

Exploring Your Family History in New Ways with AncestryProGenealogists—PH7928

Beautiful Ways to Showcase Your Family History

Erika Manternach
Senior Writer, AncestryProGenealogists
801-990-5679
emanternach@ancestry.com

Overview:

Have you ever tried to share your research by gathering your family around the computer in your office? If so, you know it can be a dry and uninspiring activity. And while a family tree chart full of names and dates is a thing of beauty, it doesn't tell the full story of the people represented on it.

We will explore how to mine genealogical documents for story elements so you can share your ancestors' stories in a way that is sure to grab your family's attention. See what we gleaned from a passenger manifest and how we can translate research findings into a beautifully designed and written narrative or book.

- I) The importance of getting the individual story behind the names and dates we can see on a family tree chart

- II) Case Study—The Katz Family's Immigration Story
 - a. Children of Solomon and Feiga Katz
 - b. Image of immigrant ships
 - c. Maps to depict immigration journey
 - d. Deciphering Feiga's responses on the passenger manifest
 - i. Family names and occupations, if any
 - ii. Ages of children
 - iii. Closest relatives in home country
 - iv. Who paid for their passage
 - v. Where they were headed in America
 - vi. How much money they carried
 - vii. Heights of passengers
 - viii. Date of arrival in the U.S.

- III) Depicting Immigration Story in a Family History Book
 - a. Statue of Liberty
 - b. Text reveals the family's immigration story
 - c. Elicit emotional response to the ancestors' experience

- IV) Using Imagery to Describe Ellis Island Inspections

- a. Questioned about circumstances
 - b. Intense medical exams
 - c. Codes for marking reasons for detentions
- V) Third Page of Ship Manifest—Record of Detained Passengers
- a. Code for family's detention
 - b. Charges for meals while in detention and indication of shared meals
- VI) Happy Ending to Immigration Story
- a. Finally admitted to the U.S.
 - b. Co-founding of Katz's Deli
- VII) Effect on Children Who Know Their Family's Story
- a. Sense of control over their own lives
 - b. Higher self-esteem
 - c. Belief in successful family functioning
- VIII) From Research to Family Book for Client Tim Harden
- a. Limited time to research but successful results
 - b. Deep dive to learn about the stories of the individuals behind names/dates
 - c. Using historical documents
 - d. Considering the impact of historical events
 - e. Depicting countries of origin with customized maps
 - f. Depicting migration across America with customized maps
 - g. Using historical newspaper articles to help tell the story
 - h. Using graphic design to decode old documents
 - i. Conducting family interviews to bring personal memories into the story
- IX) The Power of Family History Storytelling

More Examples:

For more information about AncestryProGenealogists storytelling products including family narratives, family history books, children's books, oral history interviews, and more, visit <https://www.progenealogists.com/the-products>.

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When It's Time to Hire a Pro

Heidi Mecham
Learning and Development Specialist, AncestryProGenealogists
385-775-5715
hmecham@ancestry.com

Overview: When does it make sense to hire a professional genealogist to break through your brick walls and reach your family history goals? Are you limited by time, skills, or resources? This class provides guidance on this decision.

- I) Common Limitations
 - a. Time
 - b. Skills
 - c. Resources
- II) Typical Goals for a Professional Genealogist
 - a. Research Goals
 - i. Validate your research
 - ii. Identify the immigrant ancestor
 - iii. Identify the town of origin
 - iv. Research in-depth the life of an ancestor
 - v. Break down a brick wall
 - vi. Solve family mysteries or verify family lore
 - vii. Identify birth parents or grandparents
 - b. Outcome Goals
 - i. Join a lineage society
 - ii. Gain citizenship to an ancestral country
 - iii. Identify heirs to an estate
 - iv. Organize family history information and items
 - c. Product Goals
 - i. Display a family tree
 - ii. Create a family history book
 - iii. Publish a manuscript
 - iv. Interview living relatives
 - v. Plan a family reunion or other special event
 - vi. Travel to your ancestral homeland
- III) Resources Available to a Professional Genealogist
 - a. Time
 - i. Years of experience
 - ii. Full time job focus
 - iii. Driven by deep research

- b. Relationships
 - i. Co-workers
 - ii. Genealogy community and organizations
 - c. Access
 - i. On-site archives and libraries
 - ii. Online subscriptions
- IV) Qualifications of a Professional Genealogist
- a. General Qualifications
 - i. Determines feasibility of goal
 - ii. Builds the research plan
 - iii. Analyzes the evidence
 - iv. Presents the research
 - b. Areas of Expertise
 - i. Records
 - ii. Language
 - iii. Context

For more information about AncestryProGenealogists or how to hire a professional genealogist, visit <https://www.progenealogists.com>

Exploring Your Family History in New Ways with AncestryProGenealogists—PH7928 Walking In the Footsteps of your Ancestors

Kyle J. Betit

Travel Program Operations Manager, AncestryProGenealogists

801-990-5605

kbetit@ancestry.com

Overview:

Explore your genealogy and uncover your family story by traveling to where it all began. Learn how to plan a heritage trip of your own with an ancestral travel expert who will share tips and experiences from trips around the world.

- I) Ways to Make a Heritage Trip
 - a. Start with what your AncestryDNA test tells you!
 - b. Plan a Heritage or Genealogy Trip on Your Own
 - c. Join a Group Heritage or Genealogy Tour
 - d. Focus on the country/area in general or make a more specific Ancestral Home Visit to the town/village/parish where your ancestors lived
 - e. Engage a Professional Genealogist / Guide
 - f. Set sail on a Heritage / Genealogy Cruise (ocean or river!)

- II) Planning an Itinerary for a Heritage Tour
 - a. Sightseeing: Especially if you've never been to the country before, you may want to incorporate certain of the most interesting, historical, impressive places in the country into your tour.
 - b. Cultural Activities
 - i. Emigration Museums at ports
 - ii. Heritage centers / museums depicting aspects of history, culture, and religion in particular areas
 - iii. Folk villages/homesteads/experiences of "what life was like then"
 - iv. Military museums and historical sites
 - v. Churches/monasteries/synagogues/temples
 - c. Research: Visits to national or local archives to gather more rich documents to tell more of the family story
 - d. Ancestral Home Visit to the specific places where your ancestors lived

- III) Preparing for Your Trip
 - a. Set your goals: heritage, genealogy, history, culture, sightseeing
 - b. Check for local holidays; check open hours of archives/museums/etc.
 - c. Consult detailed maps (old and new)

- d. Learning some of the local language?
 - e. What languages will the historical records be in?
 - f. Genealogy research of your families in advance
 - g. Contacting locals in advance
 - h. Who could meet you to assist on site?
 - i. What to bring with you? (suggestions/possibilities): Laptop / tablet / phone, camera, business/contact cards, family charts, old photographs to show/share, old and new maps, translator
- IV) What You Can See in Your Ancestral Home Visit
- a. Church, synagogue, or other religious building where your ancestors worshipped or were baptized, blessed, married, or buried
 - b. Cemeteries where ancestors were buried
 - c. Houses where specific ancestors lived
 - d. Land that was owned, rented, farmed by your ancestors
 - e. Local schools your ancestors attended
 - f. Town Hall; Homes of the local landlord/gentry
 - g. Market Town they would have visited
 - h. Local Shrines, Holy Wells
 - i. Workplaces (such as a factory)
 - j. Local “sites of interest” that your ancestors would have visited
 - k. Local Archive, Library, Genealogy Society or Historical Society: You can learn more about your ancestors from local resources on the same trip that you are visiting their home places.
 - l. “Contemporary Experience” Site/Park/Museum
 - m. Visit Cousins; Speak to Local Historians/Keepers of information
- V) Visiting Local Archives/Libraries
- a. Check open hours; find out about specific policies, photography rules, ID needed, how to get reader’s ticket.
 - b. Plan what you want to examine in advance
 - c. Compare what is online to what is only available offline
 - d. Anticipate the languages you will need to use; bring dictionaries
 - e. Bring a detailed list of searches; prioritize in case you run out of time
 - f. Keep careful notes of what you look at and what you find/observe
 - g. Consider hiring a local researcher to help or advise
 - h. Make contacts with researchers/staff while you are there in case you want to follow up for additional research

For more information about AncestryProGenealogists’ travel program, tours, ancestral home visits, and cruise opportunities, visit <https://www.progenealogists.com/heritage-tourism>