

Lida Larkin's Family History Tips

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World Vital Records tells us:

Digital Libraries, Local Histories Online

More than 20 million books including digital copies of published genealogies and local histories are available at the University of Michigan's catalog of digital books. These books are searchable and free to access. Yes, no fees and no registration.

Although the catalog contains many genealogies and histories, you can also access a variety of books, journals and portraits.

Go to the following address to access the University of Michigan's catalog:
<http://www.oaister.org/>

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Family History Expo tells us:

Tip #3: Use Timelines!

What is a timeline?

A timeline is a chronological listing of historical events; it is like a taking a snapshot of your ancestor's life year by year. Each entry is usually limited to one or two short lines. A timeline can include the history of the entire world, or it may focus on one specific ancestor. A timeline can also take many forms—written, electronic or printed as a wall chart. Many genealogy software programs have a timeline feature.

How timelines help

- Timelines can help us understand history. They help us pull back and get a

larger perspective.

- They also tell us what happened when and how much time went by in between events. With their help, we can remember just when those important things happened.

- Timelines can identify holes in the information we have about our ancestors' lives; they can give us direction as to what we're missing and where to search next.

- When used with historical events, we can understand the circumstances that our ancestors may have been living under.

For instance, there is no sense in looking for 1875 birth records in the state of Utah. The state did not begin recording births until 1905. We would want to look at alternate records to find a birth record that early. A good timeline will point out which resources may or may not have been available for a particular ancestor.

A timeline is perfect for recording where someone lived and what significant things happened every year of their life. Try filling out your own timeline first. This will help you remember what year you were married, where your kids were born, when you changed jobs, and countless other important places and events. Once you've filled out your own, you'll see how valuable a timeline can be in tracing your family's history.

You can download a free timeline from our Web site at

http://www.fhexpos.com/store/free_docs.php

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That's all Folks! For this time.

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