



## Tips/Tricks To Follow You Into The New Year

3 crucial tips that can assist you in your research:

1. Always remember that the information could be inaccurate in one way or another. [The Family Tree Problem Solver](#) gives a great example of this in their discussion of tombstone inscriptions, but this can also be extrapolated to other areas of your search. The author, Marsha Hoffman Rising, states that inaccuracies can happen since "the individual who was buried there probably did not order the tombstone nor did he supervise the carving" Additionally, due to age or other damage to the stone it may not be easy to read, which could cause further inaccuracies. (pg.32) You can get around this issue by having at least two primary sources as confirmation, though be aware that they can still contain errors. For more information on differentiating primary vs. secondary sources [here](#) is an overview by *The Genealogy Assistant blog*.
2. If you are uncertain about where to start in your search on a topic or feel overwhelmed with reading a full book, *Genealogy at a Glance* is a great option. They are laminated booklets by the Genealogical Publishing Company. These booklets give a concise, but detailed overview of resources on specific topics. The library currently has 34 booklets available in the Genealogy shelves that can be accessed while inside the library. We have recently acquired 8 updated editions on these topics:
  - [Genetics \(2019\)](#)
  - [German \(2020\)](#)
  - [Irish \(2019\)](#)
  - [Polish \(2020\)](#)
  - [Eastern European Jewish \(2020\)](#)
  - [Mexico \(2020\)](#)
  - [Russian \(2021\)](#)
  - [War of 1812 \(2020\)](#)
3. Try to understand the local area and time period to get further insight on the ancestor. This can involve checking with local historical societies, libraries, and universities. They will all have comprehensive historical details, if not information directly about the ancestor(s). Local social media accounts focused on genealogy and history are also your best friend. These organizations are also great for accessing primary sources not available online.



We need to haunt the house of history and listen anew to the ancestors' wisdom. - Maya Angelou

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