Unlocking the Mystery of Family History

Overcoming the fear and dread of helping the family history researcher for non-genealogist library staff.

Presented by Elaine Jones Hayes
Laramie County Library System
Don’t Panic!!

• You already know how to do this.

• It’s really no different than helping a patron with any other topic that you aren’t personally familiar with researching.
The 4 Keys to Help Unlock the Mystery

1. The reference interview.
2. Knowing how to start a genealogy research project.
3. Some knowledge of genealogy sources available.
4. Being able to do a good Internet search.
The Reference Interview

• You do not need to work in Reference or be a librarian to do a reference interview.

• It’s merely the conversation you have with the researcher to find out what they need.

• **Hint:** Sometimes the patron/researcher doesn’t know what they need either. But together you can figure this out!
Reference Interview Questions that work for Family History:

• Are you just starting to research your family history?
• Do you have a certain person that you’re looking for?
• What do you already know about that person?
• Is there a certain event in that person’s life that you are interested in?
• Do you have a deadline? / Is this a class project?
• Where have you already looked?
The Basics of Beginning a Genealogy Research Project

1. What do I already know about my family?
   – Record this information and the sources you used in an ancestry chart, family group sheet or in a genealogy software product like *Family Tree Maker*, *Personal Ancestral File*, or *Legacy*.
   – Talk to family members to get names, dates, places they lived and family stories.

2. With the information above, start researching from yourself backwards one generation at a time.

3. You will likely need to consult Internet databases, books AND original records.
Genealogy Software

- **Free** genealogy software can be found at:
  - Legacy [www.legacyfamilytree.com](http://www.legacyfamilytree.com)
  - Family Tree Builder [www.myheritage.com/family-tree-builder](http://www.myheritage.com/family-tree-builder)
  - XY Family Tree [www.xy-family-tree.com](http://www.xy-family-tree.com)
  - Personal Ancestral File (PAF) [https://familysearch.org/products](https://familysearch.org/products)
What do I do with the beginning genealogist?

• Give them an ancestry (pedigree) chart to fill out.
• Show them where your genealogy how-to books live (929 in Dewey).
• Hopefully they can get back to at least one ancestor who was alive before 1940 from the information given to them by relatives.
• Show them how to search Ancestry Library and Heritage Quest.
• Start with the 1940 US Federal Census and work backwards.
• Give them a list of other genealogy websites to try and/or suggest they do a GOOD Internet search.
4 GENERATION PEDIGREE CHART

Chart No. ____

Compiler

Address

City/State

Date

Phone

ZIP

4

Born
Where
Married
Where
Died
Where

Continued on Chart __

2

Born
Where
Married
Where
Died
Where

1

Born
Where
Married
Where
Died
Where

Continued on Chart __

5

Born
Where
Died
Where

11

Born
Where
Died
Where

Continued on Chart __

6

Born
Where

12

Born
Where
Married
Where
Died
Where

Continued on Chart __
Genealogy How-to Books
WYLD Genealogy Databases

GoWYLD.net

Library Catalogs | Help & Tutorials | Research & Discovery | Wyoming Info.

Subject area - Genealogy [new search]

recommended: Ancestry Library Heritage Quest

Ancestry

Ancestry Library
Thousands of databases and primary source material to support genealogical research.

GoWYLD: Genealogy
Wyoming Genealogy Resources

ProQuest

Heritage Quest
Expand your family history research with ProQuest’s Genealogy & Local History Collection of 20,000+ family and local history books, the U.S. Census from 1870 - 1930 and more. This genealogy database is available for home use.

Historic Map Works
An extensive digital map collection, with more than 400,000 high-resolution, full-color historic maps.

Nineteenth Century U.S. Newspapers
Full text and images from numerous urban and rural papers bring the 19th century to life.

ProQuest Obituaries
Over 10.6 million obituaries and death notices from the complete historical runs of major national newspapers.
Ancestry Library
All results for August Haug

Searching for...
Name: August Haug
Location: Kansas, USA

Narrow by Category
All Categories
- Census & Voter Lists 5,000+
- Birth, Marriage & Death 5,000+
- Military 5,000+
- Immigration & Travel 5,000+
- Newspapers & Publications 173
- Pictures 5,000+
- Stories, Memories & Histories 228
- Maps, Atlases & Gazetteers 1,298
- Schools, Directories & Church Histories 5,000+
- Tax, Criminal, Land & Wills 1,953
- Reference, Dictionaries & Almanacs 51
- Family Trees 1,215

Hot Keys
- New search
- Refine search
- Preview current record
- Highlight next record
- Highlight previous record

Matches 1-20 of 321,982 Sorted By Relevance

1930 United States Federal Census
- August Haug
  - Name: August Haug
  - Birth: abt 1884 - Kansas
  - Residence: 1930 - St. Clare, Polk County, Kansas

1920 United States Federal Census
- August Haug
  - Name: August Haug
  - Birth: abt 1882 - Kansas
  - Residence: 1920 - Nemaha, Nemaha County, Kansas

1920 United States Federal Census
- August J Haug
  - Name: August J Haug
  - Birth: abt 1853 - Germany
  - Residence: 1920 - Seneca, Seneca County, Kansas

1900 United States Federal Census
- August Haug
  - Name: August Haug
  - Birth: Aug 1850 - Germany
  - Residence: 1900 - Germano, Indiana

1800 United States Federal Census
- August Haug
  - Name: August Haug
  - Birth: Oct 1851 - Germany
  - Residence: 1800 - Germany

Preview
- Name: August Haug
- Age: 46
- Gender: Male
- Birth Year: abt 1854
- Birthplace: Kansas
- Race: White
- Marital Status: Married
- Relation to Head of House: Head
- Spouse's Name: Blanche Haug
- Father's Birthplace: Germany
- Mother's Birthplace: Indiana
- Household Members:
  - Name: Age
  - August Haug: 46
  - Blanche Haug: 45
  - Cyril Haug: 20
  - Hubert Haug: 18
  - Fred Haug: 19
  - Ralph Haug: 16
  - Dora Haug: 13
  - Helen Haug: 12
  - Anna Haug: 10
  - Lula Haug: 6
  - Henry Haug: 3
  - Robert Haug: 1

See all information
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August Haug</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blanche Haug</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyril Haug</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Haug</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Haug</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph Haug</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmer Haug</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris Haug</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regis Haug</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucille Haug</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eunice Haug</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betty Haug</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Haug</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Relation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August Haug</td>
<td>Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyril</td>
<td>Son</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph</td>
<td>Son</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruby</td>
<td>Daughter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph</td>
<td>Son</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph</td>
<td>Son</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph</td>
<td>Son</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph</td>
<td>Son</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genevieve</td>
<td>Daughter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph</td>
<td>Son</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph</td>
<td>Son</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Place of birth: Each person enumerated and of his or her parents. If born in the United States, give State or Territory. If of foreign birth, give country in which birthplace is now situated. (See instructions.) Distinction Canada-France from Canada-English, and Irish Free State from Northern Ireland.
What can you find out from the census?

- Names and relationships of ALL the members of the household.
- Where the family lives that census year
- Birthplaces
- Estimate birthdates
- Estimate marriage dates
- Year of immigration
- Year of naturalization
- Narrow down death dates
About the U.S. Federal Census

• It’s always a good place to start. Start with 1940 and work backward.
• Every 10 years from 1790 through 2010.
• 1790 to 1940 censuses are available for researchers.
• 1850 to 1940 list the name of every member of the household and their relationship to the head of the household.
About the 1940 Census

• Every name indexing is complete!*
• Where can you search the 1940 census for free?
  • 1940Census.Archives.gov
  • *AncestryLibrary.com (in the library only)
  • *Familysearch.org
  • *Ancestry.com (free until December 2013)
  • MyHeritage.com (free for a limited time)
Heritage Quest Online

- **Search Census**: Find ancestors in the complete set of U.S. Federal Census images from 1790-1930, including name indexes for many years.

- **Search Books**: Find information on people and places described in over 20,000 family and local histories.

- **Search PERSI™**: Find information about people and places from this index of over 2.3 million genealogy and local history articles.

- **Search Revolutionary War**: Search selected records from the Revolutionary War Era Pension & Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files.

- **Search Freedman's Bank**: Search for individuals in Freedman's Bank (1865-1874), which was founded to serve African Americans.

- **Search U.S. Serial Set**: Search the Memorials, Petitions, and Private Relief Actions of the U.S. Congress in the LexisNexis® U.S. Serial Set.
ProQuest African American Heritage

Search the Collections
Search essential historical records for African Americans, including Federal Census, Marriage and Cohabitation Records, Military Draft and Service Records, Registers of Slaves and Free(d) Persons of Color, Freedman's Bank, and more.

Visit the AfriGeneas® Community
A ProQuest partner, AfriGeneas is a social-networking website staffed entirely by volunteers. AfriGeneas provides researchers with access to expert advice, forums, chats, and mailing lists. Connect with other researchers who are exploring African American genealogy.

Explore Black Genesis, a State-by-State Resource Guide
Sub-titled "A Resource Book for African-American Genealogy," Black Genesis is written by Dr. James M. Rose and Dr. Alice Eichholz. It provides an overview of research principles and methodology, followed by a compilation of specific resources for all fifty states, Canada, and the West Indies.

Consult Reference & How-to's
Search and browse a variety of books that provide overviews of African American-specific record collections and repositories, as well as how-to and general reference information.
Digital Sanborn Maps

1867-1970

A Visual Expression of History. Produced for over a century, more than 660,000 Sanborn maps chart the growth and development of more than 12,000 American towns and cities. Sanborn maps are large-scale plans of a city or town, drawn at a scale of 50 feet to an inch. They were created to assist fire insurance companies as they assessed the risk associated with insuring a particular property. The maps list street blocks and building numbers including numbers in use at the time the map was made and previous numbers.

BROWSE MAPS

About the Sanborn Maps
Help with this Collection
Welcome

Discover the stories that formed Wyoming, through the Wyoming Newspaper Project. For the sheer volume of information they contain, newspapers are the single most important printed record of human activity. Historians, genealogists, and other scholars rely on them to provide a first-hand and sometimes the only account of local news. Available through this website are all the newspapers printed in Wyoming between 1869 and 1922, in an easily searchable format.

More than 800,000 newspaper pages have been converted from microfilm to a digital format. Using the links on the left, you can browse the entire collection or search for newspapers from specified towns or counties, on certain dates, or by a specific title. The text is searchable, including news articles, news briefs, obituaries and other items of interest.

Funding for the project was made possible by the Wyoming Legislature, the support of Governor Dave Freudenthal, and the Library Services and Technology Act federal program. All of the metadata (what makes the newspapers' text searchable) was created by residents of Wyoming.
Historic Map Works

Welcome to Historic Map Works™ Library Edition

Browse the World by Continent

Maps and Atlases of the World >>  Directories >>  Special Collections >>

Map & Directory Keyword Search
Keyword search queries our database for map names, atlas names, publishers, dates, and locations that match your keywords. Results are divided into United States

Historic Map Works
Our high quality, full color digital collection of historic maps is one of the most extensive available. The core of the collection consists of over 1,225,971 cadastral, land ownership maps detailing the geographic and developmental
Keyword search (title, citation, abstract): railroad
Limited by: city, cheyenne

Citations 1 to 20 (of 120)

1. The News learns from Capt. Chemerhorn, the Paymaster of the U. S. Express Company, that the railroad was within three miles of Hays' City on Sunday, and is completed to that place to-day, Monday (News)
   The Cheyenne Leader (Cheyenne, WY) Saturday, October 26, 1867; Issue 16; col A
   Article: Page | About This Publication | PDF: 1 page per part (166 words)

2. Ten thousand men and three hundred teams are now employed on the Pacific Railroad in California (News)
   The Cheyenne Leader (Cheyenne, WY) Thursday, October 31, 1867; Issue 18; col C
   Article: Page | About This Publication | PDF: 1 page per part (27 words)

3. It is stated in the correspondence of the Journal of the Franklin Institute for October, that from November 1, 1866, to August 1, 1867, there passed over a distance of ten miles on the Hudson River railroad, on which steel rails are laid, 445,000 wheels, independent of 4,175 engines and yet not with standing this heavy traffic, there is not appreciable wear of the rails (News)
   The Cheyenne Leader (Cheyenne, WY) Saturday, November 09, 1867; Issue 22; col D
   Article: Page | About This Publication | PDF: 1 page per part (80 words)

4. Mr. Sidney Dillon, Director of the Union Pacific Railroad, met with a serious accident during his late trip to the west (News)
   The Cheyenne Leader (Cheyenne, WY) Tuesday, November 12, 1867; Issue 23; col C
   Article: Page | About This Publication | PDF: 1 page per part (106 words)

5. Local Affairs Union Pacific Railroad (News)
   The Cheyenne Leader (Cheyenne, WY) Thursday, November 28, 1867; Issue 30; col A
   Article: Page | About This Publication | PDF: 1 page per part (1160 words)

6. Local Affairs Union Pacific Railroad (News)
   The Cheyenne Leader (Cheyenne, WY) Tuesday, December 03, 1867; Issue 32; col A
   Article: Page | About This Publication | PDF: 1 page per part (1255 words)

7. Local Affairs Union Pacific Railroad Leaves Cheyenne, Daily, for Omaha (News)
   The Cheyenne Leader (Cheyenne, WY) Thursday, December 31, 1867; Issue 33; col A
Local Affairs Union Pacific Railroad

**The Cheyenne Leader.** Cheyenne, WY. Tuesday, December 03, 1867. Issue 32, col A

*Local Affairs*

**UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD**

Trains leave Cheyenne, daily, for Omaha:

**EASTWARD**

- Leave Cheyenne: 4:00 a.m. Express, 6:00 a.m. Passenger, 8:00 a.m. Freight.
- Leave Omaha: 7:30 a.m. Express, 9:30 a.m. Passenger, 11:30 a.m. Freight.

**WESTWARD**

- Leave Cheyenne: 4:00 p.m. Express, 6:00 p.m. Passenger, 8:00 p.m. Freight.
- Leave Omaha: 7:00 a.m. Express, 9:00 a.m. Passenger, 11:00 a.m. Freight.

---

**Union Pacific Railroad**

- Go to Bucklin & Co.'s for fresh Baltimore Oysters.
- Fresh Oysters only five days from Baltimore, by the air or sea. at Lowe & Partners.
- Wall paper and window shades, great variety, elegant patterns, and arabesque patterns at the new depot, Sixteenth street, west of Eighth. Nov 21st.
- Books, stationery, toilet articles and notions in great variety and at reduced prices at the new depot, Sixteenth street, west of Eighth. Nov 21st.
- Fresh fruit and vegetables at the market, Sixteenth street, west of Eighth. Nov 21st.

---

**The Cheyenne Leader.**

**CHEYENNE, DAKOTA.**

**TUESDAY, DEC. 3, 1867.**

**LOCAL AFFAIRS.**

**UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD**

Trains leave Cheyenne, daily, for Omaha:

**EASTWARD**

- Leave Cheyenne: 4:00 a.m. Express, 6:00 a.m. Passenger, 8:00 a.m. Freight.
- Leave Omaha: 7:30 a.m. Express, 9:30 a.m. Passenger, 11:30 a.m. Freight.

**WESTWARD**

- Leave Cheyenne: 4:00 p.m. Express, 6:00 p.m. Passenger, 8:00 p.m. Freight.
- Leave Omaha: 7:00 a.m. Express, 9:00 a.m. Passenger, 11:00 a.m. Freight.

---

**Union Pacific Railroad**

- Go to Bucklin & Co.'s for fresh Baltimore Oysters.
- Fresh Oysters only five days from Baltimore, by the air or sea. at Lowe & Partners.
- Wall paper and window shades, great variety, elegant patterns, and arabesque patterns at the new depot, Sixteenth street, west of Eighth. Nov 21st.
- Books, stationery, toilet articles and notions in great variety and at reduced prices at the new depot, Sixteenth street, west of Eighth. Nov 21st.
- Fresh fruit and vegetables at the market, Sixteenth street, west of Eighth. Nov 21st.

---

**The Cheyenne Leader.**

**CHEYENNE, DAKOTA.**

**TUESDAY, DEC. 3, 1867.**

**LOCAL AFFAIRS.**

**UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD**

Trains leave Cheyenne, daily, for Omaha:

**EASTWARD**

- Leave Cheyenne: 4:00 a.m. Express, 6:00 a.m. Passenger, 8:00 a.m. Freight.
- Leave Omaha: 7:30 a.m. Express, 9:30 a.m. Passenger, 11:30 a.m. Freight.

**WESTWARD**

- Leave Cheyenne: 4:00 p.m. Express, 6:00 p.m. Passenger, 8:00 p.m. Freight.
- Leave Omaha: 7:00 a.m. Express, 9:00 a.m. Passenger, 11:00 a.m. Freight.

- Go to Bucklin & Co.'s for fresh Baltimore Oysters.
- Fresh Oysters only five days from Baltimore, by the air or sea. at Lowe & Partners.
- Wall paper and window shades, great variety, elegant patterns, and arabesque patterns at the new depot, Sixteenth street, west of Eighth. Nov 21st.
- Books, stationery, toilet articles and notions in great variety and at reduced prices at the new depot, Sixteenth street, west of Eighth. Nov 21st.
- Fresh fruit and vegetables at the market, Sixteenth street, west of Eighth. Nov 21st.
GoWYLD.net: Genealogy

Wyoming Genealogical Information

General Resources
- American Local History Network's Wyoming Website
- Ancestry Library Edition Database (in library use only)
- Heritage Quest (only available to Wyoming library card holders)
- Wyoming Census Records at CensusFinder.Com
- Wyoming GenWeb
- Wyoming History and Genealogy Project [Mary and Don Seban]
- Wyoming Genealogy
- Wyoming Obituary Links
- Wyoming State Archives
- Wyoming Vital Records Information
- Wyoming Vital Records Services [Wyoming Department of Health]
- Wyoming Genealogy Records Online

County Resources
- Albany [WyGenWeb]
- Big Horn [WyGenWeb]
- Campbell [WyGenWeb]
  - Campbell County Public Library System Genealogy Sources
- Carbon [WyGenWeb]
- Converse [WyGenWeb]
- Crook [WyGenWeb]
- Fremont [WyGenWeb]
- Goshen [WyGenWeb]
- Hot Springs [WyGenWeb]
- Johnson [WyGenWeb]
- Laramie [WyGenWeb]
  - Cheyenne Genealogical Society
    - Family and Local History Dept. Laramie County Library System
- Lincoln [WyGenWeb]
- Natrona [WyGenWeb]
- Niobrara [WyGenWeb]
  - Niobrara County Library Genealogy Archive
- Park [WyGenWeb]
- Platte [WyGenWeb]
- Sheridan [WyGenWeb]
  - Sheridan Genealogical Society
Wyoming Genealogy Libraries

- Wyoming State Archives
  - wyoarchives.state.wy.us

- Laramie County Library Special Collections
  - www.lclsonline.org/specialcollections/genealogycollection

- University of Wyoming Libraries
  - www-lib.uwyo.edu

- Sheridan Fulmer Public Library
  - www.sheridanwyolibrary.org

- Local LDS Family History Centers in Wyoming
  - www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHC
Doing a Good Internet Search

- **Google** Advance Search
  - [http://www.google.com/advanced_search](http://www.google.com/advanced_search)
  - Put quotes around names i.e. “Elizabeth Reynolds”
  - Include dates and/or places in the search

- **Mocavo** is a genealogy specific search engine.
Other Useful Genealogy Websites:

• Ancestry.com (mostly paid content)
• Familysearch.org (free - registration required)
• USGenWeb.com (free – local information)
• Rootsweb.com (some paid content)
• Fold3.com (formerly Footnote.com) $ (U.W.)
• Cyndi’s List (www.cyndislist.com)

• See handout for more.
Other Things You Can Do to Help

• Remember the POWER of Interlibrary Loans:
  – Most libraries will not loan genealogy reference material but go ahead and give it a try. LCLS will loan genealogy books **in state** for free but **for IN LIBRARY USE ONLY**.
  – Ask for copies made of specific pages or pages about a specific person.
  – Patrons may be expected to pay a loan charge.

• Search **WORLDCAT**.
Get to know (and love) your local genealogy/historical society.

• The library can partner with them, members can **volunteer** in your genealogy and/or local history room and help your patrons directly.

• They can be a great **knowledge source** of local history and often can be consulted by email or phone. You may be able to refer difficult questions to them or to a local professional.

• They can do genealogy or historical presentations/programs in the library.
And most important:

• Have Fun!