

Mortality Schedules (1850-1880)

- Who's in it: Those who died June 1 – May 31 of year preceding census.
- Where to find: HeritageQuest Online; Ancestry.com. FamilySearch.org and Findmypast.com have 1850. Look for indexes at www.MortalitySchedules.com. Originals in state repositories; microfilms at Family History Library.

Slave Schedules (1850-1860)

- Who's in it: For Southern states, Washington DC and (in 1850) New Jersey, slaveholders and the enslaved (the latter were not mentioned by name, only by description).
- Where to find: HeritageQuest Online; Ancestry.com; FamilySearch.org has 1850. Originals at The National Archives.

The Social Security Applications and Claims Index

Unique to Ancestry.com! "Includes information filed with the Social Security Administration through the application or claims process....for more than 49 million people. Information you may find includes: applicant's full name, Social Security Number (SSN), date and place of birth, citizenship, sex, father's name, mother's maiden name, race/ethnic description (optional)." (from Ancestry.com collection description)

This is what an SS-5 application looks like:

Form SS-5
TREASURY DEPARTMENT
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

U. S. SOCIAL SECURITY ACT
APPLICATION FOR ACCOUNT NUMBER

527 01 -5454

1. NAME: Henry Fox (none) (last name)

2. MARIED WOMEN: GIVE MAIDEN FIRST NAME, MARRIED LAST NAME, AND MARRIAGE'S LAST NAME: Box No. 11, Flagstaff, Arizona

3. BUSINESS NAME OF PRESENT EMPLOYER: Womack Betty Company Co. 5. BUSINESS ADDRESS OF PRESENT EMPLOYER: Phoenix Ariz

7. DATE OF BIRTH: Jan 15 1887 8. PLACE OF BIRTH: Denver, Colo.

10. MARY ARMOUR (MOTHER'S FULL BIRTH NAME)

12. COLOR: WHITE (CHECK (X) WHICH) NEGRO OTHER

IF REGISTERED WITH THE U. S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE, GIVE NUMBER OF REGISTRATION CARD: 0203-294

IF YOU HAVE PREVIOUSLY FILLED OUT A CARD LIKE THIS, STATE: Mar 4 1937

16. HENRY FOX (EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE, AS USUALLY WRITTEN)

Newspapers on the Giant Genealogy Websites

- Findmypast: U.S. Newspaper Collection
- MyHeritage: Chronicling America search interface; Statewide collections for more than half of US states and Jewish Chronicle

- [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com): Major collections: US Obituary Collection, 1930-2018, AP Name Card Index, 1905-1990, Historical Newspapers, BMD, 1851-2003
- [FamilySearch](https://www.familysearch.org): Major collections: US, GenealogyBank Obituaries, 1980-2014. If you participate in the FamilySearch Tree, also use Obituaries page: <https://www.familysearch.org/campaign/obituaries>.

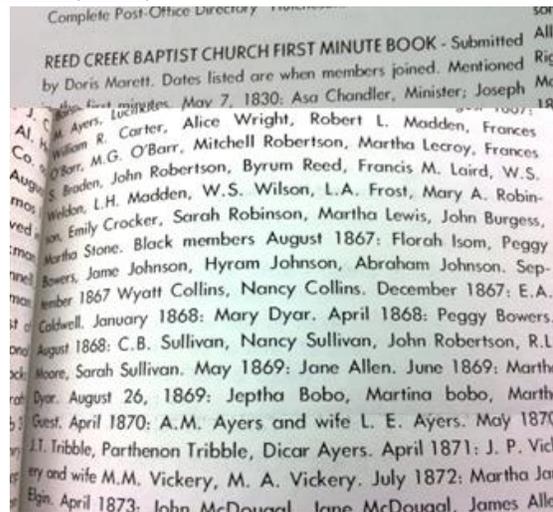
Digitized newspaper search tips:

- Pay attention: is it a pre-indexed collection or one that uses OCR?
- Digitized (OCR) searches: only about 60% accurate, less for capitalized words
- Search with nicknames, surname only, addresses, occupation, etc.
- Add creative search terms such as street address, occupation, cause of death, or another word likely associated with your ancestor

PERSI: Periodical Source Index

Unique to Findmypast! (<https://www.findmypast.com/persi>)

A master subject index to 2.7 million articles in thousands of history and genealogy magazines, newsletters, journals, and other periodicals from the U.S., Canada, Britain, Ireland, and Australia. Subject headings include: "biography, cemeteries, census records, church records, court records, deeds, institutions, land records, maps, military records, naturalization records, obituaries, passenger lists, probate records, school records, tax records, vital records, voter records, and wills. Articles about three or fewer specific families are arranged by surname." (Findmypast collection description)



Marrett, Doris, comp. "Reed Creek Baptist Church First Minute Book," Savannah River Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter, 5:9 (Sept 1991), p.5.

Articles you find in PERSI can help you:

- Locate hard-to-find records and indexes
- Learn local history
- Find migrating ancestors
- Find published family history/biography

You can search PERSI for free (without a Findmypast subscription). To access full citations about the articles PERSI finds for you, including some digitized articles:

- Subscribe to Findmypast, or purchase a one-month subscription or Pay As You Go credits (<https://www.findmypast.com/subscribe>).
- Order articles not digitized on Findmypast at <https://tinyurl.com/genealogy-articles> (for small fee) or look them up yourself at major genealogy research libraries.

Published Books

Ancestry.com: Scattered content under different categories: indexes to biographical dictionaries; published genealogies; gazetteers; church and military histories; yearbooks, etc. Ancestry has enormous collections of yearbooks/school publications. The hinting system doesn't cover all these collections—worth browsing and searching individually! Tip: From Search > Card Catalog, select a category and filter by time and place. Browse titles; sort and review largest; choose option to search by entire category.

FamilySearch: Search > Books. This is “a collection of more than 350,000 digitized genealogy and family history publications from the archives of some of the most important family history libraries in the world. The collection includes family histories, county and local histories, genealogy magazines and how-to books, gazetteers, and medieval histories and pedigrees.” (from FamilySearch collection description)

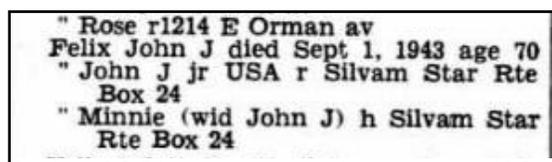
Findmypast: Scattered content under different categories. To browse: Search > select United States as location; choose a category such as Directories & Social History. Choose option to browse record sets.

MyHeritage: Uniquely, this site's master search/hinting does include all collections. Largest collection: Compilation of Published Sources, 84 million pages from 450k sources. Also scattered content under different categories, including large yearbook collection. (Shown: sample page from *History of Monroe County, Michigan, 1913.*)



US City Directories

City directories predate telephone books as published annual commercial listings of residents and businesses. Look for these early on in major urban centers. (Cleveland had them by 1837.) Early directories may exclude women, the poor and some ethnic minorities. County, city and suburban directories may exist. A relative's listings may include address, adult household members, occupation, rent/homeowner status and more. Also look up listings for his/her relatives, church, school, employer, community organizations, funeral homes, cemeteries, etc.



Pueblo, CO Directory, 1945 at Ancestry.com. U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989 (Beta, [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2011.

- “US City Directories, 1821-1989,” Ancestry.com. Their single largest collection of historical records! The site also has large city directory collections for other countries.
- Local and state libraries/historical societies and major research libraries
- City Directories of the United States of America, www.USCityDirectories.com
- US Online Historical Directories, sites.google.com/site/onlinedirectoriesite/Home/usa