

## Deliveries in the Rear! Getting Family History Information through the Back Door

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Consider checking alternatives to your direct line relatives:

brothers- and sisters-in-law ● uncles/aunts ● cousins (all varieties)

Consider checking your family's associates:

neighbors ● co-workers ● church members and clergy

Consider checking historical events in the areas & time frames where your family lived

wars ● migrations ● inventions ● epidemics

Resources for above (see finding aids on next page)

1. Census records (state, Federal, & special)
2. Newspaper accounts (including advertising)
3. Historical accounts (books, websites)
4. Letters
5. Diaries
6. Records of institutions
7. Probate records
8. Deeds
9. Military & pension records
10. Vital records of ancestor, corollary ancestors, & non-related associates
11. Cemeteries (check graves next to your ancestors')
12. Church records of ancestors' congregations
13. Living relatives, no matter how distant
14. Websites for the areas where your ancestor lived
15. Photos

**Some of the best things come through the back door!**

Just a few suggestions of places to find these back door treasures:

- Ancestry.com
  - Various databases (beyond the census)
    - Military
    - Immigration & Naturalization
    - Family Trees posted by others (evaluate very carefully)
    - and more
  - Census records: Federal ● State ● Special
- FamilySearch.org
  - Historical Record Collections
    - Vital records
    - Census records
    - Court records
    - and more (updated almost daily)
  - Library Catalog
  - Trees (evaluate very carefully)
- Historical Societies in the areas where your ancestors lived
- Fold3.com (formerly Footnote.com)
  - City Directories
  - Military records
  - Census records
  - Immigration & Naturalization records
- Find-a-Grave.com
- Newspapers (obituaries, announcements, advertisements, news stories) on
  - Ancestry.com
  - Fold3
  - Godfrey Library
  - NewsBank/GenealogyBank
  - Freenewspaperarchives.us
  - Google News Archive search
  - NewspaperArchive.com
  - WorldVitalRecords.com
  - Individual websites for Counties of your ancestors
  - and more – (Check Cyndi's list for more ideas)
- Rootsweb.com: mailing lists ● message boards
- USGenWeb.com: state and county sites

**Please don't slam the door on these possibilities!**