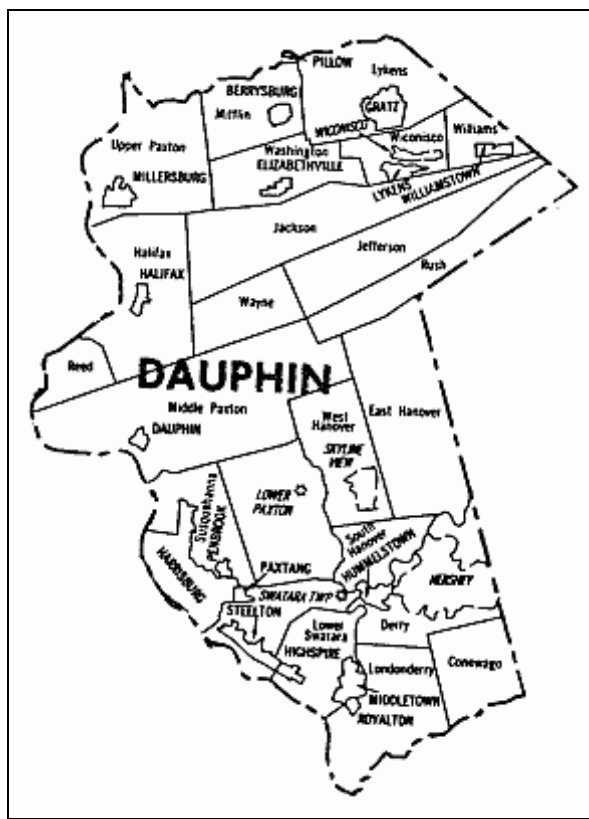


Pennsylvania Genealogy Resource Guide

Dauphin County



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Dauphin County
Pennsylvania

Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction	3
2.0	History	3
3.0	Geography	3
4.0	Demographics	3
5.0	Archives	6
6.0	Courthouse	7
7.0	Genealogical Societies	7
8.0	Historical Societies	7
9.0	LDS Family History Center	9
10.0	Local Newspapers	9
11.0	Public Libraries	10
12.0	University & College Libraries	12
13.0	Internet Resources	12
14.0	Other Resources	13
15.0	Outline map of Pennsylvania showing 67 counties	14

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1.0 Introduction

This research guide was prepared for the family historian doing research primarily in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. The guide provides some background information on Dauphin County as well as a directory of resources to aid the family historian in locating information of a genealogical nature on a local, state and federal level.

2.0 History

Dauphin County is a county in the U.S. state of Pennsylvania and is one of the three counties comprising the Harrisburg–Carlisle Metropolitan Statistical Area. As of 2010 census, the population was 268,100. The county includes the city of Harrisburg, which has served as the state capital since 1812. Also located within the county is Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station, site of the 1979 nuclear core meltdown.

Dauphin County was created on March 4, 1785, from part of Lancaster County and was named after Louis-Joseph, Dauphin of France the first son of Louis XVI. Louis-Joseph's title of Dauphin signified that he was the heir apparent to the throne of France. The county seat is Harrisburg, Pennsylvania's capital and tenth largest city.

3.0 Geography

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 558 square miles (1,450 km²), of which 525 square miles (1,360 km²) is land and 32 square miles (83 km²) (5.78%) is water. The county is bound to its western border by the Susquehanna River.

Adjacent counties

Northumberland County (north)
Schuylkill County (northeast)
Lebanon County (east)
Lancaster County (south)
York County (southwest)
Cumberland County (west)
Perry County (west)

4.0 Demographics

As of the 2010 census, the county was 72.7% White, 18.0% Black or African American, 0.2% Native American, 3.2% Asian, and 3.1% were two or more races. 7.0% of the population were of Hispanic or Latino ancestry.

As of the census of 2000, there were 251,798 people, 102,670 households, and 66,119 families residing in the county. The population density was 479 people per square mile (185/km²). There were 111,133 housing units at an average density of 212 per square mile (82/km²). The racial makeup of the county was 77.11% White, 16.91% Black or African American, 0.16% Native American, 1.96% Asian, 0.03% Pacific Islander, 1.97% from other races, and 1.85% from

two or more races. 4.13% of the population were Hispanic or Latino of any race. 29.2% were of German, 7.5% Irish, 7.3% American and 7.2% Italian ancestry according to Census 2000. 91.8% spoke English and 3.9% Spanish as their first language.

According to 2005 estimates, 73.9% of the county's population was non-Hispanic whites. 17.8% of the population was African-Americans. 2.5% were Asians. Latinos now were 5.0% of the population.

In 2000 there were 102,670 households out of which 29.70% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 47.60% were married couples living together, 12.90% had a female householder with no husband present, and 35.60% were non-families. 30.00% of all households were made up of individuals and 10.30% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.39 and the average family size was 2.98.

In the county, the population was spread out with 24.30% under the age of 18, 7.60% from 18 to 24, 30.10% from 25 to 44, 23.80% from 45 to 64, and 14.20% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 38 years. For every 100 females there were 92.30 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 88.80 males.

Historical populations		
Census	Pop.	%±
1790	18,155	—
1800	22,270	22.7%
1810	31,883	43.2%
1820	21,653	-32.1%
1830	25,243	16.6%
1840	30,118	19.3%
1850	35,754	18.7%
1860	46,756	30.8%
1870	60,740	29.9%
1880	76,148	25.4%
1890	96,977	27.4%
1900	114,443	18.0%
1910	136,152	19.0%
1920	153,116	12.5%
1930	165,231	7.9%
1940	177,410	7.4%
1950	197,784	11.5%
1960	220,255	11.4%
1970	223,834	1.6%
1980	232,317	3.8%
1990	237,813	2.4%
2000	251,805	5.9%
2010	268,100	6.5%

Under Pennsylvania law, there are four types of incorporated municipalities: cities, boroughs, townships, and, in at most two cases, towns. The following cities, boroughs and townships are located in Dauphin County:

Cities

Harrisburg is the only incorporated city in Dauphin County.

List of Harrisburg neighborhoods

Allison Hill	City Island	Marketplace
Bellevue Park	East Harrisburg	Midtown
Camp Curtin	Engleton	Shipoke
Capitol District	Italian Lake	South of Market District
Capitol Heights	Jackson Lick	South Harrisburg
Central Business District	Hardscrabble	Uptown

Boroughs

Berrysburg	Halifax	Middletown	Pillow
Dauphin	Highspire	Millersburg	Royalton
Elizabethville	Hummelstown	Paxtang	Steelton
Gratz	Lykens	Penbrook	Williamstown

Townships

Conewago	Londonderry	Reed	Washington
Derry	Lower Paxton	Rush	Wayne
East Hanover	Lower Swatara	South Hanover	West Hanover
Halifax	Lykens	Susquehanna	Wiconisco
Jackson	Middle Paxton	Upper Paxton	Williams
Jefferson	Mifflin		

Unincorporated and Census-designated places

Census-designated places are geographical areas designated by the U.S. Census Bureau for the purposes of compiling demographic data. They are not actual jurisdictions under Pennsylvania law. Other unincorporated communities, such as villages, may be listed here as well.

Census-designated places

Bressler-Enhaut-Oberlin	Lawnton	Progress
Colonial Park	Linglestown	Rutherford
Grantville	Paxtonia	Skyline View
Hershey		

Unincorporated villages

Bachmanville	Fort Hunter	Malta	Powells Valley
Beaufort Farms	Grantville	Manada Gap	Ritzie Village
Dietrich	Hanoverdale	Manada Hill	Rockville
Deodate	Heckton	Matamoras	Sand Beach
Carsonville	Hillside Village	Montrose Park	Shellsville
Catalina	Hockersville	Oakleigh	Singersville
Ebenezer	Hoernerstown	Oakmont	Swatara
Edgemont	Inglenook	Oberlin Gardens	Vaughn
Ellendale Forge	Jednota	Paxtang Manor	Union Deposit
Enders	Killinger	Palmdale	Waynesville

Enterline
Estherton

Lucknow

Piketown

Windsor Farms

5.0 Archives

Dauphin County Archives Dauphin County Courthouse

Front & Market Streets
Room 103
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Telephone: (717) 780-6323

Website: <http://www.dauphincounty.org/public-records/archives/>

Harrisburg City Archives City Government Center

10 N. Second Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Telephone: (717) 255-3040

Website: http://www.harrisburg_archives.org/

The Harrisburg City Archives is currently closed with no scheduled re-opening date at this time.

Pennsylvania State Archives

350 North Third Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Telephone: (717) 783-3281

Website: http://portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/state_archives/2887

National Archives & Records Administration (NARA) Mid-Atlantic Region

Robert N.C. Nix Federal Building
900 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107-4292

Telephone: (215) 606-0100

Fax: (215) 606-0116

Website: <http://www.archives.gov/midatlantic/>

National Archives & Records Administration (NARA) Main Branch

700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20408

Telephone: (866) 272-6272

Fax: (301) 837-0483

Website: <http://archives.gov/>

6.0 Courthouse

Dauphin County Courthouse

Front & Market Streets
Room 103
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Telephone: (717) 255-2657

Website: <http://www.dauphincounty.org>

County created March 4, 1785 from Lancaster County

County Clerk has birth and death records from 1893 to 1906; marriage records from 1885 to the present; probate records from 1795 to the present. Prothonotary has divorce records and civil court records. Recorder of Deeds has land records. Clerk of the Orphans Court has records from 1795 to the present.

7.0 Genealogical Societies

Capital Area Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 4502
Harrisburg, PA 17111-0502

No Phone

Website: <http://www.capitalareagenealogy.org/>

Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania (GSP)

2207 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-3010

Telephone: (215) 545-0391

Website: <http://genpa.org/>

8.0 Historical Societies

Camp Curtin Historical Society and Civil War Round Table

P.O. Box 5601
Harrisburg, PA 17110

No Phone

Website: <http://www.campcurtin.org/>

Dauphin-Middle Paxton Historical Society

300 Church Street
Dauphin, PA 17018

No Phone

Website: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~padmphs/>

East Hanover Township Historical Society

415 Manada Bottom Road
P.O. Box 185
Grantville, PA 17028

Telephone: (717) 469-2660

Website: <http://www.easthanoverhistory.org/>

Gratz Historical Society

8 W. Market Street
Gratz, PA 17030

No Phone

Website: <http://www.gratzpa.org/>

Halifax Area Historical Society

228 Market Street
Halifax, PA 17018

Telephone: (717) 896-8010

Hours by appointment

The Hershey-Derry Township Historical Society

40 Northeast Drive
Hershey, PA 17033

Telephone: (717) 520-0748

Website: <http://hersheyhistory.org/>

The Historical Society of Dauphin County

The John Harris-Simon Cameron Mansion

The Alexander Research Library

219 South Front Street
Harrisburg, PA 17104

Telephone: (717) 233-3462

Fax: (717) 233-6059

Website: <http://www.dauphincountyhistory.org/>

Historical Society of Millersburg

324 Center Street
Millersburg, PA 17061

Historical Society of Pennsylvania (HSP)

1300 Locust Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Telephone: (215) 732-6200

Fax: (215) 732-2680

Website: <http://hsp.org/>

Hummelstown Area Historical Society

28 W. Main Street
P.O. Box 252
Hummelstown, PA 17036

Telephone: (717) 566-6314

Website: <http://www.hummelstownhistoricalsociety.org/>

West Hanover Township Historical Society

7171 Allentown Boulevard
Harrisburg, PA 17112

9.0 LDS Family History Center

Harrisburg/Hershey Pennsylvania

4788 Union Deposit Rd
Harrisburg, PA 17111

Telephone: (717) 545-3021

Hours: Tu,Th 6pm-9pm; W 9am-1pm; Sat 9am-12pm.

Attention: Please call on Sat to make sure we are open

10.0 Local Newspapers

The Hershey Chronicle

Ceased publication as of January 28, 2009
Microfilm copies available at PA State Library

The Hummelstown Sun

40 W. Main Street
Hummelstown, PA 17036

Telephone: (717) 566-3251

Fax: (717) 566-6196

Website: <http://news.thesunontheweb.com/>

The Patriot-News

2020 Technology Drive
Suite 300
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Telephone: (717) 255-8100

(800) 692-7207

Website: <http://www.patriot-news.com/>

<http://www.pennlive.com/>

The Paxton Herald

101 Lincoln Street
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Telephone: (717) 545-9540

Website: <http://www.thepaxtonherald.com/>

The Press and Journal
20 S. Union Street
Middletown, PA 17057

Telephone: (717) 944-4628
Website: <http://www.pressandjournal.com/>

11.0 Public Libraries

Dauphin County Library System:

Administrative Offices

101 Walnut Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Telephone: (717) 234-4961
Fax: (717) 234-7479
Website: <http://www.dcls.org/>

East Shore Area Library (Main Branch)

4501 Ethel Street
Colonial Park
Harrisburg, PA 17109

Telephone: (717) 652-9380
Fax: (717) 545-3584
Website: <http://www.dcls.org/>

Elizabethville Area Library

80 North Market Street
Elizabethville, PA 17023

Telephone: (717) 362-9825
Fax: (717) 362-8119
Website: <http://www.dcls.org/locations/EV/>

Johnson Memorial Library

799 East Center Street
Millersburg, PA 17061

Telephone: (717) 692-2658
Fax: (717) 692-5003
Website: <http://www.dcls.org/locations/JOH/>

Kline Library

530 South 29th Street
Harrisburg, PA 17104

Telephone: (717) 234-3934
Fax: (717) 234-7713
Website: <http://www.dcls.org/locations/KL/>

Madeline L. Olewine Memorial Library

2410 North Third Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Telephone: (717) 232-7286
Fax: (717) 232-9707
Website: <http://www.dcls.org/locations/MOM/>

McCormick Riverfront Library

(Former Harrisburg Public Library)
101 Walnut Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Telephone: (717) 234-4976
Fax: (717) 234-7479
Website: <http://www.dcls.org/MRL/>

Northern Dauphin Library

683 Main Street
Lykens, PA 17048

Telephone: (717) 453-9315
Fax: (717) 453-9315
Website: <http://www.dcls.org/locations/ND/>

William H. & Marion C. Alexander Family Library

200 West Second Street
Hummelstown, PA 17036

Telephone: (717) 566-0949
Fax: (717) 566-7178
Website: <http://www.dcls.org/locations/AFL/>

Hershey Public Library

701 Cocoa Avenue
Hershey, PA 17033

Telephone: (717) 533-6555
Website: <http://hersheylibrary.org/>

Middletown Public Library

20 North Catherine Street
Middletown, PA 17057

Telephone: (717) 944-6412
Website: <http://middletownpubliclib.org/>

Pennsylvania State Library

Forum Building
607 South Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0600

Telephone: (717) 783-5950
Website: http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/bureau_of_state_library/8811

**Allen County Public Library
Genealogy Center**

900 Library Plaza
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Telephone: (260) 421-1225
Fax: (260) 421-1386
Website: <http://www.genealogycenter.org/>

**New York Public Library (Main Branch)
Stephen A. Schwarzmann Building**

Fifth Avenue at 42nd Street
New York, NY 10018-2788

Telephone: (917) 275-6075
Website: <http://www.nypl.org/>

**Library of Congress (Main Branch)
Thomas Jefferson Building**

10 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20540

Telephone: (202) 707-5000
Website: <http://www.loc.gov/>

12.0 University & College Libraries

**Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC)
McCormick Library**

One HACC Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Telephone: (717) 780-2300 (Main)
(717) 780-2460 (Library)
(800) 222-4222
Website: <http://www.hacc.edu/>

**Pennsylvania State University
Penn State Harrisburg Campus - Library**

351 Olmsted Drive
Middletown, PA 17057

Telephone: (717) 948-6070
Website: <http://hbg.psu.edu/library>

13.0 Internet Resources

- **Access Genealogy** www.accessgenealogy.com/pennsylvania
- **Ancestry.com** www.ancestry.com/ (Some items require a paid subscription.)

- **Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet**
www.cyndislist.com/
- **Ellis Island** *www.ellisland.org/*
- **Family Search Internet Genealogy Service (LDS Church)**
www.familysearch.org/
- **Find-A-Grave.com** *www.findagrave.com/*
- **Footnote.com** *www.footnote.com/*
- **Genealogy.com** *www.genealogy.com/*
- **GenealogyTrails.com** *www.gegenealogy.com*
- **GenForum** *www.genforum.com*
- **Heritage Quest Online** (available through DCLS)
- **Linkpendium.com** *www.linkpendium.com/*
- **National Genealogical Society** *www.ngsgenealogy.org*
- **PAGenWeb** *www.pagenweb.org/*
- **PA-Roots.com** *www.pa-roots.com/*
- **RootsWeb.com Home Page** *www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/*
- **Social Security Death Indexes**
www.genealogybank.com/gbnk/ssdi/
- **The U.S. GenWeb Project** *www.usgenweb.org*
- **WorldGen Web Project** *www.worldgenweb.org*

14.0 Other Resources

Division of Vital Records

101 South Mercer Street
Room 401
P.O. Box 1528
New Castle, PA 16101

Personal check or money order should be made payable to Vital Records. To verify current fees, the telephone number is (724) 656-3100. This will be a recorded message. Information on how to obtain certified copies is also available via the Internet at <http://www.dsf.health.state.pa.us>

Pennsylvania Birth Certificates

Cost for copies: \$10.00
State office has records since January 1906

For earlier records, write to Register of Wills, Orphans Court, in county seat of county where event occurred.

Pennsylvania Death Certificates

Cost for copies: \$9.00

State office has records since January 1906

For earlier records, write to Register of Wills, Orphans Court, in county seat of county where event occurred.

Pennsylvania Marriage Certificates

Make application to the Marriage License Clerks, County Court House, in county where license was issued.

Pennsylvania Divorce Records

Make application to the Prothonotary, Court House, in county seat of county where divorce was granted.

15.0 Outline map of Pennsylvania showing 67 counties

