

CHEROKEE AREA ARCHIVES



Cherokee Public Library (1905)A Carnegie Library on the National Register of Historic Places since 1985.

The Cherokee Area Archives offers an ever-expanding collection of information related to the past and present.

We have thousands of historic documents including death records, obituaries, marriage records, birth records, and cemetery records for Cherokee County. We also have thousands of historic photographs.

Our Archives has digitized access to our local newspapers dating from 1870 to present. You can find those online at:

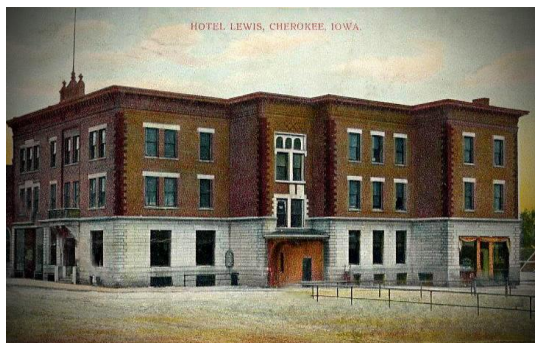
<http://cherokee.advantage-preservation.com/>

The Archives is located in the lower level of the Cherokee Public Library.

If a visit to the archives is not possible, the staff can still provide historical information, research specific questions, and locate family information for you. Please contact us via telephone, mail, or email.



Cherokee Commercial Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places since 2005



Lewis Hotel (1898)
On the National Register for Historic Places since 1997

Cherokee Area Archives

215 South Second Street
Cherokee, Iowa 51012

Hours:
Mon-Fri 1:30-4:00 p.m.

Phone:
712.225.3498

Email:
cherokeearchives@gmail.com

Archives History

The Cherokee Area Archives was established in April 1980 to preserve the early records of Cherokee County and to make them accessible for study and research.

Many volunteers work to gather, sort, copy and prepare items for storage so that they will be preserved for future generations. Conservation techniques and proper storage facilities assure that there will be no further deterioration of fragile papers and photographs.

Volunteers are available to help with researching the history of a building, a community, a family, an individual or an event.

Documents available at the Cherokee Area Archives (CAA)
for your information and/or research:

- ❖ Birth transcription books 1880-1953; births from newspapers 1872-1896; births on CAA record cards 1953 to current
- ❖ Marriages transcriptions 1879-2012, plus CAA record cards for brides
- ❖ Death transcription books 1880-2014; copies of death certificate information from 1972-1996
- ❖ Records from the 25 Cherokee County cemeteries including a list of those buried at the Cherokee Mental Health Institute cemetery
- ❖ Funeral home records 1914-1944
- ❖ Meriden Cemetery Society records 1903-1972
- ❖ Cemetery burial records 1859-1965
- ❖ 104 drawers of obituary envelopes
- ❖ 22 vertical file drawers of hundreds of family histories, genealogy and photos
- ❖ 10 drawers of photos of individuals
- ❖ 75 preservation boxes of photos, clippings, diaries, and other items cross referenced to 2 drawers of index cards with names of places
- ❖ 3 drawers of index cards with names of people
- ❖ Open vertical files of Cherokee clippings
- ❖ Collection of county plat maps and atlases
- ❖ Sanborn maps and 110 original land patents
- ❖ Old phone books, 1906, 1909, then 1939 to current
- ❖ Dr. L. S. Brewer (of Quimby) financial journals
- ❖ Assessors books
- ❖ Census records
- ❖ Declaration of Intent for Naturalization and Final Papers
- ❖ Hotel registers 1881-1882, 1890-1893, 1920-1940, 1925-1932, 1968-1976
- ❖ Property tax books 1858-1880
- ❖ Deed patent records on cards and in notebooks
- ❖ Chamber of Commerce minutes
- ❖ 5 cash books/ledgers, one for Jonas Whitney who apparently operated a saw mill 1801-185
- ❖ Pritchard Education Fund records for 1939
- ❖ Area high school annuals
- ❖ Historical and biographical Reference Books
- ❖ Extensive collection of photos including historic buildings, houses, schools, churches, businesses, industries and individuals
- ❖ Records of veterans from Civil War, World Wars I and II, and Vietnam War
- ❖ Business directory of current and former Cherokee businesses with over 2600 listings