

Utilize Descendancy Research

to Discover Unknown Family Members

Julie Merrill, AG®

1. What is hindering us from finding the names of our ancestors?
You may think your family's ordinance work is all completed because there are no obvious temple opportunities on your pedigree chart.
2. There are other ways to find an unknown family name.
One of FamilySearch's partners is a website called Puzzilla. Log in with your FamilySearch username and password at www.puzzilla.org.
3. Use Puzzilla to find one of your ancestor's descendants who was born between c1820 and 1870, would likely have married, had a family before 1900, and had no known descendants. Also, look for an area of the world where records would be readily available.
4. After a good candidate for research is found, use the View in FamilySearch option to find the person in FamilySearch Family Tree. Use the sources already found or find records confirming that person as a child with their parents.
5. When the desired ancestor's parents and siblings are confirmed, then look to find their marriage and census records documenting their married family and children. Make sure to add a source link to the person on FamilyTree.
6. Add the spouse and children found on a specific person's Family Tree Details page. Take care to add standardized dates and places.
7. Submit their family to the temple as a group.