



WARREN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Genealogy Handbook
204 Market Street
Warren Pennsylvania 16365
814-723-4650

April 2008

This handbook has been compiled to assist those interested in locating materials available at the Warren Public Library for genealogical research.

The library does not have staff available to do genealogical research, however, the Reference Department staff will be happy to help patrons locate and use the available materials listed in this handbook.

WebCat iBistro Card Catalog: Our card catalog is computerized. There are several public terminals throughout the library. You may also access the WebCat from home through our Internet home page: <http://www.warrenlibrary.org/>. The catalog may be searched by: author's name, book title, or subject. You also have the option of keyword and Boolean searching. WebCat will let you know if we have a specific book you are seeking or a list of books on a certain area or time period. Materials located in the Reference Room are marked REFERENCE non circ under location. The location listing for materials in our Special Collections/ Pennsylvania Room are marked PENN-ROOM non circ. Non circ means that the materials may not leave the Reference Department.



REFERENCE RESOURCES

Genealogy Handbooks: The Reference Department has several excellent resources for "how to" start or continue your genealogical research such as books that contain forms, addresses for societies and organizations and official document sources, as well as information on how to use the Internet for your family research. (929-929.3). Following is a list of a few sources for your convenience:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Ref 929 Sz7 Rev. ed | Ancestry® Edited by Szucs, Loretto Dennis & Luebking, Sandra Hargreaves <u>THE SOURCE: A GUIDEBOOK of AMERICAN GENEALOGY</u> |
| Ref 929 Everton 10 th ed. | Everton Publishers, Inc. <u>THE HANDY BOOK for GENEALOGISTS</u> |
| Ref 929 K32 4 th ed. | Kemp, Thomas Jay <u>INTERNATIONAL VITAL RECORDS HANDBOOK</u> |
| Ref 929.1 Genealo 5 th ed. | Bentley, Elizabeth Petty <u>THE GENEALOGIST'S ADDRESS BOOK</u> |
| Ref 929.1 Greenw 3 rd ed. | Greenwood, Val D. <u>THE RESEARCHER'S GUIDE to AMERICAN GENEALOGY</u> |
| Ref 929.1 Kovacs | Kovacs, Diane K. <u>GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH on the WEB</u> |
| Ref 929.1 Howells | Howells, Cynthia L. (now online www.cyndislist.com) <u>CYNDI'S LIST</u> |
| Ref 929.1 Melnyk | Melnyk, Marcia Yannizze <u>THE GENEALOGIST'S QUESTION & ANSWER BOOK: Solutions & advice for maximizing your search results</u> |
| Ref 929.3 N24un | Neagles, James C. <u>U.S. MILITARY RECORDS</u> |
| Periodicals | New England Historic Genealogical society <u>NEW ENGLAND ANCESTORS</u> Everton's <u>EVERTON'S GENEALOGICAL HELPER</u> |



Warren County Histories: We have several resources for Warren County's history. Some are located on a shelf near the Reference Desk. Other materials are located in the Pennsylvania Room that is kept locked. Please ask our reference staff for assistance.

Other Counties: County histories are listed in the WebCat by county name. Most will be located in the Pennsylvania Room. You may want to request a vertical file for the county of your interest. (Vertical files are photocopies of newspaper clippings, maps, booklets and/or pamphlets.) Vertical files have been created for most of the counties in this area.

Business and Industry: Pennsylvania Industrial Directories may contain information on local businesses. The older editions are located in the PA Room (381 H24). Information may also be located in the City Directories. (917.48 W25K) Vertical files have been created for many of the local businesses. Please ask at the Reference Desk.

Stepping Stones: A publication of the Warren County Historical Society, that began in 1955 and continues to the present day. It contains many topics of historical interest. Each five-year volume contains an index. The most recent editions are not bound or indexed. They are kept in a box on the shelf adjacent to the bound volumes in the PA Room. (974.867 W2518).

Warren City Directories: These directories provide information on where and when your family lived in the Warren area. Many of the directories include sections for all the communities in the county. These directories start with 1876 and go up to the present year. Not all years are available.

Yearbooks: Warren High School Dragon yearbooks, 1906 to the present are available in the PA Room or in the Reference Office. (379.7 W25) There are only two years that are missing from the collection, 1912 and 1913. There were no Warren Dragons published during those years.

Picture File: The historical photographs of the Warren area include pictures of buildings, churches, bridges, fires, floods, railroads, farms, people, etc. This historical photograph collection is now available online through the library's homepage www.warrenlibrary.org. The Reference Department has a notebook of postcards for the Warren area. (974.867 Warren)

Biographies: There are a number of biographies of prominent citizens in the PA Room. Books about specific individuals may be found in the WebCat under the person's name. Many of the books with multiple biographies have indexes for locating information on specific individuals.

Biography Files: The Reference Department has created Vertical files on many of the county's prominent citizens and families. These contain photocopies of newspaper articles, and / or information from our local histories. Please ask at the Reference Desk to view these materials.

Pamphlet Files: Other files (in addition to the biography and business files) in the Reference Department contain information on many of the events in Warren County. These contain historical and current information on many topics such as the Kinzua Dam, Seneca Indians, Warren School District, Warren State Hospital, Library Theater, Warren County Organizations, Warren Business and Industry, etc.



MAPS

Howden & Odbert's Historical Atlas of Warren County: (912 H83) Published in 1878, this atlas contains not only maps, but also many etchings of the homes, farms and businesses of Warren County. Property owners are listed on the maps.

Sanborn Map Company: Insurance Maps of Warren, Pennsylvania; including North Warren, Stoneham, Venturetown and part of Pleasant Township, Warren County: This set of maps was originally published in 1932 but has been corrected with paste-over to 1940. These are located on the oversize shelves in the PA Room and are also on microfilm.

Warren County, Pennsylvania Plat Book: These contain maps showing property owners in Warren County. The older editions (1969, 1973, 1977, 1984, 1989) are held in the PA Room. (912.748 W25) The most recent copies (1997 & 2002) are kept on the Warren Collection Shelf.

JOURNALS

New England Historical and Genealogical Record: Produced four times a year by the New England Historic and Genealogical Society, this journal contains biographical information; family trees; articles on historical events; town, church, and cemetery records. We are fortunate to have the collection from 1847 through 1998. We have indexes for these journals for Volumes 1-148.

Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography: Published quarterly by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, this periodical deals with historical and biographical topics pertaining to Pennsylvania. The Library has copies ranging from 1877 to the present. These are stored in the basement with periodicals and must be requested 24 hours in advance. The indexes are available in the Reference Department.

Pennsylvania History: The Pennsylvania Historical Association publishes this journal four times each year. It references historical and biographical data pertinent to Pennsylvania. Copies from 1972-1997 are stored in the periodical archives and must be requested 24 hours in advance. A partial index is available in the Reference Department.

Pittsburgh History: Published quarterly by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, it was formerly known as *Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine*. The Library holds copies of this journal in the periodical archives from 1989 to 1994. Please request 24 hours in advance.

Vital Records

Warren County birth and death records from 1893 through 1905 are available at the Register and Recorder's office, Warren County Courthouse. After 1905, Pennsylvania records must be obtained for a small fee from the Pennsylvania Department of Health. For the most recent contact and fee information for all state Vital Record offices, please ask the Reference Librarian for the most recent edition of Where to Write for Vital Records: Births, Deaths, Marriages and Divorces published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (312 Where). The Warren County Historical Society has some records of births and deaths prior to 1893 from county newspapers or in other types of records.



Warren Newspapers: Warren Newspapers from 1824 to within six months of the present day are kept on microfilm in the Reference Room. All current newspapers are kept in the Reading Room available on the first floor or may be requested at the Circulation Desk. A list of the names and dates of the newspapers on microfilm is included in this handbook. Ask at the Reference Desk for assistance in using the microfilm readers / printers.

Microfilm of newspapers from other communities may be obtained through Interlibrary Loan (ILL) or from a microfilm rental service for a small fee. Ask at the Reference Desk for help in using the INDEX TO READEX MICROOPAQUE COLLECTIONS OF EARLY AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS. (071 P38) to order microfilm of other newspapers.

The following explains the card file index for the Warren newspapers that is located in the Reference Department.

Vital Statistics File: The Vital Statistics File in the Reference Department contains index cards listing the location of birth, marriage and death notices in the Warren newspapers from 1824 to present. The Reference Department maintains this file as a courtesy to our Warren area residents and those seeking genealogical information. The card file contains data from 1824 to the present time, however there is a gap in the information for the years 1909 - 1945. Our volunteers are doing a wonderful job of playing catch-up on all this material. As the card file expands, only the actual birth announcements, wedding announcements and obituaries are recorded. No engagements, wedding applications or funeral / memorial announcements are presently recorded. The cards are color-coded: black-obituaries; blue-marriages; white-birth announcements. Cards are filed by (1) Surname, First Name. Each card should contain (2) the date event occurred, (3) the name of the paper in which the event appeared, (4) the date it appeared in the newspaper, (5) the page number and (6) the number of the column on which it appeared.

In some cases you may find more information on the cards, such as a spouse's name or an individual's nickname and / or maiden name. When using the files, **be sure to check for variant spellings.**

| | | |
|--|-------|---------|
| Doe, John (1) | | |
| DEATH date | Page: | Column: |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Nov. 19, 1863 (2)</div> | (5) 2 | (6) 7 |
| Newspaper name: Warren Mail (3) | | |
| Issue date: November 22, 1863 (4) | | |



Passenger and Immigration Lists:

(a) The PASSENGER AND IMMIGRATION LISTS INDEX and SUPPLEMENTS record citations to information about immigrants and passengers who arrived in North America from the 16th century to the early 20th century. Entries consist of the names of the early 20th century. Entries consist of passengers listed alphabetically, the person's age if known, the place of arrival, the year of arrival if known, a code number referring to the source book, and the page number on which that particular name is listed in the book. The source books are listed numerically in the front of each book in the section titled SOURCES INDEXED. An annotated list of all sources used in the multi-volume set is THE PASSENGER AND IMMIGRATION LISTS BIBLIOGRAPHY, 1538 - 1900 (929.3 F47B). The Warren Public Library does NOT own most of the source books, but a photocopy of the relevant page can usually be obtained through ILL.

(b) Passenger and immigration information is also available from the National Archives. Copies of ship passenger arrival records may be ordered by sending a completed original of **Form NATF 81** (the National Archives will not accept photocopies, your request must be on an original form) available by request from:

National Archives and Records Administration
Attn: AWCTB, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20408-0001

(c) A sample NATF 81 form may be seen in the Genealogy Notebook. Unfortunately, the National Archives will not perform comprehensive searches. It is best to provide them with the full name of the passenger, port of entry, and the approximate date of arrival. For more information, consult GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES (929.3 UN3).

(d) Other books on immigration may be found by checking WEBCAT under the subject headings: Immigration, Emigration and Ships, and Passenger Lists. The Warren Public Library has many books on special topics such as German immigrants, immigrants to Virginia, Quaker immigrants and many more.

Military History: Regimental histories may be found by looking in WEBCAT / iBistro under the appropriate state name and military division (such as New York - Calvary or Pennsylvania Infantry - 23rd regiment) or entered under the desired period in U.S. history (such as U.S. History - Civil War). The National Archives will send information about military records if you send them a completed form (Standard Form 180) REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS.

Mayflower Index: This two-volume set (929 M11) is located in the PA Room. It lists descendents of the Mayflower pilgrims. THE MAYFLOWER AND HER LOG (974 AM3) is also kept in the PA Room. Other books about the Mayflower may be found by checking WEBCAT / iBistro under the subject heading "Mayflower".

DAR - DAC: The Warren Public Library contains an extensive collection of the records kept by the Daughters of the American Colonists and the Daughters of the American Revolution. These lineage books (369.12N21H) and (929 DAUGHTE) list the women and their ancestors. These books are kept in the PA Room. There is also a DAR Ancestors Index (929.2D261) to the lineage books.



Pennsylvania Archives: The PENNSYLVANIA ARCHIVES (974.8P385A) contain early records of Pennsylvania History on such topics as baptisms, boundaries, colonies, depreciation lands and pay, donation lands, forts, governors, military and muster rolls, naturalizations, oaths of allegiance, pensioners, surveys, taxes, wars, and the whiskey insurrection.

Warren County Courthouse:

The Prothonotary's office holds records of interest to genealogists.

Naturalizations: from 1906 - 1969

Divorces: from 1867 - present

Adoptions: from 1827 - 1956

Alien Dockets: from 1847 - 1969

There are gaps in the records due to a fire in the storage warehouse. Their office is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The staff will show researchers how to search the records, but they **will not** do the research for them. You may reach the Prothonotary's office by calling 814-728-3440

Warren County Historical Society:

The Historical Society has many genealogical records not available at the library. Some of these include family and Bible records, scrapbooks, cemetery, and church records. WCHS is open Monday through Friday 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 A.M. They are located at 210 Fourth Avenue, Warren, Pa. (next to the courthouse) or phone (814) 723-1795. They will do research for a fee.

Genealogical Societies: The following list is only a few addresses, there are many more.

National Genealogical Society
4527 17th Street, North
Arlington, VA 22207-2399
<http://www.grsnp.org/>

American Historical Association
400 A Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003-3889
www.historians.org.

Corry Area Historical Society
945 Mead Avenue
Corry, PA 16407
www.tbacc.com/museum/

Warren County Historical Society
P.O. Box 427
Warren, PA 16365
<http://www.warrenhistory.org/>



Miscellaneous Historical Materials on MicroFilm

Badman, Philip. His original diaries. 1849

Draper, Lyman Copeland. Draper manuscript collection. Series F, Vol. 16: Brant manuscripts.

The Jack Daniel's Ledger (account book of a store on the Brokenstraw which opened November 1795)

Miscellaneous Material on Warren County (special newspaper editions on Warren and the Library centennial program, some church records)

Pennsylvania County Histories:

Book of Biographies - Biographical Sketches of the Leading Citizens of the 37th Judicial District, 1899

Howden and Odbert's Atlas of Warren County, 1887

Schenck's History of Warren County, 1887.

Pinegrove Township: Hodges Death records, 1847-1932

Chautauqua County Cemetery Records, 1750-1935

Sanborn Map Company - Insurance maps of Warren, Pennsylvania

Stepping Stones, March 1955 - September 1974

Warren County Cemetery records, 1750-1935



Online Resources:



Allegheny Chronicles - A digital project launched in 2006 by the Warren Library Association to preserve and provide public access to collected materials documenting history and economic growth along western Pennsylvania's Allegheny Watershed. Includes over 350 photographs from the Warren Public Library's historic photograph collection.



Ancestry Library Edition – Accessible only at the Warren Public Library, this subscription Website contains over 3,000 databases that include census, military, family trees, newspapers, directories, histories, along with free, printable genealogical charts and forms.



Heritage Quest – This popular subscription Website is accessible from your home computer through the Warren Public Library's Homepage and provides access to the complete set of US Federal Census Records from 1790 to 1930, over 25,000 family and local histories, over 1.6 million genealogy and local history articles, and selected records from Revolutionary War Era Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files.



US Government Links - Warren Public Library has been a selective Federal depository library since 1885.

The goal of the program is to make government publications available to the general public. Depository libraries receive publications issued by all three branches of the federal government and make those available to their patrons. A selective depository, like Warren Public Library, receives only those documents that it chooses, and not everything published by the U.S. Government.

Most of the government publications at the Warren Public Library are available in the Reference Department and electronically via the Internet. Many print items are cataloged and can be located by searching the library's computerized card catalog. Other items are filed in vertical files or shelved in the government document section of the government document section of the Reference Department.



WebFeet - A subject guide designed for school and public librarians and their students and patrons, composed of thousands of descriptions of Web sites selected by a team of librarians, educators, subject-area specialists, and editors for their quality, credibility, and usefulness.



CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES

Census in Book Form:

Heads of Families at the first census of the United States taken in the year 1790: This volume is a roster of heads of families as compiled from the **Census Office** records. The returns for Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, New Jersey, Tennessee and Virginia were destroyed by fire in 1814. Since the federal Census schedules of the state of Virginia for 1790 are still missing, the lists of the state enumerations made in 1782, 1783, 1784, and 1785, while not complete, have been substituted.

Warren Library holds copies of the 1790 census for the following states in the Pennsylvania Room. (317 UNITED)

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Connecticut | Massachusetts | North Carolina | South Carolina |
| Maine | New Hampshire | Pennsylvania | Vermont |
| Maryland | New York | Rhode Island | Virginia |

Pennsylvania Census of 1790 is near the Microfilm Storage Cabinets with the Pennsylvania Census Indexes for 1800 and 1810.

The Library holds an index for western Pennsylvania for the 1860 Census.

Census on Microfilm:

1800 - **Warren**, Washington, Wayne, and York Counties

1810 - Northumberland, Potter, Somerset, Venango and **Warren** Counties

1820 - Tioga, Union, **Warren**, and Washington Counties

1830 - **Warren**, Columbia, Beaver, and Centre Counties

1840 - Clearfield and **Warren** Counties

1850 - Venango and **Warren** Counties

1860 - **Warren** County

1870 - **Warren** County

1880 - **Warren** County

1890 - Veterans and Widows of the Civil War: Butler, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango and **Warren** Counties.

1900 - **Warren** County

1910 - A - Venango and **Warren** Counties

1910 - B - **Warren** and Washington Counties

1920 - Venango and **Warren** Counties

1930 - **Warren** County



Signs showing the order in which communities appear on the census reels are available in the microfilm area.

Census reels for other states and counties are available through interlibrary loan for a small fee. Please see the Reference Librarian regarding how to order. Soundex reels can also be requested.

Current fees for census microfilm rental through interlibrary loan are:

| | |
|-------|-------------------|
| 1 - 4 | Reels \$4.00 each |
| 5 - 9 | Reels \$3.50 each |
| 10 + | Reels \$3.00 each |

Reels are sent to the Reference Department where they may be viewed on the microfilm readers located there. The reels are usually loaned for a period of 4-6 weeks.

