

**GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH  
IN THE  
EDITH GARLAND DUPRÉ LIBRARY**

Guide and Selected Bibliography

Edith Garland Dupré Library  
University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Edith Garland Dupré Library and the University of Louisiana at Lafayette are pleased to provide facilities for research in genealogy and family history. You should realize, however, that such study requires serious intent and the commitment of long hours of work. Genealogists must be diligent and inventive. You will delve into a bewildering array of church, family, local, state, federal, and even foreign documents. Interpreting such records often requires a strong grounding in history in order to comprehend their nature and biases.

Genealogical research relies on primary and secondary sources. Primary sources are original documents, such as birth, death and marriage records, passenger lists or court records. Secondary sources are works based on primary sources, including published genealogies and histories, and abstracts of original records. Primary sources are generally preferred over secondary sources, but even they are not infallible. It is always necessary to remember the purpose for which the record was made, and how knowledgeable the person supplying the information was.

While the Library contains information on every part of the United States and many foreign countries, the focus of our genealogical holdings is the Acadiana region of Louisiana. This guide will provide general information for beginning genealogists at the Dupré Library.

## **WHERE TO BEGIN**

Start at home! Your own knowledge and that of your relatives form the basis for genealogical research. Besides personal recollections, see what written information can be gleaned from such sources as family bibles, vital records, military certificates, clippings, diaries, letters, baby books, photograph albums, the backs of pictures, etc. Be aware of four key elements: names, dates, places and relationships. Ultimately you will need to find original records to verify what you learn, but family records and personal recollections will give you a starting point and will suggest where to look for further information.

The second step is to seek out others who may have already done much of the research for you. The Internet is the best place to start. Look for web sites devoted to your family, and check message boards on the major genealogy web sites. You will be surprised at what you find! You can also submit queries to local genealogy publications and newspaper columns.

As you proceed with your research, keep a careful record of the sources you check, and where you find each piece of information. As you learn more about your ancestors you will sometimes want to go back to the same sources for further information. Or you may find contradictory data and need to compare the sources to judge which is more dependable.

Be creative in your research. Records created for purposes far removed from genealogy often contain information that can be useful to the genealogist. For example, church records, besides giving dates of births or baptisms, marriages, and deaths or burials, often include information on place of birth, parents, spouses, children or other family members. Ships' passenger lists and U.S. immigration records can provide the date when immigrants arrived in the U.S., where they were born, where they sailed from, names of other family members who came with them, their occupations, and the names of relatives already living in the U.S. Records of the State Land Office can tell exactly where a person settled in Louisiana, and the accompanying maps can help locate relatives who owned neighboring tracts. Civil War rosters

can identify a soldier's service record, and occasionally include a soldier's place of origin or a physical description. Old city directories can tell when a person lived in the city, where he or she lived and what his or her occupation was. Even in the oldest directories unmarried women were listed if they owned property or ran a business.

### **EDITH GARLAND DUPRÉ LIBRARY**

At the Library, your first source of information is the online catalog. A pamphlet "Welcome to iLink" is available at the Circulation Counter and near the public access terminals on each floor, to acquaint you with this resource. ILink provides access to all of the Library's cataloged materials, including books, journals, magazines, newspapers, government publications, microforms, manuscripts, audiovisuals and special collections. You can search by author, title, subject or key word, or any combination of these.

Perhaps someone has already published a book on your family or a branch of it. Search the subject index for your family surnames. Also check under the subject headings "Genealogy," "Names," and "Heraldry," as well as the subdivision "Genealogy" under the states you are investigating (e.g., Louisiana Genealogy, Texas Genealogy). It is also important to read general works on the history or geography of the area. Most importantly, you should read one or more introductory texts dealing with genealogical research, for example those listed in the "Guides and Manuals" section of the Selected Bibliography.

### **JEFFERSON CAFFERY READING ROOM**

Since most researchers in our genealogy collections concentrate on Louisiana families, they tend to spend the bulk of their time in the Jefferson Caffery Reading Room. The Reading Room is located on the third floor of the Library, and serves the Louisiana Room, the University Archives and Acadiana Manuscripts Collection, and the Rare Books Collection. Its staff can direct you to the Genealogy Collection shelved in the Reading Room itself; most other materials are shelved in closed stacks and must be requested from a staff member. The materials in the Genealogy Collection must be used in the Reading Room and may not leave the room. There is a photocopier near the service desk for researchers' use.

Louisiana Room materials are listed in the Library's online catalog, and terminals are located in the Reading Room for the convenience of our patrons. Besides family genealogies, local histories, census schedules and genealogical society publications, the Louisiana Room collection holds many special types of materials of interest to genealogists, such as church records, newspapers, ships' passenger lists, land office records, military rosters and city directories. A vertical file of previous research and miscellaneous publications is also available.

You might also wish to consult the holdings of the University Archives and Acadiana Manuscripts Collection. Besides collections of personal and family papers such as those listed in the bibliography, the UAAMC holds other materials of genealogical value, including parish and church records, brand books and photographs. Be aware that archival materials are irreplaceable and must be used with the utmost care. Access to the Archives is restricted.

### **FEDERAL CENSUS**

The Federal Government has now released on microfilm the manuscript census schedules (data on individuals recorded by the census taker) from 1790 to 1930, with the

exception of the 1890 returns which were destroyed. Check the online catalog under the subject heading "U.S. Census" for the microfilm number and year, or the notebook, "A Guide to Genealogical Resources on Microfilm," available in the Louisiana Room. All census schedules, including those from other states, are filed in the Louisiana Room.

Printed indexes are available for Louisiana census returns from 1810 through 1870. These index heads of households only. Beginning with 1880, a microfilm index called "Soundex" provides access to the returns.

**SOUNDEX.** The Louisiana Room has the "Soundex" index for the Louisiana census returns of 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920 and 1930. The 1880 Soundex only indexes families with children under the age of 10 at the time of enumeration; later Soundexes index all heads of households and household members with different surnames. This system is often difficult to use for French names. Be aware that you might need to develop creative spelling techniques for the system; for example, Bickel may appear as Pickel, Freeland as Vreeland, Hebert as Abear. Even like-sounding names like Breaux, Bro and Braud are coded differently, so it may be necessary to consider alternative spellings if the people you are searching for do not appear under the proper code.

To use the Soundex you must first find the code number for the surname you are researching, as the index is arranged by code. This will consist of the initial letter plus three numerals. The **Soundex Reference Guide** (CS 49 .S64 1990) in the Genealogy Collection can provide you with the proper code for most surnames. Names not included in the guide can be worked out according to the following rules:

Begin with the first letter of the surname, then use the following numbers for subsequent consonants:

- 1 for B, P, F, V
- 2 for C, S, K, G, J, Q, X, Z
- 3 for D, T
- 4 for L
- 5 for M, N
- 6 for R

Fill in with zeros to three places.

The letters A, E, I, O, U, H, W and Y are not coded. When two key letters or equivalents appear together, they are coded as one letter. Prefixes such as Van, Von, Di, De, Le, Di, D', Dela, or Du are sometimes disregarded, but not always.

Examples:	Broussard = B626	Hebert = H163
	Kuhn = K500	Lee = L000

The Louisiana Room has microfilm copies of some manuscript Federal Census returns for the following states. *Please note that, unless otherwise indicated, holdings for other states are incomplete.* For a detailed list of holdings, consult "A Guide to Genealogical Resources in Microform."

### Louisiana

1810 - 1880	all
1890	Union Veterans and Widows of Union Veterans of the Civil War
1900 - 1930	all

### **Other states**

1800 - Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina  
1810 - Kentucky (all), Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia (all)  
1820 - Delaware (all), Georgia (all), Indiana (all), Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Ohio (all)  
1830 - Alabama, Florida (all), Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi (all), Ohio, Virginia  
1840 - Alabama, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Virginia  
1850 - Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina,  
Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia  
1860 - Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, South Carolina  
1870 - Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri  
1880 - Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas

Census schedules are not totally reliable. Census takers often were hired for their political connections rather than their diligence, and they sometimes failed to follow their instructions carefully. They might have written down names phonetically and approximated ages. If no one was home, neighbors might have been asked for information. Families that moved when the census was being taken might have been recorded twice or not at all. And residents of remote areas often were overlooked. All of this means censuses can be useful for placing a family or an individual in a particular place at a particular time, but the information should be checked against other sources, and the absence of a family or individual on the schedule does not necessarily mean they weren't really there.

### **INTERNET RESEARCH**

The Internet has totally changed the way most people do genealogical research. What used to take years of painstaking toil, writing letters and waiting for responses, searching library catalogs and bibliographies for previous research, making trips to distant repositories in search of information, etc., now can be done almost instantaneously through the World Wide Web. It is not the purpose of this guide to cover this aspect of genealogical research; it is intended to focus primarily on the resources in the Edith Garland Dupré Library. The Library does not subscribe to any genealogical databases, although a number of databases listed on the Reference Online Center under "History" can be useful for genealogical purposes. A list of suggested web sites is included in the following bibliography. These can be accessed from the terminals in the Library as well as from your personal computer.

### **CONCLUSION**

This finding aid is designed to provide general information for our patrons. The bibliography that follows is not comprehensive, but gives selected pointers to the Library's holdings in this field. The Louisiana Room and Reference Department librarians are available for general assistance; however, we must stress that the responsibility for such difficult and time-consuming work as genealogy rests with the researchers.

We regret that library administrative policy and staffing shortages make it impossible to provide genealogical reference service by mail.

Good luck in your efforts.

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U.S. Adjutant-General's Office.

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## X. CANADIAN/ACADIAN MATERIALS

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## XI. ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS

*Below are listed collections in the University Archives and Manuscripts Collections that include materials of particular interest in genealogical research. Guides to these collections are available in the Jefferson Caffery Reading Room.*

<u>No.</u>	<u>Collection</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Collection</u>
2	Voorhies Family Papers	90	Barnett Studio Photographs [Freeland Collection]
3	Watson Family Papers	96	Clyde L. Rougeau Papers
7	Paul Debaillon Collection	109	Pearl Mary Segura Collection
8	Givens and Hopkins Families Papers	127	Marie del Norte Theriot Collection
12	Joel Fletcher Papers	145	Albert Tate, Jr. Collection
13	Rees Family	162	Hannie Family Collection
22	DeClouet Family Papers	213	Pierre Bellevieu Papers
23	Henri Louis Ducrocq Papers	214	Thomas Arceneaux Papers
26	Lucille Mouton-Griffin Papers	219	Dudley J. LeBlanc Collection
27	David Reichard Williams Papers	254	Vita Reaux Collection
28	Walter J. Burke Papers	267	Broussard Funeral Home Records
30	Harry Lewis Griffin Papers	272	Jacqueline Olivier Vidrine Papers
40	Alexander Mouton Papers	276	Betty Mier Collection
43	Edith Garland Dupré Papers	308	Clement Bourgeois Jr. Collection
45	Jefferson Caffery Papers	346	Rose-Hayes Genealogical Collection
48	Labauve and Pischoff Papers	349	Kathleen Stagg Genealogical Collection
55	Weeks Collection	376	Royal Ancestry of Rousseau de Villejoin
65	Gebert-Ray-Lee Papers		
74	Kate O'Bryan Conrad Papers		



*There are also a number of family genealogies deposited in our miscellaneous manuscript holdings:*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Mss 3</b> Labranche Family Records         | 78 Thibodeaux Family Genealogy                    |
| 5 Dunbar Family Records                       | 82 Yentzen Family Genealogical Materials          |
| 35 Pierre Olivier Duclozel Succession Records | 88 Herman Otto Dommert (Egan) and Allied Families |
| 36 Dupré Family Records                       | 92 Melancon Family Genealogical Material          |
| 42 Frugé Family Genealogical Records          | 111 Delery Family Genealogical Material           |
| 45 Hebert Family Genealogical Records         | 115 Derbes Family Papers                          |
| 49 Evert Bancker Smedes Succession Records    | 117 LeMoyne Family Genealogical Records           |
| 50 St. Mary Magdalen Church Cemetery Records  | 137 Hebert Family Genealogy                       |
| 74 Roy Family Genealogy                       | 142 Amand Family Records                          |
| 77 Smith Family Genealogy                     | 153 Theaux/Delhomme Family                        |

## **XII. SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION**

**Ancestry's Red Book: American State, County and Town Sources.** Rev. ed. (Salt Lake City: Ancestry, Inc., 1992)  
LaRm CS 49 .A55 1992

Bentley, Elizabeth Petty.

**The Genealogist's Address Book.** 1992-93 ed. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1992)  
LaRm CS 44 .B46 1992

**Biography and Genealogy Master Index.** (Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1980--)  
LaRm Z 5305 .U5B57 1980 and supplements

Cooper, Jean L.

**A Genealogical Index to the Guides of the Microfilm Edition of Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations From the Revolution Through the Civil War.** (Bloomington, IN: 1stBooks, 2003)  
LaRm F 213 .S34 1985 Index

Filby, P. William.

**Directory of American Libraries with Genealogy or Local History Collections.** (Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, Inc., 1988)  
LaRm Z 675 .G44F56 1988

**Genealogies in the Library of Congress: A Bibliography.** Marion J. Kaminkow. (Baltimore: Magna Carta Book Company, 1972)  
stks Z 5319 .U53

**A Complement to Genealogies in the Library of Congress: A Bibliography.** Marion J. Kaminkow. (Baltimore: Magna Carta Book Co., 1981)  
stks Z 5319 .K35

**Genealogies in the Library of Congress: A Bibliography. 2d supplement, 1976-1986.** Marion J. Kaminkow. (Baltimore: Magna Carta Book Co., 1987)  
stks Z 5319 .U53 suppl.2

**Genealogies Cataloged by the Library of Congress Since 1986.** (Washington, DC: Cataloging Division, Library of Congress, 1992)  
stks Z 5313 .U5L53 1991

**Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives.** (Washington, D.C.: National Archives Trust Fund Board, 1983)  
LaRm Z 5313 .U5U54 1983

Jarboe, Betty M.

**Obituaries: a Guide to Sources.** (Boston: G.K. Hall, 1989)  
stks Z 5305 .U5J37 1989

Kemp, Thomas Jay.

**The Genealogist's Virtual Library: Full-Text Books on the World Wide Web.** (Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, Inc., 2000)  
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Stks Z 6824 .L38 1995

Munsell, firm, publishers.

**Index to American Genealogies.** (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1967) reprint of 1900 edition, with suppl. 1900-1908.  
stks Z 5313 .U5I5 1967

**Passenger and Immigration Lists Bibliography, 1538-1900: Being a Guide to Published Lists of Arrivals in the United States and Canada.** 2d ed. (Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1988)  
Ref Z 7164 .I3L2 1988

**Passenger and Immigration Lists Index: A Guide to Published Arrival Records of... Passengers Who Came to the United States and Canada in the Seventeenth, Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries.** (Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1981-2004)  
LaRm CS 68 .P36 1981 and supplements

**PERiodical Source Index.** (Fort Wayne, IN: Allen County Public Library Foundation, 1988-1996) 1987-1995.  
LaRm CS 1 .P47

Saffroy, Gaston.

**Bibliographie Généalogique, Héraldique et Nobilitaire de la France.** (Paris: Gaston Saffroy, 1968). 4 vols.  
stks Z 5305 .F7S22

Smith, Elsdon C.

**Personal Names: A Bibliography.** (New York: New York Public Library, 1952)  
stks Z 6824 .S55

Tepper, Michael.

**American Passenger Arrival Records: A Guide to the Records of Immigrants Arriving at American Ports By Sail and Steam.** (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1993)  
LaRm CS 49 .T46 1993

**United States Local Histories in the Library of Congress: A Bibliography.** Marion J. Kaminkow. (Baltimore; Magna Carta Book Co., 1975). 5 vols.  
stks Z 1250 .U59 1975

**Association of Professional Genealogists.**

Directory of professional genealogists available at <http://www.apgen.org/index.html>.

**Board for Certification of Genealogists.** (P.O. Box 14291, Washington, DC 20044)  
Directory of certified genealogists available at <http://www.bcgcertification.org/>.

### **XIII. INTERNET SITES**

#### ***Hubsites***

Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet	<a href="http://www.cyndislist.com/us">www.cyndislist.com/us</a>
RootsWeb	<a href="http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/">http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/</a>
USGenWeb Project	<a href="http://www.usgenweb.org/">http://www.usgenweb.org/</a>

#### ***Major Genealogical Libraries***

Family History Library (Mormon Church)  
<http://www.familysearch.org/>

Acadian Memorial  
<http://www.acadian.org/acadmemoial.html>

Allen County (IN) Public Library Genealogy Center  
<http://www.genealogycenter.org/>

Library of Congress, Genealogy Department  
<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/>

National Archives Genealogy Page  
<http://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/index.html>

Newberry Library  
<http://www.newberry.org/genealogy-and-local-history>

New Orleans Public Library Louisiana Division  
<http://www.neworleanspubliclibrary.org/~nopl/spec/specplist.htm>

U.S.G.S. Geographic Names Information System  
<http://geonames.usgs.gov/>

Where to Write for Vital Records  
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w.htm>

**NOTE:** The Lafayette Parish Library main branch has an extensive genealogy collection and a subscription to Ancestry.com, the largest collection of family history records on the Web.

Also, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormons) has undertaken massive research into genealogical records, and has posted many of these records on the Internet, at [www.familysearch.org/](http://www.familysearch.org/). The local church also has a branch library, at 116 E. Bluebird, Lafayette. Hours are limited; please call the Church for the schedule.