

Spotlight on California Genealogical Research Facilities

A series of articles about places to do research around the state

Long Beach Public Library

by Susan M. Hillier Roe

101 Pacific Ave.

Long Beach, CA 90822

Located at the corner of Ocean Blvd., it has a parking for fee structure behind the library on Broadway. There is also metered street parking, limit 2 hours, except Sunday when it is free.

Phone: 562-570-7500

Website: www.lbpl.org

Hours: Sunday 12-5; Monday, Wednesday 10-6; Tuesday, Thursday 10-8; Friday, Saturday 10-5

The genealogy collection at the Long Beach Public Library is under the auspices of the Questing Heirs Genealogy Society and is open to the public whenever the library is open. They have a small but nice collection of books. One of the things I found to be somewhat unique in this library was the fairly large collection of military registers. There are long runs of US Bureau of Naval Personnel Commissioned and Warrant Officers, US Coast Guard Registers, US Department of the Air Force Registers, Official Army Registers, and more. They also have periodicals, books on Black research, general genealogy books, books on Cherokee research, references grouped by state, published genealogies, and even a small collection of books that can be checked out.

Some of the things I spotted that were specific to California research were Los Angeles Co. Marriages from 1851-1877, the 1890 Great Registers for Los Angeles and Orange Counties, a Northern California marriage index for 1850-1860, the 1850 Census of Los Angeles City and County, Old Santa Ana Cemetery Records, and Spanish/Mexican Families of Early California, 1769-1850.

The genealogy collection just happens to be located

next to the history collection of the main library.

I found in that collection the following county histories: Mendocino, Humboldt, Lake, Napa, Tuolumne, San Joaquin, Contra Costa, Marin, San Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz, Fresno, Kern, Santa Barbara and Ventura. There were numerous books on Los Angeles City and County and on San Francisco. There were also various regional works from Lake Tahoe, the Sierra Nevada, the Central Valley, Sacramento, Death Valley and Anza-Borrego.

Among the many general California histories were The Works of Hubert Howe Bancroft (a number of his volumes on California history). Also, adjacent to the genealogy and history sections is the travel section with lots of books on California.

This library also has several newspapers in its collection: The *Long Beach Press Telegram*, The *Los Angeles Times*, and the *New York Times*. They also have Long Beach city directories and old high school yearbooks. There is a history of Long Beach Special Collection.

We would love to receive articles on the genealogy library in your area! Send your articles to newsletter@csga.com.

Pennsylvania Death Records

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Contact information for Governor Edward G. Rendell:

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225 Main Capitol Building

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Telephone 717-787-2500

Facsimile: 717-772-8284

Email link:

http://sites.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/Governor/govmail.html

I urge you to take a minute and write to Governor Rendell. Only when he realizes how many of us are concerned and how the state of Pennsylvania will benefit by our use of such online documents, will any changes be made.