

## Finding Un-Indexed Records at *FamilySearch*

Junel Davidsen, CG®

*FamilySearch* has a huge collection of record images but many have not been indexed on-site. Because these records are not ‘name-searchable’ in the database, researchers need to take a few more steps to find them. Taking the time to learn the steps can save time and result in amazing finds.

*FamilySearch* volunteers are indexing records on an on-going basis and AI is also being used to scan and generate indexes. The new ‘Get Involved’ program will focus on the United States Wills and Deeds collection, but it will take some time before all records are entered in the database.

Millions of records digitized from original microfilm are ‘browseable’ on the *FamilySearch* site. This session will focus on different ways to access records that are not yet ‘name-searchable.’

### A. Searching the Catalog > go to <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog>

#### Example of steps:

#### a) Enter search options

- Location
- Keyword
- Online

Such as:

- *Virginia, Loudoun County*
- *vital records*
  
- *Online*

FamilySearch Catalog

Search the catalog of genealogical materials (including books, online materials, microfilm, microfiche, and publications) made available by FamilySearch online and in libraries and centers worldwide.

[Learn more about the catalog and how to access materials.](#)

**Search by:**  
Place | [Surnames](#) | [Titles](#) | [Author](#) | [Subjects](#) | [Keywords](#)

Place  
United States, Virginia, Loudoun

Keywords  
vital records

**Search for:**  
[Call Number](#) | [Film/Fiche/Image Group Number \(DGS\)](#)

**Availability**  
 Any  
 Online  
 FamilySearch center

[Search](#) [Reset](#)

#### b) Search results:

- ▶ United States, Virginia, Loudoun - Bible records ( 1 )
- ▶ United States, Virginia, Loudoun - Cemeteries ( 1 )
- ▶ United States, Virginia, Loudoun - Church records ( 2 )
- ▶ United States, Virginia, Loudoun - Land and property ( 1 )
- ▶ United States, Virginia, Loudoun - Military records ( 1 )
- ▶ United States, Virginia, Loudoun - Obituaries ( 1 )
- ▶ United States, Virginia, Loudoun - Vital records ( 8 )

Next: Select vital records

Next: Select collection, such as ‘Marriage Records 1779-1914’

Next: Select specific item, such as ‘Marriage records 1850-1866 (Contains a typed copy (p. 1-28, 105-181) and original manuscript (ca. 130 p.). Both are partially indexed.)’

Important: note the film number [32373] and # of items on the film roll; there are 6 items

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### 1b. Marriage record in Loudoun County, Virginia

Goal: find an 1850 manuscript (copy of original handwritten) record in item 6

Book index link <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-L9XF-2CKN?i=428&cat=363832>

At item 6, go to handwritten book index (image 429)

- 'A' section: Alder, Sanford marriage record is on p. 1

- Browse to the record: image 439 of 503

1850 Marriage Record of Sanford Alder and Maria A. Marshall, married 24 May 1849

DATE OF RETURN.	NAMES OF PARTIES MARRIED.	NAMES OF MINISTERS OFFICIATING.	DATE OF MARRIAGE.
1850 April 12	Edwin R. Gover and Ellen Hammondy	W. G. Eggleston	1849 April 18 <sup>th</sup>
"	Joshua Osburn and Abigail Osburn	"	May 17 <sup>th</sup>
"	Peter Compher Jr. Sally Dale Hoc	"	May 22 <sup>nd</sup>
"	Sanford Alder Sallina Marshall	"	May 24 <sup>th</sup>

### Example 2: Find Death Certificate image

Goal: Find death record of Elmer Leroy Griggs, died 27 Jul 1984, San Benito County, California

Collection link <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2001287>

'California, County Birth and Death Records, 1800-1994' (from microfilm)

- Browse all 2,841,076 images

Step 1: Look for location, San Benito

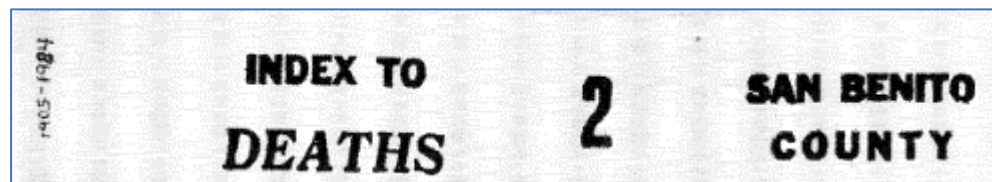
California, County Birth and Death Records, 1800-1994			
County, Town			
Alameda, Berkeley	Glenn, Orland	Mendocino	Orange, Santa Ana
Alpine	Glenn, Willows	Mendocino, Ukiah	Orange, Seal Beach
Butte	Inyo	Orange	Sacramento
Calaveras, San Andreas	Los Angeles	Orange, Brea	San Benito

Step 2: Find type of record & date range (Death Index 1905-1984 vol 2) (Deaths 1984-1986)

Death certificates 1937-1940 vol 9	Death certificates 1961-1965 vol 15	Deaths 1975-1978 vol 19
Death certificates 1940-1944 vol 10	Death certificates 1965-1968 vol 16	Deaths 1978-1982 vol 20
Death certificates 1944-1948 vol 11	Death certificates 1968-1972 vol 17	Deaths 1982-1984 vol 21
Death certificates 1948-1952 vol 12	Death index 1905-1984 vol 2	Deaths 1984-1986 vol 22
Death certificates 1953-1957 vol 13	Death index 1985 vol 3	Deaths 1986-1989 vol 23

Step 3: Look at Book Index (handwritten entries)

1905-1984



- Go to 'G' section and look for last name, note 'Book and Page' of death record  
Use the window to put in approx. image number (may need to 'page thru' until found)  
Note: online index at *Ancestry.com* has no page #s

Example 2, continued

‘G section’ (image 94 > Griggs) note: chronologically listed

Jan. 7 1884	Berman, Edward Mary	27	1884
Jan. 23 1884	Bardia, Concia Sanchez	21	1884
Feb. 4 1884	Barritt, Alice May	21	1884
July 27 1884	Briggs, Homer Leroy	22	1884
July 31 1884	Brown, Grace Florence	22	1884

**Step 4:** Use browser arrow (top left) to return to link (navigate back to collection to find book)

- Find Book 22, then find the death record on image 76 (p. 20)
- View record for genealogical information, document may be downloaded

Exercise 1: Find Death Certificate images, use same link above/same steps as above

- Find death record of Paul Bertuccio, died in 1977, San Benito County, CA (19/89A)
- View record for date of birth, occupation, names of parents, name of surviving spouse

Example 3: Browse Probate Cases, Jefferson County, Alabama, Film #2358370 (direct link below)

Note: cases are arranged in alphabetical order by surname

Goal: Find family information re Jeannette Burgin Abbott, minor

**Step 1:** Go to images 398 and 399 of 1364 to view document

Page link <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C91Q-FSC8-6?i=397&cat=1200749>

- View and read Sections 5 of document
  - a) How old is the minor child?
  - b) What relationships are shown?

**B. Searching with One-Step website** <https://stevemorse.org/fhl/websitesunitedstates.html>

‘Accessing FamilySearch’s United States Record Collections in One Step’ links to digital images

Example: Look for location and category of record

**Step 1:** Find Pennsylvania, ‘Vital Records’

click on number ↓

	Cemeteries / Obituaries	Census	Church Records	County/Local Records	Court & Probate Records	Genealogy / History	Immigration / Naturalization	Land Records	Military	Miscellaneous	Parish Records	Vital Records	Total
New Mexico	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>				<a href="#">2</a>		<a href="#">2</a>			<a href="#">6</a>	<a href="#">13</a>
New York	<a href="#">4</a>	<a href="#">8</a>	<a href="#">8</a>		<a href="#">6</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">16</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">2</a>	<a href="#">5</a>		<a href="#">17</a>	<a href="#">68</a>
North Carolina	<a href="#">3</a>		<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">3</a>		<a href="#">1</a>		<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">6</a>		<a href="#">13</a>	<a href="#">33</a>
North Dakota	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">2</a>				<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">3</a>					<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">8</a>
Ohio	<a href="#">13</a>		<a href="#">7</a>	<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">7</a>		<a href="#">5</a>		<a href="#">8</a>	<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">12</a>	<a href="#">63</a>
Oklahoma	<a href="#">5</a>		<a href="#">1</a>		<a href="#">1</a>				<a href="#">3</a>	<a href="#">5</a>		<a href="#">3</a>	<a href="#">18</a>
Oregon			<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">12</a>	<a href="#">1</a>		<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">4</a>		<a href="#">10</a>	<a href="#">21</a>
Pennsylvania	<a href="#">9</a>		<a href="#">1</a>		<a href="#">2</a>		<a href="#">9</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">2</a>	<a href="#">4</a>		<a href="#">14</a>	<a href="#">32</a>

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Step 2: Click on number and then look at list for type of record and date range

Such as:

‘Pennsylvania Civil Marriages, 1677-1950’



Collection link

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2466357> Browse = not all indexed

Note: could check database to see if the record has been indexed

Step 3: Select ‘Philadelphia’

Step 4: Select ‘Marriage licenses, Marriage licenses, no 306496-306953, 1914’

Note: Records are in loose chronological order

Step 5: Find William Charlton and Grace Boyd, married 2 Jan 1914 (image 56-58 of 1640)

Record link <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:S3HT-DCX9-G3C?i=56&wc=QDNG-MJP%3A1588753668%2C1588754064&cc=2466357>

a) What was William’s occupation, place of birth and father’s name?

**C. Search by image groups** <https://www.familysearch.org/records/images/> (also try new version)

Step 1: ‘Explore Historical Images’ > enter location such as Mexico

Step 2: ‘Search Image Groups’

Step 3: Select from ‘Places Within’ on screen left (note: some are church names)

- Select: Baja California Sur > Cabo San Lucas > 2003-2004 Death Certificates (filter)

Results link <https://www.familysearch.org/records/images/search-results?page=1&place=1937053>

Step 4: Browse and view documents (in class examples, images 10 & 14)

Example 2: Canada, British Columbia > Life Event: Migration > Alien Records ‘K’ (image 32)

**D. ‘Get Involved’ Videos about volunteering:** <https://www.familysearch.org/indexing/about>

Per the website: “FamilySearch’s new artificial intelligence can now scan handwritten genealogical documents—millions of them—quickly and generate an index of the names and other information from those digitized documents. The index is far from perfect, but it’s impressive. Perfecting that machine index is where the Get Involved online volunteers come in.”

‘Find a Project’ for indexing: <https://www.familysearch.org/indexing/my-indexing>

