

ONE OF AMERICA'S PREMIER GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH CENTERS



thereafter, the public was invited to access the collections as well. For more than a century, the Library has existed in a near-constant state of growth and expansion. From its modest, 600-book beginnings, the Library has evolved into a specialized collection of American

genealogical and historical manuscripts and publications numbering more than 225,000.

In 1949, the Library found a permanent home in the auditorium of Memorial Continental Hall, DAR's first permanent building. Opened in 1910, the Hall gained historical recognition as the site of the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments in 1921-1922. Memorial Continental Hall achieved National Historic Landmark designation in 1973.

Genealogical research is an essential prerequisite to membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution, one of the largest lineage societies in the United States. In addition to its invaluable work to preserve historical records and sites, promote the study of family history and foster a lifelong love of education, among many other critical missions, the DAR also has created and nurtured one of the nation's premier genealogical research centers—the DAR Library.

DAR leaders established the Library in 1896 to serve the growing research needs of the National Society's staff genealogists. Soon

GENERAL INFORMATION

Location and Hours

The DAR Library is part of the DAR Headquarters complex located in downtown Washington, D.C. The Library's main entrance is on 1776 D Street, with an accessible entrance available on C Street.

Monday–Friday: 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m.–5 p.m.
Sunday and federal holidays: closed

For two weeks surrounding Continental Congress, the DAR's annual convention, the Library is open only to DAR members. Find convention dates and information on unscheduled closings in the online calendar.

Parking and Public Transportation

Metered street parking is available, but limited. The nearest Metro stops are Farragut North, eight blocks away via the Red Line, and Farragut West, seven blocks away via the Blue and Orange Lines.

Group Visits

The Library welcomes groups. Visiting groups are advised to register with the Library in advance to avoid conflicts, crowded conditions and unscheduled closings. Find information to aid in planning at www.dar.org/library.

To schedule a group visit, email library@dar.org.



DAR Library
1776 D Street NW
Washington, DC 20006–5303

www.dar.org/library
library@dar.org
(202) 879–3229



GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH CENTER



THE DAR LIBRARY:

A GATEWAY TO YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

At the DAR Library, stories are contained not in novels, but within millions of pages of family histories, Bible records, cemetery transcriptions, DAR membership applications, and unpublished genealogical materials such as manuscripts, research notes and personal letters. Here, family history researchers will discover a collection that will lure them back for repeat visits.

In combination with the Library of Congress and the National Archives, the DAR Library helps to make the nation's capital a major destination for genealogists. The DAR Library has amassed one of the world's largest, broadest and most unique collections of genealogical research materials. Holdings encompass state and local history, church records, family genealogies, biographies and some older vital records. While the American Revolution serves as a major focal point, Colonial and 19th-century subject matter also receives extensive coverage.

COLLECTIONS OVERVIEW

State Collection

State, county and local resources, including histories and record transcriptions, or abstracts, form a large component of the Library's holdings.

Family Genealogy Collection

Nearly 30,000 family histories and genealogies comprise a major portion of the book collection. Many such volumes are unique or available in only a few libraries in the country.



Manuscript and File Collections

The manuscript and file collections encompass a growing number of research notes, personal letters, family Bibles and other unpublished genealogical materials.

Genealogical Records Committee (GRC) Reports

More than 20,000 typescript volumes spanning all 50 states contain a vast pool of previously unpublished genealogical materials such as Bible records, cemetery transcriptions and other resources. These volumes are searchable and accessible in digital format via the DAR Genealogical Research System (GRS).

Special Collections

The DAR Library maintains several special collections pertaining to groups that are often underrepresented in the historical record. For example, the Native American Collection focuses on the history, culture and genealogy of our nation's first people. African-American resources include historical and genealogical materials, many of which were referenced in the DAR publication *Forgotten Patriots*. Books in the American Women's History Collection concern women's roles in American history.

LIBRARY SERVICES

FamilySearch Affiliate

By virtue of the DAR Library's status as a FamilySearch Affiliate Library, researchers who are onsite at the DAR Library have access to digital images of FamilySearch records that are only available at Affiliate Libraries or Family History Centers. The DAR Library also maintains a collection of microfilmed records from the Family History Library. All microfilm holdings are listed in the DAR Library catalog.

Reference Assistance

DAR Library staff members are available to provide general reference assistance and research guidance to Library patrons.

Research Services

The DAR Library offers fee-based research and copy services for patrons who are unable to visit the Library in person.

Publications

The DAR Library has published numerous research guides related to various people, groups and geographical locations available for purchase at www.dar.org/store.

RESEARCH AIDS

Online Catalog

The Library catalog, accessible at www.dar.org, includes entries for the Library's collection of published materials, microform materials, and manuscript and special collections.

DAR Genealogical Research System (GRS)

The GRS is the access point for the Library's digital collections, including membership applications, supporting documentation, GRC Reports, Bible collection and Patriots Record Project images. The GRS is a free online resource to aid general genealogical research at www.dar.org/grs.

Subscription Databases

DAR Library visitors can access a number of subscription databases containing genealogical information, including Ancestry.com, American Ancestors (NEHGS), Find My Past and more.



HOW TO SUPPORT THE DAR LIBRARY

The generosity of book lovers, genealogists and other supporters has built and sustained the collections, and also funded special projects, since the Library's beginning. Members of both DAR and the public have shown their support by donating books, manuscripts and research materials, providing financial contributions and bequests, participating in volunteer projects, and in many other ways.

Donations of Materials

The Library welcomes donations of books and other genealogical and historical materials. Donation guidelines and the DAR Library Wish List are available on the website. Please review this information before sending materials to the Library. Note that the Library cannot accept donations that do not conform to its collection development policy or that duplicate existing holdings. For additional information, email libraryacquisitions@dar.org.

Financial Contributions

For more than a century, generous benefactors have enriched the Library via financial contributions and bequests of funds and materials. These gifts help to support Library operations and augment the collection. To learn more about ways to support the Library, contact the DAR Office of Development at (202) 879-3343.



Friends of the Library

Since 1982, this special group has made significant contributions to the Library by raising funds in support of special projects that have both improved the physical condition of the Library and updated and expanded the book collection. Donations of any amount are gratefully appreciated. Contributions of \$200 or more confer upon the donor the honored status of Friends of the Library Life Member. Qualifying donors may purchase one of two designated pins to display their generosity.