

State of Tennessee



RILEY C. DARNELL
Secretary of State

EDWIN S. GLEAVES
State Librarian and Archivist
(615) 741-7996

FAX
(615) 741-6471

TDD
(615) 741-1549

Department of State

Tennessee State Library And Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
(615) 741-3158

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BUREAU OF VITAL RECORDS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

SOUNDEX INDEX CARD FILE BIRTH RECORDS, 1881-1882 FOR SELECTED COUNTIES

RECORD GROUP 231

(MICROFILM ONLY)

Processed by:

Ted Guillaum
Archives and Manuscripts Unit
Technical Services section
Tennessee State Library and Archives

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Introduction

Record Group 231 consists of birth record information recorded on index cards from 42 Tennessee counties for the years 1881 through 1882. The counties are as follows: Anderson, Bedford, Benton, Blount, Campbell, Cannon, Coffee, Cumberland, Davidson, Decatur, DeKalb, Dickson, Fayette, Fentress, Gibson, Greene, Grundy, Hamblen, Hamilton, Hancock, Hardeman, Hardin, Henderson, Henry, Hickman, Houston, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Lincoln, Macon, McNairy, Monroe, Montgomery, Moore, Obion, Perry, Pickett, Putnam, Rutherford, Sequatchie, and Sevier. These records were transferred to the Tennessee State Library and Archives from the Bureau of Vital Records, Department of Health on February 7, 1995, under authority of RDA #1399. These index cards were created from information taken from original county birth records by the County Court Clerks. However, we believe these records are not a complete listing for each of these counties and should not be considered the only resource when doing genealogical research. Ten counties included in this record group are important because the birth records for the years 1881-1882 do not appear elsewhere in our county records. The ten counties are as follows: Bedford, Campbell, Coffee, Cumberland, Davidson, DeKalb, Hancock, Henderson, Montgomery, and Putnam.

The record group is arranged according to the Soundex System that was prepared in the 1930's for Social Security purposes. The Soundex Index groups the last names by a phonetic code. The cards are arranged by last name and not by county. In order to find someone you must first develop the code for their name. See the following instruction sheet for the proper coding of last names.

Information in this record group includes the sex and race of the infant, the father's name, occupation, place of birth, and county of residence, and the mother's name and place of birth.

These records have been microfilmed and the original index cards disposed of.

SOUNDEX INDEX

The 1880, 1900, and 1910 censuses are indexed on microfilm by the Soundex method. This index was prepared for Social Security purposes in the 1930's. The 1880 Soundex only indexes those households having children ten years of age and under. The 1900 Soundex indexes all households. The 1910 Soundex indexes all households in 21 states.

The Soundex index has grouped all the last names for a particular state by a phonetic code. In order to find someone you must first develop the code for their name.

Soundex Coding Instructions

Only the last names are coded. "Mc" and "Mac" are coded. Such prefixes as "D", "De", "dela", "Di", "du", "le", "von", and "van" are sometimes disregarded in coding.

1. Write down the first letter of the name.
2. Mark out these letters which are not used in coding; a, e, i, o, u, h, w, y.
3. Two or more consonants next to each other having the same code number will only be coded one time. Example: Williams - W452. This also applies if the second letter has the same code as the initial letter. Example: Scott - S300.
4. Assign the consonants a number code based on the following chart. Develop a 3-digit code using zeros if needed at the end. Remember several different names may have the same code.

<u>Code</u>	<u>Letters</u>
1	b, p, f, v
2	c, s, k, g, j, q, x, z
3	d, t
4	l
5	m, n
6	r

OVER