



The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania

2100 Byberry Road – Suite 111

Philadelphia PA 19116

Web address: www.genpa.org

Email: membership@genpa.org

Philadelphia Repositories

Researchers should consult the web sites listed for each repository for additional information about holdings, current hours, current admission fees, and access rules. Many archives and repositories have very limited hours.

Philadelphia was one of the three original counties in the state of Pennsylvania.

Philadelphia Government

<http://www.phila.gov/>

Philadelphia Public Records Center

PHILADELPHIA CITY HALL, Broad and Market streets

- a) Register of Wills office, Room 185, (215-686-6261): Indexes to Wills and Administrations, 1682- present. Microfilm or microfiche of original wills (limited readers). Original probate packets, both wills and administrations, are to be ordered at Room 180; next day retrieval. Entrance-northwest quadrant B) Orphans' Court, City Hall, Room 415, (215- 686-2234):
Marriage License Bureau maintains indexes and marriages from 1885 to present.
Entrance - northeast corner of building. Marriage records from 1860-1885 on microfilm
HSP
- b) **Recorder of Deeds**, Room 154, (215-686-1776): Holds deeds after 1952 on microfilm that must be paged.
- c) **Prothonotary**, Room 266, (215-686-6663): Listing of divorces: 1800-1973 on microfilm; 1973-present on computer.
- d) **Divorce**
Begin 1800, Records are sealed, copies of dockets available. - Listing of divorces available in Prothonotary' s Office, Room 266, City Hall
- e) **Room Directory** of Philadelphia City Hall -
http://www.phila.gov/virtualch/body_pages/room_directory.html

Jail/Inmate Search

<http://www.jailexchange.com/countyjails/pennsylvania/philadelphia.aspx>

Map

Map of Historic Philadelphia <http://www.ushistory.org/tour/philmmap.html>

Chronology Of The Political Subdivisions Of The County Of Philadelphia, 1683-1854 -

<http://www.phila.gov/phils/Docs/Inventor/graphics/wards/wards1.htm>

Philadelphia Historical Society (HSP)

<http://hsp.org/collections>.

HSP is membership based and there is a fee 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107 215-732-6200 ext. 235 or membership@hsp.org

Philadelphia Libraries

- Free Library of Philadelphia has 54 branches Phone: 215-686-5322
<https://libwww.freelibrary.org/calendar/tag/genealogy>

Resources

- **Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania GSP**
<http://GenPA.org>
GSP Research <https://genpa.org/research/>
- Genealogical Resources At The **Philadelphia City Archives**
<http://www.phila.gov/phils/Docs/Inventor/genealogy.htm>
Records Archives Holdings - <http://www.phila.gov/Records/Archives/Archives.html>
Philadelphia City Archives. 3101 Market Street, Suite 150 Philadelphia, PA
- **PAGenWeb** <http://www.pagenweb.org/~philadelphia>
- **Obituaries** –
PAGenWeb – Philadelphia - <http://www.pagenweb.org/~philadelphia/cont05.html>
Legacy - <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/philly/>
Philadelphia Tribune - <http://www.phillytrib.com/obituaries/>
Philadelphia County and Philadelphia, PA Obituaries
http://www.newspaperobituaries.net/pennsylvania/philadelphia_county_obituaries.htm
- **LDSGenealogy**
<http://ldsgenealogy.com/PA>
- **Philadelphia Newspapers**
 - The Philadelphia Inquirer (1829, founded as The Pennsylvania Inquirer)
 - Metro - Philadelphia
 - Philadelphia Daily News – Philadelphia
 - Philadelphia Front Page News - Philadelphia
 - Philadelphia Tribune - Philadelphia
- **Random Acts of Kindness** <https://www.raogk.org/>
- **Family Search** : <https://familysearch.org/> Free site but does require a login
Collection List <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/list>
https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Philadelphia_County,_Pennsylvania_Genealogy
birth, marriage, and death records from 1870-1940, which include records from Philadelphia and from some other Pennsylvania counties. The Philadelphia Birth Index provides index information from 1860-1906, for a copy of the full record contact the Philadelphia City Archives at <http://www.phila.gov/phils/carchive.htm>
- **RG-47. RECORDS OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENTS**
Guide to African American Resources at the Pennsylvania State Archives
<http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/aaGuide/AA-RG-47.html>
- **Timeline of Philadelphia History 1646-1899**
<http://www.ushistory.org/philadelphia/timeline/>
- **Philadelphia Record of Indentures, Philadelphia 1771-1773**
<https://archive.org/details/recordofindentur16phil>
- **Greater Philadelphia GeoHistory Network**
www.philageohistory.org/ Old maps, property atlases, city directories, industrial site surveys, documenting the history and development of the city from the 1600s through today.
- **Urban Archives-Temple University**
Samuel L. Paley Library - 1210 Polett Walk - Philadelphia, PA 215- 204-8212 Holdings include The Philadelphia Bulletin Newspaper - <http://guides.temple.edu/PaleyLibrary> You need a Pennsylvania Library Card
- **Presbyterian Historical Society Library** 425 Lombard Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147 - www.history.pecusa.org/
- **Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania Archives**
- Lutheran Theological Seminary - 7301 Germantown Avenue - Philadelphia PA 19119-1794
archives@diopa.org

- **The Lutheran Archives Center-Philadelphia**
3201 Germantown Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19119- mtairyarchives@ltsp.edu
- **Philadelphia Archdiocesan Historical Research Center**
100 Wynnewood Rd, Wynnewood, PA 19096 - www.pharc.net
- **St George's Methodist Museum and Archives**
235 North 4th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106 – <http://www.historicstgeorges.org/museum/>
- **National Archives of Philadelphia (NARA)**
http://www.nara.gov/research_rooms/mid_atlantic/

Records Request Process

National Archives
14700 Townsend Road
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19154-1096
Telephone: (215) 305-2044
Fax: (215) 305-2038 E-mail: philadelphia.archives@nara.gov

Naturalizations: NARA

Pennsylvania: Philadelphia, 1790-1991; Pittsburgh, 1820-1979; Erie, 1940-1972; Scranton, 1901-1990; Wilkes-Barre, 1943-1972; Williamsport, 1909-1913; and Harrisburg, 1911-1917

Military

The National Archives at Philadelphia (**NARA**), through its partners Ancestry.com and Fold3.com, provides access to records relating to the military service of individuals from the American Revolution through World War II. Please note that Official Military Personnel Files from World War I to the present are held by the National Archives at St. Louis.

<https://www.archives.gov/st-louis>

World War I and World War II, Fourth Enumeration Draft Cards can also be accessed through our partner sites. In addition, Records of the Selective Service System, 1940-1969, for individuals from Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia are available from the National Archives at St. Louis. Copies of World War I draft cards can be requested from the National Archives at Atlanta (Atlanta.archives@nara.gov).

For information on obtaining World War II era and later draft cards, please see <http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/archival-programs/other-records/selective-service.html> .

<https://www.archives.gov/philadelphia/public/family-history.html#military>

Pennsylvania Military Records Research Guide

<https://www.raogk.org/pennsylvania-genealogy/pa-military-records/>

Probate – Wills Administrations

Probate records may include Person's exact death date, Names of the family members, Family relationships, Names of spouses of children, Residences, Adoption or guardianship of minor children or dependents, Worth of the property and land holdings, Evidence of occupation, religion, or military service

Philadelphia City Hall

<http://secureprod.phila.gov/wills/>

Family Search: Pennsylvania Probate Records, 1683-1994 <https://familysearch.org/>

This collection includes probate records created in Pennsylvania counties. The records include wills, estate records and indexes.

State of Pennsylvania Vital Records

The **Pennsylvania State Archives** collects, preserves and makes available for study the permanently-valuable public records of the Commonwealth, with particular attention given to the records of state government.

Mailing address:

350 North Street

Harrisburg, PA 17120

Email: Email PA State Archives

Phone: (717) 783-3281

GPS address:

801 North 3rd Street

Harrisburg, PA 17102

Coordinates: 40.266080, -
76.886053

Birth Certificates, 1906-1910

The Division of Vital Records (DVR) maintains birth records that occurred in Pennsylvania from 1906 to the present.

For information on public records (births occurring from 1906 to 1910), click on Pennsylvania State Archives <http://www.phmc.pa.gov/archives/Pages/default.aspx> or our Genealogy page. <http://www.health.pa.gov/MyRecords/Certificates/Genealogy/Pages/14125.aspx#.WNvLKfkrJHY>

Death Certificates, 1906-1965

Original birth certificates for 1906-1910 and death certificates for 1906-1965 are available at the State Archives. Digital copies of the 1906-1908 birth certificates and the 1906-1963 death certificates may be found on Ancestry.com. Pennsylvania residents can access these records free of charge through Ancestry.com Pennsylvania. A free account can be created.

Certified Copies of Death Certificates

The Division of Vital Records maintains records of deaths that occurred from 1906 to the present. Certified copies of death certificates (with a raised seal)

Birth And Death Certificates Prior To 1906

Philadelphia –Birth and Death records begin July 1860

The Division of Vital Records began collecting birth and death certificates in 1906. Contact the appropriate Pennsylvania County Courthouse for births and deaths that occurred prior to 1906.

County Courthouses

http://www.health.pa.gov/MyRecords/Certificates/Genealogy/Pages/608673.aspx#.WNvLm_krJHY

PHMC > Archives > Research Online > Vital Statistics Records

Birth Indices ~ Census Records ~ County and Municipal Records ~ Coal Miners ~
Death Indices ~ Indentured Servants ~ Naturalization and Immigration ~ Naturalizations,
PA Supreme Court ~ Prison Records ~ Ships' Passenger Lists ~ Vital Statistics ~

Land Records Indices

PHMC > Archives > Research Online > Land Records Indices

<http://www.phmc.pa.gov/Archives/Research-Online/Pages/Land-Records-Indices.aspx>

PRE-1733 LAND RECORD INDEXES ~ POST-1733 LAND RECORD INDEXES ~
APPLICATION REGISTERS ~ SURVEYS AND SURVEY LISTS ~ MILITARY BOUNTY
LAND ~ MAPS

National Archives of Philadelphia

14700 Townsend Road

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19154-1096

Telephone: (215) 305-2044

Fax: (215) 305-2038

E-mail: philadelphia.archives@nara.gov

Records Available • Census Records ~ Ship's Passenger Lists ~ Naturalization Records ~ Military Service Records

Scholarly Commons at University of Pennsylvania

MEAD – Magazine of Early American Datasets <http://repository.upenn.edu/mead/>

The Magazine of Early American Datasets (MEAD) is an online repository of datasets compiled by historians of early North America. MEAD preserves and makes available these datasets in their original format and as comma-separated-value files (.csv). Each body of data is also accompanied by a codebook. MEAD provides sweet, intoxicating data for your investigations of early North America and the Atlantic World.

- <http://repository.upenn.edu/mead/2/>
Almshouse_Philly_1807_1810_Inmates.xls (89 kB)
Almshouse_Philly_1807_1810_Inmates.xls

Research at GSP <https://genpa.org/research/>

PHMC – Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

HSP – Historical Society of Pennsylvania

GSP – Genealogical Society Of Pennsylvania

NARA - National Archives of Philadelphia

We would appreciate knowing if you come across an error or broken link. Email membership@genpa.org