

# Pennsylvania

## Research Outline

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# Pennsylvania

This outline describes major sources of information about families from Pennsylvania. Before reading 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 many of the records described in this outline. The major holdings include genealogies, histories, cemetery, census, church, immigration, land, military, naturalization, probate, tax, and vital records.

Some of the sources described in this outline list the Family History Library's book, microfilm, microfiche, and computer 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.

The computer number can be used if you have access to the Family History Library Catalog on computer. The "Computer Number Search" is the fastest way to find a source in the catalog.

## 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 Family History Library Catalog Locality Search for:

- The place where your ancestor lived, such as:

**UNITED STATES - CENSUS**  
**PENNSYLVANIA - GENEALOGY**  
**PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA -**  
**PROBATE RECORDS**  
**PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA,**  
**PHILADELPHIA - CHURCH RECORDS**

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

**UNITED STATES - CENSUS**  
**PENNSYLVANIA - GENEALOGY**

**PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA -**  
**PROBATE RECORDS**  
**PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA,**  
**PHILADELPHIA - CHURCH RECORDS**

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 major collections or services helpful to genealogical researchers.

- Pennsylvania State Archives  
 350 North St.  
 Harrisburg, PA 17120-0090  
 Telephone: 717-783-3281  
 Internet: [www.phmc.state.pa.us](http://www.phmc.state.pa.us)

The Family History Library has these important guides to collections at the State Archives:

Suran, Frank M. *Guide to the Record Groups in the Pennsylvania State Archives*, Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1980. (FHL book 974.8 A1 no. 393; computer number 1836.)

Baumann, Roland M., and Diane S. Wallace. *Guide to the Microfilm Collections in the Pennsylvania State Archives*, Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1980. (FHL book 974.8 A3ba; computer number 342308.)

Dructor, Robert M. *A Guide to Genealogical Sources at the Pennsylvania State Archives*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1998. (FHL book 974.8 D23p 1998.)

Fortna, Nancy L. P., and Frank M. Suran. *Guide to County and Municipal Records on Microfilm in the Pennsylvania State Archives*. Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1982. (FHL book 974.8 A1 no. 613; computer number 218361.)

Whipkey, Harry E. *Guide to the Manuscript Groups in the Pennsylvania State Archives*. Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1976. (FHL book 974.8 A5w; film 1,036,704 item 13; computer number 251346.)

*Guide to the Microfilm of the Records of Pennsylvania's Revolutionary Governments, 1775-1790: (record group 27) in the Pennsylvania State Archives*. Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1979. (FHL book 974.8 N23g; computer number 342322.)

For an index to this guide, see:

Baumann, Roland M. and Diane Smith Wallace. *Index to the Guide to the Microfilm of the Records of Pennsylvania's Revolutionary Governments, 1775-1790, in the Pennsylvania State Archives* (Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1980; FHL book 974.8 N23g index; computer number 608203).

- National Archives—Philadelphia Branch  
14700 Townsend Rd.  
Philadelphia, PA 19154-1096  
Telephone: 215-305-2000  
Fax: 215-305-2038  
Internet: <http://www.archives.gov/midatlantic/>
- Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania  
215 S, Broad St., 7<sup>th</sup> floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19107-5325  
Telephone: 215-545-0391  
Fax: 215-545-0936  
Internet: <http://www.genpa.org/>

See the “Genealogy” section of this outline for a discussion of the resources of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania.

- Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society  
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh  
4400 Forbes Ave.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
Telephone: 412-687-6811 or 412- 486-9512  
Internet: [www.wpgs.org](http://www.wpgs.org)
- Historical Society of Pennsylvania  
1300 Locust Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107-5699  
Telephone: 215-732-6201  
Fax: 215-732-2680  
Internet: [www.hsp.org](http://www.hsp.org)

An important resource for this society is *Guide to the Manuscript Collections of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania*, 3rd ed. (Philadelphia, Pa.: The Society, 1991; FHL book 974.811 J53h; computer number 619239).

- Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania  
1212 Smallman Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
Telephone: 412-454-6364  
Fax: 412-454-6028
- State Library of Pennsylvania  
333 Market St.  
Harrisburg, PA 17126-1745  
Telephone: 717-787-4440  
Fax: 717-787-8129  
Internet: [www.statelibrary.state.pa.us](http://www.statelibrary.state.pa.us)

A helpful source is *A Guide to the Genealogy/Local History Section of the State Library of Pennsylvania*, 3rd rev. ed. (Harrisburg, Pa.: The Division, 1987; FHL book 974.8 A3d; film (1985 rev. ed.) 1,320,564 item 6; computer number 431560). See also Janice B. Newman, “Genealogical Research at the State Library of Pennsylvania” *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine* 35 (1988): 199-212. See the “Periodicals” section of this outline.

- Philadelphia City Archives  
3101 Market St., Suite #150  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
Telephone: 215-685-9400  
Fax: 215-686-2283  
<http://www.phila.gov/phils/Docs/Inventor/genealogy.htm>

A helpful guide is John C. Daly, *Descriptive Inventory of the Archives of the City and County of Philadelphia* (Philadelphia, Pa.: City of Philadelphia, Department of Records, 1970; Supplement, 1980; FHL book 974.811 A3d; film 1,036,003 item 4; computer number 50254).

- Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh  
4400 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
Telephone: 412-622-3114  
Fax: 412-621-1267  
Internet: [www.clpgh.org](http://www.clpgh.org)

To learn more about the history and record-keeping systems of Pennsylvania counties, use the county archive inventories produced by the Historical Records Survey around 1940. The Family History Library has copies of 17 published inventories and 40 unpublished inventories. See:

*Inventory of the County Archives of Pennsylvania: Records of the Works Project Administration, Pennsylvania Historical Writer's Project. Historical Records Survey. (On 5 FHL films beginning with 1,014,724; computer number 192833.) These records contain material on many counties that did not publish an inventory.*

A more current list is:

*County Records Survey, 1985-1986 [of Pennsylvania] ([Harrisburg, Penn.] : Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission. Division of Archives and Manuscripts, 1986; on 7 FHL fiche 6,333,952; computer number 479140). Philadelphia County is not included, but Pittsburgh city is.*

A very helpful guide is Sylvester K. Stevens and Donald H. Kent, eds., *County Government and Archives in Pennsylvania* (Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1947; FHL book 974.8 N2s; film 1,320,887 item 10; computer number 164954). This provides a description of the records kept on a county basis, what information they contain, when most of them began, and important history regarding their development.

Also helpful though dated is Irwin Richman, *Historical Manuscript Depositories in Pennsylvania* (Harrisburg, Pa.: The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1965; FHL book 974.8 H23r; computer number 45183). It provides a detailed description of the manuscripts in most libraries and archives in Pennsylvania at that time.

A useful directory of eastern Pennsylvania libraries is *Directory of Libraries and Information Sources in the Philadelphia Area* (Philadelphia, Pa.: Special Libraries Association, Philadelphia Chapter, 1977; FHL book 974.811 J54s; film 1,036,557 item 9; computer number 174981).

### Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards

Computers with modems are important 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 Pennsylvania 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 are subject to frequent changes.* 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.  
<http://www.usgenweb.org/>
- Roots-L  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/roots-l>  
A useful list of sites and resources. Includes a large, regularly-updated research coordination list.

To get started with computer network research regarding Pennsylvania, contact the following:

- Ohio River Valley Families  
Contains 13,035 related family members going back to the 15th century.
- Sullivan-Rutland Genealogy Project  
Contains 60,000 ancestors and descendants of the early 19th century pioneers of Sullivan and Rutland townships in Tioga County, PA. Includes all cemetery and census information in the areas and some diaries and letters 1850 to present.

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.

An increasing number of family history centers have access to the Internet. These services are also available at many public libraries, college libraries, and private locations.

## BIBLE RECORDS

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Some collections of Bible records at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, and the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Library are also on microfilm at the Family History Library.

Many Bible records are also in the collections of:

- *Family Records Arranged Alphabetically*
- Family Records "F.C. Collection"
- *DAR Collection*.

These are described in the "Genealogy" section of this outline. The DAR Collection is partially indexed by E. Kay Kirkham, *An Index to Some of the Bibles and Family Records of the United States*, vol. II (Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, 1984; FHL book Ref 973 D22kk v.2; computer number 298346). Many others are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under PENNSYLVANIA - BIBLE RECORDS.

## BIOGRAPHY

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The best collections of published biographies are at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, and the State Library of Pennsylvania. The Family History Library also has a major collection of published and manuscript biographical material. Other helpful sources include:

***Index to Pennsylvania County Histories.*** This is a 75,000-card index at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh to people of western Pennsylvania. The staff will search for two or three specific names, and there is a fee if photocopies are requested.

***Pennsylvania Encyclopedia Biography Field Notes for American Guide Series.*** Before World War II, the Federal Writer's Project collected typed biographical sketches abstracted from local histories and various biographical encyclopedias. These are at the Bureau of Archives and History and at the Family History Library on 17 FHL films beginning with 1,015,709; computer number 190633.

Some representative biographical sources are:

Jordan, John W., et al. *Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania Biography*. 32 vols. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co, 1914-67. (FHL

book 974.8 D3e vols. 1-6, 15, 25-26; on 4 FHL films beginning with 1,697,289 item 9; on 35 FHL fiche beginning with 6,048,701; computer number 252394.) These biographies may contain much genealogical information.

An index to these biographies is:

Godcharles, Frederic A. and Walter D. Stock, *Index to the Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania Biography, volumes I-XXXII*, Two volumes in one (Baltimore, Md.: Clearfield Company, Inc., 1996; FHL book 974.8 D3e index; computer number 88386). Part one is a reprint of the index to volumes I-XX originally published in New York in 1932. It does not index every name. Part two is an index to most names in volumes XXI-XXXII published by Walter D. Stock in 1996.

Robson, Charles, ed. *The Biographical Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania of the Nineteenth Century*. Philadelphia, Pa.: Galaxy, 1874. (FHL book 974.8 D3be; film 1,000,537 item 4; computer number 251787.)

*Pennsylvania Biographical Dictionary: People of All Times and Places Who Have been Important to the History and Life of the State*. Wilmington, Delaware: American Historical Publications, 1989. (FHL book 974.8 D3p; computer number 512936.)

## CEMETERIES

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The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, State Library of Pennsylvania and the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania have large collections of cemetery and burial records. Copies of many of their records are also at the Family History Library.

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) collection contains tombstone inscriptions from many Pennsylvania cemeteries. This collection is described in the "Genealogy" section of this outline. Another important collection is *Cemetery Records of Pennsylvania*, 9 vols. (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society, 1946-1968; FHL book 974.8 V3c; on 3 FHL films beginning with 823,929; computer number 173198).

A county-by-county list of cemetery record transcripts available at the Family History Library is found under Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Family History Library (Salt Lake City, Utah), *Index to United States Cemeteries* (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1988; FHL films 1,206,468-94; computer number 475648). Films



1,206,487-88 include Pennsylvania among other states.

The Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog lists more of these records under:

PENNSYLVANIA - CEMETERIES  
PENNSYLVANIA, [COUNTY] - CEMETERIES  
PENNSYLVANIA, [COUNTY], [TOWN OR  
TOWNSHIP] - CEMETERIES

## CENSUS

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### Federal Censuses

**Population Schedules.** 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* (30972) provides more detailed information about these records.

The Family History Library has the U.S. federal censuses of Pennsylvania from 1790 to 1930. There were two enumerations for Philadelphia in 1870. The 1890 census was destroyed, but this is available:

United States. Census Office. 11th Census, 1890. *Schedules Enumerating Union Veterans and Widows of Union Veterans of the Civil War.* (FHL films 338,160-277; Pennsylvania is on films 338,237-50; computer number 59376.)

*Statewide indexes* are available for the 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840, and 1850 censuses in book and microfiche format. The 1860 and 1870 indexes are available in book and compact disc formats. The 1860 book indexes are divided into five sets: East, Central, West, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh (Butler and Allegheny counties). The 1870 indexes are divided into Pennsylvania East, Central, West, and Philadelphia. Soundex (phonetic) indexes are available for part of the 1880 census and all of the 1900, 1910, and 1920 censuses. Philadelphia County is indexed separately in 1910. An alphabetical transcript of Pittsburgh and Allegheny City is on microfilm for the 1850, 1860, and 1870 censuses (listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under PENNSYLVANIA, ALLEGHENY, PITTSBURGH - CENSUS).

*County-wide indexes* to federal censuses sometimes help locate names overlooked in statewide indexes. A few county-wide indexes are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under PENNSYLVANIA, [COUNTY] - CENSUS.

*When indexes are not available or omit a name* you can still look for the name in the census. In large

cities it helps to first learn the person's address by searching the city directory for the same year (or the year before and after) as the census (see the "Directories" section of this outline). Then look for that address on the original census schedules. If the address is not on the census, as is the case in the earlier censuses, look for the address on a ward map to identify the ward and search every name on the census for that ward.

These reference tools help determine which census schedule microfilm and enumeration district to search for specific addresses:

Kirkham, E. Kay. *A Handy Guide to Record-Searching in the Larger Cities of the United States.* Logan, Utah: Everton, 1974. (FHL book 973 D27kc; fiche 6,020,059-60; computer number 55656.) Includes ward maps and street indexes for: Harrisburg 1878; Philadelphia 1850-1855, 1860, and 1878; Scranton 1878; and Williamsport 1878.

### *Census Descriptions of Geographic Subdivisions and Enumerations Districts.*

- 1880 missing Pennsylvania descriptions
- 1900 FHL film 1,303,026; computer number 117685
- 1910 FHL film 1,374,010; computer number 176643
- 1920 FHL film 1,842,717; computer number 687949
- 1930 FHL films 2,261,298-9

United States. Bureau of the Census. *Cross Index to Selected City Streets and Enumeration Districts, 1910 Census.* Washington, D.C.: National Archives, [1984]. (51 FHL fiche 6,331,481; computer number 258163.) Lists street addresses of Erie (after Elizabeth, New Jersey) on fiche 19, Philadelphia on fiche 38-42, and Reading on fiche 43 (after Phoenix, Arizona) with corresponding census enumeration districts.

**Mortality Schedules.** Mortality schedules (lists of persons who died in the twelve months prior to the census) were taken with the 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 censuses. They are on microfilm at the Family History Library and the National Archives. The originals are at the State Library of Pennsylvania. The 1850 and 1860 schedules have also been published. The 1850, 1860, and 1870 mortality schedules are indexed.

**Master Indexes.** Some of the indexes mentioned above are combined into composite master indexes of several census years, states, and census types:

*FamilyFinder™ Index and Viewer: Version 3.0* [Novato, Calif.]: Brøderbund Software, 1995. (FHL compact disc no. 9 1995 index; computer number 775509.) Not available at Family History Centers. Single, composite index to the Pennsylvania censuses (1790 to 1860), and part of the 1870 federal censuses along with the 1850, 1860, and 1870 mortality schedules.

The FamilyFinder Index is also available on the *Family Tree Maker™* internet web site. You can search the FamilyFinder Index for free. It displays the census year and state for each name matching the search. Once you know the year and state, you can use the original index on compact disc, microfiche, or book to obtain enough data to easily find the name in the original census schedules. The FamilyFinder Index includes the following Jackson indexes:

Jackson, Ronald Vern. *AIS Microfiche Indexes of U.S. Census and Other Records*. Bountiful, Utah: Accelerated Indexing Systems International, 1984. (no FHL fiche number but available at many family history centers). Pennsylvania census indexes for 1790, 1800, and 1810 are combined together on Search 1. A composite mortality schedule index for 1850, 1860, and 1870 is on Search 8. Separate Pennsylvania 1820, 1830, 1840, and 1850 indexes are on other searches.

**Agriculture Schedules.** An important source for potentially valuable historical information on farmers is United States. Census Office. *Nonpopulation Census Schedules for Pennsylvania; Agricultural Schedules, 1850-1880*. (FHL films 1,602,240-301; computer number 467543.) These records list the name of the farmer and includes details on farm implements, livestock, and crops.

**Manufacturers Schedules.** Also potentially helpful is United States. Census Office. *Nonpopulation Census Schedules for Pennsylvania; Manufacturers Schedules 1850-1880*. (On 21 FHL films beginning with 1,578,849; computer number 467557.) They contain the names of owners and details about their business or firm. If an individual was found in the population census with an occupation involving manufacturing such as a blacksmith, shoe maker, barrel maker, etc. details about his firm may be found in this census.

**Products of Industry in Pennsylvania.** The Library has United States. Census Office. 8th census, 1860. *Schedule 5: Products of Industry in Pennsylvania, 1860*. (FHL films 899,751-52; computer number 324532.) It gives the name of the corporation, company or individual producing articles to the

annual value of \$500; name of business, manufacture, or product; capital invested in real and personal estate in the business; raw material used; kind of motive power, machinery; average number of hands employed; wages; and annual product.

**Social Statistics.** The library also has United States, Census Office, *Nonpopulation Census Schedules for Pennsylvania; Social Statistics, 1850-1880* (FHL films 1,602,302-24; computer number 467546). The censuses for 1850-1870 contain no names, only numbers; the 1880 census contains names of idiots, deaf-mutes, blind, homeless children, prisoners, paupers and indigents.

## Colonial and State

There are no colonial censuses for Pennsylvania. See the “Taxation” section of this outline for census-like lists of early residents.

Septennial censuses (actually tax lists) were taken every seven years, beginning in 1779, and continuing until 1863. Remaining records are at the State Archives. *A Guide to Genealogical Sources at the Pennsylvania State Archives*, 1980, (see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline) pp. 99-100 has a list of the available censuses and the information they contain. See the “Minorities” section of this outline for more information about these censuses.

## CHURCH RECORDS

Pennsylvania was founded as a place of refuge and religious freedom for many diverse groups from Great Britain and Europe. Important churches in colonial Pennsylvania were the Society of Friends (Quaker), German Lutheran, German Reformed, Presbyterian, Episcopal, Baptist, Catholics, and the German Pietist groups—including the Brethren (Dunkard), Mennonites, and Moravians. Before 1900 the major religious groups in Pennsylvania were the Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Reformed, Episcopal, and Roman Catholic churches.

A detailed Historical Records Survey inventory of church records available at the State Library of Pennsylvania is *Inventory of Church Archives in Pennsylvania*, Historical Records Survey (on 72 FHL films beginning with 1014729; computer number 184578). It lists many Pennsylvania churches existing in the 1930s. It is arranged by county and can help you identify the church your ancestors attended.

The Family History Library has extensive collections of church records for the Lutheran, Presbyterian, Reformed (United Church of Christ), and Society of Friends denominations. Many transcripts of local church records have been published.

The Family History Library also has histories of the Church of the Brethren, the Society of Friends, Baptist, Schwenkfelder, Evangelical Lutheran, Reformed, Presbyterian, Moravian, and Catholic churches in Pennsylvania.

Two of the largest groups were the German Lutheran and Reformed churches. For excellent information on the various congregations, their histories, and records, see Charles H. Glatfelter, *Pastors and Peoples*, 2 vols. (Breingsville, Pa.: Pennsylvania German Society, 1980 and 1981 as vols. 13 and 15 of The Publications of the Pennsylvania German Society; FHL books 974.8 B4pgp vol. 13, 15; computer number 60901).

Many denominations have deposited their records in central repositories. You can write to the following addresses for more information.

### **Baptist**

The Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary  
6 Lancaster Ave.  
Wynnewood PA 19096  
Telephone: 610-896-5000  
Fax: 610-649-3834  
Internet: <http://www.palmerseminary.edu/>

### **Episcopal**

Diocese of Pennsylvania  
The History Committee  
240 S. 4th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
Telephone: 215-627-6434  
Fax: 215-627-7550  
Internet: [www.diopa.org/diopa](http://www.diopa.org/diopa)

They have records for churches that are closed for Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties only. Churches not closed must be contacted for their records. The appropriate diocese holds the records of the other counties.

### **Lutheran**

Abdel Ross Wentz Library  
Lutheran Theological Seminary  
66 Seminary Ridge  
Gettysburg, PA 17325-1795  
Telephone: 717-334-6286

Their records are not available to the general public. The Family History Library has filmed many of their church records.

Northeast Regional Archives of Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America  
Lutheran Archives Center at Philadelphia  
Krauth Memorial Library  
7301 Germantown Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19119-1794  
Telephone: 215-248-6383  
Fax: 215-248-6327  
Internet: [www.ltsp.edu](http://www.ltsp.edu)

They have the records for the local congregations that have disbanded in the Eastern third of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New England, and upstate New York. Those congregations still active will have their records or will know where their older records are located.

### **For Western Pennsylvania**

Tri-Synod Archives, Thiel College  
175 College Avenue  
Greenville, PA 16121  
Telephone: 724-589-2131

A helpful source is Frederick S. Weiser, *Pennsylvania Lutheran Church Records*, 4 vols. (FHL book 974.8 K2L; films 824,350-52; computer number 173549). This includes records from Adams, Columbia, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton, Lebanon, Northumberland, Snyder, and York counties.

### **Presbyterian**

Presbyterian Historical Society  
425 Lombard Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19147  
Telephone: 215-627-1852  
Fax: 215-627-0509  
Internet: <http://www.history.pcusa.org/>

The Society and the Family History Library have:

*Miscellaneous Biographical Collection*. (On 69 FHL films beginning with 506,383; computer number 325991.) This is a very large collection of biographies, national in scope.

*Inventory of the Church Archives of Pennsylvania Presbyterian Churches*. Works Progress Administration, compiled from 1936-1940. (On 24 FHL films beginning with 899,326; computer number 326178.)



## Reformed

Archives of the Evangelical and Reformed Church  
Philip Schaff Library  
Evangelical and Reformed Historical Library  
555 W. James Street  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
Telephone: 717-290-8711  
Fax: 717-393-4254  
Internet: [www.erhs.info](http://www.erhs.info)

A guide to the records in this library is Florence M. Bricker, comp. and ed., *Church and Pastoral Records in the Archives of the United Church of Christ and the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society, Lancaster, Pa.* (Lancaster, Pa.: The Society, 1982; FHL book 974.815/LI K23e; computer number 311782).

## Roman Catholic

Archives of the American Catholic Historical  
Society of Philadelphia  
St. Charles Borromeo Seminary  
100 E. Wynnewood Road  
Wynnewood, PA 19096  
Telephone: 610-667-2125  
Fax: 610-667-2730  
Internet: <http://www.scs.edu/>

For a listing of many vital records, see:

Albert H. Ledoux. *Catholic Vital Records of Central Pennsylvania*, 4 vols. (Altoona, Pa.: A. H. Ledoux, 1993-1996; FHL book 974.8 K2le; computer number 703505).

## Society of Friends (Quakers)

*For Hicksite records:*  
Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College  
Swarthmore College  
500 College Ave.  
Swarthmore, PA 19081  
Telephone: 610-328-8496  
Fax: 610-690-5728  
Internet: <http://www.swarthmore.edu/fhl.xml>

*For Orthodox records:*  
Quaker Collection  
Haverford College  
James P. Magill Library  
Haverford, PA 19041-1392  
Telephone: 610-896-1175  
Fax: 610-896-1102  
Internet: [www.haverford.edu/library/special](http://www.haverford.edu/library/special)

A card index to Quaker records is William Wade Hinshaw. *The William Wade Hinshaw Index to Quaker Meeting Records in the Friends Library in Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania.* (On 73 FHL films beginning with 2,146; computer number 98325.)

For help in finding Quaker records, see:

*Inventory of Church Archives, Society of Friends in Pennsylvania.* Philadelphia, Pa.: Historical Records Survey, 1941. (FHL book 974.8 A3i; films 982,060 item 1, 844541 item 2; computer number 251344.)

Hinshaw, William Wade. *Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy*, 6 Vols. Ann Arbor, Mich.: Edwards Brothers, 1936-1950. (Vols. 2 and 4 list Pennsylvania records; FHL book 973 D2he; vol. 2 is on films 432,600-1, vol. 4 is on films 432,603-4 and fiche 6,051,377; computer number 246279.)

See also *The William Wade Hinshaw Index to Pennsylvania Quaker Meeting Records*. 8 vols. (Kokomo, IN.: Selby Publishing & Printing, 1990; FHL book 974.8 K2w; computer number 245265).

An important resource for Eastern Pennsylvania is Jack Eckert, *Guide to the Records of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting* (Philadelphia, Pa.: Haverford College, Records Committee of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, Swarthmore College, 1989; FHL book 974.8 K23e; computer number 601026). It also contains a helpful bibliography, glossary, and record's location for the other yearly meetings throughout the United States and Canada. The yearly meeting includes the monthly and quarterly meeting records, etc., under its jurisdiction.

Many sources are also listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under PENNSYLVANIA - CHURCH HISTORY.

## COURT RECORDS

The development of the Pennsylvania system of courts was complicated. A comprehensive history is Frank M. Eastman, *Courts and Lawyers of Pennsylvania: A History 1623-1923*. 3 vols. (New York: The American Historical Society 1922; FHL book 974.8 P2e; fiche 6,089,143-45; computer number 172534). See also Howard M. Jenkins, ed., *Pennsylvania Colonial and Federal: A History 1608-1903, "The Judicial System"* 3:98-118 (Philadelphia, Pa., Pennsylvania Historical Publishing Association, 1903; FHL book 974.8 H2j; film 824,350; computer number 66596).

For more information about county court procedures and records, see *County Government and Archives in Pennsylvania* (described in the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline).

There were apparently no court records kept by the Swedish settlers in Pennsylvania. After the Dutch gained control of the area, minutes were kept of court actions. Minutes from 1655-1657 are found in vol. 12 beginning page 133 of John Romeyn Brodhead and E. B. O'Callaghan, *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York: Procured in Holland, England, and France*, 15 vols. Volume 12, *Documents Relating to the History of the Dutch and Swedish Settlements on the Delaware River* (FHL book 974.7 H2d; film 824,389 item 2; computer number 152213).

In 1673, the Dutch organized three judicial districts, two in what is now Delaware and one in “Upland,” now Chester County, Pennsylvania. For the records of this court see Edward Armstrong, ed., *Record of Upland Court from the 14th of November, 1676, [to] the 14th of June, 1681* (FHL film 571,147 item 1; computer number 210997). The English retained these districts for a period of time after they gained permanent control of New Netherlands. Appeal from these courts was made to the Court of Assizes in New York.

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

1682 - **County courts** Under William Penn, county courts were established in each of the three counties formed in 1682. Appeal from those courts was before the governor and Provincial Council. The county courts dealt with equity and estate issues including civil and criminal matters except capital crimes. They also performed many executive duties such as, laying out of roads, registering marks and brands, levying taxes, supervising indentured servants, etc. The justices of this court also met as an “orphans” court regarding orphan matters.

1682 - **Justice of the peace courts** Justice of the Peace Courts for each township were established from the time of William Penn. These courts have become less influential. The library has a few records from these courts such as Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, *Justice of the Peace, Court Dockets, 1811-1905* (FHL films 1,032,470-71; computer number 13466). These include some marriages. Other records of

this type may also contain marriage records.

1682 - **Orphan's courts** Orphan's courts dealt with orphan, guardianship and estate issues. In the larger cities, the Orphan's Courts became totally separate. The Orphan's Court also appears to have been the main equity court for much of the colonial period. The library has some Orphan's Court records such as Pennsylvania, Orphan's Court (York County), *Orphan's Court Dockets, 1749-1881; General Index to Dockets, 1749-1887*, (on 24 FHL films beginning with 22,150; computer number 23454).

1684 - **Provincial Court** The first Provincial Court was created in 1684. Its responsibility was to try appeal cases from inferior courts and cases involving criminal and civil issues.

1697 - **Admiralty Court** In 1697 authority was provided the governor of Maryland to organize an Admiralty Court in Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Jersey. This court dealt with issues of navigation and trade. In 1789 the responsibility was placed under federal jurisdiction.

1700 - **Court for trial of negroes** This court was established in each county with the responsibility for trying negroes who were accused of committing crimes. This court was abolished in 1780. The library has none of these records, but it does have Pennsylvania, Court of Quarter Sessions (Bedford County), *Slave records, 1780-1834* (FHL film 1,465,907; computer number 535714). These records contain lists of slaves from various owners. Sometimes the age, birthdate, and parents are given. It also includes petitions to keep services of a slave past age 28, claims on runaway slaves, bills of sale, and apprentice indentures.

1720 - **Court of chancery/equity** In 1720 a Court of Chancery/Equity was organized, but was discontinued in 1735. Some records of this court are found in Pennsylvania, Chancery Court, *The Registrar's Book of Governor Keith's Court of Chancery of the Province of Pennsylvania, 1720-1735 / Reprint, With Comments Prepared by Committee on Legal Biography and History of the*

- Pennsylvania Bar Association.** (Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Bar Association, 1941; FHL book 974.8 P2p; computer number 172527).
- 1722 - pres. Court of quarter sessions of the peace In 1722 the civil and criminal responsibilities of the County Court were divided and the Court of Common Pleas and Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace were established. Until 1895 appeals from these courts went only to the state Supreme Court (established in 1722), but after that time, appeals also were made to the Superior Court. The library has some Court of Quarter Sessions (so called because they met quarterly) records such as Pennsylvania, Court of Quarter Sessions (Philadelphia County), *Court Docket, 1753-1879*, (On 65 FHL films beginning with 965,370; computer number 286170.) Besides criminal case entries listing all parties involved and juries, there are also some records of roads, appointments of civil officials, and tavern and peddler's licenses issued.
- 1722 - pres. **Court of common pleas** The Court of Common Pleas and the Orphan's Court were closely allied and had the same judges, but were distinct in practice. These courts had countywide jurisdiction over civil cases including real estate, bankruptcy, tax collection, naturalization, and divorces. As an example of these records, the library has Pennsylvania, Court of Common Pleas (Cumberland County), *Appearance Dockets, 1769-1905; Adsecturm Index, 1750-1894* (on 40 FHL films beginning with 1,010,167; computer number 193746); and Pennsylvania, Court of Common Pleas (Cumberland County), *Divorce Decrees, 1810-1905* (FHL films 1,011,472-84; computer number 193734).
- 1722 - pres. **Supreme Court** In 1722 the Provincial Court was replaced by the state Supreme Court. The state was ultimately divided into the Eastern, Middle, Northern and Western districts for the Supreme Court jurisdiction. In 1776 the Supreme Court and the Courts of Common Pleas were specifically given the right to officiate in equity proceedings.
- 1811 - 1873 **District courts** District courts were established some as early as 1811 but were abolished in 1873. They were created to relieve County Courts.
- 1895 - pres. **Superior Court** In 1895 the Superior Court was established as an intermediate appellate court and the right to appeal to the Supreme Court became more restrictive.
- 1903 - pres. **Juvenile courts** In 1903, a Juvenile Court was established to administer offenses committed by children under 16 or who were dependent upon the courts for support.
- There were Courts of Oyer and Terminer established apparently by 1790 to handle felonies, although these functions were handled by other courts previous to this.
- Beginning in 1791 the state was divided into five judicial districts with additional districts being designated through the years. There were 59 of these in 1969. Frank M. Eastman, *Courts and Lawyers of Pennsylvania*, 2:546-49, cited above lists the districts and time periods for each county.
- Some of the larger cities had Mayor's Courts. The library has Philadelphia (Pennsylvania), Mayor's Court, *Court Docket, 1789-1837* (on 7 FHL films beginning with 972,957; computer number 364579). In addition to entries for criminal cases, these records include recommendations for public house licenses, appointments of Overseers of Poor, apprentice cases, and confirmations of constables.
- See Frank M. Eastman, *Courts and Lawyers of Pennsylvania*, "Virginia Courts Held Within the Present Territory of Pennsylvania." 2:367-76, cited above for an excellent discussion of court proceedings in the disputed Southwestern area of the state.
- For more information on federal court records, see the *United States Research Outline* (30972). The library has few of these, but does have United States, Circuit Court (Pennsylvania; Eastern District), *Naturalization Petitions and Records, 1795-1911* (on 53 FHL films beginning with 1,749,854; computer number 215171).
- For an excellent description of court records existing on a county basis see Lynn Ann Catanese, *Guide to Records of the Court of Quarter Sessions, Chester County, Pennsylvania, 1681-1969 : Records of the Clerk of Courts, Records of the Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery, Criminal Records of the Sheriff* (West Chester, Pa.: Chester County Historical Society, 1988; FHL book 974.813 P23c; computer number 618131); and Lynn Ann Catanese, *Guide to Records of the Court of Common Pleas, Chester County, Pennsylvania, 1681-1900 : Records of the Prothonotary, Civil Records of the*

*Sheriff, Select Civil Records of the Circuit Court of Chester County and the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania* (West Chester, Pa.: Chester County Historical Society, 1987; FHL book 974.813 P2g; computer number 492902). These books provide important historical background, how to use the records, and what they contain. They may indicate the extent of records that are available in many counties in the United States.

Compared to the court records that appear to exist, the library has relatively few court records.

## DIRECTORIES

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Some examples of state-wide directories are:

*The Pennsylvania Law Directory.* (Lindsay and Blakiston, 1844; FHL fiche 6,044,309; computer number 656837.)

Ulman, H. C. *Ulman's Pennsylvania Business Directory and Eastern, Western and Southern Circular* . . . (1854/55; FHL fiche 6,044,310; computer number 656837.)

Boyd, William H. *Boyd's Business Directory of the Counties of Adams, Bucks, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Franklin, Lancaster, Montgomery, and York, Pa.* (1860; FHL fiche 6,044,311; computer number 656837.)

Directories of heads of households have been published for major cities in Pennsylvania. For example, the Family History Library has directories for:

- Philadelphia
  - 1797-1849 . . . . . FHL films 983,347-55
  - 1850-1899 . . . . . FHL films 1,000,893-903
  - 1861-1901 . . . . . FHL films 1,377,151-90
  - 1935 . . . . . FHL Q book 974.811 E4cp
- Pittsburgh
  - 1861-1901 . . . . . FHL films 1,377,191-314
  - 1887, 1900,
  - 1916, etc. . . . . FHL book 974.885 E4ph

## EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

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The *United States Research Outline* (30972) "Emigration and Immigration" section lists several important sources for finding information about immigrants. These nationwide sources include many references to people who settled in Pennsylvania. The *Tracing Immigrant Origins Research Outline* (34111) introduces the principles, search strategies, and

additional record types you can use to identify an immigrant ancestor's original hometown.

## People

The first European settlers in Pennsylvania were the Swedes who came in the 1630s and the Dutch who came in the 1650s. By 1670 the English, Irish, and Welsh predominated in the area. They settled mostly in Philadelphia and the eastern counties.

Germans began coming to Pennsylvania in large numbers at the end of the 1600s. They settled first in the eastern counties and later migrated to western Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. Many Pennsylvania Germans also migrated later to North Carolina, Kentucky, Ohio, and Illinois.

The Scotch-Irish started coming in large numbers after 1718. They settled first in Lancaster and Dauphin Counties and later pushed into the western Pennsylvania counties of Westmoreland, Fayette, Washington, Greene, and Allegheny. Many Scotch-Irish eventually moved into southern states such as Virginia, Maryland, the Carolinas, and Kentucky. French Huguenot and Swiss families mingled with the Germans. Some Huguenots from New York migrated to Pennsylvania and settled in Berks and Lancaster counties. Swiss Mennonites began to settle in Lancaster county about 1710.

Many people came to Pennsylvania and the other colonies as indentured servants. For an excellent discussion of "unfree labor" see Sharon V. Salinger. *"To Serve Well and Faithfully": Labor and Indentured Servants in Pennsylvania, 1682-1800.* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1987; FHL book 974.8 E6ss; computer number 472697). It includes the names of some individuals who were indentured servants. The sources used can provide examples of the kind of records to search to find out information about these individuals.

An interesting collection of records compiled during the Revolutionary War period that may provide helpful information on families is Pennsylvania, Supreme Executive Council, *Application for Passes, 1775-1790* (FHL film 1,759,080; computer number 717442). See *Guide to the Microfilm of the Records of Pennsylvania Revolutionary Governments, 1775-1790* in the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline for a list of names in these records.

In the 1870s Pennsylvania attracted large numbers of immigrants from southern and eastern Europe. These included Slavs, Poles, Italians, Jews, Russians, and Greeks. During the nineteenth and especially the



twentieth centuries, blacks from the southern states also moved to Pennsylvania in large numbers.

For an account of some of these groups see John E. Bodnar, *The Ethnic Experience in Pennsylvania* (Lewisburg, Pennsylvania : Bucknell University Press, 1973; FHL book 974.8 F2bo; computer number 167121).

## Records

For the period 1792-1794, there is *A Health Officer's Register of Passenger's Names* at the State Archives (but not at the FHL) that lists the names of passengers. In *Pennsylvania Archives* Series 2 vol. 17 pp. 521-667 is "Names of Foreigners Arriving in Pennsylvania, 1786-1808," which appears to be the same records covering a longer span of time. Some of the lists include a birth place. They are also included in Strassburger/Hinke *Pennsylvania German Pioneers* listed below.

Philadelphia has been a major port of entry for European immigrants since the seventeenth century. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of passenger arrival records from the National Archives, including:

- Indexes ..... 1800-1906, 1820-1874,  
1883-1948, 1906-1911
- Lists ..... 1800-1916

More detailed information on immigration sources is in the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

Over 200,000 names of immigrants and naturalized aliens in Pennsylvania are indexed in the following source:

Filby, P. William. *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index*. 15 vols. Detroit, Mich.: Gale Research, 1981-. (FHL book 973; computer number 75625.) The first three volumes are a combined alphabetical index published in 1981. Supplemental volumes have been issued annually. There are also cumulative 1982 to 1985, 1986 to 1990, and 1991 to 1997 supplements. These volumes index names of colonial immigrants listed in published sources.

See also:

A large alphabetically arranged 54 volume manuscript collection at the Chester County Historical Society is Albert C. Meyers, comp. *Notes on Immigrants to Pennsylvania, 1681-1737* (on 14 FHL films beginning with 567,010 item 2; computer number 404366).

*Emigrants to Pennsylvania, 1641-1819: A Consolidation of Ship Passenger Lists from the Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*. Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing, 1975. (FHL book 974.8 W3t; computer number 173666.)

Bentley, Elizabeth P. and Michael H. Tepper. *Passenger Arrivals at the Port of Philadelphia, 1800-1819*. Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing, 1986. (FHL book Ref 974.811 W3p; computer number 406065.)

Coldham, Peter Wilson. *The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1776 and Emigrants in Bondage, 1614-1775*. [Novato, Calif.]: Brøderbund Software, 1996. (FHL compact disc no. 9 pt. 350; computer number 784052). Not available at Family History Centers. A comprehensive list of about 140,000 immigrants to America from Britain. Includes Pennsylvania immigrants. May show British hometown, emigration date, ship, destination, and text of the document abstract.

Strassburger, Ralph Beaver, William John Hinke. *Pennsylvania German Pioneers : A Publication of the Original Lists of Arrivals in the Port of Philadelphia from 1727 to 1808*. Norristown, Penn.: Pennsylvania German Society, 1934. (Pennsylvania-German Society Proceedings and Addresses; v. 42-44.) (FHL book 974.8 B4pg; vols. 42 and 44 on 2 films beginning with 1,035,683 item 5; on 30 fiche 6,051,507-9; computer number 122964.)

Records of major ethnic groups are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under PENNSYLVANIA - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION, and under PENNSYLVANIA - MINORITIES. See also the "Minorities" section of this outline. Published studies include those for the Schwenkfelder, Quaker, Welsh, Scotch-Irish, Amish, and Huguenot groups.

## GAZETTEERS

Several guides to place names in Pennsylvania have been published. Three of the most helpful are:

Day, Sherman. *Historical Collections of the State of Pennsylvania : Containing a Copious Selection of the Most Interesting Facts, Traditions, Biographical Sketches, Anecdotes, etc., Relating to its History and Antiquities, Both General and Local, With Topographical Descriptions of Every County and all the Larger Towns in the State*. (Philadelphia : G. W. Gorton, [1843?]) (New Haven, Ct.: Durrie and Peck [1843]). FHL book 974.8 H2d; film 824,413 item 1; computer number 18985.)



Espenschade, Abraham H. *Pennsylvania Place Names*. 1925. Reprint, Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing, 1970. (FHL 974.8 E5e; film 1,425,647 item 5; computer number 47794.)

Gordon, Thomas F. *A Gazetteer of the State of Pennsylvania*. Philadelphia, Pa.: T. Belknap, 1832. (FHL 974.8 E5g; film 543,662 item 5; fiche 6,053,251; computer number 114674.)

A recent guide is *Pennsylvania Gazetteer* (Wilmington, Del.: American Historical Publications, 1989; FHL book 974.8 E5p; computer number 512934). For some localities it includes important historical details.

## GENEALOGY

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Most archives, historical societies, and genealogical societies have special genealogical collections and indexes. These must usually be searched in person. For an excellent bibliographic listing of sources for Pennsylvania see:

Woodroffe, Helen Hutchison, comp. *A Genealogists' Guide to Pennsylvania Records*: Reprinted from the Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine. Philadelphia, Pa.: Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, 1995. (FHL book 974.8 D27w; computer number 748552.)

### Manuscript Collections

**Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Collection.** This large collection includes transcripts of Bible, cemetery, church, genealogy, and vital records from Pennsylvania. It was microfilmed at the DAR Library in Washington, D.C.. The Pennsylvania records are on 104 FHL films beginning with 854,965; computer number 453753.

**Chester County Historical Society.** The society and the Family History Library have the following:

Chester County Historical Society (West Chester, Pennsylvania) *Genealogical Manuscripts up to 1968*. (On 104 FHL films beginning with 563,394 item 2; computer number 376774.) The only index to these records is in "General Card Index," a 70-80 drawer card file at:

Chester County Historical Society  
225 N. High St.  
West Chester, PA 19380-2691  
Phone: 610-692-4800  
Fax: 610-692-4357  
Internet: <http://www.cchs-pa.org/index.php>

*Genealogical and Biographical Records File, up to 1968*. (On 41 FHL films beginning with 561,039; computer number 347884.) It is filed alphabetically by surname.

Chester County Historical Society (West Chester, Pennsylvania), *Genealogical Clippings File, up to 1968* (on 151 FHL films beginning with 560,531; computer number 370529). This includes newspaper clippings, books, and articles arranged alphabetically in two sections.

**Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania.** The society and the Family History Library have *Application Papers* and an ancestor index (on 12 FHL films beginning with 468,233; computer number 389545).

**Historical Society of Pennsylvania.** This society and the Family History Library have *Genealogical Collections: Families of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, etc., 1700-1950* and the Edmunds and Lukens collections (FHL films 540,684-97; computer number 355801).

**State Library of Pennsylvania.** The state library and the Family History Library have the *Genealogical Surname Card Index* (on 42 FHL films beginning with 1,002,825 item 2; computer number 33569). This indexes local histories, family histories, periodicals, and many compilations of cemetery, church, and Bible records at the state library. The call numbers listed are for that library. However, many of the sources are also available at the Family History Library.

**Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania.** The following are examples of the extensive collections at the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania that are also available at the Family History Library.

- **Manuscript Card Catalog of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania.** It is also known as the "Manuscript Material Index" and as the "Genealogical Material Index." This is a very helpful index to many collections at the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania (FHL films 377,629-37; computer number 388962). This card index includes references to persons, places, families, localities, and events in many collections such as the Buckman, Clement, Cope, and Justice collections, and various other manuscripts. All manuscript collections listed below, except the Ely and Gerberich collections, are included in this index.

A necessary guide to the "Genealogical Material Index" is J. Carlyle Parker, *Pennsylvania and Middle Atlantic States Genealogical Manuscripts*:

*A User's Guide to the Manuscript Collections of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania* (Turlock, Calif.: Marietta Publishing, 1986; FHL book 974.8 D27pp; computer number 426392).

- Family Records Arranged Alphabetically (on 360 FHL films beginning with 345,738; computer number 376505.)
- *Family Records No. 2 "F.C. Collection."* (FHL films 525,531-82; computer number 437788.)
- *Genealogical Notes*. 33 volumes and indexes (on 20 FHL films beginning with 522,153; computer number 389392.)
- *Gilbert Cope Collection of Family Data*. This collection is especially important for Quaker research. (FHL films 517,003-78; computer number 327985.)
- *Warren S. Ely Collection of Genealogical Data, Letters (Eastern Pennsylvania Families)* (on 46 FHL films beginning with 511,938; computer number 350393.)
- *Albert H. Gerberich Collection of Pennsylvania German Families*. This collection is alphabetically arranged in 6 sets (on 16 FHL films beginning with 522,107 and 522,119; computer number 339103, 339108).
- *William H. Mervine Collection of Genealogical Notes*. (on 119 FHL films beginning with 503,279; computer number 378696.)
- *Sophie Seldon Rogers Collection (Genealogical Material)*. (Indexed and in alphabetical order on 45 FHL films beginning with 511,759; computer number 389405).

Others include the collections by Buckman, Dotterer, Enders, Gearhart, Harlan, Hocker, Hough, Justice, Mendenhall, Seldon, Stow, Welch, and Wood. A very large number of genealogical materials is found in the Family History Library Catalog Author - Title Search under COLLECTIONS OF THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

## Published Collections

Egle, William Henry, ed. *"Notes and Queries: Historical, Biographical, and Genealogical, Relating Chiefly to Interior Pennsylvania."* 1894-1904. Reprint, Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing, 1971. (FHL book

974.8 B2nq; on 5 FHL films beginning with 1,698,260; computer number 641814.) This is

listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under PENNSYLVANIA - HISTORY - PERIODICALS.

An index to this source is:

Schory, Eva Draegert. *Everyname Index to Egle's Notes and Queries* 2 vol. (Decatur, Ill.: Decatur Genealogical Society, 1982; FHL book 974.8 B2nq, Index: computer number 112013). Vol. 1 contains indexes to series 1-4; vol. 2 contains an index to the five annuals, 1896-1900.

*Genealogies of Pennsylvania Families: From the Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine*. 3 vols. Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing, 1982. (FHL book 974.8 D2g; computer number 126011.) These are reprints of family histories published from 1895 to 1980.

*Genealogies of Pennsylvania Families: From the Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*. Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing, 1981. (FHL book 974.8 D2p; computer number 257483.)

Jordan, John W., et.al. *Colonial and Revolutionary Families of Pennsylvania*. 11 vols. New York: Lewis Publishing, 1911-65. (FHL book 974.8 D2c; vols 1-5 on 3 FHL films beginning with 1,697,635; computer number 249911.)

*Pennsylvania Archives*. 135 vols. Philadelphia, Pa.: J. Severns, 1851-1935. (FHL book 974.8 A39p; on 65 films beginning with 824,438 item 2; on 302 fiche starting with 6,051,521; computer number 255419.) This is a set of volumes published in nine series. The volumes contain a variety of significant documents including but not limited to: militia and muster rolls, church records, colonial land warrants, tax lists, vital records, governor's papers, etc. The Family History Library has only the first seven series. An explanation of the contents of these series is:

Eddy, Henry Howard. *Guide to the Published Archives of Pennsylvania . . .* (Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1976; FHL book 974.8 A39pa; film 908,202 item 2; computer number 251159) It includes the missing names STERNFELDT-STINOR in volume 5 of the index in the Seventh Series.

Another guide is:

Jean Sansenbaugher Morris. *Use of the Published Pennsylvania Archives in Genealogical Research*. (Pittsburgh, Pa.: Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, 1978; FHL book 974.8 A1 no. 145; computer number 165231). It provides a helpful listing of items for most volumes and page 2 discusses the indexes to the Archives.

Rider, Fremont, ed. *American Genealogical-Biographical Index*. Vols. 1-186+. Middletown, Conn.: Godfrey Memorial Library, 1952-. (FHL book 973 D22am ser. 2; on 31 films beginning with 1,698,167; computer number 49554.) This is a continuing series.

An earlier version of 48 volumes was published as *The American Genealogical Index*, 1942-1951. Over 4 million brief citations (name, date, and source) to manuscripts, periodicals, and books. The earlier version had reference to 350 sources that have been included in the second version. The second version has consulted an additional 800 sources.

To help interpret citations and locate the original sources use the colored pages in some volumes or Patricia L. Clark and Dorothy Huntsman, eds. *American Genealogical Biographical Key Title Index* (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1990; FHL book 973 D22am index; film 1,698,167 item 4; fiche 6,088,377; computer number 491052). It shows which sources are at the Family History Library and their call numbers.

Viridin, Donald Odell. *Pennsylvania Family Histories and Genealogies*. Bowie, Md: Heritage Books, 1992. (FHL book 974.8 D23vd; computer number 504980.) This is a bibliography of Pennsylvania family history books.

Some helpful sources for a few of the minorities that settled Pennsylvania are:

Hocker, Edward W. *Genealogical Data Relating to the German Settlers of Pennsylvania . . . 1743-1800*. 1935. (FHL book 974.8 D2h; film 21,591 item 17; computer number 107827.)

Egle, William Henry. *Pennsylvania Genealogies, Chiefly Scotch-Irish and German*. Reprint. Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing, 1969. (FHL book 974.8 D2e; film 1,036,711 item 6; computer number 246467.)

Some examples of regional sources include:

Jordan, John W., ed. *Genealogical and Personal History of Northern Pennsylvania*. 3 vols. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing, 1913. (FHL book 974.8 D2j; films 946,642-3; computer number 251782.)

Jordan, John W. *Genealogical and Personal History of the Allegheny Valley, Pennsylvania*. 3 vols. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing, 1913. (FHL book 974.885 D2g; film 1,000,540 items 3-5; computer number 55974.) This area includes the counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Clarion, Forest, Venango, Warren, and Westmoreland.

## HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY

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Pennsylvania went through a complicated process before the present state boundaries were defined. British Crown grants to several individuals which were conflicting resulted in much confusion and serious boundary disputes.

A brief but helpful account of these disputes is William A. Russ Jr., *How Pennsylvania Acquired its Present Boundaries*, Pennsylvania History Studies; no. 8 (University Park, Pa.; Pennsylvania Historical Association, 1966; FHL book 974.8 A1 no. 19; computer number 156505).

During its early history, France, Connecticut, Maryland, New York and Virginia laid claim to portions of Pennsylvania. French claims to western Pennsylvania were resolved by the French and Indian War (1754-63).

**Connecticut:** Connecticut considered that all of Pennsylvania north of the 41 degree parallel was theirs based on a charter from Charles II given in 1662.

Connecticut issued claims to land in the Delaware River Valley and the Wyoming Valley from 1753 to 1782. The Delaware River Valley land was distributed by the First and Second Delaware Companies, but the records are very incomplete.

The Susquehanna Company was chartered by Connecticut to distribute the Wyoming Valley claims. Before the Revolution they issued land to over 5,000 settlers. Many claims were not settled until the early 1800s. The records are found in:

- Boyd, Julian P., and Robert J. Taylor, *The Susquehanna Company Papers*, 11 vols. (Ithaca, N. Y.: Cornell University Press, 1962-1971; FHL book 974.88 H2su; computer number 170566).

Additional records are:

- Pennsylvania, Surveyor General's Office, Connecticut Patents (Applications, Deeds, etc.), for Land in the Seventeen Townships of Luzerne County, Pa., 1785-1810 (on 25 FHL films beginning with 987,920; computer number 202328).

See also:

- *Pennsylvania Archives* series 2 volume 18 which contains much information about this dispute including some lists of names and many land records.

Pennsylvania also moved settlers into this area of Connecticut. There were many conflicts, including the so-called "Pennamite" wars, and some blood was shed. Finally the United States Congress became involved in the dispute and decided in Pennsylvania's favor in 1782. For a more in-depth discussion of this controversy see:

- Warfle, Richard T. *Connecticut's Western Colony, The Susquehanna Affair*. (Hartford, Conn.: American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of Connecticut, 1979; FHL book 974.6 H2w; computer number 620155.)

Also helpful is:

- Munger, Donna Bingham. "Six Steps to Susquehanna Company Settlers" *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine* 37 (1991): 125-34.
- In the "Periodicals" section of this outline, see: Donna Bingham Munger "Following Connecticut Ancestors to Pennsylvania: Susquehanna Company Settlers" *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* 139 (1985): 112-25. (FHL book 974 B2ne; computer number 231574.)

**Maryland:** Maryland claimed that portion of Pennsylvania south of the 40 degree parallel except the south-west section claimed by Virginia. This area of dispute was resolved peacefully in Pennsylvania's favor in 1767 by the famous "Mason-Dixon" survey. See *Pennsylvania Archives* second series volume 7 "Papers Relating to the Boundary Dispute Between Pennsylvania and Maryland, 1734-1760," (FHL film 599,235 item 1; computer number 639870); and volume 16 for more information and some records. In volume 16 the age (or sometimes year of birth) is often given for the witnesses.

**New York:** Few conflicts occurred between New York and Pennsylvania. The boundary was finalized at the 42 degree parallel and surveyed by 1787. Pennsylvania purchased from the United States the small section that provided them frontage on Lake Erie.

**Virginia:** Virginia claimed the south-western portion of Pennsylvania which included the present counties of Allegheny, Beaver, Fayette, Greene, Washington and Westmoreland. Virginia called it the "District of West Augusta" and organized three counties: Monongalia, Ohio and Yohogania. The current Pennsylvania boundary for this area was established in 1784. An explanation of some of the Virginia records that were kept is found in "The Virginia Land Grants in Pennsylvania," in *The Virginia Genealogist*, vol. 7, 1963 (FHL book 975.5 B2vg; film 844,856 item 4; computer number 110010).

Some records for this area are contained in Richard William Loveless, *Records of the District of West Augusta, Ohio County, and Yohogania County, Virginia...* (Columbus, Ohio: State University Printing Dept., 1970; FHL book 975 P2l; film 1,035,976 item 8; computer number 153625). A list of names is found in *Pennsylvania Archives*, series 3, volume 3, pp. 507-73.

Duplicate records were being kept in several of these areas until the disputes were settled. For example, settlers loyal to Virginia recorded land records under that jurisdiction and those loyal to Pennsylvania recorded them in Pennsylvania. This inability to obtain a clear title to land caused many settlers to move further west.

To find records for these areas of Pennsylvania during this unsettled time, check the records of all states and counties involved in the border controversies.

## HISTORY

The following important events affected political boundaries, record keeping, and family movements.

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 1633-1674 | The Dutch, Swedes, and English established the first European settlements in Pennsylvania.  |
| 1680s     | William Penn founded the colony of Pennsylvania after receiving a grant in 1681 from the king of England. His colony offered religious freedom, liberal government, and inexpensive land. Quakers established the city of Philadelphia. |
| 1700-1754 | Welsh, German, and Scotch-Irish groups arrived.   |



- 1754 The French and Indian War started in western Pennsylvania.
- 1768-1792 The boundaries between Pennsylvania and the neighboring states of Connecticut, New York, Virginia, and Maryland were settled.
- 1776 The Revolutionary War began. The state constitution was adopted.
- 1787 Pennsylvania became the second state to ratify the Constitution.
- 1790-1800 Philadelphia was the capital of the United States.
- 1811 Steamboats began traveling from Pittsburgh to New Orleans.
- 1834 The railroad-canal line extended from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh.

The Family History Library has many local histories and handbooks to help you with your research.

Sources for studying the history of Pennsylvania include:

Egle, William Henry. *An Illustrated History of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania: Civil, Political, and Military From its Earliest Settlement to the Present Time, Including Historical Descriptions of Each County in the State, Their Towns, and Industrial Resources*. Philadelphia : E. M. Gardner, 1880. (FHL book 974.8 H2eg; film 1,697,290 item 11; computer number 379103.)

Donehoo, George P. *Pennsylvania; A History*. 9 vol. contents: [1-4] History. [5-9] Biography. New York: Lewis Historical Pub. Co., 1926-1931. (FHL book 974.8 H2ph; vols. 4, 5, and 8 are on 3 FHL films beginning with 1,320,599 item 5; computer number 33067.)

Stevens, Sylvester Kirby. *Pennsylvania: The Heritage of a Commonwealth*. 4 vol. West Palm Beach, Florida : The American Historical Company, 1968. (FHL book 974.8 H2sp; computer number 170540.)

Pennsylvania has the following excellent bibliographic resources for materials on history:

Bining, Arthur C., et al. *Writing on Pennsylvania History, a Bibliography*. Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1946. (FHL book 974.8 A3bw; computer number 251166.) This and the

following book often provide comments about the value of the source being described.

Wilkinson, Norman B. *Bibliography of Pennsylvania History*. 2d ed. Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1957. (FHL book 974.8 H23b; film 1,036,387 item 3; computer number 170555.) This book is an update and expansion of the previous book.

Wall, Carol. *Bibliography of Pennsylvania History: A Supplement*. Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1976. (FHL book 974.8 H23b supp.; film 1,036,387 item 4; computer number 251325.) This and the following book continues the effort of the previous works although they do not provide comments on the value of any listing.

Trussell, John B. B. Jr., *Pennsylvania Historical Bibliography*. vols. 1-6. Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1979-1989. (FHL book 974.8 H23p; computer number 40744.) This work updates the bibliographies cited above. The library has vol. 1 only.

A very helpful source in addition to the above bibliographies is Dennis B. Downey and Francis J. Bremer. *A Guide to the History of Pennsylvania* (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1993; FHL book 974.8 H23g; computer number 13147). Of special value is the description of research collections in Pennsylvania archives and manuscript repositories. However, it does not include genealogy societies.

Potentially helpful histories of Pennsylvania counties compiled in 1939-1942 is Historical Records Survey (Pennsylvania), *Notes on County Histories and Points of Interest for American Guide Series* (FHL films 1,016,396-401; computer number 374824). The counties are filed mostly in alphabetical order and while a general format seems to be followed they vary in the kind of information given.

## LAND AND PROPERTY

In Pennsylvania the initial distribution of land to individuals was a complex process which resulted in an amazing volume of records. An indispensable guide to understanding the process and records is Donna Bingham Munger, *Pennsylvania Land Records: A History and Guide for Research* (Wilmington, Del.: Scholarly Resources, 1991; FHL book 974.8 R2m; computer number 601664). This work divides Pennsylvania land settlement into five



periods: Before William Penn; the proprietorship of William Penn 1682-1732; the proprietorship of the heirs of William Penn 1732-1776; the Commonwealth 1776-1990; and 1905-1990.

### ***Before William Penn (—1682)***

In the period before the grant to William Penn, Sweden, The Netherlands, and England established settlements along the Delaware River in what is now Chester County Pennsylvania and the state of Delaware (called the three lower counties).

Land and other records for this area may be in the archives of these countries and in New York (see the New York research outline). Delaware had its own colonial government after 1701 and became a state in 1776.

Some records for this time period are in *Pennsylvania Archives*, series 2. vol. 5 and vol. 7 pp. 485-873.

### ***Proprietorship of William Penn and his Heirs (1682-1776)***

In 1681, William Penn received a charter from King Charles II as absolute owner of the land that is now Pennsylvania. As such, he had the authority to dispose of the land with little restriction. He recognized the claims to the land held by the Native Americans and maintained a policy of purchasing land from them before selling land for settlement. This same policy was mostly adhered to by his heirs. William Penn also purchased that area that is now Delaware and he and his sons distributed land in Delaware during the entire proprietary period.

The system developed by the proprietors to distribute land was unique in the colonies and lasted nearly 100 years producing voluminous records. Because of the controlled nature in which land was sold, the proprietary was unable to meet the demand for new land. Many individuals settled on land, including Indian land, without a proper title. This created problems with the native inhabitants and with the proprietors.

A major portion of the proprietor's work was to attempt to resolve Indian concerns and persuade the "squatters" as they were called to obtain title to the land. They met with some success. The Revolutionary War brought an end to the proprietary period in Pennsylvania.

### ***The Commonwealth (1776—)***

With the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, Pennsylvania found itself owner to all unsold land in the state. It was unprepared for this and so continued the proprietary land distribution practices for many years afterwards.

To the state came the responsibility for solving boundary issues with other states (see the "Historical Geography" section of this outline), purchasing the remaining Indian lands in the state, awarding land for military service, disposing of unsold land, and assisting in settling disputes over incomplete titles.

### ***First Title***

The proprietors and Commonwealth, in most cases, provided individuals "first" or original title to land in Pennsylvania through a five-step process:

**APPLICATION:** Under William Penn, oral requests to purchase a specific number of acres at a particular location were made. Under his heirs, they were written requests. Later applications may provide important historical details such as when the property was first settled.

**WARRANT:** This is a written order, based on the application, to survey the requested tract of land. Warrant began title to property.

**SURVEY:** A surveyor physically measured and marked the land on its premises. This is the "diagram" of the property.

**RETURN OF SURVEY:** A statement certifying that the survey is complete, and a written description of the property.

**PATENT:** Written title to the property conveying ownership to the individual submitting the application. Subsequent transactions of this property were conducted on a county basis.

### ***Land Office Records***

The state land office was established in 1682 by William Penn. Original deeds and patents were recorded by this office.

Records have been transferred to the State Archives. The Family History Library has copies of many of these records (on over 1,000 microfilms), including:

Pennsylvania, Board of Property, *Board of Property Papers, 1682-1850*. (On 19 FHL films beginning with 988,274; computer number 202083.) These are loose papers involving land disputes that are mostly in chronological order. They can contain valuable genealogical and historical information.

A published source that lists the names of many early settlers is *Early Pennsylvania Land Records: Minutes of The Board of Property* (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing, 1976; FHL book 974.8 A39p, ser. 2 vol. 19; computer number 242737). This was originally published as part of *Pennsylvania Archives*, second series (see the “Genealogy” section of this outline). It covers the era 1687 to 1732.

In addition, there is Pennsylvania, Board of Property, *Board of Property Petitions, Undated and 1682-1815* (FHL films 988,269-73; computer number 202087). These and the Board of Property records above can be some of the most valuable land records available for providing family history information. Because of the way land was distributed in Pennsylvania, there were many opportunities for disputes.

An important index to land records is Pennsylvania Bureau of Land Records, *Warrant Register, 1682-1950* (FHL films 1,003,194-99; computer number 6045). Munger, *Pennsylvania Land Records* p. 202 states this index includes records beginning 1733. This is an index to the warrants, patents and surveys listed immediately below. For an index to the earliest warrants and surveys, see Weinberg and Slattery, *Warrants and Surveys of the Province of Pennsylvania*. . . also listed below.

Pennsylvania, Bureau of Land Records, *Original Warrants*, (on 156 FHL films beginning with 1,028,662; computer number 6640). These are discussed in Munger, *Pennsylvania Land Records*, p. 202 cited above. The Warrant Register above gives the warrant number in the first column on the left. With that number and the first letter of the last name, one can find the warrant in the proper county. Alphabetical lists by the first letter of the last name and by county are in *Pennsylvania Archives*, series 3, volumes 24-26. A partial index is also Pennsylvania, Surveyor General, *Index to Old Rights in Philadelphia County, 1682-1748* (FHL film 1,028,671 item 1; computer number 27418); and Pennsylvania, Surveyor General, *Index to Old Rights in Bucks and Chester Counties, 1682-1761* (FHL film 1,028,678 item 3; computer number 27276).

Pennsylvania, Bureau of Land Records, *Patent Books, 1676-1960* (on 78 FHL films beginning with 1,028,673; computer number 11308). They are discussed in Munger, *Pennsylvania Land Records*, pp. 53, 118, 207-8. Besides being indexed in the *Warrent Register*, they have their own index. They may include other records such as naturalizations, etc.

Pennsylvania, Surveyor General, *Original Surveys, 1682-1920* (on 499 FHL films beginning with 1,003,388; computer number 11141). These records are described in Munger, *Pennsylvania Land Records*, pp. 47-48. Surveys are indexed in warrant registers.

Helpful family history information may also be found in Pennsylvania, Land Office, *Depositions, 1683-1881* (FHL films 986,869-82; computer number 202370). These were usually made when land disputes were involved.

Important records suggesting land disputes are Pennsylvania, Land Office, *Caveats, 1699-1890* (FHL films 986,599-618; computer number 202626). These were legal documents to postpone acceptance of surveys or patents until all issues were resolved. Records of land disputes can be fruitful sources of genealogical information. Caveats for the period 1748-1784 are abstracted in *Pennsylvania Archives*, series 3, volume 2, pp. 159-660. (See also vol. 1).

Also potentially helpful is Pennsylvania, Land Office, *Applications for Warrants, 1734-1865* (on 173 FHL films beginning with 984,123; computer number 326277). These records are arranged chronologically. From 1762-1776, these applications are filed by the first letter of the applicant's surname within each year. Many applications are on small slips of paper that contain the name of the applicant, the date and the location of the land desired. Sometimes, additional details are given such as neighbors to the property. Often, more than one application will be listed on a document. If placed in alphabetical order it was by the first name on the page.

Helpful records for the north-western area of the state are Pennsylvania, Land Office, *Proof of Settlement Records, 1797-1869* (on 15 FHL films beginning with 986,619; computer number 202612). As the title explains, individuals submitted proof of their settlement on a parcel of land. These records may include when the owner settled the land and a description of the improvements made.

**Land Companies.** The Holland Land Company and the Pennsylvania Population Company acquired large tracts of land for speculation purposes in the “Last Purchase” area in northwestern Pennsylvania obtained by treaty in 1784. Many of the names in their records are fictitious. The Family History Library has copies of some records of these companies, including certificates and miscellaneous papers.

**Military Bounty Lands.** Some lands were awarded by the state for military service. Certificates of depreciation were issued to Revolutionary soldiers to supplement the money they had received which had depreciated in value. These were sold or redeemed for land in the “Last Purchase” treaty area in western Pennsylvania obtained in 1784. The library has Pennsylvania, Land Office, *Original Warrants of Depreciation Lands, 1780-1800*. (On 4 FHL films beginning with 985,462; computer number 202374.)

Donation land in the “Last Purchase” treaty area was issued to veterans of the Pennsylvania Line in the Continental Army. Eligible veterans drew lots for a piece of land and then paid a small fee for their certificate. Most soldiers sold their title instead of settling on the land. The library has Pennsylvania, Surveyor General's Office, *Donation Lands Records, 1780-1800* (FHL film 987,058-66; computer number 202343.) For a printed list of names see *Pennsylvania Archives*, series 3, volume 7, pp. 659-795.

A description of the Bureau of Land Records is in “Pennsylvania Bureau of Land Records,” in *Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Quarterly*, vol. 8, no. 4, May 1982 (FHL book 974.8 B2wg; film 2,024,355; computer number 141166).

The State Archives also sells warrantee township maps. These show the original land grants within present day township boundaries. The maps include the names of the original warrantee and patentee as well as the number of acres and dates of warrant, survey, and patent.

### Indexes of Colonial and State Records

If one of your ancestors could have received a warrant to have land surveyed between 1682 and 1898, but you don't know in what county, see *Pennsylvania Archives*, 3d series. Volumes 1-4 and 24-26 include land records. The surname indexes are in volumes 27-30 (FHL film 824,436-38).

For additional assistance in identifying the county, search Allen Weinberg and Thomas E. Slattery, *Warrants and Surveys of the Province of Pennsylvania Including the Three Lower Counties, 1759* (1965, Reprint, Knightstown, Ind.: Bookmark, 1975; FHL book 974.8 A1 no. 130; films 982,105 item 7 and 1,036,747 item 2; computer number 165206). This is an index by county for many warrants, most of which were issued for the period 1682-1759. This book is an index to Pennsylvania, Provincial Assembly, *Warrants and Surveys of the Province of Pennsylvania, 1682-1759: Transcribed from the*

*Records of the Surveyor General's and Proprietaries Secretary's Offices by John Hughes, Recorder of Warrants and Surveys Under the Act of Assembly July 7, 1759* . . . Original manuscripts, 9 vols. (Philadelphia, Pa.: Department of Records, 1957; FHL films 981,096-97; computer number 392049). These films are difficult to read.

### County Records

After the title to a piece of land was obtained from the land office, most subsequent transactions, including sales and mortgages, were recorded by the recorder of deeds in each county courthouse. You can obtain copies of these records by contacting the clerk's office.

The Family History Library has microfilms of county land records, such as deeds and mortgages, for most counties. For example, from the recorder of deeds in Philadelphia County the library has Philadelphia County (Pennsylvania), Recorder of Deeds, *Deeds, 1683-1886; Index to Deeds, 1683-1916* (on 1385 FHL films beginning with 1,318,501; computer number 58385).

The library does not currently have land records for Blair, Carbon, Centre, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Monroe, Pike, Snyder, and Union counties.

### LAW AND LEGISLATION

For examples of the kind of helpful information available see:

[Colonial records] Pennsylvania, Provincial Council, *Minutes of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania from the Organization to the Termination of the Proprietary Government* [1683-1790]; 16 vols. (Philadelphia: Published by the state, 1851-1853 [Harrisburg: T. Fenn & co.]; FHL book 974.8 N2p; on 12 FHL films beginning with 844,501; computer number 172538, 172555). This includes the minutes of the Council of Safety 1775-1777 and the Supreme Executive Council 1777-1790. Additional papers related to these minutes are in *Pennsylvania Archives* series 1. The journals for the Provincial General Assembly 1682-1776 are in *Pennsylvania Archives* series 8. These records contain information on naturalizations, Native Americans, petitions, appeals, legislation, passenger lists, boundary disputes, Loyalists, etc.

An index to subjects and prominent individuals in these records is Samuel Hazard, *General Index to the Colonial Records in 16 Volumes*.

(Philadelphia: Joseph Sevens and Co., 1860; FHL book 974.8 N2p index; film 844,501 item 1; computer number 172559.)

For an index to every name see Mary Dunn. *Index to Pennsylvania's Colonial Records Series*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1992; FHL book 974.8 N2p index no. 2; computer number 645509).

Livengood, Candy Crocker. *Genealogical Abstracts of the Laws of Pennsylvania and the Statutes at Large*. (Westminister, Md.: Family Line Pub., 1990. (FHL book 974.8 P38L; computer number 613909.) It includes information about name changes, divorces, land disputes, pensions, etc. as found in the Laws of Pennsylvania and the Statutes at Large.

## MAPS

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The Pennsylvania State Library has an excellent collection of maps and county atlases for almost all counties. Most of these atlases were published from 1850 to 1880. You can write to them to order a map for a particular town or county.

A helpful guide to the holdings at the State Archives is Martha L. Simonetti, comp. Donald H. Kent and Harry E. Whipkey, eds., *Descriptive List of the Map Collection in the Pennsylvania State Archives*. (Harrisburg, Pa.; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1976; FHL book 974.8 E73p; film 1,321,380 item 2; computer number 11556). The university libraries in Pennsylvania also have map collections.

For a listing of topographical maps see United States. Geological Survey. *Pennsylvania: Index to Topographic and Other Map Coverage*. (Reston, Va.: The Survey, [1983?]; FHL book 974.8 A1 no. 665; computer number 496259).

The Family History Library has many maps of Pennsylvania. Atlases for the years 1790, 1810, 1823, 1838, 1857, 1862, 1878, 1884, and 1917 are on FHL film 2,083; computer number 464971. Another useful atlas is H.F. Walling and O.W. Gray, *Historical Topographical Atlas of the State of Pennsylvania*, 1872; reprint, Knightstown, Ind.: Bookmark, 1977 (FHL book Q 974.8 E3w; computer number 251943).

An excellent atlas, comprehensive in detail, is *Atlas of Pennsylvania*. (Philadelphia: Temple University, 1989; FHL book 974.8 E7ap; computer number 695552). The historical portion of this work is published separately as Edward K. Muller, ed., *A Concise Historical Atlas of Pennsylvania*.

(Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1989; FHL book Q 974.8 E7apa; computer number 705029).

Maps showing county boundaries include:

Long, John H., ed. *Pennsylvania: Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, Simon and Schuster Macmillan, 1996. (FHL book 974.8 E3p; computer number 766753.)

Long, John H., ed. *Historical Atlas and Chronology of County Boundaries, 1788-1980*. Vol. 1, *Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania*. Boston, Mass.: G.K. Hall, 1984. (FHL 973 E7hL v. 1; fiche 6,051,426; computer number 304297.)

*County Historical Maps*. Harrisburg, Pa.: Archives Publishing of Pennsylvania, [19--], (FHL Q book 974.8 E3ch; computer number 251887). Includes historical annotations for 28 counties.

To locate Philadelphia wards and townships from 1711 to 1965 see John Daly and Allen Weinberg, *Genealogy of Philadelphia County Subdivisions*, 2nd ed. (Philadelphia, Pa.: Department of Records, 1966; FHL 974.811 E3w; fiche 6,046,613; computer number 174969).

City ward maps can be helpful when using census records. See *Ward Maps of United States Cities: Microfilm Reproduction of 232 Maps Described in Ward Maps of United States Cities*. Washington, D. C.: Library of Congress, [1975?]. (FHL film 1,377,700; on 320 fiche beginning with 6,016,554; computer number 181937.) These include:

- Allegheny, 1867-78 (FHL fiche 6,016,561-66)
- Philadelphia, 1802-98 (FHL fiche 6,016,721-36)
- Pittsburgh, 1855-98 (FHL fiche 6,016,737-43)

## MILITARY RECORDS

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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.

A helpful bibliography is John B. B. Trussell. *Pennsylvania Military History*. (Carlisle Barracks, Pa.: [s. n.], 1974; FHL book 973 B4ua no. 10; computer number 264601). It includes items from the colonial period through World War II.



Many volumes of the *Pennsylvania Archives* (see the “Genealogy” section of this outline) contain transcripts of military records, such as rosters and muster rolls. The appropriate volumes and series are referred to below.

### Colonial Wars (1744-1775)

The earliest documents appear to be *Records of 17th Century Soldiers in New Sweden: 1637-1655*. Microfilm of originals at the Gloucester County Historical Society, Woodbury, New Jersey. (FHL film 1,510,234 item 4; computer number 85252.) It is mainly lists of soldiers and is written in German and Swedish.

Names of soldiers and their companies in the colonial period, 1744-1765, are in the 5th series, volume 1 of the *Pennsylvania Archives* (FHL book 974.8 A39p; film 844,572 item 2; fiche 6,019,913; computer number 536450). These records often give the state or country of birth. Sometimes even a more specific locality is indicated.

### Revolutionary War (1775-1783)

A man born between 1730 and 1765 who lived in Pennsylvania is probably listed in some form of military record. If he supported the Revolution, he may be mentioned in records as a rebel, or patriot. Those who opposed the Revolution were Loyalists or Tories.

Names of Loyalists may be found in Pennsylvania, Supreme Executive Council. *Forfeited Estates File, 1777-1790*. (Harrisburg, PA: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, [1978?]; FHL films 1,759,092 item 2-1,759,093 item 1; computer number 717504). Records are alphabetically arranged by name of the estate holder with some files arranged by county.

- Records of forfeited estates are also found in *Pennsylvania Archives*, series 6, volumes 12-13. See *Guide to the Microfilm of the Records of Pennsylvania's Revolutionary Governments, 1775-1790* in the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline for a list of the names in these records.
- Another list of these names is in Anne M. Ousterhout, “Opponents of the Revolution Whose Pennsylvania Estates Were Confiscated”. *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine* 30 (1978): 237-53. See the “Periodicals” section of this outline.

A small list of these individuals is *Black List: A List of Those Who Took Part With Great Britain in the*

*Revolutionary War, and Were Attainted of High Treason, Commonly Called the Black List!* (Microreproduction of original published: Philadelphia: [s. n.], 1802; FHL film 1,688,885; computer number 552684).

For patriot records of the Revolutionary War, see:

White, Virgil D. *Genealogical Abstracts of the Revolutionary War Pension Files*. 4 vols. Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Publishing, 1990. (FHL book 973 M28g; computer number 534698.) May include name, unit, service and application dates and places, age, birth date, marriage date, residences, and names of relatives. These abstracts are mainly from the United States, Veterans Administration, *Selected Records from Revolutionary War Pension & Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files* (Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1969; FHL films 840,256-406; computer number 356373). The Family History Library only has microfilms for surnames starting with A or B. The National Archives has microfilm for all surnames.

White, Virgil D. *Index to Revolutionary War Service Records*. 4 vols. Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Publishing, 1995. (FHL book 973 M22wv; computer number 755463.) Shows the name, rank, and unit of over 390,000 patriots. Transcripts of United States, Adjutant General's Office, *General Index to Compiled Military Service Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers* (Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1942; FHL film 882,841-98; computer number 280117).

The service records and pension files for Revolutionary War patriots are available at the Family History Library.

You can also use NATF Form 80 to obtain copies of the original records from the National Archives.

The Family History Library has copies of many service records and the complete federal pension files from the National Archives. For example see United States, War Department, *Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783*, Pennsylvania Jackets 1-93 (FHL films 830,359-63; computer number 70811). These are filed by military unit. Published rosters of soldiers are in the following volumes of the *Pennsylvania Archives* (FHL book 974.8 A39p and microforms listed below):

- 2nd series, vols. 10-11 (FHL films 908,829 item 2 and 908,830)



- 2nd series, vols. 13-14 (FHL film 823,997)
- 2nd series, vol. 15 (FHL film 823,998 item 2)
- 3rd series, vol. 23 (FHL film 824,434 item 2)
- 5th series, vols. 2-8 (FHL films 844,573-77)
- 6th series, vols. 1-2 (FHL films 844,562-63)
- An index to volumes 10, 11, 13, and 14 of the 2nd series is also at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. *Index to Pennsylvania in the War of the Revolution: Battalions and Line, 1775-1783; Associated Battalions and Militia, 1775-1783.* (on 10 FHL films beginning with 539,073; computer number 171760.)

Another useful printed source is Harry E. Cope, *Soldiers and Widows of Soldiers of the Revolutionary War Granted Pensions by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania* (n.p.; FHL book 974.8 M2c; film 1,036,819 item 26; computer number 171991). Some of the names in this book are also found in the federal pension records. See the *U. S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) for information about those records. Records for some individuals in the above title are also in Pennsylvania, Auditor General's Office, *Revolutionary War Pension File, 1809-1893* (FHL films 1,016,413-15; computer number 374817). There are names on these films that are not in the book.

The following sources from the Pennsylvania State Archives are also available at the Family History Library:

For early payment records see Pennsylvania, Comptroller General, *Revolutionary War Pension Accounts, 1785-1809, 1834-1838* (FHL film 295,743 items 4-9; computer number 13284).

For an account of the payments to pensioners see Pennsylvania, Auditor General, *Revolutionary War Pension Accounts, 1807-1883* (FHL films 1,027,856-59; computer number 196838). The death date of the soldier may be found in these records.

For a list of burials see Daughters of the American Revolution, Lycoming Chapter (Williamsport, Pennsylvania), *Revolutionary War Veterans Interred in Pennsylvania*, volume 1 (FHL film 441387; computer number 381371). This is a microreproduction of an original typescript at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. It often just lists the name of the soldier and the cemetery.

*Military Abstract Card File for the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783.* (On 42 FHL films beginning with 1,205,961; computer number 28473.) This file has been abstracted from original documents in the custody of the Pennsylvania State Archives and is arranged alphabetically by soldier's name in four file units. Now on line at: [www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us](http://www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us)

Pennsylvania, Comptroller General, *Military Accounts, Line, 1775-1809* (FHL films 1,027,962-70; computer number 6535). The *Military Abstract Card File* is an index to these records. It includes clothing allowances, letters of attorney, probate actions, military rolls, documents regarding payment, affidavits, etc., filed by military unit.

Additional records that could prove helpful are Pennsylvania, Comptroller General, *Militia Military Accounts, 1777-1794* (on 38 FHL films beginning with 1,023,007; computer number 15022). They are arranged by county, militia period and battalion and include many lists of names, etc., such as why a person was unable to serve in the military.

For information about the federal soldiers from Pennsylvania (the Pennsylvania Line) see John B. B. Trussell, Jr., *The Pennsylvania Line, Regimental Organization and Operations, 1776-1783* (Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1977; FHL book 974.8 M2tp; computer number 407064).

## War of 1812 (1812-1815)

Muster rolls published in the *Pennsylvania Archives* (FHL book 974.8 A39p and the films listed below) are in:

- 2nd series, vol. 12 (FHL film 828,997)
- 4th series, vol. 5 (FHL film 824,418)
- 6th series, vols. 7-9 (FHL film 884,567)

The muster rolls are also published in *Muster Rolls of the Pennsylvania Volunteers in the War of 1812-1814*, 1895; reprint, Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing, 1967; FHL book 974.8 M2m; film 84,4514 item 2; computer number 22357). This was reprinted from *Pennsylvania Archives*, Series 2, vol. 12.

The Family History Library also has the following records. The original documents are at the state archives.

Pennsylvania, Auditor General. *War of 1812, List of Soldiers*. (FHL films 1,027,855 item 6-1,027,856 item 1; computer number 196837.)

Pennsylvania, Bureau of Audits. *War of 1812 Militia Accounts, 1812-1827*. (On 8 FHL films beginning with 1,020,490; computer number 196843.)

Pennsylvania, Auditor General's Office. *War of 1812 Pension Records, 1866-1896*. (FHL films 1,018,554-80; computer number 192334.)

For a brief history of Pennsylvania's involvement in the war see Harold L. Myers. *Pennsylvania and the War of 1812*. (Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1964; FHL book 974.8 A1 no. 12, computer number 156053).

### **Mexican War (1846-1848)**

An alphabetical list of soldiers enrolled in Pennsylvania is in *Pennsylvania Archives* series 6, volume 10, pp. 249-458. Volumes 36-38 of the *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine* (see the "Periodicals" section of this outline) also has a list of names.

The Family History Library has the following records and an index to pensions, but the actual pension records are at the National Archives.

United States, Record and Pension Office. *Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served During the Mexican War in Organizations from the State of Pennsylvania*. (FHL films 1,314,139-51; computer number 110857.)

Pennsylvania, Adjutant General's Office. *Mexican Service Index, 1846-1848*. (FHL film 1,032,842 item 2; computer number 4591.) It contains muster rolls of the 1st and 2nd Regiments of Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Pennsylvania, Bureau of Audits. *Mexican War Military Accounts, 1846-1880*. (FHL films 1,020,496-500; computer number 196842.)

An excellent history is Randy W. Hackenburg. *Pennsylvania in the War with Mexico*. (Shippensburg, PA: White Mane Pub. Co., 1992; FHL book 974.8 M2h; computer number 691887). It includes the rosters and brief biographies of the men who served.

### **Civil War (1861-1865)**

An important bibliography for this war is Dan A. Nettling, *Pennsylvania Military History: A Bibliography*. Part II, The Civil War. (Carlisle Barracks, Pa.: U. S. Army Military History Institute, 1992; FHL book 974.8 M23p; computer number 661007). It is organized by regiment and lists personal

papers of some men in the regiment that are in the U. S. Army Military History Institute at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

The library has indexes to service and pension records, but the service and pension records are only available at the National Archives. See the *U. S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) for more information about these records. A published roster of soldiers and regiments is Samuel Penniman Bates, *History of Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1861-65*, 5 vols. (Harrisburg, Pa.: B. Singerly, 1869-71; FHL book 974.8 M2b; on 5 FHL films beginning with 824,366; computer number 172019.) For an index see *Civil War Veterans Card File, 1861-1866*, at the Pennsylvania State Archives (on 80 FHL films beginning with 1,205,205; computer number 323476). The card file originally indexed the *History of the Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1861-65*. Later the Adjutant General's office included data found in the original documents. Information on the cards depended on the extractor, but soldier's name, unit, age, physical description, residence, birthplace, date of discharge, etc. may have been extracted. Now online at:

[www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us](http://www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us)

A more recent edition is Samuel P. Bates. *History of Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1861-5*. 10 vols. (Wilmington, N. C.: Broadfoot Pub. Co., 1993-1994; FHL book 974.8 M2b; computer number 705159). An index is Janet Hewett, *History of Pennsylvania Volunteers 1861-5*. 4 vols. (Wilmington, N. C.: Broadfoot Pub. Co., 1994; FHL book 974.8 M2b index; computer number 753883).

The same rosters which contain more information are found in Pennsylvania, Adjutant General's Office. *Register of Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1861-1865*. (FHL films 295,744-58; computer number 15486.) They list the age, when and where joined, when and where mustered, sometimes the residence, and remarks that may include more details than in the published versions above.

Each source should be checked for names that are not in the other resources. For additional names refer to Pennsylvania, Auditor General's Office. Board of Military Claims. *Military Claims Settled, 1862-1905*. (on 63 FHL films beginning with 1,018,582, the index is on 1018581; computer number 184586.); and Pennsylvania, Auditor General's Office. *Military Claims not Settled, 1862-1905*. (On 5 FHL films beginning with 1,021,415; computer number 1968440.)

See also United States, Adjutant General's Office: *Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Pennsylvania* (FHL films 882,336-471; computer number 324020). The index has names that are not in some of the above sources.

From the state archives, the library has obtained copies of other manuscript sources, such as lists of wounded soldiers, substitutes, deserters, and veterans in soldiers' homes.

The state archives has many other sources not at the Family History Library such as *Descriptive Books of the G. A. R.* [Grand Army of the Republic], 1866-1933. These are arranged by post and may contain the name, age, birthplace, residence and details of military service during the Civil War.

### **Spanish-American War (1898)**

A published roster of soldiers, giving their name, residence, muster-in and muster-out dates, is *Thomas J. Stewart, Record of Pennsylvania Volunteers in the Spanish-American War, 1898*, 2nd ed. (Harrisburg, Pa.: Wm. Stanley Ray, 1901; FHL book 974.8 M2r; film 982,200 item 1; computer number 60187).

Additional sources at the library include:

Pennsylvania, Department of Military Affairs State Veteran's Compensation Division *Spanish American War Veteran's Compensation File*. (On 46 FHL films beginning with 1,032,848; computer number 4963.)

Pennsylvania, Adjutant General's Office, *United States Volunteers of the Spanish American War, 1893-1901*. (FHL film 1,266,814; computer number 62378.)

### **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 Pennsylvania's cards see United States, Selective Service System, *Pennsylvania, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918* (Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1987-1988; on 317 FHL films beginning with 1,852,246; computer number 756763).

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 alphabetically by surname within each draft board.

Most counties had only one board; large cities had more. Finding an ancestor's street address in a city directory will help you determine the board number if he lived in a large city. Draft board addresses can be found in *Second Report of the Provost Marshall General to the Secretary of War on the Operations of the Selective Service System to December 20, 1918* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1919; not at FHL). Maps of Allegheny, Luzerne, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Reading, and Westmoreland have been prepared which show the draft board registration district boundaries. For a copy of these maps, see:

United States. Selective Service System. *List of World War One Draft Board Maps*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives. (FHL film 1,498,803; computer number 702779.)

### **World War II (1941-1945)**

For a brief history of Pennsylvania's involvement see S. K. Stevens, Marvin W. Schlegel and Joseph T. Kingston. *Pennsylvania's Second Year at War; December 7, 1942 - December 7, 1943*. (Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1945; FHL book 974.8 M2sk; computer number 704578). It includes biographies of Pennsylvanians winning the Medal of Honor and a list of Pennsylvania generals, admirals, and commodores.

### **Additional Military Records**

The State Archives has limited draft and muster records for World War I. The Family History Library has copies of other files from the State Archives. These include militia files, accounts, claims, and other records created during and between wars.

## **MINORITIES**

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For a brief discussion of the many minorities who immigrated to Pennsylvania, see the "Emigration/Immigration" section of this outline.

Important sources for minorities are:

### **Acadians**

For a history of Acadians from Nova Scotia who came to Pennsylvania in 1755 see Simone Vincens, *Les Indomptes* (FHL book 974.8 F2v; computer number 653964). This includes information on about 400 individuals. The text is in French.

## African Americans

An important history is Edward Raymond Turner. *The Negro in Pennsylvania: Slavery-Servitude-Freedom, 1639-1861*. (New York: Negro Universities Press, 1969; FHL book 974.8 F2t; computer number 18562). It includes an extensive bibliography.

See also Charles L. Blockson. *African Americans in Pennsylvania: A History and Guide*. (Baltimore, Md.: A DuForcelf book published by Black Classic Press, 1994; FHL book 974.8 F2bL; computer number 772807).

A brief but helpful reference to sources at the State Archives is David McBride *The Afro-American in Pennsylvania: A Critical Guide to Sources in the Pennsylvania State Archives*. (Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1979; FHL book 974.8 A1 no. 199; computer number 213585).

A potential source for information about individuals is Pennsylvania Abolition Society (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), *Manumissions and Indentures, ca. 1780-1840, Arranged by Name of Master or Slaveholder*. (On 7 FHL films beginning with 1,731,983; computer number 543155.) Records are from various eastern states, including New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Georgia, and Virginia.

Freedman's Savings and Trust Company signature cards or registers may list former masters, birth date, birthplace, occupation, residences, death information, parents, children, spouses, or siblings. Pennsylvania had one branch of this bank at Philadelphia from 1870 to 1874.

The signature registers for this branch are listed as Freedman's Savings and Trust Company (Washington, D.C.) 1865-1874, *Registers of Signatures of Depositors in Branches of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company, 1865-1874* (Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1969; FHL film 928,587; computer number 136687). Depositors are in order by account number.

The separate Freedman's Bureau records do *not* normally name relatives or give genealogical information. They can be found in the Family History Library Catalog Subject Search under FREEDMEN - PENNSYLVANIA.

Pennsylvania began the gradual emancipation of slaves in 1780. Slaves are sometimes mentioned in deeds (see "Land and Property"), in wills (see "Probate Records"), in tax records (see "Taxation"), and in court order books (see the "Court Records" section of this outline). A few parish registers ("Church Records") list slaves who attended church with their masters.

The "septennial" census (see the "Census" section of this outline), beginning in 1800 often list the name, age, and sex of slaves and the names of slave owners.

## Germans

Meyen, Emil. *Bibliography on the Colonial Germans of North America: Especially the Pennsylvania Germans and their Descendants*. Reprint. Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing, 1982. (FHL book 970 F23me; computer number 433989.)

A good history is William T. Parsons, *The Pennsylvania Dutch: A Persistent Minority*. (Boston: Twayne Publishers, 1976; FHL book 974.8 F6p; computer number 422294). It has an excellent bibliography of Pennsylvania German sources.

A history of events prior to 1782 is H. Frank Eshleman, *Historic Background and Annals of the Swiss and German Pioneer Settlers of Southeastern Pennsylvania and of their Remote Ancestors from the Middle of the Dark Ages, Down to the Time of the Revolutionary War . . . : With Particular Reference to the German-Swiss Menonites or Anabaptists, the Amish and Other Non-resistant Sects*. 1917; reprint (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1969; FHL book 974.81 F2se film 928,291 item 8; computer number 61687). It is organized chronologically by year.

A good history of modern times is Homer Tope Rosenberger. *The Pennsylvania Germans, 1891-1965 Frequently known as the "Pennsylvania Dutch"* ([S. l.]: H. T. Rosenberger, 1966 (Lancaster, Penn.: Printed for the Pennsylvania German Society; FHL book 974.8 B4pg v. 63; computer number 443834). It includes a brief account before 1891. It also has a description of "Outstanding Collections of Pennsylvania German Material" on pages 508-62.

A helpful genealogy of a small group of Pennsylvania Germans called "Schwenkfelders" is Samuel Kriebel Brecht, *The Genealogical Record of the Schwenkfelder Families: Seekers of Religious Liberty Who Fled From Silesia to Saxony and Thence to Pennsylvania in the Years 1731 to 1737*.



(New York: Rand McNally, printed for the Board of Publication of the Schwenkfelder Church, Pennsburg, Pennsylvania, 1923; FHL book 974.8 F2b; film 1,266,718; computer number 59365.) This book is a revision of a work done in 1879.

A helpful index is *Card Index to Pennsylvania Germans in the Magazines: Proceedings and Addresses (Pennsylvania German Society); Pennsylvania Dutchman; PGFS or Pennsylvania German Folklore Society; Penn-Germania; the Pennsylvania-German; Historical Review of Berks County; Reprint, the Morning Call; Some Copied Bible Records, 1713-1915, and News Clippings*. Microfilm of original records at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. (On 38 FHL films beginning with 1,204,985; computer number 332781.)

### Huguenots

Stapleton, Ammon, *Memorials of the Huguenots in America, With Special Reference to Their Emigration [sic] to Pennsylvania*. 1901; Reprint: Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1969. (FHL film 1,321,463 item 16; computer number 173659.)

### Scotch-Irish

Dunaway, Wayland Fuller. *The Scotch-Irish of Colonial Pennsylvania*. (FHL book 974.8 F2dw; fiche 6,046,742; computer number 16343.) It includes a helpful bibliography.

### Welsh

Browning, Charles Henry. *Welsh Settlement of Pennsylvania*. Microreproduction of original published: Philadelphia, Pa.: William J. Campbell, 1912. (FHL film 528,765; computer number 331656.)

Glenn, Thomas Allen. *Welsh Founders of Pennsylvania*. 2 vols. Oxford: Fox, Jones and Co., 1911-1913. (FHL book 974.8 F2g; film 496,948 items 1-2; computer number 18563.)

Glenn, Thomas Allen. *Merion in the Welsh Tract: With Sketches of the Townships of Haverford and Radnor, Historical and Genealogical Collections Concerning the Welsh Barony in the Province of Pennsylvania, Settled by the Cymric Quaker in 1682*. Norristown, Pa.: Herald Press, 1896. (FHL book 974.81 D2g; film 833,377; computer number 173681.)

### NATIVE RACES

A good history is Michael N. McConnell. *A Country Between: the Upper Ohio Valley and Its Peoples,*

1724-1774. (Lincoln, Neb.: University of Nebraska Press, 1992; FHL book 977.1 F3m; computer number 679468).

See also Paul A. W. Wallace. *Indians in Pennsylvania*. (Harrisburg, Pa.: Historical and Museum Commission, 1970; not at FHL).

Records of American Indians are listed in the Family History Library Locality Search under PENNSYLVANIA - NATIVE RACES and in the Subject Search under the name of the tribe or language group. The major Pennsylvania Indian tribes were the Delaware, Susquehannock, Shawnee, and Iroquois.

### NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

British immigrants to Pennsylvania were already citizens because Pennsylvania was a British colony. Others gave an oath of allegiance soon after arrival. For early lists of these, see Strassburger/Hinke *Pennsylvania German Pioneers* in the "Emigration and Immigration" section of this outline. For early naturalization records, see:

- Pennsylvania Supreme Court, *Naturalization Lists, 1740-1773* (FHL film 1,032,845 item 5-7; computer number 4823). These records are also found in *Pennsylvania Archives* series 2, vol. 2; Many names in these lists are not found in *Pennsylvania German Pioneers*.
- Giuseppe, M. S., ed. *Naturalizations of Foreign Protestants in the American And West Indian Colonies (Pursuant to Statute 13 George II, c. 7)* (originally published as Publications of the Huguenot Society of London, volume XXIV, London, 1921. reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1969; FHL book 973 W5g; film 908,978 item 1; computer number 270184). This book has an every name index.

The General Assembly of Pennsylvania required oaths of allegiance during and shortly after the Revolutionary War period. For one set of lists see:

- "Names of Persons Who Took the Oath of Allegiance to the State of Pennsylvania Between the Years 1776 and 1794," *Pennsylvania Archives*. Second series, v. 3. p. 1-86. (FHL book 974.8 A39p ser. 2 v. 3; film 823,994 item 1; computer number 639483.)
- Westcott, Thompson. *Names of Persons Who Took the Oath of Allegiance to the State of Pennsylvania Between the Years 1777 and 1789: With a History of the "Test Laws" of*



*Pennsylvania*, (1865; reprint, Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1965; FHL book 974.8 P4w; film 1,033,632 item 7; computer number 18953.)

Later immigrants filed for naturalization in a variety of city, county, state, or federal courts, but most often in a county court. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of many of these records. From Philadelphia County, for example, the library has:

Pennsylvania. Court of Quarter Sessions (Philadelphia County). *Declarations of Intentions, 1810-1932; Index, 1810-1887*. (On 48 FHL films beginning with 964,555; computer number 580752.)

Pennsylvania. Court of Quarter Sessions (Philadelphia County). *Petitions for Naturalization 1800-1929; Indexes 1802-1930*. (On 185 FHL films beginning with 969,029; computer number 405819.)

Pennsylvania. Court of Common Pleas (Philadelphia County). *Declarations of Intention, 1821-1911*. (On 38 FHL films beginning with 964,580; computer number 581706.)

Pennsylvania. Court of Common Pleas (Philadelphia County). *Petitions for Naturalization 1793-1906; Indexes 1793-1930*. (On 176 FHL films beginning with 976,526; computer number 359169.)

United States. Circuit Court (Pennsylvania: Eastern District). *Naturalization Petitions and Records, 1795-1911*. (On 53 FHL films beginning with 1,749,854 item 1-2; computer number 215171.)

United States. District Court (Pennsylvania: Eastern District). *Naturalization Petitions and Declarations, 1795-1931; Index 1795-1928*. (On 403 FHL films beginning with 1,548,563 item 1; computer number 251875.)

A useful index to early Philadelphia records is:

Filby, P. William, and Mary K. Meyer, *Philadelphia Naturalization Records, an Index to Records of Aliens' Declarations of Intentions and/or Oaths of Allegiance, 1789-1880 . . .* (Detroit, Mich.: Gale Research, 1982; FHL book 974.811 P4p; computer number 33326).

For a discussion of this index, see this magazine. Later issues list names missed in the index: Jefferson M. Moak, "The WPA Index of Naturalizations: An Explanation" *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine* 36 (1989): 109-16.

An index after 1880 is:

*Naturalization Index for Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, 1881-1930* (FHL films 1,752,877-92; computer number 534798). This indexes petitions from the Court of Quarter Sessions and Court of Common Pleas for Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania.

Indexes for the circuit and district courts are in United States, District Court (Pennsylvania: Eastern District). *Indexes to Naturalization Petitions to the U. S. Circuit and District Courts for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, 1795-1951* (FHL films 1,412,417-76; computer number 313249).

Prior to 1906 the Court of Common Pleas and Court of Quarter Sessions and Oyer and Terminer had jurisdiction over the naturalization of aliens since the first uniform naturalization law passed by Congress in 1790. All counties in which the Family History Library has microfilms of the original records have naturalizations under the Court of Common Pleas.

The Comprehensive Naturalization Law of 1906 provided for nationwide uniformity of processes and records. Jurisdiction over naturalization was provided by the U. S. District Courts, the Supreme Court, and all courts of record having a seal, a clerk, and jurisdiction in actions at law and equity in which the amount in controversy is unlimited.

For naturalization records after September 1906, contact the National Archives—Philadelphia Branch or the local office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, or the County Court.

The library has naturalization records for about two-thirds of Pennsylvania's counties.

## NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers are an important source for vital records, etc. during the period before Pennsylvania began keeping civil vital records.

Pennsylvania's first newspaper was the "American Weekly Mercury," published in Philadelphia in 1719. Ben Franklin's "Pennsylvania Gazette" began in 1728.

For newspaper collections, see:

- The State Library of Pennsylvania has the largest collection of newspapers. An inventory of these is Louis F. Rauco. *Pennsylvania Newspapers and Selected Out-of-State Newspapers* ([S. l.: s. n.], 1984; FHL book 974.8 B3p; film 1,320,895 item 16; computer number 1890).

- The Historical Society of Pennsylvania has a major collection, especially of Philadelphia newspapers from 1719 to the present.
- The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh has a large collection, especially of Pittsburgh newspapers. The Carnegie Library also has a card index to marriages and deaths listed in the newspapers in their collection.

The Family History Library has the *Pittsburgh Daily Gazette* on microfilm for 1786 to 1880, and a few other newspapers. The library has several published abstracts and indexes of Pennsylvania newspapers, including:

- Pennsylvania Gazette, 1728 to 1748
- Pennsylvania Chronicle, 1767 to 1774
- Daily Telegraph, 1883 to 1900
- German newspapers published in Philadelphia and Germantown, 1743-1800
- Quaker Necrology (59,000 obituaries found in Quaker newspapers of Philadelphia and other cities), 1828 to 1960

An excellent bibliography of Pennsylvania newspapers is Ruth Salisbury, ed., *Pennsylvania Newspapers, a Bibliography and Union List* (Pittsburgh, Pa.: Pennsylvania Library Association, 1969; FHL 974.8 A3s; computer number 251175).

An inventory for Philadelphia County is Pennsylvania Historical Survey, Division of Community Service Programs, Work Projects Administration. *A Checklist of Pennsylvania Newspapers, Philadelphia County*. (Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical Commission, 1944; FHL book 974.8 A3p; fiche 6,101,596; computer number 251353).

Valuable newspaper information is in:

Manning, Barbara. *Genealogical Abstracts from Newspapers of the German Reformed Church, 1830-1839*. (Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1992; FHL book 974.8 K28m; computer number 667949);

Manning, Barbara. *Genealogical Abstracts from Newspapers of the German Reformed Church 1840-1843*. (Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, Inc., 1995; FHL book 973 K28m; computer number 749171).

## PERIODICALS

Most family history periodicals reprint copies of local sources of genealogical value. These may include genealogies, information about local records and archives, queries, census indexes, and transcripts of family Bibles, church records, court records, cemetery records, land records, obituaries and wills. The major genealogical periodicals and magazines helpful for Pennsylvania research are:

**Keystone Kuzzins**. 1972-. Published by the Erie Society for Genealogical Research, P.O. Box 1403, Erie, PA 16512-1403. (FHL book 974.899 B2k; computer number 226813.) This has a cumulative index to 1981.

*Mennonite Family History*. 1982-. Published by Mennonite Family History, 219 Mill Rd., Morgantown, PA 19543-9516. (FHL book 970 F25m; computer number 116623.)

*The Pennsylvania Dutchman*. 8 vols. 1949-1957 (FHL book 974.8 B2pf; computer number 37516.) This was continued by *Pennsylvania Folklife* 1958-. Published by Pennsylvania Dutch Folklore Center, P. O. Box 92, Collegeville, Pennsylvania 19426. (FHL book 974.8 B2pf; computer number 143207.)

A partial index to these is Judith E. Fryer. *25 Year Index to Pennsylvania Folklife (including The Pennsylvania Dutchman and The Dutchman)*, volumes 1-25, 1949-1976 (Collegeville, Pa.: Pennsylvania Folklife Society, 1980; FHL book 974.8 B2pf index; computer number 368493.)

**The Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine**. 1895-. Published by Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, 215 S. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-5325, Telephone: 215-545-0391; Fax: 215-545-0936. (FHL book 974.8 B2p; computer number 213580.)

Volumes 1-15 of this periodical were published as *Publications of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania*. (FHL book 974.8 B2p; on 10 films beginning with 1,698,098 item 2; computer number 213593.)

*The Pennsylvania-German*. 1900-1911. 12 vols. Published by the Pennsylvania German Society. (FHL book 974.8 B2pg; film 1,697,727; computer number 316383.) The Family History Library has vols. 1-8, 11; no. 11.

*Pennsylvania German Society Proceedings and Addresses*. 1890-1966. 63 vols. (The library has most volumes from 9-63) (FHL book 974.8 B4pg; on 16 FHL films beginning with 924,110; vols. 42-44 on fiche 6,051,507-9; computer number 261202.)

Proceedings are continued in *Publications of the Pennsylvania German Society*, 1968-. Published by the Pennsylvania German Society, P. O. Box 244, Kutztown, PA 19530-0244. (FHL book 974.8 B4pgp; computer number 261251.)

The earlier volumes of the *Proceedings and Addresses* together with other early periodicals and books dealing with the Pennsylvania Germans are indexed in *Card Index to Pennsylvania Germans in the Magazines*. See the "Minorities" section of this outline.

*The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*. 1877-. Published by Historical Society of Pennsylvania. (FHL book 974.8 B2pm [includes index to vols. 1-75]; on 24 films beginning with 1,597,675; the index to vols. 1-75 is on film 924,847 item 1; computer number 223918.) There is an index to volumes 76-123 (1952-1999) FHL book 974.8 B2pm v. 76-123 index.

*The Pennsylvania Traveler-Post (formerly Pennsylvania Ancestors and Their Descendants Today)*. 1964-1994. Published by Richard and Mildred Williams, P. O. Box 776, Newtown, PA 18940. (FHL book 974.8 B2pt; computer number 223224.)

*Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Quarterly*. 1974-. Published by the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, 4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213-4080. Telephone: 412-687-6811. (FHL book 974.8 B2wg; on 2 FHL films beginning with 1,697,797 items 7-8; computer number 260301). Films do not circulate to family history centers.

*Your Family Tree*. 1948-1983. Published by Floyd G. Hoenstine, 414 Montgomery St., P.O. Box 208, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648. (FHL book 974.8 B2y; computer number 36973.) This emphasizes genealogy and history of southwestern Pennsylvania.

**Indexes.** Most of the periodicals listed above have annual indexes in the final issue for the year. For nationwide indexes to *Keystone Kuzzins*, *The Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine*, *The*

*Pennsylvania Traveler-Post*, *Your Family Tree*, and other family history periodicals, see:

*PERiodical Source Index (PERSI)*. Ft. Wayne, Ind.: Allen County Public Library Foundation, 1987-. (FHL book 973 D25per; fiche 6,016,863 [set of 40](1847-1985); fiche 6,016,864 [set of 15](1986-1990); computer number 658308.) Indexes thousands of English-language and French-Canadian family history periodicals. Annual indexes have been published yearly since 1986. For further details see the *PERiodical Source Index Resource Guide* (34119).

For more family history periodicals, study the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under:

PENNSYLVANIA - PERIODICALS  
PENNSYLVANIA - GENEALOGY -  
PERIODICALS  
PENNSYLVANIA - SOCIETIES -  
PERIODICALS  
PENNSYLVANIA, [COUNTY] -PERIODICALS  
PENNSYLVANIA, [COUNTY] - GENEALOGY -  
PERIODICALS  
PENNSYLVANIA, [COUNTY] - SOCIETIES -  
PERIODICALS

## PROBATE RECORDS

Probates have been recorded on a county basis since the origin of the Commonwealth in 1682. Complete records are available in most counties. Probate actions taken in a locality before the present county was formed are found in records of the parent county.

Wills have been filed with the "register of wills" in each county, where they are recorded in indexed books.

The records of the orphan's court include minute books, proceedings, dockets, appeals, bonds, inventories, distributions of estates, marriages (since 1885), births and deaths (1893-1905), and adoptions (since 1925). Published abstracts of wills and administrations with comprehensive indexes are available for most of the oldest or largest counties.

The docket index, estate index, or general index is the first place to search for evidence of probate proceedings. These indexes list all the records created for a particular probate. The Family History Library has obtained microfilm copies of many of these indexes, often up to the 1960s.

The various documents (bonds, letters, inventories, etc.) are usually transcribed into Orphans' Court Record Books or Administrator's Account Books. The Family History Library has microfilmed the wills and orphans' court records for most counties, usually up to the early 1900s. For example, the library has:

Philadelphia County (Pennsylvania), Register of Wills, *Wills, 1682-1916; Indexes to Wills, 1682-1924* (on 327 FHL films beginning with 1,311,039; computer number 96687);

Pennsylvania, Orphans' Court (Philadelphia County), *Orphans' Court Records, 1719-1880; Orphans' Court Index, 1719-1938* (on 417 FHL films beginning with 21,843; computer number 55813).

The library has few probate records from Lackawanna, Lehigh, Lycoming, Monroe, Pike, Schuylkill, and Union counties. Some probate records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under PENNSYLVANIA - GUARDIAN AND WARD.

## SOCIETIES

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For Pennsylvania genealogical and historical societies which have records and services to help you with your research see the "Archives and Libraries," "Church Records," "Genealogy" and "Periodicals" sections of this outline. Many counties also have local historical and genealogical societies. You can find local society addresses by using directories cited in the "Societies" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

Pennsylvania has many historical and genealogical societies. Most collect historical documents of local interest, publish periodicals, and have special projects and indexes. The library has records for a number of societies in Pennsylvania, including the following:

The Grand Army of the Republic (based on Union Army service during the Civil War) has produced *Grand Army of the Republic. Department of Pennsylvania. Record of Eligibility of Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Pennsylvania 1883-1992* (FHL films 1,888,615-16; computer number 758759). It is a source to locate records of military personnel as well as genealogy of the applicants.

The Colonial Society of Pennsylvania located in Philadelphia is open to individuals who have an ancestor in colonial America. See *Colonial Society of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), Applications for Membership in Alphabetical Order by Member With a Complete Genealogy Back to*

*Original Ancestor*. (FHL films 532,056-73; computer number 336131.)

The purpose of the Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania is to perpetuate the memory of the Huguenots. Members of the society are descendants of Huguenot families immigrating to America before November 1787 and anyone who has made the Huguenots a subject of research papers, etc. The society was organized in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1918. They published:

*Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania* (series) v. 1-15 (Norristown, Pa.: The Society, 1918-1939 and the continuation *Proceedings of the Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania*, v. 16-39. (Norristown, Pa.: The Society, 1942-1967). (FHL book 974.8 C4h; film for v. 1-3 and 7-9 is 1,697,274 item 5-6; computer number 258265 and 258267).

Also see:

Sons of the American Revolution. Pennsylvania Society. *Patriots Index; Members and Ancestors, 1893-1993* (Monongahela, PA: PASSAR, 1995; FHL book 974.8 C42sar; computer number 769003).

## TAXATION

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Tax lists in Pennsylvania can help you establish where an ancestor lived prior to and between the federal censuses.

An early form of tax list is:

Pennsylvania, Secretary of the Land Office. *Rent Rolls, 1703-1744*. (FHL films 1,035,090 item 2 and 1,032,840 items 1-2; computer number 5956.) These rolls have indexes which provide an excellent locator tool for this period of time for those who owned land.

The *Pennsylvania Archives* (see the "Genealogy" section of this outline), 3rd series, volumes 11-22, contains tax lists, for varying years between 1765 and 1791, for 14 of the 19 counties created by 1788. These volumes are indexed in volumes 27 to 29 of the same series (FHL films 824,436-37).

The eleven colonial counties are also indexed in John D. and Diane Stemmons, *Pennsylvania in 1780: A Statewide Index of Circa 1780 Taxlists* (Salt Lake City, UT.: [Stemmons Publishing Co.], 1978; FHL book 974.8 R42p; computer number 327744.)

The library has the following federal tax records:

United States, Secretary of the Treasury. *United States Direct Tax of 1798, Tax Lists for the State of Pennsylvania*. (FHL films 351,594-617; computer number 174989.)



United States, Commissioner of Internal Revenue. *Internal Revenue Assessment Lists for Pennsylvania, 1862-1865*. (FHL films 1,549,103-209; computer number 462514.)

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of many county tax lists obtained from county or state repositories. These lists often date from the creation of the county and continue to the early 1800s. An example is Pennsylvania, Comptroller General. *Tax and Exoneration Lists, 1762-1801*. (On 29 FHL films beginning with 295,759; computer number 15551.) Many of these may be the same as those cited in the *Pennsylvania Archives* above.

## VITAL RECORDS

### Statewide Records of Births and Deaths

Statewide registration of births and deaths began in January, 1906, and was generally complied with by 1915. You can obtain copies by writing to:

Division of Vital Records  
State Department of Health  
101 South Mercer St., Rm. 401  
P.O. Box 1528  
New Castle, PA 16101  
Internet: [www.health.state.pa.us/vitalrecords/](http://www.health.state.pa.us/vitalrecords/)

State your relationship to the individual you want information about and your reason. 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). Copies of this booklet are at the Family History Library and many Family History Centers. You can also write to the Division of Vital Statistics for current information.

### Local Records of Births and Deaths

The Register of Wills in a few counties kept records of births and deaths for the years 1852-1854. The Family History Library has Pennsylvania, Secretary of the Commonwealth. *Births, Marriages, and Deaths on File at the State Archives, 1852-1854*. (FHL films 1,016,403-8; computer number 374806). The Library does not have 1852-1854 records for the counties of Blair, Clarion, Erie, Forest, Lehigh, Monroe, Montour, Philadelphia, Pike, Potter, and Union. Cameron, Lackawanna, and Snyder counties were formed after 1854.

Counties began registering births and deaths in 1893. Some municipalities (Chester, Cumberland, Fulton) and the City of Philadelphia began about 1873 or before. This registration continued until at least 1906 when the state took over the responsibility in 1906.

Vital records were also kept by some of the larger cities. The library has birth and death records on

microfilm for the cities of Altoona, Harrisburg, Johnstown, McKeesport, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Reading, Scranton, Wilkesburg, Williamsport, and York.

For example:

**Philadelphia County and City.** The library has over 1,000 microfilms some of which are:

- Philadelphia (Pennsylvania). Board of Health. *Birth Registers, 1860-1903, For the City of Philadelphia*. (On 56 FHL films beginning with 1,289,345; computer number 38756.)
- Philadelphia (Pennsylvania), Board of Health. *Birth Returns, 1904-1915, Filed by Physician, Midwife, or Hospital*. (On 197 FHL films beginning with 1,434,211; computer number 591293.)
- Philadelphia (Pennsylvania), Bureau of Health. *Birth Index Cards, 1904-1915, for Philadelphia*. (FHL films 1,373,643-817; computer number 340573.)
- Philadelphia (Pennsylvania), Department of Public Health. *Burial Records, 1807-1840*. (FHL films 381,249-58; computer number 370573.)
- Philadelphia (Pennsylvania), Department of Public Health. *Death Records, 1832-1860*. (FHL films 381,242-8; computer number 370572.)
- Pennsylvania Historical Survey, Work Projects Administration. *Index to Registration of Deaths, City of Philadelphia, 1803-1860*. (FHL films 978,982-96; computer number 262515.)
- Philadelphia (Pennsylvania), Board of Health. *Death Registers, 1860-1903*. (On 54 FHL films beginning with 1,289,360; computer number 39419.)
- Philadelphia (Pennsylvania), Bureau of Health. *Death Certificates, 1904-1915: Death Indexes, 1904-1915*. (On 781 FHL films beginning with 1,289,374; computer number 39441.)

With the consolidation of Philadelphia City and County in 1854, all vital records after 1854 are found on the level for Philadelphia City.

Other records include:

*Old German Midwife's Records, 1791-1815*. (FHL film 383,294; computer number 371745.) The originals are at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Fayette County (Pennsylvania). Prothonotary. *Birth Returns for Negroes and Mulattoes, 1788-1826: Includes Certificates of Registry Received from Other Counties 1785, 1803, 1805, 1807-1808 and Miscellaneous Papers 1823, 1830, n.d..* (FHL film 1,449,141; computer number 353205.) The library also has these records of varying dates for Adams, Centre, and Lancaster counties.

Bucks County (Pennsylvania). Coroner. *Coroner's Views and Inquisitions, 1710-1906; Index, 1722-1946.* (FHL films 941,417-24; computer number 170873.) Coroner's reports supply information on accidental or suspicious deaths.

Funeral records issued by a funeral home include financial records (cost of casket, dressings, etc.), funeral cards given out at the time of the funeral, etc. These records usually give the name of the deceased, when and where buried, if shipped out to another funeral home, purchaser of cemetery plot, etc. The library has many records of funeral homes. An example from Philadelphia is:

David H. Bowen and Son, Undertakers  
(Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). *Funeral Records, 1845-1899.* (On 13 FHL films beginning with 527,812; computer number 330125.)

Published records include:

Charles Adam Fisher. *Early Pennsylvania Births, 1675-1875.* (Reprint of 1947 edition; Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1979; FHL book 974.8 V2f; fiche 6,101,577; computer number 682968). This book contains church and cemetery records as well as birth dates, many from sources never before published, in the counties of Berks, Juniata, Lebanon, Northumberland, Snyder, and Union.

An index to this is:

Carile Santos. *Complete Name Index to "Early Pennsylvania Births, 1675-1875.* (FHL film 1,597,740 item 6; computer number 567168.)

*Pennsylvania Vital Records From the Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine and the Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* 3 vols. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1983.; FHL book 974.8 V2p; computer number 202042) contains most records of births, baptisms, marriages, and deaths published in those magazines.

Newspaper accounts of deaths are valuable sources for further research. The library has numerous newspaper

accounts of vital records. Many obituary records have been abstracted in published books such as:

Scott, Kenneth. *Abstracts (Mainly Deaths) From the Pennsylvania Gazette, 1775-1783* (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1976; FHL book 974.8 A1 no. 87; computer number 162389). See the "Newspapers" section of this outline for more information.

## Delayed Birth Records

Births not registered at the time of the event may have been registered beginning in 1941. To prove a birth, several witnesses were required to sign affidavits before the Orphans' Court which would then issue a birth certificate. Delayed registrations of births began in various counties in different years, usually in 1941 and continued until the present.

Delayed birth records are at:

- The Family History Library. Microfilm records are available for all counties EXCEPT Carbon, Chester, Huntingdon, Lehigh, Monroe, Pike, Schuylkill, and Union.
- You may also write to the Clerk of the Orphan's Court at the county seat.

An example of delayed registration of births is Pennsylvania, Orphans' Court (Bucks County). *Delayed Special Registration of Births and Index, 1941-1972.* (FHL films 9,275,94-605; computer number 168895.)

## Marriage Records

Pennsylvania recorded few civil marriage records before 1885. However many marriages before then will be found in church records. The library does have the following sources:

*Marriage Register of Pennsylvania, 1684 to 1689.* (FHL film 20,438 item 4; computer number 350142.) This contains mainly Quaker records in Philadelphia.

Pennsylvania. Supreme Executive Council. *Marriage Bonds, 1784-1786.* (FHL films 1,759,093 item 2-1,759,094 item 1; computer number 717511.) These records are alphabetically arranged by male applicant and are all at Philadelphia. They are probably the same records as those abstracted in *Pennsylvania Archives* series 6, volume 6, pp. 285-310.

Pennsylvania. Bureau of Vital Statistics. *Marriage Records, 1885-1889*. (FHL films 1,027,957-8; computer number 2939.) The males are listed on the first film and the females on the second.

Some cities began keeping records in the early 1800s. Counties which kept birth and death records for the years 1852-1854 usually kept marriage records for the same time period. Most counties began keeping marriage records in October, 1885. You can obtain copies from the Clerk of the Orphans' Court in the appropriate county.

The Family History Library has copies of many marriage records, usually from 1885 to 1920, although some are before. For Philadelphia City and County the library has:

*Early Marriage Papers of Philadelphia County, 1752-1804*. (FHL film 20,438 item 8; computer number 350147.)

*Marriages in Philadelphia, 1808-1895*. (FHL films 381,275-8; computer number 372023.)

*Marriage Register of Philadelphia County, 1814 to 1839*. (FHL film 20,438 item 5; computer number 350143.)

Philadelphia (Pennsylvania). Board of Health. *Certificates of Marriages Before John Dennis, Alderman of Philadelphia, 1846-1852*. (FHL film 20,447 item 3; computer number 351134.)

Philadelphia (Pennsylvania). Mayor. *Marriage Records, 1857-1938*. (FHL films 972.954-6; computer number 323976.)

Philadelphia (Pennsylvania). Board of Health. *Marriage Returns, 1860-1885, Filed by Person Performing the Ceremony*. (On 28 FHL films beginning with 1764889; computer number 591509.) These records are returns of marriages arranged quarterly under the name of the person performing the marriage. They include the date of ceremony, name, age, place of birth and residence of parties involved, the groom's occupation and race. The records are the source for:

Philadelphia (Pennsylvania). Board of Health. *Marriage Register, 1860-1885*. (On 7 FHL films beginning with 978,997; computer number 262501.) These films are difficult to read in many places.

Pennsylvania. Magistrate's Court (Philadelphia). *Record of Marriages, 1880-1908, in Magistrate's*

*Court No. 9*. (FHL film 475,647; computer number 59820.)

Philadelphia County (Pennsylvania). Clerk of the Orphans' Court. *Affidavit of Applicant for Marriage License 1885-1915; Index 1885-1916*. (On 598 FHL films beginning with 1,290,579; computer number 55805.)

Justice of the Peace records may contain marriages before 1885. The library has these records from the counties of Beaver, Chester, Dauphin, Greene, Lancaster, Lebanon, Montgomery, and Somerset. For example see:

Potter County (Pennsylvania). Justice of the Peace. *Records, 1865-1927*. (FHL film 1,421,828; computer number 468160.) It contains summons, warrants and marriages. It also includes typewritten indexes to the records and a separate typewritten index to marriages for 1865-1896;

Bucks County (Pennsylvania). Justice of the Peace. *Register of Marriages Performed by Lewis Swift, a Justice of the Peace of Bensalem Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, 1835-1839*. (FHL film 20,447 item 3; computer number 351132.)

Published records include the following:

Marriage licenses for 1742 to 1790 (mostly for 1744 to 1776) are in:

*Pennsylvania Marriages Prior to 1790*, 1968; reprint, Baltimore, Pa.: Genealogical Publishing, 1968; FHL book 974.8 V2n; film 823,832 item 2; computer number 173236). This was reprinted from *Pennsylvania Archives*, series 2, volume 2.

Additional marriage records are found in:

"List of Marriage Licenses Issued in the Secretary's Office From August 1755 through April 1759" *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine* 21 (1960): 312-27, see the "Periodicals" section of this outline.

*Record of Pennsylvania Marriages, Prior to 1810*. 2 v. 1880. Reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1968. (FHL book 974.8 V2r; fiche 6,049,248-9; computer number 173651.) This was reprinted from *Pennsylvania Archives*, series 2, volumes 8 and 9, and is mostly from church records.

## Divorce Records

In Pennsylvania, divorce proceedings were usually kept by the Court of Common Pleas. For an example, see:

Pennsylvania, Court of Common Pleas (Philadelphia County), *Divorce Docket, 1851-1874* (FHL films 963,387-93; computer number 326269).

The library also has:

“Divorces Granted by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania from December 1785 until 1801”, *Publications of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania*, vol. 1, p. 185-192 (FHL book 974.8 B2p v. 1; film 1,698,098 item 2; computer number 744353).

## Inventory of Vital Records

You can learn more about the history and availability of vital records in:

*Inventory of Vital Statistics Within Each County* (Harrisburg, Pa.: Historical Records Survey, N.d.; FHL film 1,016,402; computer number 374826). This inventory also describes many available church records.

## FOR FURTHER READING

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The following handbooks will give more detailed information about research and records of Pennsylvania:

Clint, Florence. *Pennsylvania Area Key: A Guide to the Genealogical Records of the State of Pennsylvania; Including Maps, Histories, Charts and Other Helpful Materials*. 2nd ed. Denver, Colo.: Area Keys, 1976. (FHL 974.8 D27c; computer number 130225.) An area key has also been published for each county.

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.

Heisey, John W. *Handbook for Genealogical Research in Pennsylvania*. Indianapolis, Ind.: Heritage House, 1985. (FHL book 974.8 D27h; computer number 426257.)

Hoenstine, Floyd G. *Guide to Genealogical and Historical Research in Pennsylvania*. 3rd ed. Hollidaysburg, Pa.: F. G. Hoenstine, 1978. (FHL book 974.8 A3h; computer number 13507.) This includes a bibliography of research materials available for rental or sale. It also contains an important surname index to many local histories. Also use the 1978-84 supplement.

Iscrupe, William L. and Shirley G. M. Iscrupe, comp. *Pennsylvania Line: A Research Guide to Pennsylvania Genealogy and Local History*. 4th ed. Laughlintown, Pa.: Southwest Pennsylvania Genealogical Services, 1990. (FHL book 974.8 D27p; computer number 576942.) Contains informative maps and a gazetteer.

Schweitzer, George K. *Pennsylvania Genealogical Research*. Knoxville, Tenn.: G. Schweitzer, 1986. (FHL book 974.8 D27s; computer number 429580.)

## COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

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

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Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3400  
USA  
Fax: 801-240-2597

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

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File: US—Pennsylvania



THE CHURCH OF  
JESUS CHRIST  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS



## Pennsylvania 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 are important dates in the history of Pennsylvania that affected political boundaries, record keeping, and family movements:

1633-1674	The Dutch, Swedes, and English established the first European settlements in Pennsylvania.
1680s	William Penn founded the colony of Pennsylvania after receiving a grant in 1681 from the king of England. His colony offered religious freedom, liberal government, and inexpensive land. Quakers established the city of Philadelphia.
1700-1754	Welsh, German, and Scotch-Irish groups arrived.
1754	The French and Indian War started in western Pennsylvania.
1763-1789	The boundaries between Pennsylvania and the neighboring states were settled: Connecticut (1782), Maryland (1763), New York (1789), and Virginia (1779).
1776	The Revolutionary War began. The state constitution was adopted.
1787	Pennsylvania became the second state to ratify the Constitution.
1790-1800	Philadelphia was the capital of the United States.
1811	Steamboats began traveling from Pittsburgh to New Orleans.
1834	The railroad-canal line extended from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh.
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 Pennsylvania 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 in the window to the left. 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 Pennsylvania available through Family History Centers or the Family History Library, click on Family History Library Catalog in the window to the left. Look under BIBLIOGRAPHY or HISTORY - BIBLIOGRAPHY.

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

The Family History Library has many local histories and handbooks to help you with your research. Sources for studying the history of Pennsylvania include:

Egle, William Henry. *An Illustrated History of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania: Civil, Political, and Military from its Earliest Settlement to the Present Time, Including Historical Descriptions of Each County in the State, Their Towns, and Industrial Resources*. Philadelphia: E. M. Gardner, 1880. (FHL book 974.8 H2eg; film 1697290 item 11.)

Donehoo, George P. *Pennsylvania; A History*. 9 vol. contents: [1-4] History. [5-9] Biography. New York: Lewis Historical Pub. Co., 1926-1931. (FHL book 974.8 H2ph; vols. 4, 5, and 8 are on 3 FHL films beginning with 1320599 item 5.)

Stevens, Sylvester Kirby. *Pennsylvania: The Heritage of a Commonwealth*. 4 vol. West Palm Beach, Florida: The American Historical Company, 1968. (FHL book 974.8 H2sp.)

Pennsylvania has the following excellent bibliographic resources for materials on history:

- Bining, Arthur C., et al. *Writing on Pennsylvania History: A Bibliography*. Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1946. (FHL book 974.8 A3bw.) This and the following book often provide comments about the value of the source being described.
- Wilkinson, Norman B. *Bibliography of Pennsylvania History*. 2d ed. Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1957. (FHL book 974.8 H23b; film 1036387 item 3.) This book updates and expands the previous book.
- Wall, Carol. *Bibliography of Pennsylvania History: A Supplement*. Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1976. (FHL book 974.8 H23b supp.; film 1036387 item 4.) This and the following book continue the effort of the previous works, although they do not provide comments on the value of any listing.
- Trussell, John B. B. Jr. *Pennsylvania Historical Bibliography*. Vols. 1-6. Harrisburg, Pa.: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1979-1989. (FHL book 974.8 H23p.) This work updates the bibliographies cited above. The library has vol. 1 only.

A very helpful source in addition to the above bibliographies is Dennis B. Downey and Francis J. Bremer, *A Guide to the History of Pennsylvania* (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1993; FHL book 974.8 H23g.) Of special value is the description of research collections in Pennsylvania archives and manuscript repositories. However, it does not include genealogy societies.

Potentially helpful histories of Pennsylvania counties compiled in 1939-1942 as in the Historical Records Survey (Pennsylvania), *Notes on County Histories and Points of Interest for American Guide Series* (FHL films 1016396-401). The counties are filed mostly in alphabetical order, and while a general format seems to be followed, they vary in the kind of information given.

## 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.





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

## Pennsylvania Statewide Indexes and Collections

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### Guide

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#### 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* appear 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.

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### Steps

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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 – present *Ancestral File*  
*International Genealogical Index*  
*Family History Library Catalog* - Surname Search

- 1580–1920s Filby, P. William, ed. *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index: A Guide to Published Arrival Records of About 500,000 Passengers Who Came to the United States and Canada in the Seventeenth, Eighteenth, and Nineteenth Centuries*. (FHL book 973 W32p; films beginning with 1597960 item 4; see supplements also.) This is an excellent source for information on immigrants.
- 1580–1819 Tepper, Michael, ed. *Emigrants to Pennsylvania 1641–1819: A Consolidation of Ship Passenger Lists from the Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*. (FHL book 974.8 W3t.) Indexed in Filby's 1982–85 volumes.
- 1580–1980 State Library of Pennsylvania (Harrisburg). *Genealogical Surname Card Index*. (On 42 FHL films beginning with 1002825.) Alphabetical. An excellent index to state, county, and town histories and biographies. About 109,000 names.
- 1580–1980 *Index to Pennsylvania County Histories*. (Not at FHL.) At the Carnegie Library. Another excellent index to state, county and town histories and biographies. You may wish to write for a search. About 75,000 names.
- 1580–1980s Hoenstine, Floyd G. *Guide to Genealogical and Historical Research in Pennsylvania*. (FHL book 974.8 A3h.) Various editions and supplements. Lists surnames and refers you to books with information on persons by that surname. About 87,500 names.
- 1580–1900 *Manuscript Card Catalog of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania*. (On 9 FHL films beginning with 377629.) Alphabetical. An important index to many collections which are on microfilm at the Family History Library. About 29,000 names.
- 1580–1935 Federal Writer's Project (Pennsylvania). *Pennsylvania Encyclopedia Biography Field Notes for American Guide Series*. (FHL films 1015709–725.) Alphabetical. Has biographical information about persons who were well known. About 20,000 names.
- 1580–1937 Virdin, Donald Odell. *Pennsylvania Family Histories and Genealogies*. (FHL book 974.8 D23v; fiche 6101890.) Lists family histories that have been published about Pennsylvania families. About 1,500 surnames.
- 1580–1915 *Genealogies of Pennsylvania Families: From the Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine*. (FHL book 974.8 D2g 3 vols.) About 636,500 names.
- 1580–1882 *Pennsylvania Vital Records from the Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine and the Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*. (FHL book 974.8 V2p, 3 vols.) Each volume is indexed. About 80,000 names.
- 1580–present *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine*. (FHL book 974.8 B2p.) See the indexes. Also, see the above source for a consolidated version of many of the genealogies. About 50,000 names.
- 1580–1892 *Genealogies of Pennsylvania Families: From the Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*. (FHL book 974.8 D2p.) About 9,200 names.
- 1580–1911 Jordan, John W. ed. *Colonial and Revolutionary Families of Pennsylvania: Genealogical and Personal Memoirs*. (FHL book 974.8 D2c 10 vols.; on films beginning with 1697635.) Each volume has an index. About 181,500 names.
- 1580–1984 Colket, Meredith B. *Founders of Early American Families: Emigrants From Europe, 1607–1657*. (FHL book 973. D2cmb 1985.) Refers to books and articles about many early immigrants' families and descendants. About 3,000 founders' names.
- 1580–present *Periodical Source Index (PERSI)* lists records (by place or surname) that were published in genealogical magazines or periodicals. This resource should not be overlooked. It is available on the Internet through Ancestry.com. (FHL book 973 D25 per, various combined indexes and, annual supplements; fiche 6016863, 6016864; compact disc no. 61.)
- 1580–1908 *Index to American Genealogies: And to Genealogical Material Contained in All Works as to Town Histories, County Histories, Local Histories, Historical Society Publication, Biographies, Historical Periodicals and Kindred Works*. (FHL book 973 D22m 1984; films 485946 item 3 and 599811 item 1.) Indexes many family and local histories. About 55,000 surnames. Known as Munsell's Index.

- 1580–1940 Rider, Freemont, ed. *American Genealogical-Biographical Index*. (FHL book 973 D22am ser. 2, 189+ volumes; on films beginning with 1698167.) Names A to Walker are available at this time. There is an earlier series for names A to Z. About 30 million names.
- 1580–1911 Cope, Gilbert. *Collection of Family Data*. (On 75 FHL films beginning with 517003.) Alphabetical. Includes many Quaker and non-Quaker families. A surname index is on film 517003 item 3. About 2,000 surnames.
- 1580–1950s Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). *Family Records Arranged Alphabetically*. (On 360 FHL films beginning with 345738.) About 3,000 surnames.
- 1580–1950s Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). *Family Records, No. 2*. (On 53 FHL films beginning with 525531.) Alphabetical. About 1,000 surnames.
- 1580–1910 Jordan, John W., comp. *Superior Index to Jordan's Colonial Families of Philadelphia*. (FHL fiche 6331276–79.) This is an index by Hamilton Computer service. About 44,800 names.
- 1580–1982 Worden, Jean D. *The American Genealogist: Index to Subjects in Volumes 1–60*. (FHL book 973 D25aga.) This is an index to volumes 1–60 of this periodical. About 5,500 names.
- 1580–1968 Colonial Society of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania). *Applications for Membership, in Alphabetical Order by Member With a Complete Genealogy Back to Original Ancestor*. (FHL films 532056–073.) Alphabetical. Has compiled genealogies back to a Colonial ancestor. About 9,000 names.
- 1580–present Dorman, John F., ed. *The Virginia Genealogist*. (FHL book 975.5 B2vg; films 844855–57.) Check indexes because this has articles about many Pennsylvania families who left and went to Virginia. About 200,000 names.
- 1580–1920 Jordan, John W. *Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania Biography*. (FHL book 974.8 D3e vols. 1–6, 15, 26; on films beginning with 1672289 item 9; on fiche beginning with 6048701.) About 7,000 names.
- 1600–1924 Philadelphia County (Pennsylvania). Register of Wills. *Wills 1682–1916; Index to Wills 1682–1924*. (On FHL films beginning with 1311039.) Also includes an index to administrations. Over 100,000 names.
- 1600–1825 *Abstracts of Philadelphia Wills 1682–1825*. (FHL book 974.811 P2a, 11 vols.; on films beginning with 384806.) These volumes contain abstracts. Each volume is indexed. About 75,000 names.
- 1600–1940s Rogers, Sophie Seldon. *Sophie Seldon Rogers Collection*. (On 45 FHL films beginning with 511759.) Alphabetical. About 1,000 surnames. Indexed in the *Manuscript Card Catalog* . . . which is on FHL films 377629–637.
- 1600–1848 *Pennsylvania Archives*. (FHL book 974.8 A39p; 135 vols.; on 65 films beginning with 844577.) There are very helpful indexes for the various series:
- Series 1 index is on FHL film 824438 item 2.
  - Series 2 index is in vols. 27–30 (films 824436–38).
  - Series 3 indexed in series 3, volumes 27–30 (index begins on film 824426).
  - Series 4 is indexed in series 4, volume 12 (index is on films 824416–25).
  - Series 5 is indexed in series 6 (index on films 844571–2; fiche 6051543).
  - Series 6 is indexed in series 7, volumes 1–5. Series 7 is on films 496948–50; fiche 6051546–50.
  - Series 7 This is an index to series 6. Series 7 is on films 496948–50; fiche 6051546–50.
- 1600–1923 Ely, Warren Smedley. *Warren S. Ely Collection of Genealogical Data, Letters*. (On 45 FHL films beginning with 511938.) Alphabetical. Eastern Pennsylvania families. About 6,500 names.
- 1600–1952 Gearhart, Heber G. *Alphabetically Ordered Genealogical Data*. (FHL films 511924–28.) About 4,000 names.

- 1630–1850 Anderson, Bart, et al. *Index to Chester County, Pennsylvania, Wills and Intestate Records 1713–1850*. (FHL book 974.813 P22a; film 496936 item 6.) Many families passed through Chester County, one of the early counties. For abstracts, 1714–1825; has about 246,000 names.
- 1630–1950 Pennsylvania Bureau of Land Records. *Warrant Register, 1682–1950*. (FHL films 1028658–661 or 1003194–99.) These are indexes to the early state land grants. There is a register for each county.
- 1644–1765 Humphrey, John T. *Pennsylvania Births, Philadelphia County 1644–1765*. (FHL book 974.811 V2hj.) Taken from church records. About 17,500 names.
- 1650–1748 Scott, Kenneth. *Abstracts from Ben Franklin's Pennsylvania Gazette, 1728–1748*. (FHL book 974.811 B38s.) Other books have been published which carry the abstracts up to about 1767 and for the Revolutionary War period. About 12,000 names.
- 1650–1900 Schory, Eva Draegert. *Every-name Index to Egle's Notes and Queries*. (FHL book 974.8 B2nq index.) Indexes the source below. About 71,000 names.
- 1650–1900 Egle, William Henry, ed. *Notes and Queries: Historical, Biographical, and Genealogical, Relating Chiefly to Interior Pennsylvania*. (FHL book 974.8 B2ng several series; on films beginning with 1697773.) For an index see above. About 36,000 names (click for online version).
- 1650–1800 Hocker, Edward W. *Genealogical Data Relating to the German Settlers of Pennsylvania and Adjacent Territory From Advertisements in German Newspapers Published in Philadelphia and Germantown, 1743–1800*. (FHL book 974.8 D2h; film 021591 item 17, or film 844896.) About 4,000 names.
- 1650–1840 *Pennsylvania Marriages Prior to 1790: Names of Persons For Whom Marriage Licenses Were Issued in the Province of Pennsylvania Previous to 1790*. (FHL book 974.8 V2n 1968; film 823832 item 2; 1963 book 974.8 V2n; film 1036417 item 5.) About 14,000 names.
- 1650–1810 *Record of Pennsylvania Marriages, Prior to 1810*. (FHL book 974.8 V2r 1968 vols.1–2; fiche 6049248.) Taken from church records. About 64,000 names.
- 1650–1915 *The Pennsylvania Traveler: Records, Family, History and Data Relating to Pennsylvania*. (FHL book 974.8 B2pt; 25 vols.) A periodical. Vols. 7–25 have the title *Pennsylvania Traveler-Post*. There are indexes in some volumes. About 25,000 names.
- 1660–1976 Church of the Brethren. *The Brethren Encyclopedia*. (FHL book 286.503 B755 vols.1–3.) About 17,000 names.
- 1670–1906 Mervine, William M. *William M. Mervine Collection: Genealogical Notes*. (On 119 FHL films beginning with 503279.) Not alphabetical. For an index, see the *Manuscript Card Catalog of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania*. (FHL films 377629–637.)
- 1675–1950 Fisher, Charles Adams. *Early Pennsylvania Births 1675–1875*. (FHL book 974.8 V2fi 1979; film 982335 item 13; fiche 6101577.) From church records. About 5,900 names.
- 1680–1759 Weinberg, Allen. *Warrants and Surveys of the Province of Pennsylvania Including the Three Lower Counties, 1759*. (FHL book 974.8 A1 #130; film 982105 beginning with item 7.) This includes the three counties that are now Delaware. About 8,000 names.
- 1700–1783 White, Virgil D. *Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files*. (FHL book 973 M28g 4 vols.) Index is in vol. 4. Often gives the names of the wife and children and marriage information. About 400,000 names.
- 1700–1893 Cope, Harry E. *Soldiers and Widows of Soldiers of the Revolutionary War Granted Pensions by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*. (FHL book 974.8 M2c; film 1036819 item 26.) About 2,500 names.
- 1700–1893 Pennsylvania. Auditor General's Office. *Revolutionary War Pension File, 1809–1893*. (FHL films 1016413–15.) About 1,000 names.



- 1700–1860 Daughters of the American Revolution. *DAR Patriot Index*. (FHL 973 C42da 1990 vol.1–2.) Centennial edition. Lists Revolutionary War patriots and their spouses. About 100,000 names.
- 1700–1860 Daughters of the American Revolution. *DAR Patriot Index*. (FHL 973 C42da vol. 3.) Volume 3 is especially useful in that it is an index to the *wives* of the soldiers. About 60,000 names.
- 1700–1868 *D.A.R. Revolutionary War Burial Index*. (FHL films 1307675–82.) Alphabetical. Prepared by Brigham Young University from DAR records. Often lists name, birth date, death date, burial place, name of cemetery, company and/or regiment, and sometimes gives the place of birth, etc. About 67,000 names.
- 1700–1868 Hatcher, Patricia Law. *Abstract of Graves of Revolutionary Patriots*. (FHL book 973 V38h vols.1–4.) For entire U.S. About 67,200 names.
- 1700–1860 Brakebill, Clovis. *Revolutionary War Graves Register*. (FHL book 973 V3br.) About 53,760 names. Covers entire U.S.
- 1700–1783 *Military Abstract Card File for the Revolutionary War, 1775–1783*. (FHL films beginning with 1266810.) Has 4 different alphabetical indexes: Continental units, active duty militia ( two sets), and inactive duty militia. About 128,000 names.
- 1700–1840 *A General Index to a Census of Pensioners for Revolutionary or Military Service, 1840*. (FHL book 973 X2pc index; film 899835 items 1–2; fiche 6046771.) Lists Revolutionary War pensioners whose names are on the 1840 census lists. After using the general index, go to the original book. (FHL book Ref 973 X2pc 1967; film 899835 item 3.) This book gives the town of residence, the name of the head of household in which he was living, and the age of pensioner or his widow.
- 1700–1840 Sons of the Revolution (Pennsylvania). Centennial Register, 1888–1988. (FHL book 974.8 C4sb 1888–1988.) Lists Revolutionary War soldiers and descendants, some up to 1988. About 3,800 names.
- 1700–1959 Gerberich, Albert H. *Pennsylvania German Families*. (On 12 FHL films beginning with 522107.) Alphabetical. About 66,000 names.
- 1700–1900 Lancaster County Historical Society. Lancaster, Pennsylvania. *Main Card Catalog of Society*. (FHL films 1002427–429.) About 13,000 names. This county covered a large area of southern Pennsylvania in the early period.
- 1700–1900 Yoder, Don, ed. *Pennsylvania German Church Records of Births, Baptisms, Marriages, Burials, etc. from the Pennsylvania German Society Proceedings and Addresses*. (FHL book 974.8 K2pg 3 vols.) About 25,500 names.
- 1700–1900 Chester County Historical Society (West Chester, Pennsylvania). *Master Index, Chester County Historical Society*. (FHL films 543375–393.) This county covered a large area of Pennsylvania in this early period. About 40,000 names.
- 1700–1980 Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania. *Application Papers; Ancestor Index*. (FHL films 468233–43; 511803.) See first film for an index. About 10,000 names.
- 1700–1934 Susquehannah Company. *Susquehannah Company Papers*. (FHL book 974.8 H2su 11 vols.) Lists Connecticut settlers in Northern Pennsylvania. Each volume is indexed. About 3,000 names.
- 1700–1780 Stemmons, John D, comp. *Pennsylvania in 1780: A Statewide Index of Circa 1780 Pennsylvania Tax Lists*. (FHL book 974.8 R42p; fiche 6038438.) Compiled from tax lists of ten southeastern counties including Philadelphia County. About 20,000 names.
- 1700–present *Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Quarterly*. (FHL book 974.8 B2wg; film 2024354 item 7 has vol. 7 and indexes; film 2024355 has vol. 8–12 and indexes; film 2024436 has vol. 13–18 and indexes.) Indexed in each vol. About 4,800 names.
- 1710–1880 Filby, P. William, ed. *Philadelphia Naturalization Records: An Index to Records of Aliens' Declarations of Intentions and/or Oaths of Allegiance, 1789–1880 . . .* (FHL book 974.811 P4p; fiche 6100592.) About 113,000 names.

- 1710–1895 Irish, Donna R. *Pennsylvania German Marriages: Marriages and Marriage Evidence in Pennsylvania German Churches*. (FHL book 974.8 K2i.) About 5,000 names.
- 1710–1908 *Proceedings and Addresses (Pennsylvania German Society). Pennsylvania-German Society Proceedings and Addresses*. (FHL book 974.8 B4pg vols. 1–63; film 924110; fiche beginning with 6051507 vols. 42–44.) There are indexes in many volumes. The organization may have a master index to the volumes. Write to them at P.O. Box 397, Bloomsburg, PA 19508.
- 1720–1900 Michael H. Tepper, ed. Elizabeth P. Bentley, transcriber. *Passenger Arrivals at the Port of Philadelphia, 1800–1819; The Philadelphia "Baggage Lists"*. (FHL book 974.811 W3p.) Elizabeth P. Bentley, transcriber. About 44,000 names.
- 1720–1906 *A List of Immigrants Who Applied for Naturalization Papers in the District Courts of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania*. (FHL book 974.885 P4L, 7 vols.; fiche 6010814–20.) Compiled by members of the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society. About 35,000 names.
- 1730–1861 Dixon, Ruth Priest and Katherine G. Eberly. *Index to Seamen's Protection Certificate Applications, Port of Philadelphia, 1796–1823, 1824–1861: Record Group 36 Records of the Bureau of Customs National Archives and Records Administration Washington, D.C.* (FHL book 974.811 W4d vols. 1–2.) About 32,000 names.
- 1740–1920 *Census indexes, 1790–1880 and 1900–1920*. In the window to the left, click on **Family History Library Catalog**. Then select CENSUS or CENSUS - INDEXES from the topics that are listed.
- 1740–1956 *Your Family Tree (Pennsylvania)*. (FHL book 974.8 B2y; on films beginning with 1035777 item 7.) See the indexes in the volumes. About 13,500 names.
- 1740–1970 *Keystone Kuzzins: Bulletin of the Erie Society of Genealogical Research*. (FHL book 974.899 B2k.) Cumulative index to 1981. About 8,400 names.
- 1740–1900 White, Virgil D. *Index to War of 1812 Pension Files*. (FHL book 973 M22i vols. 1–2.) Covers the entire U.S. Lists soldiers and their spouses. About 150,000 names.
- 1740–1814 *Muster Rolls of the Pennsylvania Volunteers in the War of 1812–1814*. (FHL book 974.8 M2m; film 844514 item 2.) About 6,000 names.
- 1740–1896 Pennsylvania. Auditor General's Office. *War of 1812 Pension Records, 1866–1896*. (FHL films 1018554–80.) Alphabetical. An index is on first film. About 4,500 names.
- 1750–1890 Robson, Charles, ed. *The Biographical Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania of the Nineteenth Century*. (FHL book 974.8 D3be; film 1000537 item 4.) About 1,200 names.
- 1760–1850 Jackson, Ronald Vern. *Pennsylvania 1850 Mortality Schedules*. (FHL book 974.8 X22p 1850.) Lists persons who died in 1849–1850. About 28,000 names.
- 1770–1860 *Pennsylvania 1860 Mortality Schedules*. (FHL book 974.8 X22p 1860.) Lists persons who died in 1859–1860. About 30,000 names.
- 1780–1870 Jackson, Ronald Vern. *Pennsylvania 1870 Mortality Schedules*. (FHL book 974.8 X2j 1870.) Lists persons who died in 1869–1870. About 41,000 names.
- 1790–1848 United States. Record and Pension Office. *Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers who served during the Mexican War in Organizations from the State of Pennsylvania*. (FHL films 1314139–51.) Two alphabetical series. About 3,000 names.
- 1800–1865 United States. Adjutant General's Office. *Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Pennsylvania, 1861–1865*. (FHL films 882336–472.) Alphabetical by name of soldier; gives the company and regiment.
- 1800–1865 *Civil War Veterans Card File*. (On 80 FHL films beginning with 1205205.) This index often contain the soldier's unit, age, physical description, residence, birthplace, date of discharge and so forth.

- 1800–1865 Bates, Samuel Penniman. *History of Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1861–65*. (FHL book 974.8 M2b 1993, 10 vols.; films 824366–7, 824401; 963340–41.) This is arranged by regiment. There is an excellent four-volume index. 974.8 M2b. Or use the index films mentioned in the two entries above. About 360,000 names.
- 1800–1865 Pennsylvania Adjutant General's Office. *Register of Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1861–1865*. (FHL films 295744–58.) Soldiers are listed by regiment. Use the sources above as an index.
- 1800–1934 United States. Veterans Administration. *General Index to 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.
- 1800–1933 United States. Veterans Administration. *Veteran's Administration Pension Payment Cards, 1907–1933*. (On FHL films beginning with 1634036.) Lists veterans and their wives who received pension payments for the Civil War and the War with Spain.
- 1850–1950 Stewart, Thomas J. *Record of Pennsylvania Volunteers in the Spanish-American War, 1898*. (FHL book 974.8 M2r; film 982200.) About 15,000 names.
- 1860–1901 Pennsylvania. Adjutant General's Office. *United States Volunteers of the Spanish American War, 1893–1901*. (FHL film 1266814.) About 18,000 names.
- 1873–1918 Haulsee, W. M. *Soldiers of the Great War*. Lists soldiers who died in World War I. (FHL book 973 M23s; vol. 3 has Pennsylvania; fiche 6051244.) About 500 names.
- 1873–1918 United States. Selective Service System. *Pennsylvania, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918*. (On 317 FHL films beginning with 1852246.) Men ages 18 to 45 are listed alphabetically by county or draft board.

Note: For families from New England, see the research outlines and statewide indexes lists of the various New England states.

For families from New York, see the *New York Research Outline* and New York Statewide Indexes and Collections.

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 of copying information is to:

- Make a photocopy of the page(s) that include 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.

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## Where to Find It

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### 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 the 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, you 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 need to give them 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.

## **Pennsylvania Maps Bibliography**

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

Summary: Shows “minor county subdivisions” maps start after 1930 and are provided by the Bureau of the Census. Census county subdivisions or minor civil divisions. Does not include Hawaii or Alaska.

Evaluation of Pennsylvania Maps: pp. 843-876. General history of counties with precincts, census county divisions, public land surveys and townships.

Jackson, Richard H. *Historical & Genealogical Atlas of the U.S.: East of the Mississippi, vol. I.* 1970.

Mic/Gen Ref – **G 1201 .E6225 J33x 1970z**

Summary: Gives a chronological list of the counties.

Evaluation of Pennsylvania Maps: Chronological list of Counties p. 135. 1960 p137; 1860 pp. 138-139; 1838 p140; 1823 p 141; 1804 p 142; Revolutionary Period p 143.

Kirkham, 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 the United States from colonial days up to 1909. Civil War maps and information.

Evaluation of Pennsylvania Maps: State historical information, p 36. Maps: 1790-1900, 70; 1823, 108; 1909, 242-243; Philadelphia 1909, 241.

Mattson, Mark T. *Macmillan Color atlas of the States.* Toronto: Simon Schuster Macmillan, 1996.

Mic/ Gen Ref – **Quarto Shelves G 1200.M4 1996**

Summary: General state information.

Evaluation of Pennsylvania Maps: pp. 265-271. General state information includes; Maps with highways, climate & environment, history & important events, population & government, ethnicity & education, economy & resources.

Thorndale, William and William Dollarhide. *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1947.* Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1987.

Mic/Gen Ref – **G1201.F7 T5 1987**

Summary: Outlines counties and changes in 10 year intervals. Gives brief history on census, its growth and accuracy. Sources for maps come from state/territorial laws.

Evaluation of Pennsylvania Maps: pp. 289-296. Shows modern boundaries and changes.

## **Map Collection on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the old section of HBL**

Clark, David Sands. *Index to Maps of the American Revolution Books and Periodicals: Illustrating the Revolutionary War and other events of the Period, 1763 – 1789*, Connecticut Greenwood Press, 1974.

Map Collection – **G 1201 .S3 C53x 1974**

Summary: Excellent index – separated by geographic area and then state and town. Also separated by date, military operations, types of Indian boundary lines and Indian tribal lands.

Evaluation: Excellent to find other maps in specific areas. Lists forts and many other hard to find maps.

Long, John H. and Gordon DenBoer. *Pennsylvania Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*, New York, 1996.

Map Collection – **G 1201 .F7 A8 1993 Pa**

Summary: Individual county chronologies, maps and areas from Pennsylvania. Table of colonial, state and federal censuses in Pennsylvania.

Evaluation: Excellent for general information. Shows small towns in each county, as well as county creations and effective dates with the actual source.

Muller, Edward K. *The Atlas of Pennsylvania*, Temple University Press: Philadelphia, 1989.

Map Collection Quarto – **G 1260 .A86 1989**

Summary: pp 73-115. Pennsylvania's past, guide to counties.

Evaluation: Excellent to see specific valleys, boundary disputes, settlements, wars, cities, education and general history. It also highlights Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

Symonds, Craig L. *A Battlefield Atlas of the American Revolution*, The Nautical & Aviation Publishing Company of America, Inc. 1986.

Map Collection – **G 1201 .S3 S96x 1986**

Summary: Early American campaigns and gives suggestions for further reading.

Evaluation: Excellent to see where battles were held, their routes there. Battle lines and forts involved with dates of specific battles, with the generals in charge and chronology of what happened in each listed battle.

Unknown Author. *Atlas and Map Collection of Fulton County, Bedford and Somerset, Pennsylvania*, Evansville, 1977.

Map Collection Quarto – **G 1260 .A8 1977**

Summary: Copies of older maps 1798-1916, with a few business directories. Mostly collected from private citizens.

Evaluation: Excellent detailed maps of these counties, with indexes.

Map Collection – **Map Cases G3820 – G3824**. Individual maps that illustrate things from military movement to censuses.

### **Web Sites/Computer Programs**

[www.topozone.com](http://www.topozone.com)

Summary: Gives options, of place name searches, coordinate searches, UTM searches.

Evaluation: Excellent for finding what new town your old town (etc) may be in.

[www.MapQuest.com](http://www.MapQuest.com)

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

Evaluation: Good, to find an existing relative if you have their address.

### **Animap**

Mic/Gen Family Search room – on computer and C.D. version available

Summary: Each state is different, with maps. Shows boundary changes with now boundaries.

Evaluation: Excellent to find older maps quick.





(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 the household.

The censuses from **1790 to 1840** give the name of the head of 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:

1790 1800 1810 1820 1830 1840 1850  
1860 1870 1880 1890 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 1850-1920.)
- Where were they living—town or township, county, and state?
- Where were their parents born? (Birthplaces are shown in censuses for 1880-1920.)
- Do they have neighbors with the same last name? Could they be relatives?

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

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## Tips

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### 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* 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 Pennsylvania to a different county or town.
- Movement of the family out of Pennsylvania if the family no longer appears in the census for Pennsylvania.

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.

Ages and estimated birth dates for an individual may vary greatly from census to census. Often ages are listed more accurately for young children than for older adults.

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## Background

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### 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. In the 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 available 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 Pennsylvania 1890 census was destroyed by fire. However, portions of a special schedule

taken in 1890 of Union Civil War veterans and their widows have survived. The surviving 1890 veterans' schedules cover Washington D.C., half of Kentucky, and all of Louisiana through Wyoming (the states are in alphabetical order from K through W). The surviving portions of the veterans' schedules contain approximately 700,000 names.

## Types of Census Schedules

The following census schedules are available for Pennsylvania 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 from 1850 to 1880 in the 12 months prior to the day the census was taken in 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880.
- **1840 pensioners' schedules** list people who were receiving pensions in 1840. Included were men who fought in the Revolutionary War or in the War of 1812 or their widows.
- **1890 veterans' schedules** list Union veterans from the Civil War or their widows who were living in 1890.
- **Agricultural schedules** list data about farms and the names of the farmers from 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880.
- **Manufacturing or industrial schedules** list data about businesses and industries in 1810 (fragments only), 1820, 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1880.

## How the 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 the 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 the Censuses Were Taken

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

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

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

If your ancestor died in the census year, your ancestor should only be listed 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 only request information for 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.

## Colonial, State, and Local Censuses

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

No colonial censuses were taken, however there is a 1780 census substitute, by John D. and Diane Stemmons, *Pennsylvania in 1780: A Statewide Index of Circa 1780 Taxlists*, with names from tax lists of eleven counties.

Pennsylvania became a state in 1787. No state censuses were taken, however the Pennsylvania State Archives has "septennial censuses" (tax lists with the names of the taxable inhabitants), which were taken every seven years, and exist for these counties:

1779: Bedford, Berks, Chester, Lancaster

1786: Bedford, Berks, Bucks, Chester, Dauphin, Fayette, Franklin, Lancaster, Montgomery, Northampton, Washington, Westmoreland, York

1793: Berks, Cumberland, Delaware, Lancaster, Montgomery, Philadelphia City, Philadelphia County, York

1800: Adams, Allegheny, Armstrong, Bedford, Berks, Bucks, Centre, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Huntingdon, Lancaster, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montgomery, Northampton, Northumberland, Philadelphia City, Somerset, Washington, Wayne, Westmoreland, York

1807: Dauphin (Derry Township), Franklin, Montgomery, York

1814: Franklin

1821: Columbia, Franklin, Huntingdon, Mifflin

1828: Franklin

1835: Franklin

1842: Franklin, Montgomery (Pottsgrove Township only)

1849: Wyoming County

1863: Philadelphia City

For more information on these records see Robert M Dructor's *Guide to Genealogical Sources at the Pennsylvania State Archives*.

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

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## Where to Find It

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### Internet

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

- Pennsylvania 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 with 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.
- The Archives and Libraries section of the *Pennsylvania Research Outline* lists Internet addresses for several Pennsylvania archives, libraries, and historical societies. These organizations may have microfilms and indexes of Pennsylvania 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 the census microfilms in person.

For a list of indexes and other census records, click on **Family History Library Catalog** in the window to the left. 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 Libraries and Public Libraries

Many college libraries have copies of the 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, Historical Societies, etc.**

The Archives and Libraries section of the *Pennsylvania Research Outline* lists Internet and mailing addresses for several Pennsylvania archives, libraries, and historical societies. These organizations may have microfilms and indexes of Pennsylvania 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  
PO Box 1545  
Jeffersonville, IN 47131

## **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.

For more information, see *Hiring a Professional Genealogist*.

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Historical and Biographical Annals of Columbia and Montour Counties, Pennsylvania: Containing a Concise History of the Two Counties and a Genealogical and Biographical Record of Representative Families. Chicago: J. H. Beers, 1915. (2 vols) **F157 .C7 H6**

History of Columbia and Montour Counties, Pennsylvania: Containing a History of Each County, Their Townships, Towns, Villages, Schools, Churches, Industries; Portraits of Representative Men. Chicago: A. Warner & Co., 1887. **Microfilm F No.256 Pt.2**

### **Northampton County**

Heller, William Jacob. History of Northampton County Pennsylvania and the Grand Valley of Lehigh. Boston: American Historical Society, 1920. **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH1048**

History of Northampton County, Pennsylvania: With Illustrations Descriptives of Its Scenery, a New Illustrated Historical, Descriptive and Biographical Souvenir, Public Buildings, Fine Blocks and Important Manufactories. Philadelphia: P. Fritts, 1877. **Microfilm F No.310**

Rupp, Israel Daniel. History of Northampton, Lehigh, Monroe, Carbon and Schuylkill Counties: Containing a Brief History of the First Settlers, Topography of Townships, Notices of Leading Events, Incidents, and Interesting Facts in the Early History of These Counties. Harrisburg, PA: Hickok & Cantine Printers, 1845. **Microfilm F No.306**

Speer, Milton. History of the Village of Delabole, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, from 1742 to 1926: Together with Views of Delabole and Vicinity. Bangor, PA: V. H. Manger, 1926. **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH1107**

Some of the First Settlers of the Forks of the Delaware and their Descendants. Easton, PA: H. M. Kieffer, 1902. **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH1051**

### **Northumberland County**

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

Genealogical and Biographical Annals of Northumberland County, Pennsylvania. Mt. Vernon, IN: Windmill Pub., 1995. **F 157 .N8 G3 1995**

History of Northumberland County, Pennsylvania: With Illustrations Descriptive of Its Scenery, Palatial Residences, Public Buildings, Fine Blocks and Important Manufactories. Philadelphia: Everts & Stewart, 1876. **Microfilm F No.311 Pt.2**

History of Northumberland County, Pennsylvania: Including Its Aboriginal History; the Colonial and Revolutionary Periods; Early Settlement and Subsequent Growth; Political Organization; Agricultural, Mining and Manufacturing Interests; Internal Improvements; Religious, Educational, Social and Military History; Sketches of Its Boroughs, Villages and Townships. Chicago: Brown, Runk & Co., 1891. **Microfilm F No.311 Pt.1**

Rupp, Israel Daniel. History and Topography of Northumberland, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Centre, Union, Columbia, Juniata and Clinton Counties, Pennsylvania: Embracing Local and General Events, Leading Incidents, Descriptions of the Principal Boroughs, Towns and Villages. Lancaster, PA: G. Hills, 1847. **Microfilm F No.327 Pt.2** also **F157 .A18 R96**

## **Perry County**

Hain, Harry H. History of Perry County, Pennsylvania: Including Descriptions of Indian and Pioneer Life from the Time of the Earliest Settlement, Sketches of Its Noted Men and Women and Many Professional Men. Harrisburg, PA: Hain-Moore Co., 1922. **Microfilm F No.312 Pt.2** also **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH1018**

History of that Part of the Susquehanna and Juniata Valleys Embraced in the Counties of Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Union and Synder in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: Everts, Peck & Richards, 1886. **Microfilm F No.305**

Rupp, Israel Daniel. The History and Topography of Dauphin, Cumberland, Franklin, Bedford, Adams and Perry Counties: Containing a Brief History of the First Settlers, Notices of the Leading Events, Incidents and Interesting Facts, both General and Local, in the History of These Counties, General and Principal Boroughs, Towns and Villages. Lancaster City, PA: B. Hills, 1846. **Microfilm F No.263**

Rupp, Israel Daniel. The History and Topography of Dauphin, Cumberland, Franklin, Bedford, Adams, Perry, Somerset, Cambria and Indiana Counties: Containing a Brief History of the First Settlers, Notices of the Leading Events, Incidents and Interesting Facts, both General and Local, in the History of These Counties, General and Principal Boroughs, Towns, Villages. Lancaster, PA: Gilbert Hills, 1848. **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH974**

Wright, Silas. History of Perry County, Pennsylvania: From the Earliest Settlement to the

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

Present Time. Lancaster, PA: Wylie & Griest Printers, 1873. **Microfilm F No.312 Pt.1**  
also **974.8 W936** also **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH1019**

### **Philadelphia County**

A Brief Sketch of the Origin and Present State of the City of Philadelphia. Philadelphia: J. H. Oswald, 1804. **Microfiche 080 Sh64a No.5907**

Collins, Herman LeRoy. Philadelphia, A Story of Progress. New York: Lewis Historical Pub. Co., 1941. **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH1212**

Jackson, Joseph. Encyclopedia of Philadelphia. Harrisburg, PA: National Historical Association, 1931. **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH1211**

Joyce, John St. George. Story of Philadelphia. Philadelphia: Rex Print House, 1919. **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH1214**

Morgan, George. The City of Firsts: Being a Complete History of the City of Philadelphia from Its Founding in 1682 to the Present Time. Philadelphia: Historical Publication Society, 1926. **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH1221**

Philadelphia: A 300 Year History. New York: W. W. Norton, 1982. **F158.3 .P5664**

Price, Eli K. The History of the Consolidation of the City of Philadelphia. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott, 1873. **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH1226**

Oberholtzer, Ellis Paxton. Philadelphia: A History of the City and Its People. Philadelphia: S. J. Clarke, 1912. **Microfilm F No.314**

Schraf, John Thomas. History of Philadelphia, 1609-1884. Philadelphia: L. H. Everts, 1884. **Microfiche Z1236 .L5 1971 No.21200-2**

### **Pike County**

Mathews, Alfred. History of Pike, Wayne and Monroe Counties, Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: R. T. Peck, 1886. **Microfilm F No.334**

### **Potter County**

History of the Counties of McKean, Elk, Cameron and Potter, Pennsylvania: With Biographical Selections, Including their Early Settlement and Development, a Description of the Historic and Interesting Localities, Sketches of their Cities, Towns and Villages; Portraits of Prominent Men,

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

Biographies of Representative Citizens. Chicago: J. H. Beer & Co., 1890. **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH6864**

### **Schuylkill County**

History of Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania: With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers. New York: W. W. Munsell, 1881.  
**Microfilm F No.318**

History of Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania: Including a Genealogical and Biographical Record of Many Families and Persons in the County. Madison, WI: State Historical Association, 1907.  
**Microfilm F No.318 Pt.3**

History of that Part of the Susquehanna and Juniata Valleys Embraced in the Counties of Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Union and Synder in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: Everts, Peck & Richards, 1886. **Microfilm F No.305**

Rupp, Israel Daniel. History of Northampton, Lehigh, Monroe, Carbon and Schuylkill Counties: Containing a Brief History of the First Settlers, Topography of Townships, Notices of Leading Events, Incidents, and Interesting Facts in the Early History of These Counties. Harrisburg, PA: Hickok & Cantine Printers, 1845. **Microfilm F No.306**

### **Snyder County**

History of that Part of the Susquehanna and Juniata Valleys Embraced in the Counties of Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Union and Synder in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: Everts, Peck & Richards, 1886. **Microfilm F No.305**

### **Somerset County**

Blackburn, E. Howard. History of Bedford and Somerset Counties, Pennsylvania: With Genealogical and Personal History. New York: Lewis Publishing Co., 1906.  
**Microfilm F No.321 Pt.2**

History of Bedford, Somerset and Fulton Counties, Pennsylvania: With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Pioneers. Chicago: Waterman, Watkins & Co., 1884.  
**Microfilm F No.236 Pt.3**

Rupp, Israel Daniel. The History and Topography of Dauphin, Cumberland, Franklin, Bedford, Adams and Perry Counties: Containing a Brief History of the First Settlers, Notices of the Leading Events, Incidents and Interesting Facts, both General and Local, in the History of These



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Counties, General and Principal Boroughs, Towns and Villages. Lancaster City, PA: B. Hills, 1846. **Microfilm F No.263**

### **Sullivan County**

Ingham, Thomas J. History of Sullivan County, Pennsylvania. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1899. **Microfilm F No.322 Pt.2**

Streby, George. History of Sullivan County, Pennsylvania. Dushore, PA: Sullivan Gazette Printer, 1903. **Microfilm F No.322 Pt. 3**

### **Susquehanna County**

Blackman, Emily C. History of Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania: From a Period Preceding Its Settlement to Recent Times, Including the Annals and Geography of Each Township. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1970. (Reprint of the 1873 edition)  
**F157 .S7 B53x**

History of that Part of the Susquehanna and Juniata Valleys Embraced in the Counties of Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Union and Snyder in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: Everts, Peck & Richards, 1886. **Microfilm F No.305**

Perkins, George A. Early Times on the Susquehanna. Binghamton, NY: Malette & Reid Printers, 1870. **Microfilm F No.225**

Stocker, Rhamanthus M. Centennial History of Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: R. I. Peck, 1887. **Microfilm F No.323**

### **Tioga County**

History of Tioga County, Pennsylvania: With Illustrations, Portraits and Sketches of Prominent Families and Individuals. New York: W. W. Munsell & Co., 1883.  
**Microfilm F No.326 Pt.2**

History of Tioga County, Pennsylvania: Embracing Its Topographical and Geological Features; Indians and White Explorers; Beginning and Organization; Pioneers and Early Settlement; Early Courts and Cases; Internal Improvements; Industrial Development; Coal Mines and Mining; Public Buildings and Officials; Legal and Medical Professions; Military History; Literature; Sketches of Boroughs, Townships and Villages. Harrisburg, PA: R. C. Brown, 1879.  
**Microfilm F No.325**

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

Murray, Louise Welles. A History of Old Tioga Point and Early Athens, Pennsylvania. Athens, PA: s.n., 1908. **Microfilm F No.326 Pt.1**

Sexton, John L. An Outline History of Tioga and Bradford Counties in Pennsylvania. Elmira, NY: The Gazette Company, 1885. **Microfilm F No.98**

### **Union County**

History of that Part of the Susquehanna and Juniata Valleys Embraced in the Counties of Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Union and Synder in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: Everts, Peck & Richards, 1886. **Microfilm F No.305**

Meginess, John Franklin. Otzilnachson or A History of the West Branch Valley of the Susquehanna: Embracing a Full Account of Its Settlement, Trials and Privatizations Endured by the Early Pioneers, Full Account of the Indian Wars, Predatory Incursions, Abductions, and Massacres; Together With an Account of the Fair Play System and the Trying Scenes of the Big Runway; Interspersed With Biographical Sketches of Some of the Leading Settlers, Families and Pertinent Anecdotes, Statistics and Much Valuable Matter Entirely New. Philadelphia: H. B. Ashmead, 1857. **Microfiche Z1236 .L5 1971 No.16852**

Rupp, Israel Daniel. History and Topography of Northumberland, Hungtingdon, Mifflin, Centre, Union, Columbia, Juniata and Clinton Counties, Pennsylvania: Embracing Local and General Events, Leading Incidents, Descriptions of the Principal Boroughs, Towns and Villages. Lancaster, PA: G. Hills, 1847. **Microfilm F No.327 Pt.2 also F157 .A18 R96**

### **Venango County**

Babcock, Charles Almanzo. Venango County, Pennsylvania: Her Pioneers and People, Embracing a General History of the County, and a Genealogical and Biographical Record of Representative Families. Chicago: J. H. Beers, 1919. **Microfilm F No.328**

History of Venango County, Pennsylvania: and Incidentally of Petroleum, Together with Accounts of the Early Settlement and Progress of Each Township, Borough and Village, with Personal and Biographical Sketches of the Early Settlers. Columbus, OH: J. A. Caldwell, 1879. **Microfilm F No.329**

History of Venango County, Pennsylvania: Its Past and Present, Including Its Aboriginal History, the French and British Occupation of the Country, Its Early Settlement and Subsequent Growth, a Description of Its Historic and Interesting Localities, Its Rich Oil Deposits and Their Development, Sketches of Its Cities, Boroughs, Townships and Villages, Neighborhood and Family History, Portraits and Biographies of Pioneers and Representative Citizens. Chicago:

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

Brown, Runk & Co., 1890. **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH6862**

### **W**arren County

History of Warren County, Pennsylvania: With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers. Syracuse, NY: D. Mason, 1887.  
**Microfilm F No.330**

### Washington County

Creigh, Alfred. History of Washington from Its First Settlement to the Present Time: First Under Virginia As Yohogania, Ohio or Augusta County Until 1781, and Subsequently Under Pennsylvania, with Sketches of all the Townships, Boroughs, the Celebrated Mason and Dixon's Line, the Whiskey Insurrection, Indian Warfare, Traditional and Local Historical Events. Harrisburg, PA: B. Singerly Printer, 1871. **Microfilm F No.332**

Crumrine, Boyd. History of Washington County, Pennsylvania: With Biographical Sketches of Many of Its Pioneers and Prominent Men. Evanston, IN: Unigraphic, 1975.  
**F157 .W3 C9**

Hastings, Charles Cummins. Pioneer Settlers of Western Pennsylvania and Their Descendants. San Fernando, CA: Custom Print Co., 1976. **F157 .A4 H35**

Horn, William Franklin. The Horn Papers: Early Westward Movement on the Monongahela and Upper Ohio, 1765-1795. Scottsdale, PA: Published for a Committee of the Greene County Historical Society by the Herald Press, 1945. **Quarto F149 .H73**

McFarland, Joseph F. 20th Century History of the City of Washington and Washington County, Pennsylvania. Chicago: Richmond-Arnold Pub. Co., 1910.  
**Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH7657**

Washington County: The Second One Hundred Years. U.S.: Washington County Historical Publication Committee, 1985. **F157 .W3 W37x**

Vogt, Helen Elizabeth. Westward of Ye Laurall Hills, 1750-1850. Parson, WV: McClain Print Co., 1976. **F157 .W5 V63**

### Wayne County

Goodrich, Phineas G. History of Wayne County. Honesdale, PA: Haines & Beardsley, 1880.

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### **Microfilm F No.334**

Mathews, Alfred. History of Pike, Wayne and Monroe Counties, Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: R. T. Peck, 1886. **Microfilm F No.334**

### **Westmoreland County**

Biographical and Historical Cyclopedia of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: Press of Dunlap & Clarke, 1890. **Microfilm F No.335 Pt.2**

Boucher, John Newton. History of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. New York: Lewis Publishing Co., 1906. **Microfilm F No.336**

History of the County of Westmoreland, Pennsylvania: With Biographical Sketches of Many of the Pioneers and Prominent Men. Philadelphia: L. H. Everts, 1882.  
**Microfilm F No.335 Pt.1**

Vogt, Helen Elizabeth. Westward of Ye Laurall Hills, 1750-1850. Parson, WV: McClain Print Co., 1976. **F157 .W5 V63**

### **Wyoming County**

History of Luzerne, Lackawanna and Wyoming Counties, Pennsylvania: With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Their Prominent Men and Pioneers. New York: W. W. Munsell, 1880. **Microfilm F No.280**

### **York County**

Carter, W. C. History of York County: From Its Erection to the Present Time, 1729-1834. Harrisburg, PA: Aurand Press, 1930. **Microfilm F No.338 Pt.1** also **F157 .Y6 C32**

Hawkins, Charles A. Some Facts Concerning York and York County. York, PA: Press of York Daily, 1981. **Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH493**

History of York County, Pennsylvania: From the Earliest Period to the Present Time, Divided into General, Special, Township and Borough Histories, With a Biographical Department Appended. Chicago: F. A. Battey Publishing Co., 1886.  
**Microfilm F No.338 Pt.2**

Powell, George R. History of York County, Pennsylvania. Chicago: J. H. Beers, 1907.  
**Microfilm F No.339-340**

**PENNSYLVANIA**

Rupp, Israel Daniel. History of York County: From One Thousand Seven Hundred and Nineteen to the Present Time, With An Appendix; Topography and Statistics, Comprising a Geological Sketch of the County; Topographical Descriptions of the Townships, Towns, Villages and Census of Each of 1840, Compiled from Authentic Sources. Lancaster, PA: G. Hills, 1845. **Microfilm F No.342**

## COUNTY HISTORIES ON MICROFILM

For many years the library has been purchasing county histories on microfilm. There are now county histories for eight states. The states are:

1. California
2. Indiana
3. Illinois
4. Michigan
5. New York
6. Ohio
7. Pennsylvania
8. Wisconsin

California, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin are classified in the Dewey Descimal Classification. The number is 900 with reel numbers following. Illinois, Michigan, New York, and Pennsylvania are classified in the LC (Library of Congress) classification. The number is F with the reel numbers following.

Of all these histories New York is the only one where the name of the county or counties are found on the rolls of microfilm. For the other states, in order, to locate the call number for a particular county the patron has had to use the BYU Card Catalog.

Recently it was brought to my attention there are county indexes for each state in book form located in Hist/Rel Ref. This will make it much easier for the patron to locate the exact reel number for a particular county without a trip to the card catalog.

Most of the states use a different indexing system. Some counties are arranged alphabetically within the index and some are randomly arranged.

For each state attached to this sheet is a step by step explanation of how to use the index. The call numbers are given for both the book index and the microfilm on the explanation sheet for each state.

There are two states that have a surname biography index to their counties. These two states are Indiana and Ohio. The Indiana surname is on microfiche F and the Ohio surname index is on microfilm CS. There is an explanation on how to use these two indexes.

These tools should be helpful as you help the patrons in the future.

Donna McGee



STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

Hist/Rel Ref. Book on shelves titled:  
F REEL INDEX TO THE MICROFORM COLLECTION OF  
149 PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY AND REGIONAL HISTORIES  
.R44x

Microfilm\* Microfilm Collection of Pennsylvania County Histories  
F  
#218-342

1. The Index of Publication by County should be checked since there are a few county histories that are combined with other counties.
2. Hist/Rel Ref has written the microfilm call number by each County. The counties are arranged alphabetically in the Reel Index. The reel numbers correspond with the numbers on each roll of microfilm.
3. There are some indexes with call numbers written by the individual counties where indexes have been purchased. The indexes are in Hist/Rel Ref.

\*Microfilm indicates this is in the LC collection. It is located on the north side of the area with pink labels in the windows.

Filby, P. William, ed. Philadelphia Naturalization Records An Index to Records of Aliens' Declarations of Intention and /or Oaths of Allegiance, 1789-1880, in United States Circuit Court, United States District Court, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, Quarter Sessions Court, Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia. Detroit, MI: Gale Research Co., 1982. (BYU# Hist/Rel Ref CS68/.P47 1982)

The index entry from this book makes reference to the court the naturalization action took place. See example:

Rooney				570				PHILADELPHIA NATURALIZATION RECORDS			
Name	Country of Former Allegiance	Court	Date of Declaration of Intention and/or Oath of Allegiance	Name	Country of Former Allegiance	Court	Date of Declaration of Intention and/or Oath of Allegiance	Name	Country of Former Allegiance	Court	Date of Declaration of Intention and/or Oath of Allegiance
Rooney, Bernard (Roonay, Bernard)	GrBI	CP	10-04-1852	Rosar, Ignace Louis (Rosar, Ignace L.)	Bel	CP	9-13-1874 9-13-1878	Rosenberg, Jacob (mnr) (var. of Rosenberg, John)	Ger	CP	9-11-1880
Rooney, Dennis	GrBI	CP	4-23-1860	Rosater, Nicholas	GrBI	CP	12-16-1834	Rosenberg, John (mnr) (Rosenberg, Jacob)	Ger	CP	9-11-1880
Rooney, Edward	GrBI	CP	9-26-1853	Rosatto, Frank (mnr)	Ity	CP	9-22-1838	Rosenberg, Joseph (mnr)	Ger	CP	9-11-1880
		DC	10-08-1855	Rosatto, Joseph (mnr)	Ity	CP	10-05-1877	Rosenberg, Louis	Rus	QS	5-30-1876
Rooney, Henry	GrBI	QS	9-21-1872	Roscher, Ernst	Ger	QS	4-17-1867	Rosenberg, Louis (mnr)	Pol	CP	9-08-1876
		CP	9-30-1875	Roscher, William	Ger	CP	10-03-1856	Rosenberg, Max (mnr)	Ger	CP	10-05-1877
Rooney, James (Roney)	GrBI	SC	9-06-1814	Roschy, William	Ger	DC	11-27-1807	Rosenberg, Naftalie	Ger	CP	3-25-1851
Rooney, James (mnr)	GrBI	CP	9-30-1844	Rose, Abraham	Eng	CP	7-14-1797				10-08-1853
Rooney, James	GrBI	CP	9-28-1855	Rose, Alexander	Eng	CP	7-14-1797	Rosenberg, Nathan	Ger	QS	7-27-1840
Rooney, James (mnr)	Eng	CP	10-02-1856	Rose, Benjamin	Ger	CP	10-08-1857	Rosenberg, Seleg	Ger	QS	2-19-1840
Rooney, James	GrBI	QS	10-05-1876	Rose, Charles	Ger	DC	10-01-1866	Rosenbergen, John A.	Ger	DC	8-15-1854
		CP	9-29-1879	Rose, Charles	Ger	CP	9-14-1868			SC	10-04-1864

The court is referenced by a CP, QS, SC, CC, or DC. See listing below.

- \* CP - Court of Common Pleas
- \* QS - Quarter Sessions Court —
- \* SC - Supreme Court of Pennsylvania —
- \* CC - United States Circuit Court —
- \* DC - United States District Court

Combined with the records in the custody of the Court of Quarter Sessions (QS) are those of the Mayor's Court, the Recorder's Court of Northern Liberties, and the General Sessions Court.

Where the initials of two different courts appear, the first line represents the court in which the *declaration of intention* was made; the second, the court in which the *oath of allegiance* was administered.

**Column 4: Date of the court action.** Where two dates appear, the earlier date represents that of the *declaration of intention* and the later that of the *oath of allegiance*. Where there are two dates given with only one court indicated, it signifies that both the *declaration of intention* and the *oath of allegiance* were made in the same court.

\*The records of these courts are on microfilm and available at the Genealogical Library in Salt Lake City. The microfilm numbers for these courts are available on the GLC. On the GLC look under Pennsylvania, Philadelphia - Naturalization and Citizenship and Pennsylvania - Naturalization and Citizenship. A copy of the GLC listing is available in this file.

# **Index to the Henry R. Baldwin genealogical records.**

Indexed by the Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County.

Contains an index to cemetery inscriptions, church records, court records, war records, personal records, and miscellaneous genealogical data gathered by Henry R. Baldwin throughout eastern Ohio and western Pennsylvania, 1867-1913.

Contents: v.1. A-B -- v.2. C -- v.3. D-G -- v.4. H-I -- v.5. J-L -- v.6. M-O -- v.7. P-S -- v.8. T-Z.

**FICHE 6051339**

## **THIS RECORD FOUND UNDER**

1. Ohio - Cemeteries - Indexes
2. Ohio - Court records - Indexes
3. Ohio - Genealogy - Indexes
4. Ohio - Military records - Indexes
5. Ohio - Vital records - Indexes
6. Pennsylvania - Genealogy - Indexes
7. Pennsylvania - Cemeteries - Indexes
8. Pennsylvania - Vital records - Indexes
- I. Baldwin, Henry R
- II. Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County (Ohio)

# Complete name index to "Early Pennsylvania births, 1675-1875"

Compiled by Carile Santos.

**FILM** ..... **1597740 item 6**

An alphabetical name index to the book "Early Pennsylvania births from 1675 to 1875. The book includes the counties of Snyder, Union, Northumberland, Berks, Juniata, and Millardsville, Lebanon Co., Pennsylvania.

## THIS RECORD FOUND UNDER

1. Pennsylvania - Vital records - Indexes
2. Pennsylvania, Snyder - Vital records - Indexes
3. Pennsylvania, Union - Vital records - Indexes
4. Pennsylvania, Northumberland - Vital records - Indexes
5. Pennsylvania, Berks - Vital records - Indexes
6. Pennsylvania, Juniata - Vital records - Indexes
7. Pennsylvania, Lebanon, Millardsville - Vital records - Indexes
- I. Fisher, Charles A. (Charles Adam). Early Pennsylvania births, 1675-1875

## Other Resources Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission-Genealogy Records

[http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=1593&&PageID=259979&level=2&parentCommID=1593&menuLevel=Level\\_2&mode=2&in\\_hi\\_userid=2&cached=true](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=1593&&PageID=259979&level=2&parentCommID=1593&menuLevel=Level_2&mode=2&in_hi_userid=2&cached=true)

Pennsylvania State Library-Genealogy and Local History

<http://www.statelibrary.state.pa.us/libraries/cwp/view.asp?a=2&q=40127>

Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries

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

Philadelphia City Archives

<http://www.phila.gov/phils/Docs/Inventor/genealogy.htm>

Pennsylvania Naturalization and Citizenship **Microfilms Available from Salt Lake, may or may not be at BYU FHL**

[http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/fhlcatalog/supermainframeset.asp?display=topicdetails&subject=333595&subject\\_disp=Pennsylvania+%2D+Naturalization+and+citizenship&columns=\\*,0,0](http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/fhlcatalog/supermainframeset.asp?display=topicdetails&subject=333595&subject_disp=Pennsylvania+%2D+Naturalization+and+citizenship&columns=*,0,0)

Records of Pennsylvania County Governments including Tax Records

[http://pittsburgh.about.com/gi/dynamic/offsite.htm?zi=1/XJ&sdn=pittsburgh&cdn=cities\\_towns&tm=39&gps=175\\_1104\\_828\\_569&f=20&su=p529.3.152.ip\\_p554.2.150.ip\\_p531.29.420.ip\\_&tt=2&bt=0&bts=0&zu=http%3A//www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/genie1.htm](http://pittsburgh.about.com/gi/dynamic/offsite.htm?zi=1/XJ&sdn=pittsburgh&cdn=cities_towns&tm=39&gps=175_1104_828_569&f=20&su=p529.3.152.ip_p554.2.150.ip_p531.29.420.ip_&tt=2&bt=0&bts=0&zu=http%3A//www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/genie1.htm)

Pennsylvania Historical and Genealogical Societies

<http://www.obitlinkspage.com/hs/pa.htm>