



Beginner's Genealogy on the Internet

April 2005

This pathfinder will be useful for beginners who would like to start a family history search using the internet. On a cautionary note, remember that the internet is merely a vehicle to help you begin the process. It is not the only resource you should use, but is a wonderful road map to help you start your ancestry search.

For an introduction to the topic, see:

- *Online Roots: How to Discover Your Family's History and Heritage with the Power of the Internet*, by Pamela Boyer Porter and Amy Johnston Crow (2003)

Key Resources at a Glance:

- *Finding Your Roots Online*, by Nancy Hendrickson (2003)
- Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet Beginners www.cyndislist.com/beginner.htm

Resources

Books

- *The Genealogist's Computer Companion* by Rhonda R. McClure (2002)
- *Climbing Your Family Tree: Online and Offline Genealogy for Kids: The Official Ellis Island Handbook for Kids*, by Ira Woman (2002)
- *The Complete Beginner's Guide to Genealogy, the Internet and Your Genealogy Computer Program*, by Karen Clifford (2001)
- *Genealogy Online* by Elizabeth Powell Crowe (2000)
- *The Everything Online Genealogy Book*, by Pat Richley
- *Genealogy Online for Dummies*, by Matthew Helm (2000)
- *First Steps in Genealogy: a Beginner's Guide to Researching Your Family History*, by Desmond Walls Allen (1998)
- *Ancestors* by Jim Willard (1997)
- *Virtual Roots: A Guide to Genealogy and Local History on the World Wide Web*, by Thomas Jay Kemp (1997)

Journals

- *Family Chronicle*
- *Family Tree Magazine*
- *Heritage Quest*

Search Aids

Search Terms

(Use for computer searches)

- Genealogy
- Internet Genealogy

Subject Headings

(Use in card catalogs and print indexes)

- Genealogy-Data Processing
- Genealogy-Computer Network Resources
- Genealogy

Call Number

- 929.1; 929.4 (Dewey Decimal)
- 025.02-025.06929 (Library of Congress)

Indexes and Abstracts

- EBSCOhost
- First Search
- Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature

Library catalogs

- Your local library catalog
- SILO - State-wide catalog
- World Cat - World-wide Catalog

Magazine Articles

- “Family Trees on the Web,” by Diane K. Kovacs, *American Libraries*. (Aug 2003, Vol. 34, Issue 7)

Web Pages and Web Portals

- United States Vital Records Information
vitalrec.com/index.html
- IAGen Web Project
iagenweb.org/
- Ellis Island Records
www.ellislandrecords.org
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Family Search
www.familysearch.org
- Ancestry.com
www.ancestry.com
- On The Trail of Our Ancestors
www.ristenbatt.com/genealogy especially the link Genealogy for Beginners

Organizations and Special Collections

- Iowa Genealogical Society
628 E. Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309
515-276-0287
www.iowagenealogy.org
e-mail address: igs@iowagenealogy.org

** You can evaluate other resources using criteria at: www.THEpathfinderproject.org/evaluate.html **

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Production funded in part by Library Services and Technology Act funds administered by the State Library of Iowa.

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