

Horry County Family History Research Locations

Horry County Historical Society

Horry County Historical Society's *Independent Republic Quarterly* (IRQ) has been published since 1967. The IRQ contains articles about Horry history, places and people. Complete sets are located at Historical Society Headquarters, Horry County Memorial Library in Conway and Chapin Library at Myrtle Beach. An online index is accessed from our website, listed below. From the homepage, click on the "Bookstore is Open" link to find a page with "IRQ index" to search for people and places. Clicking on the Bookstore link also allows you to choose "pictures of covers of IRQs." You may pull up the covers a decade at a time. Click on the blue link below each cover photo for the contents of each issue through 1999. Recent issues are not listed online.

HCHS website www.hchsonline.org has county information online, much of it from the IRQ. Scroll down to the last row of boxes to find the "search" link for a search engine for the site.

Horry County Historical Society's Resource Room at Bryan House is open Wednesday afternoons from 1:30 – 4:00 (closed August and December) and other times by appointment. All back issues of the IRQ and a few local history books are available for purchase. There is a very small collection including oral history interview transcripts, family genealogies, compilations of history articles from local newspapers, compiled IRQ table of contents and vertical files. You can get help in learning the places to go for information on Horry families. Phone 843-488-1966 for information and appointments.

Horry County Memorial Library in Conway has a local history section containing many family histories, old copies of area newspapers on microfilm, Conway City Directories, an obituary index from January 1, 1915 through December 28, 1950, cemetery records and other genealogy information for SC and the Southeast. They have all back issues of the *Independent Republic Quarterly* and are the best source for family history research in Conway. www.hcml.org

Chapin Memorial Library in Myrtle Beach has a local history room with South Carolina and Eastern US resources. Go to www.chapinlibrary.org for information on their holdings and online databases.

Kimbel Library at Coastal Carolina University in Conway has a primary documents area that contains the Horry County Oral History and Language Project, Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from South Carolina, and other local history subjects. For further information: <http://www.coastal.edu/library/>

Georgetown County Library in Georgetown has a local history room that may contain Horry items before 1800 when the area that is now Horry County was part of Georgetown District. Website description of their holdings: "The Patricia Doyle Local History Room has a wealth of print resources, including county, state, and federal censuses, cemetery and burial records,

obituaries, and a variety of newspapers on microfilm. There are also vertical files on a variety of topics.”

Georgetown newspapers from 1819 throughout much of the nineteenth century are online and searchable. These were the papers published closest to our area and they have items about Horry people and places.

<http://georgetowncountylibrary.sc.gov/>

Horry County Historical Society YahooGroup (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/horrychs/>)

An online group of researchers interested family connections in Horry County. You may search their archive for mention of your family or join the group to ask questions and collaborate with the group members.

Land records from 1803 to the present are located at Horry County Court House on 3rd Avenue in Conway. Land records and deeds sometimes give connections, as in transactions between family members, such as parents giving property to children. Wills and court records from the early 1900s are at the Court House, but before around 1915 are held in Columbia at SCDAH.

- Probate Court records include the issuance of marriage licenses, the estate of a deceased person, the will of an individual, the estate of a minor or incapacitated person, trusts, and involuntary commitments.
- Register of Deeds Dept. has records of property transactions and agreements. These records sometimes include plats of the property.

The area that is now Horry County was part of Georgetown District, 1769 -1800. Limited records before 1802-1803 are located in Georgetown, but most were burned during the War Between the States.

Government records before 1769 are located in Charleston or at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH) in Columbia. Original deeds until 1785 are located in the office of the Register of Mesne Conveyance, County Office Building, 2 Courthouse Square, Room 201, Charleston, SC. An index for these deeds is searchable online at the SCDAH Online Records Index.

Early records are in the SCDAH in Columbia. There is an online index link at www.scdah.sc.gov The website gives information about their holdings and digital collections. www.hchsonline.org has a listing of Horry County holdings in the SC State Archives. Many wills before the early 1900s are online. Horry County probate and court records from 1801 through the early 1900s are also held here.

Vital Records are located at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in Columbia, <http://www.scdhec.gov/administration/vr/> The website gives requirements and fees for birth, death and marriage certificates and divorce reports. SC began requiring birth and death certificates in 1915, marriage records in 1950 and divorce records in 1962.

South Carolina Death Certificates, 1821 - 1955 are online at www.ancestry.com Most are from 1915 to 1955. Ancestry also has US Federal Census records online. This is a subscription site that you will have to pay to use. Some libraries have the library edition you can use.

www.FamilySearch.org is a free website that has census and many other records for family history.

Soldier service records and pension applications from the Revolutionary and Confederate Wars are online at www.fold3.com . These records can also be found at State and National Archives. WWI and WWII draft registration cards are online at www.ancestry.com .

South Caroliniana Library at University of South Carolina has extensive holdings on South Carolina history and genealogy including Horry County. <http://library.sc.edu/socar/index.html>

Clemson University Libraries has a manuscript collection that includes SC history and genealogy items. The Quattlebaum Family Papers Collection is held here and includes Paul Quattlebaum's genealogy research on Horry County families.

http://media.clemson.edu/library/special_collections/findingaids/manuscripts/Mss0076Quattlebaum.html#ref7

There are very few known records for early county churches. Contact individual churches to find the location of their records. Some churches have church historians who may be able to help you.

SC Baptist records are in the South Carolina Baptist Historical Collection at Furman University Library in Greenville, SC.

http://library.furman.edu/specialcollections/baptist/baptist_resources.htm

SC United Methodist Collection is held at Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC. *The Southern Christian Advocate* has obituaries for some Methodist Church members.

www.wofford.edu/library/archives/methodist.aspx

Presbyterian records are housed at The Presbyterian Heritage Center at Montreat, NC.

www.phcmontreat.org

Early Episcopal Church records are most often held by individual parishes. Early records have been transcribed and published.

Catholic Diocese of Charleston has an Office of Archives. Information may be found online at:

<http://archives.catholic-doc.org/>