

*A Guide to
Genealogy and Local History
At
Yorkville Public Library*

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Tips for Searching

Sometimes the seemingly most insignificant piece of information about someone can lead to something greater. Research is detective work. Don't overlook the small stuff.

Spelling of names can change over time. Be aware of Americanization of names, transcription errors, typographical errors, census errors, etc.

Read indexing rules or exceptions at the beginning of an index for clues to searching.

Don't forget what you readily have available to you at home: marriage, death, and birth certificates, church records, passports, insurance and medical records, deed, and tax records, correspondence, memberships and citizenship records, family bibles, school transcriptions and diplomas, military and employment records, wills, newspaper clippings, and photographs.

Limit your search to one or two people at a time and take that person's family group sheet with you when searching and check off what and where you have searched. (Don't trust names and dates to memory)

Organization of data is critical. It is not fun to redo work you have already done but can't find.

Remember the historical significance of the times you are searching. (i.e., Was there a war going on? Was there an epidemic at the time? What was the price of things? What was the mode of transportation? etc.)

Revisit online databases. More information is added and updated periodically.

Our Collection

Our local history collection is located on the second floor of the library. Please request admittance at the adult reference desk. Our collection is available to browse in this room with the exception of a few items that have been archived and require a special request to view. The room also contains a computer for genealogy database searches and a microfilm reader.

Items with a spine label beginning with "GEN" may be checked out.

Items with a spine label beginning with "GEN-REF" may NOT be checked out.

Archived items may NOT be photocopied but may be photographed with a digital camera. Some of these items have been digitized and are available to view via the internet.

The following list is a most requested portion of what we have available.





Our Local Collection

150 Years Along the Fox: the History of Oswego Township Illinois (1983)

Atlas and History of Kendall County, Illinois. (1941) [Archived.](#)

Bicentennial History of Kendall County. (1976)

Commemorative Portrait and Biographical Record of Kane And Kendall Counties, Illinois (1888) [Archived.](#)

Duchnowski, Jillian. *Yorkville* (2014)

Genealogical and Biographical Record of Kendall and Will Counties, Illinois. (1901) [Archived.](#)

Greenaway, John W. *With the colors from Aurora 1917,1918,1919.* (1922) [Archived.](#)

Hicks, E.W. *History of Kendall County Illinois.* (1877)

Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Kendall County, (1914) [Archived.](#)

Joslyn, R. Waite. *History of Kane County, Illinois.* (1908) [Archived.](#)

Kendall County Birth Records 1877-1903.

Kendall County Marriage Records May 1841-Sep. 1915.

Lawyer, Marvin. *Old Rural Schools of Kendall County.* (1995)

Soldiers of the American Revolution in Illinois (2013)

Tio, Lucinda and Kathy Farren. *History of Yorkville, Illinois, 1936-1986.*

Yorkville High School Annuals: (Mi-Y-Hi)

1911 [Archived](#), 1943, 1947, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1955, 1958, 1959 and volumes from 1960-2014 (but not 1986 & 2011).

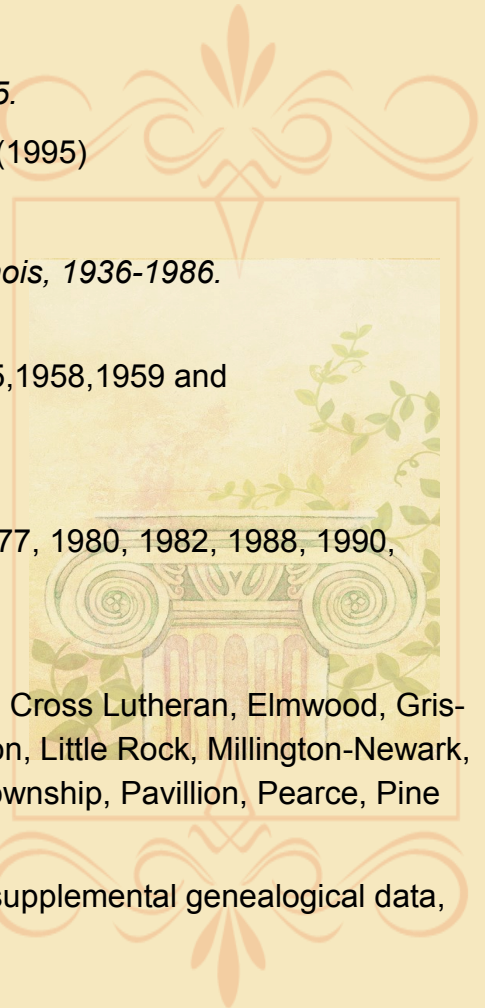
Kendall County Atlas and Plat books:

1903, 1922, 1955, 1959, 1964, 1967, 1970, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1980, 1982, 1988, 1990, 1994, 1998, 2005, 2014.

Kendall County Record (on Microfilm) from 1864-.

Kendall County Cemetery Records: Ausable, Cowdrey, Cross Lutheran, Elmwood, Griswold, Helmar, Immanuel Lutheran, Keck, Lincoln, Lisbon, Little Rock, Millington-Newark, Oak Grove & St. Patrick's, Oswego Prairie, Oswego Township, Pavillion, Pearce, Pine Mound, Plattville Mound, West Lisbon.

Special Census: 1860 Census of Kendall County with supplemental genealogical data, 1865 State Census of Kendall County.



Online Searching

Books online:

There are now many Illinois State and county history books online that have been digitized and are searchable at these sites:

<http://illinoisharvest.grainger.uiuc.edu>

www.archive.org

<http://idaininois.org>

Government Databases:

<http://www.archives.gov/index.html> -National Archives

<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/services.html> -State Archives

www.glorerecords.blm.gov/ -U.S. sold public land in the 1800's. A deed or land patent was granted to the first private owner of the land. From the Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office.

Free Internet Searches:

<http://kendallkin.org/> -Kendall County history site by Elmer Dickson

<http://genealogytrails.com/ill/> -Best site for Illinois Genealogy

<http://interment.net/us/il/index.htm> -Cemeteries of Illinois

www.suvcwdb.org -search for Union Civil War Veterans buried in Kendall Co.

<http://www.ilgensoc.org/> - Illinois Genealogical Society (this has links to other Illinois Societies)

www.libertyellisfoundation.org -Ellis Island Immigrants 1892-1924

<http://castlegarden.org/> -Ships of immigrants 1820-1892

www.familysearch.org -LDS (Mormon) church family history site. If you find something here you can request the microfilm at a local family history site.

<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/freeforms/> -Forms to download for record keeping.

Library catalogs to search online:

www.newberry.org/genealogy-and-local-history -Newberry Library in Chicago

<http://www.genealogycenter.org> -Allen County Public Library, Indiana

Ancestry Library Edition is a subscription database available only within the Yorkville Public Library.

Additional Area Information

Kendall County Clerk

111 W. Fox Street

Yorkville, IL 60560

630-553-4104

Circuit Court Clerk

807 John Street

Yorkville, IL 60560

630-553-4183

Birth records from 1877

Death records from 1877

Marriage records form 1841

Land records from 1841

Assessor's books from 1845

Chattel mortgage record from 1872

County Court record from 1872

Militia Roll Record 1861-1862

Mortgage record from 1856

Naturalization record 1855-1906

Tax sale record 1857-1879

Divorce records

Conservator's records form 1905

Guardian's records from 1858

Probate records form 1841

Record of wills from 1849

Churches

For area churches please see the Yellow Page listings.

www.yellowpages.com



Area Groups and Societies

Kendall County Historical Society
Lyons Farm
7935 Rt. 71
Yorkville, IL 60560
Open for special events
630-553-6777

Kendall County Genealogy Group
Meets monthly (call for times) at:
Plano Community Library District
15 W. North Street
Plano, IL 60545
630-552-1003

Fox Valley Genealogical Society Collection housed at:
Oswego Public Library
32 W. Jefferson Street
Oswego, IL 60543
630-554-3150
Assistance available 9am-Noon and 1-4 on 2nd Tuesdays and 6-9 on 2nd
Fridays

Joliet LDS Family History Center
655 Springfield Ave
Joliet, IL 815-725-8621
Hours: M, W-TH 6pm-9pm ; Sat. 9am-12pm

Morris LDS Family History Center
1414 West DuPont Ave.
Morris, IL
815-941-4133
Hours: T10am-2pm ; W 6pm-8pm





Donations and Ongoing Projects

We welcome donations (in excellent condition) and suggestions for materials that are of local historical interest that we do not already have.

At present our staff is working on indexing the Kendall County Record Obituaries. This will be an ongoing project. The index will be divided and printed into 10-20 year sections. The completed years are available on our local history/genealogy page.

Monetary donations with which to expand our collection are always appreciated.

Enclosed please find my donation of \$_____

For Suggested Item _____

Name _____

Address _____

Date _____

Book Plate Requested Yes _____ No _____



902 Game Farm Rd.

Yorkville, IL 60560

630-553-4354

www.yorkville.lib.il.us