

## Ethnic and Minority History

The Pennsylvania State Archives offers research opportunities for those interested in the study of ethnic and racial groups.

We partner with the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. Archives holdings include:

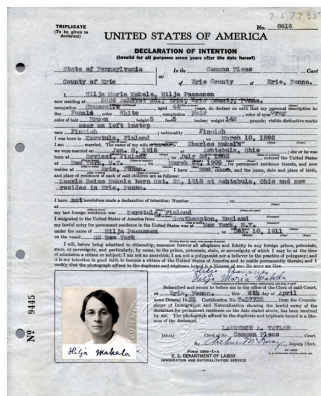
- The first state law in the U.S. to abolish slavery
- Muster Rolls for the United States Colored Troops in regiments raised in Pennsylvania during the American Civil War
- Works Progress Administration historical and cultural projects
- Ethnic studies and oral history collections



## Genealogical Resources

The Archives holds a broad range of sources that help document family history. Frequently consulted materials include:

- Birth and death records
- Original 20th century birth and death certificates
- Marriage records
- Originals and digital copies of County Records – deeds, wills, tax records, etc.
- Military records from the French and Indian War through the Vietnam War
- Pension records for the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812
- Philadelphia ships' lists of German passengers
- Colonial naturalizations
- Pennsylvania Supreme Court naturalizations
- Pennsylvania Septennial Censuses
- Pennsylvania Farm Censuses
- State land records including warrants, surveys, and patents
- State penitentiary records
- Occupational records for coal miners, doctors, and teachers
- Maps
- State Hospital records
- Free access to Ancestry.com in the Archives research room
- Family papers



## Copying and Research Services

The Pennsylvania State Archives offers reproduction services in paper and digital formats. The Archives reserves the right to determine the appropriate method for copying items in its custody.

Limited research services are available for those who cannot travel to Harrisburg. Staff will search only original records held by the Archives. This service does not apply to federal censuses or materials held by local governments and other institutions. All research fees are nonrefundable.

Current prices and ordering information are found on the State Archives website or by telephone. Payment is required in advance for copying and research services.

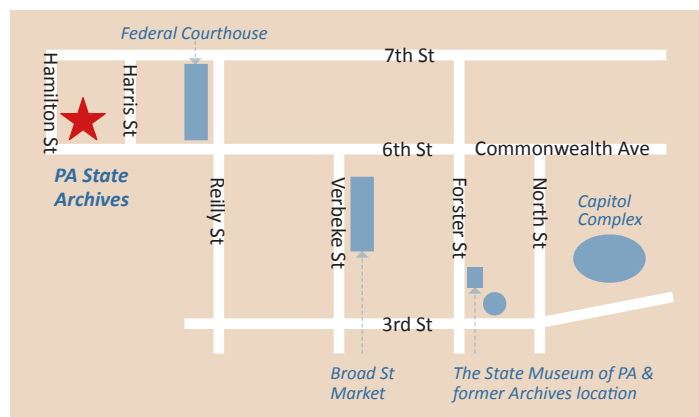


## Research Hours

For current research hours, please visit [www.PaStateArchives.com](http://www.PaStateArchives.com). The Archives is closed all state holidays. Admission is free. No appointment is required except when using special media or restricted holdings.

## Parking

An on-site parking lot is available off Harris Street. Street parking is also available near the building.



1681 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102  
[www.PaStateArchives.com](http://www.PaStateArchives.com)  
(717) 783-3281

 **Pennsylvania State Archives**  
PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION

# THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE ARCHIVES





*Whether exploring Pennsylvania's history or learning about your family's past, you will discover a wealth of resources at the Pennsylvania State Archives.*

The primary function of the State Archives is to identify and preserve any records of state government that have permanent historical, legal or administrative value. The State Archives also acquires select non-government papers relevant to Pennsylvania history. We make records available to researchers online and in person.

## Pennsylvania State Archives Web Resources

The State Archives website provides topical research guides, collection finding aids, digital copies of records and indexes, and information about Archives policies and fees. You can access these web resources by visiting [www.PaStateArchives.com](http://www.PaStateArchives.com).



The Pennsylvania State Archives has teamed with Ancestry.com to expand the number of records available to the public online. Post-1906 birth and death certificates, state prison records, WWI and WWII Compensation files, and an assortment of other records from our collection are available through Ancestry.com. Pennsylvanians can access these records free through Ancestry.com PA at [www.PaStateArchives.com](http://www.PaStateArchives.com).



## Collection

The holdings (1664 to the present) include 78,000 cubic feet of paper records and 110TB of digital research material. More than 80 record groups contain materials from the Commonwealth's executive departments, boards, and commissions; records from the legislative and judicial branches of state government; and selected records of county and municipal governments. Over 500 manuscript groups contain the records and papers of prominent individuals, families, business concerns, and numerous social, cultural, political, and military organizations relating to many aspects of Pennsylvania history. Descriptive information about the holdings and digital copies of some documents in the State Archives are available on the State Archives website.



## State Land Records

The state land records (1667–present) document the original purchases of land from the Penn family and the Commonwealth. They include:

- Purchases from William Penn
- Land Warrants and applications
- Original surveys and copied survey books
- Patent books
- Warrant registers and patent indexes
- Warrantee maps for about 30% of Pennsylvania's townships
- Donation Lands papers – grants to Pennsylvania Line veterans of the Revolutionary War
- Virginia claims
- Connecticut claimants' files
- Land office map collection

Detailed information about the land records, digital images of many of the indexes, and more frequently used documents in the State Archives can be found on the State Archives website.

## Special Media

The Archives collections include non-textual materials from public and private sources:

- Over 4,000 land office drafts and maps
- Aerial photographs
- Postcards for all 67 counties
- Over 500 posters
- 600 oral history recordings
- Approximately 1,400 motion picture films
- Philadelphia Commercial Museum photograph collection
- Photographs, negatives, and slides from various agencies



## Transportation and Industrial Records

- State road and turnpike maps
- Port of Philadelphia records
- Internal improvements files
- Pine Grove Furnace records
- Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company records
- Pennsylvania Main Line Canal records
- Fall Brook Railroad and Coal Company records
- Baldwin Locomotive Works records
- Pennsylvania Railroad records
- Lehigh Valley Railroad records
- Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission records
- Mine accident registers
- Industrial Board minutes
- Department of Highways photographs

