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- I. Layers of the site
  - a. Sign in right away! (Settings, Sourcebox, Sign Out)
  - b. Volunteer – Get Help
    - i. Phone calls
    - ii. Help and Learn Home
    - iii. Remote Connect
    - iv. Find Local Help
    - v. Getting Started
    - vi. Learning Center
    - vii. Research Wiki
    - viii. What's New
    - ix. My Cases
  - c. Family Tree – Memories – Search – Indexing
  - d. Search (Records – Genealogies – Catalog – Books – Wiki)
  - e. Quick buttons (found under the screen that changes)
    - i. Most are accessible through Family Tree link.
    - ii. Check out Family Booklet.
    - iii. See links to Family History Centers, App Gallery and Give Back.
  - f. Look into Legacy products.
- II. Family Tree
  - a. Tree – Person – Find – Lists – What's New
  - b. Not private at all.
  - c. Easy to delete but people may have already pulled information/files from your tree before you deleted it which leaves it out there.
  - d. Different than uploading a GEDCOM file. (GEnealogical Data COMMunications)
  - e. Manually enter information.
  - f. Connected to photos/stories section.
  - g. Find will search the collection of digital images and databases only. Does not check Genealogies, Books or IGI (International Genealogical Index).
- III. Memories
  - a. Photos – Stories – Documents – Audio – People – Albums – Find
  - b. Find will look at all photos, stories and documents that others have put on FamilySearch.org. Frink Torske test.

- c. Sort by albums!
  - d. People will find these and use them for their own purposes.
  - e. Stories – make sure you put in a source with your stories. It doesn't require one but it shows the validity of the story.
- IV. Search (Records – Genealogies – Catalog – Books – Wiki)
- a. Records
    - i. Global Search gets results from the records (digital and database). Not trees or books, etc.
    - ii. Choose Browse All Published Collections to see the list.
    - iii. 2021 total collections (only 1591 include images of the records)
    - iv. Use the side panel to limit the results by place, date, collection type, etc.
    - v. International Genealogical Index (IGI)
      - 1. Many, many errors! Use only as leads. Partial index.
      - 2. Read the Learn More articles in the Wiki!!
      - 3. Community Contributed vs. Community Indexed.
      - 4. Batch numbers refer to collections of data entered by a person doing their family trees.
      - 5. Film numbers refer to collections entered by LDS staff/volunteers. Vital and church records from the early 1500s to 1885. Community indexed.
    - vi. Read the complete entry. Look for the film number to send for the film of the original/primary document. Wisconsin-EASy collections could be local, county or state records. You need to find the author of that film number to determine who to contact for the record.
    - vii. Source box – use your source box to capture digital images from these digital collections. Also save all digital collections to your hard drive.
    - viii. Review Attachments- Attach to Family Tree (this is not attaching it to the trees under Genealogies)
    - ix. Share (Facebook, Twitter, Google+ and Email options)
  - b. Genealogies
    - i. Ancestral File
      - 1. Information submitted on paper by LDS members only. Data entered by LDS staff. Transcriptions always create errors.
      - 2. Entered from 1978- around 2003.
      - 3. Other researchers were able to change the information on the files.
      - 4. Name of submitter now hidden from the public for privacy.
      - 5. See all other trees submitted by this person.
    - ii. Pedigree Resource File
      - 1. Created to replace the Ancestral File about 2003.
      - 2. Information submitted by anyone (not just LDS members) directly into internet.
      - 3. Nobody can go into the files and make corrections. Mistakes remain.
      - 4. Information about submitter is hidden from the public.
      - 5. Submission Search lists other family members in that same Pedigree Resource File. Must try!
    - iii. Submitting your tree (goes into the Pedigree Resource File) (related to Family Tree site)
      - 1. Download a GEDCOM file.
      - 2. You can delete it.

3. Nobody can make corrections to it, not even you.
  4. When downloading a Family Tree Maker file, it included the notes. Not easy to do on Ancestry.com trees.
  5. Your contact information is hidden from the public. Good or bad?
- iv. Community Trees (New)
    1. A collection of sourced genealogies from specific times and places that have been linked according to family lineages and relations.
    2. Published/unpublished genealogies. Information added by FamilySearch.
- c. Catalog
    - i. Billions of genealogical collections and most are not yet digitized. Although, if a collection is digitized, the catalog will provide a link to that collection.
    - ii. Great place to find church records and records found at a county courthouse along with many, many other types of records.
    - iii. Notice the author. Person or governmental office? Primary or Secondary source?
    - iv. Borrow microfilm and fiche at WHS. (Not books though.)
      1. \$7.50 per reel (or borrow at Family History Center)
      2. Order online at [www.familysearch.org/films](http://www.familysearch.org/films).
      3. Put on credit card or PayPal account.
      4. Loan period is now at 8 weeks! Extended loan not necessary.
    - v. Search by Place Name
      1. Country, state, county, community (as separate searches)
      2. Use Subjects button for more details on related communities
    - vi. Search by Surname
      1. GSU Catalogers put in more surnames from a book than an average library cataloger.
      2. Go to the WHS catalog to see if WHS owns the book.
    - vii. Search [www.worldcat.org](http://www.worldcat.org) to find copy of a book in local libraries.
  - d. Books
    - i. Brigham Young University project that includes collections from other libraries (Allen County Public Library for example).
    - ii. Fully digitized books and free to download. Restricted use if still under copyright.
- V. Wiki (Spend time in this portion of the site without entering names, this is a learning portion of the site, not a searching portion.)
- VI. How does FamilySearch fit into the bigger research picture?
- a. Other online sources
    - i. [www.rootsweb.com](http://www.rootsweb.com), [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com), [www.geni.com](http://www.geni.com), [www.myheritage.com](http://www.myheritage.com) (online family trees)
    - ii. [www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com) (fee-based site, military focus, interactive, put in photos and stories to honor your family's veterans)
    - iii. [www.genealogybank.com](http://www.genealogybank.com) and [www.newspaperarchive.com](http://www.newspaperarchive.com) via [www.badgerlink.net](http://www.badgerlink.net) (newspapers are not on FS), [www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov) (Library of Congress), [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com)
    - iv. [www.usgenweb.com](http://www.usgenweb.com) (more variation on resources, free site, mostly secondary information, connect with researchers)

- v. [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), [www.usgenweb.com](http://www.usgenweb.com), [www.billiongraves.com](http://www.billiongraves.com) and [www.interment.net](http://www.interment.net) (cemetery records, free sites)
  - vi. [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) (both sites have lots of images and some unique to that certain site, also different family trees on one vs. the other, style is different, timelines on Ancestry)
  - vii. [www.worldcat.org](http://www.worldcat.org) (GSU library does catalog family histories to a greater extent though. They will list more surnames on their catalog record than the average library cataloger. Find a family history with one of your surnames in GSU and then see what library near you may own it.)
  - viii. [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) (Hundreds of digital book projects happening across the country right now.) [www.heritagequestonline.com](http://www.heritagequestonline.com) (use through your local library's website for free, just use your library card, has titles not on Google or FS), [www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org) (Internet Archive), Digital Public Library of America <http://dp.la/>
  - ix. [www.raogk.org](http://www.raogk.org) (Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness)
  - x. [www.deathindexes.com](http://www.deathindexes.com) (finds websites for certain records)
- b. Institutional sources that are not found online but incredibly important to genealogical research!
- i. Birth, Marriage and Death Records (mostly at courthouses)
  - ii. Civil Court Cases (State Archives and County Clerk of Courts)
  - iii. Church Records
  - iv. Caretakers records for a cemetery
  - v. Local Historical Society collections
  - vi. Public Library collections
  - vii. School records