

New Jersey State Library Resources

Andrew Dauphinee – Instruction and Outreach Librarian

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Contact Information

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Agenda

- Who we are and our history
- Resources and services
- Your questions

Who We Are

- **State Street (Main Library)**
 - **State Library Information Center**
 - Reference, Law, Circulation, Interlibrary Loan
 - **Library Development Bureau**
 - **Information Technology**
 - **Communications, Marketing, and Outreach**
 - **Administration**
- **TBBC (Talking Book and Braille Center)**
 - **Readers Services**
 - **Adult, Children and Teen Services**
 - **Assistive Technology Loan Program**
 - **Machine Lending**



State Library History

- Officially established in 1796 when the Clerk of the House was assigned responsibility for Legislature's collection of books
- Some may argue the “library” actually began in 1704 with the printing of the colony's first provincial law - “An Act for Regulating the Purchasing of Land from the Indians.”
- In 1996, we became an affiliate of what is now Thomas Edison State University
- We now have over 2 million items throughout 13 unique collections, 200 online databases, and thousands of print and electronic journals

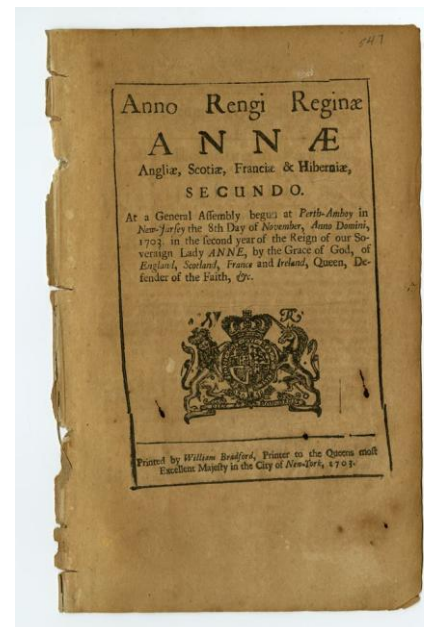


Image of the publication's title page provided by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

State Library Information Center

- Largest department in the library
- Provide reference and research services to state employees, members of Thomas Edison State University, and the public
- Responsible for patron accounts and Interlibrary Loan services
- Dedicated Law Library
 - We cannot give legal advice!

Collections @ NJS�

- General Collection – Fiction, non-fiction
- NJ Documents
- Genealogy
- Jerseyana
- Funding Information Center
- U.S. Documents
- Legal
- Civil Service Test Books
- Maps and Atlases

Digital Collections @ NJS�

- We have an ever-growing digital repository, heavily focused on NJ State Publications - <https://dspace.njstatelib.org/home>
 - NJ State Publications Digital Library
 - Digital Jerseyana
 - Postcards by Town
 - NJ Superseded Administrative Code

Genealogy

- Genealogy Librarian – Regina Fitzpatrick, rfitzpatrick@njstatelib.org
- Large print collection (non-circulating)
 - Family Histories
 - City Directories
 - Indexes
- Webinars and programs
- Databases
 - Ancestry Library Edition, FamilySearch, HeritageQuest



Jerseyana

- Over 30,000 physical items in our collection
- Some are available for lending through interlibrary loan
- Popular items include:
 - town/county histories
 - historical works
 - business and industrial directories
 - municipal documents

Law Library

- Legal research – NJ Statutes, Administrative Code, Legislative Histories, Case Law, Rules of the Court
 - Annotated versions that provide context and references
- Databases
 - HeinOnline, Lexis Plus, Westlaw
- We cannot give legal advice!
 - Interpretation of laws or suggestions of applicable laws
 - New Jersey Practice, New Jersey Rules of Evidence, New Jersey Local Government Deskbook, and New Jersey Legal Ethics



Offerings to the Public

- Register for a NJ Resident Card
 - Borrow 1 physical item from the collection and access to our public computers
- JerseyClicks – <https://www.jerseyclicks.org>
 - A collection of databases available for free to all NJ residents
 - Many require access using your public library card
- Palace Project - <https://www.njstatelib.org/news/introducing-a-palace-project-statewide-virtual-barcode/>
 - a collection of 20,000 e-books available to all residents of NJ
- Research Guides - <https://libguides.njstatelib.org/>
- Webinars

Research Guides

- Careers and Employment
- Genealogy
- Health and Medical Resources
- New Jersey Legal Resources
- Scholarships and Grants

Genealogy: Home

Search this Guide Search

Interested in learning more about Genealogy? Come in for basic how-to information and a look at New Jersey resources!

[Home](#) [Guides and Handouts](#) [NJ Genealogy Information Videos](#) [Recorded Webinars](#) [New Jersey State Library Resources](#)
[New Jersey State Archives Resources](#) [NJ County Offices Resources](#)

HOME

Welcome! My name is Regina, I'm the Genealogy Librarian at the New Jersey State Library. Researching your family history can be a lot of fun, but it can also be hard work and overwhelming, especially when you're just starting out. My goal is to make you feel comfortable and confident in understanding the resources available to you here at the Library, and also at the State Archives and other New Jersey Repositories!

To see a listing of upcoming free NJSL Presents Webinars (including Genealogy classes!) please visit: <https://www.njstatelib.org/events/>. Recordings of past Genealogy webinars can be found here.

Looking for what you can do from home? See the Genealogy in Quarantine document. Do you have suggestions to add? I'm looking for digital online collections and indexes, upcoming free classes online, or outdoor or at-home volunteer opportunities. Please contact me! No commercial advertisements or general link sites, please.

Useful Print Resources at NJ State Library



Index of Wills, Inventories, Etc. in the Secretary of State's Office Prior to 1901 by New Jersey

Call Number: A974.9 N5.8

ISBN: 9780806349701

Publication Date: 1912

Excellent for finding a year of death for family member ca 1670-1900.

Basic Advice

- Your main focus should be to locate a birth, marriage, and death record for each family member
- Always start with yourself and work backwards (death-birth) for each previous generation
- If you can't find a vital record, use other primary documents (official or private records produced during a person's lifetime) such as census records to help you narrow down a time period. Records repositories are most likely to have these types of documents.
- Secondary resources, such as family or town histories, may also be used to help you in your search. The New Jersey State Library has a limited collection of primary documents, and a large collection of secondary resources.
- Staying organized saves you time and preserves your research for your family. Document your work with these downloadable charts and forms from the National Archives.

Genealogy at NJSL



JerseyClicks

- Reference Solutions
- Consumer Reports
- Health Source: Consumer Edition
- Legal Information Source
- Small Business Source
- HeritageQuest

Webinars

- Roughly 50 virtual programs per year at no cost
 - Zoom registration is required
- Variety of adult-themed topics, including:
 - Author Talks
 - Genealogy
 - Retirement and Money
 - Health and Wellness
- Events Calendar - <https://www.njstatelib.org/event/>
- YouTube Channel - <https://www.youtube.com/@TheNJStateLibrary>



Thank You!

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