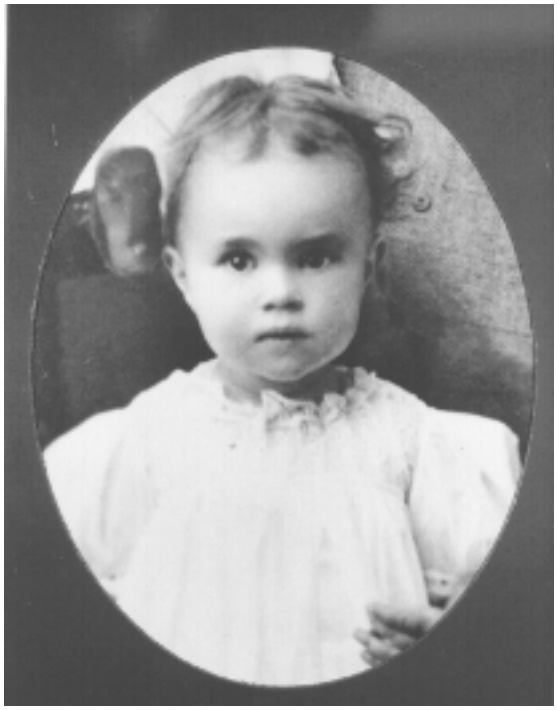

The Nevada State Library and Archives does not have Birth and Death Records. There were no birth or death records kept in Nevada until 1887 when the first vital statistics law was passed by the Nevada State Legislature. Prior to that date, the only possible sources available for proof of birth are newspapers or baptismal records. See the copy of existing newspaper indexes and their locations.

Birth and death records from 1887 to the present are recorded in each county, either in the office of the County Recorder or County Health Officer. The Nevada State Office of Vital Statistics has birth and death records from 1911 to the present for all counties.

The Carson City Recorder's office has indexed all births and deaths registered in the Ormsby County/Carson City County Recorder's office and made them available online.

Registers of births and baptisms for the Protestant Episcopal Church in the U.S.A., Nevada Dioceses 1862-1969 are at the Nevada Historical Society, 1650 N. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89503. For the Diocesan Archives, write to Nevada Diocese of Reno, 515 Court St., P.O. Box 1121, Reno, NV 89504-1211.

From 1879 to 1911, incorporated cities required undertakers to obtain burial permits from the county coroner's office. Permits were issued upon the filing of death certificates. These certificates exist for Virginia City and Gold Hill for 1879-1887, and for Carson City 1893-1896. Transcripts of the Storey County Coroner's records are at the Nevada State Library and the Nevada Historical Society on microfilm.

Marriage and Divorce Records

The Nevada State Office of Vital Statistics also has marriage and divorce records from 1968 to the present. Divorces are civil court actions and from 1862 to the present are kept in the office of the County Clerk for each county. Civil court cases are filed by case number and indexed by plaintiff and defendant. Marriage certificates are filed with the County Recorder in the county where the marriage license was issued, not where the marriage took place.

The Archives has some records for marriages and divorces for Carson County, Utah and Nevada territories, 1856-1862. The Nevada State Library has marriage records for Douglas, Lyon, Ormsby, Storey and Washoe Counties for 1862-1900. The latter are available on microfilm and are for research only. Certified copies should be obtained from the office of record.

Photo Credit: Jane Dickerson, first child born in the Nevada Governor's Mansion, 1909. Courtesy of Nevada State Archives, PER-0010.

Important Addresses/Phone Numbers

Nevada State Library and Archives
100 N. Stewart St.
Carson City, NV 89701-4285
(775) 684-3360

Nevada Historical Society
1650 N. Virginia St.

Reno, NV 89503
(775) 688-1190

Archives and Records
100 N. Stewart St.
Carson City, NV 89701-4285
(775) 684-3310

Office of Vital Records & Statistics
4150 Technology Way, Suite 104
Carson City, NV 89706
(775) 684-4242