



Basic Sources for
Genealogical Research
in
Parke & Vermillion
Counties



Compiled by the
Special Collections Staff
of the Vigo County Public Library



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The materials listed in the brochure may be found in the
Special Collections area of the Main Vigo County Public
Library, 7th & Poplar Streets, Terre Haute, IN

Histories:

SpC

977.245:B

GC

Microform

977.245:B

Beckwith, H.W. History of Vigo And Parke Counties. Chicago: H.H. Hill and N. Iddings, 1880. Separate index.

The Parke County section, written by J. H. Beadle, is the earliest and most comprehensive Parke County history. It contains many biographical sketches and good histories of the townships naming early settlers and giving information on schools, churches, lodges, and towns. Lengthy chapter on the Civil War.

SpC

977.2462:B

Microform

977.2462:B

Biographical and Historical Record of Vermillion County, Indiana. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1888.

Lengthy biographical sketches including much genealogical information were contributed by subjects. Numerous portraits. Introductory material includes portraits and biographies of U. S. presidents and brief histories of Indiana and of Vermillion County.

SpC

977.2462:B

Booth, Louise Hitt. Clinton on the Wabash: a History of Clinton, Indiana, from 1816-1912. Villa Park, CA: [s.n.], 1986. Illus. Indexed.

This brief history by a former resident gives highlights of Clinton history prior to 1910-1912, highlights of life in 1912, major businesses in 1912, short histories of Clinton places and institutions, and names of local business people. Some photographs are included.

SpC

977.246:B

Bowen, B. F. & Company. History of Parke and Vermillion Counties, Indiana. Indianapolis, IN: B. F. Bowen and Co., 1913. Index.

The early history is very concise but this volume does include late 19th and early 20th century history. Each county section gives information on county officials, churches, organizations, banks, newspapers, towns, businesses and industries, mining, etc. Biographical section has lengthy sketches with considerable genealogical information and numerous photographs.

SpC

977.248:C

Chapman Brothers. Portrait and Biographical Record of Montgomery, Parke, and Fountain Counties, Indiana. Chicago: Chapman Bros., 1893. Index.

Extensive biographical sketches including much genealogical information were contributed by subjects. Numerous portraits. Introductory material includes portraits and biographies of the U. S. presidents.

SpC

977.2465:H

History and Families, Parke County, Indiana, 1821-1989. Paducah, KY: Turner Publishing Co., 1989. Index.

The historical section includes information on the various townships, schools, churches, clubs and organizations, businesses, covered bridges and well-known local characters. The emphasis is on the 20th century events. The family history section contains genealogical information submitted by family members and is indexed. There are many attractive photographs throughout the book.

SpC

977.2465:R

Merry, George. Rockville's Sesquicentennial Review: Rockville, Indiana, 1824-1974. Rockville, IN: Torch Newspapers, 1974. Illus.

Includes early history of Rockville, the courthouse, churches, schools, fires, local improvements, transportation, crimes, wars, local festivals, organizations, and businesses. A biographical section gives information on notable local citizens. There is no index.

SpC

977.2462:O

O'Donnell, Harold L. Eugene Township (Vermillion County, Indiana) The First 100 Years, 1824-1924. Danville, IL: The Interstate, Printers and Publishers, 1963. Illus., maps.

Historical sections on Eugene and Cayuga include the usual topics such as businesses, hotels, schools, banks, newspapers, doctors, and transportation but also name many local residents. Lists of lot owners of Eugene, township trustees, postmasters, Eugene cemetery original lot owners, Civil War veterans, original lot owners in Cayuga, teachers and students in various schools. Family and biographical section gives genealogical information contributed by local families. Census section includes all names from 1850-1880 censuses of the township. Illustrated by many old photographs and maps.

SpC

977.2462:O

O'Donnell, Harold L. Newport and Vermillion Township (Vermillion County, Indiana) The First 100 Years, 1824-1924. Danville, IL: The Interstate, Printers and Publishers, 1969. Illus., maps.

Historical section includes the organization of Vermillion County and settlement of Newport, transportation, schools, hotels, churches, cemeteries, businesses, newspapers, County Home, Orphans Home, towns, industries. Many lists of names including early settlers, first landowners, county officials, teachers and students of various schools, ministers, Civil War veterans. Family and biographical section gives genealogical information contributed by local people. Census section contains names from 1850-1880 censuses of Vermillion township. Illustrated by many old photographs and maps.

SpC

977.2465:P

Parke County in the World War. Rockville, IN: Rockville Tribune, 1920.

Historical sketches of Parke County during World War I, including activities of schools and local organizations. Roster of soldiers, sailors, and marines gives name, residence, date of birth, occupation, date of enlistment, regiment and company, date of discharge, photograph. Brief biographies and photographs of Gold Star Honor Roll men, nurses, members of Council of Defense.

SpC

977.2465:P

Payton, Marilyn Mitchell. The Story of Bridgeton: Raccoon Township, Parke County, Indiana. Rosedale, IN: The Mitchell House, 1994. Illus.

This well illustrated history of Bridgeton gives information on the founding of the town, early settlers, businesses, doctors, schools, churches, law enforcement, transportation, entertainment, and wars. There are numerous quotes from local newspapers and from diaries and reminiscences of local citizens. There is no index.

SpC

977.2465:R

Riker, Dorothy, comp. Parke County, Indiana, Index of Names of Persons and of Firms. Indianapolis, IN: County History Indexing Project, Family History Section, Indiana Historical Society, 1980.

Index to all names of persons and firms mentioned in the county histories. Place names and subject entries not included. All names spelled just as they are in text; cross references to surnames similar in spelling or pronunciation. Married women listed under maiden name as well as married name. Each entry gives symbol for county history and page number where name occurs. List of histories indexed and symbols in front of book.

SpC

977.2462:S

Storms, Earl R. Highland township, Vermillion County, Indiana, the First 100 Years, 1824-1924. Perrysville, IN: Earl R. Storms, 1974.

Includes historical information on Perrysville, the Wabash River, the Wabash & Erie Canal, newspapers, schools, and churches. Many lists of names, such as first land owners, soldiers, physicians, postmasters, and families buried in various cemeteries. Census section includes all names from 1850-1880 censuses of the township. Illustrated by many old photographs and maps.

SpC

977.2465:S

GC

Strouse, Isaac R. Parke County, Indiana, Centennial Memorial, 1816-1916. Rockville, IN: Rockville Chautauqua Association, 1916.

Concise historical sketches on various topics: pioneer period, organization of Parke County, early churches, education, courthouse, transportation, business and industry, Civil War, newspapers, fairs, etc. Many biographical sketches of prominent citizens, early settlers, notable women. Many photographs of people and places.

SpC

977.2462:V

Vermillion County Historical Society. Vermillion County, Indiana, History & Families. Paducah, KY: Turner Publishing Co., 1990. Index.

The historical section includes information on the various townships, towns, churches, schools, clubs and organizations, businesses, sports, mines, local landmarks, and famous people. The emphasis is on 20th century events. The family history section contains genealogical information submitted by family members and is indexed. Many photographs of people and places.

SpC

977.2462:W

Watkins, Mary, comp. Vermillion County, Indiana, Index of Names of Persons and of Firms. Indianapolis, IN: County History Indexing Project, Family History Section, Indiana Historical Society, 1981.

Index to all names of persons and firms mentioned in the county histories. Place names and subject entries not included. All names spelled just as they are in text; cross references to surnames similar in spelling or pronunciation. Married women listed under maiden name as well as married name. Each entry gives symbol for county history and page number where name occurs. List of histories indexed and symbols in front of book.

SpC

977.2465:W

Wheeler, Richard M. Historical Sketches of Montezuma, Indiana: "On the Banks of the Wabash." Wolcott, IN: New Wolcott Enterprise; Rensselaer, IN: Rensselaer Printco, 1997. Illus.

This brief history gives information on the Wabash River, early Indian villages, the Wabash & Erie Canal, nearby towns, farms, churches, floods, railroads, local businesses, schools, the Depression, and World War II. There are many good photographs but no index.

Land & Vital Records:

SpC

977.2465:B

Brown, Immogene Hannan, comp. Parke County, Indiana. Mimeograph copy, 1949.

Abstracts from Parke County early land entries, County Deed Record D (May 1832-Feb. 1833), Relief Records of Deeds, Deed Record 1 (1833-1834), and Deed Record 2 (1834-1836). The Relief Record of Deeds was used to re-establish records lost in the 1832 courthouse fire. In general, each entry gives grantor, grantee, location of land, and date of the transaction. Frequently previous residences and names of wives and witnesses are given. Each section of this volume is separately indexed by surname.

SpC

912.772465:C

Combined 1874 Atlas, 1908 Atlas, 1916 Isaac Straus Centennial Memorial, and Name Index of Parke County, Indiana. Mt. Vernon, IN: Windmill Publications, Inc., 1994.

Reprints of the Centennial Memorial noted in the history section and two Parke County atlases. Both atlases show the names of landowners on the township maps and give street maps of towns. The 1874 atlas includes a history of Parke County, brief biographies of prominent people, and lists of subscribers. The 1908 atlas includes a patron reference directory. Both are profusely illustrated with drawings or photos of residences, public buildings, businesses, and people. There is an every name index.

SpC

286.6772465:D

Dailey Chapel Christian Church. Church Record of the Constituted Congregation of Disciples of Christ: School House No. 10, Florida Township, Parke County, Indiana, Beginning January 12, A.D. 1879. Photocopy, 1984.

A history of the Dailey Chapel Christian Church is followed by photocopies of church records from 1900 to the 1970s. The records are mostly lists of members with dates of admission and death or dismissal, lists of officers, and cemetery caretakers. No baptisms or marriages. No index.

SpC

929.3772465:M

Marriages-Parke County, Indiana: Rockville, Indiana, 1831-1860, compiled by (Mrs. R. E.) Bess Ott Swope. Kokomo, IN: Selby Publishing & Printing, 1987. Indexes.

The marriage entries (giving groom, bride, date, and sometimes minister) are roughly in chronological order. There are separate name indexes for brides and grooms.

SpC

929.3772465:S

Sanders, Eva, comp. Parke County, Indiana, Marriage Records Book A (1833-1844). Thomson, IL: Heritage House, no date.

Marriages are arranged exactly as in the original record. Each entry gives page number in original volume, date, and names of husband and wife. Full name index.

SpC

929.3772462:S

Selby, Robert E. & Selby, Phyllis J., comp. Vermillion County, Indiana, Marriage Record, 1824-1861. Kokomo, IN: Selby Publishing & Printing, 1982. Index.

The entries are arranged in alphabetical order by the grooms' names and give the brides' names and dates. There is an index of brides' surnames.

SpC

929.3772465:T

Thomson, Mary V. Harney. Three Sections of Indexes of the Parke County, Indiana, Atlas of 1874. Typescript, 1969.

The list of property holders is alphabetical by name and gives location (township name and township, range, and section numbers), quarter section, number of acres, and meaning of symbols on map. The list of subscribers to the atlas gives name, residence, birthplace, occupation, and year in which the subscriber came to Parke County. The miscellaneous section is an index to the names of persons and businesses in the historical section of the atlas.

SpC

929.3772462:V

Volkel, Lowell M. Vermillion County, Indiana, Land and Marriage Records. No publisher given, no date given.

The original landowners of Vermillion County are listed alphabetically by name. For each one, the date of first land purchase and the township in which the land was located are given. The marriages from 1824 to 1838 include only those not previously published elsewhere. All the Vermillion County marriage returns from 1838 to 1844 have been printed. Full name index.

SpC

929.3772462:V

Volkel, Lowell M. Marriage Records of Vermillion County, Indiana, Volume 3, 1844-1861. No publisher given, no date given.

The marriages are arranged exactly as in the original volume. Each entry gives original page number, date, and names of husband and wife. Full name index.

SpC

929.3772465:W

Weller, Lilian Hargrove. Abstracts of Parke Co., Indiana, Guardian Bond Book 1. Evansville, IN: Kenma Publishing Co., 1979.

Each abstract gives name of guardian, name of child, name of deceased parent, date of appointment, names of securities, amount of bond. Full name index.

SpC

929.3772465:W

Weller, Lilian Hargrove. Parke Co., Indiana, Old Land Entree Book. No publisher given, 1982.

Each entry gives name and residence of purchaser of land; date of purchase; location of land by fraction, section, township and range; and number of acres. Names are arranged exactly as in original volume. An every name index and a map of Parke County are included.

SpC

929.3772465:W

Weller, Lilian Hargrove. Parke Co., Indiana, Will Abstract Book 1, 1833-1853. Evansville, IN: Kenma Publishing Co., 1979.

Wills before 1833 were destroyed by a fire in the courthouse. Each abstract gives name of testator; names of heirs, witnesses and executors; date will was signed; date will was recorded. Some additional information from probate and cemetery records is included. Index gives name of testator and page number in original volume. Entries are arranged as in original.

SpC

929.3772465:W

Weller, Lilian Hargrove. Parke Co., Indiana, Will Abstract Book 2, 1853-1873. Evansville, IN: Kenma Publishing Co., 1979.

Each abstract gives name of testator; names of heirs, witnesses and executors; date will was signed; date will was recorded. Considerable additional information from cemetery records, marriage records, census records, and newspaper obituaries is included. Abstracts arranged as they are in original volume. Every name index.

SpC

929.3772465:W

Weller, Lilian Hargrove. Parke Co., Indiana, Will Abstract Book 3, 1873-1893. No publisher given, 1982.

Each abstract gives name of testator; names of heirs, witnesses and executors; date will was signed; date will was recorded. Includes additional information from census records, marriage records, cemetery records, and obituaries. Abstracts arranged as they are in original volume. Index to names of testators only, not to every name.

SpC

929.3772465:W

Weller, Lilian Hargrove. Parke Co., Indiana, Will Index, 1833-1906. No publisher given, no date given.

Each of the first four volumes of Parke County wills is indexed in a separate alphabet. Names are arranged by the first letter of the surname rather than by strict alphabetical order. The page number in the original volume is cited for each name.

Microform

929.3772:W

Reel 46

Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) Indexes to Indiana County Vital Record: Owen, Parke and Perry Counties. Bountiful, UT: American Genealogical Lending Library, 1987.

Indexes include Parke County birth records, 1903-1920; marriage records, 1850-1920; marriage supplements, 1882-1920; death records, 1882-1920; and an index to the 1880 Parke County census. Individual entries include varying amounts of information, but each gives the volume and page where the original record is filed in the courthouse.

Microform

929.3772:W

Reel 60

Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) Indexes to Indiana County Vital Record: Vermillion and Vigo. Bountiful, UT: American Genealogical Lending Library, 1987.

Indexes include Vermillion County birth records, 1882-1920; marriage records 1850-1904; marriage transcripts, 1882-1920; marriage applications, 1904-1920; and death records, 1882-1920. Individual entries include varying amounts of information, but each gives the volume and page where the original record is filed in the courthouse.

“Cemetery Records, Parke County” Genealogy Files.

Transcripts of numerous Parke County cemeteries copied by various local researchers.

Directories:

SpC

977.2462:C

Cline & McHaffie. The People's Guide: a Business, Political and Religious Directory of Vermillion County, Ind. Indianapolis, IN: Indianapolis Printing and Publishing House, 1874.

Gives brief history of Vermillion County and historical sketches of each township. Names are arranged by township but not in strict alphabetical order. Each entry gives names, occupation, address, place and date of birth, date settled in Vermillion County, political party, religion. Introduction and appendix include miscellaneous information.

Microform

977.2:P

Prairie Farmer's Directory of Fountain, Parke and Vermillion Counties, Indiana. Chicago: Prairie Farmer Publishing Company, 1920.

Separate alphabetical listing for each county. Each entry gives name, maiden name of wife, names of children, address, township and section, number of acres, owner or tenant, year settled in county. Includes business directory of livestock breeders for each county; directory of automobile, tractor, silo owners by county; general farm data for each county.

Microform

977.245:V

Vigo County Journal's Rural Directory. Terre Haute, IN: Vigo County Journal, 1923.

Includes Vigo, Clay, Sullivan, and Vermillion counties. Arranged by county and thereunder by township and name. Each entry gives name, age, name of wife, owner or tenant, amount of land owned.



For more information, contact the Vigo County
Public Library Special Collections Department at
(812) 232-1113, ext. 212
