THE GENEALOGY CENTER
A Tradition of Excellence

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INTRODUCTION
The Genealogy Center is a remarkable family history destination and continues to build on its tradition of excellence in serving genealogists, historians and other interested hobbyists and scholars. An experienced staff provides services to a full range of patrons, from children to senior citizens and from beginners to experienced researchers. To support these efforts, the Center has gathered an extensive collection of 350,000 printed volumes and more than 513,000 items of microfilm and microfiche. These resources grow daily through library purchases and donations from appreciative genealogists and historians. Because of the collection’s size and continuous growth, the information in the following summary will necessarily be brief and representative in nature.

FAMILY HISTORIES
A collection in excess of 55,000 volumes of compiled genealogies represents research already begun on many North American and European families. These compilations range from brief type-scripts to well documented multi-volume works. Nearly 5,000 genealogies on microfiche, numerous family newsletters and access to thousands of online family trees complement these resources and can give you a head start on your own searches.

CENSUS RECORDS
The Genealogy Center has a superior collection of U. S. census records on microfilm as well as digital access at the Ancestry.com and HeritageQuestOnline.com websites. Microfilm sources include:

FEDERAL:
- All surviving 1790-1930 population schedules
- All available statewide alphabetical & soundex indexes
- All extant mortality schedules, 1850-1880
- All extant schedules of Civil War Union veterans and widows (1890)
- Agricultural & Manufacturing schedules 1850-1880 (various), for DC, GA, IL, IN, IA, LA, MD, MA, MI, MN, MT, NE, NV, NC, OH, PA, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT and WY.
- 1880 Schedules for Defective, Dependent, & Delinquent Classes for DC, GA, IL, IN, IA, LA, MA, NE, OH, PA, TN, TX, and VA
- 1935 Census of Business, Schedules of Motor Trucking for Hire (various states)
- Indian Schedules 1885-1944 & Slave Schedules 1850-1860

STATE & TERRITORIAL (coverage varies by year):
- CA 1852
- CO 1885
- FL 1885
- IL 1825, 30, 35, 45, 55, 65
- IA 1836, 38, 44, 46, 47, 49, 51, 52, 53, 54, 56, 59, 60, 81, 85, 88, 89, 91, 92, 95
- KS 1865
- MI 1827, 30, 34, 45, 50, 54, 64, 70, 74, 80, 84, 94
- MN 1857, 65, 75, 85, 95, 1905
- MS 1792, 1805, 08, 10, 13, 16, 18, 20, 22-25, 30, 33, 37, 40, 41, 45, 50, 53, 60, 66
- MO 1876
- NE 1885
CITY DIRECTORIES
The Genealogy Center has more than 48,000 R. L. Polk directories for cities throughout the United States. Most are dated 1961 to the present, with significant earlier runs for some places. Many directories for smaller cities and rural areas produced by other publishers, as well as a substantial number of micro-published city directories, are also available. Others can be searched online at Ancestry.com.

U.S. cities:
- 1785-1860 microfiche (240 cities)
- 1861-1960 microfilm (1,160 cities)
- 1961-present (printed Polk directories)

PASSENGER LISTS
National Archives passenger lists and indexes on microfilm, covering 163 ports of entry, are available in the Genealogy Center, as are most printed sources for immigration records. An extensive list of the printed volumes can be picked up when you visit and includes standard references such as Filby’s Passenger and Immigration Lists Index and Germans to America, 1840-1897. Many passenger lists are also available online at Ancestry.com and EllisIsland.org. Microfilmed records include:

Passport Applications 1795-1905
Baltimore: Lists 1820-1909
Quarterly abstracts of lists, 1820-1869
Soundex 1820-1897, 1833-1866, 1897-1952

Boston: Lists 1820-1943 & Indexes 1848-1891, 1902-1920
Detroit: Index 1906-1954 & Lists 1946-1957

Galveston: Lists & Indexes 1896-1951
New Orleans: Lists 1820-1945 & Transcripts of Lists 1813-1849
Quarterly abstracts of lists, 1820-1875
Indexes pre-1900, 1900-1952

New York: Lists 1820-1940 & Register of Vessels 1798-1919
Indexes 1820-1846, 1897-1902
Soundex indexes 1902-1943, 1944-48

Philadelphia: Lists 1800-1945 & Index 1800-1906
Soundex index 1883-1948
San Francisco: Index 1893-1934

Canadian Border Entries through the St. Albans, VT District:
Lists 1895-1954, 1929-1949
Soundex indexes 1895-1924, 1924-1952

Index to Misc. Atlantic and Gulf Coast ports, 1820-1874
Index to AL, FL, GA and SC lists, 1890-1924

Manifests of Alien Arrivals at Buffalo, Lewiston, Niagara Falls and Rochester, New York, 1902-1954
MILITARY RECORDS

The military collection contains most microfilmed National Archives service and pension records covering every conflict from the Revolutionary War through the Philippine Insurrection. Excellent printed references consist of adjutant generals’ reports, lineage society publications, soldiers’ diaries, and thousands of regimental histories. Unit histories and personal narratives of soldiers of the Mexican-American War, Civil War and Spanish-American War are also available on microfilm. Significant sets of Confederate records from state archives in the south are on microfilm. Resources for studying veterans of 20th & 21st century conflicts have expanded with the addition of World War I Draft Registrations, and casualty lists for the Korean War, Vietnam War and Persian Gulf War, as well as unit histories for conflicts up through the War in Iraq.

Microfilm not associated with a specific conflict includes:

- Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers, 1784-1811
- Index Register of U. S. Army Enlistments, 1798-1914
- Service Records of Naval Officers, 1798-1893
- Old War Index to Pension Files, 1815-1926
- Veterans Administration Pension Payment Cards, 1907-1933

Additional highlights of military records on film are listed below.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR (1775-83)
- General Index and Compiled Service Records of Soldiers in the American Army
- Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Applications
- Bounty Land Warrants-Ohio Military District
- Virginia Half Pay and related Pension Applications
- Rev. War Rolls (Officers’ Reports), 1775-1783
- Index & Service Records of Naval Personnel
- Misc. Numbered Records...War Dept. Collection, 1775-1790s
- American Loyalist Claims, Series I and II
- British Troops, orders, returns, accounts, etc., 1776-81

WAR OF 1812 (1812-15)
- Indexes to Compiled Service Records
- Index to War of 1812 Pension Application Files
- Military Bounty Land Warrants
- Seamen’s Protective Certificate Applications, Port of Philadelphia, 1812-15

INDIAN WARS AND DISTURBANCES
- Index to Compiled Service Records, 1815-58
- Index to Indian War Pension Files, 1892-1926

MEXICAN WAR (1846-48)
- Index to Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers
- Index to Mexican War Pension Files, 1887-1926

CIVIL WAR (1861-65) - UNION
- Indexes to Compiled Service Records for all states
- Compiled Service Records for Union Soldiers from AL, DE, FL, KY, MD, MO, NE, NM, NC, OR, TN, VA, WV, and the U. S. Colored Troops
- Compiled Service Records Showing Service of Military Units of Volunteer Union Organizations
- General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934 (most are Civil War)
CIVIL WAR (1861-65) - CONFEDERATE
Consolidated Index to Confederate Records
Indexes to Compiled Service Records for all states
Compiled Service Records…Confederate Soldiers AL, TX, VA
Service records of soldiers and officers in units raised directly by the Confederacy
Records of Naval and Marine Personnel
Pension Records, Biographical Questionnaires and/or indexes for AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MO, SC, TN and VA.
War Dept. Records of Confederate Prisoners
Register of soldiers who died in the North
Amnesty Papers (Pardon Applications)
Confederate Military Manuscripts
Southern Claims Commission Records

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR (1898)
General Index to Compiled Service Records, 1898

PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION (1899-1902)
Index to Compiled Service Records, 1899-1901

WORLD WAR I (1917-18)
WWI Draft Registration Cards & Divisional Histories

U. S. LOCAL RECORDS
More than 210,000 printed volumes are testimony to the Center’s efforts to comprehensively collect U. S. genealogy and local history publications. All the standard reference works are here, including the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections and the American Genealogical-Biographical Index, as well as all of the books indexed in this latter source. County and town histories, vital, cemetery, church, court, land, probate and naturalization records can all be identified in the online catalog and easily accessed on open shelves. Significant groups of local records, such as the Barbour and Hale Collections (CT) or the North Carolina Core Collection, are available on microfilm for: CT, IL, IN, KY, MA, NY, NC, OH, PA, SC, TN, VT and WV. Smaller microfilmed collections are available for other states. Additional complements to the outstanding print sources include a substantial portion of the Genealogy & Local History Series on microfiche, and microfilmed county histories for CA, IL, IN, MI, NY, OH, PA and WI.

U. S. SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
Several important manuscript resources, and record series of regional or national scope, are available in a microtext format. These include:
American Home Missionary Society Papers, 1816-1894
American Missionary Association Manuscripts, 1839-1882
American State Papers & U.S. Serial Set (govt. documents)
Bexar Archives (TX and Mexico)
Boston Transcript “Notes and Queries” columns
Colonial newspapers from MD, PA and VA
Draper Manuscript Collection & Shane Papers
Library of Congress Land Ownership Maps
Major U.S. city newspapers from 1800s to 1900s
New England Women and their Families
NATIVE AMERICAN RECORDS
Please consult the Center’s online catalog and microtext catalog for details on Native American print and film resources by state and by tribe. Important filmed records include:
- All Indian census schedules, 1885-1944
- Applications & Enrollment Cards, Five Civilized Tribes, 1896-1914
- Eastern Cherokee Applications...U.S. Court of Claims 1906-1909
- Indian Claims Commission Decisions
- American Indian periodicals
- Indian Pioneer History Collection and Index
- Miami Indian Agency Records 1824-1853

AFRICAN AMERICAN RECORDS
Curt Witcher’s African American Genealogy: A Bibliography and Guide to Sources provides a detailed catalog by state of the Center’s printed and filmed sources acquired up to 2000. Consult the online catalogs for more recent additions. Important microtext series include:
- Black Biographical Dictionaries 1790-1950
- All federal census slave schedules for 1850 and 1860
- Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War & Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration
- Freedmen’s Bureau (1865-70), Freedmen’s Savings & Trust Co. (1865-74), Freedman’s Aid Society 1866-1932, and Freedman’s Hospital 1872-1910 Records
- Pennsylvania Abolition Society Papers
- Race, Slavery, and Free Blacks, various series, 1775-1867
- Slavery in Ante-Bellum Southern Industries
- State Slavery Statutes

CANADIAN RECORDS
The Genealogy Center is also home to a significant collection of Canadiana. Print sources include local histories, cemetery records, and almost all available published French Canadian parish registers and marriage repertoires. Please consult the French Canadian & Acadian Genealogy pathfinder and the online catalog at the library’s website for further details. Complementary microtext resources include:
- All published or microfilmed censuses, 1666-1901
- Passenger Lists - Halifax (1881-1919) & Quebec (1865-1919)
- Loiselle Marriage Index (1640-1963) and Supplement
- Drouin Collection of church and notarial records 1600s-1940s
- Quebec Non-Catholic Registers (1768-1941) and Index
- Ontario Birth (1869-1901), Death (1869-1926), and Marriage (1869-1916) Indexes
Although the Center’s collection focuses on North America, it still contains 15,000 printed volumes on the British Isles including the Victoria County History series, early parish registers, monumental inscriptions, heraldic references and most English county record society publications. For further details consult the Center’s online catalogs and the English & Welsh Genealogy, Irish Genealogy, Scottish Genealogy and Heraldry & Genealogy pathfinders available at the library’s website. Important records in a microtext format include:

**ENGLAND & WALES:**
- Birth, Marriage & Death Indexes of England & Wales, 1837-2001
- London city directories, 1667-1823
- The Times (London) 1785-1987

**SCOTLAND:**
- Old Parochial Register Index (OPR), 1538-1854

**IRELAND:**
- 1798 Rebellion Papers
- Griffith’s Valuation and the Tithe Applotment Books
- 19th Century Census Fragments
- Ordnance Survey Maps of Ireland (6 inch series)
- Surname Index for the 1796 Spinning Wheel Lists
- Biographical Notices of Cork & Kerry, 1756-1827
- Index to Biographical Notices in the Newspapers of Limerick, Ennis, Clonmel & Waterford, 1758-1821
- Manuscript Sources for the History of Irish Civilization
- Sources for the History of Irish Civilization, Articles in Irish Periodicals

**GERMANY**
German family historians will find research guides, maps, emigration records and compiled genealogies for the nobility and middle class including Deutsches Geschlechterbuch and Siebmacher’s Grosse Allgemeine Wappenbuch in the print collection. The microfilmed Hamburg Direct Passenger Lists 1850-1900 and Index are an important source providing place of origin information for European emigrants. The International Genealogical Index (I.G.I.) is the major source of German vital records available, while the Family History Library Catalog will help patrons identify microfilmed records that can be sent here on a loan basis for a small fee. Consult the Genealogy Center’s online German Genealogy pathfinder for additional collection details.

**OTHER COUNTRIES**
Printed sources for other countries are limited mainly to guidebooks and references on European nobility and heraldry. Mexican court records may be found in the Parra Collection on microfilm. K.G. Saur’s Biographical Archives on microfiche provides easy access to 10 million sketches on more than 5 million individuals throughout the world. Consult the Family History Library Catalog for other filmed records that can be sent to the Genealogy Center on a loan basis for a fee.
PERIODICALS
The Genealogy Center holds the largest English-language genealogy and local history periodical collection in the world with more than 6,200 current subscriptions and more than 10,000 titles. Individual articles can be accessed through a variety of indexes including the PERiodical Source Index (PERSI), compiled by department staff and available electronically at HeritageQuestOnline.com.

ONLINE DATABASES
Valuable online genealogical sources are available when you visit and include subscriptions to Ancestry.com, HeritageQuestOnline.com, and NewEnglandAncestors.org as well as government document and obituary databases. Our own GenealogyCenter.Info website provides access to a growing number of databases for a variety of states, as well as more than a million records pertaining to Allen County and Fort Wayne residents, including vital records, obituaries, burial records, tombstone inscriptions, and church records.

GENEALOGY ENDOWMENT FUND
The Allen County community and its library have invested significant resources to develop and maintain this stellar research collection. Its future growth and viability requires cooperative partnerships and wide-ranging support. We welcome donations to the Genealogy Endowment Fund as part of these efforts. Contributors to this fund demonstrate in a tangible and meaningful way their support for the Genealogy Center, ensuring its tradition of excellence for the benefit of future family historians everywhere. Please inquire for more details.

COMPLEMENTARY COLLECTIONS AT THE ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
The Genealogy Center’s strengths are enhanced by the library’s other significant collections of biographical sources, government documents, legal references, Native American first hand accounts and early American travel and exploration accounts. All of these can be identified in the library’s online catalog.

WHEN YOU VISIT
Preparing in advance will make your research trip much more productive and enjoyable. Visit the library’s website for access to the online catalog and microtext catalog as well as any news that may affect your research visit. Librarians experienced in genealogical research are always on duty to answer your questions. Please notify us in advance if you plan to bring a group. If you have questions, email us at Genealogy@ACPL.Info. Open hours are:

Monday-Thursday  9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday-Saturday  9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday    12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

(Closed on Sundays, Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day)