

FamilySearch: Vision to Reality

*National Archives Genealogy Fair
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Presenter:
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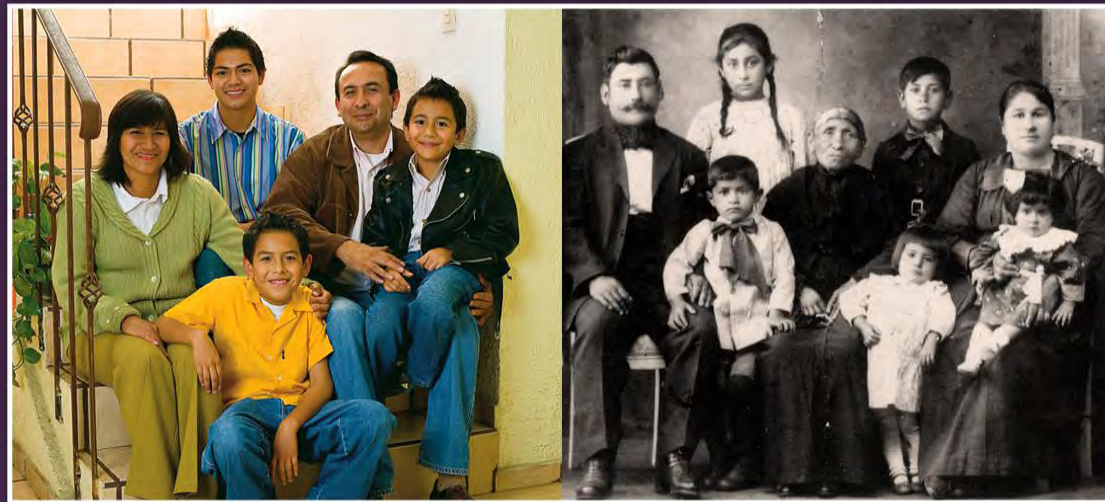
**FAMILYSEARCH**
WHERE GENERATIONS MEET



What is FamilySearch?



FamilySearch is a non-profit organization comprised primarily of volunteers. Our services are provided to the public free of charge through FamilySearch.org, the Family History Library, and 4,600 local family history centers in 127 countries.



FamilySearch's Mission

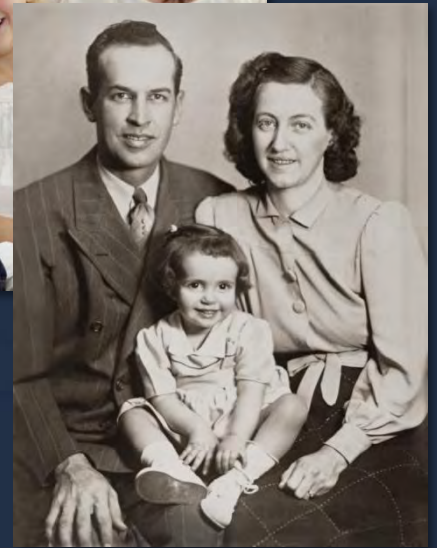
Enable a global community that connects and preserves the family of mankind

- To discover and preserve records of genealogical significance.
- To introduce individuals to their ancestors through the widespread access of records.
- To collaborate with others who share this vision.



Why Do We Do This?

- The family is an essential part of our core values.
- Connecting with our ancestors provides perspective, understanding and strength.





November 13, 1894

The beginning of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah

300 books in a second story room.

Today: The Largest Genealogical Library in the world



2.4 million rolls of microfilmed records, plus books, maps and other resources from all over the world

Open to the public at no charge

Granite Mountain Records Vault



- Permanent repository of 2.4 million rolls of microfilm and other digital media
- 20 miles southeast of SLC in Little Cottonwood Canyon
- Storage chambers are under 700 feet of stone

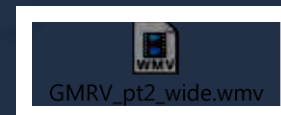
Inside the Vault



- storage facility for FamilySearch microfilm & digital media
- 700 feet underground
- 6 chambers, temp + humidity ideal for storage
- can withstand nuclear blast



To take a video tour inside the vault, click this box:



What Resources Does FamilySearch Have to Help People Begin Their Family History Research?



FamilySearch.org



Learn FamilySearch Centers Give Back Blog Indexing

Help Sign In

Discover Your Family History

Historical Records Family Trees Library Catalog

First Names

Last Name

Place

From Year

To Year

Search

Advanced search

Browse by Location

Africa
Asia and Middle East
Australia and New Zealand
Caribbean, Central and South America
Europe
Pacific Islands
USA, Canada, and Mexico



All Record Collections

Changes at FamilySearch.org

What's New?



Changes to FamilySearch.org make it easier to search family history

FamilySearch Indexing

TEEN C	WILSON H	HELD	26	26
2	MARRELL, WILSON H	HELD	26	26
	WILSON I	SON		
0	FRIEND, JOHN B.	HELD	26	26
1	NALE, JESS	HELD		
2	FOSTER, HARVEY A	HELD		
3	FANNING, ELMER E	HELD		
4	WILLMAN, LEWIS C	HELD		
5				

A little time can help make more records available online

Looking for the previous version of familysearch.org?

Go to the previous site

The largest free genealogy website in the world

Preserve | Discover | Share

FamilySearch is a non-profit, international organization with over 200,000 volunteers dedicated to helping people discover their family history. With over 3 billion records, FamilySearch has helped the genealogy community preserve and share its collections for over 100 years. Based in Salt Lake City, Utah, FamilySearch is the world's largest genealogical organization and provides its services to the public free of charge through FamilySearch.org, the Family History Library, and 4,600 local family history centers in 127 countries.

Timeline

1894 Our Beginnings: Genealogical Society of Utah

FamilySearch has its roots in the nonprofit Genealogical Society of Utah, which was established in 1894 with the goal of preserving and sharing the world's family records.



1922 Using Technology: Indexing and Preservation Initiatives



From the beginning, FamilySearch has been leading the way with new approaches, techniques, initiatives, and technologies. In 1922, FamilySearch began its first effort to index genealogical records and in 1938, it began using microfilm to preserve records and increase accessibility. FamilySearch has microfilmed important family history sources in over 100 countries.

1963 The Granite Mountain Records Vault



In 1963, FamilySearch built the Granite Mountain Records Vault in the mountains near Salt Lake City. This secure, climate-controlled facility stores over 3 billion pages of family history records, including 2.4 million rolls of microfilm and 1 million microfiche.

1985 Records Access: The Family History Library

In order to facilitate public access to records, FamilySearch built the world's largest genealogical library in 1985. The Family History Library in downtown Salt Lake City, Utah, is free and open to the public. A staff of experts provides personal help for those who want to learn more about their heritage.



Collection Statistics

- The collection contains 3.3 billion record images
- The collection contains Genealogical records from 105 countries
- Most records date from 1700 to 1950
- Some pedigrees date back to 1200–800 B.C.
- The collection contains an estimated 12 billion individual names
- Digitizing and automating the records will require 21,059,517,568,922,420 bytes of storage

Website Data

Launch date
24 May 1999

Number of names in searchable databases
Over 1 billion

Number of hits since launch
Over 15 billion

Number of visitors since launch
Over 150 million

Number of pages viewed since launch
Over 5 billion

Number of hits per day
Over 10 million

Number of visitors per day
Over 50,000

Number of pages viewed per day
Over 1 million

Number of registered users
Over 1 million

About FamilySearch

Family History Library patrons can access:

- Records from more than 100 countries.
- Records that include birth, marriage, and death records from churches and governments; census returns; probate records; emigration and immigration lists; printed genealogies; and family histories.
- 350,000 books, serials, gazettes, and other publications.
- 4,500 periodicals.
- 3,700 electronic resources.
- Hundreds of computers, microfilm readers, and other resources.

The Family History Library has 4,600 branches in 132 countries, all of which are free to the public. These family history centers also provide personal research help, access to online resources, and access to the FamilySearch microfilm collection.

1998 **Leading Edge Technology: Records Digitization**

In 1998, FamilySearch began digitizing its vast collection, continuing its commitment to using technology to preserve the records of the world. FamilySearch is also using digital cameras to capture new genealogical information.

At any given time, there are over 200 imaging projects taking place in over 45 countries, where volunteers create over 40 million digital images and 20,000 rolls of microfilm each year. A volunteer force of 125,000 indexers around the world helps index these important records.

1999 **Global Access: FamilySearch.org**

In 1999, FamilySearch created a website to increase the accessibility of its records. FamilySearch.org offers free access to a wide variety of resources and records, including the names of over one billion individuals. As one of the most heavily used genealogy sites on the Internet, FamilySearch.org provides tools to help people find their ancestors more effectively.



**FAMILYSEARCH**

wiki.familysearch.org

Wiki & Forums

Access free family history research information, guides, and advice.
Find answers and share your knowledge with the community.



**Free family history research advice for
the community, by the community**

The FamilySearch Research Wiki is where you can:

Learn How to Research

- Find out what historical records are available in localities around the world and how to access them
- Learn research strategies to help you know how to research your family

Share Your Knowledge

- Share your knowledge about the best ways to do family history research
- Store great research tips you learn about but may not be ready to use yet
- Collaborate with others to create a comprehensive tool for research guidance



Free Online Research Courses at FamilySearch.org



FamilySearch offers a variety of free classes online and in person to help you discover your family tree. Whether you are just beginning your family history research or are an experienced genealogist, you can learn something new. These classes are taught by genealogy research consultants at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, as well as experts from around the world.

familysearch.org/learn



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Find us online at www.familysearch.org
and at your
Local Family History Center