

Past Pursuits

A Newsletter of the Special Collections Division of the Akron-Summit County Public Library

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Do You Have a Revolutionary War Ancestor?

by Judy James, Division Manager

When Barb Griffith joined the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) nearly 20 years ago, she didn't dream that one day she would shepherd nearly 130 new members into the esteemed genealogical society, the first in the United States to achieve this. What started as a quest to learn more about her own family history led to her deep involvement in the DAR, along with several other lineage societies.

Currently the Registrar for the Cuyahoga Portage Chapter and a Volunteer Field Genealogist, Barb also served as Ohio Society State Organizing Secretary, as well as holding positions with numerous lineage and genealogical organizations. As a field genealogist, Barb works with prospective members as they research their patriot ancestors and families in order to join the DAR. Barb works tirelessly for her clients, even seeking out information at the DAR National Library in Washington, D.C. during her frequent research trips. One of her recent clients is Karen Pidcock Price whose application for membership is awaiting approval. A former teacher, Karen describes Barb as "one of the best teachers I've known. Barb leaves no stone (continued on page 2)



Barb Griffith presents *Doing Your Genealogy the Correct Way – Without a Migraine* on Saturday, March 12, 2011, 10 am in Meeting Room 2AB at the Main Library.

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Revolutionary War (cont.)

untuned and teaches you where to look, how to look, why certain records are important, the importance of staying on task, and doing it right. She is phenomenal.”

On Saturday, March 12 at 10 am, Barb will share her knowledge and enthusiasm as she presents *Doing Your Genealogy the Correct Way – Without a Migraine*. She will discuss requirements for joining lineage societies, explain the process, and provide instruction and tips for conducting your research. Detailed handouts will be provided. Join us March 12, 2011, 10 am in meeting room 2AB at the Main Library. To sign up, please contact Special Collections at 330.643.9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

Millions of Records for 150 Countries: Available at Your Library

Looking for a marriage record for your great-grandparents who were married in Palermo, Sicily in 1885? Those records are available! Special Collections is pleased to be among a growing number of libraries around the world that have been named affiliate libraries with the Church of Latter-Day Saints Family History Center Library in Salt Lake City. This status allows us to offer our researchers access to millions of microfilmed records for a modest fee of \$5.50 per roll.

The holdings of the Family History Center Library may be searched through their online catalog: http://www.familysearch.org/eng/Library/FHLC/frameset_fhlc.asp. Search options include surname, place, keyword, author, subject, and title. Resources include family histories, military, church, immigration, vital records, and more for over 150 countries. Any record that includes the notation “film notes” is available for loan. For more information about this service, contact Special Collections at 330.643.9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

The Akron-Cleveland Speedway

by Michael Elliott

“Gentlemen start your engines.” That familiar refrain has been the starting signal for automobile races for decades. It’s been heard at Daytona, Indianapolis, Pocono and - Akron?? Before there even was a NASCAR, automobile racing has been popular. For a short time, Akron ranked right up there with other cities on the most popular racing circuit.

Automobile racing wasn’t new to Akron in the mid 1920s. Races had formerly been run on dirt tracks doubling as horse racing tracks at both Fountain Park in Akron and at the recently opened horse track in Northampton Township north of Akron. This arrangement proved unsatisfactory due to the enormous clouds of dust the cars raised and other shortcomings. If automobile racing was to continue in the area, clearly a specialized track was needed. Enter Akron sports promoter Frank Nied and a consortium of area investors. Proposed in early June of 1926, a building site was quickly selected and fortuitously located just to the north of the Northampton (later Ascot) horse racing track. The location could hardly have been better chosen. Located on the old State Road in Northampton Township, it was on the main thoroughfare between Cleveland and Akron and was considered ideal as it would draw spectators from both cities. It was also roughly halfway between Altoona and Indianapolis, two of the more significant raceways of the time. Although considerably smaller in circumference than other board tracks around the country, the Akron track was to be built along similar plans. The most attractive benefit of a board track was that it could be constructed quickly.

The early summer of 1926 saw the building of the track begin in earnest. The *Akron Beacon Journal* of June 12, 1926 reported the track would be one and a half miles in length with seating for 30,000. One grandstand was to be constructed to seat 12,000, plus there would be room for another 10,000 spectators in the infield. Twenty acres were set aside for parking and a second 10,000 seat grandstand was planned. It

was projected to cost \$750,000 although this estimate proved to be much higher than the eventual total cost of just under one half-million dollars.

The *Akron Times-Press* of August 19, 1926 reported the track would contain 1,200,000 board feet of Louisiana yellow pine lumber. Then plentiful and inexpensive, the timber was cut into 16 foot lengths with the amount to be used equivalent to 47 fully loaded railroad flatcars. In addition, a total of 115 tons of nails were to be used. A total parcel of 50 acres was used, with access to the infield provided for parked cars. The spectators electing to park in the infield had the option of viewing the race from along the lower rail. On August 30, 1926, the *Akron Times-Press* reported that it was hoped that the infield might also be used for football games and that “hundreds of persons have visited the bowl during the (ongoing) construction period.” If the promoters had hoped to generate interest in the track, they were rewarded. The ongoing construction proved to be an irresistible curiosity for area residents with the newspaper reporting “the track is a mecca for hundreds of persons daily. There is a constant stream of visitors to the speedway.”

One major adjustment to this plan, likely due to the dimensions of the property, was that the eventual length of the track was reduced to a ½ mile “oval” or “bowl.” This was a full mile shorter than was originally planned, and for a short time, the Akron-Cleveland Speedway was the only track in the country of this length. The short length of the track caused an extreme slope of 45 degrees on the turns and 23 ½ degrees on the straight-aways. (For reference, the highest banks on the current Daytona Speedway are but 31 degrees.)

The high angle was necessary due to the comparative smallness of the track. The extreme slope however enabled the racers to achieve higher speeds.

Initially projected to be ready for racing the following spring, Nied was able to schedule a race for Labor Day in 1926. On the day of the inaugural race, a corps of motorcycle policemen were stationed at differing intersections within a radius of 20 miles of the track to provide directions. Anticipating parking difficulties, fans from the Akron area were directed to park their vehicles on the horse race track or to utilize the specially scheduled buses for the occasion. Although more than 20,000 fans were forecast, a total of probably 15,000 viewed the race. Attendance was off that day due to passing rain showers both the previous weekend and earlier that morning. The first five finishers split a purse of \$5,000 with Akron’s own Ralph “Whiz” Sloan taking first place and \$2,000. The remainder of the field that day wasn’t so fortunate with the racers finishing sixth through fifteenth receiving a \$50 “also ran” stipend.

The hazards for race car drivers in that era were many. They had no seat belts as many actually believed that they were safer if they were thrown clear of the car in an accident. Although goggles were always worn, no helmets were used. The suspension was a back bruising leaf-spring all around. Even on the newer tracks, traction was not good as the wood very quickly became extremely slick with oil leaking from the cars. To top things off, drivers frequently had the extra responsibility of being their own mechanics. This all added up to a dangerous situation with far too often fatal results. At least three drivers were killed on the Akron speedway during races, and numerous others



The Akron-Cleveland Speedway from Greater Akron which was published in 1927 by the Akron Engraving Company.

were badly injured. It's little wonder that Akron sports writing legend Jim Schlemmer referred to the racecars in his reporting as "angel-makers" and derided the public for their desire to see wrecks.

human head in the track. He swerved quickly to avoid the obstruction. As he zoomed past he could see that it was just a fan poking his head through a hole in the poorly conditioned track, apparently wanting a worm's eye view of the race.

But perhaps the biggest danger to drivers was the unending shards of wood thrown up from the deteriorating track surfaces. Snowberger's rival William "Shorty" Cantlon – another frequent visitor to the Akron track – once finished a race despite being pinned to his seat by a large splinter thrown up from the track by a car in front of him and penetrating his upper arm.

Despite all of the hardships they endured, drivers were able to make a respectable living. Russ Snowberger made \$10,000 in 1930 (including \$800 in the race here on June 22, 1930) – a substantial amount and considerable more than the average yearly salary at the time. "Shorty" Cantlon won the race that same day having gained a tremendous advantage by taking an early lead. His car kicked up splinters which flattened the tires of those following too closely behind him.

The high cost of maintenance contributed heavily to the demise of board tracks. The upkeep of the track was difficult due to the ongoing battle with the elements and the wear on the wood from the hard rubber tires of the period. Just prior to the initial race in Akron, Labor Day 1926, the builder declared that the track would survive for five years. The promoters figured on a "normal" track life of three seasons before the weather took its toll. After only two short years of operations, the *Akron Beacon Journal* of May 6, 1929 referred to the track as the "ancient, timbered platter that marks the Akron-Cleveland speedway." The race that had been run the previous day was won by Charles "Dutch" Bauman. He was the winner mainly by default as he was the only one of the 15 entries to complete the race. All of the other racers were knocked out of the race by wrecks. A major contributor to the smash-ups was the poor condition of the track. The paper noted it was "showing signs of wear and the beating it has taken from the weather has made indents in the boards that often makes the cars swerve dangerously

They Laugh At Life



THRILLS--CHILLS--SPILLS

100 MILE

Auto Race Classic

Akron-Cleveland Board Speedway
NORTHAMPTON RD.

Sunday, June 19

START 3:00 P. M.

General Admission	- - -	\$1.10
Grandstand Seats	- - - -	\$2.20
Seats in Boxes	- - - - -	\$3.30

Grandstand and Box Seat prices include
general admission.

Parking space for 3500 cars.

Tickets on Sale at Hamilton Cigar Store

This advertisement appeared in the Akron Times-Press on Friday, June 17, 1927.

John Snowberger, whose father Russell raced on the Akron track, recalled his father telling him stories of his time as a racer. On one board raceway – probably not Akron – Russ came around the near turn and was met with the heart-stopping sight of a

at the turns.” After another long winter, things had only worsened. Following the race of June 22, 1930 the *Akron Beacon Journal* announced that “the four year old speedway is on its last pins. The saucer will soon be at a place where it will be cheaper to tear it down and rebuild than to repair.”

A final, anticlimactic race was held on September 28, 1930. Track conditions proved so bad that the race was halted after 162 of the scheduled 200 laps had been completed. Several holes had opened in the track during the race forcing the cancellation. Immediately afterwards, race officials inspected the track and promptly condemned it stating no more races would be sanctioned in Akron unless a replacement track was built. Given the economics of the time, it was decided constructing a replacement would be inadvisable and unprofitable.

And so board racing in Akron came to an abrupt end. No demolition was necessary. The track itself rapidly disappeared piece by piece during the deepening depression as local residents salvaged what they could carry for firewood and building material.

Winter at Lock 3

by Cheri Goldner, Librarian

Downtown Akron’s seventh consecutive holiday celebration at Lock 3 got underway on Friday, November 26. The fun continues through January 30, featuring: Ohio’s largest seasonal ice rink; a Holiday Market with local artisans as well as craftsmen from Akron’s sister city of Chemnitz, Germany; the largest display of gingerbread-related items in the United States, courtesy of Jill Sell and Fred Dolan of Sagamore Hills; crafts and activities for kids at the *Kinderzone*, located in the O’Neil’s basement this year; rides along the Ohio & Erie Canal towpath on the Magical Train (fee charged); dog sledding demonstrations; the Countdown to First Night, with the unveiling of a new hand-painted banner every night from November 26 to First Night; and the Akron History Exhibit and American Toy Marble Museum.

The museum features several new displays for the winter season.

- Celebrating the 140th anniversary of the University of Akron in 2010, Archival Services has added an exhibit on the founding of Buchtel College in 1870.
- MetroParks Serving Summit County is celebrating its 90th anniversary in 2011 and has contributed a taxidermy display and more.
- Stan Hywet has a new display on the rubber industry, including items formerly housed at the Goodyear World of Rubber.
- Hower House has added a small display with information about the historic home as well as images and items that evoke a fairy tale landscape, a theme which can be further explored with a holiday tour of Hower House itself.
- The Summit County Historical Society is showcasing many of its wonderful artifacts throughout the museum, the latest additions including sleds, toys, and winter coats from O’Neil’s and Polsky’s.

Food has always been a big part of the Lock 3 winter festivities, and that’s no different this year. The Chowder House Café and Chef Louis Prpich are back for a second year with their delicious chowder, soups, chilis and specialty items. Other refreshments are provided by Ice Rink Grille and Food Court on the north terrace of Garden Alley and by the Thirsty Dog Brewing Co., including their brand-new Lock 3 Lager. The traditional Glühwein (German mulled wine) is also back.

So be sure to plan a visit to Lock 3 before the winter fun ends on January 30. For more details, visit www.lock3live.com.

Subscribing to *Past Pursuits*

Past Pursuits is an electronic newsletter e-mailed to more than 800 subscribers four times each year. To subscribe, e-mail us at speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

Making Her Whole: Researching the Hidden Woman

by Jane Gramlich, Librarian

At some point, every genealogist will encounter women of mystery – the elusive mothers, sisters, wives and daughters of our more extensively recorded male ancestors. The further back you go in time, the harder it can be to learn about them. Whether they show up only as a hash mark on the 1840 U.S. Census, or as a vague “Mrs. Smith” on a ship’s passenger list, these shadowy women often become frustrating brick walls. Finding their first and maiden names and their families of origin can be very difficult. They managed households and farms and helped run businesses; they were usually the ones recording vital statistics in family Bibles; most importantly, they were the ones giving birth to descendants. Yet the legal, societal, and cultural restraints put upon them meant that they left considerably fewer documents to demonstrate their existence and contributions.

Researching women involves many of the same sources you would likely be searching for anyway. Remember that women often show up in genealogical and historical records because they are connected to the men whose activities generated the records. Look in these documents for any evidence of your ancestor, even if it’s just a clue. You may need to gain a basic understanding of the legal status of women in the time and place you’re researching to get the most out of the sources. Read documents thoroughly, and read between the lines. Original records can be hard to come by, but if you’re able, look at those rather than published abstracts or online submissions. They are likely to contain more information.

Property and legal records such as wills and deeds are good ways to uncover first names, maiden names, and parents’ names. Wives and daughters are often listed in men’s wills. Deeds can also cite names and demonstrate relationships. In some cases, deeds can name whole families of siblings if the land transaction stems from an estate. Cemetery headstones and burial records may provide

information that a death record does not, including more exact birth dates and birthplaces. Similarly, church records may also have details that civil vital records do not.

While military records are primarily about men, they will often contain information on the women in their lives. Pension files can give you wonderful details about the lives and conditions of veterans’ families and survivors. Sometimes, vital information is provided. For example, the War of 1812 Pension Application Files often list the full maiden names of veterans’ wives and the time and place of their marriage, information that can be otherwise very difficult to find for this time period.

WAR OF 1812.		
Number	Soldier	Bounty Land
V. O. 38862	Soldier Anderson, Barney	92828 - 40 - 50
V. O. 29778	Widow Anderson, Elizabeth	34187 - 120 - 55
	Service Pvt., Capt. Patton's Co., Tenn. Mil.	
	Enlisted Oct. 4, 1813	Discharged Jan. 4, 1814
Residence of Soldier 1865, 1866, Euclid, Cuyahoga Co., Ohio		Remarks
Residence of Widow 1860, Euclid, Ohio		
Maiden name of Widow Elizabeth Heston		
Marriage of Soldier and Widow 1816, Jefferson, Green Co., Pa.		
Death of Soldier Feb. 25, 1875, Euclid, Ohio		
Death of Widow About 1892		

This pension record lists Elizabeth Heston as the widow of Barney Anderson. It also gives the location of their marriage as Green County Pennsylvania.

“Cluster” genealogy is also an important approach. This method studies the family group as a whole, and even the records of neighbors and family friends, to help fill in the blanks where records on an individual are lacking. Look not only for the records of your ancestor, but also those of the people surrounding her, even if they’re not related to you. It takes time, but it’s worth it. For example, if you’re descended from her first husband and you know she married again, look for the obituary of her second husband. It might tell you more about her than the obituary of the husband you’re related to. Look for the birth and death records of all her children, not just the one in your line. Find as much information on her siblings as you can. Despite their limited legal rights, in some cases women could serve as

witnesses for others' undertakings. Could she have witnessed her brother's marriage or her neighbor's land purchase? When information is hard to find, even the smallest tidbits can be major discoveries.

If all else fails in your record search, or if time or budgetary constraints hamper your efforts, it's usually much easier to find more general resources dealing with the place and time period you're researching. Studying social, economic and political conditions, and even artifacts, can help you understand the lives of your female forebears. This is a worthwhile approach even when we know our ancestors' basic information, but it can be especially valuable when we don't.



This image shows Jane's 2nd Great-Grandmother, Ellen Campbell Muir, and an unidentified child. Sometimes the only information we can find on our female ancestors is as murky as this photograph.

When it comes to family history, anything is better than nothing. A little imagination backed up by historical knowledge can bring our ancestors to life. Whether your mystery lady was a farmer's wife, a small-town girl or an immigrant laborer, read about the lives of women in similar situations and time

periods. She likely experienced the very same things. Reconstruct her surroundings by studying her community; she was part of it. Even if you never find out her name or who her parents were, you'll gain insight into her life that can't be provided by a record you can't find and aren't even sure exists.

There are at least two worthwhile books dealing with the challenges of researching women. A *Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Female Ancestors* by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack gives detailed information about the types of records and information that may be found about women, as well as case studies, source checklists and bibliographies for further study. *The Hidden Half of the Family: A Sourcebook for Women's Genealogy* by Christina Kassabian Schaefer is organized by state and gives basic outlines on legal milestones, information to help you analyze records, and lists of resources.

Pay close attention to your unknown female ancestor. Her story is waiting to be told.

Summit Memory Update

The [Summit Memory Project](#) welcomes the Lighter-than-Air Society (LTAS) as our newest partner. The LTAS is an international historical organization headquartered here in Akron which preserves the history of buoyant flight. The [Lighter-than-Air Flight in Summit County Collection](#) contributed by the LTAS contains the first twenty of many images documenting the growth of buoyant flight in Summit County, Ohio. Additional images will be added in 2011.

The [Ruth Wright Clinefelter Postcards Collection](#) is now complete. It contains 2,657 images of postcards. The cards provide snapshots of our history through the lens of the everyday people who lived it. They capture disasters like the 1913 flood and vacation spots like Summit Beach or Silver Lake. Notes about a family member's illness or the search for work are also preserved. Now that the collection is complete, we are even more grateful to Ruth for creating the collection and sharing it with her community.

Workshops by Special Collections

Getting Started in Family History

Saturday, January, 15, 10 – 11:30 am OR

Saturday, February 12, 10 – 11:30 am

Join the Special Collections Division for an introduction to genealogy for new family historians. Each session will include an overview of genealogical sources available at the Library, suggestions for getting started, and tips for organizing your research. This workshop meets in the Special Collections Division - Third Floor, Main Library. For more information and to sign up, contact the Special Collections Division, 330.643.9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

Getting Started in African American Genealogy

Saturday, February 26, 10 am – noon

Do you want to trace your African American family tree? Not sure how or where to begin? The Special Collections Division presents a class for genealogy beginners who have a specific interest in African American ancestral research. This workshop meets in Meeting Room 1 – Main Library. For more information and to sign up, contact the Special Collections Division, 330.643.9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

Another Late Night at the Library Success

Late Night at the Library 2010 was another resounding success! More than 80 guests enjoyed an evening of genealogical research, camaraderie, and fun Friday, October 22. Many thanks go to the Summit County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society for co-sponsoring this event.

Plan to join us for the 7th Annual Late Night at the Library in the autumn of 2011!

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Akron, Ohio*

On Exhibit

December 2010

Akron: Home of Lighter-Than-Air Technology, Past and Present

Special Collections is hosting an exhibit from the Lighter-Than-Air Society in the third floor exhibit case. On display are historic images of lighter-than-air flight. From the World War I kite balloons used for observation and the B-Ships used for coastal patrols to the U.S.S. Akron and Macon, the images tell Akron's lighter-than-air story. Also included are images from the construction of the Goodyear Airdock, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade Balloons created by Goodyear, and images of the next generation of lighter-than-air flight from Lockheed Martin.

You can also visit the beginnings of the Lighter-Than-Air Society's online collection at www.SummitMemory.org.

January – March 2011

Late 19th Century Wood Type and Other Printing Oddities

The introduction of wood type in 1828 by Darius Wells, a New York newspaperman, made large size moveable type easily accessible to all printers. As the American printing industry expanded in the 19th century, large letters were required to produce posters and broadsides. Wood was the logical material choice because of its lightness and known printing qualities.

The practicality of wood type, combined with the impetus given broadside advertising by notables such as P.T. Barnum, led to wide usage of plain and then fancy wood typefaces. Type made from cherry, pine, maple and other materials are on display.

Other letterpress printing items including wood and metal engravings as well as examples of book binding and antique and modern letterpress posters are also included. The display has been assembled by Akronite Michael Lapidés and graphic designer and letterpress printing aficionado Bobby Rosenstock of Marietta.

We would like to thank the following for their generous donations:

Jennifer Cauffield for photographs of the Cauffield, Wetmore, and Van Buskirk families

The Cuyahoga Portage Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution for *My Father Was a Soldier: the Real Daughters of the American Revolution*

Mindy Fortune for *Akron Kiwanis Directory; South High School yearbook, 1929; Trinity Memorial Anniversary: The Place Where 300,000 People Live*

Barbara Griffith for *The Indian Wars* by Carol Behrman

Patricia Kennard for research and oral history interviews pertaining to Akron Summit Community Action Agency

Jim McGarrity for *Checkpoint One-Four: a Vietnam Veteran's Chronicle of Survivor Guilt, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Mending the Invisible Wound*

Delores J. Mooney-Bartlett for *Judy Cody: Because He Lives*

Harry E. Pontius III for *The Nicholas Pontius Line: 1540-2010* by Harry Edgar Pontius III

Richard Thome for *In Remembrance of Me: a Collection of Memorabilia from the Grace United Church of Christ, Loyal Oak, Ohio*

Georgia Young for *Laws of Ohio, 1917; Rockel's Complete Guide; Nine Summit County postal covers*

The Summit County Chapter Ohio Genealogical Society for chapter publications: *Glendale Cemetery Burial Records Vol. II [1870-1891], Mt. Hope Cemetery, Bath Township Cemeteries, Highpoint Articles on Summit County, Ohio Townships*

New to the Collection

Alabama

Marriage records of Shelby County, 1896-1899

Georgia

The early history of Jackson County

Official history of Fulton County

Kentucky

Adair history & biographies

Barren County cemetery records

Green County marriages, 1901-1930

Green County obituaries, 1899-1912

History of Franklin County

History of Lexington: its early annals and recent progress

Kentucky vital statistics: record of marriages in Shelby County, 1792-1851

The history of Marshall County

The times of long ago: Barren County

Maryland

Absconders, runaways and other fugitives in the Baltimore City and County jail, 1831-1864

Abstracts of Carroll County newspapers, 1831-1846

The Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church collection baptismal records 1851-1917 Salisbury

The Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church collection marriage records 1851-1922, Salisbury, Wicomico County

Baltimore Life Insurance Company: genealogical abstracts

Bastardy cases in Baltimore County, 1673-1783

Carroll County marriage licenses, 1837-1899

Citizens of the eastern shore of Maryland, 1659-1790

Genealogical abstracts from The Brunswick Herald: 6 Mar, 1891 to 28 Dec. 1894

Index to marriages in The (Baltimore) Sun, 1851-60

Marriage licenses of Frederick County, 1811-1840

Maryland freedom papers. 2 vols. Anne Arundel County; Kent County

Maryland oaths of fidelity

Methodist records of Baltimore City, 1799-1850

Worcester County Orphans Court proceedings. 1777-1832

Massachusetts

Early families of Hull
The history of Bridgewater
The Massachusetts Bay Company and its predecessors
Mayflower descendents and their marriages for two generations after the landing, including a short history of the Church of the Pilgrim Founders of New England

Michigan

City of Wyandotte death records. 1897-1939
City of Wyandotte Ford City death records, 1906-22
Mt. Hope Cemetery (Goss), Rush Township, Shiawassee County
Streets of River Rouge, Wayne County, 1908-1916
Thon's Funeral Home records, 1898-1995 [Wayne County]
West Mound United Methodist Church Cemetery, Taylor

New Jersey

The Burlington court book: a record of Quaker jurisprudence in west New Jersey, 1680-1709
Early records of the Presbyterian Church of Squan Village, NJ: 1848-1900+
Index to Early Dutch Settlers of Monmouth County by George C. Beekman
Monmouth County and the Spanish-American War: newspaper clippings from The Monmouth Democrat, Freehold
St. Mark's Episcopal Cemetery, Orange, Essex County

New York

The place names of Franklin County
Old tombstones & unusual cemeteries in Columbia County
Quakerism in the city of New York, 1657-1930
Vital records of Ancramdale Presbyterian Church, 1877-1993
Vital records of St. John's Lutheran Church, Ancram, Columbia County, 1846-1945
Will abstracts of Columbia County, 1828-1851: Part II, Books F-K

Ohio

The court of nisi prius of Cleveland: a history, including caricatures of the honorable judges
History of the Ohio Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc.: organized May 1901, incorporated December 1924

Pennsylvania

Abstracts of Philadelphia County wills 1790-1819
African Americans in Mercer County
African Americans in Pittsburgh
African Americans of Harrisburg
Bucks County will abstracts: 1870-1900
Cemetery readings (and burial lots) in southwestern Pennsylvania
Burials in Grahamville Cemetery, North East, Erie County
Clarion County will abstracts, 1841-1876
Runaway women: elopements and other miscreant deeds as advertised in the Pennsylvania Gazette, 1728-1789 (together with a few abused wives and unfortunate children)

Rhode Island

Little Compton families
Rhode Island land evidences, 1648-1696

Tennessee

Early history of Nashville
History of Davidson County

Vermont

Soldiers of the Revolutionary War buried in Vermont: and anecdotes and incidents relating to some of them

Virginia

1782 Greenville County: property valuation impressed during Revolutionary War
1782 Montgomery County tax listing
Early Spotsylvania Co. records
1798 house tax and slave tax of Berkeley County
Epitaphs of Gloucester and Mathews counties in Tidewater Virginia through 1865
Goochland County marriage bonds, 1730-1854
Jefferson County personal property tax lists, 1825-1841
King George County: a pictorial history

Virginia (cont.)

Middlesex County marriage records, 1853-1904
Hanover County: its history and legends
Richmond, her past and present
History of Norfolk County and representative citizens
Virginia military bounty land in the Northwest territory

West Virginia

1782 Berkeley County tax listing
Barbour County birth records, 1854-59
Barbour County history and biographies
Burials in Jefferson County, 1977-1998
Cabell County history and biographies
Calhoun County birth records, 1855-1860; death records, 1855-1859
Cemeteries of Martinsburg and Berkeley County, Cemeteries of Berkeley County
Clay County birth and death records, 1858-1860
Documented history of Martinsburg and Berkeley County
Early history of West Virginia
Greenbrier County history and biographies
Hampshire County (Virginia) births: 1865-1899
Hampshire County deaths 1866-1894
The historical atlas of West Virginia
History of Logan County
Monroe County history and biographies
Putnam County history and biographies
West Virginia railroads: railroading in the mountain state

Military

Benning's brigade: a history and roster of the Second, Fifteenth, Seventeenth, and Twentieth Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiments
A chronicle of War of 1812 soldiers, seamen and Marines
Encyclopedia of the genealogical history of the Presbyterian Church in southwestern Pennsylvania
First Alabama Cavalry, U.S.A.: a homage to patriotism
"He loves a good deal of rum...": military desertions during the American revolution, 1775-1783

Military (cont.)

A history of Company C 50th Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteer Infantry regiment: from the camp, the battlefield and the prison pen, 1861-1865
Manly deeds, womanly words: history of the 6th Regiment Maryland Infantry
The soldier's wealth is honor

Reference

The German element in the northeast: Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey & New England
Shifting winds of war: Indian Territory, 1861-1865

Quakers

The beginnings of Quakerism
The second period of Quakerism

Ireland

Tracing your Northern Irish ancestors

Genealogies

Yahners and others

Archival Collection Now Available

The Times They Were A-Changin': Akron Remembers 1968 Collection contains thirty-eight oral history interviews. These recollections focused on Akron during the civil unrest of July 1968 and were conducted in August 2008. For more information, please see the collection's finding aid at <http://www.akronlibrary.org/internetresources/sc/finding/AkronRemembers1968.pdf>. Many images captured during the six days of civil disorder and several of the recordings are available through www.SummitMemory.org.

Remember to bring your own headphones or earbuds to listen to the digital recordings. If you do not own headphones or earbuds, you can purchase earbuds from the Circulation Department of the Library for \$1.00.

**Special Collections Division
Akron-Summit County Public Library
60 South High Street
Akron, Ohio 44326**

Preserving Images of Christmas in Akron

If you grew up in Summit County, you may have fond memories of downtown Akron during the holidays – the lights, stores decorated with greenery and glitter, and of course, the windows of O’Neil’s and Polsky’s which featured Santa’s elves, Three Men in a Tub, Cinderella, and more scenes that delighted children and adults alike. Although many of us have memories of downtown during the holidays, photographs of this nostalgic time are scarce.

In the interest of preserving this piece of Akron’s history, Special Collections is seeking photographs of Akron taken during the holiday season. We are interested in photos of downtown from all eras, including the O’Neil’s and Polsky’s department store windows. We will scan the photos, make copies for our local history photograph collection, and return your originals with our thanks for your donation. Photographs may also be e-mailed. If you have photos to share, please contact Mary Plazo in Special Collections at mplazo@akronlibrary.org or 330.643.9030.