

Here's a tip from the [Source Citations for Successful People](#) course:

A good source citation will tell you the answers to these questions:

1. Who – Who is the source referring to?
2. What- What does the source document?
3. When – When was the event, and when was the source created?
4. Where – Where is the source located (repository)
5. Where – Where did you access it? (On Ancestry.com, online, at the library, etc.)



Why Cite Sources?

1. To document your research
2. Lend credibility to your work
3. Support theories, assertions, or proof statements
4. Show reliability of sources



CITE YOUR GENEALOGY SOURCES

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Cite_Your_Sources_\(Source_Footnotes\)](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Cite_Your_Sources_(Source_Footnotes))

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Citation Examples

Here are some idealized example citations as they might appear in the **Sources** field of a *Family Group Record* printed using the Personal Ancestral File (PAF) program. These footnotes mostly follow the *Chicago Manual of Style*. Following the first citation in each category there is a list of the fields used in the PAF **Edit Source** and **Sources—Citation Detail** windows to create that source footnote. All footnotes in this list are only models—other researchers may choose different ways to render the same footnote information.



Books (published)

Ideal format: 1. Author(s), *Title* (Place of publication: Publisher, year of publication), volume: page number(s), [book call number; microfilm call number]. Digitized by Repository at URL (accessed date). Comment.

1. Clement Luther Martzloff, [FamilySearch Books Online](#) (New Lexington, Ohio: Ward & Weiland, 1902), 144-46. [FHL book 977.159 H2m; FHL film 897280 Item 2]. Digitized by BYU Family History Archives (accessed 20 January 2009). Laudatory biographical sketch.

PAF Edit Source— **Source Title:** *History of Perry County Ohio* **Author:** Clement Luther Martzloff **Publication Information:** (New Lexington, Ohio: Ward & Weiland, 1902) **Repository:** [empty] **Call Number:** [FHL book 977.159 H2m; FHL film 897280 Item 2] **Actual Text:** [empty] **Comments:** [empty] **Sources**— **Film/Volume/Page Number:** 144-46 **Date record was made:** [empty] **Comments:** Digitized by BYU Family History Archives (accessed 20 January 2009). Laudatory biographical sketch. **Actual Text:** [empty].

Computer databases (published on compact disc)

Ideal format: 2. Author(s), *Title* (Place of publication: Publisher, year of publication), volume: page number(s) or other data needed to find the entry. [CD call number]. Comment.

2. California, Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Section, *California Death Indexes on CD* (Sacramento, Calif.: CDHS, [2002]), 1969: Gee, Eva. [FHL CD-ROM no. 406 pt. 1]. Evie in some sources.

PAF Edit Source— **Source Title:** *California Death Indexes on CD* **Author:** California, Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Section **Publication Information:** (Sacramento, Calif.: CDHS, [2002]) **Repository:**[empty] **Call Number:** [FHL CD-ROM no. 406 pt. 1] **Actual Text:** [empty] **Comments:** [empty] **Sources**— **Film/Volume/Page Number:** 1969: Gee, Eva **Date record was made:**[empty] **Comments:** Evie in some sources. **Actual Text:** [empty].

Internet sites

Ideal format: 3. Author(s), "Page-Title" in Site-Title at URL (accessed date). Comment.

3. National Genealogical Society, "Standards for Sharing Information with Others" in National Genealogical Society (Internet site), at www.ngsgenealogy.org/comstandsharin

[g.htm](#) (accessed 11 November 2003). Emphasizes getting permission.

PAF Edit Source— **Source Title:** Standards for Sharing Information with Others in National Genealogical Society (Internet site) **Author:** National Genealogical Society **Publication Information:** at www.ngsgenealogy.org/comstandsharin [g.htm](#) (accessed 11 November 2003) **Repository:** [empty] **Call Number:** [empty] **Actual Text:** [empty] **Comments:** [empty] **Sources**— **Film/Volume/Page Number:** [empty] **Date record was made:** [empty] **Comments:** Emphasizes getting permission. **Actual Text:** [empty].

Ancestral File

4. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, "Family Group Record: Aaron Disney" in [FamilySearch Ancestral File](#), E: Secondary source, estimated birth date and birthplace, but exact marriage date and place.

Census index online (1880 United States)

5. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, "1880 United States Census: Individual Record: Carrie L. Gilbert", in [FamilySearch](#)

International Genealogical Index

6. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, "[International Genealogical Index](#) v5.0: Individual Record: Johann Phillip Augenstein" in [FamilySearch](#) information is available

Pedigree Resource File

8. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, "[Pedigree Resource File](#): Individual Record: Walton M. Rueckert" in [FamilySearch](#)

Social Security Death Index

9. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, "U.S. Social Security Death Index: Individual Record: Genevieve HALL in [FamilySearch](#)

Vital Records Index

10. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, "Vital Records Index: Individual Record: in [FamilySearch](#) : Catholic Church christening records.

Record Search

11. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, "Ohio Deaths, 1908-1953: Phoebe Augsfuerger" in [FamilySearch Record Search](#)—deathPlace Ohio

Ancestry.com

12. Ancestry.com, "[World War I Draft Registration Cards 1917-1918 for Frank Cullum Dilts](#)" in Ancestry.com at (accessed 23 January 2009). Original

source: United States. Selective Service System. World War I Selective Service Draft Registration Cards 1917-1918, National Archives Microfilm Publications M1509, (Washington, D.C.: NARA, 1987-1988). !NAME-RESIDENCE: Frank Cullum Dilts, Hesston, Harvey, Kansas.

Interviews (unpublished)

Ideal format: 14. Interviewee, interview by Interviewer, description or type of interview, place of interview, date, page, repository of the interview. Comment.

14. Katie Beller, interview by Bryan Dilts, interview notes, at Hesston, Kans., 12 August 1973, 2, in possession of G. David Dilts, Salt Lake City, Utah. From her memory but matches well with most written sources.

PAF Edit Source— *Source Title:*

interview by Bryan Dilts, interview notes **Author:** Katie Beller **Publication Information:** at Hesston, Kans., 12 August 1973 **Repository:** in possession of G. David Dilts, Salt Lake City, Utah **Call Number:** [empty] **Actual Text:** [empty] **Comments:** [empty] **Sources— Film/Volume/Page Number:** 2 **Date record was made:** [empty] **Comments:**

From memory but matches well with written sources. **Actual Text:** [empty].

Letters or email (unpublished)

Ideal format: 15. Author, author's residence, date, letter (or email) to Recipient, recipient's residence or repository, page. Comment.

15. Robert Frazier, Wichita, Kans., 10 May 2003, email to G. David Dilts, Salt Lake City, Utah, 3. Invitation to family reunion in Iowa.

PAF Edit Source— *Source Title:*

10 May 2003, email to G. David Dilts, Salt Lake City, Utah **Author:** Robert Frazier, Wichita, Kans. **Publication Information:** [empty] **Repository:** [empty] **Call Number:** [empty] **Actual Text:** [empty] **Comments:** [empty] **Sources— Film/Volume/Page Number:** 3 **Date record was made:** [empty] **Comments:** Invitation to family reunion in Iowa. **Actual Text:** [empty].

Manuscripts (published on microfilm)

Ideal format: 16. Author(s), "Title" Date of manuscript creation (Microfilmed by Filmers at Repository, Repository place,

filming date), volume: page number(s). [Microfilm call number]. Comment.

16. Juab County (Utah), Recorder, "Deeds, 1947-1948" (Microfilmed by the Utah State Archives at the State Capitol Building, Salt Lake City, Utah, [199-?]), 454. [FHL film 1654244]. Filmed backwards. Find out when the family sold this property.

PAF Edit Source— *Source Title:* "Deeds, 1847-1948" ***Author:*** Juab County (Utah), Recorder ***Publication Information:*** (Microfilmed by the Utah State Archives at the State Capitol Building, Salt Lake City, Utah, [199-?]) ***Repository:*** [empty] ***Call Number:*** [empty] ***Actual Text:*** [empty] ***Comments:*** [empty] **Sources—** ***Film/Volume/Page Number:*** 454. [FHL film 1654244] ***Date record was made:*** [empty] ***Comments:*** Filmed backwards. Find out when the family sold this property. ***Actual Text:*** [empty].

Manuscripts (unpublished)

Ideal format: 17. Author(s), "Title" date of manuscript creation, name of the manuscript collection (if applicable), repository name, repository place,

volume: page number(s). [call number (if applicable)]. Comment.

Nebraska, Seward County, County Court, "Petition for Letters of Administration" (Jacob ZIMMERMAN), 13 July 1885, photocopy in possession of G. David Dilts, 274 "Q" Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84103-3952, USA. 1-2. Died 1 July 1885. Photocopy obtained by correspondence.

PAF Edit Source— *Source Title:* "Petition for Letters of Administration" (Jacob ZIMMERMAN) ***Author:*** Nebraska, Seward County, County Court ***Publication Information:*** [empty] ***Repository:*** photocopy in possession of G. David Dilts, 274 "Q" Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84103-3952, USA ***Call Number:*** [empty] ***Actual Text:*** [empty] ***Comments:*** [empty] **Sources—** ***Film/Volume/Page Number:*** [empty] ***Date record was made:*** 13 July 1885 ***Comments:*** 1-2. Died 1 July 1885. Photocopy obtained by correspondence. ***Actual Text:*** [empty].

Periodicals (published)

Ideal format: 18. Author(s), "Article Title," *Periodical-Title* volume: page(s). [call number]. Comment.

18. G. David Dilts, "Citing Sources Using the Chicago Manual of Style", UGA Genealogical Journal 24 (1996): 149-61. [FHL book 973 D25gj v. 24]. Limited Internet examples.

PAF Edit Source— *Source Title:* "Citing Sources Using the Chicago Manual of Style" ***Author:*** G. David Dilts ***Publication Information:*** UGA Genealogical Journal ***Repository:*** [empty] ***Call Number:*** [FHL book 973 D25gj v. 24] ***Actual Text:*** [empty] ***Comments:*** [empty] **Sources—** ***Film/Volume/Page Number:*** 24 (1996): 149-61 ***Date record was made:*** [empty] ***Comments:*** Limited Internet examples. ***Actual Text:*** [empty].

