

# 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:

<https://www.co.lancaster.pa.us/DocumentCenter/View/261/Lancaster-County-House-History-Guide?bidId=>

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](http://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/recordofficers00unse>

**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-indx.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](http://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:**

<https://www.co.lancaster.pa.us/DocumentCenter/View/261/Lancaster-County-House-History-Guide?bidId=>

**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](http://www.ancestry.com)

**Cyndi's List**

<https://www.cyndislist.com/>

**FamilySearch.org**

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

**FindMyPast\*[Best for UK Records]**

[www.findmypast.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.archives.gov)

Search catalog pages and records collections, including the 1950 Census <[1950census.archives.gov](http://1950census.archives.gov)>, order veterans' service records, research immigration records and arrivals, enlistments, etc.

### Reclaim the Records

[www.reclaimtherecords.org](http://www.reclaimtherecords.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](http://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](http://www.findagrave.com)

### Interment.net

[www.interment.net](http://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](http://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/recordofficers00unse>

### **Civil War Sailors and Soldiers System**

[nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm](http://nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm)

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**

<http://www.coffeltdatabase.org/index.php>

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.glorerecords.blm.gov](http://www.glorerecords.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)



### **Pennsylvania Warrant Maps**

<http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/rg/di/r17-522WarranteeTwpMaps/r17-522WaranteeTwpMapMainInterface.htm>

### **Library of Congress Sanborn Maps**

<https://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/sanborn/>

### **Library of Congress Maps**

<https://www.loc.gov/maps/index/location/?sp=1>

## **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:**

<https://www.co.lancaster.pa.us/DocumentCenter/View/261/Lancaster-County-House-History-Guide?bidId=>

### **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— \[ca. 1957\]](#)

<http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/rg/di/r17PatentIndexes/r17-PatentIndexMainInterface.htm>

## **Immigration and Naturalization**

### **Immigration to the United States, 1789-1930**

[ocp.hul.harvard.edu/immigration](http://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**

<https://www.ancestrycdn.com/support/us/2016/11/majorusports.pdf>

### **The Statue of Liberty—Ellis Island Foundation**

[heritage.statueofliberty.org/passenger](http://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://dlas.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](http://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](http://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](http://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/NAresources/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/~jpnwggw/>

**Vietnam Genealogy at FamilySearch**

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Vietnam\\_Genealogy](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Vietnam_Genealogy)

**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](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/>