

Using Ohio Tax Records to Find Family

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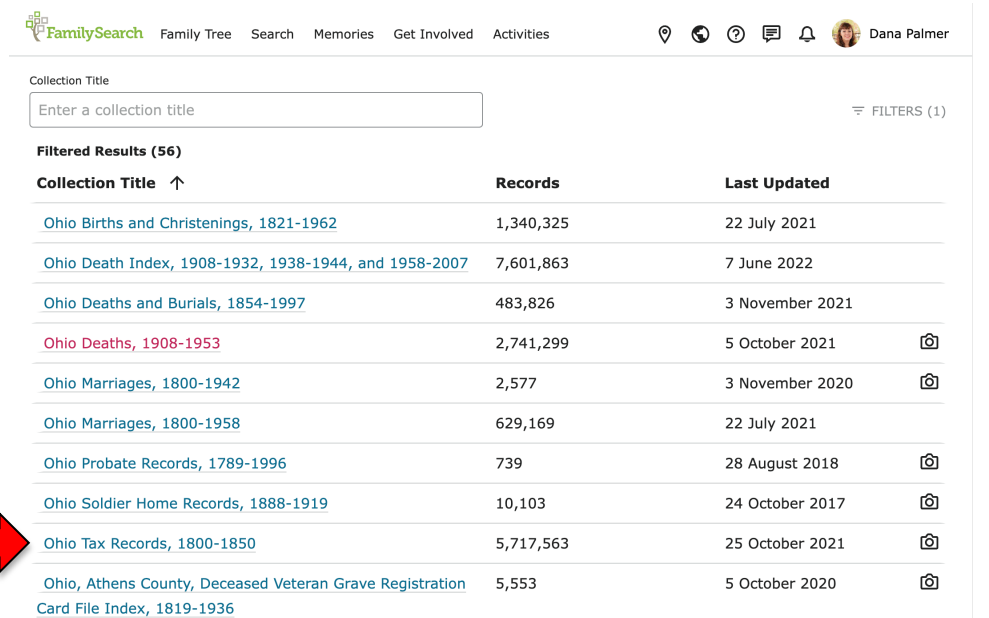
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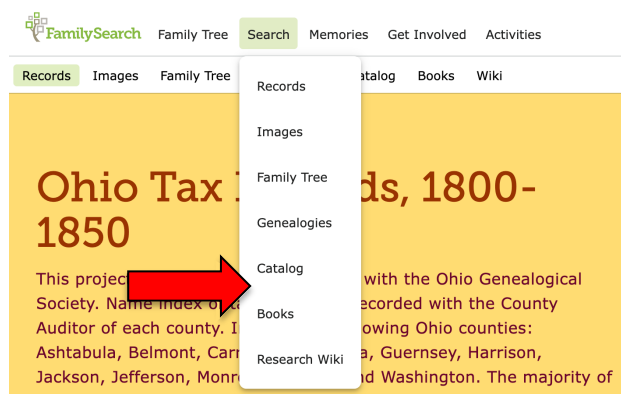
Where Can I Find Tax Records?

Ohio tax records are filed in the auditor's office at the county level. The Ohio History Connection (state historical society) has duplicate copies of many tax records for the state on microfilm in their repository. Sometimes the originals (filed in book format) can be found at the local auditor's office or county archives.

Historical tax records (1803-1838/1850) for most counties can be found online at FamilySearch in the catalog for the specific county under the tax category. (<https://familysearch.org/search/catalog>) Some counties (Ashtabula, Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Guernsey, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Monroe, Trumbull, and Washington) for the years 1816 through 1838 also have indexes in the historical record collection on FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1473259>). For earlier tax years go to <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/451489?availability=Family%20History%20Library>



Collection Title	Records	Last Updated
Ohio Births and Christenings, 1821-1962	1,340,325	22 July 2021
Ohio Death Index, 1908-1932, 1938-1944, and 1958-2007	7,601,863	7 June 2022
Ohio Deaths and Burials, 1854-1997	483,826	3 November 2021
Ohio Deaths, 1908-1953	2,741,299	5 October 2021
Ohio Marriages, 1800-1942	2,577	3 November 2020
Ohio Marriages, 1800-1958	629,169	22 July 2021
Ohio Probate Records, 1789-1996	739	28 August 2018
Ohio Soldier Home Records, 1888-1919	10,103	24 October 2017
Ohio Tax Records, 1800-1850	5,717,563	25 October 2021
Ohio, Athens County, Deceased Veteran Grave Registration Card File Index, 1819-1936	5,553	5 October 2020



Records Images Family Tree

Ohio Tax Records, 1800-1850

This project was created with the Ohio Genealogical Society. Name indexes of records recorded with the County Auditor of each county. Indexing is being done for the following Ohio counties: Ashtabula, Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Guernsey, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Monroe, Trumbull, and Washington. The majority of the records in this collection are from the years 1816 through 1838.



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Tax records of Ohio, 1801-1814

Authors: [Ohio, Auditor of State](#) (Main Author)

Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Film

Language: English

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1967

Physical: 14 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

References: (Digital Collection) [Ohio tax records : COLLECTION RECORD, 1800-1850 / Ohio Historical Society. Library](#)

Notes

Ohio Tax Records are available online, click here.

Microfilm of the original records from the Ohio Historical Society Library in Columbus, Ohio.

Why Do I Want to Use Tax Records?

Tax records can provide information about property ownership and real estate, which can lead to other records such as deeds or probate records. Inclusion in the tax list proves that person was alive in that locality for the year preceding the year they were taxed. Tax records can be helpful to distinguish people with the same name living in the same area at the same time because they will be taxed on different property often for a different amount. This is especially helpful if they didn't own land.

What might be included in tax records?

- Changing ownership of property especially from the husband to the wife can help narrow down the time when the husband died.
- Distribution of land to heirs when the estate was probated whether or not there was a will. Sometimes by following the money and how the land was passed on is the only way kinship can be proven.
- A livestock count (horses, cows, etc.)
- Detailed description of the land and from whom they originally purchased it

Types of Local Taxes

- **Poll Tax** – every man over 21 and every servant over 16 years was taxed. These can be a great substitute if census records are missing. They did not have to own property to be taxed. This was sometimes known as a “Head Tax”.
- **Personal Property Tax (Chattels)** – taxes paid on personal property such as horses, sheep, cattle, pigs, slaves (not in Ohio though), carriages, watches, windows, built in closets, and tea. It often also includes the amount of taxes they paid to the state and county, amount paid for the county and road tax, and amount paid for the school tax.
- **Real Estate Tax** – taxes paid for all land or property (real estate) owned in Ohio annually for the year after they resided in the location. The proprietor (landowner) was always listed along with details on the location at which they lived and for which they were taxed for property owned. It often also includes the amount of taxes they paid to the state and county, amount paid for the county and road tax, and amount paid for the school tax. Sometimes details on all males eligible to vote were included as well as the number of school age children.
- **Delinquent Taxes** – a list of people who failed to pay their taxes. Delinquent tax payers may be listed in the newspapers.
- **Inheritance Taxes** – a list of people who owed taxed for land or items they inherited from an estate.

Using Tax Records to Find Deeds

Find your ancestor in the tax records for the county in which they lived in the catalog on FamilySearch. Use the magnifying glass icon (if it exists) to narrow down and find your ancestor's name more quickly. Partial names using the wildcard * can help find people with misspelled names. Once you find them, look at the original image and note the township, section, and range (or whatever system is used for recording where they lived).

Deeds often have indexes by location and also by name. FamilySearch generally only has digitized the indexes listed by name. To search the deed indexes by location, you may need to visit the county

recorder's office in person or hire someone to obtain a copy for you. Searching for deeds by location allows you to track the property over time even if it is sold. Choose the applicable location index book and match the location exactly as you found it in the tax record. If you are unable to visit the local recorder's office to search for the location deed indexes, use the deed name index and search for them in the grantors (sellers) and grantees (index). The location may be listed in the index and is always included on the actual deed.

Keep in mind that sometimes deeds are unrecorded, especially if it was a lot sold at the creation of the town - this might be a private land sale and be recorded elsewhere such as in the probate records for an estate. Follow the property transactions over time and see if the deed was later recorded.

Make sure if you find tax or deed records online, you attach them as sources to the relevant person in the family tree on FamilySearch so other family members can benefit from your discovery.

Using Tax Records and Deeds to Find Your Ancestor's property on a Map

To find your ancestor's property on a map you will follow the similar steps as finding them on a deed.

- Identify the Ohio county or counties they resided in
- Go to the FamilySearch catalog and type in the county and state of Ohio (e.g. Ohio, Warren)
 - Scroll down to the **Taxation** category (if it exists – if not you will have to search locally) and click on the duplicate tax record link
 - Choose the applicable year(s) and click on the magnifying glass (if there is one)
 - Type in the surname or partial surname with an asterisk as well as the given name or partial given name with an asterisk (i.e. Given Name = Da* Surname = Flinn)
 - See if any matches appear, if so, click on the blue name link and view the record
 - Find their name and note the location where they resided
- Go to the FamilySearch catalog for that same county
 - Scroll down to the **Land and Property** category
 - Choose the deed collection where the author is from the recorder.
 - Scroll down and find the index
 - Search the grantor and grantees indexes for your person and note the book and page. (Sometimes genealogical societies will have indexes to these. Look for them – it will save time).
 - Go to the deed book and click on the camera icon
 - Find the matching book and page (sometimes multiple books are on the same microfilm, so make sure you navigate and search the correct images for the book you want).
 - Note the grantors / grantees names and legal description for the land owned and see if it matches the tax records.
- Find a Map for your county close to the date they owned land
 - Many of these are in county atlases or can be found at the public libraries for that area
 - Go to the town / township where your ancestor was mentioned in the deed as residing
 - Find the applicable section on the map. Look at the names listed in that area. If your ancestor's name is not on the map, see if anyone who bought or sold property to them is listed. If not, you will have to estimate where they lived based on the legal description in the deed.

- ▶ United States, Ohio, Warren - Probate records (14)
- ▶ United States, Ohio, Warren - Probate records - Indexes (1)
- ▶ United States, Ohio, Warren - Public records (2)
- ▶ United States, Ohio, Warren - Schools (3)
- ▶ United States, Ohio, Warren - Schools - History (1)
- ▶ **United States, Ohio, Warren - Taxation (1)**

▶ Duplicate tax records of Warren County, Ohio 1816-1838
 Author: Warren County (Ohio). Auditor

- ▶ United States, Ohio, Warren - Vital records (30)
- ▶ United States, Ohio, Warren - Vital records - Indexes (2)

Subjects
 Locality Subjects
 United States, Ohio, Warren - Taxation

Film/Digital Notes

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	DGS	Format
1816-1826	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	514202	4849171	
1827-1828	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	534810	4849282	
1829-1830	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	534811	4849283	
1831-1832	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	514203	4849172	
1833-1834	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	514204	4849178	
1835	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	534812	4849284	
1836-1838	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	522500	4849180	

In the catalog, choose the county and then taxation

Use the magnifying glass to find your person more quickly

FamilySearch Family Tree Search Memories Get Involve

Results **(22,653)**

Collection Sex Race Other

Name	Events
Nathl Paishall Principal Ohio Tax Records, 1800-1850	Tax Assessment 1820 Warren, Ohio, United States
Joseph Mount Principal Ohio Tax Records, 1800-1850	Tax Assessment 1825 Warren, Ohio, United States

FamilySearch Family Tree Search Memories Get Involve

Results **(30)**

Collection Sex Race Other

Name	Events
John G Creemer Principal Ohio Tax Records, 1800-1850	Tax Assessment 1822 Warren, Ohio, United States
John G Creemer Principal Ohio Tax Records, 1800-1850	Tax Assessment 1824 Warren, Ohio, United States

Filters for the given name of "J*" and surname "Cre*" reduce the search results significantly

Names are often misspelled; use wildcards and partial names to find people and narrow your results

Owner	Acres	Value	Tax	Remarks
John Small	85.4	1000	112.75	Military Survey 854

1837 tax record for John Small. Notice it says he lived on military survey 854.

1838 Clinton Co. Ohio Deed Bk M p.57

This Indenture made this 31 day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty eight by and between John Small of the county of Clinton in the state of Ohio, of the one part, and Jacob Small of the county and state aforesaid, of the other part. Witnesseth that the said John Small for and in consideration of the just sum of One thousand dollars to him in hand paid the receipt whereof he doth hereby acknowledge had given, granted, bargained and sold, released and conveyed, and doth by these presents give grant, bargain, sell, release, convey and confirm unto the said Jacob Small and unto his heirs and assigns forever all those tract, or parcels of Land, situate and being in the county of Clinton in the state of Ohio described as follows: One tract being part of Military Survey N 854 and bounded as follows to wit beginning at a stake known as Daniel Mill, 50 acre lot on which the now lives from which a red Oak Birch and Chestnut N 30 W 25 links thence N 47 W 50 links thence Ash Birch Oak and Maple thence N 45 W 50 poles

This 1838 deed shows John Small was selling land on military survey 854