ISL Genealogy Collection

Open for Exploration

The ISL Genealogy Collection has developed over time to become one of the largest collections of family history information in the Midwest. The collection includes approximately 50,000 print items (family histories, indexes to records, how-to books, cemetery transcriptions, genealogical journals, periodicals, and more) as well as microfilmed Federal Census records, Indiana county records, passenger lists and military pension information. The emphasis of the collection is on Indiana and bordering states, as well as eastern and southern states from which people emigrated; however, all states are represented in the collection. Resources for Native American and African American family history research are also available.

Although most materials may only be used within the Indiana State Library, collection experts will help you begin your research and locate the best resources to discover your family's genealogy. Printed collections, electronic resources, and the Genealogy Reference Desk are located on the first floor. The Genealogy microfilm and microfiche collections, and printed census indexes are located on the second floor alongside Indiana newspapers on microfilm.

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Genealogy Collection

Indiana State Library

315 West Ohio Street

Indianapolis, IN 46202

Phone: 317-232-3689

Genealogy Homepage

www.IN.gov/library/genealogy.htm

Ask-A-Librarian

www.in.gov/library/ask.htm

Indiana Digital Archives

www.indianadigitalarchives.org

WWW.IN.GOV/LIBRARY

Collection Overview

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

WWW.IN.GOV/LIBRARY

Computer Resources

Family history researchers can access several leading online subscription databases while visiting the Indiana State Library. These databases include Ancestry Library Edition, HeritageQuest, AmericanAncestors.org, Fold 3, Newspapers.com, and NewspaperArchive. *Hoosier State Chronicles* offers free, online access to digital images of Indiana's Historic Newspapers collection. *Indiana Memory* is a collaborative effort to provide access to the wealth of primary sources in Indiana libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural institutions. The Indiana State Library Digital Collections are perpetually expanding and will help the researcher discover Indiana's history.

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Federal Census Records

Federal Census records on microfilm are available for all existing states from 1790 -1880 and 1930. For 1900 -1940, select states are on film, including Indiana. States that are not available on microfilm in the Genealogy Collection are generally available through online subscription databases that can be accessed for free within the library.

Online Catalog, County Guides, and Special Files

The online catalog is available through **Evergreen** via the library's homepage. Our online *Indiana County Research Guides*, available on the Genealogy Collection page, provide an overview of county information and resources available at the Indiana State Library as well as free resources from around the Internet.

Some special index files in the Genealogy Collection include Indiana DAR Bible Records, the Heraldry File and the Index to Blacks, Indians, and Mulattoes in the Indiana 1880 Census. The Pamphlet files include additional county information and family history files, some of which contain Bible records. The Genealogy Manuscripts Collection Finding Aids can be accessed through Collection Guides and Lists on the Genealogy page.

Vital Records

Indiana began recording births and deaths in 1882; marriages were recorded from the formation of the county. The WPA Indexes, which list births, deaths and marriages in 67 of Indiana's 92 counties, are available in print. Vital record indexes for the counties that were not done by the WPA may be in the collection.

The Genealogy Collection has the Indiana Statewide Marriage Index from 1958-2015. Microfilm copies of many Indiana county marriage records are available for various years. The Genealogy Collection has some vital record indexes for other states, most notably Kentucky.

Military Records

Several sources are available on microfilm, including the Index to the General Pension Files 1861-1934, Revolutionary War Pension & Bounty Land Warrants, and Indiana World War I Draft Registration Cards 1917-1918.

Cemetery & Church Records

The Genealogy Collection has tombstone inscriptions for most Indiana cemeteries. The Indiana Cemetery Locator File, available on the Library's Online Resources page, lists many of the call numbers of books and pamphlets related to Indiana's cemeteries in the collection. The Genealogy Collection also has some church histories and records in print and on microfilm.

Passenger Lists & Naturalization Records

The Genealogy Collection has several print indexes to passenger lists including *Filby's Passenger and Immigration Lists Index*, *Germans to America* and several other books in the …*to America* series. Passenger lists are available, on microfilm, for certain ports and dates. Also available is a statewide index to the final orders and microfilm copies of many Indiana counties' naturalization records.