

# Gems in the Iowa Genealogical Society's Library

## October 4, 2023

- Bible Records. Copies or transcription of pages from family bibles
  - Index of bride and groom names on top of the 4 drawer cabinet housing the records
  - Records often include other records such as baptisms and deaths.
- City Directories. From all the larger towns in Iowa.
  - Heavily weighted to Des Moines/Polk County
  - Older (nineteenth century) volumes are in closed stacks room.
- Definition of terms: Vertical files = Filing Cabinets
- Pioneer Certificates. In vertical files in closed stack room.
  - Records submitted with applications for a Statehood (1846), Pioneer (1856) or Century certificate.
  - Alphabetized by pioneer surname.
  - Index online at [www.iowagenealogy.org](http://www.iowagenealogy.org)
    - Database Search → Certificate List Guest.
- Family Newsletters. In vertical files in closed stack room
- Miscellaneous loose papers that may be of interest to patrons.
  - Geographical, towns, events, etc.
  - In files in closed stack room.
- Family histories by the hundreds.
  - Range from small binders to multiple volume bound works
  - Alphabetical by major surname in title.
- Four Generation Pedigree Charts.
  - Submitted by members.
  - Kept in 36 binders on shelves.
- Publications from societies across the nation.
  - Cover 2 walls.
- Original Polk County naturalization documents 1860's – 1890's
  - Binders in closed stack room
- Obituaries on microfilm
  - Thousands collected over decades.
  - Alphabetized
- Church related records.
  - Multiple shelves of Quaker records
  - Collection of Mennonite records
  - Official Catholic Directory (1997)
    - List of all parishes and dioceses, often with date of founding.

- Foreign records & how-to books, especially German, Norwegian, Irish.
- Mayflower Silver Books Project
  - Traces descendants of Mayflower passengers for generations.
- 929.1 Section HOW TO books
  - How to date photos
  - How to use DNA
  - How to write a family history
  - Many more
- *Iowa Journal of History & Politics*, renamed Iowa Journal of History
  - 1903-1961 Fifty-nine volume set with indexes
  - Scholarly and interesting works on Iowa history and people.
- Indexes to military pension records – Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Indian Wars
- *Black's Law Dictionary*
- *A to Zax, a Comprehensive Dictionary for Genealogists & Historians*
- *The Great Migration Project* – multiple volumes with records of immigrants to the New England colonies 1620-1640
- Books with gems from most states, heavily weighted to the east of Iowa.
- *From Ackley to Zwingle* – origin of Iowa place names
- *Abandoned Towns, Villages and Post Offices of Iowa*
- *Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska Civil War Veterans, Compilation of the Death Rolls of the Departments of Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska Grand Army of the Republic 1883-1948*
  - 937.7/NOR
- Books For Sale