

# Finding Your Family's Story

“One of the most important things we can do to...flesh out their stories in our written biographies is to research the times and places where our ancestors and their families lived. Everyone's life is influenced by where they live and the events occurring around them. We are influenced each day by the weather, by the people with whom we communicate and interact, and by the local and world events taking place around us. Our lives are filled with both mundane and dramatic events. What makes us think our predecessors' lives were any different?” George G. Morgan, “Writing Your Family History: A Contextual Timeline” [www.ancestry.com/learn/library/article.aspx?article=6511](http://www.ancestry.com/learn/library/article.aspx?article=6511)

## History / Social History

[understandingyourancestors.com](http://understandingyourancestors.com) Glimpses into your ancestors' lives – particularly those who lived in the 1700 and 1800s in Western Europe.

[memory.loc.gov](http://memory.loc.gov) Library of Congress – American Memory

[kclibrary.nhmccd.edu/19thcentury.html](http://kclibrary.nhmccd.edu/19thcentury.html) Links to many topics, 19<sup>th</sup> century

[kclibrary.nhmccd.edu/decades.html](http://kclibrary.nhmccd.edu/decades.html) Links to many topics, 20<sup>th</sup> century

[www.digitalhistory.uh.edu](http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu) Entire site is loaded with American history; try these 2 pages first:

[www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/do\\_history/families/resources.cfm](http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/do_history/families/resources.cfm)

[www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/historyonline/private\\_life.cfm](http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/historyonline/private_life.cfm)

[www.americanheritage.com](http://www.americanheritage.com) Searchable 50 year archive of articles—or just browse

[www.americanheritage.com/immigration](http://www.americanheritage.com/immigration) Immigration in America

## Timelines

[www.timelineindex.com/content/home.php](http://www.timelineindex.com/content/home.php) Links to many topical timelines

[www3.canisius.edu/~emeryg/time.html](http://www3.canisius.edu/~emeryg/time.html) AlternaTime Links to timelines

[timelines.ws](http://timelines.ws) Timelines of History

[www.hyperhistory.com/online\\_n2/History\\_n2/a.html](http://www.hyperhistory.com/online_n2/History_n2/a.html) Synchronoptic History Chart

[dmarie.com/timecap](http://dmarie.com/timecap) (mostly 20<sup>th</sup> century) Time Capsule for the date you choose

[www.e-referencedesk.com/resources/state-history-timeline](http://www.e-referencedesk.com/resources/state-history-timeline) US State History Timelines

## Books

[quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moa](http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moa) and [moa.cit.cornell.edu/moa](http://moa.cit.cornell.edu/moa) Making of America

[books.google.com](http://books.google.com) Google Book Search

[www.heritagequestonline.com](http://www.heritagequestonline.com) Heritage Quest Online (Free access at Family History Centers)

## Newspapers

[www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica](http://www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica) Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers Directory of newspapers (1690-present); Digitized newspapers (1880-1910) for a few states

[Brooklyn Daily Eagle Online \(1841-1902\)](#) (Long web address; use Google to find the website!)

[dream.lib.utah.edu/digital/unews](http://dream.lib.utah.edu/digital/unews) Utah Digital Newspapers

**Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection (1859-1923)** (Use Google to find website!)

### Music

[library.duke.edu/digitalcollections/hasm](http://library.duke.edu/digitalcollections/hasm) Historic American Sheet Music, 1850-1920

[www.contemplator.com/america](http://www.contemplator.com/america) Popular Songs in American History

[www.billboard.com/bbcom/charts/yearend\\_chart\\_index.jsp](http://www.billboard.com/bbcom/charts/yearend_chart_index.jsp) Listen to music (1940s-now)

### Food

[www.foodtimeline.org](http://www.foodtimeline.org) Food timeline with links to information and recipes

### Weather

[www.weatherforyou.com/cgi-bin/weather\\_history/today2S.pl](http://www.weatherforyou.com/cgi-bin/weather_history/today2S.pl) Historical weather (1859-2006)

[www.wunderground.com/history](http://www.wunderground.com/history) Historic global weather data (1940-now)

[ams.allenpress.com/perlserv/?request=get-archive&issn=1520-0493](http://ams.allenpress.com/perlserv/?request=get-archive&issn=1520-0493) Monthly Weather Review

### Clothing

[costumes.org/history/100pages/costhistpage.htm](http://costumes.org/history/100pages/costhistpage.htm) Tons of links; plus other historical topics

<http://www.fashion-era.com/index.htm> Clothing history, fashions, and social history

[www.costumepage.org/tcpinf2a.html](http://www.costumepage.org/tcpinf2a.html) Links to various costuming topics

[histclo.com/index2t.html](http://histclo.com/index2t.html) Historical Boys Clothing

### LDS Church History

[www.lds.org/churchhistory/byu](http://www.lds.org/churchhistory/byu) Church History Resources at BYU

[www.lds.org/churchhistory](http://www.lds.org/churchhistory) The Mormon Overland Travel, 1847-1868

**Mormon Immigration Index** (Not online, but an excellent computerized resource)

### Other Online Resources

**US GenWeb**

**World GenWeb**

**GENUKI (United Kingdom and Ireland)**

**State Archives**

**University Libraries / Archives**

**Genealogical / Historical Societies**

**Google**