

# Ancestry Hints®

Ancestry Hints® are records or other people's family trees that may contain information about people in your tree. For help with hints that are attached to the wrong person, see [Hints for the Wrong Person](#). To learn about potential mothers and potential fathers in a tree, see [Potential Mother and Father Hints](#). To find out how your hints are updated, see [How Ancestry Hints® are Updated](#).

These databases are included in hints, which provide basic information from our most-viewed records:

- Census records
- Birth, marriage, and death records
- Public family trees

## Where to find hints

### For one person:


Hints in your tree appear as leaves or as a potential mother or father. In a browser, click or tap on a person, then click their number of hints. In the app, tap a person in your tree > **View Profile** > **Hints** (iOS) or **View Hints** (Android).

### For a whole tree:

If you're using a browser, from any page on Ancestry, click the **leaf** in the navigation bar at the top > select **See all recent hints in** > select a tree. In the Ancestry app, (from a tree, if you're using Android), tap **Discover** at the bottom > **All hints** at the top.

## Viewing hints

### From the Ancestry app

1. Tap someone in your tree > tap **View Profile** > tap **Hints** (iOS) or **View Hints** (Android).
2. Tap a hint to examine it.
3. Compare the new information on the left to the information in your tree on the right. To add the new information to your tree, tap **Yes**.
4. If prompted, select others in your tree to add the new information to. Selecting someone who has a "New" tag by their name will add that person to your tree as a new person. (Tap **Details** (iOS) or  (Android) to compare the information for that person and select or deselect each fact. Tap **Save Record** (iOS).)
5. Tap **Save**.

## From a browser

1. Click on a person in your tree whose hints you want to view.
2. In the card that appears, click on the number of hints.
3. To compare the information in the hint to the information in your tree, click **Quick Compare** on a hint. This will show the information listed side by side.

Michigan, U.S., Marriage Records, 1867-1952 Source Info Quick Compare

Birth, Marriage & Death

In This Record	
Name	Emma Thompson
Spouse	Chas B Aske
Children	Irving E Aske

In Your Tree	
•	Emma Marie Thompson
•	Charles B Aske
•	Irving Ellsworth Aske

Parents

Potential Father

Mary C Thompson 1843-

Spouse & Children

Charles B Aske 1865-1844

4. To see more details about a hint, or to accept the hint, click **Review**.
5. In the panel that appears on the right, click **Compare details** if you want to compare the information in the record to the information in your tree again. To expand the panel, click the left-facing arrow on the left side of the panel.

LifeStory Facts Gallery Hints 4

New 4 Undecided 0 Ignored 1 Accepted 8

Michigan, U.S., Marriage Records, 1867-1952 Source Info Quick Compare

Birth, Marriage & Death

In This Record		In Your Tree	
Name	Emma Thompson	•	Emma Marie Thompson

Family

Parents

Potential Father

Mary C Thompson 1843-

Emma Marie Thompson Michigan, U.S. Marriage Records 1867-1952

VIEW

Compare details

Name Emma Thompson

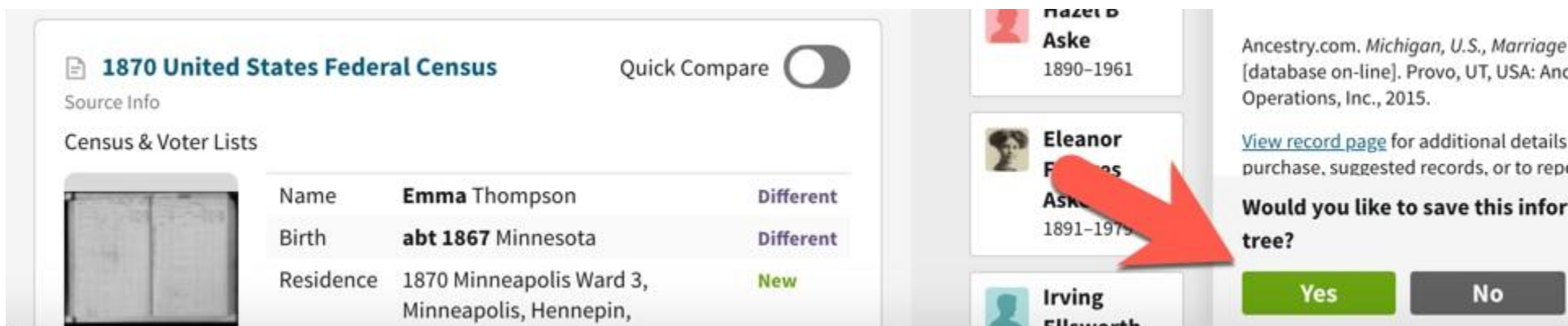
Gender Female

Spouse Chas B Aske

This panel will stay open even if you click on another tab in the person's profile, so you can compare information to the information in their profile. To collapse the panel, click the right-facing arrow.



6. At the bottom of the side panel, click **Yes** to accept the hint (and add the information in it to your tree), **No** to reject it (if the record does not seem to be for the person in your tree), or **Maybe** to save the hint for later.



7. If you clicked Yes to accept a hint, you'll see the facts in the record on the left, and the facts in your tree on the right. If a fact in a record differs from a fact in your tree, you'll see **DIFFERENT** under the fact. If the record has a fact that's not in your tree, you'll see **NEW** under the fact. To change the information in your tree, click on any fact and edit it, or click **Edit all** to make all facts editable.

**Michigan, U.S., Marriage Records, 1867-1952** Source Info

Birth, Marriage & Death



Name	<b>Emma Thompson</b>
Spouse	Chas B Aske
Children	Irving E Aske



**Emma Marie Thompson in the 1870 United States Federal Census**

**Record details**

Name  
 **Emma Thompson**  
DIFFERENT

**Your tree details**

Name  
 First & middle  
  
*Was: Emma Marie*

8. At the bottom of the panel, click **Next**.

9. To add people to your tree who were listed in the record, check the box next to their names. The people who aren't already in your tree will say **NEW** next to them. When you check a new person, both columns will show the same information (because all the information from the record is being added to the person in your tree).

**1870 United States Federal Census** Source Info

Census & Voter Lists



Name	<b>Emma Thompson</b>
Birth	<b>abt 1867</b> Minnesota
Residence	1870 Minneapolis Wa Minneapolis, Hennep Minnesota, USA



**Inferred parents**



**Banby Thompson** NEW  
 Father of Emma Marie Thompson

**Record details**

Name  
 **Banby Thompson**  
NEW

**Your tree details**

Name  
**Banby Thompson**

**Facts**

Birth  
 abt 1830 Denmark  
NEW

Birth  
 abt 1830 Denmark

10. If you select someone who's already in your tree, you'll see the facts from the record on the left, and the facts in your tree on the right. To change a fact in your tree to match the fact in the record, check the box beside a fact.

The screenshot shows a comparison between a census record and a user's tree for Mary Thompson. On the left, the '1870 United States Federal Census' record for Emma Thompson is displayed. On the right, the user's tree details for Mary C Thompson are shown. A red circle highlights the checkbox next to the name 'Mary Thompson' in the 'Record details' section, which is currently unchecked. Below this, the 'Birth' fact is also compared, with a checkbox next to 'abt 1844 Sweden' in the record details section, which is also unchecked. The 'Your tree details' section shows the name 'Mary C Thompson' and the birth fact 'Oct 1843 Sweden'.

Record details		Your tree details	
Name	Emma Thompson	Name	Mary C Thompson
Birth	abt 1867 Minnesota		
Residence	1870 Minneapolis Wa Minneapolis, Hennep Minnesota, USA		
Birth		Birth	
<input type="checkbox"/>	abt 1844 Sweden DIFFERENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oct 1843 Sweden

11. Once you've gone through everyone on the page, click **Save to tree** at the bottom of the panel. The people and facts you added and changed will now be in your tree.

## Finding undecided or ignored hints

When you click or tap **Maybe** for a hint, the hint goes to the **Undecided** tab. When you click or tap **Ignore** or **No** for a hint, the hint goes to the **Ignored** tab.

## From the Ancestry app

1. Tap someone in your tree > tap **View Profile** > tap **Hints** (iOS) or **View Hints** (Android).
2. iOS: At the bottom of your screen, tap **Undecided** or **Ignored**.

Android: At the top of your screen, tap **New Hints** and select **Undecided Hints** or **Ignored Hints**.

3. Tap a hint to view the details. (Android: tap the hint again.) To add ignored or undecided hints to your tree, tap **Yes** and follow the on-screen steps.

## From a browser

1. Click on someone in your tree > **Profile** > **Hints** tab.
2. Right beneath the Hints tab, you'll see **New, Undecided, Ignored, and Accepted**. Click on the type of hint you'd like to view.

Emma Thompson  
BIRTH JUN 1867 • MN  
DEATH 19 JUN 1945 • Saint Louis, Minnesota  
2nd great-grandmother

View in Tree View Notes View Comments Merge with Duplicate Save to Tree Member Connect

LifeStory Facts Gallery **Hints 3**

**New 3** Undecided 0 Ignored 1 Accepted 9

Michigan, U.S., Marriage Records, 1867-1952 Source Info Quick Compare

Family  
Parents  
Banby Thompson

## Turning member tree hints and potential relative hints on or off

### From a browser

[Go to Tree settings](#)

(or from any page on Ancestry, select your name or username in the top-right corner > **Account Settings** > **Trees** (on the left side).

Select **Member tree hints** or **Potential relatives not yet in your tree** and toggle on or off.

## Unavailable hints

A hint becomes unavailable when its source is removed from Ancestry® or made private. When you try to view a pending hint that comes from a source that's been deleted or made private, the hint will say, "This hint is no longer available." Hints that fall into this category will eventually be deleted, but can cause confusion in the meantime. We're working to reduce the time it takes to remove these hints after the original source is deleted or made private. For more information about unavailable hints, see [our article about unavailable hints](#).

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[https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Ancestry-Hints?language=en\\_US](https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Ancestry-Hints?language=en_US)