

Finding Your Ancestor in Digitized Newspapers

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What are we covering?

- Newspapers online
 - Stanford visualization project
 - Chronicling America – Library of Congress
 - Free sites vs Subscriptions
 - Genealogy Bank (\$)
 - Newspaper Archive (\$)
 - Newspapers.com (\$)

Digitized Newspapers Online

- Historical accounts of our ancestors
- Billions of articles
- Millions of pages of newspapers
- Thousands of newspapers
 - U.S. alone has 140,000 newspaper titles between 1690 and today
- When searching:
 - General search vs. advanced search
 - Know your date range
 - Use of keywords
 - OCR Limitations

Data Visualization: Journalism's Voyage West

- Data visualization done by Stanford University
- http://web.stanford.edu/group/ruralwest/cgi-bin/drupal/visualizations/us_newspapers
- Based on Chronicling America project – index of Newspaper titles
- Growth of newspapers from 1690-2011
- Plots 140,000 newspaper titles over time and space
- Does not contain articles, but does contain list of newspapers and links to Chronicling America – lists years of titles available

Chronicling America

- Library of Congress project
- <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>
- Newspaper Title Directory
 - Lists 140,000 newspaper titles
 - Part of United States Newspaper Program (1980-2007)
- Select images digitalized
 - Each project participant digitized 100,000 pages for their state for the timeframe requested.
 - Timeframe is currently 1836-1922
- Able to search both Newspaper Title Directory and digitized images.
- Approximately 10,298,000 pages available

Subscription Sites

- 3 major sites
 - Genealogy Bank – US only
 - Newspaper Archives
 - Newspapers.com

Genealogybank.com

- Subscription based – offers free trial
- Owned by NewsBank Inc.
- Historical Newspapers – 1690-2010
- Recent Newspapers – 1977-Today
- Newspapers available – U.S. only
- Other genealogical records
 - Historical documents – 1789-1994
 - Historical books – 1749-1900
 - Social Security Death Index – 1937-2011
- Learning center
- Millions of records monthly – 7000+ historical newspapers
- Use advance search
- Can browse by state

Newspaper Archives

- Subscription based – does offer 14 day free trial
- Newspapers from 22 countries + U.S.
- Papers from 1607 to Today
 - U.S. papers 1753-Today
- 7,376 Newspapers
- 2.10 Billion+ articles
- Can browse by country and state
- Clippings – can clip articles and save them on the site
- Help page has tutorials
- Also has SSDI available for searching

Newspapers.com

- Subscription based – does offer 7 day free trial
- 100 million + pages
- 3700+ Papers
- Newspapers from U.S., Australia, Canada, England, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Panama.
- Offers info on basics of searching
- Can browse by country & state
- Can search by newspaper title
- Ability to clip and store articles
- Linked to Ancestry

Comparison for Subscriptions

	GenealogyBank	Newspaper Archive	Newspapers
U.S. Available?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Other Countries	No	22	6
Free Trial	Yes	Yes	Yes
Other items	Yes	Yes	No
Search help	Yes	Yes	Yes
Browse by state?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Browse by title?	Yes	Yes	Yes
# of Newspapers	7000+	7300+	3700+
# of articles		2.10 Billion	
# of pages			100+ million

Subscription vs. Free

- Try for free first
 - Check local historical societies
 - Check state historical societies
 - Check libraries
 - Check library of congress for newspaper locations
 - Use Stanford project to find name – check Google newspapers for name
 - Family search list
- Subscriptions
 - Use free trial if possible
 - Know what you're looking for
 - Narrow by dates
 - Use help to do better searching

Free sites vs. Subscription Sites

- Many free sites
 - Chronicling America - <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>
 - Google Newspapers – <http://news.google.com/newspapers>
 - Old Fulton Postcards - <http://fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html>
 - California Newspaper project - <http://cnp.ucr.edu/cnpsearchdb.html>
 - Several other projects - https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Digital_Historical_Newspapers
- Subscription sites
 - Genealogy Bank – <http://genealogybank.com>
 - Newspaper Archive – <http://newspaperarchive.com>
 - Newspapers.com – <http://newspapers.com>

