



Research Guides

Marriage Records

Pennsylvania did not have a systematic registry of marriages before 1906. For marriages before that date, it is necessary to check church records or compiled marriage records. Knowing the township where your ancestors lived or their religious denomination will help to narrow your search. The LancasterHistory.org Research Library holds copies of church records from many congregations across the county, but not all. To locate the specific church records in our collection, use *Churches and Cemeteries of Lancaster County* (LC 310.35 R579) or search by the church name in our [collections database](#).

LancasterHistory.org also has microfilm copies of the Index to Registration of Marriages from 1885-1936, and the Marriage License Docket, 1885-1906. Visit the [Lancaster County Register of Wills Office](#) to search marriage records from 1948 to the present. [Search the county records](#) holdings in our Archives for Marriage Licenses (1895-1932, incomplete) and Marriage Applications and Consent Forms (1894-1947, incomplete). Researchers can also consult the additional reading room resources listed below.

18th Century

- Braun and Weiser, *Marriages Performed at the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity, 1748-1767* (905.748 TPG v.7)
- Family Bibles at the Landis Valley Museum (microfilm drawer no. 1)
- Irish, comp., *Pennsylvania German Marriages: Marriages and Marriage Evidence in Pennsylvania German Churches* (929.32 I68)
- *Lancaster County Divorces, 1788-1800* (974.8005 E31)
- "Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, Marriage Bonds, 1757-1783," *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine* v34, p. 44-54 (905.29 GSP v34)
- Linn and Egle, comps., *Pennsylvania Marriages prior to 1790: Names of Persons for Whom Marriage Licenses Were Issued in the Province of Pennsylvania, previous to 1790* (929.32 L758)
- "Lititz Moravian Marriages, 1743-1800," [Pennsylvania Archives](#) Series 2, v9 (929.3748 R311)
- "Paxtang and Derry Church Marriages, 1757-1808," [Pennsylvania Archives](#) Series 2, v8 (929.3748 R311)
- *Pennsylvania German Church Records of Births, Baptisms, Marriages, Burials, etc.: From the Pennsylvania German Society Proceedings and Addresses* (929.32 P415)
- Rice and Dellock, *Circuit and Circuit Riders* (Lancaster County marriages, 1752-1786) v1 (929.3748 R497)



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- Simpson, comp. *Marriages, 1753-1854, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania* (LC 310.5 S613)
- Smith and Weiser, *Trinity Lutheran Church [Lancaster City] Records, 1730-1796* (LC 284.1 T832ds)
- Spiese, trans. and comp., *Index to Marriage Records Taken from Pre-1850 German Language Newspapers* (LC 310.5 G373)
- Wright, *Church Records of the 18th Century, Lancaster County, Pa.* (LC 310.3 W949)

19th Century

- Family Bibles at the Landis Valley Museum (microfilm drawer no. 1)
- "Genealogical Gleanings from the *Lancaster Journal*," (1800-1821) *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine* v30-v31 (905.29 GSP v30, v31)
- Irish, comp., *Pennsylvania German Marriages: Marriages and Marriage Evidence in Pennsylvania German Churches* (929.32 I68)
- Lancaster County Board of Health Marriage Records, 1881-1886 (Access database)
- Marriage Index (Access database of marriage notices in Lancaster County newspapers, 1800-1906)
- Simpson, comp. *Marriages, 1753-1854, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania* (LC 310.5 S613)
- Spiese, trans. and comp., *Index to Marriage Records Taken from Pre-1850 German Language Newspapers* (LC 310.5 G373)
- Strine, *Personal Marriage Records of Reverend J. J. Strine* (LC 284.1 S918p)
- Wright, *Marriages and Deaths from the Newspapers of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania* (310.5 M359)