



The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania
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CHESTER COUNTY REPOSITORIES

Researchers should consult the web sites listed for each repository for additional information about holdings, current hours, current admission fees, and access rules. Many archives and repositories have very limited hours.

Chester County is an original county.

CHESTER COUNTY ARCHIVES AND RECORD SERVICES (CCARS), 601 Westtown Road, Government Services Center, Suite 080, West Chester, PA 19380-0990; (610) 344-6760. Hours: Monday–Friday 9:00AM–4:00PM. The Chester County Archives and Record Services are administered by the Chester County Historical Society. Holdings: Birth and Death Records 1852–1855, 1893–1906; Marriage Records 1852–1855, 1885–1930; Wills and Administrations 1714–1923; Orphans’ Court Papers 1714–1916, 1930–1940; Deeds 1688–1918, Tax Records 1715–1939; Coroner’s Inquisitions Papers 1720–1940. Online indexes for most record groups on website. Website: www.chesco.org/archives

CHESTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY (CCHS), 225 North High Street, West Chester, PA 19380-2691; (610) 692-4800. Hours: Tuesday–Saturday 10:00AM-5:00PM. Newspaper clipping file 1810-1970; newspapers on microfilm; diaries; family files; church and cemetery records; Septennial census/tax records. \$5.00 research fee. Website: www.cchs-pa.org

CHESTER COUNTY RECORDS

Birth:

- 1852–1855, 1893–1906: **CCARS**
- 1857–1906: Delayed Birth Records: **CCARS**
- January 1906–present: Bureau of Vital Statistics, PO Box 1528, New Castle, PA, 16103.
Web site: www.dsf.health.state.pa.us/health/cwp/view.asp?a=168&Q=229939
provides downloadable request forms

Death:

- 1852–1855, 1893–1906: **CCARS**
- January 1906–present: Bureau of Vital Statistics, PO Box 1528, New Castle, PA, 16103.
Web site: www.dsf.health.state.pa.us/health/cwp/view.asp?a=168&Q=229939
provides downloadable request forms

Marriage:

- 1852–1855, 1885–1930 (applications): **CCARS**
- 1804–1902: Divorces: **CCARS**
- 1698–1890: Marriage Contracts, Certificates & Separations: **CCARS**

Probate—Wills and Administrations:

- 1714–1923: **CCARS**
- 1714–1938: Will Books (microfilm): **HSP**.

Orphans Court (excluding vital records):

- 1714–1923: Orphans' Court Papers: **CCARS**
- 1882–1923: Orphans' Court Estates: **CCARS**
- 1832–1848: Feme Covert Records: **CCARS**
- 1809–1822, 1831–1838: Orphans' Court Docket Book (microfilm): **HSP**

Land and Property:

- 1681–1918: Deeds: **CCARS**
- 1728–1835: Petitions for Sheriff's Deeds: **CCARS**
- 1773–1830: Sheriff's Deeds: **CCARS**
- 1690–1773: Mortgages: **CCARS**
- First land transactions through Proprietors at Pennsylvania State Archives
- First land transactions: some microfilm: **HSP**
- 1715–1939: Tax Records: **CCARS**
- various tax rolls and Septennial Census: **HSP & CCHS**

Court of Common Pleas

- 1781–1834: Affidavits, Depositions, Interrogatories: **CCARS**
- 1724–1850: Insolvent Debtor's Petitions & Bonds: **CCARS**
- 1821–1942: Assigned Estates: **CCARS**
- 1903–1905: Registry of Automobiles: **CCARS**
- 1828–1868: Mechanics Liens: **CCARS**
- 1683–1970: Professional Registers: **CCARS**
- 1844–1940: Equity Cases: **CCARS**

Court of Quarter Sessions

- 1820–1839: Fugitive Slave Records: **CCARS**
- 1843–1872: Prison Discharges: **CCARS**
- 1700–1855: Indentured Servants & Apprentice Records: **CCARS**
- 1788–1821: Negro Servant Returns: **CCARS**
- 1700–1800: Tavern Petitions: **CCARS**
- 1869–1952: Miscellaneous Quarter Sessions Papers: **CCARS**
- 1718–1790: Languishing Prisoner Petitions: **CCARS**
- 1722–1869: Peddler's Petitions: **CCARS**
- 1681–1800: Quarter Sessions Indictments: **CCARS**
- 1802–1910: Oyer & Terminer: **CCARS**

Miscellaneous

- 1885–1979: Veterans' Burials: **CCARS**
- 1917–1921: World War I Servicemen Records (County War Aid Association): **CCARS**
- 1800–1858, 1873–1900: Poorhouse Admissions: **CCARS**
- 1856–1884: Poorhouse Children's Board Book: **CCARS**
- 1720–1940: Coroner's Inquisition Papers: **CCARS**
- 1777–1782: British Depredations: **CCARS**
- 1711–2004: Chester County Commissioners: **CCARS**
- 1861–1865: Board of Relief (Civil War): **CCARS**
- 1810–1841: Poor School Children Records: **CCARS**
- various years: Slave Manumissions: **CCARS**

Naturalizations

- 1798–1935: Naturalization Records: **CCARS**

Key to Repositories

CCARS – Chester County Archives and Record Services
CCHS – Chester County Historical Society

HSP - Historical Society of Pennsylvania