

FINDING GREAT-GRANDMA ANNA

Grandpa Art used to talk about his mother, Anna. Let's find out about her so that we can go to the temple and do her work that she is anxiously waiting for! Fill in the information on the family worksheet as you go along.

START WITH WHAT YOU KNOW.

Grandpa Art was married to Grandma Nora and they had a son named Carl Coffey, born in 1903 in Marion, Ohio.

What would Grandpa Art's last name be? _____

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATION

Using their marriage license application, fill in the following on the family group sheet:

- Art's parents' names
- Art's birthday and birth year.
- Nora's maiden name (the one she was born with)
- Nora's birthday and birth year.

Hint: Look at the year of marriage and how old they were at the time.

Where was Art married? _____

FIND GRANDPA ART WITH HIS PARENTS IN THE 1880 CENSUS.

Look at the 3 different censuses. Circle the right census for Grandpa Art: A B or C

What makes you think that census is right? _____

What seems wrong? _____

Hints

- Art is short for Arthur – some forms are filled out with the name they go by and some with their full name.
- These are real records, only transcribed so they are legible. Records aren't perfect, there's wrong information, misspellings and all kinds of problems.
- On census records the ditto sign: " " means the same as the box above it.

Tips for deciding on the right census record:

FAMILY HISTORY MYSTERY

- Are the names right with the ones we already know to be true?
- Does the place seem right? Why?
- Is the race (color) correct for the family?
- *Some people use their middle names. Make sure that middle initials make sense.*

Fill in the following information on the family group sheet:

- Art's birth place.
- Art's parents' names and birth dates and places.
- Art's siblings' names
- Art's siblings' birth dates and places.

Hint: Art's birthplace is different than the marriage application showed. Note both places, but when deciding which is right, check other records to see which shows up again. Also, records closer to the event tend to be more accurate.

Hints:

- When ages are given in fractions that shows how many months old they are. 5/12 is 5 months old.
- Census records sometimes have different spellings due to the census takers spelling it how they hear it, or people not knowing how to write their names, or not being home when the census taker comes and a neighbor filling it in for them.
- Census records are taken every 10 years; however the 1890 census records for most states were destroyed in a fire in Washington D.C. in 1921.

FOLLOWING ANNA IN THE 1900 CENSUS

What last name should we search for Anna in the 1900 census? _____

What is Anna's marital status (d- divorced, wd- widowed). _____

Why isn't Anna's husband on the census? _____

How many children has Anna had? _____ How many are still living? _____

Fill in the following information on the family group sheet:

- Art's new siblings' names
- Siblings' birthdates and places

Do you have all of her children's names? Why or why not? _____

What time frame did the Coffeys move from Indiana to Ohio? (Look at where the kids were born)

_____ - _____

FAMILY HISTORY MYSTERY

What is their address? (look at their location on the left columns) _____

The date the census was taken matters. Depending on when the birthday is compared to the month the census is taken, you might be off a year, but it will be close enough to help you find them in other records.

- Notice that Nellie has had her birthday, while Fred has not.
- Their age shows that they are _____ years apart.
- Their birth years suggest they are _____ years apart.

Is Anna's birthdate the same in the 1880 & 1900 censuses? Circle: Yes No

When deciding between dates, first check other records, but when given only two options, the more specific one is usually more correct. That makes the 1900 census a gem, they don't just give you ages, but month and year they were born.

USE THE 1860 CENSUS TO FIND ANNA'S PARENTS.

First, gather what you already know about Anna:

What last name should we search for? _____

How old should Anna be in 1860? _____

Tip: census records are usually within a year of their age, depending on when their birthday is.

What places has she lived?

1. _____
2. _____

Circle the right census for Great-grandma Anna: A B or C

What makes you think that census is right? _____

What seems wrong? _____

Using the census record, add new information to your family group sheet.

- Fill in Anna's parents' names, their birth dates and places.
- Fill in Anna's siblings on the family group sheet.

What time frame did the family move from Ohio to Indiana? _____ - _____

FAMILY HISTORY MYSTERY

Hint: Look at where the kids were born and where they live (where the census was taken).

Anna Coffey cannot be found in the 1910 census records anywhere. There are no death records for Anna Coffey either. What other kinds of records could tell about Anna's death?

OBITUARY

Check what you think you know with an obituary:

Anna Reynolds, 74, passed away December 7th in her home in Marion. Anna was born Clark, Ohio to Samuel and Rachel (Evans) Waltman. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Louis Coffey and all of her siblings. She is survived by her husband, James Reynolds and her children, Birt, Arthur, Wilbur, Fred and Nellie Barnett.

What new information do we get in the obituary?

1. _____
2. _____

What year would the obituary have been published? _____

PREPARE NAMES FOR THE TEMPLE

To take a name to the temple you need enough identifying information to make them unique – usually their name, an event (birth, marriage or death) date & place. For people born in the last 110 years, you need permission from their closest living relative. You need to know whether they are deceased or living.

How many new people did you find that you can take to the Temple now?

Art's parents: _____ Art's siblings: _____

Art's grandparents: _____ Art's maternal uncles & aunts: _____

Total number of people: _____

Congratulations! You found Great-grandma Anna and her family. These are the real records used to find her (only transcribed to help with the poorly written cursive handwriting, which indexers have already helped with).

When working on your own families, if you get stumped, or confused between records, ask your ward's temple and family history consultants.