

## Call & Post Research Manual

1. Obtain a Cleveland Public Library card at the Main library in downtown.
2. Go to <http://cpl.org/Research/ResearchDatabases.aspx>.
3. Scroll down to Call and Post and click it.
4. Note that this index covers 1934-1991.
5. Click “Advanced search” above the search box.
6. Type your search term in the window. Using “” around two or more words yields a better result when you know the exact term. But, in the case of Cory Methodist Church, you can either search Cory Methodist Church, Cory United Methodist Church, or Cory Methodist Episcopal Church, as it was variously known, so you could choose either to do each of these searches together using the OR function before each window (2,369 hits) – or try simply typing Cory Methodist without quotation marks (2,973 hits).
7. When searching through results, you will quickly find a method of eliminating many articles without even reading them. For example, you might find many titled “Display Ad” that contain little useful information, so you would begin to ignore these. Another rule of thumb is that the longer, more specific titles usually mean a better result. For example, in a search for Majestic Hotel, Display Ad 21 on 22 July 1950 (like most such listings) is only helpful because it simply tells us that one of “Benjamin’s 2 Drug Stores” was located in front of the hotel, which we might find is repeated in other display ads. A nearby item, “Receive Talladega Club Award” on 29 July 1950, seems unlikely to be very useful because it appears to be one of many rather ordinary happenings at the Majestic Hotel and, sure enough, this hit is only a picture caption with little relevant information. However, “Central-55<sup>th</sup> Brightens as Majestic Hotel Sets Up Swank New Nitery” on 5 Aug 1950 is a different story; it is a substantial article in which we learn that the intersection of Central and East 55<sup>th</sup> was a vibrant nightlife scene in the immediate post-Prohibition days. The scene faded until summer 1950, when a club called the Log Cabin brought live music back to the area. Then, most importantly in this article, the Majestic Hotel planned to open a major new venue called the Rose Room. We also learn about two men most responsible for this new club: Alonzo Wright and Teddy Blackmon, both of whom are explained in some detail but could be more fully contextualized by doing searches of their names too.
8. To view an article or item, click its title.
9. To save a PDF, click “Open in PDF Reader.”
10. Be sure to try lots of different combinations of searches. One trick is to start by limiting your results to the last ten years or so of the index because often there will be an article that provides historical overview on places or events. That can help you see where to dig in earlier and sometimes guide you to more search terms, as can any article, for that matter. Have fun *doing* history!