

1 ☐ INTRODUCTION TO JEWISH GENEALOGY

Temple Beth Ami – June 2020

Presented by:

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Day 2

2 ☐ Overview of Sessions: Week Two

- Major types of genealogical records
- Where to find the records
- Keeping track of your information
- Sharing your information
- Sue's genealogy story

3 ☐

4 ☒ U.S. Census Records

- Good starting point
- 1790-1940 available
 - Most 1890 census records destroyed in fire
 - 1950 census available April 2022
- Can search by name
- Free and easy to access

5 ☐ U.S. Census Records: What they can tell you

- Where your ancestors lived
- Who they lived with
- What kind of residence they lived in
- Age/date of birth
- Where they (and sometimes their parents) were born
- When they immigrated
- Whether (and sometimes when) they were naturalized
- Occupation

6 ☐ U.S. Census Records: What they can tell you

- Marital status
- Age at first marriage
- Language spoken at home
- Able to read/write English
- Rent/value of real estate
- Whether they owned a radio
- Census questions varied—not every census asked every question

Vital Records

- Birth Records
- Marriage License and Records
- Certificate and Record of Death
- Immigration & Naturalization Records

Newspapers

- Obituaries
- Announcements
- Business Records
- Family Stories

More Resources

- Yad Vashem – Pages of Testimony
- City Directories
- Headstones

21 Where to find and store the records

- Online: Subscription Storage Sites:
 - *Ancestry*
 - *Geni*
 - *MyHeritage*
- Online: Subscription Research Sites:
 - *JewishGen (Donation)*
 - *Gesher Galicia*

22 Where to find and store the records

- Online: Subscription Storage Sites:
 - *Ancestry*
 - *Geni*
 - *MyHeritage*
- Cost about \$150 - \$250 or more annually, usably billed monthly.
- Advantage:
 - Hints from other researches;*
 - Billions of online records;*
 - A place to save your data.*
- Most of these sites have a free starter version, free 15 day trial plans, and allow you to give access to other people under your plan or through their free accounts.

23 ☐ Subscription Sites: Ancestry Overview

- AncestryDNA is the oldest and best-established company for genealogical DNA testing and comes with the support of the very impressive Ancestry website.
- Most geographic regions (500+)
- Family/cousin matching
- View shared matches w/o Subscription
- Private & Public Trees
- 19 billion records
- 3 million paying subscribers
- 16 million DNA users

27 ☐ Subscription Sites: MyHeritage Overview

- MyHeritage has experienced dramatic growth in the number and diversity of records, user-requested tools and in their DNA platform.
- Covers 42 geographic regions
- 12 Billion records
- Currently 1.1 million subscribers
- 98 million users

33 ☐ Subscription Sites: Geni Overview

- Geni is owned by MyHeritage. Its aimed is to create a family tree of the world, while profiles of currently living family members are private.
- The only records you own are Living Family Members, all others are open to edits.
- 115 million profiles
- 11 million users

37 ☐ Where to find and store the records

- Online: Free Storage Sites
 - *FamilySearch*
 - *WikiTree*
- Online: Free Research Sites
 - *US Holocaust Memorial Museum*
 - *Arolsen Archives*
 - *Ellis Island*
 - *Steven R. Morse*
 - *Find-a-Grave*
 - *Facebook (for living relatives)*
 - *Others*

42 ■ Where to find the records [Michael]

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 - *Ellis Island*
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 - *Find-a-Grave*
 - *Facebook (for living relatives)*
 - *Others (Yad Vashem, Billion Graves, etc.)*

43 ■ Where to find the records [Michael]

- Online: General online sources of info:
 - *FB groups: Tracing the Tribe, Jewish Genealogy Portal, Jewish Genealogy Surname Project*
 - *Blogs: Blood & Frogs, Lara's Jewnealogy, etc.*
 - *Websites: Museum of Family History, Cyndi's List, FamilySearch Wikis, etc.*

44 ■ Where to find the records [Michael]

- In-person: General sources of info:
 - *Family History Library*
 - *Library of Congress*
 - *National Archives*
 - *Holocaust Museum*
 - *Local libraries:*
 - MCPL (inc. Marina/ILL; online historical newspapers)
 - DCPL has Ancestry Library Edition
 - *Books for beginners:*
 - *From Generation to Generation* (Kurzweil)
 - *Getting Started in Jewish Genealogy* (Mokotoff, Avotaynu)

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46 ☐ A Few Other Tools - Desktop

- Family Tree Maker – Records Management
- Progeny Genealogy – Charting Tool
- Genealogica Grafica – Publishing Tool

48 ☐ Keeping Track of Everything

49 ☐ General Principles

- Keep copies of your important documents
 - *Scan or take pictures of documents*
 - *Consider archival storage for fragile documents*
- Keep electronic files
 - *Back them up*
 - *Make sure someone knows your password(s)*
- Make notes
 - *Where did you get the info?*
 - *When did you get the info?*
 - *Who told you?*

52 ☐ Genealogy software

- Advantages
 - *Control*
 - *Most sync with Ancestry and/or other sites*
 - *Ability to print reports*
 - *Flexibility*
- Disadvantages
 - *Cost*

56 ☐ Sharing Your Stories

- Write or record what you know (don't wait!)
- Family website/blog
- Simple book publishing

Sue's Family Stories

Questions?