



Mid-South States: Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia

Marilyn Markham, AG[®], CGSM, MLS

BEGINNING DATES

Kentucky – created from part of Virginia in 1772, first white permanent settlement in 1774, and in 1792 became the 15th state

Maryland – first white permanent settlement in 1634, and in 1788 became the 7th state

North Carolina – first white permanent settlements in the 1650s, and in 1789 became the 12th state

South Carolina – first white permanent settlement in 1670, and in 1788 became the 8th state

Tennessee – first white permanent settlement in 1756, known as the Western District of North Carolina. In 1784, part of what is now Tennessee became the state of Franklin. It re-joined North Carolina by 1789, in 1790 became the Southwest Territory, and in 1796 became the 16th state

Virginia – first white permanent settlement in 1607, and in 1788 became the 10th state

West Virginia – first white permanent settlement in 1725, separated from Virginia in 1861, and in 1863 became the 35th state

TRAILS, BOUNDARIES, AND PLACES

- 1) Migration routes, see FamilySearch Wiki for each state
 - a) Rivers: Susquehanna, Potomac, James, Ohio, Mississippi, Cumberland, Kentucky, Licking, Tennessee, Green
 - b) Trails:
 - i) King's Highway, 1664, Boston-Charleston
 - ii) Fall Line Road, about 1735, Fredericksburg-Macon
 - iii) Upper Road, 1740s, Fredericksburg-Athens
 - iv) Great Valley Road, about 1744, Philadelphia-Knoxville
 - v) Natchez Trace, 1740s, Natchez-Nashville-Maysville, KY
 - vi) Zane's Trace, 1796, Wheeling, VA-Maysville, KY
 - c) Railroads: mostly local
 - d) Atlantic Ocean major ports
 - i) Maryland – Baltimore, Annapolis, and Salisbury
 - ii) North Carolina - Wilmington
 - iii) South Carolina - Charleston
 - iv) Virginia – Wheeling, City Point/Hopewell, and Hampton Roads (Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Newport News)

- e) Dollarhide, William. *Map Guide to American Migration Routes, 1735-1815*. Bountiful, Utah: AGLL Genealogical Services, 1977 (FHL book 973E3d).
https://dcms.lds.org/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE1311007
- 2) Boundary changes
 - a) Wikipedia, 'Territorial evolution of the United States'
 - b) Map of US, www.mapofus.org
- 3) Finding places, past and present
 - a) USGS, <http://geonames.usgs.gov>
 - b) Google Maps, www.google.com/maps
 - c) Omni Gazetteer
 - d) Town/County/State gazetteers

IMMIGRATION AND MIGRATION

- 1) Many of the early settlers in the mid-South were from England, Africa, Scotland, France, and Germany.
- 2) Before 1820, ship's captains did not need to turn in passenger lists. Most surviving lists have been published and are indexed in Filby's *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index* on Ancestry.com as **U.S. and Canada, Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1500s-1900s**.
- 3) Settlers came into ports, down the Ohio River, up the Mississippi, and used the trails mentioned above.
- 4) Specific information on an area's settlement patterns can be found in county and local histories. Also see books by the authors at the end of this handout.

NON-EUROPEANS

- 1) Native Americans
 - a) Five civilized tribes (Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek, Seminole)
 - b) About 25% of southerners have Indian ancestors
 - c) Some Cherokees and Seminoles hid to avoid removal and later passed as whites
 - d) Trail of Tears
- 2) Slaves
 - a) First Africans brought to what is now the U.S. in 1619 as indentured servants
 - b) During Revolutionary War and War of 1812, many slaves gained freedom
 - c) Northern states abolished slavery gradually.
 - d) Importing slaves made illegal in 1808, though many limitations were made previously
 - e) 80% of free black slave owners were in South Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland.
 - f) 4 million slaves by 1860 mostly in the Southern states
 - g) Hundreds of slave uprisings
 - h) Reconstruction 1863-1877
 - i) The Great Migration of African Americans in the 1930s

GOVERNMENT BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

- 1) Marriages were usually kept by counties as soon as the county was created, except South Carolina counties began recording marriages in 1911 and the state in 1950; Virginia churches began in 1780 and counties in 1853
- 2) Births and deaths were usually not kept until the states began recording them

- 3) For each state, check the FamilySearch Wiki for information about state records
 - a) Kentucky – some county births and deaths 1852-1910; state registration began 1911
 - b) Maryland – some county births and deaths 1865-1897; state registration began 1898
 - c) North Carolina - state registration in 1913; only Raleigh and Wilmington started births sooner
 - d) South Carolina - state registration in 1915; Charleston recorded births 1877-1901
 - e) Tennessee – most counties began birth and death records 1908; state registration began 1914
 - f) Virginia – some births and deaths recorded by counties 1853-1912; state registration began 1912
 - g) West Virginia –some births and deaths by counties 1853-1920; state registration began 1917

- 4) Check the following Wiki pages, putting the name of a state in the blank space. Has links to records on Ancestry, FamilySearch, other sites, and addresses of where to write to obtain certificates.
 - a) How to Find _____ Birth Records
 - b) How to Find _____ Marriage Records
 - c) How to Find _____ Death Records

CHURCH RECORDS

- 1) Church records are the major records for births (baptisms) and deaths (burials) before states started keeping these types of records. They are also another source for marriage records.
- 2) Information in these records varies a lot depending on the record keeper and the denomination. Some have a great deal of information.
- 3) In FamilySearch Catalog, check **Church Records** under 1st the town, 2nd the county.
- 4) The Wiki page for each state shows predominant churches before 1900, including how to contact them.
 - a) Kentucky – Baptist, Methodist, Catholic, Presbyterian
 - b) Maryland – Catholics, Quakers, Anglican (official church 1692-1776), Protestant Episcopal, Presbyterian, Methodist
 - c) North Carolina – Quakers, Anglican, Baptist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Moravian, Methodist, Baptist
 - d) South Carolina – Church of England, Lutheran, Huguenots, Quakers, Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian
 - e) Tennessee – Baptist, Disciples of Christ, Methodist, Presbyterian
 - f) Virginia – Church of England (official church 1624-1786), Baptist, Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian
 - g) West Virginia - Church of England (Protestant Episcopal), Baptist, Methodist Episcopal, Catholic and United Brethren

CENSUS

- 1) Slave Schedules, 1850 and 1860 for all these states
- 2) State, Territorial, and Colonial Censuses
- 3) For each state, check the FamilySearch Wiki (some only partial)
 - a) **Kentucky Census** – federal 1810 on, mortality schedules 1850-1880, 1890 veterans census, Northern Kentucky town censuses, 1870-1936 school censuses
 - b) **Maryland Census** – federal 1790 on, veterans census 1890, mortality 1850-1880, pensioners 1840, state census 1776 and 1778
 - c) **North Carolina Census** – federal 1790 on, fragments of 1890, 1784 and 1785 state, veterans census 1890, mortality 1850-1880, pensioners 1840, Indian census Catawba 1849 and Cherokee 1898-1939
 - d) **South Carolina Census** – federal 1790 on, veterans census 1890, mortality 1850-1880, pensioners 1840, various state censuses 1829-1875

- e) **Tennessee Census** – federal 1810 on, veterans census 1890, mortality 1850-1880, pensioners 1840, some state censuses 1770-1897
- f) **Virginia Census** – federal 1790 on, veterans census 1890, mortality 1850-1880, pensioners 1840, various county censuses 1782-1786
- g) **West Virginia Census** - federal 1810 on, veterans census 1890, mortality 1850-1880, pensioners 1840. All censuses before 1863 are part of Virginia.

LAND RECORDS

- 1) All states in this region are state land states
- 2) Person to person, deeds were recorded by each county.
 - a) Need to know the existing county where a person bought or sold land.
 - b) Some on film, some online, some paper.
- 3) Government to person
 - a) State land offices
 - b) Land companies
 - c) Military bounty land warrants
 - d) Headrights
- 4) In the FamilySearch Catalog, use **Place Search** to find the state or county, then check **Land and Property Records**.

MILITARY

- 1) Colonial Wars (1607-1763)
 - a) 10 wars
 - b) Involved Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia
 - c) See Wiki article, Colonial Wars, 1607 to 1763
- 2) Revolutionary War (1775-1783)
 - a) Between U.S., Great Britain, and Canada
 - b) The Mid-South states involved were Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia.
 - c) Many soldiers later also lived in Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia.
 - d) See Wiki article, Revolutionary War, 1775 to 1783
- 3) War of 1812 (1812-1815)
 - a) Between U.S., Great Britain, and Canada
 - b) FamilySearch Wiki has pages giving histories, explanations of records, etc.
 - i. War of 1812, 1812 to 1815
 - ii. Canada in the War of 1812
 - iii. Great Britain in the War of 1812
 - iv. United States in the War of 1812
- 4) Civil War (1861-1865)
 - a) Kentucky, Maryland and West Virginia were border states that supported the Union.
 - b) South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia were part of the Confederacy.
 - c) FamilySearch Wiki has pages giving histories, explanations of records, etc.
 - i. United States Civil War 1861 to 1865, Part 1
 - ii. United States Civil War 1861 to 1865, Part 2
 - iii. Each state has a page
 - iv. Each military unit has a page
- 5) African American Military Records – see Wiki
- 6) American Indian Military – see Wiki

MAJOR INTERNET SITES WITH RECORDS

- 1) Ancestry.com
- 2) FamilySearch.org
- 3) Fold3
- 4) Find My Past
- 5) My Heritage

REGIONAL AND STATE INTERNET SITES

- 1) Region
 - a) Draper Manuscript Collection, see Wiki explanation, guide, index, https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Draper_Manuscript_Collection
 - b) Tina Brayton Collection, <http://gssccbrayton.com/home.htm>
 - c) Immigrant Servants Database, www.pricegen.com/immigrantservants/search/simple.php
 - d) Virtual Jamestown, www.virtualjamestown.org/indentures/search_indentures.html
- 2) Kentucky
 - a) Kentucky Digital Library, <http://kdl.kyvl.org>
 - b) Kentucky Vital Records Index, <http://ukcc.uky.edu/vitalrec>
 - c) The Filson Historical Society, <http://filsonhistorical.org/collections-resources>
- 3) Maryland
 - a) Archives of Maryland Online, <http://aomol.msa.maryland.gov/html/index.html>
 - b) Maryland State Archives, digital resources, <http://msa.maryland.gov/msa/homepage/html/digital.html>
- 4) North Carolina
 - a) North Carolina Family Records Online, State Library and State Archives of North Carolina, <http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/digital/ncfamilyrecords>
 - b) North Carolina Digital Collections, <http://digital.ncdcr.gov>
 - c) DigitalNC, www.digitalnc.org
- 5) South Carolina
 - a) South Carolina Department of Archives and History, On-Line Records Index, www.archivesindex.sc.gov
 - b) South Carolina Digital Library, <http://scmemory.org>
 - c) South Carolina-Archives, Repositories, Special Collections, www.sciway.net/lib/archives.html
- 6) Tennessee
 - a) Tennessee State Library and Archives, History and Genealogy, <http://sos.tn.gov/tsla/history>
- 7) Virginia
 - a) Library of Virginia
 - i) Best Sources for Virginia Research by Time Period, www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/time.htm
 - ii) Virginia Untold: The African American Narrative, www.virginiamemory.com/collections/aan
- 8) West Virginia
 - a) West Virginia Archives and History Genealogy Corner, www.wvculture.org/history/genealog.html
 - b) West Virginia University Wise Library, <https://wvrhc.lib.wvu.edu>

OTHER USEFUL INTERNET SITES

- German Roots, www.germanroots.com points to online genealogical sites
- Cyndi's List, www.cyndislist.com points to online genealogical sites
- Find a Grave, www.findagrave.com for search form, click 1st option under Find Graves

- Digital State Archives, www.digitalstatearchives.com
- USGenWeb, www.usgenweb.org, especially check **Projects**. Each state also has a GenWeb page.
- Chronicling America, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>, newspapers 1836-1922
- Old Maps Online, www.oldmapsonline.org

NOT ON THE INTERNET, NOW WHAT?

- 1) FamilySearch Catalog
- 2) FamilySearch Wiki
- 3) County courthouses
- 4) Libraries and archives
- 5) Societies

SOME AUTHORS

Peter Coldham	Thomas Marshall Green (KY)	William Armstrong Crozier (VA)
David Dobson	Harry Wright Newman (MD)	Nell Nugent (VA)
Annie Walker Burns	Jack Masters (NC & TN)	R.A. Brock (VA)
Henry C. Peden	William S. Powell (NC)	John Frederick Dorman (VA)
Frederick Lewis Weis	Andrea Leonardo (SC)	Annie Lash Jester (VA)
Charles Hughes Hamlin	Theresa M. Hicks (SC)	William G. Stanard (VA)
F. Edward Wright	Charles A. Reeves (TN)	John P. Hale (WV)
George K. Schweitzer	Walter T. Durham (TN)	

#USGenealogy
 #FamilyHistoryLibrary
 #FHLUSSeminar