

2010

## Wandering the Web -- Selected Sites on Family History Research

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### Recommended Citation

Hardin, Amanda L. (2010) "Wandering the Web -- Selected Sites on Family History Research," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 22: Iss. 3, Article 43.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.5582>

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# Wandering the Web — Selected Sites on Family History Research

by **Amanda L. Hardin** (Research/Instruction Specialist, WKU Libraries)

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**Column Editor's Note:** *Ms. Hardin has for many years been a historical researcher of local and family history at the WKU Kentucky Library and Museum. The library handles an incredible number of questions concerning heritage and family history. When I first considered an article on resources in family history, I could not imagine a more knowledgeable resource than Ms. Hardin, who now works in reference at the main library. — JM*

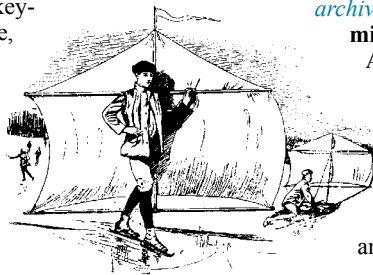
In recent years, there is a continued growth of interest in family history. Consistently more and more researchers are turning to Web-provided resources to search, link family trees, and share stories. In the trend of an ever-growing social media storm, there are rising genealogy resources beginning to add links for the creation of meaningful connections through family research online.

**CyndisList** — <http://www.cyndislist.com/ancestry.htm> — This site is the best starting point for online genealogy research. It equips users with how-to guides, a review of the best online sites — both national and international — and features a list of the best sites that are available to patrons for a fee. **Cyndislist** provides a guide to the best print sources in the bookstore area of the site. For social interaction there is also an online message board for hard-to-find connections and areas to share information.

**Ancestry.com** — <http://www.ancestry.com/> — The first online source for new research available for a subscription fee, this site provides ample searchable indexes, database results, and some digitized images available with fee-based subscription. Along with this database there are free communities based on sharing resources that have branched from the site for the purpose of sharing and developing research and connections.

**RootsWeb Community** — <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/> — As the oldest and largest genealogical community provided through ancestry.com, this site is able to link visitors to endless uploaded family histories, as well as connect to some of the major government databases. Search is available by surname, full name, and keyword. **RootsWeb** has a forum, family tree software, surname websites, mailing list subscriptions, as well as a built in Soundex converter.

**Family Search** — <http://www.familysearch.org/> — This is the genealogy Website of the Church of the Later Day Saints, and it includes search capability of the IGI, the Ancestral File, the Family History Library Catalog, and Website submissions. Users are also provided with



mailing lists and online forms to order FHL research, and the Website allows users to save their own research and have safe online storage.

**Seventh-Day Adventist Periodical Index** — <http://www.andrews.edu/library/car/sdapi.cgi> — This site created by **Andrews University**, the Seventh-Day Adventist institution of higher learning, provides free access to their Periodical/Obituary Index in full text, searchable by: title, subject, and author.

**Family Tree Connection** — <http://www.familytreeconnection.com/> — This Website provides researchers unique collections of listings for free, but for a fee patrons will receive full access to databases. The basic collections can be searched by full name, type of record, date, region, and city/state with a more advanced search in the full-access version. This is an excellent Website for storage of family tree information.

**Bureau of Land Management General Land Office Records** — <http://www.gloreCORDS.blm.gov/> — This is the Official Land Patent Records site which provides a database that searches more than two million Federal land title records for Eastern Public Land States, which were issued between 1820 and 1908. This site includes scanned images of varied records along with the Eastern Public Land States covered in this database: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin. It also provides Serial patent images, issued between 1908 and the mid-1960s.

**National Hospital Records Database** — <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/hospitalrecords/> — Available through the National Archives, this Website provides information on the existence and location of the records from hospitals in the UK Currently over 2,800 entries can be found by searching the database using a simple inquiry screen.

**Gravesite Locator** — [gravelocator.cem.va.gov/](http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/) — Provided by the U.S. Government, this site is an online searchable index by name, date of birth and death, and cemetery name. **Gravesite Locator** provides a search of over three million military burials from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs including international military cemeteries.

**National Archives and Records Administration** — <http://aad.archives.gov/aad/> — The **National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)** Website provides access to the main Archival Databases (AAD) for the United States, allowing visitors to search Passenger lists as well as major military databases with advanced search capabilities.

**Geneanet** — <http://www.geneanet.org/> — This Website provides visitors with a database indexing surnames from before 1850 & corresponding contact information — online or offline, as well as a wiki, blog, and forum for researchers. 🌿

## International Dateline from page 77

### Edith Barefoot

In 1956 **Basil** made the acquaintance of **Edith Barfoot**. Then in her sixties, she had been bed-ridden and in constant pain with rheumatoid arthritis since her teens. She told **Basil** how she had triumphed over her pain under the spiritual guidance of the Cowley Fathers. Encouraged, by one of their number,

she wrote down her thoughts on suffering, producing a short paper entitled “The Discovery of Joy in the Vocation of Suffering.” **Basil** was much moved and impressed by both **Edith Barfoot** and her paper.

The following year **Basil** published **Edith Barfoot's** study, with a brief forward. He drew on his own explorations into the idea of the Holy Spirit, but claimed nothing except “to speak as a child.”<sup>24</sup> This small buff-colored book was simply, although beautifully, produced. 🌿

### Endnotes

1. Originally composed in India in the 2nd century B.C, they are believed to have been written by the scholar **Vishnu Sharma** and others.
2. MBC, BLK 3/6.
3. Op cit notes by **Basil Blackwell** on publishing.
4. Notes from the Rector of Appleton, **Peter Wyld**. Parts of these notes were published in the *Oxford Diocesan Magazine*, July 1984.