

# FOR BEGINNERS OF FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

Indian River County Main Library, Florida History & Genealogy Department  
 1600 21st Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960  
 772-770-5060 x5; Fax: 772-770-5446; Email: [genealogy@irclibrary.org](mailto:genealogy@irclibrary.org)  
 Hours: M-Fri 10-5; Sat 10-4; Sun Closed; Librarian: Pamela J. Cooper  
 Main Library Web Site: <http://www.irclibrary.org/genealogy>

If you complete the following THREE steps and use all the resources, it will help you become familiar with the library collection and the different types of media. You could find an ancestor!  
**Important:** Learn the Dewey-decimal system. This is how the books are arranged on the shelf.

## 1. Check to see if your family history has already been done.

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- *Genealogies in the Library of Congress*, 6 Vols. – 016.9292 KAM
- *Genealogical & Local History Books in Print*, 4 Vols. – Gen Desk 016.929 GEN
- *DAR Library Catalog*, 2 Vols. & Suppl. – 016.929 DAU
- *Genealogical Index of the Newberry Library* - 8 Microfilm Reels
- *National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMUC)* Available on the Internet, CD-ROM, and on the shelf - 011.31 NAT.
- *American Genealogical Index* – 46 Vols. - 929.373 AME, CD-ROM
- *American Genealogical & Biographical Index* – AncestryPlus, CD-ROM
- Check the surname section (929.2) of *any* library.
- Library of Congress Catalog – Internet
- East Central Florida Genealogical Society Co-op – Binder at Gen Desk & Internet
- LDS Library Catalog - <[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)> Click on Library Catalog.

## 2. Check to see if someone else is researching your name:

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- Indian River Genealogical Society Surname Card Catalog – File Drawers are located in the Florida History Room
- Indian River Genealogical Society Ahnentafel Charts – Florida History Room
- Family Search Program - <[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)> Search by surname.
- National periodicals: *Heritage Quest Magazine*, *Everton's Family History Magazine*, *Family Chronicle*, *Family Tree Magazine*, *The American Genealogist*, *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, *FORUM* (Federation of Genealogical Soc.) etc.
- County, state or country newsletters and quarterlies – use library catalog
- PERSI (Periodical Source Index) –HeritageQuest online.
- *Genealogical Research Directory*, 1985-Present – 929.3 GEN

## 3. Is your ancestor an immigrant?

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- *Passenger and Immigrations Lists Index* by P. Filby 325.73005 FIL & AncestryPlus
- Ship passenger indexes by ethnic groups – 325.2
- 1850-1930 Census – Check for place of birth
- 1900-1930 Census – Check for your immigration and naturalization
- If they settled in New York, check the naturalization indexes for the Eastern and Southern District Courts – microfilm.
- Order a copy of the obituary from the library in the town where the death occurred. Use *Newspapers in Microform* and *American Library Directory*.