

The examples below illustrate the kinds of searches you can build using operators and fields.

Searches

U.S. Census – 1790 to 1930

1. Browse to 1810, Virginia, Albemarle County, St. Ann Parish, Image 16 of 33. Thomas Jefferson is on line 12.
2. Browse to 1850, Illinois, Sangamon County, Springfield, Image 103 of 114. Abraham Lincoln and family about 2/3rds down the page.
3. Browse census, select year 1820, and then select a state – MI. That action will pop up a “view state map” link. Click on it. This will show how Michigan looked in 1820 as a Territory in relationship to the state today. The maps will also show boundary disputes.
4. Do a Basic Search for Cornelius VanHorn in 1870 WI. The search results will bring back references of this person.
5. Do an Advanced Search for all blacks in 1870 KY (over 69K quick results out of 377K total population (18%); drill down further to Boyd County; sort list by age or given name; perform same search for 1910 KY (84K out of 685K, or 12%).
6. In “Find By Page Number” – Search: Series 1920-T625, Roll: 1438, and Page: 259. This is the entry for Harvey Firestone, his family and all the servants.

Genealogy & Local History Collection

- **People**

Search **robert near:2 taft** (finds Robert within 2 words of Taft) This method makes the search more precise and helps find people when the middle name or initial is unknown.

- **Places**

A search on **Michigan** yields 6,645 results. Add **Washtenaw County** to Michigan as place name to the search results narrow down to 97. Then add surname of **Breitenback** (search results are 8). Add full name of **Breitenback, Martin** and the result is one. The book that retells the story of this gentlemen’s murder.

- **Keyword**

a search on **minister** (*Keyword*) yields 12,351 results; add **Virginia** (*Place*) to narrow to 8,395 results; add Adams (Name) to narrow the search results to 7310; and add Joshua to Adams to narrow to 188 results

- **Publications- Advanced Search**

Search a city name and the word DIRECTORY in the title field to find all city directories for a particular city.

Subject search your city. Most cities are listed two ways: state-county-city (or state-city) and city-county-state (or city-state). Both should get the same Book Results Lists.

PERSI (Periodicals Source Index)

1. Search Stewart family name in “People”; choose # 4 in the Article Results List: “Duncan Stewart, Scot. Settlers in N.C.” to find the article details which includes publication name, volume and issue where the article appears. (Note: PERSI is a *surname-only* index.)
2. Search Tennessee in “Places”, choose Wills in “Record Type” to get to 434 results.

3. Search "How to type of articles" handwriting will bring back 242 articles on the subject. Or you can use the pull down box to search on some of the more popular terms.
4. Search Periodicals this will let you see if a publication is represented in the collection. Type in Mayflower and 3 results come back. Click on Mayflower Quarterly. The screen then shows the citation, the volumes and issues along with known repositories. If you where to click on the link to one of the issues, the next results will be the titles of all the articles in that issue.

Revolutionary War

1. Search Caleb Jordan in NC to find his Grade (Private) and Warrant Numbers 12281 and 13247.
2. Search for George Miller who fought in the Continental Army (CONT). He was recognized in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Read the 10 images (pages) to see what he earned and who he served under.

U.S. Serial Set

1. Search on name: cobb nichols. You'll get two documents back, which describe how Nichols' land became an island after the Corps of Engineers constructed a canal on nearby property.
2. Search on name: lewis armstrong, and select the 16th result ("Memorial on counting vote of people of Louisiana for the appointment of presidential electors, November 7, 1876"; SERIAL-SET-ID: 1723 S.misd.14). This document features multiple authors, many sections, and many tables. If you click on "1 hits" (to the left of Section 6), you'll be taken to page 285 of the Serial Set document Lewis Armstrong states: "At the general election held in this parish on Tuesday, November 7, 1876, I voted the republican ticket, but voted for Gen. F.T. Nicholls [a Democrat] instead of Mr. S.B. Packard. I did this because I had put my money in the Freedmen's Bank in Natchez (\$290) which I have never been able to get again...". There are affidavits in this document alleging that Republicans had threatened violence against blacks who were caught voting Democratic.