

Organizing Your Research

Rhonda R. McClure, Senior Genealogist

(Original work compiled by Ann G. Lawthers)

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors®

A NATIONAL CENTER FOR FAMILY HISTORY, HERITAGE & CULTURE

Meet today's presenter



Rhonda R. McClure
Senior Genealogist

OVERVIEW

- **Presentation (60 mins.)**
 - Planning your research
 - Tracking your research progress
 - Recording data
- **Q&A (30 mins.)**

Handwritten Letter: "Historical Society to my dear Mr. ... The ... of my people the ... Benjamin L. ... of ... State of Connecticut ... of one thousand dollars."

Society of Mayflower Descendants Application: "APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP In the Society of Mayflower Descendants" with fields for name, address, and occupation.

Census Form: "GENERAL CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES 1900" with columns for name, age, sex, race, etc.

Handwritten Manuscript: A large, detailed handwritten document with multiple columns of text, possibly a family tree or a list of names.



Voice of
Rhonda R. McClure,
Senior Genealogist

Session Roadmap

Planning Your Research

Research Questions

Understanding time
and place

Mapping the
strategy

Tracking

The Basics

Custom
Refinements

Recording

Key tools

Abstracting forms



Voice of
Rhonda R. McClure,
Senior Genealogist

Make a Plan

- What do you want to learn? (Goal)

Step 1



- What do you already know?

Step 2



- Do your background homework

Step 3



- Create your plan

Step 4



- Execute and fine tune your plan

Step 5



Research Plan Template

- Research subject
- Research question
- What is known about the question (and how it is known)
- Record dates – for reference
- Working hypotheses
- Which records will I need
- Search strategy

Research Plan Template

Research Subject:									
Name:		Birth and place:		Marriage and place: Name of spouse:		Death and place:			
Names and birthdates of children:									
Additional Information									
Research Question:									
What Is Known About the Question?									
Fact					Source of Fact:				
Record Dates ¹									
Place	Formed	Birth	Marriage	Death	Court	Land	Probate	Census	Record Loss
What is the Working Hypothesis?									
1.									
2.									
3.									
Which Records Will I Need?									
Record	Purpose				Source/Repository				
Search Strategy:									

¹ Use *Family Search Research Wiki* to copy and paste dates for County record dates

Step 1: Creating Good Research Questions

- Choose a person!
- Make the question specific, answerable, realistic, timely
- Spend some time thinking about your question before plunging in



Choosing a Focus Person

- Anchors your research to a time and place
- May naturally expand to other individuals, but provides initial structure for your inquiry
- Example:
 - Elizabeth Harris, wife of Martin Powell

Research Plan Template

Research Plan Template

Research Subject:			
Name:	Birth and place:	Marriage and place: Name of spouse:	Death and place:
Names and birthdates of children:			
Additional Information			
Research Question:			
What Is Known About the Question?			
Fact		Source of Fact:	

Research Plan Template

Research Subject:			
Name:	Birth and place:	Marriage and place: Name of spouse:	Death and place:
Elizabeth Harris			

Search Strategy:

¹ Use Family Search Research Wiki to copy and paste dates for County record dates

Creating a Good Questions

- Includes a name, place and date
- Question about:
 - Identity – what makes a person unique, e.g. name, age, occupation, maiden name
 - Events – usually birth, marriage, death, could be date of arrival into country, or military service
 - Relationships – parents, children, wife

Question of Kinship

- William George Riley Hampton – Question of Kinship
 - *OK*: Who are the ancestors of William George Riley (WGR) Hampton of Arkansas (b. ca 1855)?
 - Requires multiple iterations
 - *Better*: Who are the parents of William George Riley (WGR) Hampton of Arkansas County, Arkansas (b. ca 1855)?
 - Better initial specificity

Question of Identity

- Anna Deady Hance - Question of Identity
 - *Fair*: Which Thomas Deady of Chicago was the father of Anna Deady Hance?
 - What time period?
 - *Better*: Which Thomas Deady of Chicago was the father of Anna Deady Hance, who was born 1876?
 - Better specificity

Question of Identity and Kinship

- Elizabeth Harris Powell
 - *Poor*: Who was Elizabeth Harris, the 2nd wife of Martin Powell?
 - *Fair*: Who are the parents of Elizabeth Harris, the 2nd wife of Martin Powell?
 - Where? When?
 - *Better*: Who are the parents of Elizabeth Harris who married Martin Powell in Manchester Vermont in 1778?
 - Better specificity

Sample Question

- Who are the parents of Elizabeth Harris who married Martin Powell in Manchester Vermont in 1778?
- Question elements:
 - Name (s)
 - Place
 - Date
 - Focus on relationships - parents

Research Plan Template

Research Plan Template

Research Subject:										
Name:			Birth and place:		Marriage and place: Name of spouse:			Death and place:		
Names and birthdates of children:										
Additional Information										
Research Question:										
What Is Known About the Question?										
Fact						Source of Fact:				
Record Dates ¹										
Place	Formed	Birth	Marriage	Death	Court	Land	Probate	Census	Record	

Research Question:

Who are the parents of Elizabeth Harris who married Martin Powell in Manchester Vermont in 1778?

Search Strategy:										

¹ Use Family Search Research Wiki to copy and paste dates for County record dates

Step 2: What Do You Already Know?

- About Subject
 - Identify the *Where* and the *When* for your subject
 - Helpful to list vital events – with *place*
 - Name of spouse(s)
 - Names and dob(s) for children
- About the Question
 - Not just what you know, but HOW you know it
 - Focus on what is relevant to the Research Question



What is Known About Subject?

Name:	Birth and place:	Marriage and place: Name of spouse:	Death and place:
Elizabeth Harris	Ca 1738, place unknown	1 Mar 1778, Manchester, Vermont Martin Powell	Unknown
Names and birthdates of children: Silas b. ca 1779 – Manchester, VT Electa b. ca 1781 – Manchester, VT Sarah b. ca 1782 – Manchester, VT			
Additional Information			

What is Known About the Question?

Research Question:

Who are the parents of Elizabeth Harris who married Martin Powell in Manchester Vermont in 1778?

What Is Known About the Question?

Fact	Source of Fact:
Her husband, Martin Powell was born in Amenia, NY	Find a Grave
Martin's first wife was Rhoda Thompson who died in 1777 in Manchester, VT	Vermont Vital Records
Rhoda may have married Martin in Amenia, NY	Ancestry tree

Research Plan Template

Research Subject			
Name	Birth and place	Marriage and place Name of spouse	Death and place
Elizabeth Harris	Ca. 1738, place unknown	1 Mar. 1778, Manchester, Vermont Martin Powell	Unknown
Names and birthdates of children			
Silas b. ca. 1779			
Electa b. ca. 1781			
Sarah b. ca. 1782			
Additional Information			
Research Question			
Who are the parents of Elizabeth Harris who married Martin Powell in Manchester Vermont in 1778?			
What Is Known About the Question?			
Fact		Source of Fact	
Her husband, Martin Powell was born in Amenia, NY		Find a Grave	
Martin's first wife was Rhoda Thompson who died in 1777. She had nine children with Martin		Vermont Vital Records	
Rhoda may have been born in Bellingham, MA		Massachusetts Vital Records	
Rhoda may have married Martin in Amenia, NY		Ancestry tree	

Step 3: Background Homework



- Learn about the place and time
- Learn about the geography (get a map)
- What do we think happened? (Hypothesis)
- Which records are most likely to have the answer?
- Where are those records? Which repositories?



Learning About a Place

- Essentials
 - Date community was founded
 - Dates of earliest records
 - Any record loss issues
- Additional recommended learning
 - History
 - Migration
 - Geography

Harris Question - History, Migration, and Geography

- NH land grants began in 1749 and continued until the outbreak of the Seven Years War
- At the end of the War Vermont came under NY jurisdiction until 1777 when it became a Republic
- Manchester was granted by NH in 1761 to settlers from Amenia, New York.
- Green Mountains were a barrier to migration

FamilySearch Research Wiki

A Genealogy Resource Guide

102,197 articles

Find the birth, death, marriage, census records and other genealogy resources for your ancestor by selecting the region and country below.

Bennington [Find Search Tips](#)

- Bennington** Grange, Lincolnshire Genealogy
- Bennington** County, Vermont Genealogy
- Bennington** Museum Research Library
- Bennington** Vermont Family History Center
- Bennington**, Hillsborough County, New Hampshire Genealogy
- Bennington**, Bennington County, Vermont Genealogy
- Bennington**, Wyoming County, New York Genealogy
- Bennington**, Idaho
- Bennington**, Lincolnshire Genealogy
- Category:Bennington County, Vermont
- containing...
- Bennington

Jump-start your research

Guided Research help you find the best databases select location

[Guided Research](#)



Finding Records Dates

Bennington County, Vermont Genealogy

[United States](#) → [Vermont](#) → **Bennington County**

Guide to **Bennington County, Vermont ancestry, genealogy and family history**, birth records, marriage records, death records, census records, and military records.

Contents [hide]

- 1 County Information
 - 1.1 Description
 - 1.2 County Courthouse
 - 1.3 Bennington County, Vermont Record Dates
 - 1.4 Record Loss
 - 1.5 Boundary Changes
 - 1.6 Populated Places
 - 1.7 History Timeline
- 2 Resources
 - 2.1 Bible Records
 - 2.2 Biographies
 - 2.3 Business, Commerce, and Occupations
 - 2.4 Cemeteries
 - 2.5 Census Records
 - 2.6 Church Records
 - 2.7 Court Records
 - 2.8 Directories
 - 2.9 Emigration and Immigration

County Information [edit | edit source]

Description [edit | edit source]

The County is located in the southwest area of the state. ^[1]

County Courthouse [edit | edit source]

Bennington County Courthouse

207 South Street

Bennington, VT 05201

Phone: 802-447-2700

[Bennington County Vermont](#)

Town Clerks have birth, marriage, death and burial records.

County Clerk has divorce records from 1899 and court records from 1861.

Probate Judge has probate records.

Bennington County, Vermont Record Dates [edit | edit source]

Information for this chart was taken from various sources, often containing conflicting dates. This

Vermont Online
Genealogy Records

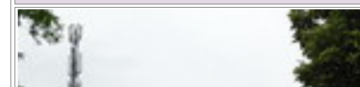
County Facts

County seat:	Bennington
Organized:	February 11, 1779
Parent County(s):	Colonial lands

Neighboring Counties

Rutland • Windsor • Windham
 • Berkshire (MA) • Franklin (MA)
 • Rensselaer (NY) • Washington (NY)
[See County Maps](#)

Courthouse



Bennington County, VT, Wiki

Bennington County, Vermont Record Dates [\[edit \]](#) [edit source \]](#)

Known Beginning Dates for Major County Records ^[2]						
Birth*	Marriage	Death*	Court	Land	Probate	Census
at town creation	at town creation	at town creation	1861	1782	1778	1790
*Statewide registration for births and deaths began in 1857. General compliance year is unknown.						

Contents [\[hide\]](#)

- 1 Description
- 2 Bennington County, Vermont Record Dates
- 3 County Courthouse
- 4 Quick Facts
 - 4.1 Parent County
 - 4.2 Boundary Changes
 - 4.3 Record Loss

Record Loss [\[edit \]](#) [edit source \]](#)

There is no known history of courthouse disasters in this county.

Bennington County, Vermont

Map



Location in the state of [Vermont](#),
[United States Genealogy](#)

Facts

Founded	February 11, 1779
County Seat	Bennington

Bennington County, VT

FamilySearch

Family Tree Search Memories Get Involved Activities

Help Messages SIGN OUT

Alavithers

Talk Sandbox Preferences Watchlist Contributions

Research Wiki

Wiki Home About the Wiki Online Genealogy Records Guided Research Research Resources Wiki Policies

Centers/Libraries

Family History Library Family History Centers FS Affiliate Libraries

Give Feedback

Submit Wiki Content Report a Problem

Edit the Wiki

Become an Editor Upload File/Image Personal Sandbox Wiki Projects Wiki University

Translate

Select Language

Tools

What links here Related changes Special pages Printable version Permanent link Page information Cite this page Browse properties

Page Talk

Read View source View history More

Search by place or topic

Dutchess County, New York Genealogy

[United States Genealogy](#) → [New York](#) → [Dutchess County](#)

Guide to **Dutchess County, New York ancestry, family history, and genealogy** birth records, marriage records, death records, census records, and military records.

This page describes sources of genealogical data about Dutchess County, New York Genealogy families, including links to smaller localities at the bottom of this page. [New York](#), [United States Genealogy](#)-related pages show useful statewide sources. [United States Genealogy](#) pages explain the terminology and contents of genealogical records.

New York Online Genealogy Records

Contents [hide]

1 Dutchess County New York Historical Facts

1.1 Description

1.2 Dutchess County, New York Record Dates

1.3 Parent County

1.4 Neighboring Counties

1.5 Boundary Changes

1.6 Record Loss

1.7 Populated Places

2 Dutchess County New York Genealogy Resources

2.1 Bible Records

2.2 Biography

2.3 Business Records and Commerce

2.4 Cemeteries

2.5 Census

2.5.1 Federal

2.5.2 State

2.6 Church Records

2.6.1 Dutch Reformed

2.6.2 Presbyterian

2.6.3 Quaker

2.7 Court Records

2.8 Crime and Criminals

2.9 Directories

2.10 Emigration and Immigration

Dutchess County, New York

Map



Location in the state of New York, United States Genealogy



Location of New York in the U.S.

Facts

Founded	1683
County Seat	Poughkeepsie

Dutchess County, NY Wiki

©American Ancestors, AmericanAncestors.org; produced by The Brue Family Learning Center

27

Dutchess County New York Historical Facts [\[edit\]](#) [\[edit source\]](#)

Description [\[edit\]](#) [\[edit source\]](#)

The County was named for Mary of Modena, Duchess of York - the term Dutchess is an archaic form of the word duchess. The

Dutchess County, New York Record Dates [\[edit\]](#) [\[edit source\]](#)

Known Beginning Dates for Major County Records ^[2]						
Birth*	Marriage	Death*	Court	Land	Probate	Census
1880	1908	1880	1730	1718	1752	1663

*Statewide registration for births and deaths started in 1880. General compliance for bi

Contents [\[hide\]](#)

- 1 Dutchess County New York Historical Facts
 - 1.1 Description
 - 1.2 Dutchess County, New York Record Dates
 - 1.3 Parent County
 - 1.4 Neighboring Counties
 - 1.5 Boundary Changes
 - 1.6 Record Loss
 - 1.7 Populated Places

Dutchess County, New York

Map



Location in the state of New York,
United States Genealogy



Location of New York in the U.S.

Facts

Founded	1683
County Seat	Poughkeepsie

Dutchess County, NY

Record Dates									
Place	Formed	Birth	Marriage	Death	Court	Land	Probate	Census	Record Loss
Bennington, VT	1779	At town creation	at town creation	at town creation	1861	1782	1778	1790	None
Dutchess, NY	1663	1880	1908	1880	1730	1718	1752	1663	None
Manchester, VT	1766 (org)								Unk

Dates in template

QUESTIONS?

A large audience is seated in a conference hall, viewed from behind. The audience is filling the room, and a presentation screen is visible at the front. The word "QUESTIONS?" is overlaid in large white text.

Tip
Form a hypothesis
about your question

Creating a Hypothesis

- Hypothesis = theory
 - About where you will find the records
 - What is going on in your situation
 - Possible answer to your questions
- Example
 - Looking for a death? Hypothesis is your ancestor died at the last town or county where they were known to have lived
 - Looking for a maiden name? Hypothesis is the children's records provide the answer

Hypothesis Example

What is the Working Hypothesis?

1. Elizabeth Harris was a widow in Manchester, Vermont, when she married Martin Powell in 1778
2. Elizabeth Harris was a spinster when she married Martin Powell

Another Hypothesis Example

- Question: Who are the parents of William George Riley Hampton, born about 1855 in Arkansas or South Carolina
- Known:
 - All censuses give Arkansas as place of birth
 - Married Martha Crockett 1873 in Arkansas
 - Lived most of life in Arkansas County, Arkansas

Is this Our WH? LaGrue, Arkansas County, Arkansas 1860?

Page No. 28

SCHEDULE 1—Free Inhabitants in LaGrue Township **in the County of** Arkansas **State of** Arkansas **enumerated by me, on the** 29th **day of** June **1860.** W. B. Murrell **Asst Marshal.**

Post Office

	3	4	5	6	7
1	W B Hagler	29	m		Merchant
2	Caroline E "	28	f		Housekeeper
3	Martha "	56	f		Domestic
4	Robert L "	17	m		Clerk in Store
5	Lucy Hamilton wife	29	f		Domestic
6	William B "	5	m		
7	Felix A "	4	m		
8	Martha J "	2	f		
9					

Note: Red lines are drawn under the entries for Lucy Hamilton wife and William B .

Template – Working Hypotheses

What are the Working Hypotheses?

1. Lucy Hampton of 1860 census was Lucy Hagler before her marriage.
2. Lucy Hagler and ??? married about 1853 in Arkansas.
3. Although the Haglers, Martha, W.H. and Lucy, were from Tennessee, they lived in Arkansas by 1850.
4. William's siblings, Felix and Martha, have records that name the parents
5. There may be a published genealogy about the family
6. County histories may mention both families

Tip

Make a list of needed records first, then match to availability for time and location

Hierarchy of Records for the Maiden Name

- Marriage record
 - License
 - Intentions
 - Banns
 - Bond
- Woman's death record (especially in the 20th century)
- Children's birth, marriage, and death records





Hierarchy for Parent's Names

- Birth and Death Records (ancestor and siblings)
- Census
- Probate
- Land
- Newspapers
- County histories

Birth Location

- Vital Records
- Census
- Migration Patterns
- FAN Club
- County Histories

HVS-20010—200M—12-45

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

Primary Dist. No. 2

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1. PLACE OF DEATH:		2. USUAL RESIDENCE:	
(a) County	<u>Allegheny</u>	(a) State	<u>P</u>
(b) Township		(c) City or town	
(c) Borough		(d) Street No.	
(d) City	<u>Pittsburgh</u>	(e) If citizen	
(e) Name of hospital or institution <u>SCHENLEY APARTMENTS</u> (If not in hospital or inst. write street number or location)			
(f) Length of stay: In hospital or inst. (g) In this community			
3. (a) FULL NAME <u>MAUDE BELL PLOWMAN</u>			
3. (b) If U. S. Veteran, complete reverse side of certificate		3. (c) Social Security No. <u>None</u>	
4. Sex <u>F</u>	5. Color or race <u>W</u>	6. (a) Single, widowed, married, divorced <u>Widowed</u>	
6. (b) Name of husband or wife <u>George Taylor Plowman</u>		6. (c) Age of husband or wife if alive <u>30</u> years	
7. Birth date of deceased <u>May</u> <u>30</u> <u>1874</u> (Month) (Day) (Year)			
8. AGE: Years <u>72</u>	Months <u>8</u>	Days <u>5</u>	If less than one day
9. Birthplace <u>Turkey</u> (City, town, or county) (State or foreign country)			
10. Usual occupation <u>Retired</u>			
11. Industry or business			
12. Name <u>Ray Newton Harvey Bell</u>			
20. Date of death <u>Jan 24</u> year <u>19</u>		21. I hereby certify that I last saw and that deceased stated above.	
Immediate cause of death <u>Senile</u>		Due to <u>AF</u>	
Other conditions <u>Left Heart</u>		Due to	
Other conditions		Due to	

Which Records Will I Need?

Information Needed	Search These Records First	Then Search These Records
Age	Census, Vital Records, Church Records, Cemeteries	Military Records, Taxation, Bible Records, Town Records, Emigration and Immigration
Birth date and place	Vital Records, Church Records, Census (for place), Town Records	Cemeteries, Bible Records, Newspapers
Marriage date and place	Vital Records, Church Records, Census, Newspapers, Bible Records	Military Records, Probate Records, Naturalization
Death date and place	Vital Records, Church Records, Cemeteries, Probate Records	Newspapers, Bible Records, Military Records, City Directories
Parents' names	Vital Records, Census, Probate Records, Newspapers, Published Genealogies, Local Histories	Emigration and Immigration, Bible Records
Maiden name	Vital Records, Church Records, Newspapers, Bible Records	Cemeteries, Military Records, Probate Records, Town Records

More Records

Information Needed	Search These Records First	Then Search These Records
Immigration date	Census (year only), Immigration, Naturalization	Newspapers, Biographies
Country of foreign birth	Naturalization Records, Census, Church Records, Vital Records, Emigration and Immigration	Cemeteries, Military Records, Newspapers, Local Histories
Foreign birth location	Vital Records, Emigration and Immigration, Census, Published Genealogies, Local Histories, Naturalization	Newspapers, Church Records, Military Records
Places family has lived	Census, Land, Local Histories, City Directories, Vital Records	Newspapers, Taxation, Military Records, Probate Records

Research Plan Template

Research Plan Template

Research Subject:			
Name:	Birth and place:	Marriage and place: Name of spouse:	Death and place:
Names and birthdates of children:			

Which Records Will I Need?

Record	Purpose	Source/Repository

What is the Working Hypothesis?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Which Records Will I Need?

Record	Purpose	Source/Repository

Search Strategy:

¹ Use Family Search Research Wiki to copy and paste dates for County record dates

Which Records (Basic)

Which Records Will I Need?

Record	Purpose	Source/Repository
Marriage records of Manchester Vermont	First marriage of Elizabeth Harris	FamilySearch.org, AmericanAncestors.org or Ancestry.com
Vital records of Amenia, NY	First marriage or any mention of Harris family	FamilySearch.org, AmericanAncestors.org or Ancestry.com
Town history of Manchester, VT	Any mention of the Harris family	HathiTrust.org or local historical society



FamilySearch Catalog

Search the catalog of genealogical materials (including books, online materials, microfilm, microfiche, and publications) made available by FamilySearch online and in libraries and centers worldwide.

[Learn more about the catalog and how to access materials.](#)

Search by:

[Place](#) | [Surnames](#) | [Titles](#) | [Author](#) | [Subjects](#) | [Keywords](#)

Place

United States, Vermont, Bennington, Manchester

Search for:

[Call Number](#) | [Film/Fiche/Image Group Number \(DGS\)](#)

Availability

- ☒ Any
☐ Online
☐ Family History Center

Search

Reset

Family Search Catalog

▼ **United States, Vermont, Bennington, Manchester - Vital records (3)**

[Land records, 1761-1901; general index to land records, 1761-1950](#)

Author: Manchester (Vermont). Town Clerk

[Records of births, marriages, deaths, 1857-1995](#)

Author: Manchester (Vermont). Town Clerk; Manchester (Vermont). Town Clerk

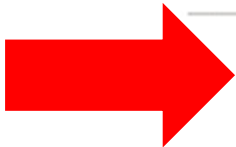
[Town records, v. 1, 1831-1919](#)

Author: Manchester (Vermont). Town Clerk; Manchester (Vermont). Town Clerk

▼ **United States, Vermont, Bennington, Manchester - Vital records - Indexes (1)**

[Card index to vital statistics in the early land and town records books](#)

Author: Manchester (Vermont). Town Clerk



Family Search Catalog – Manchester, Vermont

Which Records (Advanced)

Which Records Will I Need?

Record	Purpose	Source/Repository
Card index to vital statistics in the early land and town records books, Manchester Vermont	First marriage of Elizabeth Harris	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/664510?availability=Family%20History%20Library
Vital records, 1749-1786 of Amenia, NY	First marriage or any mention of Harris family	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/380341?availability=Family%20History%20Library
John S. Pettibone, "Early History of Manchester," Proceedings of the Vermont Historical Society 1930 Vol 1 (4), page 158	Any mention of the Harris family	https://vermonthistory.org/journal/misc/EarlyHistoryOfManchester.pdf

Search Strategy

Order Your Search

- By repository
 - Online first
 - Brick and mortar second
- By likelihood of success
 - Marriage records before children's records when looking for a maiden name
 - Census before probate when looking for 19th century parent names
- By ease of searching
 - County histories and compiled genealogies first
 - Land records last

Online Repositories

- Americanancestors.org
- Ancestry.com
- Familysearch.org
- 19th Cent. US Newspapers
(available through your
American Ancestors
membership)
- Irish Newspaper Archive
(available through your
American Ancestors
membership)
- <https://www.hathitrust.org/>
- <https://books.google.com/>
- <https://archive.org/index.php>
- <https://openlibrary.org/>
- <https://books.familysearch.org>
- <http://library.si.edu/digital-library>

Brick and Mortar Repositories

- American Ancestors –
97 Newbury Street, Boston
- Local County Clerks Offices
- Local Historical Societies
- Cemeteries
- Vital Records Offices
- NARA
- College or University
Archives
- Lineage Societies
- Genealogical Societies
- Regional Museums

Put it Together

- ✓ Research subject
- ✓ Research question
- ✓ What is known about the question (and how it is known)
- ✓ Record dates – for reference
- ✓ Working hypotheses
- ✓ Which records will I need
- ✓ Search strategy

Research Plan Template

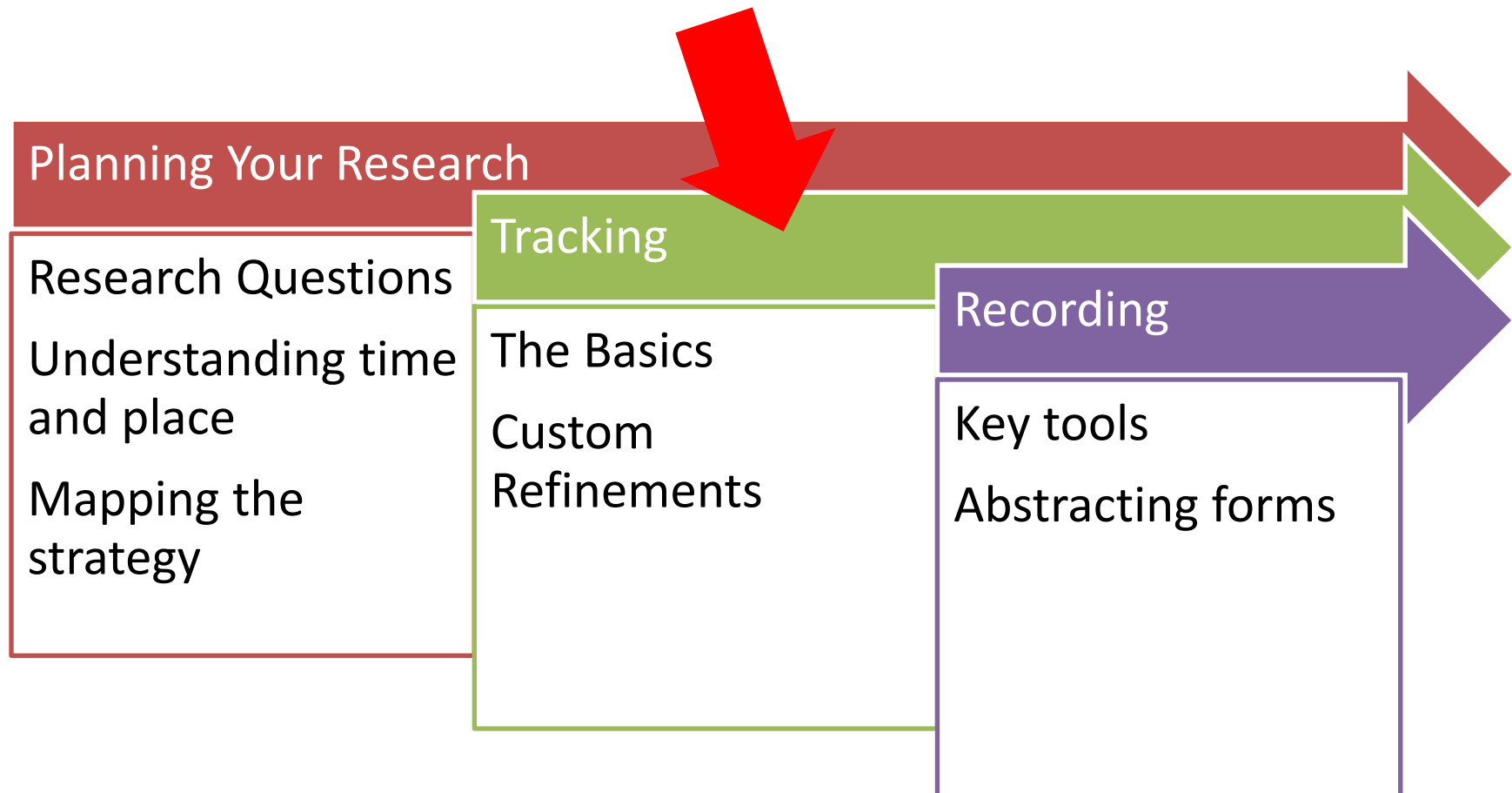
Research Subject									
Name	Birth and place	Marriage and place	Death and place						
Elizabeth Harris	Ca-1738, place-unknown	1-Mar-1778, Manchester, Vermont	Unknown						
Names and birthdates of children: Silas-b.ca-1779 Electa-b.ca-1781 Sarah-b.ca-1782 Additional Information:									
Research Question									
Who are the parents of Elizabeth Harris who married Martin Powell in Manchester Vermont in 1778?									
What Is Known About the Question?									
Facts		Source of Fact							
Her husband, Martin Powell, was born in Amenia, NY		Find-a-Grave							
Martin's first wife was Rhoda Thompson who died in 1777. She had nine children with Martin		Vermont Vital Records							
Rhoda may have been born in Bellingham, MA		Massachusetts Vital Records							
Rhoda may have married Martin in Amenia, NY		Ancestry trees							
Record Dates									
Place	Formed	Birth	Marriage	Death	Court	Land	Probate	Census	Record-Loss
Bennington, VT	1779	At town-creation	at town-creation	at town-creation	1861	1782	1778	1790	None
Dutchess, NY	1663	1880	1908	1880	1730	1718	1752	1663	None
Manchester, VT	1766 (org)								Unkn
What is the Working Hypothesis?									
1. → 1. "Elizabeth Harris was a widow in Manchester, Vermont, when she married Martin Powell in 1778"									
2. → Elizabeth Harris was a spinster when she married Martin Powell									
Which Records Will I Need?									
Record	Purpose	Source/Repository							
Card index to vital statistics in the early land and town records books, Manchester Vermont	First marriage of Elizabeth Harris	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/664510?availability=Family%20History%20Library							
Vital records, 1749-1786 of Amenia, NY → →	First marriage or any mention of Harris family	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/380341?availability=Family%20History%20Library							
John S. Pettibone, "Early History of Manchester," Proceedings of the Vermont	Any mention of the Harris family	https://vermonthistory.org/journal/misc/EarlyHistory.pdf							



QUESTIONS?

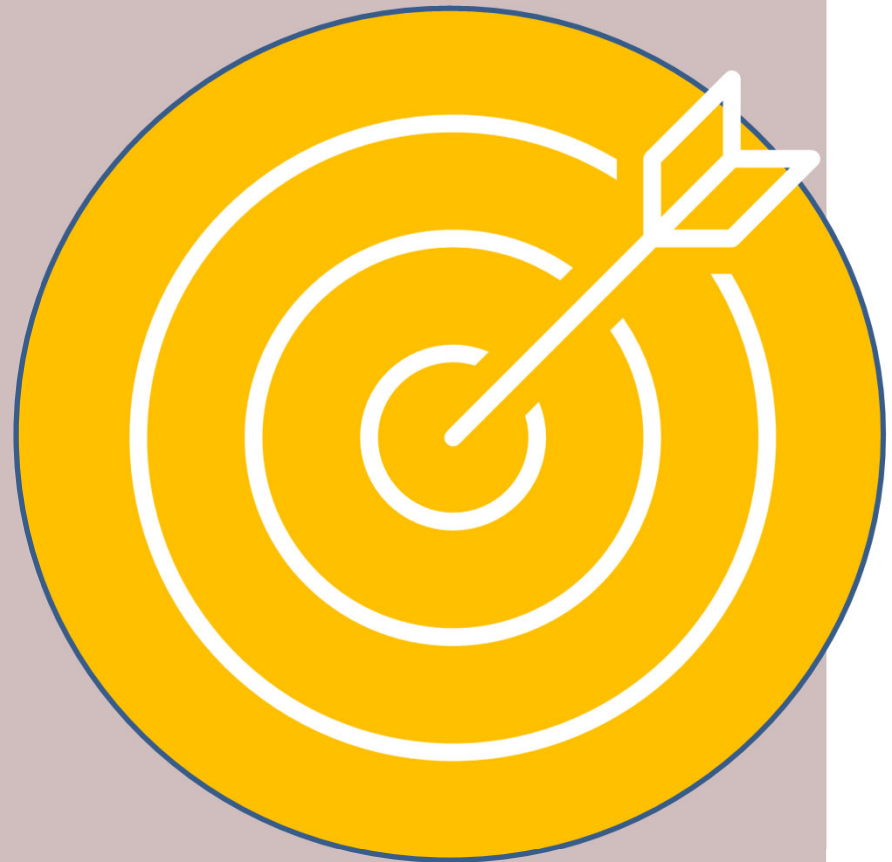
A large audience is seated in a conference hall, viewed from behind. The audience is filling the room, and a presentation screen is visible at the front. The word "QUESTIONS?" is overlaid in large white text.

Session Roadmap



Keep a Research Log

- Keeps track of what you have searched and what you have found
 - Write down search strings
- Prevents rework
- Record negative findings
- Cites sources
- Can be a roadmap for the research process





Research Log

Repository: _____ Date: _____

Source Information (title, author, publisher, publication date, etc.)	Call Number (film number, URL, etc.)	Objective	Results

What to Fill In Before Viewing a Record

- Person/Place/Event focus of search
- Date
- **Source/Repository** – e.g. Ancestry: 1870 census – New Albany, Indiana
- Call Number (if any)
- **Objective** - write the person or event you seek for each search so you will later know whether you need to search the same source again for a different person or event.



Person

Research Log

Repository: Elizabeth Harris

Date:

Source Information (title, author, publisher, publication date, etc.)	Call Number (film number, URL, etc.)	Objective	Results
Card index to vital statistics in the early land and town records books, Manchester, Vermont	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/664510?availability=Family%20History%20Library	First marriage of Elizabeth Harris	Null
Vital records, 1749-1786 of Amenia, NY	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/380341?availability=Family%20History%20Library	First marriage or any mention of Harris family	Null
John S. Pettibone, "Early History of Manchester," Proceedings of the Vermont Historical Society 1930 Vol 1 (4), page 158	https://vermonthistory.org/journal/miso/EarlyHistoryOfManchester.pdf	Any mention of the Harris family	Bingo - Elizabeth Harris was sister of Esquire Powel's second wife was the widow of Joseph Harris and sister to Isaac Whelpley. Captain Isaac Burton married her daughter, Rachel Harris.

Bingo - "Esquire Powel's second wife was the widow of Joseph Harris and sister to Isaac Whelpley. Captain Isaac Burton married her daughter, Rachel Harris."

Research Log in Process

Tip

Use Excel to Track

Set Up Your Research Log

Home **Insert** **Draw** **Page Layout** **Formulas** **Data** **Review** **View** **Acrobat** **Tell me**

Paste Book Antiqua 10 A⁺ A⁻ [Bullets] [Numbered] [Decrease Indent] [Increase Indent] Wrap Text General Conditional Formatting Format as Table Cell Styles Insert Delete Format Sort & Filter Find & Select

A49 X ✓ fx

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	Source	Name (and variant spellings)	Dates examined	Place	Relevant Record	Notes	Objective	Citation
2	Vital Records							
3								
4								
5	Census Records							
6								
7								
8	Cemetery Records							
9								
10								
11	Probate/Wills							
12								
13								
14	Newspapers							
15								
16								
17	Published Genealogies							
18								
19								
20	City Directories							
21								
22								
23	Court Records							
24								
25								
26	Deeds and Land Records							
27								
28								
29	Military Records							
30								
31								
32	Immigration Records							
33								
34								
35	Local and Regional Histories							

AmericanAncestors.org/education/learning-resources/download#templates

Rows are Types of Records

- Vital Records
- Census Records
- Cemetery Records
- Probate/Wills
- Newspapers
- Published Genealogies
- City Directories
- Court Records
- Deeds and Land Records
- Military Records
- Immigration Records
- Local and Regional Histories
- Genealogical Journals
- Manuscripts
- Other

Columns are the Research Log

- Date of search
- Source *
- Repository
- Objective – what you were looking for in the source *
- Name and spelling variants searched *
- Dates examined *
- Place/Location *
- Relevant Record/Event *
- Notes *
- Citation *

Annotated Research Log

Source	Repository	Objective	Time Period	Location	Type of Record	Finding	Notes	Citation
Vital Records								
Census Records								
1880 U.S. Federal Census	FHL	Crotty Family	1880	Eastchester		James, Elizabeth, Marcella, John, James, Jane, Thomas		"1880 U.S. Federal Census," Eastchester, Westchester, New York, population schedule, ED 95, page 25, family 233, household of James Crotty; online images viewed at <i>Ancestry</i> (ancestry.com : viewed 4 Feb 2008), citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 945.
1850 U.S. Federal Census	FHL	James Crotty	1850	New York		James, Eliza, Ellen	Ellen is 6 mos old, so she was born Feb 1850	"1850 U.S. Federal Census," New York (Ward 17), New York, Population Schedule, Page 274b, household of James Crotley; online image viewed at <i>Ancestry</i> (ancestry.com : viewed 4 Feb 2008) citing NARA microfilm M432, Rool 556
1860 U.S. Federal Census	FHL	James Crotty	1860	Eastchester		James Eliza, Ellen, John, James, Jane, Mary, Ellen	Ellen the elder is 76 years old, born in Ireland	"1860 U.S. Federal Census," Eastchester, Westchester, New York, Population Schedule, Page 89, household of Jas Crotty; online image viewed at <i>Ancestry</i> (ancestry.com : viewed 4 Feb 2008) citing NARA microfilm M653
1870 U.S. Federal Census	FHL	James Crotty	1870	Eastchester		James, Eliza, Marella, John, James, Jane, Thomas	Mary appears to have died	"1860 U.S. Federal Census," Eastchester, Westchester, New York, Population Schedule, Page 276b, household of James Crotty; online image viewed at <i>Ancestry</i> (ancestry.com : viewed 4 Feb 2008) citing NARA microfilm M593, roll 1114
Cemetery Records								
Probate/Wills								
Newspapers								
Published Genealogies								
City Directories								

Tip

Tailor Your Log for Land and Probate

Deed Index Survey

Abstracted by:					Date:			
Names Researched:								
County:		State:		Repository:		Film #		
						Item #		
						Start image #		
Grantor/Direct/Seller Deed Index Book:				Time Period Covered:				
Notes about index arrangement:								
Grantor/Seller		Type of Instrument	Date of Filing	Date of Instrument		Book	Page	
to Grantee/Buyer								
			Location					
			Location					
			Location					
			Location					
			Location					
			Location					
			Location					

Deed Index Log

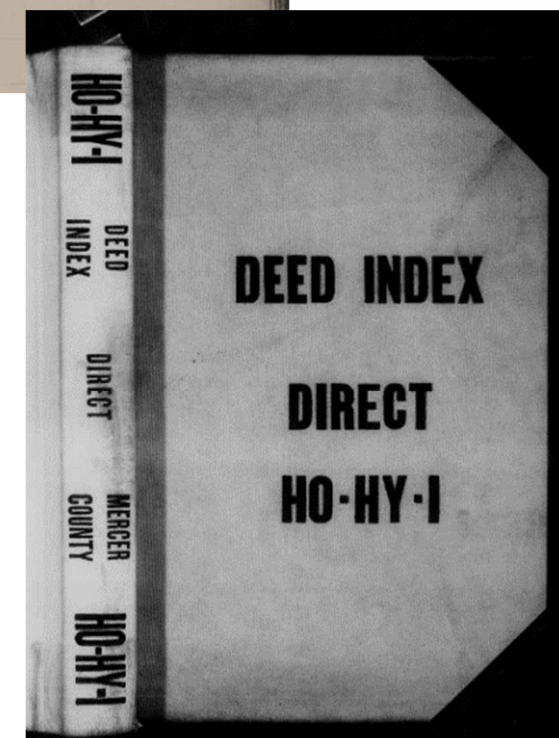
GRANTOR.	GRANTEE.	Book.	Vol.	Page.	Date of Deed.	Date of Record.	Location.
Hoxworth	Isaiah	John Fowler	C	1	470		
Houston	Isaiah	A. M. Barber	S	2	451	May-15-1846	Mar-30-1866 4 th Dist. D.D.
Hoyt	Isaiah	Thomas M ^c Elree	N	2	420	Mar-28-1867	Apr-6-1868 French Creek
Hoyt	Isaiah	Eli Robinson	T	4	542	Mar-6-1882	Oct-4-1883 Vernon
Hoyt	Isaiah	W. W. Hoyt	U	4	409	Mar-5-1884	Apr-5-1884 Deer Creek
Hoyt	Isaiah	W. W. Hoyt	U	4	412	May-24-1880	Apr-5-1884 Deer Creek
Homer	Isaac	Gyrene E. Backous	G	5	36	Aug-6-1886	Mar-30-1887 Delaware
Hornix	Jacob	Nathan West	A	1	375		
Hosack	Jr J.	J. Patterson	H	1	150		
Homer	Jacob	Harvey Walker	S	1	463		
Hoxworth	James	James Lees	S	1	522		
Homer	Jacob	H. D. La Crosse	N	1	409		
Homer	Jacob	Joseph Homer	N	1	413		
Homer	Jacob	Rachel & H. Hommer	N	1	445		
Homer	Jacob	Rachel & H. Hommer	N	1	446		

MERCER COUNTY.

93

Cott's Patent Index and Index Tables—Patented April 22, 1890.

Hoa to Hol				Hom to Hoy				Hu Hy				I			
A B	I J K L M N O P Q R S			A B	I J K L M N O P Q R S			A B	I J K L M N O P Q R S			A B	I J K L M N O P Q R S		
1	24	49		70	93	118		139	170	204		230	246	263	
C D	32	55	T U V	76	101	124	T U V	147	181	212	T U V	234	251	267	T U V
E F	40	58	W Y Z	82	109	127	W Y Z	155	193	216	W Y Z	238	257	269	W Y Z
G H	46	64	Cor. or Firm.	87	115	133	Cor. or Firm.	162	200	223	Cor. or Firm.	242	261	273	Cor. or Firm.



Russell Index

Deed Index Survey

Abstracted by:	A Lawthers	Date:	8/24/2022
----------------	------------	-------	-----------

Names Researched: Homer

County:		State:		Repository:		Film # Item # Start image #	8036047
	Mercer		PA		FHL		
							255

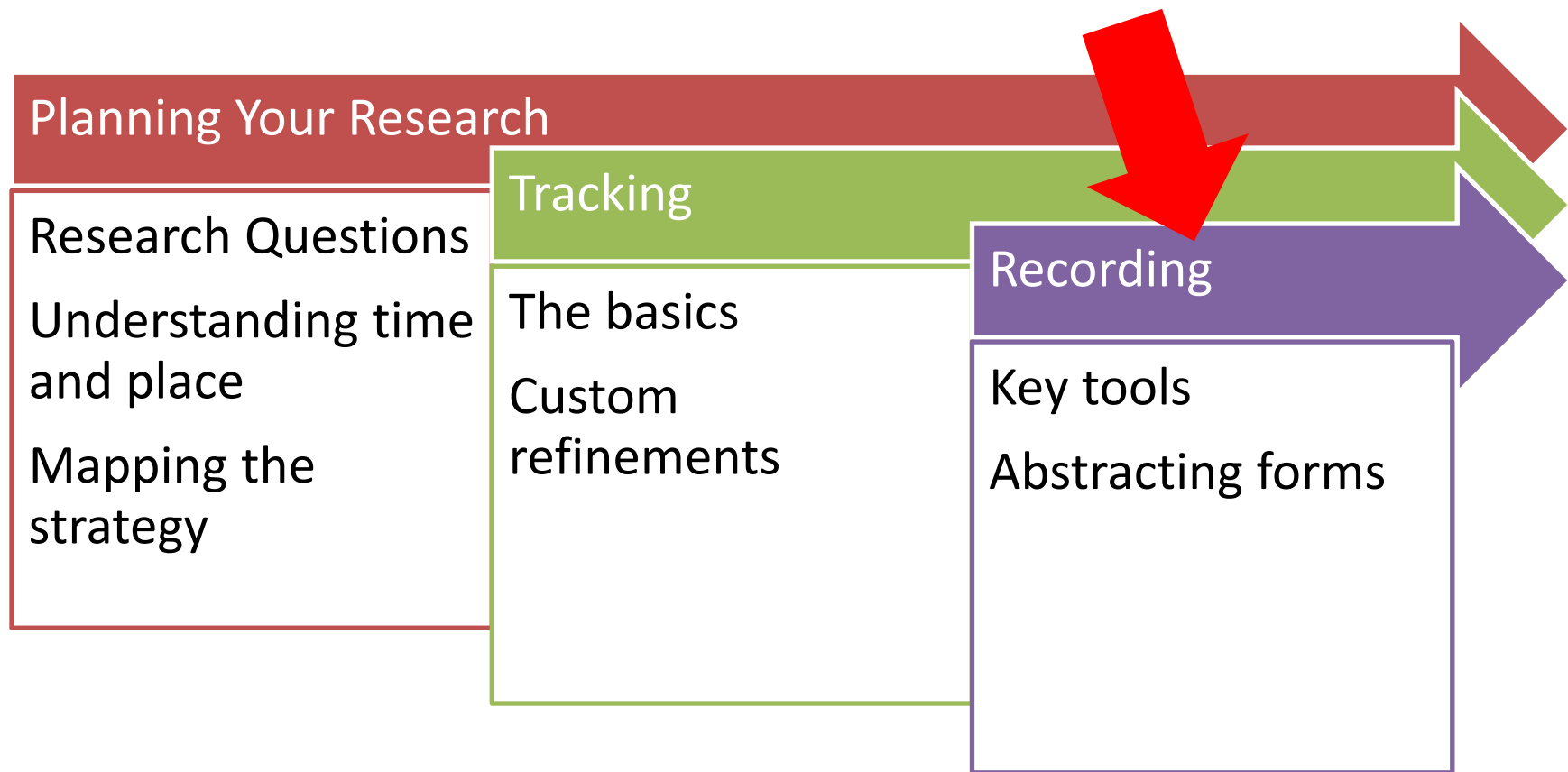
Grantor/Direct/Seller	Go-Hy-I	Time Period Covered:	1803-1919
-----------------------	---------	----------------------	-----------

Notes about index arrangement: Russell Index, "J" starts page 93, Hom starts page 70

Grantor/Direct/Seller Grantee/Buyer	Type of Instrument	Date of Filing	Date of Instrument	Book	Page
Homer, Jacob	not given	not given	not given	A 1	375
West, Nathan		Location	not given		
Homer, Jacob	not given	not given	not given	I 1	463
Walker, Harvey		Location	not given		
Homer, Jacob	not given	not given	not given	K 1	409
LaCossett, HD		Location	not given		
Homer, Jacob	not given	not given	not given	K 1	413
Homer, Joseph		Location	not given		
Homer, Jacob	not given	not given	not given	K1	445
Homer, Rachel and H.		Location	not given		
Homer, Jacob	not given	not given	not given	V1	479
Seiple, Adam		Location	not given		

Homer Survey

Session Roadmap



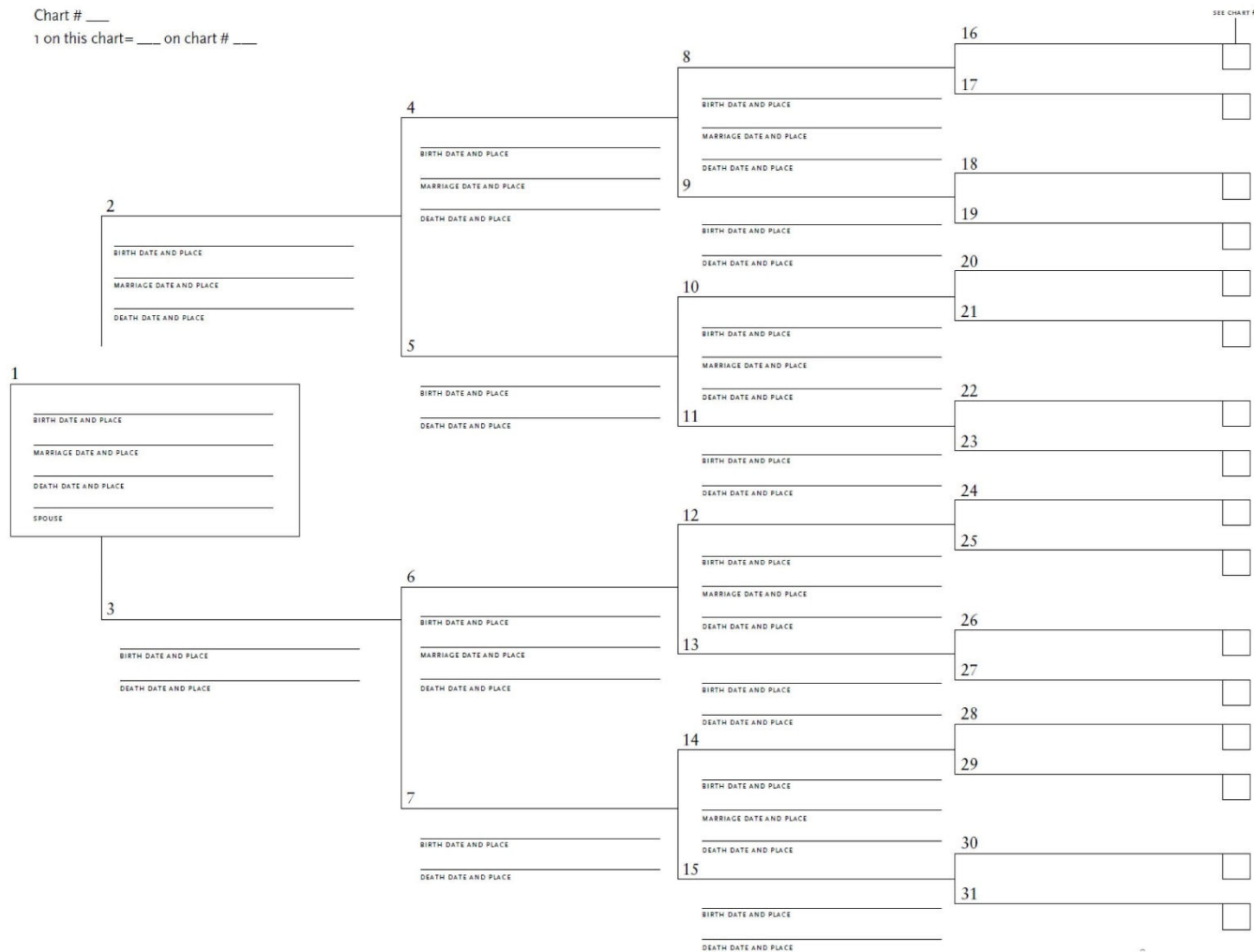
Tip

Don't forget the
workhorse forms



www.AmericanAncestors.org

Chart # ____
1 on this chart = ____ on chart # ____



Multi-generation chart

Family Group Sheet

 Write dates as Day, Month, Year
 example: 1 Jan 1904

Father	Given Name(s)		Last Name
	Born	Place	
	Died	Place	
	Married	Place	
	Father's Father (first, middle, last) Father's Mother (first, middle, maiden) Other Marriages (first, middle, last)		
Mother	Given Name(s)		Last Name
	Born	Place	
	Died	Place	
	Mother's Father (first, middle, last) Mother's Mother (first, middle, maiden) Other Marriages (first, middle, last)		
Child #1	Sex	Given Name(s)	Last Name
	Born	Place	
	Died	Place	
	Spouse (first, middle, last)		
	Married	Place	
Child #2	Sex	Given Name(s)	Last Name
	Born	Place	
	Died	Place	
	Spouse (first, middle, last)		
	Married	Place	
Child #3	Sex	Given Name(s)	Last Name
	Born	Place	
	Died	Place	
	Spouse (first, middle, last)		
	Married	Place	

Page 1

www.AmericanAncestors.org

Family Group Sheet

 Write dates as Day, Month, Year
 example: 1 Jan 1904

Father (first, middle, last) Mother (first, middle, maiden)		
Sex	Given Name(s) Last Name	
Child #4	Born Died Spouse (first, middle, maiden) Married	Place Place Place
Child #5	Born Died Spouse (first, middle, maiden) Married	Place Place Place
Child #6	Born Died Spouse (first, middle, last) Married	Place Place Place
Child #7	Born Died Spouse (first, middle, last) Married	Place Place Place

Sources of information

Page 2

www.AmericanAncestors.org

Family Group Sheet

Tip
Use abstracting forms
for documents with
boilerplate

Land-Abstract-Form

FHL-Film		Image	
County-and-State		Book-and-Page-#	
Grantor-(name,-residence)		Grantee-(name,-residence)	
Date-of-Acknowledgment	Date-recorded:	Consideration:	
Acreage			
Pertinent-physical-features,-e.g.-water-courses			
Neighbors			
Dower-release	Homestead-release	Other-release	
Other			

¶

Land Abstraction Form

Dece
Sacob Kemmer
to
Hawney Nathan

This indenture made the ninth day of April in the year past one and twenty years before the said Sacob Kemmer, late of West Dutch township, Dece County and Commonwealth of the glory of our said Pennsylvania his wife of the one part and Hawney Nathan of Greenwell town of and within a precinct of the other part. Witnesseth that the said Sacob Kemmer late and Nathaniel his wife as and in consideration of the sum of fifty seven and fifty cents lawful money of the United States to them in hand paid by the said Hawney Nathan at or before the making or delivery being the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged have granted bargain sold aliened conveyed released and confirmed and by these presents do grant bargain sell aliened convey released and confirmed unto the said Hawney Nathan his heirs and assigns all the following described lot or piece of land situate lying and being in West Dutch township and County aforesaid bounded as follows to wit Beginning at a stone in the middle of the change river thence by land of Jacob Jacoby for forty eight perches to a post in the middle of the little hole so called thence by a short lane of said Jacob Sacob Kemmer by a right angle line seven and two thirds perches to a post thence by the same by a line parallel with the said forty eight perches to a stone in the middle of the change river thence of said Jacob Sacob Kemmer and two thirds perches to the place of beginning containing two acres forty eight perches being part of a larger tract of land containing ten acres forty eight and nine tenths conveyed by Jacob Sacob Kemmer unto the said Jacob Sacob Kemmer by and under the last day of August 1815 in a record in the office for recording of Deeds in and for Manor County in and Book 3 pages 403 & 404 the parcel being due to the said Jacob Sacob Kemmer from forty one and a half of acres together with all and singular the buildings improvements woodwags and wages and the several right liberties privileges and emoluments and appurtenances and appurtenances thereto belonging or in any way appertaining and the various and numerous rights and profits thereof and all the said right title interest property claim and demand whatsoever of them the said Jacob Sacob Kemmer and Nathaniel his wife as heirs or equities or otherwise howsoever of and to the same. To have and to hold the said described lot or piece of land with forty eight perches of land and appurtenances and appurtenances hereby granted or mentioned or intended to be with the appurtenances unto the said Hawney Nathan his heirs and assigns to have for the only proper use benefit and behoof of him the said Hawney Nathan his heirs and assigns forever (and the said Jacob Sacob Kemmer and for himself his heirs executors and assigns forever) and the said Jacob Sacob Kemmer and for himself his heirs executors and assigns forever and ever notwithstanding any and unto the said Jacob Sacob Nathan his heirs and assigns by these presents that he the said Jacob Sacob Kemmer and his heirs the said described lot or piece of land thirty perches with the appurtenances unto the said Hawney Nathan his heirs and assigns against him the said Jacob Sacob Kemmer and his heirs and assigns and all and every other person or persons whosoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same since and thence without any power reserve by these presents unto the said Hawney Nathan and Nathaniel his wife their heirs and assigns and unto the said Jacob Sacob Kemmer and his heirs and assigns forever and ever in full

Sacob Kemmer his mark
Nathaniel Kemmer his mark

Witness in the evening the date of the above indenture of and from the above named Jacob Kemmer and the sum of fifty seven and fifty cents lawful money of the United States being the consideration money aforesaid. In full

John H. Rich

Dece County in the ninth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty seven before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for said County personally came the above named Jacob Kemmer and Nathaniel his wife and severally acknowledged the above written indenture as and for themselves and also and severally that the same might be received as such according to law the said Jacob Nathaniel both of full age separate and apart from the said his husband by me examined and the full contents of the said indenture made known to him declared that the said Jacob

This Indenture made the ninth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty nine between Jacob Hommer Senr of West Salem township Mercer County and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Hannah his wife of the one part and Harvey Walker of Greenville County and State aforesaid of the other part. Witnesseth that the said Jacob Hommer Senr and Hannah his wife for and in consideration of the sum of fifty seven dollars and fifty eight cents lawful money of the United States to them in hand paid by the said Harvey Walker at or before the ensealing or delivery here of the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged. Have Granted Bargained s Sold aliened enfeossed released and confirmed and by these presents Do grant bargain sell alien enfeoss release and confirm unto the said Harvey Walker his heirs and assigns all the following described lot or piece of land situate lying and being in West Salem township and County aforesaid Bounded as follows to wit Beginning at Stones in the middle of Shenango river thereby land of Jacob Loutzenhiezer forty eight perches to a post in the middle of the little lake "so called" thence by other land of said Jacob Hommer by a right angled line seven and two third perches to a post thence by the same by a line . . .

Deed, Homer to Walker, 1829

Land-Abstract-Form

FHL-Film 7896735		Image 246	
County-and-State Mercer, PA		Book-and-Page-# 11, 463	
Grantor-(name, residence) Jacob-and-Hannah-Homer, West-Salem		Grantee-(name, residence) Harvey-Walker, Greenville	
Date-of-Acknowledgment 9-April-1829	Date-recorded: 9-April-1829	Consideration: \$57.58	
Acreage...2-acres			
Pertinent-physical-features, e.g. water-courses Starts-at-stones-in-middle-of-Shenango-River, thence-by-land-of-Jacob-Loutzenheizer-to-post-in-middle-of-lake, thence-by-Hommer-land-back-to-middle-of-Shenango-River.			
Neighbors Jacob-Loutzenheizer, Jacob-Hommer			
Dower-release Yes, by-Hannah	Homestead-release	Other-release	
Other Part-of-larger-tract-from-Jacob-Loutzenheizer-to-Jacob-Hommer, 28-August-1815, recorded-book-D, page-408-and-409.			

Abstracted, Homer to Walker,
1829

Probate Abstract Form



FHL film/DGS No.		Item # / Image #
County and State		Book and Page #
Type of Probate ☐ Testate (Will) ☐ Intestate (No Will)		Executor: Administrator:
Deceased:	Occupation/Late of:	
Date of Will:	Date Estate Proved:	
Heirs (with Relationships)		
Witnesses:		

Probate Abstract Form

Presents shall come Crating. Know ye that upon the Day of the
 date hereof, before me at Boston in the County aforesaid, the
 Will of John Pulling, late of Boston Gentleman deceased, to
 these Presents annexed, was proved approved and allowed
 who having while he lived and at the time of his Death
 Goods Chattels Rights or Credits in the County aforesaid:
 and the Probate of the said Will and power of committing
 Administration of all and singular the Goods Chattels Rights
 and Credits of the said deceased, and his Will in any manner
 concerning is hereby committed unto his Wife Sarah
 Pulling (Joshua Bone Esq. the other Executor therein named
 being since deceased) Executrix in the same Will named
 well and faithfully to execute the said Will and to Admi-
 nister the Estate of the said deceased according therunto
 and to make a true and perfect Inventory of all & singular
 the Goods Chattels Rights and Credits of the said deceased &
 to exhibit the same into the Registry of the Court of Probate
 for the County aforesaid, at or before the 13th Day of May
 next ensuing: And also to render a plain and true Account
 of his said Administration upon Oath. In Testimony
 whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the Seal of the
 said Court of Probate dated at Boston the 13th Day of
 February Anno Domini 1787.

Wm Cooper Regn

O. Wendell Jud: Prob: -

Mr. W. Cooper

Will
18825
I, John Pulling of Boston in the County of Suffolk
Gentleman do make & ordain this my last Will & Testament
in manner following viz^t I give and devise unto my
well beloved Wife Sarah Pulling after all my just debts are paid
one half of my Real Estate and one third of my Personal Estate to
her and her heirs forever in full of her right of dower in my Estate
Then I give to my Son John Pulling the great Bible bequeathed
to me by my honoured Father and which it was his wish
and is my wish to have kept in the Family. Then All the
rest and residue of my Estate after all my just Debts are paid
I give and bequeath as follows viz^t two sixth parts three of
to my Son John and the other four sixths to my Children

18825

Unnies Sarah Martha and Richard equally to be divided
between them to have and to hold the said residue in their said
proportions to them and their Heirs forever. And I hereby
constitute and appoint my said Wife and my good friend
Joshua Orr Esqr of Marblehead executors of this my last
Will & Testament. In WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my
hand and Seal this tenth day of March A.D. 1783.

Wm. Pultney & Seal
Signed, Sealed & published by the said Pultney to be his last
Will in presence of us. Steph. Lewis of the Rob^t Michlorn,
Benjamin Lincoln Jun^r

Witnesse: The abovewritten Will being presented for Probate by the Executors therein named Robert Robinson & Benjamin Lincoln Jun.^r made Oath that they saw John Pulling the Subscriber to this Instrument sign & seal and also heard him publish and declare the same to be his last Will & Testament and that when he so did he was of sound disposing Mind & memory according to these Depo^{ts} best discovery and that they together with Stephen Lewis next absent set to their hands as Witnesses thereof in the said Testators presence

Boston Feb. 4th

O. Wendell Jud. Prob.

1787

Exam. W. P. Cooper Reg.

Inventory of the Estate of William Coffin late of Boston in the County of Suffolk an Ab intestate, as taken & Inventory Approved by us the Subscribers.

Trans. Astoria: 1 large look: Glass	16.10	small Mahog.	17.6
Tea Chest 21/	3 Japanned Wai.ers	old 21/	" 8.
1 Mahogany wai.ter fl.	1 Desk 30/	1 large Table 22/	2.15.6
8 Pictures 9/-	1 easy Chair 20/-	p ^r bags Andersons 12/	2.7.
18 China Plates 12/	p ^r doz white Cups & saucers 2/		" 12.
1 doz China Cups & saucers	small 21/6		" 2.6
6 small China Dishes 9/-	p ^r Sauce Boats 1/		" 10.
2 glass decanters 6/-	1 China Bowl 1/		" 7.
Back Chamber 1 large look: Glass	16.10	small Mahog.	17.6

Coffin With
Inventory

18269

Probate Abstract Form

FHL film/DGS No. 493891/7703709		Item # / Image # Item 2 / image 459
County and State Suffolk Co., Massachusetts		Book and Page # Vol. 86, pp. 84-85
Type of Probate ☒ Testate (Will) ☐ Intestate (No Will)		Executor: Wife Sarah Pulling & Joshua Orne, Esq. Administrator:
Deceased: John Pulling	Occupation/Late of: Gentleman / Boston, Suffolk Co., Mass.	
Date of Will: 10 March 1793	Date Estate Proved: 13 Feb 1787	
Heirs (with Relationships) • <u>Wife, Sarah Pulling:</u> one-half of my real estate • <u>Son, John Pulling:</u> "the great Bible bequeathed" • Children: remaining four-sixths of estate - o Annis - o Sarah - o Martha - o Richard		
Witnesses: Stephen Lewis, Robert <u>Hichborn</u> , Benjamin Lir		

18825

Pulling John

I, John Pulling of Boston in the County of Suffolk
Gentleman do make & ordain this my last Will & Testament
in manner following viz: Imprimis I give and devise unto my
well beloved Wife Sarah Pulling after all my just debts are paid
one half of my Real Estate and one third of my Personal Estate to
her and her heirs forever in full of her right of Dower in my Estate.
Item I give to my Son John Pulling the great Bible bequeathed
to me by my honoured Father and which it was his wish
and is my Wish to have kept in the Family. Item All the
rest and residue of my Estate after all my just Debts are paid
I give and bequeath as follows viz: two sixth parts thereof
to my Son John and the other four sixths to my Children

John Pulling, Will, 1787, v. 86, pp.84-85

Probate Abstract Form

FHL film/DGS No. 493891/7703709		Item # / Image # Item 2 / image 459
County and State Suffolk Co., Massachusetts		Book and Page # Vol. 86, pp. 84-85
Type of Probate ☒ Testate (Will) ☐ Intestate (No Will)		Executor: Wife Sarah Pulling & Joshua Orne, Esq. Administrator:
Deceased: John Pulling	Occupation/Late of: Gentleman / Boston, Suffolk Co., Mass.	
Date of Will: 10 March 1793	Date Estate Proved: 13 Feb 1787	
Heirs (with Relationships) • Wife, Sarah Pulling: one-half of my real estate & one-third of my • Son, John Pulling: "the great Bible bequeathed to me by my hon • Children: remaining four-sixths of estate ○ Annis ○ Sarah ○ Martha ○ Richard		
Witnesses: Stephen Lewis, Robert Hichborn, Benjamin Lincoln, Jr.		

I give and bequeath as follows viz: two sixth parts thereof to my Son John and the other four sixths to my Children

Annis Sarah Martha and Richard equally to be divided between them to have and to hold the said residue in their said proportions to them and their Heirs forever. And I hereby constitute and appoint my said Wife and my good friend Joshua Orne Esq. of Marblehead executors of this my last Will & Testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this tenth day of March A.D. 1793.

Jⁿ. Pulling & Seal

John Pulling, Will, 1787, v. 86, pp.84-85

QUESTIONS?

Schedule a consultation

consultations@americanancestors.org

Hire Research Services

research@americanancestors.org

Consultations

Book a one-on-one
consultation with
a genealogist and
receive help with your
family history research!

[AmericanAncestors.org/
Expert-Help/Consultations](https://AmericanAncestors.org/Expert-Help/Consultations)



 American Ancestors[®]

A National Center for Family History,
Heritage & Culture

 Bookstore  About Us  Create a Tree [LOG IN →](#)

SearchEventsJoin/RenewGive10 Million NamesPublicationsExpert HelpToolsProjectsCenters & Initiatives

Organizing Your Research

With all of the genealogical information at your fingertips today, it's easy to become overwhelmed, go down research rabbit holes, and lose focus. In this online lecture, Senior Genealogist Rhonda R. McClure will offer tips on how to make a research plan and stick to it! Using templates, worksheets, and other research tools available at AmericanAncestors.org, you'll learn how to stay organized and get the most out of your research time.

This 60-minute lecture will include three, 10-minute intervals for audience Q&A for a total of 90 minutes.

Registration includes access to:

-  Live lecture presented on Zoom
-  Lecture recording, available to review for the foreseeable future
-  Four-page syllabus

<https://www.americanancestors.org/organizing-your-research>



THANK YOU!
AmericanAncestors.org



Copyright © 2026