

Genealogy Section

INDICES TO COUNTY RECORDS

The Genealogy Division of the State Library has recently acquired a large number of indices to birth, death, and marriage records in Indiana counties. These indices were compiled by the Works Project Administration in 1939-1940 under the supervision of the State Department of Public Welfare and until recently have been kept in the Public Welfare Office.

The indices to the marriage records cover largely the period from 1850 to 1920, but in some instances—Allen, Delaware, Greene, and Marion counties—the indices begin with the first marriage records in the counties. For some counties the indices to the marriage records did not begin until 1882. Names of the men and women are listed in alphabetical order with the date of marriage and reference to the book and page of the original volume on which the record may be found.

The systematic recording of births and deaths was not begun in Indiana until 1882, and in many counties the records are not complete until a much later date. The indices to the birth records show the name of the father and mother and the date of birth. Unfortunately, the Christian name given to the child is not recorded in the original records in about half of the cases, the attending physician apparently turning in the record that a child was born without waiting to learn the name given to it. The indices to the death records cover in general the period from 1882 to 1920 and show the date and place of death and the age at death.

In addition to the above indices, the names recorded in the Federal Census of 1880 were copied for the following counties: Clinton, Howard, Jasper, Marion, Parke, Shelby, and Wayne. These show the age of each person at that time and include children as well as adults. The Genealogy Division also has the original census for Center Township, Marion County.

None of the above indices are available for records in the following counties: Blackford, Brown, Crawford, Dearborn, Decatur, Dubois, Fayette, Fulton, Grant, Jefferson, Jennings, Lawrence, Marshall, Noble, Ohio, Porter, Randolph, Ripley, Rush, Scott, Steuben, Switzerland, Tipton, Union, Vermillion, Wabash, and Whitley. For Franklin and Jackson counties the

indices cover only the birth records, 1882-1920. For Kosciusko and La Grange counties, the indices cover the birth and death records from 1882 to 1920 but not the marriage records. Marriage applications and transcripts and lists of registered voters are indexed for some counties.

Although the original records, and especially the birth records, upon which these indices are based are known to be incomplete and to contain errors and other errors may be expected in the transcribing and copying of names, nevertheless persons interested in genealogical research will welcome the addition of this material to the collection in the State Library and will no doubt find these indices very useful and valuable.

WAYNE COUNTY MARRIAGE RECORDS, 1817-1820¹
(contd.)

MRS. IRENE M. STRIEBY

Names	Dates		Married By
	License	Marriage	
Bryan Seany & Sally Little	4-18-1817	4-20-1817	Isaac Esteb, Esq. p. 1
John Scott & Margaret Davis	4-20-1817	4-20-1817	Joseph Flint, Esq.
James Conner & Mary McCoy	5-21-1817	5-22-1817	Joseph Flint, Esq.
Platt Montgomery & Nancy Little	4-10-1817	4-17-1817	Joseph Flint, Esq.

¹ Transcribed from the microfilm copy of Wayne County Marriage Records, April, 1817, to March, 1820, made for the Society of Indiana Pioneers in June, 1943, from Volume A, Second Book, in the clerk's office, Richmond, Indiana. The records published here are from the first thirty pages.

The same policy of making uniform the names of ministers and justices of the peace has been followed as in "Wayne County Marriage Records," *Indiana Magazine of History* (Bloomington, Indiana, 1905-), XL (1944), 87-102. Daniel Fraley was a justice of the peace as well as a minister, as was also Adam Banks, who came from Tennessee to Wayne County in 1815. See Andrew W. Young, *History of Wayne County, Indiana* (Cincinnati, 1872), 87, 315. Lawrence H. Branum's name never appeared in full and the spelling varies—Brannon, Branem, Brannum. The Reverend Stephen Oldham's name appears most frequently; however, a Reverend William Oldham appears, also. There may be errors in the spelling of given names as well as in the surnames.

A correction should be made regarding the reference to the 1810 list of taxpayers of Wayne County in the *Indiana Magazine of History*, XL (1944), 88. The records referred to are those of the election returns of 1809 and 1812, on file in the Indiana Historical Society Library.