

GENEALOGY: THE BASICS

Note: Locations of all listings are indicated within parentheses.

HANDBOOKS

- 929.1072
BLA Blake, Paul
[Discover your roots: dig up your family history and other buried treasures](#)
New York: Penguin, 2007
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard, and 95th Street libraries.)
- 929.1
BOC Bockman, Jeffrey A.
[Give your family a gift that money can't buy: record and preserve your family's history](#)
Naperville, IL: Alenjes Publishing, 2007
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)
- 929.1072
HUL Hull, Lise
[Tracing your family history: the complete guide to locating your ancestors and finding out where you came from](#)
Pleasantville, NY: Reader's Digest, 2006
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)
- 929.1072073
MEL Melnyk, Marcia Yannizze
[Family history 101: a beginner's guide to finding your ancestors](#)
Cincinnati, OH: Family Tree Books, 2005
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)
- 929.1072073
POW Powell, Kimberly
[The everything family tree book: research and preserve your family history](#)
Avon, MA: Adams Media, 2006
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)
- 929.1072073
RIS Rising, Marsha Hoffman
[The family tree problem solver: proven methods for scaling the inevitable brick wall](#)
Cincinnati, OH: Family Tree Books, 2005
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)

929.1072073
ROS

Rose, Christine
[The complete idiot's guide to genealogy](#)
Second edition New York: Alpha Books, 2005
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)

SOURCES

CENSUS RECORDS

United States

*The Naperville Public Library provides access to United States population censuses through two products available through our **Genealogical Resources** online database collection. Please see the **ONLINE DATABASES** part of the **Library Services Related to Genealogy** section of this pamphlet for details.*

OTHER COUNTRIES

Canada

Note: *Microfilm rolls from the catalog below may be ordered through our **Interlibrary Loan** service. See the **Library Services Related to Genealogy** section of this pamphlet for details.*

Reference Hillman, Thomas A.
929 [Catalogue of census returns on microfilm. 1666-1881](#)
HIL Ottawa: Public Archives Canada, 1981
(This is available only at the Nichols Library)

*Consult also the **Ancestry Library Edition** online database for actual Canadian census schedules for certain years. Please see the **ONLINE DATABASES** part of the **Library Services Related to Genealogy** section of this pamphlet for details.*

CHURCH RECORDS

Reference [A survey of American church records: major and minor denominations before 1880-1890](#)
929.3
SUR Fourth edition Logan, UT: Everton Publishers, 1978
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

FAMILY HISTORIES

Reference [The American genealogist: being a catalogue of family histories](#)
929.1016 Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1971
AME (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

*Consult also the [HeritageQuest Online](#) database for the texts of thousands of family histories. Please see the *ONLINE DATABASES* part of the [Library Services Related to Genealogy](#) section of this pamphlet for details.*

Reference Library of Congress
929.1016 [Genealogies cataloged by the Library of Congress since 1986](#)
LIB Washington, DC: Cataloging Distribution Service, Library of
 Congress, 1992
 (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

Microfilm copies of items in section 3 of this source may be ordered through our [Interlibrary Loan](#) service. See the [Library Services Related To Genealogy](#) section of this pamphlet for details.

GUIDE BOOKS AND DIRECTORIES

General

Reference [Red book: American state, county and town sources](#)
929.1072073 Provo, UT: Ancestry Publishing, 2004
RED (Copies are available at the Nichols and 95th Street libraries.)

Reference Bentley, Elizabeth Petty
929.1 [Genealogist's address book](#)
BEN Fifth edition. Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 2005
 (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

- Reference
929.1072
CRO
Croom, Emily Anne
[The genealogist's companion and sourcebook](#)
Cincinnati, OH : Betterway Books, 2003
(Copies are available at the Nichols and 95th Street Libraries.)
- Reference
929.1072
HAN
[Handy book for genealogists: United States of America](#)
Eleventh edition, Logan, UT: Everton, 2006
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)
- Reference
929.107207
SCH
Schaefer, Christina K.
[Genealogical encyclopedia of the colonial Americas: a complete digest of the records of all the countries of the Western Hemisphere](#)
Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1998
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)
- Reference
929.1072
SOU
[The source: A guidebook of American Genealogy](#)
Provo, UT: Ancestry, 2006
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)
- Institutions
- Reference
929.1016
NEA
Neagles, James C.
[The Library of Congress: a guide to genealogical and historical research](#)
Salt Lake City, UT: Ancestry, 1990
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)
- Reference
929.1
UNI
United States. National Archives and Records Administration
[Guide to genealogical research in the National Archives of the United States](#)
Third edition Washington, D.C.: the Administration, 2000
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)
- 929.2
WAR
Warren, Paula Stuart
[Your guide to the Family History Library](#)
Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, 2001
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

CEMETERIES

929.5072
CAR Carmack, Sharon DeBartolo
[Your guide to cemetery research](#)
Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, 2002
(Copies are available at the Nichols and 95th Street libraries.)

IMMIGRATION

Reference
929.3
BIB [A bibliography of ship passenger lists, 1538-1825](#)
Third edition. New York: New York Public Library, 1963
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

929.1
CAR Carmack, Sharon DeBartolo
[The family tree guide to finding your Ellis Island ancestors](#)
Cincinnati, OH: Family Tree Books, 2005
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)

929.1072073
CAR Carmack, Sharon DeBartolo
[A genealogist's guide to discovering your immigrant and ethnic ancestors](#)
Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, 2000
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

929.1072
COL Colletta, John Philip
[They came in ships: a guide to finding your immigrant ancestor's arrival record](#)
Third edition Orem, Utah: Ancestry, 2002
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)

LEGAL RECORDS

Reference
929.3025
BEN Bentley, Elizabeth Petty
[County courthouse book](#)
Second edition. Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co. 1995
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

Reference
929.1072
HON Hone, E. Wade
[Land and property research in the United States](#)
Salt Lake City, UT: Ancestry, 1997
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

MILITARY RECORDS

Reference Neagles, James C.
929.3 [U.S. military records: a guide to federal and state sources, Colonial America to the present](#)
NEA Salt Lake City, UT: Ancestry, 1994
 (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

ETHNIC GENEALOGY

GENERAL GUIDES

Reference Smith, Jessie Carney
929.1 [Ethnic genealogy: a research guide](#)
SMI Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1983
 (Copies are available at the Nichols and Naper Boulevard libraries.)

SPECIFIC GUIDES

Reference Rose, James M.
929.1 [Black genesis: a resource book for African-American genealogy](#)
ROS Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2003
 (Copies are available at the Nichols and 95th Street libraries.)

929.107205 Chao, Sheau-yueh J.
CHA [In Search of your Asian roots](#)
 Baltimore: Clearfield Co. 2000
 (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

929.1072071 Baxter, Angus
BAX [In search of your Canadian roots](#)
 Third edition. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing
 Co., 2000
 (This is available only at the Nichols library.)

Reference Wellauer, Maralyn A.
929.1072 [Tracing your Czech and Slovak roots](#)
WEL Milwaukee: Wellauer, 1980
 (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

- 929.1072041
MIL
Milner, Paul
[**A genealogist's guide to discovering your *English* ancestors**](#)
Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, 2000
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)
- Reference
929.107204
FAM
[**The family tree guide book to *Europe*: your passport to tracing your genealogy across Europe.**](#)
Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, 2003
(Copies are available at the Nichols and 95th Street libraries.)
- Reference
929.107204
BAX
Baxter, Angus
[**In search of your *European* roots**](#)
Third edition. Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co. 2001
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)
- Reference
929.108931
BAX
Baxter, Angus
[**In search of your *German* roots**](#)
Fourth edition, Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co. 2001
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)
- 929.10720415
RAD
Radford, Dwight A.
[**A genealogist's guide to discovering your *Irish* ancestors**](#)
Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, 2001
(Copies are available at the Nichols and 95th Street libraries.)
- 929.1
COL
Colletta, John Philip
[**Finding *Italian* roots: the complete guide for Americans**](#)
Second edition, Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 2003
(Copies are available at the Nichols and 95th Street libraries.)
- 929.1089
KUR
Kurzweil, Arthur
[**From generation to generation: how to trace your *Jewish* genealogy and family history**](#)
San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2004
(Copies are available at the Nichols and 95th Street libraries.)
- 929.1
CHO
Chorzempa, Rosemary A.
[***Polish* roots**](#)
Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co. 1993
(This is available only at the Nichols Library and also available on the Reference shelves.)

Reference Cory, Kathleen B.
929.10720411 [Tracing your Scottish ancestry](#)
COR Third edition. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2004
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

ILLINOIS GENEALOGY

CENSUS RECORDS

Reference Ladd, Ruth Kline
Local History [Index, 1900 federal census for Lisle and Naperville](#)
977.324 [Townships, DuPage County, Illinois](#)
IND Illinois: R.K. Ladd, 1980
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

Reference Robb, Ruth Flesher
Local History [1850 DuPage County, Illinois federal census](#)
977.324 Lombard, IL: Robb, 1976
ROB (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

Reference Robb, Ruth Flesher
Local History [1860 DuPage County, Illinois federal census](#)
977.324 Lombard, IL: Robb, 1983
ROB (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

Reference Robb, Ruth Flesher
Local History [1870 DuPage County, Illinois federal census](#)
977.324 Fort Myers, FL: Robb, 1987
ROB (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

Reference [U.S. census 1840 \(DuPage County\) Illinois](#)
Local History Ashland, KY: R. Hardiman, 1983
977.324 (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)
DUP

Reference Wormer, Maxine E.
Local History [Illinois 1840 census index V.1. Counties Adams-DuPage](#)
312.0977 Thomson, IL: Heritage House, 1973
WOR (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

*Microfilm of the federal census for DuPage County, Illinois, 1840-1920 may be found in the **Reference Microfilm Drawers** at Nichols Library.*

*For microfilm of special Illinois censuses or those of other states, consult the **Library Services Related to Genealogy** section of this pamphlet, specifically the **Interlibrary Loan** subsection.*

CHURCH RECORDS

Reference [DuPage County, Illinois churches and their records, 1833-1920](#)
929.3 Lombard, IL: Lombard Suburban Genealogical Society, 1981
DUP (This is available only at the Nichols Library and also in the Local
History reference area.)

LAND ATLASES

Reference [Landowners of DuPage County, Illinois: an index to plat maps and related sources, 1835-1904](#)
Local History Lombard, IL: Dupage County Genealogical Society, 1984
977.324 (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)
LAN

Reference Rockford Map Publishers
Local History [DuPage County, Illinois. land atlas and plat book](#)
912.77324 Rockford, IL: Rockford Map Publishers, 1968-
DUP (This is available only at Nichols Library. The library has 1968, 1975,
1979, 1987, 1989 and 1994 editions of this work.)

977.324 Thompson Bro's and Burr
THO [Combination atlas map of DuPage County, Illinois](#)
Elgin, IL: Thompson Bro's and Burr, 1975 (reprint of 1874 edition)
(This is available at the 95th Street Library. A reference copy is
available in the Nichols Library Local History collection.)

Note: This particular atlas is an abridged version of the original 1874 publication. The full original version may be found on the [Naperville Heritage Digital Collection](#) online database. Please see the **ONLINE DATABASES** part of the [Library Services Related to Genealogy](#) section of this pamphlet for details. You may also try this direct link to the item in the database below:

<http://www.idaillinois.org/cdm4/document.php?CISOROOT=/npl&CISOPTR=11053&REC=2>

MARRIAGE RECORDS

Reference [DuPage County \(IL\) marriages, 1839-1906](#)
929.377324 Lombard, IL: DuPage Genealogical Society, no date
DUP (Copies are available only at Nichols Library in its Reference and Local
 History collections. This is a computerized index produced by the
 Illinois State Archives, dated August 11, 1993.)

Reference Illinois State Genealogical Society
Microform [Illinois marriage records index](#)
Drawers 94 microfiche
 Springfield, IL: Illinois State Genealogical Society, 1994
 (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

NATURALIZATION RECORDS

Reference [Index to the naturalization records of DuPage County, Illinois](#)
Local History Lombard, IL: DuPage County (IL) Genealogical Society, 1999
929.377324 (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)
IND

NEWSPAPERS

Reference Desk [Newspapers in the Illinois State Historical Library](#)
071.73 Springfield, IL: Illinois State Library, 1998
NEW (Copies are available at the Nichols and Naper Boulevard libraries.)

Microfilms of the Illinois newspapers in this publication may be obtained free of charge from the Illinois State Historical Library through our Interlibrary Loan Service. See the [Library Services Related To Genealogy](#) section of this pamphlet for more details.

OTHER SOURCES

- Reference [Cemetery inscriptions of Lisle Township, DuPage County, Illinois](#)
Local History 2 volumes. Naperville, IL: Fox Valley Genealogical Society, 1989
929.377324 (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)
CEM
- Reference [Index to the sesquicentennial citizen applications and papers of Naperville, Illinois \(1981\)](#)
Local History Naperville, IL: Fox Valley Genealogical Society, 1992
929.377324 (This book, found only at the Nichols Library, is a companion to two
IND microfilm reels of the documents themselves, found in the Reference
Microform Drawers, Drawer 2.)
- 977.32403 [Naperville area farm families history](#)
NAP Naperville, IL: Naperville Farmers' Riverwalk Committee, 1983
(This is available only at the Nichols Library. It is also available in its
Local History reference area.)
- Reference [Naperville cemetery: articles about Naperville Cemetery which appeared in Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly](#)
Local History Springfield, IL: Illinois State Genealogical Society, 1978-1982
929.377324 (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)
NAP
- Reference [Pioneers of Naperville: a memorial volume](#)
Local History 2 volumes. Naperville, IL: Fort Payne Chapter, D.A.R. 1988
929.3 (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)
PIO
- Reference Robb, Ruth Flesher
Local History [DuPage County, Illinois probate records, 1839 to 1900 inclusive](#)
929.377324 DuPage County, IL, 199-?
DUP (This is available only at the Nichols Library.)
- Reference Stoddard, John H.
929.3 [DuPage County, Illinois genealogical records](#)
STO Elmhurst, IL: J. H. Stoddard, 1992
(This is available only at the Nichols Library.)

Reference Szucs, Loretto Dennis
929.10720773 [Chicago and Cook County: a guide to research](#)
SZU Salt Lake City, UT: Ancestry, 1996
(Copies are available at the Nichols and Naper Boulevard libraries.)

Reference Volkel, Lowell M.
929.3773 [Illinois mortality schedule. 1860](#)
VOL Indianapolis: Heritage House, 1979
(This is available only at Nichols Library, which owns only volume one, covering Adams through Effingham counties.)

AUDIOVISUAL AIDES

Videorecording [Ancestors: How to research your family history](#)
929.1 Provo, UT: KYBU, 1997
ANC (This is available only at the 95th Street Library.)

Videodisc [Finding Oprah's roots: finding your own](#)
929.1072 Arlington, VA: PBS Home Video, 2007
FIN (Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)

PERIODICALS

Unless otherwise noted, all issues are available on the **Current Magazines** shelves. Older issues are found in the **Periodicals** stacks.

Ancestry

2005-Present Nichols Library Periodicals stacks. Reference 929 ANC

The review: a quarterly publication of the Dupage County (IL) Genealogical Society

1990-Present Nichols Library Reference 929.377324 DUP

Fox tales. Fox Valley Genealogical Society

2006-Present Nichols Library

Everton's genealogical helper

2006-Present Nichols Library

Rural heritage news
Wheatland Plowing Match Association
April, 1991-Present Nichols Library Reference 929 WHE

LIBRARY SERVICES RELATED TO GENEALOGY

ONLINE DATABASES

Naperville public library maintains a number of databases related to genealogical research. Library cardholders may access these (with the exception of *Ancestry Library Edition*) from the library's homepage menu at:

<http://www.naperville-lib.org>

Choose the "Online Databases" hyperlink to find the ones listed below among others under the "Genealogy Resources" category.

America's Genealogy Databank

Produced by NewsBank, this database contains newspaper articles dating back to 1690, over 11,000 historical books full text, more than 141,000 historical documents and a Social Security Death Index containing 81 million death records.

America's Obituaries and Death Notices

This database contains full-text obituaries from over 1,000 newspapers, most no earlier than 1990. The *Chicago Tribune*, however, is an exception, dating back in this database to 1860.

Ancestry Library Edition

This special edition of *Ancestry.com* contains 4,000 databases . They consist mostly of Ancestry files mixed with some produced by the ProQuest company. It features every-name indexing for all federal censuses and links the names to images of the census schedules.

Ancestry Library Edition is available only at our three Naperville Public Libraries facilities. Please feel welcome to visit any of these branches to use this database.

HeritageQuest Online

This amazing resource features scans of all schedules of United States censuses from 1790 to 1930, many indexed by head of household. Also found are some 22,000 full-text primary book resources valuable for ancestor hunting, Revolutionary War pension records, the PERSI index of articles in genealogical periodicals, and Freedman's Bank records.

Naperville Heritage Digital Collection

This database makes available several hundred full text primary sources from Naperville history. Searchable by every word, this database reveals thousands of names of Naperville residents who lived here during the 19th and 20th centuries.

INTERLIBRARY LOAN

The Naperville Public Library Reference staff may obtain books, documents and microfilms of newspapers from different libraries across the country on temporary loan. Ask for a [Request for Genealogical Information](#) form for each item you want at the Reference Desk. Because of the numerous restrictions libraries place on genealogical materials, be sure to enter on the form the personal names you are researching. Libraries will often respond with photocopies of those sections of the sources requested featuring your names. Allow us at least four weeks to obtain the desired materials.

The Interlibrary Loan service can also retrieve Illinois federal and state censuses through the Illinois State Library in Springfield, Illinois newspapers through the Illinois State Historical Library and send to other states for you to obtain special state censuses and newspapers. The service can even retrieve Canadian censuses up through the end of the nineteenth century. Consult the Reference Desk for help using this pamphlet to order these items.

COMMUNITY AND AREA RESOURCES

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

DuPage County Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 3

Wheaton, IL 60187-0003

Contact: Jeff Bockman (630) 983-6784 for meeting times.

Web Site: <http://www.dcgcs.org>

Meets third Wednesday, January, February, March, April, May, September October and November.

Fox Valley Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 5435

Naperville, IL 60567-5435

Web Site: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilfvgs>

Meets second Thursday, September-June (except December)

Meets at the Naperville Municipal Center at 7:30 p.m.

400 S. Eagle Street, Naperville, IL

Sons of the American Revolution, Fox Valley Chapter

1569 Marquette Avenue

Naperville, IL 60565

Phone: (630) 983-1585

Web Site: <http://www.foxsar.org>

Meets monthly, day and time varies.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Illinois, Chapter 2

C/O William H. Kooser

932 N. West Street

Wheaton, IL 60187

Phone: (630) 668-4882

Web Site: http://www.illsuvcw.org/NewSheridan_camp.html

Meets second Wednesday of alternate months.

LIBRARIES

DuPage County

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Genealogical Branch Library

1320 Ridgeland Avenue

Naperville, IL

(630) 505-0233

This library features FamilySearch, a CD-ROM database of genealogical records held by the mother church in Salt Lake City. A loan service is available from the library.

Wheaton Public Library

225 N. Cross St.

Wheaton, IL

(630) 668-1374

Website: <http://www.wheatonlibrary.org>

This library specializes in genealogy, and maintains the largest collection of genealogical materials in a DuPage County public library. This library also maintains the FamilySearch database.

Chicago**National Archives and Records Service-Great Lakes Region**

7358 S. Pulaski Rd.

Chicago, IL 60629

(773) 581-7816

Website: <http://www.archives.gov/great-lakes>

This library features the complete microfilm holdings of all United States censuses as well as selected holdings of other federal records.

Newberry Library

60 W. Walton St.

Chicago, IL 60610-3394

(312) 943-9090

Website: <http://www.newberry.org>

Newberry Library is the largest collection of materials related to genealogy in the Chicagoland area. Family histories, heraldry, and historic maps are just a few the collections of interest held there.

ON LINE SOURCES

HANDBOOKS

- 929.01
CLI Clifford, Karen
[Complete beginner's guide to genealogy. the Internet and your genealogy computer program](#)
Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 2001
(Copies are available at the Nichols and 95th Street libraries.)
- Reference
929.10285
CRO Crowe, Elizabeth Powell
[Genealogy online](#)
Eighth edition. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2008
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)
- 025.069291
HEN Hendrickson, Nancy
[Finding your roots online](#)
Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, 2003
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)
- Reference
929.1028
KEM Kemp, Thomas Jay
[The genealogist's virtual library: full-text books on the World Wide Web](#)
Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, 2000
(Copies are available at the Nichols and Naper Boulevard libraries.)
- Reference
929.10285
KOV Kovacs, Diane
[Genealogical research on the Web](#)
New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers, 2002
(Copies are available at the Nichols and Naper Boulevard libraries.)
- 929.10285
MCC McClure, Rhonda
[The complete idiot's guide to online genealogy](#)
Second edition, Indianapolis: Alpha, 2002
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard Library and 95th Street libraries.)
- 929.20285
MCC McClure, Rhonda
[The genealogist's computer companion](#)
Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, 2002
(Copies are available at Nichols, Naper Boulevard and 95th Street libraries.)

929.10285 Shepherdson, Nancy
SHE [Ancestor hunt: finding your family online](#)
New York: Franklin Watts, 2003
(Copies are available at the Nichols and Naper Boulevard libraries.)

INTERNET WEB SITES

Commercial Web Sites

Ancestry

<http://www.ancestry.com>

Boasting the largest collection of family history resources on the web, this site is an extensive collection of databases with over 240 million records, along with many helpful features including a tutorial for beginners in genealogical research. [Ancestry.com](#) requires a monthly fee for access, but its Social Security Death Index can be searched here for free.

Everton Publishers

<http://everton.com>

This site contains helpful information for the beginner in genealogy, as well as catalogs of its paper and CD-ROM products.

Genealogy.com

<http://www.genealogy.com>

This website features a large collection of databases and a family tree-maker. Now owned by Generations Networks, which includes [Ancestry.com](#), but requiring a separate subscription.

RootsWeb

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

Now operated by *Ancestry.com*, this site is a resource page and mailing list with thousands of subscribers. It contains message archives and a file library. In addition, RootsWeb has a list of more than one million surnames submitted by over 302,451 genealogists. Entering a surname brings up a list of people researching that name.

Vital Records Information

<http://www.vitalrec.com>

This site is an index to state and county vital records in the United States, and how to obtain them. Its vital records include birth, death and marriage certificates and divorce decrees.

Government Sources: Federal

Bureau of Land Management, United States, Department of the Interior

<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov>

The bureau maintains a searchable database of federal land patent records. Actual images of more than two million land title records for Eastern Public Land States, issued between 1820 and 1908, are also available here.

Where to write for vital records

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/howto/w2w/w2welcom.htm>

Maintained by the Centers for Disease Control's National Center for Health Statistics, this database provides addresses and hyperlinks for government agencies retaining birth, death, marriage and divorce records.

National Archives and Records Administration

<http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/index.html>

The Genealogy Page of this site gives information about the archives' vast holdings, which include census returns, military service records and passenger lists. Information on how to access them is also found here.

Catalogs for microfilm of United States decennial censuses can be searched at:

<http://www.archives.gov/publications/microfilm-catalogs.html>

Government Sources: Illinois

Illinois State Archives

<http://www.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/databases.html>

This searchable site provides databases of public domain land tract sales, Illinois veteran listings from 1812 through 1898, a statewide marriage index from 1763 through 1900, and the various documents listings of Illinois Regional Archives Depositories.

Indexes

Cyndi's List

<http://www.cyndislist.com>

Created and maintained by Cyndi Howells, this site provides links to more than 264,000 web sites related to genealogy. They are listed and cross-referenced under more than 180 categories. A mailing list option allows you to be notified of updates and site changes.

Nonprofit Web Sites

FamilySearch

<http://www.familysearch.org>

FamilySearch is the official web site of the Family History Library of the Church of Latter-Day Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah. It is the largest genealogy site in the world, adding millions of new names annually to its database. Besides access to its primary records, the site features step-by-step research guidance, maps, forms and other research aides.

USGenWeb Project

<http://www.usgenweb.org>

The purpose of this site is to list the genealogy-related web sites for every county and every state of the United States. Organization is by state alphabetically, then county within state alphabetically.

European Genealogical Research Websites

Federation of Eastern European Genealogical Societies

<http://feefhs.org>

Features twenty-eight searchable databases related to eastern European genealogical research and pre-World War I maps of eastern European countries.

Public Record Office-Documents Online-United Kingdom

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/>

Online searchable index to United Kingdom probate records, with over one million wills from the period of 1384-1858 available. Many other records can be searched including the *Domesday Book*.

Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation

<http://ellislandrecords.org>

Ship passenger arrival records for New York's Ellis Island, searchable with free registration. A one-step search form for the site can be found at:

<http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/EIDB/ellis.html>

University of Wisconsin-Madison Library

<http://www.library.wisc.edu/etext/ravenstein>

Click here to find a complete atlas of the German Empire, published in 1883.

WorldGenWeb Project

<http://www.worldgenweb.org>

A partner program of the USGenWeb project, this site intends to locate and post web sites related to genealogy for all of the world's countries.