

Our presenter this month was Amy E. K. Arner who discussed how and where to find birth, death, and marriage records in Pennsylvania. A copy of the handout material is attached. A couple of notes from the meeting to supplement her excellent handout.

The state of Pennsylvania contracted with Ancestry to scan all Pennsylvania death records from 1906 to 1963. These are a valuable source of genealogy information, usually having birth dates and locations and names of parents. For a period of time those were available to view for free from any PC with a Pennsylvania ZIP code, but that free period has ended so they are now available with a subscription to Ancestry, at any library in Allegheny county, or at a Family History Center.

Birth records state-wide started in 1905 but are only available for public view if they are 105 years old, so are only available through 1909. The city of Pittsburgh recorded birth records starting in 1870 and are searchable on familysearch.org. Allegheny City birth records were also recorded starting at the same time but are not available online.