22 Steps in Researching Your Family Tree

'Discovering Your Past Blog Series'

Student Notes:

Step 7: Find Ancestors in Census Records, Military Documents, and Ship's Passenger Lists

- Census records, military documents, and ship's passenger lists are valuable resources for genealogical research. These records can provide detailed information about our ancestors, including their names, ages, occupations, places of birth, and more. In this step, we will learn how to find our ancestors in these important documents.

2. Census Records: Census records are conducted every 10 years and can provide a wealth of information about our ancestors. To find your ancestor in census records, follow these steps:

   - Start by searching online databases, such as Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, and Findmypast.
   - Narrow your search by entering as much information as you have about your ancestor, such as their name, age, place of birth, and occupation.
   - Check the census year and location to make sure you are searching the correct record.
   - Look for your ancestor's name and information, and record any other valuable information you find, such as the names and ages of other family members.

3. Military Documents: Military records can provide information about our ancestors' service in the military, including their rank, unit, and service dates. To find your ancestor in military records, follow these steps:

   - Start by searching online databases, such as Fold3, Ancestry.com, and FamilySearch.org.

- Narrow your search by entering as much information as you have about your ancestor, such as their name, branch of service, and service dates.
- Look for your ancestor's name and information, and record any other valuable information you find, such as their enlistment date and discharge date.

4. Ship's Passenger Lists: Ship's passenger lists can provide information about our ancestors' immigration to a new country, including their name, age, occupation, and country of origin. To find your ancestor in ship's passenger lists, follow these steps:

- Start by searching online databases, such as Ellis Island and Ancestry.com.
- Narrow your search by entering as much information as you have about your ancestor, such as their name, age, and country of origin.
- Look for your ancestor's name and information, and record any other valuable information you find, such as the name of the ship and the date of arrival.

By following these steps, you can use census records, military documents, and ship's passenger lists to find valuable information about your ancestors. Don't forget to keep track of your research and record any new information you find. Happy searching!

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Quiz - Step 7. 'Find ancestors in Census Records,

Military documents and ship's passenger lists

1. Which of the following is a common resource for finding information about ancestors in census records?

    a) Findmypast b) Ancestry.com c) National Archives d) All of the above

2. What type of information can be found in military records?

    a) Birth dates and places b) Marriage dates and places c) Military service dates and locations d) All of the above

3. What is the most common way to access ship's passenger lists?

    a) National Archives b) Findmypast c) Ellis Island website d) Fold3

4. Which country's census records can be accessed through Findmypast?

    a) United States b) United Kingdom c) Canada d) All of the above

5. What is the purpose of census records?

    a) To document births and deaths b) To document marriages c) To count the population and gather demographic information d) None of the above

6. What type of information can be found in ship's passenger lists?

    a) Names of passengers b) Age and gender of passengers c) Place of origin and destination of passengers d) All of the above

7. What type of information can be found in military records?

    a) Names of soldiers b) Military unit and rank c) Dates of service and locations d) All of the above

8. What is the purpose of ship's passenger lists?

    a) To document births and deaths at sea b) To document marriages on board ship c) To track immigration and emigration patterns d) None of the above

9. Which of the following is a common resource for finding military records?

      a) National Archives b) Ancestry.com c) Findmypast d) All of the above

10. Which of the following countries' census records can be accessed through the National Archives?

      a) United States b) United Kingdom c) Canada d) All of the above

Quiz Answers for Step 7

Step 7. 'Find ancestors in Census Records, Military documents and ship's passenger lists

1. Answer: d) All of the above

2. Answer: c) Military service dates and locations

3. Answer: c) Ellis Island website

4. Answer: d) All of the above

5. Answer: c) To count the population and gather demographic information

6. Answer: d) All of the above

7. Answer: d) All of the above

8. Answer: c) To track immigration and emigration patterns

9. Answer: d) All of the above

10. Answer: b) United Kingdom