

Records Checklist

BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT

- apprentice and indenture records
- company newsletters
- doctors' and midwives' journals
- insurance records
- merchants' account books
- patents
- professional licenses
- railroad, mining and factory records
- records of professional organizations
- Social Security applications (SS5)

CEMETERY AND FUNERAL HOME

- burial records
- grave-relocation records
- tombstone inscriptions

CENSUSES

- agriculture schedules (1850–1880)
- American Indian
- Civil War veterans schedules (1890)
- defective, dependent and delinquent (DDD) schedules (1880)
- federal censuses (1790–1940)
- manufacturing/industry schedules (1810–1820, 1850–1880)
- mortality schedules (1850–1880)
- school censuses
- slave schedules (1850, 1860)
- social statistics schedules (1850–1880)
- state/territorial and local censuses

CHURCH

- baptism and christening records
- confirmation records
- congregational histories
- marriage banns
- meeting minutes
- membership, admission and removal records
- ministers' journals

COURT

- adoption records
- bastardy cases
- coroners' files
- criminal records
- custody papers
- estate inventories
- guardianship papers
- insanity/commitment orders
- licenses and permits
- marriage bonds, licenses and certificates
- military discharges
- minute books
- name changes
- naturalizations
- property foreclosures
- voter registrations
- wills
- wolf-scalp bounties

DIRECTORIES

- biographical
- city
- occupational/professional
- telephone

HOME SOURCES

- baby books
- baptism and confirmation certificates
- birth certificates

- checkbooks and bank statements
- death records
- diaries and journals
- family Bibles
- funeral/memorial cards
- heirlooms and artifacts
- letters and postcards
- medical records
- photographs
- prayer cards
- recipe books
- school report cards
- scrapbooks
- wedding albums
- wills
- yearbooks

IMMIGRATION

- alien registration cards
- citizenship papers
- passenger lists
- passports and passport applications

INSTITUTIONAL

- almshouses
- fraternal associations
- hospitals
- orphanages
- police registers
- prisons
- schools
- work-farms

LAND AND PROPERTY

- deeds
- grants and patents
- homestead records
- mortgages and leases
- plat maps
- surveys
- tax rolls
- warrants

MILITARY

- draft records
- pension applications
- records of relocation and interment camps
- service records

NEWSPAPERS

- birth announcements
- classified advertisements
- engagement, marriage and anniversary announcements
- ethnic newspapers
- family reunion announcements
- immigrant ship notices
- gossip and advice columns
- legal notices
- local news
- obituaries/death notices
- runaway notices (slaves, indentured servants, wives)
- unclaimed-mail notices

PUBLISHED SOURCES

- compiled genealogies
- genealogical periodicals
- local histories
- record abstracts and transcriptions

VITAL

- amended birth certificates
- birth certificates
- delayed birth certificates
- death certificates
- marriage licenses and certificates
- stillbirth certificates
- divorce/annulment decrees