



Irish Genealogy Online – a beginning

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Just an introduction, not in depth.

Steps in genealogy research

Step 1

Fill out a pedigree chart

Step 2

Interview relatives – parents, grandparents, etc

Step 3

Consult family records/home sources

Step 4

Conduct internet research

Step 5

Record findings, documents, questions

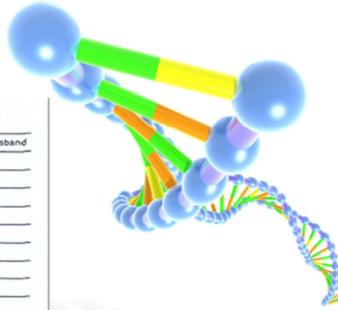
Step 6

Read books and articles about history

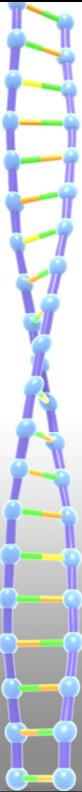
Get as much info as possible before going online to have a starting place.

Family Group Sheet

Husband's Full Name				Chart No.					
Husband's Birth Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband			
Birth									
Chr'd									
Marr.									
Death									
Burial									
Places of Residence									
Occupation		Church Affiliation			Military Rec.				
Other wives, if any, No. (1) etc. Leave separate sheet for each man									
His Father		Mother's Maiden Name							
Wife's Full Maiden Name									
Wife's Birth Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife			
Birth									
Chr'd									
Death									
Burial									
Places of Residence									
Occupation		Church Affiliation			Military Rec.				
Other husbands, if any, No. (1) etc. Leave separate sheet for each man									
Her Father		Mother's Maiden Name							
Sex	Children's Names in Full Arranged in order of birth		Children's Birth Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
	1		Birth						
			Marr.						
	Full Name of Spouse		Death						
			Burial						
	2		Birth						
			Marr.						
	Full Name of Spouse		Death						
			Burial						
	3		Birth						
			Marr.						
	Full Name of Spouse		Death						
			Burial						

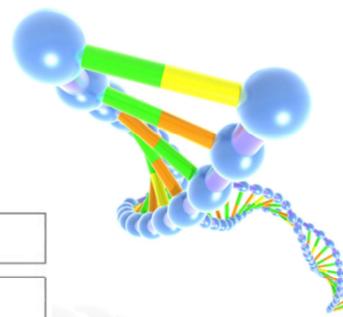
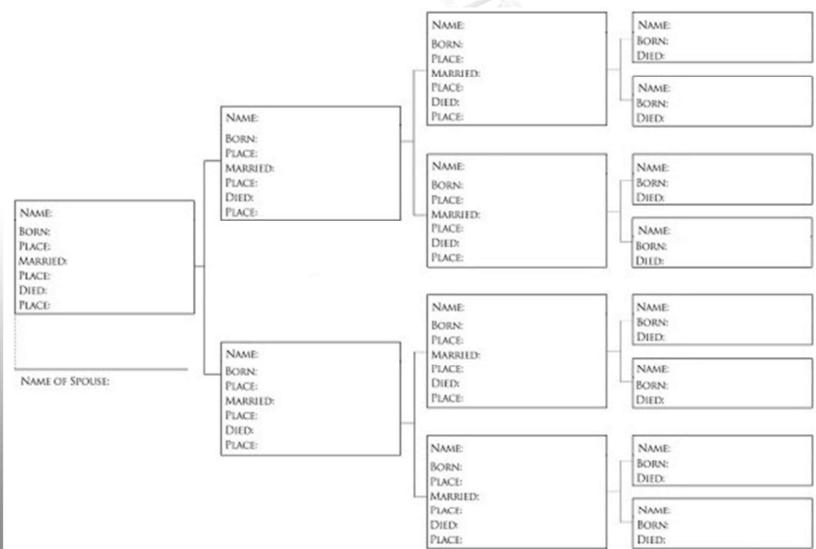


Each family should have its own sheet.



Pedigree Chart

Fill in as much as you can



Start with self, then parents, then grandparents. Names: Surname in capital letters. First and middle names, not nicknames. For women, always use maiden names. Dates written day of month, month, four digit year. Locations: smallest to largest, including country. Write in pencil.

Computer file names - do the dates in reverse – 4-digit year, then month by number, then day. This allows you to sort records chronologically.



Home Sources

Questions to ask relatives

- Ask about:
 - Parents' and grandparents' siblings
 - Maiden names and other name changes
 - Military service
 - Places lived
 - Job history
 - Schools attended



Every bit of knowledge helps. Does the family have its own burial plot somewhere? Does your aunt keep all the cards & announcements she gets at family events in a box somewhere? Does someone in the family do scrapbooks?



Home Sources

Records to look for

- Letters, guest books, address books
- Family Bible
- Diaries, calendars
- Photos, trophies, jewelry
- Yearbooks, diplomas
- Birth, marriage, death certificates



Saved newspaper articles, funeral cards, confirmation & graduation cards & invitations, birth announcements – talk to the family hoarders.



Internet Search

Popular, Reliable Databases

- Ancestry.com – Full access inside the library or pay for a subscription
- Heritage Quest Online (via Library website) www.billingslibrary.org
- Family Search – <http://familysearch.org>
- FindMyPast.com (paid site/some free) - <http://www.findmypast.com>

Begin your research by conducting general searches

Rely on retrieved documents, not on other family trees

Record findings and save the results

Ancestry – Full Free access while inside the library – Select a level of access based on your needs - \$20- \$45/month

Heritage Quest – Lots of Census records and also the blank forms for each decade

Family Search – LDS has the most records of anybody anywhere

Find My Past – 14-day free trial - \$20 month; also has some free records & info

Internet Search 1

Irish Government websites

- Irish National Archives

<http://nationalarchives.ie>

<http://www.nationalarchives.ie/genealogy1/introduction-to-genealogy/>

- National Library of Ireland

<http://www.nli.ie>

<http://www.nli.ie/en/family-history-introduction.aspx>

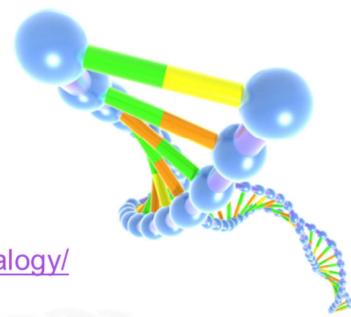
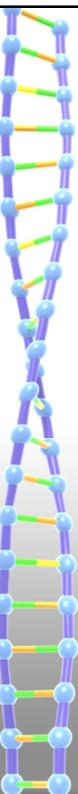
- Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI)

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/proni>

Sites all have instructions. Look for “Getting Started” or “Start Here” buttons

Both the Republic of Ireland & Northern Ireland have official records to research

Be patient & persistent – take lots of notes about each site



Informative introductions included for how to get started

Irish National Archives – Read the sections under “Genealogy” –
Getting Started – Notice the input information that is suggested. You may be able to retrieve some from the U.S. census records

Census hierarchy:

County

District Electoral Division

Townland or Street

Household

Each household has census records about religious denominations, classification of buildings and outside buildings

National Library of Ireland – The introduction (Getting Started) page gives tips – BEGIN WITH CENSUS AND CIVIL RECORDS - and a link to their Genealogy Advisory Service. The Genealogy Advisory Service page lists some subscription websites that are available free if you are at the NLI. The list should help inform you that the NLI thinks these resources are important. Click on “Irish Ancestors” to enter a last name and find a map. “Other resources” include family histories and photographs. See FAMILY HISTORY > LINKS to see many informative links. Click on SERVICES to see a link to the REFERENCE ENQUIRY SERVICE. Their librarians will give advice but not do the research for you. Interesting locator tool: Click on GENEALOGY – GENEALOGY WEBSITES and then Boston Pilot newspaper’s “Missing Friends” advertisement for Irish.

PRONI – Your Research – Information Leaflets – Your Family Tree Series – 28 leaflets (pdf files) that help you navigate Irish records

Internet Search 2

Church and Civil Records

- Catholic Church records
<http://www.rootsireland.ie/>
- Civil & Church records
<https://www.irishgenealogy.ie/en/>
- Glossary of location terms: Townland – County – Civil Parish – Church Parish – Poor Law Union – Barony – Diocese – Province

Don't give up if one record search doesn't help.

Remember that if you want hardcopy, you'll probably have to pay for it.

Sometimes you have to go low-tech – the LDS Family History Center may have the microfilm you need

SLC Gen library not sending microfilms out any more – in digitization process. You might have to go there to get access to the microfilm until the records go online.

ROOTSIRELAND.ie is a paid site, but the HELP pages are very informative and are free. Click HELP and CHURCH RECORDS. Then use the information on other websites or pay for a subscription to ROOTSIRELAND

Also find church records on IRISHGENEALOGY.IE/EN/ - Click CHURCH RECORDS – Search – Select the person – View the church register page.

Internet Search 3

Location, location, location: Land Records, Maps and Places

- Griffith's Valuation – taxation records from 1847-1864

<http://www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation/index.xml>

- Find my past

<http://i.findmypast.com/websites/us/images/irish/ireland-vectmap10-fullpage.png>

- Search the IreAtlas Townland Database

<http://www.thecore.com/seanruad/>

Once you know
WHERE your
ancestor came
from, you can find
out more.

Griffith's has
limitations – NOT a
census – still very
useful.

Keep doing cross-
checks-
verification,
additional info,
and new info.

Griffiths: Look for a surname in a county – also read all about the survey – it's NOT a census

Map with county names:

<http://www.wesleyjohnston.com/users/ireland/geography/counties.html>

IreAtlas Townland Database – with instructions

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Ireland_IreAtlas_Townland_Data_Base

Internet Search 4 Court Records

- Landed Estates Court

[https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Ireland_Landed_Estate_Court_Files_\(Family_Search_Historical_Records\)](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Ireland_Landed_Estate_Court_Files_(Family_Search_Historical_Records))

- Court and Prison records – Petty sessions (Magistrates) – criminal and civil records

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Ireland_Court_Records

Ireland is known as one of the most litigious countries in the world.

Some records date back to the 1700's.

Lots of good info in court records; not all people went to prison

Family Search: The index of court records may only be available while at the LDS Family History Center – 1711 6th Street West

Check out the Family Search Wiki while on the site.

Internet Search

Webinars and more

- Legacy Family Tree
 - https://familytreewebinars.com/download.php?webinar_id=389
 - <https://familytreewebinars.com/search.php> (Search for “Irish”)
- Legacy Family Tree (paid site/some free)
 - <https://familytreewebinars.com/index.php>
- Irish Central
 - <https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/genealogy>

Webinars can show examples of how to get started

YouTube has genealogy webinars. Be discriminating.

The Library website has links & downloads for basic instructions.

Learn about Irish genealogy research, tips, Irish culture

<https://www.irishgenealogy.ie/en/2016-family-history/modules-courses/hints-tips>

<http://www.Askaboutireland.ie> – Read More

Library: www.billingslibrary.org/genealogy



Record your work:

Tools:

• Software

Family Tree Maker
Legacy Family Tree
Word, other
document programs

• Hard Copies

Binder
File Folders
Index Cards
Notebook

• Online Databases

Ancestry.com
FindMyPast.com
FamilySearch.org

Find genealogy
software or
method that
works for you.

Keep notes with
your work about
what you need to
do next and
questions.

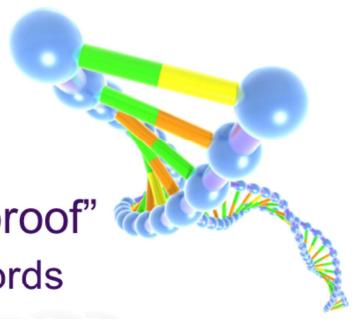
Organize your files in
a way that you
understand.

Use what you find easiest. If you put it in a computer, it's easier to pass around to other members of the family.



Record your work

Best Practices



- Save the documentation for facts – the “proof”
Census records, birth, marriage, military records
- Cite the source of the fact and keep it with the documentation
Where did you find it?
Could you tell someone else where to find it?

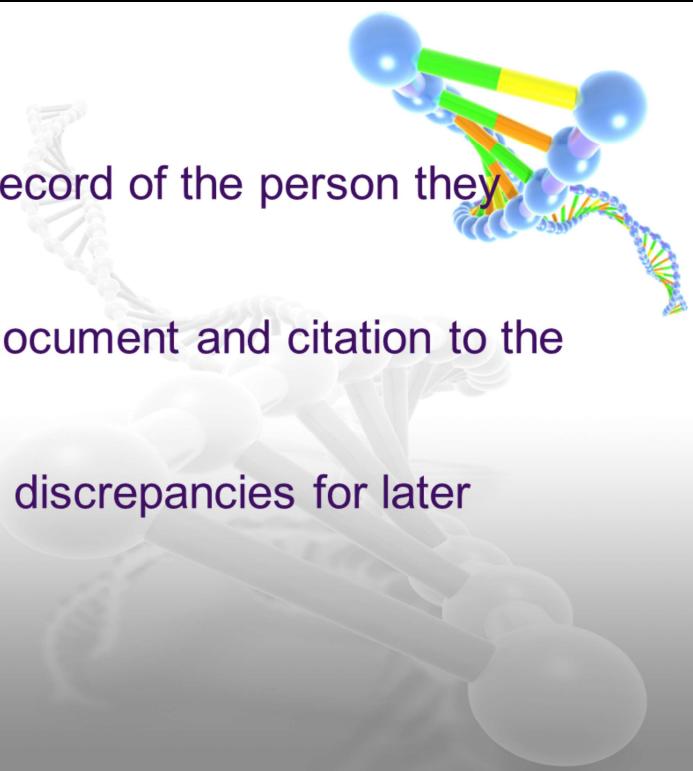
Give images dated, informative filenames (for example, 1897-10-02 William Smith cart de visite), then tag the image also.



Record your work

Best Practices

- Record the facts on the record of the person they are about
- If possible, connect the document and citation to the person
- Record all questions and discrepancies for later
- Make backup copies



Remember that websites can change and disappear; keep ALL your documentation/pictures/whatnot backed up on a local/personal source.

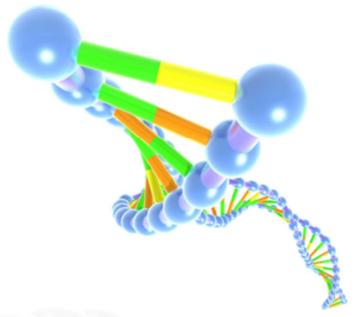
Have an external drive for backups you can keep off site just in case.

Keep hardcopies somewhere safe also – fireproof box or cabinet.



Many, many other links

Other helpful sites



- The Internet Archive: www.archive.org
- Google – sometimes you hit the jackpot
www.google.com
- Google Books also has good stuff, but you may have to buy the ebook/hardcopy if you have a lot of info in a particular book

Determine if you want to pay or not.

All the links are useful – keep looking till you find your fit.

There are endless sites on genealogy on the web. Pick and choose carefully for best results.

Books that are old/out of copyright, look at the Archive – you can download entire books for free.

Just Google names you are looking for and see what comes up.

Google Books – you can do limited searches but may not get all you need without purchasing.

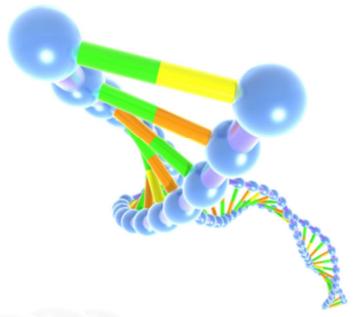
Famine Immigrants on GoogleBooks.



Many, many other links 2

Other helpful sites

- Evaluate each site carefully
- Look for supporting documentation
 - Any website is only a beginning
 - Once you find the website **sources**, you can request hard copy, downloads, etc.
- Have as much info to start with as possible – dates, names, places



Remember
there are a lot of
people named
John Smith.

Pick the right
lineage – your
John Smith.

Get the
documentation that
proves he is the
correct John Smith.

If you can download, get the entire document/book/census record to look at in more depth later.

Extract/copy parts pertaining to individuals in your family and attach them to that family member's computer record.

Learn about Irish History 1

Books



- Adolph, Anthony. *Tracing your Irish family history*. 929.1 ADOLPH 2009
- Baxter, Angus. *In search of your British & Irish roots: a complete guide to tracing your English, Welsh, Scottish & Irish ancestors*. 929.1072 BAXTER. 1999
- Grenham, John. *Tracing your Irish ancestors: the complete guide*. 929.2 GRENHAM. 2006
- Radford, Dwight A. *A genealogist's guide to discovering your Irish ancestors: how to find and record your unique heritage*. 929.1089 RADFORD. 2001
- Ryan, James G. *Irish records: sources for family & local history*. 929.3415 RYAN.1988

Available at
Billings Public
Library.

Check them
out with your
library card.

These are how-
to books, not
family records.

Irish genealogy books in BPL collection not listed on slide

Grehan, Ida. *The dictionary of Irish family names*. 929.42 GREHAN. 1997, Roberts Rinehart : Distributed by Publishers Group West

Grenham, John. *Clans and families of Ireland: the heritage and heraldry of Irish clans and families*. 929.72 GRENHAM. 1993, Wellfleet Press.

O'Laughlin, Michael C. *The book of Irish families, great & small, vol 1*. 929.409 OLAUGHL. 2002, Irish Genealogical Foundation.

Woulfe, Patrick. *Sloinnte Gaedheal is Gall = Irish names and surnames: collected and edited with explanatory and historical notes*. 929.4 WOULFE. 1992, Irish Genealogical Foundation.

Learn about Irish History 2

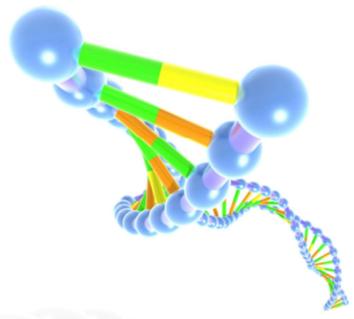
Local Resources

- LDS Family History Center
- Yellowstone Genealogy Forum
- Volunteers at library weekday afternoons
- “Genealogy Hour” Workshops at the Library

Check out Montana
archives also: U of M
Mansfield Library
Archives online

Red Lodge
Library – Festival
of Nations

Butte – Ireland's 5th
province
<http://www.butteamerica.com/birish.htm>



Books to look for:

Tracing Dublin Ancestors – in YGF collection, Library Gen Room

Irish Pedigrees

Researching Down Ancestry

A new genealogical Atlas of Ireland

The Famine Immigrants: April 1849-September 1849 By Ira A. Glazier – held by Havre/Hill County Library, Butte Public Library

Learn about Irish History 3

More Local Resources

- Genealogy Room at Billings Public Library
- 46 books on Ireland and Irish research. Located at 941 and 942.
- Complete list viewable at <https://yellowstonegenealogy.org> under "Library"



State Genealogy
Conference
September 21-23
Billings, MT

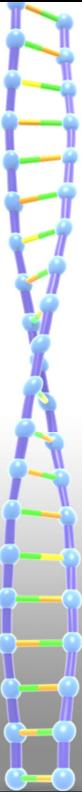
DNA/Genetic
Genealogy.
5 ways to prove
ancestors

Registration form
available at
Montanamsgs.org

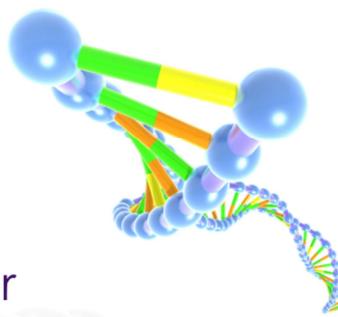
The extensive Irish collection in Montana:

<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv06844> - Butte (Mont.) Irish Collection, 1882-1935 at U of M library

<http://www.butteamerica.com/birish.htm> Butte – Ireland's 5th Province Butte is actually relatively famous in Ireland.



Thank you for coming!



- **Genealogy help at the library:**

- Weekly genealogy classes in 2nd floor computer room, Tuesdays from noon to 1
- Volunteers in Genealogy Room weekday afternoons and Thursday evenings

Good luck
on your
search!

Remember
patience &
persistence are
your friends.

Ask for help
when you
need it

Genealogy hour through October.

Thursday, September 21 through Saturday, September 23, State Genealogy Conference (Montana State Genealogical Society), Big Horn Resort, Billings, Montana - <http://montanamsgs.org/>