

## Central Florida Area Resource Guide for Genealogists

**WEST OAKS LIBRARY AND GENEALOGY CENTER** [Orange County Library System]: One of the finest genealogical collections in the Southeast is contained in the new Genealogy Center at the West Oaks Branch Library in Ocoee, FL. The Center is open 7 days a week and parking is free. There is a professional genealogist on staff.

-Microfilms of the U. S. Federal Census from 1790 to 1930 and their extant printed indexes are available, along with the immigration indexes for New York, Philadelphia, Boston, New Orleans, Galveston, and Baltimore.

-Additional extensive microfilm and microfiche resources are available.

-In the book area you will find most standard immigration indexes as well as substantial collections on most states, Canada, and the British Isles.

-Internet access to a variety of genealogical resources is available.

-Also, a full subscription to all databases of *AncestryPlus*<sup>2</sup>, the library version of "Ancestry.com", is available at all Internet computers on the 2nd floor, and at all Orange County Library System branches.

-An Orange County Library System library card or fee card is required for Internet access. A \$5 PC pass, good for 7 consecutive days, is also available for purchase for non-Orange County residents. Genealogy resources can be identified in our online library [catalog](#).

-Also, you may "Ask a Librarian" online or call **QuestLine** 407-835-7640 with your Genealogy questions.

-Classes are also available, such as "Tracing Your Ancestors." Check the online calendar or call 407-835-7381 for a schedule of classes and how to enroll.

The Genealogy Center is at 1821 E. Silver Star Rd., Ocoee, FL 34761 (407) 835-7323. Check the [Genealogy Center blog](#) or the library [calendar](#). <http://www.ocls.info/>

**ORANGE COUNTY REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER**: Now located in its "new" home, the restored 1927 Orange County Courthouse, the history center uses artifacts, exhibits, educational classes, re-enactments and multi-media shows to present the historical development of Central Florida. Location: 65 East Central Boulevard, Orlando, FL 32801 Phone: 407-836-8500 Toll Free: 800-965-2030

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

**FAMILY HISTORY CENTERS**: Operated by the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (the Mormons), these centers are open to all and give access to the tremendous genealogical collection of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. Family History Centers offer free high speed computer access to most commercial genealogical websites. Volunteers are always available for assistance. Hours vary; call to verify schedule.

-Orlando FHC, 45 E Par St. (407) 895-4832.

-Orlando South FHC, 3001 S. Apopka-Vineland Rd. (407) 876-8135

-Kissimmee FHC, 701 W. Wetherbee Rd. (407) 826-8970.

-Clermont FHC, 14600 Green Valley, (352) 242-6363.

A listing of all Family History Centers is available at: <https://familysearch.org/ask/help#localResource>

**THE ALMA CLYDE FIELD LIBRARY OF FLORIDA HISTORY** For Florida researchers, a visit to the this Library of Florida History is a must! The library has a wonderful selection of currently available books on Florida, and many old records such as WPA records. Open Tuesday-Saturday from 10-5; however, you should call ahead because the library is run by volunteers and they periodically close. It is located at 435 Brevard Ave, Cocoa, FL 32922 (321) 690-1971. For online information: <http://www.florida-historical-soc.org>

**BREVARD COUNTY LIBRARIES** The majority of the genealogy holdings are held at the libraries in Cocoa, Melbourne and Titusville. These three collections vary in size and content. *AncestryPlus*<sup>2</sup> is available at all Brevard County Libraries on their computers.

**Central Brevard Public Library**, 308 Forrest Ave., Cocoa, FL - (321) 633-1794,  
Holdings include:

-A large passenger list collection, New England, NC, SC, VA.

-Approximately 350 CD-ROM's & 3,000 books.

-Various old local newspapers.

-Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.

- Florida Vital Records Indexes - Deaths, Divorces and Marriages.
- Brevard County Records Collection – 50 rolls of microfilm that include Brevard County Deeds. Marriages, Probate, Delayed Births, Naturalizations & Soldiers and Sailors discharge records.
- plus 1,500 volumes and other genealogy materials from Brevard Community College.

**Melbourne Public Library**, 540 E. Fee Ave., Melbourne, FL - (321) 952-4514

The collection includes:

- The Melbourne City Hall collection.
- The Arlyn Gantz Michigan Collection.
- The Hartford Times Index.
- CD-ROM access.
- The complete set of The War of the Rebellion.

**North Brevard Public Library**, 2121 S. Hopkins Ave., Titusville, FL - (321) 254-5026 (maintained by volunteers) - Approximately 900 volumes,

- American State Papers.
- Papers of Continental Congress.
- North Brevard Mortuary Indexes.
- East Coast & Indian River Advocate 1890-1929.
- 1830-1850 Florida Census.

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

**UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA LIBRARY:** This is a research facility with course specific collections. Genealogists will find the National Union Catalogue of Manuscripts and the printed card catalogue of the Library of Congress useful. It is available through the early 1980s. For local researchers, they have the Carey Hand Funeral Home records, 1891-1952. This is also a patent depository, with access on US and foreign patents. There are also extensive indexes of periodicals on the main campus of UCF, Alafaya Trail and University Blvd., (407) 823-2756. <http://library.ucf.edu/>

**DELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY:** They have considerable holdings on Florida and the Deland area, including:

- City directories from 1944-1994.
- Local genealogies;
- 114 notebooks on local deaths from 1920 to 1978.
- Newspaper obits since 1986.
- State holdings focus on the Northeast, including the Pennsylvania Archives from 1871 to 1888.
- Massachusetts Revolutionary War Records.
- The New England Historical and Genealogical Register, 1847-1982.
- Many DAR lineage books.
- Census indexes from 1790 to 1850 for most states.
- The IGI through 1992 is available on fiche, and they have several major journals, too. CD's include the Family Tree Maker Master Index and the Social Security Death Index. This collection is located on the second floor of the library, 130 E. Howry Ave. Deland. (386) 822-6430. <http://www.vcpl.lib.fl.us/>

**OSCEOLA/KISSIMMEE PUBLIC LIBRARY:** This is a small but growing collection that started with civil war and veterans records and grew with donations from individuals with roots mainly in the eastern United States. Printed passenger indexes are also available. This library is located at 211 E. Dakin Ave., Kissimmee, (407) 935-0777. <http://www.osceolalibrary.org/>

**WINTER PARK LIBRARY:** This library has some "how to" books and has book on Winter Park history. They also maintain vertical files. This library is located at 460 E. New England Ave., Winter Park. (407) 623-3300. <http://www.wppl.org/>

**SEMINOLE COUNTY LIBRARY:** This library has some "how to" books, Internet access, and has some Federal Records in the general collection that might be useful in specific cases. The Main Branch of the Library is located at 215 N. Oxford Rd., Casselberry, (407) 339-4000. <http://www.scpl.lib.fl.us/>