

Five Hidden Tools on Ancestry

Here are some of the tools often missed by genealogist but are often overlooked.

Link to the video: <https://youtu.be/t99DXctd3wg>

1. **Search Private Trees** – Anyone can search for private trees, but you will not be able to see inside the trees until you get permission from the tree owner.
 - Go to search> Public Member Trees> Private Trees (Right side column)>
 - Search the Ancestors Name.
 - Contact the Tree owner for the results that look promising by clicking on “Contact Tree Owner.”
2. **Search Card Catalog by Location and Era** – Most start their search from the ancestor’s search screen. To find additional record and results, start your search from the Card Catalog and then drill down by location and era.
 - From the home page, click on Search tab (top of the screen).
 - Drop down to Card Catalog
 - In the left side column, scroll down to the country you are researching, then the state or province.
 - Choose a decade or century in which you are researching.
 - The results will be a list of records that Ancestry has for that location and era.
 - Note the number of results at the top of the page. You may need to drill down further to the county or town in which you are researching. However, do not forget that your ancestor might be listed in statewide records, so filtering to the county level may filter out possible records.
 - You can also sort by record count to review the record sets that have the most records to help increase your odds of finding your ancestor.
 - Example Shown: You would then pick the record sets you wish to research and search by the ancestor name, using all spelling variations.
 - Use X to remove filter.

Card Catalog
Searchable listing of all record collections

Title:
Keyword(s):
Search or Clear All

Filters:

- USA
- North Carolina
- Anson
- 1700-1799

Filter By Category:

- Court, Land, Wills & Financial 1
- Stories, Memories & Histories 1

Results 1-2 of 2

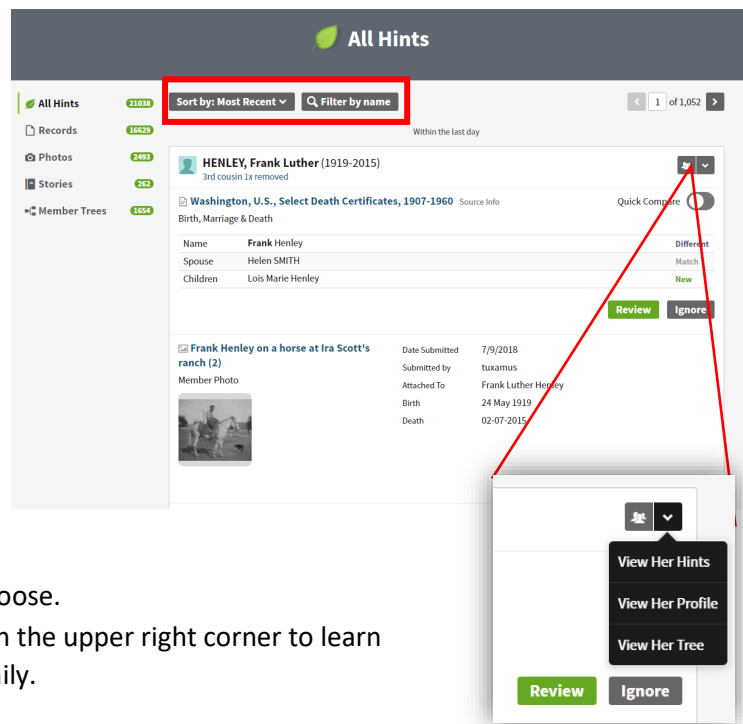
Sort By: Date Added

Title	Category	Records	Activity
<input type="checkbox"/> Anson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts, 1749-1766, Abstracts of Wills & Estates, 1749-1795	Court, Land, Wills & Financial	272	
<input type="checkbox"/> History of Anson County, North Carolina, 1750-1976	Stories, Memories & Histories	466	



3. All Hints – Using the All Hints feature you can then search by ancestor.

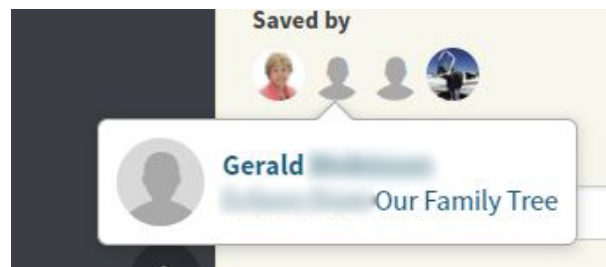
- Click the Leaf icon in the upper right corner on almost any page.
- At the bottom of the list click “See all recent hints in...”
- Choose a tree if you have more than one.
- Note how many hints in this view.
- Choose “Filter by Name” and search your target ancestor.
- Add sort by Last Name if you choose.
- Also see the dropdown arrow on the upper right corner to learn more about a specific hint’s family.



4. See Who Saved Your Images and Documents – Great way to connect!

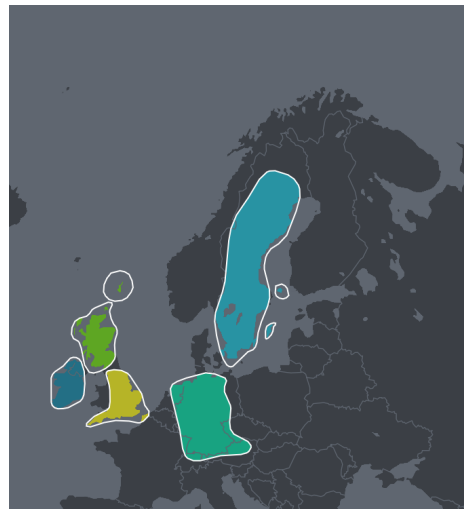
When you upload documents and images to your public tree, others can see and save your contributions to the world. By looking at who has saved your documents and images in your family tree, it is a great way to find other persons researching the same family lines.

- Go to the profile view of your ancestor.
- Click on Gallery
- Choose an image or document you have uploaded.
- Look at the “Saved by” area.
- Click on the circles to see who saved your images.
- You can contact them directly to collaborate on the family history by clicking on their name.



5. Ethnicity Estimates – Additional Communities gives you a migration timeline.

- Click on DNA Tab>Your DNA Results
- Click on “Discover Your DNA Story” button in the DNA Story box.
- On the right-side box labeled Ethnicity Estimate, look for Additional Communities (if available).
- Click on one of the Additional Communities and a timeline will appear.
- As you scroll down in the right-side column, the map view will change and animate. Watch the timeline grow with the information in the right-side column.

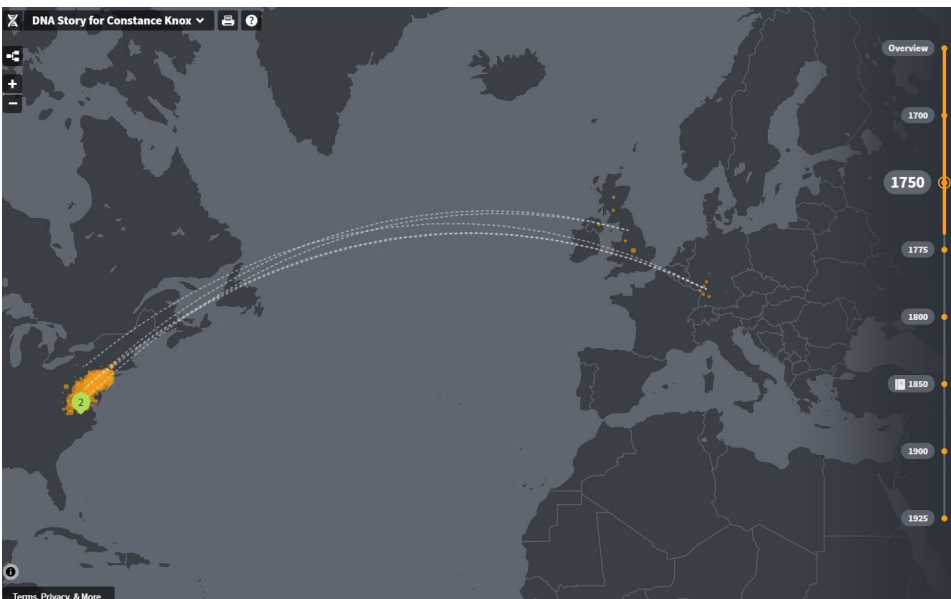


Ethnicity Estimate Share

England & Northwestern Europe	36%
Scotland	22%
Germanic Europe	20%
Sweden	19%
Ireland	2%
Cameroon, Congo & Western Bantu Peoples	1%


Additional Communities

- Ohio River Valley, Indiana, Illinois & Iowa Settlers**
 - From your regions: England & Northwestern Europe; Germanic Eur...
 - 6 Possible Ancestor Stories Found
- Upper Ohio River Valley Settlers**
- Western Ohio, Indiana, Illinois & Southeast Iowa Settlers**
- Central Appalachia Settlers**
 - From your regions: England & Northwestern Europe; Scotland
 - 3 Possible Ancestor Stories Found
- Southern West Virginia Settlers**




Ohio River Valley, Indiana, Illinois ...

People from your tree with birth or death dates in this time period are plotted on the map.



Joshua Newby
4th Great-Grandfather



Rachel Nixon
4th Great-Grandmother

1775-1800

Toward the “Western Country”

Many Native American tribes joined the British during the Revolutionary War, and fighting in western Pennsylvania was particularly brutal as both sides struggled to protect their people. After the defeat of the Delaware and Ohio tribes in 1794, veterans with land grants, land-hungry settlers, and land speculators poured into their territorial lands in the Ohio River Valley. Land in the “Western Country” was fertile, and places like Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, became gateways for thousands of settlers taking flatboats along the river to the open country.

People in Your Tree

People from your tree with birth or death dates in this time period are plotted on the map.

