

Start with you!

You

parents
grandparents
relatives

friends, neighbors
bibles, photos, [obituaries](#)
attic, file box, dresser drawer

city: taxes, [church](#), clubs/societies
libraries, [newspapers](#), [cemeteries](#)
[city directories](#), town histories, [maps](#)

[county](#) (MO): vital records ([pre- 1910](#))
[coroner](#), land, court & [circuit court](#) (probate: [wills](#))

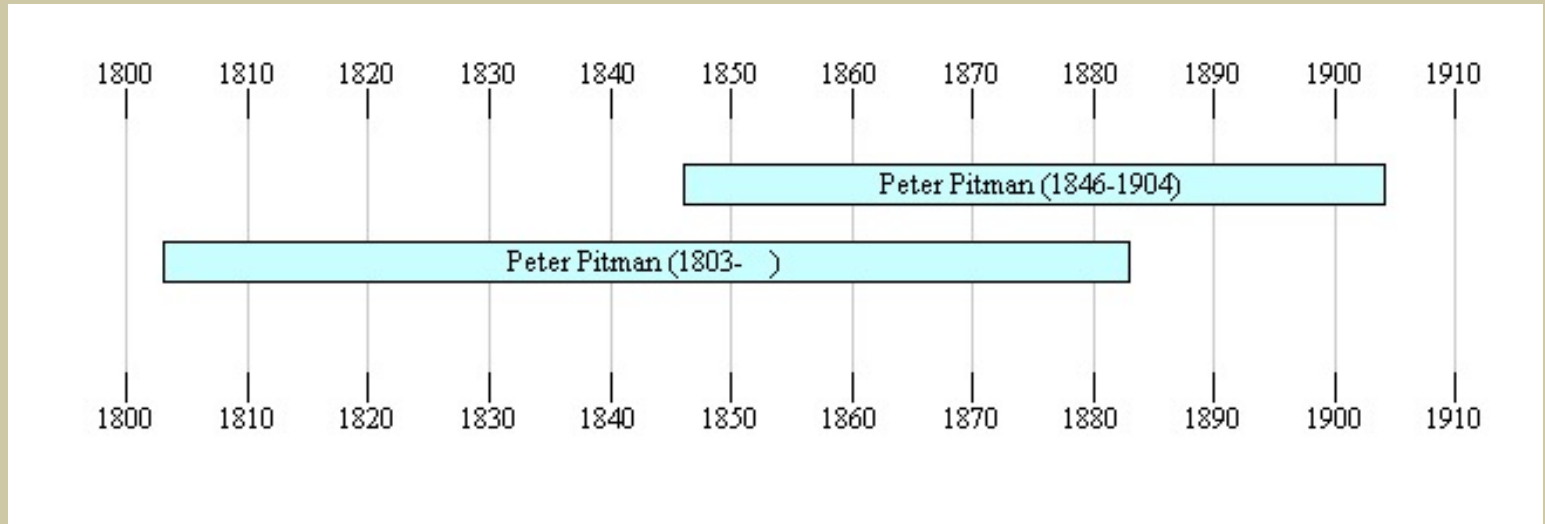
state (MO): [vital records](#) ([post- 1910](#)), voter lists
[military records](#), [census](#), [hospitals](#) (public & veteran)

[federal](#): [military records](#) (pensions, [Southern Claims Commission](#))
[census](#) (1790-1930), Soundex (1880-1910, *1890 lost in fire)

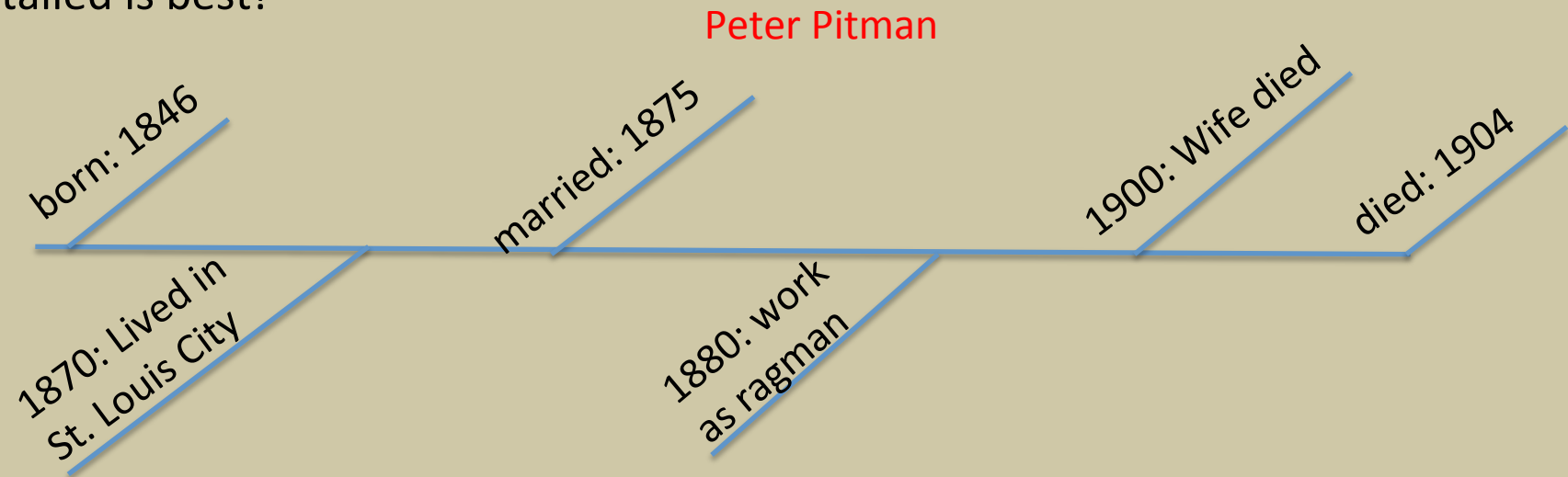
online: subscription databases, blogs, [message boards](#), email lists

join & use: organizations, social sites, lectures, workshops, conferences, webinars
printed & online references ([Google Books](#)), [resource guides](#), magazine subscriptions

A simple timeline will do!



Detailed is best!



Why create a document?

What primary & secondary info does it contain?

Probate: To handle the estate of a deceased individual.

- Pay debts to creditors
- Distribute property i.e. land, personal items, moneys
- Locate heirs

Birth Record:

- Register citizens into the communities
- Gather statistical data i.e. causes of death, population
- Documentation of disposition of remains

Census Schedules: to gather citizen's statistical data

- Population
- Immigration
- Mortality
- Slave holdings
- Agricultural production
- Occupation

Examples of repositories and websites with slave data

- Born in Slavery: [Slave Narratives](#) from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936-1938
- [Index](#) to "Descriptive Recruitment Lists of Volunteers for the United States Colored Troops for the State of Missouri, 1863-1865" (NARA Microfilm Publication M1894 - 6 rolls)
- [Slavery documents collection, 1758-1865 \(Louisiana\)](#) includes slave sale documents, receipts, slave lists, slave passes, and articles about slavery
- The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database has information on more than 35,000 [Slave Voyages](#)
- The Atlantic Slave Trade and Slave Life in the Americas: [A Visual Record](#)
- Slave Biographies: [Atlantic Database Network](#) on CD-ROM and [online](#)
- Afro-Louisiana History and Genealogy, [1718-1820](#)
- St. Louis Circuit Court Historical Records Project: [Freedom Suits Case Files, 1814-1860](#)

Navigating African American Genealogy

- Set a good foundation.
- Place ancestors within a historical timeline.
- Understand the documents & search with a purpose!
- Locate the surviving resources.
- Case studies: example documents discussion.