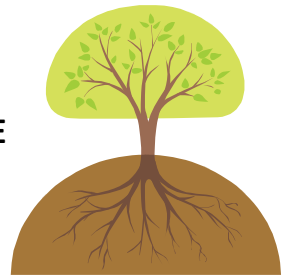


HOT TIPS FROM THE LINEAGE RESEARCH COMMITTEE



RESEARCH REMINDERS

- Start with what is known. **Always work from known facts to the unknown.**
- Record where the information came from. **Create citations to be able to retrace research if necessary.**
- Copy the Title and Copyright pages. **You should always know which book the information came from.**
- Keep a Research Log of all the sources reviewed. **Even if you did not find the documentation you were searching for. Then you know where you have been, so that you know where you need to go.**

USE AS CLUES ONLY – CHECK THE SOURCE CITATIONS AND OBTAIN THE ORIGINAL RECORDS.

- Family tradition. **Information passed down by word-of-mouth can be interpreted differently.**
- Undocumented county histories, in print and/or online. **Can contain truth or error.**
- Similar surnames or given names. **Often the same name is found in different states at the same time.**
- Information from genealogical indexes. **May have several different entries for the same person.**
- Family genealogies, in print and/or online. **Often repeat incorrect information, over and over again.**
- Lineage societies' books or applications. **May be older with few citations or documentation.**

BIRTH, MARRIAGE AND DEATH RECORDS

- Birth date and location evidence. **Look for Bibles, church records and tombstones.**
- Look at Poll Tax and Jury Lists. **May be evidence of legal age and if exempt, evidence of advanced age.**
- Jr. and Sr. may not be related. **It could be a younger and an older man in the same area.**
- Marriage records. **Witnesses and bondsman could be related to either party.**
- Marriage evidence. **Look at land records. They may contain information about the spouse and children.**
- Death records. **May contain the name of the spouse.**
- Death evidence. **Check for wills, guardianship records, letter of administration, probate records or final estate settlements and inventories. Check from the time of death to several years after.**
- Land records. **Use these to separate two persons of the same name in the same community.**

PROOF OF RESIDENCE

- Tax, Jury and Militia Lists. **These may be indicators of residence.**
- Land records. **Use to place individuals in a specific place and time.**
- Deed books. **There may be a Power of Attorney in the state or prior residence.**
- Location of land. **This is not always in the county where the purchase is recorded.**
- Record migration of neighbors and relatives. **People and family groups often moved together.**
- Documents for witnesses. **They may be neighbors and relatives.**

LINKING GENERATIONS

- Wills. **May not provide names, only relationship. Look at deeds and other earlier legal records.**
- Draft Registration, Military and Pension files. **May have birth information and names of relatives.**
- Birth records. **Be sure to ask for the complete record or the certificate with the parents' names.**
- Find the family in censuses. **More than one generation may be listed in a household with relationship.**
- Death records. **May contain the parents' names.**
- NSDAR applications and supplementals. **Look in the GRS - Ancestor Database, check if the line is coded.
Look in the GRS - Descendants Database, check for common descendants in multiple generations.**