



# Episode 7: Records, an Introduction

## 5 minute challenge—**Identify available records where your ancestor lived!**

1. Check with the local churches in the area where your ancestor lived. Churches often have several types of records
2. Research government documents from the local authority where your ancestor lived
3. Search any official organization or authority that may have existed in the areas surrounding your ancestors' residence.



## Helpful hints:

Everyone has a paper trail of records that tells the story of an ancestor's life.

Remember to look for relationships or hints from a record that may lead you to new information.

Location is crucial in knowing where to look for ancestral records.

Take good notes from this episode of 5 Minute Genealogy of other records that may contain important information about your ancestors.

## Vocabulary

**Birth Records:** Great for information about relationships and dates. These are widely available.

**Marriage Records:** Widely available records. Contain information about relationships, dates, and locations. Often kept by churches and governments.

**Cemetery Records:** From cemetery records and headstones.

**Immigration Records:** Provide the date or ship on which an immigrant ancestor arrived or the name of the port of arrival.

**Military Records:** The names of individuals who served or were eligible to serve in the military.

**Probate Records:** At death courts may create records containing a copy of the person's will.

**Census Record:** Government records with information about whole families, including: age, income, occupation, and residence.