

## Searching Newspapers: Context, Stories, Tips, Tricks, and Sites



Patti Gillespie, M.S.

*Family Lines & Stories*

www.familylinesandstories.com

FamLStories@gmail.com

“The newspaper is a greater treasure to the people than uncounted millions of gold.” Henry Ward Beecher,  
(Oregon Digital Newspaper Program, <https://odnp.uoregon.edu>, 22 Jun 2011).

### Newspaper Searching Tips

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#### 1. Context

- a. Definition
- b. Purpose
- c. Rewards

#### 2. Information helpful to researchers

- a. extended family information
- b. family engagements/licenses/marriages
- c. family deaths/obituaries
- d. family births
- e. courthouse document clues
- f. church affiliations
- g. passenger ship arrivals/missing immigrant
- h. FAN Club (friends, associates, and neighbors)
- i. advertisements
- j. auctions
- k. bankruptcies/insolvencies
- l. divorces/repudiation notices
- m. gossip/ social news
- n. runaway slave advertisements
- o. missing heirs/probate announcements
- p. land transfers

#### 3. Tips, Tricks & Sites

- a. finding a site
- b. purpose of using the advanced search tool
- c. OCR and its complications
- d. available tutorials

## Free Online Newspaper Sites & Directories

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Chronicling America, [www.chroniclingamerica.loc.gov](http://www.chroniclingamerica.loc.gov)

Cyndi's List, [www.cyndislist.com/newspapers](http://www.cyndislist.com/newspapers)

Elephind, [www.elephind.com](http://www.elephind.com)

Google News Archive@<https://news.google.com/newspapers>

Old Fulton NY Post Cards, [www.fultonhistory.com](http://www.fultonhistory.com)

Over 100 Free Newspaper Sites for 20 States, [www.theancestorhunt.com](http://www.theancestorhunt.com)

Portal to Texas History, Texas Digital Newspaper Program,  
<https://texashistory.unt.edu/explore/collections/TDNP/#titles>

U.S. Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present, [www.chroniclingamerica.loc.gov](http://www.chroniclingamerica.loc.gov)

Various state and/or county services online

Washington Historic Newspapers,

Wikipedia: List of online newspaper archives,  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:List\\_of\\_online\\_newspaper\\_archives](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:List_of_online_newspaper_archives)

XooxleAnswers, [www.XooxleAnswers.com](http://www.XooxleAnswers.com)

## Resources

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Lisson, Lisa. "How to Find and Use Historical Newspapers in Your Genealogy Research," 2021,  
<https://lusalisson.com/historical-newspapers>.

Marks, Kenneth R. "Free e-book and Quicksheets to Help You Become a Master Newspaper Researcher,"  
*The Ancestor Hunt*, 10 July 2020, <https://www.theancestorhunt.com/blog/free-e-book-and-quicksheets-to-help-you-become-a-master-newspaper-researcher#.YHBzta9KjIV>.

Newspaper Links, *The Ancestor Hunt*, 2021, <https://www.theancestorhunt.com/newspaper-research-links.html>.

Roddy, Mary Kircher. "Goodspelliarmus! Wizardry for Effective Newspaper Searches," *NGS Magazine*,  
Jan-Mar 2018, 44-47.

Ultimate Record Checklist, Family History Workbook, *FamilyHistoryDaily*, 2020.  
<https://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-help-and-how-to/family-history-records-checklist/>.

## Newspaper Search Organizer

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My Search Date	Search Site	Newspaper Title	Newspaper Date, Vol, Page	Search Terms	Related Information	Citation Information