Genealogy Resources at the Cleveland Public Library

Genealogical Records & Resources in Cuyahoga County

A Guide

New: Please note changes on pages 4, 14, and 17 reflecting a new web location for the former Cuyahoga County Historical Marriage License Index, which is now included within the Probate Court Docket and Index Search.

CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Prepared by the History & Geography Department
Cleveland Public Library
Revised February 20, 2012 (Originally published April 2005)

Cleveland Public Library
History & Geography Department
325 Superior Avenue, N.E. ***[East Sixth St. & Superior Ave.]***
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Telephone (216) 623-2864
Fax (216) 902-4978
E-mail history@cpl.org
Library Website/Catalog: www.cpl.org

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHERE IS THE GENEALOGY SECTION AT CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY?
Although the Library does not have a stand-alone genealogy section, it does have extensive genealogy holdings. These are to be found in the **History & Geography Department, on the sixth floor of the Louis Stokes Wing**.

GETTING STARTED
Genealogy can be both rewarding and time-consuming. If you are new to genealogy research, we recommend that you take some time to determine what you would like to learn about your family. If you consider that you have four grandparents, eight great-grandparents and sixteen great-great grandparents, you can see that the research possibilities are extensive. To help focus your research, please visit www.familysearch.org to learn about the basic steps involved in compiling your family's history. This site includes helpful sections titled "How do I get started?" and "Helpful Research Guidance," among others.

WILL THE LIBRARY ANSWER QUESTIONS BY TELEPHONE, E-MAIL OR LETTER?
The History Department (contact information on page 6) will provide quick reference answers to specific questions by telephone, e-mail or letter.

WILL THE LIBRARY DO GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH FOR ME?
Although genealogy research is a self-directed activity, we are able to give general guidance and to help you answer specific questions. These include questions such as, "Where do I find my grandfather's naturalization records?" and "Where do I find a birth certificate for my great grandmother born in Nebraska in 1915?"

DOES THE LIBRARY HAVE MY FAMILY'S HISTORY/GENEALOGY?
The Library does not collect family histories. (The Western Reserve Historical Society does.) The Library does, however, have a small collection of family histories --for prominent families-- that were acquired before 1975. A subject search by family name in the Library's Online Catalog will indicate if we own a particular family history. In addition, the HeritageQuest database includes the full text of more than 25,000 family genealogies and county histories.

WHY DO SOME CALL NUMBERS BEGIN WITH NUMBERS AND SOME WITH LETTERS?
Cleveland Public Library uses two classification schemes to arrange its collections. All books acquired before 1975 are arranged according to a modified version of the **Dewey Decimal System**. The Dewey system uses numbers in the top line (e.g., 989.22). Books acquired since 1975 are arranged according to the **Library of Congress Classification System (L.C.)**. The LC system uses letters in the top line (e.g., F 499).

I FOUND A BOOK IN THE CATALOG BUT IT'S NOT ON THE SHELF. WHERE IS IT?
Because of the size of the Main Library collections, only a certain number of any department's books can be housed in open stacks. Many older books are housed in closed storage areas downtown and off-site. With a few exceptions, all Dewey-classified books are in storage either downtown or off-site. Books in off-site storage usually take one day to retrieve (exception: books requested between Friday afternoon and Sunday afternoon are delivered on Monday afternoon at the earliest). LC-classified books that are in storage are stored downtown and can be retrieved within 15 minutes of your request. You are welcome to call in advance to have books retrieved and held for you.

MAY I VISIT THE CLOSED STACKS (MAIN LIBRARY) AND/OR OFF-SITE STORAGE?
We are happy to retrieve any books you wish to see. If you wish to browse the shelves in a particular closed-stack area, it may be possible to arrange for a stack pass. Stack passes are arranged on a case-by-case basis by the Department Head or Assistant Head, subject to staff availability and security restrictions. There is no direct patron access to collections in off-site storage.

HOW DO I FIND A PROFESSIONAL GENEALOGIST?
If you would like to trace your family tree but don't have the time to complete the research, you may want to consider hiring a professional genealogist to do it for you. Here are two organizations that can help you locate a professional genealogist:

> **Association of Professional Genealogists** www.apgen.org
> **Telephone (303) 422-9371**
> The online APG directory provides a list of professional genealogists with members' contact information, biographies, services and research specialties. The directory allows searching by specialty (such as ethnic group), location, zip code and residence of genealogist.
>
> **Board for Certification of Genealogists** www.bcgcertification.org

DO YOU HAVE VOLUNTEERS WHO DO GENEALOGY RESEARCH?
Although Cleveland Public Library is happy to give general guidance and to answer specific questions using its resources, non-local genealogists often need things looked up in other institutions that do not provide reference service. These research requests are

known among genealogists as "random acts of genealogical kindness." There is a network of volunteers across the country that will assist you with specific research requests in cities and towns across the country. There are strict guidelines, so be sure to read all of the terms on the Web site that links volunteer genealogists to people needing research favors: www.raogk.org.

CONTENTS

Pages 4-10 - *History & Geography Department Holdings*

U.S. Census • City Directories • Cleveland Telephone Directories • Cuyahoga County Marriage Certificates • Ohio Death Certificates • Local Death Notices • Local History Indexes • Local Clipping Files • Genealogy Indexes • Military/War

Page 10 - *Map Collection Holdings*

Historical Atlases of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County • Ward Maps • Insurance Maps

Pages 11-12 - *Resources of Interest to Genealogists in Other CPL Departments*

Comprehensive Collection of Cleveland Newspapers • Photograph Collection • High School Yearbooks & Newspapers • Cuyahoga County Voter Lists • Cleveland Court Cases Index, 1837-1877 • List of Public Officeholders in Cuyahoga County, 1802-1891 • Indexes to information on local artists, musicians, writers, business people, etc.

Pages 13-15 - *A Select List of Government Agencies and Other Organizations*

Descriptions of the genealogy-related holdings of a variety of agencies and institutions, with detailed contact information.

Pages 16-17 - *Comprehensive Guide to Vital & Other Records in Cleveland & Cuyahoga County*

One-stop shopping for learning the Cleveland-area locations of records relating to birth, death, marriage, divorce, name changes, wills & estates, coroners' records, cemetery records, naturalization, deeds & mortgages, taxes, etc.

Genealogy Research Databases and Websites

The Library provides free access to a number of databases useful to genealogists. Some of these databases are also available to Library cardholders outside of the Library. To view a complete list of databases, as well as a list of local genealogy websites, go to www.cpl.org. Click on Research, then on Popular Topics. Scroll down to History & Geography—you will see Genealogy there.

The top of the genealogy page includes some helpful book titles, as well as a section titled "Related Resources," which features digitized copies of all of the Library's genealogy pamphlets. The middle of the page includes links to the Library's subscription databases. The bottom of the page includes local websites.

Additional Guides Available from the History & Geography Department

- African American Genealogy Resources at the CPL: A Research Supplement
- Browsing Guide to the Genealogy Book Collection in CPL's History & Geography Department
- A Checklist for Property Research in Cleveland & Cuyahoga County
- Guide to City, Criss Cross & Telephone Directories available at the Cleveland Public Library
- How To Obtain Cleveland-Area Death Notices ... and Ohio Death Certificates

CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT
Phone: (216) 623-2864
Email: history@cpl.org
Location: Louis Stokes Wing, 6th Floor

AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY

In addition to this guide, please also refer also to the research supplement titled "African American Genealogy Resources at the Cleveland Public Library."

U.S. CENSUS

- **Ancestry Library Edition**
  Includes the complete U.S. Census Population Schedules, 1790-1930, including the 1850/60 Slave Schedules, but not agricultural or other schedules. See Also: HeritageQuest Database.
- **The Census Book: A Genealogist's Guide**
  Includes blank census forms for all censuses (1790-1930) as well as many useful worksheets that may be photocopied. Shelved in Quick Reference, call number: HA 214 .D63 1999.
- **Old & New Street Numbers**
  Available online: http://cplorg.cdmhost.com/u?/p128201coll0,387
  This work outlines all of the addresses extant in the city of Cleveland in 1905 and what those addresses became in 1906 as part of a massive project in which street names and numbers were reassigned and standardized throughout the city.

LOCAL RECORDS

- **Cleveland Necrology File (Death Notices for 1833, 1847-1848, 1850-1975)**
  Prior to 1976, Cleveland Public Library clipped death notices from local newspapers and compiled them into a resource known as the Cleveland Necrology File. This file is now available as a full-text, keyword searchable database, which can be accessed free-of-charge by anyone with Internet access through the Library's website. History Department maintains the original clippings on microfilm for anyone wishing to consult the originals.
- **Cuyahoga County Auditor's Tax Duplicates, 1819-1869**
  (Microfilm: F497.C9 C88 1819a)
  Documents land ownership in Cuyahoga County. No records for 1820-1822. Printed guide: Quick Ref., F497.C9 T39 2002
- **Cuyahoga County Marriage Records (1810-1949, Volumes 1-200 only)**
  (Microfilm: F497.C9 M37 1982)
  Note: Records cover 1810-1942. For the period 1941-1949, the Library owns only marriage banns. This series consists of microfilm of the actual marriage records for Cuyahoga County. To find a marriage record, first obtain the volume and page number by using the Probate Court's Docket Search: http://probate.cuyahogacounty.us/pa/CaseSearch.aspxHistory Department staff can assist you with this research. The Library does not issue certified copies of marriage records. Later records are available from Cuyahoga County Probate Court.
- **Grave Registration Cards A-Z, Soldiers Buried in Ohio from the Revolutionary War to World War II (Ca. 1810 through 1957)**
  (Microfilm: F490 .G73 1810)
  Records are in the form of index cards which contain slots for the following items: soldier's name, residence, death date, cause of death, date of burial, date of birth, place of birth, name of cemetery, location of cemetery, lot number, type of grave marker, name of relative, address of relative, and military service record (war served in, date enlisted, date discharged, serial number, branch of service, rank, company, outfit, or ship name). Very few of these cards include all of this information, however. The majority of them include only the soldier's name, birth date, death date, and cemetery information. The entries for Civil War soldiers, in most cases, also include the military service record.
- **Ohio Death Certificates (Dec. 20, 1908-1953)**
  Death certificates may include: place of death; gender; race; marital status; date of birth; age; occupation; birthplace; parents; date of death; cause of death; place of burial; date of burial and undertaker.
- **Soldiers Files from WWII and the Korean War**
  (Microfilm: D769.85 .O31 C5x)
  A series of newspaper columns --arranged alphabetically by soldier's last name-- compiled from local newspapers during World War II and the Korean War. Usually includes a small photo and one or two lines about the serviceman.

CLEVELAND CITY DIRECTORIES

The city directory is an alphabetic listing of residents, businesses, public buildings, schools, societies, etc. Entries include name, occupation, and other information. Wives' names first appeared in the Cleveland city directory in 1929. Also starting with the 1929 directory, properties are listed *by address* at the end of each volume.

COMPLETE SET OWNED BY CPL

History & Geography Department owns a complete set of Cleveland City Directories on microfilm. The department also has an extensive, but incomplete, set of paper copy directories available for patron use.

YEARS NOT PUBLISHED

No directory was published for Cleveland proper in the following years: 1838-45, 1847-48, 1851-52, 1853-55, 1858-59, 1862-63, 1933, 1945, 1946, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1952, 1962, 1967, 1971, 1973, 1975, and 1976.

PHOTOCOPIES

Patrons are permitted to make photocopies and scans only from the microfilm copy of the directories.

DIGITIZED DIRECTORIES

CPL does not have or provide access to Cleveland city directories online. However, Ancestry.com has several digitized Cleveland city directories, but patrons need a personal subscription to access this database. The Ancestry Library Edition database, *provided free by the Library*, does not contain these directories. A Google search will turn up some individual efforts at digitization.

DIRECTORIES FOR SUBURBS OF CLEVELAND

WHAT WAS PUBLISHED

Before 1925, some suburbs adjacent to Cleveland were included in the Cleveland City Directory. Check each volume to determine coverage. Starting with the 1925 directory, the title page includes a list of suburbs covered in each volume. Suburbs included in the 1925 directory include: East Cleveland, Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights, Bedford, Garfield Heights, Newburgh Heights, Bratenahl, Euclid Village, Lakewood and Rocky River. Linndale was included starting in 1927. University Heights was included starting in 1940. Starting with the 1951 directory, only the following suburbs are listed on the title page: Bratenahl, Brooklyn, Garfield Heights, Linndale and Newburgh Heights. Starting in the 1920s, separate directories began to be published for the larger suburbs of Cleveland. Starting in 1964, all of these separately published directories were merged into either the "Cleveland East Suburban" or "Cleveland West Suburban" editions.

COMPLETE SET OF EAST/WEST COMBINED SUBURBAN EDITIONS OWNED BY CPL

History & Geography Department maintains a comprehensive collection (paper copy and microfilm) of the following east/west suburban directories published between 1964 and 1980:

Cleveland City Directory Company – East Suburban Directory
Editions Published: 1964, 1965, 1967, 1968, 1969/70, 1971, 1972, 1976, 1978/79

Cleveland City Directory Company – West Suburban Directory
Editions Published: 1964, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1970, 1973, 1976, 1979/80

COMPLETE SET OF INDIVIDUAL SUBURBAN CITY DIRECTORIES OWNED BY CPL

History & Geography Department maintains a comprehensive collection of all the following directories (microfilm only):

Bay Village Directory: 1939, 1940, 1944, 1950

Bedford Directory: 1924

Bedford City Directory: v.1 (1929), v.2 (1931), v.3 (1939), v.4 (1945), v.5 (1948), v.6 (1950), v. 7 (1952), v. 8 (1954), v. 9 (1955-56), v. 10 (1957), v. 11 (1959), v. 12 (1960), v. 13 (1961) and 1963. Maple Heights is included starting with v. 3 (1939). Bedford Township is included starting with v. 5 (1948). Bedford Heights, Oakwood and Walton Hills are included starting with v.7 (1952)

Berea: v.1 (1948) and v.2 (1951), 1954. The 1954 Includes Brook Park, Middleburg Heights, Strongsville, Olmsted Falls, Westview.

Berea City Directory, including Middleburg Heights consists of editions for 1958, 1959, 1961 and 1963.

Chagrin Valley Directory consists of a single edition, dated 1973-1974.

Cleveland Heights, East Cleveland, Shaker Heights, University Heights and South Euclid City Directory consists of the following editions: v.1 (1949), v. 2 (1951), v.3 (1953-54), v.4 (1955), v.5 (1956), v.6 (1958), v.7 (1959), v.8 (1960), 1961, 1962 and 1963. Lyndhurst is included starting with v. 6 (1958).

Euclid: 1942

Euclid City Directory: [v.1], 1947, v.2 (1950), v.3 (1952), v.4 (1954), v.5 (1956), v.6 (1957), v.7 (1958), v.8 (1959), v.9 (1960), vol. 10 (1961), v. 11 (1962) and 1963.

Fairview Park, Parkview, North Olmsted, Westlake Directory: 1953.

Garfield Heights City Directory: 1954-55, 1956-57, and 1962.

Lakewood City Directory, including Bay Village, Fairview Park and Rocky River consists of the following editions: v. 1 (1949), v. 2 (1951), v.3 (1953), v.4 (1954-55), v.5 (1956), v.6 (1957), v.7 (1958), v.8 (1959), v.9 (1960), v.10 (1961), 1962 and 1963. Westlake is included starting with v. 7 (1958). North Olmsted is included starting with 1962.
Lyndhurst City Directory: 1952-53 and 1954-55.
Parma City Directory: 1941
Parma City Directory, including Parma Heights, includes the following editions: v.1 (1946), v.2 (1948), v.3 (1951), v.4 (1953), v.5 (1955), v.6 (1956), v.8 (1958), v.9 (1959), v.10 (1960), v.11 (1961), v.12 (1962) and 1963.
Rocky River Directory: 1954-1955

The Official Directory of Collinwood for 1899 [Online Access: http://cplorg.cdmhost.com/u?/p128201coll0,]
(Ref. F499 .C63 O33 1899x)

CLEVELAND TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES (1880 TO PRESENT)

The History & Geography Department maintains a comprehensive collection of Cleveland-area telephone directories, including all available residential (later known as White Pages) and business (later known as Yellow Pages) directories. **Current year in print, all previous years on microfilm.**

CLEVELAND-AREA CRISS-CROSS DIRECTORIES (1923, 1926, 1937, 1960 TO PRESENT)

Criss-cross directories are directories*, arranged by address*, of residences and businesses in the Cleveland area. These directories generally include the name and phone number of the occupant, provided the occupant had a listed telephone number. You must know the exact or approximate address of a property to effectively use the criss-cross directories. The History & Geography Department owns criss-cross directories for 1923, 1926, 1937 and 1960 through last year. The Business, Economics & Labor Department (Louis Stokes Wing, 2nd Floor) houses the current year's criss-cross directory. Please note that Cleveland City Directories (and most suburban directories) featured criss-cross listings by address at the end of each volume beginning in 1929.

CLEVELAND BLUE BOOK (1885 TO THE PRESENT)

This social register of the Greater Cleveland area contains the names and addresses of locally prominent families. Listing includes names of spouses and children as well degrees earned, club memberships held. (Ref. F 499 .C6 A182). History & Geography Department maintains paper and microfilm copies. Years published: 1885/86 (Cleveland Social Directory), 1888, 1891, 1895, 1900, 1904, 1907, 1911, 1915, 1922, 1924, 1929, 1931, 1935, 1942, 1945, 1948, 1951, 1954, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1964/65, 1966/67, 1968/1969, 1970/1971, 1972/73, 1974/75, 1977/78, 1985/86, 1987/88, 1989/90, 1991/92, 1993/94, 1995/96, 1997/98, 1999/2000, 2001/02, 2003/04, 2005/06, 2007/08, etc.

DIRECTORIES FOR OHIO CITIES OUTSIDE THE CLEVELAND AREA

The History & Geography Department owns an extensive collection of city directories for other Ohio cities on microfilm. Please refer to the separately published list available on the Genealogy research page of the Library's website, found under Research/Popular Topics/History & Geography.

DIRECTORIES FOR U.S. CITIES OUTSIDE OHIO

The History & Geography Department owns a comprehensive microfilm collection of all city directories published in the United States before 1860. A detailed inventory of these directories can be found in the index volume titled "City Directories of the United States" (call number Ref. E 154.5 .C57x).

In addition to owning every directory published before 1860, the History & Geography Department also owns directories for major U.S. cities for the period 1861-1883. Please refer to the separately published list available on the Genealogy research page of the Library's website, found under Research/Popular Topics/History & Geography.

NOTABLE FILES & INDEXES

- **Annals of Cleveland (1818-1876, 1933-38)**
  Index to Cleveland newspapers compiled by the Works Progress Administration, the *Annals* can be searched by last name or any other pertinent piece of information. The WPA did not create Annals for 1877-1932 or after 1938. An excellent article on the history of the Annals is in Sociological Review, v.3, n.4 (Aug 1938), pages 594-597, available through JSTOR database.
- **Biography Clipping File: Cleveland and Ohio (1920s-1975)**
  (Microfiche: Z688.C55 N48x)
  Clippings and other information on *prominent* Clevelanders. From the 1920s to 1975, articles on prominent Clevelanders and other Ohioans were clipped from the *Plain Dealer, Cleveland Press, Cleveland News, Cleveland Call & Post*, etc.

- **British Parish Registers and Visitations Index**
  (Microfiche: CD1068.A1 B74x)
  This file indexes the Library's collection of parish registers (by parish) and visitations published by various British record societies. Included are parish registers of cities and counties of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, as well as Madras, India, and Ontario, Canada. Commissariat records of Scotland and visitations of England and Ireland are also indexed, as are a scattering of English wills. Transcribed and published by various British record societies, parish registers include birth, baptism, death and marriage information parish by parish. Visitations are documentary records of personal inquiries made by a visiting herald into the rights of people within a heraldic province to bear arms.

- **Coats of Arms Index**
  (Microfiche: CR1179 .C62x)
  Index to coats-of-arms contained in more than 350 titles (books, serials and periodicals) in the Department's collection. The index is arranged alphabetically by family name. Color illustrations are noted.
- **English County Histories**
  The Department owns the Victoria histories of the counties of England, featuring prominent individuals from the various counties of England. Some of the histories have separate index volumes. For an overview of this series, *consult The Victoria History of the Counties of England: General Introduction*, edited by R. B. Pugh. (Ref. DA 670 .A1 P83 1970 & supplement volume).
- **Genealogical Data Relating to Women in the Western Reserve Before 1840-(1850)**
  (Microfilm: F497 .W5 C53x)
  The index to this volume is housed in the History & Geography Department (Ref. F 497 .W5 W45x).
- **Index of Surnames in Early Massachusetts from Printed Sources**
  (Microfiche: F63 .L34 1989xa)
- **Index to Cleveland and Ohio Regional History & Biography**
  (Microfiche: F491.3 .I52x)
  Index to the History & Geography Department's Cleveland & Ohio clipping files as well as many other published sources, including older published histories of Cleveland and Ohio that may not have had internal indexes when first published.
- **Index to Coats of Arms: New Jersey State Library**
  (Microfilm: Z5312.N48 1978x)
- **Index to Family Genealogical Information in Various Books and Periodicals Owned by CPL**
  Compiled ca. 1920s to 1970s by the History Department Staff. Shelved in Quick Reference, call number Z5311 .C53 1985x.
- **Ohio Surname Index, Compiled by the Ohio Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution**
  (Microfilm: F490 .O385x)
  Index to biographical information in numerous county histories and other Ohio sources. 450,000 cards, compiled between 1928 and 1936.

MISC. GENEALOGY RESOURCES

- **Ohio Birth Index Database**
  Database index to births in Ohio from 1959-1962, 1964-1968, 1970-1971, 1973-2001. **Available in History only.**
  NOTE: Records for 1963, 1969 & 1972 are not available due to an uncorrectable defect in the database.
- **Family Histories**
  Although the Library no longer collects family histories, the History Department does own a collection of family histories/genealogies --for prominent families-- that were acquired before 1975. As most of these publications are housed in off-site storage, you are encouraged to call in advance to have these materials retrieved and held in the Department. Ask a librarian for assistance with locating family histories.
- **The Library of American Civilization (Microfiche cards)**
  This collection contains 6.5 million pages of material relating to all aspects of American life and literature, from the beginning to the outbreak of World War I. Included are pamphlets, periodicals, documents both public and private, local histories, biographies and autobiographies of persons both famous and obscure, etc. Five-volume index by subject, bibliographic index, author & title is in **both** the General Reference and History departments **(Ref. Z. 1236 .L5 1971, vols. 1-5**). Additionally, each title included is cataloged separately in the CPL Online Catalog.
- **Ship Passenger Lists & Indexes**
  Published ship passenger lists and indexes are located throughout the reference collection. The highest concentrations of these titles are to be found after the call numbers CS 60 and E 184 on the reference shelves. The book ***Passenger and Immigration Lists Bibliography, 1538-1900*** (Ref. Z 5313 .U5 F54 1988 – shelved in quick reference) presents an excellent overview of published passenger lists.

- **United States County Histories**
  In addition to a comprehensive collection of Ohio county histories, the History Department owns a large collection of county histories for Pennsylvania, New York, and other states surrounding Ohio. In addition, thousands of county histories are available as part of the HeritageQuest Database. Ask a librarian for assistance in locating county histories.
- **Colonial Records of Pennsylvania**
  (Microfiche: Z1236 .L5 – LAC# 21577-91)
  Index volume shelved in History Department (Ref. F146 .C622 G46 1976). History Department also owns paper original (982.8 P38a, volumes 1-16) as well as The Pennsylvania Archives, series 1-9 (Ref. F146 .P41).
- **The Landowners of Ireland**
  (Microfiche: DA 905 .L36x)
  An alphabetical list, published in 1878, of the owners of estates of 500 acres or £500 valuation and upwards in Ireland, with the acreage and valuation in each county, and also containing a brief notice of the education and official appointments of each person, to which are added his town and country addresses and clubs.
- **Boston Transcript Genealogy Columns, June 6, 1896-April 30, 1941**
  (Microfiche: CS42 .B67x)
- **Genealogy Columns with Surname Index, 1957-April 1967 (The Hartford Times)**
  (Microfiche: CS42 .H37)

MILITARY/WAR

- **Civil War Unit Histories. Part 4, The Union--Midwest and West Regimental Histories**
  (Microfiche: E470 .C584x)
  This is a comprehensive microfilm collection of Civil War unit histories. Every unit history known to exist at the time of filming is included in this series. Part Four includes regiments from the following states**:** Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, California, Colorado, Dakota Territory, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, and Washington.
- **Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served With the United States Colored Troops:**
  - **55th Massachusetts Infantry (Civil War) (Microfilm: CD 3027 .M5 N3 No. 1801)**
  - **1st Through 5th United States Colored Cavalry, 5th Massachusetts Cavalry (Colored), 6th United States**
  - **Colored Cavalry (Microfilm: CD 3027 .M5 N3 No. 1817)**
  - **Artillery Organizations (Microfilm: CD 3027 .M5 N3 no. 1818)**
  - **1st United States Colored Infantry, 1st South Carolina Volunteers (Colored), Company A, 1st United States Colored Infantry (1 Year) (Microfilm: CD 3027 .M5 N3 No. 1819)**
  - **54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment (Colored) (Microfilm: CD 3027 .M5th N3 No. 1898)**

  NOTE: These collections of compiled records are indexed in Ancestry Library Edition Database (U.S. Colored Troops Military Service Records, 1861-1865).
  Compiled service records consist of a jacket-envelope for each soldier, labeled with his name, rank, unit, and card numbers. The contents of each envelope includes a series of cards containing various information from muster rolls, regimental returns, descriptive books and other records that were copied verbatim onto cards. A separate card was prepared each time an individual name appeared on a document.
- **List of Books Containing Rosters of U.S. Soldiers in Various Wars, 1675-1898**
  Compiled by the staff of the History Department from books in the Library's collection. Shelved in Quick Reference, call number Z1249 .M5 C53 1985x.
- **Official Roster of the Soldiers of the State of Ohio in the War of the Rebellion, 1861-1866**
  (Microfilm: E525.3 .O38)
  Includes rank and regiment. Use preceding index first to find name.
  NOTE: The microfilm index to this series is now shelved in the History & Geography Department.
- **Register of Revolutionary War land warrants, Act of 1788, military district of Ohio: entries for the years 1799-1805**
  (Microfilm: KFO127 .U65 1967)
- **U.S. Revolutionary War bounty land warrants used in the U.S. military district of Ohio and related papers (Acts of 1788, 1803, 1806)**
- **World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918. Ohio.**
  (Microfilm: D570.85.O3 W67 1992)
  (Microfilm: KFO127 .U87 1971)

NOTABLE BIOGRAPHICAL COLLECTIONS

- **Black Biographical Dictionaries, 1790-1950**
  (Microfiche: E185.96 .B5281 1987)
  Brief biographical information on more than 30,000 African American individuals. Because this resource includes both famous persons and everyday persons who were active in their communities, it is of interest to both historians and genealogists. Index volume is titled Black Biography: 1790-1950, a cumulative index (Ref. Z 1361 .N39 B52 1991) in General Reference and History Depts. The complete content of this series, including images of the actual texts, is also available at CPL through the African American Biographical Database.
- **Index to Biographies in State and Local Histories in the Library of Congress**
  (Microfilm: CS44 .U54x)
  This card index is arranged alphabetically by last name. Indexes about 630 books on 170,000 cards. Source material was published between the 1870s to the 1970s and covers all U.S. states.
- **American Biographical Archive**
  (Microfiche: CT211 .A43x)
  A single-alphabet cumulation on microfiche of 367 original biographical reference works covering 300,000 individuals from the earliest period of North American history through the early twentieth century. (Printed index is in History Department: Ref. CT 213 .A64 1993x.)

- **Biographical Archives from Around the World (microfiche)***
  This massive series of biographical archives is easy-to-use because entries are arranged alphabetically by last name within each country. Included are biographical sketches of hundreds of thousands of prominent individuals. Years of coverage vary and are stated below where known. At the beginning of each series is a group of microfiche that contains the source material from which the Archive was compiled.

Africa [1581-1998]	(CT 1920 .A47x)
Arab Countries/Islamic Empire	(DS 35.64 .A33x)
Asia, Southeast	(CT 1592 .S68)
Australasia	(CT 2775 .A97x)
Balkan Peninsula	(CT 1195 .S83)
Baltic States	(DK 502.64 B33x)
Benelux	(CT 1161 .B56)
Canada	(CT 283 .C36)
China	(CT 1821 .C45x)
Czech Republic/Slovakia	(CT 933 .C47x)
France	(CT 1003 .A72x)
Germany, 1st series	(CT 1053 .D48x)
Germany, 2nd series	(CT 1054 .D48x)
Germany [1960-1999]	(CT 1053 .D482)
Great Britain, 1st series	(CT 771 .B74x)*
Great Britain, 2nd series	(CT 933 .B74x)
Greece	(CT 1103 .G75x)
Hungary	(CT 951 .H86x)
India	(CT 1502 .T53)
Italy, 1st series	(CT 1123 .A73 1992)
Italy, 2nd series	(CT 1123 .A73 2002)
Italy, 3rd /4th series	(CT 1123. .A73x)
Japan	(CT 1832 .J37)
Jewish Biography	(CT 1919 .P38 J82x)
Korea	(CT 1842 .K67)
Poland, 1st series	(CT 1230 .P64x)
Poland, 2nd series	(CT 1230 .P642)
Russia/Soviet Union	(CT 1203 .R7)
Russia/Soviet Union [1827-1995]	(CT 1203 .R72)
Soviet Union [1917-1991]	(DK 275 .A1 B563)
Scandinavia	(CT 1243 .S33x)
Slovakia/Czech Republic	(CT 933 .C47x)
Spain/Portugal, 1st series	(CT 1345 .A72 1986)
Spain/Portugal, 2nd series	(CT 1345 .A72 1996)
Spain/Portugal, 3rd series	(CT 1345 .A72 2002)
Turkey	(CT 1902 .T87)

*Printed indexes for many of these series are located in the History Department.

MAP COLLECTION

Louis Stokes Wing, 6th Floor -- Email: maps@cpl.org -- Phone: (216) 623-2880

- **Atlases of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County (late 19th century to the present)**
  The Map Collection houses an extensive collection of maps, including land ownership maps, of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County dating back to the 1790s. Many of the Department's 19th century atlases show buildings and landowners' names for large lots. Included are an 1881 atlas for the City of Cleveland, 1892 and 1898 atlases that cover most of Cuyahoga County and the county "gem" from 1874, with superb engravings of residences, hotels, stores and landmarks. A 1903 atlas covers the county but excludes Cleveland.

- **Ward Maps of Cleveland and Some Suburbs (1852 to the present) & U.S. Cities (pre-1900)**
  Dealing primarily with Cleveland but including more recent maps of suburban areas, ward maps can often help to narrow the search for pre-1900 census records not indexed by Soundex. Map Collection also owns a microfiche collection of pre-1900 ward maps for major U.S. cities.
- **Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Cleveland, Cuyahoga County and the State of Ohio (1874-1973)**
  Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps can help to date a building, identify its address, and provide information about changes to a property, such as porch additions or removals. Sanborn maps also show building material (brick, stone, or wood frame), number of stories, and other details about the structure. Map Collection owns original paper copies of Sanborn Insurance Maps from 1886 (corrected to 1894) to 1919 (corrected through 1941) and an extensive microfilm collection of maps covering Cleveland, Cuyahoga County and *cities and counties throughout the State of Ohio* dating from 1874 to 1973.
- **Hopkins Plat Books of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County (1912-1957)**
  Published primarily by G. M. Hopkins Co. for use by real estate and title companies, these plats display ownership of larger parcels, and indicate location of buildings, some addresses, new streets and subdivisions. Map Collection owns city books, 1912-1938; county books, 1914-1957. Later volumes cover only part of the county.
- **Historical Atlases and Pre-WWI Maps of Europe**
  European historical atlases and gazetteers in several languages aid in locating boundary and place name changes. Microform sets contain thousands of map sheets for Austria-Hungary, France, the German Empire and Ireland.

Reproductions of British Ordnance Survey Maps, circa 1820-1850s
Published in book format, this set reproduces the first significant national mapping of England and Wales. Pinpoints many small villages, estates and country homes.

RESOURCES IN OTHER MAIN LIBRARY DEPARTMENTS

SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

Louis Stokes Wing, 5th Floor -- Email: social.sciences@cpl.org -- Phone: (216) 623-2860

- **School Yearbooks**
  The Social Sciences Department owns a small, incomplete collection of older area school yearbooks/annuals.
- **List of Electors/List of Voters (Cuyahoga County, Ohio)**
  (Ref. JK 5591 .A1 C89x)
  These printed volumes include the names and addresses of all registered voters in the city of Cleveland and some suburbs. Arranged by ward* and precinct, then alphabetically by name. CPL owns: 1892 (wards 1-40), 1894 (wards 1-42), 1908 (wards 1-26, also including Bedford and Lakewood after ward 26), 1909 (wards 1-26), 1910 (wards 1-26), 1911 (wards 1-26; also including Bedford and Lakewood after ward 26), 1912 (wards 1-26, also including Bedford, Lakewood, Newburgh and Rocky River after ward 26), 1916 (only includes Bedford, East Cleveland, Lakewood and Village of West Park), 1917 (wards 1-26, also including Bedford and Lakewood after ward 26), 1922 (wards 1-32), 1931 (wards 1-33). Volumes for 1908-1917 include separate column for women. **[NOTE: Volumes for 1909-1912 are shelved with folios.]** Other volumes available at the Cuyahoga County Archives. *For help with ward maps, see the Map Collection.
- **Annals of Cleveland: Court Record Series/United States. Works Progress Administration (WPA)**
  (Ref. JS 762 .A35x 1837-1877)
  WPA index to court cases in Cuyahoga County for 1837-1877. Can be used to determine if a local person was involved in a court proceeding.
- **Annals of Cleveland: Officeholder Series. Historical record of public officeholders in Cuyahoga county; register of public officeholders in Cleveland, 1802-1891**
  (Ref. JS 762 .A32)
- **Vertical Files: Cleveland & Ohio Art & Architecture**
  Histories of individual churches, as well as booklets published by individual congregations to commemorate important anniversaries.

PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION

Louis Stokes Wing, 4th Floor -- Email: photos@cpl.org -- Phone: (216) 623-2871

- **Cleveland Photographs**
  The Library has several collections of photographs that can help researchers compile a family history. For example, the City Hall Collection consists of approximately 60,000 photographs of local buildings - homes, stores, churches, etc. - taken by various agencies of the City of Cleveland from 1930 to the 1990s. Images are indexed by address, name of business, school, church, etc. Genealogists may be able to locate a photo of grandmother's house or the family church.
- **Photographs of Prominent Clevelanders**
  Several collections of photos of prominent Clevelanders are housed in the Photograph Collection. The work of well-known local photographers, such as George Edmondson and Ethel Standiford, is represented. Photos date from the early 1900s to the present and include civic leaders, politicians and business leaders - John D. Rockefeller, the Van Sweringen brothers and the Stokes brothers to name a few.

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS DEPARTMENT

Louis Stokes Wing, 4th Floor -- Email: GovDocs@cpl.org -- Phone: (216) 623-2870

- **U.S Congressional Serials Set (1818 to date)**
  The Serials Set is made up of bound, sequentially numbered volumes of all the reports, documents and journals issued by or submitted to the U.S. Congress (Senate and House of Representatives). Information of interest to genealogists may include private laws, pension claims, petitions, registers, land grants, immigration, mail contracts and other lists which include specific names. A detailed, multi-volume index is available. **[Note: This resource is available as a key-word searchable full-text database through the Library's Web site.]**

BUSINESS, ECONOMICS & LABOR DEPARTMENT

Louis Stokes Wing, 2nd Floor -- Email: business@cpl.org -- Phone: (216) 623-2927

- **Who's Who File of Cleveland Businessmen**
  Periodical and newspaper clippings on prominent Cleveland civic leaders and business men and women. Clipped from a wide variety of local and national journals from the 1930s through the mid-1970s. Alphabetical by name.

MICROFORM CENTER

Main Building, 1st Floor -- Email: microform.center@cpl.org -- Phone: (216) 623-2910

- **Complete Backfile of All Major Cleveland Newspapers (1818 to the present)**

  Selected list of newspapers owned:
  Catholic Universe Bulletin (1874 to present)
  Cleaveland Gazette and Commercial Register (1818-1820)
  Cleveland Call & Post (1934--) **(Also available as a searchable database for 1934-1991.)**
  Cleveland Citizen (1891-1994, 2001 to present)
  Cleveland Edition (1984-1992)
  Cleveland Gazette (1883-1945) (Note: African-American newspaper)
  Cleveland Herald (1819-1886)
  Cleveland Jewish News (1964 to present)
  Cleveland Leader (1854-1917)
  Cleveland News (1905-1960)
  Cleveland Observer (1837-1940)
  (Cleveland) Plain Dealer (1842 to present)
  Cleveland Press (1878-1982)
  Cleveland True Democrat (1847-1853)
  Cleveland Whig (1834-1836)
  Cleveland World (1890-1905)
  Free Times (1992 to May 8, 2007)
  Jewish Independent (1906-1964)
  Jewish Review and Observer (1899-1963) and earlier titles: Hebrew Observer (1889-90), Cleveland Hebrew Observer (1889), Jewish Review (1895-99)
  Standard of the Cross (1874-1886)
  Sun Newspapers: backfiles of most local Sun newspapers.

PERIODICAL CENTER

Main Building, 1ST Floor -- Email: periodical.center@cpl.org -- Phone: (216) 623-2904

- **Cleveland-area High School Newspapers**
  An incomplete collection dating generally from the 1920s to the 1960s. Ask a Librarian for help with finding a specific title.

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT

Main Building, 2ND Floor -- Email: literature@cpl.org -- Phone: (216) 623-2881

- **Card Index to Cleveland Literature, Theater, Television & Film**
  This card-file index, arranged alphabetically by subject, includes references to a wide variety of sources. Useful for researching prominent authors, poets, actors and television and film personalities.
- **Vertical Files: Literature, Theater, Television & Film**
  This file includes clippings and pamphlets relating to literature, theater, television and film in Cleveland and Ohio, including information on prominent authors, poets, actors and television and film personalities.

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

Main Building, 3RD Floor -- Email: fine.arts@cpl.org -- Phone: (216) 623-2848

- **Card Index to Cleveland & Ohio Art, Architecture & Music**
  Dating to the 1920s, this card-file index, arranged alphabetically by subject, includes references to a wide variety of sources. Useful for researching prominent artists, architects and musicians.
- **Vertical Files: Cleveland & Ohio Art & Architecture**
  Dating to the 1920s, this file includes clippings and pamphlets relating to art, architecture and music in Cleveland and Ohio, including information on prominent artists, architects and musicians.
- **Music Vertical Files & Index (1900-1992, 1993-)**
  Dating to 1900, this file includes clippings, brochures, programs and other materials dealing with musical events in Cleveland, including material on musicians. Files for 1900-1992 are in the Microform Center on microfiche cards (Call Number: ML 46 .C6 C53 1900x). Files for 1993 forward are in the Fine Arts Department on microfiche (Call Number: ML 46 .C6 C53).

A SELECT LIST OF LOCAL, STATE & FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, INSTITUTIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

CARL B. STOKES UNITED STATES COURT HOUSE

Clerk of Court - U. S. District Court - Northern District of Ohio
800 West Superior Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44113-1830
(216) 357-7000

RECORDS

- Petitions for Naturalization, 1968 to date (Petitions & Index)

CLEVELAND CITY HALL - BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 122
Cleveland, OH 44114-1085
(216) 664-2315 (recorded information)
(216) 664-2317 (credit card orders)

Cost of each certified photocopy: $25 (as of 2009)
No personal checks. Major credit cards accepted.

RECORDS

- Birth Records, 1909 to date
- Death Records, 1909 to date

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ARCHIVES

2905 Franklin Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44113
(216) 443-7250
e-mail: archive@cuyahogacounty.us

Hours & staffing are limited. Call for hours and an appointment.

RECORDS

- Abstract of Votes, 1893-1974, Board of Elections
- Birth Records, 1840-1880 (incomplete set); 1849-1908 (City of Cleveland, 1840-68; Cuyahoga County, 1868-1908)
- Board of Elections Register of Naturalized Voters, 1836-1972
- Civil War Bounty Record, 1862
- Coroner's Case Files, 1833-1900 [Note: CPL History Dept. has a published index to these records: Ref. F 497 .C9 I52 1983x.]
- County Surveyor's Records, 1823-1893
- Death Records, 1840-1908 (City of Cleveland, 1840-68; Cuyahoga County, 1868-1908) (Original Records and Index)
- Divorce Records as follows:
  - Divorce case files, 1876-1882, Court of Common Pleas
  - Supreme Court records, 1811-1858
  - Court of Common Pleas Special Docket files, 1876-1922
- List of Electors, Board of Elections, 1893-1982
- Marriage Records, 1810-1941 (original files and index) (Also available on microfilm in Cleveland Public Library Microform Center)
- Marriage Records Microfilm Index, 1810 to the present (Also available as an online database: http://probate.cuyahogacounty.us/ml/)
- Naturalization Records as follows:
  - Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, ca. 1818-1971 (Note: The Court of Common Pleas continued creating Declarations of Intention from 1931-1971.)
  - Cuyahoga County Probate Court, 1859-1901 (Note: This court held parallel jurisdiction with the Court of Common Pleas over naturalizations from 1859-1901.)
- Probate Court General Estate Case Files, 1811-1918 (Wills, Documents relating to estates and guardianship); Indexes, 1813-1941
- Registration of Charters of Religions and Other Societies, 1845-1924
- Road Records, 1802-1898
- Tax Duplicates (Tax Records), 1819-1986 (not inclusive)

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

1219 Ontario Street, Cleveland, OH 44113

Cuyahoga County Auditor's Office – Map Room (Room 310)
(216) 443-7000

Cuyahoga County Recorder's Office (Room 216)
(216) 443-7318

RECORDS

- Property Records: Deeds & Mortgages, etc, 1810 to date (Auditor & Recorder). Some records are at the County Archives.
- World War II veterans grave site index and discharge papers (see website for details: http://recorder.cuyahogacounty.us/)

FOR DETAILED INFORMATION ON PROPERTY RESEARCH, SEE: ***Checklist for Property Research in Cleveland and Cuyahoga County***, published by the Cleveland Public Library History & Geography Department. This guide is available on the Library's Website (**www.cpl.org)**. Follow the links to the History & Geography Department home page. The guide is at the bottom of the page. Alternatively, the guide can be found quickly by entering the terms "Cleveland Property Research" into the Google search engine (**www.google.com)**.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT - Clerk of Courts

1200 Ontario Street, Cleveland, OH 44113 **Call for current photocopying fees.**
(216) 443-7960

RECORDS

- Divorce Decrees, Index, 1912 to date
- Divorce Decrees, Court Records, current 5 years

NOTE: Older records are housed in the Cuyahoga County Court House, Clerk of Courts Microfilm Room, 1 Lakeside Avenue (See Below).

CUYAHOGA COUNTY COURT HOUSE

1 Lakeside Ave. NW , Cleveland, OH, 44114 **Call for current photocopying fees.**

Probate Court
(216) 443-8764

Probate Court Microfilm Room (Room 31 – Basement)
(216) 443-8935

Common Pleas Court Microfilm Room (Room 37– Basement)
(216) 443-7939

Marriage License Bureau (Room 146 – First Floor)
(216) 443-8920 (recorded information); 443-8921

All Probate Court research at the Court House should begin in Room 31 (the Microfilm Room) in the basement. Common Pleas Court research should begin in Room 37.

Note: The Cuyahoga County Probate Court was originally part of the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court. Records from 1811 to 1852 are called Common Pleas Probate records. Records from 1852 to date are Probate Court records. The Probate Microfilm Room (room 31) maintains several helpful indexes, including the Historical Marriage Index, the Index to Estates (1852-1997) and the WPA Index to Birth Records (1868-1908).

RECORDS

- Birth Records, 1868-1908, microfilm (Probate Court Microfilm Room). These show parents' names and date of birth. These records were created by doctors, midwives, family members or assessors. Before state law required birth records to be kept in 1867, births were often not recorded or were recorded some time after the event.
- Death Records, 1868-1908, microfilm (Probate Court Microfilm Room). These show decedent's date of death, age, address, cause of death and cemetery.
- Divorce Decrees, current five years: SEE Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas section.
- Divorce Decrees, 1865 to records from five years ago (Common Pleas Court Microfilm Room).
- Estate Records, 1810 to date (Probate Court Microfilm Room). These records show decedents' address, heirs and assets. There is a book index covering 1810-1896 and a microfiche index covering 1852-1997, copies of which are located both at the County Archives and at the Court House. Other indexes: Index to Wills that have gone through probate, 1879 to date. Computer Index to Estate Records, 1852 to date (staff access only). [**Helpful resource:** Cleveland Public Library's History Department owns a copy *of Abstracts of Wills, Estates and Guardianships, Cuyahoga County, Ohio Common Pleas Court, 1811-1852*, published by the Ohio Genealogical Society. Call Number: Ref. F 497 .C9 A27 2003.]
- General Case Files, 1919 to date (Probate Court Microfilm Room). These files cover guardianships, appropriations, land sales, trusteeships, changes of name, and legitimizations. Records for 1811-1918 are at the County Archives.
- Guardianships, 1810-date (Probate Court Microfilm Room). There were very few filings in the early years, perhaps because families did not feel the need to have formal guardianships for incompetent adults or minor children. Around 1950, the numbers increased. These records include the names of the parties involved, ages of minors, inventories and accounts if required.
- Marriage Records, 1811 to date (Marriage License Bureau, Room 146)* The earlier records show only the parties' names, date of marriage and who officiated. Later records evolved to include parties' names, places of birth, ages, occupations, parents' names, previous marriages and minor children.
- Name Changes, 1868-date (Probate Court Microfilm Room). There were very few filings in the early years. Around World War II, the numbers increased.
- Wills: See Estate Records

- The index to marriage licenses issued in Cuyahoga County from 1810 to April 1998 is maintained by the Judges of Probate Court. The index for 1810-1998 is available electronically at http://probate.cuyahogacounty.us/pa/CaseSearch.aspx. The foregoing URL leads to a general index to Probate Court's docket for all cases and includes index entries for marriage records within it. Under **Search by Person** type in the first and last names of the bride or groom you are looking for then click the drop-down arrow next to **Party Role** and select bride or groom from the list. Then click the **Search by Person** radio button at the bottom of the page.

  1999 to date is available through the *Search Docket and Index System* brings and also accesses other Probate Court cases.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY - FAIRVIEW PARK REGIONAL BRANCH

21255 Lorain Road, Fairview Park, Ohio 44126
(440) 333-4700

The Fairview Park Regional Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library maintains a genealogy collection of nearly 6,000 books, 150 journals and newsletters, and thousands of microforms, with emphasis on Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and the Eastern United States. While Cleveland Public Library and Cuyahoga County Public Library-Fairview Park Regional have several genealogy titles in common, each has material not owned by the other.

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF THE LATTER DAY SAINTS

Main Library
50 East North Temple Street, East Wing
Salt Lake City, Utah 84150
www.familysearch.org

Cleveland Branch – East (Solon)
5825 Liberty Road, Solon, Ohio 44139
(440) 498-0599

Cleveland Branch – East (Kirtland)
8854 Chillicothe Road, Kirtland, Ohio 44094
(440) 256-8808

Cleveland Branch - West
25000 Westwood Road, Westlake, Ohio 44145
(440) 779-6195

SEE ALSO: ***The Library: a guide to the LDS Family History Library*** **(Ref. Z 675 .C5 L4 1988 (History Dept. quick reference)**

RECORDS

The Latter Day Saints have microfilmed millions of genealogical records from around the world. Contact one of the local libraries to see how they can help you access their collections.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES – GREAT LAKES REGION

National Archives, Great Lakes Region
7358 South Pulaski Road, Chicago, IL 60629-5898
(773) 581-7816
www.archives.gov
A Guide to Genealogical Research at the National Archives: (http://www.archives.gov/research_room/genealogy/index.html)

RECORDS

- **U. S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio, Eastern Division 1855-1967, Petitions for Naturalization, 1855-1967 and related indexes**
  Note: There are no petitions 1904-April 18, 1907. The petitions are arranged numerically by petition number, not alphabetically by name. If the petition number is not known, Archives staff will search indexes, if supplied with sufficient identifying information in writing. Public may do their own search of indexes by visiting the office in Chicago.
- **For current information on the many records maintained by the National Archives, as well as the forms needed to request records and information, please consult the National Archives' Website.**

OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Ohio Genealogical Society
611 State Route 97 West
Belleville, OH 44813-8813
(419) 886-1903
FAX (419) 886-0092
http://www.ogs.org
ogs@ogs.org
The OGS library has over 30,000 volumes, as well as large microform and manuscript collections. The web site contains many local databases as well as links to OGS chapters - 95 at the last count. OGS and its chapters have over 2000 Ohio local history/genealogy titles currently in print.

OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1982 Velma Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211-2497
(614) 297-2300
http://www.ohiohistory.org/

See Web site for costs for certificates and research.

RECORDS

- Birth Records for select counties, 1867-Dec. 19, 1908
- Death Records, December 20, 1908-1953
- See Web site for specific information on records and other holdings.

OHIO VITAL RECORDS

35 East Chestnut Street, Columbus, OH 43215-0098
(614) 466-2531 [phone], (614) 466-6604 [fax]
http://www.odh.ohio.gov/vitalstatistics/vitalstats.aspx

Cost per certified certificate: $21.50 (as of 2009). Call to confirm. Online request form available. Website has additional information regarding rush orders and fees for certification, etc.

RECORDS

- Birth Records, 1909 to date
- Death Records, 1953 to date

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE (INS)

425 I Street NW, Washington, D. C. 20536
(202) 514-4316

For Naturalization records after 1906, you may send form N585, "Application for a Search of the Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service," to the INS, Washington, D.C. 20536.

WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY

10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44106
(216) 721-5722

NOTE: A fee is charged to use this private library. See Web site or call for current fees and hours.

www.wrhs.org

Whether you are just beginning to put together your family tree or are a seasoned genealogist, the Western Reserve Historical Society offers a wealth of resources for genealogy research, including seminars and classes, outstanding collections and more.

RECORDS & SELECT HOLDINGS

- Index to Wills, 1811-1896 (WRHS only owns the index.)
- Marriage Records (microfilm), 1810-1941 & Index, 1810-1988
- Tax Records for Cuyahoga County, 1819-1869
- More than 18,000 family histories in book, pamphlet, and manuscript form
- U.S. Census: All available United States Federal Population Schedules from 1790 through 1930 (microfilm).
- International Genealogical Index to more than 200 million names recorded in the genealogical files of the Mormon church.
- Family Registry -- alphabetical list of surnames together with names and addresses of researchers registered with the Mormon church.
- Shaker Records -- Membership file, manuscripts, and printed materials from all Shaker settlements in the northeastern United States.

INDEX TO THE LOCATIONS OF VITAL RECORDS AND OTHER RECORDS IN CLEVELAND & CUYAHOGA COUNTY

BIRTH RECORDS (BIRTH CERTIFICATES)

1840-1880* Cleveland City Hall, Bureau of Vital Statistics ..... Page 13
1849-1908* Cuyahoga County Archives ..... Page 13
1868-1909 Cuyahoga County Court House, Probate Court ..... Page 14
1909 to date Cleveland City Hall, Bureau of Vital Statistics ..... Page 13
1909 to date Ohio Vital Records ..... Page 15

**Incomplete set. State law did not require birth certificates to be filed until 1867.*

Contact the local city hall for birth records for the following Cuyahoga County locations: Bedford, Berea, Cleveland Heights, East Cleveland**, Euclid**, Garfield Heights, Lakewood, Maple Heights, Parma, Rocky River, Shaker Heights, South Euclid, University Heights
**Note these exceptions. Records for births at the following hospitals are held where noted:
Euclid-Glenville Hospital, Euclid (pre-1952 records at Cleveland)
Huron Road Hospital, East Cleveland (pre-1936 records at Cleveland)
Southwest General Community Hospital, Middleburg Heights (records for September 1975 to date are held at Cleveland)

For pre-1909 births in other Ohio counties, review the section on birth records on the Ohio Historical Society's website (www.ohiohistory.org).

OHIO BIRTH INDEX DATABASE

1959-2001 Database Index to Births in Ohio ..... Page 7

DEATH RECORDS

1840-1908** Cuyahoga County Archives ..... Page 13
1868-1909** Cuyahoga County Court House, Probate Court ..... Page 14
12/20/1908-1953 Cleveland Public Library, History and Geography (on microfilm) ..... Page 4
Ohio Historical Society ..... Page 15
12/20/1908 to date Cleveland City Hall, Bureau of Vital Statistics ..... Page 13
1954 to date Ohio Vital Records ..... Page 15

*** Incomplete set. State law did not require death certificates to be filed until 1867. For pre-1909 deaths in other Ohio counties, contact the Probate Court of the county in which the death occurred.*

DEATH NOTICES/OBITUARIES & SOURCES FOR DETERMINING DEATH DATES

Death Notices in Cleveland Newspapers (1818-76) Cleveland Public Library History Department Book (Quick Ref. F 499 .C6 C534 1998)
Cleveland-area Death Notices (1830s-1975) Cleveland Public Library's Cleveland Necrology File ..... Page 4
Cleveland-area Death Notices (1976-date) Cleveland Public Library's Cleveland News Index ..... Page 3
Ohio Death Certificate Index (1913-1944) Ohio Historical Society Online Index ..... Page 15
Ohio Deaths (1908-32, 1938-44, 1958-2002) Available through Ancestry Database ..... Page 4
Social Security Death Index (1930s-date) Available through Ancestry Database ..... Page 4
National Obituary Archive (free Internet database that includes 55 million obituaries, mostly from last 10 years) ..... Page 3

CEMETERY RECORDS/FUNERAL HOME RECORDS

CEMETERY INSCRIPTIONS: The Library's History Department owns many published lists of cemetery inscriptions. Inscriptions are usually shelved with the reference books related to the place where the cemetery is located. A keyword search of the Library's Catalog using the terms "cemetery inscriptions" will yield a list of possible titles, but keep in mind that there may be similar titles in the Catalog that don't include these search terms. (Many genealogical societies have made cemetery inscriptions available on the Internet as well.)
CEMETERY INSCRIPTION WEBSITES: SEE CPL's Genealogy Research Page for a growing list.
CEMETERY DIRECTORIES: History Department has cemetery guides including: *Cleveland Cemeteries: Stones, Symbols and Stories* (F 499 .C692 A2 1999), *Ohio Cemeteries* (Ref. F 490 .O3618) and *Cemeteries of the U.S.* (Ref. RA 626.3 .C45x). Use these books to determine the location of cemeteries and their records.
FUNERAL HOME RECORDS: Funeral homes that have been in operation for a long time often have historical records that may be helpful. Busch Family Funeral Chapels, for example, has complete records going back 100 years. Cleveland Public Library maintains no funeral home records.

CORONERS' RECORDS

Coroner's Case Files, 1833-1900* Cuyahoga County Archives ..... Page 13

*CPL History Department has printed index to these files: Ref. F 497 .C9 I52 1983x.

MARRIAGE RECORDS*

1810-1941 Cuyahoga County Archives (on microfilm) ..... Page 13
1810 to date Cuyahoga County Court House ..... Page 14
1810-1949 Cleveland Public Library, History and Geography (on microfilm)** Licenses 1810-1942
(Banns only 1941-1949) ..... Page 14
Probate Court Docket & Index Search http://probate.cuyahogacounty.us/pa/CaseSearch.aspx ..... Page 14

**State law did not require that marriage certificates be filed with the County Probate Court until March 9, 1883.*

**CPL History Dept. has Index to Marriage License Applications, Cuyahoga County, 2/23/1829-8/1851 (Ref. F 497 .C9 O44 1985x). Also: Cleveland Newspaper Index to Marriages and Deaths: 1818-1876 (Quick Ref. F 499 .C6 C534 1998).

DIVORCE RECORDS

1876-1882 Divorce Case Files, Court of Common Pleas – Cuyahoga County Archives ..... Page 13
1811-1858 Supreme Court records – Cuyahoga County Archives ..... Page 13
1876-1922 Special Docket Files, Court of Common Pleas – Cuyahoga County Archives ..... Page 13
1865-5 years ago Cuyahoga County Court House, Clerk of Courts – Court of Common Pleas ..... Page 14
Current 5 years Divorce Case Files - Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, Clerk of Courts ..... Page 14

DEEDS & MORTGAGES*

1810 to date Cuyahoga County Recorder's Office (Original Records and Indexes) ..... Page 13

*Refer also to the "Checklist for Property Research in Cleveland & Cuyahoga County" by Cleveland Public Library's History Dept.

ESTATE RECORDS/WILLS/GUARDIANSHIPS/GENERAL PROBATE COURT CASE FILES

1810 to present Estate Records Index & Records – Cuyahoga County Court House, Probate Court ..... Page 14
1811-1918 Probate Court General Case Files (Wills, Estates. Guardianships) – Cuyahoga County Archives ..... Page 14
1919 to present Probate Court General Case Files (Guardianships, Trusteeships, etc.) – Cuyahoga County Probate Court ..... Page 14
1811-1896 "Index to Wills" – Western Reserve Historical Society ..... Page 15

MILITARY SERVICE

Ca. 1810-1957 Grave Registration Cards for Soldiers Buried in Ohio – Cleveland Public Library History and Geography ..... Page 4
1917-1918 World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, Ohio ..... Page 8
Ca. 1941-1950s Soldiers Files from WWII and the Korean War – Cleveland Public Library Microform Center ..... Page 4

Note: Records for military personnel who left military service or died before 1946 are available from the National Archives (www.archives.gov).

NAME CHANGES

1868 to present Cuyahoga County Court House, Probate Court ..... Page 14

NATURALIZATION RECORDS

There is no comprehensive index to naturalization records. A person who resided in Cleveland or Cuyahoga County may have filed a Petition for Naturalization in one of three courts: Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas; Cuy. County Probate Court; or the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio. Most 19th and early 20th century petitions were filed in non-federal courts operated by state, county or municipal governments.

Locations of the records:

- **Ca. 1818-1931, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas records – Cuyahoga County Archives** ..... Page 13
  Note: This Court continued creating Declarations of Intention from 1931-1971.
- **1859-1901, Cuyahoga County Probate Court records – Cuyahoga County Archives** ..... Page 13
  Note: This Court held parallel jurisdiction with the Court of Common Pleas over naturalizations from 1859 to 1901.
- **1851-1967, U.S. District Court, Northern District of OH, Eastern Division records – National Archives, Great Lakes Region** ..... Page 15
- **1968 to present, U.S. District Court, Northern District of OH records – Carl B. Stokes U.S. Court House** ..... Page 13
- **September 26, 1906 to present: The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service** has duplicate records of all naturalizations that occurred during this period of time ..... Page 15

SHIP PASSENGER RECORDS

Original records are maintained by the National Archives. As of 2008, 5.2 million transcriptions are available through the National Archives Web site. (Google "National Archives Data Files Passenger Records.) There is no single best way to locate passenger records. See page 7 for published compilations of records. See databases on pages 20-21 for additional sources, including Ancestry and Ellis Island Records databases.

TAX RECORDS

1819-1869 **Cleveland Public Library—History & Geography** (Cuyahoga County Auditor's tax duplicates) ..... Page 4
1819-1896 Western Reserve Historical Society (Cuyahoga County Auditor's tax duplicates) ..... Pages 15-16
1819-1981 Cuyahoga County Archives (Cuyahoga County Auditor's tax duplicates) ..... Page 13