

Bureau of Land Management: glorecords.blm.gov

Tracing land ownership is useful enough, but plotting the locations of neighbors and associates can be an essential step in weaving the threads of your westward-moving ancestors.

Historic Mapworks: historic mapworks.com

With over 1.6 million historical maps, the site can help you locate long-gone addresses, streets, farm locations and neighborhoods.

Community History Archive: directory.advantage-preservation.com/SiteDirectory

An archive of digitized community history and newspapers, making it much easier to use than the microfilm available in many local repositories.

Chronicling America: chroniclingamerica.loc.gov

The collection, which spans two centuries, offers content that can add dimension to your ancestors like no other source. You'll find digitized newspapers and a finding aid for which newspapers existed for the time and place of your ancestor.

US Gen Web Project: usgenweb.org

Specific to geographic location, it can offer a broad introduction to sources as well as specific historical information found nowhere else. Each county has different content and is run by volunteers.

Archive Grid: researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid

This compilation of primary source materials comes from a variety of local sources and can direct you to useful digital content or an on-site research plan.

DNA Painter: dnapainter.com

Any foray into genetic genealogy is incomplete without this site, which can turn a jumble of genetic data into meaningful information. The shared cM project is based on real relationships, not an algorithm.

MapCarta: mapcarta.com

It's our go-to mapping site for all European research.

David Rumsey Maps: davidrumsey.com

A cartophile's dreamland, for the times we just need to look at more-and more beautiful-maps. This now offers the ability to search text on images.

Facebook Groups: facebook.com

Logging in and joining a few of the countless groups dedicated to your area of interest can result in crowd-sourcing at its best.

