Using PERSI in HeritageQuest Online

What is PERSI? PERSI is a selective index to genealogy and local history articles. It does not include full-text articles. The version of PERSI in HQ covers articles dating 1800-2009.

1. Click on Search PERSI.

2. There are four search options in PERSI.

3. To search for articles about an ancestor, select People.

4. PERSI indexes main topics and article titles. To search for articles related to your family, you will need to perform a surname search. You can enter terms into the keywords field, such as place names or first names (if someone was a main topic of an article), to help narrow your search.

5. Click Search after all terms have been entered.

6. To read more information about searching, such as using wildcards and Boolean searching, see the Help menu located to the top right of your screen.

7. HQ will return a list of articles including your search terms. Click on the article title to view more detail.

8. To switch between search types, select an option towards the top of the screen.

9. The Places search allows you to search for articles related to a specific location.
10. There is a **How To** index which helps you find articles to help you learn about different types of records and research strategies.

11. The last component is a **Periodicals** search, which lets you see what issues of a periodical have been indexed in PERSI. You can perform a title keyword search or browse an alphabetical list of titles.

12. Once in your results list, clicking on the title you are interested in will return a list of indexed issues.

13. If you click on an issue, HQ will list the articles for that issue.

**How to Obtain Copies of Articles Found in PERSI**

- The Buffalo and Erie County Public Library has a collection of genealogy and local history periodicals. Search our online catalog to see if we have the title you are looking for ([http://www.buffalolib.org/vufind/](http://www.buffalolib.org/vufind/)), or ask a librarian for assistance.

- If B&ECPL does not have the item you need, and you have a B&ECPL card, we may be able to obtain it for you through Interlibrary Loan. Click the following link to place a request: [http://illiad.buffalolib.org/](http://illiad.buffalolib.org/).

- Request a copy from Allen County Public Library (ACPL) in Indiana: [http://genealogycenter.org/docs/default-source/resources/articlerequest.pdf?sfvrsn=2](http://genealogycenter.org/docs/default-source/resources/articlerequest.pdf?sfvrsn=2). The ACPL is the creator of PERSI.