

Mothers: Find Maiden Name Class by: Diane Reinwald, Keizer, Oregon

(Basic research REQUIREMENTS : 3 confirming sources if original document is missing.)

(A lot of what is being covered here applied to all Family History research)

Beginning research: All research should be started with a general request form letter to any and all relative that you feel may have information on the family you are researching or an email form.

What to start with: 3 items per person.

1. Persons full name, Or as good as you can make it. If a nickname is used, look under both.
2. Incident & location: Birth, Death, Marriage, other life happening with documentation.
3. Date: when copying date always use day by number, Month, year, @ 10 Feb, 2015

If possible, offer to pay for copies & postage to mail you the documents. Or email items.

1. Census: Most times a family has been previously researched in the census. Always check all names listed in the household, like sister or brother-in-laws or Father or Mother-in-laws.

Always make and keep a copy of the related census.

Prior to 1850 family member were not listed by name on the census, just the head of house hold was named.

- 2, Marriage record: Location, State, County and possibly Church Denomination

To ID a State & County for marriage check census, also where the first child was born,

Documents per State will be different, but all will carry Maiden name of wife.

Just be careful when extracting information, that this is not a second marriage.

Learn to locate NEWSPAPERS in the area that may carry an article on the marriage or child birth announcement.

***Comment: All research can and will be unique to every individual, researcher & researched person. So it is up to every researcher to learn about what, where & who they are researching.**

4. Probate records: Wills, Tax rolls, Land records (Joint ownership with husband or father.)

Always check news papers around deaths dates. Death certificates will have great deal of information.

5. Birth & Death records: Depending on the State, the Maiden name should be listed on both,

Birth & Death of a mother's maiden name. If religion is known check local church

records. Just in the last couple years the Lutheran Church has opened their record to researchers.

Check cemeteries Headstones and surrounding headstones.

6. Social Security: There are some information on line for SS, but the best help is the, SS Application

in the 1930's - 1950's, the people that applied then, may not have had a birth record, because they have not been born where record were kept by the government. At that point an applicant had to submitted affidavits from 3 people that knew of the birth and could document their knowledge of the birth. Copies of those letters can be obtained for a price, and you have to have a credit card.

There is also the SS death index that has info on card holders.,

7. Immigration & Naturalization records: If married at the time of application, it can contain info on

Maiden name. Also passenger list, list people traveling together. Ships lists.

Mother's Maiden name

8. Military: Pension records, Revolutionary War, Civil War, up to current pension holders

EXAPLE: My husband has a GGgrandfather that served in the Civil War, 10 years after the war he STARTED applying for a pension, He applied for over 5 years and in the process over 30 pages of documents existed in Government files, that applicant and people testifying to his physical condition. He worked that hard starting in 1890 to 1908 for a pension of \$8.00 a month. Just a side note,, during the war he disappeared during a well known battle, presumed dead, his Mother who was a widow, had another son that was dead from the war, applied for a pension. That she got, but at the end of the war he was discovered to be in a prison camp through the war. Many pages documenting his history through the war and after were available for our research. . From the mothers application I was able to gain information on her maiden name.

NOTE: Because of government confidentiality, more current documents are not always available.

9, Under this sight " USGenweb.com" individual States run websites, that deal strictly with information on their state. Each States sight is different and to learning what is on there is up to you. Other things to mention are: State archives, Local Historical Societies and Libraries.

This is a list of sites that are the most productive sights for research.

There are many that can help that I may not have listed.

That is part of your job as a researcher to educate yourself.

Ancestry.com

FamilySearch.org

Genealogy.com

RootsWeb.

Eastman's online genealogy Newsletter —

Ellisland.org,, New York @ starting 1890

CastelGarden.ore @ starting 1800

FindAGrave.com

Cyndlist.com

FamilyTreeDNA.com

Fold3.com

Genealogylinks.net worldwide leads to web sights

TheShipslist

Government sights:

Genealogy Tool Kit: through the US government

US Government Land records.

Social Security

US Military Pension records

Part of learning to research is explore sights that others may never need, Educating yourself to the unique time and location of you ANCESTORIES is part of the learning process.