

Facts, Photos & Fugitives: Using Online Newspapers

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Objective: Newspapers are one of the most underutilized resources in family history research and yet they can be one of the most valuable. Attendees will learn more about how newspapers can take them far beyond the names and dates of their ancestors by enriching their research with unique stories and details that can only be found in newspapers.

Whether the challenge is overcoming a brick wall or learning more about the life of an ancestor, this class will teach you practical tips on how to discover articles of all types including birth, marriage, death, military, passenger lists and more!

Participants will hear inspirational stories and learn about the more than 7,000 online newspaper titles, published from 1690-today, while walking away with knowledge and resources that will allow them to immediately begin making discoveries of their own. Examples will be taken from www.genealogybank.com.

Uncover the facts...

Newspaper birth, marriage and death notices provide much more than just a name and date. They can often provide more information than a vital record itself. Learn tips and tricks on how to discover these on your own.

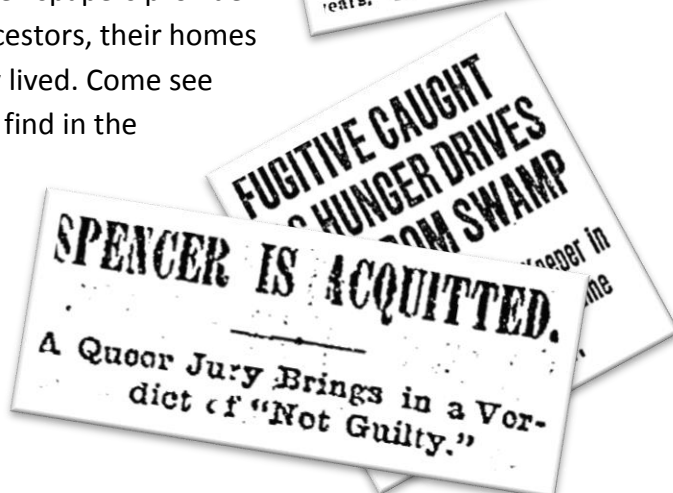
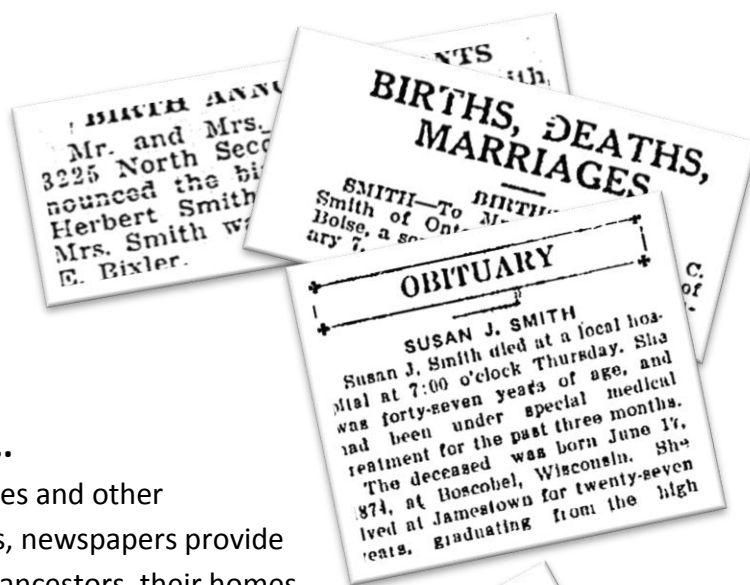


Discover the photos...

In addition to names, dates and other facts contained in articles, newspapers provide invaluable images of our ancestors, their homes and the towns in which they lived. Come see examples of photos you can find in the newspapers.

Find the family fugitive...

Newspapers contain a treasure trove of stories and details that helped shape the lives of our ancestors, some of which involved a run in with the law. Learn how uncovering the past by using newspapers can help you understand the future.



5 Basic Tips for Searching Newspapers:

1. Start broad and then narrow

- a. Whenever you use an online search engine consider that the more information you add the fewer results you will receive. Start by searching the first and last name, then narrow by date and then by location.

2. Search surrounding locations

- a. Remember that news traveled. News from small towns can often be found in newspapers and surrounding newspaper publications. Try including all states when searching newspapers.

3. Abbreviate locations

- a. Try searching a location as a keyword using the abbreviation for the location of interest such as: Calif, CA, San Fran, SF.

4. Expand your date range

- a. When using a date remember to start broad and then narrow your results from there. The newspaper article may not have been published on the exact date of the event, so it is best to start by using a broad date range.

5. Be flexible

- a. Search using just a name and location, or simply a name and date. Also try searching name variations such as William, Will, Bill, Wm., W.

More advanced search and discovery techniques will be taught during the class session.

Additional Resources:

- Download GenealogyBank's free Search Guide:
 - http://www.genealogybank.com/static/downloads/GB_Search_Tips.pdf
- Explore Your Ancestors' Lives in Old Newspapers
 - <http://bit.ly/1npIVR1>
- How to Find Old Family Photos & More in Newspapers
 - <http://bit.ly/1PTVDNJ>
- 4 Tips for Genealogy Research with Historical Newspapers
 - <http://bit.ly/1PTWn5A>
- Sign up for GenealogyBank's free newsletter, blog feeds and social media updates
- Contact one of our site experts for assistance: 1-866-641-3297

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