

York County History Center, York Pennsylvania

Genealogical Resources for York County, Pennsylvania

(updated 2 July 2024)

A summary of common resources for genealogical research
in York County, Pennsylvania

Genealogical Resources for York County, Pennsylvania

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Vital Records

Birth Records

Repository Legend: **FS** - FamilySearch; **PSA**- PA State Archives; **YCA** - York County Archives; **YCHC** - York County History Center

Dates	Title/Desc	Repository	Indexed	Format	More information/ URL
18-20th centuries	Vital Cards extracts for church baptisms	YCHC	Yes	Cards	Cards cite sources which can then be accessed
18-20 th centuries	Cemetery Cards extracts	YCHC	Yes	Cards	Cards cite sources which can then be accessed
18 th Century	York PA Church Records of the 18 th century	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Books	Authors: Marlene Bates & F. Edward Wright 3 volumes
1730-1800	York County Births	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Book	Author: John T Humphrey
1852-1853	York County Births	FS	No	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/243127
1852-1854	Pennsylvania Births	Ancestry	Online	Online images	https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2349/
1852-1855	Birth Register	YCA	Online	On-site only	https://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=8 Index online, records at YCA.
1852-1855	Birth Register abstracts	YCHC	Yes	Booklet	SCPGS special publication #22
1870s-1906	Index to Delayed Birth Record Dockets	YCA	Online	Database index	https://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=22
1870s-1906	Delayed Birth Record Dockets	FS	Online	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/58457 These are for births from 1870s to 1906, recorded 1941-1958.
1888-1905	Registration of Births, York City	FS	No	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/227965
1893-1906	Birth Records, 1893-1906	YCA	Online	On-site only	https://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=9 Index online, records at YCA.

Dates	Title/Desc	Repository	Indexed	Format	More information/ URL
1893-1907	Birth Registers	FS	No	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/241879
1906-1914	Pennsylvania Birth Certificates	Ancestry	Online	Online images	https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/60484/
1906-1917	Birth Indices	PSA	Online	Index only	https://www.phmc.pa.gov/Archives/Research-Online/Pages/Birth-Indices.aspx

Marriage Records

Repository Legend: FS - FamilySearch; PSA- PA State Archives; YCA - York County Archives; YCHC - York County History Center

Dates	Title/Desc	Repository	Indexed	Format	More information/ URL
1735-1800	Some marriages from various sources	YCHC	Yes	Booklet	SCPGS special publication #61
18 th Century	York PA Church Records of the 18 th century	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Books	Authors: Marlene Bates & F. Edward Wright 3 volumes
18-20th centuries	Vital Cards extracts For church marriages	YCHC	Yes	Cards	Cards cite sources which can then be accessed
1783-1909	Marriage Index to York County Newspapers	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Bound books	Index references newspaper marriage notices which can then be accessed on Newspapers.com or microfilm
1852-1853	County Marriages	FS	No	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/243127
1852-1854	Records & Indexes of Marriages	PSA	Yes	on-site only	https://gencat.eloquent-systems.com/pennsylvania-state-archives/permalink.html?key=674915
1852-1854	Pennsylvania Marriages	Ancestry	Online	Online images	https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2486/
1852-1855	Marriage registers abstracts	YCHC	Yes	Booklet	SCPGS special publication #28
1865-1931	York County Residents Married in Maryland	YCHC Where?	Yes	Booklet	Compiled by Samuel Saylor Four volumes

Dates	Title/Desc	Repository	Indexed	Format	More information/ URL
1885-1916	Marriage License Dockets	FS	Yes	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/90914
1885-1949	Marriage Records	YCA	Online	on-site only	https://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=29 Index online, records at YCA.
1924-1939	Marriage Index	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Book	Authors: Samuel Saylor and Michael Lau
1950-present	Marriage Applications (Orphans' Court)	Courthouse via Fusion	Online	Online images	https://countyfusion2.kofiletech.us/countyweb/loginDisplay.action?countyname=York

Death Records

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Dates	Title/Desc	Repository	Indexed	Format	More information/ URL
18 th Century	York PA Church Records of the 18 th century	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Books	Authors: Marlene Bates & F. Edward Wright 3 volumes
18-20th centuries	Vital Cards extracts for church burials	YCHC	Yes	cards	Cards cite sources which can then be accessed
18-20th centuries	Cemetery Cards extracts	YCHC	Yes	cards	Cards cite sources which can then be accessed
1749-1940	Index of wills & admin. bonds	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Bound books	Index references will and bond books which can then be accessed
1783-1909	Death Index to York County Newspapers	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Bound books	Index references newspaper death notices which can then be accessed on Newspapers.com or microfilm
1796-1958	Coroner's records (gap 1820-1857)	YCA	Online	paper	http://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=17 Index online, records at YCA.
1796-1958	Coroner's reports	PSA		Digital on-site only	Record group 47, LC103
1852-1853	York County Deaths	FS	No	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/243127
1852-1854	Pennsylvania Deaths	Ancestry	Online	Online images	http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=2487

Dates	Title/Desc	Repository	Indexed	Format	More information/ URL
1852-1854	Records & Indexes of Deaths	PSA	Yes	on-site only	https://gencat.eloquent-systems.com/pennsylvania-state-archives/permalink.html?key=674915
1852-1855	Death Register	YCA	Online		http://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=19 Index online, records at YCA.
1852-1855	Death register abstracts	YCHC	Yes	Booklet	SCPGS special publication #21
1877-1890	Affidavits of Death	YCHC	No	microfilm	574M, 575M, 576M
1877-1890	Affidavits of Death	PSA		Digital on-site only	Record group 47
1877-1916	Affidavits of Death	FS	Yes	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/91378
1877-1958	Affidavits of Death	YCA	Online		https://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=2 Index online, records at YCA.
1888-1905	Registration of deaths, York City	FS	No	Online images	https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/228246
1893-1906	Death Records, 1893-1906	YCA	Online		http://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=20 Index online, records at YCA.
1893-1907	Death Registers	FS	No	Online images	https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/91448
1906-1969	Pennsylvania, Death Certificates	Ancestry	Online	Online images	http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=5164
1906-1969	Pennsylvania, Death Certificates	PSA	Yes	On-site	Newly released years are available to the public here before they are on Ancestry.
1906-1972	Death Indices	PSA	Online	Index only	https://www.phmc.pa.gov/Archives/Research-Online/Pages/Death-Indices.aspx
1917-1929	Statement of Deaths	YCA	Online		http://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=48 Index online, records at YCA.
All years	Online newspaper obituaries	YCHC	Online	Online	https://www.newspapers.com/

Probate Records

Repository Legend: FS - FamilySearch; YCA - York County Archives; YCHC - York County History Center; YCJC – York County Judicial Center

Dates	Title/Desc	Repository	Index	Format	More information/ URL
Administration Bonds					
1749-1940	Index of the wills and admin. bonds	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Bound books	Index references will and bond books which can then be accessed
1794-1968	Administration Bond Books	YCA	Online	Bound	http://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=10
Estate Files					
1749-1850	Index to Inventories	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Book	Authors: David and Brenda Paup The original inventories are found in the estate files at the YCA.
1749-1899	Estate files	YCA	Yes	Paper or digital	http://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=24 Available at YCA
1900-1958	Estate files	YCA	Online	Paper	http://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=75
1959-1967	Estate files	YCA	Online	Paper	http://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=25
1959-1994	Estate file index	Register of Wills	Online	Digital	https://countyfusion2.kofiletech.us/countyweb/loginDisplay.action?countyname=York
1968-1985	Estate Files, 1968-1985	YCA	Yes	Paper	http://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=65 Available at YCA.
1985-present	Estate Records (1976-Present)	Register of Wills	Online	Digital	https://countyfusion2.kofiletech.us/countyweb/loginDisplay.action?countyname=York
1985-present	Estate Records (1976-Present)	YCJC	Yes	Paper	Register of Wills office
Wills					
1749-1798	Abstracts of unrecorded wills	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Booklet	SCPGS special publication #40
1749-1819	York County, PA Will Abstracts	Ancestry	Online	Online images	http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=4899 Every-name index & abstract
1749-1819	York County, PA Will Abstracts	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Book	Every-name index & abstract

Dates	Title/Desc	Repository	Index	Format	More information/ URL
1749-1820	York County, PA Will Abstracts	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Book	Every-name index & abstract
1749-1820	Abstracts of Wills, York Co. PA	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Book	Every-name index & abstract
1749-1850	Estate record cards	YCHC	Yes	Card abstracts	Includes Wills & Orphans' Court Dockets.
1749-1882	Will books	FS	Yes	Online images	https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/91108
1749-1940	General index to wills, 1749-1940	FS	Yes	Online images	https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/91108
1749-1940	Index of the wills and admin. bonds	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Bound books	Index references will and bond books which can then be accessed.
1749-1973	Will books	YCA	Yes (to 1958)	MF?	https://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=51
1782-1839	Will issues, caveats, citations	YCHC	Yes	Booklet	SCPGS special publication #67
Orphans' Court Dockets					
1749-1850	Estate record cards	YCHC	Yes	Card abstracts	
1749-1881	Orphans' Court dockets	FS	Yes (to 1887)	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/91545
1749-1973	Orphans' Court dockets	YCA	Yes	Bound	https://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=34
1749-1976	Orphans' Court papers	YCA	Yes	Papers	https://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=35 (interspersed with estate files)
1804-1826	Orphans' Court Docket Index	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Book	Author: Patricia Laird Howard

Land Records

Repository Legend: **FS** - FamilySearch; **PSA**- PA State Archives; **YCA** - York County Archives; **YCRC** - York Co Recorder of Deeds; **YCHC** - York Co. History Center

Dates	Title/Desc	Repository	Index	Format	More information/ URL
Deeds					
All	Deed books	YCRC	Yes	Books & digital	
1749-1768	Deed abstracts (3 Vols)	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Book	Contains an every-name index to the deeds.
1749-1859	Deed books	FS	Online	Digital	https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/240217
1749-1912	Deed books	YCA	Online	Digital	http://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=21 Index online, records at YCA.
1749-1980	Deed books	IQS	Online	Digital	https://www.searchiqs.com/PAYOR/Login.aspx
1764-1793	Land Records of York Abstracts	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Book	Contains an every-name index to the deeds.
1913-1943	Deed books	YCA	Online	Digital	http://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=70 Index online, records at YCA.
1963-Present	Deeds	Landex	Online	Digital	https://www.landex.com/webstore/
Misc.	Original deeds	YCHC	Catalog	Original	Original deeds in manuscript files, indexed in Past Perfect catalog
Early Land Records - General					
All	Pennsylvania Land Records Overview	PSA	Online	Guide & indexes	https://www.phmc.pa.gov/Archives/Research-Online/Pages/Land-Records-Overview.aspx
	Original Pennsylvania Land Records Series by Neal Otto Hively	YCHC	Yes	Books & maps	Use this resource as an index to early (pre-deed) York County land records.
Early Land Records - Warrants					
1733-1957	York Warrant Registers (index)	PSA	Online	Online images	http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/Bah/DAM/rg/di/r17-88WarrantRegisters/YorkPages/r17-88YorkPageInterface.htm
1733-1952	Pennsylvania, Land Warrants & Applications	Ancestry	Online	Online images	http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=2350

Dates	Title/Desc	Repository	Index	Format	More information/ URL
1733-1987	Pennsylvania, Land Warrants	Ancestry	Online	Online images	https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2409/
1755-1866; 1734-1865	Pennsylvania, Application for warrants	FS	No	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/9666 ; https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/99197 Use Hively or warrant register as an index.
All extant	Pennsylvania, Original warrants	FS	No	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/26098 Use Hively or warrant register as an index.
Early Land Records - Surveys					
All extant	Copies of original land surveys	YCHC	Yes	Binders	Deputy surveyors' papers. Use Hively or YCHC database as an index.
All extant	Original land surveys	FS	No	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/43569 Use Hively or warrant register as an index.
1681-1912	Pennsylvania recopied land surveys	PSA	No	Online images	http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/rg/di/r17-114CopiedSurveyBooks/r17-114MainInterfacePage.htm Use Hively or warrant register as an index.
Early Land Records - Patents					
1676-1960	Pennsylvania, Patent books	FS	No	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/44185 Use Hively or warrant register as an index.

Tax Records

Repository Legend: **FS** - FamilySearch; **PSA**- PA State Archives; **YCA** - York County Archives; **YCHC** - York County History Center

Dates	Title/Desc	Repository	Indexed	Format	More information/ URL
1758-1988	Tax records, 1758 (very few) to 1988.	YCA	No	Books & Digital images	http://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=49
1762	Assessed Inhabitants of York County	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Booklet	SCPGS special publications # 5 & 6
1762-1849	Township assessment lists	FS	No	Online images	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/242093
1768-1801	Pennsylvania, Tax and Exoneration	Ancestry	Online	Online images	http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=2497
1779	Tax list of York Co	YCHC Gen ref	Yes	Book	
1786-1807	Pennsylvania, Septennial Census	Ancestry	Online	Online images	http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=2702
1798	Pennsylvania, U.S. Direct Tax Lists, 1798	Ancestry	Online	Online images	http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=2060
Pre-1800	Pre-1800 Tax Abstractions	YCHC	Yes	Cards	

Military Records

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Dates	Title/Desc	Repository	Indexed	Format	More information/ URL
Revolutionary War					
	Pennsylvania Revolutionary War research guide	PSA		Online	https://www.phmc.pa.gov/Archives/Research-Online/Pages/Civil-War.aspx Online guide with context, resources, links, and more.
	York County in the American Revolution, H.J. Young	YCHC Gen Ref	Yes	Bound books	
	Rev War pension petitions & obits; SCPGS Pub 65	YCHC	Yes	Booklet	
1775 - 1783	American Revolution Era Documents – Finding Aid	YCHC		Online guide	https://www.yorkhistorycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/RevolutionaryDocumentsFindingGuide1.pdf
1775-1783	Revolutionary War Rolls	Ancestry	Online	Online images	https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/4282/
Civil War					
	South Central Pennsylvania Civil War Soldiers Database	YCHC	Online	Online database	https://www.yorkhistorycenter.org/library/south-central-pennsylvania-civil-war-soldiers-database
	"History of the Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1861-1865" by Samuel J. Bates	YCHC	Yes	Books	Also available online here: http://www.pacivilwar.com/bates.html
	York County Pennsylvania Volunteers of the Civil War	Online		Online	http://www.pacivilwar.com/county/york/
	Pennsylvania Civil War research guide	PSA		Online	https://www.phmc.pa.gov/Archives/Research-Online/Pages/Civil-War.aspx
	Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Database	Online	Yes	Online	https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm
1862	York Co. Draft Enrollment Lists	YCHC	Yes	Booklet	SCPGS special publications # 85-92
1864-1888	Civil War Pension Affidavits of Dr. B.F. Porter	YCHC	Yes	Booklet	SCPGS special publication #71

Dates	Title/Desc	Repository	Indexed	Format	More information/ URL
1865	York Co. Assessors Military Roll	YCHC	Yes	Booklet	SCPGS special publication #33
1865-1936	Grand Army of the Republic Membership Records	Ancestry	Online	Online images	https://www.ancestrylibrary.com/search/collections/61877/
1890	1890 veterans & widows census schedules	Ancestry	Online	Online images	https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/8667/
	GAR: Men of York Post #37	YCHC	Yes	Booklet	SCPGS special publication #39
All conflicts					
1775-1916	Pennsylvania, U.S., Veterans Card Files	Ancestry	Online	Online images	https://www.ancestrylibrary.com/search/collections/62200/
1777-2012	Veterans Burial Cards	Ancestry	Online	Online images	https://www.ancestrylibrary.com/search/collections/1967/
	Miscellaneous military pension files	YCHC	Catalog	Paper	
	Various military records	Fold3	Yes	Online images	https://www.fold3.com/
	National Archives	NARA & online	Yes	Paper & online	https://www.archives.gov/research/military