

Alabama Statewide Indexes and Collections

Guide

Introduction

In the United States, information about your ancestors is often found in town and county records. If you know which state but not the town or county your ancestor lived in, check the following statewide indexes to find the town or county. Then search records for that town or county.

The indexes and collections listed below index various sources of information, such as histories, vital records, biographies, tax lists, immigration records etc. You may find additional information about your ancestor other than the town or county of residence. The listings may contain:

- The author and title of the source.
- The Family History Library (FHL) book, film, fiche, or compact disc number. If the words *beginning with* appear before the film number, check the Family History Library Catalog for additional films.
- The name of the repository where the source can be found if the source is not available at the Family History Library.

What You Are Looking For

- Your ancestor's name in an index or collection.
- Where the ancestor was living.

Steps

These 2 steps will help you find information about your ancestor in statewide indexes or collections.

Step 1. Find your ancestor's name in statewide indexes or collections.

On the list below, if your ancestor lived between the years shown on the left, he or she may be listed in the source on the right.

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| 1580–1900s | <i>Ancestral File</i>
<i>International Genealogical Index</i>
<i>Family History Library Catalog -Surname Search</i>
To use these files, click here . |
| 1600–1920 | Jones, Kathleen Paul. <i>Alabama Records</i> . (FHL books 976.1 D29j and 976.1 D29ja, over 100 vols.; on 43 films beginning with 840512.) The Gandrud & Jones Alabama Records Collection. |

- 1600–1920s Filby, P. William, ed. *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index: A Guide to Published Arrival Records of About 500,000 Passengers Who Came to the United. . .* (FHL book 973 W32p & supplements; on 6 films beginning with 1597960 item 4.) An excellent way to find information about immigrants.
- 1600–1985 Alabama Department of Archives and History. *Surname Collection* (microfilmed at the Alabama State Archives). (On 675 FHL films beginning with 1486776.) Alphabetical.
- 1600–1940 Rider, Fremont, ed. *American Genealogical-Biographical Index to American Genealogical, Biographical and Local History Materials*. (FHL book 973 D22am ser. 2, vols. 1–186; beginning with film 1698167.) The new series now has surnames from A to W in 186 volumes and is continuing; the old series has surnames from A to Z.
- 1600–1908 *Index to American Genealogies and to Genealogical Material Contained in All Works as Town Histories, County Histories, Local Histories, Historical Society Publications, Biographies, Historical Periodicals, and Kindred Works*. (FHL book 973 D22m 1984; film 599811 item 2; fiche 6051301.) Also known as Munsell's Index.
- 1600–present *Periodical Source Index (PERSI)* lists records (by place or surname) that were published in genealogical magazines or periodicals. This resource should not be overlooked. It is available on the Internet through Ancestry.com. (FHL book 973 D25 per, various combined indexes and, annual supplements; fiche 6016863, 6016864; compact disc no. 61.)
- 1600–1908 *Supplement, 1900–1908 to the Index to Genealogies Published in 1900*. (FHL book 973 D22m supp; film 599811 item 3.)
- 1600–1657 Colket, Meredith B. *Founders of Early American Families: Emigrants from Europe, 1607–1657*. (FHL book 973 W2cm.) Refers to books and articles which have been published concerning early emigrants.
- 1700–1860 White, Virgil D. *Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files*. (FHL book 973 M28g, vols. 1–4.)
- 1700–1979 Julich, Louise Milam. *A Roster of Revolutionary Soldiers and Patriots in Alabama*. (FHL book 976.1 M2j.) By the DAR; contains carefully documented information, often mentions the wife and children's information; often mentions DAR descendants.
- 1700–1855 Owen, Thomas M. *Revolutionary Soldiers in Alabama: Being a List of Names, Compiled from Authentic Sources, of Soldiers of the American Revolution, Who Resided in the State of Alabama*. (FHL book 976.1 M23a; 1975 edition on film 928157 item 4.) Soldiers are listed alphabetically, but there is not an every-name index; the wife and children are sometimes mentioned.
- 1700–1996 Gandrud, Pauline Jones. *Alabama Soldiers: Revolution, War of 1812, and Indian Wars*. (FHL book 976.1 M2g.) Often lists wife and children; sometimes refers to descendants who belong to DAR.
- 1700–1860 Daughters of the American Revolution. *DAR Patriot Index*. Centennial Edition. (FHL 973 C42da 1990, vol. 1–2.) Lists Revolutionary War patriots and their spouses. About 100,000 names.
- 1700–1860 Daughters of the American Revolution. *DAR Patriot Index*. (FHL 973 C42da vol. 3) Volume 3 is especially useful in that it lists the wives of the soldiers. About 60,000 names.

- 1700–1868 *DAR Revolutionary War Burial Index*. (FHL films 1307675-82.) Alphabetical; prepared by Brigham Young University from DAR records; often lists name, birth date, death date, burial place, name of cemetery, company/and or regiment; sometimes gives the place of birth, etc. About 67,000 names.
- 1700–1860 Hatcher, Patricia. *Abstracts of Graves of Revolutionary Patriots*. (FHL book 973 V38h, vols. 1-4.) About 55,000 names.
- 1700–1860 Brakebill, Clovis. *Revolutionary War Graves Register*. (FHL book 973 V3br.) About 55,000 names.
- 1700–1840 *A General Index to a Census of Pensioners For Revolutionary or Military Service, 1840*. (FHL book 973 X2pc index; film 899835 items 1-2; fiche 6046771.) Lists Revolutionary War pensioners whose names are on the 1840 census lists.
After using the general index, go to the original book (FHL book Ref 973 X2pc 1967; film 899835 item 3.) This book gives town of residence, the name of the head of household where they were living, and age of pensioner or their widow.
- 1700–1970 Daughters of the American Revolution. *Miscellaneous Records*. (On FHL films beginning with 835113.)
- 1730–1870 *Index to Alabama Wills, 1808–1870*. (FHL fiche 6051441-43.)
- 1740–1893 Gandrud, Pauline M. *Marriage, Death and Legal Notices from Early Alabama Newspapers 1819–1893*. (FHL book: 976.1 V2g.)
- 1740–1900 White, Virgil D. *Index to War of 1812 Pension Files*. (FHL book 973 M22i.)
- 1740–1936 *Early Alabama Marriages, 1813–1850; Many Continue or End Between 1850 to 1900, a Few Continue Through From 1900–1936*. (FHL book 976.1 V22e, vols. 1-43.) Does not include Choctaw, Covington, Geneva, Houston, and Walker Counties; the set is alphabetical for brides and grooms.
- 1750–1921 Daughters of the American Revolution (Alabama). *Alabama Marriage Records*. (FHL films 835116–118.)
- 1750–1937 Alabama Bureau of Vital Statistics. *County Divorce Reports, 1818–1929; Index, 1908–1937*. (On FHL films beginning with 1653550.)
- 1770–1920 Census indexes, 1820–1880, and 1900–1920. In the window to the left click on **Family History Library Catalog**. Then select CENSUS or CENSUS - INDEXES from the topics that are listed.
- 1790–1848 Butler, Steven R. *Alabama Volunteers in the Mexican War, 1846–1848: A History and Annotated Roster*. (FHL book 976.1 M2bs.) Often gives age when enlisted.
- 1800–1926 United States. Veterans Administration. *Pension Index Files, Indian Wars, 1892–1926*. (FHL films beginning with 821610.) The Indian wars were as follows: Seminole Wars, 1817–1818, 1835–1842, 1855–1858; Black Hawk War, 1832; and Creek War, 1836–1837.
- 1800–1850 Oliver, Lloyd F. *Index to Colonel James Edmonds Saunders' Early Settlers of Alabama*. (FHL book 976.1 D2s index.)
- 1800–1865 United States. Adjutant General's Office. *Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Alabama*. (FHL film 880848.)
- 1800–1865 United States. Adjutant General's Office. *Index to Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Alabama*. (On 49 FHL films beginning with 821949.)

- 1800–1865 United States. Record and Pension Office. *Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Alabama*. (On 508 FHL films beginning with 880330.) Use the index above to find the name of the unit.
- 1800–1907 *1907 Alabama Census of Confederate Soldiers*. (FHL book 976.1 X22c 1907.) The census taker asked the soldier his birth date and place, and service information.
- 1800–1930s Alabama Pension Commission (Alabama). Confederate Pension Applications, ca. 1880–1930s. (On 276 FHL films beginning with 1502476.) The pension records are in alphabetical order.
- 1800–1934 United States. Veterans Administration. *General Index to Pension Files, 1861–1934*. (On 544 FHL films beginning with 540757.) This is a card index to pension applications of Civil War and Spanish-American War veterans; copies of the original files may be ordered from the National Archives.
- 1800–1933 United States. Veterans Administration. *Veteran's Administration Pension Payment Cards, 1907–1933*. (On 2,000 FHL films beginning with 1634036.) Lists veterans and wives who received pension payments for Civil War and the War with Spain.
- 1800–1892 *Memorial Record of Alabama: a Concise Account of the State's Political, Military, Professional and Industrial Progress, Together with the Personal Memoirs of Many of its People*. (FHL book 976.1 H2m; film 934817.)
- 1800–1920 Owen, Thomas McAdory. *History of Alabama and Dictionary of Biography*. (FHL fiche 6048243-46.)
- 1820–1961 Alabama Department of Health (Montgomery). *Deaths 1908–1968; Index to deaths 1908–1959*. (FHL films 1894064–124.)
- 1870–1980 A card file of obituaries for 1950–1980 is at the Department of Archives and History. (Not at FHL.) Write to Alabama Department of Archives and History.
- 1878–1918 United States Selective Service System. *Alabama, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918*. (On 87 FHL films beginning with 1509347.) Men ages 18 to 45 are listed alphabetically by county or draft board.
- 1880–1992 Alabama Department of Health (Montgomery Alabama). *Marriage Certificates, 1936–1992; Index 1936–1959*. (On FHL films beginning with 1877172.)
- 1900–1992 Alabama Department of Health (Montgomery, Alabama). *Divorces, 1938–1992 Index 1950–1959*. (On FHL films beginning with 1892719.)

For ideas on ways your ancestor's name might be spelled by indexers or in collections, see Name Variations.

Step 2. Copy and document the information.

The best method is to:

- Make a photocopy of the page(s) with your ancestor's name.
- Document where the information came from by writing the title, call number, and page number of the index or collection on the photocopy. Also write the name of the library or archive with the index or collection.

Where to Find It

Family History Centers and the Family History Library

You can use the Family History Library book collection only at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, but many of our books have been microfilmed. Most of our films can be requested and used at our Family History Centers. To locate the address for the nearest Family History Center, [click here](#).

For information about contacting or visiting the library or a center, see *Family History Library and Family History Centers*.

Libraries and Archives

You may be able to find the books at public or college libraries. If these libraries do not have a copy of the book you need, they may be able to order it from another library on interlibrary loan.

To use interlibrary loan:

- Go to a public or college library.
- Ask the librarian to order a book or microfilm for you through interlibrary loan from another library. You will need the title of the item and the name of the author.
- The library staff will direct you in their procedures. Sometimes this is free; sometimes there is a small fee.

You can find addresses and phone numbers for most libraries and archives in the *American Library Directory*, published by the American Library Association. The *American Library Directory* is available at most public and college libraries.