

## 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.



## 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.

**Card Catalog**  
Searchable listing of all record collections

Title  
 Keyword(s)  
 Search

**Filters** Clear All

✓ **Census & Voter Lists** ×  
 1700s 1800s 1900s  
 1700s 1800s 1900s  
 1710s 1810s 1910s  
 1720s 1820s 1920s  
 1730s 1830s 1930s  
 1740s 1840s 1940s  
 1750s 1850s 1950s  
 1760s 1860s 1960s  
 1770s 1870s 1970s  
 1780s 1880s 1980s  
 1790s 1890s 1990s

✓ **Filter By Location** ×  
 ✓ **USA** ×  
 > Alabama 47  
 > Alaska 14

Results 1-25 of 362 Sort By Record Count

[Search entire "Census & Voter Lists" Category](#)

Title	Category	Records
<a href="#">1950 United States Federal Census</a>	Census & Voter Lists	156,818,196
<a href="#">1940 United States Federal Census</a>	Census & Voter Lists	134,484,516
<a href="#">1930 United States Federal Census</a>	Census & Voter Lists	124,964,021
<a href="#">1920 United States Federal Census</a>	Census & Voter Lists	107,684,837
<a href="#">1910 United States Federal Census</a>	Census & Voter Lists	93,627,758
<a href="#">1900 United States Federal Census</a>	Census & Voter Lists	77,146,268
<a href="#">California, U.S., Voter Registrations, 1900-1968</a>	Census & Voter Lists	70,501,340
<b><a href="#">1880 United States Federal Census</a></b>	Census & Voter Lists	50,480,843
<a href="#">1870 United States Federal Census</a>	Census & Voter Lists	40,405,476
<a href="#">1860 United States Federal Census</a>	Census & Voter Lists	27,463,617
<a href="#">Kansas, U.S., City and County Census Records, 1919-1961</a>	Census & Voter Lists	26,670,739
<a href="#">1850 United States Federal Census</a>	Census & Voter Lists	20,031,203
<a href="#">Florida, U.S., Voter Registration Records, 1942-2023</a>	Census & Voter Lists	15,542,865
<a href="#">Iowa, U.S., State Census Collection, 1836-1925</a>	Census & Voter Lists	14,267,221

- 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.

## 1880 United States Federal Census

**Search**  Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)  Last Name

Year  Location

Birth  City, County, State, Country

Lived In  City, County, State, Country

Any Event  City, County, State, Country

Add family member: [Father](#) [Mother](#) [Sibling](#) [Spouse](#) [Child](#)

	First & Middle Name(s)	Last Name
Father	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mother	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Sibling	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Spouse	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Child	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Provided in association with National Archives and Records Administration



**Browse this collection**

To browse this image set, select from the options below.

State  
North Carolina

County  
Randolph

Township  
Back Creek

Enumeration District  
[215 Buck Creek Township](#)

- 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 the screen.
- 11) Extracting to Excel- From here, this is where I was extracting the entire roll so I could filter it. See the next video [“Secret Research Trick”](#) for that step noted above in the Other Videos section