

# Lewiston Public Library Expands Genealogy Resources

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If you have ever thought of researching your family tree... now is the perfect time. The Lewiston Public Library, specifically the Jon F. Popkey Genealogy Room, located at 305 South Eighth Street, Lewiston, New York, is now the newest FamilySearch affiliate library. This new designation means that library patrons will have greater and more convenient access to the wealth of genealogical resources available through FamilySearch.

FamilySearch is the world's largest repository of free genealogical records and manages the famous Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. It has amassed billions of birth, marriage, death, census, land and court records of genealogical significance from over 130 countries.

FamilySearch is extending access to its collections by circulating microfilms of the historic records through select public libraries. The Lewiston Public Library is now one of those libraries. It is a priceless resource for local residents interested in discovering their family tree.

FamilySearch has over 200 camera teams filming historic records in 45 countries on any given day. These records are then circulated to public patrons through FamilySearch centers worldwide, like the Lewiston Public Library. For example, FamilySearch has filmed over 60% of the Civil Registration (birth, marriage and death records) of Italy. If you have Italian ancestry, chances are you will be able to extend your Italian research by conveniently using the FamilySearch films through the Lewiston Public Library.

Films may be ordered for the short term or for extended periods. Short term loans will remain at the Lewiston Public Library for 90 days upon which they must be returned (by library staff). Extended loans do not have a return date. They will become a part of the Lewiston Public Library's permanent collection. There are nominal shipping fees required in order to have the records sent to the Lewiston Public Library. Short term loans are \$7.50 and Extended loans are \$18.75. Once the film arrives, patrons use the microfilm reader at the library to peruse it. The microfilm will not leave the library. Genealogy volunteers and select library staff can help patrons see what films are available, place film orders, and answer research questions. Patrons can also search the Family History Library Catalog online at <http://www.FamilySearch.org> to see what records FamilySearch has available to order through the library.

