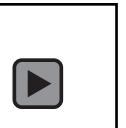




Beginning Your Family Research At

The Baldwin County Archives



Beginning Your Research at: Baldwin County Department of Archives

1. Family Research at the Archives

2. Census Records

3. Land Records

4. Native Americans

5. Military Records

6. Marriage Records

7. Wills

8. Biographies

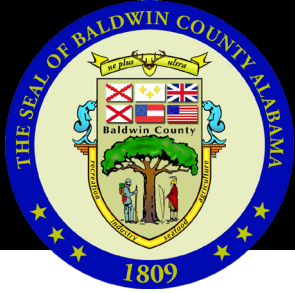
Conducting Family research

Looking for records of your family?

Don't know where to start?

The Archives may be able to help!





The Baldwin County
Department of
Archives & History (BCDAH)

BCDAH is the County's recordkeeper preserving and making available the permanently valuable records of the County Government.



BALDWIN COUNTY ARCHIVES FACILITY

Conducting Family Research

Records of Genealogical Interest

Any Record that gives a:

- Name
- Place
- Date

Is Useful for family Research

BEFORE VISITING THE ARCHIVES...

Compile as much information as possible about your family.

- 1. Start with yourself, parents, and grandparents

Before Visiting the Archives. . .

Compile as much information as possible about your family.

- 2. Ask your relatives about your family history

Before Visiting the Archives. . .

Compile as much information as possible about your family.

- 3. Look in family records (letters, family Bibles, Scrapbooks, diaries, photographs, baptismal certificates, newspapers clippings, etc.)

As you begin your family research at BCDAH

Remember

The Archives maintains the permanent historical records of the County Courts and most County Departments from 1732 – current.

BCDAH does not hold deeds and current wills. Check with the appropriate County department.

As you begin your family research at BCDAH

Remember

Since these records are arranged as the departments created them, there is no master subject or name index.

Most are not digitized. You must visit the Archives for access.

As you begin your family research at BCDAH

Remember

Records keeping practices vary over time. For example:

The 1790 Federal Census lists only the head of the household.

The 1880 Federal Census lists everyone in the household and their relationship to the head of the household.

Principle Records of Genealogical Interest

1. Census Records
2. Passenger Arrival Records (Immigration)
3. Naturalization Records
4. Land Records
5. Military Records

Principle Records of Genealogical Interest

CENSUS RECORDS

[illegible]

Principle Records of Genealogical Interest

CENSUS RECORDS

Article 1, Section 2, of the Constitution requires the government to conduct a Federal census every 10 years (beginning 1790).

The purpose of the Federal Census is to count the population of the United States for apportioning representatives to the House of representatives.

Principle Records of Genealogical Interest

CENSUS RECORDS

Arrangement

1790-1870

The Federal Census is arranged by state, county, township, or city

1880-1930

The Federal Census is arranged by enumeration district

Principle Records of Genealogical Interest

CENSUS RECORDS



Access

There is a 72-year restriction on access to population census information.

Currently, the BCDAH has open Federal Census records from 1805-2016

Principle Records of Genealogical Interest

CENSUS RECORDS



1890

Nearly all of the 1890 Census were destroyed as a result of a Department of Commerce fire in 1921.

Principle Records of Genealogical Interest

CENSUS RECORDS

*You May View Census
Records At:*

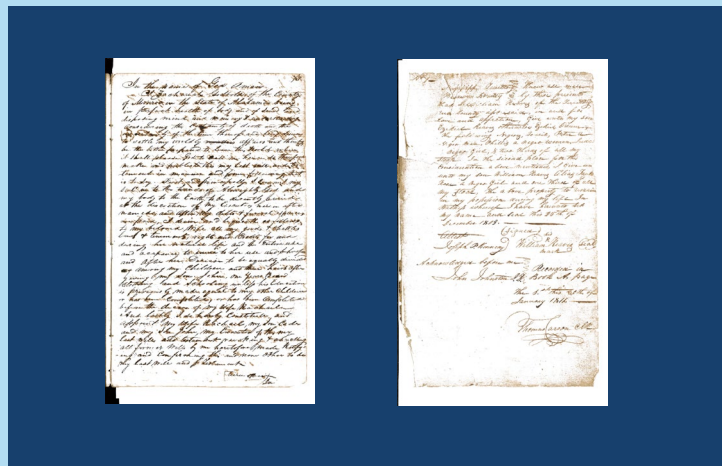
Baldwin County Department of Archives and History

305 East 2nd Street

Bay Minette, Alabama 36507

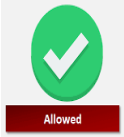
Taking Care of Records

1. Handle With Care
2. No Food or Drink
3. No Pens
4. Only one box or folder on your desk at a time



Taking Care of Records

Rules for Using Historical Records at BCDAH

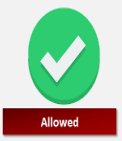


Notes and Related Materials ALLOWED in Research Room:

1. BCDAH approved research notes on loose paper, BCDAH issued paper note cards, handouts, and BCDHA publications
2. One approved book at a time
3. Pencils and mechanical pencils

Taking Care of Records

Rules for Using Historical Records at BCDAH

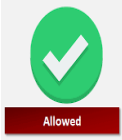


Special Equipment **ALLOWED** in Research Rooms:

1. Video and Audio recording decks
2. Cameras, camcorders, and tripods
3. Photographic copy stands (with approval)
4. Video tapes, audio tapes, and film
5. Scanners (only flatbed without auto feed)
6. Personal Computers
7. One CD at a time

Taking Care of Records

Rules for Using Historical Records at BCDAH

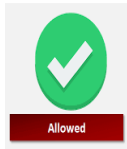


Clothing and Personal Effects **Allowed** in Research Room:

1. Cell Phones **must** be on vibrate mode or turned off: **Please leave the research room before talking on your cell phone.**
2. Sweaters and sweatshirts, with or without hoods, short (waist-length), indoor business attire (such as suit jackets, waist-length indoor jean jackets)
3. Religious headwear and garments
4. Small silk or similar indoor-type-kerchiefs
5. Coin purses or small pocket-sized wallets/small eye glass cases
6. Clear plastic “sandwich/food storage-type” bags for holding small items (**no larger than 10 inches**)

Rules for Using Historical Records at BCDAH Taking Care of Records

Items **Allowed Only** in the Microfilm Area:



1. Pens, paper, and notebook
2. Personal belongings (although we encourage you to secure them in a locker)

TAKING CARE OF RECORDS RULES FOR USING HISTORICAL RECORDS AT BCDAH

1. Notes and Related Materials * **Not Allowed** in the Research Room:
2. Envelopes, notebooks, pads, binders, folders, pens, markers, “Post-it” notes (unless stapled to pre-existing notes)
3. Food, drink (including candy, gum and water)



Taking Care of Records

Rules for Using Historical Records at BCDAH



Special Equipment* **Not Allowed** in the Research Room:

Flash Bulbs

Personal Photo Copiers

More than one CD-Rom at a time

All equipment must be removed from cases and
the cases stored in lockers

Public Lockers

Public Lockers are available in the Archives. Please place items not permitted in the research room in a locker before proceeding to do research.



Visiting the Archives

Archives Building

305 East 2nd Street

Bay Minette, Alabama 36507

Research Hours

Monday - Thursday

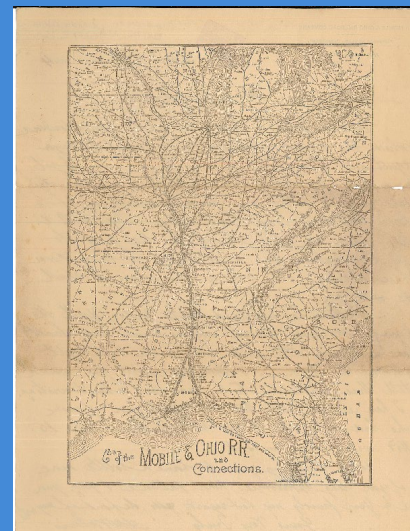
9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.

Saturday, Sundays, Holidays
Closed



The facility is Open to the public for research

- To obtain information about the Archives, see our website at:
www.baldwincountyal.gov/departments/archives-history



Contact Us



Mail:

312 Courthouse Avenue, Suite 26
Bay Minette, Alabama 36507

Telephone:

(251) 580-1897

Fax:

(251) 580-2528

**Please submit your research question(s) by emailing
to: archivalrecords@baldwincountyal.gov**