

Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston

Resources for Jewish Genealogy in the Boston Area

American Jewish Historical Society

160 Herrick Rd. Newton Centre, MA 02459
(617) 559-8880 www.ajhs.org
Mon-Thurs 8:30-4:30; Fri 8:30 -1

The AJHS holds many books and archival items about the history of American Jewry.

- NE Jewish family histories and genealogies.
- Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)
- Boston , arrival records, 1882-1929.
- Chevra Kadisha records, Boston, Fall River.
- Publications of U.S. Jewish historical societies.
- NE Catalogued manuscript collections.

Boston Public Library

Copley Square Boston, MA 02117
(617) 536-5400 www.bpl.org
Mon-Thu 9-9; Fri,Sat 9-5;
Sun 1-5 Oct-May (Closed Jun-Sept)

Social Sciences Department:

- Reference books, encyclopedias, dictionaries.
- Atlases and gazetteers.
- Genealogical how-to and reference works.

Microtext Department:

- Over 3,300 Newspaper titles on microfilm.
- Massachusetts Vital records, to 1895, some towns
- Boston City Directories, 1789-1981.
- City directories for (some) major U.S. cities, to 1981
- Boston City Residents Lists (Voters Reg.) to 1959
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for New England.
- Telephone books: Boston 1902-1996;
Major American cities, 1976- present.
- Federal Census records, New England, 1790-1920.
- Passenger Lists: Boston 1820-1918
(indices 1848-91, 1902-43).
New York 1820-1897 (index 1820-1846).
New Bedford, Portland , Providence
- Massachusetts County Probate records.
- Military and Veterans' Records, NE 1789-1903

Boston City Archives

30 Millstone Rd. Hyde Park, MA 02136
(617) 364-8679 email: archives@ci.boston.ma.us
Mon-Fri 9:30 – 4:30 (by appt only)

- 1857-1900 Voter List
- Tax poll records (all males over 20) 1822-1895, 1945-1975
- City Census 1820-1855

(Call and ask if they might have something that would help you. Remember Chelsea, Charlestown, Hyde Park, Jamaica Plain and Roxbury were once considered part of Boston.)

State Library of Massachusetts

341 State House Boston, MA 02133
(617) 727-2590 Mon-Fri 11-5

- City Directories for Mass, 1789-date.
- Telephone directories: all Mass, 50 state capitals, and other major cities.
- Massachusetts city and county atlases and maps; newspapers, indices, local histories.
- Special Collections Dept. Rm #55 Mon-Fri 9-1

Brandeis University - Judaica Dept

Goldfarb Library

MS 045 PO Box 549110 Waltham, MA 02454-9110
(781) 736-4685 www.library.brandeis.edu/judaica
Mon-Thur 9-4: Fri 9-3

- 120,000 volume Judaica collection, open stacks.
- Genealogical handbooks, collected genealogies.
- Biographies, autobiographies, dictionaries.
- Histories of Jewish communities
- Extensive collection of Yizkor Books.
- Jewish newspapers and periodicals (16th cent. - date)
- 19th-cent. American Jewish periodicals and index (on microfilm)

Family History Centers

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (The Mormon Church) operates the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, the world's largest genealogical library. With 2,800 Family History Centers, open to all, the collection includes thousands of reels of 19th-century East European Jewish vital records. Film may be ordered from Salt Lake City (small fee) and viewed at Centers near Boston:

- **Weston** 150 Brown Street (781) 235-2164
Tu,W 7pm-9pm; F, Sa 9-3 NY Indices
- **Lynnfield** 400 Essex Street (781) 334-5586
Tu 7pm-9 pm; Wed 10-9, Thu 10-4, 2nd & 4th Sa 10-4
- **Cambridge** 2 Longfellow Park (617) 491-4749
W 6pm-9 pm; Sa 9-1
- **Belmont** 15 Ledgewood Place (617)489-9375
T,W,Th 7pm-9 pm; Sa 9am-12
- **Add'l Centers:** Visit the website:
www.familysearch.org and follow the links for Family History Centers

Jewish Cemetery Association of Massachusetts

1320 Centre Street #306 Newton Centre, MA 02459
(617) 244-6509 Mon-Thu 9-5, Fri 9-2

- No research on premises. Use Email: info@jcam.org
- Over 86,000 burial records of 82 Boston area Jewish cemeteries; maps and directions.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston

Resources for Jewish Genealogy in the Boston Area

Harvard University Libraries

Harry Elkins Widener Library
Harvard Yard 1329 Mass Ave
Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 495-2411

Mon-Thu 9am-10pm; Fri 9-7:; Sat 9-5; Sun Noon-8
(Call "Privileges" at (617) 495-4166 for rules on use of library by non Harvard associates)

An excellent research library of over 200,000 books, focusing on New England family and local history.

- Large Judaica collection (closed stacks)
- Russian City and Business Directories.
- Over 500 Yizkor Books.
- Business records of R.G. Dun & Co. (at Baker Lib.)

Hebrew College Library

160 Herrick Rd. Newton Centre, MA 02459
(617) 559-8600 www.hebrewcollege.edu
Mon-Thu:9-9; Fri 9-Noon; Sun 9-3 (exc summer)

100,000 volumes, covering all areas of Judaic studies:

- Biographical and geographical reference works.
- Collected Jewish genealogies.
- Boston Jewish community surveys.
- Yizkor books and local histories.
- Periodicals and newsletters of Jewish genealogical and historical societies.
- Jewish Genealogical Family Finder.

Microfilm collection includes:

- Boston Jewish Advocate, 1905-present.
- Jerusalem Post, 1948-present.
- Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (AJGS) microfiche collection:
 - Gazetteers of Eastern Europe.
 - Indexes to Russian Consular Records
 - U.S. State Department Passport records
 - U.S. Jerusalem Consulate records
 - Name changes in Palestine
 - Publications of Jewish genealogical societies.
 - Jewish Genealogical People Finder.

Massachusetts Registry of Vital Records and Statistics

150 Mt. Vernon St., 1st Floor Dorchester, MA 02125-3105
(617) 740-2600 Mon-Fri 8:45-4:45
For research: 9-Noon; 2-4:30
www.state.ma.us/dph/bhsre/rvr/vrrsrch.htm

- Massachusetts Vital Records: 1911-present Births, Marriages, Deaths and Divorces
 - Alphabetical indexes in five-year compilations. *Some birth and marriage records restricted.*
 - Certified copies \$6.00 each, (\$11.00 by mail)
 - \$3.00/hour fee

Massachusetts State Archives

220 Morrissey Blvd. Boston, MA 02125
(617) 727-2816 Mon-Fri 9-5; Sat 9-3
www.state.ma.us/sec/arc email: archives@sec.state.ma.us

- Mass. Vital Records: Births, Marriages and Deaths, 1841-1910.
- Boston Arrival Passenger Lists, 1848-1891.
- Naturalization records - Mass state and local court abstracts, 1885-1931; county court naturalizations
- Probate records - Massachusetts county courts.
- Massachusetts State Census - 1855, 1865.
- Massachusetts town records.
- WPA Historical Records Survey, 1930s, including church and synagogue records.
- Mass state agency records: medical examiners' reports; state hospitals, prisons, institutions

New England Historic Genealogical Society

101 Newbury Street Boston, MA 02116
(617) 536-5740 Tue-Sat, 9-5; Wed-Thu, 9-9
www.newenglandancestors.org email: nehgs@nehgs.org

- Indexes to 19th cent passenger lists
- City and county deed maps to 1920
- Mass & Vermont city directories
- NE Vital Records to 1900, most towns
- Land/probate to 1900+
- Early census directories
- Free beginner lecture each month

National Archives - New England Region

380 Trapelo Road Waltham, MA 02452-6399
(866) 406-2379
www.archives.gov/facilities/ma/boston.html
email: waltham.center@nara.gov
M,T,F 8-4:30; W,Th 8 am -9 pm
1st & 3rd Sat of month 8-4:30

- Federal Census Records, 1790-1920, for the entire United States, with available indices.
- Passenger Arrival Lists for Boston, 1820-1930 with indexes for 1848-1891, 1902-1920.
- Passenger Arrival Lists for New Bedford MA, Portland ME, Providence RI, Galveston TX, and the Canadian Border.
- Naturalization Records for New England states:
 - All courts: copies and full index, 1791-1906.
 - Federal Courts: original records for later dates.
- WWI Draft Registration for New England states.
- World War II War Crimes records.
- Records of Federal agencies in New England