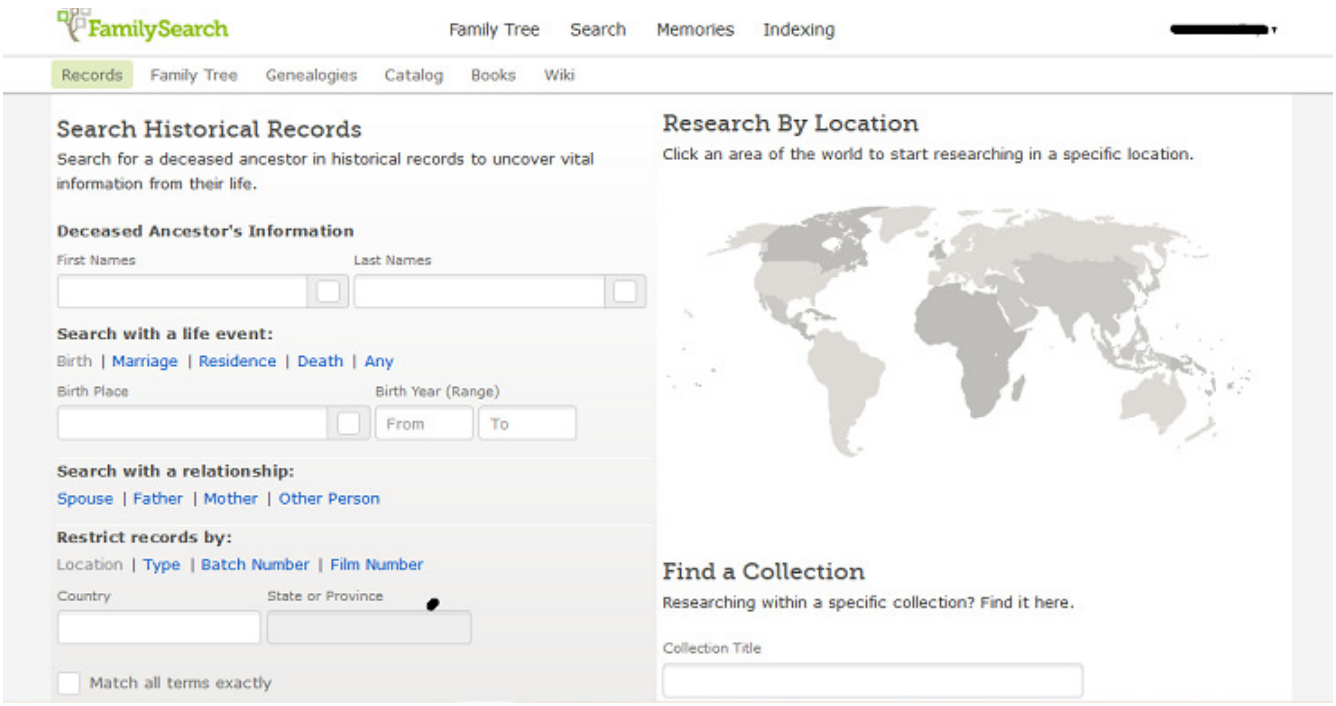
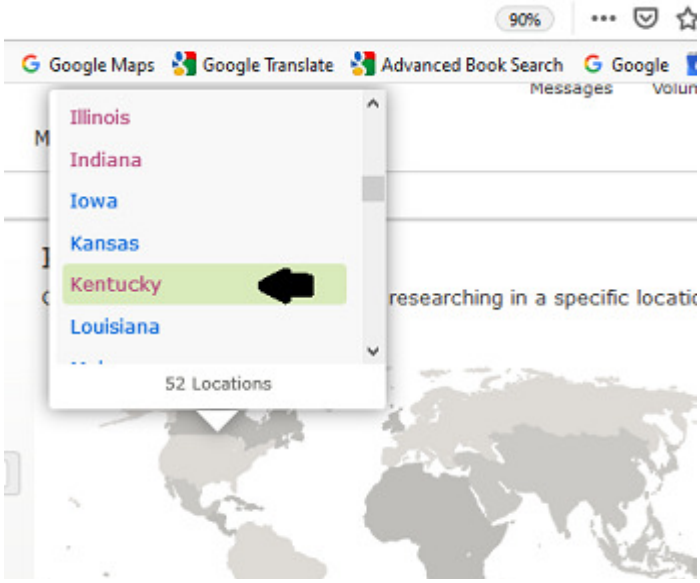
Using FAMILY SEARCH.org

Just so you know, FamilySearch.org is the genealogy website created by the LDS (Mormon) Church. You will need to register for a FREE account to use the site and access documents (Don't worry if you aren't Mormon, missionaries won't be calling on you and you won't be getting phone calls if you do sign up). The Mormon Church has been at the forefront of preserving documents and making them available to researchers. So, let's get started:

First, go to https://www.familysearch.org and sign in THEN click on SEARCH and select RECORDS. Once you've gotten the search page (see below) fill in the search criteria on the left side of the page AND you can narrow the search by selecting an area. Just click the portion of the world map where you would like to search.



Select the state, country or region on the drop-down menu and click.



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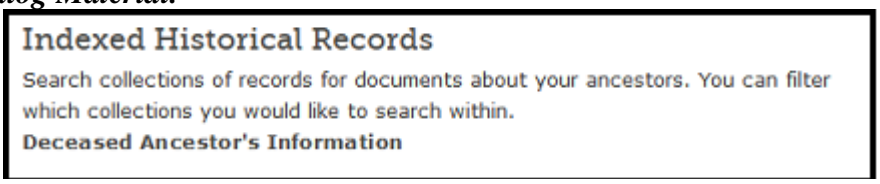
he next page is divided into 3 major sections: ***Indexed Historical Records, Image-Only Historical Records*** and ***Catalog Material.***



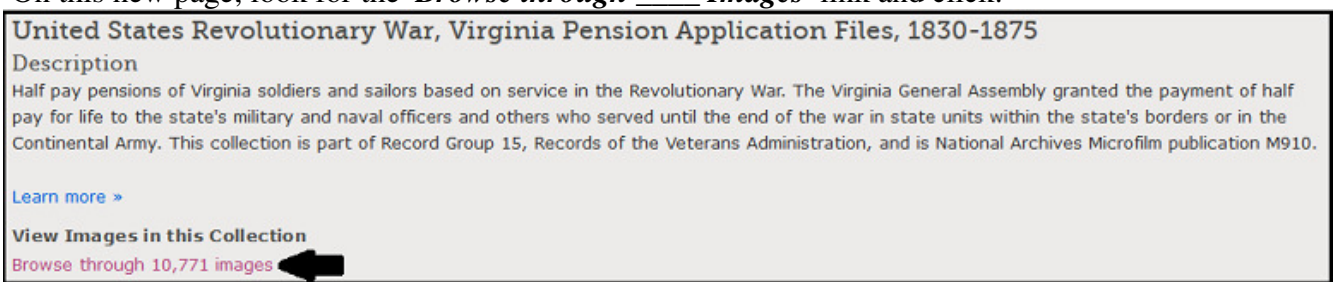
Indexed Historical records are fully searchable. You can narrow your search by clicking ***Show All*** at the bottom of this section. From this list you can pick pick a record group to search.

When you see the little camera icon, you know that images of the original are available.

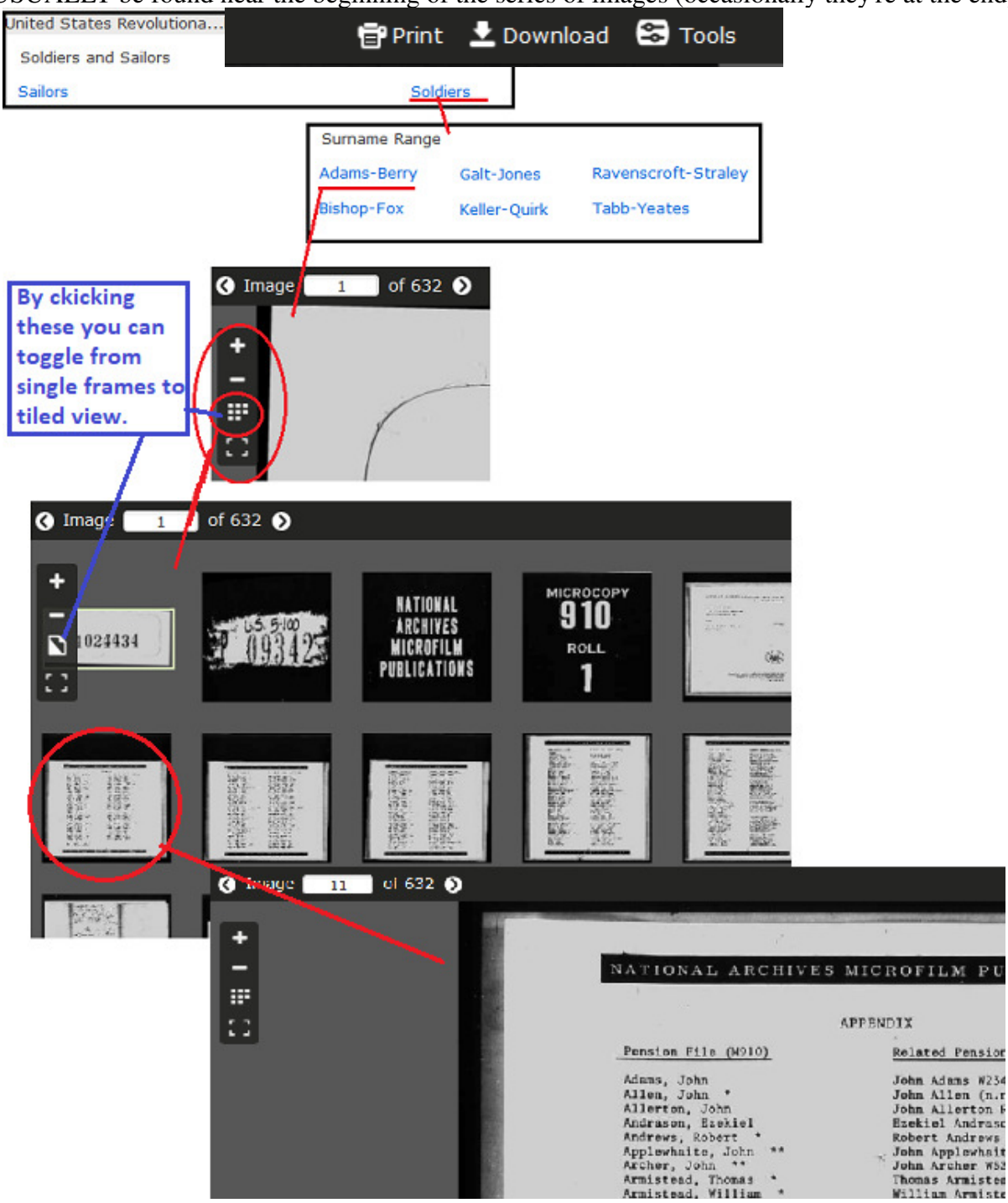
The next section, ***Image-Only Historical Records*** are other records groups with images but are NOT indexed.

Next, pick a record group to browse, and click:

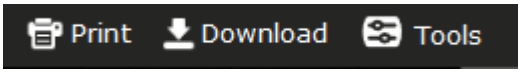
On this new page, look for the ***Browse through ____ Images*** link and click:



Next, you may be given a series of additional filters to narrow your browsing until you reach the images page. The following screen shots explain how to navigate the images. Indexes, if there are any can USUALLY be found near the beginning of the series of images (occasionally they're at the end).



Once you find a frame with and image you want to save, just click on DOWNLOAD near the top/right of the page.

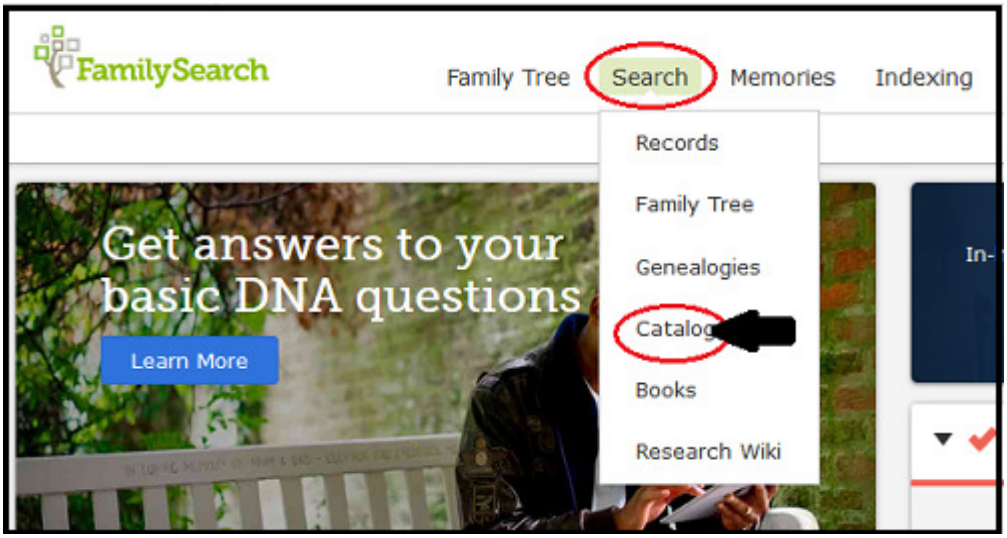


You can navigate the page by "grabbing" with your cursor (and holding the mouse button down) while pulling the images up-or-down in the frame of your browser.
The next major section ***Catalog Material*** is a list of items available from the LDS Library, usually in print.

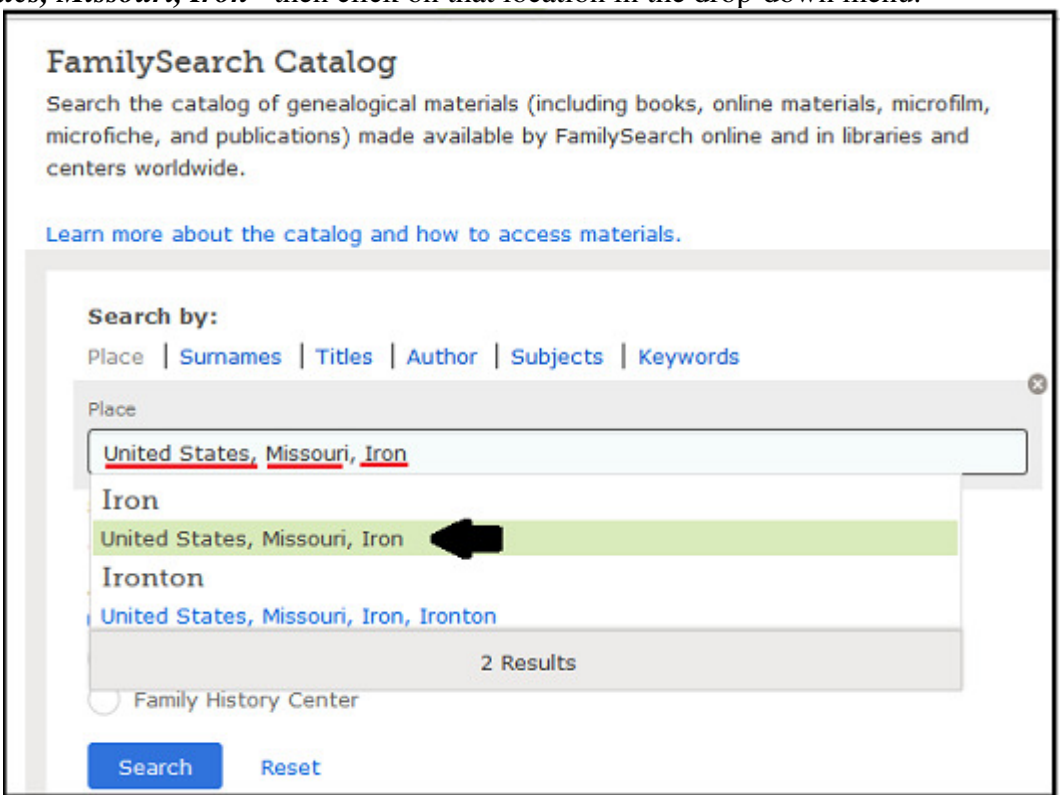
BUT THAT'S NOT ALL.....

I just recently learned another way to us the FamilySearch site.

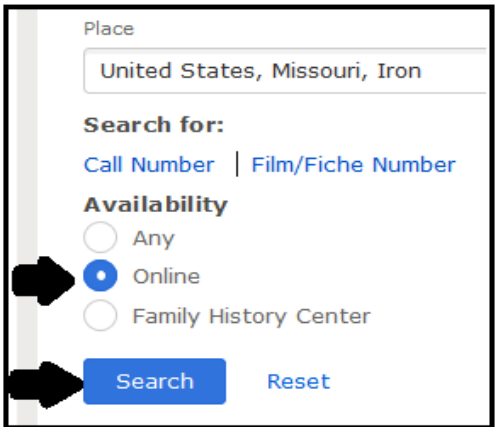
Again, go to FamilySearch.org. This time click on search then (on the drop down menu) select ***Catalog*** and click.



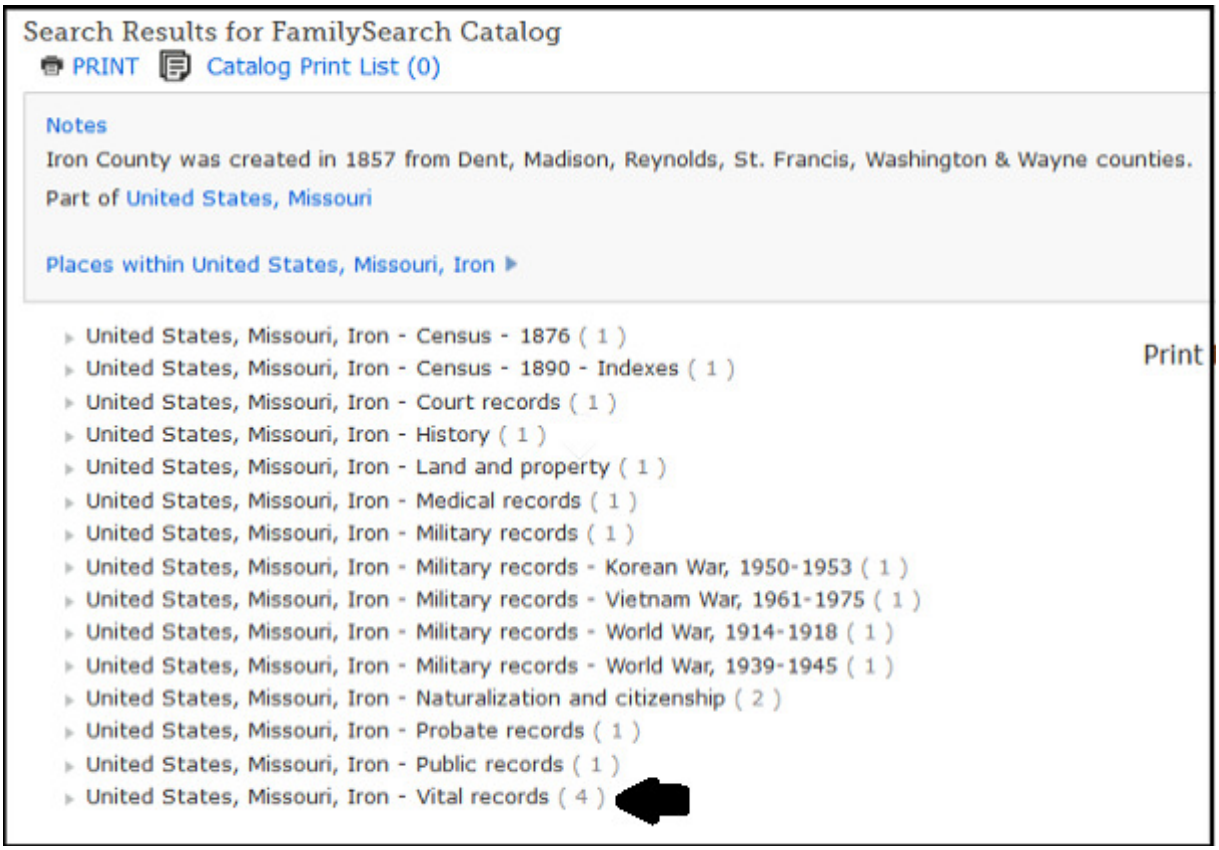
On the next page that opens, type in the ***COUNTRY, STATE, COUNTY.*** For this example I entered ***United States, Missouri, Iron*** then click on that location in the drop-down menu.



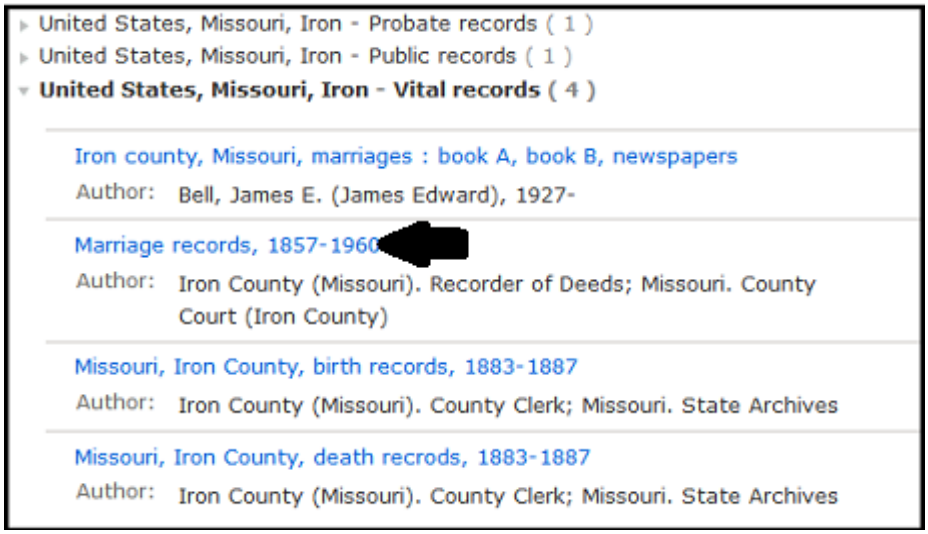
Next, tick the ***On Line*** option and click ***Search***



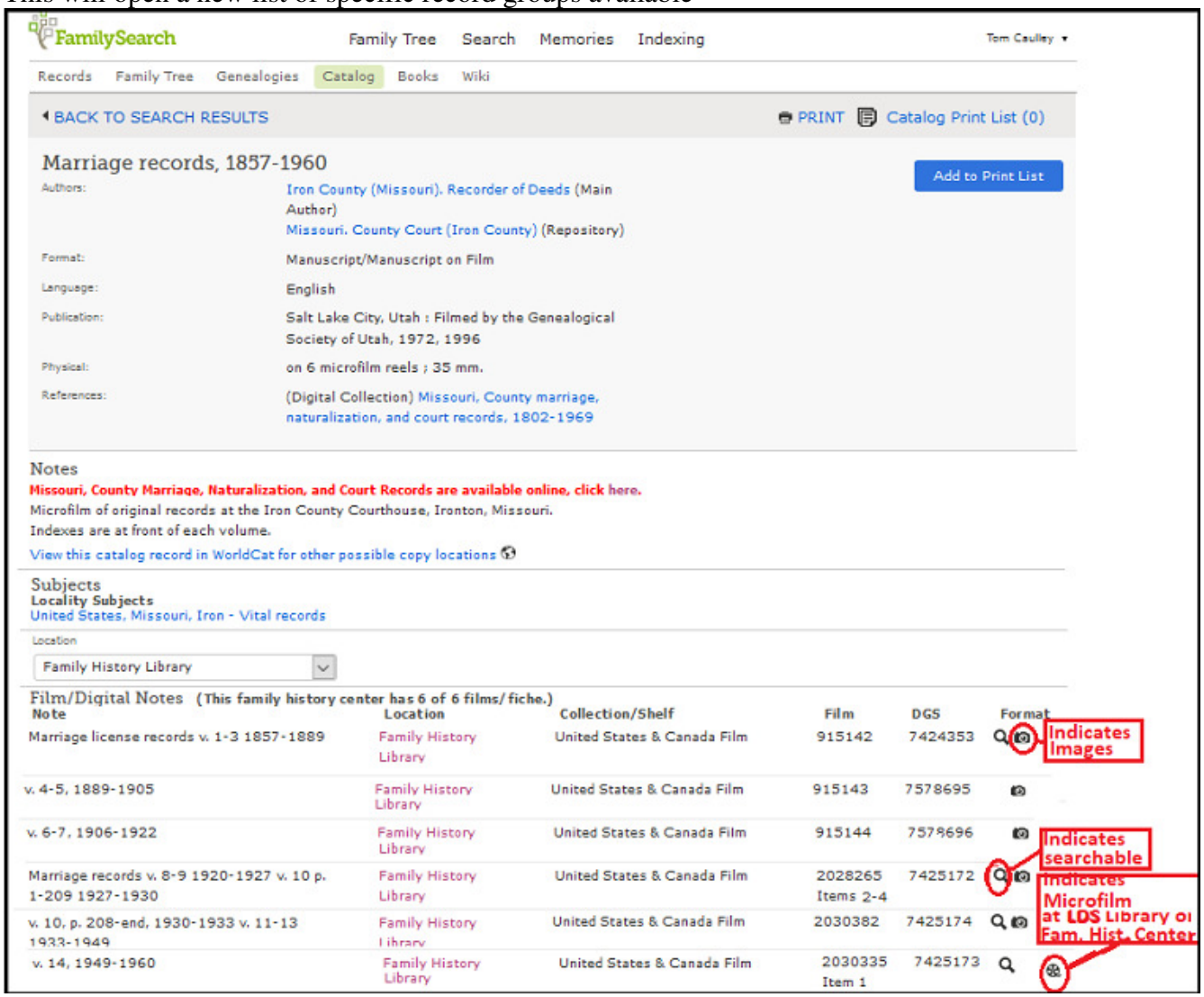
The next page/screen will give you a list of available records groups. Select the records group you wish to search and click.



….and you will get a drop-down menu then select one to explore and click.



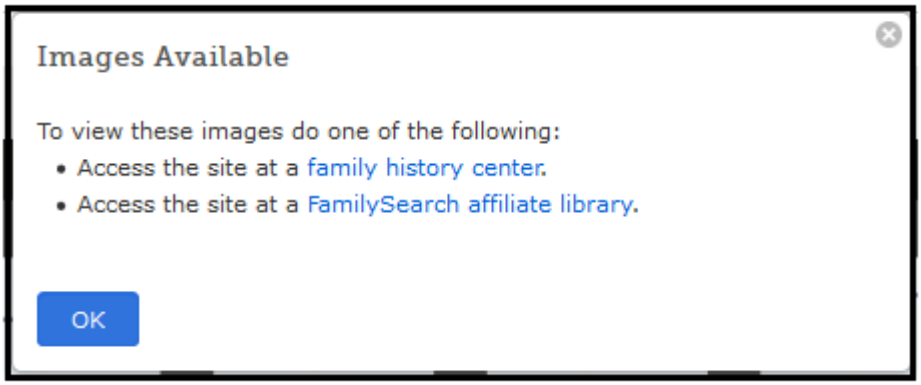
This will open a new list of specific record groups available



Choose one of these and click on the camera icon to view the records.

If you see a camera icon with a key above it,

it means these records cannot be viewed from your home computer, but must be viewed at either a Family History Center of an LDS affiliate Library



This is due to SOME counties not allowing public access to their records (They want to charge for them?).