Organizing Your Genealogy Research with OneNote

IMPORTANT FIRST STEPS
- Collect Family Data
- Interview Your Family Members Regularly
- Share/Build Your Family Tree Online
- Trace All Ancestral lines back as far as you can

OneNote will help you:
- Organize your generations of ancestors by family name
- Collect Source Documentation into Notebooks
- Sort Notebooks into folders
- Evaluate all documents and sources
- Survey families and local histories
- Organize data by individual ancestor
- Use charts and forms as digital templates to help you keep track of your research and create research goals. Examples of forms:
    - Pedigree Charts
    - Family Group Charts
    - Document Evaluation Forms
    - Research Logs

Research Logs help you keep track of all your research data.
- Use a research log as a template
- Research log is an index to all info on each research topic/person
- Document all research activity, and much more…

DOWNLOAD RESEARCH LOG: https://tinyurl.com/42ztcmcc

One stop for research focus.

Keeps a list of records searched all in one place.

Keeps track of what you already know.
Keeps track of searches both positive and negative.

Keeps track of repositories and sources that have been used.

Download this one free from FamilySearch (See handout).

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SLAVE RESEARCH STRATEGIES

FOUR TYPES OF RESEARCH STRATEGIES
   I.   Local and County Surveys
   II. Military Pension Files
   III. Slave Narratives
   IV. Freedmen's Bank and Bureau Records

BENJAMIN FRY

I. LOCAL & COUNTY SURVEYS

- 1860 Missouri Census Survey "Fry"
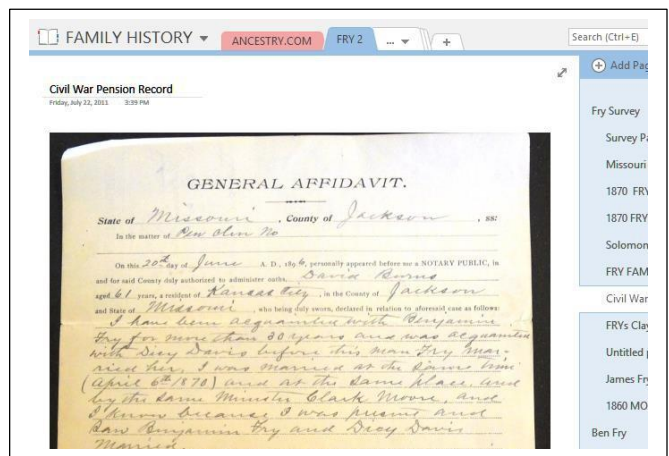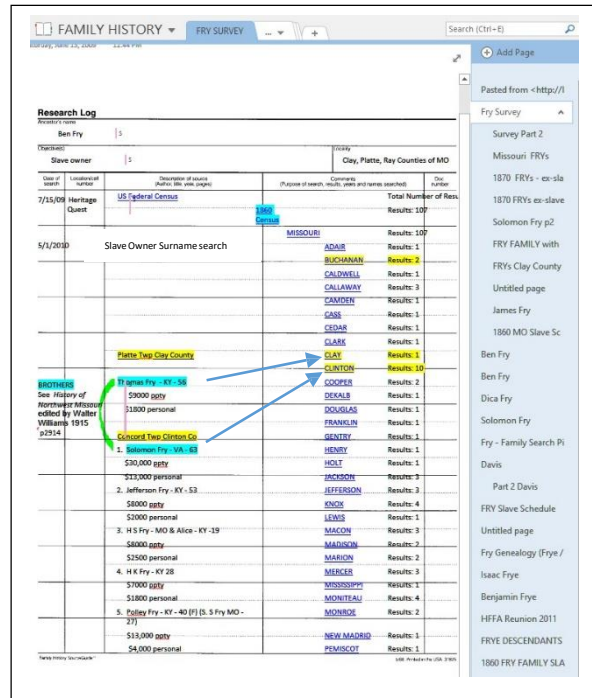- Slave Schedules
- County Histories
- Slave Owner Genealogies

Using the Research Log as a template, you can add county survey information to OneNote to keep track of slave owner information that you can't put in your family tree. You can also collect county history information slave owner genealogies, slave schedules and organize them by your family name.

II. CIVIL WAR PENSION RECORDS

- Depositions and Affidavits
- Field Interview Reports

One of the best resources available for finding slave owners is military records. If your ancestor or anyone in the family line that you are researching served in the Civil War, you may find a treasure trove of information. However, that information is located at the National Archives in DC. If you cannot travel to the Archives, you will have to fill out form NATF FORM 85 and pay and wait months for your request to arrive. There are also finding aids that will tell you how to locate these records but, once you find them they will be tremendous at revealing your family tree.

Some of the National Archives records include Affidavits that are testimonies by witnesses including family members, former slave owners, neighbors, and friends. All of which is vital information to help locate additional family members and discover next steps.
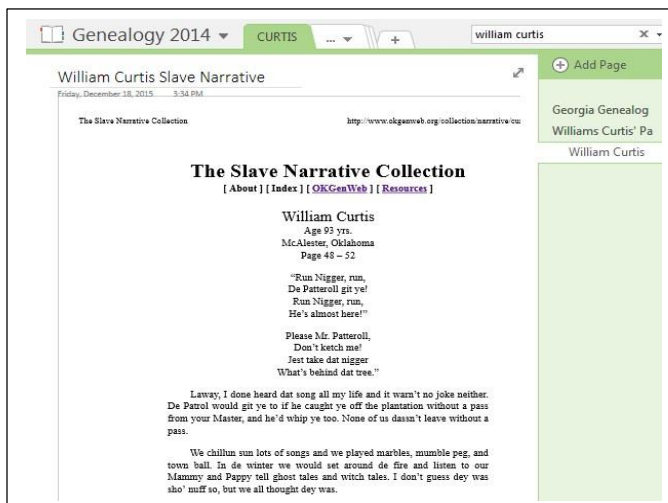
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WILLIAM CURTIS

III. WPA SLAVE NARRATIVES

- Located by state and name of interviewee
- Contains former slaves' oral histories

The Work Progress Association created programs including the Federal Writer's Project and the Born in Slavery: Slave Narrative (1936-1938) to get people. The records created from this project could help you Locate your ancestors and their former slave owners. The names given in this Narrative directed me to the slave owners and the town where they were enslaved. The 1850 and 1860 Census corroborated the info found in this Narrative.

IV. FREEDMEN'S BUREAU RECORDS

- www.FamilySearch.org
- www.DiscoverFreedmen.org

The newly digitized records created from the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, known as the Freedmen's Bureau Records, has given African Americans a great opportunity to search records covering the Civil War period in the southern states. These records will help many people find their family members and former slave owners. As of this writing, the digital images are still being indexed to make every name searchable. When complete, this will be one the largest sources for finding records on former slaves.

Examples of records that can be discovered include marriage records, labor contracts, complaints and disputes, court proceedings, rations, and many of the activities to help support former slaves in their transition.

RESOURCES AND LINKS:

OneNote Tutorials:

OneNote Tutorial from Microsoft (5:00)

Intro to OneNote with Brian Bouchard (15:40)

Using OneNote for Genealogy Organization with Caroline Pointer (56:07)

Additional Features of OneNote for Researchers with Caroline Pointer (14:56)

County Histories:

Heritage Quest Online (available online at most public libraries)

www.Archive.org

Slave Narratives

http://docsouth.unc.edu/neh/texts.html

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