Locality Guide for Genealogical Research in Hamilton County, Indiana

History

Hamilton County was named for Alexander Hamilton, aid to General George Washington throughout the Revolutionary War and first Treasurer of the United States. The land containing Hamilton County was brought into the possession of the United States by the Treaty of St. Mary's in 1818. Hamilton County was formally organized from its parent county of Marion on April 7, 1823. The county seat is Noblesville. The county is divided into 9 townships consisting of Adams, Clay, Delaware, Fall Creek, Jackson, Noblesville, Washington, Wayne and White River. The major cities and towns are Arcadia, Atlanta, Carmel, Cicero, Fishers, Noblesville, Sheridan and Westfield. Neighboring counties include Marion, Boone, Madison, Hancock, Howard and Clinton.

Hamilton County's roots are in agriculture. However, as Indianapolis grew north after WWII, Hamilton County developed as a suburb. Especially in the southern half of the county, farm fields have been replaced by both residential and commercial development. Today, Hamilton County is one of the nation’s fastest growing counties. Numerous quality of life awards have been won by several communities in Hamilton County within the last decade.

Read More History Online …

http://genealogytrails.com/ind/hamilton/
Hamilton County, Indiana Timeline
A Brief History of Carmel, Indiana
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hamilton_County,_Indiana
http://www.countyhistory.com/hamilton/index.html

History of Hamilton County, Indiana: with illustrations and biographical sketches of some of its prominent men and pioneers : to which are appended maps of its several townships (1880) by John F. Haines

A history of the formation, settlement and development of Hamilton…
By Augustus Finch Shirts - 1901 - 370 pages

Indiana magazine of history, Volumes 59-60

Portrait and biographical record of Madison and Hamilton counties, Indiana (1893)

The People's guide, a business, political and religious directory of Hamilton co., Ind., together with a collection of very important documents and statistics connected with our moral, political and scientific history; (1874)

Directory includes: Last Name, First Name, Township, Residence, Occupation, Birthplace, Birth year, When Settled In County, Political Party, Religion
Repositories

The two main repositories for genealogical sources are those held by the Hamilton County Government and those at the Indiana Room at the Hamilton East Public Library (Noblesville, Indiana). Nearby hotels include the Fairfield Inn and Suites, Super 8 Motel, and Quality Inn & Suites which are all located just off State Road 37. There are several restaurants nearby each facility.

Hamilton County Government Offices

Most of the Hamilton County Government Departments, [http://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/contacts.asp](http://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/contacts.asp), are housed in either the Judicial Center or the Historical Courthouse. These buildings are directly across the street from each other. It is necessary to go through a metal detector when entering the Judicial Center but not the Historic Courthouse. The hours of operation are 8 a.m to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. The offices are closed federal holidays, election days, religious holidays and some in-service days. There is no allocated space for research. There is adequate free 2 hour parking around the square. Additional pay lots are within a block of the courthouse. There are several cafes, sandwich shops and restaurants on the square or within 2 blocks of the square.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hamilton County Gov’t and Judicial Center</th>
<th>Hamilton County Historic Courthouse</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Hamilton County SQ Noblesville, IN 46060</td>
<td>33 N. 9th Street Noblesville, IN 46060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Clerk, Hamilton Circuit Court Clerk – marriages, divorces, probate, guardianship, court records</td>
<td>*Recorder – deeds, mortgages, liens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Surveyor - Maps</td>
<td>*Treasurer – tax records in storage, make arrangements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Hamilton County Health Department</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18030 Foundation Drive, Suite A Noblesville, In 46060</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 317-776-8500 Fax: 317-776-8506</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Birth and Death Records 1882 – present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Clerk’s Office
http://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/departments.asp?id=2100
317-776-9629

The Clerk’s Office is the record-keeper for all county-level court cases: civil, criminal, traffic tickets, estates,
guardianships, juveniles. The office issues marriage licenses; processes child support, judgment, and probation
payments; issues warrants; and oversees and conducts all elections and campaign finance reporting requirements.
Newer cases can be accessed via computer in the courthouse. Copies are $0.50 per page. Note that the Clerk’s
Office closes at 4 pm.

Family History Library Films, originals held by Clerk. See FamilySearch.org for film ordering detail.
*Probate order books, Circuit Court, Hamilton County, Indiana, 1822-1921 and Complete Probate order books,
  Probat Court, Hamilton County, Indiana, 1829-1866
*Probate records, 1830-1937
*Partition records, Circuit Court, Hamilton County, Indiana, 1856-1890
*Will records, 1824-1920
*Naturalization record, May 1855-Mar. 1905
*Marriage records, 1833-1959; license applications, 1882-1940
*Delayed birth records, June 1941-May 1977

Recorder’s Office
http://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/departments.asp?id=230
317-776-9618 or 317-776-9619

The County Recorder was the first office created by the Constitution of the State of Indiana in 1816. The Recorder's
Office records and preserves public records, including Deeds, Mortgages, Liens, Releases, Leases, Articles of
Incorporation, Assumed Business Names, Military Discharges, Subdivision Plats, UCC's (Uniform Commercial Code
filings) and other documents. However it does not generally include Court Orders, Decrees, Judgments, Wills or
Death Certificates.

There is a computerized document index that extends back to January of 1987 and document images extend back to
February of 1996. Employees of the Recorder's Office CANNOT search records. If you know the recording
information, you may request a copy from the Recorder’s Office. Seven computers are available in the Recorder’s
Office for Public Access. Public Search Hours are 8:00 am to 4:20 pm

Family History Library Films, originals held by Recorder. See FamilySearch.org for film ordering info.
*Record of apprentices and indentures, June 1847-Mar. 1887
*Deed records, 1825-1886

Treasurer’s Office
http://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/departments.asp?id=220
317-776-9620

The Treasurer's Office collects, retains custody of, and disburses county funds. It collects various taxes including local
and state property taxes, inheritance taxes, and delinquent taxes; and issues property tax statements. Old books and
records are in storage so arrangements must be made prior to inspection.
Surveyor’s Office

http://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/departments.asp?id=2200
317-776-8495

Surveyor’s website has 1866 Maps of Hamilton County Townships, Original Land Grant Map and Historical Aerial Photo Maps, Historical Plat Maps of various years, and a Cemetery Map. Free downloads.

Health Department
18030 Foundation Drive, Suite A
Noblesville, IN 46060
Phone: 317-776-8500
Fax: 317-776-8506
Business hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Health Department (A) is 1.6 miles from the Courthouse (B). Simply go east on State Road 32 across State Road 37 to the shopping plaza near Applebee’s and Home Depot. The library (C) is just before State Road 37, turn left on Cumberland Road and the library is on the right.

Birth and Death Records
All persons born in Hamilton County after 1882 have written birth and death certificates on file with the Health Department. Late July and August are busy months due to the start of school.

Instructions and Forms: http://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/forms.asp?entity=2122

1. Complete Application
2. Must Enclose Copy of Photo ID (i.e. Drivers License)
3. Cash or Money Orders only – No Personal Checks or Credit Cards
   Fee: $10.00 copy of birth record
   $5.00 each additional copy of same record issued at same time.
4. Self Addressed Stamped Return Envelope

Mail Request to: Hamilton County Health Department
18030 Foundation Drive, Suite A
Noblesville, IN 46060

Indiana Room
Hamilton East Public Library

One Library Plaza
Noblesville, IN 46060-5640
Phone 317-770-3206
indrm@hepl.lib.in.us
http://www.hepl.lib.in.us/

Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am to 9:00 pm
Friday-Saturday, 9:00 am to 5:30 pm
Sunday, 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm
http://www.hepl.lib.in.us/nob_map.html
Also see map above.
The Indiana Room is located on the second floor of the Hamilton East Public Library in Noblesville. The Indiana Room is dedicated to preserving local and state history, and genealogy and family history. Many of the sources are part of special collections or reference materials and cannot be checked out. The department holds educational classes and seminars every month on genealogical topics. [http://www.hepl.lib.in.us/ref/indiana_room.html](http://www.hepl.lib.in.us/ref/indiana_room.html).

Hamilton East Public Library in Noblesville has ample free parking. There are several eating establishments very close to the library such as Applebee’s, Starbucks, Penn Station, Burger King, and many more. However, due to congested traffic, driving is recommended.

The Indiana Room has microfilm and microfiche readers and copiers, computers, and a copy machine. Copies are 15 cents for the copy machine and 25 cents for microfilm. There is ample research space.

Subscription databases for use while in the library include:

- Ancestry Library Edition
- Heritage Quest Online
- New England Ancestors
- Footnote.com

**Records Held in the Indiana Room**

- General genealogy reference books
- Federal census records for the state of Indiana (microfilm)
- Hamilton County Histories by several authors.
- *Hamilton County History* A collection of photographs at the turn of the 19th to the 20th century including almost all of the Hamilton County Township Schools and photographs by Earl Brooks (1883-1968) of the people and places of Noblesville and the surrounding area. A joint project of the Hamilton County Historical Society and the Hamilton County Public Library.
- Obituary File Index (by surname)
  - 1837-1874
  - 1920-1946
  - 1950-current
  - 1874-1920, refer to Woodward, Marion C., *Names in...* death notices: An index to the Noblesville Ledger, Sept. 11, 1874 to March 20, 1881 [1978]. Ref 977.256
- Local newspapers dating back to 1837 (available on microfilm), spotty coverage before 1905
- Family Histories Files contain donated family histories and genealogies
- Hamilton County and Indiana clippings file
- Hamilton County cemetery listings
- Local high school yearbooks:
  - Noblesville 1901- current
- Sanborn maps of Noblesville (available on microfilm)
- Topographical Maps
- Plat Maps
- Family Tree Maker Archives
- City directories (Noblesville), various years 1874-1993
- Hamilton County Law Library
Vital Records

Works Progress Administration (WPA) Vital Record Indexes are available in the Indiana Room at the Hamilton East Public Library, on microfilm from the Family History Library, or on Ancestry.com.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WPA Index</th>
<th>Indiana Room</th>
<th>Family History Library Films</th>
<th>Ancestry.com</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birth Records 1882-1920</td>
<td>Ref 977.256</td>
<td>Births A-K Births L-Q FHL US/CAN Film 1266797 Items 9-10 Births R-Z FHL US/CAN Film 1266798 Item 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death Records 1882-1920</td>
<td>Ref 977.256</td>
<td>FHL US/CAN Film 1266798 Item 2</td>
<td>Indiana Deaths, 1882-1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage Records 1850-1920</td>
<td>Ref 977.256</td>
<td>FHL US/CAN Film 1266798 See film notes for clarification</td>
<td>Indiana Marriage Collection, 1800-1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Marriage Records 1833-1850</td>
<td>Ref 977.256</td>
<td>Marriage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WPA Indexes to Vital Records for the other 67 Indiana Counties are available on microfilm and CD in the Indiana Room.

Marriage Records
Indexes for Hamilton County, Indiana can be found on various online sources.

Indiana State Library Genealogy Database: Marriages through 1850
Indiana State Library Genealogy Database: Marriages: 1993-2002
Ancestry.com: Indiana Marriage Collection, 1800-1941

The Indiana State Library has marriage applications and records on microfilm, various filming from 1833-1952. See http://www.in.gov/library/3078.htm for details.

VINE - Vital INformation Exchange or http://208.119.72.68/vine/vine_home.asp
VINE is a searchable statewide database, which is composed of Indiana local history and vital records from Indiana libraries and related organization. The Indiana Room at the Hamilton East Public Library is in the process of adding its Obituary File Index to this database.

Find A Grave
findagrave.com
SKL and SunCacher, Find A Grave contributors, have input a large number of cemetery listing for the county. The information has come from the Hamilton County Historical Society cemetery listings and gravestones.

Obituaries
If an obituary cannot be found in the Indiana Room, check the Indianapolis Star. Especially in the twentieth century, many Hamilton County residences had their obituaries printed in the Indianapolis Star due to the proximity of Indianapolis.

Church Records Filmed by Family History Library
Church records, 1797-1934 Society of Friends. Poplar Ridge Monthly Meeting (Hamilton County, Indiana)
Church records, 1804-1964  Society of Friends. West Grove Monthly Meeting (Hamilton County, Indiana)
Church records, 1820-1954  Society of Friends. Sheridan Monthly Meeting (Hamilton County, Indiana)
Church records, 1836-1977  Society of Friends. Lamong Monthly Meeting (Hamilton County, Indiana)
Church records, 1845-1923  Methodist Episcopal Church (Hamilton County, Indiana)
Church records, 1859-1887  Society of Friends. Hinkles Creek Monthly Meeting (Hamilton County, Indiana)
Church records, 1860-1919  Society of Friends. Eagle Creek Monthly Meeting (Hamilton County, Indiana)
Church records, 1867-1907  Society of Friends. Sugar Ridge Monthly Meeting (Hamilton County, Indiana)
Church records, 1870-1880  Society of Friends. Spicewood Monthly Meeting (Hamilton County, Indiana)
Church records, 1871-1910  Society of Friends. Noblesville Monthly Meeting (Hamilton County, Indiana)
Church records, 1893-1922  Society of Friends. Noblesville Monthly Meeting (Hamilton County, Indiana)

Hamilton County Genealogical and History Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center</th>
<th>Indiana Genealogical Society</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>450 West Ohio Street</td>
<td>P.O. Box 10507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269</td>
<td>Fort Wayne, IN 46852-0507</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hamilton County Genealogist</th>
<th>Hamilton County Historian</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nancy A. Massey</td>
<td>David Heighway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton East Public Library</td>
<td>140 N. 15th St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Library Plaza</td>
<td>Noblesville, IN 46060-2610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noblesville, IN 46060</td>
<td>Phone: (317) 770-3222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>317-770-3206</td>
<td>Phone: (317) 773-2142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:masseyn@hepl.lib.in.us">masseyn@hepl.lib.in.us</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<th>Hamilton County Genealogy Society</th>
<th>Carmel Clay Historical Society</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>111 Beechmont Drive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.carmelclayhistory.org">www.carmelclayhistory.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carmel, IN 46032</td>
<td>211 1st St. SW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 317-846-5714</td>
<td>Carmel, IN 46032-2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:Kathyvena@att.net">Kathyvena@att.net</a></td>
<td>Phone: 317-846-7117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact: Kathy A. Venable, President</td>
<td><a href="http://chistory@indy.rr.com">chistory@indy.rr.com</a></td>
</tr>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hamilton County Historical Society</th>
<th>Sheridan Historical Society</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 397</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sheridannews.net/historicalsociety/">www.sheridannews.net/historicalsociety/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noblesville, IN 46061-0397</td>
<td>308 S. Main St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 317-770-0775</td>
<td>Sheridan, IN 46069-1113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 317-770-0775</td>
<td>Phone: 317-758-5054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:hamiltoncomuseum@att.net">hamiltoncomuseum@att.net</a></td>
<td><a href="http://scheridanhistorical@sbcglobal.net">scheridanhistorical@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact: Diane Nevitt, Director</td>
<td>Contact: Jim Pickett, Executive Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President: Dottie Young</td>
<td>President: Ron Stone</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Westfield-Washington Historical Society</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 103</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westfield, IN 46074-0103</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 317-804-5365</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.wwhs.us">www.wwhs.us</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:president@wwhs.us">president@wwhs.us</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact: Joe Sanders, President</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Libraries and Archives
The Indiana State Library, The Indiana State Archives and Allen County Public Library all have sources relevant to genealogical research. The Indiana Room at the Hamilton East Public Library in Noblesville contains many unique genealogy and history sources for Hamilton County. It is recognized that research needs can vary, the other Hamilton County libraries are given as references.

**Indiana State Library**  
140 North Senate Avenue  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2207  
317-232-3675  
[http://www.in.gov/library/](http://www.in.gov/library/)  
Hamilton County Sources held at the Indiana State Library  
[Hamilton County Newspapers held at the Indiana State Library](http://www.in.gov/library/)  
[Online Databases](http://www.in.gov/library/)

**Indiana State Archives**  
6440 East 30th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46219-1007  
317-591-5222  
[http://www.in.gov/icpr/2358.htm](http://www.in.gov/icpr/2358.htm)  
[Online Indexes](http://www.in.gov/icpr/2358.htm)

**Allen County Public Library**  
900 Library Plaza  
Fort Wayne, IN 46802  
260-421-1252  
[http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/index.html](http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/index.html)

**Hamilton North Public Library**  
[http://www.hnpl.lib.in.us/](http://www.hnpl.lib.in.us/)  
100 S Walnut St  
Atlanta IN 46030  
765-292-2521

209 West Brinton St  
Cicero IN 46034  
317-984-5623

**Carmel Clay Public Library**  
55 4th Ave SE  
Carmel, IN 46032  
317-814-3900  
[http://www.carmel.lib.in.us/](http://www.carmel.lib.in.us/)

**Hamilton East Public Library**  
**Fishers Library**  
Five Municipal Drive
Major Attraction

Conner Prairie Interactive History Park
Conner Prairie
13400 Allisonville Road
Fishers, IN 46038
info@connerprairie.org
317-776-6006
800-966-1836
http://www.connerprairie.org/

Connor Prairie is a living history museum. Features Prairietown, a pioneer village set in 1836. Visitors can participate in daily living. Other attractions include 1859 Balloon Voyage, Lenape Camp, 1886 Liberty Corner, William Conner House. Special events include Civil War Reenactments, Headless Horseman Ride, “Mystery on the Prairie”, Symphony on the Prairie and more.

Published Books, partial list


Histories of the Christian Churches of Hamilton County, 1834-1944. Indiana?: s.n, 1944.


Addition Resources

http://www.werelate.org/wiki/Special:Search?go=true&k=hamilton+county+indiana
http://www.cyndislist.com/in-local.htm
http://www.linkpendium.com/genealogy/USA/IN/Hamilton/
http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/roots-l/USA/in.html
http://genealogytrails.com/ind/hamilton/
http://ingenweb.org/inhamilton/
Indiana Magazine of History http://webapp1.dlib.indiana.edu/imh/
Indiana Digital Archives http://www.indianadigitalarchives.org/default.aspx
National Register of Historic Places http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/IN/Hamilton/state.html
Family History Library Films for Hamilton County, Indiana
Bureau of Land Management http://www.glorecords.blm.gov/