NAVIGATING ANCESTRY

Reminders and Principles for Family Research

- Begin with yourself and work backwards.

- Gather as much information as you can about each ancestor (Names, important dates and locations).

- Research one ancestor at a time.

- Try to gather all vitals and census records for each ancestor to start.

- Always examine the original document.

- Examine the source to learn more about the record and record set.

- Be analytical about the information on each record and cross correlate information across documents.

Ancestry Library Edition
Free at your library!

Learning Center:

- Explore tutorials, maps, and localized resources.

- Forms: Find family group sheets, census forms, research logs.

Search Functions:

- Universal search: Searches everything! Narrow by using tools on the left.

- Collections search: Searches by category- vitals, immigration, census etc.

- Location search(Map): Searches geographically.

- Catalog search: Look up and search specific record sets.

Ancestry Library Edition Continued

Viewer (Right Side)

- Zoom in and out

- Arrow reveals source, detail (transcription), potentially related records

- Wrench reveals tools such as save, print, rotate etc.

Viewer (Bottom)

- Film Strip reveals the entire reel

- Number indicates where you are within the set

- Person + three lines reveals transcription

Viewer (Upper Right)

- Save options

  - Send Image Home (send directly to your email)

  - Save to this computer (save to a flash drive if using a library computer!)

Think Outside the (Search) the Box

Reverse the Search: You don't always have to work with first name/last name. Try using keywords, race etc. for varied results.

Browse: Select record sets to browse page to page.

Wildcard Searching: Use * and ? to get around spelling errors. * replaces multiple characters. ? replaces single characters.