

Heritage Quest

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What Information Is Presented By HeritageQuest?

HeritageQuest presents a varied and in-depth set of data for genealogists and historians. HeritageQuest is designed to help amateur and professional genealogists, local historians, and public library patrons to search and use data from all of the U.S. Censuses until 1930, an index of 6,500 local history and genealogy periodicals (PERSI), bank records of African Americans from 1865-1874, a database of Revolutionary War pension and bounty-land warrant, full text of 25,000 local histories and family histories, and the memorials, petitions, and private relief actions of the U.S. Congress.

How Can I Search U.S. Census Data On Heritage Quest?

Basic Search

1. Click on *Search Census*.
2. Enter one or more of the following in the appropriate space: Surname, Given name, Census year, State.
3. Click on *Search*
4. Click on the name of the person whose record you would like to view.

Advanced Search

1. Click on *Search Census*.
2. Click on *Advanced Search*.
3. Enter one or more of the following in the appropriate space: Surname, Given name, Census year, State, County (Click on *Browse* for a list of counties), Location (Click on *Browse* for a list of locations -- cities, towns, etc.), Age, Sex, Race, Birthplace (Click on *Browse* for a list of choices).
4. Click on *Search*
5. Click on the name of the person whose record you would like to view.
6. You can also search census data by page number by clicking on *Page Number*.

Search Tips

- When searching you can enter an * symbol as part of a keyword in order to find any related spellings of that word. For example, searching for “photo*” would retrieve references to photos, photographs, or photography. You can also use “and” or “or” within a search in order to limit or expand your search.

- Because of the limitations of census data, some names may have been misspelled during the census or transcribed incorrectly during indexing. If your searches are not returning the results you would like, try entering alternate spellings of names.
- Information found in Heritage Quest's books or publications index might help you to direct a search of census data.

How Does Heritage Quest Display Census Data?

HeritageQuest displays each page of census data as a digitized image. The top of the page shows the series, roll, and page numbers of each entry. You can enlarge the image by using the *Zoom* feature, or change the image from positive to negative. Click on the arrows next to *Page* to see the page of census data before or after the page you are viewing. If your search returned multiple names you can click on the arrows next to *Name* to see the page displaying each name you retrieved. You can *Print* a census record or *Download* it to a disc by clicking on the appropriate commands.

Example of Browsing the Census Data

You would like to know if a relative lived in the 1st Ward of Mobile County, Alabama during the 1860 Census.

Instructions:

1. From the main page, click on "Search Census".
2. Click "Browse".
3. Select year "1860" from the "Select Census Year" drop down menu.
4. Select "Alabama" from the "Select State" drop down menu.
5. Select "Mobile" from the "Select County" drop down menu.
6. Select "1-WD" (which means 1st Ward) from the "Select Location" drop down menu.

HERITAGE QUEST ONLINE

CENSUS BOOKS PERSI™ FREEDMAN'S REV WAR SERIAL SET

Search :: Browse

? [Help with the Federal Census](#)

Browse the Census by selecting options:

1 SELECT CENSUS YEAR: 1860

2 SELECT STATE: Alabama [View State Map](#)

3 SELECT COUNTY: MOBILE

4 SELECT LOCATION: 1-WD MOBILE

States included in 1860 US Census

[What you should know about the 1860 Census.](#)

7. To reduce the size of the image, select 100% from the "Zoom" drop down menu.

- By clicking on the arrows next to "Page" and "Image", you can scan through the different pages of images for that Census Ward.

HERITAGE QUEST ONLINE

CENSUS **BOOKS** PERSI™ FREEDMAN'S REV WAR SERIAL SET

Search :: Browse

Census Image

1860 > ALABAMA > MOBILE > 1-WD MOBILE

Series: M653 Roll: 17 Page: 647

This is image 1. Go to image: of 39

Add to Notebook

Print Download Positive Negative Zoom: 100%

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Page No. 1

SCHEDULE 1 - Free Inhabitants in Ward City of Mobile in the County of Mobile State of Alabama enumerated by me, on the 2nd day of July 1860. Edwin S. Jacy Asst. Marshal

Post Office Mobile Ala

Schedule No.	Household No.	Name	Sex	Color	Age	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age	Value of Real Estate	Value of Personal Estate	Place of Birth, State, Territory, or Country	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict		
											1	2
1	1	B. W. Brender	M	W	20	laborer			Alabama			
2		House unoccupied										
3		"										
4	2	Wm. B. Brender	M	W	20	laborer			Alabama			
5		C. A. Sage	M	W	19				Mississippi			
6	3	B. W. Brender	M	W	23	Merchant			Georgia			
7	4	Chas. A. Brender	M	W	63	Carton Grader			Virginia			
8	5	B. W. Brender	M	W	62	"			Connecticut			
9		House unoccupied										
10		"										
11		"										
12	6	M. W. Welch	M	W	60	laborer			Alabama			
13	7	B. A. Matthews	M	W	27	Steam Boatman			Italy			
14		House unoccupied										
15	8	Robt. Brender	M	W	45	Steam Boatman			Alabama			
16	9	B. W. Brender	M	W	26	Painter			Georgia			
17		John Venable	M	W	50	Merchant			North Carolina			
18	10	Frank Brender	M	W	20	Steam Boatman			Mississippi			
19		John Brender	M	W	20	"			Maryland			
20		John Brender	M	W	22	"			Connecticut			

Local History And Genealogy Books

- HeritageQuest offers full-text searching of over 25,000 local and family history books and primary historical source materials. The search options for books include people, places, and publications. Results will display digital images of relevant pages from books, journals, and monographs, allowing you to search for specific information or to browse.

PERSI™:

- The PERiodical Source Index provides access to over 2.1 million citations from over 6,500 English language and French Canadian genealogy and local history journals written since 1800. Researchers can browse journals or perform basic and advanced searches based on keywords, people, places, and research methodologies.

Freedman's Bank

- Freedman's Bank was founded to serve newly freed slaves. Records from here cover the time period of about 1865 to 1874 and contains approximately 480,000 names. Researchers can search by last name (exact or phonetic), first name, application year, and bank location

Revolutionary War Collection

- HeritageQuest offers pension and bounty-land warrant applications for over 80,000 veterans of the Revolutionary War. These records can be searched or browsed for genealogical and historical research.

U.S Serial Set

- The U.S. Serial Set provides memorials, private relief actions, and petitions of the United States Congress from 1789-1969. It also includes information from the "American State Papers", which preceded the "Serial Set." Search people, places, keywords, or document date range.

Strengths Of HeritageQuest

- HeritageQuest is a uniquely valuable source of genealogical data due to the breadth and depth of its content. Researchers can use HeritageQuest to search within the complete body of U.S. census data, and can then use the indexed books and periodicals (PERSI™) to interpret that data. The design of HeritageQuest's web site is easy to use for basic and advanced searching.

Weaknesses Of HeritageQuest

- HeritageQuest uses copies of census data rather than the original census records. Because these copies only list the surname of each head of household, no other family members are indexed by HeritageQuest. Therefore, only heads of households will be retrieved by a search. You will not be able to find documentation of other family members through a search, but will have to view individual records in order to look for them.
- The PERSI™ index retrieves article citations, but does not display the text of the articles. You will need to find the articles in your library or can order them from HeritageQuest for a fee.

Special Features Of HeritageQuest

- The *Notebook* feature allows you to take your own notes on census records, books, or citations. Though this could be a useful feature, you will be unable to save these notes between uses of HeritageQuest, so be sure to print them out if you wish to use them later.

Where Can I Get Help Using HeritageQuest?

- HeritageQuest has a thorough and well-designed *Help* feature which can be accessed from almost any screen within the site. Clicking on *Help* will open a window that offers help using the screen which is currently displayed. A table of contents within the *Help* window can be used to access other topics.