

Ancestry.com Beyond the Basics

SUSAN KIM
KIMFAMILYHISTORIAN.COM

1

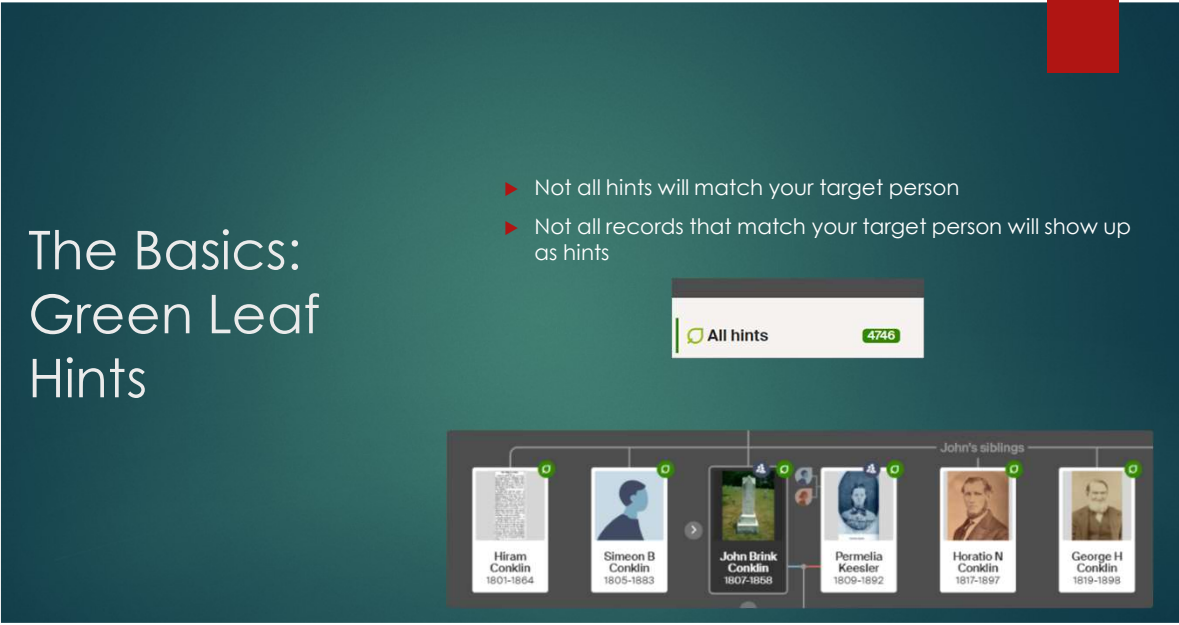
Objectives

- ▶ Use search filters for targeted searches
- ▶ Use the Ancestry.com card catalog to locate records
- ▶ Organize your research to efficiently search for needed records

2

The Basics: Green Leaf Hints

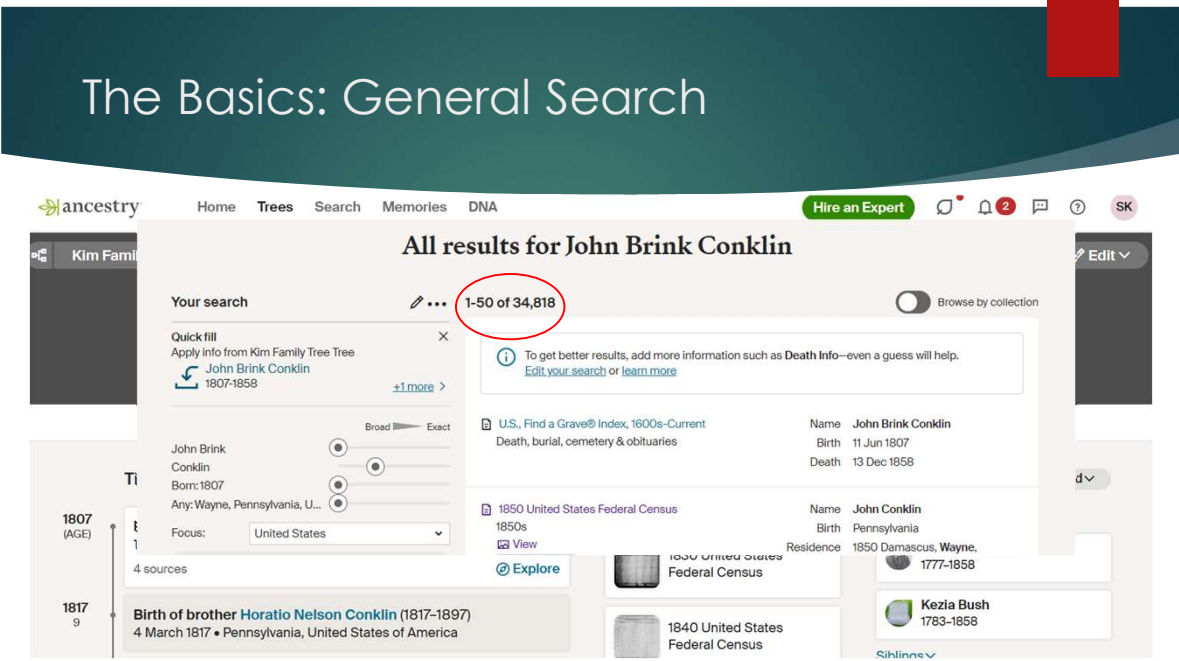
- ▶ Not all hints will match your target person
- ▶ Not all records that match your target person will show up as hints



The screenshot shows the 'All hints' button with a green leaf icon and the number 4746. Below it is a family tree diagram for John Brink Conklin (1807-1858), labeled 'John's siblings'. The siblings shown are Hiram Conklin (1801-1864), Simeon B Conklin (1805-1833), John Brink Conklin (1807-1858), Permelia Keesler (1809-1892), Horatio N Conklin (1817-1897), and George H Conklin (1819-1898).


3

The Basics: General Search




The screenshot shows the search results for 'John Brink Conklin'. The search bar indicates '1-50 of 34,818' results. The search criteria are: Name: John Brink Conklin, Birth: 11 Jun 1807, Death: 13 Dec 1858. The search is set to 'United States' with a focus on 'Exact'. The results list includes 'U.S., Find a Grave® Index, 1600s-Current', '1850 United States Federal Census', '1850s', '1840 United States Federal Census', and '1850 United States Federal Census'. A timeline on the left shows the birth of brother Horatio Nelson Conklin in 1817.

4




How To Search More Efficiently

- ▶ Filter your search
 - ▶ Using filters on the search tab
 - ▶ From "General Search" screen
 - ▶ From your ancestor
 - ▶ <https://www.ancestry.com/>




5



How To Search More Efficiently

- ▶ [Using the Card Catalog](#)
 - ▶ Organizing the catalog
 - ▶ Filter by location, record set, date
 - ▶ Search for a record set by keyword or title



6

Don't Forget About Wildcards

QUESTION MARK (?)
SUBSTITUTES ONE
LETTER

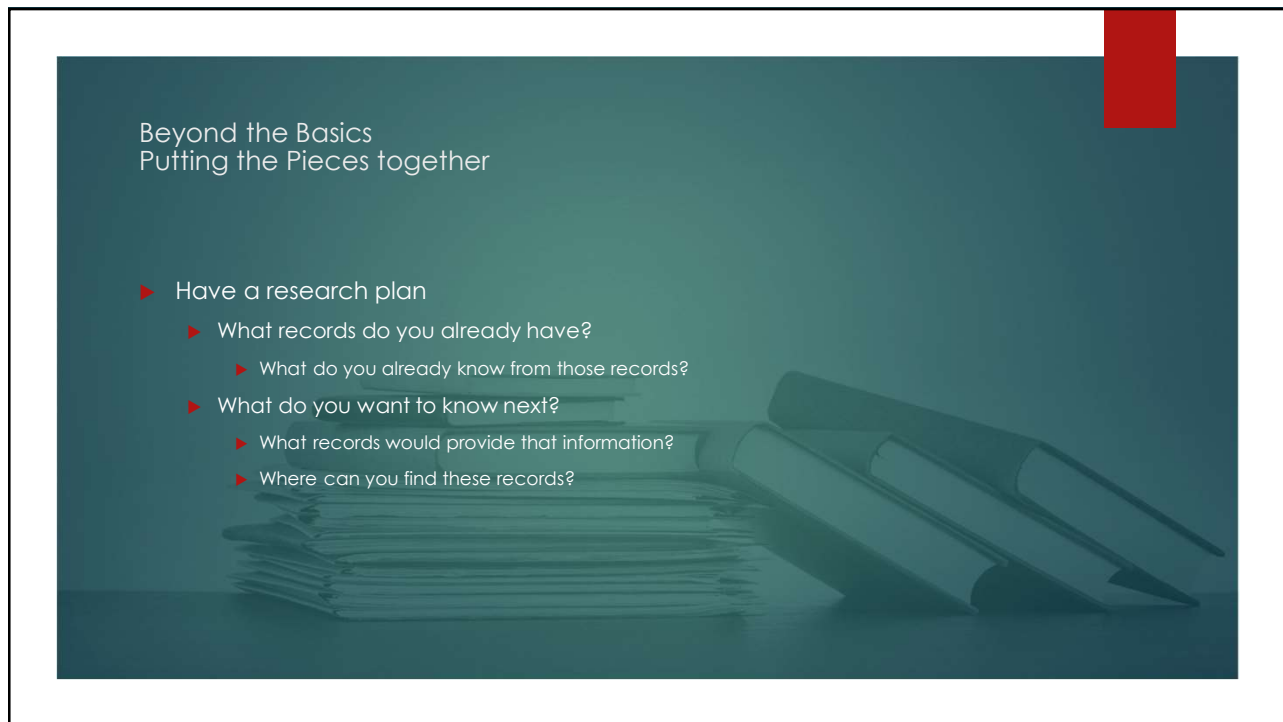
ASTERISK (*)
SUBSTITUTES
MULTIPLE LETTERS

7

Location Specific Searches

- ▶ [Location specific pages](#)
 - ▶ By state
 - ▶ Collections
 - ▶ History
 - ▶ Resources
 - ▶ Other countries
 - ▶ [Browse-only collections](#)

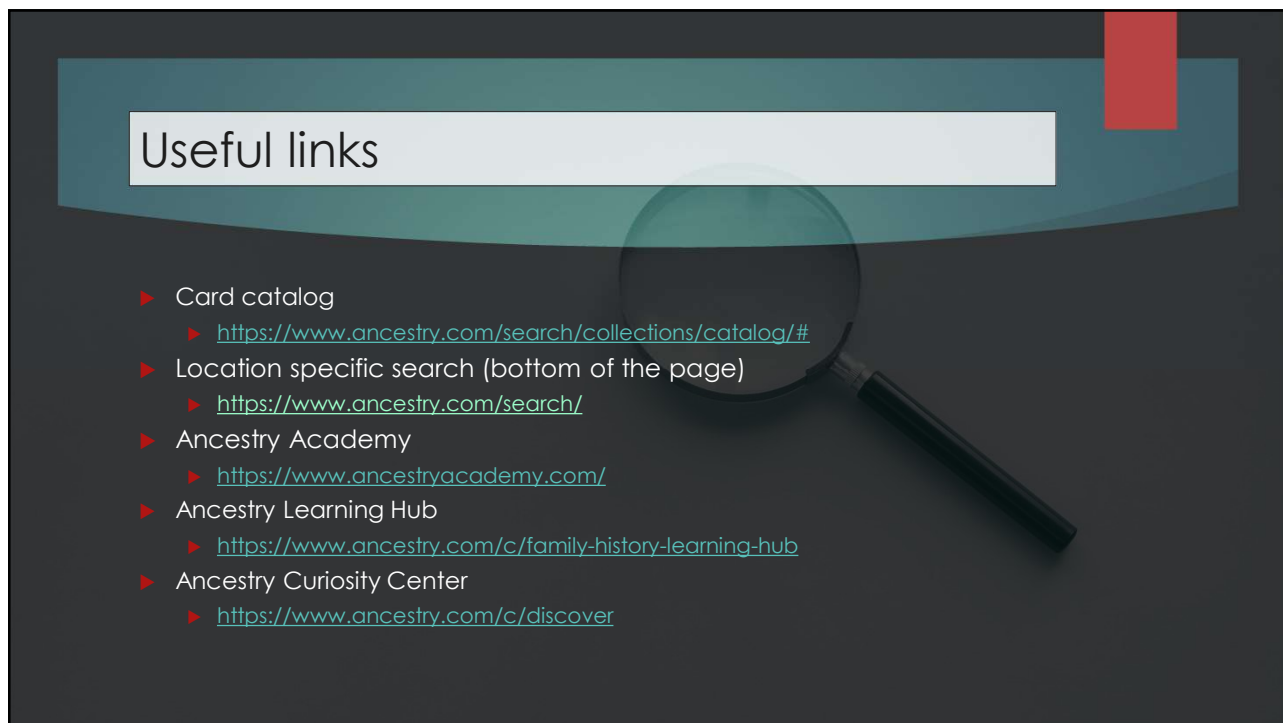
8



Beyond the Basics
Putting the Pieces together

- ▶ Have a research plan
 - ▶ What records do you already have?
 - ▶ What do you already know from those records?
 - ▶ What do you want to know next?
 - ▶ What records would provide that information?
 - ▶ Where can you find these records?

9



Useful links

- ▶ Card catalog
 - ▶ <https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/catalog/#>
- ▶ Location specific search (bottom of the page)
 - ▶ <https://www.ancestry.com/search/>
- ▶ Ancestry Academy
 - ▶ <https://www.ancestryacademy.com/>
- ▶ Ancestry Learning Hub
 - ▶ <https://www.ancestry.com/c/family-history-learning-hub>
- ▶ Ancestry Curiosity Center
 - ▶ <https://www.ancestry.com/c/discover>

10