

HOW TO FIND YOUR INDIAN ANCESTOR'S RECORDS

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REVIEW OF RESEARCH PROCEDURES

Show map images of early Early North America, Indian Removal, Indian Territory and Indian Agencies.

1. Determine the tribe you think your ancestor came from, By consulting **family members, their traditions and records.**
2. Determine the location of the tribe, See early North America map
3. Now use a name locator such as the following:
 - a. If you think your ancestor was from one of the "Five Civilized Tribes," Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek or Seminole, See Internet search below.
 - b. If your ancestor was not one of the "Five Civilized Tribes," then check the BIA Indian censuses, 1885-1940, See Search of the Indian Census Index 1885-1940.
 - c. Whether Indian or associated with the Indians, check the Federal Censuses, especially 1900 and 1910. The 1900 Census has a special section for just the Indian Territory in Oklahoma. It also has a special section for Indians in any county where there was a large concentration of Indians such as a reservation or prison in that area. You will find this special section at the end of the regular census listings in that county or Enumeration District.
 - d. Special Indian Censuses and Rolls were taken when removal or other important events was about to take place such as the 1835 census for the Cherokees and the 1832 census for the Creeks.
 - e. Indian Annuity and Ration Rolls. Many Treaties were made with the Indians by the U.S. Government whereby the U.S. agreed to pay the Indians a certain amount of money, food, clothing, and other provisions on a monthly or annual basis in payment for their land. This created the annuity rolls and ration rolls. Some of these rolls or censuses came much earlier than the BIA Indian Censuses and are useful for tracing back to the early 1800s. See our Indian
4. If you have been able to find what county your ancestor was in or came from, then do the following:
 - a. If Indian Territory in Oklahoma, go to the FHLC-SUBJECT-TRIBE and look at all the listings of records for that county. (Note: The County listing may have been different then than now)
 - b. If not in Indian Territory, then go to FHLC-STATE-NATIVE RACES and see if anything is listed for your county.
5. Many of the Indian records can now be found online for searching. **SEE BELOW**

INDIAN RECORDS RESEARCH ON LINE USING ROOTSWEB AND ACCESSGENEALOGY

- A. Do a Dawes Search, <http://userdb.rootsweb.com/nativeamerican/>**
- B. Do a Eastern Cherokee (Guion Miller) Search. www.accessgenealogy.com/native/guion.php**
- C. INDIAN CENSUS ROLLS, 1885-1940** The BIA was responsible for taking a census each year of every tribe under their jurisdiction from 1885- 1940. Show pdf file.

1. NARA - Genealogists/Family Historians - Indian Census Rolls, 1885-1940 www.archives.gov Roll Jurisdiction Dates This document is a listing of the tribes, jurisdiction and years the census was taken. SEE PDF FILE
2. The following are examples of images taken of the census for several years among the Nez Perce Tribe of Northern Idaho. This shows a particular family on this census and how the family makeup changes over the years.
3. Display images of the Nez Perce censuses 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1926, 1927 and 1928
4. The Idaho Historical Library, 2445 E. Old Penitentiary Rd., Boise, Idaho, ph. 208-334-3356 has microfilm copies of all the Idaho Indian censuses
5. The Family History Library in Salt Lake has microfilm copies of all the Indian censuses in the United States.
6. Show image of an application to the Eastern Cherokee nation.
7. Show image of the Cherokee Dawes Census Card.