# Genealogy Questions (a) Your Reference Desk

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## WHERE DO I BEGIN?

#### Ge·ne·al·o·gy:

The study or investigation of ancestry & family histories

- ▶ Who are Genealogists?
- ▶ What are they seeking?
- ► Where can you find answers?

### WHERE DO I BEGIN?

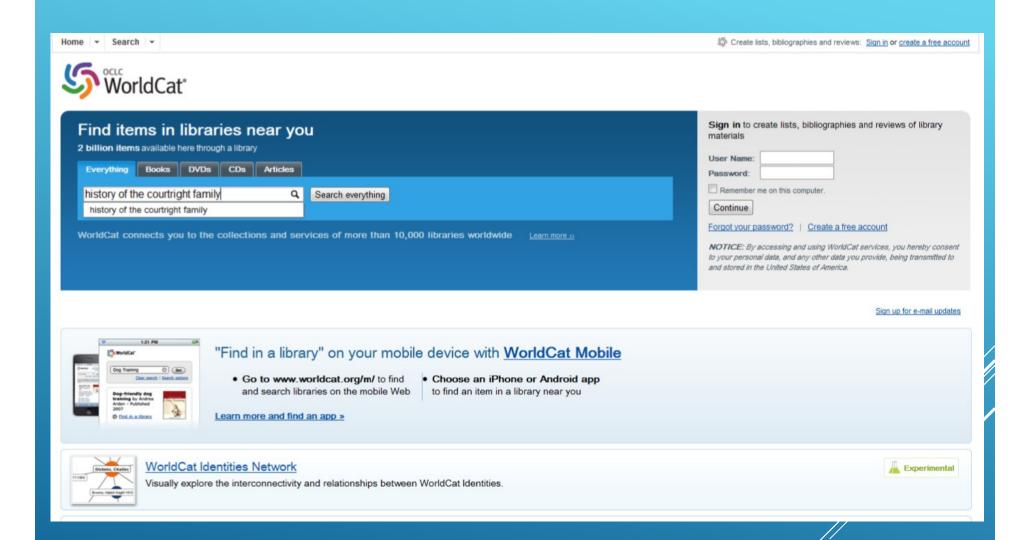
- ► Genealogists are researchers, historians and detectives all in one.
- ▶ What are they seeking? EVERYTHING!
- ▶ Where can you find answers at your library?
  - ► County Histories/Reference Books
  - Maps
  - ▶ Phone Books/City Directories
  - ► Newspapers etc...

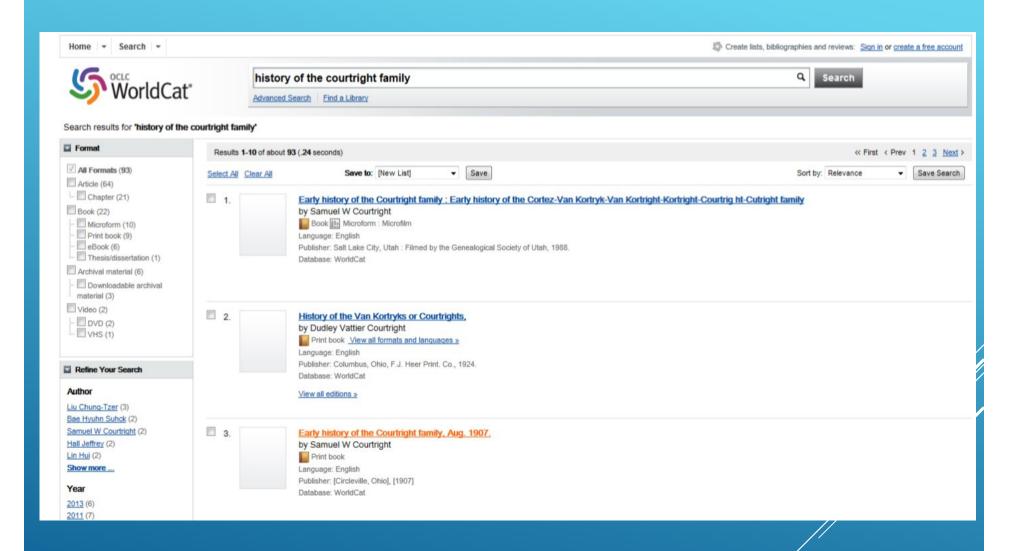
# MATERIALS @ YOUR LIBRARY

- Many genealogy requests come from people looking for ancestors who lived in your area
- ► Assess your collections
  - ► Create finding aids for locating genealogical/ historical information.
  - ► Is there a historical or genealogical society in your area you can rely on for information?
  - ► Are items available through Interlibrary Loan?

# USING WORLDCAT

- ► The World Catalog www.worldcat.org is a great way to find obscure books for genealogists
- ► Genealogy Libraries and many state Historical Societies will not send their genealogy materials
- ► Genealogy books held at colleges and universities typically circulate through Inter Library Loan
- ► Many libraries are happy to fax/email pages if the book does not circulate





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