

***Be a Power Searcher:
Genealogy Research Using Clayton's Online Databases***

Introduction

Genealogy Basics

- Ask Questions
- Get organized
- Locate Records
- Evaluate & Analyze

Power Searching

- Good News/Bad News
- Things to know about databases
- HPL Databases
 - Ancestry Plus
 - Heritage Quest
 - ...and others
- How to access HPL Databases

Case Study

Illustrates an online research sequence when only 20th century people are known.

1. Assemble known “facts”

- Patron's mother is Marilyn Whitehill, born Kansas City, KS, now age 69
- Her parents were Dudley Whitehill and Erma Dell Hinkle; they both died about ten years ago in San Antonio

2. Check “facts”

Texas Death Index (www.rootsweb.com)

- Dudley Walter Whitehill d.12/5/1987
- Erma Dell Whitehill d.8/15/1984

Social Security Death Index (www.ancestry.com)

- D.W. Whitehill d.12/1987; b 5/8/1905; issued MO
- Erma Whitehill d.8/1984; b 8/29/1905; issued TX

3. Census Search

1930 (Ancestry & Heritage Quest)

- Erma Whitehill, wife, age 24, married 1 year. Husband on previous page, not available. Residing in Kansas City, Jackson Co, MO

1920 (Ancestry & Heritage Quest)

- Gertrude Whitehill, widow, age 40, b. Sweden, with sons Clifford, age 16, and Dudley, age 14, b. Missouri, father b. in Illinois. Residing in Kansas City, Jackson Co, MO

1910 (Heritage Quest)

- Walter W. Whitehill, age 38, married 6 years, with wife Gertrude, 31, b.Sweden, and sons Clifford M., 6, and Dudley W., 4. Residing in Kansas City, Jackson Co, MO

***Be a Power Searcher:
Genealogy Research Using Clayton's Online Databases***

1900 (Ancestry & www.genealogy.com)

- Robert Whitehill, age 62, b. PA, minister, with wife and children; son Walker W., 29, b. IL. Residing in Kansas City, Jackson Co, MO

1890 - not available for most areas; Heritage Quest has index of surviving records

1880 (www.familysearch.org & Heritage Quest)

- R. B. Whitehill, age 42, b. PA, minister, with wife and children; son Walter, age 9, b. IL. Residing in Peabody, Marion Co, KS

1870 (Heritage Quest)

- Robt Whitehill, age 31, b. PA, minister, with wife and children; oldest child age 4, b. IL. Residing near Morrystown, Henry Co, IL

Place/Time research

Pause to study results so far. Using the data from the census, create family group sheets listing all children and as many approximate birth/death/marriage dates and locations as possible.

Begin to develop a place-and-timeline for the family; identify the localities in which they lived. Search for locality-based records and compiled genealogies.

- **www.usgenweb.com - Marion Co, KS**
Peabody Lutheran Church - applied to join Kansas Synod 1877; Rev. R. B. Whitehill became pastor at that time; resigned before 1882.
- **Heritage Quest - 1877 History of Henry Co, IL**
Evangelical Lutheran Church at Morrystown - Rev. R. B. Whitehill was pastor from July 11, 1869 to March 10, 1872.

Other Favorites - some popular websites we use on a daily basis at Clayton Library

- **www.cyndislist.com**
Cyndi's List - to find genealogy sites by topic or location
- **www.glorerecords.blm.gov**
Bureau of Land Management - to locate federal lands acquired through purchase, military bounty land programs, or homesteading
- **www.ellisland.org**
Ellis Island database - New York passenger arrivals from the late 1800's
- **www.tsl.state.tx.us**
Texas State Library website - for military indexes, Republic of Texas claims, county records on microfilm, and more
- **www.lva.lib.va.us**
Library of Virginia - for digital images of early land patents and other Virginia colonial records
- **www.genuki.co.uk**
Genealogy gateway for UK and Ireland - wealth of resources for British research
- **www.google.com**
Favorite all-purpose search engine for ancestor trolling - try combining surname (or first + last name in quotes), locality, and the word "genealogy" to pick up personal websites, queries on message boards, etc.

***Be a Power Searcher:
Genealogy Research Using Clayton's Online Databases***

Houston Public Library Subscription Databases

As of August 2003, the following subscription databases are available through Houston Public Library. Most can be accessed from home by library cardholders. Many are provided through the Texas State Library's TEXSHARE program and are available at public libraries across the state. Databases useful for genealogy research are in bold; see detailed description on next page.

Academic Search Premier (TEXSHARE)
Ancestry Plus (In Library Only)
AP Photo Archive
Applied Science & Technology Abstracts (TEXSHARE)
Archives USA
Art Index
Article First (TEXSHARE)
Biography and Genealogy Master Index (TEXSHARE)
Biography Index
Biography Resource Center
Book Review Digest
Business & Management Practices
Business and Company Resource Center (TEXSHARE)
Business and Industry
Business Source Premier (TEXSHARE)
Business Wire News (TEXSHARE)
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance
CollegeSource Online
Computer Source: Consumer Edition (TEXSHARE)
Congressional Universe
Consulta
Dissertation Abstracts
EconLit
Economist Intelligence Unit Subscriptions
Education Index
Electronic Collections Online (ECO) (TEXSHARE)
Encyclopedia of Animals (TEXSHARE)
ERIC (TEXSHARE)
General Reference Center Gold
General Science Index
GPO Monthly Catalog (TEXSHARE)
Grove Dictionary of Art
Grove Dictionary of Music
Health & Wellness Resource Center (TEXSHARE)
Health Reference Center-Academic (TEXSHARE)
Health Source: Consumer Edition (TEXSHARE)
Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition (TEXSHARE)
HeritageQuest Online (TEXSHARE)
History Resource Center: Modern World
History Resource Center: United States
Houston Chronicle
Houston Organizations
Humanities Index
Informe (Revistas en Español) (TEXSHARE)
InfoTrac Newspapers (TEXSHARE)
Investext Plus
LearnATest.com
Library Literature
Literature Resource Center (TEXSHARE)
MAS Ultra: School Edition (TEXSHARE)
MasterFILE Premier (TEXSHARE)
MEDLINE (TEXSHARE)
MEDLINEplus: Health Information
MEDLINEplus: Informacion de salud
Mergent Online
Middle Search Plus (TEXSHARE)
Military Library Fulltext (TEXSHARE)
MLA Bibliography
NetLibrary - (TEXSHARE)
New York Times -- Historical Archive
NewsBank Full-text Texas Newspapers
Newspaper Source (TEXSHARE)
NoveList
Obituaries & Death Notices
OCLC Union List of Periodicals (TEXSHARE)
Opposing Viewpoint Resource Center
Oxford English Dictionary
PapersFirst (TEXSHARE)
PDR Electronic Library
Periodical Abstracts
Periodical Titles in OCLC FirstSearch
Poem Finder
Primary Search (TEXSHARE)
Proceedings First (TEXSHARE)
Professional Development Collection (TEXSHARE)
PsycFIRST
Psychology & Behavioral Sciences Collection (TEXSHARE)
Reader's Guide Abstracts
Reader's Guide Retrospective
Ready Reference Shelf
ReferenceUSA
Religion & Philosophy Collection (TEXSHARE)
SIRS Researcher
Social Sciences Index
Sociological Collection (TEXSHARE)
Stat!Ref (TEXSHARE)
Statistical Universe
Student Resource Center Gold (TEXSHARE)
SYBWorld
Texas Almanac Online (TEXSHARE)
Texas Digital Sanborn Maps (TEXSHARE)
What Do I read Next? (TEXSHARE)
Wilson Select Plus
World Almanac (TEXSHARE)
World Book Online
WorldCat (TEXSHARE)

***Be a Power Searcher:
Genealogy Research Using Clayton's Online Databases***

**Houston Public Library Subscription Databases
Genealogy Databases and Related Resources**

Ancestry Plus (In Library Only)

Search one of the largest collections of family history data online. Ancestry Plus is the Ancestry.com database with a interface from The Gale Group.

AP Photo Archive

Search Associated Press's image collection of over 150 years of photos. Requires Netscape 4.04 or better

Archives USA

Provides information about primary source materials from 5,500 US manuscript repositories. Includes records, complete with detailed indexes, for 141,178 manuscript and other special collections.

Biography and Genealogy Master Index (Provided by the Texas State Library's TEXSHARE program.)

Index to millions of biographical sketches in 2700+ reference books; coverage includes contemporary and historical figures worldwide

Biography Index

Guide to wide range of biographical material

Biography Resource Center

Database of biographical information on people from throughout history and around the world; now includes the Complete Marquis Who's Who

Dissertation Abstracts

Index covering U.S. doctoral dissertations for the last 150 years; includes some master's theses

HeritageQuest Online (Provided by the Texas State Library's TEXSHARE program.)

HeritageQuest Online provides U. S. Federal census records and a collection of research materials for tracing family lineages.

History Resource Center: United States

Collection of primary documents, secondary reference sources, and journal articles covering all areas of U.S. history from pre-colonial times to the present.

New York Times -- Historical Archive

Full page view of the New York Times from its first issue in 1851 through 1999.

Obituaries & Death Notices

A collection of newspaper obituaries and death notices easily searchable by name of the deceased, date range, or text, such as residence, occupation, hobbies, family members or other personal information, contained in the obituary or death notice. An ideal resource for genealogical research.

Oxford English Dictionary

Online version of the Oxford English Dictionary, including the complete Second Edition and the New Edition in progress

Ready Reference Shelf

Integrates 14 Gale reference directories: Directories in Print, Directory of Special Libraries and Information Centers, Encyclopedia of American Religions, Encyclopedia of Associations, Gale Directory of Databases, Gale Directory of Publications and Broadcast Media, Newsletters in Print, Publishers Directory, Research Centers Directory, International Research Centers Directory, and Government Research Centers Directory.

Texas Almanac Online (Provided by the Texas State Library's TEXSHARE program.)

Searchable electronic version of the Texas Almanac 2000-2001; contains information about Texas history, politics, culture, and geography

Texas Digital Sanborn Maps (Provided by the Texas State Library's TEXSHARE program.)

Sanborn maps are large scale plans of a city or town drawn at a scale of 50 feet to an inch. They were created to assist fire insurance companies as they assessed the risk associated with insuring a particular property. The maps list street block and building numbers including numbers in use at the time the map was made and previous numbers.

WorldCat (Provided by the Texas State Library's TEXSHARE program.)

Catalog of library materials owned by libraries around the world.