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# Comparing the Digitalarkivet and Histreg Norwegian Genealogy Sites

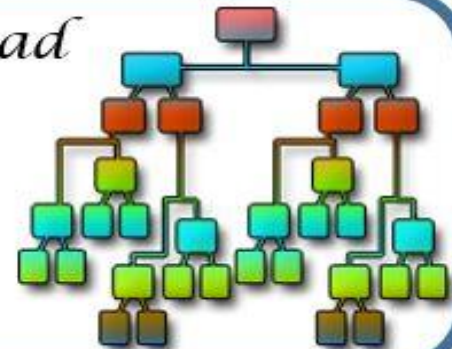
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Updated 12/31/2023 1:15 PM



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# Histreg versus Digitalarkivet

- This is a mainly a demonstration and guided walkthrough
  - I don't have many slides but will be demonstrating
- This is designed to take about an hour
  - We'll look at what each site offers – and doesn't offer
  - We'll review the advantages and disadvantages
  - We'll demonstrate some of the features
  - Questions about your people will be handled after as time permits



# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- Digitalarkivet requires an account – they are free to create – like Family Search
- Digitalarkivet can be run in English
- Digitalarkivet search filters work better now, but have quirks. They used to work very well. This results in many extra hits which can take time to wade through.
- Digitalarkivet – in many cases, this site has images of the sources so you can see what actually was there



# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- Histreg does not require an account
- Histreg only runs in Norwegian
- Histreg search filters work
- Histreg only has indexes
- Histreg links to all Digitalarkivet sources that are indexed for a found person
- Histreg also links to other historical databases including newspapers and museum information for a found person
- Histreg allows you to apply and become a manager of a genealogy wiki for your family using the Histreg records



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# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- I used to recommend Histreg and hoped they would complete their “linkage” project.
- DigitalArkivet in the early 2000’s would show forward/backward links if they could determine your ancestor. Histreg promised to restore that.
- Histreg has now decided to go the way of other sites – let the users do it – without documentation or proof. Bad Histreg



# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- Histreg – from them
  - Here, the entire Digital Archive, Fanger.no (prisoners 1940-1945) and the newspaper database are searched with approximately the same search functionality as in the Digital Archive (digitalarkivet.no). When searching, at least one of the fields with personal information (first name etc.) must be filled in. In addition, you can refine the search based on geography, event type, event period and role. Geography indicates the county and municipality or parish of residence or birth. If searching for events in church records, the search can be limited to role in the event (child, mother, father, etc.). Period indicates the period for the source, for example "Newspaper, anniversary.



# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- Histreg - A how-to document of what is available is at

<https://home.nr.no/~holden/HBR-english.pdf>

- F
 

Norwegian	English	Explanation
<a href="#">Top menu</a>		
Forside	Front page	
Om HBR	About HBR	
Bruksanvisning	Users Guide	
Søkesiden	Search	Find persons and sources. This is the same search as in the Digital Archive, but added search in newspapers and where same person that already is linked may be merged in the search result
Aviser	Newspapers	Possible to find and register death notices, marriages, anniversaries and events of general interest from newspapers
Uregistrerte	Non-registered	Possible to register persons that is not included in any of the sources in the Digital Archive or newspapers notices
Referanser	References	
Statistikk	Statistics	



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# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- Histreg – Search Page

Søk	Search	
Fornavn	First name	
Etternavn	Last name	
Kjønn	Sex	
Fødselsår fra	Year of birth, from	
Fødselsår til	Year of birth, to	
Fødselsdato	Date of birth	
Fødested	Place of birth	
Bosted	Place of living	
Stilling og stand	Occupation	
Geografi	Geography	
Hendelse	Event	
Rolle	Role	



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# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- Histreg – Result Page

Foreldre og søsken	Parents and siblings	
Partner og barn	Partner and children	
Livsløpstabell	Main events	One line per source, mainly church book and census
Biografi og merknader	Biography	
Referanser	References	



# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- Histreg
  - The main Search page is the Søkesiden tab on the main menu line.

## Search

Search with pdf

Forename:  Nils|Niels searches for Nils or Niels. Ni\* gives words beginning with Nine

Surname:  Olsdatter|Olsd searches for Olsdatter or Olsd. Ols\* gives words beginning with Ols

Gender:

Year of birth from:

Year of birth of:

Birthdate:

Birthplace:  Krist\* -Kristvik searches for words that start with Krist, but not Kristvik

Residence/address:  \*nes -Videnes searches for words ending in nes, but not Videnes

Position and stand:  Farmer|Grdr searching for Farmer or Grdr

Search

## Geography

- See also
- Akershus
- Oslo
- Hedmark
- Oppland
- Buskerud
- Vestfold
- Telemark
- Aust-Agder
- Vest-Agder
- Rogaland
- Hordaland
- Bergen
- Sogn og Fjordane
- Møre og Romsdal
- Sør-Trøndelag
- Nord-Trøndelag
- Nordland
- Troms
- Finnmark

## Incident

- All events
- Census
- Emigration
- Baptism (kb)
- Confirmation (kb)
- Wedding ceremony (kb)
- Burial (kb)
- Newspaper, marriage
- Newspaper, anniversary
- Newspaper, died
- Newspaper, event of general interest
- Prisoners WW2

## Role

- Child
- Confirmation
- Father
- Mother

Use only when one event is marked from the church record (kb) in the event table on the left.

## Year/time period

From:    Until:



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# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- Digitalarkivet
  - Many more church books are now indexed
  - Indexes vary with accuracy and quality
  - As you go further back and more rural, fewer books are indexed
  - You have to be creative with your searches
  - But search filters are working better



# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- The bottom line:
  - Use Histreg to find stuff, which then links to Digitalarkivet to see the actual sources
  - Use Digitalarkivet if you are uncomfortable using the Norwegian Search form and the Results page
  - Digitalarkivet has many other sources of data, however not all are indexed
  - The Digitalarkivet User Guide for searching is very helpful when using Histreg
  - The Digitalarkivet User Guide is also extremely helpful when trying to find the actual source after HistReg gives you the indexed information
  - The attached “Using the DigitalArkivet III.pdf” has a section on how to search starting on page 29. I’ve duplicated keyboard and name variant hints at the end of this document.
  - Histreg is only useful for “narrow” searches as the search limits work.



# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- References

- Histreg - <https://histreg.no/>

- Histreg English description and how to use –

- <https://home.nr.no/~holden/HBR-english.pdf>

- Digitalarkivet - <https://www.digitalarkivet.no/en/>

- Digitalarkivet English How to Use documents –

- <https://www.digitalarkivet.no/en/content/our-searches>



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# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- User Guide - Searchable material:
  - Searching with special characters:
    - Read this, understand this, read again
    - **Then pay attention to the Examples of searches with various combinations**
  - Name variant results:
    - Read this, understand this, read again
    - Then pay attention to the Examples of searches with various combinations
    - **Then pay attention to the next pages!**

Æ	Alt 146
Ø	Alt 0216
Å	Alt 0197
æ	Alt 145
ø	Alt 0248
å	Alt 134



# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

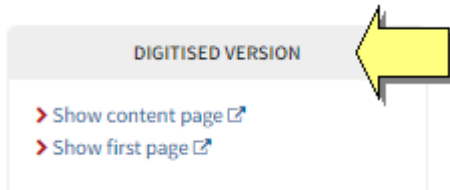
- User Guide - Searchable material - Name variant results:
  - One thing not well documented . . . Say I'm looking for Sarah Larsdattar of Anton Larsen
  - Datter can become Dotter, Dot, Dat, Dr, dr, dt, d, Sen, Son, SS, S, or could be missing altogether
  - Sen can become Son, SS, S, or could be missing altogether
  - Larsen might be Larsen, Larssen, LarS, or Lar.
  - Larsdatter might be Larsdotter, Larsdot, Larsdat, Larsd, Lars, or even Larsen!
  - This is why learning the wildcards is important
  - I will always search for Lar\*





# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- **How to find the Scanned Document from the Index record**
  - The Show Content Page shows an index and links to the content of that film.



Innhold

Hedmark

**Ringsaker prestegjeld**

Fødtte og døpte - Ringsaker sokn

Ukjent år	Fødtte og døpte
1870-1879	1879 (s. 1)
1880-1889	1880 (s. 12) 1881 (s. 26) 1882 (s. 37) 1883 (s. 50) 1884 (s. 62) 1885 (s. 74) 1886 (s. 83) 1887 (s. 96) 1888 (s. 104) 1889 (s. 116)
1890-1899	1890 (s. 127)

Konfirmerte - Ringsaker sokn

Ukjent år	Side 161
1870-1879	1879 (s. 195)
1880-1889	1880 (s. 197) 1881 (s. 200) 1882 (s. 203) 1883 (s. 206) 1884 (s. 208) 1885 (s. 210) 1886 (s. 213) 1887 (s. 216) 1888 (s. 219) 1889 (s. 221)

# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- User Guide - Searchable material - Name variant results:
  - “J”s versus “I”s, “ie” versus “ei” versus “i” versus “e” versus “æ”  
“o” versus “ø” versus “a” versus “å”
  - Bjarne Jorgensen – B\*rn\* J\*rg\*n\*, Wildcard all vowels, “s”, “j”, and suffixes
  - **Regardless of which type of wildcard search you perform, please note that the search string must contain at least **two** characters, in addition to the wildcard. When searching without wildcard characters, you may search for one or two characters.**
  - The older the records you are looking for, the more likely you will need wildcards. There were no standards for abbreviations, and, in many cases, the indexers were not Norwegians.



# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- Start your search – General information
  - I always start with the first name and last name as I know them, unless it is Lars Larsen.
  - If I don't find anyone – **or not the right one**, I simplify and wildcard the last name, then the first name if needed. Lastly, I leave off the last name.
  - If I find entries, then I select Geography and/or enter a source time period – years only and 5 years before and after I think are needed.
  - If I don't find a person that is plausible, then I try simplifying and use wildcards in the name – if I haven't done so yet.
  - Fields I NEVER use (ok – seldom use)
    - Many times, this info isn't recorded, and the search engine won't return records with blanks if you enter something
      - Event Info – either isn't recorded or not in a format you expect
      - Related person – complicates things and usually results in no hits
      - Domicile – is it the Parish, the Farm, the Municipality, or was it even recorded
      - Birth Place – see Domicile
      - Birth Date – remember that – if recorded at all, it could be the baptism date but a lot of times it is only the year
      - Role – again, there is no consistency as to whether even recorded and much ambiguity between terms
      - Gender – while no ambiguity, this can be abbreviated various ways or omitted, and you won't find anything



# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- **How to find Sources**

- Easiest is to select a Geography and a time period. This will show you all the sources available – and whether scanned, indexed (searchable), or both.
- If you get too many hits, narrow by selecting a category.

[Church book from Oslo Domkirke / Vår Frelzers menighet parish 1731-1743 \(0301M12\) >](#)

Archive: Oslo domkirke Kirkebøker

[Browse scans >](#)

**Born and baptised:** 1731-1743

[Browse >](#)

*Not searchable*

**Illegitimate born and baptised:** 1731-1743

[Browse >](#)

*Not searchable*

**Married:** 1731-1743

[Browse >](#)

[Search \(1731-1743\) >](#)

**Deceased and buried:** 1731-1743

[Browse >](#)

*Not searchable*

**Engaged:** 1731-1743

[Browse >](#)

*Not searchable*

[Church book from Oslo Domkirke / Vår Frelzers menighet parish 1743-1786 \(0301M12\) >](#)

Archive: Oslo domkirke Kirkebøker

[Browse scans >](#)

**Born and baptised:** 1743-1786

[Browse >](#)

[Search \(1743-1786\) >](#)

**Illegitimate born and baptised:** 1743-1786

[Browse >](#)

*Not searchable*

**Married:** 1743-1786

[Browse >](#)

[Search \(1743-1786\) >](#)

**Deceased and buried:** 1743-1786

[Browse >](#)

*Not searchable*

**Engaged:** 1743-1786

[Browse >](#)

*Not searchable*

**Other list:** 1743-1786

[Browse >](#)

*Not searchable*



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# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- How to find the Scanned Document from the Index record, if it exists
- Two Ways
- Not all records will show the “Scanned” Tab at the top. The “Scanned” tab will take you directly there. Fastest.
- When the “Scanned” tab is not there, there may be a “DIGITISED VERSION” bar below on the left. Use the page number to locate the item.



Show table

Share Print

## Source information:

Church book from Ringsaker parish,  
Ringsaker local parish 1879-1890 (0412P)

[Go to complete source information >](#)

County:	Hedmark
Municipality (1947):	Ringsaker
Geographic area:	Ringsaker parish Ringsaker local parish
Start year:	1879
End year:	1890

## Births and baptisms:

1882-04-23 >

Parish/Church:	-
Page:	41
Serial no.:	35

DIGITISED VERSION

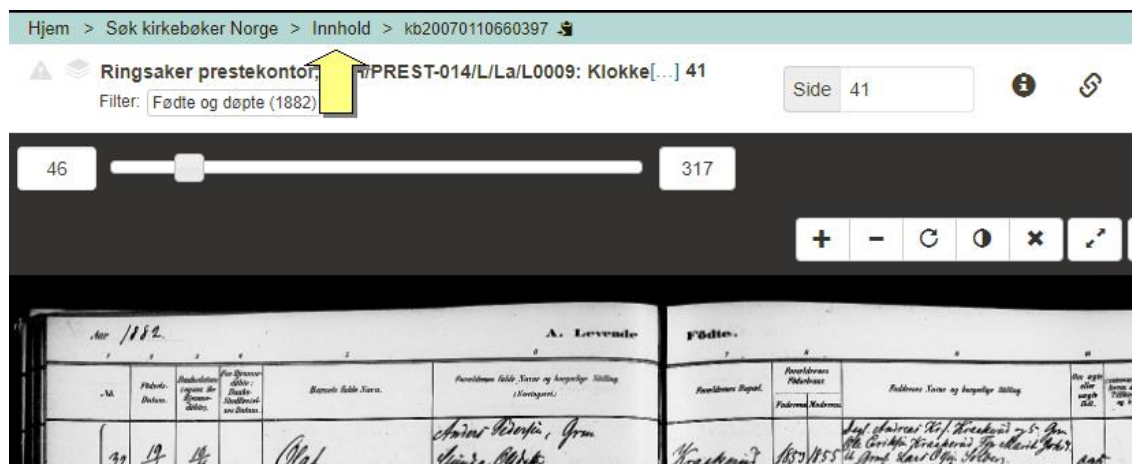
- > [Show content page](#)
- > [Show first page](#)



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# Digitalarkivet versus Histreg

- **How to find the Scanned Document from the Index record**
  - The Show Content Page shows an index and links to the content of that film.
  - Use Show Content page rather than First Page because First Page takes you to the first image on the film – not the first image of the type of record you are wanting.
  - You can also find the Content page (Innhold) by clicking the Innhold in the page address (note some pages will translate and show Content):







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**SONS of  
NORWAY**

# Comparing the Digitalarkivet and Histreg Norwegian Genealogy Sites

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Bentsen and Reed  
Ancestral Lines



Genealogy Jottings  
*The Happiness of Pursuit*



Walzs from Mahanomen  
Hjelmstads from Milton




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[Norsky.net/GedReed](http://Norsky.net/GedReed)  
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