

Research Tips – From Priscilla Greenlees – April 18, 2014 meeting

1. be sure you have explored all resources in the U.S. before you jump the pond. You need at least an idea where your ancestor came from.
2. Plan ahead and write down (in query fashion) exactly what you are looking for. Focus!
3. Look at the surname distribution (on the web) for the entire country to see where the earliest concentration is.
4. Read the Phillmore Atlas (copy at library information desk) to see what is available for the county you are working in; be sure to read the notes at the end of each county listing for information on where the records are kept and who to contact.
5. Search the LDS on-line catalog for a list of films available (Birth, Marriage, Death, etc.) to order for local viewing.
6. Search the on-line catalog for the repositories that are most likely to contain what you are looking for, either to prepare for an actual visit or order copies of documents. This may take hours - do not be discouraged, it will pay off in the long run.
7. Study the history of the country and the local customs.
8. In researching any on-line catalogs especially look to see what is contained in any manuscript collections that the repository might have.

Priscilla