

Getting Started

Gather as many names and death dates as you can from family members, tombstones, personal papers, photos, scrapbooks, etc. Is there a family bible?

Try to find obituaries and/or death certificates.

Did your family live in another area at one time? If so, you may need to extend your research to that area.

U.S. census records are available every ten years from 1790-1880 and 1900-1950. Track ancestors through the census to find their parents.

Extend your search by checking deeds, wills, and military records.

Use variations in spelling. Also, records may only have initials or abbreviations (such as W.T. or Wm.)

Not all records are digitized for online use. You may need to travel to find more information.

Visit the Anderson Main Library for genealogical and local history research.

300 N. McDuffie St.
Anderson, SC 29621

Monday to Thursday
9am to 8pm

Friday and Saturday
9am to 6pm

Sunday
2 to 6pm

Visit
www.andersonlibrary.org
for more resources



A Family History Beginner's Guide



ANDERSON COUNTY
LIBRARY SYSTEM
SOUTH CAROLINA

300 N. McDuffie St., Anderson, SC 29621
Research@andersonlibrary.org | 864-260-4500

Books

General Genealogy

Family History Detective: A Step-by-Step Guide to Investigating Your Family History
SC 929.1 Allen, Desmond

Tracing Your Family Tree: Discover Your Roots and Explore Your Family's History
SC 929.1 Chater, Kathy

Unpuzzling Your Past and The Genealogist's Companion & Sourcebook
SC 929.1 Croom, Emily

A Field Guide for Genealogists
SC 929.1 Jacobson, Judy

Forensic Genealogy
SC 929.1072 Fitzpatrick, Colleen

Tracing Your Family History
SC 929.1072 Hull, Lise

Basics of Genealogy Reference
SC 929.1072 Simpson, Jack

Family Photo Detective
SC 929.1072 Taylor, Maureen

DNA and Social Networking
SC R 929.1 Kennett, Debbie

Books

Useful Tools

Reading Early American Handwriting
SC 929.1 Sperry, Kip

The Genealogist's Address Book
SC R 929.1025 Bentley, Elizabeth

Compendium of Historical Sources
SC R 929.1072 Bremer, Ronald

Evidence Explained: Citing History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace
SC R 929.1072 Mills, Elizabeth

International Vital Records Handbook
SC RR 929.1 Kemp, Thomas Jay

Preservation

Creating Family Newsletters & Time Capsules
SC 929.1 Hart, Anne

Caring for Your Family Treasures
SC R 745.1 Long, Jane

Photographs: Archival Care & Management
SC R 771.46 Ritzenthaler, Mary

How to Archive Family Keepsakes
SC R 929.1072 Levenick, Denise May

Online Resources

General

familysearch.org
usgenweb.com
findagrave.com
archives.gov/research/genealogy
genealogy.about.com
cyndislist.com
genealogy.com/forum

South Carolina

andersoncounty.scgen.org
scdah.sc.gov

Newspapers

chroniclingamerica.loc.gov

SC Death Index 1915-1961

scdhec.gov/VitalRecords/SCDeathIndexes/SCDeathIndexes

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