



## **Genealogical Collection Research Guide Fort Myers Regional Library June 2026**

### **Mission Statement**

The purpose of the Fort Myers Regional Library genealogy collection is to promote the preservation of family history by:

1. Encouraging patrons of all nationalities and cultures to explore their heritage and celebrate their own place in history.
2. Supporting educational, programming, and networking activities of local and regional historical and genealogical societies to develop enthusiasm for family history research.
3. Making national and international genealogical and historical resources available to all patrons through the continued expansion, updating, and use of the collection of print, microform, electronic databases, and other resources.

### **Research Assistance**

Patrons seeking research assistance are invited to contact our reference/genealogy librarian Bryan L. Mulcahy. Research assistance is free. Mr. Mulcahy can be reached by telephone at 239-533-4626 or via email at [bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com). The timeliest way to contact Mr. Mulcahy is via email. Appointment requests are limited to the following days and times: **Tuesdays** from 10-12 and **Wednesdays** from 1-3. If these hours do not work with your schedule, you are welcome to submit other days of the week and times. Mr. Mulcahy will be in touch with you to discuss options.

The Fort Myers Regional Library accepts research queries and photocopy requests from patrons by telephone, fax, postal mail, or e-mail. Queries received by mail must be accompanied by a business size stamped self-addressed envelope. Queries by e-mail or fax will also require an SASE to be mailed to the library unless the sender is satisfied with an electronic response. The second option is to request assistance from the Lee County Genealogical Society. Their email address for assistance is [GenHelp@lcsf.org](mailto:GenHelp@lcsf.org).

NOTE: Fort Myers Regional Library is the only branch that accepts e-mail, telephone, or mailed queries. Any queries sent to other branches or using the "Ask a Librarian" feature on the library website are forwarded to Mr. Mulcahy at Fort Myers Regional Library. Genealogical queries sent by mail should be addressed as follows:

Fort Myers Regional Library  
Attention: Bryan L. Mulcahy, Reference – Genealogy Librarian  
2450 First Street  
Fort Myers, FL 33901

To obtain assistance with genealogical queries, or reference to an agency that may provide help, patrons must be able to furnish the following information:

1. Full name of the ancestor
2. Where and when an event took place
3. Resources that have already been researched

If you wish to come to the branch to use the databases, especially the enhanced version of FamilySearch, you may access the genealogy databases from any computer in the building. Access is not limited to just the genealogy room. Please note that our genealogy databases are available on our library homepage link at <https://www.leegov.com/library/adults>.

**Research Databases Available on the Lee County Library System Genealogy  
Homepage  
June 2026**

<https://www.leegov.com/library/adults/genealogy>

**Genealogy Resources**

- [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) Library Edition - Search for Your Ancestors, Build a Family Tree & More. Start discovering today! Services: Family History, Family Trees. **Note: This resource is for in-library use only.**
- [Fold3](#) - Easy access to a growing collection of U.S. military records that include photos, personal documents and more.
- [HeritageQuest Online](#) - A collection of 25,000+ family and local history books that are searchable. Every page of each book can be downloaded or copied. Material is included from all 50 states and Canada. The complete U.S. census from 1790-1950 is also available.

## More Genealogy Resources

- [American Ancestors](#)
- [Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center](#)
- [Charlotte County Genealogical Society](#)
- [Christine's Genealogy Website](#)
- [Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet](#)
- [Dead People Server](#)
- **[FamilySearch](#)**
  1. Please visit our genealogy homepage at <https://www.leegov.com/library/genealogy>. Under the section labeled “World Class Genealogy Room” the third paragraph down talks about the Fort Myers Regional Library and our status as a FamilySearch Library Affiliate. Click on the following hot link [FamilySearch](#). This will take you directly to the Enhanced Version home page where you log in with your FamilySearch account. Please remember that this service is only available inside the Fort Myers Regional Library.
  2. Please be aware not all of the records available on the enhanced version of FamilySearch can be viewed at the library. **Due to contractual limitations, you may be required to view them at a FamilySearch Center or the FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City.** Restricted access records will always indicate whether a record can be viewed at a library affiliate or the FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City.
  3. Access to the enhanced version of FamilySearch or any of our other databases is available from any computer inside the Fort Myers Regional Library with the exception of those located in the Young Adult or Children’s room.
- [FamilySearch Library – Salt Lake City](#)
- [Federation of Genealogical Societies](#)
- [Florida State Genealogical Society](#)
- [Genealogical Society of Collier County](#)
- [Lee County Genealogical Society](#)
- [Mid-West Genealogy Center - Independence Missouri](#)
- [National Archives \(NARA\)](#)

If you have the names of **specific** titles of books in the collection and you wish to come to the branch and use them, please contact Bryan L. Mulcahy at [bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com) in advance of

your visit. I'll arrange to pull the items and have them waiting at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor reference desk.

### **Hours of Operation**

The Fort Myers Regional Library is located at 2450 First Street in downtown Fort Myers. The genealogy collection is housed in the Genealogy Room, part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor adult services area.  
**Monday – Wednesday 9am – 8pm; Thursday – 9am-6pm; Friday and Saturday – 9am-5pm**

Our genealogy collection is utilized by patrons from throughout Southwest Florida, and contains publications from all 50 states, and various foreign countries. The staff serves patrons via in-house visits and electronic queries. The Fort Myers Regional Library maintains the largest print genealogy and local history collection in Southwest Florida. The Lee County Genealogical Society has converted the Fort Myers Library's Genealogy Shelf List to a searchable database by location and subject on the Lee County Genealogical Society website.

<https://lcsfl.org/fort-myers-regional-library-genealogy-department-shelf-list/>

The holdings of Fort Myers Regional Library are accessible during normal business hours. Experienced genealogists, most of whom are members of the Lee County Genealogical Society, are available by appointment to work with patrons needing assistance with genealogy research. For more information on this, please contact Bryan L. Mulcahy at [bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com). We recommend that genealogy researchers consider joining a local genealogical society for research assistance and other genealogy-related services. Please contact Bryan Mulcahy for further information. The Lee County Genealogical Society is the largest society in the county and offers a full range of genealogical and educational services. Their website is <https://lcsfl.org/about-the-lcgs/>.

Patrons may contact Bryan L. Mulcahy by telephone, letter, or e-mail [bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com). Mr. Mulcahy is familiar with the contents of collection at Fort Myers and surrounding regional collections. He can also discuss the resources held by various private genealogists, as well as the resources and services offered by local genealogical and historical societies within the states of Florida, Georgia, New York City, and Salt Lake City.

Mr. Mulcahy also presents programs on a wide variety of topics pertaining to genealogical research. Information about genealogical programs can be found on the Lee County Library System website at <https://www.leegov.com/library/services/genealogy>. Please direct any programming queries or suggestions to Mr. Mulcahy. For more information on upcoming library programs, please visit the following link <https://www.leegov.com/library/programs>. All programs are free and open to the public, but registration is required.

### **Collection Scope**

The Fort Myers Regional Library genealogy collection contains materials from all 50 states, and 55 foreign countries. The primary focus of the Fort Myers Regional Library collection includes states east of the Mississippi River, Canada, the British Isles, and the northwestern tier of Europe.

Patrons holding a valid Lee County Library card may access the library databases via the library home page <https://www.leegov.com/library/services/genealogy>. HeritageQuest, Ancestry Library Edition, and Fold3 may be accessed from any branch of the Lee County Library System. HeritageQuest and Fold3 also can be accessed from home, provided users have a valid Lee County Library card.

### Collection Contents and Material Types

The Fort Myers Regional Library collection consists of the following holdings:

1. Print material: 11,000 +book titles, maps, etc.
2. Fort Myers *News-Press* (1884-present): 1,151 rolls of microfilm.
3. Bonita Banner (Bonita Springs) 1959-1992 (microfilm)
4. Bonita Springs Extra 1981-1985 (microfilm)
5. IGI International Genealogical Index 1978 and 1992 editions (microfilm) **NOTE: While the content may seem dated, many researchers find this tool increasingly useful because the 1978 and 1992 microfilm editions include information that has never been added to the FamilySearch database for a variety of reasons.**
6. New York Times (September 1851-present): 3,887 rolls of microfilm.
7. Florida State Census of 1885: 13 rolls of microfilm.
8. Florida Federal Census 1830-1920: 100 rolls of microfilm.
9. New England Historical and Genealogical Register v.1-80: 27 rolls of microfilm, including an index.
10. Port of New York Passenger Lists, June-December 1869: 10 rolls of microfilm.
11. International Genealogical Index – 1978 Microfiche Edition: 6,000 microfiches.
12. Fort Myers *News-Press* Necrology Index – Compiled by the Lee County Genealogical Society: over 8,000 index cards.
13. Genealogy and Local History Vertical File Cabinets: 1,000 + items. These cabinets contain newspaper clippings, documents, and manuscripts covering Southwest Florida and topics of genealogical interest worldwide.

Most of the genealogical materials in our print collection are considered secondary sources. Additional research in primary source records is recommended and can be found in our databases such as Ancestry Library Edition, FamilySearch, Fold 3, and HeritageQuest. Our indexes and secondary sources provide information about requesting official records from courthouses or agencies that have jurisdiction over public access.

Examples of genealogy materials available for research include:

1. Indexes to primary source records:
  - a. Land records
  - b. Vital records (births, marriages, divorces, and deaths)
  - c. Military service and pension records
  - d. Township, city, and state records (tax records, voter registrations, licenses)
2. Bibliographies of holdings in genealogical research institutions in the U.S. and Europe.
3. Published family histories.

4. Historical maps and gazetteers for most states east of the Mississippi River, Canada, the British Isles, Europe, and Russia.
5. Personal narratives of historical events.
6. Selected genealogical periodicals.
7. Self-help books on specific genealogical research topics.
8. Approximately 200 research guides and outlines on a wide variety of topics for genealogists at all levels of experience.
9. Information for contacting family associations, genealogical/historical societies, organizations, and repositories, both local and worldwide.
10. Genealogy Databases:
  - a. Ancestry Library Edition can be accessed inside any library branch in the Lee County Library System.
  - b. Fold3 Library Version can be accessed from home or inside any branch in the Lee County Library System. Fold3 offers easy access to a growing collection of U.S. military records that include photos, personal documents, and more.
  - c. FamilySearch – This database is under the jurisdiction of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. The enhanced version is only available at Fort Myers Regional Library. The regular version is available from home or at other branches within the Lee County Library system. NOTE You must set up a free account to utilize this database.
  - d. HeritageQuest can be accessed from home, library, or any facility with internet access. HeritageQuest offers access to a collection of 25,000+ family and local history books that are searchable. Every page of each book can be downloaded or copied. Material research content is included from all 50 states and Canada. The complete U.S. census from 1790-1950 is also available. It can be searched by name, place of birth, age or ethnicity.

The secondary resources in our genealogical collections provide researchers with the contact information necessary to access primary records and documents from the jurisdiction where their ancestors resided. The information usually includes the fee structure, forms, and the address, fax, or telephone information needed to process the request. The library can also borrow genealogical materials from other libraries nationwide via our Inter-Library Loan Department. Further details on Inter-Library Loan will be discussed later in this study guide.

Patrons may view a copy of the genealogy collection shelf list on the Lee County Genealogical Society website <https://lcsfl.org/fort-myers-regional-library-genealogy-department-shelf-list/> or visit the Genealogy Room at Fort Myers Regional Library.

### Collection Organization

The Fort Myers Regional Library genealogical collection is organized in six sections:

1. **General Collection:** This section is located near the Genealogy Desk. Items in the general collection include:

- a. Bibliographies (very useful for inter-library loan information)
  - b. "How-to" books on genealogical research (general and regional)
  - c. Directories that list genealogical and historical societies worldwide
  - d. Family histories
  - e. General U.S. records
    - (1) Bounty land grants
    - (2) Immigration and naturalization records
    - (3) Military service records and pension applications
    - (4) Land/taxation records
  - f. Indexes to public and private library or repository holdings
  - g. Lineage books for organizations such as the D.A.R. (Daughters of the American Revolution) and indexes for genealogical periodicals.
2. **International Collection:** This section contains genealogical materials specific to individual countries. Currently, there are materials covering 55 nations in Europe, Asia, Africa, Middle East, Australia/New Zealand, and the Caribbean. The name of each country has been abbreviated on a color-coded dot on the spine of every book. Countries are in alphabetical order by country name and shelved in Dewey Decimal order within each country. The library's international materials include the following subjects:
- a. Governmental structure
  - b. Historical events
  - c. Immigration and migration within the country
  - d. Passenger lists of ships
  - e. Name and place guides
  - f. Surname directories for a specific area.
3. **State Materials:** Materials in this section include records unique to each of the 50 states.
- a. Bibliographic holdings for libraries or repositories within a given state
  - b. Religious records
  - c. Biographies or family sketches
  - d. County histories
  - e. Court records, including vital records and probate files
  - f. State and county land, tax, and property records.
- Each state is identified by a color-coded dot citing the postal code on the spine of every book. The books within each state section are shelved in Dewey Decimal order.
4. **Microfilm/Fiche:** Microform materials are in the black cabinet beside the book scanner near the windows facing Cornog Plaza. The two exceptions are the *New York Times* and the *Fort Myers News-Press*. These items are in the Microfilm Room on the library's second floor. Holdings in the Genealogy Room include:
- a. Florida Census Microfilm, 1830-1930  
 To determine when a Florida county was created, consult Everton's ***Handybook for Genealogists*** shelved in the genealogy collection under the call number **Gen**

**929.1 HAN.** This book provides a brief description of the record-keeping history of each state and the development of each country. It also contains contact information for courthouses, as well as when the county was created and the name of the “parent” county.

- b. Florida State Census 1885
  - c. *The New England Historical Genealogical Register* on 26 rolls of microfilm covering 1847-1982, including an index for all rolls during those years.
  - d. Miscellaneous 1850 census data for Kentucky, Georgia, Virginia, and one roll of 1870 census data for Marion County, Iowa. The Bonita Springs Public Library also has an incomplete but larger run of the 1850 census on microfilm that focuses on the Mid-Atlantic, New England, and some of the “upper tier” Southern States.
  - e. Postal Returns - Fort Myers, Florida 1850-1857.
  - f. Records of the United States Army Continental Commands - 1821-1920, Surgeons’ Reports
  - g. Records of the United States Adjutant General’s Office - 1780-1917, Letters from Fort Denaud
  - h. Genealogy of the Cleveland and Cleavland Families. 3 volumes
5. ***International Genealogical Index (1978 and 1992 editions)***  
The Fort Myers Regional Library has both editions of the IGI on microfiche. The microfilm is in the microfilm room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor inside the gray cabinets on the right side of the room where periodicals are housed. **NOTE: While the content may seem dated, many researchers find this tool increasingly useful because the 1978 and 1992 microfilm editions include information that has never been added to the FamilySearch database for a variety of reasons.** This set is still useful for historical purposes, but most of the content has been updated and included within current databases on FamilySearch <http://www.familysearch.org>.
6. ***Genealogy Research Study Guides:*** There are over 200 study guides covering a variety of subjects to assist researchers who do not have time to read an entire book. Patrons may photocopy these study guides at a cost of \$.10 per page. Please contact Bryan Mulcahy at (239) 533-4626 or via email at [bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com) for more information. **NOTE: These study guides are intended to serve as an overview or outline for patrons using the genealogy collection at Fort Myers Regional Library. The compiler emphasizes that the information contained in these study guides should not serve as a substitute for taking the time to read one of the books or articles cited in the bibliography, or attend lectures given by the subject specialists cited as authors.**

## Genealogical Periodicals

Since many genealogical periodicals are now available online through a few websites such as Ancestry, HeritageQuest, and FamilySearch, we have reduced the number of genealogical periodicals housed in the library. Articles in periodicals may be accessed via PERSI. PERSI is

accessible via the Allen County Public Library website at <https://www.genealogycenter.info/persi/>

PERSI, the genealogical periodical index operated by Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, enables patrons to obtain photocopies of articles pertaining to specific areas of research. Patrons may order copies of the articles by following the instructions and completing the order sheet provided on the Allen County Public Library's website.

<https://acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy>. FamilySearch Wiki also has an article that discusses PERSI at the following link [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Periodical\\_Source\\_Index\\_\(PERSI\)](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Periodical_Source_Index_(PERSI)).

There are two other options for ordering articles found on the PERSI website.

1. Patrons may request these articles using the Lee County Library System's inter-library loan service if they can provide the exact citation which is found for each entry on PERSI. See examples shown below.
2. Contact the entity that published the article directly.

Please see the example shown below from the sample random article taken off the PERSI website.

Article Title	Periodical	Publisher
9 <sup>th</sup> Battalion Service, Black Watch Insignia – on US Army US Officers' Uniform Analysis	Military Collector and Historians Vol. 73, Issue 2 (Sum 2021)	Company of Military Historians, POB 910 Rutland, MA 01543

Most of the genealogical periodicals in the genealogy collection are state or country specific. They are shelved within each state section according to the Dewey Decimal number on the spine of the book. Periodicals that are specific to a state are shelved within the "State Materials" section.

Listed below are several examples of genealogy periodicals in the collections:

1. *Connecticut Nutmegger* (Connecticut)
2. *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* (General Collection)
3. *North Carolina Genealogical Journal* (North Carolina)

## Research Tips for Patrons

### 1. **General "How-To" Materials:**

If you are just beginning your research, you may want to check out a general "how-to" genealogy book. A small collection of genealogy books is in the 929.1 section of Adult Non-fiction. These books are part of the circulating collection and are available for check out. If Fort Myers is not the branch library you normally use, you may request these items from any branch, and they will be sent via inter-department mail to a branch library that is convenient for you.

2. **Examine all books concerning the given country, state, or subject area you are researching:**

Most of the genealogy materials are included in the library catalog. A separate shelf list containing all of the Fort Myers Regional Library genealogy materials is available in the Genealogy Room, at the Adult Reference Desk or online at the website for the Lee County Genealogical Society website at <https://lcsfl.org/fort-myers-regional-library-genealogy-department-shelf-list>.

3. **Join one or more of the local genealogical societies**

Lee County has two genealogical societies.

- a. The Lee County Genealogical Society meets on the third Thursday of each month at the Fort Myers Regional Library meeting room, 1651 Lee Street in Fort Myers. They offer assistance for beginners, special interest groups, and another related research. <https://lcsfl.org/about-the-lcgs>
- b. The Pine Island Genealogy Society meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month from October through May at the Pine Island Library from 1-3pm. The address of the branch is 10701 Russell Road, Bokeelia, FL 33922. They do not have a current operating website. For more information on membership, research assistance or library collection content, please contact Jerry Cernicky at [jerrycernicky@embarqmail.com](mailto:jerrycernicky@embarqmail.com).

4. **Consult Periodicals:** Many genealogical periodicals such as *New England Historical and Genealogical Society Register*, and the *Connecticut Nutmegger* contain vast amounts of research pertaining to vital records, probate records, family histories, land records, military and pension records, church and Bible records, as well as queries and book reviews. Queries can be worth their weight in gold to researchers. Many periodicals are now available online via subscription.

5. **Research Guides:** There are over 200 genealogy study guides covering a variety of subjects to assist researchers who do not have time to read an entire book. Patrons may photocopy these study guides at a cost of \$.10 per page or obtain an electronic or paper copy of the subject listings of what study guides are available by visiting or by contacting Bryan L. Mulcahy at (239) 533-4626 or [bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com). Please note the following disclaimer which appears on all study guides. **NOTE: These study guides are meant to serve as an overview or outline for patrons using the genealogy collection at Fort Myers Regional Library. The compiler emphasizes that the information contained in these study guides should not serve as a substitute for taking the time to read books or articles cited in the bibliography, or attend lectures given by the subject specialists cited as authors.**

## ILL (Inter-Library Loan) Services

Many of our genealogy books contain references to more detailed primary and secondary sources. These source materials may not be available in the Lee County Library System and may only be available at university or large genealogy libraries. The Lee County Library System participates in the nationwide resource-lending program known as Inter-library Loan (ILL). This makes it possible for researchers to obtain either photocopies or books from other institutions.

ILL services are subject to the following criteria:

1. Historically, there has not been a charge for this service. However, due to the increasing number of libraries that are charging the library system for borrowing privileges, we are required to ask patrons if they are willing to pay fees for this service.
2. Fees are assessed only if the lending institution imposes a fee on our library system. We will call the patron prior to ordering the book if this situation arises.
3. If the patron states that they do not want to pay any fee, we will attempt to borrow the item but limit the search ONLY to institutions that do not charge fees.
4. Patrons may have three active requests at a time, including photocopy requests.
5. Since many ILL materials come from private or academic libraries, there is usually a 2-6 week waiting period. Please note that during the holiday season, most academic and some smaller public libraries close from the middle of December through January 1. This usually impacts on ILL requests submitted during this time.
6. Please be advised that we cannot borrow National Archives or FamilySearch Library materials.

When requesting photocopies from genealogical periodicals, patrons MUST supply the exact citation and volume number, page number, and date of publication. This is emphasized because many libraries will not process requests that lack the page number or volume number.

On a case-by-case basis, some of the genealogical reference materials from the Fort Myers Regional Library may be loaned to various branches in the Lee County Library System for “in-house” use only, i.e., the item cannot be checked out. “In-House” use is limited to 5-7 days and is restricted due to the demand for the item. Lending of these materials is done at the discretion of the genealogy librarian and photocopies of indexes or specific pages may be furnished in lieu of the book. For more information on this matter, please contact Bryan L. Mulcahy at 239-533-4626 or via email at [bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com).

For a complete listing of our ILL policies and services, please visit the following links.

<https://www.leegov.com/library/services/interlibrary-loan>

[https://www.leegov.com/library/s\\_services/Documents/ILL/ILLDef.pdf](https://www.leegov.com/library/s_services/Documents/ILL/ILLDef.pdf)

National Archives borrowing options: As of July 31, 2009, the National Archives suspended their long-time microfilm-lending program to individuals through libraries. Patrons can see

other options at their website <http://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/index.html>. Access to virtually all federal census data is available on Ancestry Library Edition, FamilySearch, HeritageQuest, and other databases. For other subjects, the National Archives site offers a listing of all the relevant microfilm rolls and inventory numbers. At this point, researchers have three options:

1. Check with a library in the vicinity to see if they purchased any of the microfilms prior to the program being terminated.
2. Check the FamilySearch Library Catalog at <http://www.familysearch.org> to see if the same information is available in their holdings.
3. Visit the National Archives website at <http://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/> for further options.

### **FamilySearch Library Affiliate Services**

Until the microfilm lending program was terminated in August of 2017, patrons could order microfilm and specify delivery to the Fort Myers Regional Library. All films that were onsite as of the termination date are now part of our microfilm inventory of holdings. Our Genealogy Department has a complete listing by film number of the films that were retained on permanent loan from FamilySearch. Many of the films in our collection have now been digitized but are available for research in the event the FamilySearch site is down, or the film has not yet been digitized. To obtain an electronic copy of the inventory of our microfilm holdings from FamilySearch, please contact Bryan L. Mulcahy at [bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com).

Fort Myers Regional Library is a designated FamilySearch History Library Affiliate. The designation enables us to provide access to most of the digitized holdings of the FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City, with one exception. This involves any FamilySearch films that are under copyright restriction imposed by the agency or entity that allowed the FamilySearch Library and FamilySearch to film the records. Copyright-restricted films can only be viewed at designated FamilySearch Centers.

### **FamilySearch Centers (FSC)**

**June 2026**

If the record being searched is under copyright and/or access restrictions that require patrons to visit their nearest FamilySearch Center, the following options are available to obtain access. The two newest FamilySearch Centers are in Fort Myers and Estero. The Estero facility is much larger than the Naples FamilySearch Center. The best strategy to prepare for a visit to any of the centers is to make an appointment by telephone or email. This will put you in the best position for success and guarantee that someone will be available to assist you.

### **Additional Information**

- a. To use the Fort Myers, Estero, or Naples FamilySearch Centers you will need to establish a free FamilySearch.org account.
- b. FamilySearch.org is a free genealogy site.

- c. Please make sure you have all your login information and passwords including your email so you can email yourself information or a thumb drive. If you chill easily, please bring a sweater. Patrons may bring their own laptops and tablets.
- d. For FamilySearch Centers located elsewhere, call (800) 346-6044 or visit <https://www.familysearch.org/locations/>
- e. Since some of these records may have contractual restrictions on how much information is available, be prepared for the possibility that you might have to contact the original agency that created the record. The good news that occurs in the event of that situation is that the informational entry on the FamilySearch website should provide this information. There should be an icon for “contact” which will provide additional information.
- f. The record you need may be available on subscription sites such as Ancestry.com, FindMyPast, Fold3, or MyHeritage. In that case you also have the option of contacting Bryan L. Mulcahy at the Fort Myers Regional Library via email at [bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com). The library has access to Ancestry, Fold3 and Heritage Quest. If you have issues locating the contact information for the entity that has the record, he might also be able to provide some insight to help you prepare your query to them.

### **Fort Myers FamilySearch Center**

**Address:** 3105 Broadway, Fort Myers, FL 33901

This facility has just reopened and is located 2 miles south of the Fort Myers Regional Library. Nancy and Nick Aiello are the contacts for this region. Note: The current official hours are 6:30-8:00pm on Wednesdays. Additional times by appointment are available. Please contact Nancy Aiello at by email or by telephone. See below for both options. There is plenty of parking.

**E-Mail:** [nancybillaiello@gmail.com](mailto:nancybillaiello@gmail.com)

**Website:** <https://locations.familysearch.org/en/us/fl/fort-myers/3105-broadway>

**Telephone:** 1-570-836-1988

### **Estero FamilySearch Center**

**Address:** 20601 Three Oakes Parkway

Estero, FL 33928-3083

Note This is located about ¾ of a mile north of the South County Regional Library on the east side of the street.

**E-Mail:** [FL\\_Estero@familyhistorymail.org](mailto:FL_Estero@familyhistorymail.org)

**Website:** <https://locations.familysearch.org/en/us/fl/estero>

**Hours:** Access is available by appointment only.

Patrons seeking appointments should contact Amy at 239-860-7597. Her email address is [a.r.wolfe@gmail.com](mailto:a.r.wolfe@gmail.com).

### **Naples FamilySearch Center**

The Naples FamilySearch Center has access to the FamilySearch Library Portal page which gives free access in the center to premium family history software and websites that generally charge

for subscriptions.

**Address:** 4935 23<sup>rd</sup> Court SW, Naples, FL 34116. The entrance is at the rear of the building. Please use the door to the left.

**E-Mail:** [FL\\_Naples@familyhistorymail.org](mailto:FL_Naples@familyhistorymail.org).

**Website:** <https://locations.familysearch.org/en/us/fl/naples/4935-23rd-ct-sw>

**Hours of operation:** Access is available by appointment only. Patrons seeking appointments should contact Amy at 239-860-7597. Her email address is [a.r.wolfe@gmail.com](mailto:a.r.wolfe@gmail.com). The email address for the Naples FamilySearch Center Website:

**NOTE: This study guide is meant to serve as an overview or outline for patrons using the genealogy collection at Fort Myers Regional Library. The compiler emphasizes that the information contained in this study guide should not serve as a substitute for taking the time to read one of the books or articles cited in the bibliography, or attend lectures given by the subject specialists cited as authors.**

Compiled by Bryan L. Mulcahy, Reference – Genealogy Librarian - Fort Myers Regional Library  
6/12/2026