



ETTLINGER PRODUCTIONS

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Genealogy – Finder of Persons

Subjects Covered: Tips and tricks for identifying names, places and dates, Interpreting census records; State Health Department, Internet Search, Where to begin

Tips and Tricks for Identifying Names, Places, and Dates

- Search for the combination (siblings or family groups)
- Consider the language of the original name or place
- Know letter pronunciation for sound alike searches
- Look for name changes, misspellings, and misinterpretation of names
- It is a myth that names were changed at Ellis Island – they were recorded by the ship's doctor or purser
- There may be family naming patterns
- Sometimes birth order is important and gives clues to names

Government Records

Military Records

Newspapers

Ship Manifest

State Census Records

Health Department

State Death Certificates

Church Records

Immigrant Groups

Ellis Island Records

Border Crossings

Internet Searches

Local Institutions

Court House

Who's Who in America

Professional Societies

Historical Societies

Family Memorabilia

Visit Relatives

Interview Family Members

Letters

Diaries

Family Bibles

Passports

Family Trees

Adoption Papers

Court Records

School Records

Declaration of Intent

Tips for interpreting Census Records

- Identify the group or aggregate
- Head of household may have immigrated earlier than rest of the family
- One of the children could be from another family
- Look for birth, marriage and immigration data
- Look for other relatives (parents) living with the subject
- Look at others on the page and on pages before and after for relatives living nearby

- Document everything; something may fit later on

Tips for using the State Health Department

- Death Certificate has the most information and many clues to other family members
- Remember these certificates are supplied by someone who may have guessed at information, or just got it wrong.

Tips for Internet Searches

- Use Google, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Intellius
 - www.google.com
 - www.facebook.com
 - www.linkedin.com
 - www.intellius.com
- Use sites which have photographs of tombstones
 - www.usqwarchives.net
 - www.findagrave.com

Visit a County Courthouse

- Call first and set up an appointment if necessary
- Find out what records you may search
- Find out if you can photocopy and what the costs might be
- Find out if you can use a computer, or camera

Where do you Begin

- Write down and organize what you know
- Visit a cemetery where family members are buried
- Take along a tape recorder and a camera
- Look for others with similar names
- Look for others from similar places
- Document EVERYTHING!

Computer Programs I recommend

- Family Tree Maker – www.familytreemaker.com
- Ancestry.com – www.ancestry.com
- ProShow Gold – www.photodex.com

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