
Branch Numbers:

why it's cool to keep branch numbers in the db:

* There are actually a lot of people who have bought prints of family trees my Dad has created & drawn..... and these are things that get handed down in families. The original owners had a difficult time finding themselves on there, let alone the kids and grand-kids they get passed down to. :D

* SOoooo, in our project here, someone could log in and find themselves (or whatever relative they are interested in finding) in the db, get their branch number, go look at their printed tree, and fairly easily "follow the trail" and find that person (or themselves) on the drawing! :)

So essentially, a branch number is a given person's coordinates, on a given tree drawing! [=

Alternate Names:

Note about the AltName attribute in the original table:

this not only covers maiden names and any other known aliases.....

but, in old Norway (i think they stopped doing it finally) your last name would -- or at least could and often did -- change if you moved..... your last name was based off of which farm you owned.

So if you went and bought another farm, the existing name of that farm, became your last name. Apparently it was more important to them, to keep track of the farms, than it was to keep track of the people -- can't change the farm's name, gotta change the name of the guy who lives there! :joy:

I'm pretty sure my Dad has also talked about that even young men who went to live & work on a farm for another family -- they also often took on the name of the farm as their last name..... so, not everyone with that name, was necessarily related, it could just be your farm worker.....