



# Maximizing Your Census Research: More Than Households

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## Overview

This purpose of this lecture is to emphasize the necessity of adhering to sound genealogical research methodology.

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### The Genealogical Proof Standard

- Reasonably Exhaustive Searches
- Complete & Accurate Citations
- Correlation of the Relevant Sources & Information
- Resolution of any Conflicts
- A Written Statement, List, or Narrative Supporting the Answer<sup>1</sup>

### Brief Census Overview

- Designed to determine the number of representatives per state
- First census taken in 1790
- First “modern” census taken in 1850
- First census to state relationships was 1880
- 1890 census is missing, except partial Veteran’s schedule
- Latest census released to public was 1940

### Typical Information in the Census<sup>2</sup>

- Residence
- Personal Description
- Civil Condition
- Property
  - Real
  - Personal
- Occupation
- Nativity

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<sup>1</sup> Thomas W. Jones, *Mastering Genealogical Proof* (Arlington, Va.: National Genealogical Society, 2013): 3.

<sup>2</sup> The information varies by census enumeration. The details for each census can be found <http://www.census.gov/history/>.

## Neighborhood Analysis

- Conduct a neighbor search
  - Collect 10 to 20 households on each side
  - Watch for same surnames
    - Head of Households
    - Individuals within household
  - Use a map
    - Use land records to follow the census taker's path in rural areas
    - Use city directories in urban areas
  - Watch for common birth places
- Conduct a Jurisdiction Search
  - May have to narrow the search in urban areas to a particular ward, etc.
- Example:

### 1850 Neighbors

Stamped Page #	Dwelling	Family	Name	Birthplace	Occupation	Real Estate Value	Matchett's 1851 Directory <sup>3</sup>
559	1811	2305	Casper Peter	Germany	Laborer	[blank]	Not Found
		2306	Conrad Rinehart	Germany	Carpenter	[blank]	Not Found
	1812	2307	Thomas Elliott	Md.	Shoemaker	[blank]	4 Found-No Matches
	1813	2308	John Rickel	Germany	Laborer	[blank]	Not Found
		2309	Henry Schuttle	Germany	Laborer	[blank]	Not Found
	1814	2310	Joseph Roberts	Delaware	Ship Carpenter	[blank]	Roberts Jos. ship carpenter, 12 Giddings
	1815	2311	John Mitchell	Md.	Engineer	[blank]	Mitchell John foundryman, 10 Giddings
558	1816	2312	Fanny Stevens	Md.	[blank]	[blank]	Not Found
	1817	2313	Frederick Walker	Md.	Carpenter	[blank]	Not Found
	1818	2314	Samuel Jones	Md.	Laborer	[blank]	Jones Samuel laborer, 18 Giddings
	<b>1819</b>	<b>2315</b>	<b>George Weaver</b>	<b>Germany</b>	<b>Carter</b>	<b>[blank]</b>	<b>Weaver Geo. Carter, 20 Gittings</b>
	1820	2316	Sampson Shadd	Virginia	Laborer	[blank]	Not Found
	1822 [sic]	2317	Alex. Black	Md.	Waiter	[blank]	Not Found
Break in dwelling and family numbers							
560	1827	2325	Basil Owings	Md.	Trader	[blank]	Not Found
	1828	2326	Elly Clark	Md.	Laborer	[blank]	Not Found
	1829	2327	George Robinson	Md.	Carter	[blank]	Robinson Geo., laborer, Light st extd
	1830	2328	Hester A. Wheeler	Md.	[blank]	[blank]	Not Found

## Property Analysis

- Identify Property Ownership
  - Not identified before 1850
  - 1850 Census – Value of Real Estate Owned
  - 1860 & 1870 Censuses – Value of Real Estate & Personal Estate
  - 1880 Census – No Property Question
  - 1900, 1910 & 1920 Censuses – Ownership of Home, Free or Mortgaged
  - 1930 & 1940 Censuses – Home Owned or Rented, Value of Home or Monthly Rent
- Trend Analysis
- Example:

<sup>3</sup> Matchett, Richard J., compiler. *Baltimore, Maryland, City Directory*. Baltimore: Richard J. Matchett, 1851. Digital images. *Archive.org*. (<http://www.archive.org> : accessed 2011).

William H. Weaver:

<b>Owned Real Property</b>	<b>1850</b>	<b>1860</b>	<b>1870</b>
Value	[blank]	\$2,500	\$10,000
<b>Owned Personal Property</b>	<b>1850</b>	<b>1860</b>	<b>1870</b>
Value	N/A	\$500	\$500

Neighborhood Analysis:

<b>Owned Real Property</b>	<b>1850</b>	<b>1860</b>	<b>1870</b>
% Owned	3%	29%	11%
Value	\$2,000 - \$5,000	\$400 - \$6,000	\$500 - \$20,000
<b>Owned Personal Property</b>	<b>1850</b>	<b>1860</b>	<b>1870</b>
% Owned	N/A	100%	16%
Value	N/A	\$20 - \$3,000	\$100 - \$500

### Occupation Analysis

- Types of Occupations
  - Professional?
  - Blue Collar?
- Trend by Year
  - Changes?
  - New Ones?
- Example:

<b>Occupation</b>	<b>1850</b>	<b>1860</b>	<b>1870</b>	<b>1880</b>
Laborer	15	6	20	15
Brick Maker/Mason/Layer	5	8	9	0
Milkman/Milkwoman	6	1	0	0

### Nativity Analysis

- Identification of Places
  - Note how places are identified
    - Example: Germany, which was not unified until after 1871
- Trend by Year
  - What was the make-up of the neighborhood?
  - Did the neighborhood change?
- Examples:

<b>Name</b>	<b>1850</b>	<b>1860</b>	<b>1870</b>	<b>1880</b>
William H. Weaver	Germany	Germany	Berlin	Baeir
Sophia Weaver	Germany	Germany	Berlin	Baeir

<b>Nativity</b>	<b>1850</b>	<b>1860</b>	<b>1870</b>	<b>1880</b>
Maryland	31	14	16	18
Germany:	24	19	13	20
Prussia			(8)	(4)
Berlin			(2)	(0)
Wuertemburg/Weutenburg			(2)	(0)
Hesse Darmstadt			(1)	(2)
Baden				(2)
Bremen				(3)
Bavaria				(1)
Saxon/Saxony				(3)
Baeir				(4)
Meklenburg				(1)
Ireland	3	4	13	4

## Household Analysis

- Family Structure
  - Be careful not to read into the enumeration
- Household Members
  - Who are they?
  - What is their relationship?
- Examples:

### Family Structure

Name	Relationship	Birth	Marriage	Death
William H. Weaver		Born. ca. 1827-30, Germany	Before ca. 1849, prob. Maryland or Germany	After 1870
Sophia Weaver	Wife	Born ca. 1829-30, Germany	Before ca. 1849, prob. Maryland or Germany	After 1870
Charles H. Weaver	Probable Son	Born ca. 1849, Maryland	Prob. betw. 1870-80, prob. Maryland	After 1870
Louiza/Louisa Weaver	Probable Daughter	Born ca. 1851, Maryland	Prob. betw. 1870-80, prob. Maryland	After 1870
William C. Weaver	Probable Son	Born ca. 1853, Maryland	Prob. betw. 1870-80, prob. Maryland	After 1870
Edward E. Weaver	Son	Born ca. 1856, Maryland	Before 1880 Sophia [--?--] b. ca. 1860, Maryland	After 1880
Fanny Weaver	Probable Daughter	Born ca. 1858, Maryland	Prob. N/A	Perhaps betw. 1860-70
Dolphus/Adolphus H. Weaver	Son	Born ca. May 1860, Maryland	Before 1880 Emma [--?--] b. ca. 1862, Maryland	After 1880
H. A. Weaver	Son	Born ca. 1873, Maryland	After 1880	After 1880

### Ancestral Associates & Their Roles:

Name	1850 Census Household	1860 Census Household	1870 Census Household	1880 Census Household
Fanny Brown	No Relationship Stated			
Ellen Hampey	No Relationship Stated			
Christian Beck	Butcher [William's Apprentice?]			
John Benniman		Butcher [William's Apprentice?]		
John Renager		Butcher [William's Apprentice?]		
Jacob Tenager		Butcher [William's Apprentice?]		
Elizabeth Fooz		Domestic		
Catherine Kelley		Domestic		
Mary Kelley		[Catherine's Daughter?]		
Julia Doyle			No Relationship Stated	
Elizabeth Kaylor			No Relationship Stated	
Herman Trechel			Butcher [William's Apprentice?]	
Frederick Bart			Butcher [William's Apprentice?]	
C. Brown				Servant
Jos. Cormick				Servant
Jno. Burger				Butcher
Caroline Burger				Jno. Burger's Wife
Martin Burger				Jno. Burger's Son

**Context & Clues**

- Neighborhood
  - “FAN” Club, including Family
- Social Standing
- Property
  - Ownership
- Occupation
- Nativity
  - Neighborhood
- Household
- Example:<sup>4</sup>

1850 Census:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Est. Birth Year</b>	<b>Birthplace</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Est. Immigration</b>
Casper Weaver	53	1797	Germany	Furniture Dealer	Bef. 1837
Fiat Weaver	39	1811	Germany	Shoemaker	Bef. 1841
Henry Weaver	39	1811	Germany	Laborer	Bef. 1831
March Weaver	33	1817	Germany	Carpenter	Aft. 1845
<i>George Weaver</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>1821</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>Carter</i>	<i>Bef. 1845</i>
<i>Wm. H. Weaver</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>1827</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>Butcher</i>	<i>Bef. 1849</i>

1860 Census:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Est. Birth Year</b>	<b>Birthplace</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Est. Immigration</b>
<i>George Weaver</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>1821</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>Milkman</i>	<i>Bef. 1845</i>
William Weaver	35	1825	Germany	Laborer	Bef. 1852
Casper Weaver	34	1826	Germany	Carpenter	Bef. 1860
<i>William Weaver</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>1828</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>Butcher</i>	<i>Bef. 1849</i>
John Weaver	29	1831	Maryland	Stevedore	N/A
Henry Weaver	22	1838	Maryland	Butcher	N/A

1870 Census:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Est. Birth Year</b>	<b>Birthplace</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Est. Immigration</b>
<i>George Weaver</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>1820</i>	<i>Hesse-Darmstadt</i>	<i>Teamster</i>	<i>Bef. 1848</i>
<i>William H. Weaver</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>1830</i>	<i>Berlin</i>	<i>Butcher</i>	<i>Bef. 1849</i>
Charles H. Weaver	35	1835	Maryland	Keeping Saloon	N/A
<i>John Weaver</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>1835</i>	<i>Maryland</i>	<i>Engineer</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>George Weaver</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>1846</i>	<i>Maryland</i>	<i>Butcher</i>	<i>N/A</i>

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<sup>4</sup> The Ancestry.com search function was used for the 1850, 1860 and 1870 censuses to search for all Weavers in the 17<sup>th</sup> Ward.

### SOURCES

1. 1850 U.S. census, Baltimore County, Maryland, population schedule, Baltimore Ward 17, pp. 558-564 and 567, dwellings 1811-1822 and 1827-1862, families 2305-2317 and 2325-2666; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 1 October 2011); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 286.
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3. 1870 U.S. census, City of Baltimore, Maryland, population schedule, Baltimore Ward 17, pp. 52-57, dwellings 335-368, families 409-453; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 4 October 2011); citing NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 579; citing FHL microfilm 552,078.
4. 1880 U.S. census, City of Baltimore, Maryland, population schedule, enumeration district (ED) 164, Baltimore Ward 17, pp. 5-9 (penned), dwellings 35-69, families 40-82; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 16 February 2011); citing FHL microfilm 1,254,503.

### WEBSITES

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