

The "Old Northwest": Researching the Great Lakes States

Brigham Young University Library
17 August 2023
Presented by Maureen Brady

I. Brief Historical Background

- A. Colonial Period**
- B. Territorial Period**
- C. Statehood**

II. General Websites

- A. FamilySearch (familysearch.org)**
 - 1. FamilySearch Research Wiki**
 - 2. Digital Library**
- B. Ancestry (ancestry.com)**
- C. Newspapers**
 - 1. Chronicling America (chroniclingamerica.loc.gov, free)**
 - 2. Newspaper Archive (newspaperarchive.com, subscription; available at all FamilySearch Centers)**
 - 3. Newspapers (newspapers.com, subscription)**

III. Some State Specific Resources

- A. All States**
 - 1. Periodical Source Index (PERSI)**
(<https://www.genealogycenter.info/persi/>)
 - 2. Maps of US (<https://www.mapofus.org/state-maps/>)**
- B. Ohio**
 - 1. Ohio Genealogical Society (ogs.org)**
 - 2. Ohio Obituary Index (Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library)**
(<https://www.rbhayes.org/main/ohio-obituary-index/>)
- C. Indiana**
 - 1. Genealogy Center, Allen County Public Library**
(<https://acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy>)
 - 2. Indiana Genealogy Trails (<http://genealogytrails.com/ind/>)**

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D. Illinois

- 1. Illinois State Archives Databases
(cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/databases)**
- 2. Illinois Digital Newspaper Collection (idnc.library.illinois.edu/)**

E. Michigan

- 1. Michiganology (death records, 1897-1952) (michiganology.org)**
- 2. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Death Index
(<https://vitalstats.michigan.gov/osr/gendisx/index.asp>)**

F. Wisconsin

- 1. Wisconsin Historical Society Library (wisconsinhistory.org)**
- 2. Pioneering the Upper Midwest Digital Book Collection
(<https://www.loc.gov/collections/pioneering-the-upper-midwest/>)**

IV. Religious Resources

A. Ancestry.com (search CATALOG for the title of the database)

- 1. U.S., Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Swedish American Church Records, 1800-1947**
- 2. U.S., Evangelical Free Church of America, Swedish American Church Records, 1842-1947**
- 3. U.S., Evangelical Covenant Church, Swedish American Church Records, 1868-1970**
- 4. U.S., Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Church Records, 1781-1969**
- 5. U.S., Presbyterian Church Records, 1701-1970**
- 6. U. S., Dutch Christian Reformed Church Vital Records, 1856-1970**
- 7. U.S., Selected States Dutch Reformed Church Membership Records, 1701-1995**
- 8. U.S., Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy, Vol. I-VI, 1607-1943**
- 9. Illinois, Select United Methodist Church Records, 1824-2009**
- 10. History of the Presbyterian and Congregational churches and ministers in Wisconsin**

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- B. FamilySearch (search CATALOG for the location of the parish or cemetery (PLACE))**
 - 1. Archdioceses/Dioceses of Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Louis and Vincennes parish registers and cemetery interment records.**
 - 2. Other denominations may have been filmed or digitized, always check.**

- C. Find My Past (findmypast.com, subscription, available at FamilySearch Centers and many libraries)**

- V. Some Ethnic Resourcesf**
 - A. Norwegian American Genealogical Center & Naeseth Library, Madison, Wisconsin (nagcnl.org)**

 - B. The Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Rock Island, Illinois (augustana.edu/swenson)**

 - C. Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies, Madison, Wisconsin (mki.wisc.edu)**

 - D. Dooley-Wagner Research Center, Luxembourg American Cultural Society & Center, Berlin, Wisconsin (lacs.lu/research-center/)**

 - E. Irish American Heritage Center, Chicago, Illinois (irish-american.org)**

 - F. The Scottish Genealogical Society – Chicago Scots, North Riverside, Illinois (<https://chicagoscots.org/get-involved/genealogy/>)**

 - G. Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, Chicago, Illinois (<https://balzekasmuseum.org/genealogy/>)**

 - H. Polish Genealogical Society of America, Chicago, Illinois (pgsa.org)**

 - I. Mennonite Historical Library, Goshen College, Goshen, Indiana (<https://www.goshen.edu/mhl/>)**

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The image shows the FamilySearch Digital Library search interface. It features a blue background with a blurred image of people looking at a document. The main heading is "FamilySearch Digital Library" in white, with the subtitle "Over 500,000 genealogy books, family histories, maps, yearbooks, and more." Below this is a search bar labeled "Keyword" with a placeholder "Search Digital Library...". To the right of the search bar is a toggle for "Advanced Search". Below the search bar is a dropdown menu labeled "AND" with a downward arrow. Below that is a search bar labeled "Title" with a placeholder "Search for a word or phrase that could appear in the title of a book or other work." Below the title search bar is another dropdown menu labeled "AND" with a downward arrow. Below that is a search bar labeled "Subject" with a placeholder "Search for content that would fall under a specific category, such as a surname or location." Below the subject search bar is a third dropdown menu labeled "AND" with a downward arrow. Below that is a search bar labeled "Author" with a placeholder "Search for the name of the person who authored or created the work." The interface is clean and modern, with a focus on search functionality.

Illinois, United States Genealogy

(Redirected from [Illinois, United States Genealogy](#))

[United States](#) → [Illinois](#)

Guide to **Illinois ancestry, family history, and genealogy** birth records, marriage records, death records, census records, family history, and military records. This article is about the U.S. state of Illinois. For other uses, see [Illinois \(disambiguation\)](#).

Illinois Information [\[edit \]](#) [\[edit source \]](#)

Illinois became the twenty-first state admitted to the United States on December 3, 1818. Illinois was created form Illinois Territory and is located in the Midwestern region of the United States.^[1] The capital is Springfield and there are 102 counties in Illinois.^[2]

Getting Started [\[edit \]](#) [\[edit source \]](#)

Getting Started with Illinois Research

Links to articles on getting started with Illinois research.

- [Guided Research](#)
- [Step-by-Step Illinois Research, 1880-Present](#)
- [How to Find Birth Records](#)
- [How to Find Marriage Records](#)
- [How to Find Death Records](#)
- [Research Strategies](#)

[Illinois Online Genealogy Records](#)

[Ask the FamilySearch Community](#)

Illinois Research Tools

Links to articles and websites that assist in Illinois research.

- [Illinois Record Finder](#)
- [Boundary Changes for Illinois Counties](#)
- [Illinois Archives and Libraries](#)
- [ILGenWeb](#)
- [Geographical Names Information System](#) - U.S. gazetteer of places, cemeteries and post offices in Illinois .