# Resource Guide: Online Genealogy Resources

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[* denotes a paid service or subscription]
How To Guides

Guides from the Daughters of the American Revolution:
https://www.dar.org/library/research-guides/how-guides

How to Preserve Family Archives (Papers and Photos):
https://www.archives.gov/preservation/family-archives

Lancaster City: Researching the History of a House:
https://cityoflancasterpa.com/researching-the-history-of-a-house/

Lancaster County Archives: House History Guide to Resources:

Land Records Overview from the State Archives of Pennsylvania:
https://www.phmc.pa.gov/Archives/Research-Online/Pages/Land-Records-Overview.aspx

Obtaining Birth and/or Adoption Records – US Department of Health & Human Services
https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/adoption/search/records/

RootsTech Conference Session Recordings Archive
www.familysearch.org/rootstech/search

Start Your Genealogy Research – National Archives:
https://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/start-research

Statue of Liberty Foundation’s Genealogy Primer:
https://www.statueofliberty.org/discover/genealogy-primer/

Tracing Native American Family Roots from the National Indian Law Library
https://narf.org/nill/resources/roots.html

Genealogy Organizations

African American Genealogy Group:
https://aagg.org/

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society:
https://www.aahgs.org/

American Society of Genealogists:
https://fasg.org/
Board for Certified Genealogists:  
https://bcgcertification.org/

Daughters of the American Revolution: 
https://www.dar.org/

National Genealogical Society: 
https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/

Sons of the American Revolution:  
https://www.sar.org/

Lancaster County Resources

A Record of the Officers, Enlisted Men and Nurses of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Who Served in the Armed Forces of the United States in the World War, 1917-1918  
https://archive.org/details/recordofofficers00unse

Biographical Annals of Lancaster County (digitized):  
https://archive.org/details/cu31924028852998/mode/2up

Lancaster Cemetery Index of Burials:  
http://www.usgwarchives.net/pa/lancaster/lanc-cem-index.htm

Lancaster City Directories 1843-1922 on PowerLibrary:  
1843-1900 https://digitalarchives.powerlibrary.org/papd/islandora/object/papd%3Aslchs-cd01  
1901-1914 https://digitalarchives.powerlibrary.org/papd/islandora/object/papd%3Aslchs-cd02  
1914-1922 https://digitalarchives.powerlibrary.org/papd/islandora/object/papd%3Aslchs-cd03

Lancaster City: Researching the History of a House:  
https://cityoflancasterpa.com/researching-the-history-of-a-house/

Lancaster County Archives Historical Indexes  
https://www.co.lancaster.pa.us/193/Historical-Indexes

Account Index (1729-1934)  
Birth Registrations (1852-55, 1893--1907)  
Birth Registrations (Delayed) Index (1870-1906)  
Birth Registrations Index (1881—1906)  
Civil Case Index, Defendant (1874—1974)  
Coroner Inquest Index (1906—2004)  
Death Affidavit Index (1874—1978)  
Death Registrations (1852—55, 1893—1907)  
Deed in Trust Index (1825-1938)  
Dental Diplomas Index (1883—1927)  
Dentist Register Index (1898—1972)  
Divorce Index (1850—1997)

230 N. President Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17603  
research@lancasterhistory.org • 717.392.4633 • lancasterhistory.org/research
Habeas Corpus Docket Index (1895—1983)
Intestate Index (1729—1928)
Inventory Index (1729—1976)
Letters of Attorney Index (1811—1965)
Limited Partnership Index (1839—1961)
Marriage License Index (1885—1945)
Marriage Registrations (1852—55)
Military Discharge Index (1864—1947)
Naturalization Petition Index (1800—1991)
Naturalization Receipts Index (1930—1991)
Naturalization Testimony Index (1907—1940)
Oaths of Allegiance Index (1777—89)
Orphan’s Court Index (1742—1928)
Prison Trial Docket Index (1908—1965)
Prison Trial Register Index (1916—60)
Quarter Session Docket Index (1729—1872, 1902—81)
Renunciations Index (1828—1912); Unrecorded Deed Index (1735—1985)
Veteran Burial Card Index (1777—1989)
Will Index (1730—1977)

Lancaster County Archives: House History Guide to Resources:

Lancaster County Recorder of Deeds Office: Online IQS Infodex and Public Records Search
https://www.lancasterdeeds.com/

Lancaster County – USGenWeb Archives:
http://usgwarchives.net/pa/lancaster/

Mennonite Life Records (available on Ancestry*)

Major Resources

Ancestry.com* [AncestryLibrary is available to on-site researchers.]
www.ancestry.com

Cyndi’s List
https://www.cyndislist.com/

FamilySearch.org
www.familysearch.org

FindMyPast*[Best for UK Records]
www.findmypast.com
Genealogical Resources by Ethnic Heritage – National Archives
https://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/ethnic-heritage

National Archives – Resources for Genealogists
https://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy

Smithsonian Libraries Genealogy Research Guide
https://library.si.edu/research/genealogy

US-Specific Resources

AccessGenealogy
www.accessgenealogy.com
An online finding aid with links to useful genealogy resources and a records collection of its own. Particularly strong for Native American records.

ACPL Genealogy Center
https://www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy
Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, IN is one of the largest genealogy libraries in the country. They offer free collections of Native American, African American, and military records; family Bibles, a surname file; and assorted state resources.

Daughters of the American Revolution
www.dar.org
DAR offers more than 80,000 family Bible records, its library catalog, back issues of American Spirit magazine, and entries in the DAR Genealogical Research System for search. They also have how-to guides to further your research.

Library of Congress
www.loc.gov
You can search the library catalog for books about your ancestors, where they lived or worked, explore folk traditions, download historic photographs, and look at digitized Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Lancaster and surrounding counties.

National Archives and Records Administration
www.archives.gov
Search catalog pages and records collections, including the 1950 Census <1950census.archives.gov>, order veterans’ service records, research immigration records and arrivals, enlistments, etc.

Reclaim the Records
www.reclametherecords.org
This advocacy group retrieves government records through freedom-of-information and open-data requests. They provide links to the data that they have successfully retrieved, including NJ birth indexes.
USGenWeb
www.usgenweb.com
A volunteer-run site with state and county pages, tombstone information, obituaries, and pension information.

Cemetery and Burial Records

Billion Graves
https://billiongraves.com/

Find a Grave
www.findagrave.com

Interment.net
www.interment.net

Lancaster Cemetery Index of Burials:
http://www.usgwarchives.net/pa/lancaster/lanc-cem-indx.htm

Nationwide Gravesite Locator:
https://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/ngl/index.jsp

Historical Newspapers

Chronicling America:
chroniclingamerica.loc.gov

Google News Archive:
https://news.google.com/newspapers

Harper’s Weekly Civil War Newspapers:
http://www.sonofthesouth.net/leefoundation/the-civil-war.htm

Newspaper Navigator:
http://news-navigator.labs.loc.gov/search

Newspapers.com*:
https://www.newspapers.com/

PennState University Libraries Digital Newspapers
https://libraries.psu.edu/about/collections/digital-newspapers
**Military Records**

American Battle Monuments Commission
[www.abmc.gov](http://www.abmc.gov)
Search for soldiers who died in World War I or World War II and were buried in overseas military cemeteries here.

A Record of the Officers, Enlisted Men and Nurses of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Who Served in the Armed Forces of the United States in the World War, 1917-1918
[https://archive.org/details/recordofofficers00unse](https://archive.org/details/recordofofficers00unse)

Civil War Sailors and Soldiers System
Search for soldiers, sailors, regiments, cemeteries, battles, POWs, medals of honor, and monuments covering both sides of the Civil War, including records for more than 18,000 African American Union soldiers.

Coffelt Database of Vietnam Casualties
Fold3*
[www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com)
Another Ancestry-subscription property, Fold3 focuses mainly on military records.

Mexican War Sailors and Soldiers Database
[www.nps.gov/paal/learn/historyculture/search-usmexwar.htm](http://www.nps.gov/paal/learn/historyculture/search-usmexwar.htm)
Contains more than 89,000 records related to both sides of the Mexican-American War.

**Historical Maps**

Atlas of Historical County Boundaries
[digital.newberry.org/ahcb/](http://digital.newberry.org/ahcb/)

Atlas of the Historical Geography of the United States
[dsl.richmond.edu/historicalatlas](http://dsl.richmond.edu/historicalatlas)

Bureau of Land Management – General Land Office Records
[www.glorecords.blm.gov](http://www.glorecords.blm.gov)

Historic Map Works
[www.historicmapworks.com](http://www.historicmapworks.com)

Meyers Gazetteer (German Empire, 1871-1918)
[www.meyersgaz.org](http://www.meyersgaz.org)

US Geological Survey
[www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov)
Property and House Histories

Lancaster City: Researching the History of a House:
https://cityoflancasterpa.com/researching-the-history-of-a-house/

Lancaster County Archives: House History Guide to Resources:

Lancaster County Recorder of Deeds Office: Online IQS Infodex and Public Records Search
https://www.lancasterdeeds.com/

Land Records Overview from the State Archives of Pennsylvania:
https://www.phmc.pa.gov/Archives/Research-Online/Pages/Land-Records-Overview.aspx

Warrant Registers, 1733—1957, Index by County
http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/rg/di/r17-88warrantregisters/r17-88allcountiesinterface.htm

Patent Indexes, 1684—[ca. 1957]

Immigration and Naturalization

Immigration to the United States, 1789-1930
ocp.hul.harvard.edu/immigration
This digital collection of materials documents voluntary immigration to the United States from 1776 to the start of the Great Depression.

Immigration Records at the National Archives
https://www.archives.gov/research/immigration

Major US Immigration Ports

230 N. President Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17603
research@lancasterhistory.org • 717.392.4633 • lancasterhistory.org/research
The Statue of Liberty—Ellis Island Foundation
heritage.statueofliberty.org/passenger
You can search this database containing 65 million records of arrivals through the Port of New York between 1820 and 1957 for your ancestor’s name.

**African American Genealogy Resources**

African American Genealogy Group:
https://aagg.org/

African American Genealogy Resources from the National Archives:
https://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/ethnic-heritage

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society:
https://www.aahgs.org/

African-Native American Genealogy
http://www.african-nativeamerican.com/

Digital Library on American Slavery
http://dias.uncg.edu/
An online archive with information about more than 100,000 individuals named in slave deeds and notices, race and slavery petitions, and more.

Enslaved: Peoples of the Historical Slave Trade
www.enslaved.org
More than 950,000 searchable records to help you learn more about enslaved people, enslavers, and other participants in the slave trade.

Freedmen’s Bureau Project
www.discoverfreedmen.org
A collaboration with FamilySearch that contains nearly 1.8 million records created by the Freedman’s Bureau, created to help newly emancipated persons after the Civil War.

International African American Museum Center for Family History
cfh.iaamuseum.org
Marriage, obituary, Bible records, and more, alongside other educational resources.

Race and Slavery Petitions Project
http://library.uncg.edu/slavery/petitions/index.aspx?s=1
The Project offers a searchable database of detailed personal information about slaves, slaveholders, and free people of color. Designed as a tool for scholars, historians, teachers, students, genealogists, and interested citizens, the site provides access to information gathered and analyzed over an eighteen-year period from petitions to southern legislatures and country courts filed between 1775 and 1867 in the fifteen slaveholding states in the United States and the District of Columbia.
Native American Genealogy Resources

AccessGenealogy – Native American
https://accessgenealogy.com/native-american#content

African-Native American Genealogy
http://www.african-nativeamerican.com/

American Indian Records at the National Archives
https://www.archives.gov/research/native-americans

Index of Native American Genealogy Resources:
http://www.hanksville.org/NAreresources/indices/NAgenealogy.html

Asian American Genealogy Resources

Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation (San Francisco)
https://www.aiisf.org/research

Asian American Resources from the National Archives
https://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/ethnic-heritage

Japan GenWeb (RootsWeb)
http://sites.rootsweb.com/~jpnwgw/

Vietnam Genealogy at FamilySearch

Vietnam GenWeb
https://www.worldgenweb.net/vietnam/

Genealogy Resources for the British Isles

Family History at the National Archives UK
https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/?research-category=family-history

Genealogy at the National Archives of Ireland
https://www.nationalarchives.ie/genealogy/

GenUKI: UK and Ireland Genealogy
https://www.genuki.org.uk/
Irish Genealogical Society International
https://irishgenealogical.org/

Scottish and Irish Clans and Families
https://www.electricscotland.com/webclans/index.html

The Scottish Emigration Database from the University of Aberdeen
https://www.abdn.ac.uk/emigration/index.html

Scottish Genealogy from ScotsFamily:
http://www.scotsfamily.com/

Sources for Research in Scottish Genealogy
https://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/scotland.html

Welsh Genealogy
http://www.spanglefish.com/welshgenealogy/

Hispanic and Latinx Genealogy Resources

Caribbean Genealogy Library
https://cgl.vi/

Cuban Genealogy Center
http://www.cubagenweb.org/

Puerto Rican Hispanic Genealogical Society (RootsWeb)
http://sites.rootsweb.com/~prhgs/

Jewish Genealogy Resources

Ackman and Ziff Family Genealogy Institute
https://genealogy.cjh.org/about

American Jewish Historical Society
https://ajhs.org/

Avotaynu
https://www.avotaynu.com/

International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies
https://www.iajgs.org/
International Jewish Cemetery Project
https://iajgscemetery.org/

Jewish Genealogical Society, NY
https://jgsny.org/

JewishGen
https://www.jewishgen.org/

SephardicGen
https://www.sephardicgen.com/