

Southwest Mississippi Genealogical Society

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Google Search Tips

Use a very few precise keywords. Start with searching for a name and location or search a database where the name may be located.

Use double quotation marks (" ") around one or more keywords when you want an exact match. That results in the exact words in the exact order. It will match "Mississippi census records" but not census records of Mississippi.

Verbatim Search is found under Search Tools, All results. This type of search disables Google spelling corrections, personalization, and synonym substitution. It prevents Google from ignoring keywords and requires all words to be on the results page though they don't have to appear in exact order.

Double Quotes and Verbatim searches give different results. Double Quotes are more exact.

Don't phrase your query as a question: Google ignores the words who, what, where, when and why. It also ignores a, the, them, then, there, their, my, and your.

Don't phrase your query as a command ('Find' Census or 'Look for' census): Google will look for the words 'find' and 'look' somewhere on the page so pages without those words on it won't show up in the results.

Don't use the plus sign (+). At one time using the + sign before words that you wanted to appear in your search results resulted in exact results. It's been replaced with the double quotation marks for a single word exact search as mentioned above.

If the name being searched is also a common noun like Day, Fox, etc., add the word family, surname, or born to your search term. You can also include a first name, another surname or a location in your search term to narrow your results.

Use 'allintitle: your search term' to search in the title of a web page.

It's not necessary to use 'and' between search terms because Google assumes it. 'OR' in all capitals will work, but Google ignores 'or' in lower case letters.

If you don't know an exact date you can search within a range of dates by separating the beginning and ending dates with three periods. '1850...1880'

If Google doesn't recognize the spelling of your term, it will give you results on what it thinks is the correct spelling but allow you the option of continuing to search for what it considers the misspelled term.

When searching by first and last name, put the whole name in quotation marks. Use the * as a wild card for a middle name to narrow a search. Be aware that if you search for "John Smith" the results won't show any entries for Smith, John.

Google searches are not case sensitive. A search will give results for both singular and plural terms so you don't have to search both ways.

Google automatically performs synonym searches so it's no longer necessary use the ~ before a word to get that result.

Use the Google address locator to map an address found on a census.

Use Google image search to look for pictures of your ancestor.

Google has many other helpful applications: calculator, translator, dictionary and the free Google Toolbar.

March Meeting

March 29, 2016 at 6 PM
J. J. White Church meeting room

The program will be a 'round table'
discussion.

President's Corner

..... Rick Penick

We had a great turnout for our January meeting and enjoyed our speaker, Michael Garner, of Heritage Lawn and Garden Center in Hattiesburg. He was kind enough to answer all of our questions on problems with our grass, flowers and shrubs.

I've set up a field trip to Port Gibson on April 2 for their annual cemetery tour, 'Whispers in the Cedars.' We're going on the 6 PM tour--if you're interested in going and haven't let me know, contact me as soon as possible so I can check and see if there any tickets still available. They're \$20.00.

Originally purchased from the Spanish by Samuel Gibson in 1788, it was called Gibson's Landing. The town of Port Gibson was founded in 1803 and incorporated in 1811. It's the third oldest European-American settlement in Mississippi, and had the first library and second newspaper in Mississippi. It survived destruction in the Civil War because Grant reportedly said it was 'too beautiful to burn.' The ruins of Windsor are located in Port Gibson, and the Grand Gulf Military Park is nearby.

2016 Meeting Dates

May 31
July 26
September 27
November 15

Saron-Allgood Cemetery (aka Old Sarion)

Descendents of William 'Captain Billy' Smith are organizing a group to work on restoring the cemetery and looking for volunteers to help.

Captain Billy and his wife Delilah Kees Smith came from Franklin County, Georgia in 1810 and settled in the Fair River area of Lincoln County then moved to what is now Brookhaven. He is the only known veteran of the War of 1812 from Lincoln County and in 1939 a great grandson, Melton Allgood, had a military marker installed to mark his grave. He was a captain in Capt. Wm. Smith's Company in the Thirteenth Regiment in Mississippi militia.

The Smith's married in 1807 in Georgia and had 10 children.

Malissie married John Tarver.

Pleasant Smith (1808-1872) married Mary Ann Dean in 1837 in Franklin County, MS.

Perry Smith (1810-1896) married Nancy Smith in 1936 in Franklin County, MS.

Matilda Smith (1814-1887) married Anderson Furr.

Mariah Smith (1815-1889) married James Cagle.

Jesse Marion Smith (1818-1892) married Elizabeth Furr in 1840.

Cynthia LaPearl Smith (1826-1906) married William Mackey Chander.

Nancy Smith (1826-1867) married Aaron Lofton.

Elizabeth Jane Smith (1828-??) married Willis Allgood.

Sallie married Cyrus Lofton

2015-2016 Officers

President: Rick Penick
Contact: rickpenick@hotmail.com

First Vice President: Jimmy McDaniel
Contact: jimmymcdaniel59@yahoo.com

Second Vice President/Program Co-Chairs: Betty Penick and Jim Freeman
Contact: betty0323@hotmail.com

Secretary: Carolyn Richmond
Contact: carich@bellsouth.net

Treasurer and Newsletter: Virginia Zeigler
Contact: ginyaz@bellsouth.net

Refreshments Committee Chair and Website Search Requests Contact:
Susan Boyd Contact: susanboyd1@bellsouth.net

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