

Record Search

What is it?

FamilySearch has in its archives about 2.5 million rolls of microfilm of genealogical interest. They are in the midst of a project to put most if not all of that microfilm on the internet along with an index to the film images. They are also placing on this site indexes to images hosted by other archives and some commercial establishments. This project is considered to be in the “pilot” stage because the software is still being developed, the images are being scanned, and the indexes are being created.

There are several different kinds of collections:

- (1) An index without images - e.g. 1880 census NOTE: images may appear later
- (2) Images without an index, - e.g. World War 2 Draft Registration cards NOTE: index may appear later
- (3) Images with an index, - e.g. 1900 US Census
- (4) indexes with links to images on other sites - e.g. Immigration index of Ellis Island

Where is it?

Located on the internet by (1) going to <http://FamilySearch.org>, hover your mouse on “Search Records” and click on “Record Search pilot” or (2) go directly to <http://Pilot.FamilySearch.org>

How to search:

Method 1: Search all collections at once by entering information into the search windows on the home page. You then have several different filters to narrow down your search. There may or may not be images available.

Method 2: Browse to an indexed collection and search that one collection. There may or may not be images available.

Method 3: Browse to an unindexed collection and look at the images like looking at microfilm.

Search Options:

Exact Match / Exact & Close Match / Exact, Close, & Partial Match

All Events, Birth/Christening, Death/Burial, year range, location

Advanced Search - specify names of parents or spouse

Unique Feature: almost every name on a document is indexed

Documentation:

For all the indexes, you can copy the index to the computer clipboard and paste it into your documentation. NOTE: *GSU film number* is the catalog number of the film in the Family History Library in Salt Lake City (GSU = Genealogical Society of Utah, the parent of FamilySearch.) See <http://FamilySearch.org> hover your mouse on Library, click on Library Catalog, then click on Film/Fiche Search for a complete description of the film. *Digital GS number* is a new cataloging number assigned to the digital images of the film.

Image Options:

1. Full Screen
2. Rotate 90 degrees
3. Invert to make negative or vice versa
4. Save to your hard drive (.jpg)
5. Print to your printer (full image and cropped/enlarged image)
6. Move to the next image or move to any numbered image