Importing Family Tree Maker into Older Versions of RootsMagic

This guide is only needed if you have older versions of RootsMagic. RootsMagic 7.1.0.0 and later can directly import Family Tree Maker files. (See Magic Guide "Family Tree Maker Direct Import in RootsMagic")

This Magic Guide covers:

A. Importing FTM 2006 and Earlier Directly into RootsMagic
B. Importing FTM 2008 or Later into RootsMagic
- Preparing to Move your Family Tree Maker Database
- Importing your GEDCOM into RootsMagic
C. Media

## A. Importing FTM 2006 and Earlier Directly into RootsMagic

1. Open RootsMagic. If a file is open, go to the File menu and select Close. Once the screen is blank, go to the File menu and select Import.

2. On the Import File window, select Family Tree Maker (2006 and earlier).

3. Click "Search for files" if you do not know where the file is stored. If you know where your file is, click "I know where the file is."
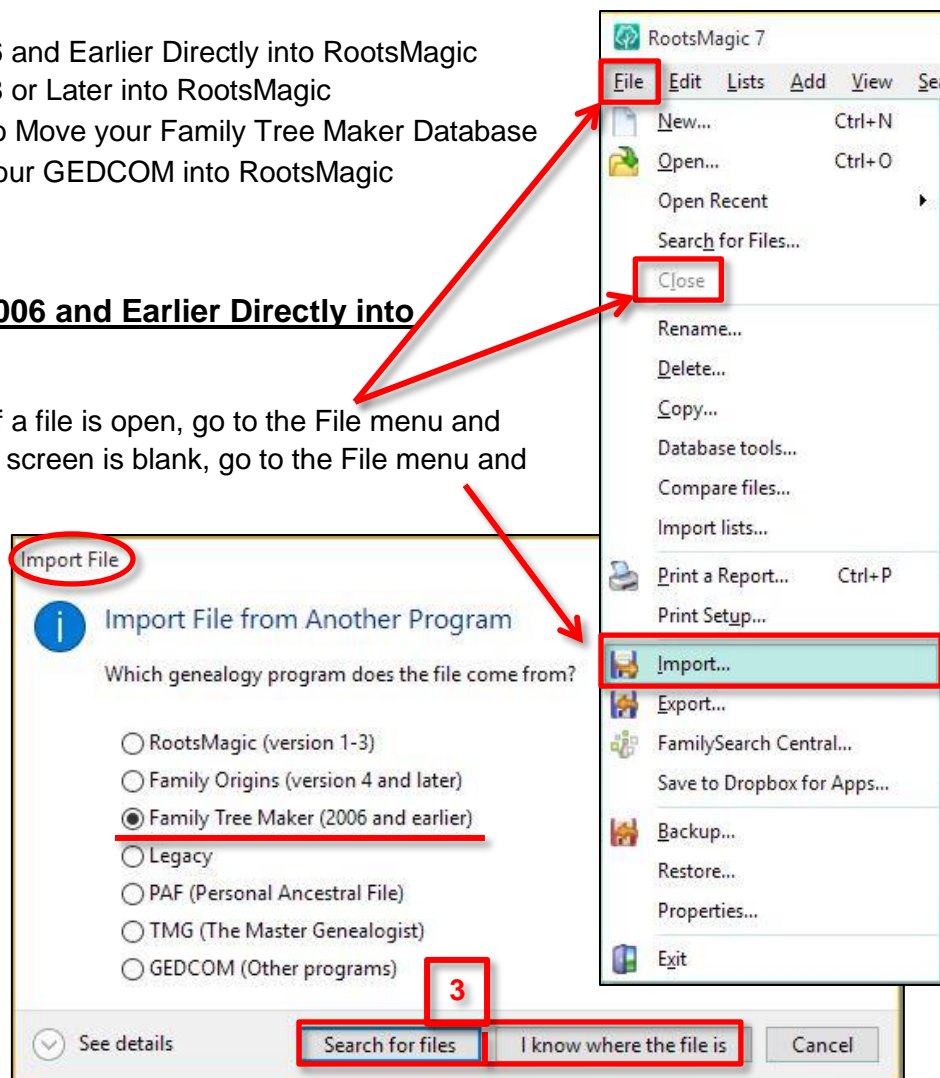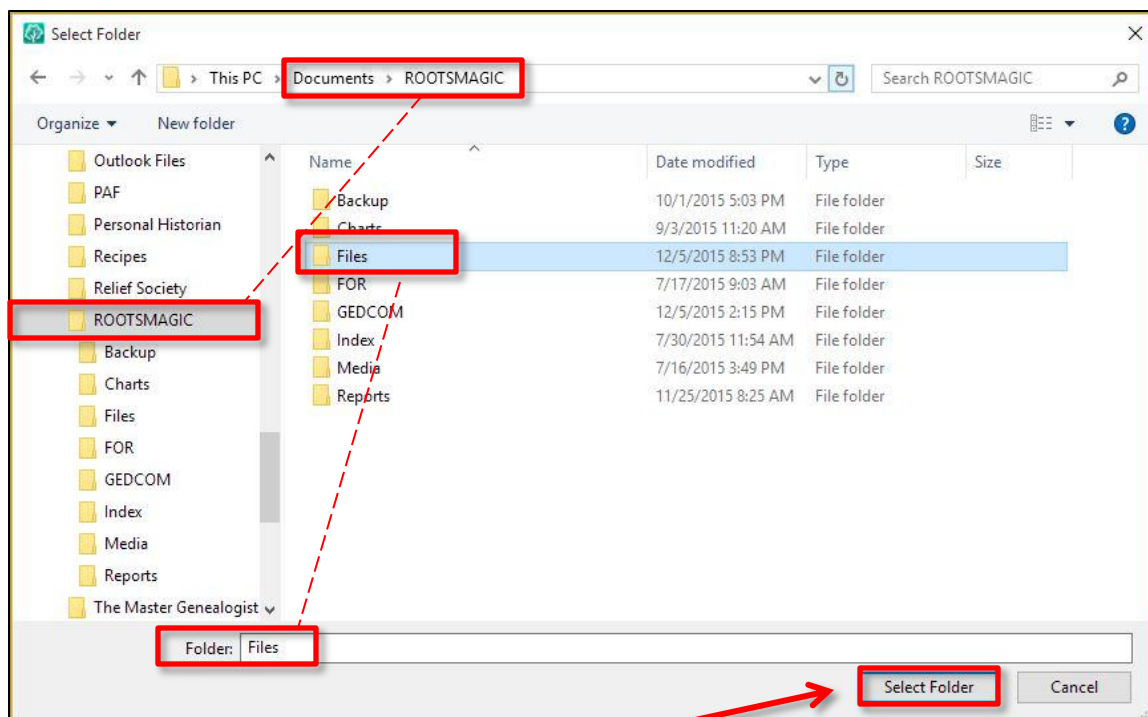
4. Name your file.
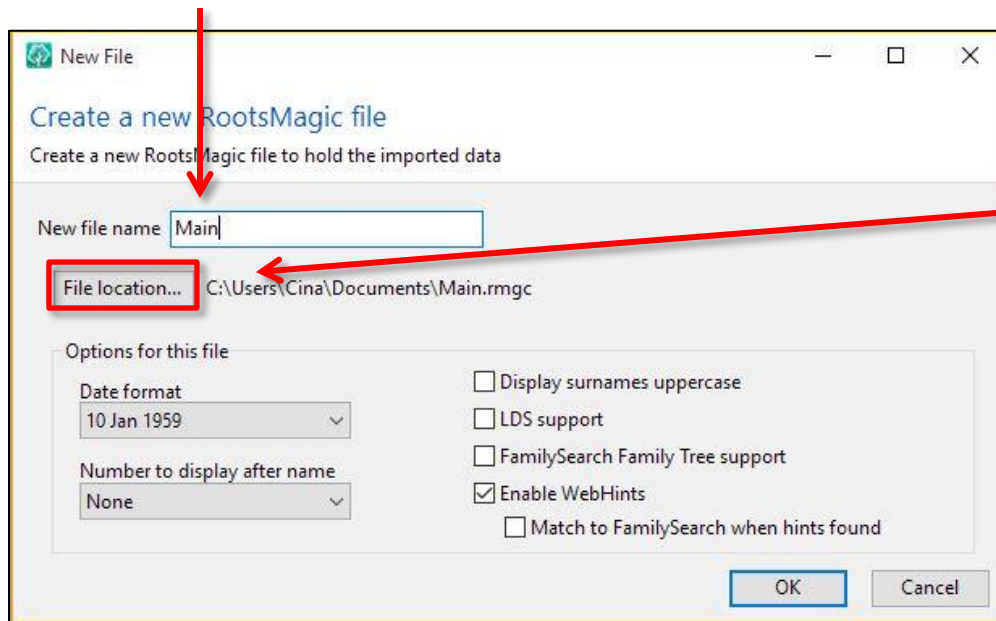
5. Verify that the file location is correct. If not, click the "File location" button to save someplace else.

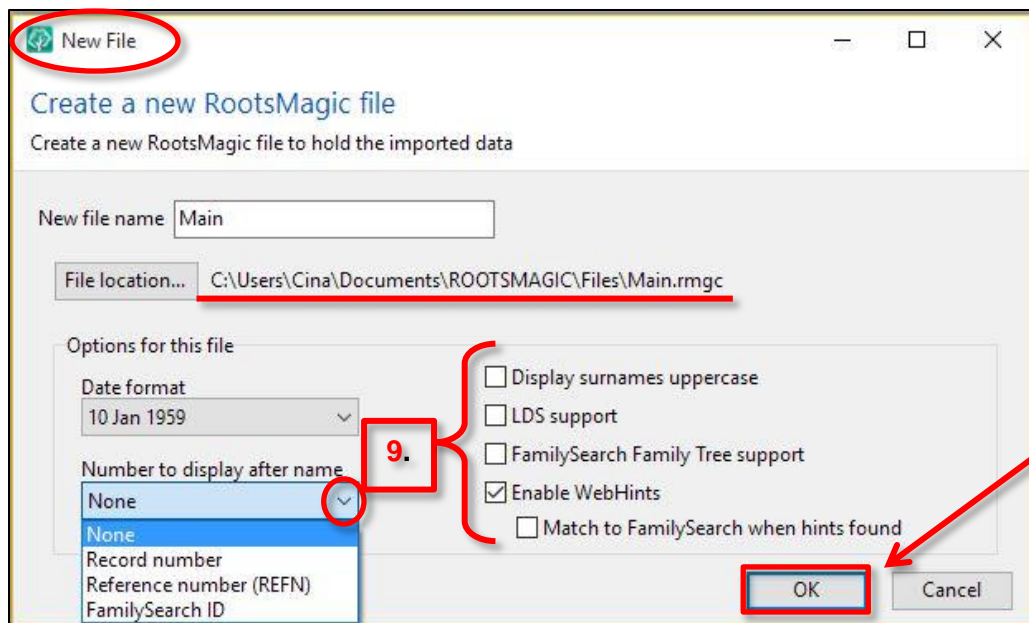6. Choose where you want the file to be saved. This example shows that the file will be saved to Documents>ROOTSMAGIC>Files.

7. Click the "Select Folder" button to save the selection and return to the New File window.

8. The File location reflects the desired placement for the file.

9. Select the file options you want applied to this file.

10. Click OK to import the file.

11. If you created custom events (facts) in your Family Tree Maker database, RootsMagic will need to know where to put that data. The "Import Family Tree Maker file" window will open. By default, the custom fact's data will be placed in the "Desc" (Description) field. You can change the placement to the "Place" or "Note" field, by clicking in the column.

12. Click "Continue" to finalize your import.
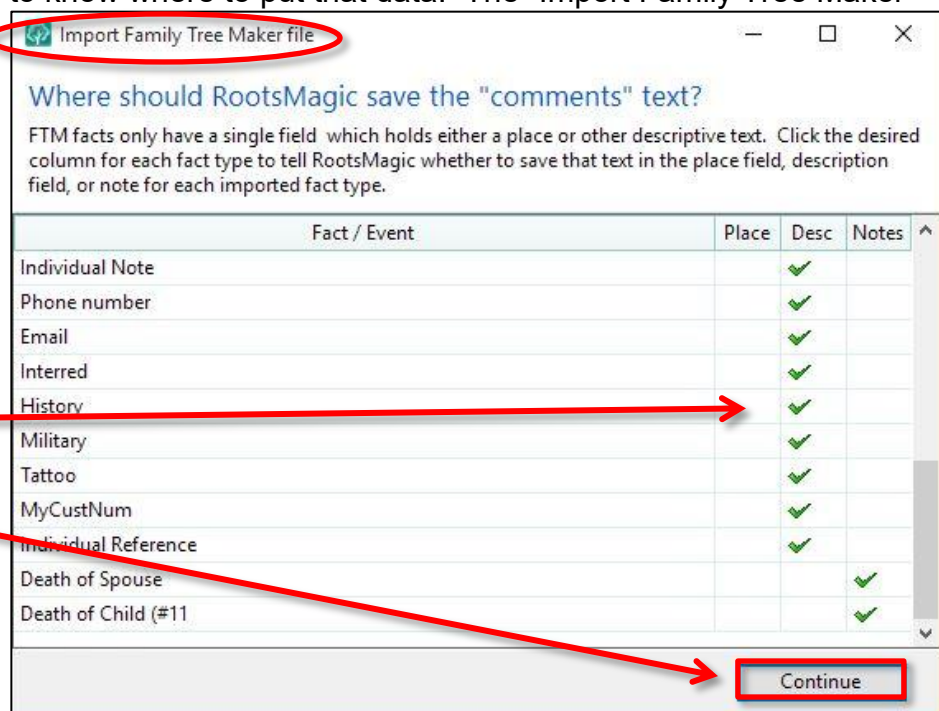
13. Your imported file will open.
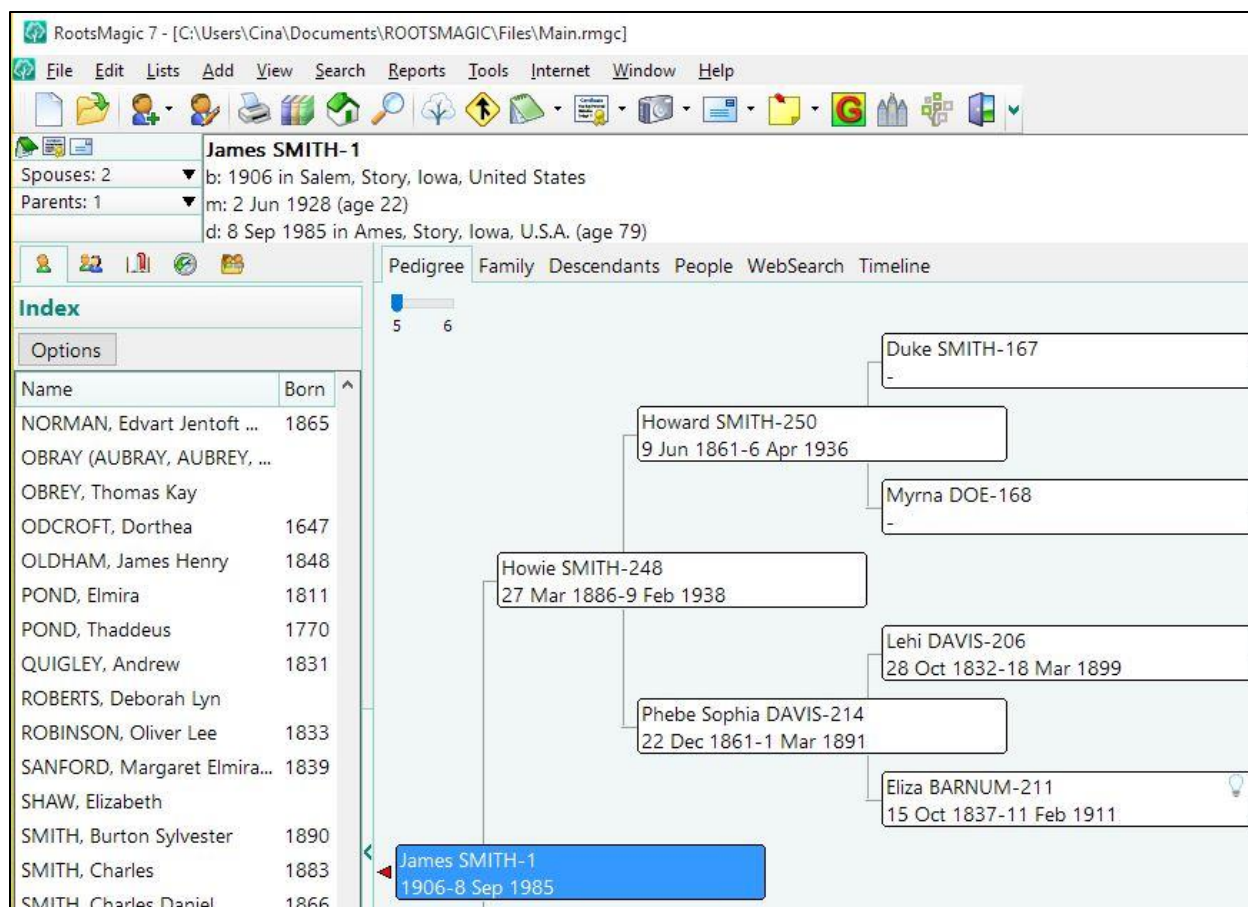
B. Importing FTM 2008 or Later into RootsMagic

- **Preparing to Move your Family Tree Maker Database**

1. Open your Family Tree Maker with the genealogy file you want to move into RootsMagic.

2. Click on the Tools menu and choose "Compact file". Check the options to make a backup and "preform extended analysis" if available.

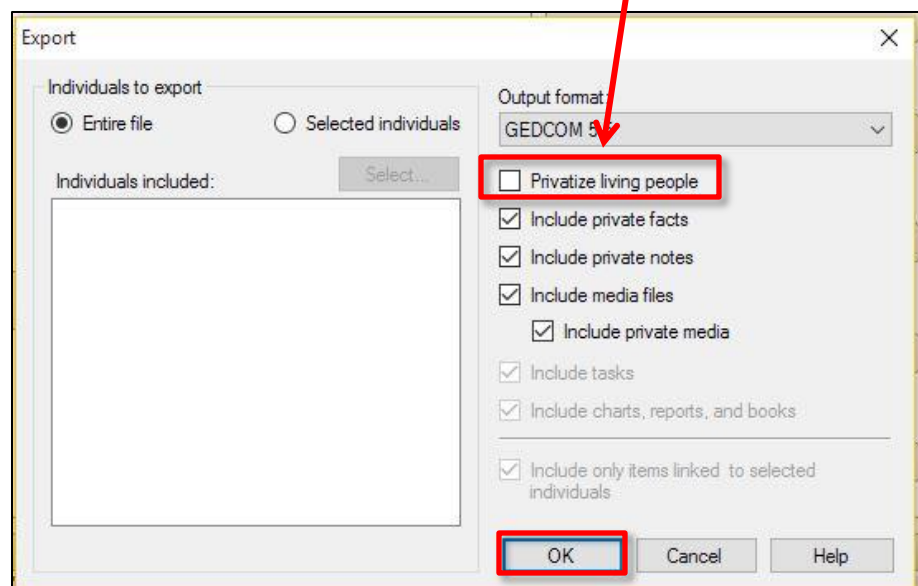3. Click on the File menu and choose Export.
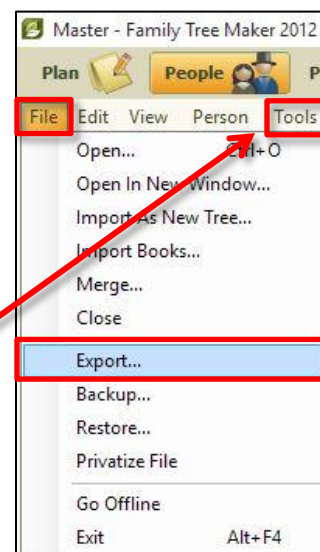
4. Select "Entire file".
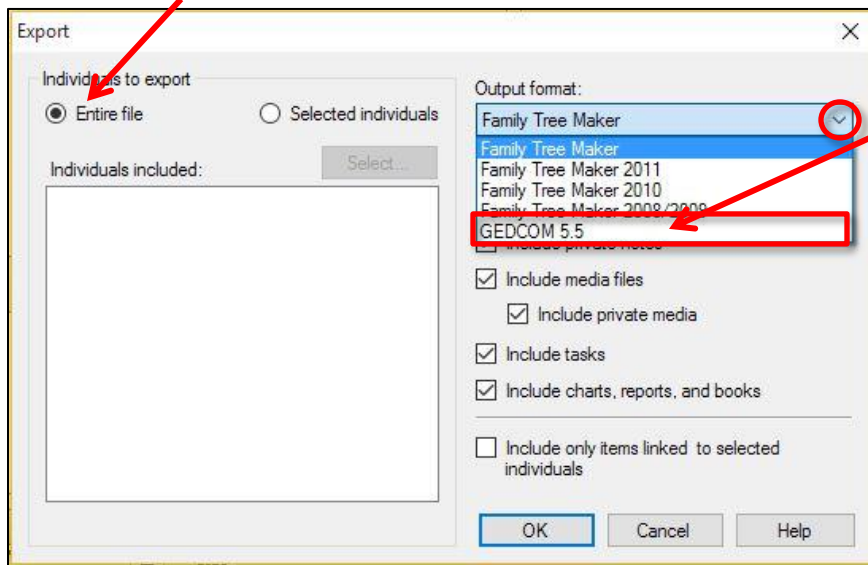
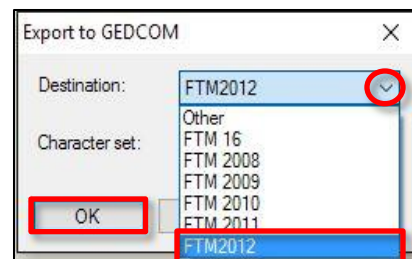5. Under the "Output format" heading, select GEDCOM 5.5.

6. Uncheck "Privatize living people" so all individuals are included. Check the remaining boxes to include facts, notes and media for everyone.

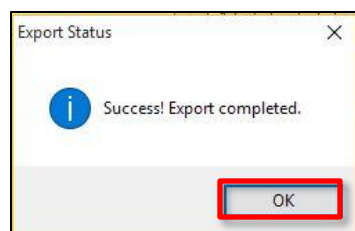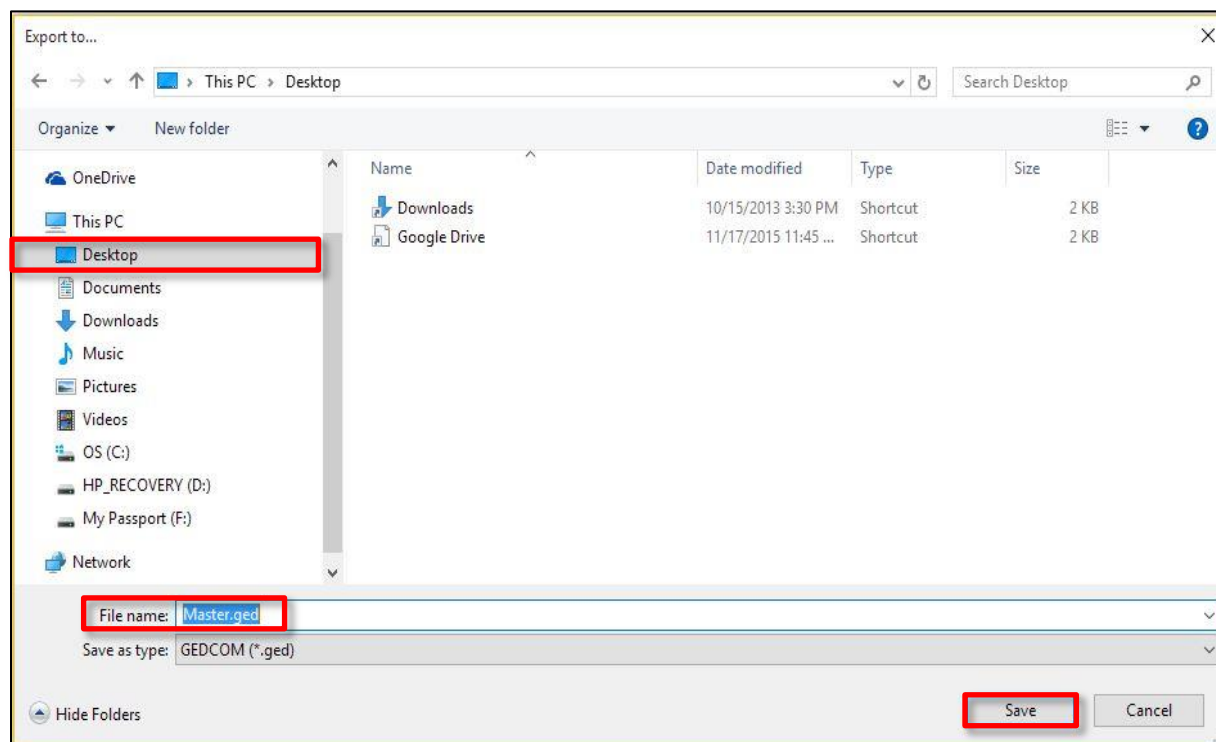7. Click OK to save these settings and continue.

8. Click the dropdown menu for "Destination" and select "FTM 2012". The "Character set:" option will change to UTF-8.

9. Click OK

10. Name your file and choose where you want the file to be saved. In this example it is being saved to the Desktop so that it can be easily found. Then click Save.

11. Your GEDCOM file will be completed.

12. Click OK to close the dialog window.

13. Close Family Tree Maker.

14 Now you are ready to import your GEDCOM file into RootsMagic.

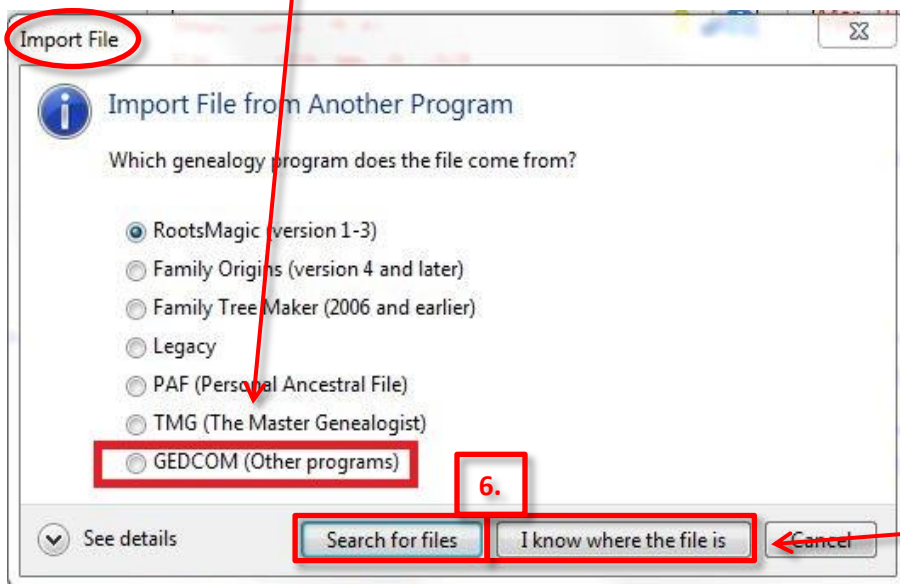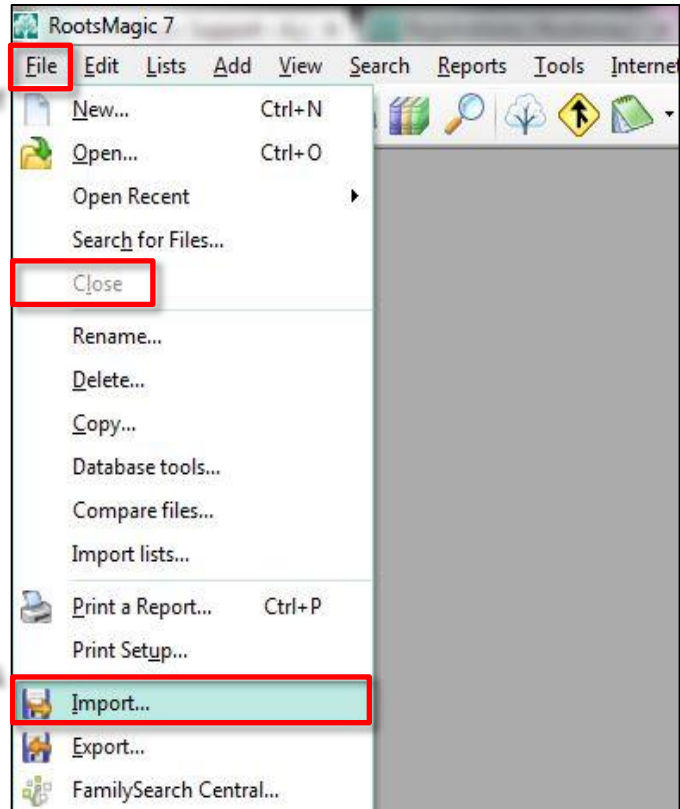- **Importing your GEDCOM into RootsMagic**

1. Open RootsMagic.

2. If a file is already opened click "File" and choose "Close".

3. If no database is currently open, importing a GEDCOM will automatically create a new RootsMagic database for you.

4. Click on "File" menu and choose "Import".

5. On the "Import File" window, select the option, "GEDCOM (Other programs)".

6. If you do not know where the file is, click "Search for files".

RootsMagic will look for all of your .ged files. Choose the file you want from the list.

If you know where the file is stored on your computer, click "I know where the file is".

7. If you clicked, "I know where the file is", this window will open.

8. Maneuver to where the file is stored. The file name will end with .ged.

In this example, the file is on the desktop. You will need to find the folder where your file is stored.

Click "Desktop" or the folder where your file is stored. Files in that folder will appear in the right panel
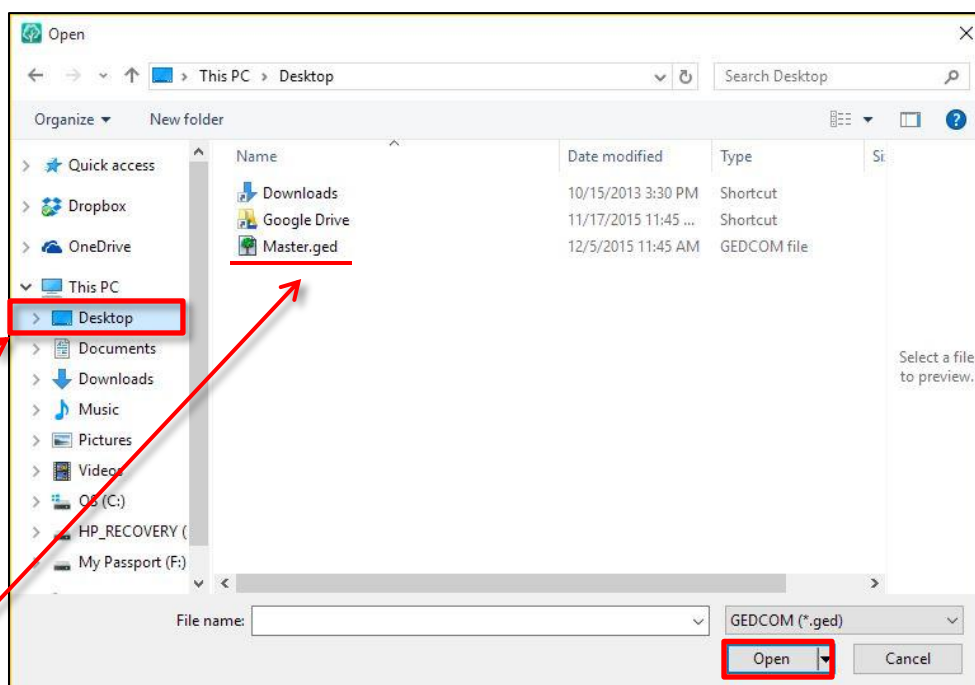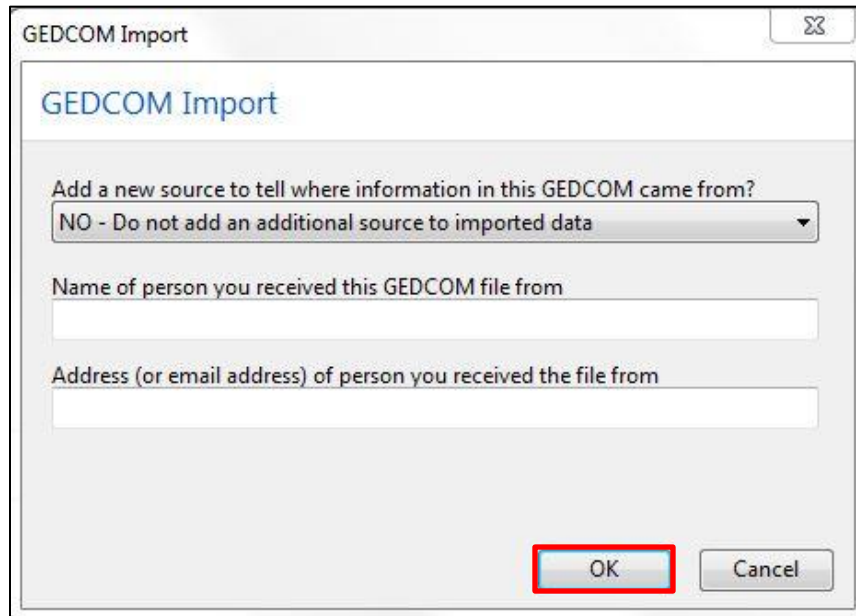

9. Click on the file.

10. Click "Open" to open the file.

11. Enter the file name you want to give this file. The name can match the GEDCOM file name or be completely different. **Do NOT give it the same name as any other RootsMagic database on your computer.**
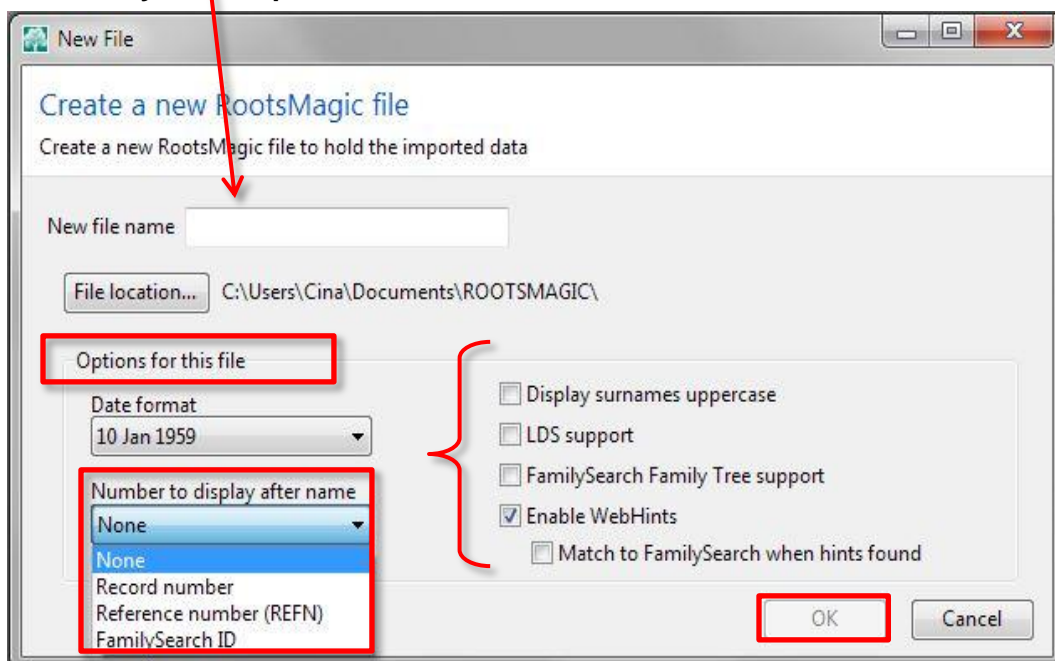
12. Under "Options for this file" you can select the "Date format", "Number to display after name", and several other options. These options can be modified after the file is created by going to Tools > File Options.
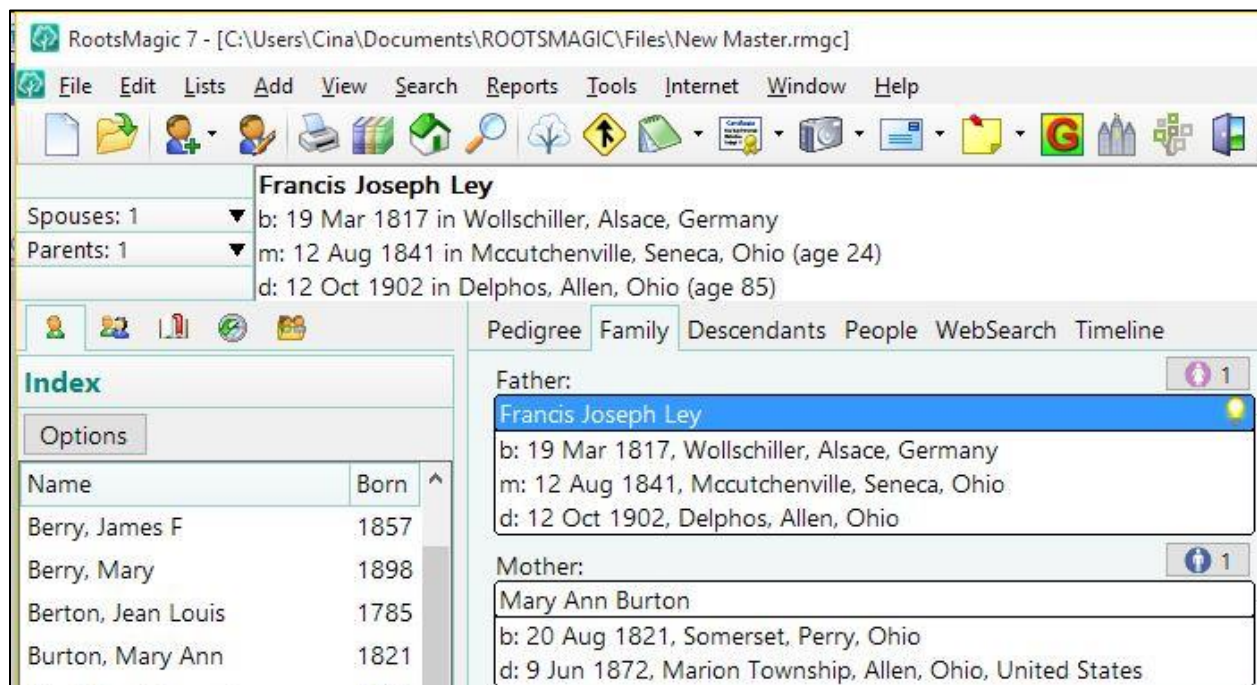
13. Click "OK" when done.

14. You can leave this window "as is" or change the option and fill in the blanks as desired.

15. Click "OK" to finish creating a RootsMagic database from the GEDCOM file.

16. Your file is now ready to use in RootsMagic.

C. Media

In order for your media links to work in RootsMagic, the media must be on your computer and not online. If any of your media links start with trees.ancestry.com or end with .htm or .html, those media items are on the internet and not your computer. They have to be downloaded to your computer if you want to see them from within RootsMagic. If you have FTM 2012 or 2014, resync your FTM file to the online tree to downloaded the media to your computer, then re-import your FTM file into RootsMagic.

RootsMagic links media from wherever you have it stored on your computer. This allows you to organize your media files any way you like. RootsMagic does not create a special media folder or copy media from one place to another.

If you have media in a Family Tree Maker folder, you can keep it there OR move the folder to someplace else. You can even rename the file if desired. This process will break the current media links, therefore to fix them, do the following:
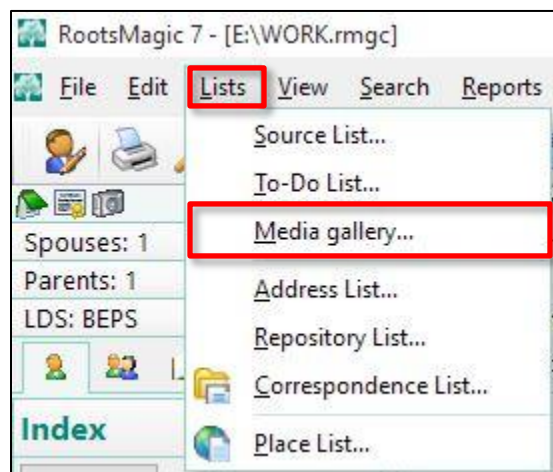
1. Go to the Lists menu in RootsMagic and select Media Gallery.

2. If you see boxes with red Xs, click the Tools button and choose "Fix broken media links".
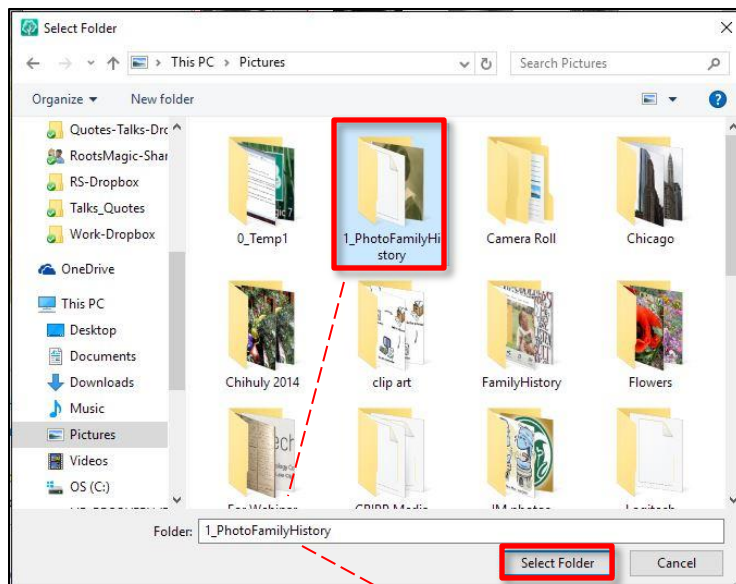

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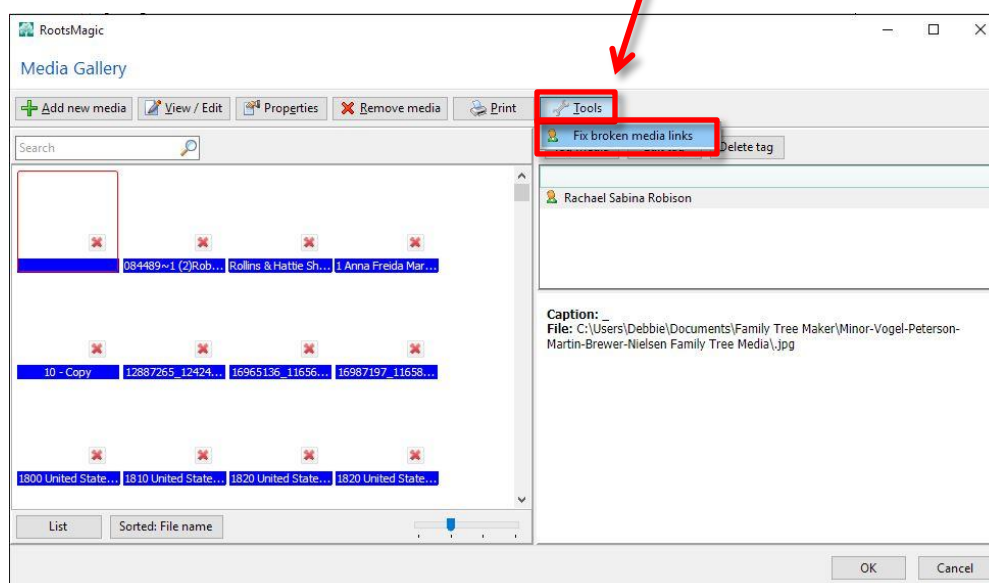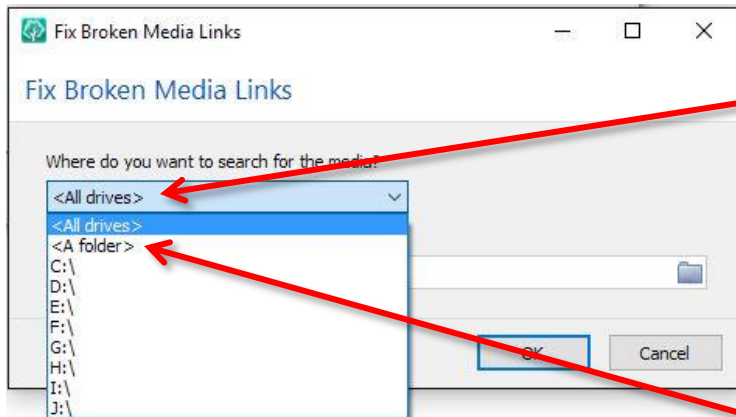
3. A new window will open. The default is to look for the media on <All drives>. If you don't know where the media is stored, or if it is stored in different areas on your computer, keep the default option of <All drives>.

4. If you wish to focus your search to a specific folder or sub-folders, change the option from <All drives> to <A folder>.
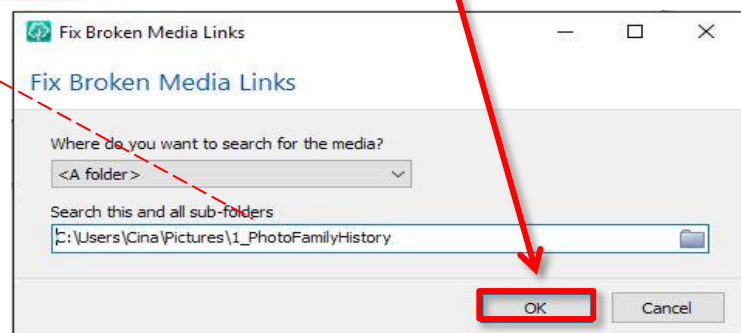
5. Another window will open so that you can maneuver to the correct folder.

6. Select/highlight the folder and click the "Select folder" button.

7. Click OK to start the search.

8. RootsMagic will look for your media. If only one version of the file is found, it will be linked to RootsMagic automatically.

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9. If more than one version of your file is found, you will be given the opportunity to choose which folder you want to link to.
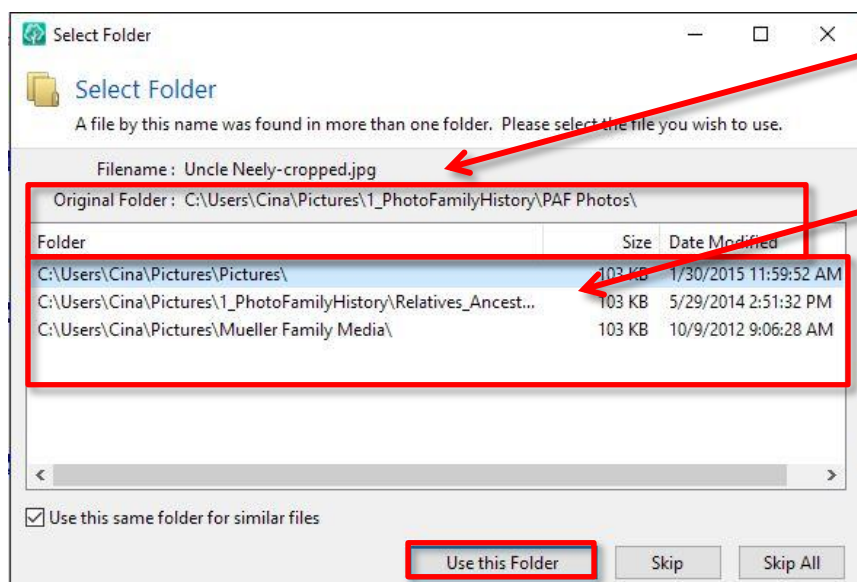
10. The name of the file appears, followed by the path that was originally used to link to the image. Below that are folders where the image is currently located. Select the folder you want to link to.

11. Click "Use this Folder".