

Get the Most from the GFO (and a GFO membership)

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The GFO Mission: *"To inspire and empower every person to discover and engage with their family history."*

Resources available freely to everyone

1. Stay informed.
 - a. Read the E-News every week, it arrives Thursday evening.
 - i. [Sign up](#). Manage your preferences via any received periodical mailing.
 - ii. Still not receiving it?
 1. Check your spam or junk mail.
 2. Send a message to gfo@gfo.org and ask for help.
 - b. Read the *Forum Insider* (8 issues/year) delivered via email. [Insider archive](#)
Our quarterly, the *Bulletin*, is also sent freely.
 - c. Check the [calendar](#) regularly
 - d. Follow the GFO on [Facebook](#)

2. Learn through GFO programs.
 - a. [GenTalks](#) (about 8/year) usually the third Saturday of the month, 2:30pm Pacific
 - b. [Special Interest Groups \(SIGs\)](#)
Click on groups of interest to learn more.
To join a group, simply register to attend one of the meetings.
 - c. Annual Open House in the spring.

3. Access resources using the GFO library catalog and public pages on the website.
 - a. GFO Library [online catalog](#) (OPALS)
 - b. Search the public pages (upper left on GFO webpages)
 - c. [Indexes](#) (browsing indexes is advised)
 - d. [DigitalArchive](#) and OPALS
 - i. [Bibles](#)
 - ii. [Documents Collection](#)
 - iii. Historic Columbian Cemetery (coming soon)
 - iv. [Manuscripts Collection](#)
 - v. [Photo Collection](#) small, but with luck, growing soon ...
 - vi. [Vertical Files](#)

For a fee:

Non-members can order lookups in identified resources or general research in our collection [here](#).

Resources and Services Reserved for GFO Members

4. Use MemberSpace to access:
 - a. Databases
 - i. American Ancestors for New England research and more (may be temporary)
 - ii. Fold3 Library Edition for military records and more (long-term)
 - iii. HeritageQuest (long-term)
 - iv. HistoryGeo – First landholders and antique maps (long-term)
 - b. Digital Collections
 - i. Digital Journals
 - ii. eBooks
 - iii. Indexed images, document images used to create our indexes

5. Use MemberSpace to request lookups* and copies for:
 - a. FamilySearch Affiliate or restricted images
 - b. Newspapers.com Publishers Extra
 - c. FindMyPast
 - d. Ancestry.com World Edition
 - e. Anything in the GFO Library you would be able to consult if you were physically in the library—within reason. We must abide by copyright restrictions.

* "Lookups" means to access images or make copies of specific pages or documents you identify. It does not include doing research.

6. Also use MemberSpace to obtain discounted registration to GFO pay events, view members-only videos, and more.

Links to Resources for Online Databases

Please let me know of any broken links -Laurel

Using American Ancestors

Zoom Demo: The New AmericanAncestors.org

<https://www.americanancestors.org/video-library/zoom-demo-new-americanancestorsorg>

Using AmericanAncestors.org

<https://www.americanancestors.org/education/learning-resources/read/using-americanancestors-org>

Searching Databases on AmericanAncestors.org

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DsFL2vliTGA&feature=youtu.be>

AmericanAncestors Videos on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/user/AmericanAncestors/videos>

Using Fold3

Ancestry Academy Researching Your Military Ancestors in the U.S.

<https://www.ancestryacademy.com/getting-the-most-out-of-fold3>

Searching on Fold3

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HT5buu9wWh8>

Fold3 Videos on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/c/fold3/videos>

FamilyTree How to Use Fold3.com in 5 Steps

<https://www.familytreemagazine.com/websites/fold3-guide/>

Fold3® Training Center (click on the menu items on the left to learn more)

<https://www.fold3.com/tour/>

Using HeritageQuest

HeritageQuest Online Overview

<https://share.vidyard.com/watch/jBFbBoMTZfqHNoPyuj8J4M?>

Top 5 Tips for Finding Family History with Heritage Quest Online

<https://share.vidyard.com/watch/ct1euhGEoJ6jdkchqngwR?>

Lots of YouTube videos

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=HeritageQuest&sp=EgIIBQ%253D%253D

Using HistoryGeo

64-Page PDF of details_

https://www.historygeo.com/v3/support/docs/HistoryGeo_v2.pdf

HistoryGeo.com Map Viewer Helps

<https://www.historygeo.com/v3/support/help.php>

HistoryGeo Videos on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/user/HistoryGeo1>

Dallas Genealogical Society Presentation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J1ih0bFAGhU>