



ANCESTORS

the research process

INTRODUCTION

Features of this videotape

FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH PROCESS DEFINED

- 1.1 **Research Process Overview:** Introduces the five steps of the family history research process
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STEP ONE OF THE FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH PROCESS

- 2.1 **Step One Overview: Write Down What You Know** about your ancestor(s)
 - 2.2 **Family History Forms:** pedigree chart, family group record, source notes form, and other forms designed exclusively for *Ancestors* (included with this videotape)
 - 2.3 **Gathering Family History Information** from records, objects, and people
 - 2.4 **Family History Interviews:** how to conduct a family history interview
 - 2.5 **Organize and Preserve** the information you find
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STEP TWO OF THE FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH PROCESS

- 3.1 **Step Two Overview: Decide What You Want To Learn** about an ancestor
 - 3.2 **Identify Missing and Unverified information** on your family history forms
 - 3.3 **Complete Research Questions Form**
 - 3.4 **Begin a Research Log:** a form designed to help you focus your research
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STEP THREE OF THE FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH PROCESS

- 4.1 **Step Three Overview: Choose a Source of Information**
- 4.2 **Information Sources Defined:** how to choose from among people, objects and records
- 4.3 **Choose a Record Type** such as vital, biographical or background records using the *Ancestors* record selection chart (included with this videotape)
- 4.4 **Choose and Contact a Place Where Records Are Stored:** examples of repositories
- 4.5 **Select a Record From the Catalogue:** tips for using indexes and catalogues
- 4.6 **Fill in Information Source Description on Research Log**

STEP FOUR OF THE FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH PROCESS

- 5.1 **Step Four Overview: Learn From the Source**
- 5.2 **Read and Copy** information from objects and records, such as gravestones, documents, and microfilm, using a microfilm reader
- 5.3 **Interviewing Your Information Source:** review techniques for conducting family history interviews, how to plan the interview and prepare the interview questions

STEP FIVE OF THE FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH PROCESS

- 6.1 **Step Five Overview: Use What You Learn** by evaluating and sharing the information
- 6.2 **Evaluate the Information Source's Relevance**
- 6.3 **Determine Information Source's Credibility**
- 6.4 **Decide If You Need Another Source:** two or more independently created pieces of information can help establish a fact
- 6.5 **Make a Conclusion and Organize Your Findings** by recording information on your research log and organizing and preserving the information you find
- 6.6 **Share Your Information:** tips for activities families can use to pass on information

EPILOGUE

- 7.1 **Epilogue:** illustrates the cyclical nature of the family history research process

BONUS: USING COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY IN FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

This tape set includes a complete copy of **Genealogy & Technology**, episode 204 from the PBS *Ancestors* television series, which highlights the use of computer technology in family history research.

