

More Census Records! Colonial, Territorial, State, Local, Special & Reconstructed Censuses & Census Substitutes! Laurie Werner Castillo 12 Oct 2012

In this class: You will learn how to determine what exists and how to locate these treasures through BYU HBLL, SLK FHL, FamilySearch.org, Ancestry.com, and other websites and repositories.

MAJOR References ONLINE

1. **State Census Register: State & County Censuses Located at the Family History Library**, By the Family and Church History Department. US and Canada Reference Unit. 2005. To use →Go to www.FamilySearch.org →Catalog → do a title search on the above title. Locate red links to the 3 vols. & read, print or download.
2. **FamilySearch.org** US State, Territorial & School Censuses and Tax Records at FamilySearch.org Updated 12 Jul 2012 <http://www.genealogyblog.com/?p=13039> Here you will find clickable links to the various state census collections at FS.
3. **Ancestry.com** Search by State →and Select Category *Census and Voter Lists*
4. **Genealogy research Guides – State Census records** <http://www.researchguides.net/census/state.htm> also <http://www.germanroots.com/censuslinks.html>
5. **BYU FHL Blue Binders Online** – Start on BYU FHL home page <http://lib.byu.edu/sites/familyhistory/> →Go to the Blue Binder Icon – Research Outlines → select U.S. → State of choice →*State Census* tab.
6. **Census Finder** www.censusfinder.com/ Use U.S. Census Records dropdown menu for specific state.
7. **HeritageQuest Online** Public Library website →Log on to Library Account →online databases →HQ PERSI = Periodical Source Index Can search by Location and Record Type.
8. **LinkPendum** www.linkpendium.com Search by State, County and Topic
9. **US GenWeb** www.usgenweb.org Look at State Level site for Statewide databases. The search county and local level for census or census substitutes.
10. **RootsWeb** www.rootsweb.com <http://userdb.rootsweb.ancestry.com/contributors.html#Census> Use the preceding link →Go to State list and locate collection →Search ME
11. **BYU HBLL** <http://lib.byu.edu/> Search State Census, Territorial Census, Reconstructed Census
12. **WorldCat** www.worldcat.org The Librarian's reference tool. Locate items & use Interlibrary Loan.
13. **State Archives, State Libraries, State Historical and Genealogical Societies**
BYU FHL Alpha List →Genealogy Resources, by State at USA.gov
BYU Alpha List → _____ State Archives, or Topic → Selected Digital Archives
NARA: <http://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/state-archives.html>
State Archives and Libraries <http://www.statearchives.us/>

MAJOR References In Print

1. **Census substitutes & state census records: an annotated bibliography of published names lists for all 50 U.S. states and states censuses for 37 states;** Dollarhide, William. Bountiful, Utah: Family Roots Pub. Co., c2008, 2 vols. FHL 973.X23 dw v.1, v.2; BYU Religion/Family History Ref - HA 181 .D65x 2008 vols.1&2
2. **New York state censuses & substitutes : an annotated bibliography of state censuses, census substitutes, and selected name lists in print, on microform, or online; with county boundary maps, 1683-1915; and state census examples and extraction forms, 1825-1925;** by William Dollarhide; Bountiful, Utah : Heritage Creations, c2005; FHL 974.7 X23d; BYU Rel/FH Ref - HA 545 .X1 D65 2005
3. **The Source:** a Guidebook of American Genealogy, 3rd Ed.; Provo, UT: Ancestry, 2006;
4. **State Census Records,** Lainhart, Ann S., Balt., Md.: Gen. Pub.,1992;BYU Rel/FH Ref CS 68 .X1 L37 1992
5. **American population before the Federal Census of 1790;** Greene, Evarts B, and Virginia D Harrington, pub 1932, reprinted 1966, 2006; Columbia University Press, NY

Contents: Exhaustive survey of the population lists, estimates, and statistics produced in the American colonies before the first federal census of 1790. Incl. poll lists, tax lists, militia lists, and censuses, originally drawn up for purposes of taxation and local defense. Compiled from archives in Britain and the U.S. and published sources, organized by location. Range Includes the original 13 colonies, plus population lists from territories such as IL Country, KY, TN, and the northern and southern Indian Departments.

Availability – FHL and BYU have older copies of 228 pages. Newest copy is 258 pages;
Online at Questia -- Free 1 day trial – Can read/use entire book. www.questia.com

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. **More indexes** = More chances to locate your family. Index done by locals vs. strangers.
2. **By whom?** What agency was in charge?
3. **For what purpose?** Crucial to know why a census was taken.
4. **Boundaries Change** Genealogy Inc. <http://www.genealogyinc.com/maps/>

COLONIAL CENSUS or PRE – U.S. CONSTITUTION

All US territory was acquired from a previous owner. Those nations conducted colonial census enumerations from time to time. Records of early settlers often still in the custody of the colonizing country.

Colonial America, 1607-1789 Census Index <http://www.genealogy.com/310facd.html?priority=0000896>
Available from Genealogy.com as part of the subscription or on CD.

At Ancestry.com search by State or Territory Name. Do the same at Google.

TERRITORIAL CENSUS -- Non-Federal Schedules

Why? Government management, Statehood

1. **Some of the Territorial Census Records are Federal** – those taken on the even decade as a constitutional requirement. (Ex Ok 1890 -- Oklahoma Historical Society at <http://www.okhistory.org/research/1890>)
2. **Changes** - The size, contents and names of Territories often changed over time.
Ex. Oregon Territory originally held present day ID and WA along with some parts of MT and WY.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Wpdms_oregon_territory_1848.png
3. **Statehood Requirement - 60,000 residents** - Frequent Enumerations if thought total was near 60,000.
EX. Nevada 1861, 1862, 1863 1864; Oregon 1849, 1854, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859;

STATE CENSUS -- Exists for 37 States. The 13 states which never conducted a state sponsored census or for which none survive = AK, CT, DE, ID, KY, MT, NH, OH, PA, TX, VT, VA, WV plus D.C.

Why? Governmental Purposes: Transportation, military pension, production, roads, RR routes.

1. **State controls process** - Enumerated by states under their own terms. Often on the “fives.”
2. **Forms** created by state and often differ substantially from Federal schedules. Some have more than one page. Page with 2 sides. Kansas has some 4 page census. Always click to next page.

Ex: Minnesota 1895 & 1905 ask how long person resided in Minnesota, and in county of residence.

Ex: Kansas 1885, 1895, 1905. Where did you live before you moved to Kansas? Also Military Records.

Iowa 1925 – The best State Census Ever. Parents, Religion, Military, Citizenship . . .

NY 1892 -- FS, Ancestry -- Substitutes for missing Federal 1890

3. **Originals In possession of State**
4. **Availability:** On line and in print increasing as more projects are getting done. See Ancestry, see FS and other listings above. See the following listing at About.com --
http://genealogy.about.com/od/us_census/f/state_census.htm

LOCAL CENSUS

Why? Enumerations as needed for local governmental purposes.

1. **Transportation needs** – Roads, RR spurs bus routes.
2. **Schools** – Assess future needs.
3. **Public Facilities** – Assess population growth zones & public health issues. Utilities, hospitals.
4. **Voting Districts** and representation.

Ex. 1837 Northfield, Washington, Maine

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~meandrhs/census/maine/northfield/1837.html>

SPECIAL CENSUS – By Topic, location or both

Why? Taken by a specific agency for a particular purpose -- Military, School,

Alabama Census of Confederate Veterans 1907, 1921 <http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1998>

U.S. Special Census on Deaf Family Marriages and Hearing Relatives, 1888-1895. Free search at <http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1582>

Web: Kent County, Michigan School Census 1903-1925 Free at Western Michigan GS

<http://data.wmgs.org/> or at Ancestry <http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=70327>

School – See FamilySearch Catalog. Ex. Texas Gillespie Co., Texas Blanco Co. School Records, 1873-1946

RECONSTRUCTED CENSUS: A deliberate effort to reconstruct the contents of a lost census through the use of other major lists of residents and citizens, such as: tax and assessment lists, voter records, militia lists and other military records, state and federal land records, etc.

U.S. Census Reconstructed Records, 1660-1820 <http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=2234>

Includes reconstructions for states: AL AR, DE, GA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MI, MS, MO, NJ, NY, NC, OH, PA, SC, TN, VA; “The reconstruction is not necessarily complete for any entire state.”

1790 Census is a reconstruction.

CENSUS SUBSTITUTES:

1. **Definition** - Other records that contain at least a head of household and cover the same time as a lost census, or one never taken.
2. **Record Types** - Tax & Voter Lists, City Directories. For ideas see the following lists:

The Source by Ancestry, Inc. - <http://genealogy.about.com/library/authors/ucwitcher1f.htm>

Rootsweb - <http://www.genealogyforum.rootsweb.com/gfaol/beginners/CensusSubs.htm>

1890 Census Substitute at Ancestry.com Composed mainly of city directories.

http://search.ancestry.com/group/1890census/1890_Census_Substitute.aspx

California Voter Registers 1866-1898 <http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=2221> These volumes are sometimes called the Great Registers. They also exist for 13 counties in Arizona.

U.S. IRS Tax Assessment Lists, 1862-1918 <http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1264>