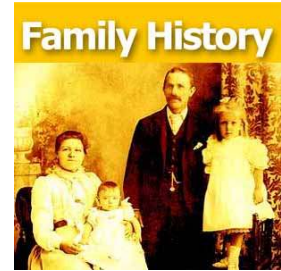


## Family History: Genealogy Made Easy

*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. So many people have asked about it, I'm bringing it back in weekly segments.

### **Episode 6: Sleuthing out Families and What Records Exist**

In our first segment my guest is genealogy writer and educator Barry J. Ewell. He talks to us about sleuthing Sherlock Holmes-style for our families. He says, "Stop looking for names and start looking for families!"

In the second segment, I give an overview of the different kinds of historical records in which our ancestors may appear. Basically, whenever any life event happened that involved the government or a church, paperwork was generated: vital records, land sales, wills and probates, baptisms and burials. There was often a ripple effect, too, in which the event was reported in other sources, like newspapers. In future episodes, we'll talk in depth about finding and using these different kinds of sources. But consider this episode your orientation to them!

Updates: since this episode aired, the 1940 census has become available to the public. Learn more about it [here](#) and search it at your favorite genealogy data site, like: [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com), [Archives.com](http://Archives.com), [Familysearch.org](http://Familysearch.org), [Findmypast.com](http://Findmypast.com) and [MyHeritage.com](http://MyHeritage.com).