

Blitzkrieg Genealogy:

HOW THROWING OUT YOUR RESEARCH PLAN CAN YIELD EXCITING RESULTS

A Traditional Research plan:

1. Requires that you ask a specific question to focus your research.
2. Look only in those sources that are likely to yield the answer to your question.
3. If the focus is too narrow, you may miss important clues or even the answer to your question.

The Blitzkrieg Approach:

1. It's not an alternative to a traditional research plan, it's an addition.
2. You look within larger platforms rather than at only smaller, more focussed databases.
3. You look in places that may not seem to make sense ... at first.

Map Points Document

Lines are alphabetical by surname

Direct Ancestors listed by generation in order starting with the female who ends the surname line

If you include speculative lines put them in brackets and italics so they will stand out

Include spouses names to help especially with searching for women

List what you expect to find, whether you found it, and WHERE you found it

Include actual dates if you have them

Include ages to help discover errors

Put places in brackets where you think they should be found if you haven't located them in an expected record

Include what type of record or event is listed (census, marriage, etc)

This is a starting point

Once you have all of the lines that you want to search using the Blitzkrieg approach included, you may begin

Blitzkrieg Search List

Ancestry	Advantage Archives
FamilySearch	GenealogyBank
FindMyPast	NewspaperArchive
Fold3	Newspapers.com
MyHeritage	Chronicling America
DAR/SAR Patriots	The Ancestor Hunt

Cyndi's List	GenGophers
FindAGrave	GoogleBooks
BillionGraves	Hathi Trust
Interment.net	Internet Archive
Bio & Gen Master Index	PERSI
ProQuest History Vault	

Blitzkrieg Genealogy

GLOBLM

DAR Magazine
National Geographic
NGS Magazine

After each search, record:

1. How many items you found
2. Where you found them
3. The year of the search so you know when it times to search again

Women require two searches

1. Maiden name
2. Married name

Don't forget to look in the “retrospective” columns

Don't make assumptions: search for women even if you don't think you'll find them

Check your DNA matches

The Deep Dive

1. Look through the county records for every ancestor who may have been there at the time
2. Make a list of every potential ancestor from that place and when they were known to be there

Beyond the Census:

1. Tax records
2. Court records
3. Probate records
4. Land records

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