



MyHeritage's OldNews.com® is Good News for Genealogists

By James L. Tanner

Webinar held 17 September 2025

MyHeritage.com launched a new website called <u>OldNews.com</u> on March 1, 2024, during the annual <u>RootsTech.org</u> conference. This platform offers a vast collection of historical newspapers, making it a valuable tool for genealogists and historical researchers. It allows users to search for detailed information about their ancestors by tracing names, locations, and occupations.

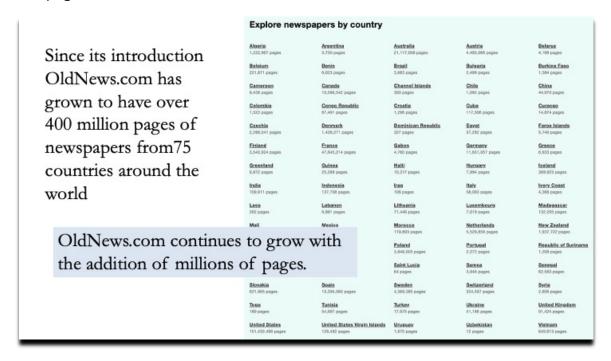
MyHeritage.com introduced OldNews.com on 1 March 2024, during the annual RootsTech.org Conference.



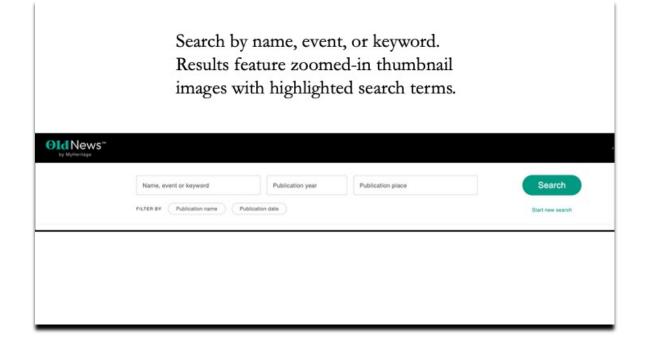
OldNews.com includes a large repository of newspaper pages from around the world, including Europe, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia, in addition to extensive U.S. content. This is especially useful for tracing ancestors with non-English or diverse geographic origins.



Historical newspapers are an invaluable tool for genealogy and historical research. They allow users to find in depth information on ancestors by tracing names, locations, and occupations. OldNews.com provides access to a "treasure trove" of over 400 million newspaper pages from 75 countries, and the collection continues to expand with the addition of millions of new pages.



- Users can search by name, event, or keyword, and the results show zoomed-in thumbnail images with the search terms highlighted.
- You can also filter searches by publication year and location.



Subscription and Access

Subscription-Based: OldNews.com is a subscription service.

Free Trial: A 7-day free trial is often available to explore the content.

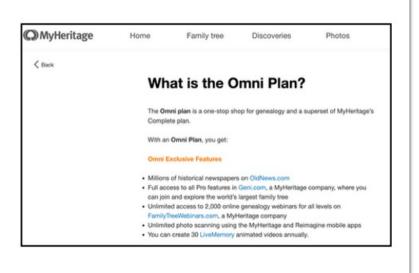
Subscription Plans:

OldNews.com Pro: A standalone annual subscription.

MyHeritage Omni Plan: Full access is included in the premium Omni plan from MyHeritage, which also includes other features like family tree tools and DNA webinars.

The website is a subscription-based service, but it often provides a 7-day free trial. You can subscribe to OldNews.com as a standalone annual plan called **OldNews.com Pro** or get full access through the **MyHeritage Omni Plan**, which includes other features like family tree tools and DNA webinars.

At the time of this presentation, you could subscribe to OldNews.com separately or through the MyHeritage.com Omni Plan.

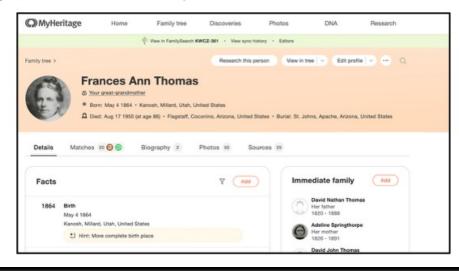


Newspapers are an excellent resource for gaining insight into the daily lives and culture of the past. They often contain personal news items, especially in small towns, and can reveal surprising details about an ancestor's life that might not be found elsewhere. You might even find notices that list multiple relatives and family members.

Newspapers supplement other genealogical sources. In this case, the information about my Greatgrandmother, Frances Ann Thomas, is wrong. She was not born in Nephi, Utah, she was born in Kanosh, Utah and her parents were David Thomas and Adeline Springthorpe.



The information in newspapers needs to be supplemented and verified by other sources.

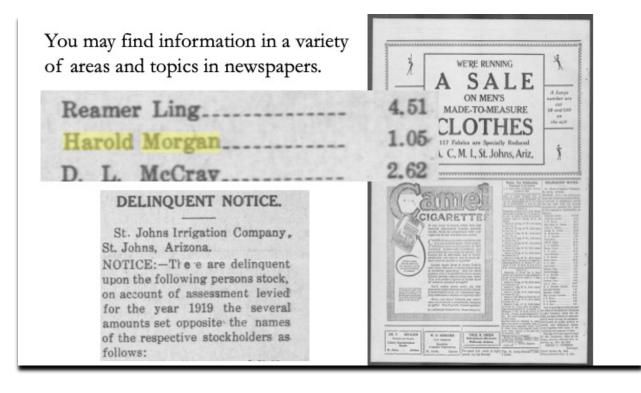


The presentation gives an example of the need to supplement sources with Frances Ann Thomas, whose newspaper death notice incorrectly stated her birthplace. A family Bible record later confirmed her correct birthplace and parentage.

A family Bible record kept by Frances Ann Thomas gave the birthplace as Kanosh, Millard, Utah.

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To ensure you have all the necessary information, you should save the entire newspaper page, including the name of the publication, the date, and the place of the event.



My grandfather, Harold Morgan, worked as a reporter and editor for several newspapers.

Leader Of Pension Plan Sees Success

The Descret Nems of Predicts

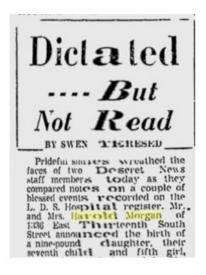
By HAROLD MORGAN
Thumbing over a stack of airmail letters and smiling with satisfaction over the cordial welcome accorded him by a score of Salt Lake followers on his arrival at the Union Pacific station, Dr. Fran-

You can view the text from each page.



When working with historical newspapers, pay careful attention to the context and potential for human error—misprints, biased reporting, or assumptions by journalists of the time can all impact the accuracy of what you read. That's why genealogists often encourage corroborating newspaper information with records like censuses, vital certificates, wills, and letters.

In small towns personal news items shared front page news.





You may learn about incidents in your ancestors' lives that you never heard about.

S. L. Woman Injured When

bruises 363 J Street, suffered and shock this morning at 7:30 when the automobile in which

when the automobile in which she was riding was involved in a two-car collision and turned over on its top.

Mrs. Morgan was riding west on Seventh Avenue in a car driven by her husband, Ilarold Morgan, 46. The machine collided at D Street with a morth-pound car driven by L. W. Morgan, 46. The machine collided at D Street with a north-bound car driven by L. W. Bloomfield, 22, of 555 Tenth Avenue, it was reported by Traffic Investigators E. H. Christensen and G. M. Hopkins, Elwin H. Vogeler. 17, of 854 Westminster Avenue, received a cut on the head and a contusion on the nose late last night in a traffic accident at 1190 Eighth East Street. He was treated at the Emergency Hospital.

The youth's automobile was reported by the police to have struck a parked automobile owned by Waldemar Nelson, 35, of 750 Third East Street.



It's also wise to document your research process: note which search terms were most effective, which newspapers were particularly fruitful for your region of interest, and any dead ends encountered.

By approaching newspapers as both historical artifacts and living witnesses to the times, researchers can uncover layers of nuance—local customs, shifting social norms, and the language of everyday life. Each article offers a fragment of the past, whether it's a birth announcement tucked between advertisements or a community event chronicled in poetic detail. These glimpses not only fill gaps in official records but also provide texture and humanity to names and dates on a pedigree chart.

Be sure to save the entire page showing the name of the newspaper and the date and place of the event.

Leroy Tanner came in from St. Joseph the last of the week. He returned today accompanied by his brother, George and Mrs. J. M. Westover and son, Frantz, the latter having finishedhis second year at the academy.



The newspaper may be the main source of information about the family.

Joan Morgan Dies After Brief Illness

Morgan, four-year-old Joan daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Morgan, of 1336 east Thirteenth South street, died in a local hospital Wednesday. The child had been ill about one week. survived by her parents, three sisters, Helen. Alta and Maxino Morgan, and two brothers, and Calvin Morgan

Funeral arrangements Wednesday had not been completed. Mr. Morgan is a member of the reportorial staff of The Descret News.



A death notice may have information about extended family members.

Besides his widow, Eudora Eggertson of Provo, he is survived by a son, John Waldo Morgan; two daughters, Dixle and Merlene Morgan, Oakland; two brothers, Harold Morgan, Salt Lake City, and Mathias C. Morgan, Berkeley, Calif.; three half-brothers, Nicholas G Morgan St., and John H. Morgan, Salt Lake City, and Earl Morgan, Sacramento; three half-sisters, Mrs. George Austin, Sacramento; Mrs. Ray Heislett and Mrs. John E. Clayton, Salt Lake City.

Ex-Utahn's Funeral Set In Oakland

Funeral services and burial for R. Linton (Lin) Morgan, 61, Oak land, Calif., real estate man an former Utahn, will be conducted Monday in Oukland.

Mr. Morgan died at his bome in Oakland following an illness of several months.

He was born in Preston, Ida., Sept. 21, 1890, a mon of John and Mary Linton Mongan. His father was a member of the First Council of Seventy, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Nephi, he moved with his mothe and two brothers to Arizona short by after 1900.

He received his education in pub

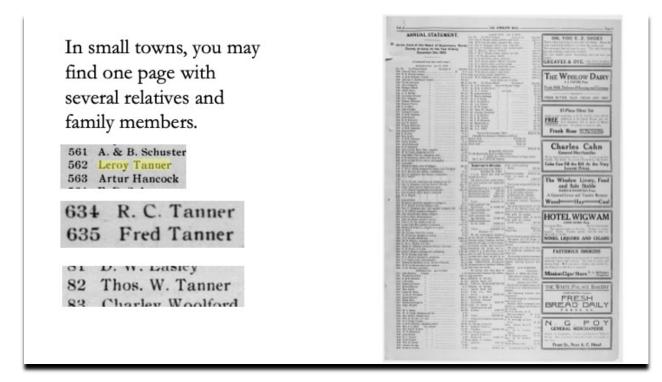
ington University Law School, Washington, D. C. Bessdes his widow, Eudora Eggertson of Prown, he is survived by a son, John Waldo Mergan; two daughters, Dude and Mericos Morgan, Oakland; two brothers, Blarodd Mergan, Salt Lake City, and Mathies C. Morgan, Barkeley, Calif.

Morgan, Sail Lake City, and Mathias C. Morgan, Berkeley, Calif, three half-bouthers, Nicholas G. Morgan St., and John B. Morgan, Sail Lake City, and Earl Morgan, Sacramento; three half-suters, Mrs. Googa Austm., Sacramento; Mrs. Ray Heislett and Mrs. John E. Clayton, Sait Lake City.

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In many cases, newspapers capture fleeting moments that formal documents overlook: a neighbor's recollection shared at a wedding, notes about school recitals, or the triumphs of a hometown athlete. Even mistakes and inconsistencies in reporting can lead to unexpected discoveries, prompting deeper investigation and fostering the kind of critical thinking essential to genealogical research.

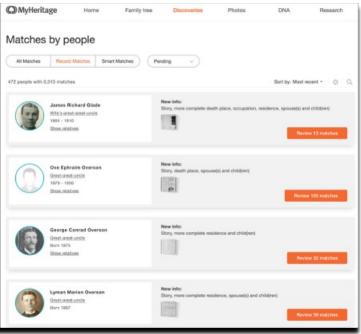
This not only helps organize your findings but also lays a breadcrumb trail for future investigations—whether your own or a fellow researcher's.



Ultimately, the mosaic of clippings, obituaries, social columns, and event reports can reveal a vibrant portrait of your ancestors' world—full of triumphs, tragedies, and the everyday stories that bring family history to life.

The integration of the OldNews.com with your family tree on MyHeritage.com may help solve some of the difficult genealogical questions.

MyHeritage provides Record Matches for articles from OldNews.com



There are more than twenty people mentioned with their relationships in this death notice for my Great-great-grandmother Margaret Jarvis.

She died of Influenza

MARGARET JARVIS
DISS OF INFLUENZA

Margaret Jarvia ago 26 years,
12th at 7 a. m. at her home at the
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A list of all the students who graduated from the St. Johns Stake Academy in Arizona

DeWitt, Clive Haws, Jesse B Martin, Ernest Farr, Eugene Sherwood, Francis Day, Arch Isaacson, Carlton Prather, Thurza Brown, Jay Patterson, Elmer Christensen, Earl Patterson, Geo. M Reynolds, Gordon Parks, Sussie R Fenney, Margaret Overson, George Jarris, Mona Patterson, Laura Farr Day, Josie A Patterson, Robert Brown, Eva Overson, Elda W Brown, Victor Overson—won scholarship U. of A., Leslie Noble, Legrande Noble, Hazel Noble, Eugene Naegle, B C Naegle, Harold Morgan, Mathais Morgan, Edgar Mineer, Elmer Mineer, Allie Mineer, Jennie M Butler, Guy Lund, Leola Love, Bruce Lesueur, Louis Laney, Richard Judd—gave life in army, Ernest Judd.

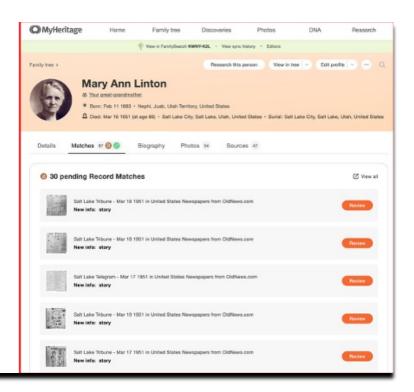
The school has a strong place among those who have gone on.



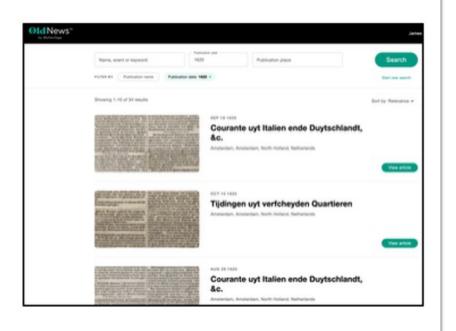
It may be more efficient to use the **Record Matches** feature on MyHeritage.com to find articles from OldNews.com rather than searching directly on OldNews.com.

- Once you find articles, you can integrate them directly into your family tree.
- If you encounter text in an old, foreign language newspaper, you can use a tool like Google Gemini to translate an image of the text into modern English.

It is probably more efficient to use the Record Matches from MyHeritage.com rather that searching on OldNews.com.



Yes, the newspapers go back to the 1600s.



Here is an example of a very old newspaperer

Courante uyt Italien ende Duytschlandt, &c. Sep 18 1620 . Amsterdam, Amsterdam, North Holland, Nethe

Courante uyt Italien, Duytslandt, &c.

Daer dien Repf. Maj. fich op der Bungheren hooz 8 daghen verhaelt onbillick ende niet does nelnch begheeren niet wilde resolveren / noch hunnen/alfoo hebben fo Bethel Babog in hunne perbitteringhe tot Coninck ghekofen / die foude ben 9 defes vouz feecher ghe roont werden / bemelche ghifteren met fan Gemaeltor Diefburgh eenen Radelnchen in tocht ghehouden / befe on todiahe verkiefinghe ende Repferlicke verwers pinghe is door epghene Couriers aen Spanjen/ Barfen / Beveren / ende andere Potentaten de wete ghedaen.

Courante uyt Italien, Duyellandt, Sca

Drop an image of the old text into Google Gemini and it will translate it.

Naer dien Reps-Maj. sich op der Hungeren boo? 8 daghen verhaelt onbillyck ende niet doe-nelyck begheeren niet wilde resolveren / noch kunnen/alfoo hebben sy Bethel Baboz in hunne berbitteringhe tot Coninck ghekosen die soude den 9 deses voor feecker ghewoont werden/ de welcke ghisteren met fin Gemaeltor Presburgh eenen kadelycken in tocht ghehouden / dese on tydighe kelesinghe ende Repferlycke verwer-pinghe is door epghene Couriers aen Spanjen/Darsen/ Beperen/ ende andere Potentaten de wete ghedaen.

Here is the English translation of the text from the image

Original texts

Naer dien Reps-Maj, sich op der Hungeren boo? 8 daghen verhaelt onbillyck ende niet Baboz in hunne berbitteringhe tot Coninck gheko-sen die soude den 9 deses voor fescker ghowoart werden/ de welcke ghisteren met sin Gemaeltor Presburgh eener kadelycken in tacht ghehauden / dese on tydighe kelesinghe ende Repferlycke verwerpinghe is door op-ghene Couriers aan Spanjen/Darsen/ Beperen/ ende andere Potentaten de wete ghedsen.

After the Representative-Majesty, in anger at the Hungarians, related for 8 days that they would not or could not resolve their unfair and unreasonable demands, they, in their bitterness, chose Bethel Baboz as king. He was to be surely growned on the 9th of this month. Yesterday, he and his consort, Presburgh, held a stately procession. This untimely choice and Repferlycke rejection have been made known by means of special couriers to Spain, Darson, Beperen, and other potentates.

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Gain insight into the daily lives, culture, and major events of the past.

The articles from OldNews.com can be integrated directly into your family tree.

- Start with a Name: Begin your search with an ancestor's name. Use various spellings.
- Add Keywords: Refine your search with keywords like a location, occupation, or a family member's name.
- Filter by Date and Place: Narrow down the results by specifying a publication year or location.
- Analyze the Results: Look for articles that mention your ancestor. This could be a small blurb, a detailed obituary, or a social column mention.
- Save and Document: Save articles and cite them in your family tree to preserve the findings.



