Ann T. Dillon
President General
DAR National Headquarters
1776 D Street NW
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 628–1776

DAR Facts

The Daughters of the American Revolution is a nonprofit, nonpolitical volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting historic preservation, education and patriotism.

Founded: October 11, 1890; incorporated in 1896 by an Act of Congress

Mission: To promote historic preservation, education and patriotism

Motto: God, Home and Country

Membership:
- 183,000 members
- 3,000 chapters in all 50 states and Washington, D.C.
- International chapters in Australia, Austria, The Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada, France, Germany, Guam, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Spain, United Kingdom
- Close to 1 million women have joined the DAR since it was founded.

Management: Policy for the Society is made by the National Board of Management composed of the President General, 11 Executive Officers, 21 Vice Presidents General and 53 State Regents. The National Board of Management meets six times a year at DAR Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Continental Congress: The DAR annual national meeting is named after the original Continental Congress that governed the American Colonies. DAR Continental Congress attracts more than 3,500 members to Washington, D.C., each summer.

Become a Member

Eligibility for Membership: Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution is eligible.

Ways to learn more about DAR membership:
- Visit the DAR Website (www.dar.org) to read about steps to membership and to fill out a prospective membership form
- Talk to local DAR chapter members in your area
- E-mail inquiries to membership@dar.org
- Call a membership representative at National Headquarters at (202) 879-3224

National Headquarters

Buildings: The DAR Headquarters complex occupies an entire city block near the White House and includes three adjoining buildings, two of which are Registered National Historic Landmarks*:

- Memorial Continental Hall* (1905)
- Constitution Hall* (1929)
- Administration Building (1920, 1950)

Hours: Open to the public:
Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DAR Library: One of the largest genealogical research centers in the United States. A specialized collection of American genealogical and historical manuscripts and publications.

DAR Museum: 31 Period Rooms as well as permanent and changing exhibitions showcase American furnishings and decorative arts prior to 1830. Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

Americana Room: Collection of early American manuscripts and imprints, including signatures of all of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence. The unique collection is available for viewing and research.

DAR Publications and Resources

For more information, pricing or to order these materials, call DAR Headquarters.

- America's Women in the Revolutionary Era, 1760–1790: A Bibliographic Guide
- American Treasurer: The Enduring Spirit of the DAR
- American Spirit magazine and Daughters newsletter
- DAR Members' Website (www.dar.org/members)
- DAR Public Website (www.dar.org)
- Forgotten Patriots: African American and American Indian Patriots in the Revolutionary War
- Genealogical Research System (www.dar.org/grs)
- My Father Was a Soldier: The Real Daughters of the American Revolution
- Revolutionary War Source Guides
- The Wide Blue Sash

For more information about DAR, visit **www.dar.org** or call (202) 628–1776.

DAR Committees

Most of the volunteer work of DAR is accomplished under a committee system comprised of national chairs appointed by the President General and locally appointed state and chapter chairs. The national chairs direct, supervise and promote the activities of their committees with the assistance of national vice chairs.

DAR committees promoting the mission of the Society include (but are not limited to):

Historic Preservation

American Heritage: Promotes the preservation of American cultural traditions, crafts and music.

Genealogical Records: More than 18,000 volumes of unpublished source records have been copied and bound for the DAR Library.

Historic Preservation: Oversees awarding of the Historic Preservation Medal and supervises the Historic Preservation Project Contest; documents historic site preservation and research.

Lineage Research: Those knowledgeable in genealogy assist prospective members and hold workshops.

President General's Project: "Service to America" is a project to restore and improve the NSDAR complex of historic buildings, to strengthen membership and to invest in our communities.

DAR Library: Repository for electronic genealogical resources and microforms of state records not found in other local research centers.

Education

American History: Sponsors American History essay contests for students in fifth through eighth grades, including homeschooled children.

American Indians: DAR has assisted American Indians with financial and scholarship aid since 1936.

Community Classroom: Seeks to encourage volunteers to provide additional support to children in classrooms and schools in their communities by providing time and financial support.

DAR Good Citizens: Promotes dependability, service, leadership and patriotism among high-school seniors by presenting national and state awards.

DAR Scholarship: Thousands of dollars are awarded through NSDAR American history, political science, history, government, historic preservation, economics, music, nursing, medical and occupational therapy scholarships annually.

DAR School: Support given to Kate Duncan Smith DAR School, AL; Tamassee DAR School, SC; Berry College, GA; Crossnore School, NC; Hillside School, MA; Hindman Settlement School, KY.

Educational Resources: Provides electronic lesson plans focusing on America, its history, government, heritage, genealogy, as well as other language and math topics.

Junior American Citizens: Citizenship training program for boys and girls, kindergarten through high school. JAC Clubs are available to parochial, private, public and homeschooled students.

Literacy Promotion: Promotes adult literacy and involvement in literacy programs.

Patriotism

Service to America: A challenge issued to all DAR members to invest a collective 19 million hours of community service for three years as a way to give back to our communities.

Community Service Awards: Medals given to recognize local citizens for outstanding achievements in cultural, educational, humanitarian, patriotic and citizenship work in their communities.

Constitution Week: DAR sponsors special programs during the week of September 17–23 to raise awareness about the United States Constitution. This official weeklong celebration of the Constitution was initiated by the DAR in 1955 and adopted by the U.S. Congress in 1956.

DAR Service for Veterans: As a member of the National Veterans Administration Voluntary Service Advisory Committee, DAR has representatives in Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Centers. DAR members volunteer in VA facilities and in state- and community-based programs, donating gifts, cash, personal care items, cancelled postage stamps and thousands of hours of time in service to America's veterans.

The Flag of the United States of America: Thousands of flags, flag codes, certificates and other patriotic materials are distributed annually.

National Defense: Youth Citizenship Awards are presented to elementary through high-school students. Gold and bronze ROTC medals are presented to outstanding high-school and college cadets.

DAR Project Patriot: Provides support to America's service personnel in current conflicts abroad.

For more information about DAR, visit **www.dar.org** or call (202) 628–1776

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Getting Started – Enjoy the Journey:

1. Start your Journey by keeping a journal or log of your activities. This will be very important down the road as you progress with your research. You won't remember if you already requested something or not. This will keep you straight with who you spoke to and when, where you went, what you did, what you found or didn't find, and any outstanding questions or other things you want to put on your "to do list".

2. The first thing you need to do is contact family members especially the elderly ones.

- Contact any elderly family or distant friends that know the family well
- Remember to be polite – not pushy
- Plan road trips to visit – most will enjoy the time you are plan to stay (remember your visit may be the highlight of their year and many people love discussing the past)
- Remember the time period you are discussing – some family will be embarrassed by some events that are acceptable today. If you don't ask the right questions, you won't get the answers that these people have the answers to.
- Plan your questions carefully and allow a lot of time. You also want to be personal. Don't plan to rush in and rush out.

Full Names (Nicknames too)
Dates of Birth
Location where born - If born out of the United States, when did they arrive
Date of marriage and location
If known, city/location of immigration (ex. Ellis Island)
Did they always reside in same location or move to several different locations/states
Any military service
Any pictures
Occupation is any (ex. Farmer, carpenter, or doctor)
What religion were they and what church did they attend
Did they have a house or farm and did they own it.
Nationality/Language
Ask about any family customs
Dates of Death
Location of Burial (town/country)
Cemetery
Names of family member's parents, siblings, children
Ask if they know anyone else who could assist in your search and get contact information

Remember to ask to see old family items – sometimes they lead to other discoveries. Bring a camera and take pictures of people, items and even old pictures hanging on walls. Remember to label them when you return home.

Family bibles are extremely important. If one exists you should carefully ask to borrow it and go to the local copy center and copy the first page of the bible along with the pages that has personal information included.

Diaries
Family scrap books
Photo albums
Baby books
Christmas Lists
Telephone books
Letters

Basically any papers because you don't know what it will mean down the road. It may not mean anything now, but it could bring things together down the road as your research expands.

Remember that not everything will be 100% accurate and some may just be family stores passed down through the generations, but it is all part of who you are.

Some of these road trips will be to towns were your ancestors came from or lived. Remember to make the most of the time you have and visit with the living first. The records at the courthouses and historical societies will be there, but these elderly people will not be around forever. I know it will be tempting but first things first.

Take notes during the conversation the old fashion way with a pen and paper. Many of the elderly will be turned off if you come in with your computer. You can transcribe it later. Do not use scraps of paper, but a notebook per family is a good idea. This will keep your family notes in one place.

Remember that last names have changed over the years. Many were altered upon arrival into the United States mainly because of language barriers. Write down all spellings because in records you will see it may change over time.

4. Keep track of what you find. Write it down on your Pedigree Chart. There is one attached for your future use. There is also a Family Group Sheet that will be helpful for keeping track of children, aunts, uncles, spouses, etc. This will also be helpful for you to share your information with other family members. Be willing to share your research because you will get help from many people that you meet along the way and without their help you would not be successful with your research.

Local Harford County Resources

Harford County Historical Society
143 N. Main Street
Bel Air, MD 21014
Phone: 410-838-7691
Fee: $4 per visit or free for members
Website: www.harfordhistory.net

Court Records: Open Tuesdays (10 – 12 am & 1 – 2:30 pm)
Many early records of Harford County courts. Records begin about 1774 when Harford County came into existence. Cataloging has proceeded up to the 1830's but volunteers continue add more all the time. These include Civil law suits, legal agreements along with other issues that went before the court.

The Archives: Open Wednesdays (8 am – 2 pm and 4th Saturday of Month 10 am – 2 pm)
A unique aspect of research materials in the tens of thousands of original source items dating back to 1668. These include plats, letters, diaries, scrapbooks, ledgers, newspapers, and legal and business correspondence. Over 7000 photographic images complement the collection. Information on historic homes. All items are preserved in a professional manner and are carefully cataloged and cross-indexed.

Research Library: Open Thursday (9 am – 3 pm and 4th Saturday of Month 10 am – 2 pm)
An extensive collection of print material on Harford County and Maryland history. All materials are cataloged and many are indexed. Maps, microfilm, family genealogies, marriage application books, weddings, cemetery information, obituaries, newspapers, vertical file materials and African-American history files are also part of the collection. Also a collection of books, including school yearbooks, and items locally as well as the surrounding areas like Cecil County and parts of Southern Pennsylvania.

The Harford Historical Bulletin, the Society's illustrated journal, is published a few times a year and mailed free to all members. Special publications, bulletins and books are sold at the Society Headquarters or by mail. Many books on local subjects are included.

The Harford County Genealogical Society
www.rtis.com/reg/md/org/hcgs

Is a separate organization from the Historical Society, but their library is located in the Historical Society building. Refer to website for meeting dates and times as they vary.

Below is a partial list of Genealogical Society Special Publications

HP_01	Harford County MD Divorce Cases 1827-1912, An Annotated Index
HP_02	Union Chapel UMC Cemetery Tombstone Inscriptions
SP_02	Death Notices from the Bel Air Times 1882 – 1899
SP_03	Harford County, MD, Bible and Family Records Vol. I
SP_04	Harford County, MD, Bible and Family Records Vol. II
SP_05	Abstracts of Death Certificates from the Files of Herbert S. Bailey Funeral Director, Darlington, MD, 1921 to 1961, Vol. I A-L
SP_06	Abstracts of Death Certificates from the Files of Herbert S. Bailey Funeral Director, Darlington, MD 1921 to 1961, Vol. II M-Z
SP_07	Index to Naturalization Records of Harford County, MD, A-L
SP_08	Index to Naturalization Records of Harford County, MD M-Z
SP_09	Index to Herrick's 1858 Map of Harford County, MD
SP_10	A Medical Ledge of Dr. John Archer of Harford County, MD, 1786-1796
SP_11	Harford Co MD Taxpayers in 1870, 1872 and 1883
SP_12	U.S. Census of 1900 for Town & Precinct of Aberdeen, MD
SP_13	Illegitimate Children from Minute Books of Harford Co. Circuit Court 1800-1900
SP_14	Harford Circuit of the Methodist Church: Birth & Marriage Register 1809-1815 and Minutes of the Quarterly Conf 1831-1842 (MHS Manuscript MS-4-424)
SP_15	HA Co Bible and Family Records Vol. III + surname index Vol. I-III
SP_16	1831 Tax List for Harford County
SP_17	Deaths and Marriages in Harford County, MD and vicinity 1873-1904 from the Diaries of Albert Peter Silver
SP_18	Bible and Family Records of Harford County, MD Families Vol. IV
SP_19	Dr. John Archer's First Medical Ledger, 1767-1769 (New Castle, DE)
SP_20	Survey Field Book of David & William Clark in HA Co. 1770-1812
SP_21	Abstract, Ledgers & Accounts of the Bush and Rock Run Store 1759-71
SP_22	U.S. Census of 1880 for Churchville Precinct 3rd Election District
SP_23	Bible and Family Records of Harford County MD Families Vol. V
SP_24	Bible and Family Records of Harford County MD Families Vol. VI
SP_25	Jos. A. Pennington & Co. HdG Funeral Home Vol. I. 1882-92
SP_26	Jos. A. Pennington & Co. HdG Funeral Home Vol. II, 1877-82 & 1893-1900
SP_27	Abstracts of Will, Harford County, MD, 1800-1815
SP_28	First Occurrence of Surnames in HA Co. Land Records Index
SP_29	Index to Martenet's 1878 Map of Harford County, MD
SP_30	Abstract/Depositions in the County Court Records, 1781-1833
SP_31	Registration of Voters in Harford Co., MD, 6 Districts in 1865
SP_32	1823-1824 Taxpayers of Harford Co., MD, District 2 (Hopewell)
SP_33	Ancestral Charts Vol. 5

SP_34	Ancestral Charts Vol. 6
SP_35	Ancestral Charts Vol. 7
SP_36	Ancestral Charts Vol. 8
SP_37	Business Ledger Transcriptions of J.C. Taylor Marble Works

Marriage Applications 1886 – 1930 (these were previously in Basement A of the Court House)

Most of the source documents for these Special Publications are located in the Historical Society.

Any source documents not located at the Historical Society are most likely in

- The Bel Air Courthouse
- Family Records

Bel Air Courthouse
20 W. Courtland Street
Bel Air, MD 21014
Phone: 410-638-3245
Open: 8:30 am – 4 pm (Monday – Friday) Call to confirm times

Records located in the Basement include:

Land Records & Equity Index from 1773 to present
Deeds (title to property)
Corporation Records

Records located on the Third floor include:

Register of Wills

Harford County Public Libraries
11 Branches County Wide

Maryland Room only in Bel Air Branch
100 E. Pennsylvania Avenue
Bel Air, MD 21014
Phone: 410-638-3151
Website: www.harf.lib.md.us/

Some examples of holdings are:

Immigration Indexes
Settlers of Maryland (1679-1783)
Colonial Families of the Eastern Shore of Maryland
British Roots of Maryland Families

The library has access to the following databases but can only be accessed from inside the library

Ancestry Library Edition
Heritage Quest Online

The Aberdeen Room
18 North Howard Street
P.O. Box 698
Aberdeen, MD 21001
Phone: 410-273-6325
Website: www.aberdeenroom.com

The Aberdeen Room Archives and Museum Inc. acquires records, and displays memorabilia and artifacts that relate to the social, economic, and cultural development of the city of Aberdeen.

The nucleus of the first displays came from the office of the late Senator J. Wilmer Cronin, Aberdeen Lawyer, legislator, newspaper editor and publisher, and the Native American collection of Clinton Sterling Garretson.

The archives include an original 1852 plat of the town of Aberdeen, old telephone books, yearbooks, photograph binders of City activities and mementos from Aberdeen Elementary and Aberdeen High School, local church histories, 1918 and later Army pictures and brochures from APG, local newspapers dating from 1919, and other material and displays.

NOTE: Important Directions for visiting many record depositories – there are limitations as to what you can bring with you. I would check each website for information but plan on nothing more than paper and a pencil along with a picture ID for you along with a second ID. Many places do not allow small children. Some do offer lockers for a small fee. You should also take a small amount of money in case you want to make any copies of what you may find.

Maryland State Archives
350 Rowe Boulevard
Annapolis, MD 21401
Phone: 410-260-6400
800-235-4045
Website: www.msa.md.gov/
Hours: Tuesday – Saturday (8:30 am – 4:30 pm)
Closed Sunday and Monday and the first Saturday of every month

One your first trip to the Maryland State Archives you will need to register with your 2 forms of ID.

Passenger Lists

There were few passenger lists for Maryland in the colonial period, but between 1634 and 1680 person arriving in Maryland could be identified by their claims for land. This discontinued after 1680.

Military Records:

There are many different types of military records that exist for Marylanders but many have been published in some formats. Some are more complete than others but following is a list of some that are available

Colonial Wars
Revolutionary War
The Whiskey Rebellion, the War with France, and the War of 1812
The Mexican War
The Civil War
The Spanish American War
World War I
World War II
Maryland National Guard Service Records

(Many war records are better sourced at the National Archives II in College Park, MD)

Vital Records

Many records include birth records, adoption records, marriage records, divorce records and death records. Some are indexed, but access to some of these records is restricted by law to protect the rights of the individual. Many older records are accessible; it is just the more recent records that are limited.

Modern Birth certification began in Baltimore City only in 1875 and in 1898 for the rest of the state.

More information on this can be found at: http://mdvitalrec.net

Maryland Historical Society
201 West Monument Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
Phone: 410-685-3750
Hours: Wednesday – Saturday (10:00 am – 4:30 pm and closed for lunch – noon – 1pm)
Fee: $6.00/day – Members free

Some of the items available for review

Land Records:

Land Records can be found both at the county and state level. Maryland's land records go back as far as the beginning of the 1600's. Deeds and similar records pertaining to the owning and buying and selling of land can contain clues to the former places of residence of the buyer (grantee) or seller (grantor), clues to the ancestry of the seller, clues to marriages, and data on the occupations of the parties involved. If the individual could not sign his or her name, the mark he or she made may be compared with similar marks on other deeds, to see if all the deeds involved the same individual.

Court Records:

Court Records can contain important information depending on the type of case: contracts, accounts, wages, treason, piracy, felonies, fugitives, mayhem, guardianship, distributions of estates to minors, judgments', and punishments are to name just a few. Any of these records can contain information regarding your ancestry.

Probate Records

Probate Records are all those documents that trace the settling of an estate by the executors or administrators of a decedent. The records range from major records such as wills, inventories, and accounts to less well known documents such as renunciations, petitions and indentures. Wills and inventories especially can contain a great deal of information on your ancestry.

Immigration & Naturalization Records

Clues to immigration status can be found in Land grants, church records among other records. During the colonial period there were few naturalizations, except for settlers from the continent of Europe. English, Welsh, Irish and Scottish settlers were all considered merely to have moved from one part of the empire to another. In order to gain naturalization prior to 1776 you had to live here for at least seven years and be a Protestant. The law was changed in 1779 to allow anyone professing a belief in the Christian region to become a naturalized citizen. After the revolution, naturalizations could take place in any U.S. District Count and any court of record in the individual states.

Declaration of Intention were used to renounce allegiance to foreign governments and declare intention of becoming a United States Citizen.

Naturalization Petitions was a formal application for citizenship by those who had declared their intention and met the residency requirements.

Naturalization Depositions were formal statements by others in support.

Records of Naturalization and Oaths of Allegiance document the granting of citizenship.

University of Maryland, College Park
(Manuscripts, Archives, and Marylandia)
McKeldin Library
Maryland Room, 3rd Floor
College Park, MD 20742
Phone: 301-405-9075
Hours: 10am – 5 pm Monday - Friday

University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)
Albin O. Kuhn Library and Gallery
Special Collection
1000 Hilltop Circle
Baltimore, MD 21250
Phone: 410-455-2353
Hours: Monday – Friday 1pm – 4pm

Vital Records, Division of Health and Human Services
Reisterstown Road Plaza
6550 Reisterstown Road
Baltimore, MD 21215
Phone: 410-764-3034

Limited access to more current records to immediate family.

In order to do research at any National Archives site, please see Soundex Indexing System below

National Archives
700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20408
Phone: 202-357-5400
By subway – Get off at the Archives/Navy Memorial Station
Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Sat 9am – 5 pm – Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9 am – 9 pm

Must get a National Archives research card upon first visit

Microfilm of the following:
Census images from 1790 – 1930 available to public (includes indexes)
Passenger Lists
Military Records
Pension Records

Books and pamphlets
Genealogical Manuscripts
Journals and Magazines
Microfilm
Photographs
Maps and Atlases
Historical Information on Maryland in various forms

Enoch Pratt Free Library
400 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
Phone: 410-396-5430
Hours: 10 am - 8 pm Monday – Friday and 10 am – 5 pm Thursday – Saturday)

The Pratt Free Library has a wealth of historical information on Maryland including but not limited to:

Archives and Manuscripts
Books
Newspapers
Maps/Atlases
Photographs
Cemeteries
Church Records
Census (Federal and State)
City Directories and Telephone Directories
Colonial Families
County Court Records
Databases
Ethnic Groups (Many Countries all over the World)
Family Association Lists
Immigration and Naturalization Records
    Passenger lists for the Port of Baltimore 1820-1948
    Maryland Naturalization Papers 1797-1951
Library of Congress
Military Records

National Archives at College Park
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740
Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Sat 9 am – 5 pm – Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9 am – 9 pm

This site specializes in war records. Most recent released in World War II. You can request units and they will pull the files and bring to private viewing area personally assigned to you. You can also view original military file photos in a different location within this facility. They also have and extension historical collection open to the public including the information on John F. Kennedy and his assassination.

Do not bring any originals of your documents with you – they are not allowed

National Archives in Philadephia PA
900 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Phone: 215-606-0100
Hours: Monday – Friday 8am – 5 pm and second Saturday of Month 8 am – 4 pm

Similar information as the National Archives in Washington DC

Soundex Indexing System

To use the census soundex to location information about a person, you must know his or her full name and the state or territory in which he or she lived at the time of the census. It is also helpful to know the full name of the "head of the household" in which the person lived because census takers recorded the information under that name.

Every soundex code consists of a letter and three numbers, such as W-252. The letter is always the first letter of the surname. The numbers are assigned to the remaining letters of the surname according to the soundex guide shows below. Zeroes are added at the end if necessary to produce a four-character code. Additional letters are disregarded. Examples:

Washington: is coded W-252 (W, 2 for the S, 5 for the N, 2 for the G, remaining letters disregarded)
Lee: is coded L-000 (L, 000 added)
Soundex Coding Guide

Number	Represents the Letters
1	B, F, P, V
2	C, G, J, K, Q, S, X, Z
3	D, T
4	L
5	M, N
6	R

Additional Soundex Coding Rules

- **Names with Double Letters**
  If the surname has any double letters, they should be treated as one letter
  Example: Gutierrez is coded G-362 (G, 3 for the T, 6 for the first R, second R ignored, 2 for the Z).
- **Names with letters side-by-side that have the same soundex code number**
  If the surname has different letters side-by-side that have the same number in the soundex coding guide, they should be treated as one letter
  Example: Pfister is coded P-236 (P, F ignored, 2 for the S, 3 for the T, 6 for the R)
- **Names with Prefixes**
  If the surname has a prefix such as Van, Con, De, Di, La, Le, code both with and without the prefix because the surname might be listed under either code. Note, however that Mc and Mac are NOT considered prefixes)
  Example: VanDuesen might be coded two ways:
  V-532 (V, 5 for N, 3 for D, 2 for S) or D-250 (D, 2 for the S, 5 for the N, 0 added)
- **Consonant Separators**
  If a vowel (A, E, I, O, U) separates two consonants that have the same soundex code, the consonant to the right of the vowel is coded
  Example: Tymczak is coded as T-522 (T,5 for the M, 2 for the C, Z ignored (see side-by-side rule), 2 for the K). Since the vowel "A" separates the Z and K, the K is coded.

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)
1776 D. St. NW
Washington, DC 20006
Phone: 202-628-1776
Hours: Library – Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4 pm and Saturday 9am – 5 pm
Can Use the Farragut West Metro Stop and about a 10-15 minute walk
Fee: $6.00/day - $3.00 ½ day and $2 for lunchtime only

The DAR has an extensive collection of historical date including but not limited to:

Census Information
Files on Revolutionary Patriots
Publications by State
Genealogy Histories

This library is very impressive and worth a visit just to see a big piece of our history.

Library of Congress
1st and Independence St, S.E.
Washington, DC 20540
Phone: 202-707-5000
Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:30 am – 9: 30 pm
Tuesday, Friday and Saturday 8:30 am – 5 pm

Must obtain a Reader Identification card upon first arrival

The Library of Congress has one of the world's premier collections of U.S. and foreign genealogical and local historical publications. The Library's genealogy collection began as early as 1815 with the purchase of Thomas Jefferson's library.

I would suggest you prepare yourself for this visit by reviewing information on-line so you are prepared upon arrival because it is extensive.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Family History Centers - Essex
120 Stemmers Run Road
Baltimore, MD
Phone: 410-686-8481
Hours: Tuesday – Thursday and Saturday 10 am – 4 pm and Tuesday evening 7pm – 9 pm

Family History Centers - Lancaster
1210 E. King Street
Lancaster, PA
Phone: 717-295-1719
Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 9:30 am – 2:30 pm and Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm (it is a good idea to call ahead to confirm hours)
Access to: familysearch.org and ancestry.com among others

You can order microfilm and microfiche for places all over the world. Each site also has computers where you can access the familysearch.org site for free (this is a pay site). Each microfilm costs $5.50 in MD and $5.75 in PA for first order and it will stay there for approximately 30 days for your review. You can renew ($5.50/each) it 2 times and after the second time, it will be permanent to their collection. Each site does already have a great deal of their local information as part of their permanent collection.

Various Other Sources

Social Security Death Index
Social Security application process started in the later part of 1936
http://ssdi.rootsweb.ancestry.com

Pennsylvania State Archives
Third and Forster Streets
Harrisburg, PA 17108
Phone: 1-717-783-3281
Hours: Tues – Friday 9am – 4pm – Saturday 9am – noon (closed lunch) 1-4 pm microfilm only

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania (in existence since 1824)
(Also has holdings of the Pennsylvania Genealogical Society since 2006)
1300 Locust Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Phone: 215-732-6200
Website: http://www.hsp.org
Hours: Tues & Thurs 12:30 pm – 5:30 pm, Wed 12:30 pm – 8:30 pm, Friday 10 am – 5:30 pm

New Jersey State Archives
225 W. State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608
Phone: 609-292-6260
Website: www.state.nj.us/state/darm/links/archives.html
Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Virginia State Archives and Library
11th Street at Capital Square
Richmond, VA 23219
Phone: 804-786-2306
Hours: Monday – Saturday 8:15 am – 5 pm

Heritage Books, Inc.
100 Railroad Ave
Suite 104
Westminster, MD 21157
Phone: 1-800-876-6103 or 231-537-4021
Website: www.heritagebooks.com/
Carries an extensive collection of genealogical information and abstracts of information from all over the world.

Consider DNA testing to confirm your ethnic heritage and it could put in you touch by e-mail with others who have the same genetic background as you. DNA testing can provide you with a migratory route of your ancestors. The male DNA line provides much more extensive results than the female line.

Always check all local Libraries where you ancestors came from

Always check for microfilm of old newspapers of the time you are researching.

When visiting cemeteries, please take note of all family plots located near your ancestors because you may find connections in the future.

Don't always trust everything on-line but use it as a starting point and verify yourself.