

Unusual Sources on the Web for Family History Research

By Jeri J. Steele

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Unusual Sources: Josh Taylor at [RootsTech 2017](#) said, “Unusual records basically fall into two different categories: unusual information found in common places and unusual records that appear in places people might not think of.”

Use major websites in unusual ways

Familysearch.org: Don't search by name, trees, or even records! Instead use the Catalog (equivalent to Family History Library Catalog Search) Menu at top -Search and Submenu – Catalog; Count shown on are the 'entries' per topic but they may contain hundreds of entries. Look for Camera icon to show online digitized records. (May NOT be indexed!!!!)

Look in Family Owned Keepsakes & Books

Information maybe in a book you that you don't expect!

ABEBOOKS.COM

Has lots of old books. Found an out of print book that belonged to a family researcher I knew.

Online Archives

1. Digital Public Library - DP.LA Searches metadata for numerous other sites, such as National Archives & Records Administration. This includes images digitized for Fold3.com for NARA. They are FREE here. Track you search and download your searches in a spreadsheet
2. Archive Grid to location online archives: <https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/>

Archive sites in other states

Portal to Texas History <https://Texashistory.unt.edu/>

Look in states where people migrated. For instance, an obituary found in Texas website for James Guthrie of Sumner County, Tennessee that appeared in the Charles B. Moore collection from McKinney, TX in the Portal to TX History.

HathiTrust <https://www.hathitrust.org/> Searches numerous library catalogs

Look for information by locality and publications you find might have family names mentioned. Search by name but use quote marks to make it unique such as “Joe Land”.