

Hammons - Why You Need To Use The FamilySearch Wiki familysearch.org

Learn how to harness the Power of Crowd Sourcing to help you locate the records of your ancestors.



FamilySearch Wiki = Free Online Family History Guide

- Each major page is monitored by a FamilySearch Missionary or Volunteer
- Helps identify available and accessible records
- Teaches you how to research in the State/Country of your ancestors
- Lets you Access Lessons, Research Tools, Forms, and Helps
- Teaches you how to Begin your research in any state or country
- Guides you to Groups that can help you through community.familysearch.org
- Continues to be updated as new information is made available.
- Has Topic pages such as 'Organizing digital files',

The Wiki will help you locate documents such as census records, birth, marriage and death records and much more. It will also help you guide your research.

To use the Wiki - come prepared

- Decide what you want to find about your ancestor.
- Know the locations where your ancestor lived.
- Prepare and use a timeline to help you as you navigate the Wiki.
- Decide what specific records might hold the information you need.
- Place a 'watch' on pages in which you are interested.

Watch Feature

Click the star at the top of a page to 'watch' the page.

You will get an email when new information has been added or a page has been **changed**

Main Features - Available in different Languages

- Page for all 50 States and Many Countries
- County including formation date and boundary changes
- Identified Unique Collections
- Research Guides
- Maps, Gazetteers, Timelines
- Links to free online sources and to subscription (\$) sites.
- Links to record collections
- Foreign Language helps and word lists
- Research Outlines
- Links to Communities of people working in your areas

State Pages Include

- Archive and Library links
- Free Classes and Videos
- Census Charts, Helps, and Links
- Maps and links to each County
- Immigration
- Vital Records
- Best website to use including links to identified sources

International Research

- How to begin your research
- Locate when records began to be kept, where they are kept, and how to access them
- Language helps and word lists
- Free classes and videos
- Guidance and record location for research for ethnic and religious groups

Process: Sign in with your FamilySearch account

1. Start with a Ancestor, a location, and time period
2. Select a state or country
3. First result is generally the main page for an area
4. Drill down by county using the map or alphabetical list.
5. Use topics on the left or the right of the screen to narrow your search to a specific record source
6. If you want a link to open in another tab simply **Right Click** on the hyperlink.
7. Keep a research log or list of helpful websites.