

Our Policies

Research

The department is open weekdays from 9 am to 4:45 pm. Appointments are encouraged. We are pleased to assist, without charge, researchers who come to the library in person. Due to our limited staff, requests received by mail, electronically and by phone are assessed a nominal fee.

Copying

The following fees apply to items copied in the Plainfield Room:

- Computer print-outs – 25c per page
- Black & White copies – 25c per page
- Color copies 8 ½" x 11" – 50c per page
- Blueprints – 11" x 17" – \$5 per page

Copyright Information

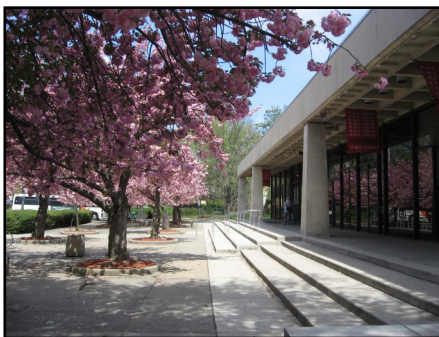
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Funding

The work of the Local History, Genealogy & Special Collections Department is made possible through the generous funding of the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State; the Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs; the Plainfield Cultural & Heritage Commission; and the Plainfield Foundation.

You and Local History

...Perfect Together!



Visit the Local History Room of the Plainfield Public Library NJ

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Plainfield NJ 07060

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E-mail: localhistory@plfdpl.info

Website: www.plfdpl.info

Hours: Weekdays, 9 am to 4:45 pm

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Local History Research



*Discover the people,
places, and events that
shaped the city of
Plainfield since the
18th century.*

Special Collections

The Plainfield Public Library houses the largest local history collection in Union County. Our Special Collections include genealogy and family histories, fine arts, diversity studies, oral histories, New Jersey and United States history, as well as the original Library collection from the 1800s.



- Plainfield Reference Books**
- Courier News Photograph Archive**
- Detwiller Blueprint Collection**
- Diversity Studies Collection**
- Historical Plainfield Photographs**
- Historical Plainfield Postcards**
- Plainfield Police Logs**
- Local Organizations Records**
- Local Authors Collection**
- Local and New Jersey Maps**
- Local and Area Newspapers**

Online Research

<http://www.plainfieldlibrary.info/Research/Databases.html>

From Home or Library

Plainfield Photograph Database

19,000 records

Plainfield Postcard Database

2,000 records

Plainfield Blueprint Database

15,000 records

PROQUEST Database

Search the Courier News back to 1999

Plainfield City Directories

1870 to 1982

Historical Newspapers

1837 to 1918

ANCESTRY Database

Family history information, with 5 billion names and 4,000 searchable databases.

AMERICAN ANCESTORS Database

Access to over 110 million names in a variety of databases, making family research easy and efficient

Historical Newspapers

ProQuest provides access to full-text and full-image articles for significant newspapers dating back to the eighteenth century.

Local Census Collection

New Jersey state census records for Plainfield and the rest of Union County is held in microfilm format for the years 1865, 1885, 1895, 1905, and 1915.

Success Stories



"The Historic Preservation Commission sent me here to use your blueprints. This is great!"

"A friend told me what a wonderful collection Plainfield has. I came to get as much information as I could to restore my home."

"The DAR told us about PPL and we have been able, with your help, to trace our family's lineage."

"Once again, the Plainfield Public Library has been of great help to me in my work. The result of the excellent research you did has provided answers to a number of long-standing questions."