



# The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania

2100 Byberry Road – Suite 111

Philadelphia PA 19116

Web address: [www.genpa.org](http://www.genpa.org)

Email: [membership@genpa.org](mailto:membership@genpa.org)

## Columbia County Repositories

Consult the web sites listed for specific information about holdings, current hours, current admission fees, and access rules. Many archives and repositories have very limited hours. Pennsylvania became a state December 12, 1787, has 67 Counties and 2,561 Municipalities.

Columbia County was created from parts of Luzerne and Northumberland Counties, 22 March 1813. The county seat is Bloomsburg.

## COLUMBIA COUNTY GOVERNMENT

<http://www.columbiapa.org/#>

## COLUMBIA COUNTY TOWNS

<https://geographic.org/streetview/usa/pa/columbia/index.html>

## COLUMBIA COUNTY PUBLIC RECORDS CENTER

The office of Register and Recorder in Columbia County:

<http://www.columbiapa.org/registerrecorder/index.php> <http://columbiapa.org/prothonotary/>

**MARRIAGES** - <http://www.pagenweb.org/~columbia/marr.htm>

## JAIL/INMATE SEARCH

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

## MAPS

Columbia County Map: <http://usgwarchives.net/maps/pa/county/columb/usgs/>

## SOCIETIES

**COLUMBIA COUNTY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** <http://colcohist-gensoc.org/>

## COLUMBIA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

- <http://www.everylibrary.com/county/Columbia-PA.html>

## RESOURCES

- **Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania GSP**  
<http://GenPA.org>  
**GSP Research** <https://genpa.org/research/>
- PAGenWeb **Columbia** County - <http://www.pagenweb.org/~columbia/>
- Obituaries –
- **LDS** <http://ldsgenealogy.com/PA>  
[http://www.newspaperobituaries.net/pennsylvania/columbia\\_county\\_obituaries.htm](http://www.newspaperobituaries.net/pennsylvania/columbia_county_obituaries.htm)
- County Newspapers
  - *Press Enterprise*- <http://www.pressenterpriseonline.com/>
  - *The Columbian* (1866-1910)-  
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83032011/issues/>
  - *Bloomsburg Democrat* (1867-1869)-  
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85055236/>
  - *The Columbia Democrat and Bloomsburg General Advertiser* (1850-1866)  
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85025181/>
  - *The Columbia Democrat* (1837-1850)-  
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85025180/>
  - *Columbia Democrat and Star of the North* (1866-1867)-  
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85054828/>
- **Random Acts of Kindness** <https://www.raogk.org/>
- **Family Search LDS:** <https://familysearch.org/> Free site but does require a login  
Collection List <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/list>  
[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Columbia\\_County,\\_Pennsylvania\\_Genealogy](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Columbia_County,_Pennsylvania_Genealogy)
- **Collections at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania 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](mailto:membership@hsp.org)
- **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>
- **National Archives of Philadelphia (NARA)**  
Mid Atlantic Region: [http://www.nara.gov/research\\_rooms/mid\\_atlantic/](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](mailto:philadelphia.archives@nara.gov)  
<https://www.archives.gov/philadelphia>

### 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

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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](mailto: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

**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](mailto: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)

<http://www.health.pa.gov/MyRecords/Certificates/DeathCertificates/Pages/default.aspx#.WP4qINLytHa>

## **BIRTH AND DEATH CERTIFICATES PRIOR TO 1906**

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](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](mailto:philadelphia.archives@nara.gov)

### **Records Available**

- Census Records
- Ship's Passenger Lists
- Naturalization Records
- Military Service Records

## **Scholarly Commons at University of Pennsylvania,**

**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.

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

We would appreciate knowing if you come across an error or broken link. Email [membership@genpa.org](mailto:membership@genpa.org)