

Genealogical Research Locations in Indianapolis and Vicinity

For the benefit of attendees who may wish to research either before or after the conference, we are including this list of potential sites. Researchers may want to call ahead before traveling any distance. All directions are from the intersection of 21st Street and Shadeland Avenue, just west of the Indianapolis Marriott East Hotel – Midwestern Roots 2008 Conference location.

Indiana State Library, Genealogy Division 140 N. Senate Ave., Indianapolis IN 46204-2296 (317) 232-3689

Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays.

The ISL houses the primary genealogical research collection in the area. The Genealogy Division occupies a large area on the first and second floors of the building. Materials cover the entire United States (but heavy on Indiana, naturally) and many foreign countries. They include print, film, electronic and other forms, and also include manuscripts, newspapers and numerous standard and staff-developed indexes. See online at www.in.gov/library/.

Directions: From Shadeland Avenue, take I-70 westbound to downtown; exit to I-65 northbound; exit shortly in left lane at West Street; go southbound on West Street to Ohio Street; turn left (east) on Ohio Street. The Library is on the right (south) side just past the canal bridge. Genealogy Division entrance doors at 315 W. Ohio St. Street parking and downtown garages.

Indiana Historical Society, William Henry Smith Memorial Library Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center 450 W. Ohio St., Indianapolis IN 46202-3299 (317) 232-1882

Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays.

The William H. Smith Library houses an extensive collection of Indiana materials, including manuscripts, photos, military histories, clippings, maps, periodicals and pamphlets. See online at www.indianahistory.org.

Directions: From Shadeland Avenue, take I-70 westbound to downtown; exit to I-65 northbound; exit shortly in left lane at West Street; go southbound on West Street to New York Street; turn left (east) on New York Street; enter the Society parking lot from the right lane; the Library is on the second floor. Free parking.

Indiana State Archives 6440 E. 30th St., Indianapolis IN 46219 (317) 591-5222

Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

The Archives houses millions of Indiana records dating to the beginning of the state. Almost all are government records and many are indexed. The collection is especially good in Indiana

military records, land records and public institutions. See online at www.in.gov/icpr/2316.htm.

Directions: Drive north on Shadeland Avenue; turn left (west) on 30th Street; the Archives Building is approximately ¼ mile west on the north side of 30th Street. Free parking.

Indiana State Department of Health, Vital Records
2 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis IN 46204 (317) 233-1325

Hours: Walk-in requests at 6 W. Washington St., Indianapolis 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

This location houses copies of birth records (from 1907) and death records (from 1900) as reported by every county in the state. See online at www.in.gov/isdh/.

Directions: From Shadeland Avenue, go west on I-70; exit to I-65 northbound; exit immediately to Meridian Street; turn left (south) on Meridian Street; go south approximately eight blocks; the ISDH is just past the Circle on the right, in a former department store. Downtown parking can be difficult.

Marion County Health Department, Vital Records, Hasbrook Building,
3838 N. Rural St., Indianapolis IN 46205-2930 (317) 221-2000

Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesdays.

The MCHD is the primary source for Marion County birth and death records. See online at www.mchd.com.

Directions: Drive north on Shadeland Avenue approximately 17 blocks; turn left (west) on 38th Street; drive west on 38th Street approximately 30 blocks; turn right (north) on Rural Street; the MCHD is one block north on the left. Free parking.

Indianapolis-Marion County City-County Building
200 E. Washington St., Indianapolis IN 46204-3327 (317) 327-4739 [Clerk]

Clerk of Circuit Court hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Records Management Division of Clerk's Office, Room B-2, (317) 327-4706, (9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays), has fairly recent record books and files. The Microfilm Archives Room, Room B-31, (317) 327-4962 (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays), has Marion County marriages, divorces, wills and numerous other Marion County records. For other county offices, go to www.indygov.org and check menus.

Directions: From Shadeland Avenue, go west on I-70 to the downtown area; exit to Michigan Street; turn right (west) on Michigan and go to Alabama Street; turn left (south) on Alabama and go to Washington Street; the City-County Building is on the northwest corner of Alabama and Washington Streets. Downtown parking may be difficult.

**SullivanMunce Cultural Center
P. H. Sullivan Museum and Genealogy Library
225 Hawthorne St., Zionsville, IN 46077 (317) 873-4900**

Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays.

This medium-sized, but good genealogical library is especially useful for Boone County materials. See online at www.sullivanmunce.org.

Directions: From Shadeland Avenue, go north on I-465 around the north loop and exit on US421 (Michigan Road); go north on 421 and turn left (west) on IN 334 (Sycamore Street); follow Sycamore into Zionsville and turn left (west) on Hawthorne Street; the Library is one block west on the south side of the street.

**Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library
1120 Stafford Road, Plainfield, IN 46168-2230 (317) 839-6602**

Hours: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays during school year.

The Guilford Historical Collection contains extensive Hendricks County materials, including many resources from this Quaker community. Check online at www.plainfieldlibrary.net

Directions: From Shadeland Avenue, go west on I-70 past the International Airport and into Hendricks County; exit at State Route 267 northbound; follow 267 and turn left (west) at Stafford Road; the Library is on the north side approximately 4 blocks west. Free parking.

**Catholic Archives, Archdiocese of Indianapolis
1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis IN 46206-1410 (317) 236-1429**

Hours: By appointment.

These archives contain local Catholic parish materials from 37 counties of central and southern Indiana. See online at www.archindy.org.

Directions: From Shadeland Avenue go west on I-70 to the downtown area; exit to I-65 northbound; exit immediately to Meridian Street; go right (north) on Meridian; the Archives is one block north on the left side of the street.

**The American Legion National Headquarters, Librarian and Curator
700 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis IN 46204 (317) 630-1200**

Hours: By appointment Mondays through Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m..

This specialized collection houses a large collection of military history materials, including valuable 20th century military unit histories, newspapers, photos, posters and other items. This is not a public building. See online at www.legion.org

Directions: From Shadeland Avenue go west on I-70 to the downtown area; exit to I-65 northbound; exit immediately to Pennsylvania Avenue; turn left (south) on Pennsylvania; the Legion Building is three blocks south on the right side of the street.

Johnson County Museum of History
135 N. Main St., Franklin IN 46131 (317) 736-4655

Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. second Saturdays.

The Genealogy Room on the ground floor contains an excellent medium-sized collection that is strong on Johnson County materials and surrounding counties, with many locally generated files and indexes. See online at www.johnsoncountymuseum.org

Directions: From Shadeland Avenue go south on I-465 to I-65 southbound; go south on I-65 to the town of Franklin, approximately 20 minutes; exit 90 at IN 44; turn right (west) on 44 and go to downtown area; turn right (north) at Courthouse on Main Street; the Museum is two blocks north on the right. Free parking.

Hamilton East Public Library, Indiana Room
1 Library Plaza, Noblesville IN 46060 (317) 773-1384

Hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Sundays.

The Indiana Room collection contains primarily Indiana and Hamilton County materials, with many locally-generated files and indexes. See online at www.hepl.lib.in.us

Directions: From Shadeland Avenue go north on I-465 to I-69; exit northbound on I-69; go north on I-69 and exit at IN 37; go north to Noblesville, approximately 10 minutes; turn left (west) at IN 32 (Conner Street); turn right quickly at Cumberland Road; the Library is one block north on the right.

Anderson Public Library
111 E. 12th St., Anderson IN 46016 (765) 641-2456

Hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays.

The Indiana Room of the APL has a strong general genealogy collection with many materials covering Indiana and Madison County. See online at www.and.lib.in.us/indianaroom

Directions: From Shadeland Avenue, go north on I-465 and exit I-69 northbound; follow I-69 about 45 minutes and exit at Anderson on IN 9 northbound; follow 9 and turn left (west) on IN32; follow 32 to downtown and turn right at Main Street; the Library is on the corner of 12th and Main. Free parking.

Hancock County Public Library

900 W. McKenzie St., Greenfield IN 46140 (317) 462-5141

Hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays.

The Indiana Room contains a growing quantity of genealogical materials, concentrating on Hancock County, with several locally generated files and indexes. See online at www.hcplibrary.org

Directions: From Shadeland Avenue go east on I-70 to Greenfield, approximately 15 minutes; exit at IN 9 (State St.); go south on State Street to McKenzie Street; turn right (west) on McKenzie and go to Franklin Street; the Library is at the corner of McKenzie and Franklin.

[Updated February 26, 2008]- Prepared by Ron Darrah for Midwestern Roots 2008