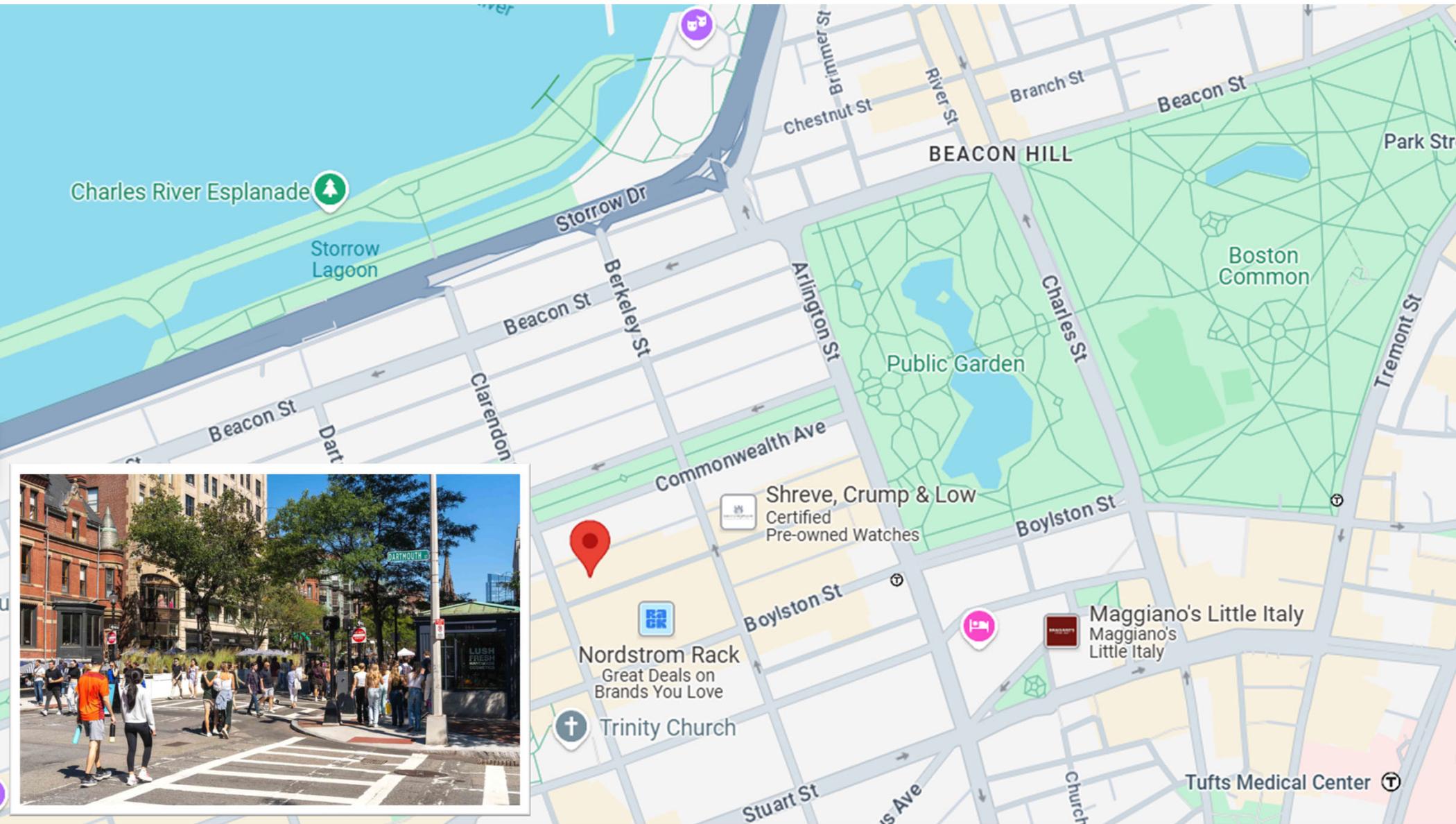
### Charlesmark Hotel

The Charlesmark Hotel, located in the heart of Boston's Back Bay, and only a few blocks from our Research Center, offers the following rates for American

[AmericanAncestors.org/about/accommodations-near-research-center](https://AmericanAncestors.org/about/accommodations-near-research-center)

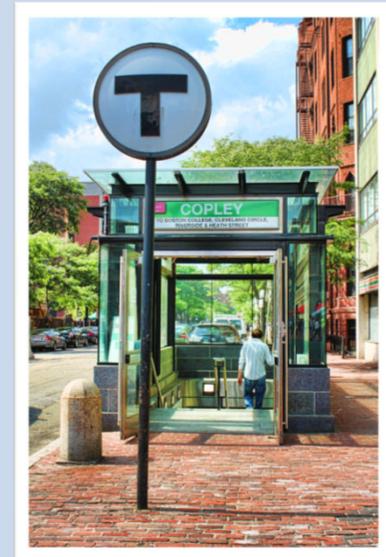
# Transportation – From the Airport

- Logan Express Back Bay
  - Bus that will take you to the Boston Public Library or Back Bay Station from Logan Airport.
  - Free from the airport, \$3 from Back Bay to the airport
  - Leaves every half hour
- Cab/Uber
  - About a 15-minute ride from the airport to American Ancestors



# Transportation – Around Boston

- American Ancestors is close to the Copley and Arlington Green line MBTA stops (T stops), as well as the Back Bay Orange line stop
  - You can purchase tickets via the machines in each station, or you can pay with a credit card at the turnstiles
- Back Bay is a very walkable area, with many restaurants nearby, a large CVS Pharmacy, Trader Joe's, and more.
- There are always many ubers/lyfts in the area



## Dining Options Near American Ancestors

- Caffè Nero
- Thinking Cup
- Trader Joe's
- Starbucks
- Sweet Green
- Life Alive
- Chick-Fil-A
- Chipotle
- Joe's American
- Parish
- Buttermilk & Bourbon
- Piattini
- Saltie Girl

....And much more!

# Sightseeing

- Boston Public Garden
- Boston Common
- Boston Public Library
- Massachusetts Historical Society
- Freedom Trail



# Schedule

# Thursday, February 20

## Thursday, February 20: The Basics

<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Check in, refreshments
<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	Introductions
<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	Genealogy 101, presented by David Allen Lambert
<b>11:30 a.m.</b>	Sources, presented by David Allen Lambert
<b>12:30 p.m.</b>	Lunch (on your own)
<b>1:30 p.m.</b>	Tour of the Brim-DeForest Library at American Ancestors
<b>2:00-6:00 p.m.</b>	Personal research
<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	Reception

# Friday, February 21

## Friday, February 21: Breaking Down Genealogical Brick Walls

<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Refreshments
<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	Analysis, presented by Melanie McComb
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	F.A.N. Approach, presented by Melanie McComb
<b>12:30 p.m.</b>	Lunch (on your own)
<b>1:30-6:00 p.m.</b>	Personal research

# Saturday, February 22

## Saturday, February 22: Getting the Most Out of Online Research

<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Refreshments
<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	General Best Practices and Tips for FamilySearch, Ancestry, and American Ancestors
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	Using Google for Genealogical Research
<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	Lunch (provided) and Graduation Ceremony
<b>1:30-6:00 p.m.</b>	Personal Research

# Participant Forms

# Participant Forms

## *Participant Forms*



### American Ancestors Participant Information and Research Interests Forms

#### Participant Form 1 - For Pre-Bootcamp Zoom Consultation - Due February 7

Please fill out this Participant Form **by February 7, 2025**. Your answers on this form will assist our genealogists in preparing for your pre-bootcamp consultation! It also allows you to submit emergency contact information, dietary restrictions, and more.

#### Participant Form 2 - For On-Site Consultation at American Ancestors - Due February 14

Please fill out this Participant Form **by February 14, 2025** your answers on this form will assist our genealogists in preparing for your on-site consultation during the bootcamp at American Ancestors!

If you have any questions about filling out these forms, please contact Education and Programming Manager, Kathleen Mackenzie at [kathleen.mackenzie@americanancestors.org](mailto:kathleen.mackenzie@americanancestors.org). Please note that **you have the option to save your form and return to it** by clicking the "Save" button at the bottom of the page.

# Participant Form Part 1 Due February 7



**American Ancestors**  
A NATIONAL CENTER FOR FAMILY HISTORY, HERITAGE & CULTURE

## Genealogical Skills Bootcamp Part 1

In order to provide the best individual support during the Genealogical Skills Bootcamp, we have compiled the following questionnaire. Please complete this form by Friday, February 7. If you have any questions please contact Education and Programming Manager, Kathleen Mackenzie, at [kathleen.mackenzie@americanancestors.org](mailto:kathleen.mackenzie@americanancestors.org).

Name \*

First Name

Last Name

Preferred email for bootcamp communications \*

example@example.com

# Participant Form Part 2

## Due February 14



### Genealogical Skills Bootcamp Part 2

In order to provide the best individual support during the Genealogical Skills Bootcamp, we have compiled the following questionnaire. Please complete this form by February 14. If you have any questions please contact Education and Programming Manager, Kathleen Mackenzie, at [kathleen.mackenzie@americanancestors.org](mailto:kathleen.mackenzie@americanancestors.org).

Name \*

First Name

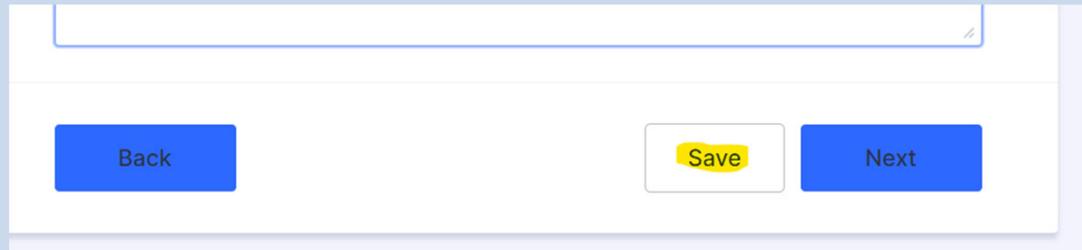
Last Name

### On-tour consultation - to take place at American Ancestors

Please fill out the following information for your 30-minute consultation which will take place on-site at American Ancestors. Please be as detailed as possible.

Name of individual to be discussed: \*

# Participant Form, Cont.



A screenshot of a web form interface. At the top, there is a white rectangular input field with a blue border and a small blue icon in the top right corner. Below the input field is a white navigation bar with a blue border. On the left side of the bar is a blue button with the text "Back". In the center is a white button with a yellow highlight and the text "Save". On the right side is a blue button with the text "Next".

# Consultations

# Consultations

- One pre-bootcamp consultation
- One on-site consultation, pre-scheduled
- 30 minutes each
- Participant Form Part 1 due February 7 – essential for scheduling pre-bootcamp consultation



# Consultation Prep

- Focus your questions
- Bring family trees and copies of relevant documents (vital records, etc.)
- Be ready to list sources you have already checked
- Be prepared to work on a different branch when something turns up

# Fellow Participants

- Your packet will include the group's research interests—you may find a cousin!
- Ask each other about your research, invite each other to lunch or dinner, keep each other going!



# Your Research at the American Ancestors



*Voice of*  
Melanie McComb, Senior  
Genealogist

# Getting the Most From Our Library



Tip

Make a Plan for Your Research  
Trip!

## What do You Want to Learn?

- Make a list of your research questions for the trip. Which . . .
  - Ancestors
  - Locations
  - Time periods

. . . will be your focus?
- Identify what you *already* know about these ancestors, locations, time periods
- What is missing and what can I learn at American Ancestors?



# Collections at American Ancestors

- 30,000 published genealogies
- 40,000 local histories and records
- 5,000 journals and periodicals
- 12,000 rare books
- Millions of manuscript items
- Millions of records on microform
- Reference works, compilations, guidebooks, and more



# External Databases Available Onsite

- Ancestry.com
- FamilySearch.org (Affiliate Access)
- Fold3
- ArkivDigital
- *Boston Globe* (1980-Present)
- Early American Newspaper, Series I 1690-1876
- FindMyPast
- Gale Databases
- Genealogy Quebec
- HeritageQuest Online
- HistoryGeo.com
- Irish Ancestors
- Irish Newspaper Archives
- *The Jewish Advocate* (1905-Current)
- *New York Times* (1980-Current)
- Newspapers.com
- Parchemin Notarial Database
- ScotlandsPeople

# Library Catalog

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the AmericanAncestors.org website. The logo is on the left, followed by navigation links: Search, Events, Join, Give, 10 Million Names, Publications, Expert Help, Tools, Signature Projects, and Centers & Initiatives. On the right, there are links for Bookstore, About Us, and MY ACCOUNT. A red arrow points to the 'Search' link in the navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, there is a 'Go to Search' section with a red arrow pointing to it. This section lists search options: 'What content sources can I search?', 'A to Z list of all databases', 'External databases', 'Library Catalog', 'Digital Library & Archives', and 'Jewish Heritage Center'. A red arrow points to the 'Library Catalog' link. To the right of the search options are two featured search sections: 'Search 1.4 Billion Names' with a 'LEARN MORE' button, and 'New! Search Content by Topic' with a 'LEARN MORE' button. The background of the search options section features a collage of historical documents and a woman using a laptop.

Library.AmericanAncestors.org

Catalog Login | Help

# Library Catalog

 American Ancestors

SEARCH - ABOUT -

VISIT: [AmericanAncestors.org](http://AmericanAncestors.org)

## Catalog Search

Search for books, e-books, manuscripts, and microform

Keyword   Title   Author   Subject   Call Number   Advanced

### Keyword Search

Keywords:

Search for online resources only

**SEARCH**

Example: irish new york

### Looking for something else?

- [Search for records in American Ancestors databases](#)
- [Browse Digital Library & Archives](#)

[Guide to the Library](#) | [Read Our Blog](#) | [Suggest a Title](#)

Library Catalog  
American Ancestors

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## Catalog Search

Search for books, e-books, manuscripts, and microform



Keyword Title Author **Subject** Call Number Advanced

**Subject Search**

Subject:

Examples:

- benson family
- lincoln county
- german americans
- nova scotia deeds

### Looking for something else?

- [Search American Ancestors Databases](#)
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New Search

Limit/Sort

(Search History) ▾

SUBJECT ▾ Briggs family System Sorted ▾ Sort Search

Result Page

1 2 Next

Add to email/print queue Select All Save to My Lists

SUBJECTS (1-50 of 62)

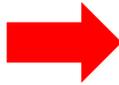
Briggs Family

- 1   **300 Years Of The Place Family In America** Clegg, Mary Lou Treece. ☆☆☆☆☆  
Fort Wayne, IN : Mary Lou Clegg, 2013.  
1 copy available at 7th Floor Stacks

Location	Call No.	Status
7th Floor Stacks	CS71 .P6973 2013	AVAILABLE
  
- 2   **Alexander Munro, Grenadier And Patriot, Of The Plains Of Abraham, East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, A Yard**, Frederick Loring Dixon. ☆☆☆☆☆  
[S.l. : privately printed,] 1998.  
1 copy available at 7th Floor Stacks

Location	Call No.	Status
7th Floor Stacks	CS71 .M753 1998	AVAILABLE
  
- 3   **Ancestors And Descendants Of Henry Delos Briggs Of Oak Grove, Louisiana In Three Parts** Johnson, Charles Owen. ☆☆☆☆☆  
Monroe, La. : C.O. Johnson, [ca. 1957]  
1 copy available at Manuscripts

Location	Call No.	Status
Manuscripts	Mss A 4925	AVAILABLE



# Library Catalog

## American Ancestors

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New SearchSave to My ListsAdd to email/print queueReturn to ResultsLimit/Sort

(Search History) ▾

SUBJECT ▾System Sorted ▾Search

Record 2 of 62  
Result page: << Previous Next >>

**Author** [Yard, Frederick Loring Dixon.](#)

**Title** Alexander Munro, grenadier and patriot, of the Plains of Abraham, East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, and Minot, Maine : some notes concerning his family and descendants, and related families / Professor Frederick Loring Dixon Yard.

**Publication Info.** [S.l. : privately printed,] 1998.

**Rating** ☆☆☆☆☆

[Permanent link to this record](#)

Location	Call No.	Status
7th Floor Stacks	<a href="#">CS71 .M753 1998</a>	AVAILABLE

**Description** 75 p. : ill. ; 29 cm.

**Note** "Almost all of the data can be found in previously printed genealogies and historical material, vital records of the various towns, Salt Lake City Mormon records, and personal inspection of grave sites.": t. page.

**Subject** [Monroe family.](#)  
[Dixon family.](#)  
[Boyd family.](#)  
[Briggs family.](#)

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[Save to My Lists](#) [Remove from Queue](#) [Return to Results](#) [Limit/Sort](#) [View Queue](#) [Clear Queue](#)

(Search History) ▾

SUBJECT ▾  System Sorted ▾



Record 2 of 62  
Result page: << [Previous](#) [Next](#) >>

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# Library Catalog



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New Search

Extended Display

Previous Screen

Clear Queue

Format Of List	Send List To
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Full Display <input type="radio"/> Brief Display <input type="radio"/> End-Note/RefWorks	<input checked="" type="radio"/> E-Mail Mail To: <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/> Subject: <input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="From the NEHGS library catalog"/> <input type="radio"/> Screen <input type="radio"/> Local Disk
<input type="button" value="Submit"/>	

**Your List of Saved Records**

[Select All](#) [Clear All](#) [Delete Selected](#)

Num	Select	Exports (1-1 of 1)	Media	Year
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Alexander Munro, grenadier and patriot, of the Plains of Abraham, East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, and Minot, Maine : some notes concerning his family and descendants, and related families</a> Professor Frederick Loring Dixon Yard. : Yard, Frederick Loring Dixon.		1998

[Select All](#) [Clear All](#) [Delete Selected](#)

# Library Catalog

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## American Ancestors

SEARCH ▾ABOUT ▾VISIT: [AmericanAncestors.org](http://AmericanAncestors.org)

New Search  
Save to My Lists Add to email/print queue Return to Results Limit/Sort  
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# Library Catalog



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### Catalog Login

Enter Your Last Name:

Your NEHGS Member Number:

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# Tip

If you joined recently as a member, you may not have an account in our online catalogue. Please contact us to add you manually if you don't have access to the My Lists feature.

# Library Catalog



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VISIT: [AmericanAncestors.org](http://AmericanAncestors.org)

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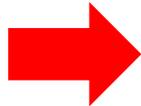
[Start Over](#)

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### Save Records to a List

[Select a list] ▾  
[Select a list]  
- Create a new list -

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- Create a new list - ▾

List Name:



Description:



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### Save Records to a List

1 record saved to "Boot Camp Resources" for later.

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# Library Catalog

 American Ancestors

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VISIT: [AmericanAncestors.org](https://AmericanAncestors.org)

*You are logged in as McComb, Melanie*

## My Library Catalog Account

McComb, Melanie

View information that you have saved while searching the library catalog here, including Preferred Searches, Ratings, and My Lists.



[Preferred Searches](#)   [My Ratings](#)   [My Lists](#)

### Looking for something else?

Please note that the NEHGS library catalog and the AmericanAncestors.org website are separate interfaces and have different logins. To access your AmericanAncestors.org account (where you can view saved database searches, upgrade or renew your American Ancestors membership, or access the online bookstore), click [here](#).

### Need help?

For more information on My Library Catalog Account functions, view our help documentation:

- [Help with Preferred Searches](#)
- [Help with My Ratings](#)
- [Help with My Lists](#)

To browse all catalog help files, click [here](#). To ask questions about the library catalog, My Library Account, or the NEHGS library collections, email [library@nehgs.org](mailto:library@nehgs.org)

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 American Ancestors

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McComb, Melanie

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[Preferred Searches](#)   [My Ratings](#)   [My Lists](#)

[Delete All](#)   [Delete Marked](#)

### My Lists ( 1 )

Mark	List Name	Description	Date Updated
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Boot Camp Resources (1)</a>		01-29-2025

[Delete All](#)   [Delete Marked](#)

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## Offsite Books

- The genealogy, county history or other book you seek may be off-site:
  - If the book is off-site, it will be marked in the catalog
  - Request offsite books via email (approximately one week to retrieve) – [manuscripts@americanancestors.org](mailto:manuscripts@americanancestors.org)

# Planning Your Trip Via the Catalog

1. Explore our holdings for your ancestor's name, location and time period
2. Email/print queue those items you wish to review at the library
3. My lists – available to members only
4. Catalog entries tell you which library floor has your item
5. Request offsite books at least one week prior to your trip to Boston. Email [manuscripts@americanancestors.org](mailto:manuscripts@americanancestors.org)

# Manuscripts

Towin Saturday - the 11<sup>th</sup> day  
 of July 1786 the General's birth  
 day - which with some other matters  
 shall be more particularly noticed  
 this evening - dined at home with  
 Sander's Son - spent the afternoon  
 evening at Mr Sander's with brook - this evening  
 had the addition of Donalson & Peers.  
 we spent our time agreeably - but not so  
 jovially as we sometimes do.

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July - the 12 & 13 days  
 last past till yesterday were  
 uncommonly warm for the season &  
 too much so to be comfortable, on  
 Wednesday to health - Peter 6. 7. 849  
 of Feb. 1786 - This morning to copy  
 has the appearance of a dull day  
 - yesterday sailed the new ship  
 Union, Capt Sullivan for  
 B. Markt - arrivals - two from  
 Mount Vernon -

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> -  
 Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> - dined at home with  
 Carlson Mr Chesser &c - Sunday

[ 680 ]

FAMILY RECORD.

DEATH.

Horriance Warner Wife Daugh  
 ter of Joseph & Naomi Willes  
 died April 7<sup>th</sup> 1815 aged 8 months  
 Joseph Hunt Chapel Willes Son  
 of Joseph & Naomi Willes died  
 July 7<sup>th</sup> 1820 aged 16 years  
 Luen Rich Willes Daughter of  
 Joseph & Naomi Willes died Aug  
 14<sup>th</sup> 1821 aged 15 years  
 Andrew P. Williams died  
 Oct 12<sup>th</sup> 1825 Aged 62 years  
 Cynthia Hyde Wife of  
 Joshua Hyde died Sept 1<sup>st</sup>  
 1829 in the 76<sup>th</sup> year of her  
 Age

Solamerc Smith died  
 Dec 5<sup>th</sup> 1832 in the 85<sup>th</sup>  
 year of his age

Joseph R. Edgerton  
 died June 18<sup>th</sup> 1835 in  
 the 84<sup>th</sup> year of his age

Elazar Pray died July 25<sup>th</sup>  
 1818 aged 76 years

Mary H. Warner died  
 March 31<sup>st</sup> 1841 aged 28

DEATH.

Oyar B. Bailey died  
 Aug 28<sup>th</sup> 1837 in  
 the 29<sup>th</sup> year of his age

Emily D. Comstock  
 died June 13<sup>th</sup> 1846  
 aged 3 years

Annartha B. Comstock  
 died May 17<sup>th</sup> 1847 aged  
 45 Years

Bethiah Williams died  
 February 28<sup>th</sup> 1848 in  
 the 79<sup>th</sup> year of her age

William Bailey died  
 June 17<sup>th</sup> 1848 aged 80 years

Naomi Willes died  
 July 1859 aged

Luerntia P. Bailey  
 died Nov 23 1859 aged 85  
 William Bailey Sr died Oct 5<sup>th</sup> 1860  
 George Bailey died July 25<sup>th</sup> 1867  
 Lucretia B. Champlin died Dec 6<sup>th</sup>  
 1889 aged 83.



**Manuscript Requests:**  
**[manuscripts@americanancestors.org](mailto:manuscripts@americanancestors.org)**

# Family History Library Digital Images

The screenshot shows the FamilySearch.org interface. At the top, there are navigation links for Family Tree, Search, Memories, and Indexing. Below that, there are links for Records, Family Tree, Genealogies, Catalog, Books, and Wiki. The main content area displays the search results for 'Court records, 1648-1681'. It includes a 'BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS' link, a 'PRINT' button, and a 'Catalog Print List (0)' link. The record details are as follows:

- Authors:** Massachusetts. County Court (Norfolk County) (Main Author); Massachusetts. County Court (Essex County) (Repository)
- Format:** Manuscript/Manuscript on Film
- Language:** English
- Publication:** Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1971
- Physical:** on 4 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

There is an 'Add to Print List' button on the right side of the record details.

**Notes**

Microfilm of original records in the Essex County Courthouse, Salem, Massachusetts.

**Film Notes** (This family history center has 4 of 4 films/fiche.)

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film/DGS	Format
Court records 1648-1679	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	United States & Canada Film	877467 Item 1	
Court records v. 1 1648-1654 (copy of original)	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	United States & Canada Film	877464 Item 2	
Court records v. 2 1672-1681 (copy of original)	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	United States & Canada Film	877465 Item 1	

familysearch.org/catalog-search

The screenshot shows the FamilySearch website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the FamilySearch logo, 'Family Tree', 'Search', 'Memories', and 'Index' (with a red arrow pointing to it). On the right, there are 'Sign In' and 'Free Account' buttons. Below the navigation bar, there is a secondary menu with 'Records', 'Family Tree', 'Genealogies', 'Catalog', 'Books', and 'Wiki'. The main content area shows search results for 'Miscellaneous county records, 1782-1832'. It includes a 'BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS' link, 'PRINT' and 'Catalog Print List (0)' options, and an 'Add to Print List' button. The record details are as follows:

- Authors:** Bennington County (Vermont). County Clerk (Main Author)
- Format:** Manuscript/Manuscript on Film
- Language:** English
- Publication:** Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1952
- Physical:** 2 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

**Film/Digital Notes (This family history center has 2 of 2 films/fiche.)**

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	DGS	Format
County records, v. A-C 1782-1808	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	United States & Canada Film	27962	7859023	
County records, v. D-E 1808-1832	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	United States & Canada Film	27963	7859024	

familysearch.org/catalog-search

# Research Guides

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- American AncestryTrees
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- Research Templates
- DNA Resources
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African American Genealogy

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Armenian Genealogy

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Catholic Records in New England

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RESEARCH GUIDE

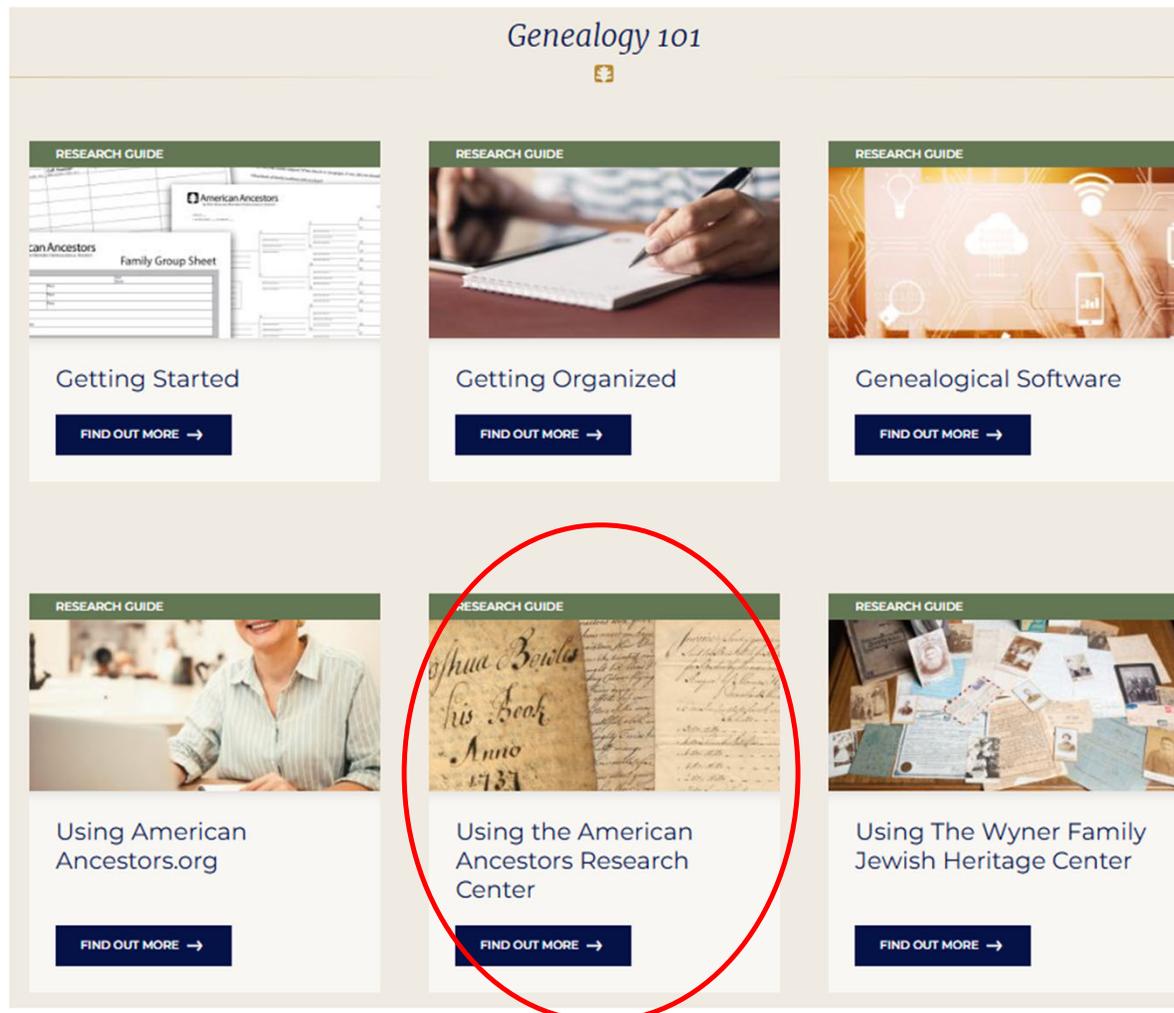


Chinese-American Genealogy

FIND OUT MORE →

[AmericanAncestors.org/tools/research-guides](https://AmericanAncestors.org/tools/research-guides)

### Genealogy 101



The image shows a grid of six research guide cards for 'Genealogy 101'. Each card has a 'RESEARCH GUIDE' header, a representative image, a title, and a 'FIND OUT MORE' button with a right-pointing arrow. The cards are arranged in two rows of three. The middle card in the second row, 'Using the American Ancestors Research Center', is circled in red.

RESEARCH GUIDE	RESEARCH GUIDE	RESEARCH GUIDE
 Getting Started FIND OUT MORE →	 Getting Organized FIND OUT MORE →	 Genealogical Software FIND OUT MORE →
 Using American Ancestors.org FIND OUT MORE →	 Using the American Ancestors Research Center FIND OUT MORE →	 Using The Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center FIND OUT MORE →

[AmericanAncestors.org/tools/research-guides](https://AmericanAncestors.org/tools/research-guides)

## Resources



### Collections

American Ancestors/New England Historic Genealogical Society has been collecting information about families in America since 1845. Our collections are international in scope and contain significant materials for Canada and Europe. A summary of library collections is below.

Resource	Description	Location in Library
<b>Published Genealogies</b>		30,000 titles covering families in America, Canada, Europe, and around the world.
<b>Local Histories and Records</b>		40,000 state, county, and town histories and record collections covering all U.S. states, eastern Canadian provin
<b>Genealogical Journals and Periodicals</b>		4,500 titles, including core journals such as <i>The American Genealogist</i> and <i>The New York Genealogical and Bi</i>
<b>Reference Works</b>		Compilations, study projects, finding aids, and how-to guides.
<b>Rare Books</b>		12,000 rare genealogies (many with author annotations), church records, local and military histories, heraldic w
<b>Records on Microform</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <i>New England: vital records, census records, court records, city directories, newspapers, and pre-1906 naturalization</i></li> <li> <i>Canadian: records for Québec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island, including vital records, deed</i></li> <li> <i>Irish: Griffiths Valuation, Tithe Applotment Books, and Ordnance Survey maps.</i></li> <li> <i>Portuguese/Azorean: Catholic parish registers and civil records of the Azores islands of Portugal, consisting of birth,</i></li> <li> <i>Scottish: parish register index.</i></li> </ul>

[AmericanAncestors.org/tools/using-research-center](https://AmericanAncestors.org/tools/using-research-center)

# Video Library

## Go to Events →

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Making Connections: Interpreting  
DNA Test Results

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Online Research Workshop:  
Preserving Your Family History  
Research: Documents, Bound  
Volumes, & Photographs

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# AmericanAncestors.org

# Video Library

ART & ARCHITECTURE 55:26



## Jewish Country Houses

Country houses are powerful symbols of national identity, evoking the glamorous world of the landowning aristocracy. Jewish country houses—properties that were owned, built, or renewed by Jews—tell a more complex story of prejudice and integration, difference and connection.

JEWISH HERITAGE CENTER 1:08:32



## The Genevieve Geller Wyner Annual Lecture: Catholic and Jewish Communities' Reactions to Antisemitic Violence in Wartime Boston

- VIDEO TYPE
- All Videos
- Family History Research
- American Inspiration Author Series
- Resources at AmericanAncestors.org
- Art & Architecture
- Jewish Heritage Center
- Guest Speakers
- How-To Videos
- Preservation

AmericanAncestors.org/video-library

The image displays a grid of six video thumbnails, each with a title, a brief description, and a 'WATCH NOW' button. The thumbnails are arranged in two rows of three. Each thumbnail has a header with 'FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH' and a duration. The first row includes: 'Choosing a DNA Test for Your Research Goals' (1:23:04) with a DNA double helix background; 'How to Avoid Common Family History Pitfalls and Myths' (1:08:44) with a historical map background; and 'Ten Steps to Writing & Publishing Your Family History' (0:19:22) with a person writing in a notebook. The second row includes: 'The Basics of Mayflower Research' (1:06:44) with a Mayflower ship background; 'Early Migrations Into and Out of New England' (1:1:00) with a historical landscape background; and 'Setting Yourself Up for Success: Organizational Tools and Tips to Break Down Brick Walls' (1:13:44) with a background of genealogical records.

**FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH** 1:23:04  
**Choosing a DNA Test for Your Research Goals**  
DNA testing has been a transformative tool for genealogists. However, it can be difficult to determine which test (or tests) to utilize in order to help you achieve your research goals. In this online lecture, Senior Genealogist Melanie McComb will provide an overview of types of tests available.  
**WATCH NOW →**

**FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH** 1:08:44  
**How to Avoid Common Family History Pitfalls and Myths**  
In this online lecture, Senior Genealogist Rhonda R. McClure will share her top tips for avoiding common "hazards" in your research process. She'll discuss how to develop a research plan, staying organized, analyzing your research, and more.  
**WATCH NOW →**

**FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH** 0:19:22  
**Ten Steps to Writing & Publishing Your Family History**  
Writing and publishing your genealogy is a fantastic way to preserve your family history for future generations and to share it with others. Join American Ancestors Vice President of Publishing, Sharon Inglis, as she discusses her top tips for writing and publishing your family history.  
**WATCH NOW →**

**FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH** 1:06:44  
**The Basics of Mayflower Research**  
In this online lecture, Senior Genealogist Melanie McComb will discuss the foundations of researching your Mayflower ancestors, including key resources, verifying and documenting your line, applying to the

**FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH** 1:1:00  
**Early Migrations Into and Out of New England**  
New England has long been a common stop and destination along popular migration routes throughout history. As a result, many of us with early roots in the United States have New England ancestors!

**FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH** 1:13:44  
**Setting Yourself Up for Success: Organizational Tools and Tips to Break Down Brick Walls**  
When researching family history, it can be easy to get swept up in the discoveries you're

[AmericanAncestors.org/video-library](https://AmericanAncestors.org/video-library)

# Research Templates

The screenshot shows the AmericanAncestors.org website. The top navigation bar includes the logo, a search bar, and links for Events, Join, Give, 10 Million Names, Publications, Expert Help, Tools, Signature Projects, and Centers & Initiatives. A red arrow points to the 'Tools' link. A dropdown menu is open under 'Tools', listing options: American Ancestrees, Video Library, Research Guides, Courses On Demand, Members-Only Seminars, Research Templates (highlighted with a red arrow), DNA Resources, and Family History Curriculum. The main content area features a large image of a woman in front of a census document, with text: 'A National Center for Family History, Heritage & Culture', 'Become a Member →', 'Explore Our Events and Happenings →', 'Find Your Ancestors', and 'Visit American Ancestors'. At the bottom of the main content area are buttons for 'SEARCH NOW →' and 'VISIT US →'.

[AmericanAncestors.org/video-library](https://AmericanAncestors.org/video-library)

## Research Templates



### Research Plan Template

A research plan provides a roadmap for your genealogical research. This easy-to-use template takes you through the process of forming a good research question, identifying which records help you answer the question, clarifying record availability for your time period and location, and listing specific repositories where the records may be found.

### Research Log

Research logs are an excellent way to keep track of the research you have already accomplished. They contain a list of every source you consulted—and whether your search was successful or not. Handwritten or typed, these logs help prevent duplicate searches and lookups.

### Annotated Research Log

This annotated research log (excel file) provides a starting point for you to track your research and stay focused on the genealogical issue at hand. You can easily add columns, rows, and sort your findings.

[AmericanAncestors.org/video-library](https://www.AmericanAncestors.org/video-library)

# Things to know

- Wi-fi access throughout library
- Bring your flash drives
- Cameras (no flash!) are allowed
- Manuscript copying at discretion of archivist
- Pencils preferred; leave stickies at home
- Lockers are available–no overnight storage
- Elevator
- No food or drink in the library except covered water bottles

# Next Steps

1. Explore the tour webpage
2. Submit the first participant form if you haven't already
3. Explore our collections in our library catalog on [AmericanAncestors.org](http://AmericanAncestors.org)
4. Make research to-do lists
5. Submit requests for manuscripts in advance

# QUESTIONS?

[Kathleen.Mackenzie@americanancestors.org](mailto:Kathleen.Mackenzie@americanancestors.org)



**THANK YOU!**  
AmericanAncestors.org



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