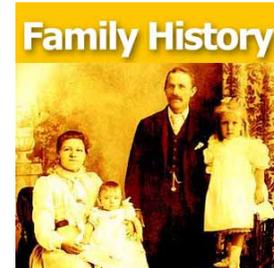


Family History: Genealogy Made Easy
with Lisa Louise Cooke
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Welcome to this step-by-step series for beginning genealogists—and more experienced ones who want to brush up or learn something new. I first ran this series in 2008-2009. So many people have asked about it, I'm bringing it back in weekly segments.

Episode 18: Using Family History Centers, Part II

This episode is the second in a series about Family History Centers, the regional satellite facilities of the main Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah.

My very special guest is friend of the show Margery Bell, Assistant Director of the Oakland Family History Center in Oakland, California. Last week Margery Bell introduced us to the Family History Center, and walked us step by step through the process of ordering and using microfilm. She also discussed the wide range of resources beyond microfilm that you will find at both your local Family History Center and one of the 14 larger regional centers.

In our first segment in this episode she preps us for our visit and reveals the subscription websites you can use for free at Family History Centers. Then in our second segment, Margery discusses making copies in all forms, the future of digitizing microfilm, and the future of Family History Centers.

We also talk about tips for visiting the main Family History Library (see link below). Before you visit the library in SLC, I recommend you comb through the online catalog and select the items you are most interested in reviewing in person while you're there. You can copy the key info from the item in the catalog such as the title of the item, and the film number or book call number and paste it into your Evernote software or a simple word document and then go through and prioritize them: Mark #1 for top priority, then #2, #3. I would focus on books, because books don't circulate, and can only be viewed at the Library in Salt Lake.

In next week's show, part three of the series on Family History Centers, Margery Bell will talk about educational opportunities through the centers, she'll give us her 7 top tips for getting the most out of your visit, and we'll wrap up with some wonderful inspirational stories of genealogical serendipity.

Updates

Much of the information in this podcast episode about visiting Family History Centers is still current. Here are a couple of very important updates.

- Some Family History Centers are now called FamilySearch Centers. Many Centers have opened in public and private libraries in the past few years, not just in meetinghouses of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Find a FamilySearch Center/Family History Center near you at <https://familysearch.org/locations/centerlocator>.
- Many records are now available online, either in indexed form or just the digitized images. Visit the online catalog of the Family History Library at

<https://familysearch.org/catalog-search>. When you find something you'd like to order, look at the catalog entry. If the digitized version is online, you'll see a link to it.

- The episode mentions a handout for preparing for your visit to the Family History Library, since many of the same principles apply to visiting the Family History Library and the satellite Family History Centers. Instead of a handout, here's a link to the current version on the FamilySearch website: <http://tinyurl.com/FHLPrepare>.
- Instead of giving you a list of subscription databases currently available at Family History Centers, here's a link to the main Family History Centers page on the FamilySearch website, which has that list of databases and a lot more information to help you find and visit a Family History Center: <http://preview.tinyurl.com/FHCVisit>.