

Documenting Recent Generations - Suggested Sources

BIRTH

Complete Birth Certificate	Birth Record
Delayed Birth Certificate	Newspaper Announcement
Doctor/Midwife Record	School Record
Church Record	Baptismal Certificate
HMO Record	Social Security Application
Census, Federal, State	Job Application – Federal, Local

MARRIAGE

Complete Marriage Record	Marriage Certificate
Bond/Bann	Newspaper Announcement
Divorce	Tombstone/Cemetery Record

DEATH

Complete Death Record	Church Record/Notice
Cemetery/Tombstone Record	Obituary
Commercial Cemetery Record	Mourning/Funeral Card
Funeral Home Record	Professional Organizations
Insurance Policy	Fraternal Organization Records
Social Security Death Record	

CLASSIC SOURCES

Census – State, Federal	Probate Records
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Land Records
Military and Pension
Records
Tax Records
Genealogies (use with
caution)

Bible and Family Records
Church Registers and
Records
Encounters with the Law
County Histories (use with
caution)

CONTEMPORARY SOURCES

Telegrams
Passports and Visa
Applications
Letters from Town Clerks
and Town Historians

Church Personnel
Institutional (Military
homes, prisons)
Employment Record –
Private Industry

Mortgage or Loan
Applications

