

National Archives
Northeast Region (Boston)



Family History Sources

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Introduction

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) safeguards records of all three branches of the Federal Government. Our mission is to ensure that all Americans have ready access to essential evidence that documents the rights of American citizens, the actions of Government officials, and our national history.

In support of that mission, NARA–Northeast Region (Boston) has custody of the permanently valuable records of field offices and divisions of Federal agencies in the New England states. It is one of 13 such NARA facilities across the country. These records have continuing value for assisting in

the necessary processes of government, for protecting public and private rights, and for providing scholars, students, and the general public with basic historical sources. They reflect the history and development of the agency or office that created them and provide information on American legal, economic, political, and social history.

NARA has reproduced on microfilm many of its most significant records, especially those with high research value. Microfilm publications serve the public's need for greater access to original source material, by making holdings more accessible, as well as to provide security copies of the original records.

A significant portion of these records and microfilm contains material of genealogical value. The most widely used records for family research are described here.

