



PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Guide to FamilySearch Resources

FamilySearch International is the largest genealogical organization in the world. FamilySearch has been actively gathering, preserving, and sharing genealogical records for over 100 years. These resources are used by millions of people to learn more about their family history. FamilySearch is a nonprofit organization sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and their services can be accessed through FamilySearch.org or by visiting one of the 4,900 family history centers worldwide.

Portsmouth Public Library is a FamilySearch Affiliate Library, allowing researchers access to previously restricted records. Users must be in the Library, either on a Library computer or connected to the wifi network **public_library**, in order to access these records.

Let's get started!

In order to view any of FamilySearch's resources, you must create an account. Anyone can have an account and registering is free and easy!

Register

Start by opening your web browser (Chrome or Firefox; avoid using Internet Explorer) and navigate to

familysearch.org

Click on the option to **Join for Free**

Fill out the registration form, review the Rights and Use Information and the Privacy Policy

You're all registered and can now start searching!

Get Connected

Users can access FamilySearch.org from home. This will allow searching of millions of unique records!

Logging in to FamilySearch from a Portsmouth Public Library computer or while connected to Library wifi will provide access to over 400,000 additional records.

Download the *FamilySearch Tree* and *FamilySearch Memories* apps on your smartphone to add memories and sources on the go. These apps sync with your account and are free to use!

Historical Collections

FamilySearch has records from over 110 countries around the world. These records include immigration, census, church, and vital records.

Search collections like:

- US Censuses (1790-1940)
- England and Wales Vital Records Indexes (1837-2005)
- New York Passenger Lists (1820-1957)
- UK WWI Service Records
- US WWI Draft Registration Cards (1917-1918)
- US WWII Draft Registration Cards (1942)

Users can search the historical collections by person:

Search Historical Records
Search for a deceased ancestor in historical records to uncover vital information from their life.

Deceased Ancestor's Name
First Names:
Last Names:

Search with a life event:
Birth | Marriage | Residence | Death | Any
Birthplace: Birth Year (Range): From To

Search with a relationship:
Spouse | Parents | Other Person

Restrict records by:
Location | Type | Batch Number | Film Number
Country: State or Province:

Match all terms exactly

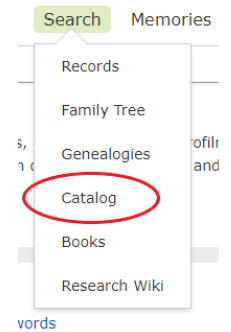
Or by location:



Searching by location is a great way to find new resources you might have missed. Try broad searches to make sure you don't miss anything!

FamilySearch Catalog

The FamilySearch Catalog is a searchable database of the genealogical resources held by FamilySearch.org, the Family History Library, selected FamilySearch Centers, and selected partner libraries.



FamilySearch has partnered with ArchiveGrid, a free online catalog of finding aids for archival materials held by institutions worldwide. A search via ArchiveGrid will allow researchers to identify all of the major genealogical holdings in their area.

Search by:
Place | Surnames | Titles | Author | Subjects | Keywords
Place:

Search for:
Call Number | Film/Fiche Number

Availability:
 Any
 Online
 Family History Center

Other Catalogs to Consider:
OCLC WorldCat
WorldCat is the world's largest network of library content and services. WorldCat libraries are dedicated to providing access to their resources on the web, where most people start their search for information.

ArchiveGrid
ArchiveGrid is a collection of nearly two million archival material descriptions, including MARC records from WorldCat and finding aids harvested from the web.

Online Genealogy Books

The FamilySearch online library contains 280,000+ genealogy-related books. Many of these books can be viewed on your home computer, but those under copyright must be viewed at a FamilySearch family history center (the closest one is in Exeter, NH).

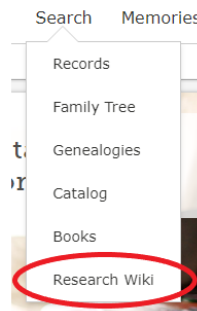
Books that are available online can be found via the FamilySearch Catalog. Limit the search results by changing the Availability to "Online."

To search the **contents** of all the books in the collection, go to FamilySearch.org and choose Books from the Search drop down menu.



FamilySearch Wiki

The Research Wiki can be found by clicking on the Search tab then clicking on the Wiki link.



The Research Wiki is home to almost 90,000 articles all edited by volunteers. It is an online genealogy and family history guide that lists websites, provides research strategies, and suggests records and resources to help you find ancestors from all over the world!



Search tips:

- Search for broad localities, then click on the links to small localities
- Use keywords, not phrases, in your search

The Wiki is a great place to learn about local resources. Visit

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Rockingham_County,_New_Hampshire_Genealogy

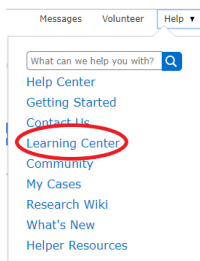
to see information about Rockingham County records:

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1	Rockingham County, New Hampshire Record Dates
2	County Courthouse
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4.1	Boundary Changes
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Online Learning

FamilySearch provides free e-learning opportunities for beginner, intermediate, and advanced researchers. In the Learning Center, there are over 800 e-learning modules and recorded lectures.

From the Help menu in the top right corner, choose Learning Center to get started!



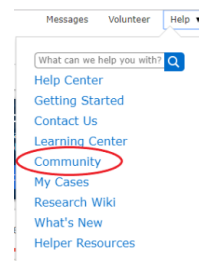
Once in the Learning Center, search by topic and use the buttons to toggle between articles and lessons (video tutorials).

FamilySearch also broadcasts multiple live webinars each week. To see the schedule, go to:

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars

Community

The Community page is accessible by clicking on the Help tab in the top right and then choosing Community.



The Community page is where you can access FamilySearch's greatest resource: its users. All levels of genealogy researchers can join groups, ask questions, and provide answers for each other.

Join groups that match your genealogical interests such as the New England Genealogy group or the Family History Research group.



FamilySearch Family Tree

The FamilySearch Family Tree is a single tree that everyone shares. Every person who has ever lived is added once and then users can find that individual and add information including photos and stories. The Family Tree is a collaborative effort that is more

work than keeping one's own tree. Anyone can edit the tree so please be careful. Never change information that was entered by someone else. Never change anything without firm evidence. Always provide sources, evidence, and genealogical proof.



Questions or comments? Stop by Special Collections on the second floor of the Library to learn more about FamilySearch and all of the other genealogical resources we have to offer!

