Using Ancestry's Card Catalog Side Panel

Video Link to OMG! Bingo!

The goal of this video is to demonstrate how I found an ancestor in the 1880 census when I had looked and looked and looked and was not able to find her. I used several techniques to find her. What is demonstrated in this handout is the side panel in Ancestry's card catalog. This is an advanced Research technique and should be done if researching using the normal search button on the ancestor's profile fails.

Other Videos from this Lesson

In this video "Secret Research Trick" I go into more detail about how to extract the neighborhood where your ancestors lived from Ancestry into an Excel spreadsheet. This allows you to filter it to find your ancestors and other family members living nearby. This is worth watching. For non-members, you can find the handout here. Members will find it in the posts on either on Genealogy TV (YouTube) or on Patreon.com/GenealogyTV or at the Genealogy TV Academy.

Also, this video "FamilySearch Hidden Records" shows you how to search family searches new Full Text Search. This is a game changer!

Handouts

In addition to this handout, there are two other handouts and lessons that I talked about in this episode.

Secret Research Trick (Extracting Census to Excel) - For Non-Members, Find the Handout Here.

FamilySearch Hidden Records (Full Text Search) – For Non Members, Find the Handout Here.

For All Members, you will find them in the posts on either the Genealogy TV (YouTube) channel in the membership tab or on Patreon.com/GenealogyTV (depending on your membership) or at the Genealogy TV Academy.

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How to Search the Side Panel in Ancestry's Card Catalog

These are the steps I took specifically for this research project.

Goal: Remember, I was trying to find a 5-6 year old girl in the 1880 US Population Census. She was not coming up when searching for her by name.

1) Determine your record collection, time, and place.
2) On Ancestry – Go to Search>Card Catalog
3) Use the filters on the left side to drill into the record type.
   a. In my case I was looking for the 1880 U.S. Census.
   b. I clicked on Census & Voter
4) ListsFilter to Location
   a. In my case I filtered to U.S. because the census is a federal record.
   b. If I drilled into the state, I would not see the census I
5) needed.Sort by Record Count in the upper right corner.

6) Click into the record set.

7) From the next screen, I could have researched the name of the person here, but it would be the same as searching from anywhere on the platform.

   a. Instead, I want to search just the location I know the rest of her family was in. This is where the right side panel called "Browse this Collection" comes in.

   b. This also allows me to see what townships and subcollections are available on the Ancestry platform.

8) Above you can see that I chose to search in North Carolina, Randolph County, and the township of Back Creek. This was the last known location for this family.

9) Click into the Enumeration District Number. This will start you at the beginning of the roll.

10) Because this is at the beginning of the roll, you will need to go page by page to search for your ancestors. Use the index (if it is indexed) to make it easier by clicking the people icon at the bottom of thescreen.

11) Extracting to Excel- From here, this is where I was extracting the entire roll so I could filter it. Seethe next video "Secret Research Trick" for that step noted above in the Other Videos section