

Sampson-Clinton Public Library
Local History and Genealogy Room Policy

The J. C. Holliday Library in Clinton, NC, houses a collection of print and microfilm resources concerning the history and families of Sampson County. It is library policy not to purchase family histories/genealogies. Our collection is composed of donations. Therefore, we do not have a family history/genealogy for every family that has roots in Sampson County.

The local history and genealogy room is provided for public use and is not staffed by certified genealogists or experts. Library staff cannot compile lineages, determine parentage, locate missing persons or living relatives, or undertake extensive copying projects from books or microfilm. We are happy to instruct patrons in the use of our microfilm reader and to locate resources for patron use. It is our responsibility to support our patron's research efforts, but we cannot perform extensive research for them; therefore, any requests submitted for staff must be specific in nature.

Examples of acceptable requests are:

- Please locate John BASSETT b. 1883, in the 1910, 1920 and 1930 census. He lived in Sampson County NC. Wife, Loretta; Children James, Sylvia and John.
- Please check for burial information for John SNOW and his wife Adele in Sampson County NC cemetery records. They were in the 1910 census but not the 1920.
- Can you locate an obituary for Fred JOHNSON who d. 15 Jan 1923 in Newton Grove? (Obituary requests should be limited to the Sampson County and contain the exact date of death)

Examples of unacceptable requests are:

- Will you check your records for any information on the Joseph Smith Family of Roseboro, NC?
- Can you locate the parents of Sarah JAMES b. ca. 1838 Sampson County, NC? (Parental searches other than in indexed census data (post 1850) often fall into the "General Research" category)
- My grandmother died in Sampson County sometime in the 1990s. Can you find her obituary?

We are happy to be able to provide this service to everyone, including those living outside of Sampson County and North Carolina. We encourage you to show your support of these services by donating to the Sampson-Clinton Public Library to recognize the specialized skills and staff time utilized to answer your question.

For those patrons requiring more assistance than staff can provide, we will provide a list of private researchers who can undertake more extensive research on a fee basis.

Library Administration understands that circumstances may occur that would necessitate varying the application of this policy, and these instances will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the Library Director.