

Genealogy & Local History Websites

Reference Interview Strategies

Q: Help me find my ancestors..

A: where is the patron stuck? Get them to narrow their search.. Click on [Blank Charts and Forms](#)

Q: Their husband's surname is Faulkner, and he is the spit-n-image of the writer William Faulkner. How to prove they are related?

A: Consider hiring a professional genealogist: [APG](#) ... read Colleen's *Beginning Genealogy Tips*. Refer them to a library with a Faulkner special collection and newspapers from his towns. Try molecular genealogy [SMGF](#).

Q: How can I contact my cousins for help with family tree?

A: [ReferencaUSA](#) or [Facebook](#) or [Geni.com](#)

Q: how to get a certain newspaper or obituary?

A: [Illinois Newspaper Project](#), [CPL Newspaper Resources](#), or [OCLC FirstSearch](#)

Q: Is a certain person alive? When did they die?

A: [Social Security Death Index](#):

Q: how to get a copy of a social security application?

A: [Social Security Death Index](#) can generate a FOIA letter.

Q: obituaries or stories about Chicagoland ancestors?

A: [Chicago Tribune Archive](#). (snapshot tool can copy and paste a small section of a newspaper page)

Q: how to determine a specific enumeration district in Chicago?

A: [A Look At Cook](#)

Q: how can I find someone to fax me a page from a telephone directory in a certain city in Lithuania?

A: [Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness](#). (be prepared to return the favor someday)

Q: How can I consult genealogy experts in a distant location?

A: [Rootsweb](#) email lists or message boards

Q: How to find mothers' maiden names and towns of birth?

A: [FamilySearch](#) or [Illinois State Archives Databases](#) or social security application,

Q: how to obtain information about veterans?

A: [Access to Archival Databases at NARA](#).

Q: Where is a comprehensive list of genealogy websites about a certain group or country?

A: [Cyndi's List](#)

Q: where are passenger lists online?

A: [SteveMorse.org](#).

Q: where are articles from genealogy society journals indexed?

A: PERSI on [Heritage Quest](#)

Q: how can I find an address where someone lived in 1930 or before?

A: census records in [Ancestry Library Edition](#) or [Heritage Quest](#)