

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 1/2" x 11" – 50c per page
- Blueprints – 11" x 17" – \$5 per page

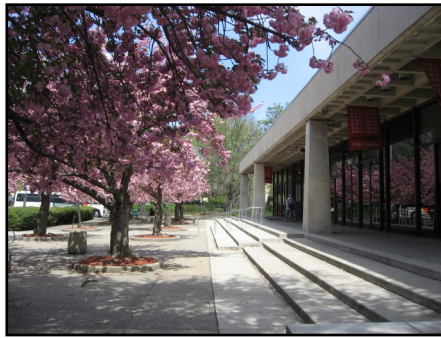
Copyright Information

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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; the Plainfield Foundation.; and the Friends of Plainfield Public Library (FOPPL).

Come see what
you can discover!



Visit the
Plainfield Room
of the
Plainfield Public Library NJ

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Local History,
Genealogy &
Special
Collections
Department



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 & Tax Ledgers
Local Organizations Records
Local Authors Collection
Local and New Jersey Maps
Local and New Jersey Newspapers
Local Artists & Fine Arts

Online Research

http://www.plainfieldlibrary.info/Departments/LH/LH_main.html

Access From Home or Library

Historical Plainfield Photographs and Postcards

20,000+ images

Plainfield Architectural Drawings

15,000+ records

ProQuest Historical Newspapers

Search the Courier News back to 1891

Plainfield City Directories

1868 to 1982

Historical Local Newspapers

1837 to 1918

Ancestry.com Library Edition

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

FamilySearch Affiliate Library

Explore the world's largest collection of free family trees, genealogy records and resources.

HeritageQuest Online

A comprehensive treasury of American genealogical sources, family histories, and more.

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."