

## Family History Resources

This guide is meant to serve as a starting point for genealogical or family history resources available at the **Archives Service Center**, located at 7500 Thomas Blvd., and at **Hillman Library**. It is not comprehensive, but hopefully will help users and reference staff identify where in the university useful sources are located and what sort of information they contain. The materials covered here are divided into six categories: census material, church and organizational records, federal and state records, city and county records, miscellaneous and useful websites.

Many of the items are held in the Archives Service Center (Archives Service Center) located at 7500 Thomas Blvd, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Records located in the Archives Service Center can be accessed at the Archives facility during their business hours of 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The user should consult an Archives Service Center staff member during their business hours for assistance in using these records ([archives-ref@mail.pitt.edu](mailto:archives-ref@mail.pitt.edu) or 412-244-7091). Some items may be restricted and not available to researchers.

There are also many useful material located in the Microforms section of Hillman Library, located on the Ground Floor. These records can be used any time that the Library is open. The records are mainly in microfilm or microfiche format, with indexes for many of them in book format in the index carrels in the Microforms area.

Researchers looking for genealogical material should also consult the Historic Pittsburgh website (<http://digital.library.pitt.edu/pittsburgh/>), sponsored by the University Library System of the University of Pittsburgh and by the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania.

### **CENSUS RECORDS: POPULATION SCHEDULES AND SPECIAL CENSUSES**

For further information, see also [http://www.library.pitt.edu/guides/census\\_schedules.pdf](http://www.library.pitt.edu/guides/census_schedules.pdf)

#### **Population schedules:**

**Years covered:** 1790-1930

- 1790-1820, population schedules for the entire U.S.
- 1830, PA and OH
- 1840, PA, MD, NY, OH, SC, VA
- 1850, PA, NY(Erie Co.), some OH
- 1860, PA, selected metropolitan areas from AL, IL, GA, NY, OH, VA
- 1870, Allegheny County PA, Philadelphia County PA, selected OH
- 1880, Allegheny County, PA selected areas in OH and NY
  - \*\* Archives Service Center houses original bound volumes for the census of 1880.
- 1890, most records were destroyed in a fire, no records housed
- 1900-1920, Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Somerset, Washington and Westmoreland counties.

- 1930, Adams, Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bucks, Butler, Cambria, Centre, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lancaster, Lawrence, Snyder, Somerset, Washington, Westmoreland

**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, microfilm call nos. HA A1-HA A15

**Information Contained:** The first census records (1790-1840) give the names of heads of families. Starting in 1850, the head and members of the families' names are listed, including information about their sex, age, occupation, marital status, education, and the value of the property owned. Starting in 1860, information such as the nationality of the person, their parents' place of birth, language spoken, whether they had the right to vote, whether they had a handicap of any sort was included. Starting in 1900, more detailed information on the person's occupation, ownership of property, and whether or not they were a Civil War veteran was included.

### **Alphabetized Printouts of Censuses for the Allegheny (City) and Pittsburgh:**

**Years covered:** 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880

**Location:** Archives Service Center

**Information Contained:** Alphabetized listings of inhabitants of Allegheny (City) and Pittsburgh. Includes information about family members, their occupation, birthplace, and the value of property they owned.

### **\*\*Search Aids for Census Records:**

There are indexes at the end of some microfilm reels that have alphabetical listings of names and corresponding page numbers for that microfilm reel.

Indexes for Pennsylvania Censuses 1800-1850 are in the Microforms area in the index carrels on the Ground Floor in Hillman. The call nos. are F158.4.P4 1800-1850

Federal Population Censuses is a blue book at the Information Desk in the Microforms area on the Ground Floor, Hillman, that is annotated with the call numbers of Hillman's census collection on microfilm.

Census descriptions of geographic subdivisions and enumeration districts, 1830-1950 is a geographic index to census wards and districts. If you know the street address of the person you are looking for, you can find them this way. There is a set of this microfilm in the Microforms area, Ground Floor, Hillman, call no. HA 7, and also in the Archives Service Center, AIS Micro. 85:6.

The Soundex, available at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, is an alphabetical index that has last names arranged by the way they sound. Consult the Pennsylvania Room at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh for more information.

## **Special Census Materials**

**State Censuses:****Years covered:** 1790-1948**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, shelved alphabetically under “state censuses” in the microfiche drawers**Information Contained:** State censuses were done by individual states for a variety of reasons. Some were done when a state was still a territory in order to qualify for statehood. Includes enumeration of inhabitants, manufacturer’s information, and other information.**\*\*Search Aid:**

State Censuses: An Annotated Bibliography...1790-1948 gives the information that is covered by each state census. The book is annotated to show which are owned by Hillman. Call no.Z7554.U5U63 1969 in the Ground Floor Microforms area index carrels.

**US Direct Tax of 1798:****Years Covered:** 1789**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, microfilm call no. HJ A1**Information Contained:** Alphabetical lists of names of inhabitants within district divisions. Descriptions of lands, lots, dwellings, and buildings as well as name of the occupants, if they differ from the owners.**Manufacturers Schedules for PA:****Years Covered:** 1850-1880**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, microfilm call no. HC 83**Information Contained:** The names of corporations, companies or individuals that produced articles of an annual value of \$500 or more. Includes type of business, capital invested, raw materials used, number employed, wages paid per month, quantity, kind and value of annual product.**Agricultural Schedules for PA:****Years Covered:** 1850-1880**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, microfilm call no. HD 9**Information Contained:** Name of agent, manger or owner of farm as well as acres of land, value of farm and machinery, wages paid, and the value of livestock owned.**Non Population Schedules for PA:****Years Covered:** 1850-1880**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, microfilm call no. HA U5**Information Contained:** Inhabitants of prisons, orphanages etc. Also, information about schools, libraries, and other institutions supported by the county.**U.S. Indian Census Roll:****Years Covered:** 1884-1940

**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, microfilm call no. E53

**Information Contained:** Inhabitants listed by Indian and English name, members of family, date of birth, arranged by tribe and geographic location.

**Septennial Census for PA:**

**Years Covered:** 1779-1863

**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, microfilm call no. HA P4

**Information Contained:** Taxable inhabitants of townships in 29 Pennsylvania counties.

## **CHURCH AND ORGANIZATIONAL RECORDS**

### **Church Records**

**Years Covered:** 1800s-present

**Location:** Archives Service Center, AIS & AIS microfilm collections

**Information Contained:** Lists of members, baptism records, marriage records, confirmation records, funeral records, council or board records and various other types of information. To find records for these in PittCat, select “Keyword Searching” and set the “Location” limit to “Archives Service Center”. **Search for:** church records (**all of these**) ; **Search by:** Keyword anywhere. Typing in the name of the church or part of the name as a key word will also work. Click on “long record” to display a detailed account of what is included in each church’s records. A list of selected church records is also available on the Archives Service Center website

([http://www.library.pitt.edu/guides/archives/archives\\_church.pdf](http://www.library.pitt.edu/guides/archives/archives_church.pdf)). There are inventories and finding aids to the various church record collections in the Archives Service Center.

### **Organizational Records:**

**Years Covered:** mid 1800s-present

**Location:** Archives Service Center

**Information Contained:** There are many different types of organizational records from societies, associations and various institutions. Doing a keyword search in PittCat using the name or part of the name of the organization will bring up the records for them, as well as a detailed account of what information is available in the records. Included are: membership applications, minutes of meetings, baptisms and burials of members, officers of the organizations, and newsclippings.

**\*\*Examples:**

**Grand Army of the Republic:** Veterans’ organization for which membership lists, roll books, minutes, ledgers and other materials are available from various posts throughout the Allegheny county area. These are available on microfilm in Archives Service Center.

**Order of Italian Sons and Daughters of America:** Organization for Americans of Italian heritage. Records include membership roll book, application forms (which tell what province in Italy a person was from).

**Others include:** Polish Falcons, Serb National Federation, Independent Slovak Citizens Club.

## **GOVERNMENT RECORDS: STATE AND FEDERAL (except Census)**

### **Federal Records**

#### **World War I Draft Registration Cards**

Allegheny County & Pittsburgh

**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, microfilm and guide, call no. UB1

### **County Records**

#### **County and Municipal Records on Microfilm**

**Years Covered:** 1800s-1970s

**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, microfilm call no. F51

**Information Contained:** Includes tax records for the city of Pittsburgh and surrounding areas, city and borough council meeting minutes, records of the boards of county commissioners, city and county ordinances, indexes to birth certificates, court dockets and other information.

**\*\*Search Aid:**

Guide to County and Municipal Records on Microfilm located on the Ground Floor, Hillman, microform index carrels, call no. CD3474.P46 1982. There is also a copy in Archives Service Center.

#### **Naturalization Papers**

**Years Covered:** 1800-1891

**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, microfilm call no. F226

**Information Contained:** Declarations of intent to become a citizen, petitions for naturalization and other documents.

#### **Voter Registration Records**

**Years Covered:** 1934-1982

**Location:** Archives Service Center, AIS 69:7

**Information Contained:** Approximately 350,000 inactive voter registration cards for Allegheny County. Contains various information on voters, including date of birth, place of birth, sex, occupation, personal description, political party, date of residence in district etc.

\*These records are only available for individual case names and are otherwise restricted.

**NOTE: THESE RECORDS ARE CURRENTLY IN STORAGE AND NOT AVAILABLE FOR USE.**

#### **Records of the Allegheny County Coroner's Office**

**Years Covered:** 1887-1932, 1938-1973

**Location:** Archives Service Center, AIS 82:7

**Information Contained:** case files, morgue reports, transcribed testimony, and reports of deaths.

\*There is a finding aid for this in Archives Service Center.

\*These records are only available for individual case names and are otherwise restricted.

### **Records of Allegheny County Jail**

**Years Covered:** 1863-1932

**Location:** Archives Service Center, AIS Micro. 75:8

**Information Contained:** register of prisoners received, summary of convictions, convict description dockets, etc

### **City Records (Pittsburgh)**

#### **Birth Records for the City of Pittsburgh (excluding the North Side, which was then City of Allegheny)**

**Years Covered:** 1875-1905

**Location:** Archives Service Center, AIS 75:6

**Information Contained:** Full name of child, gender, race, full name of father, his occupation, his birthplace, full name of mother, her birthplace, date of birth of child, where born, date of return, name of physician or other person signing return, his/her office or residence, date of registration

#### **Death Records for the City of Pittsburgh (excluding the North Side, which was then the City of Allegheny)**

**Years Covered:** 1870-1905

**Location:** Archives Service Center, AIS Micro. 75:6

**Information Contained:** Full name of deceased, age, race, marital status, date of death, occupation, birthplace, residence at time of death, plus additional information

#### **Returns of Marriages in the City of Pittsburgh (excluding the North Side)**

**Years Covered:** 1875-1909

**Location:** Archives Service Center, AIS Micro. 79:10

**Information Contained:** Full name, age, residence, birthplace of husband and wife, occupation of husband, type of ceremony, name and residence of person performing marriage etc.

#### **Records for Pittsburgh Dept of Public Safety, Building Permits**

**Years Covered:** 1877-1928

**Location:** Archives Service Center, AIS Micro 71:10

**Information Contained:** Yearly docket of building permits, monthly reports of building permits issued plus additional information.

### **City Directories:**

#### **City Directories through 1860 (Segment 1)**

**Years Covered:** up through 1860

**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, microfiche, alphabetical under "City directories"

**Information Contained:** Includes lists of inhabitants, their age, sex, occupation and address. Also advertisements, business listings and other community information.

**City Directories 1861-1901 (Segments 2 and 3)**

**Years Covered:** 1861-1881 and 1882-1901

**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, microfilm call nos. E A2 and F158  
(**Note:** Segment 3 holdings for Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Erie only)

**City Directories 1902-1935's (Pittsburgh only) (Segment 4)**

**Location:** Ground Floor, Hillman, Microforms, microfilm call nos. F158 and F159

**City Directories up to recent times**

**Years Covered:** 1920's-1970's

**Location:** Hillman General Collection, Third Floor; call no. F159.P6 P76 (some of these items are located on the Fourth Floor as they are Folios)

**Information Contained:** Names, occupations and addresses of inhabitants, as well as community information.

**City Directories Guide:** (Film and Fiche Locator) is on-line at;

**Location:** <http://microformguides.gale.com> Searchable by city or state

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Oral History Collections**

**Years Covered:** 1900s

**Location:** Archives Service Center

**Information Contained:** These are done by few ethnic and fraternal organizations in Pittsburgh. The histories contain audiocassettes and they may include transcripts and other materials that go along with them. There are finding aids for many of the oral history collections in Archives Service Center. These will tell identifying information about the interviewees, reel content of the tapes, length of the tapes and other information.

**Labor and Employment Records**

**Years Covered:** 1900s

**Location:** Archives Service Center, UE/Labor Collections

**Information Contained:** Historically significant national office records of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UE) as well as other labor-related collections. For more information on this collection, please contact the curator.

## **Records and Publications of the University of Pittsburgh**

**Years covered:** 1822-present

**Location:** Archives Service Center, University Archives

**Information covered:** Includes information about people, organizations and activities dealing with the University of Pittsburgh.

### 1. Yearbooks

- a. The Owl (1907-1980) **University Archives Reference Collection D6018;O9**
- b. Panther Prints (1981-present) **University Archives Reference Collection LD6018;O9**

### 2. Directories

- a. Alumni directories
  - 1787-1916 **University Archives Reference Collection LD6012.3;A4**
  - 1990/1991 & 2001 **University Archives Reference Collection D6012.3;U65**
- b. Faculty and staff directories
  - 1921-present **University Archives Reference Collection LD6008;A2**
- c. Student directories
  - 1935/36-1975/76; 1991/92-present **University Archives Reference Collection LD6008;A2C92**
- d. Commencement Programs (containing lists of graduates) **University Archives Reference Collection LD6017;A2**
- e. Western University of Pennsylvania student records  
**University Archives RG 0/3/2**
- f. Annual Catalogues
  - Volumes for 1869-1927 contain complete lists of Board of Trustees members, faculty and students attending the University  
**University Archives Reference Collection LD6006;A2**

3. Photo/Information Files are maintained on athletes and other University groups, as well as numerous University personnel.

## **Passenger and Immigration Lists Index**

**Years Covered:** 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> centuries

**Location:** Hillman General Collection, call nos. CS68;F54 and CS68;P387

**Information contained:** Guide to published arrival records of passengers who came to the U.S. and Canada. This index gives the page number of the actual publication in which the person is cited.

**\*\*Additional genealogical texts and search aids can be found in the call no. area CS68 in the Hillman Reference Collection.**

### **Resources on the Ethnic and the Immigrant in the Pittsburgh Area**

**Location:** Hillman Reference Desk, call no. Z1330;P5W54;1979

**Information Contained:** A compilation of resources available for the study of the ethnic and immigrant experience in the Pittsburgh area and which are available in various Pittsburgh institutions, agencies and organizations. Also includes resources available from places other than Pittsburgh, such as the Genealogical Society in Salt Lake City and the Library of Congress. Compiled by Robert E. Wilson and Frank A. Zabrosky.

### **USEFUL WEBSITES**

The following are a number of websites that contain additional information which may be useful to area genealogical researchers:

Allegheny County (Pa.) Register of Wills (includes birth, death & naturalization records, etc.)  
<http://www.county.allegheny.pa.us/regwills/gindex.asp>

Archives Service Center, University of Pittsburgh  
<http://www.library.pitt.edu/libraries/archives/archives.html>

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Dept., Genealogy Section  
<http://www.carnegielibrary.org/locations/pennsylvania/genealogy/>

National Archives and Records Administration, Mid-Atlantic Regional Research Center  
[http://www.archives.gov/facilities/pa/philadelphia\\_center\\_city.html](http://www.archives.gov/facilities/pa/philadelphia_center_city.html)

Pennsylvania State Archives  
<http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/genie1.htm?secid=31>

Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh Archives and Records Center  
<http://www.diopitt.org/archives/archives.htm>

Sen. John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center  
<http://www.pghhistory.org/>

Soldiers and Sailors National Military Museum and Memorial  
<http://www.soldiersandsailorshall.org/>

Washington County (Pa.) Historical Society

<http://www.wchspa.org/>

Westmoreland County (Pa.) Historical Society

<http://www.starofthewest.org/html/services/pollins.html>

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