

Getting Ready for the 1950 Census

Hope & Walt
Charlestown Genealogy Club
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

PORTFOLIO CONTROL LABEL
SEVENTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1950

State _____ E. D. No. _____
County _____
Incorporated place _____
Unincorporated place _____
Division of county (M. C. D.) _____
(For multiple precincts, or other division of county)

ENUMERATOR: NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE NO. _____

SECTION I—FOR FIELD OFFICE USE ONLY

OPERATION	ITEM NO.	CLERK	DATE COMPLETED
Payroll count	1		
Verification of payroll count	2		
Final count	3		
Verification of final count	4		
	5		
	6		
	7		
Portfolio prepared for shipment	8		

COMPLETED SCHEDULES SHIPPED IN THIS PORTFOLIO

TYPE	NUMBER	FINAL FIELD COUNTS
Population		Persons on population schedules
ICR's		Persons on ICR's
Infant		
Agriculture		
Landlord-tenant		Total persons
Irrigation		Dwelling units on population schedules
Special agriculture		

SECTION II—FOR WASHINGTON OFFICE USE ONLY

Population transferred from ICR's _____ Total population _____

OPERATIONS	ITEM PREPARED	CLERK	DATE
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1950 Census Facts

- The 1950 Census will be released on 1 April 2022 on a new web site.
 - It will be busy!
- Paper records were microfilmed in 1952 and paper records destroyed.
- Records will only be available digitally (no microfilm)
- Census has already been indexed using Amazon AI/OCR
- Errors are expected.
 - You can contribute to error correction right away after 1 April

What you can do now to make it easier on 1 April

Review your family tree to build a list of questions you want answered by the 1950 Census

What to use to find Street Addresses of relatives

- Old letters/envelopes
- Diaries
- Vital Records
- Work Records
- Newspapers
- Social Security records
- 1940 Census
- Ask your relatives

What you can do now to make it easier on 1 April (continued)

- Find districts as well as street addresses for the names.
 - Use 1940 census
 - Aids are available now from [NARA](#)
 - Aids are available now from Steve Morse.

1940 Census Example

1940 United States Federal Census for Harry Howe

Massachusetts > Norfolk > Cohasset > 11-83

Data
ation.

16-252D

E. D. No. 11-53

Sheet No.

on April 4-5, 1940.

3 B

Howe, Enumerator.

NARA (<https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1950>)

Finding Aid: <https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1950/finding-aids>

NARA provides a good basic introduction to enumeration districts and maps.

The screenshot shows the National Archives website. At the top left is the National Archives logo. To the right is a search bar with the text "Search Archives.gov" and a "Search" button. Below the search bar is a navigation menu with five items: "RESEARCH OUR RECORDS", "VETERANS' SERVICE RECORDS", "EDUCATOR RESOURCES", "VISIT US", and "AMERICA'S FOUNDING DOCUMENTS". The main content area has a dark header with "1950 Census" and a breadcrumb trail: "Home > Research Our Records > Census Records > 1950 Census Records > Finding Aids for the 1950 Census". On the left is a sidebar with a "Genealogy" section containing a "Main page" link and a "Census" section with links for "Census Main Page", "About Census Records", "Search Census Records Online", "1790 Census FAQs", "1830 Census FAQs", "1840 Census", "1850 Census", "1850-1940 Census Clues", "1790-1840 Census Clues", "1850 Population Census", and "1835 Business Census". The main content area has a title "Finding Aids for the 1950 Census" and a sub-section "Geographic Finding Aids". The text under "Geographic Finding Aids" explains that an enumeration district is an area covered by a single enumerator in one census period and that enumeration districts varied in size from city blocks to entire counties. It also includes a section titled "Enumeration District Maps" which states that these maps show boundaries and numbers of census enumeration districts, which were established to help administer and control data collection. It lists various types of maps that may appear, such as ward, precinct, and congressional district maps, and notes that census officials drew the enumeration district boundaries and numbers on these base maps.

NARA Sites to visit now

- NARA 1950 Census page: <https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1950>
- NARA Finding Aids at <https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1950/finding-aids>
- NARA Census YouTube videos at <https://www.archives.gov/calendar/genealogy-series/2022>
- NARA 1950 Census Blog Posts at <https://historyhub.history.gov/docs/DOC-1481>
- NARA Indexing Information at <https://www.archives.gov/news/articles/1950-census-access>
- Overview by genealogist Claire Kluskens: <https://twelvekey.com/2022/01/26/nara-1950-census-webpages/>

Steve Morse (<https://stevemorse.org>)

- Steve Morse One-Step Webpages, site has been ongoing since 2003
- He has been a major resource for genealogists since 2001. Has presented to many groups.
- Site provides tools for finding immigration records, census records, vital records, and for dealing with calendars, maps, foreign alphabets, and numerous other applications. Some of these tools fetch data from other websites but do so in more versatile ways than the search tools provided on those websites.
- Steve Morse estimates indexes will need 6 months seasoning.

Steve Morse Unified Census ED Finder

<https://www.stevemorse.org/census/unified.html>

Unified Census ED Finder
(Obtaining the Census Enumeration District for an 1880 to 1950 Location in One Step)

[Stephen P. Morse, PhD](#) & [Joel D. Weintraub, PhD](#)

Enter as much of the 1950 location as you know

If you select your city from the list of cities displayed, you will be able to enter street-level information
If you select "other" from the city list, you will be able to type in your city or town name

State County City or Town

House Number Street

1950 ED numbers corresponding to your location

[why?](#)

Other things you can do now to make it easier on 1 April

- Learn from the [NARA website](#) updates
- View more YouTube videos as we get closer.
 - Example today: [YouTube 1950 Census](#), published 2-16-2022

Family Tree Maker filtering for 1950 Census

The screenshot shows the Family Tree Maker interface with a search filter dialog box open. The dialog box is titled "Find Person" and contains a search bar and a list of individuals. The list is filtered to show only those born after 1950. The dialog box also includes buttons for "Include", "Include All", "Ancestors...", "Descendants", "Filter In...", "Retrieve Filter...", "Exclude", "Exclude All", and "Filter Out...".

Index: 1531
Sort: Family, Given Name
Find: Search person

Name	Birth
Howe, Freeland	May 1870
Howe, Freeland Sr	05 Decemb...
Howe, George Robley	04 August...
Howe, Hazel M	Abt. 1902
Howe, Henry Forbush	15 January...
Howe, Hiram	25 October...
Howe, Isaac	1656
Howe, Jacob	
Howe, Jacob B.	
Howe, Jacob Foster	30 Novemb...
Howe, Jeremiah	14 May 1794
Howe, Jesse	16 Februar...
Howe, Katrin Hunt	30 April 19...
Howe, Margery M	Abt. 1891

Individuals included in list: 7749
Individuals included in filter: 0

Hide filter conditions

- Include all persons
- Out: Birth date is after 1950
- Out: Death date is before 1949
- Out: Residence date is blank
- Out: Marriage date is before 1900

Smart Filters: 1950 census

Next: Gudrun Adele Birch
Press Ctrl+Enter to add or edit next person
Customize View...

What you will be able to do on 1 April

- Identify relatives for whom you have an address already
- Find the District for those for whom an address
- On April 1st, browse by District and Street Address to find your relative
- Add those relatives to your family tree with the 1950 Census source
- Keep searching for the rest of your list
- Search Districts for a name (depending on when indexes are released)
- View District maps and names and data by page

Bring your questions to our April Genealogy Club meeting.