



## Get Started with Genealogy!

### Tips and Links Document (PDF with hotlinks)

Get the PDF version of this document at <https://www.falmouthgenealogysociety.com/links.html>. It includes hotlinks (in blue) that will take you to the web pages listed when you click on them from your computer.

### Introduction—Building Your Tree and More

Genealogy is much more than building your “Pedigree Tree”. It is connecting people to their family and history. Through careful research, you will develop a fuller picture of your ancestors’ lives and the times in which they lived. Most important, this research provides both the facts and context needed to develop—and share—their stories.

### Build Your Family Tree Online

Build your tree online at [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org) or [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com) (\$) or [WikiTree.com](http://WikiTree.com).

**Tip:** Create a free account at [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org). This is a unified tree; you will benefit from the work of others, and they will benefit from yours.

**Tip:** For more advanced research, join Ancestry.com. [check membership options here.](#)

### Build and/or Save Your Family Tree on Your Computer

Build/save your tree on your computer at [Family Tree Maker](#) (\$) or [Roots Magic](#) (\$)

### More Tips as You Begin Your Research

- Check FamilySearch and WikiTree to see if your family is already recorded.
- Start with YOU and work back generations, include siblings, spouses, etc.
- Verify and document every step. [Evaluate the evidence](#) and [cite your sources](#).
- Use the [FamilySearch Wiki](#), and [LDSgenealogy.com](#), and [CyndisList.com](#).
- Seek out special interest websites and [FaceBook Groups](#) for a particular area.
- Make use of [Google Search features](#) and [maps](#) and [street view](#) and [translate](#).
- Consider a DNA test, especially for older generations.

### Record Types to Explore

[Vital Records](#) (birth, marriage, death)

[U.S. Court Records](#)

[U.S. Census Records](#) | [Enumerator Instructions](#)

[U.S. Church Records](#)

[Immigration](#) | [Naturalization](#)

[U.S. Military Records \(Fold3.com\)](#) (\$)

[Cemetery Records](#)

[Newspapers](#)

[U.S. Land & Property Records](#)

[U.S. City Directories](#)

[U.S. Probate Records](#)

[Newspapers at the Library of Congress](#)

### More Help from The Falmouth Genealogical Society

Visit our Research Help Desk for free consultations every Tuesday from 2-4 pm at the Falmouth Public Library. Visit our website at [falgen.org](http://falgen.org) for information about our programs and additional research resources. Email: [fgsresident@gmail.com](mailto:fgsresident@gmail.com) or [fgsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:fgsmembership@gmail.com)