

PEDIGREE ANALYSIS

Pedigree Analysis is best accomplished one family, one location at a time following a five-step process.

As you do family history research, you will typically follow five steps going from the

KNOWN TO THE UNKNOWN

These steps, taken in sequence, are called the research process. They are:

- **Step 1: Identify What You Know About Your Family**
 - a. This step includes filling out a pedigree chart and family group records with what you already know about your family.
 - b. Gathering additional information from home sources and relatives.
 - c. Organizing your records for easy access.
 - d. Use your family history record management program* to compile this information.
- **Step 2: Decide What You Want to Learn About Your Family**
 - a. This step involves selecting a specific ancestor about whom you would like to know more.
 - b. Determining what you would like to know about that ancestor.
 - c. Preparing a research log.
 - d. Current information posted on a time-line will help you to see what information is missing.
- **Step 3: Select Records to Search**
 - a. This step involves identifying the category of record you need to search in order to find out what you would like to know.
 - b. This record category might be a
 - Compiled record
 - Original record
 - Reference source
 - e. The step then involves identifying the specific record to be searched.
 - f. Where will I find the record and what information will it give me?
 - g. Describing it in your research log.
- **Step 4: Obtain and Search the Record**
 - a. This step involves obtaining the record from the Internet, the Family History Library, or another repository.
 - b. Searching the record.
 - c. Recording the results of the search on your log and in your record management program.
 - d. You may also make an extract, picture or photocopy of that information.
- **Step 5: Use the Information**
 1. This step includes submitting names to the church.
 2. Submitting the names for temple work.
 3. Posting information on the Internet.
 4. Writing a family history.
 5. Other uses of the information.

Repeat these 5 steps as you continue doing research.

*Free versions of Ancestral Quest, Legacy or Roots Magic can be found on FamilySearch.org