

# City Directories

Published for Washington from 1822 to 1973:

1822
1827
1830
1834
1843
1846
1850
1853
1855
1858
1860
annually 1861-1943
1948
1954
1956
1960
1962
1964
1965
1967
1969
1970
1973

## Each included:

- Alphabetical list of people and businesses ("white pages")
- classified list of businesses ("yellow pages") ["Buyer's Guide"]
- criss-cross street list (each address in the city listed by *address*) "Directory of Householders" [starting in 1914]
- phone number list [starting in 1969]

The main white pages listing usually includes:

- name
- spouse's name (1928--)
- occupation
- work address
- home address
- race (*up to 1870*)

*Note: the directory was done by canvas in the December of the year preceding, and one could ask to be excluded.*

## Ceased publication for Washington DC in 1973.

For some similar information one can use:

Telephone books--yellow and white pages

Haines criss-cross directory (began in 1974)

List of registered voters (public viewing copies kept at the Board of Elections and Ethics and at the Washingtoniana Division, DC Public Library)

Also useful:

Real Estate Assessment Directories (published by the city, by Rufus S. Lusk Co., or First American (FARES)-- this lists all the property in Washington and ownership thereof.

***City directories show who and what was where when--and are useful for:***

Genealogy  
environmental assessments (showing property use at a specific point in time)  
house histories  
neighborhood histories