Resources for Historical and Genealogical Research
This is NOT a comprehensive list

Digital Collections at the Library of Congress (LOC)
http://www.loc.gov/library/libarch-digital.html
There are a number of different collections at the Library of Congress. These different collections can be somewhat confusing because there is often overlap in period and topics. LOC is working to make these searchable across collections. There is so much here it is overwhelming. *Historic Newspapers* aka *Chronicling America, American Memory,* and *Prints and Photographs* may be good places to start.

- *American Memory* is the site created for the bicentennial of the Library of Congress and has a wealth of maps, documents, paintings, photographs and other material on the United States.
- *Historic Newspapers* is actually called *Chronicling America* and includes a searchable directory of newspapers from 1690 to present. http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/search/titles/ This directory does not lead you to content of the specific newspapers, but you can determine if a place had a newspaper at a certain time and the name of the newspaper. In addition, *Chronicling America* is digitizing select newspapers (1836-1922) and adding them to their online collection with over 4 million pages online.
- *Prints and Photographs* includes about half of the LOC's pictorial holdings and has over 1 million digital images available.

Digital Library of Georgia
http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu
Can enter search term "historic newspapers" to get the digitized versions of newspapers. To find maps of towns use "Sanborn". This site is a wealth of history from several centuries of Georgia.

Documenting the American South
http://docsouth.unc.edu/
"Documenting the American South (DocSouth) is a digital publishing initiative that provides Internet access to texts, images, and audio files related to southern history, literature, and culture. Currently DocSouth includes sixteen thematic collections of books, diaries, posters, artifacts, letters, oral history interviews, and songs." The site is sponsored by The University Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Georgia Archives
http://sos.georgia.gov/archives/
The Virtual Vault section of this Website contains records, documents, photographs and more. Many have been digitized so the images are available. Read the descriptions of what is included carefully since in some cases, there is more of the same type of records elsewhere that was not filmed or otherwise preserved.

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)
http://www.archives.gov/

Huge site with immense amounts of information - articles, descriptions of microform publications, images of documents and records, great lesson plans and information for teachers. The DocsTeach program is a wonderful resource.
Another helpful tool is the National Archives channel on YouTube.
http://www.youtube.com/user/usnationalarchives \
Enter the term genealogy in the search box to narrow.

Genealogical Tools
Cyndis List
http://www.cyndislist.com/
Cyndi attempts to find every website of use for genealogy and historical research and put them into categories. It is not a fancy, pretty site; only links that help you navigate the immense amount of information on the Web. When I checked for this handout, she had more than 310,000 links in 188 categories. Basically it is a card catalog for genealogical and historical websites.
Categories are alphabetical and include such as:
- Cemeteries and Funeral Homes
- Philippines
- Biographies
- Clothing and Costumes
- Records Preservation
- DNA, Genetics and Family Health
- Surnames, Family Associations and Family Newsletters
- Jewish
- Maps & Geography
- Lookups and Free Searches by Volunteers
- Software and Computers
- Scanners

FamilySearch.org
Family Search is the registered trademark name of the service provided by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints aka Mormons. The Family History Centers are now called Family Search Centers. They have the largest collection of genealogical materials in the world, are the largest genealogical organization in the world, and provide resources to add to these and make them available to all. "For over 100 years, FamilySearch has been actively gathering, preserving, and sharing genealogical records **worldwide**."

FamilySearch Home page
"Learn" at the top of the page will let you search the Learn sections of the site. It will link you to all sites that relate to your search term.
Research wiki -   From Home page click on "Learn" at the top, then scroll down the page below purple search screen and click on "Research Wiki". You can enter a search here or you could have entered a search on the large purple search screen. There is so much in the wiki that I find it helpful just to browse through. They change the featured wikis on a regular basis; there are new discoveries everyday.

"Learn " at the bottom of the page takes you to What's new, Getting Started (how to videos), Free courses (over 100), Browse articles, Indexing.

"Catalog" is one of the most useful links. Anything on microfilm you can get through the local Family-Search Center. *706 Whitehead Road, Athens, GA 30606 (706) 543-3052 Hours: W 5pm-8pm or by Appt; Sat 1st & 3rd 11am-2pm*

"Books" takes you to the digital book collection at the BYU library. More books that you do not have to dust or find a place for.

You can browse the FamilySearch.org site by these locations:
- Africa
- Asia and Middle East
- Australia and New Zealand
- Caribbean, Central and South America
- Europe
- Pacific Islands
- USA, Canada, and Mexico
 Or All Collections

There is a link to the old FamilySearch.org site for those who are having trouble adjusting to the new one.   The new catalog provides keyword searching that the old catalog does not allow.

The Blog (top of home page) is an online newsletter with informational articles.

Free Courses - There are more than 100 courses and they cover all levels of expertise – some are for people working towards certification in genealogy and others are for beginners. Some address general methodology and others are very specific. They are constantly adding more.

Fold3
Predominantly a military records database, fold3 also has complete files of the Dawes Rolls, a major Native American record. This database has excellent images and works better using browse than by searching. This archive features documents relating to the Revolutionary War, Civil War, WWI, WWII, U.S. Presidents, historical newspapers, naturalization documents, and much more. Some other very notable material includes the Matthew Brady collection of Civil War photos and UFO documents from 1947 - 1969.
This database is **free at home to all people with an Athens Regional Library System card**. This is a pay database, but you can register and search for free and then pay per image for what you need.

Heritage Quest Online
Remote access available through GALILEO, which means you can get this from home or anywhere by getting into public library GALILEO, and entering your GALILEO password. HQO consists of several databases as follows:

   CENSUS IMAGES
         This has an index to most images along with the full images just like in Ancestry Library Edition.   You always want to use the census information as the backbone of your research as it places your people in a place at a set time. That gives you a way to know where to look for other information about them.

BOOKS

These are full-text books in pdf format on local history, family history and genealogy. Many are very old and now out of print and were never indexed. One of the main tenets of genealogy and family history research is that you have to know the community your ancestor was in. These books can help with that.

PERSI

PERSI stands for **PER**iodical **S**ource **I**ndex and is created by the staff at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. This is an index to local history and genealogy periodicals dating from the early 1800s. This database can be searched by name for articles that mention people, for places, for how to do particular research methodologies, and for particular publications. You can then locate the full text of the article at a nearby library or order from Allen County Public Library.

[PERSI] "is the largest subject index to genealogical and historical periodical articles in the world. Created by the foundation and department staff of the Genealogy Center of the library here in Fort Wayne, Indiana, PERSI is widely recognized as being a vital source for genealogical researchers.

PERSI is a comprehensive subject index covering genealogy and local history periodicals
written in English and French (Canada) since 1800. The time period of the articles ranges from the 1700s to the present. More than 1.8 million index entries from nearly ten thousand titles are represented by this work". Source: Allen county Public Library Web site http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/persi.html . Accessed 20 January 2012.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR RECORDS

This is *Selected Records from Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files (M805)* which on microfilm is 898 rolls. By clicking on Read More About Rev War records, in the database, you will find the notes from the microfilm publication that explain the files, how files were selected, and other related publications.

FREEDMAN'S BANK

These are part of the Freedman's Bank and Trust records. Although the banks were begun to serve African American in Reconstruction, there were depositors of other ethnic backgrounds. *Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly* some time ago, published a list of the Irish immigrants who had accounts at the Freedman's Bank in Savannah.

*This is a transcribed searchable version of **REGISTERS OF SIGNATURES OF DEPOSITORS IN BRANCHES OF THE FREEDMAN'S SAVINGS AND TRUST COMPANY1865 – 1874** (M816) 27 rolls of microfilm . This does not include* Indexes to Deposit Ledgers in Branches of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company, 1865-1874. (M817).

U.S. SERIAL SET

The *United States Congressional Serial Set*, commonly referred to as the *Serial Set*, began publication with the 15th Congress, 1st Session (1817). HeritageQuest™ Online includes Private Relief Actions, Memorials, and Petitions from

the *Serial Set*. The collection also includes content from the **American State Papers**, the predecessor to the *Serial Set*. The documents in the collection are from the years 1789-1969.

The U.S. Congressional Serial Set begins with the 15th Congress, 1817. The *American State Papers* (ASP)are actually earlier than the Serial Set and consist of 38 vols. These online volumes contain **some** of the legislative and executive documents of Congress during the period 1789 to 1838 and are numbered sequentially 01-038. The ASP have 10 subject classes in them: Foreign Affairs, Indian Affairs, Finances, Commerce and Navigation, Military Affairs, Naval Affairs, Post Office Department, Public Lands, Claims, Miscellaneous.

Heritage Quest™ Online: What You Can Find From Home
http://www.clarke.public.lib.ga.us/hqdepts/heritage/heritagequest_online.pdf
Although somewhat out of date, this can be helpful in finding out how to use HeritageQuest Online.

One-Step Webpages by Stephen P. Morse
Stevemorse.org is not a pretty site with bells and whistles but it can save you time and energy and give you highly useful information that might be difficult to find elsewhere. The links to this site can provide deeper searching into other databases.

The site is a list of links and the links are divided into a few categories.
- **Ellis Island Search Forms and Ship Arrivals**
- **Castle Garden years (1855-1891) plus other New York Arrivals**
- **Other Ports of Immigration**
- **US Census and Soundex (1790-1940)**
- **Canadian and British Census**
- **New York Census**
- **Births, Deaths, and other Vital Records**
- **Calendar, Sunrise/Sunset, Maps**
- **Dealing with Characters in Foreign Alphabets**
- **Holocaust and Eastern Europe**
- **Genetic Genealogy (DNA)**
- **Creating your own Search Applications**
- **Miscellaneous**

Getting the most out of this site will require that you read the information Morse and his collaborators provide. This means READING before you just enter names in blanks.

When the One-Step deep searching links take you to a site that charges, there is a $ to the left of the link so you know that to get the results you will have to pay.

Geographic Tools
Atlas of Historical Counties Project
http://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/
Users enter year and look at maps with a variety of information such as historical parishes, historical counties or districts, modern county boundaries, modern county names, county sites, and much more. The trick to this site is to remember to refresh the map after making changes.

David Rumsey Historical Map Collection
http://www.davidrumsey.com
"The David Rumsey Historical Map Collection has over 30,000 maps online. The collection focuses on rare 18th and 19th century North and South America maps and other cartographic materials. Historic maps of the World, Europe, Asia and Africa are also represented. Collection categories include antique atlas, globe, school geography, maritime chart, state, county, city, pocket, wall, children's and manuscript maps. The collection can be used to study history, genealogy and family history."

Old Maps Online
www.oldmapsonline.org
The JISC-funded website is described by its creators as "the broadest single collection of historical maps." The site will act as a central repository to a collection of maps held by institutions across the globe. The free resource will provide a single entry point.

The service, hosted by the University of Portsmouth, launched in January 2012 with a collection of over 60,000 maps which will double by the end of the year. The site incorporates access to maps from some of the most diverse collections in the world including collections from the British Library, the National Library of Scotland, the Moravian Library in the Czech Republic and the prestigious David Rumsey Collection in California. The project, worth £180,000, has been funded by JISC.

What is JISC?
JISC is driving innovation in UK education and research, and has been doing so for more than 15 years.
Historically, the acronym stood for 'Joint Information Systems Committee'.

Perry-Castaneda Library Map Collection
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/
Located at the University of Texas at Austin, this library has a large collection of historical and modern maps. The online map files include almost 6,000 map images, many of which are in the public domain. Scroll down the home page to Historical Maps.

Rare Map Collection, Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library
http://www.libs.uga.edu/hargrett/maps/index.html
The Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library at the University of Georgia maintains a collection of more than 800 historic maps spanning nearly 500 years, from the sixteenth century through the early twentieth century. The collection provides a graphic resource upon which scholars can draw in re-discovering the minds and movements of early American explorers, revolutionary statesmen, cultural figures and politicians represented by the library's book and manuscript collections.
Although not limited to a single geographic subject, the collection heavily emphasizes the State of Georgia and the surrounding region.

U.S. Board on Geographic Names
http://geonames.usgs.gov/
For those places/sites, geographical features, etc. that have had several name changes this site can be a quick and easy way to get information. It does not have everything, but is a great starting place. Both foreign NGA GEOnet Names Server (GNS) and domestic names Geographical Name Information System (GNIS) can be searched.

Pay databases (sometimes)
Ancestry – Ancestry.com, Ancestry Library Edition, and Ancestry Institute.
Ancestry.com is the individual pay version available to anyone at home. The basic U.S. membership has US records; there is also a World component. The world component costs an additional fee over the US version.

Ancestry Library Edition (ALE) is the version that is available in public and most academic libraries in Georgia through GALILEO. Ancestry does not license this for remote access; users must be in the institution to use this.   ALE is free for you to use at any internet computer in this library or other public libraries in Georgia. ALE is missing a few of the GALE/Cengage databases, but contains the world databases that do not come with the basic Ancestry subscription.

Ancestry Institute is available in Family History Centers and is slightly different from both ALE and Ancestry.com. These are free for use in the institution that has it.

In **Ancestry.com**, although that is a personal paid subscription version, there are some features of the Website that we can all use for **FREE**. You can access the features anywhere since the site is Web based.

Go to the *Learning Center* – Here are the parts that you may find most useful. These are not specifically related to Ancestry.com:
- Webinars
- Family History Wiki
- Article Archives
- Understanding Records

   Specifically related to Ancestry.com
>   How to Search - can be helpful in learning to search in Ancestry.com. It can also help with ALE and Ancestry Institution, but be aware neither of these two is exactly like ancestry.com or like each other.

Under *Collaborate* you will also find useful tools and if you want to practice your genealogy skills go to
Ancestry World Archives Project. This is where you can register to index records for Ancestry. Indexing handwritten records can build your expertise at reading old handwriting and you learn to get a feel for the records.

ALE – Ancestry Library Edition
Under *Search,* learn to use the card catalog. If you are at home you can find the names of the databases you want to use the next time you come to the library and enter it in ALE. ALE now has the card catalog under *Search* as well.

Try to decide on a set of records in this database that is likely to have the information you need and search that instead of the entire collection.

Other Pay Sites to Explore:
- ***Genealogy Bank*** - **approx. $80.00 per year**
   Mainly newspapers

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Laura W. Carter   21 April 2012
Heritage Room Librarian
Athens-Clarke County Library

- ***Genealogy Today --*** Annual **$32.95 ($2.75/month),** Half-Year **$22.95 ($3.83/month***),* *Quarter **$14.95 ($4.98/month)**

- ***Archives.com -*** **$39.95 per year**