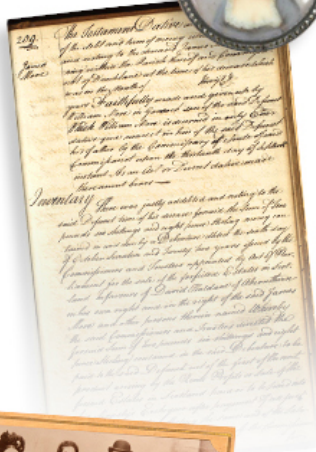


POCATELLO FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

[HTTP://WWW.PRFHC.ORG/](http://www.prfhc.org/)



Looking for family history sites? Try My Heritage site:

<http://www.myheritage.com/page/family-history-sites>

Free Genealogy software can be found at:

<http://www.junauza.com/2008/03/freeopen-source-genealogy-software.html>

Have you ever needed to translate a document that you are looking at. You might try. <http://babelfish.yahoo.com/> to get help with your translation.

There is so much available on the internet that I am always amazed when I find something that I have been looking for right at my fingertips.

Your home library might have just what you are looking for. A place to try is <http://www.worldcat.org/>. It can give you information about a battle in your Civil War ancestor fought in. The history of a police force your ancestor worked in. The working conditions of the industry they were engaged in. Lot of times they can be found in published books and WorldCat can help you.

Sometimes when we look through so many book it is hard to remember each book we checked. Here is a suggestion by Michael John Neill that might help you.

If possible, make a copy of the title page of any book that you use. This reduces the amount of time you spend writing and reduces the chance of a mistake. If you search a book and are unable to locate any information, make a copy of the title page and in pencil write the surnames you searched for. This will make updating your research log and data entry much easier when you get home. --"[Time Saving Tips for Genealogists](#)",

Enter all information from each source or record at the same time.

Data entry is not fun, but it makes information analysis and pattern recognition much easier. When entering information from records, don't sift through all your records looking for information on one person. Instead, enter all information from each source at the same time. Data entry with most software programs (including Family Tree Maker) is easier if you enter information about one document completely before starting on another one, and you may be able to copy and paste repetitive information during the data entry process. If you aren't constantly flipping through documents while entering data, you also reduce your chances of making errors.

Time-Saving Tips for Genealogists

by [Michael John Neill](#)

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File as you go to avoid hunting in the future.

The short amount of time it takes to file a record copy or other document will be time well spent when you are looking for that document a few months or years down the road. Spending an entire afternoon searching through your stacks for something is not time well spent. You might also want to include the name of your file folder in your notes or sources when performing data entry. This will make locating information even easier.

Write it down, neatly.

Time spent writing something on paper and filing it is time well spent. Do not trust your memory, or you will find yourself back at the library again. Do not write sloppily or you will misinterpret what you have written. Do not use scraps of paper that are easily lost. Do not use a crayon or lipstick that will be impossible to read next year.

Focus on one line or family at a time.

Don't mindlessly surf the net (or the library) for information on "as many of your families as possible." Focusing on one line or family makes better use of your research time and keeps you focused and sharp. If I plan to go to the Family History Library in Salt Lake and work "a little bit" on all the lines of my children, I might end up a tad bit confused. Just tracking back to their 3rd great-grandparents, my children have Ostfriesen, German, Irish, Swedish, Swiss, Belgian, and French Canadian ancestry. And that's just those who were not born in the United States. Researching families from all these ethnic groups at once is likely to leave me confused and wasting time. There are too many languages and cultures for me to effectively digest simultaneously. I'd probably do best to focus on one or two groups at a time.

Discover what indexes and records you can use online.

More and more information is becoming available (either free or fee-based), which can save a trip to the library. In some cases, the actual records you wish to use may not be online, but even if indexes to those records are online, you can save time by doing a little digging at home first and then making more effective use of your on-site time.

Determine if others have researched your family.

look for published information on your family by searching card catalogs such as the one for the Family History Library or the Library of Congress. When using pre-published information, whether in print or electronic form, remember that you should only use the information contained in these sources as clues, not as fact. Remember that the quality of the data is the responsibility of the author or submitter, and it is always possible for mistakes to occur.