In February 1857, the Columbia Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind opened to provide primary education to deaf, mute, and blind children. Located in the District of Columbia, the school attracted students from all over the United States. In 1865, the Institution established the National Deaf Mute College, now known as Gallaudet University.

Enumerating the Columbia Institution
Federal census takers recorded information about who was living at institutions, which included the students and faculty living at the Columbia Institution.


- 1900 Census. *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900* (National Archives Microfilm Publication T623, roll 158) ED 18, pages 1A–3A.

- 1910 Census. *Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910* (National Archives Microfilm Publication T624, roll 154) ED 197, pages 1A–1B.

- 1920 Census. *Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920* (National Archives Microfilm Publication T625, roll 298) ED 262, pages 1A–1B.

- 1930 Census. *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930* (National Archives Microfilm Publication T626, roll 298) ED 233, pages 1A–1B. Unlike earlier censuses, the 1930 census only lists staff and faculty.

- 1940 Census. Available online only. ED 1-462, pages 1A-84B.

For more information, see the following reference report: *Annual Reports of the Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, 1857–1927.*

Rev. August 2013