

# BEGINNING GENEALOGY

An introduction to the Genealogy Center  
and how to start your family history  
research

# THE GENEALOGY CENTER

- ◉ **Address:** 2901 S. Harvard  
Tulsa, OK 74114
- ◉ **Hours:** Mon-Wed, Fri-Sat 10-5;  
Thurs 1-8
- ◉ **Phone:** 918-549-7691

# THE GENEALOGY CENTER

- One of the largest collections in Oklahoma
- Collection included in library catalog
- Non-circulating reference collection
  - Reference books
  - State books
  - Family books
  - Maps
  - Microfilm
  - Newsletters and Magazines

# THE GENEALOGY CENTER

## ⦿ Services

- Interlibrary Loan (ILL)
  - Must have TCCL library card
  - \$1.00 mailing/postage fee
- Affiliate library of Family History Library
  - [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)
  - Salt Lake City, UT
  - Order microfilm \$5.50 each

# THE GENEALOGY CENTER

## ⦿ Services

### ■ Monthly Programs

- Check the monthly event guide
- Handouts for classes on webpage

### ■ Subscription Databases

- Ancestry Library Edition (all TCCL branches)
- Footnote (GE only)
- Heritage Quest (GE only)
- American Ancestors (GE only)

## ◉ Website

- [www.tulsalibrary.org/genealogy/](http://www.tulsalibrary.org/genealogy/)

### Genealogy Center Resources

The Genealogy Center now has access to the largest genealogy collection in the world- the [Family History Center](#) in Salt Lake City, Utah.



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[Genealogy Center Location](#)  
[Email Genealogy Center](#)  
**[Genealogy Programs and Workshops](#)**

[How to Begin Your Family History Research](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Genealogy Forms and Charts](#)

[Web Sites](#)

[American Indian Research](#)

[Search the Dawes Rolls Index](#)

[Additional Resources](#)

[Tulsa Newspaper Death Notice Index](#)

[Friends of Genealogy, Inc. \\*](#)

### Genealogy Class Handouts

- [Free Genealogy Websites\\*](#)
- [Start Your Research @ the Library\\*](#)
- [Women, the Genealogical Search for Female Ancestors\\*](#)

## ○ Website

- Free genealogy websites



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- Genealogy forms and charts

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## Website

- Programs and Workshops
- Handouts



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# Website

## Additional Resources



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**Genealogy Center Resources**  
**Additional Resources**

[Genealogy CDs](#)

[Index of the Genealogy Center Map Collection](#)

[Tulsa County Resources in the Genealogy Center](#)

[Back to Genealogy Center Resources Home Page](#)

## Website

- American Indian Research
- Search the Dawes Rolls Index



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### **Genealogy Center Resources American Indian Research**

[How to Begin Your Family History Research](#)

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[Using the Final/Dawes Rolls of the Five Civilized Tribes - Instructional video](#) |  
[Federally Recognized Tribes in Oklahoma](#) | [Indian Research Holdings\\*](#) |  
[Historical Timeline of the Five Civilized Tribes\\*](#) |

# WHERE TO BEGIN

## ○ Family Pedigree Chart (Lineage)

- Names, birth and death dates, and places
- Use **pencil**
- Fill in as much as you can
  - Ask family members
  - Look at old family photos
  - Locate documents you might have at home
- Use women's maiden names
- Use charts to do research

# WHERE TO BEGIN

- ◉ **Family Group Record (Individual Family)**
  - Father, mother, children, and children's spouses
  - Lists children in order of birth
  - Useful for tracking family migration pattern

# HOW RECORDS ARE ORGANIZED

- ◉ Local/county level
- ◉ State level
- ◉ Federal level

# STATE RECORDS

## ◎ Birth and Death Records

- Only from about 1900 forward
- In the state where birth and death occurred
- No records before statehood
- Records not likely in rural areas
- State vital records offices in the state capitols
  - [www.vitalrec.com](http://www.vitalrec.com)
  - Fees for copies (varies by state)

# STATE RECORDS

## ○ Birth Certificates

- Useful information
  - Parents' names
  - Date and Place
  - More likely accurate (filled out by someone who knows)
- Delayed birth certificates
  - Notarized statement made as a adult
- Other sources for birth date information
  - Social Security application

# STATE RECORDS

## ○ Death Certificates

- Useful Information
  - Parents' names
  - Birth date and place
  - Death date and place
  - Burial place
- Information not always filled out by someone who knew the correct answers.
- Other sources for death information
  - Obituaries
  - Cemeteries
  - Funeral homes
  - Social Security Death Index
  - [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)

# STATE RECORDS

- ◉ Maps
- ◉ Historical atlas
- ◉ State archives
- ◉ Place name books

# LOCAL RECORDS

- ⦿ County level
- ⦿ Most information will be found here
- ⦿ Represents the day to day activities of people

# LOCAL RECORDS

## ○ County records

- Indexes for everything
- Located at courthouse at the county seat
- Marriage
- Divorce
- Voting
- Adoption (most records sealed)
- Wills
- Early naturalization (until 1906 or 1907)

# LOCAL RECORDS

## ⦿ Resources

- **Handybook for Genealogists**
- **Courthouse Research for Family Historians: Your Guide to Genealogical Treasures** by Christine Rose
- [www.usgenweb.com](http://www.usgenweb.com)

# LOCAL RECORDS

## ⦿ Public library

- Newspapers
  - Tulsa World from 1906 located at Central Library
- Vertical files
- Directories
- School records
- Church records
- Cemetery records
- Funeral home records
- County histories

# LOCAL RECORDS

## ◉ County Genealogy or Historical Society

- Vertical files
- Church records
- School records
- Cemetery records
- Funeral Home records
- County Histories

# FEDERAL RECORDS

- ⦿ Immigration records

- ⦿ Military records

- ⦿ Census records

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ⦿ Immigration records

- Passenger arrival lists
- Naturalizations

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ○ Immigration

### ■ Passenger Lists

- Created by captain of each ship
- Records kept at the port
- Records filed chronologically
- Most lists start about 1820
- Most pre-1820 records have been published
- Originals in National Archives
- Some are indexed on Ancestry

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ○ Immigration

### ■ Passenger Lists

#### ○ Information found on lists

- Name
- Arrival date
- Port of arrival
- Ship name
- Departure location

### ■ Later records contain more information

### ■ Records have been microfilmed

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ○ Naturalization

- Two parts to naturalization process
  - Declaration of Intent
  - Naturalization records - locate this first
- Early records at the county level
- Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization created in 1906
- No naturalization records for women before 1920s

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ◉ Immigration

- Clues to locating immigration records
  - 1900 census asks immigration and naturalization questions
  - Church records
  - Obituaries

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ◉ **Military Records** - first American documents

### ◉ **Military or service records**

- Enlistment, unit, rank, state
- Wounded, captured
- Battles

### ◉ **Pension records**

- After the war, paid for service
- Widows of veterans could apply

### ◉ **Bounty land records**

- Land pensions
- Only for **Revolutionary War** and **War of 1812**

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ○ Military Records

### ■ Revolutionary War

- All pre-1776 records are colonial (state) records
- Continental army vs. state militia
- Records available on Footnote
- DAR
  - [www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org)

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ⦿ Military Records

### ■ Civil War

#### ○ Union

- Footnote digitizing service and pension records
- Pension index in Ancestry
- Service records have been microfilmed
- Pension records only available at NARA

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ○ Military records

### ■ Civil War

#### ○ Confederate

- State level (Confederate States of America)
- Service records digitized on Footnote
- Some digitized pensions on state archives websites
  - Pensions were not paid until around 1900

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ◉ Military records

### ■ Civil War

#### ○ Resources

- Rosters
- State publications
- County histories
- State archives
- Lineage societies

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ⦿ Military Records

### ■ World War I

- Records burned on a federal level
  - Check at state level
  - 1930 census question 30 and 31
- Draft registrations in Ancestry (1917-1918)
  - Men born from 1875
  - Can use as birth record
  - Closest living relative listed

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ⦿ Military records

### ■ World War II

- 72 year privacy law restricts access
- Next of kin can order records
  - Information on [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)
  - Need to know unit number
  - Check for discharge papers at county courthouse

# FEDERAL RECORDS

- **U.S. Census (1790-1930)**
  - Taken by state and divided by county
  - Follows historical progression of states
  - Enumerators went door to door
    - Who answered the questions?
  - Each census had different questions
  - 72 year privacy law
    - 1940 Census will be released April 2, 2012
  - **Indexed and digitized on Ancestry**

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ◎ U.S. Census

- **1790-1840:** names of head of household only
- **1850:** every name in family listed with ages and birthplace
- **1850/1860:** added slave schedule
- **1880:** relationships and birthplace of parents
- **1890:** census burned
- **1900:** month/year of birth, number of years married, immigration/naturalization information

# FEDERAL RECORDS

## ◎ Search Tips

- Start with the 1930 and work backwards
- Be creative with name spellings
  - Use soundex in Ancestry when unsure of exact spelling
- Nicknames, initials
- Incorrect, but close information - who answered the questions??

# KEEP THIS IN MIND

- ◉ Genealogy is a **research** project.
- ◉ Start with **what you know** and work backwards.
- ◉ Not all the information you need will be online.
- ◉ Tracing your family tree does not happen overnight.
- ◉ Developing your family tree is a **progression**.