

Ancestor Clean Up on Ancestry.com

Genealogy TV Video

Do you have ancestors in your family tree that need to be cleaned up? Do they have multiple names, birth, marriage, and death facts in their profiles on Ancestry.com? In other words, do you have 4, 5, 6 or more birth facts for one ancestor... or multiple marriage facts for the same marriage? Do you know how to clean those up properly? Let me show you how to get your facts organized so you can focus on the real work of researching your family tree. [LINK to the VIDEO](#)

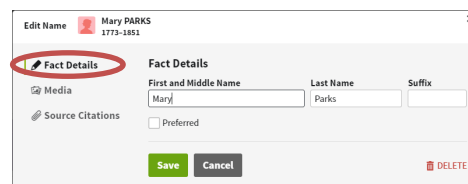
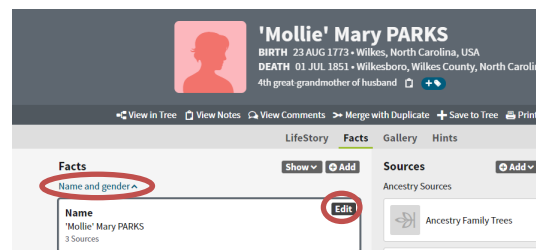
To See Which Sources are Attached to Which Fact

- While in the profile view, click on the Facts Tab near the top.
- Single click on the fact and lines will be drawn to the associated Sources for that fact.

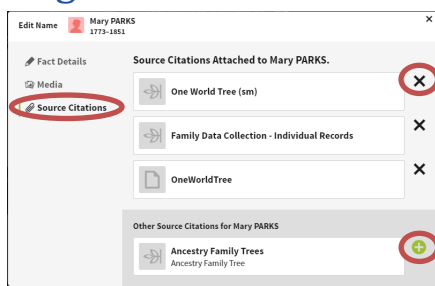
Fixing Names

You will want to avoid using quotes or other special symbols in names (except for the Suffix field) because it could change the way the search engines work.

- Go to the Profile of the Ancestor you want to fix.
- Click on the Facts Tab
- Click on Name and Gender
- Note the Primary Name vs. the Alternate Names
- To Remove a Name or Alternate Name
 - Click on the Name to modify
 - Click on "Edit" in the Name Fact
 - Choose Delete (this will delete the Name Fact)
 - Choose Delete again (Green Button)



Adding a Source to a Fact



Note: This is the same procedure for adding sources to any fact.

- Edit the Fact from the left side column.
- Click on Source Citations
- Click the plus button to add a Source.
- Click the X to Remove a Source
- Close with the x in the upper right corner.



Clean up Multiple Birth, Marriage, or Death Facts

- Take note of the duplicate facts.
- Edit the fact that needs to be deleted.
- Choose Delete
- Confirm Deletion with the green button.
- Reassign Sources as shown above in the Adding Sources section.

Changing an Alternate Fact to a Preferred Fact

- Open the Alternate Fact by selecting it and choose “Edit”
- Choose the check box that says “Preferred”
- Click Save
- This will automatically make the previous “Preferred” fact (of the same type, like a birth fact) now become an Alternative Fact.

Edit Name Mary PARKS
1773-1851

Fact Details

First and Middle Name: Mollie Last Name: Parks Suffix:

Source Citations: Preferred

Save Cancel DELETE

Review for Other Issues

- Look for duplicate children.
- Look for duplicated sources.
- Remove quotes or special characters.
- Avoid duplicating ancestors when merging from other member trees.

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- Ancestry.com: ThruLines Explained (2020)

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- Your Question Answered, Part 2: About How & Why You Should Keep Good RESEARCH

NOTES, PLANS & LOGS!

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