

Colorado

Research Outline

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This outline describes major sources of information about families from Colorado. As you read this outline, study the *United States Research Outline* (30972), which will help you understand terminology and the contents and uses of genealogical records.

RECORDS OF THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

The Family History Library has federal census and military records, and histories of Colorado towns and counties, but few other records of Colorado.

Some of the sources described in this outline list the Family History Library's book, microfilm, and microfiche numbers. These are preceded by *FHL*, the abbreviation for *Family History Library*. These numbers may be used to locate materials in the library and to order microfilm and microfiche at Family History Centers.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG

The library's records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog found at the library and at each Family History Center. To find a record, look in the Locality Search of the catalog for:

- The *place* where your ancestor lived, such as:

UNITED STATES - CENSUS RECORDS
COLORADO - LAND AND PROPERTY
COLORADO, DENVER - HISTORY
COLORADO, DENVER, DENVER - CEMETERIES

- The *record type* you want to search, such as:

UNITED STATES - ***CENSUS RECORDS***
COLORADO - ***LAND AND PROPERTY***
COLORADO, DENVER - ***HISTORY***
COLORADO, DENVER, DENVER - ***CEMETERIES***

The section headings in this outline match the names of record types used in the Family History Library Catalog.

ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

The following archives, libraries, and societies have collections or services helpful for genealogical research.

- Colorado Division of State Archives and Public Records

1313 Sherman Street
Floor 1B, Room 20
Denver, CO 80203
Telephone: 303-866-2358 or 303-866-2390
Fax: 303-866-2257

- National Archives and Records Administration—Rocky Mountain Region
(Denver)

Denver Federal Center Building 48
P.O. Box 25307
Denver, CO 80225-0307
Telephone: 303-236-0817
Fax: 303-236-9354

- Colorado Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 9218
Denver, CO 80209-0218
Telephone: 303-571-1535

- Colorado Historical Society

Colorado Heritage Center
1300 Broadway
Denver, CO 80203
Telephone: 303-866-3392
Fax: 303-866-4464

- Denver Public Library

Western History and Genealogy Department
10 West 14th Avenue Parkway
Denver, CO 80203-2165
Telephone: 303-640-6200

To learn more about the history and record-keeping systems of Colorado counties, use the 16 inventories of county archives published by the Historical Records Survey around 1940. Copies of these inventories are at the Family History Library, and most are on microfilm.

Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards

Computers with modems can be useful tools for obtaining information from selected archives and libraries. In a way, computer networks themselves serve as a library. The Internet, certain computer bulletin boards, and commercial on-line services help family history researchers:

- Locate other researchers
- Post queries
- Send and receive E-mail
- Search large databases
- Search computer libraries
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions

You can find computerized research tips and information about ancestors from Colorado in a variety of sources at local, state, national, and international levels. The list of sources is growing rapidly. Most of the information is available at no cost.

Addresses on the Internet change frequently. As of April 1997, the following sites are important gateways linking you to many more network and bulletin board sites:

- USGenWeb

<http://www.usgenweb.com/>

A cooperative effort by many volunteers to list genealogical databases, libraries, bulletin boards, and other resources available on the Internet for each county, state, and country.

- Roots-L

<http://www.rootsweb.com/>

A useful list of sites and resources. Includes a large, regularly-updated research coordination list.

For further details about using computer networks, bulletin boards, and news groups for family history research, see the *United States Research Outline* (30972), 2nd ed., "Archives and Libraries" section.

FamilySearch™

The Family History Library and some Family History Centers have computers with FamilySearch™. FamilySearch is a collection of computer files containing several million names. FamilySearch is a good place to begin your research. Some of the records come from compiled sources; some have been automated from original sources.

BIBLE RECORDS

The *Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Collection* contains some Colorado Bible records. This collection is described in the "Genealogy" section of this outline. It is partially indexed by E. Kay Kirkham, *An Index to Some of the Bibles and Family Records of the United States*, vol. 2 (Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, 1984; FHL book 973 D22kk v. 2; fiche 6089184).

BIOGRAPHY

The best collection of published biographies in Colorado is at the Colorado Historical Society. They also have a biographical vertical file and the *Bromwell Index* (FHL films 1688547-8), which is a five-volume alphabetical list of prominent people in Colorado up to 1933.

Two representative biographical encyclopedias are:

Stone, Wilbur Fiske. *History of Colorado*. 4 vols. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1918-19. (FHL book 978.8 H2sw; film 1320948 items 1-3.) Volumes 2-4 contain biographies.

Portrait and Biographical Record of the State of Colorado. . . . 2 vols. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co., 1899. (FHL book 978.8 D3p; film 1000142.)

CEMETERIES

The *Daughters of the American Revolution Collection* contains tombstone inscriptions from Colorado cemeteries. This collection is described in the “Genealogy” section of this outline.

The names, locations, and addresses of cemeteries in the state and references to published and nonpublished transcripts are found in Kay R. Merrill, *Colorado Cemetery Directory* (Denver: Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies, 1985; FHL book 978.8 V34cc; film 1597842 item 4).

Transcripts from some small cemeteries in 33 counties have been published in Lela O. McQueary, *Colorado Cemetery Inscriptions* (Englewood, Colo.: Kay R. Merrill, 1985; FHL book 978.8 V3m; fiche 6087257).

CENSUS

Federal

Many federal census records are found at the Family History Library, the National Archives, and other federal and state archives. The *United States Research Outline* provides more detailed information regarding these records.

The Family History Library has the federal censuses for the state of Colorado for 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920 and a special federal census taken in 1885. The 1890 census was destroyed.

Soundex (phonetic) indexes are available on microfilm for part of the 1880 census and all of the 1900 and 1920 censuses. The Family History Library also has a published index for the 1880 census and a Denver street index (FHL fiche 6331481) for use with the 1910 census.

Mortality schedules (lists of deaths in the year before a census) exist for the 1860 (Kansas Territory), 1870, 1870, and 1880. The schedules and indexes are at the Family History Library.

Territorial

An 1860 federal territorial census was taken in the four territories from which Colorado was created. For the northeastern part of the state, see the Nebraska 1860 census schedules designated “unorganized territory.” The central eastern section was enumerated with Arapahoe County, Kansas Territory. The southeast portion was enumerated in parts of Taos and Mora counties of New Mexico Territory. Since the half of the state included in the Utah Territory was not settled, no census was taken in that area.

The Colorado Historical Society has a card index to the 1860 census. Separate indexes for the Nebraska and New Mexico portions are included in the 1860 indexes for those territories. An index to Arapahoe County, Kansas (where most of Colorado's 1860 population lived) is found in search 7A on the AIS census index on microfiche.

An 1870 Colorado Territory census and index are also at the Family History Library. Both the 1860 and 1870 censuses include mortality schedules.

CHURCH RECORDS

Before 1900 the largest religious groups in Colorado were the Catholic, Methodist-Episcopal, Presbyterian, and Baptist.

An inventory that can help you find church records is *Guide to Vital Statistics Records in Colorado, vol. 2. Church Archives* (Denver: Colorado Historical Records Survey W.P.A., 1942; FHL book 978.8 A3h; film 897482 item 9). This book lists churches that existed about 1940.

The Family History Library has records of some Catholic and Presbyterian congregations and pre-1949 LDS ward records, but few other church records. The library also has histories of the Episcopal, Latter-day Saint, and Presbyterian groups in the state.

Many denominations have collected their records into central repositories. You can write to the following addresses to learn where their records are located:

Baptist

American Baptist Historical Society
1106 South Goodman Street

Rochester, NY 14620
Telephone: 716-473-1740

Episcopal

Diocese of Colorado
1300 Washington
Denver, CO 80203-2008
Telephone: 303-837-1173

Methodist

Rocky Mountain Conference Historical Society
Ira J. Taylor Library
Iliff School of Theology
2201 S. University Blvd.
Denver, CO 80210
Telephone: 303-744-1287
Fax: 303-777-3387 or 303-777-0164

Presbyterian

Presbyterian Historical Society
425 Lombard Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147
Telephone: 215-627-1852
Fax: 215-627-0509

Roman Catholic

Archives of the Archdiocese of Denver
200 Josephine Street
Denver, CO 80206
Telephone: 303-388-4411 ext. 224
Fax: 303-331-8071
Chancery Office
1001 No. Grand Ave.
Pueblo, CO 81003
Telephone: 719-544-9861
Fax: 719-544-5202

For a history of the Catholic church in Colorado, see Rev. Jean Baptiste Salpointe, *Soldiers of the Cross . . .*, 1898, Reprint (Albuquerque: Calvin Horn Publishers, 1967; FHL book 973 K2sj).

COURT RECORDS

Major Colorado courts that kept records of genealogical value were established as follows:

Supreme court has statewide jurisdiction over appellate matters.

Court of appeals serves as a statewide appellate court for district courts and the Denver superior, probate, and juvenile courts.

District courts have districtwide jurisdiction over civil and criminal matters.

County courts have countywide jurisdiction concurrent with district courts over misdemeanors, preliminary hearings, the issuance of some warrants, some bail matters, minor civil matters, and certain appellate functions. The county courts have exclusive jurisdiction over probates.

Denver superior court has jurisdiction over appeals from the Denver County Court and concurrent jurisdiction with district courts over minor civil matters for the city and county of Denver.

The Family History Library has only a few Colorado court records (Arapahoe County). Colorado Court records are at the Colorado Division of State Archives and Public Records or at the various county courthouses.

DIRECTORIES

Directories of heads of households have been published for major cities in Colorado. The Family History Library, for example, has Denver directories for:

- 1859 FHL fiche 6043861
- 1860-1935 FHL films 1376794—
- 1913, 1941, FHL book 978.883/D1 E4p
 etc.

The Colorado Historical Society has similar holdings, as well as directories for smaller cities.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Since the 1840s, when the first Mexican land grants were made in southeastern Colorado, there has been a Hispanic population in the state. Settlers from the older Spanish colonies of New Mexico were in the San Luis Valley as early as 1851.

Most pre-statehood settlers of Colorado began arriving at the time of the gold rush of 1858. They came from the northeastern and midwestern states, especially New York,

Illinois, Missouri, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Some came from the New Mexico Territory, and a few settlers came from the southern states, the Pacific Coast, and from other countries including England, Ireland, Germany, Sweden, Scotland, and Wales. Latter-day Saint settlements were made in the San Luis Valley in the 1870s and 1880s.

By 1910 residents not born in Colorado came primarily from Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Ohio, and Nebraska. About 16 percent of the 1910 population was from overseas, chiefly from Germany, Italy, England, Russia, Sweden, and Austria. Many of those from Russia were actually of German origin. Foreign immigration declined after 1910 except for a major immigration from Mexico in the 1920s and 1930s.

The Plains Indians of Colorado, including the Arapaho, the Cheyenne, the Kiowa, and the Comanche, had largely been removed to Indian Territory in Oklahoma by 1870. The Ute Indians living in western Colorado did not give up their lands to white settlement until after 1880, when most of them were moved to reservations in Utah.

There is no predominant port of immigration for Colorado's foreign population, although many came through New York and other east coast ports. More detailed information on immigration sources is in the

A helpful published source on immigration and ethnic groups in Colorado is Colin B. Goodykoontz, "The People of Colorado," in:

Hafen, LeRoy R. ed. *Colorado and Its People: A Narrative and Topical History of the Centennial State*. Vol. 2, pp. 77-120. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1948. (FHL book 978.8 H2h; film 1000143.)

Records of a few ethnic groups, such as Blacks, Germans, and Jews, are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under COLORADO - MINORITIES. Some records of American Indians are listed under the same heading and under COLORADO - NATIVE RACES. Other American Indian records are listed in the Subject Search of the Family History Library Catalog under the name of the tribe.

GAZETTEERS

The following guides will help you locate place names in Colorado:

Gannett, Henry. *A Gazetteer of Colorado*. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1906. (FHL book 978.8 E5g; film 962327 item 2.)

Dallas, Sandra. *Colorado Ghost Towns and Mining Camps*. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1985. (FHL book 978.8 H2d; film 1698299 item 7.)

Eichler, George R. *Colorado Place Names: Communities, Counties, Peaks, Passes. . .*. Boulder, Colo.: Johnson Pub., 1980. (FHL book 978.8 E2e.)

GENEALOGY

Most archives, historical societies, and genealogical societies have special collections and indexes of genealogical value. These must usually be searched in person. Two manuscript collections of compiled genealogies are:

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Collection. This collection consists of transcripts of Bible, cemetery, church, marriage, death, obituary, and will records. It was microfilmed in 1970 at the DAR Library in Washington, D.C., and is on 10 films at the Family History Library (beginning on FHL film 849910). The volumes are generally arranged by county, and many have individual indexes.

The Spanish-American Mission Collection. This is a collection of family group sheets giving the ancestry of members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from the southwest. It is on microfilm at the Family History Library filmed in 1973 and 1980 (FHL films 940001-6).

Publications with genealogical information about early settlers include:

Territorial Daughters of Colorado. *Pioneers of the Territory of Southern Colorado.* 4 vols. Monte Vista, Colo: C.B.I. Offset Printers, 1980. (FHL book 978.8 D2p.)

Colorado Families: A Territorial Heritage. Denver: Colorado Genealogical Society, 1981. (FHL book 978.8 D3c.)

HISTORY

The following important events in the history of Colorado affected political boundaries, record keeping, and family movements.

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1803 | The United States acquired the sections of Colorado north and east of the Arkansas River as part of the Louisiana Purchase. Beginning in 1806 government expeditions were sent to map the area, and fur trappers and traders followed in the 1820s. Western settlers in the 1840s and 1850s bypassed Colorado on their way to the Pacific Coast. |
| 1848 | The United States acquired the rest of present-day Colorado from Mexico. |
| 1851 | Hispanic families from New Mexico founded San Luis, the oldest continually occupied town in Colorado. |
| 1854 | The Colorado area was divided politically among the territories of Kansas, Nebraska, Utah, and New Mexico. |
| 1858 | Denver and other mining towns were organized by Colorado's early gold seekers. In 1858 the miners also |

- organized Arapahoe County of Kansas Territory.
- 1859 Colorado pioneers created what they called Jefferson Territory without the sanction of Congress. It was to have included all of present-day Colorado and some areas of Utah and Wyoming.
- 1861 Congress organized the Colorado Territory. The first seventeen counties were organized the same year.
- 1870 Railroad links between Denver and Cheyenne and between Denver and Kansas City connected Colorado with the east and west coasts.
- 1876 Colorado became a state.
- 1881 Western Colorado was officially opened to white settlement after most of the Ute Indians had been moved to reservations in Utah.
- 1890 Colorado's population exceeded 400,000 when the last major gold strike was made at Cripple Creek.

An especially helpful source for studying the history of Colorado is LeRoy R. Hafen, ed., *Colorado and Its People: A Narrative and Topical History of the Centennial State*, 4 vols. (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1948; FHL book 978.8 H2h; film 1000143). Volumes 3-4 contain personal and family histories.

A bibliography of local histories is found in Bohdan S. Wynar and Roberta J. Depp, eds., *Colorado Bibliography* (Littleton, Colo.: Libraries Unlimited, 1980; FHL book 978.8 A3c, pages 53-92).

LAND AND PROPERTY

Spanish and Mexican Grants

The first land grants in Colorado were given by Spain and Mexico. When the United States acquired the area in 1848, it agreed to recognize these claims. The claims were processed by the U.S. Surveyor General from 1855 to 1890. Some claims processed in the New Mexico office before 1862 relate to land that is now in Colorado.

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of the following records from the Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico State Office, Federal Building, Box 27115, Santa Fe, NM 87502-0115: Telephone: 505-438-7450

- *Miscellaneous Archives . . . , 1695 to 1842*, indexed and written in Spanish. (FHL films 1016947-48.)

- *Records of Land Titles, 1847 to 1852*. (FHL film 1016950; use Donaciano Vigil's Index, 1681 to 1846, on FHL film 1016949.)
- *Record of Private Land Claims . . . , 1855 to 1890*, indexed and written in English and Spanish. (FHL films 1016950 items 2-4 and 1016951-74.)

The following publications may help you locate early records:

Beers, Henry Putney. *Spanish and Mexican Records of the American Southwest: A Bibliographic Guide to Archive and Manuscript Sources*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1979. (FHL book 973 A3bh.)

Van Ness, John R. and Christine Van Ness. *Spanish and Mexican Land Grants in New Mexico and Colorado*. Manhattan, Kans.: AG Press, 1981. (FHL book 978 R2s.)

Federal and State Records

When the United States acquired Colorado, most of the land was unclaimed and became part of the public domain. The federal government transferred land to private ownership through land offices in a process called land entry. The first general land office in Colorado was established in 1863 near Denver. Most of the land office records are at the National Archives—Rocky Mountain Region (Denver). Land entry cases are at the National Archives. Patents and copies of tract books and township plats are at:

Bureau of Land Management
 Colorado State Office
 2850 Youngfield St.
 Lakewood, CO 80215
 Telephone: 303-239-3600
 Fax: 303-239-3933

County Records

After land was transferred to private ownership, subsequent transactions have been recorded in county offices. The Family History Library has not microfilmed deeds or other property records that are available in each county. You may obtain copies by writing to the county clerk at the county courthouse.

MAPS

The Family History Library has a small collection of maps for Colorado and early western territories, including a set of topographical maps for the state. The library also has city ward maps of Denver for the year 1874 (FHL film 1377700; fiche 6016642). A

series of maps showing changes of county boundaries between 1861 and 1913 is in *Colorado Maps* (n.p.; FHL book 978.8 E7cm).

The largest collection of maps in Colorado is in the map library of the University of Colorado at Boulder. A specialized map collection for Colorado and the southern Rocky Mountain area is in Fountain Valley School's Science Department at Colorado Springs. The Denver Public Library and the Colorado Historical Society also collect maps and atlases. The Colorado Division of State Archives and Public Records has the incorporation filings and original plats for most towns.

MILITARY RECORDS

The *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) provides more information on federal military records and search strategies.

Many military records are found at the Family History Library, the National Archives, and other federal and state archives. The *United States Research Outline* provides more information on federal records. For Colorado the following sources are also very helpful:

Civil War (1861-1865)

The Family History Library and the National Archives have an *Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers* (FHL films 821998-822000) and an index to pension applications. The actual service and pension records have not been microfilmed and are only at the National Archives.

A roster of Colorado soldiers is in William Clarke Whitford, *Colorado Volunteers in the Civil War: The New Mexico Campaign in 1862*, (Denver: S.p., State Historical and Natural History Society, 1906; FHL film 1000145 item 3).

Indian Wars (1798-1914)

The names of soldiers who served at military posts on the frontier are in *Registers of Enlistments in the United States Army* at the National Archives. The Family History Library has copies of the registers from 1798 to 1914 (beginning on FHL film 350307). The registers give the soldier's name, rank, company, regiment, company and commanders, physical description, age, occupation, and birthplace. They are arranged by year and by the first letter of the surname.

World War I (1917-1918)

World War I draft registration cards for men age 18 to 45 may list address, birth date, birthplace, race, nationality, citizenship, and next of kin. Not all registrants served in the war. For registration cards for Colorado, see:

United States. Selective Service System. *Colorado, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1509. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1987-1988. (On FHL films beginning with 1544462.)

To find an individual's draft card, it helps to know his name and residence at the time of registration. The cards are arranged alphabetically by county, within the county by draft board, and then alphabetically by surname within each draft board.

Most counties had only one board; large cities had several. A map showing the boundaries of individual draft boards is available for most large cities. Finding an ancestor's street address in a city directory will help you in using the draft board map. There is an alphabetical list of cities that are on the map. For a copy of this map see:

United States. Selective Service System. *List of World War One Draft Board Maps*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives. (FHL film 1498803.)

The Family History Library and the National Archives have two indexes of pension records: Old War Pension Index (1815-1926) and Indian Wars (1892-1926). These are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS.

Additional military records are at the Colorado Division of State Archives and Public Records, including militia muster roll books through World War I and grave registrations of veterans.

NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

Naturalization records were filed in local or federal courts until 1906 when the U.S. district courts were given jurisdiction. Some territorial and early statehood records are at the Colorado Division of Archives and Public Records. The National Archives and Records Administration—Rocky Mountain Region has declarations and petitions for the years 1877 to 1952 for the U.S. District Courts of Denver, Pueblo, Del Norte, and Montrose. The U.S. District Court in Denver has an index to naturalizations granted in these courts since 1876.

The Family History Library has microfilms of U.S. District Courts Naturalization Records for Denver (1877-1952) and Pueblo for the years (1906-1949).

The Colorado Genealogical Society has indexed abstracts of some naturalization records and published these in *The Colorado Genealogist* (see the “Periodicals” section of this outline).

For naturalization records after September 1906, contact the National Archives—Rocky Mountain Region or the local office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, or order films from the Family History Library.

NEWSPAPERS

The Western History Department of the Denver Public Library and the Colorado Historical Society have the most complete collections of Colorado newspapers. Both repositories have indexes to newspaper obituaries. The availability of newspapers is also described in Donald E. Oehlerts, *Guide to Colorado Newspapers, 1859-1963* (Denver: Bibliographical Center for Research, 1964; FHL book 978.8 B3o; film 1000145 item 4).

PERIODICALS

The major genealogical periodicals and magazines helpful for Colorado research are:

Boulder Genealogical Society Quarterly. 1969-. Published by the Boulder Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 3246, Boulder, CO 80307-3246. (FHL book 978.863/B1 B2b; fiche 6048579-97, vols. 2-20.)

The Colorado Genealogist. 1939-. Published by the Colorado Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 9218, Denver, CO 80209-0218. (FHL book 978.8 B2cg; on FHL film 1421853 items 5-14, vols. 1-10.) There is a subject index for 1939 to 1981.

Pinon Whispers. 1980-. Published by the Southeastern Colorado Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 4207, Pueblo, CO 81003-0207. (FHL book 978.8 D25p.)

PROBATE RECORDS

Probate records have been kept by the county courts except in Denver, where a separate probate court has been established. Colorado probate records include bonds, affidavits, letters, claims, appraisals, fee accounts, minutes, judgments, dockets, calendars, case files, and wills. The Family History Library does not have copies of probate records from Colorado. You may obtain copies of documents from the clerk's office in each county courthouse.

A source of information from early Denver probate records is Ella Ruland MacDougall, *Abstracts of Early Probate Records* (S.p.; FHL book 978.8 A1 No. 13; film 928039 item 10.)

VITAL RECORDS

Births and Deaths

A law was passed in 1876 requiring counties and towns to record births and deaths. In those counties where the clerks complied, the records are available at the local courthouse. Most early files are incomplete.

Statewide registration began in 1907 and was generally complied with by 1920. Some of the earlier county records and delayed registrations of births since 1941 are at the Colorado Department of Health. To obtain copies of these records, write to:

Vital Records Section
Colorado Department of Health
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO 80222-1530
Telephone: 303-756-4464

The current fees for obtaining copies of the state's records are listed in Where to *Write for Vital Records: Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Divorces* (Hyattsville, Md.: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, March 1993, FHL book 973 V24wv). Copies of this booklet are at the Family History Library and Many Family History Centers.

You can also write to the Colorado Department of Health for current information. State your relationship to the individual you want information about and your reason. Certificates are released only to members of the immediate family.

The Family History Library does not have copies of Colorado's civil vital records.

Marriages

Each county has kept marriage records since the date it was organized. A few records date from 1860. You can write to the appropriate county clerk for information.

The Colorado Department of Health has a statewide index to marriages from 1900 to 1939 and from 1975 to the present. (On 106 FHL films beginning with 1690047, years 1900-1939, 1975-1992). They will check the index and then forward the inquiry to the correct county office.

The Colorado Division of State Archives and Public Records also has copies of marriage records for 20 counties, including Denver from 1861 to 1952.

Some county marriage records have been extracted and published. For example, many early marriage records have been published in *The Colorado Genealogist* (see the “Periodicals” section of this outline). The earliest Denver and Arapahoe County marriage records have recently been published in *Marriages of Arapahoe County, Colorado, 1859-1901: Including Territory That Became Adams, Denver, and Other Counties* (Denver: Colorado Genealogical Society, 1986; FHL book 978.882, V2m, fiche 6087871).

Divorces

Divorce records are available from the clerk of the district court in the county where the decree was granted. The Colorado Department of Health has a statewide index of divorce records for the years 1900 to 1939 and 1968 to the present. The index identifies the county that granted the divorce. The department of health does not provide certified copies. You can write to the county clerk for copies of the records.

Guide to Vital Records

You can learn more about the history and availability of vital records in *Guide to Vital Statistics Records in Colorado*, vol. 1 (Denver: Historical Records Survey, 1942; FHL book 978.8 A3h; film 897482 item 10).

FOR FURTHER READING

A guide to materials about Colorado is Florence Runyan Clint, *Colorado Area Key: A Comprehensive Study of Genealogical Record Sources of Colorado, Including Maps and Brief History* (Denver: Eden Press, 1968; not at Family History Library).

Eichholz, Alice, ed. *Ancestry's Red Book: American State, County, and Town Sources*. Rev. ed. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1992. (FHL book 973 D27rb 1992; computer number 594021.) Contains bibliographies and background information on history and ethnic groups. Also contains maps and tables showing when each county was created.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

Publications Coordination
Family History Library
35 N. West Temple Street

Salt Lake City, UT 84150
USA

We appreciate the archivists, librarians, and others who have reviewed this outline and shared helpful information.

Colorado Historical Background

History

Effective family research requires some understanding of the historical events that may have affected your family and the records about them. Learning about wars, governments, laws, migrations, and religious trends may help you understand political boundaries, family movements, and settlement patterns. These events may have led to the creation of records that your family was listed in, such as land and military documents.

The following important events in the history of Colorado affected political boundaries, record keeping, and family movements.

1803	The United States acquired the sections of Colorado north and east of the Arkansas River as part of the Louisiana Purchase. Beginning in 1806 government expeditions were sent to map the area, and fur trappers and traders followed in the 1820s. Western settlers in the 1840s and 1850s bypassed Colorado on their way to the Pacific Coast.
1848	The United States acquired the rest of present day Colorado from Mexico.
1851	Hispanic families from New Mexico founded San Luis, the oldest continually occupied town in Colorado.
1858	The Colorado area was divided politically among the territories of Kansas, Nebraska, Utah, and New Mexico.
1858	Denver and other mining towns were organized by Colorado's early gold seekers. In 1858 the miners also organized Arapahoe County of Kansas Territory.
1859	Colorado pioneers created what they called Jefferson Territory without the sanction of Congress. It was to have included all of present day Colorado and some areas of Utah and Wyoming.
1861	Congress organized the Colorado Territory. The first seventeen counties were organized the same year.
1870	Railroad links between Denver and Cheyenne and between Denver and Kansas City connected Colorado with the east and west coasts.
1876	Colorado became a state.
1881	Western Colorado was officially opened to white settlement after most of the Ute Indians had been moved to reservations in Utah.
1890	Colorado's population exceeded 400,000 when the last major gold strike was made at Cripple Creek.
1898	Over 300,000 men were involved in the Spanish-American War, which was fought mainly in Cuba and the Philippines.
1917–1918	More than 26 million men from the United States ages 18 through 45 registered with the Selective Service for World War I, and over 4.7 million American men and women served during the war.

1930s	The Great Depression closed many factories and mills. Many small farms were abandoned, and many families moved to cities.
1940–1945	Over 50.6 million men ages 18 to 65 registered with the Selective Service. Over 16.3 million American men and women served in the armed forces during World War II.
1950–1953	Over 5.7 million American men and women served in the Korean War.
1950s–1960s	The building of interstate highways made it easier for people to move long distances.
1964–1972	Over 8.7 million American men and women served in the Vietnam War.

Your ancestors will become more interesting to you if you also use histories to learn about the events that were of interest to them or that they may have been involved in. For example, by using a history you might learn about the events that occurred in the year your great-grandparents were married.

Historical Sources

You may find state or local histories in the Family History Library Catalog under Colorado or the county or the town. For descriptions of records available through Family History Centers or the Family History Library, click on **Family History Library Catalog**.

The descriptions give book or film numbers, which you need to find or to order the records.

Local Histories

Some of the most valuable sources for family history research are local histories. Published histories of towns, counties, and states usually contain accounts of families. They describe the settlement of the area and the founding of churches, schools, and businesses. You can also find lists of pioneers, soldiers, and civil officials. Even if your ancestor is not listed, information on other relatives may be included that will provide important clues for locating your ancestor. A local history may also suggest other records to search.

Most county and town histories include separate sections or volumes containing biographical information. These may include information on 50 percent or more of the families in the locality.

In addition, local histories should be studied and enjoyed for the background information they can provide about your family's lifestyle and the community and environment in which your family lived.

About 5,000 county histories have been published for over 80 percent of the counties in the United States. For many counties there is more than one history. In addition, tens of thousands of histories have been written about local towns and communities. Bibliographies that list these histories are available for nearly every state.

For descriptions of bibliographies for Colorado available through Family History Centers or the Family History Library, click on **Family History Library Catalog**.

Look under BIBLIOGRAPHY or HISTORY - BIBLIOGRAPHY.

A bibliography of local histories is found in: Bohdan S. Wynar and Roberta J. Depp, eds., *Colorado Bibliography* (Littleton, Colo.: Libraries Unlimited, 1980; FHL book 978.8 A3c, pages 53-92).

Local histories are extensively collected by the Family History Library, public and university libraries, and state and local historical societies. Two useful guides are:

Filby, P. William. *A Bibliography of American County Histories*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1985. (FHL book 973 H23bi.)

Kaminkow, Marion J. *United States Local Histories in the Library of Congress*. 5 vols. Baltimore: Magna Charta Book, 1975-76. (FHL book 973 A3ka.)

State History

An especially helpful source for studying the history of Colorado is LeRoy R. Hafen, ed., *Colorado and Its People: A Narrative and Topical History of the Centennial State*, 4 vols. (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1948; FHL book 978.8 H2h; film 1000143). Volumes 3-4 contain personal and family histories.

United States History

The following are only a few of the many sources that are available at most large libraries:

Schlesinger, Jr., Arthur M. *The Almanac of American History*. Greenwich, Conn.: Bison Books, 1983. (FHL book 973 H2alm.) This provides brief historical essays and chronological descriptions of thousands of key events in United States history.

Webster's Guide to American History: A Chronological, Geographical, and Biographical Survey and Compendium. Springfield, Mass.: G&C Merriam, 1971. (FHL book 973 H2v.) This includes a history, some maps, tables, and other historical information.

Dictionary of American History, Revised ed., 8 vols. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1976. (FHL book 973 H2ad.) This includes historical sketches on various topics in U.S. history, such as wars, people, laws, and organizations.

Colorado Statewide Indexes and Collections

Guide

Introduction

In the United States, information about your ancestors is often found in town and county records. If you know which state but not the town or county your ancestor lived in, check the following statewide indexes to find the town or county. Then search records for that town or county.

The indexes and collections listed below index various sources of information, such as histories, vital records, biographies, tax lists, immigration records, etc. You may find additional information about your ancestor other than the town or county of residence. The listings may contain:

- The author and title of the source.
- The Family History Library (FHL) book, film, fiche, or compact disc number. If the words *beginning with* are before the film number, check the Family History Library Catalog for additional films.
- The name of the repository where the source can be found if the source is not available at the Family History Library.

What You Are Looking For

- Your ancestor's name in an index or collection.
 - Where the ancestor was living.
-

Steps

These 2 steps will help you find information about your ancestor in statewide indexes or collections.

Step 1. Find your ancestor's name in statewide indexes or collections.

On the list below, if your ancestor lived between the years shown on the left, he or she may be listed in the source on the right.

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 1580–1900s | <i>Ancestral File</i>
<i>International Genealogical Index</i>
<i>Family History Library Catalog - Surname Search</i>
To use these files, click here. |
| 1580–1990s | <i>The Colorado Genealogist</i> . (FHL book 978.8 B2cg index; films beginning with 1421853.) A periodical. Begins with vol. 1, no. 1, 1939. |
| 1704–1984 | Colorado State Society, Daughters of the American Revolution. comp.
<i>Colorado DAR Member and Ancestor Index</i> . (FHL book 978.8 D2c.) |

- 1750–1934 Bromwell, Henrietta. *Colorado Portrait and Biography Index*. (FHL films 1688547–548.) Alphabetical.
- 1750–1994 *The Colorado Magazine*. (FHL book 978.8 B2c index.) Begins with vol. 1, no.1, Nov. 1923
- 1750–1940s Daughters of the American Revolution. *Genealogical Collection*. (FHL films 849910–913.)
- 1780–1860 Jackson, Ronald Vern. *Kansas 1860 Mortality Schedule*. (FHL book 978.8 X2j 1860.)
- 1780–1950s McQueary, Lela O. *Colorado Cemetery Inscriptions*. (FHL book 978.8 V3m; fiche 6087257.)
- 1790–1880 Jackson, Ronald Vern. *Colorado 1880 Mortality Schedule*. (FHL book 978.8 X22j 1880.)
- 1790–1870 Jackson, Ronald Vern. *Colorado 1870 Mortality Schedule*. (FHL book 978.8 X28j 1870.)
- 1794–1979 *Colorado Families: A Territorial Heritage*. (FHL book 978.8 D3c.)
- 1800–1865 United States. Adjutant General's Office. *Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the Territory of Colorado*. (FHL films 821998–2000.)
- 1800–1920 *Federal census indexes, 1860–1880, 1900, and 1920*. See *What to Do Next*, and click on **Family History Library Catalog**. Then select CENSUS or CENSUS - INDEXES from the topics that are listed.
- 1800–1934 United States. Veterans Administration. *General Index of Pension Files, 1861–1934*. (On 544 FHL films beginning with 540757.) This is a card index to pension applications of Civil War and Spanish-American War veterans; copies of the original files may be ordered from the National Archives.
- 1800–1917 Arapahoe County Marriage Committee. *Marriages of Arapahoe County, Colorado, 1859–1901*. (FHL book 978.882 V2m; fiche 6087871.)
- 1800–1908 *Listing of Riverside Cemetery (1876–1908) Oldest Existing Cemetery in Denver, Colorado*. (FHL book 978.883/D1 V3r.)
- 1840–1920 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, comp. *Family Group records Collected and Compiled by the Spanish-American Mission*. (FHL films 940001–006.) Alphabetical.
- 1850–1939, 1975–1992 Colorado. Department of Health. *Statewide Marriage Index, 1900–1939, 1975–1992*. (FHL films 1690047–152; fiche 6334447–450.)
- 1850–1922 *Statewide Divorce Index, 1900–1922*. (FHL films 1690153.) Alphabetical. Children are mentioned in the index.
- 1873–1918 Haulsee, W. M. *Soldiers of the Great War*. (FHL book 973 M23s vols. 1–3; fiche 6051244.) Soldiers who died in World War I; vol. 1 has Colorado.
- 1873–1918 United States Selective Service System. *Colorado, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918*. (On 41 FHL films beginning with 1544462.) Men ages 18 to 45 are listed alphabetically by county or draft board.

For ideas on ways your ancestor's name might be spelled by indexers or in collections, see *Name Variations*.

Step 2. Copy and document the information.

The best method is to:

- Make a photocopy of the page(s) with your ancestor's name.
- Document where the information came from by writing the title, call number, and page number of the index or collection on the photocopy. Also write the name of the library or archive.

Where to Find It

Family History Centers and the Family History Library

You can use the Family History Library book collection only at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, but many of our books have been microfilmed. Most of our films can be requested and used at our Family History Centers. To locate the address for your nearest Family History Center, [click here](#).

For information about contacting or visiting the library or a center, see [Family History Library and Family History Centers](#).

Libraries and Archives

You may be able to find the books at public or college libraries. If these libraries do not have a copy of the book you need, they may be able to order it from another library on interlibrary loan.

To use interlibrary loan:

- Go to a public or college library.
- Ask the librarian to order a book or microfilm for you through interlibrary loan from another library. You will need the title of the item and the name of the author.
- The library staff will direct you in their procedures. Sometimes this is free; sometimes there is a small fee.

You can find addresses and phone numbers for most libraries and archives in the *American Library Directory*, published by the American Library Association. The *American Library Directory* is available at most public and college libraries.

Maps

Computer Resources

MapQuest Maps

Summary: Must know address, city, state, and zip code; more recent maps

Animap

BYU FHL – on computer

Summary: Has each state with maps. Shows county boundary changes and allows marking of cities and finds distances.

Google Maps

Summary: Has address finder, allows keyword searching, and allows street, satellite, or terrain views

Geology.com Maps

Summary: Has Relief, Elevation, Drainage, Political and Road Maps for each state.

Colorado Maps Bibliography

Andriot, Jay. *Township Atlas of the U.S. Virginia: Documents Index*, 1991.
Mic/Gen Ref – G 1201.F7 A5 1991

Summary: Shows the townships in a particular county for each state except Hawaii and Alaska. Maps start after 1930.

Evaluation of Colorado Maps: pp. 101-122. One page history of state, list of counties and counties with minor civil divisions. Maps of census county divisions.

Clint, Florence Runyan. *Colorado Area Key*. Colorado: Eden Press, 1968.
Mic/Gen Ref – F 775.C56

Summary: County outline maps for years 1861, 1866, 1876, 1883, 1889, and recent county outline maps. Colorado Detail Map. The history section includes the formation of the counties and a gazetteer of incorporated cities and towns.

Eichholz, Alice. *Ancestry's RedBook: American State, County & Town Sources*. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1992.
Mic/Gen Ref – CS 49.A55 1992. (3 copies in FHC)

Summary: The previous map was copied from page 82 of this book. On the next page is a listing of the counties, the date the county was formed and parent county, and date of first recorded deeds. The section on Colorado also includes a brief history and genealogical research information.

Kirkam, E. Kay. *A Genealogical and Historical Atlas of the United States*. Utah: Everton Publishers, Inc., 1976.
Mic/Gen Ref – G1201.E6225.K5 1976

Summary: Shows changes in boundaries in United States from Colonial days up to 1909. Civil War maps and information.

Evaluation of Colorado map: State historical information, p. 8; 1861 Map, p. 146; 1878 Map, p. 162 and 163; 1883 Map, p. 190, 1909 Map, p. 206.

Mattson, Mark T. *Macmillan Color Atlas of the States*. Toronto: Simon & Schuster Macmillan, 1996.
Mic/Gen Ref – Quarto Shelves G 1200.M4 1996.

Summary: Colorado maps and information on pages 38 - 44. Includes maps comparing Colorado to other states, cultural features, population density, agriculture, economic facts, etc. Also includes a brief state history.

Thorndale, William and William Dollarhide. *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1921*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co, 1987.

Mic/Gen Ref – G 1201.F7 T5 1987

Summary: History of Federal Censuses, records, and completeness. U.S. Maps from 1790 – 1920 showing U.S. boundary changes. Maps of each state for each census year beginning when the state was created up through 1920.

Evaluation of Colorado Maps: pp. 51-60.

Map Collection on the 2nd floor of the old section of HBLL library.

G4310 – G4314 State maps as early as 1862 up through 1989. Many of the maps show county boundaries and county seats, railroad lines, private land grants, population, etc. Some maps include information about what was happening that year.

To find more maps, search the byline for Colorado maps, atlases, and gazetteers.



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Family History Library • 35 North West Temple Street • Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400 USA

Colorado Federal Census Population Schedules, 1860 to 1920

Guide

Introduction

Federal censuses are taken every 10 years. Colorado residents are included in territorial and federal censuses from 1860 through 1880, and 1900 through 1920.

- The 1790 through 1840 censuses give the name of the head of each household. Other household members are mentioned only by age groupings of males and females.
- The 1850 census was the first federal census to give the names of all members of each household.

For more information about the U.S. Federal Censuses, see [Background](#).

What You Are Looking For

The information you find varies from record to record. These records may include:

- Names of family members.
- Ages of family members, which you can use to calculate birth or marriage years.
- The county and state where your ancestors lived.
- People living with (or gone from) the family.
- Relatives that may have lived nearby.

Steps

These 5 steps will help you use census records.

Step 1. Determine which censuses might include your ancestors.

Match the probable time your ancestor was in Colorado with the census years. This will determine which censuses you will search.

Example of a time an ancestor was in Colorado.
in Colorado from 1874 [-----] through 1918
-]-----]-]-----]-]-----]-]-----]-
1860 1870 **1880 1900 1910** 1920
Colorado census years

This person would be included in Colorado censuses from 1880 to 1910.
(The 1890 census was mostly destroyed.)

Step 2. Determine a census to start with.

Start with the last census taken during the life of your ancestor.

The censuses from **1850 to 1920** give more information and include the name, age, and birthplace of every person in each household.

The censuses from **1790 to 1840** give the name of the head of each household and the number of males and females in age groups **without** their names.

The censuses for 1930 and later are available from the U.S. Census Bureau only.

For ways the census can help you find your ancestor's parents, see Tip 1.

Step 3. Search the census.

For instructions on how to search a specific census, click on one of the following years:

1860 1870 1880 1900 1910 1920

For information about archives and libraries that have census records, see Where to Find It.

Step 4. Search another census.

Repeat steps 2 and 3 until you search all the censuses taken during the life span of your ancestor. Each census may contain additional information.

If you skip a census taken when your ancestor lived, you risk missing additional information, such as names of in-laws or other relatives who may have lived with or near the family. Those names and relationships may help you identify earlier generations.

For other information about how to search the census, see Tips.

Step 5. Analyze the information you obtain from the censuses.

To effectively use the information from the census, ask yourself these questions:

- Who was in the family?
- About when were they born?
- Where were they born? (Birthplaces are shown in censuses for 1870 to 1920.)
- Where were they living—town or township, county, and state?
- Where were their parents born? (Birthplaces are shown in censuses for 1880 to 1920.)
- Do they have neighbors with the same last name? Could they be relatives?

For more about comparing information in several censuses, see Tip 3.

Tips

Tip 1. How can the census help me find my ancestor's parents?

Searching the census taken closest to the time the ancestor married has the best possibility of finding your ancestor and spouse living close to their parents and other family members.

Tip 2. How can I understand the information better?

Sometimes knowing why the census taker asked a question can help you understand the answer. Detailed instructions given to census takers are in the book *Twenty Censuses: Population and Housing Questions 1790-1980*, updated as *200 Years of U.S. Census Taking*, both by the United States Census Bureau.

Tip 3. How can comparing information in more than one census help me?

Comparing censuses indicates:

- Changes in who was in the household, such as children leaving home or the death of grandparents or a child.
- Changes in neighbors. Remember, neighbors might be relatives or in-laws.
- Changes about each individual, such as age.
- Movement of the family within Colorado to a different county or town.
- Movement of the family out of Colorado if the family no longer appears in the census for Colorado.

You will eventually want to know every country, state, county, township, and town where your ancestor was located. You can then check information in other records for those places. A careful check of all available federal census records can help you identify those places.

The age and estimated birth date of an individual may vary greatly from census to census. Often ages are listed more accurately for young children than for adults.

Background

Description

A census is a count and a description of the population of a country, colony, territory, state, county, or city. Census records are also called census schedules or population schedules.

Early censuses are basically head counts. Later censuses give information about marriage, immigration, and literacy. United States censuses are useful because they begin early and cover a large portion of the population.

What U.S. Federal Censuses Are Available

Censuses have been taken by the United States government every 10 years since 1790. The 1920 census is the most recent federal census available to the public; the 1930 census will be released in 2002.

In 1885 the federal government also helped 5 states or territories (Colorado, Florida, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Dakota Territory) conduct special censuses. The 1890 census of Colorado was destroyed by fire.

Types of Census Schedules

The following census schedules are available for Colorado and were created in various years by the federal government:

- **Population schedules** list a large portion of the population; most are well-indexed and are available at many repositories.
- **Mortality schedules** list those who died in the 12 months prior to the day the census was taken for the 1870 and 1880 censuses.
- **Agricultural schedules** list data about farms and the names of the farmers for the 1870 and 1880 censuses.
- **Manufacturing or industrial schedules** list data about businesses and industries for the 1870 and 1880 censuses.

How Censuses Were Taken

People called enumerators were hired by the United States government to take the census. The enumerators were given forms to fill out and were assigned to gather information about everyone living in a certain area or district. Enumerators could visit houses in any order, so families who are listed together in the census may or may not have been neighbors. The accuracy of the enumerators and the readability of their handwriting varies.

After the census was taken, usually one copy was sent to the state and another to the federal government. Sometimes copies were also kept by the counties. Few of the state and county copies survived.

When Censuses Were Taken

Census takers were supposed to gather information about the people who were part of each household on the following dates:

1790 to 1820: First Monday in August
1830 to 1900: 1 June (2 June in 1890)
1910: 15 April
1920: 1 January
1930: 1 April

If your ancestor was born in the census year, your ancestor should be listed only if he or she was born before the census date.

If your ancestor died in the census year, your ancestor should be listed only if he or she died after the census date.

The census may have actually taken several months to complete and may reflect births and deaths after the census date.

Censuses from 1930 to the Present

U.S. Federal Censuses from 1930 to the present are confidential. The 1930 census will be available in 2002. You may ask the U.S. Census Bureau to send information about:

- Yourself.
- Another living person, if you are that person's "authorized representative."

- Deceased individuals, if you are "their heirs or administrators."

You may request information for only one person at a time. There is a fee for each search. To request information, you must provide the person's name, address at the time of census, and other details on Form BC-600, available from the U.S. Census Bureau.

For the address of the U.S. Census Bureau, see *Where to Find It*.

Territorial, State, and Local Censuses

Territorial, state, and local governments also took censuses. Nonfederal censuses generally contain information similar to and sometimes more than federal censuses of the same period.

The Colorado area was included in the following censuses:

- 1860: Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Utah territories.
- 1870: Colorado Territory

Colorado became a state in 1876. There are no state censuses for Colorado; however, there is a special 1885 federal census.

Territorial, state, and local censuses may be available on the Internet, at Family History Centers, at the Family History Library, and in state and local archives and libraries.

Where to Find It

Internet

Many Internet sites include census records, census indexes, or information about censuses. You may find the following sites helpful:

- Colorado GenWeb and USGenWeb have links to indexes and records and may have links to archives, libraries, and genealogical and historical societies.
- CensusLinks on the 'Net includes links to Internet sites that have United States and Canada censuses and indexes. It includes information about censuses and how to use them, a Soundex calculator, census forms you can print, an age calculator, and more.
- **Browse Categories** on this screen has links to records and indexes that are available on the Internet.
- The Archives and Libraries section of the *Colorado Research Outline* lists Internet addresses for several Colorado archives, libraries, and historical societies. These organizations may have microfilms and indexes of Colorado census records, and the Internet sites may list what records they have.

Family History Centers

Many Family History Centers keep copies of some census microfilms. Family History Centers can borrow microfilms of a U.S. Federal Census from the Family History Library. A small fee is charged to have a microfilm sent to a center.

You may request photocopies of U.S. Federal Censuses from the Family History Library. Staff at the Family History Center can show you how to request this service.

Family History Centers are located throughout the United States and other areas of the world. See *Family History Centers* for the address and phone number of the center nearest you.

Family History Library

The Family History Library has complete sets of the existing U.S. Federal Censuses from 1790 to 1920. No fee is charged for using census microfilms in person.

For a list of indexes and other census records, click on **Family History Library Catalog**.

Select from the list of titles to see descriptions of the records with the film or book call numbers. Use that information to obtain the records at a family history center or at the Family History Library.

For information about contacting or visiting the library, see *Family History Library and Family History Centers*.

National Archives

Copies of the existing federal censuses from 1790 to 1920 are available in the Microfilm Research Room in the National Archives Building and at the 13 Regional National Archives. The National Archives has a microfilm rental program for census records. Call 301-604-3699 for rental information. For information on how to order photocopies of census records from the National Archives, click here.

College and Public Libraries

Many college libraries have copies of census microfilms, particularly for their own states. Many larger public libraries have copies of the census soundex and populations schedules. Smaller public libraries may be able to obtain the records through interlibrary loan.

State Archives, Libraries, and Historical Societies

The Archives and Libraries section of the *Colorado Research Outline* lists Internet and mailing addresses for several Colorado archives, libraries, and historical societies. These organizations may have microfilms and indexes of Colorado census records, and the Internet sites may list what records they have.

U.S. Census Bureau

To request information from the 1930 census and later censuses, you must provide your relative's name, address, and other details on Form BC-600, available from:

The U.S. Census Bureau
P.O. Box 1545
Jeffersonville, IN 47131
Telephone: 812-218-3300

Genealogical Search Services

Many genealogical search services will search the census for a fee. These sources can help you find a genealogical search service:

- CyndisList lists many companies and individuals who do research and mentions publications about how to hire a professional genealogist.
- Advertisements in major genealogical journals may help you find a researcher.

U.S. State Censuses

COLORADO

1861 and 1866
Territorial Census.

State Census
Microfiche
Card 1 of 1

1885

Arapahoe
Archuleta, Bent, Boulder, Chaffee,
Clear Creek
Conejos, Costilla, Custer, Delta, Dolores,
Douglas, Eagle, Elbert

El Paso, Gilpin, Grand, Gunnison, Hinsdale,
Huerfano

Jefferson, Lake, La Platta

Larimer, Las Animas, Mesa, Montrose, Ouray

Park, Pitkin, Pueblo, Rio Grande, Routt

Saguache, San Juan, San Miguel, Summit, Weld

FILM

RG 29 M158 pt 1
RG 29 M158 pt 2

RG 29 M158 pt 3

RG 29 M158 pt 4

RG 29 M158 pt 5

RG 29 M158 pt 6

RG 29 M158 pt 7

RG 29 M158 pt 8 *missing*

Census problems? Maybe this is why we can't always find our ancestors...

1790 - Washington D.C. is with Montgomery & Prince George Co.'s in Maryland

1820 and 1830 - Wisconsin is with the Michigan Census

1836 - Iowa Territory Census includes Minnesota

1840 - Montana is with Clayton Co., Iowa

1860 - Colorado is with the Kansas Census

- Montana is found in the 1860 Nebraska Census under "unorganized territory," which also includes what is now NE Colorado

- Oklahoma is with Arkansas, which was then Indian land

- Wyoming is included with Nebraska

Prior to 1880 IA did NOT mean Iowa, but Indiana

Virginia once covered many thousands of square miles more than it does now. A reference made to a person having been born in Virginia could mean that the person really was born in part of:

Illinois from 1781-1818

Ohio from 1728-1803

Indiana from 1787-1816

Pennsylvania from 1752-1786

Missouri from 1775-1792

Tennessee from 1760-1803

North Carolina from 1728-1803

West Virginia from 1769-1863

(Taken from Walla Walla Gen. Soc. Blue Mt. Heritage, Vol. 16, No. 4)

COLORADO

Abbott, Carl. Colorado, a History of the Centennial State. Boulder, CO: University Press of Colorado, 1994, (reprint of 1982 edition). **F 776 .A22 1994**

Akers, Carl. Akers' Colorado. Fort Collins, CO: Old Army Press, 1975. **F 781 .A38 1975** also **F 781 .A38 1975** (Special Collections)

Athearn, Frederic J. An Isolated Empire: A History of Northwest Colorado. Denver: Colorado State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 1976. **F 776 .A86**

Athearn, Robert G. The Coloradans. Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 1976. **F 776 .A9 1976**

Brown, Robert L. Colorado Ghost Towns—Past and Present. Caldwell, ID: Caxton Printers, 1987. **F 776 .B866** also **Z 232 .C395 B7564x 1987** (Special Collections)

Chapman, Arthur. The Story of Colorado: Out Where the West Begins. Chicago: Rand, McNally, 1924. **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11669** also **F 776 .C46 1924** (Special Collections)

Collins, Dabney O. Land of Tall Skies: "A Pageant of the Colorado High Plains." Colorado Springs: Century One Press, 1977. **F 776 .C64**

Colorado: A Guide to the Highest State. New York: Hastings House, 1970 (reprint of 1941 edition). **F 781 .W9 1970**

Eberhart, Perry. Guide to the Colorado Ghost Towns and Mining Camps. Athens, OH: Swallow Press, 1981. **F 777 .E24**

Everett, George G. Under the Angel of Shavano. Denver: Golden Bell Press, 1963. **F 782 .A7 E8**

Fritz, Percy Stanley. Colorado: The Centennial State. New York: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1941. **F 776 .F83** also **F 776. F83 1941** (Special Collections)

Hafen, LeRoy R. Colorado: The Story of a Western Commonwealth. Denver: Peerless Pub. Co., 1933. **F 76 .H13** also **F 776 .H13 1933** (Special Collections)

Hafen, LeRoy R. Pike's Peak Goldrush Guidebooks of 1859. Glendale, CA: The Arthur Clarke Co., 1941. **F 782 .P63 H3** also **F 786 .S75 (vol. 9)** (Special Collections)

COLORADO

Hafen, LeRoy R. and Ann W. Hafen. Colorado: A Story of the State and Its People. Denver: Old West Pub. Co., 1951. **F 776 .H129** also **F 776 .H129 1951** (Special Collections)

Hall, Frank. History of the State of Colorado. Chicago: The Blakely Prin. Co., 1889. **F 776 .H17** also **F 776 .H17 1889** (Special Collections)

Harris, Bill. Colorado and the Rockies. New York: Crescent Books: Distributed by Crown Publishers, 1983. **F 77 .H37 1983** (Locked Case Quarto at I.L.L. Office)

Hill, Alice P. Tales of the Colorado Pioneers. Glorieta, NM: Rio Grande Press, 1976. **F 780 .H62 1976** also **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11671** also **F 780 .H62 1884** (Special Collections)

History of the Arkansas Valley, Colorado. Evansville, IN: Unigraphics Inc., 1971. **F 782 .A7 H6**

Lecompte, Janet. Pueblo, Hardscrabble, Greenhorn: The Upper Arkansas, 1832-1856. Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1978. **F 782 .A7 L36** also **F 782 .A7 L36** (Special Collections)

Marshall, Muriel. Where Rivers Meet: Lore from the Colorado Frontier. College Station, TX: Texas A&M Univ. Press, 1996. **F 782 .G9 M27 1996** also **F 782 .G9 M27 1996** (Special Collections)

Monnett, John H. Colorado Profiles: Men and Women Who Shaped the Centennial State. Evergreen, CO: Cordillera Press, 1987. **F 776 .M65 1987**

Smiley, Jerome. Semi-Centennial History of the State of Colorado. Chicago: Lewis Pub. Co., 1913. **F 776 .S47** also **F 776 .S47 1913** (Special Collections)

Sprague, Marshall. Colorado: A Bicentennial History. New York: Norton, 1976. **F 776 .S76**

Stone, Wilbur F. History of Colorado. Chicago: S.J. Clarke, 1918. **Fiche 776 .S88 1918** also **F 776 .S88 1918** (Special Collections)

Ubbelohde, Carl. A Colorado History. Boulder, CO: Pruett Pub. Co., 1976. **F 776 .U195 1976**

Vandenbusche, Duane. A Land Alone, Colorado's Western Slope. Boulder, CO: Pruett Pub. Co., 1981. **F 776 .V36**

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Wolle, Muriel S. Timberline Tailings: Tales of Colorado Ghost Towns and Mining Camps. Chicago: Swallow Press, 1977. **F 776 .W662x**

Worcester, Thomas K. A Portrait of Colorado. Portland, OR: Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, 1976. **F 776 .W67** (Oversize Quarto)

Adams County Adams County was created in 1901 from Arapahoe County.

Hoig, Stan. The Sand Creek Massacre. Norman, OK: Univ. of Oklahoma Press, 1961. **E 83.863 .H68** also **E 83.863 .H68 1961** (Special Collections)

Wagner, Albin. Adams County: Crossroads of the West. Brighton, CO: Board of County Commissioners, Adams County, 1977. **F 782 .A2 W34**

Alamosa County Alamosa County was created in 1913 from Costilla and Conejos counties.

Feitz, Leland. Alamosa: The San Luis Valley's Big City. Colorado Springs: Little London Press, 1976. **F 784 .A42 F45x 1976**

Simmons, Virginia M. San Luis Valley: Land of the Six-Armed Cross. Niwot, CO: Univ. Press of Colorado, 1999. **F 782 .S2 S56** also **F 782 .S2 S56 1999** (Special Collections)

Arapahoe County Arapahoe County was created in 1855 as an original county under the territory of Kansas. It became an original county in the Colorado Territory in 1861.

Brown, Robert L. An Empire of Silver. Denver: Sundance Publications, 1984. **F 776 .B76x 1984** (Special Collections)

History of the City of Denver, Arapahoe County, and Colorado. Chicago: O.L. Baskin and Co., 1880. **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11769** also **F 784 .D4 H6 1880** (Special Collections)

Vickers, William B. History of the City of Denver, Arapahoe County, and Colorado: Containing a History of the State of Colorado, from its Earliest Settlement to the Present Time, Embracing its Geological, Physical and Climatic Features, its Agricultural, Stock-growing, Railroad and Mining Interests, &c.; a Condensed Sketch of Arapahoe County; a History of the city of Denver, Giving an Account of its Early Settlement and Growth, its Improvements, its Business and Industries, Churches,

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Schools, &c.; Biographical Sketches; Portraits of Some of the Early Settlers and Prominent Men; Views of Public Buildings, Private Residences, Business Houses, &c., &c. Chicago: O.L. Baskin & Co., Historical Publishers, 1880. **F 784 .D4 H6 1880** also **Fiche Z 1236 .L5 1971 no. 10380**

Wharton, Junius E. History of the City of Denver: From Its Earliest Settlement to the Present Time. Denver: D.G. Wilhelm, 1909. **F 784 .D4 W4 1909** (Special Collections)

Archuleta County Archuleta County was created in 1885 from Conejos County.

Baca County Baca County was created in 1889 from Las Animas County.

Grant, Clarence G. Vanishing Wagon Tracks: The Autobiography of An Ex-Saddle Tramp and Homesteader in the Middle West. New York: Exposition Press, 1961. **F 782 .B2 G7**

Bent County Bent County was created in 1870 from Pueblo County. Part of Greenwood County was added in 1874.

History of Arkansas Valley, Colorado. Evansville, IN: Unigraphics Inc., 1971 (reprint of 1981 edition). **F 782 .A7 H6** also **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11802**

Lavender, David. Bent's Fort. Lincoln, NE: Univ. of Nebraska Press, 1954. **F 782 .A7 L3 1954** also **F 782 .A7 L3 1972** (Special Collections)

Boulder County Boulder County was created in 1861 as an original county.

Bailey, Delores S. God's Country USA: The Life and History of Milling, Mining, and Families Along the Switzerland Trail. Fort Collins, CO: Robinson Press, 1982. **F 782 .B6 B34 1982**

History of Clear Creek and Boulder Valleys, Colorado. Chicago: O.L. Baskin and Co., 1880. **F 782 .C6 H6 1880** also **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11900** also **F 782 .C6 H6 1880** (Special Collections)

Pettem, Silvia. Boulder: Evolution of a City. Niwot, CO: Univ. Press of Colorado, 1994. **F 784 .B66 P48 1994**

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Pettem, Silvia. Guide to Historic Western Boulder County. Evergreen, CO: Cordillera Press, 1989. **F 782 .B6 P48 1989**

Schoolland, John B. Boulder Then and Now: Picturesque Boulder and Gems of Boulder County. Boulder, CO: Pruett Press, 1967. **F 784 .B8 S3**

Chaffee County Chaffee County was created in 1879 from Lake County. It was known as Lake County (while Lake County was known as Carbonate County) for a brief period in 1879 before the name was changed to Chaffee.

Arps, Louisa Ward. Chalk Creek, Colorado. Denver: John Van Male (The Old West Series of Pamphlets), 1940. **F 782 .C5 A7 1940** (Special Collections)

History of Arkansas Valley, Colorado. Evansville, IN: Unigraphics Inc., 1971 (reprint of 1981 edition). **F 782 .A7 H6** also **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11802**

Porrata, Judy. Buena Vista: A Quick History. Colorado Springs: Little London Press, 1979. **F 784 .B84 P57x 1979**

Swift, Kim. Heart of the Rockies: A History of the Salida Area. Colorado Springs: Century One Press, 1980. **F 784 .S28 S94**

Cheyenne County Cheyenne County was created in 1889 from Bent and Elbert counties.

Clear Creek County Clear Creek County was created in 1861 as an original county.

Harrison, Louise C. Empire and the Berthoud Pass. Denver: Big Mountain Press, 1964. **F 784 .E55 H3** also **F 784 .E55 H3 1964** (Special Collections)

History of Clear Creek and Boulder Valleys, Colorado. Chicago: O.L. Baskin and Co., 1880. **F 782 .C6 H6 1880** also **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11900** also **F 782 .C6 H6 1880** (Special Collections)

Horner, John W. Silver Town. Caldwell, ID: Caxton Printers, 1950. **F 784 .G34 H6** also **Z 232 .C395 H673 1950** (Special Collections)

Howe, M. Hazel. The Story of Silver Plume. Colorado Springs: Dentan Printing Co., 1960. **F 784 .S5 H6**

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Silver Plume Mines and Scenery. Silver Plume, CO: Board of Mines and Trade, 1905.
F 784 .S4 S45x

Conejos County Conejos County was created in 1861 as an original county under the name of Guadalupe. The name was changed to Conejos in 1869.

Costilla County Costilla County was created in 1861 as an original county.

Bean, Luther E. Land of the Blue Sky People, A Story of the San Luis Valley. Monte Vista, CO: Monte Vista Journal, 1964. **F 782 .S2 B4 1964**

Simmons, Virginia M. San Luis Valley: Land of the Six-Armed Cross. Niwot, CO: Univ. Press of Colorado, 1999. **F 782 .S2 S56 1999** also **F 782 .S2 S56 1999** (Special Collections)

Spencer, Frank C. The Story of the San Luis Valley. Alamosa, CO: Alamosa Journal, 1925. **F 782 .S2 S7**

Crowley County Crowley County was created in 1911 from Bent and Otero counties.

The History of Crowley County. Dallas: Crowley County Heritage Society, 1980. **F 782 .C9 H57x**

Custer County Custer County was created in 1877 from Fremont County.

History of Arkansas Valley, Colorado. Evansville, IN: Unigraphics Inc., 1971 (reprint of 1981 edition). **F 782 .A7 H6** also **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11802**

Murray, Robert A. Las Animas, Huerfano, and Custer: Three Colorado Counties on a Cultural Frontier, A History of the Raton Basin. Denver: Colorado State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 1978. **F 782 .L3 M87 1978**

Southern Colorado: Historical and Descriptive of Fremont and Custer Counties. Canon City, CO: Binckley and Hartwell, 1879. **F 782 .F8 S7 1879** (Special Collections)

Delta County Delta County was created in 1883 from Gunnison County.

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Fairfield, Ula M. Pioneer Lawyer, A Story of the Western Slope of Colorado. Denver: W.H. Kistler Stationery Co., 1946. **F 782 .D4 K5 1946** (Special Collections)

Ferrier, Mamie. Long Horns and Short Tales: A History of the Crawford Country. Crawford, CO: Ferrier and Sibley, 1982. **F 784 .C77 F4x 1982**

Denver County Denver County was created in 1901 from Arapahoe County.

Aikman, Duncan. The Taming of the Frontier. New York: Minton, Balch and Co., 1925. **F 591 .A27 1925** also **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 10844** also **F 591 .A27 1925** (Special Collections)

Arps, Lousia Ward. Denver In Slices. Athens, OH: Swallow Press, 1983. **F 784 .D457 A77 1983**

Dorsett, Lyle W. The Queen City: A History of Denver. Boulder, CO: Pruett Pub. Co., 1986. **F 784 .D457 D67 1986**

Hafen, LeRoy R. Colorado Gold Rush: Contemporary Letters and Reports, 1858-1859. Glendale, CA: The Arthur H. Clarke Co., 1941. **F 780 .H15** also **F 786 .S75 (vol. 10)** (Special Collections)

History of the City of Denver, Arapahoe County, and Colorado. Chicago: O.L. Baskin and Co., 1880. **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11769** also **F 784 .D4 H6 1880** (Special Collections)

Leonard, Stephen J. Denver: Mining Camp to Metropolis. Niwot, CO: Univ. Press of Colorado, 1990. **F 784 .D457 L46 1990**

Smiley, Jerome C. History of Denver, With Outlines of the Earlier History of the Rocky Mountain Country. Denver: J.H. Williamson and Co., 1903. **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11674** also **F 784 .D4 S3 1903** (Special Collections Quarto)

Dolores County Dolores County was created in 1881 from Ouray County.

Douglas County Douglas County was created in 1861 as an original county.

Appleby, Susan C. Fading Past: The Story of Douglas County, Colorado. Palmer Lake, CO: Filter Press, 2001. **F 782 .D8 A66 2001** (Oversize Quarto)

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Eagle County Eagle County was created in 1861 as an original county.

Elbert County Elbert County was created in 1874 from Douglas and Greenwood counties.

Richard, Clarice E. A Tenderfoot Bride. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, Page and Co., 1927. **F 782 .E25 R53 1927**

El Paso County El Paso County was created in 1859 from old Arapahoe County in the territory of Kansas. It became an original county in the Colorado Territory in 1861.

Daniels, Bettie M.S. The Springs of Manitou. Denver: Sage Books, 1964. **F 784 .M3 D3**

Fetler, John. The Pike's Peak People: The Story of America's Most Popular Mountain. Calwell, ID: Caxton Printers, 1966. **F 782 .P63 F4 also Z 232 .C395 f47x 1966** (Special Collections)

History of Arkansas Valley, Colorado. Evansville, IN: Unigraphics Inc., 1971 (reprint of 1981 edition). **F 782 .A7 H6 also Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11802**

Howbert, Irving. The Indians of the Pike's Peak Region. Glorieta, NM: Rio Grande Press, 1970, (reprint of 1914 edition). **F 782 .E3 H8 1970**

Howbert, Irving. Memories of a Lifetime in the Pike's Peak Region. Glorieta, NM: Rio Grande Press, 1970, (reprint of 1925 edition). **F 776 .H84 1970**

Sprague, Marshall. Newport in the Rockies: The Life and Good Times of Colorado Springs. Chicago: Sage Books, 1980. **F 784 .C7 S8 1980**

Fremont County Fremont County was created in 1859 from the old Arapahoe County in the territory of Kansas. It became an original county in the Colorado Territory in 1861.

History of Arkansas Valley, Colorado. Evansville, IN: Unigraphics Inc., 1971 (reprint of 1981 edition). **F 782 .A7 H6 also Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11802**

Southern Colorado: Historical and Descriptive of Fremont and Custer Counties. Canon City, CO: Binckley and Hartwell, 1879. **F 782 .F8 S7 1879** (Special Collections)

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Turk, Gayle. Wet Mountain Valley. Colorado Springs: Little London Press, 1975. **F 784 .W47 T87x 1975**

Garfield County Garfield County was created in 1883 from Summit County.

Campbell, Rosemae W. Crystal River Valley: Jewel or Jinx? Denver: Sage Books, 1966. **F 782 .G9 C3**

Gilpin County Gilpin County was created in 1861 as an original county from Arapahoe (old) County, Kansas Territory.

Axford, William H. Gilpin County Gold. Chicago: Swallow Press, 1976. **F 784 .C4 A95x 1976**

Bancroft, Caroline. Gulch of Gold: A History of Central City, Colorado. Denver: Sage Books, 1958. **F 784 .C4 B29** also **F 784 .C4 B36 1958** (Special Collections)

Cushman, Samuel. The Gold Mines in Gilpin County, Colorado. Central City, CO: Register Steam Printing House, 1876. **978.862 C959 1876** (Special Collections)

Glimpses of Golden Gilpin; 50th Anniversary of the Discovery of Gold in Its Borders. Central City, CO: Denver Engraving, (no date). **F 782 .G4 G45x**

History of Clear Creek and Boulder Valleys, Colorado. Chicago: O.L. Baskin and Co., 1880. **F 782 .C6 H6 1880** also **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11900** also **F 782 .C6 H6 1880** (Special Collections)

Hollenback, Frank R. Central City and Black Hawk, Colorado, Then and Now. Denver: Sage Books, 1961. **F 784 .C4 H6 1961** (Special Collections)

Marshall, Thomas M. Early Records of Gilpin County, Colorado, 1859-1861. Boulder, CO: Univ. of Colorado, 1920. **TN 24 .C6 M3 1920** also **TN 24 .C6 M3 1920** (Special Collections)

Grand County Grand County was created in 1874 from Summit County.

Black, Robert C. Island in the Rockies: The History of Grand County, Colorado, to 1930. Boulder, CO: Pruett Pub. Co., 1969. **F 782 .G7 B55**

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Cairns, Mary L. Grand Lake: The Pioneers. Denver: World Press, 1946. **F 784 .G69 C3 1946** (Special Collections)

Cairns, Mary L. The Olden Days; A Companion Book to Grand Lake: The Pioneers. Denver: World Press, 1954. **F 784 .G69 C33 1954** (Special Collections)

Gunnison County Gunnison County was created in 1877 from Lake County.

Brown, Freeda. Pitkin: Past Times, 1879-1884. Gunnison, CO: Wendell's Print Shop, 1981. **F 784 .P5 B76x 1981**

Hallowell, John K. Gunnison, Colorado's Bonanza County. Denver: Colorado Museum of Applied Geology and Mineralogy, 1883. **F 782 .G9 H19 1883** (Special Collections)

Mumey, Nolie. History of Tin Cup, Colorado (Virginia City): An Alpine Mining Camp Which Refused to Become a Ghost Town. Boulder, CO: The Johnson Pub. Co., 1963. **F 784 .T5 M8 1963** (Special Collections)

Nelson, A.P. Gunnison County, Colorado: The Majestic Empire of the Western Slope. Pitkin, CO: A.P. Nelson, 1916. **F 782 .G9 G8x 1916** (Special Collections)

Wallace, Betty. Gunnison, A Short Illustrated History. Denver: Sage Books, 1964. **F 784 .G8 W3 1964**

Hinsdale County Hinsdale County was created in 1874 from Conejos County.

Houston, Grant. Lake City Reflections. Lake City, CO: Houston, 1976. **F 784 .L3 H68**

Wright, Carolyn. Tiny Hinsdale of the Silvery San Juan. Denver: Big Mountain Press, 1964. **F 782 .H5 W7 1964** (Special Collections)

Huerfano County Huerfano County was created in 1861 as an original county.

History of Arkansas Valley, Colorado. Evansville, IN: Unigraphics Inc., 1971 (reprint of 1981 edition). **F 782 .A7 H6** also **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11802**

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Murray, Robert A. Las Animas, Huerfano, and Custer: Three Colorado Counties on a Cultural Frontier, A History of the Raton Basin. Denver: Colorado State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 1978. **F 782 .L3 M87 1978**

Southern Colorado: Historical and Descriptive of Fremont and Custer Counties. Canon City, CO: Binckley and Hartwell, 1879. **F 782 .F8 S7 1879** (Special Collections)

Turk, Gayle. Wet Mountain Valley. Colorado Springs: Little London Press, 1975. **F 784 .W47 T87x 1975**

Jackson County Jackson County was created in 1909 from Larimer and Grand counties.

Bailey, Adah B. History of Jackson County, Colorado. Walden, CO: Jackson County Star, 1946. **F 782 .J3 B3 1946** (Special Collections)

Jefferson County Jefferson County was created in 1861 as an original county.

History of Clear Creek and Boulder Valleys, Colorado. Chicago: O.L. Baskin and Co., 1880. **F 782 .C6 H6 1880** also **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11900** also **F 782 .C6 H6 1880** (Special Collections)

Kiowa County Kiowa County was created in 1889 from Cheyenne and Bent counties.

Kit Carson County Kit Carson County was created in 1889 from Elbert County.

History and Stories of the Kit Carson County Cattlemen and Women. Burlington, CO: Kit Carson County Cattlemen's Association, 1963. **F 782 .K5 K59x**

Lake County Lake County was created in 1861 as an original county. When it was divided in 1879, the part which is Lake County today was known as Carbonate County for a brief period. Chaffee County was known as Lake County during this same time period before its name became Chaffee.

Blair, Edward. Leadville: Colorado's Magic City. Boulder, CO: Pruett Pub. Co., 1980. **F 784 .L4 B54**

Griswold, Don L. The Carbonate Camp Called Leadville. Denver: Univ. of Denver Press, 1951. **F 784 .L4 G7**

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Griswold, Don L. History of Leadville and Lake County, Colorado: From Mountain Solitude to Metropolis. Denver: Colorado Historical Society, 1996. **F 784 .L4 G74 1996 (vol. 1-2)**

History of Arkansas Valley, Colorado. Evansville, IN: Unigraphics Inc., 1971 (reprint of 1981 edition). **F 782 .A7 H6** also **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11802**

La Plata County La Plata County was created in 1874 from Conejos and Lake counties.

Larimer County Larimer County was created in 1861 as an original county.

Burnett, Frank J. Golden Memories of Colorado. New York: Vantage Press, 1965. **F 784 .F56 B8**

Mills, Enos A. The Story of Estes Park. Estes Park, CO: Enos A Mills, 1914. **F 782 .L2 M6 1914**

Swanson, Evadene B. Red Feather Lakes; The First Hundred Years. Fort Collins, CO: Evadene B. Swanson, 1971. **F 782 .R35 S95**

Watrous, Ansel. History of Larimer County, Colorado. Fort Collins, CO: The Courier Prin. and Pub. Co., 1911. **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11902** also **F 782 .L2 W38x 1911** (Special Collections)

Las Animas County Las Animas County was created in 1866 from Huerfano County.

Beshoar, M. All About Trinidad and Las Animas County, Colorado. Denver: Times Steam Prin. House and Blank Book Manufactory, 1882. **F 782 .L3 B5 1882** (Special Collections)

Brown, Robert L. An Empire of Silver: A History of San Juan Silver Rush. Caldwell, ID: Caxton Printers, 1968. **Z 232 .C395 B757x 1968** (Special Collections)

Marshall, John B. Golden Treasures of the San Juan. Athens, OH: Swallow Press, 1990. **F 782 .S19 M3 1990**

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Murray, Robert A. Las Animas, Huerfano, and Custer: Three Colorado Counties on a Cultural Frontier, A History of the Raton Basin. Denver: Colorado State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 1978. **F 782 .L3 M87 1978**

Taylor, Morris F. Pioneers of the Picketwire. Trinidad, CO: (no publisher), 1964. **F 782 .L3 T29**

Taylor, Morris F. A Sketch of the Early Days on the Purgatory. Trinidad, CO: Risley Prin. Co., 1959. **F 782 .L3 T3 1959** (Special Collections)

Taylor, Morris F. Trinidad, Colorado Territory. Pueblo, CO: Trinidad State Junior College, 1966. **F 784 .T83 T3**

Lincoln County Lincoln County was created in 1889 from Elbert County.

Clagett, Laura Solze. History of Lincoln County, Colorado. Dallas: Curtis Media Corporation, 1987. **F 782 .L6 C57x 1987 (vol. 1)** (Oversize Quarto)

Logan County Logan County was created in 1887 from Weld County.

Conklin, Emma B. A Brief History of Logan County, Colorado. Denver, CO: Welch-Haffner Print Co., 1928. **F 782 .L8 C7** and **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 12032**

Mesa County Mesa County was created in 1883 from Gunnison County.

Mineral County Mineral County was created in 1892 from Hinsdale County.

Feitz, Leland. A Quick History of Creede; Colorado Boom Town. Denver: Golden Bell Press, 1969. **F 784 .C795 F4**

Hallowell, John K. Gunnison, Colorado's Bonanza County. Denver: Colorado Museum of Applied Geology and Mineralogy, 1883. **F 782 .G9 H19 1883** (Special Collections)

Mumey, Nolie. Creede, History of a Colorado Silver Mining Town. Denver: Artcraft Press, 1949. **F 784 .C795 M8 1949** and **F 784 .C795 M8 1949** (Special Collections)

Silver Plume Mines and Scenery. Silver Plume, CO: Board of Mines and Trade, 1905. **F 784 .S4 S45x**

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Southern Colorado: Historical and Descriptive of Fremont and Custer Counties. Canon City, CO: Binckley and Hartwell, 1879. **F 782 .F8 S7 1879** (Special Collections)

Moffat County Moffat County was created in 1911 from Routt County.

Leckenby, Charles H. The Tread of Pioneers: Some Highlights in the Dramatic and Colorful History of Northwestern Colorado. Steamboat Springs, CO: The Pilot Press, 1944. **F 776 .L49 1945** (Special Collections)

Montezuma County Montezuma County was created in 1889 from La Plata County.

Freeman, Ira S. A History of Montezuma County, Colorado, Land of Promise and Fulfillment. Boulder, CO: Johnson Pub. Co., 1958. **F 782 .M7 F7**

Montrose County Montrose County was created in 1883 from Gunnison County.

Morgan County Morgan County was created in 1889 from Weld County.

The History of East Morgan County, Colorado. Dallas: Curtis Media Corporation, 1987. **F 782 .M9 H57 1987 (vol. 1)** (Oversize Quarto)

Otero County Otero County was created in 1889 from Bent County.

Ouray County Ouray County was created in 1877 as Uncompahgre County from Hinsdale and San Juan counties. The name was changed to Ouray in 1883.

Benham, Jack L. Silverton and Neighboring Ghost Towns. Ouray, CO: Bear Creek Pub. Co., 1981. **F 784 .S53 B46 1981**

Decker, Peter W. Old Fences, New Neighbors. Tucson, AZ: University of Arizona Press, 1998. **F 782.09 D43 1998** and **F 782.09 D43 1998** (Special Collections)

Marsh, Barton W. Uncompahgre Valley and the Gunnison Tunnel. Montrose, CO: Marsh and Torrence, 1905. **F 782 .U5 M3 1905** (Special Collections)

Park County Park County was created in 1861 as an original county.

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Simmons, Virginia M. Bayou Salado: The Story of South Park. Denver: Sage Books, 1966. **F 782 .S6 S55**

Phillips County Phillips County was created in 1889 from Logan County.

Kugler, Deb. History of Phillips County, Colorado. Dallas: Curtis Media Corporation, 1993. **F 782 .P5 K84 1993** (Oversize Quarto)

Pitkin County Pitkin County was created in 1881 from Gunnison County.

Bancroft, Caroline. Famous Aspen, Its Fabulous Past—Its Lively Present. Denver: Golden Press, 1954. **F 784 .A7 B3 1954**

Brown, Freeda. Pitkin: Past Times, 1879-1884. Gunnison, CO: Wendell's Print Shop, 1981. **F 784 .P5 B76x 1981**

O'Rear, John. The Aspen Story. New York: A.S. Barnes, 1966. **F 784 .A7 O7**

Shoemaker, Len. Pioneers of the Roaring Fork. Denver: Sage Books, 1965. **F 782 .R52 S5**

Wentworth, Frank L. Aspen on the Roaring Fork. Lakewood, CO: Francis B. Rizzari, 1950. **F 784 .A7 W4 1950** (Special Collections)

Prowers County Prowers County was created in 1889 from Bent County.

Pueblo County Pueblo County was created in 1861 as an original county.

Fitch, Michael H. Ranch Life and Other Sketches. Pueblo, CO: The Franklin Press Co., 1914. **F 777 .F54 1914** (Special Collections)

History of Arkansas Valley, Colorado. Evansville, IN: Unigraphics Inc., 1971 (reprint of 1981 edition). **F 782 .A7 H6** also **Fiche CS 43 .G46x LH 11802**

Sketch of the Pueblos and Pueblo County, Colorado. Pueblo, CO: Chieftain Steam Printing, 1883. **F 784 .P9 P94 1883** (Special Collections)

COLORADO

Taylor, Ralph C. Pueblo. Pueblo, CO: Published for Pueblo Board of Education, 1979. **F 784 .P9 T39**

Turk, Gayle. Wet Mountain Valley. Colorado Springs: Little London Press, 1975. **F 784 .W47 T87x 1975**

Whittaker, Milo L. Pathbreakers and Pioneers of the Pueblo Region. Pueblo, CO: Franklin Press Co., 1917. **F 784 .P9 W62 1917** (Special Collections)

Rio Blanco County Rio Blanco County was created in 1889 from Summit County.

Rio Grande County Rio Grande County was created in 1874 from Conejos and Costilla counties.

Routt County Routt County was created in 1887 from Grand County.

History of Hayden & West Routt County, 1876-1989. Dallas: Curtis Media Corporation, 1990. **F 784 .H38 H57 1990** (Oversize Quarto)

Leckenby, Charles H. The Tread of Pioneers: Some Highlights in the Dramatic and Colorful History of Northwestern Colorado. Steamboat Springs, CO: The Pilot Press, 1944. **F 776 .L49 1945** (Special Collections)

Stevenson, Thelma V. Historic Hahn's Peak. Fort Collins, CO: Robinson Press, 1976. **F 784 .H33 S73**

Saguache County Saguache County was created in 1866 from Costilla County.

Kempner, Helen. Bonanza!: A Pictorial History of Colorado's Kerber Creek Country. Colorado Springs: Little London Press, 1978. **F 784 .B65 K45x 1978**

San Juan County San Juan County was created in 1876 from La Plata County.

Benham, Jack L. Silverton and Neighboring Ghost Towns. Ouray, CO: Bear Creek Pub. Co., 1981. **F 784 .S53 B46 1981**

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Darley, George M. Pioneering in the San Juan: Personal Reminiscences of Work Done in Southwestern Colorado during the "Great San Juan Excitement". Chicago: Fleming H. Revell, 1899. **F 782 .S18 D2 1899** (Special Collections)

Griffiths, Thomas M. San Juan County. Boulder, CO: Pruett Pub. Co., 1984. **F 782 .S19 G74 1984** also **F 782 .S19 G74 1984** (Special Collections)

MacDonald, Eleanor D. The San Juan Basin: My Kingdom Was a County. Denver: Green Mountain Press, 1970. **F 802 .S18 M3** also **F 802 .S18 M3** (Special Collections)

Pioneers of San Juan County. Colorado Springs: The Out West Printing and Stationery Co., 1942. **F 782 .S19 D35 1942** (Special Collections)

Rohrabacher, R. Copeland. The Great San Juan of Colorado and New Mexico. Durango, CO: The Durango Democrat, 1901. **F 782 .S19 R65x 1901** (Special Collections Quarto)

San Miguel County San Miguel County was created in 1883 from Ouray County.

Fetter, Richard L. Telluride: From Pick to Powder. Caldwell, ID: Caxton Printers, 1979. **F 784 .T44 F47 1979** also **Z 232 .C395 F48x 1979** (Special Collections)

Weber, Rose. A Quick History of Telluride. Colorado Springs: Little London Press, 1974. **F 784 .T44 R67 1974**

Sedgwick County Sedgwick County was created in 1889 from Logan County.

Summit County Summit County was created in 1861 as an original county.

T**eller County** Teller County was created in 1899 from El Paso County.

Lee, Mabel B. Back in Cripple Creek. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1968. **F 784 .C8 L39**

Lee, Mabel B. Cripple Creek Days. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1958. **F 784 .C8 L4**

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Other Sources to Check for General County/Local Histories

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Other Colorado Resources

Colorado State Archives Genealogy Division

<http://www.colorado.gov/dpa/doit/archives/geneal.htm>

Denver Public Library Western History and Genealogy

<http://history.denverlibrary.org/>

Mesa County Public Library

<http://www.mcpld.org/>

Cyndi's List Colorado Links

<http://www.cyndislist.com/co.htm>

American Indian Resources

<http://www.accessgenealogy.com/native/colorado/index.htm>

Other Information Including Location of Denver Area Family History Centers

<http://home.att.net/~wee-monster/colorado.html>