

9 Apr 2012, Doug Couch (couchdouglas@aol.com)
ancestors tab, media view

Concept / Suggestion & Test Project

Concept / Suggestion Comments:

As the Ancestors/Media chart view works currently (through v9), each ancestor section in either column shows only those ancestors which exist in the database. Initially, what this causes are unbalanced sections in the left and right columns with corresponding paternal and maternal sections not being side-by-side. Also there is no ancestor chart numbering applied such as is present in the Text and Ahnentafel views.

This approach limits the usefulness of the chart to name, generation and y/n re media. While that is indeed the purpose of the chart, it seems it could be more beneficial if...

1. standard ancestor chart numbering were applied
2. sections were balanced, by displaying both known and unknown ancestor slots.

Such additions to the chart make it the most compact view of ancestors, laid out as neatly divided into paternal and maternal lineages, generation levels, and ancestor numbering which corresponds directly to any other chart using such numbering (i.e.-ancestor #7 in media view would be the same person as ancestor #7 in Text or Ahnentafel views).

TNG v9 Demo Screenshot:

Media: Family of Alice Maud Mary

 = At least one photo, history or other media item exists for this individual.

Paternal Side

Parents

- [Albert Augustus Charles](#) (♂ 1819 - 1861)

Grandparents

- [Ernest I of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld](#) (♂ 1784 - 1844)
- [Louise of Saxe-Coburg-Altenburg](#) (♀ 1800 - 1831)

Great Grandparents

- [Francis Frederick of Saxe-Coburg](#) (♂ 1750 - 1806)
- [Augusta Reuss-Ebersdorf](#) (♀ 1757 - 1831)

2nd Great Grandparents

- [Ernest Frederick of Saxe-Coburg](#) (♂ 1724 - 1800)
- [Sophia Antonia of Brunswick](#) (♀ 1724 - 1802)
- [Henry XXIV Reuss-Ebersdorf](#) (♂ 1724 - 1779)
- [Caroline Erbach-Schonberg](#) (♀ 1727 - 1795)

Hanover Side

Parents

- [Hanover, Victoria](#) (♀ 1819 - 1901)

Grandparents

- [Hanover, Edward Augustus](#) (♂ 1767 - 1820)
- [Victoria Mary Louisa](#) (♀ 1786 - 1861)

Great Grandparents

- [Hanover, George III](#) (♂ 1738 - 1820)
- [\(Sophia\) Charlotte](#) (♀ 1744 - 1818)
- [Francis Frederick of Saxe-Coburg](#) (♂ 1750 - 1806)
- [Augusta Reuss-Ebersdorf](#) (♀ 1757 - 1831)

2nd Great Grandparents

- [Hanover, Frederick Louis](#) (♂ 1701 - 1751)
- [Augusta of Saxe-Gotha](#) (♀ 1719 - 1772)
- [Charles Louis Frederick](#) (♂)
- [Albertin, Elizabeth of Saxe-Hildburghausen](#) (♀)
- [Ernest Frederick of Saxe-Coburg](#) (♂ 1724 - 1800)
- [Sophia Antonia of Brunswick](#) (♀ 1724 - 1802)
- [Henry XXIV Reuss-Ebersdorf](#) (♂ 1724 - 1779)
- [Caroline Erbach-Schonberg](#) (♀ 1727 - 1795)

Test Project Screenshot:

(this version intentionally not compact)

Media: Family of **1. Margaret Ann Adkins (I15)**

 = At least one photo, history or other media item exists for this individual.

ATKINS Side

HORTON Side

Parents

2. [ATKINS, Andrew Jackson](#) (1883 - 1931) 

Grandparents

4. [ADKINS, William](#) (1867 - Yes, date unknown)

5. _____

Great Grandparents

8. [ADKINS, Jesse](#) (1835 - Yes, date unknown)

9. [ADKINS, Letha R.](#) (1841 - Yes, date unknown) 

10. _____

11. _____

2nd Great Grandparents

16. [ADKINS, Allen](#)

17. [ADKINS, Mahala](#) (1810 - 1870)

18. [ADKINS, Robert](#) (Abt 1808 - Yes, date unknown)

19. [Lilly, Nancy](#) (Abt 1815 - Yes, date unknown)

20. _____

21. _____

22. _____

23. _____

Parents

3. [HORTON, Mary Frances](#) (1883 - 1928) 

Grandparents

6. [HORTON, William H.](#) (1866 - 1900)

7. [EGNOR, Octavia](#) (1862 - Aft 1908)

Great Grandparents

12. _____

13. _____

14. [EGNOR, John Washington](#) (1833 - 1903)

15. [PLUMLEY, Lucinda Frances](#) (1835 - 1908)

2nd Great Grandparents

24. _____

25. _____

26. _____

27. _____

28. [EGNOR, Archibald](#) (1811 - 1893) 

29. [MASSEY, Lahoma Lany](#) (1811 - 1850) 

30. [PLUMLEY, Matthias](#) (1806 - 1890)

31. [SMITH, Mary](#) (1813 - 1889)

Test Project Comments:

The test project pictured above is only suitable for my site, as it cannot accommodate changes in the number of generations displayed. So, the concept and suggestion aspect is soliciting anyone who is interested and is a capable programmer in PHP, to collaborate to create code which will accomplish the main goals stated earlier.

Further comments (and why it cannot accommodate, etc.):

1. Balancing the column sections for each generation "is" accommodated for as many generations as desired, displaying each name or "unknown" text or underscore in its appropriate slot...but without ancestor chart numbering.
2. Because I fail to understand how pedigreetext.php or ahnentafel.php create the appropriate number and display it for each person, and because in extrastree.php, the 2-column layout and order in which names are assigned to a slot in the chart would change that number and display convention anyway...I have not attempted it.
3. To accomplish the numbering for my own purposes only, I had to...
 - a. freeze the generations (at 5)
 - b. create a variable which would increment for each iteration whether the query had a result or not
 - c. create an array which assigned the desired number to its slot in the chart layout (the term slot does not refer to \$slot or \$nextslot variables) - This became necessary since I could not figure out an algorithm to number then naturally, as the extrastree.php routine ancestor name assignments bounce up and down the left column, then up and down the right column, giving me more cross-eye than normal when trying to figure it out.
 - d. since I do not currently need more than 5 generations really, I just settled for this 5-generation configuration...at least for now
4. Although having the generations drop-down selector just as is provided in the other views (I removed it from this view), another possibility is to create text right arrow navigation for any ancestor in the last displayed generation (in this case, 5) who has additional ancestor lines...similar to what has been done in the Text view chart.
5. Features list re my own chart (done in version 8.0.1):
 - a. border the chart such that it looks like a chart and helps divide major groupings better, and moved all titles and symbols legend inside the chart
 - b. underscore and enhance generation subheadings and indent entries within each subheading section per column
 - c. ancestor chart numbering

- i. including unknown
 - ii. including generation 1 (added personID after name)
- d. coloration to separate name/link from data (and other for emphasis)
- e. create text variable for unknown ancestors so you can display whatever you want...underscores, "Unknown", "Not given", etc.
- f. chart hard-coded at 5-generation display only, and option selector removed for this view