

OLD NEWSPAPERS MANY OF THEM ARE GETTING A NEW LIFE

Silverton Ancestry Detectives

January 8, 2013

Prepared by Tom O'Brien

tom.obrien4@comcast.net

Newspaper resources you can use to discover amazing stories about your ancestors lives.

Old newspapers hold a wealth of information about the lives and deaths of our ancestors. Headlines, news and obituaries appear side-by-side with society columns and patent application notices. Community pages include everything from who is visiting, to lost farm animals. Advertisements offer a fascinating glimpse at prices, styles, and interests of the time. Unlike official government documents, the information found in newspapers was generally recorded because it was what people of the time found important. Newspapers provide a fascinating glimpse into our ancestors lives.

To find old newspapers we have two options. We can use traditional methods that have been used for many years or use newer electronic resources. In either case it is helpful to first develop a timeline of showing when our family lived in each location. Then **try to determine all possible newspapers** that existed at that time.

Where will you find old newspapers? The answers are numerous but begin by exploring local resources near where your ancestor lived. Libraries, Historical Societies, Genealogical Societies, Universities, State or Regional Archives and newspaper clipping files held by any of the above.

Today there are many online resources to help you identify what newspapers existed and where copies may be found. There are even web sites that provide digitized copies of newspapers that can be searched easily for keywords or phrases. Some are provided free while others may charge a fee.

Let's begin by taking a look at some local resources.

Silver Falls Library District - <http://www.silverfallslibrary.org/>

Ancestry Detectives - <http://www.ancestrydetectives.org/>

Free Resources

U.S. Newspaper Program - <http://www.neh.gov/projects/usnp.html>

Scroll down and click on the appropriate state.

Chronicling America - Historic American Newspapers

<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

Historical U.S. Newspapers Online

- <http://libguides.bgsu.edu/USNewspapersInternet>

Historic Oregon Newspapers - <http://oregonnews.uoregon.edu/>

Walsh University Library

<http://libguides.walsh.edu/content.php?pid=66551&sid=1683425>

Elephind - <http://www.elephind.com/>

Google News Archives - <http://news.google.com/nwshp?hl=en&tab=wn>

Click on "Advanced News Search"

Historical Newspapers Online - (some are available free)

http://genealogy.about.com/od/newspapers/a/newspapers_state.htm

Wikipedia - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:List_of_online_newspaper_archives

America's Obituaries and Death Notices -

<http://0-infoweb.newsbank.com.catalog.multcolib.org/resources/?p=OBIT>

Directory of Historical Newspapers Online -

<http://www.researchguides.net/newspapers.htm>

Wikipedia: List of online newspaper archives -

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:List_of_online_newspaper_archives

Historical Newspapers & Indexes on the Internet -

<http://www.researchguides.net/newspapers.htm>

Smalltownpapers - <http://www.smalltownpapers.com/>

Google Search - search for a town county or state + "Historic Newspapers"

Subscription Resources



Free Monday is the first Monday of every month, 9:30 am to 5:00 pm.

These databases are available at The Genealogical Forum of Oregon.

Newspapers.com - <https://www.newspapers.com/>

Fold3.com - <http://www.fold3.com/>

Ancestry.com -

Other Subscription Resources

NewspaperArchive - <http://www.newspaperarchive.com/>

ProQuest Historical Newspapers Collection -

<http://www.proquest.com/products-services/news-newspapers/pq-hist-news.html>

ProQuest Obituaries -

http://www.proquest.com/products-services/databases/obits_shtml.html

World Vital Records - <http://www.worldvitalrecords.com/>

Under the Search tab select Newspapers and Periodicals