

Genealogy Gems: News from the Allen County Public Library at Fort Wayne

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New, and New Again

by Curt B. Witcher

In honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May, the Genealogy Center is offering a new database for those who are researching onsite here at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. "My China Roots" just launched

today! My China Roots is a genealogy database designed for people of Chinese heritage to trace their Chinese family history. It contains millions of Chinese and English-language records of relevance to Chinese communities from North America to Southeast Asia, including Chinese family tree books, Chinese exclusion case files, passenger lists, census records, Chinese business and student directories, tombstones and more.

The Genealogy Center joins a growing number of libraries offering this expanding file of resources including the Free Library of Philadelphia, the San Francisco Public Library, Stanford University Libraries, Alameda County Library, the Los Angeles Public Library, and the Boston Public Library.

There are a number of opportunities to learn about this database during the month of May including one tomorrow. See the list below.

**"Introducing My China Roots: A New Database for Researching Chinese Ancestors," a virtual program of the Boston Public Library on May 1, 2024 at 12 p.m ET on Zoom. Register for free at the following

link: <https://bpl.bibliocommons.com/events/65bd4d3c1b80e24800b07ea0>

**"Getting Started with Chinese Genealogy," a virtual program of the Free Library of Philadelphia on May 6, 2024 at 11 a.m. ET on Zoom. Register for free at the following

link: https://freelibrary-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HNAjIPbpStSyG3ojWadrEQ#/registration

**"Exploring Chinese Genealogy Books (Zupu) on My China Roots," a virtual program of the Los Angeles Public Library. May 18, 2024 at 2 p.m. PT Watch Live at 2P PT on

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lCAFWyvjvjl>

All three of the above programs will be presented by Clotilde Yap. During Family History Month this October, specifically on October 8, 2024, Ms. Yap will present a virtual program for us on "My China Roots."

This coming Sunday, May 5, 2024, in cooperation with and sponsored by the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society, we will be offering two hybrid programs in the Genealogy Center's Discovery Center—participate in-person or online via Zoom. Ellie Vance will present "History of Jews in the Russian Empire and an Introduction to Record Types" at 2 p.m. ET and "Jewish Research in the Former Russian Empire" at 3:30 p.m. Ms. Vance graduated from Brigham Young University with degrees in Russian and Family

History and Genealogy. She worked as the Slavic research specialist for the FamilySearch Library and currently works as a technical historical records expert at FamilySearch, where she provides data for machine learning and indexing of Russian genealogical documents. More details about each presentation can be found further on in this ezine under “May 2024 Program Call-Outs.” If attending virtually, register for this free program at the following link. https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1eYqR1-TSzSqtH-KzIAhQ#/registration

These two new offerings--a new database and an afternoon of new programs--lead me to muse again about the importance of ethnic origins in our collective quest to find our families’ stories. I believe we don’t pay enough attention to the ethnic origins of our ancestors. We should renew our interest in finding good foundational data about our ancestor’s ethnic groups and then layer-on specific record groups and more geographically oriented information. If it’s been a while since you looked at the “Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups,” you should find a copy at our local library or through a used-book dealer like AbeBooks. (As of this writing there were numerous copies under \$20 on the used book market.) The detailed narratives for every ethnic group that touched toe in the United States and the rich bibliographies found in every section may lead to even more meaningful discoveries. Improve your chances for great clues and hints by complementing the “Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups” with state-specific gems like “Peopling Indiana: The Ethnic Experience” and the twenty-five volume work “Texians and the Texans.”

Our ancestors’ ethnic origins--their fingerprints left behind waiting for us to discover them.

Unraveling Ancestry in Alsace: Getting Started

by Kate McKenzie

Among the many regions rich in history and familial ties, Alsace stands out as a particularly fascinating destination for genealogical exploration. Nestled in northeastern France, bordering Germany and Switzerland, Alsace boasts a diverse cultural tapestry influenced by its tumultuous history and unique geographical position.

Throughout history, Alsace has been a coveted region, marked by shifting borders and cultural influences. Initially part of the Roman province of Germania Superior, it became a border area between French and German cultures and languages. Annexed by France in 1648 after the Thirty Years War, Alsace saw further conquests in the following century. After the Franco-Prussian War of 1870–71, it became part of the German Empire until World War I, when it was returned to France by the Allies. Post-World War II, Alsace reverted to French control after German occupation. These historical fluctuations significantly impact genealogical research.

Linguistic diversity is a defining aspect of Alsace's history. While Germanic dialects prevailed historically, periods of linguistic and cultural assimilation occurred. French influence grew after Louis XIV's annexation in the late 17th century. Despite these changes, many Alsatians maintained a strong identification with their German heritage. This is evident in family names, traditions, and cultural practices, which often remained rooted in Germanic origins, providing valuable clues for genealogical research.

For those beginning to trace ancestry in Alsace, several resources and strategies can aid in the journey:

Begin in the United States:

First, it's important to thoroughly research your ancestors' records within the United States. Utilizing resources such as passenger lists, naturalization documents, church records, death certificates, and obituaries can provide valuable insights into their origins.

Find the Town of Origin:

Before delving into international records, it's crucial to pinpoint the town of origin, and many of the record types mentioned above can assist with this. France is divided into 96 administrative districts called departments, and the Alsace region is covered by two departments: Bas Rhin and Haut Rhin. For guidance on uncovering your ancestors' town of origin, FamilySearch provides a valuable article:

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/France_Finding_Town_of_Origin

Explore Civil and Church Records:

In this area, civil birth, marriage, and death records became mandatory in 1792. These records, supplemented by church records dating back even earlier, are the most reliable primary sources for research.

A helpful starting point is the FamilySearch catalog. By searching under the designated place, such as 'France, Alsace, [your department], [your town name],' you can access relevant records. For instance, 'France, Alsace, Bas Rhin, Ingwiller' would be an example search.

Civil records are accessible and can be searched by name. Additionally, depending on your ancestor's town and religious affiliation, you may find online access to church records within the FamilySearch catalog as well.

Tracing German ancestry in Alsace is a journey through layers of history, culture, and identity. By tapping into a diverse array of resources and methodologies, genealogists can uncover the rich tapestry of their Alsatian roots, connecting past and present across generations and borders.

Unlocking the Past: How MapWarper Enhances Genealogy Research—

<https://mapwarper.net/>

by Elizabeth Hodges

What if you could stroll down the same streets as your ancestors or pinpoint the location of the family farm from a century ago? Maps are an invaluable resource for family historians because they anchor our family's stories in specific locations, highlighting the physical and societal landscapes that shaped their daily lives. MapWarper (<https://mapwarper.net/>) is a powerful, free tool that transforms the way researchers can view historical maps in relation to present-day landscapes. This free platform allows researchers to overlay historical maps onto modern ones, merging past and present into a striking visualization of the world our ancestors inhabited.

MapWarper is an open-source tool that digitally aligns ("warps") historical maps to match modern map coordinates. This process, known as georeferencing, involves adjusting the old map so its features align with those in contemporary satellite images or modern street maps using OpenStreetMap. Doing this gives researchers the ability to see changes over time such as shifts in boundaries, the development of land, as well as pinpointing the modern locations of places that no longer exist such as old roads, landmarks, farms, houses, or even entire communities that have been absorbed by cities. MapWarper can also be used to locate exact pieces of land ancestors owned or lived on by overlaying historical land ownership maps (plat maps) onto modern maps.

Using MapWarper involves several steps:

- *Select a Historical Map: Start with a digital copy of a historical map. Many libraries and online archives offer collections of digitized maps that are suitable for georeferencing. Ideally, you will want to use a map that has a higher resolution for the best final product, but don't let resolution stop you from testing MapWarper out!
- *Upload and Warp: Upload the map to the MapWarper platform. Then, use the tool to align the historical map with corresponding points on a modern map. This might involve aligning road intersections, natural features, or building footprints.
- *Overlay and Analyze: Once the maps are aligned, users can toggle between the historical and modern maps to analyze the geographical changes and gather insights relevant to their genealogical research.

MapWarper is more than just a digital tool; it's a bridge connecting the past and the present. For genealogists, it offers a powerful way to help us see beyond names and dates, transforming abstract family histories into tangible, relatable stories.

For a detailed tutorial on how to use MapWarper:

<https://youtu.be/EIZj67YgOXE?si=zuS9B3Mxizhcx-T2>

<https://programminghistorian.org/en/lessons/introduction-map-warper>

FREE map resources:

<https://www.davidrumsey.com/>

<https://www.oldmapsonline.org/>

<https://www.loc.gov/maps/>

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps/about-this-collection/>

<https://www.leventhalmap.org/>

<https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/collections/lane/maps-atlases>

<http://digital->

[library.usma.edu/digital/collection/civmaps/search/searchterm/maps/field/all/mode/all/conn/and/order/nosort/ad/asc](http://digital-library.usma.edu/digital/collection/civmaps/search/searchterm/maps/field/all/mode/all/conn/and/order/nosort/ad/asc)

<https://alabamamaps.ua.edu/>

https://maps.lib.utexas.edu/maps/map_sites/hist_sites.html

<https://digital.newberry.org/ahcb/>

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Maps>

<https://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/maps>

PERSI Gems: Church Toilets

by Adam Barrone and Mike Hudson

While approaching a church today for a funeral, I was met with a curious visual: a vintage toilet resting on a walkway near the side entrance. Its substantial tank, still shiny white, and its robust shape distinguish it from fixtures available today. The base of this mid-century 'Standard' was stair-stepped in a way reminiscent of earlier art-deco designs. The oldest portion of the church building, c. 1959, is being renovated, and it appears that this plumbing relic, dating to the original construction of the church, has been disaffiliated, expelled, or, perhaps, excommunicated.

Before today, I had never given any thought to historical sanitation facilities at houses of worship. A new day offers a new research rabbit hole.

The Periodical Source Index (PERSI) is a pathway to many historical topics some consider to be unusual or unmentionable. Our massive catalog of serial articles proved, once again, to be up to the task. It logs a two-page essay from Prestonburg, Kentucky, cleverly entitled 'Dear John'. The article is flush with details of Methodist privies, plumbing, toilets, sewers, separate facilities for clergy dubbed the 'Holy Throne', and vent fans for the church ladies.

While giving the vent fan time to work, try a PERSI search here:

<https://www.genealogycenter.info/persi/>

Captain Karl-Adolph Schlitt and U-1206 faulty toilet sinking, military mishap, 1945

MHQ: the Quarterly Journal of Military History, Vol. 31, Issue 3 (Spr 2019)

Captain P. H. Grouleff recalls USS Skipjack letter regarding toilet paper, 1942

Polaris (U.S. Submarine Veterans of WWII), Vol. 31, Issue 5 (Oct 1987)

Chamberlain water closet seat advertisement, 1885

Connector (Tar River Connections Genealogical Society, NC), Vol. 8, Issue 4 (Fal 2004)

Court order to build water closet, 1865

Phelps County (MO) Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 24, Issue 3 (Aug 2008)

Ethel Hess invents toilet brush holder, n. d., IN

Newcomer (Newton County Historical Society, IN), Vol. 9, Issue 1 (Win 2004)

First United Church of Prestonsburg toilet and restroom history, 1883-1990s

Floyd Countian (Floyd County Historical & Genealogical Society, KY), Vol. 16, Issue 1 (Mar 2010)

Gene H. Hundhausen, 69th Inf. Div. memories, Colonel's personal toilet notes, c. 1944-1945, CA

Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association, Inc., Bulletin, Vol. 43, Issue 3 (May 1990)

Jimmy Goble re incident of the exploding commode, 1950s-1960s, Allen, KY

Floyd Countian (Floyd County Historical & Genealogical Society, KY), Vol. 11, Issue 4 (Dec 2005)

Missed the most, toilet paper and water, prisoner of war Eugene E. Evers recollections, c. 1953

Graybeards (Korean War Veterans Association), Vol. 24, Issue 1 (Jan 2010)

Pamela Ruigh recalls toilet paper in the outhouse attracted field mice, n.d., Franklin, WV
Vermont's Northland Journal, Vol. 10, Issue 11 (Feb 2012)

Secret chambers discovered at Drum Castle, toilet and toilet seat, 14th C.+
Highlander, Vol. 51, Issue 5 (Sep 2013)

Preservation Tips: National Historic Preservation Month

by Christina Clary

May is almost here, which means it is time to show our appreciation for preservationists around the country through National Historic Preservation Month! This year's theme, chosen by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is People Saving Places. If you know someone involved with historic preservation, make sure to say thank you for all the challenging work they do to preserve the beautiful historic buildings and history in your community. Here in Fort Wayne, we have the Fort Wayne Historic Preservation Commission and ARCH working to preserve historical integrity and provide preservation resources to the community.

This is a great time to tour some of the historic neighborhoods in Fort Wayne if you are local, including South Wayne, West-Central, Oakdale, Southwood Park, and Williams-Woodlands Park. Our Community Album features some great collections highlighting historic photographs of the area. Explore the Williams-Woodland Park Neighborhood Collection to see the first 'planned' neighborhood in Fort Wayne, or the Dix-Kelly Collection, courtesy of ARCH, for photographs of buildings and homes in the Fort Wayne area from 1919-1930. The Harter Postcard Collection is another great one to view for early 20th century architecture and scenes from around Fort Wayne.

If you're interested in discovering historic buildings and neighborhoods in your community, check out the listings from the National Register of Historic Places. It was established in 1966 as part of the National Parks System through the National Historic Preservation Act. It is a great resource if you are interested in restoring or preserving your historic building and do not know where to start. The National Register staff can also direct you to your State Historic Preservation Office for local assistance and resources.

The National Register also provides resources for nominating your property to be listed as an historic place. To be entered into the National Register, a building must meet the criteria in the three main categories: age, significance, and integrity. Buildings must be at least 50 years old with few significant alterations to their appearance and be historically significant to their community. A building less than 50 years old can be considered eligible if it has extraordinary historical significance. Joining the Register preserves the history of a place and its people and provides incentives to owners. Owners of a building on the National Register can apply for federal and state grants and tax credits and benefits, and nonprofits have access to preservation easements. Unfortunately, the one thing the National Register does not do is give out bronze plaques. That one is up to the owners to provide.

Check out the National Trust's website, savingplaces.org, to find more ways to celebrate National Historic Preservation Month in your community.

History Tidbits: Mexican-American War Settlements or What's in A Name?

by Logan Knight

The Mexican-American War is a largely forgotten conflict, at least in the United States. It certainly does not live in the popular memory the way the Civil War or the Second World War does. Still, the war's legacy survives in a strange way: in the names of towns and cities across the United States that are derived from this conflict.

The war lasted between the years of 1846 and 1848, a time when many American towns and cities were founded. It seems natural that members of these communities would show their patriotism by naming them after recent American victories in the war. That being said, how some of those titles were decided remains a fascinating set of stories.

For example, in the town of Matamoras, Pennsylvania, local residents had been in a ferocious brawl with their neighbors in Port Jarvis, New York. They had crossed the Delaware River to deliver a sound thrashing to their foes. Feeling that they had achieved a triumph similar to General Zachary Taylor's occupation of the Mexican city of Matamoras, they decided to honor both events by crowning their town with the occupied city's name.

The Battle of Palo Alto was the first American victory of the war, thanks to the mobility and accuracy of the U.S. artillery. In a flush of enthusiasm, Palo Alto's name popped up across the country. In Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, local citizens had created a new village and had decided to name it after the recent victory. They thought the name fit well because they believed "Palo Alto" meant "Tall Mountain." This made sense because the community was, in fact, surrounded by tall mountains. However, "Palo Alto" actually means "Tall Tree" or "Tall Wood," but the name stuck anyway.

Hoosiers made up a sizeable percentage of Americans who won the hard-fought battle of Buena Vista. This conflict made an impression on the people of Indiana, where no less than four communities are graced with this name in tribute (located in Franklin, Gibson, Harrison, and Randolph counties).

The year 1850 saw the small villages of Franklin and Union (Whitley County, Indiana) have a mutual problem. Both had grown to the point that they could receive a post office. Since they were located next to each other (divided only by a railroad track), the postmaster general ordered them to apply for a joint post office. Neither town's name could be used, since there were other communities with post offices in the state with those names and they didn't want to duplicate. So, the citizens decided to rename the new combined town Churubusco after an American triumph in the then-recent war

Perhaps no town has a stranger story than Cerro Gordo, Illinois, named after the battle of Cerro Gordo, an important American victory in the war. During the battle, Mexican general and dictator Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna was surprised by a soldier of the 4th Illinois Infantry regiment. To avoid capture, Santa Ann had no choice but to flee leaving behind his artificial leg. The leg would be triumphantly carted back to Illinois, where it remains on display at the Illinois State Military Museum in Springfield. Both Texas and Mexico have sought the leg's return but to no avail. The troops would also carry the name back home, creating the village of Cerro Gordo in Piatt County Illinois.

These are just a few of the fascinating stories of place names from the Mexican-American War. Take a moment and think of how your hometown got its name. It often reveals larger historical connections that remind us of just how close the past can truly be.

Genealogy Center's May 2024 Programs

Join us for another month of free, virtual and in-person programs!

May 2, 2024, 6:30 p.m. ET “In-Person DNA & Genealogy Interest Group” with Sara Allen
- <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/10546507>

May 5, 2024, 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. ET “History of Jews in the Russian Empire and an Introduction to Record Types” and “Jewish Research in the Former Russian Empire” with Ellie Vance, a Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society program - Join us live in the Genealogy Center or register via Zoom
at: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpfuqqgzgsHNdjkgHYzcxEJsGpZKxXmj2z?mc_cid=81ae1f1ba6&mc_eid=120fa3b682#/registration

May 7, 2024, 2:30 p.m. ET “Question Everything: Breaking Through the Brick Walls We’ve Built” with Eilene Lyon - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/9991184>

May 8, 2024, 7 p.m. ET “Documents and Records the Allen County Recorder's Office Has, and the Best Way to Search Through Them” with Allen County Recorder, Nicole Keesling, an Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana program – Join us live in the Genealogy Center or register via Zoom
at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IeYqR1-TSzSqtph-KzIAhQ#/registration

May 9, 2024, 6:30 p.m. ET “Using Catholic Parish Records and Archives” with (The Revd. Dr.) W. Becket Soule, O.P. - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/9988883>

May 14, 2024, 2:30 p.m. ET “Discover Your Veteran’s WWII Story” with Rebecca Poole
- <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/10546480>

May 16, 2024, 6:30 p.m. ET “Cemetery Etiquette and Iconography” with Lillian Wingate
- <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/10546493>

May 21, 2024, 2:30 p.m. ET “Discover Your Bluegrass Ancestors” with Christina Clary
- <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/10489492>

May 23, 2024, 6:30 p.m. ET “Resources for Doing Genealogical Research in Guatemala and Central America” with Walter K. Sanchez - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/10416383>

May 28, 2024, 2:30 p.m. ET “How to do More Genealogy in Less Time with Goldie May” with Richard K. Miller - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/10558471>

May 30, 2024, 6:30 p.m. ET “A Guide to Custom Passenger Lists: 1820 - ca. 1891” with Logan Knight - <https://acpl.libnet.info/event/10557868>

Please register in advance for these engaging programs.

May 2024 Program Call-Outs

+++Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society+++

On Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 2 p.m. in the Discovery Center of the Genealogy Center and on Zoom, the Northeast Indiana Jewish Genealogy Society is offering an afternoon with Ellie Vance. Ms. Vance will be presenting two programs. At 2 p.m. she will be offering “History of Jews in the Russian Empire and an Introduction to Record Types.” This presentation will provide a brief history of Jews in the Russian Empire, the Pale of Settlement and an introduction to basic record types including revision lists, metrical books, census records, family lists, and more. At 3:30 p.m. Ms. Vance will be offering “Jewish Research in the Former Russian Empire.” If you’re unsure of where to start with researching your Jewish roots in the former Russian Empire, this presentation will provide an introduction to Jewish genealogical research and discuss resources, websites, and tools for research in the former Russian Empire as well as modern country specific resources for Belarus, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Poland, and Ukraine. Ellie Vance graduated from Brigham Young University with degrees in Russian and Family History and Genealogy. She worked as the Slavic research specialist for the FamilySearch Library and currently works as a technical historical records expert at FamilySearch, where she provides data for machine learning and indexing of Russian genealogical documents. Ellie enjoys helping others trace their roots in the former Russian Empire. Feel free to join in-person at the Genealogy Center’s

Discovery Center or register online for these free programs
at https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpfuqqgzgsHNdjkgHYZcxEJsGpZKxXmj2z?mc_cid=81ae1f1ba6&mc_eid=120fa3b682#/registration

+++Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana+++

On Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at 7 p.m. in the Discovery Center of the Genealogy Center and on Zoom, the Allen County Genealogical Society is offering a program entitled “Documents and Records the Allen County Recorder's Office Has, and the Best Way to Search Through Them.” The program will be presented by Allen County Recorder, Nicole Keesling. Ms. Keesling was elected as Allen County Recorder in 2022. Prior to being elected Recorder, Nicole worked in the Allen County Recorder’s Office for more than three years. Nicole is a graduate of the Richard R. Lugar Excellence in Public Service Series, Greater Fort Wayne’s Leadership Fort Wayne, the Ambassador Institute for Civic Engagement, and the New Haven’s Citizens Academy. This presentation will provide one with information on what documents and records the Allen County Recorder’s Office has, and the best way to search them. You will also learn about the numerous services that the Recorder’s Office offers, such as the Neighborhood Resource Center, which is a free gateway to view all recorded plats in Allen County. Register for this free program at the following link. https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IeYqR1-TSzSqtH-KzIAhQ#/registration Feel free to join in-person at the Genealogy Center’s Discovery Center.

+++African American Genealogical Society of Fort Wayne+++

On Saturday, May 18, 2024 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center, the African American Genealogical Society of Fort Wayne (AAGSFW) will be having a hands-on research session for those interested in finding their African American families’ stories. Use your AAGSFW Research Team to further your research journey!

Staying Informed about Genealogy Center Programming

Do you want to know what we have planned? Are you interested in one of our events, but forget? We offer email updates for The Genealogy Center's programming schedule. Don't miss out! Sign up at <http://goo.gl/forms/THcV0wAabB>.

Genealogy Center Social Media

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GenealogyCenter/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/genealogycenter/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ACPLGenealogy>

Blog: <http://www.genealogycenter.org/Community/Blog.aspx>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/askacpl>

Driving Directions to the Library

Wondering how to get to the library? Our location is 900 Library Plaza, Fort Wayne, Indiana, in the block bordered on the south by Washington Boulevard, the west by Ewing Street, the north by Wayne Street, and the east by the Library Plaza, formerly Webster Street. We would enjoy having you visit the Genealogy Center.

To get directions from your exact location to 900 Library Plaza, Fort Wayne, Indiana, visit this link at MapQuest:

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps/map.adp?formtype=address&addtohistory=&address=900%20Webster%20St&city=Fort%20Wayne&state=IN&zipcode=46802%2d3602&country=US&geodiff=1>

>From the South

Exit Interstate 69 at exit 302. Drive east on Jefferson Boulevard into downtown. Turn left on Ewing Street. The Library is one block north, at Ewing Street and Washington Boulevard.

Using US 27:

US 27 turns into Lafayette Street. Drive north into downtown. Turn left at Washington Boulevard and go five blocks. The Library will be on the right.

>From the North

Exit Interstate 69 at exit 312. Drive south on Coldwater Road, which merges into Clinton Street. Continue south on Clinton to Washington Boulevard. Turn right on Washington and go three blocks. The Library will be on the right.

>From the West

Using US 30:

Drive into town on US 30. US 30 turns into Goshen Ave. which dead-ends at West State Blvd. Make an angled left turn onto West State Blvd. Turn right on Wells Street. Go south on Wells to Wayne Street. Turn left on Wayne Street. The Library will be in the second block on the right.

Using US 24:

After crossing under Interstate 69, follow the same directions as from the South.

>From the East

Follow US 30/then 930 into and through New Haven, under an overpass into downtown Fort Wayne. You will be on Washington Blvd. when you get into downtown. Library Plaza will be on the right.

Parking at the Library

At the Library, underground parking can be accessed from Wayne Street. Other library parking lots are at Washington and Webster, and Wayne and Webster. Hourly parking is \$1 per hour with a \$7 maximum. ACPL library card holders may use their cards to validate the parking ticket at the west end of the Great Hall of the Library. Out of county residents may purchase a subscription card with proof of identification and residence. The current fee for an Individual Subscription Card is \$85.

Public lots are located at the corner of Ewing and Wayne Streets (\$1 each for the first two half-hours, \$1 per hour after, with a \$4 per day maximum) and the corner of Jefferson Boulevard and Harrison Street (\$3 per day).

Street (metered) parking on Ewing and Wayne Streets. On the street you plug the meters 8am – 5pm, weekdays only. The meters take credit cards and charge at a rate of \$1/hour. Street parking is free after 5 p.m. and on the weekends.

Visitor center/Grand Wayne Center garage at Washington and Clinton Streets. This is the Hilton Hotel parking lot that also serves as a day parking garage. For hourly parking, 7am – 11 pm, charges are .50 for the first 45 minutes, then \$1.00 per hour. There is a flat \$2.00 fee between 5 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Genealogy Center Queries

The Genealogy Center hopes you find this newsletter interesting. Thank you for subscribing. We cannot, however, answer personal research emails written to the e-zine address. The department houses a Research Center that makes photocopies and conducts research for a fee.

If you have a general question about our collection, or are interested in the Research Center, please telephone the library and speak to a librarian who will be glad to answer

your general questions or send you a research center form. Our telephone number is 260-421-1225. If you'd like to email a general information question about the department, please email: Genealogy@ACPL.Info.

Publishing Note

This electronic newsletter is published by the Allen County Public Library's Genealogy Center, and is intended to enlighten readers about genealogical research methods as well as inform them about the vast resources of the Allen County Public Library. We welcome the wide distribution of this newsletter and encourage readers to forward it to their friends and societies. All precautions have been made to avoid errors. However, the publisher does not assume any liability to any party for any loss or damage caused by errors or omissions, no matter the cause.

To subscribe to "Genealogy Gems," simply use your browser to go to the website: www.GenealogyCenter.org. Scroll to the bottom, click on E-zine, and fill out the form. You will be notified with a confirmation email.

If you do not want to receive this e-zine, please follow the link at the very bottom of the issue of Genealogy Gems you just received or send an email to sspearswells@acpl.lib.in.us with "unsubscribe e-zine" in the subject line.

Curt B. Witcher and John D. Beatty, CG, co-editors