What Else You Can Try:
Guided Research When Online Searches Fail

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What is Guided Research?

- **Prioritized Databases:** The most comprehensive and complete databases were determined by FamilySearch genealogists for optimized research and are displayed first to the researcher. This is especially helpful in countries where there are multiple databases available on different genealogy websites.
- **Birth, Marriage and Death info:** The experience focuses on finding birth, marriage, and death information by locality.
- **Online Databases and Images:** Links to both free and subscription genealogy websites are provided for complete coverage of possible databases.
- **What Else You Can Try pages:** The What Else You Can Try Wiki pages for each locality provides tips for problem solving if the initial result proves unsuccessful. These pages cover information regarding the lack and loss of records for the locality, substitute records available, and tips for better search results.
- **Easy to Use:** Clear and concise presentation helps in navigating the experience and getting to the information you need quickly.

Who is Guided Research for?

- Guided Research was created especially for those who already have some research experience under their belts and are starting research in an unfamiliar location. But we welcome anyone who wants to give it a try!

How do I access Guided Research?

- On the FamilySearch Research Wiki (which can be accessed by going to wiki.familysearch.org, or by going to FamilySearch, clicking the "Search" dropdown, and selecting "Research Wiki")
- Viewing the Wiki main page (shown below), click on the "Guided Research" link in the box toward the right-hand side of the map.

FamilySearch Research Wiki

A Genealogy Resource Guide
93,631 articles

Find the birth, death, marriage, census records, and other genealogy resources for your ancestor by selecting the region and country below.

| Search by place or topic | **Search** | Find Search Tips |

List of all Localities

North America

Europe

Asia

Africa

South America

Australia/Oceania

Jump-start your research

Guided Research will help you find the best databases for select locations.

Guided Research

- Countries/states/counties that have a Guided Research experience will also have a link to Guided Research from their sidebar (shown below).

Ohio, United States Genealogy

United States Genealogy ➡ **Ohio**

Guide to **Ohio ancestry, family history, and genealogy** birth records, marriage records, death records, census records, family history, and military records.

This article is about the U.S. state. For other uses, see Ohio (disambiguation).

Ohio Information [edit | edit source]

Ohio is a state in the Midwestern portion of the United States. Ohio became a state on 1 March 1803, having been created from the Northwest Territory, and it's capital is Columbus. It is divided into 88 counties. [1]

Getting Started [edit | edit source]

Getting Started with Ohio Research

Links to articles on getting started with Ohio research.

- Guided Research
- Step-by-Step Ohio Research, 1880-Present
- How to Find Birth Records
- How to Find Marriage Records
- How to Find Death Records
- Research Strategies

Ohio Research Tools

Links to articles and websites that assist in Ohio research.

- Ohio Record Finder
- Boundary Changes for Ohio Counties
- Ohio Archives and Libraries
- OHGenWeb
- Geographical Names Information System - U.S. gazetteer of places, cemeteries and post offices in Ohio.

Ohio Wiki Topics

Beginning Research

- Guided Research
- Research Strategies
- Record Finder

Record Types

- Adoption
- Bible Records
- Biography
- Cemeteries
- Census
- Church Records
- Land & Property
- Military Records
- Naturalization & Citizenship
- Newspapers

Using Guided Research

- Most Guided Research experiences are organized into Birth, Marriage, and Death sections (see image below).

Ohio Guided Research

FamilySearch identified the most complete online indexes for birth, marriage, and death information.

Guided Research
The best resources for finding birth, marriage, and death information.

Birth - Where can I find birth records?

Start here:

- 1820s-2000s: **Ohio Birth Collections** ⧉ at FamilySearch - *(List of collections)*

What else you can try:

- Additional online resources
- Substitute records
- Improve searching
- Research Help
- Why the record may not exist

- Databases listed in Guided Research include any website that has relevant records, including "major" websites like FamilySearch.org, Ancestry.com, Findmypast, MyHeritage, etc. as well as smaller, local state/county websites.
- If your searches in those databases are unsuccessful, use the "What else you can try" section for more research ideas.

What Else You Can Try

- **Additional Online Resources:** This section provides other collections/databases/websites with relevant records that weren't the highest in prioritization but could still be useful in researching. It also will include browsable image collections, where applicable.
- **Substitute Records:** This section will give other record types that could provide vital information, in the case of unsuccessful vital record searching.
- **Improve Searching:** This section gives suggestions for ways to manipulate and enhance your search techniques in indexed collections to improve search results.
- **Why the Record may not Exist:** This section includes information about relevant record loss or date coverage in online collections that may explain some searching problems.