November 12, 2024

Hello family history researchers,

I ran across this article in a notebook I had put together from 1998. It was from Louise T. Overton and was shared to North Carolina Roots on Rootsweb.com. This article was titled “Genealogy Research Hints”. I thought there were so many good ideas here and I want to share it with you.

Questions to ask yourself:

1. Are all dates for events in proper order (keep them all uniform in the way you record them)?
2. Are all abbreviations correct?
3. Is every fact documented?
4. Have you found your ancestors in every census of his/her life?
5. Have you looked for citizenship or naturalization papers?
6. Was the father married more than one time?
7. Do all of the children belong to one wife?
8. Is a pattern evident in the children’s names?
9. Did the father serve in the military? If yes, what war?
10. Did the family own land?
11. Have you found the father’s will and probate record?
12. Have you researched tax lists and church records?
13. Figuring the dates, how many children could the mother have had?
14. Do all of her children belong to one husband?
15. If widowed, did she live with her children in later years?
16. Do you have the children listed in correct birth order?
17. Do you have place of birth and marriage information for each child?
18. Have you followed each child in the census to see if a parent or grandparent is living with them?
19. Have you checked to see if a book was ever written about your family?
20. Have you checked to see if your families are on Family Search?
21. Have you entered your family on Find a Grave?
22. Have you considered that your ancestor may have kept a diary?
23. Have you plotted your family’s migration pattern?

Lastly, review documents acquired over time. New clues will surface that were missed the first time, or the information didn’t fit with your data at that time. Those papers filed away should be REVIEWED OFTEN. You will be surprised how clues just seem to grow after being put away!

Don’t forget our program tonight at 6 pm central with Sara Cochran, “Why We Still Don’t Miss 1890. Much.”

Talk to you soon!

Kim Van Vorst

President, Tri State Genealogical Society