Browsing Guide to the Genealogy Book Collection in Cleveland Public Library’s History & Geography Department

A Supplement to “Genealogical Resources at the Cleveland Public Library/ Genealogical Records in Cuyahoga County: A Guide”

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Frequently Asked Questions

NOTE: This shelf browsing guide is a supplement to the Library's Genealogy Research Guide. Please refer to the Genealogy Research Guide for all other genealogy questions.

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.

Tips on Searching the Cleveland Public Library’s Online Catalog
Finding genealogical material in the Library's Catalog can be challenging. The following is a select list of subject headings used in the Library’s online Catalog. To use these headings effectively, select “Traditional Subject Search” in the Catalog and enter the terms as shown, omitting the dashes between words.

Genealogy Resources by State or County
(State) - Genealogy (such as Maine - Genealogy)
(County, State) - Genealogy (such as Cuyahoga County-Ohio-Genealogy)

Ship Passenger Lists
Ships - United States - Passenger Lists
Ships - Passenger Lists

Ethnic Groups
(Name of Group) - Genealogy

Cemeteries
Cemeteries - Ohio - (County, township or city name)

Wars
United States History - Revolution 1775-1783 - Registers
United States History - War of 1812 - Registers
United States History - Civil War - 1861-1865
Spanish-American War 1898 - Regimental Histories - Ohio
The Library offers a selection of more than 100 genealogy instruction books that you may check out for home use, from beginner’s guides to Internet genealogy research and everything in between. These how-to guides are available in aisle 1-D in the History & Geography Dept. The call numbers of the guides range from CS 9 to CS 982.

CIRCULATING HOW-TO GUIDES – A SELECTION
- Colletta, John P. *They Came in Ships: a Guide to Finding Your Immigrant Ancestor’s Arrival Record* (CS 47 .C63 2002)

CIRCULATING REGIONAL GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH GUIDES – A SELECTION
- Bell, C. W. *Ohio Genealogical Guide* (F 490 .O3639x)
- Sperry, Kip. *Genealogical Research in Ohio* (CS 47 .S64 2003)

CIRCULATING AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY: HOW-TO BOOKS & RESEARCH GUIDES – A SELECTION

*History has reference copy. Literature Department has circulating copies.

GENEALOGY GUIDES: SPECIALIZED TOPICS – SHELVED IN QUICK REFERENCE
- *Guide to Naturalization Records of the United States* (Ref. CS 42.7 .S33 1997)
- *Genealogist’s Address Book* (Ref. CS 44 .B46)
- *County Court Records: a National Guide* (Ref. CS 44 .S67)
- *The Handbooks for Genealogists, United States of America* (Ref. CS 47 .H36)
- *Finding Answers in U.S. Census Records* (Ref. CS 49 .S984 2001)
BROWSING GUIDE TO GENEALOGY BOOKS IN THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT’S MAIN FLOOR REFERENCE COLLECTION

(Library of Congress Call Numbers)

NOTE WELL: The reference collection of genealogy books numbers in the thousands. Therefore, this guide is not comprehensive and you will find many valuable resources on the shelves that are not in this guide, particularly in the local history section (F490-F499). Use this outline as a guide to browsing the shelves. Call numbers on the far left indicate the beginning of a range of books on a particular topic. Call numbers that follow bullet points are for specific titles. Genealogy reference books relating to a specific place are shelved under the call number for that place (see the call numbers that start with the letter “F” for U.S. places). Although the majority of the History Department’s reference books are shelved in one long sequence, there is one notable exception: Quick Reference books. Be sure to use the Browsing Guide in both Quick Reference and Main Floor Reference.

CR 53 HERALDRY & COATS OF ARMS
CR 1179 FAMILY HERALDRY
CR 3499 TITLES OF HONOR, RANK, PRECEDENCE, ETC.
CS 9 GENEALOGY - GENERAL
CS 40 GENEALOGY - UNITED STATES (SEE ALSO LOCAL GENEALOGY IN THE “F” CALL NUMBERS)

- Call Numbers on the far left are for Genealogical Reference books relating to a specific place:

CR 3499 TITLES OF HONOR, RANK, PRECEDENCE, ETC.

- Use this outline as a guide to browsing the shelves. Call numbers that follow bullet points are for specific titles:

CS 44 .A57 Rider’s American Genealogical - Biographical Index
Note: the complete contents of this index are available on Ancestry.com. Volume 19 includes Key Titles Index.

CS 44 .N42 1960a Newberry Library of Chicago Genealogical Index

- Quick Reference books are shelved in a separate section:

CS 61 SHIPS - PASSENGER LISTS & INDEXES

- These are published lists and indexes to published lists of immigrants to the United States and Canada (1600s-1900s). For copies of the actual records, contact the National Archives using NATF Form 81. (History Dept. has a small supply of these forms.)

CS 61 .M2 1995 Colonial Families of the United States
CS 68 .P363 Passenger and Immigration Lists Index (P.I.L.I.)
P.I.L.I. indexes many of the published passenger lists in the Library’s collection.

CS 80 GENEALOGY - CANADA
CS 95 GENEALOGY - LATIN AMERICA
CS 400 GENEALOGY - EUROPE
CS 410 --- GREAT BRITAIN
CS 480 --- IRELAND
CS 520 --- CZECH REPUBLIC
CS 560 --- HUNGARY
CS 580 --- FRANCE
CS 610 --- GERMANY
CS 680 --- GREECE
CS 750 --- ITALY
CS 870 --- POLAND
CS 940 --- SPAIN
CS 2305 MEANINGS & ORIGINS OF FIRST & LAST NAMES

- Quick Reference books are shelved in a separate section:

CS 2485 .D53 2003 (shelved in quick reference)
Dictionary of American Family Names (A good source for surname origin and meaning.)

CT 211 .A64 1993x American Biographical Index
This six-volume series indexes the 300,000 individuals profiled in the American Biographical Archive, which is on microfiche in the Microform Center. Profiles date from the 1600s to the early 1900s. [SEE Ref. CT 211 .A43x for a list of the 367 reference works included in this series.]

D 570.85 .O3 A5 The Official Roster of Ohio Soldiers, Sailors and Marines in the World War, 1917-18
Roster of Ohio soldiers, sailors and marines who served in World War I. Contains names, records, ranks and regiments.

D 570.85 .O31 C8 1939 Roster of Cuyahoga County Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Wounded in Action, Killed in Action ... WW 1914-18

D 675 .C54 L53 1999 Liberty Row
Transcription of a list of names of WWI dead from Cleveland. The original list was transcribed from World War I memorial bronze plaques mounted at the bases of trees planted along a route following Liberty Boulevard (now Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard) through to North Park Boulevard in Cleveland Heights.

F 98 .R28 W35 1993x Black Indian Genealogy Research
Index to City Directories of the United States microfilm collection.
This volume is a listing of all U.S. city directories published before 1860. CPL owns all of these pre-1860 directories on microfilm in the Microform Center.

The Social Register


UNITED STATES ETHNIC GROUPS – IN ALPHABETIC ORDER

Czech Immigration Passenger Lists

Emigration from the United Kingdom to America

Dutch Immigrants in U.S. Ship Passenger Manifests, 1820-1880

Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy

List of German immigrants who came to the United States from 1850 onward.

Irish Passenger Lists 1803-1806: Lists of Passengers Sailing from Ireland to America

List of Italian immigrants who came to the United States from 1880 onward.

Jewish Immigrants of the Nazi Period in the USA

List of immigrants of Russian nationality (including some Poles & Finns) who came to the United States from 1875 onward.

Directory of Scottish Settlers in North America, 1625-1825

Migration from the Russian Empire

List of African Americans in Ohio in 1880 as represented in the U.S. Census.

DAR Lineage Books include the names of descendants of men and women who served in the American Revolution. Both the service of the Patriot and his or her lineage have been established by the DAR. The last Lineage Book published was volume 166, published in 1921. For more recent records, contact the DAR through www.dar.org.

Note: Volumes 1-152 are available through Ancestry Library Edition database. Also: the DAR is in the process of adding records to its online DAR Genealogical Research System, available through the organization's website.

DAR Patriot Index (Daughters of the American Revolution)

The DAR Patriot Index contains names of Revolutionary patriots, both men and women, whose service (between 1775 and 1783) has been established by the DAR. This index is used to determine which Patriots have been claimed by descendants as the basis for their membership in DAR. Not all of the names in the Patriot Index can be found in the DAR Lineage Books, as the last Lineage Book was published in 1921 and many more people have claimed membership since that time. Note: the contents of the Patriot Index is gradually being added to the DAR's website. See note above.

The Official Roster of the Soldiers of the American Revolution Buried in the State of Ohio

The Pension Roll of 1835 (United States War Department)
- Page 6 -
Pennsylvania Archives, Series 1-9

Historical information concerning Pennsylvania in nine series. Indexes include:

- **Series 1**: (index at end of each volume and also in Ref. F 146 .P41)
- **Series 2**: (index at end of each volume except v.8, 9, 10, 11, 13. Index to v. 13 & 14 at end of v.14).
- **Series 3, v. 1-10**: (Cumulative index in v.27, pp. 1-331).
- **Series 3, v. 11-26**: (Indexes in v. 27, pp. 337-790 [A-Co]; v.28 [Co-Ju]; v.29 [Ka-Re]; v.30 [Re-Z]).
- **Series 4**: (General Index in v.12, pp. 643-963).
- **Series 5**: (Index in Series 6, v. 15).
- **Series 6**: is indexed by **Series 7**.
- **Series 8 and 9**: have not been indexed. There is also a general guide to the contents of Series 1-9 (Ref. F 146 .P432).

NOTE: The series, Colonial Records of Pennsylvania, is also shelved in the History Dept. closed stacks (Call Number: 982.8 P38a, vols. 1-16) and it is also on microfiche in the Microform Center (Call Number: Z 1236 .L5). Indexes to the Colonial Records, v.1-16, include Ref. F 146 .C622 G46 (originally published in 1860) and Ref. Z 1237 .D86 1992x (a new index).
OHIO CITIES/TOWNS (IN ALPHABETIC ORDER)

[Note: many of the older Cleveland histories with biographical sketches are indexed in the History Department's Index to Cleveland and Ohio Regional History.]

- F 499 OHIO CITIES/TOWNS (IN ALPHABETIC ORDER)
- F 499 .C6 CLEVELAND HISTORY

- F 521 INDIANA
- F 536 ILLINOIS
- F 550 GREAT LAKES
- F 561 MICHIGAN
- F 576 WISCONSIN
- F 591 THE AMERICAN WEST
- F 597 THE NORTHWEST
- F 601 MINNESOTA
- F 616 IOWA
- F 631 NORTH DAKOTA
- F 646 SOUTH DAKOTA
- F 661 NEBRASKA
- F 676 KANSAS
- F 691 OKLAHOMA
- F 711 NORTH CAROLINA
- F 721 ROCKY MOUNTAINS
- F 726 MONTANA
- F 741 IDAHO
- F 756 WYOMING
- F 771 COLORADO
- F 781 NEW MEXICO
- F 806 ARIZONA

- HA 201 .U55 2000 (shelved after the “G” reference books)
  United States Census Index (1790-1810)

- HA 214 .D63 1999 (shelved in quick reference)
  Includes blank census forms for all censuses (1790-1930) as well as many useful worksheets that may be photocopied.

- HA 216 .M57 1986x (shelved in quick reference)
  Miracode/Soundex Surname Codes
  A guide to the codes used in this numeric/alphabetic filing system for U.S. Census records.

- HE 945 .A2 D5 1979 (shelved in quick reference)
  Morton Allan Directory of European Passenger Steamship Arrivals: For the Years 1890 to 1930 at the Port of New York and for the Years 1904 to 1926 at the Ports of New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Baltimore.
  Lists the arrival of passenger steamships, arranged by year and then listed alphabetically by steamship line. The ports of arrival and departure are given and as well month and day of arrival. [Note: does not contain passenger names.]

- U 52 .O5 1995 (shelved in quick reference)
  On the Trail of the Buffalo Soldier: Biographies of African Americans in the U.S. Army, 1866-1917

- VM 381 .P3 1991 (Vol. 1, 1820-1850) (shelved in quick reference)
  Passenger Ships Arriving in New York Harbor
  Arrivals are listed both chronologically by arrival date and alphabetically by ship name.

- Z 675- Z 1325 & Z 5301-Z 5315 BIBLIOGRAPHIES RELATING TO GENEALOGY, HERALDRY, AND BIOGRAPHY

- Z 1249 .M5 C53 1985x (shelved in quick reference)
  List of Books Containing Rosters of U.S. Soldiers in Various Wars, 1675-1898
  Arranged and compiled by the staff of the History Department from books in the Library’s collection.

- Z 1323 .O44 1992x (shelved in quick reference)
  County by County in Ohio Genealogy
  The Ohio Historical Society’s guide to 14,000 volumes and 15,000 microforms on Ohio genealogy resources.

- Z 1361 .N39 A28X (shelved with bibliographies)
  Blacks in Selected Newspapers, Censuses and Other Sources: an Index to Names and Subjects

  Black Biography: A Cumulative Index
  This is the index to the microfiche series Black Biographical Dictionaries, 1790-1950 (SEE: Microform Center). Includes biographical information on 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. The complete content of this series is also available at CPL through the African American Biographical Database.

- Z 5301 .P47x (shelved alphabetically with indexes)
  PERiodical Source Index (PERSI)
  Comprehensive place, subject and surname index to current and retrospective genealogical and local history periodicals. Begun in 1986. No family journals are indexed. The complete contents of PERSI is now available electronically through the HeritageQuest database.

- Z 5311 .C53 1985x (shelved in quick reference)
  Index to Family Genealogical Information in Various Books and Periodicals owned by Cleveland Public Library
  Indexed by History Department Staff. Compiled between the 1920s and the 1970s.

- Z 5313 .US F54 1988 (shelved in quick reference)
  Passenger and Immigration Lists Bibliography, 1538-1900
  A guide to published lists of arrival in the United States. The useful alphabetical index at the end of the volume is arranged by place name (departure, arrival, settlement), name of people (such as French, German, Swiss), and many other topics, such as naturalizations.

- Z 5319 .S24x (shelved with bibliographies)
  Heraldry Index of the St. Louis Public Library
  Index to coats-of-arms contained in books in the St. Louis Public Library, many of which are also owned by Cleveland Public Library. The index is arranged alphabetically by family name. Each volume contains a guide to the abbreviations used in the index and a list of the books to which they refer.
BROWSING GUIDE TO GENEALOGY BOOKS IN THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT’S MAIN FLOOR REFERENCE COLLECTION
(Dewey Decimal Call Numbers - Southeast Corner Tower Room)

NOTE: Books acquired before 1975 are arranged by the Dewey Decimal Classification System. Books acquired since 1975 are arranged by the Library of Congress (LC) Classification system.

FAMILY HISTORIES/GENEALOGIES: Although the Library does not collect family histories, we do have a collection of older family histories for prominent families. These are in storage. Please ask a librarian for assistance.

419.3  General works of genealogy. Strengths: America (cities, states & country), Great Britain, Ireland

419.3 O84s  Swedish Passenger Arrivals in New York

419.3415  British Parish Registers (note: these are indexed in a card file–ask at the service desk for the index)

419.373 C591a  American Marriage Records Before 1699

419.3741  This range includes vital records, cemetery inscriptions, deeds, and other records relating to the states. Call numbers for specific states are listed below. See also 419-419.3 for more genealogy books relating to U.S. cities and states.

419.3741  Maine
419.3744  Massachusetts
419.3745  Rhode Island
419.3746  Connecticut
419.3747  New York
419.3748  Delaware, Pennsylvania

419.3748 R878c  A Collection of Upwards of Thirty Thousand Names of German, Swiss, Dutch, French and Other Immigrants in Pennsylvania from 1727-1776

419.3749  New Jersey
419.3752  Maryland
419.3754  West Virginia
419.3755  Virginia
419.3756  North & South Carolina
419.3758  Georgia

419.3758 Sm61c  Cherokee Land Lottery

419.3759  Florida
419.3761  Alabama
419.3763  Louisiana
419.3764  Texas
419.3766  Oklahoma
419.3767  Arkansas
419.3768  Tennessee
419.3769  Kentucky
419.3771  Ohio (arranged by county)
419.3773  Illinois
419.3774  Michigan
419.3775  Wisconsin
419.3776  Minnesota
419.3777  Iowa
419.3778  Missouri
419.3781  Kansas
419.3782  Nebraska
419.3784  North Dakota
419.3786  Montana
419.3788  Colorado
419.3789  New Mexico
419.379  California
419.3791  Arizona
419.3794  California
419.3795  Oregon
419.3796  Idaho
419.3797  Washington state

419.4  Surnames, Names, Place Names

419.5  Monuments & Inscriptions

419.6  Heraldry and Illumination

419.7  Nobility, Orders, etc.

419.72  Nobility (Peerage & Baronetage) - Great Britain and Ireland

419.73  Nobility - Germany
419.74  Nobility - France
419.75  Nobility - Italy
419.76  Nobility - Spain
419.769  Nobility - Portugal
419.77  Nobility - Russia
419.785  Nobility - Sweden
419.792  Nobility - Netherlands
419.793  Nobility - Belgium
419.798  Nobility - Romania

419.799  Misc. Genealogy: Ghana, Mexico & Brazil

419.8  Seals, Heraldic Arms and Badges, Armor, Historic Devices, War Cries, Armorial

419.9  Flags of the World