

Genealogy Resources

Leicester Public Library Local History Collection

Vital Records

Local History Collection

Bound copies of birth, death and marriage records up to 1849 for a variety of Massachusetts towns. There is an online version, <http://ma-vitalrecords.org/>

Leicester Birth recorded by Drs. Flint

Local History Collection, LH Ref 974.4 Den (Green paper folder)

"Births taken from Dr. Austin Flint's records 1795 to 1834 inclusive which are not in Leicester vital records. Births taken from Dr. Edward Flint's records 1819 to 1894 inclusive which are not in Leicester vital records. After 1850 all of record is copied. Deaths copied from Samuel Rockwood's records of Leicester--1791 to 1850 inclusive which are not in Leicester vital records."

Town Clerk Death and Marriage Records

Ask Library Staff

The Library has copies of the Town Clerk's Death and Marriage records from 1851-1939. Death Records usually include parent's names.

Cemetery Records

Ask Library Staff

List of cemeteries in town, including small private cemeteries. Includes veteran's graves. Some cemeteries have complete indexes

1865 Census (Leicester)

LH 929 Census (spiral)

Alphabetical index, most entries include age, gender, and birthplace. Some entries include occupation, cause of death, and other tidbits.

1945 Census (Leicester)

LH 929 Census

Town census, alphabetical by precinct

School Committee Reports

Usually found within the Annual Town Reports, some separately bound available. Each year contains varying degrees of information. Some class rosters, attendance reports, honor roll.

MACRIS

Mhc-macris.net

The Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS) allows you to search the Massachusetts Historical Commission database for information on historic properties and areas in the Commonwealth. Some houses have comprehensive listings.

Bound Genealogies

The library has various copies of bound family genealogies. Most can be found in the library catalog, and most have a call number LH 920.

Family Folders

Ask Library staff

The Local History Collections has a variety of ephemera collected on town families.

DAR Collection

The Leicester Chapter of the D.A.R. collection contains essays, descriptions and other ephemera related to the history of the Town and its residents. Part of the collection is indexed and organized in two binders in the Local History Collection. There are references to people, houses and businesses.

Bound Local Newspapers

Local History Room

The Library has bound copies of the *Leicester Journal*, which ran from 1984-1996, and the *Leicester Weekly*, from 1955-1961.

Where to find old newspapers: The Worcester Public Library has an extensive collection of local papers. A list can be found on their [website](#). The American Antiquarian Society in Worcester also has an extensive collection of area newspapers www.americanantiquarian.org. The Boston Public Library has databases of a variety of newspapers available to MA residents with a BPL ecard. <https://www.bpl.org/resources-types/newspapers/>

Veterans

Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors and marines of the Revolutionary War, Confederate War, and Civil War

Trustees Room.

Bound book set detailing service records of Massachusetts veterans. Some entries are comprehensive.

History of the ___ Regiment of Massachusetts (set), Trustees Room

Records of Massachusetts Volunteers (set), Trustees Room

Rochdale News
Ask Library Staff

Local newsletter chronicling Leicester service members and their families 1943-1945

WWII Scrapbook

Binder, LH 940.54 Cor, ask Library Staff

Compiled by Miss Gertrude Cormier. Clippings from local newspapers about Leicester area soldiers in World War II

Eulogies

Ask Library Staff

The Local History Collection has a number of eulogies for various local people. It is currently not indexed.

Town Reports

The Library maintains a copy of Annual Town Reports back to 1849. Bound copies are available in the Trustee's Room, and more current copies are available on the shelves outside the Tech Services office.

There is no standardized format, and some years contain much more information than others. As an example, the 1898 Annual Report contains:

- Elected officials
- List of Revolutionary War soldiers and their burial locations
- List of Lawsuits
- Amounts paid to Abutters, by name, for road widening and board members
- Salaries and services of town employees
- Jury List
- Almshouse inmates
- Paupers supported in their own homes
- List of widows and dependents of veterans supported by the town by name
- List of tax delinquents
- Marriages, births, deaths
- School Honor Roll
- Payment of person who did work for the town, including transportation of library books to branch locations
- Valuation and tax list, including personal property, house, barn, animals, bicycles, pasture, machinery, stock in trade, etc.
- Bank tax list by name
- Poll tax list by name