The Internet is down!

or...

Where can you find genealogical records offline??

Advanced Genealogy Records for Library Staff

Tina Beaird
tbeaird@plainfieldpubliclibrary.org
Genealogical Records and Locations

- Adoptions, Land Deeds, Wills and Probates
- Maps, Histories, Newspapers
- Military & Government Records
- Family Records, Diaries, Letters
- Courthouses
- Colleges and Universities
- Archives: State and Federal
- Historical & Genealogical Societies

Types of Records: Courthouse

- Adoptions & Guardianships
- Criminal Court
- Family Court/Small-Claims Court
- Incorporations & Tax Records
- Land Deeds & Mortgages
- Maps and Plats
- Naturalizations
- Probates and Wills
Types of Records: Colleges & Universities

• Many universities will lend genealogy books through Inter Library Loan
  – County/Regional/City Histories
  – Directories & Gazetteers

• Special Collections:
  – Business Records & Directories
  – Government Documents
  – Map Collections
  – Yearbooks and Student Directories

• [URL] https://collections.carli.illinois.edu
Special Collections at Illinois Universities

Augustana College: Swedish Immigration Research Center

Illinois State University: Circus & Allied Arts Archives

University of Chicago: 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition

www.monmouth.edu/university/the-bruce-springsteen-special-collection.aspx

https://library.ucsc.edu/grateful-dead-archive
Types of Records: Archives and Museums

• Many museums have archives/special collections
  – Ephemera: Textiles, Furniture, Toys
  – Family Histories, Scrapbooks, Diaries
  – Photo Collections

• Archive Grid is “WorldCat” for archives: https://beta.worldcat.org/archivegrid/

• Many small IL museums are members of the Illinois Association of Museums: www.illinoismuseums.org

Illinois State Archives System

• Illinois State Archives
  – State Government Records
  – Land Records (School Lands Records)
  – Military Service (Adjutant General)
  – Penitentiary Records
  – Vital Records (marriages and deaths)

• www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives
The Illinois State Archives provides genealogical help through a series of pamphlets and databases. You can search for items within the archives in their online card catalog at http://archon.ilsos.net. They are available to help 8:00-4:00 Monday-Friday.
Illinois State Archives System

- Illinois State Regional Archives Depositories (IRAD)
  - Seven repositories at universities across Illinois
  - Collect county government records
  - Copies of records available for .50
  - Will search for 2 names per request

www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/IRAD/iradregn.html
Illinois State University
Houses the IRAD for Central Illinois Counties

Fact sheets are provided for each county and include important dates and township information

Location and contact info is provided for each of the IRAD offices. Staff will research up to 2 family names at a time. Copies are $0.50 each with the first 2 pages copied for free.
Established
- January 11, 1816 (Law 33, 1815, p. 30)
- County organization was completed on January 15, 1819.

Origin of the name of the county
- Named to honor Hance, a prominent figure of the American Revolutionary period, a Major General of the militia, President at the Continental Congress, first signer of Declaration of Independence, and first Governor of the State of Massachusetts.

Present area of, or parts of, formerly included in
- 1815–1825 – Attached to Adams (Law 33, 1815, p. 30)
- 1825–1835 – Pike
- 1835–1837 – Madison
- 1837–1841 – St. Clair

County Seats
- 1815–present – Carbondale

History of the county governing board
- 1819–1859 – County Commissioners Court
- 1859–present – County Board of Supervisors

Township Government
- Adopted – November 6, 1869

Township Names
- Appanoose
- Ocelot
- Rocky Run
- Springs

Local Governmental Records Database
- Name Index to Illinois Local Governments
Records dates and accession numbers are provided for viewing in-house. Items do not circulate.

Not all counties have the same collections, nor years available.

U.S. National Archives: www.archives.gov

- Archives I: Washington, D.C.
  - Immigration & Naturalization Records
  - Land Records
  - Military Records (Rev War to 1914)
    Personnel, Unit & Base Records

- Archives II: College Park, Maryland
  - Maps, Prints and Photographs
  - Military Unit & Base Records Only
    (WWI-Vietnam)
U.S. National Archives: NPRC

- National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis
  - Government Employee Records
  - Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Records

- Military Service Records 1914-Present
  - Records pre 1/1/1954 are open to the public
  - Records after 1/1/1954 are sealed and only available to next-of-kin
  - Next of Kin includes: un-remarried widow, children, siblings or parents

U.S. National Archives: Regional Branches

- Sixteen regional archives across the U.S.
- Fifteen Presidential Libraries
- Fifteen additional affiliated archives
- Each Archives branch collects records for their surrounding states

- The “Great-Lakes” branch of the National Archives is in Chicago and collects records for Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio & Wisconsin
U.S. National Archives: Great Lakes

- Naturalization Records for District (Federal) Courts
- Federal lawsuits and prosecutions
  - FBI Case Files
  - Copyright and Trademark Violations
- Maritime Records for 4/5 Great Lakes
- Bureau of Indian Affairs Records

Types of Records: Historical & Genealogical Societies

- Business Ledgers and Receipts
- Directories: i.e. City, Church, School
- Family Diaries, Papers and Records
- Group Records, Programs and Photos
- Military Service Papers and Uniforms
- Newspaper Clippings Files (Obituaries)
- Photos and Scrapbooks

Facebook and Flikr are a great way to find Historical and Genealogical societies
Facebook & Flikr Genealogy/History Pages

- www.facebook.com/willgrundygenealogicalsociety/?fref=ts
- www.facebook.com/Little-White-School-Museum-105387246173100
- www.facebook.com/ChicagoGenealogicalSociety
- www.flickr.com/photos/usnationalarchives
- www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/sets
- www.flickr.com/groups/genealogy

Try-It Illinois
www.finditillinois.org/tryit
Login: ilfreetry
Password: Illinet16
Available until November 30th

Genealogy & Family History

Academic Video Online Premium (Alexander Street Press Connect)
ACCESS Video On Demand (Streaming video for Public Libraries) (Facts on File Connect)
American Antiquarian Society (AAS) Historical Periodicals Collection, Series 1 (FROST Connect)
American History: 1493-1877 (Adam Matthew Digital Connect)
British Image Quest (Britannica Digital Learning Connect)
Chelsea House Biographies Online (Facts on File Connect)
Classroom Video On Demand - Streaming Video for High School (Facts on File Connect)
Colonial America Modules: 1. Early Settlement Expansion and Struggle (Adam Matthew Digital Connect)
Community College eBook Collection (EBSCO Connect)
Digital sends Home Genealogy (ProQuest Connect)
eBook Subscription (Master Collection) for Public Libraries (Facts on File Connect)
eBook Subscription (Master Collection) for School Libraries - Award Winning (Facts on File Connect)
eBook Subscription Collection (Special collection for Academic/College Libraries) (Facts on File Connect)
FILMS ON DEMAND - Streaming Video for College (Facts on File Connect)
F Lytter Digital Magazines (EBSCO Connect)
FOLIO Library Edition (ProQuest Connect)
FreemontFilm (Scholastic, Inc. Connect)
Gate Academic Trial Site (Gate-Connect Learning Connect)
Gate K12 Trial Resources (Gate-Connect Learning Connect)
Gate Public Libraries Trial Resources (Gate-Connect Learning Connect)
Historic Map Works Library Edition (ProQuest Connect)
Historical Chicago Defender (1980-1975) (ProQuest Connect)
Historical Chicago Tribune 1868-1915 (ProQuest Connect)
Historical New York Times 1851-2007 (ProQuest Connect)
History Reference Center (EBSCO Connect)
ImageQuest (Britannica Digital Learning Connect)
Lantern (STREAMING VIDEOHUB MEDIA DATABASE) (Facts on File Connect)
McHeritage Library Edition (EBSCO Connect)
Newspaper Archive (ProQuest Connect)
Newspapers.com Library Edition (ProQuest Connect)
ProQuest Obits (ProQuest Connect)
Tranch Journals and Unit Magazines of the First World War (ProQuest Connect)
Illinois Resources

- Illinois State Secretary of State: www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives
- Illinois State Genealogical Society: www.ilgensoc.org
- Illinois Digital Archives: www.idaillinois.org
- Kane County Vital Records: http://genealogy.kanecountyclerk.org
- DeKalb County Vital Records: www.dekalbgenealogy.com

Illinois Resources: Chicagoland

- A Look At Cook: www.alookatcook.com
- Chicago Ancestors: www.chicagoancestors.org
- Chicago Genealogical Society: www.chicagogenealogy.org
- Chicago Public Library (Chicago History Collection): www.chipublib.org/chicago-history
- Cook County Coroner’s Inquest Records: www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/databases/cookinqt.html
- Cook County Genealogy: www.cookcountygenealogy.com
Other Useful Web Tools

- Stephen P. Morse: www.stephenmorse.org
- Historical County Lines: http://jrshelby.com/hcl
- Birth Date Calculator: www.progenealogists.com/birthfromdeath.htm
- Hebrew Date Calculator: www.hebcal.com/converter
- Cyndi’s List: www.cyndislist.com/database.htm
- Linkpendium: www.linkpendium.com

State & National Websites

- Daughters of the American Revolution: www.dar.org
- Jewish Genealogy: www.jewishgen.org/databases
- Minnesota Historical Society: http://people.mnhs.org/dci/Search.cfm
- Missouri State Archives Digital History: www.sos.mo.gov/mdh
- National Genealogical Society: www.ngsgenealogy.org
- US Railroad Retirement Board: www.rrb.gov/default.asp
- Washington State Archives: www.digitalarchives.wa.gov
Case Study: Angus McDonald

• Angus’s eldest daughter Marion wanted to know more about her Dad’s Military service in WWI: Story was he had been gassed in France.

• We knew his unit because it was listed on his military headstone

• Marion had a photo of him in uniform

Online Resources:

• Ancestry Library Edition
  – 1920 census WWI veteran
  – World War I Draft Card listed as living in Galesburg, Illinois in 1917
  – U.S. Headstone Applications for Military Veterans 1925-1963 had a scan of Clara’s application
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Relation</th>
<th>Birthplace</th>
<th>Year of Birth</th>
<th>Father's Name</th>
<th>Mother's Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McDonald, Angus</td>
<td>Son</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>1879</td>
<td>Joe</td>
<td>Mary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Application for Headstone or Marker**

- **Name:** McDonald, Angus Leroy
- **Date of Birth:** Sept. 28, 1879
- **Yesterday:** Plainfield Cemetery
- **Death:** Sept. 19, 1933
- **Location:** Plainfield, Ill.
- **MEN#**: 501-724
- **Company:** U.S. Government Service, 45th Artillery Corps
- **Date of Receipt:** Feb. 21, 1934
- **Date of Approval:** Apr. 11, 1934

**Verification Information**

- **Applicant:** Col. Lee McDonald
- **Date:** 10/5/34
- **Address:** 106 - Fourth Ave., Joliet, Illinois

**Additional Information**

- **Date:** Oct. 11, 2016
Public Libraries:

- With no index to the Plainfield newspapers; I had to search each issue manually on microfilm looking for references to Angus.

- Two blurbs were found:
  - A letter to the editor describing life at Ft. Screven Georgia (1918)
  - An announcement for a “Welcome Home” parade and dinner for returning soldiers in March 1919 (which stated Angus could not attend because he had just been discharged)
Will County Recorder of Deeds recorded all military discharges filed by returning soldiers BUT refused to give Marion a copy because all discharges are sealed within the State of Illinois...

8 months later we were finally successful in procuring a copy.

U.S. Archives: NRPC St. Louis

- I drove to St. Louis to view Angus’s WWI personnel file. Sadly, the file was a “fire record” and was only 3 pages long; offering very little information about his service.

- It did confirm that Angus was discharged from Camp Grant in Rockford, Illinois
National Archives II: College Park, MD

- I was able to find the unit records for the 45th CAC Supply Brigade

- Angus was listed on 4 documents
  - His promotion to Supply Sergeant
  - His promotion to Sergeant

- Records listed where they were stationed in France; Hospital records for WWI are in Kansas City...

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Illinois State Archives

- The State Archives in Springfield has applications for soldiers who applied for bonuses after WWI.

- Angus is listed in an index of soldiers & dependants who filed for bonuses between 1919-1925

- Once again, a file destroyed 80% off the applications. Angus’s file did not survive.
Busting Brick Walls

• Patron comes to the desk looking for info to join the DAR:

• She has a bible page that shows the marriage of her ancestor that moves from Virginia to Kentucky @ 1820.

• Problems:
  – Scott County courthouse burned, not once but 3 times
  – Tornado wiped out town in 2008 (church destroyed)
  – No other record shows this marriage and it is needed by DAR

Busting Brick Walls

• Where should she look?
  – Surrounding county courthouses for duplicate records
  – Kentucky State Archives for possible land patents and sales
  – Kentucky State Library for old newspapers on microfilm (ILL)
  – Township Records
    • Highway Commissioners Records
    • Justice of the Peace
  – Internet Archives for early state histories or reminiscences
Busting Brick Walls

- Patron comes to the desk looking for information about a photo of a baby girl in her family collection.

- Photo has a photographer’s Mark on it with the studio and city claiming “new” address.

- City directories list the studio at that address in 1899.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>RELATION</th>
<th>PERSONAL DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>NATIVE</th>
<th>CITIZENSHIP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1490</td>
<td>John Smith</td>
<td>Head</td>
<td>Male, 30, married</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>Americain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1491</td>
<td>Jane Doe</td>
<td>Wife</td>
<td>Female, 28, single</td>
<td>Canadian</td>
<td>Americain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1492</td>
<td>David Green</td>
<td>Son</td>
<td>Male, 16, student</td>
<td>British</td>
<td>Americain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1493</td>
<td>Elizabeth Grey</td>
<td>Daughter</td>
<td>Female, 14, student</td>
<td>Australian</td>
<td>Americain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I just want to tell you, good luck.
We're all counting on you.