

## Places to Look For Records

- A local genealogy or historical society where the event took place.
- Heritage Center, Fresno County Public Library or a local library- A good place for books, newspapers, city directories and online paid resources that may not be available from home.
- Family! Ask who, when and where questions.
- Local Government Offices (Recorder or Clerk for vital records, land Records, court records)
- Census records available online or on microfilm.

### Some Favorite Websites

#### Fresno County Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cafcgs/>

#### Heritage Center @Fresno County Public Library - Lots of sites

<http://www.fresnolibrary.org/heritage>

#### Cyndi's List— Tons of Genealogy <http://www.cyndislist.com/>

#### Family Search- Search the FREE records here and learn on their WIKI

<https://familysearch.org/>

#### State and County sites [www.usgenweb.org/](http://www.usgenweb.org/)

Ancestry.com (Paid site at home FREE at the Library!)

Fold3.com—Paid site, many Free military collections.

### Visit us in Person at the Central Library Downtown!

San Joaquin Valley Heritage & Genealogy Center  
Cosponsored by the Fresno County Genealogical Society  
2420 Mariposa Street, Fresno, CA 559-600-6230

HOURS: Mon-Thur 10AM to 7PM Fri/Sat 10AM to 5 PM  
Sun Noon to 5PM

*Genealogy Volunteers are available to help you get started  
or to find a way around a brick wall!!*



# Start Your Genealogy in 5 Easy Steps

## Step 1: Find out what you want to know—Start with yourself and work backwards

Ask Relatives for information

Remember the W's (Who, Where, When)

Find out the maiden names for women

Look around the house for old documents and family Bibles with information either written in or maybe slipped in.

## Step 2: Write Down What You Know- Use the Form inside

Write in Pencil

#1 is you, #2 is your father, #3 is your mother and so on.

Write dates out for example 12 Dec 1965

Use approximates if you don't know for sure

Use maiden names for female your ancestors

## Step 3: Pick One Person to Find Something About.

When and where was Grandfather born?

Look at your written information, what do you know that can lead you to this missing information?

Have they passed on? Do you have an obituary?

## Step 4: Locating the Information/Finding the Source

Visit the Heritage Center or your local library to find genealogy books or online resources.

Look in books or other local information at the library.

This includes: newspapers, city directories, and obituaries

Look online at genealogy websites and message boards

Look for Birth, Marriage, Death Records, Obituaries, Land, Census, Military, Immigration Records

## Step 5: Record the Information You Have Found

and start on another!

Join us at our Monthly Meetings @ Woodward Park Library check our website for details.

Chart No. \_\_\_\_

No. 1 on this chart is same as

No. \_\_\_\_ on Chart \_\_\_\_

Even Numbers= males

EX: Benjamin Franklin Brownell

Date: 20 Apr 1856

Fresno, Fresno, California

**Ancestor/Pedigree Chart**

8

Father (of no. 4)  
Born Place  
Married Place  
Died Place

4

Father (of no. 2)  
Born Place  
Married Place  
Died Place

9

Mother (of no. 4)  
Born Place  
Died Place

2

Father (of no. 1)  
Born Place  
Married Place  
Died Place

10

Father (of no. 5)  
Born Place  
Married Place  
Died Place

5

Mother (of no. 2)  
Born Place  
Died Place

11

Mother (of no. 5)  
Born Place  
Died Place

1

(Name)  
Born Place  
Married Place  
Died Place

12

Father (of no. 6)  
Born Place  
Married Place  
Died Place

6

Father (of no. 3)  
Born Place  
Married Place  
Died Place

13

Mother (of no. 6)  
Born Place  
Died Place

3

Mother (of no. 1)  
Born Place  
Died Place

14

Father (of no. 7)  
Born Place  
Married Place  
Died Place

7

Mother (of no. 3)  
Born Place  
Died Place

15

Mother (of no. 7)  
Born Place  
Died Place

Compiled By: Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
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