

Public Vital Records Available at the Louisiana State Archives

Researchers may obtain any of the following vital records by visiting the Louisiana State Archives Research Library or may request the records by *postal mail only*. The Louisiana State Archives maintains the following:

- Orleans Parish birth records for 1819-1912 (births over 100 years ago)* (Index for 1790-1818, but no records)
- Orleans Parish marriage records for 1870-1962 (marriages over 50 years ago)** (Index for 1831-1869, but no records.)
- Orleans Parish death records for 1819-1962 (deaths over 50 years ago)* (Index for 1804-1818, but no records)
- Statewide death records for 1911-1962 (deaths over 50 years ago)*

Please visit our online Vital Records Index at
<http://www.sos.la.gov/tabid/638/Default.aspx>

This index is not comprehensive and contains only the following indexes at this time:

- Orleans Parish birth index: 1895-1911
- Orleans Parish marriage index: 1831-1915, 1925-1962
- Orleans Parish death index: 1911-1961
- Statewide death index: 1911-1961

*The only birth records that are currently available at the Archives prior to 1911 are from Orleans Parish. The only death records currently available prior to 1911 are from Jefferson and Orleans Parishes. Records from Orleans are filed separately from the combined statewide listing of all the other parishes in the state. Records prior to the dates listed above are probably nonexistent unless the parish where the birth or death occurred kept such a record. If the person being researched was Catholic, birth and death information would probably be shown in the sacramental records of the church or diocese where that person lived.

** **All marriage records**, other than Orleans Parish, are maintained by the office of the Clerk of Court in the parish where the marriage licenses are purchased.

The Archives charges \$5.00 for each certified copy (postal mail only), which includes a *three year search per surname*. Fees must be retained for both successful and unsuccessful searches. Searches are processed by a given year; therefore, a name, place, and date, or a span of three years is required to research a request. Patrons can also obtain a non-certified copy for 50 cents if they conduct their own research at the Louisiana State Archives Research Library.

(Please see following page for application form)

For current records, such as births less than 100 years, deaths less than 50 years and Orleans marriages less than 50 years, please contact the Department of Health and Hospitals: Vital Records Registry, P.O. Box 60630, New Orleans, LA 70160; Email _dhh-vitalweb@la.gov Phone (504) 593-5100 or visit their web site at <http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/subhome/21> for more information.

