



Colonial Period thru 1850s

- Community home
- Jails
- Almshouse or Poorhouse
 - First an extension of the church, later the town/city, or state (Boston first in 1622)
 - All persons who lived in poverty:widows

 - orphans
 - alcoholics
 - persons with physical or mental disabilities

Mid-19th Century

- Huge effort to categorize and arrange individuals, with a focus on rehabilitation:
 - Penitentiaries (1829, Philadelphia, Penn.)
 - Public schools (1839, Lexington, Mass.)
 - Orphanage (1729, Natchez, Miss.)
 - School for the deaf (1817, Hartford, Conn.)
 - School for the blind (1829, Watertown, Mass.)
 - Asylum for mentally-ill (1752, Philadelphia, Penn.)
 - Hospitals (1736, New York City)

4

Early 20th Century

- Placement became more permeant
 - Rehabilitation is less-possible
- · Eugenics on the rise
- · Xenophobia on the rise
 - Immigration act of 1907 and 1924
- Binet-Simon test
 - Precursor to IQ test

5

Immigration Act of 1907

- Idiots, imbeciles, and feeble-minded persons
- Epileptics
- Insane persons
- Paupers
- Professional beggars
- Persons afflicted with tuberculosis or "with a
- loathsome or dangerous contagious disease"
- Persons who have been convicted of a felony or crime or "misdemeanor involving moral turpitude"
- Polygamists
- Anarchists

Henry Goddard

- 1866-1957
- Head of research at the Vineland Training School in New Jersey
- Translated the Binet-Simon
 - "idiots" had a mental age equal to or less than 2 years old

 - "imbeciles" had a mental age of 3-7 years "morons" had a mental age of 8-12 years



Mid/Late 20th Century

- Deinstitutionalization
 - Return to home care
 - Parole
- Education
 - Public perception
 - Specialized fields
- Parent groups demanded change
 - Rehabilitation
 - Improved conditions and better staffing

8



U.S. Federal Census

- Authorized by Article 1, Section 2, of the U.S. Constitution to make an accurate count of the U.S. population for representative purposes (1787)
- Population Schedule is taken every ten years-
 - 1st enumeration- 2 August 1790
 - The 1950 census (last available census)-1 April 1950
 - The last census- 1 April 2020
 - Next census to become available- 1 April 2032
- Began under the jurisdiction of U.S. State Department (1790-1840). Currently, under the U.S. Census Bureau.

10

Census Records

- 1830-Free persons and enslaved persons who are deaf/dumb; free persons and enslaved persons who are blind
- 1840-Free persons who are insane/idiots (public charge or private charge)
- 1880-1950 (except 1920)- Unemployment status
- 1850-1910 (except 1900)- Deaf/dumb, blind, insane, idiotic
- 1850-1860- Pauper or convict
- 1870- Crippled
- 1880- Person sick on enumeration day (name sickness)
- 1910 and 1930- Veteran status

11

1840 Charleston, SC



 District (or Territory)	

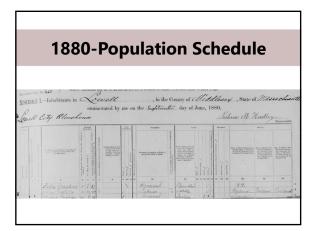
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Non-Population schedules and special censuses

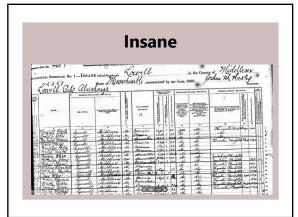
- Agricultural Schedules
- Defective, Dependent, and Delinquent Classes
- Industry and Manufacturing Schedules
- · Mortality Schedules
- Slave Schedules
- Social Statistics Schedules
- Business Census (1935)
- Union Veterans and Widows Schedules
- Indian Census Rolls, 1885-1940
- Special Census on Deaf Family Marriages and Hearing Relatives, 1888-1895
- And many others...

19

1880- Defective, Dependent, and Delinquent Classes

- This schedule included different forms to enumerate the following classes of individuals:
 - Insane
 - Idiots
 - Deaf-mutes
 - Blind
 - Paupers and indigent persons
 - Homeless children
 - Prisoners

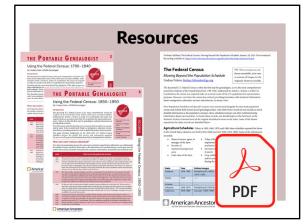
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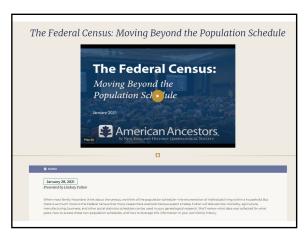
Insane

- Name of person
- Residence when at home (city and county)
- Paying or ward of state
- Form of disease (diagnosed by medical professional)
- Mental history (duration, number of attacks, age at first attack)
- Restraint or seclusion (date of discharge)
- Ever institutionalized? If so, where?

22



23



20th Century Passenger Lists

- U.S. Government printed blank passenger lists and distributed to ships companies
- Completed at port of departure
- Headings in English, but remainder could be in native tongue (especially names)
- Ship's purser would complete



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Information included

- Name
- Literacy
- Age
- Nationality
- Sex
- Race or people (1903)
- Martial status
- Last permanent address
- Occupation
- Name and complete address of nearest relative or friend in country whence alien came (1907)

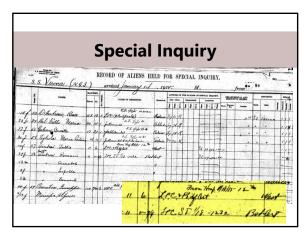
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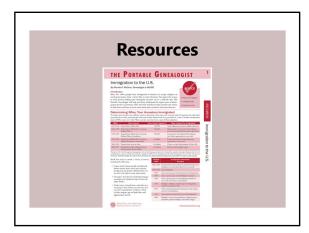
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Information included

- Destination (state and city/town)
- Whether in possession of a ticket to final destination
- By whom was the passage paid
- Amount of money passenger carried
- Whether ever before in the United States (years, place)
- Whether going to join a relative, the relative's name, address and relationship
- Whether the passenger had ever been in prison, almshouse, or institution for the insane, or was a polygamist or anarchists
- State of health
- Place of birth (county/town) (1906)
- Physical Description (1906)

29





Military Records

- Pensions
- Tombstone records
- Enlistment or discharge records
- · Draft cards and records
 - Civil War, WWI, and WWII

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Civil War Pension Files • Held at National Archives **Madern, Summer **Madern, S

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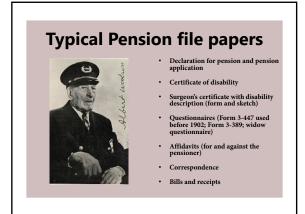
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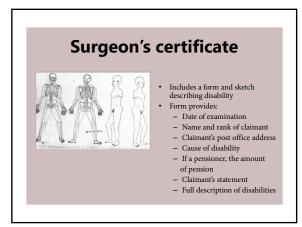
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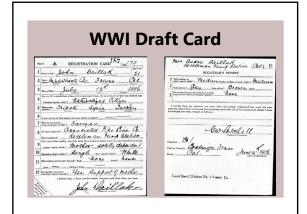
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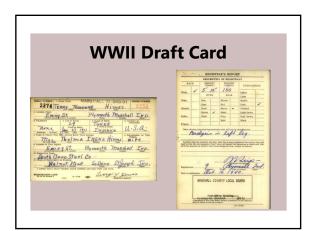
Draft Cards

- WWI-
 - 1917-1918 (men born between 1873 and 1900)
- WWII-
 - 1940-1947 (men born between 1898-1929)
 - 1942 (men born between 1877 and 1897)

40



41





Other Records

- Vital Records
- Church Records
- Cemetery Records
- Land and Property
- Probate
- Newspapers
- Compiled genealogies
- Finding aids
- Local histories
- Family papers

...and more!

44



Colonial Period thru 1850s

- Community home
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 - First an extension of the church, later the town/city, or state (Boston first in 1622)
 - All persons who lived in poverty:
 - widows
 - orphans
 - alcoholics
 - persons with physical or mental disabilities

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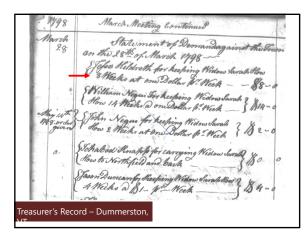
Go-to Records

- · Town Records*
- New England
- New York
- Atlantic Canada
- Warnings Out records*
- · Journals and diaries*
- · Church records
- Almshouse and poorhouse records*

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Town Records

- Reimbursements to townspeople for services
- Payment to soldiers for service
- Best sources for the poor and women



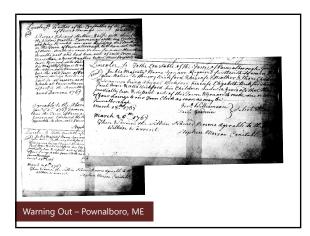
Warnings Out Records

- Inhabitants of a community were responsible for each other
 - Conduct
 - Financial Support
- Warnings Out were a method of pressuring outsiders to leave town and settle elsewhere
 - Practical
 - Did not want to support outsiders

50

Warnings Out

- Who was warned out?
 - Outsiders
 - Impoverished
 - Those without family support



Diaries and Day Books

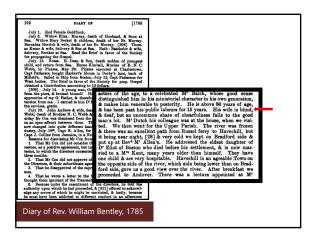
- Diaries and Day Books can reveal information about the greater community
- Birth, death, and marriage information
- Biographical information
- Movements of neighbors, including warnings out
- Notable events

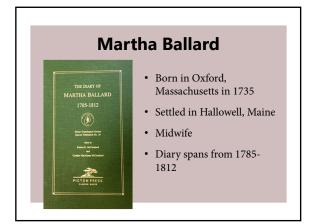
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Rev. William Bentley

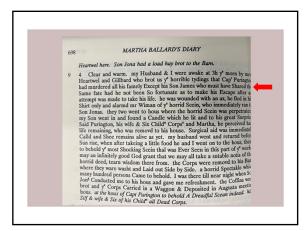


- Born in Boston in 1759
- Graduated from Harvard in 1777
- Pastor of the East Church in Salem, 1783-1819
- · Prolific diarist





56



Institutional Records

- Almshouse
- Poorhouse
- Records of the Overseers of the Poor

58

Ove	rseers	of the p	oor
-	CHILDREN BOUN	D OUT 1756 - 1790	
	0		
was "bound out", that is, the start of the tern Towner worked from the full indenture manu most of the clerks provide locations, but not below can be found in Towner's list, but som the eventual total for child indentures. The et Clerk's office in six volumes and subsequend! 434. The originals are now in the Boston Pub	iscripts, he was able to note the occu all do, and none of the clerks identifi e are not, which suggests that some i leven hundred original printed inden ly microfilmed for the Institute of Ear	pational terms of the service and the I the nature of the service or the trade indenture forms did not survive. Thus, ture forms cited, abstracted and listed y American History and Culture, Willia	ocation of the master, in all cases. Here, of the apprenticeship. Most of the name: Towner's numbers are slightly lower than by Towner were found in the Boston City
(p646) Childrens Names	when Bound	to Whom	when Free
Anthony Frazier	April 21st. 1756	Jacob Yeaton	Septemr. 3d. 1770
William Thomas	May 11th, 1756	Joseph Johnston	Octo. 6. 1776.
	June 4th. 1756	Zechariah Fowle	Janua. 8. 1769
Isaiah Thomas			
James Gordon	June 18th. 1756	Robert McClure	April 25 1767

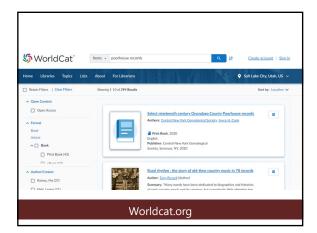
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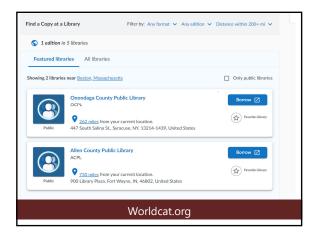






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Mid-19th Century

- Huge effort to categorize and arrange individuals, with a focus on rehabilitation:
 - Penitentiaries (1829, Philadelphia, Penn.)
 - Public schools (1839, Lexington, Mass.)
 - Orphanage (1729, Natchez, Miss.)
 - School for the deaf (1817, Hartford, Conn.)
 - School for the blind (1829, Watertown, Mass.)
 - Asylum for mentally-ill (1752, Philadelphia, Penn.)
 - Hospitals (1736, New York City)

Go-to Records

- Institutional records (public and private)*
- Professional Associations
 - Meeting minutes
 - Reports
- Annual reports
- Journals and diaries
- Newspapers*

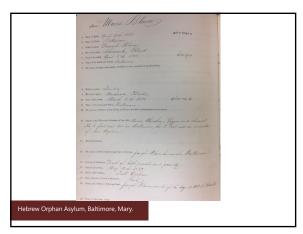
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Private Institutions

- Church or non-profit?
- Is it still functional?
- Does the organization have an archives?
 - Catholic dioceses
 - Jewish Museum of Maryland

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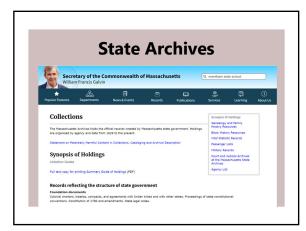


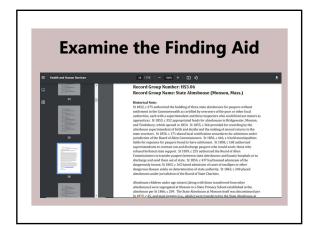


Public Institutions

- State or Federal?
- Is it still functional?
- Was it absorbed by another entity?
- Do they have privacy policy?

71







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Newspapers

- · Activities at an institution
- Staffing updates
- Patient names and information
- Photos

Newspaper Databases

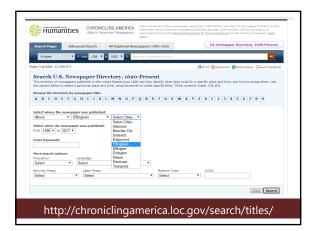
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- Newspapers.com
- Newspaper Archive
- 19th Century Newspapers
- America's Historical Imprints
- Chronicling America (Library of Congress)

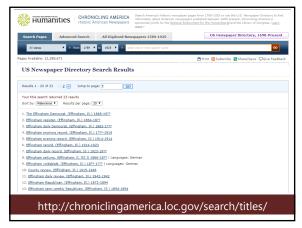
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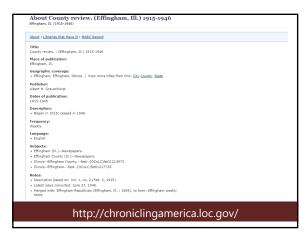
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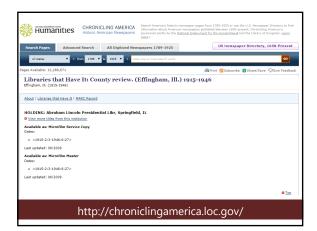






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Mid/Late 20th Century

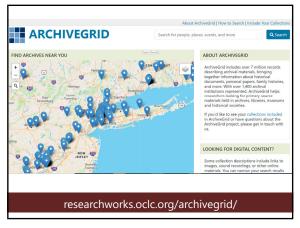
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85

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86







89



