



CUBA RESEARCH GUIDE

ANCESTOR'S BIRTH LOCATION AND FAMILY INFORMATION KNOWN OR UNKNOWN

FamilySearch Indexed Records: There are no indexed records for Cuba on FamilySearch.

FamilySearch Browsable Images: There are no digitized images available for Cuba on FamilySearch.

FamilySearch Catalog: The few records FamilySearch has for Cuba are not online, be sure to check the Catalog before giving up on finding records. Under **Search** on the home page select **Catalog**. Type **Cuba** and click **Search**. A list of available records will appear. Your search can be localized by selecting **Places within Cuba** at the top and then choosing the exact locality where your ancestor lived. There are some extracted parish records and/or indexes for the cities of Camaguey, Havana, Remedios, Sancti Spiritus, Santa Clara, Guamutas, Matanzas, and Santiago de Cuba.

RESEARCH STRATEGIES

The best place to begin all genealogical investigation with the older family members and relatives. They are usually able to provide names, dates, and family stories. Try to find relatives (even newly-met or little known relatives) living in Cuba and ask for more information. You will need to be patient because the mail system in Cuba has long delays. The Cuban Civil Registration office will not reply to requests for documents such as births, marriage, or death certificates coming from the outside of Cuba. You can request information from the Catholic Church parishes in Cuba regarding your own family relatives because correspondence with the Catholic Church is not prohibited but be aware that any reply usually takes months.

The most valuable printed references on Cuban genealogy are the works of the Cuban Genealogist, Francisco Xavier de Santa Cruz y Mallen. A nine volume set entitled, *Historia de Familias Cubanos* describes in detail the genealogy of 841 Cuban family names (FHL INTL Book 972.91 D2s). Also, *Genealogías Habaneras* a four volume set by Rafael Nieto Cortadellas (FHL INTL Book 972.91 D2n=), and *The Guide to Cuban Genealogical Research* by Peter E. Carr (FHL INTL Book 972.91 D23c) are excellent sources of genealogical information.

FamilySearch Wiki: Translation, handwriting help, and descriptions of specific record collections can be found on the FamilySearch Wiki. Under Search on the home page selection Research Wiki. Type **Cuba** and press **Enter**.

FamilySearch Community: You can get immediate research and handwriting help from a community of researchers through the FamilySearch Communities. Go to <http://community.familysearch.org/> and click **Groups**. Search for **Latin American Genealogy**

Research or **Investigación Genealógica** to find the group for Hispanic genealogical research. While the second group is in Spanish, the members will respond to posts written in English. On the group pages, you can post research questions and upload documents to get translation help.

FINDING A LOCALITY

For help locating a place in Cuba, try the following sources:

- Google
- Don Jacobo de la Pezuela, online link to *1865 Diccionario Geográfico, Estadístico, Histórico De la Isla de Cuba*.
<https://archive.org/stream/diccionariogeog00pezugoog#page/n5/mode/2up>
- *Guía de las divisiones políticas de Cuba antes y después de 1975, año en que el gobierno inició nueva división*. compiled by Mayra F. Sánchez-Johnson (FHL INTL Reference 972.91 E5s).
- *Cuba: Official Standard Names approved by the U.S. Board of Geographical Names*. Washington, DC: U.S. Office of Geography, 1963 (FHL INTL book 972.91 E5u; film 874452 Item 2).
- *Genealogía, heráldica e historia de nuestras familias*. by Fernando de Castro y de Cárdenas (FHL INTL book 972.91.D2c).
- *Arboles Genealógicos de la Cuba Española*. (FHL INTL book 972.91.D2a).

ONLINE RESOURCES

Cuban Genealogy Club of Miami: www.cubagenclub.org/

Cuba Genealogy Club of Miami Facebook: www.facebook.com/CubanGenClub

Cuba Cemetery Records: www.interment.net/cuba/index.htm

Cuba GenWeb: www.cubagenweb.org/

Herencia Cultural Cubana: <https://herenciaculturalcubana.org/> (English and Spanish)

Ibero-American Migratory Movements (PARES): <http://pares.mcu.es/MovimientosMigratorios>
(English and Spanish)

Research in Cuba – Genealogy Forum:
www.genealogyforum.rootsweb.com/gfao/resource/.../Cubaresearch.htm

Regional Spanish Genealogy Links: www.genealogia-es.com/ (in Spanish)