Family Group Records
at BYU Family History Library

TEMPEL INDEX BUREAU (TIB) ENDOWMENT INDEX: 1842-1969

IN 1961 RENAMED INTERNATIONAL GENEALOGICAL INDEX (IGI)
Contains information from temple ordinance records from 1869 to about 2008. Now located at the www.familysearch.org website.

FAMILY GROUP RECORDS COLLECTIONS
Mostly found on Floor 2 of microfilm cabinets

Main Archives Section (1942-1969)
Microfilmed 1970. Online images at www.familysearch.org

Patron's Section (1924-1950)

Patron's Section (1924-1962)

LDS Church Census Records: 1914-1960
Microfilm is scattered in BYU film collection

3 & 4 Generation Family Group Records (1962-1979)
Submitted by members. Each of the years below are arranged alphabetically by submission year.

Ancestral File Submission Sheets (AF) (1979-1996)

Pedigree Resource File (PRF) (1999 to present)
A growing collection of member and public submitted genealogies that began in May 1999. Originally released on DVD. Now located at www.familysearch.org where users can also submit their own genealogies.

Pre-computer age

Computer age
The **Main Archives Section** consists of family group record sheets submitted by Church members between 1942-1969, for processing prior to the performance of proxy ordinances; after the completed ordinance dates were recorded on the sheets they were filed in the *Archives section alphabetically* by the husbands surname, given name, and date of birth/christening. Some sheets were removed by patrons before microfilming was completed. *This collection is available only to LDS Church members.*

This collection of microfilm is in the BYU FHL. It is located on row F2 of the microfilm cabinets. The drawers have bright blue labels that read: **Family Group Records, Main Archive Section, beginning microfilm number and name for that drawer.** There are 1,998 microfilm reels, beginning with microfilm number 1273501. The addendum starts on microfilm number 1750758.

**To Search:**
1. Pick a surname
2. Locate the correct microfilm drawer
3. Look for the microfilm box that the name would fall under
4. Alphabetically look for desired surname, given name, given name & birth date

Search notes:
- An asterisk (*) next to the name of the husband, wife, their parents, or their children indicates that this individual appears on another Archive Section family group record.
- An asterisk (*) next to the name of a child’s spouse indicates another spouse is specified on the back of the record.

**This collection is also online at familysearch.org:**

**To search the collection:**
1. Log-in to familysearch.org
2. Click on “Search”
3. Scroll down page and click on “Browse all Published Collections”
4. In the “Filter by Collection Name” box type “fam”
5. Click on “Family Group Records Collection, Archives Section, 1942-1969”
6. Click on “Browse through images”
7. Click on the “first letter of the surname”
8. Browse through the alphabetical name list to locate where the desired surname would fall
9. Browse the alphabetical images one-by-one to locate the surname.

Search notes:
- If you find a group sheet in this collection you can save it to your computer.
- You can also copy and paste the URL which makes it easy to navigate back to a group sheet at any time.

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1 BYU Family History Library, 8 Jul 2014, Sister Linda Dunn
The **Patron’s Section** consists of **two** collections of family group records spanning from 1924 to 1962. They were submitted to the Utah Genealogical Society by patrons in order to share genealogical information and identify others working on the same lines. Both of these collections of microfilm are in the BYU FHL.

The **1st Patron’s Section** is a collection of family group records that were submitted between 1924-1950. They are arranged in **approximate alphabetical** order. Surnames spelled differently but pronounced the same were interfiled. Some records are filed out of order and some surnames are incomplete or missing. These films should be looked at when you feel someone is missing on the re-filmed version done in 1962.

The 1st Patron’s section is located on row F2 of the microfilm cabinets. The drawers have bright green labels with that read: **Family Group Records, Patron’s Section, 1950, beginning microfilm number and name for that drawer.** It was microfilmed in 1950 on 824 microfilm reels beginning with film number 260872. The microfilms are of poor quality and are difficult to read.

**To Search:**
1. Pick a surname
2. Locate the correct microfilm drawer in the 1950’s Patron’s Section.
3. Look for the microfilm box that the name would fall under.
4. You may have to look at a few films to find the name desired.

In 1962, the 1924-1950 Patron’s Section collection above was re-microfilmed and created the **2nd Patron’s Section** collection of family group records. This filming contains **most** of the records from the 1950 filming **with records from 1950-1962 added.** These records are arranged **alphabetically** by the husbands name when known, or by the wife’s name if the husband’s name is unknown. There may be more than one record with the same filing name – if so, these are arranged by birth/christening date. Some records were filmed slightly out of order.

This 2nd Patron’s Sections is located on row F2 of the microfilm cabinets. The drawers have bright brown labels with that read: **Family Group Records, Patron’s Section, 1962, beginning microfilm number and name for that drawer.** These microfilms are on 614 microfilm reels beginning with microfilm number 412088. The films are more legible.

**To Search:**
1. Pick a surname
2. Locate the correct microfilm drawer in 1962 Patron’s Section.
3. Look for the microfilm box that the name would fall under.
THREE- AND FOUR- GENERATION FAMILY GROUP RECORDS (1962-1979)

This collection of family group records resulted from the Three- and Four-Generation Programs of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. In 1965 Church members were asked to submit family group records for three generations of their family. In 1966 the Church extended the request to four generations plus a pedigree chart. The physical records are no longer available to the public.

BYU FHL has nine sets of microfilms that span the years 1962-1979. The records are arranged alphabetically by surname within a submission year, then by the husband’s name (or the wife’s name if the husband is unknown), and then by birth date (or christening date if the birth date is unknown). Each of the years covered has some names that cannot be found in other filming’s, so check every year.


Each of the nine sets of microfilm drawers have bright orange labels. Look carefully at the years to tell where one set ends and the next set begins. The microfilm drawer labels read: “Family Group Records, Patron’s Section, year(s), beginning microfilm number and name for that drawer”. There are 1165 microfilm reels beginning with microfilm number 428056. The microfilms are located on row F2 of the microfilm cabinets.

To Search
1. Select a surname
2. Locate the 1965 drawers
3. Look for the microfilm box that the name would fall under
4. Alphabetically search for the desired surname & given name

Use this method to search each of the other years shown above.

After July 1, 1979, submissions were added to the computerized Ancestral File database instead of this collection.
BYU FHL has the LDS Church Census Records on microfilm. The LDS Church took censuses to track members and church growth throughout the world. The first Church wide census was taken in 1914. Beginning in 1920, the Church took a census every five years until 1960, except 1945 because of the war.

The information given about each family in a ward or branch includes: a family card with each person in the household listed with their gender, age, priesthood office and marital status. Each time the census was taken, additional bits of information were included.

The microfilms are **not** grouped together at BYU FHL rather they are scattered in a few different places in the microfilm collection.

**To Search:**

1. Go the familysearch.org and sign-in
2. Click on Search
3. Click on Catalog
4. In the *title box* type: *Church Census Records, 1914-1960*
5. Pick a surname
6. Find the film number desired.

Search notes:
- The surnames on the microfilm are arranged *alphabetically* by the head of the household, then by census year.
- Multiple census years for an individual family are grouped together on one film most of the time.
- Sometimes if the surname is spelled differently on one census it will be found in a different place on that film or on another film.

If you *cannot* find a family on a Church census try these strategies:
- Look for variant spellings of the surname.
- Look for the wife as head of household.
- Check the supplemental films.

If you still cannot find the family, it may be because:
- Some Church units did not participate.
- The census taker (ward clerk) may have missed the family.
The BYU FHL has the *Ancestral File Submission Sheets* from the original Ancestral Files prior to them being computerized. They are arranged by *submission date* (the date the sheets were submitted to Salt Lake City) and *sheet number*, put together they make a *Submission Code*. These microfilms show pedigree charts and family group sheets that often include sources and other information that were not included in the computerized Ancestral File database. The last paper submissions were accepted and filmed in 1996. Diskette submissions continued until January 2003 and the information was put directly into Ancestral File. At this time, contributors were told to submit to the Pedigree Resource File.

This collection is located on row F2 of the microfilm cabinets. The bright pink microfilm *drawer labels* read: *Family Group Records, Ancestral File, microfilm number range* in that drawer. The *box labels* read: “*Microfilm number, Ancestral File Submissions, the submission year and sheet number range*” for that box. There are 606 microfilm reels beginning with the microfilm number 1394001.

There are two ways of locating a film for a particular family group record in this collection. Each way has its advantages and disadvantages.

1. Using familysearch.org
   - **Advantage**: It is faster. The microfilm number & submission code can be easily located.
   - **Disadvantage**: The names of the submitters are shown but you are unable to tell which submitter belongs to what microfilm number & submission code.

2. Using the microfiche
   - **Advantage**: The complete names & addresses of the submitters are listed. You can determine, if you know the submitters, whose work is more accurate.
   - **Disadvantage**: It takes a little time to find the fiche in the index, load the microfiche, find the name on the microfiche, and locate the needed submission code.

**Search** for a family group sheet on *familysearch.org* by following the steps below: (A personal example was used to clarify the process.)

1. **Sign In to FamilySearch**
2. Click on “Search”,
3. Click on “Genealogies”,
4. Check the “Ancestral File” box
5. Enter “*your ancestor’s name*” in the search box and click-on “search”  
   (Example: Heber John Sheffield)
6. Click-on each Ancestral File entry for your ancestor & note the “AF file number” of each entry so it can be re-located if necessary.  
   (There were four records for Heber John Sheffield; one with the AF number as “21KW-TW”.)
7. As each Ancestral File entry page appears, scroll down. Find the title: “Additional Information”. Look for entries that have a submitter other than Ancestral File.  
   (The entry with the AF number as 21KW-TW was the only one with useable submitter information as shown below.)
8. If you locate an entry with useable information, scroll further down the page and look at the number of “submitted by” entries.  
   (For Heber John Sheffield there were 13 submitter’s names however only 8 of the submitters listed had the needed microfilm numbers and submission codes.)
9. Write down the “microfilm number(s)” and “submission code(s)” for each entry. This information is needed to locate a family group record. (One record from the list for Heber John Sheffield had a microfilm number of 1394299 and a submission code of: AF83-069738)

10. Go to the microfilm drawers with the bright pink labels that read: Family Group Records, Ancestral File, microfilm number range

11. Locate the drawer with the correct microfilm number range
   (The right microfilm range for Heber John Sheffield was 1394268-1394407)

12. Look for and retrieve the correct film number.
   (The correct microfilm number was 1394299 for Heber John Sheffield)

13. Load the microfilm and look for the appropriate sheet number.
   (The sheet number for Heber John Sheffield was 069738. The sheet number was found in the upper middle of the pedigree chart and on each family group sheet accompanying the pedigree chart. There was a pedigree chart and ten pages of well documented family group sheets that covered him and allied families.)

Search for a family group sheet on microfiche by following the steps below:
(A personal example was used to clarify the process.)

1. Go to the carousel of microfiche located on the counter behind the student Help Desk.
2. Look for the tabs that say: “FGRC (Family Group Records Collection)”,
3. There are two indexes: “patron surnames” and “submission surnames”. Look in either index but you may glean extra information by looking at both indexes.

4. The Patron Surnames Index (Submitter’s Name Index) is arranged alphabetically by the submitters’ last name.
   (Example: Look for records where the last name of the submitter someone with the Sheffield surname. If you know an individual with a surname other than Sheffield who also submitted information on Heber John Sheffield look under their surname as well).

5. The microfiche lists the names & addresses of the submitters by their last name. It lists the submission code and with the family name they submitted the sheets on printed beneath it. Record the submission code required to locate the desired family group sheet. (The microfiche listed the submitters with the last name of Sheffield. The entry with a submission code AF83-069738 with the Sheffield last name printed beneath it was selected.)

6. The Submission Surname Index (Surname Search Index) is arranged alphabetically by the surname on the family group record. (An individual submitted a family group record for a family with the Sheffield surname.)

7. The microfiche lists the names & addresses of the submitters and the submission codes with the surname printed beneath it that are needed to find the family group record desired. Record the submission code. (The microfiche shows the submission codes AF83-069738 with the Sheffield surname printed beneath it.)

8. To find a particular Ancestral File submission sheet, go to the microfilm drawer with the bright pink labels that read: Family Group Records, Ancestral File, microfilm number range.

9. The microfilm drawers are arranged in microfilm number sequence.

10. The numbers on boxes are filed by microfilm number, then by submission year with the sheet number range following it.

11. Locate the microfilm “submission year” (i.e. AF83), then look for and retrieve a microfilm box that covers the “sheet number range” needed.
   (Heber John Sheffield had a microfilm box with the submission code of AF83 and a label that covered the sheet numbers between 069615 and 069889. [It has the film number 1394299].)

12. Load the microfilm and look for the appropriate sheet number.
   (The sheet number for Heber John Sheffield was 069738. The sheet number was found in the upper middle of the Pedigree chart and on each family group sheet accompanying the pedigree chart. There was a pedigree chart and ten pages of well documented family group sheets that covered him and allied families.)