

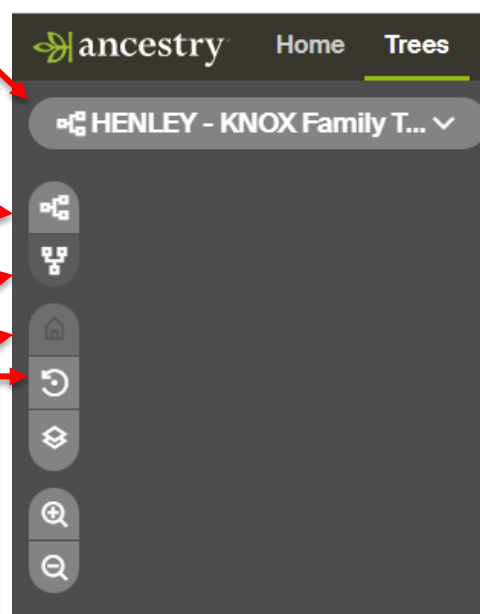
New Tools in Ancestry's Tree

[Video Link](#)

Recently Ancestry rolled out some updates to the Ancestry.com platform including new graphics and some new tools. In the Tree View of the tree there are several new items to point out some new and some you may not have noticed.

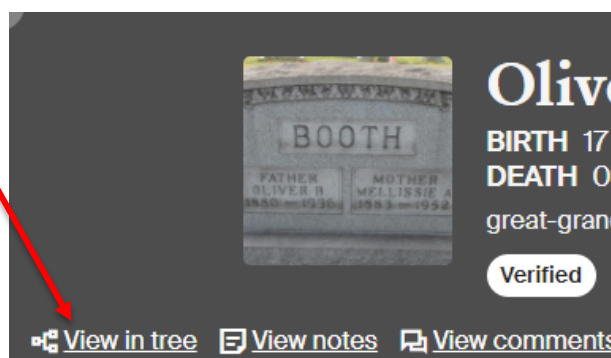
Let's make sure you understand the existing functions of the tree before we get into the new functions.

- On the left side there is the **Tree Drop Down menu** that shows all your trees within your Ancestry Account as well as some other tools. These have not changed, so we won't review them.
- Next is the **Pedigree View** icon giving you the direct lineage of your family history.
- Next is what Ancestry calls their **Family View** which is showing the ancestral view from the bottom up, with spouses and siblings.
- Then is the **Home Person** icon. The Home Person typically is the owner of the tree but can be set to anyone in the tree. Having yourself as the home person, helps you get reoriented within the tree when you get lost. With larger trees, it can be easy to get lost in the tree.
- The **Return Icon** returns you to either your "Home Person" or your "Focus Person" depending on your recent activity.



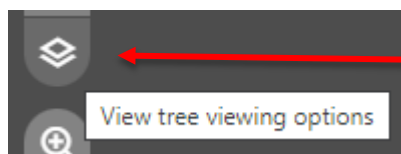
What is a Focus Person?

- A Focus Person is created when you click on a profile within your tree and then clicked on "**View in Tree.**"
- If you have *not* clicked on an ancestor's profile, then the **Return Icon** (mentioned above) will take you back to your Home Person (likely you).
- If you *have* opened a profile, then clicked **Show in Tree**, that is your Focus Person, and the Return Icon will return you to that person within the tree (if you have moved around beyond that Focus Person). This is handy when researching a specific line or getting lost in the tree.



New! Tree Viewing Options

If you are in the Pedigree View you are likely *not* going to see the new Tree Viewing Options. You need to be in the **Family View** to see the new tools work.

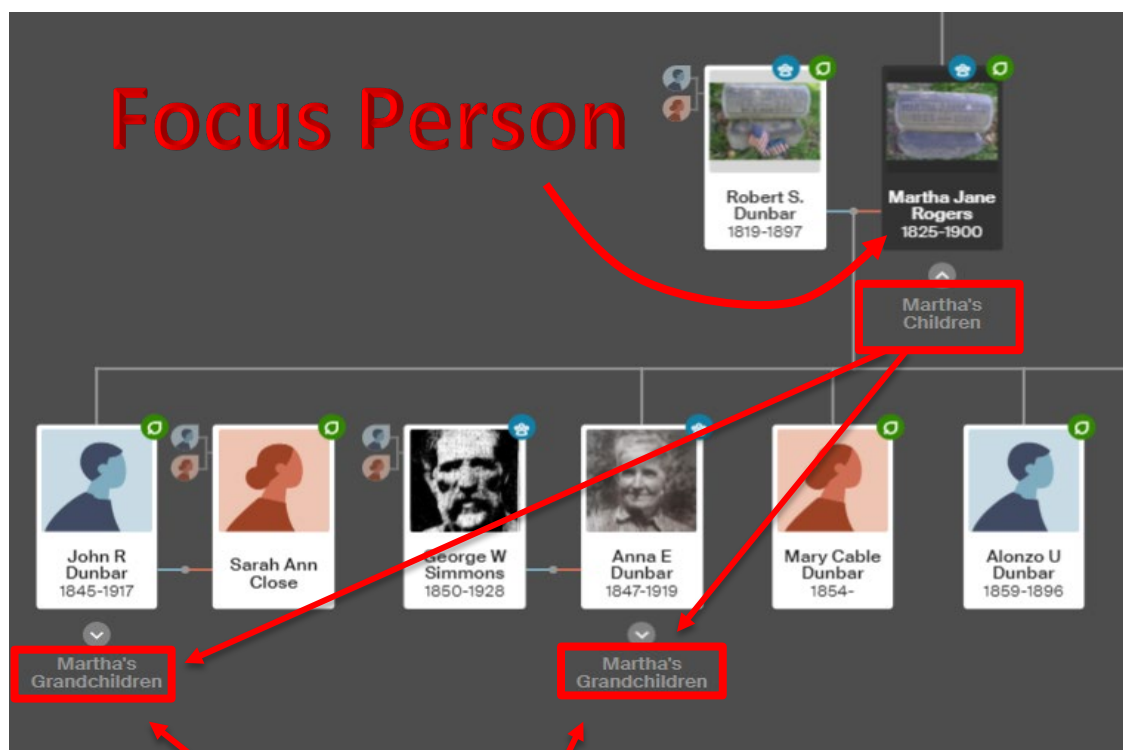
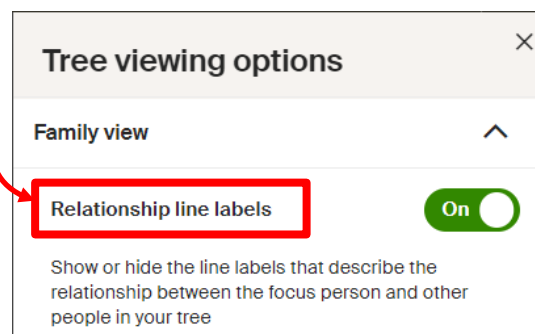


The new **View Tree Options** icon looks like a stack of papers.

When you click on it a side panel opens.

The top option called **“Relationship Line Labels”** shows you how the focus person is related to others in the tree.... or it might be the Home Person, depending on your recent activity.

Turning this option on, shows the relationships in the direct line from the Focus Person, as shown in the red boxes below. You can tell the Focus Person by the difference in color. Your colors may be different depending on your tree settings.



**Relation to
Focus Person**

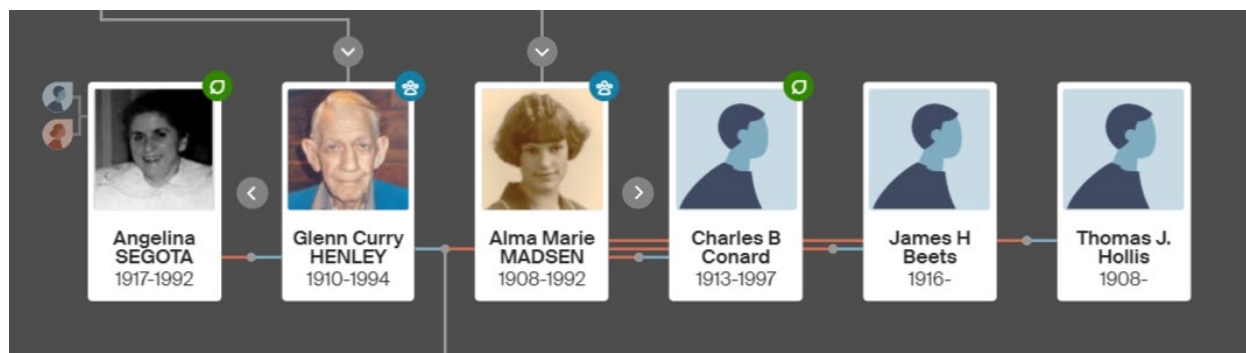
Always View All Spouses Off/On

By turning on the View All Spouses, will show you all spouses in the Family View of the tree. Turning it off will only show the direct ancestors in this view but will show the children.

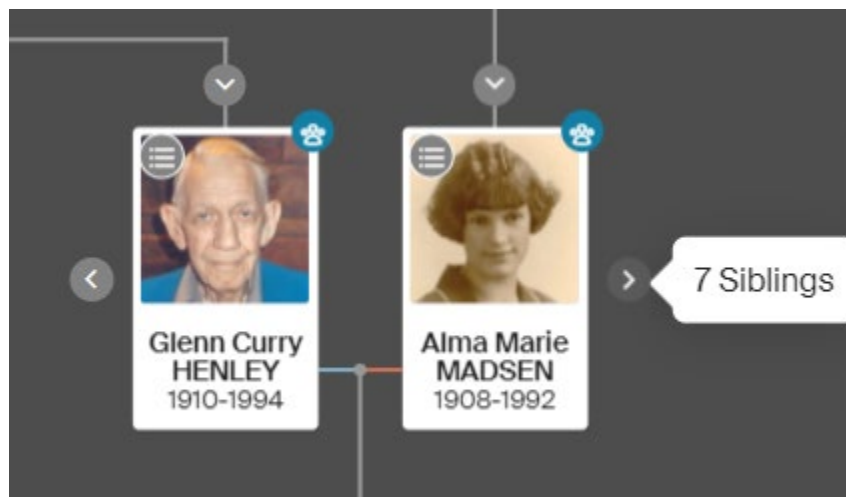
Always view all spouses

On

If this is set to On, your tree view will show all spouses for all individuals. If it is set to Off, only the default or preferred spouse will be shown.



With the View All Spouses Turned On



With View All Spouses Turned Off

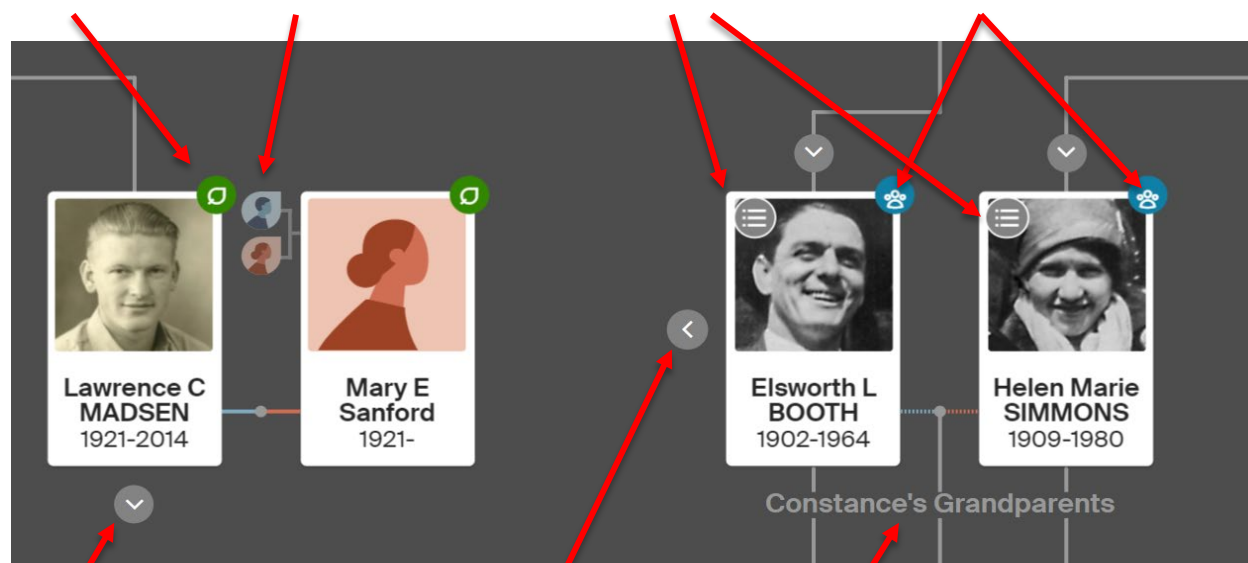
This is the view of the same ancestral couple with the View All Spouses turned off.

Notice the arrows to the right and left. Clicking these arrows will expand to show you that person's siblings and their spouses.

Icons Explained

I love the icons on Ancestry and while some are obvious, some might need explaining.

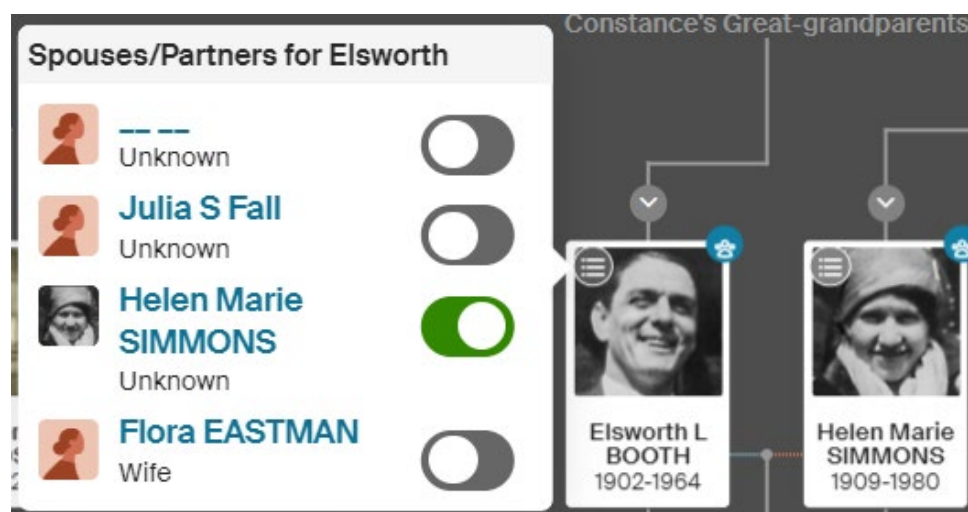
Hints **Ancestors of that Person** **More Spouses** **Person in a ThruLine® or DNA Branch**



Children

More Siblings

Relation to Home or Focus Person



Clicking on the More Spouses Icon allows you to turn on and off how many you see in the tree view.

How to Set the Home Person

1. Go to the Trees tab, then drop down to Create and Manage Trees.
2. Click the Tree Settings to the right of the tree you want to change the Home Person on.
3. In the upper right corner, you can change the home person with the change link.
 - a. Browse the list for a new person in the tree to set as the home person.
 - b. Alternatively, select "I have selected myself as the Home Person."