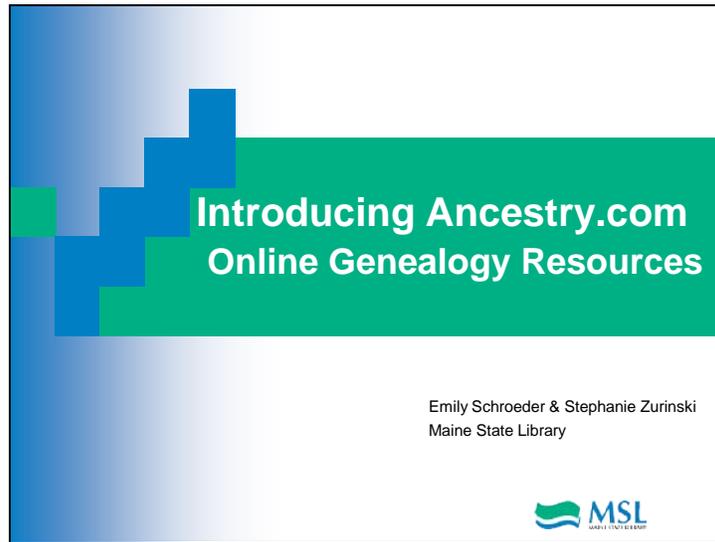


Slide 1



Introducing Ancestry.com
Online Genealogy Resources

Emily Schroeder & Stephanie Zurinski
Maine State Library



Slide 2

Ancestry.com Contents



- 1.5 Billion Names and Counting! (Births, Marriages, & Deaths)
- Military Records, Including the U.S. Civil War
- Census and Voter Lists
- Maps, Atlases and Gazetteers
- Immigration and Naturalization Records
- Historical Newspapers
- Church Histories and Registers
- Social Security Death Index



The Library Edition contains over 4,000 databases of vital records from the U.S., Canada and the United Kingdom (and a few other countries)...information that can shed light on your origins: the who, the when and the where. After all, our forefathers define who we are today!

Slide 3

Search Options
ancestry library edition

Welcome

Home Search Charts and Forms

Search

First & Middle Name(s) Last Name

Name a place your ancestor might have lived Estimated birth year Calculate it

+ Add life events (birth, marriage, death, and more)
+ Add family members (mother, father, spouse, siblings, children)

Search Show Advanced Clear Form Help

CENSUS COLLECTIONS

- Australia Census Collection
- Canada Census & Voter Lists
- Germany Census & Voter Lists
- U.S. Census Collection
- U.S. Census Collection
- all...

MORE COLLECTIONS

- Immigration & Travel
- Birth, Marriage & Death
- London Parish Records
- list recent or all databases

MSL
MAYNARD STATE LIBRARY

The blanks are pretty straightforward, aren't they? Let's check out the estimated birth year feature, and see what happens when we click on "Calculate it"!

Slide 4

The screenshot shows the 'Computing Birth Year' tool on Ancestry.com. The page has a green header with the title 'Computing Birth Year'. Below the header is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Search', and 'Charts and Forms'. The main content area is titled 'Search' and contains several input fields: 'First & Middle Name(s)', 'Last Name', and 'Name a place your ancestor might have lived'. To the right of these fields is an 'Estimated birth year' field with a 'Calculate It' button. Below the 'Name a place...' field are two expandable options: '+ Add life events (birth, marriage, death, a...' and '+ Add family members (mother, father, spouse, siblings, children)'. A red arrow points to the 'Add life events' option. A tooltip is visible over the 'Add life events' option, containing the text 'He/she was about [] years old in []' with 'Age' and 'Year' labels and an 'OK' button. At the bottom of the search area are buttons for 'Search', 'Show Advanced', 'Clear Form', and 'Help'. Below the search area are two columns of links: 'CENSUS COLLECTIONS' (Australia, Canada, Germany, U.K., U.S.) and 'MORE COLLECTIONS' (Immigration & Travel, Birth, Marriage & Death, London Parish Records, list recent or all databases). The MSL logo is in the bottom right corner.

Ancestry.com calculates the year for you!

And what about the other options next to it, like “Add life events” and “Add family members”?

Slide 5

Life Events Feature

Home Search Charts and Forms

Search

First & Middle Name(s) Last Name

Name a place your ancestor might have lived Estimated birth year
Calculate It

Year Location Remove

Any Event (birth, marriage, death, and more)

Birth

Death (mothers, fathers, spouse, siblings, children)

Lived In

Marriage

Arrival

Departure

Military

Advanced Clear Form Help

CENSUS COLLECTIONS MORE COLLECTIONS

Australia Census Collection Immigration & Travel

Canada Census & Voter Lists Birth, Marriage & Death

Germany Census & Voter Lists London Parish Records

U.K. Census Collection list recent or all databases

U.S. Census Collection

All >>



Even if you are fairly sure of only one aspect of your ancestor's life, here's the place to add it!
The option under this allows you to name a family member...

Slide 6

The screenshot shows a web interface titled "Family Member Feature". At the top, there are navigation tabs for "Home", "Search", and "Charts and Forms". Below this is a "Search" section with several input fields: "First & Middle Name(s)", "Last Name", "Name a place your ancestor might have lived", and "Estimated birth year". There is also a "Calculate it" button. Below the search fields, there is a section for "Any Event" with a dropdown menu and a "Remove" button. A link for "+ Add life events (birth, marriage, death, and more)" is also present. The "Family Member" section has a dropdown menu for selecting a relationship type, with options: "Choose...", "Choose...", "Father", "Mother", "Spouse", "Child", and "Sibling". A red arrow points to the "Choose..." option. Below the dropdown, there are "Advanced", "Clear Form", and "Help" buttons. At the bottom, there are sections for "CENSUS COLLECTIONS" (with a link to "Australia Census Collection") and "MORE COLLECTIONS" (with a link to "Immigration & Travel"). The MSL logo is in the bottom right corner.

Changing your mind is easy as well, with “remove”...and there’s always the back button...

Still a bit confused?

Slide 7

The image shows a screenshot of the Ancestry Library Edition search interface. A help window titled "Search Help - Mozilla Firefox" is overlaid on the search form. The help window contains the following text:

How do I use this search form?

This form asks you to fill in the four most important pieces of information that we can use to help you find your ancestor.

First and Last Name

Including both first and last names will help us find better matches.

- First names: you can include first names, middle names, and/or nicknames.
- Last names: You can enter a woman's maiden and married surnames here.

Tell us one place your ancestor might have lived

To help us find records about a person, enter any place where they might have lived during their life. When you start typing a place name, we'll offer a list of suggested matching places. You can choose a city, county, state, province, or country name. Click on a place name in the list to fill in the box.

The help window also features a red arrow pointing to the "Help" link in the search form's navigation bar. The search form itself includes fields for "First & Middle Name(s)" and "Last Name", a "Name a place your ancestor might have lived" field, and buttons for "Search", "Show Advanced", "Clear Form", and "Help".

...for more assistance! Isn't Ancestry friendly? And you can add more details, with...

Slide 8

Advanced Search Feature

Home Search Charts and Forms

Search

First & Middle Name(s) Last Name

Name a place your ancestor might have lived Estimated birth year

+ Add life events (birth, marriage, death, and more)
+ Add family members (mother, father, spouse, siblings, children)

Search Show Advanced Clear Form Help

CENSUS COLLECTIONS MORE COLLECTIONS

[Australia Census Collection](#) [Immigration & Travel](#)
[Canada Census & Voter Lists](#) [Birth, Marriage & Death](#)
[Census Census & Voter Lists](#) [London Parish Records](#)



Slide 9

Advanced Search

Search Clear Form Hide Advanced

Match all terms exactly

Name

First & Middle Name(s) Last Name

[Use default settings](#) [Use default settings](#)

Any Event Year +/- 0 Location Remove

Exact Only [Use default settings](#)

→ [Add life events](#) (birth, marriage, death, and more)

Family Member First Name Last Name Remove

Choose...

→ [Add family members](#) (mother, father, spouse, siblings, children)

More

Keyword Exact

e.g. pilot or "Flying Tigers"



You can enter the life event of your choosing, one or more family members, a word or two about the person under “keyword”; and just what does “default settings” mean?

Slide 10

Default Settings

Home Search Charts and Forms

Search Clear Filters Hide Advanced

Match all terms exactly

Name
First & Middle Name(s) Last Name
Use default settings - Use default settings -

Any Event Year Location Remove
 Any Event Year Location
 Exact Only Use default settings -

+ Add life events (birth, marriage, de...)
 Use default settings
 Restrict to this place exactly
About these settings

Family Member First Name
Choose...
+ Add family members (mother, father, spouse, sibling, children)

More
Keyword Exact
e.g. pilot or "Flying Tigers"

MSU
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Basically, you can choose between exact and approximate spellings, and there's more than one way to do it. For a more complete explanation, click on "About these settings"-Ancestry's very thorough! Let's move on to the rest of the form...

Slide 11

More Options

Family Member First Name Last Name
Choose... [text input] Remove

+ Add family members (mother, father, spouse, siblings, children)

More

Keyword [text input] Exact
e.g. pilot or "Flying Tigers"

Gender [dropdown: -- Select --]

Race/Nationality [text input] Exact

Restrict to:

- Historical records
- Family trees
- Stories & publications
- Photos & maps

Search

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You still have the option of using exact spelling, even with race or nationality, and you can check or un-check the broad categories they present right before the end...

Slide 12



To see descriptions of each collection, go up to the top of the page and click on the "Search" tab...Historical Records is pretty much everything, and Family Trees includes family tree data entered by Ancestry.com members.

Explore by Location

Explore by Location

USA | UK & Ireland | Europe | Canada | Australia & NZ

United States
Recent additions include:

- Social Security Death Index - Updated
- Alabama Civil War Muster Rolls, 1861-1862
- U.S. Census Non-Population Schedules, New York, 1850-1880

Alabama	Florida	Louisiana	Nebraska	Oklahoma	Vermont
Alaska	Georgia	Maine	Nebraska	Oregon	Virginia
Arizona	Hawaii	Massachusetts	New Hampshire	Pennsylvania	Washington
Arkansas	Idaho	Michigan	New Jersey	Rhode Island	West Virginia
California	Illinois	Minnesota	New Mexico	South Carolina	Wisconsin
Colorado	Indiana	Mississippi	New York	South Dakota	Wyoming
Connecticut	Iowa	Missouri	North Carolina	Tennessee	USA
Delaware	Kansas	Montana	North Dakota	Texas	
District of Columbia	Kentucky	Ohio	Utah		

MSL
MAGNETIC SOLUTIONS

You can either click on the state itself, or the name underneath the map. Data collections for that state will appear in the next window.

Next Steps

Exploring

- Search Contents
- Charts and Forms
- See next tutorial: Available Documents in Ancestry.com

