

It's a Keeper!
Genealogy
And Local History Research
at the
Ashtabula County
District Library



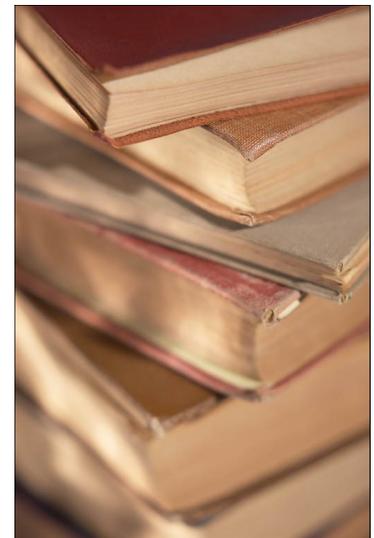
We offer a a superb collection of genealogy and local history material for Ashtabula County. The collection also contains historical and genealogical information for surrounding areas, especially Trumbull, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Portage, Lake, Licking, and Lorain counties in Ohio. Other areas on the migratory path from New England to the Western Reserve (New York to Pennsylvania) are included as well.

Our library should be your place of first resort when researching ancestors from Ashtabula County. It's often more expedient to begin your general research at the library before conducting specific searches at public record offices, such as in Jefferson, Ashtabula, or Columbus. Visit us online at www.acdl.info/genealogy for a listing of the resources available. The highly trained Reference staff works closely with the Genealogy department to help you find what you need. Contact us via email at ashref@acdl.info, via phone at **440-990-2326** (Reference) or **440-990-2340** (Genealogy), or text us at **440-467-0275**.

Located in the historic Carnegie Conklin side of our Ashtabula building, the **Edith R. and Mary W. Morrison Genealogy and Local History Room** has been developed in cooperation with the Ashtabula County Genealogy Society (ACGS). The ACGS is in residence at the library and provides trained volunteers to help visitors with their family history research. The ACGS can be found online at www.ashtabulagen.org or reached via email at acgs@ashtabulagen.org.

[Noteworthy Info about Family History Research in Ashtabula County](#)

- There are no birth or death records in this county prior to 1867.
- If your ancestor doesn't appear in any of our birth, death, or marriage records, it doesn't mean they weren't here. Early vital records were not recorded for many reasons. For example, records for some marriages as late as the 1880s were not turned in by the officiating ministers.
- Generally, parentage was not listed in death records before 1909, nor in most early marriage records. Many of the marriage returns microfilmed by the Ashtabula County Genealogical Society are from the original returns, and include consent slips where applicable—hence, an autograph. We also offer microfilmed LDS (Church of Latter-Day Saints) vital statistics.
- After 1908, Ohio law changed regarding birth and death records. In the cities of Ashtabula and Conneaut, the City Board of Health managed the records. Elsewhere in Ashtabula County, the records were managed by the County Board of Health. Marriages continued to be recorded at the county level, as they are today.
- Newspapers starting about 1830 for Ashtabula, Jefferson and Conneaut can be viewed on microfilm at libraries in their respective cities. Geneva newspapers are available in the **Edith R. and Mary W. Morrison Genealogy and Local History Room** at the Ashtabula Library.



Highlights from the Genealogy & Local History Collection...

Microfilm (over 2,000 reels that include...)

- Vital and County Records (pre-1920)
- Archives Days films of Ashtabula County: city, township, church, personal records, photos, and genealogies on 436 reels of microfilm
- Ashtabula County census (plus most for Geauga and Lake Counties)
- Census data for Erie, Crawford, and Mercer counties in Pennsylvania
- Data from County Auditor & Treasurer departments
- Birth Registrations & Corrections
- Clerk of Courts & Court of Common Pleas
- Estates (42 reels)
- Justice of the Peace
- Marriages
- Naturalization records
- Newspapers
- Recorder's Index
- Will Books

...and Newspaper Microfilm

- *Ashtabula Beacon Record* (Oct. 1900-Aug. 1915)
- *Ashtabula News* (Jan. 1876—Dec. 1881)
- *Ashtabula Sentinel* (Jan. 1855—Jan. 1857)
- *Ashtabula Star* (July 1914—June 1915)
- *Ashtabula Star and Beacon* (June 1916—Dec. 1920)
- *Ashtabula Star Beacon* (Jan. 1921—present)
- *Ashtabula Telegraph* (Oct. 1849—Aug 1911)
- *Geneva Daily Free Press* (March 1901-July 1979)
- *Geneva Times* (1867—Dec. 1900)
- *Harbor Journal* (Sept. 1981—Sept. 1988)
- *Jefferson Gazette* (1902-1915, 1935-1979)
- *Rock Creek Banner* (March 1880—Sept. 1881)
- *Rock Creek Independent* (Oct. 1927—May 1946)
- Various Orwell newspaper titles between 1908 and 2004

Family Histories

- Over 1,000 compiled genealogies, all with some connection to Ashtabula County
- Notebooks of pedigree charts
- Thousands of Name Reference Cards for Ashtabula County
- The full, ongoing run of "Ancestor Hunt," the ACGS Quarterly newsletter, containing queries and annual indexes of names
- Thousands of Family Files housed in multiple full-size filing cabinets, all relating to residents of Ashtabula County

Genealogy, Local & General History

- Thousands of reference and research books
- Census indexes (Ohio and selected other areas)
- County & City Directories (mostly post-1900)
- Tombstone readings
- County Atlases (c. 1820-30, 1856, 1874, 1905)
- All known history/biographical works on the Northeastern Ohio region
- *Women of the Western Reserve* (print & microfilm)
- Biographical and historical books by Williams, Large, ACGS, Ellsworth, Borsvold, Johnson, Schaeffer, Corts, Peet, and Upton
- Historical works for townships and cities in Ashtabula County
- Copies of early poll books
- Late birth registration and corrections
- Bulletins of the Ashtabula County Historical Society
- Scrapbooks
- Clipping/topical files
- Church booklets
- ... and much more!

Public Records Indexes

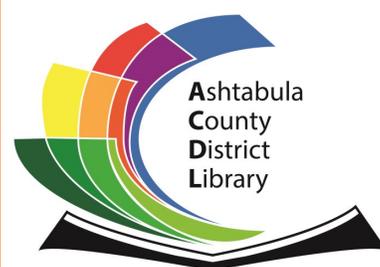
- Births & Deaths (1867-1908)
- Marriages (1811-1900)
- Unpublished Finding Aids (indexes) not found anywhere else

Online Services & CD-ROMs

- Over 770 CDs covering Local, State, National & Foreign records
- *Ancestry: Library Edition*
- *Elephind*
- *NewsBank*
- *Family Search*
- *R.B. Hayes Obituary Index*

Equipment

- Microfilm readers
- Photocopiers
- Digital scanners
- Internet terminals
- Fax machine
- Free wi-fi
- Color printers



4335 Park Avenue
Ashtabula, Ohio 44030

www.acdl.info

440-997-9341 (main)

440-990-2340 (Genealogy)

440-990-2326 (Reference)

440-467-0275

(Text-A-Librarian)