

**To Share or Not to Share** – Now days, it is easier than ever to coordinate with other researchers. We will discuss when, how and why to share your genealogy research with others and how to incorporate their research into yours.

The Real Questions are:

- **Why Should I Share?** – There are other people out there that are interested in the same information that you are. Networking with others in an efficient way to get more work done. Others may have what you don't.
- **When Should I Share?** – Now! Don't wait until you feel your tree is done. As my English teacher used to say, "Your term paper is never finished; it's just time to turn it in." Your family tree will always be a work in process, so get it out there for others to see. You may be able to break through those brickwalls faster because someone else saw your tree.
- **How/Where Should I Share?** – There are many websites that allow you to post your tree online for free. All you have to do is upload a GEDCOM from your genealogy program. Don't forget to update it on a regular basis. Free websites include: Rootsweb, Ancestry, FamilySearch, and Gencircles.
- **How to Safely Include Someone Else's Research into Yours** –
  - Trust but Verify – Make sure you can duplicate the research. Other's research should be fully documented with primary sources.
  - The Census is not a primary source.
  - Other family trees are not a source
  - There is more to doing research than Ancestry.com
  - If in doubt, leave it out.
  - Be patient and courteous when working with others
  - Backup your data BEFORE your merge files
  - Keep originals of both files in case you need to revert back to them.
  - Clean up any duplicates after the merge.
  - Repost your tree to the internet.

SEARCH MILLIONS OF ORIGINAL SOURCE DOCUMENTS 


First Name  Last Name  State  [Search now](#)

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### Getting Started

- [Getting Started at RootsWeb](#)
- [Ancestry Tour](#)
- [RootsWeb's Guide To Tracing Family Trees](#)
- [RootsWeb Review Archives](#) | [Subscribe](#)
- [What's New](#) | [RootsWeb Newsroom](#)

### Search Engines and Databases

- [RootsWeb Surname List/RSL](#) (Surname Listings)
- [MetaSearch](#) (Multiple Databases and Files)
- [U. S. Town/County Database](#) (Locations)
- [WorldConnect Project](#) (Family Trees)
- [Index of All Search Engines and Databases](#)

### Family Trees (WorldConnect)

- [WorldConnect Project Main Page](#)
- [Search Family Trees](#)
- [Submit Your Family Tree](#)
- [Edit Your Family Tree](#)

### Mailing Lists

- [Find a List Search](#)
- [Index](#) (Browse All Lists)
- [ROOTS-L Mailing List](#)
- [Surname List Finder](#)
- [Archives Search](#)
- [Archives Browse](#)

### Websites

- [Websites at RootsWeb](#)
- [Websites on RootsWeb's Freepages](#)
- [Requests for Web Space](#)

### Other Tools and Resources

- [ROOTS-L Library](#) | [State Resources](#)
- [RootsLink URL Registry](#) | [Add A Link](#)
- [Blank Charts and Forms](#)
- [RootsWeb Graphics](#)
- [Soundex Converter](#)

### Volunteering at RootsWeb

- [How to Volunteer](#)

### Hosted Volunteer Projects

- [World Archives Project](#)
- [Books We Own](#)
- [CanadaGenWeb](#)
- [FreeBMD](#) (England and Wales)
- [FreeReg](#) (UK)
- [Obituary Daily Times](#)
- [WorldGenWeb Project](#)
- [WorldGenWeb Archives](#)

### Help

- [FAQs & Help-Related Resources](#)
- [Address Changes](#)

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## **Other Records to consider:**

- ✓ Census records (to identify where they are)
- ✓ Church records (baptism, confirmation, marriage, death, burial)
- ✓ Civil records (birth, death, marriage, divorce)
- ✓ Land records
- ✓ Wills and Probate
- ✓ Obituaries
- ✓ Social Security Death Index
- ✓ Histories (Towns, Counties, Churches)
- ✓ Newspapers
- ✓ Immigration (Ships Passenger lists, indexes) and Naturalization
- ✓ Cemetery records and Tombstones
- ✓ Fraternal Organizations (Freemasons, Odd Fellows, Order of the Eastern Star)
- ✓ Workers Unions
- ✓ City Directories and Phone Directories
- ✓ Military Records
- ✓ Maps
- ✓ Historical Societies
- ✓ Websites (USGenWeb , Familysearch, Cyndislist, Findagrave ...)
- ✓ The list goes on and on ...

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