

# New York

## Research Outline

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This outline describes major sources of information about families from New York. As you read this outline, study the *United States Research Outline* (30972), which will help you understand the terminology and the content and uses of genealogical records.

## RECORDS OF THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

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The Family History Library has most of the records described in this outline. The library has over 50,000 microfilms and continues acquiring additional materials—particularly for New York City and Long Island. Although the Family History Library has microfilm copies of some twentieth century records, most are of pre-1900 records. The microfilm copies come from records at the National Archives and its Northeast regional center, the state archives, county courthouses, church archives, university libraries, and historical societies.

The Family History Library's major holdings include federal and state censuses; church records; passenger lists; and land, probate, naturalization, and some marriage records for most counties. The library also has a comprehensive collection of published and manuscript genealogies of New York families. It has few town records and relatively few county records from Long Island (Suffolk, Nassau, Queens, and Kings Counties). For beginning research, the most helpful sources are:

- Federal census indexes, 1790–1870, 1880, 1900, 1920
- Church records
- Birth, marriage, and death indexes and records
- County deed, mortgage, and probate indexes
- County histories

Most of the sources described in this outline list the Family History Library's book, microfilm, microfiche, and computer numbers. These numbers are preceded by *FHL*, the abbreviation for *Family History Library*. You can use these numbers to locate materials in the library and to order microfilm and microfiche at a Family History Center.

The computer number can be used if you have access to the Family History Library Catalog on computer. The “Computer Number Search” is an easy way to find a source in the catalog.

### **FamilySearch**

FamilySearch is a powerful computer system that helps simplify family history research. It can help you search for ancestors in large computer files of information. FamilySearch is available at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and at Family History Centers in the United States and Canada.

FamilySearch includes the following computer files:

- Ancestral File
- Family History Library Catalog
- International Genealogical Index

## FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG

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The library's records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog, available on both microfiche and as part of FamilySearch (see above) at the library and at Family History Centers. To find a record in the catalog, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog for:

- The *place* where your ancestor lived, such as:

***UNITED STATES – CENSUS NEW YORK – GENEALOGY NEW YORK, KINGS - PROBATE RECORDS NEW YORK, KINGS, BROOKLYN - CHURCH RECORDS***

- The *record type* you want to search, such as:

***UNITED STATES – CENSUS NEW YORK – GENEALOGY NEW YORK, KINGS - PROBATE RECORDS NEW YORK, KINGS, BROOKLYN - CHURCH RECORDS***

The section headings in this outline match the names of subject headings used in the catalog.

## ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

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The following archives, libraries, and societies have collections or services helpful to genealogical researchers.

- The New York State Library

Cultural Education Center  
Empire State Plaza  
Albany, NY 12230  
Telephone: 518-474-5355  
Fax: 518-474-5786

The Humanities-History section has local histories, genealogies, atlases, church and cemetery records (including the Daughters of the American Revolution collection), city directories, microfilmed newspapers, microfilmed federal and state censuses, microfilmed passenger lists, and periodicals. The Manuscripts and Special Collections Section houses nongovernmental maps and manuscripts. The library staff will make photocopies for a fee.

A guide to the library's holdings of genealogical value is Melinda Yates, comp., *Gateway to America: Genealogical Research in the New York State Library*, 2nd ed., rev. (Albany, N.Y.: New York State Library, 1982; FHL book 974.7 D23y; computer number 491026). The New York State Library also has a set of thirteen *Genealogical Information Sources*,

which can be purchased for \$7.00. Library materials can be borrowed through the New York State Interlibrary Loan network.

- The New York State Archives

Cultural Education Center, 11th Floor  
Empire State Plaza  
Albany, NY 12230  
Telephone: 518-474-8955  
Fax: 518-473-9985

The New York State Archives has the original records of New York government jurisdictions. The collection includes manuscripts, statewide vital records indexes, documents relating to land grants, land survey maps, alien deposition records, military records, state court records, prison records, Erie Canal passenger lists for 1827–1829, wills, and estate records. The archives collection also has microfilms of some state censuses and the original census returns for 1915 and 1925.

The Family History Library has very few of the state archives records on microfilm. The state archives makes photocopies and performs limited searches of indexed records for a fee, but it does not circulate microfilms of land and vital records. The guide to the collection is *Guide to Records in the New York State Archives* (1981; reprint, Albany, N.Y.: New York State Archives, 1982; FHL book 974.7 A3ns; computer number 207195). An expanded 1993 edition is available from the New York State Archives.

- National Archives—Northeast Region

201 Varick Street, Corner Varick and West Houston Streets  
New York, NY 10014  
Telephone: 212-337-1300  
Fax: 212-337-1306

The National Archives—Northeast Region has records created by federal agencies in New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The archives has naturalization records, internal revenue service records, customs lists, and records of the U.S. District Court of Appeals. The archives also has microfilms of all available federal census records, many naturalization records, court records, passenger lists for New York City and other ports, Revolutionary War military records, some Civil War service indexes, and World War I draft registrations. The staff will make photocopies for a fee. The National Archives has announced the records of this branch will be moved to Kansas City, Missouri, by the summer of 1998.

- The New York Public Library

U.S. History, Local History & Genealogy Division  
Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, Room 315S  
New York, NY 10018-2788  
Telephone: 212-930-0829

The library has city and telephone directories, vital records indexes, local histories, genealogies, federal and state censuses, passenger lists, genealogical collections (including DAR transcripts), and church records. For maps, write to the Map Division at the same address. A helpful guide to this important library is Sam P. Williams, *Guide to the Research Collections of the New York Public Library* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1975; FHL book 974.71 A3w; computer number 153944).

Several extensive catalogs of the Local History and Genealogy Division of the New York Public Library have been published, including one by the New York Public Library: Research Libraries, *Dictionary Catalog of the Local History and Genealogy Division*, 18 vols. and 4 supps. (Boston: G.K. Hall, 1974; FHL book Q 974.71 A3nd; computer number 336187). Use catalogs from other libraries to find records not available at the Family History Library. Obtain copies through interlibrary loan.

- New York City Department of Records and Information Services

Municipal Archives  
31 Chambers Street, Room 103  
New York, NY 10007  
Telephone: 212-788-8580

The Municipal Archives has city birth, death, and marriage records; the 1890 police census; city directories; voter registrations; almshouse records; and municipal government records. When requesting copies of records include a self-addressed stamped envelope. A growing collection of records is available on microfilm at the Family History Library.

- New York Genealogical and Biographical Society Library

122 E. 58th Street  
New York, NY 10022-1939  
Telephone: 212-755-8532  
Fax: 212-754-4218

This library has a major collection of New York State genealogy and local history, including both published and manuscript materials. The collection includes federal and state censuses, city directories, church, cemetery, Bible, land, and probate records. Manuscripts acquired before 1940 are also available on microfilm at the Family History Library.

- New-York Historical Society

170 Central Park West  
New York, NY 10024  
Telephone: 212-873-3400  
Fax: 212-875-1591

The historical society has extensive collections of manuscripts, newspapers, periodicals, histories, city directories, maps, and photographs. A helpful aid is Arthur J. Breton, *A Guide to the Manuscript Collections of the New-York Historical Society*, 2 vols.

(Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, Inc., 1972; FHL book 974.7 H23b; computer number 413719).

- Brooklyn Historical Society

128 Pierrepont Street  
Brooklyn, NY 12201  
Telephone: 718-624-0890  
Fax: 718-875-3869

Formerly known as the Long Island Historical Society, the Brooklyn Historical Society has an extensive collection of genealogical manuscripts. See Karin N. Mango, comp., *The Long Island Historical Society Calendar of Manuscripts: 1763–1783* (New York: Publishing Center for Cultural Resources, 1980; FHL book 974.721 A3L; computer number 221624).

- Olin-Kroch URIS Library

Cornell University  
Ithaca, NY 14853-5301  
Telephone: 607-255-5068  
Fax: 607-255-9346

Cornell University has a large collection of Protestant church records for western New York as well as an excellent collection of histories, maps, newspapers, and New York censuses.

- Montgomery County Department of History and Archives

Old Court House, P. O. Box 1500  
Fonda, NY 12068-1500  
Telephone: 518-853-8187  
Fax: 518-853-8218

This county archives has the largest collection of family genealogies, church record transcripts, local histories, and town records for the Mohawk Valley. A guide to records there is Violet Fallone, comp., *Catalogue of Historical and Genealogical Material in the Montgomery County Department of History and Archives*, Rev. ed. (Fonda, N.Y.: Montgomery County Dept. of History & Archives, 1983; FHL book 974.746/F2 A3r; film 1320716 item 2; computer number 47352; supplement on fiche 6104017; computer number 483055).

- New York State Council of Genealogical Organizations

P.O. Box 2593  
Syracuse, NY 13220-2593

This council was formed in 1990 for education, publication, communication, and public advocacy in behalf of state genealogical societies and libraries.

- Gemeentearchief (Amsterdam Municipal Archives)

Amsteldijk 67  
1074 HZ Amsterdam  
NETHERLANDS  
Tel. 020-6646916  
Fax: 020-6750596

The Amsterdam Municipal Archives contains some early Dutch notarial records that are related to what is now New York.

Addresses of county courthouses, surrogate courts, and county records centers are found in Alice Eichholtz, ed., *Ancestry's Red Book: American State, County and Town Sources*. Rev. ed. (Salt Lake City, Utah: Ancestry, Inc., 1992; FHL book 973 D27rb 1992; computer number 594021). Addresses of county courthouses and some town clerk's offices and surrogate's court offices (along with brief descriptions of holdings and services) are found in Elizabeth Petty Bentley, comp., *County Courthouse Book* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1990; FHL book 973 D24bena; computer number 585127).

Estelle M. Guzik, ed., *Genealogical Resources in the New York Metropolitan Area* (New York: Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc., 1989; FHL book 974.71 A32ge; fiche 6100654; computer number 505986) has information on more than 100 archives, including 52 government agencies and courts, 32 libraries, and 20 other archives in the New York metropolitan area.

The Historical Records Survey has published a guide to the records of Albany, Bronx, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Kings, Richmond, and Ulster counties. The series is titled *Inventory of the County Archives of New York State*, 9 vols. (New York: Historical Records Survey, 1937–40). These guides are on microfilm or microfiche and can help you learn more about the history and typical record-keeping systems of New York counties. The Family History Library has all but the guide for Richmond County. All guides are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, [COUNTY] - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES. Similar unpublished material for most other counties is at the New York State Archives.

The New York Historical Resources Center at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York is publishing a *Guide to Historical Resources* for each county in New York. These guides inventory records, including family history and genealogy, at 1,700 historical societies and libraries, but they do not include public records at courthouses. Most guides have been completed and are available at the Family History Library. The information is also available through interlibrary loan from libraries connected to the Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN).

Also see Barbara Kronman, *The Guide to New York City Public Records* in the “For Further Reading” section of this outline.

## Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards

Computers with modems are important tools for obtaining information from selected archives and libraries. In a way, computer networks themselves serve as a library. The Internet, certain computer bulletin boards, and commercial on-line services help family history researchers:

- Locate other researchers
- Post queries
- Send and receive E-mail
- Search large databases
- Search computer libraries
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions

You can find computerized research tips and information about ancestors from New York in a variety of sources at local, state, national, and international levels. The list of sources is growing rapidly. Most of the information is available at no cost.

Addresses on the Internet change frequently. As of April 1997, the following sites are important gateways linking you to many more network and bulletin board sites:

- USGenWeb

<http://www.usgenweb.org/>

A cooperative effort by many volunteers to list genealogical databases, libraries, bulletin boards, and other resources available on the Internet for each county, state, and country.

- Roots-L

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/roots-l/>

A useful list of sites and resources. Includes a large, regularly updated research coordination list.

For further details about using computer networks, bulletin boards, and news groups for family history research, see the *United States Research Outline* (30972), 2nd ed., "Archives and Libraries" section.

## BIBLE RECORDS

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Family Bible records often give birth, marriage, and death information for several generations. The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) has collected many volumes of Bible records for New York families. This collection, known as *Bible, Family and Miscellaneous Records from New York State*, consists of over 230 volumes compiled from 1924 to the present. These are located at the New York State Library, the New York



Public Library, and at the DAR Library in Washington, D.C. Most individual volumes of Bible records are indexed. The Family History Library has Bible records volumes 1–143, 158, 163, and 189–210 on microfilm and microfiche (on 33 FHL films; fiche 6331487–2543; computer number 93393). Some additional records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under:

NEW YORK, [COUNTY] - BIBLE RECORDS NEW YORK, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - BIBLE RECORDS

There are also some partial indexes, such as:

Whitacre, Constance M. *Master Index New York State DAR Genealogical Records*. See the “Genealogy” section of this outline.

New York State Library. *Surname Card Index*. Albany, N.Y.: New York State Library, 1979. (FHL fiche 6331486; computer number 158132.) This work is primarily an index to genealogies the state library acquired before 1980. References to the DAR collection say “DAR Bible” and give volume and page numbers.

Kirkham, E. Kay. *An Index to Some of the Bibles and Family Records of the United States*. Vol. 2. Logan, Utah: The Everton Publishers, Inc., 1984. (FHL book Ref 973 D22kk v. 2.; fiche 6089184; computer number 298346.)

Robison, Jeannie Floyd Jones and Henrietta C. Bartlett. *Genealogical Records: Manuscript Entries of Births, Deaths and Marriages, Taken from Family Bibles, 1581–1917*. New York: Colonial Dames of the State of New York, 1917. (FHL book 974.7 D28r; fiche 6087382; computer number 151781.)

## BIOGRAPHY

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The New York State Library and New York Public Library have extensive collections of published biographies. There are numerous state, regional, and county histories with biographical information, but there is no comprehensive index to these other than *The New York State Biographical, Genealogical, and Portrait Index* compiled by Gunther Pohl. This is a card index to over 500,000 names from more than 6,000 histories, biographical compendia, periodicals, atlases, and other sources. In the initial letter please enclose particulars about the ancestor, and send a self-addressed stamped envelope. Gunther Pohl will check the index for a fee. His address is:

24 Walden Place  
Great Neck, NY 11020  
Telephone: 516-482-6037

Many state, regional, and county biographical encyclopedias are included in the *Genealogy and Local History* collection, described in the “History” section of this

outline. The following are examples of excellent biographical encyclopedias for New York:

Fitch, Charles Elliott. *Encyclopedia of Biography of New York* . . . 4 vols. New York: American Historical Society, 1916. (FHL book 974.7 D3f; fiche 6048146–49; computer number 147098.) One to two page sketches.

Greene Nelson ed. *History of the Mohawk Valley . . . 1614–1925. . . .* 4 vols. Chicago Ill.: S.J. Clark Publishing, 1925. (FHL book 974.7 H2mo; computer number 151930; films 1036045–46; computer number 151930.) Volumes three and four are biographical. Half- to one-page sketches.

Greene, Nelson. *History of the Valley of the Hudson . . . 1609–1930. . . .* 5 vols. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing, 1931. (FHL book 974.7 H2g; film 1000230; computer number 147985.) Volumes three to five are biographical with one- to two-page sketches.

Hamm, Margherita Arlina. *Famous Families of New York. . . .* 2 vols. New York and London: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1902. (FHL book 974.7 D2h; film 930243; computer number 284294.) About a dozen pages per family and usually including several generations (click for online version).

## CEMETERIES

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Many New York cemetery records have been transcribed and published. The Daughters of the American Revolution collection of *Cemetery, Church, and Town* records contains transcriptions of hundreds of New York cemetery records. This collection and the name indexes to it are described in the “Genealogy” section of this outline.

Another important collection is *New York State Cemetery Records*, 23 vols. (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society, 1940–69; FHL book 974.7 V3n; films 844624–31; computer number 271949). Includes inscriptions from many cemeteries, usually alphabetical. Later volumes are indexed.

The Holland Society of New York's *Cemetery and Geographical Files* are transcriptions of tombstone inscriptions from Dutch Reformed Church graveyards and family plots (FHL films 1019527–29; computer number 193372).

Many large cemeteries also have extensive sexton's records. The sexton may have recorded additional information, such as place of birth and death. Some records, such as the card index to the Albany Rural Cemetery, are on microfilm at the Family History Library. Many inner-city cemeteries have been moved to suburban areas, sometimes making it hard to locate the actual tombstone. Paupers may have been buried in special places, such as Potter's Field on Hart Island in the Bronx.

Many cemetery records have appeared in periodicals such as *Tree Talks* and *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* (see the “Periodicals” section of this outline). Revolutionary War veterans' cemetery records are discussed in the *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118).

A county-by-county list of cemetery record transcripts available at the Family History Library is:

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Family History Library. *Index to United States Cemeteries*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1988. (FHL films 1206468–94; computer number 475648.) Films 1206481–82 include New York.

The Family History Library Catalog Locality Search lists more of these records under:

NEW YORK – CEMETERIES NEW YORK, [COUNTY] – CEMETERIES NEW YORK, [COUNTY], [TOWN] – CEMETERIES

## CENSUS

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### Colonial Censuses

Colonial censuses were taken approximately every ten years beginning in 1690. Several have been partially destroyed. To locate existing colonial censuses and lists of petitioners, taxpayers, militia lists, freeholders (those who owned property), and persons taking oaths of allegiance, use John D. Stemmons, *The United States Census Compendium* (Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, 1973; FHL book 973 X2st; computer number 271794).

The following are some of the major published transcripts and indexes of colonial censuses. They list individuals and the towns where they lived:

Meyers, Carol M. *Early New York State Census Records. 1663–1772*. Gardena, Calif.: RAM Publishers, 1965. (FHL book 974.7 X28m; fiche 6111479; computer number 151780.)

O'Callaghan, Edmund B. *Lists of Inhabitants of Colonial New York Excerpted from the Documentary History of the State of New York by Edmund Bailey O'Callaghan*. Edited by Rosanne Conway. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1979. (FHL book 974.7 D4L; fiche 6046723; computer number 206046.) This source includes lists of town and county inhabitants of many colonial localities for various dates from 1657–1799.

New York. Secretary of State. *Calendar of Historical Manuscripts Relating to the War of the Revolution, in the Office of the Secretary of State, 1638-1801*. 2 vols. Albany, N.Y.:

Weed, Parsons and Co., 1868. (FHL film 1550750; computer number 494319.) Index in vol. 2.

## Federal Censuses

***Population Schedules.*** The National Archives and its regional centers, the Family History Library, the New York Public Library, and the New York State Library have microfilm copies of the U.S. federal censuses of New York for 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, and 1920. The original county copies of the federal censuses, 1850–1880, are normally at the county clerk's offices. These copies are more accurate than the federal copies. The Family History Library has county copies on microfilm.

Census takers enumerated Manhattan (New York County) twice in 1870 and both versions are microfilmed. The second enumeration, taken in December, is not indexed but includes street addresses, which make it easier to find your ancestor. In addition, the National Archives microfilmed all of the 1870 federal census schedules twice. As a result, there are four sets of microfilms for the Manhattan 1870 federal census.

The 1810 census of Cortland County and part of Broome County are missing.

The 1890 census (except the returns for Eastchester, Westchester County and Brookhaven, Suffolk County) was destroyed. However, the 1890 schedule of Union veterans survived. It is arranged by county, and there is a separate book index. The 1892 state census can be searched as a substitute for the 1890 census. There is, however, no 1892 census for Manhattan. Fortunately, in 1890 Manhattan took a second census in which policemen asked the questions. Known as the “police census,” this record is listed under New York (New York), Police Department, *Police Census, 1890* (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1981; on 59 FHL films; computer number 153805). The census lists the name, address, sex, and age of each person. To use the census, first find the name in a city directory, then use the street directory and maps on microfilms 1304784 and 1304777 to determine the census enumeration district and volume number. The microfilm number of each volume is listed in the Family History Library Catalog.

*Statewide indexes* in book form are available for censuses 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850, and 1860. A statewide 1870 census index for Kings, New York (Manhattan and part of the Bronx), Queens, Richmond, and Suffolk counties is available in compact disc format (FHL compact disc no. 9 pt. 287). The compact disc including the 1870 Manhattan (New York County) index is for the **first enumeration**. Microfilm soundex (phonetic) indexes exist for the 1880 (partial), 1900, and 1920 censuses.

*Countywide indexes* sometimes help locate names that have been overlooked in statewide indexes. Over a dozen countywide indexes are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, [COUNTY] - CENSUS.

When indexes are not available or omit a name, you can still search for the name in the census. In large cities it helps to first learn the person's address by searching the city directory for the same year as the census (see the "Directories" section of this outline). Then look for that address on the original census schedules.

If you need to find an enumeration district, the following sources may help:

Kirkham, E. Kay. *A Handy Guide to Record- Searching in the Larger Cities of the United States*. Logan, Utah: Everton, 1974. (FHL book 973 D27kc; fiche 6010059–60; computer number 55656.) Includes ward maps and street indexes for: Albany 1866, 1878; Buffalo 1850–1855, 1866; New York City 1850–1855, 1860, 1878; Rochester 1866, 1878; Troy 1866, 1878.

Hillman, Barbara and Raymond G. Matthews. *Guide to the Use of the United States. Census Office. 10th Census 1880 New York City*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1985. (FHL book 974.71/N1 X2p 1880 index; fiche 6047913; computer number 271651.) Includes Manhattan and the west part of the Bronx. Lists each ward's assembly district, election district, census enumeration district, and 1880 census FHL film number. Also includes street maps of each assembly district.

Buckway, G. Eileen. *U.S. 1910 Federal Census: Unindexed States: A Guide to Finding Census Enumeration Districts for Unindexed Cities, Towns, and Villages*. Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 1992. (FHL book 973 X2bu 1910; fiche 6101340; computer number 678265.) Lists New York towns (or wards) with their 1910 census enumeration district numbers and FHL film numbers. Albany, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Manhattan and Bronx, Queens, Rochester, Schenectady, Staten Island (Richmond County), Syracuse, Troy, Utica, and Yonkers (Westchester County) each have special instructions, which often include city directory FHL book or film numbers.

United States. Bureau of the Census. *Cross Index to Selected City Streets and Enumeration Districts, 1910 Census*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, [1984]. (51 FHL fiche 6331481; computer number 258163.) Lists street addresses in Brooklyn (fiche 26–28), Manhattan and Bronx (fiche 29–31), and Staten Island (fiche 32–35) with their corresponding census enumeration districts.

Malmberg, Emil and Maurine. *Street Indexes to Unindexed Cities in the U.S. 1910 Federal Census*. Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 1993. (FHL book 973 X2str 1910; fiche 6104151; computer number 709519.) Lists Queens County street addresses with their corresponding page numbers, 1910 census enumeration district numbers, and FHL film numbers.

United States. Census Office. *Census Descriptions of Geographic Subdivisions and Enumerations Districts* contain the items below:

- 1830 FHL film 1402857 item 1; computer number 299384
- 1840 FHL film 1402857 item 2; computer number 299385

- 1850 FHL film 1402858 item 1; computer number 299392
- 1860 FHL film 1402858 item 2; computer number 299393
- 1870 FHL film 1402859; computer number 299425
- 1880 FHL film 1402862; computer number 299426
- 1900 FHL film 1303024–25; computer number 117685
- 1910 FHL film 1374008; computer number 176643
- 1920 FHL film 1842712–13; computer number 687949

Both the Family History Library and the National Archives (D.C.) also have 1910 enumeration district maps for Albany, Buffalo, Queens, Syracuse, Utica, and Yonkers. These maps are found in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, [COUNTY], [CITY] - MAPS. The National Archives in Washington, D.C. also has similar maps for many smaller New York cities.

***Mortality Schedules.*** Mortality schedules list the names of persons who died in the year before the census was taken. Schedules for the 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 censuses are at the New York State Archives. Microfilm copies are also at the Family History Library (FHL films 1415128–42; computer number 275937) and the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

***Other Schedules.*** The Agricultural, Industrial (Manufacturing), and Social Schedules for the 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 censuses are at the State Archives, and the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. Other libraries also have microfilm copies.

***Master Indexes.*** Some of the indexes mentioned above are combined into one master index of several census years, states, and census types:

*FamilyFinder™ Index and Viewer: Version 4.0.* [Novato, Calif.]: Brøderbund Software, 1997. (FHL compact disc no. 9 1997 index; computer number 775509. Not available at Family History Centers. FamilyFinder is a trademark of Brøderbund Software, Inc.) A master index to the New York 1790–1860 federal censuses and the 1870 census of Kings County, New York County (Manhattan) first enumeration, Queens County, Richmond County, and Suffolk County. Also includes the *Valley Quarterlies* index of four New York family history periodicals.

The FamilyFinder Index includes the following indexes by Ronald Vern Jackson:

Jackson, Ronald Vern. *AIS Microfiche Indexes of U.S. Census and Other Records.* Bountiful, Utah: Accelerated Indexing Systems International, 1984. (No FHL fiche number but available at many Family History Centers.) New York censuses for 1790, 1800, and 1810 are combined together on Search 1. Separate New York 1820, 1830, 1840, and 1850 indexes are on other searches.

Alphabetical census abstracts for the New York City Children's Aid Society 1855–1920 and for the Foundling Hospital 1870–1925 are found in the “Orphans and Orphanages” section of this outline.

## State Censuses

State censuses were taken about every ten years beginning in 1795. All of the state census schedules in the custody of the State Library were destroyed in the 1911 fire. An Albany County 1790 census exists and is published as Kenneth Scott, comp., *New York State Census of Albany County Towns in 1790* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1975; FHL book 974.742 X2s; computer number 254368).

State censuses have survived for some counties for 1825, 1835, 1845, and 1855 and for most counties for 1865, 1875, 1892, 1905, 1915, and 1925. Most censuses are in the possession of county clerks and are on microfilm at the Family History Library. There are few indexes, but some 1855 schedules are being indexed. The state archives has a name index to the 1925 census schedules for Albany County. Indexes for the 1892 census have been transferred to the Albany County Hall of Records, 250 South Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12207.

The records for some counties are missing, as indicated below:

- 1855. Missing Clinton, Dutchess, Genesee, Hamilton, Putnam, Queens, St. Lawrence, Seneca, Suffolk, Tompkins, Westchester, and Wyoming counties.
- 1865. Missing Clinton, Franklin, Genesee, Hamilton, New York, Putnam, Queens, Seneca, Westchester, and Wyoming counties.
- 1875. Missing Chemung, Clinton, Hamilton, New York, Putnam, Queens, Seneca, St. Lawrence, Suffolk, and Westchester counties.
- 1892. Missing Chenango, Columbia, Franklin, Fulton, Jefferson, Livingston, New York, Oneida, Putnam, Richmond, St. Lawrence, Seneca, Schuyler, Sullivan, Westchester, and Wyoming counties.
- 1905. Missing Livingston, Oneida, Ontario, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, and Wyoming counties.

State censuses are a little more informative than federal censuses. The 1845 census lists the birthplace in one of several categories, such as born in New York, New England, Latin America, British Empire, France, or Germany. Censuses beginning in 1855 give the names of all people in the household and their age and state of birth. The 1855 through 1875 censuses list the New York county where a person was born, relationship to the head of household, age, years of residency in the city or town (1855 only), and many other items.

The 1865 census tells how many children each parent had and the number of times each parent was married. Both the 1865 and 1875 censuses have schedules for marriages and deaths within the year. The 1892 census only lists name, sex, color, age, country of birth, whether or not a U.S. citizen, and occupation.

The 1915 and 1925 censuses give detailed information about each member of the household, including street address, name, relation to the head of family, color, sex, age,



birthplace, number of years in United States, whether citizen or alien, when and where naturalized (1925), and occupation.

Microfilm copies of all surviving New York state censuses are at the state library and the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. Manuscript copies for 1915 and 1925 are at the state archives. The staff will not search these unindexed records for you. All state censuses, except those for 1865 Suffolk county are available on microfilm at the Family History Library. You can find the film numbers in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, [COUNTY] - CENSUS.

The Family History Library has street indexes for the 1905, 1915, and 1925 Manhattan censuses (FHL 36 films). These are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, NEW YORK - CENSUS - [YEAR]. The library also has a manuscript street index to the 1915 Brooklyn census, 1915 Queens census, and 1925 Queens census. 1925 census maps showing assembly and election district boundaries are available on microfiche for New York City (fiche 6088624), Buffalo (fiche 6088619), Rochester (fiche 6088627), and some other cities.

More information on New York census records is in Marilyn Douglas and Melinda Yates, *New York State Census Records, 1790–1925*, Bibliography Bulletin 88 (Albany, N.Y.: The State Education Department, 1981; FHL book 974.7 A1 no. 726; computer number 742980).

Microfilm numbers of New York state censuses are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under New York - CENSUS - [YEAR]. They are also found in:

Buckway, G. Eileen. *U.S. State and Special Census Register*. Salt Lake City: Family History Library, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1992. (FHL book 973 X2be; fiche 6104851-52; computer number 594855.)

## CHURCH RECORDS

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The first churches established in New York during the seventeenth century were the Dutch Reformed, French Protestant, and Lutheran churches. As New Englanders continued to migrate to New York, the Congregational Church (Puritans) and Society of Friends (Quakers) grew. Many New Yorkers joined both the Baptists and Presbyterians. By 1775 the Presbyterian Church was the largest denomination in New York.

In the mid-1800s, the Methodist Church was the largest, followed by the Baptist, Presbyterian, Episcopal, Dutch Reformed, Congregational, Roman Catholic, Society of Friends, Universalist, Lutheran, Union, Christian, Unitarian, and Jewish.



Since then, the Roman Catholic Church has been the largest denomination (particularly in the large cities) due to the large number of immigrants from Ireland and eastern and southern Europe.

## Locating Church Records

The Family History Library has several important collections of church records which are described below under the denominational headings. The names of individuals in many of these records are indexed in the International Genealogical Index. Many church records have been copied and filed with the Daughters of the American Revolution *Cemetery, Church, and Town Records*, described in the “Genealogy” section of this outline.

The following guides describe the towns, denominations, record types, and years available:

Historical Records Survey. *Guide to Vital Statistics Records of Churches in New York State (Exclusive of New York City)*. 2 vols. Albany, N.Y.: Historical Records Survey, 1942. (FHL book 974.7 K23h; films 908710 items 1–2 and 1293576; fiche 6046729; computer number 46324.) There are numerous other Historical Records Survey inventories of New York church archives.

Historical Records Survey. (New York City.) *Guide to Vital Statistics in the City of New York, Borough of [Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, or Richmond] Churches*. 5 vols. New York: Historical Records Survey, Work Projects Administration, 1942.

<u>Bronx</u>	FHL book 974.7275 K23h; film 908038 item 3
<u>Brooklyn</u>	missing
<u>Manhattan</u>	FHL book 974.71 K23ma; fiche 6075742
<u>Queens</u>	FHL book 974.7243 K23h; film 908038
<u>Richmond</u>	FHL book 974.726 K23h; film 908038 item 4

Historical Records Survey. *Inventory of the Church Archives of New York City* [various denominations]. New York: Historical Records survey, 1939–1941. These volumes are:

Eastern Orthodox and Armenian (FHL book 974.71 K23eo; film 1425700 item 5; computer number 27492).

Lutheran (FHL book 974.71 K23L; film 1036522 item 5; computer number 58115).

Methodist (FHL book 974.71 K23m; film 1036716 item 9; computer number 155676).

Presbyterian (FHL book 974.71 K23p; film 1033755 item 12; computer number 27634).

**Protestant Episcopal** [Manhattan, Bronx, Richmond] (FHL book 974.71 K23en v. 2; film 1425700 item 6; computer number 27622).

**Protestant Episcopal** [Brooklyn and Queens] (FHL book 974.71 K23eL v. 2; fiche 6046526; computer number 27382).

**Reformed** (FHL book 974.71 K23r; **film 1035526 item 3**; computer number 27749).

Roman Catholic (FHL book 974.71 K23rc; film 1036299 item 2; computer number 30694).

Some denominations have collected their records into central repositories. You can write to the following addresses to learn where their records are located.

### **Baptist**

- American Baptist Samuel COLGATE Historical Library

1106 Goodman Street  
Rochester, NY 14620-2532  
Telephone: 716-473-1740  
FAX: 716-473-1740

For information about the availability of records, see Susan M. Eltscher, *The Records of American Baptists in New York and Related Organizations* (Rochester, N.Y.: American Baptist Historical Society, 1982; FHL book 974.7 K23aA1 no. 655; computer number 267233).

### **Congregational**

- The Congregational Library

14 Beacon Street  
Boston, MA 02108  
Telephone: 617-523-0470  
FAX: 617-523-0491

### **Dutch Reformed**

- Commission on History, Reformed Church in America

New Brunswick Theological Seminary  
Gardner A. Sage Library  
21 Seminary Place  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1159

Telephone: 908-247-5243

Fax: 908-249-5412

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of many of the Dutch Reformed Church records at this archives. The collection is described in Melody Takken Meeter, comp. and Russell L. Gasero, ed., *Guide to Local Church Records in the Archives of the Reformed Church in America and to Genealogical Resources in the Gardner Sage Library, New Brunswick Theological Seminary* (New Brunswick, N.J.: Historical Society of the Reformed Church in America, 1979; FHL book 974.9 A1 no. 103; fiche 6046480; computer numbers 461498 and 546120).

- The Holland Society of New York Library

122 E. 58th Street

New York, NY 10022

Telephone: 212-758-1871

Fax: 212-758-2232

*The Year Book of the Holland Society of New York* (New York: The Holland Society of New York, 1886–1928/1929; FHL book 974.7 C4h; on 16 FHL films; computer number 227211) contains historical material as well as church record abstracts and passenger lists. To use the year books, first consult the *Index to Publications* listed under the periodical *De Halve Maen* described in the “Periodicals” section of this outline. It indexes publications by name, subject, and locality. Most of the church records in these *year books* have been extracted for the International Genealogical Index.

The Family History Library has the Holland Society's 128 volume Holland Society of New York Church Record Collection. There are many microfilms and computer numbers for the collection. The records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Author/Title Search under the title mentioned above and are also listed in the Locality Search under the individual cities or towns. This includes some German Reformed, French Reformed, Lutheran, and Episcopal records. An inventory of this collection is Marie J. Pierre, comp., *Index to LDS Microfilms of the Church Record Collection of the Holland Society of New York* (New York: The Holland Society of New York, 1990; FHL book 974.7 A1 No. 452; computer number 598141).

An index to original baptismal records, transcripts, microfilm, and published works of 17 congregations from 24 volumes of the aforementioned *Dutch Reformed Church Record Collection* is Wilson Ledley, comp., *Index to Baptismal Surnames in the Reformed Churches of Claverack, Cortlandt, Fishkill, Gallatin/Ancram, Gravesend, Hillsdale/Krum, Kaatsbaan/Saugerties, Kinderhook . . .* (New York: The Holland Society of New York, 1990; FHL book 974.7 K22L; computer number 553435).

The Family History Library also has many volumes of Hudson and Mohawk Valley Reformed and Lutheran records transcribed by Arthur C.M. Kelly, Gertrude Barber, and others. Many New York Dutch Reformed church records have also been published in periodicals such as the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*.

The Family History Library has 99 of the 101 volumes of the Royden Woodward Vosburgh, *New York Church Records: Vosburgh Collection* (FHL films 017441–501; computer number 35159). Included in the collection are Dutch Reformed, Lutheran, and some Presbyterian, Episcopal, Baptist, Congregational, and German Reformed records

for Hudson Valley and Mohawk Valley churches (transcribed between 1913 and 1921). These records are listed under the title *New York Church Records: Vosburgh Collection* but are not listed under the cities and towns in the Family History Library Catalog. Two helpful lists of the churches, first by county and then by town, are at the beginning of film 017441.

## **Episcopal**

- Episcopal Diocese of New York

1047 Amsterdam Avenue  
New York, NY 10025  
Telephone: 212-316-7400  
Fax: 212-932-7345

There are also dioceses of Albany, Central New York, Long Island, Rochester, and Western New York. The Family History Library has acquired many Episcopal records for Western New York. The names in many of these records are indexed in the International Genealogical Index.

## **Jewish**

Most synagogue records have not been centralized, so you must write to the local congregation. Addresses are listed in Sidney Lightman, ed., *The Jewish Travel Guide* (London: Jewish Chronicle Publications, 1990; FHL book 910.202 J556 1990; computer number 136147).

- American Jewish Historical Society Library

2 Thornton Road  
Waltham, MA 02154  
Telephone: 617-891-8110  
Fax: 617-899-9208

- Philadelphia Jewish Archives Centre at the Balch Institute

18 South 7th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1423  
Telephone: 215-925-8090

This archives has the Philadelphia Hebrew Immigrant Society records, which include ship passenger lists, passage order books, and Lipschutz Steamship record books. These are on microfilm at the Family History Library.

- Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)

200 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10003  
Telephone: 212-967-4100

- New York Public Library

Jewish Division  
Fifth Avenue at 42nd Street  
New York, NY 10018  
Telephone: 212-930-0601  
Fax: 212-642-0141

More New York Jewish records, sources, and archives are described in *Genealogical Resources in the New York Metropolitan Area*, mentioned in the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline.

## **Lutheran**

- Library of the National Lutheran Council

50 Madison Avenue  
New York City, NY 10010

- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Metropolitan New York Synod  
360 Park Avenue, South  
New York, NY 10016-8803  
Telephone: 212-532-5369

- Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Atlantic District  
315 Park Avenue, South, Room 1920  
New York, NY 10010

## **Methodist**

- United Methodist Archives Center

General Commission on Archives and History of the United Methodist Church  
Drew University Library  
P.O. Box 127  
Madison, NJ 07940  
Telephone: 201-408-3189  
Fax: 201-408-3909

## **Presbyterian**

- Presbyterian Historical Society and Department of History

United Presbyterian Church in the USA

425 Lombard Street

Philadelphia, PA 19147-1516

Telephone: 215-627-1852

Fax: 215-627-0509

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of most of the records at this archives.

### **Roman Catholic**

Most Catholic records have not been gathered to central repositories. You must determine the town where your ancestors lived and the parish they most likely attended and then write to that parish.

If a parish has closed, the records will have been sent to the diocesan archives or to a nearby parish. If the diocese does not have an archives, the diocese chancellor usually knows where the records are.

The Family History Library has many Roman Catholic records for Western (filmed at Canisius College, Buffalo) and Northern New York. Catholic dioceses are located in Albany, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Ogdensburg, Rochester, Rockville Centre, and Syracuse.

- Archdiocese of New York

1011 First Avenue

New York City, NY 10022

Telephone: 212-371-1000

Fax: 212-319-8265

### **Society of Friends**

- New York Yearly Meeting Archives

Haviland Records Room

15 Rutherford Place

New York, NY 10003

Telephone: 212-777-8866

Many of the records in the archives are on microfilm at the Family History Library. The New York City and Long Island Quaker records, 1657–1940, transcribed by John Cox, are published in William Wade Hinshaw's *Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy*, vol. 3 (Ann Arbor, Mich.: Edwards Brothers, Inc., 1946; FHL book 973 D2he v. 3; film 432602; computer number 246279).

A useful guide to New York Quaker records and research is:

Cox, John, Jr. *New York City Church Archives, Religious Society of Friends Catalogue*. New York: Historical Records Survey, 1938. (FHL film 017255; computer number 133203.)

A helpful 1828 census was taken:

Fay, Loren V., ed. *Quaker Census of 1828: Members of the New York Yearly Meeting, the Religious Society of Friends of New York, Ontario, Vermont, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Quebec, at the Time of the Separation of 1828*. Rhinebeck, N.Y.:

Knshp, 1989. (FHL book 974.7 K2fL; computer number 518235.) Use this to determine the monthly meeting a person attended. Also includes name, age, and family group.

## COURT RECORDS

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Major New York courts that have kept records of genealogical value include the following:

- 1638–1664 *Director General and Council of New Netherland* was the highest court and governing body in New Netherland. There are three published volumes for 1638–1660: Van Laer, Arnold J. F. *Register of the Provincial Secretary; Council Minutes*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1974 (FHL book 974.7 H2vL; computer number 152204). Each volume is indexed. The records for 1649–1651 have been lost. Remaining records give genealogical information about many early immigrants.
- 1653–1674 *Courts of schouts and schepens* were the Dutch courts having criminal and civil jurisdiction. These were replaced by the mayor's court. Records of these courts are found in Edmund Bailey O'Callaghan, trans., and Berthold Fernow, ed., *The Records of New Amsterdam from 1653 to 1674 Anno Domini*, 7 vols. (1897; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1976; FHL book 974.71 P2f 1976; vols. 1–4 on film 982184; vols. 5–7 on film 982187; computer number 66671). The index is in volume 7. Immigrants and their occupations are sometimes listed.
- 1664–1688 *Colony of New York* records are found in: Christoph, Peter, ed. *New York Historical Manuscripts. English*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, Inc., 1980– (FHL book 974.7 H2ny vols. 2–3; computer number 207938). Vol. 2, *Books of General Entries of the Colony of New York, 1664–1673*. Vol. 3, *Books of General Entries of the Colony of New York, 1674–1688*. These books list some marriages, divorces, denizations, passports, and court decisions.
- 1665–1683 *Court of Assizes* was the highest provincial court. It was established in New York City, hearing both civil and criminal cases. Along with the Court of general sessions of the peace, the Court of Assizes had jurisdiction over probates. The records for 1665–1682 have been published as Christoph, Peter R. and Florence A. Christoph, eds., *New York Historical Manuscripts: English. Records of the Court*

***of Assizes for the Colony of New York, 1665–1682***

(Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1983; FHL book 974.7 H2ny v. 4; computer number 207938). The records contain appeals, some probates, and divorce records.

1665–1962

***Courts of general sessions of the peace*** were county courts having jurisdiction over criminal cases such as desertions, vice, apprenticeship disputes, bastardy, and other violations of vice and immorality laws. These courts handled probate matters from 1665 to about 1683. They heard only criminal cases after 1691. Their jurisdiction was transferred to the county court in 1847, except in New York County where the courts of general sessions of the peace continued until 1962.

Some early quarter sessions records have been published in Kenneth Scott, ed., *New York City Court Records, 1684–1804, Genealogical Data from the Court of Quarter Sessions*, 4 vols. (Arlington, Va.: National Genealogical Society, 1982–88; FHL book 974.71 P2s; computer number 286576; book 974.71 P2sk, computer number 286586; book 974.71 P2sb, computer number 485650; and book 974.71 P2sc, computer number 485651). Records contain lists of persons involved in cases of stealing, assault, battery, and illegitimacy.

1674–1784

***Mayor's court*** existed in New York City and Albany. It handled civil suits, apprenticeships, and naturalizations. Early records are in Kenneth Scott, ed., ***New York Historical Manuscripts. Minutes of the Mayor's Court of New York, 1674–1675*** (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1983; FHL book 974.7 H2ny v. 5; computer number 207938). This book lists probates, marriages, lawsuits, licenses, names of freemen, and persons taking allegiance oaths. The Mayor's court of Albany was established in 1686 and continued during the colonial period. The records are at the Albany County Hall of Records.

1691–1847

***Courts of common pleas*** were established in each city and county to handle civil cases such as marriages, naturalizations, name changes, probates, exemptions from military duty, lunacy cases, tavern licenses, insolvency cases, old age assistance, manumissions, laying of roads, insolvency, settlement of boundary disputes, and child support and custody. They handled appeals from justices of the peace. The court was replaced by the county court. In New York City, the court of common pleas and the superior court were abolished in 1895 and their activities taken over by the supreme court. The Family History Library has some records of the courts of common pleas.



- 1683–1895      **The court of oyer and terminer and general gaol delivery** was a county court that had jurisdiction over capital crimes such as treason and murder. The Family History Library has a few of the records.
- 1664–pres.      **Justice's courts** are presided over by justices of the peace who perform marriages, issue summons for debts, and rule on minor civil suits.
- 1686–1877      **The Prerogative Court** was headed by the governor or his delegate. It had jurisdiction over all estates in the New York City area and over larger estates elsewhere in New York Colony. The court also registered marriage licenses but did not possess jurisdiction over matrimonial proceedings like divorces. The constitution of 1777 replaced this court with the court of probates.
- 1691–pres.      **The Supreme Court** is a statewide court which holds terms in each county. Since 1847, it has heard appeals from the surrogates court. Only in some counties today, usually the largest ones, does the court handle naturalizations. The county clerk is also clerk of the supreme court. The Family History Library has some supreme court records, including New York County indexes for 1754–1910 and minute books for 1704–1847. The records for the years 1691–1704 have been published in *Collections of the New-York Historical Society*. New York: the Society, 1957–1959. (Not at FHL.)
- 1778–1823      The **Court of Probates** handled most probates from 1778–1787. Until 1783 in British-occupied New York City, Long Island, and Staten Island, the Prerogative Court (see above) handled probates also. See the “Probate Records” section of this outline for more information.
- 1787–pres.      **Surrogates Courts** are countywide courts with jurisdiction over probates, some adoptions, and guardianships. Before 1787 surrogates were appointed to act in place of the prerogative.
- 1821–pres.      **Circuit courts** were the trial terms of the supreme court. The term “circuit court” was not used after 1895. Since 1896, the supreme court has held trial terms periodically in each county.
- 1683–1847      The **Court of Chancery** had statewide jurisdiction over civil equity matters, such as mortgage foreclosures, real property proceedings, sale of estates in dower and curtesy, naturalizations, matrimonial disputes, divorces, guardianships, and child custody. It absorbed the court of probate and had appellate jurisdiction over surrogate's courts. After 1847 equity responsibilities were assigned to the supreme court.

The Records of the New York Court of Chancery, 2nd through 8th Circuits, 1823–47, are now at the state archives. The Records of the New York Court of Chancery, 1st Circuit, 1823–47, which sat in New York, are at the New York County Courthouse, Office of the County Clerk. They contain decrees, files, indexes, minutes, and orders. The Family History Library has some of these for the first circuit, including minutes, 1711–1847; indexes, 1700–1848; and records, 1787–1910.

1847–pres.

**County courts** are the major trial courts for each county with jurisdiction over criminal matters, minor equity cases, and some appeals. They assumed the duties of the court of common pleas. The Family History Library has some records.

## Records at County Courthouses

The Family History Library has microfilmed only a small portion of the available New York court records. The library has some records of courts of common pleas, courts of general sessions, county courts, courts of oyer and terminer, chancery court, supreme court, *lis pendens*, divisions of estates, and surrogate's court probates and guardianships.

Most county and district court records are at local courthouses. Surrogate's court records are kept in separate offices. The New York State Archives has many pre-1847 supreme court and chancery court records, described in New York State Archives, *List of Pre-1847 Court Records in the State Archives* (Albany, N.Y.: Office of Cultural Education, 1984; FHL book 974.7 A1 no. 316; computer number 401138). These records are now being microfilmed by the archives. For recent court records, contact the clerk of the specific court of interest.

## Federal Courts

In addition to state and county courts, there are several federal circuit courts and United States district courts that have jurisdictions within New York. These include:

**Eastern District:** Brooklyn Division (Brooklyn, Kings, Queens, Richmond), Hauppauge Division (Suffolk County), and Uniondale Division (office is in Brooklyn but no specific counties are assigned)

**Southern District:** New York City Division (Bronx, New York County, and nearby counties)

**Northern District:** Albany Division (Albany and surrounding counties), Binghamton Division (Broome County and surrounding counties), Syracuse Division (Onondaga County and surrounding counties), and Utica Division (Oneida County)

**Western District:** Buffalo Division (Erie County and surrounding counties), and Rochester Division (Monroe County and surrounding counties)

To determine the correct district court for the area where your ancestor lived, call the District Court office in one of the counties of that region. A helpful reference book which has detailed information is:

*Sourcebook of Federal Courts, U. S. District and Bankruptcy.* Tempe, Ariz.: BRB Publications, Inc., 1993. (FHL book 973 P2fc; computer number 721489.)

Records at the National Archives—Northeast Region include:

- *U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, M886*, minutes and rolls of attorneys (1789–1841), admiralty case files (1790–1966), prize and related records for the war of 1812 (1812–1816), bankruptcy records: Act of 1800 (1801–1803), Act of 1841 (1842–1843), Act of 1867 (1867–1878), and Act of 1898 (1898–1929), judgement records (1795–1911), law case files (1795–1938), criminal case files (1846–1868, 1913–1966)
- *U.S. Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York, M854*, minutes (1790–1875), trial notes (ca. 1834–1853), appellate case files (1793–1911), judgement records (1794–1911), law case files (1790–1912), equity case files (1791–1911), and criminal case files (1790–1912)
- *U.S. Court of Appeals* (known as U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeals from 1891–1948) records are at the National Archives—Northeast Region but are not available on microfilm.

These District and Circuit Court records are not available at the Family History Library. For more information about New York court procedures, see Alden Chester, *Courts and Lawyers of New York, a History, 1609–1925* (New York: American Historical Society, 1925; FHL book 974.7 P2c vols. 1–3; fiche 6100435–37; computer number 150530.)

Also see Barbara Kronman, *The Guide to New York City Public Records*, in the “For Further Reading” section of this outline.

## DIRECTORIES

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Directories listing the names, addresses, and occupations of adults have been published for at least 107 New York communities and for 18 New York counties. The Family History Library, Library of Congress, and the New York Public Library have some of the largest collections of directories. The most frequently used directories at the Family History Library are:

- Brooklyn

1822-1861	FHL fiche 6043677-718
1861-1902	FHL films 1376591-614
1900-1913	FHL films 1404099-106
1933-1934	FHL films 1404107-08

- Buffalo

1827-1860	FHL fiche 6043719-45
1861-1901	FHL films 1376615-39
1903, 1906-1924	FHL films 1606151-65
1925-1935	FHL films 1611406-15
1941, 1965, 1969/1970	FHL book Q974.796 E4p

- New York City (with some gaps)

1786-1796	FHL fiche 6052944-53
1797-1800, 1802-1823, 1825-1855	FHL fiche 6052911-
1856-1900	FHL film 1000847
1860-1935	FHL films 1377171-
1875, 1881, 1901-1915	FHL films 845217-

The cities and years available are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, [COUNTY], [CITY] - DIRECTORIES.

## EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

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The “Emigration and Immigration” section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) lists several important sources for finding information about immigrants. These nationwide sources include many references to people who settled in New York. The *Tracing Immigrant Origins Research Outline* (34111) introduces the principles, search strategies, and additional record types you can use to identify an immigrant ancestor's original hometown.

### The People

**American Indians.** The original inhabitants of New York were Algonquian (Lenni Lenape, Mohegan, and Wappinger) and Iroquoian tribes (Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, and Seneca). The Tuscarora tribe from North Carolina migrated to New York and joined the Iroquois confederacy in the 1700s.

**Dutch and Walloons.** In the 1620s and 1630s, the Dutch and Walloons (French-speaking Belgians) settled in the Hudson Valley and on western Long Island. The Dutch West India Company made settlements at New Amsterdam (New York City) and Ft. Orange (Albany) in 1624 and 1625. Later settlements were at Beverwyck (outside Fort Orange), Esopus (Kingston), and western Long Island. In 1664 the English captured New Netherland and renamed it New York. Many Dutch families of New York can be found in:

Zabriskie, George Olin. *Dutch Family Records*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1987. (FHL films 1421759–66; computer number 449631.) Contains family groups and correspondence from the 1550s to the 1900s.

Zabriskie, George Olin. *Early Dutch - New Netherlands - Family Correspondence*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1987. (FHL films 1421766–69; computer number 448593.) Contains correspondence about Dutch families from the 1500s to the 1900s. Includes information from church, military, land, and probate records.

*Noord Amerika Chronologie* (North American Chronology). See the “Probate Records” section of this outline.

See also Epperson's *New Netherland Roots* in the “For Further Reading” section of this outline.

**English.** In the 1640s New England settlers came to eastern Long Island. New Englanders continued to migrate to the lower Hudson Valley in the early and mid-1700s.

In the hundred years after the English took control in 1664, French Huguenots, German Palatines, Scots, and Irish also found their way to New York. During the next century, settlement expanded west along the Mohawk River and north along the Hudson.

**French Huguenots.** Huguenots settled on Staten Island and in New Harlem, Bushwick, and Flushing in 1657 and 1658. New Paltz, Ulster County, was founded in 1677 by Huguenots. In 1688 the Huguenots established New Rochelle in Westchester County. Non-Huguenot French Catholics from Quebec later settled large areas of the northern Adirondacks.

Useful sources for Huguenot genealogy are:

Baird, Charles W. *History of the Huguenot Emigration to America*, 2 vols. 1885. Reprint, Baltimore: Regional Publishing, 1966. (FHL book 973 F2hb 1966; 1885 ed. on film 496568; computer numbers 28994, 135624.) May include births, marriages, deaths, residence, and place of origin.

Reeve, Vera. comp. *Register of Qualified Huguenot Ancestors: The National Huguenot Society*. 3rd ed., Washington, D.C.: the Society, 1983. (FHL book 973 D2rq; computer number 213651.) Genealogies and sources. See also the 1992 supplement (FHL book 973 D2rq 1992 suppl.; computer number 716007.)

**Germans.** German “Palatines” came in 1709/10 to the upper Hudson Valley, near present-day Germantown, Columbia County. Many soon after migrated to the Schoharie Valley. Before 1776 Germans and Dutch settled the Mohawk Valley. Two important genealogical sources for Palatine research are:

Jones, Henry Z., Jr. *The Palatine Families of New York: A Study of the German Immigrants Who Arrived in Colonial New York in 1710*, 2 vols. Universal City, Calif.: Henry Z. Jones, 1985. (FHL book 974.7 D2j; computer number 362903.) May include births, marriages, deaths, and source citations.

Jones, Henry Z., Jr. *More Palatine Families: Some Immigrants to the Middle Colonies, 1717–1776, and Their European Origins, Plus New Discoveries on German Families Who Arrived in Colonial New York in 1710*, Universal City, Calif.: Henry Z. Jones, 1991. (FHL book 973 W2jo; computer number 623035.)

**Scots and Irish.** In the early 1770s Scottish and Irish immigrants settled in the upper Hudson and Delaware valleys. Ulster Scots, or Scotch-Irish, settled near the Hudson River in Orange and Ulster counties in the late 1600s.

A helpful publication listing immigrants from Scotland is David Dobson, *Directory of Scottish Settlers in North America, 1625–1825* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1984—, vols. 1–7. FHL book 970 W2d; computer number 253278). Each volume has its own index. Often the town or city of origin in Scotland is mentioned. About a quarter of the families settled in New York.

Jews. The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will search their indexes and files at no charge. Supply the individual ancestor's name as spelled at the time of arrival and, if known, the year and port of entry and relatives traveling with the ancestor. It also helps to give birth and last known address. Records of Jewish immigrants since 1909 are at:

United Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society Service  
200 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10003  
Telephone: 212-967-4100

***African Americans.*** The Dutch brought the first Blacks to New York during colonial times. Blacks composed about 10 percent of the population during the eighteenth century. The greatest migration of Blacks came from the southern states and Caribbean after World War II.

The New York Public Library has a large collection of manuscripts relating to black culture in New York. The address is:

New York Public Library's Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture  
515 Lenox Avenue  
New York, NY 10037  
Telephone: 212-491-2200

***Other Groups.*** Records of major ethnic groups, including Dutch, Swedes, German, French Huguenots, Quakers, and Jews, are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK - MINORITIES.

## **Migration Patterns**

Settlement in New York was confined to the Hudson, Mohawk, Schoharie, and Delaware valleys until after the Revolutionary War. During and after the war, New Yorkers loyal to the King of England emigrated to Canada and elsewhere. The Revolutionary War temporarily halted further expansion into the interior. Once the war was over and the title to western lands was obtained from the Iroquois in 1786, New Englanders flocked to all parts of the state. In the two decades after the war, 500,000 new settlers came into New York, and the state tripled its population.

Cities along the migration route such as Utica, Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo prospered. Natives of other states such as New Jersey, Connecticut, and Vermont moved to New York in large numbers during the pre-Civil War era.

Large numbers of Irish and Germans came to New York cities in the mid-1800s. New York was the destination for millions of southern and eastern Europeans, especially Italians and Russian Jews, from about 1890–1910. The Irish tended to settle in New York and other large cities, such as Albany, and along the canal. Large numbers of Germans settled in New York City, Buffalo, and Rochester.

From about 1854–1929, some 100,000 homeless children from New York City were “placed out” to families in upstate New York and the midwestern states. They are frequently referred to as the orphan train children. New York agencies that have records are:

- The New York Children's Aid Society

Adoption and Foster Home Division  
150 East 45th Street  
New York, NY 10017  
Telephone: 212-949-4800  
Fax: 212-682-8016  
This society was organized in 1853.

- New York Foundling Hospital (Catholic)

590 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10011  
Telephone: 212-633-9300  
Fax: 212-886-4048  
This society was organized in 1869 and began placing out children in 1873.

## Immigration Records

New York City was the major port of entry for immigrants coming to the United States.

***Colonial Lists.*** Passenger lists for some colonial immigrants exist. The New York State Archives has microfilmed the New York customs house records dating from about 1730, but these do not name passengers. Many early immigrants are named in:

Filby, P. William. *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index*. Detroit: Gale Research, 1981–1996. (FHL book Ref 973 W32p; computer number 75625.) Most comprehensive index available of published passenger lists from 1607 to about 1900. Supplemental volumes have been issued annually. Some of the volumes are on microfilm.

A comprehensive list of about 140,000 immigrants to America from Britain is:

Coldham, Peter Wilson. *The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607–1776 and Emigrants in Bondage, 1614–1775*. [Novato, Calif.]: Brøderbund Software, 1996. (FHL compact disc no. 9 pt. 350; not available at Family History Centers; computer number 784052.) Includes New York immigrants. May show British hometown, emigration date, ship, destination, and text of the document abstract.



***Federal Immigration Lists.*** Few pre-1820 passenger lists exist. The National Archives does have some unmicrofilmed manifests and baggage lists for 1798–1819 that mention passengers' names.

Ellis Island opened as an immigration station in 1892, and immigration to the United States peaked during the first decade of this century. An estimated 12 million immigrants were processed at Ellis Island. The National Archives and the Family History Library have microfilm copies of New York immigration lists as well as lists for other ports.

***New York City Passenger Lists.*** For customs arrival lists and indexes see:

- *Passenger lists* (1820–1942). These contain the names, ages, and countries of origin. After 1897 they usually give the last residence and final destination in the United States. The National Archives—Northeast has the lists through March 14, 1909. The New York Public Library has them on microfilm through at least 1906. The Family History Library has the lists from:

1820–1897 (FHL computer number 15681)

1897–1942 (FHL computer number 92040)

- *Indexes* (1820–46, 1897–1902, 1902–43, 1943–48). The Family History Library and the New York Public Library have the indexes through 1943, and the National Archives—Northeast has them through 1948:

1820–1846 (FHL computer number 15681)

1897–1902 (FHL computer number 92040)

1902–1943 (FHL computer number 92040)

- *Book indexes by vessel line* (1906–1926). These indexes to passengers are arranged annually by the name of the shipping line and date of arrival. They are available on microfilm at the Family History Library and the National Archives—Northeast Region:

1906–1926 (FHL computer number 423831)

Passenger lists at the Family History Library are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, NEW YORK (CITY) - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION. If your ancestor arrived in New York between 1890 and 1930 and you know the name of the vessel, you may be able to determine the date of arrival by checking *Morton Allen Directory of European Passenger Steamship Arrivals . . .* (1931; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1980; FHL book 973 U3m 1980; fiche 6046854; computer number 30102). For earlier years, see the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service, *Registers of Vessels Arriving at the Port of New York from Foreign Ports, 1789–1919* (FHL films 1415143–69; computer number 132219). The registers of both passenger and commercial vessels have both alphabetical and chronological lists of ships. These registers do not list passenger names.

**Published Lists.** Published passenger lists include:

Glazier, Ira A., and Michael H. Tepper, eds. *The Famine Immigrants: Lists of Irish Immigrants Arriving at the Port of New York, 1846–1851*. 7 vols. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1983–86. (FHL book Ref 974.71 W3f; computer number 202044.) The years 1852 through 1896 will be published later. Includes name, age, sex, occupation, arrival date, arrival port, ship, and departure date. Each volume is indexed.

Glazier, Ira A., and P. William Filby, eds. *Germans to America: Lists of Passengers Arriving at U.S. Ports*. 50 vols. Wilmington, Del.: Scholarly Resources, Inc., 1988–91. (FHL book Ref 973 W2ger; computer number 465274.) This series indexes arrivals from 1850–1887. It will continue through the year 1896. Each volume is indexed. May include name, age, sex, occupation, village and province of origin, departure port, arrival port, and arrival date.

Glazier, Ira A., and P. William Filby, eds. *Italians to America: Lists of Passengers Arriving at U.S. Ports, 1880–1899*. 5 vols. Wilmington, Del.: Scholarly Resources, Inc., 1992. (FHL book 973 W2it; computer number 653664.) This series will index passenger arrivals from 1880–1899. Currently the series has lists up to December 1891.

Glazier, Ira A., ed. *Migration from the Russian Empire: Lists of Passengers Arriving at the Port of New York*. 2 vols. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1995. (FHL book 973 W3r 1995; computer number 755421.) This series will index passenger arrivals from 1875–1910. Currently the series has lists from 1875 to April 1886. Includes Finns, Germans, Poles, Russians, and others who lived in Russian territories.

Voultzos, Mary. *Greek Immigrant Passengers, 1885–1910: A Guide and Index to Researching Early Greek Immigrants*. 3 vols. Worcester, Mass.: the author, 1992. (FHL book 973 W2vm; computer number 670347.) Contains indexes and lists for Boston 1900–1910 and New York 1885–1910.

**Other Ports of Entry.** To find passenger lists for other ports, see United States, Bureau of Customs, *Copies of Lists of Passengers Arriving at Miscellaneous Ports on the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts and at Ports on the Great Lakes, 1820–73*, under UNITED STATES - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search (on 16 FHL films; computer number 216254). Other ports include Oswegatchie (1821–23), Sag Harbor (1829–34), and Rochester (1866). For indexes to these lists, see United States, Bureau of Customs, *Supplemental Index to Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Atlantic and Gulf Coast Ports (Excluding New York [City]), 1820–1874*, under UNITED STATES - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION - INDEXES (on 188 FHL films beginning with film 418161; computer number 216582).

Some records recently made available at the National Archives include:

- *Card Manifests of Individuals Arriving in the Buffalo, New York District, 1920–1954* (166 microfilms, not at FHL).

- *Soundex Index to Arrivals at Malone, Ogdensburg, and Rooseveltown, New York, 1929–1956* (3 microfilms, not at FHL).

## Canadian Border Crossing Records

In 1895 Canadian shipping companies agreed to keep passenger lists, or manifests, of people who were in transit to the United States. These lists allowed U.S. immigration officials to inspect passengers bound for the United States via Canada. The U.S. inspectors worked at Canadian seaports and major cities of the interior like Quebec and Winnipeg. The manifests from *any* seaport or emigration station in Canada were collected at St. Albans, Vermont.

In addition, U.S. immigration officials kept records of passengers arriving by train along the Canadian border in the states from Washington State to Maine. The records of Canadian border crossings into *any* state between Washington and Maine, including New York, were also gathered together at St. Albans, Vermont.

The Family History Library has copies of both kinds of immigration records. Since they were sent to St. Albans they are called *Manifests of Passengers Arriving in the St. Albans, Vermont, District*. Despite the name, the manifests are actually from ports and railroad stations all over Canada and the northern United States, not just Vermont.

**Border Crossing Lists** may include information about name, port or station of entry, arrival date, literacy, last residence, previous visits to the United States, and place of birth. The passenger lists are reproduced in two series:

- *Manifests of Passengers Arriving in the St. Albans, Vermont, District through Canadian Pacific and Atlantic Ports, 1895–1954* (608 rolls; FHL films 1561087–499; computer number 423848). From seaports and railroad stations all over Canada and the northern United States.
- *Manifests of Passengers Arriving in the St. Albans, Vermont, District through Canadian Pacific Ports, 1929–1949* (25 rolls; FHL films 1549387–411; computer number 423848). In transit to the United States from Canadian Pacific seaports only.

Manifests for Pacific and Atlantic ports provide two types of lists: the traditional passenger lists on U.S. immigration forms and monthly lists of names of aliens crossing the border on trains. These monthly lists are arranged by month, thereunder alphabetically by name of port, and thereunder by railway.

**Border Crossing Indexes.** In many cases, the index cards are the *only* record of the crossing. Two published indexes apply to New York:

- *Soundex Index to Canadian Border Entries through the St. Albans, Vermont, District, 1895–1924* (400 rolls; FHL films 1472801–3201; computer number 423848).
- *Soundex Index to Entries into the St. Albans, Vermont, District through Canadian Pacific and Atlantic Ports, 1924–1952* (98 rolls; FHL films 1570714–811; computer number 423848).

The Soundex is a coded surname index based on the way a name sounds rather than how it is spelled. Names like Smith and Smyth have the same code and are filed together.

## GAZETTEERS

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Several guides to New York place-names have been published. Some of the best are:

French, John Homer. *Gazetteer of the State of New York*. 8th ed. Syracuse, N.Y.: R. Pearsall Smith, 1860. (FHL book 974.7 E5f; film 930129; fiche 6046699; computer number 19294.) Includes dates of settlement, early settlers, newspapers, geographical features, schools, churches, and industries. An index of personal names is Frank Place, II, comp., *Index of Persons and Names in J.H. French's Gazetteer of the State of New York (1860)* (Cortland, N.Y.: The Cortland County Historical Society, 1983; FHL book 974.7 E5f index 1983; 1962 edition on fiche 6051206; computer numbers 430077, 66527). The 1983 edition of the index has a “Supplementary Index to Place-Names.”

Spafford, Horatio Gates. *Gazetteer of the State of New York*. Albany, N.Y.: H.C. Southwick, 1813. (FHL film 808351 item 4; computer number 273900. The 1824 edition was reprinted as *1824 Gazetteer of New York State*. Interlaken, N.Y.; Heart of the Lakes, 1981; FHL book 974.7 E5s; film 543662 item 6; computer number 147221.)

*Omni Gazetteer of the United States of America: A Guide to 1,500,000 Place-Names in the United States and Territories*. 11 vols. Detroit: Omnigraphics, Inc., 1990. (FHL book Ref 973 E5o; computer number 620916.) Volume two includes New York. This book lists cities, towns, parks, bodies of water, cemeteries, churches, and other physical features from the U.S. Geological Survey's database, giving latitude and longitude coordinates.

## GENEALOGY

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Most archives, historical societies, and genealogical societies have special collections and indexes of genealogical value. Some of the major collections are described below.

### Sources at the Family History Library

***Ancestral File.*** Ancestral File is a FamilySearch™ computer file that contains family history information linked into family groups and pedigrees. The file contains millions of names, including a growing number of New York families.

Ancestral File is a growing file of completed research, depending largely on contributions of ancestral information from organizations and individuals. Contributions of genealogies are welcome and encouraged. For instructions on how to contribute, see *Contributing Information to Ancestral File* (34029), available at the Family History Library and Family History Centers.

***International Genealogical Index.*** Available on both microfiche and as a FamilySearch™ computer file. The International Genealogical Index provides names and vital information for millions of deceased persons, dating back to the mid-1600s. Most of the names were submitted by researchers or copied from church records.

***Old Surname Index File.*** The Family History Library has a surname index of some manuscripts, periodicals, books, and films collected before 1964. It is especially useful for New York research and is found under The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Genealogical Department, Library Division, *Old Surname Index File* (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1976; FHL films 1058446–85; computer number 142606).

***Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Collection.*** This collection contains transcripts of Bible, cemetery, church, marriage, death, obituary, and will records. It is divided into two parts:

Daughters of the American Revolution (New York). *Cemetery, Church and Town Records*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1970–1971. (On 86 FHL films and 28 fiche; computer number 453563.) The records are at the New York State Library, New York Public Library, and the DAR Library in Washington, D.C. The Family History Library has microfilms of the first 388 volumes and many additional unnumbered volumes on microfilms. Volumes 528–536 are on microfiche.

Daughters of the American Revolution (New York). *Bible, Family and Miscellaneous Records from New York State*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1971. (On 33 FHL films; computer number 93393.) The original records are at the Daughters of the American Revolution Library in Washington, D.C.

Individual volumes in the DAR collection are generally arranged by county, and many volumes have individual indexes. Many have been indexed in three indexes:

Whitacre, Constance M. and Elsie Trotter. *Master Index New York State DAR Genealogical Records*. New York: Daughters of the American Revolution, 1972. (FHL book 974.7 D22; film 1206452 item 13; fiche 6051491; computer number 240472.)

In both Whitacre indexes the letter “V” before the volume and page refers to *Cemetery, Church and Town Records*; the letter “B” refers to the *Bible, Family and Miscellaneous Records*.

Whitacre, Constance M. *Master Index Supplement 1972–1978: Records and Corrections*. N.p., 1978. (FHL book 975.7 D22 Supp.; film 1206452 item 14; computer number 240537.)

New York State Library (Albany, New York). *Vital Records Card File*. Albany: New York State Library, 1979. (FHL fiche 6332544; computer number 343939.)

**Holland Society of New York Collections.** This lineage society collects information about the early Dutch settlers and their descendants. Many of their church record transcripts and published yearbooks are at the Family History Library. The library has microfilms of *Compiled Genealogies* (FHL 47 films; computer number 178157), *Manuscript Historical and Genealogical Collection* (FHL 41 films; computer number 192333), and *Membership Records* (FHL 76 films; computer number 184585). The film numbers are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK - GENEALOGY.

**George Olin Zabriskie Collection.** This collection contains information about early New York Dutch families. There are family group records, vital record transcripts, correspondence, published articles, and local histories. These are found in the Family History Library Author/Title Search under George Olin Zabriskie, *Family Group Sheets* (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1987; FHL films 1421754–59; computer number 440530) and George Olin Zabriskie, *Dutch Families of Old New York and New Jersey* (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1987; FHL films 1421770–74; computer number 448271).

**William Applebie Daniel Eardeley Collection.** This collection of Long Island and eastern U.S. genealogies is in two alphabetical series at the Brooklyn Historical Society. See William Applebie Daniel Eardeley, *Manuscripts and Notes of William A. Eardeley* (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, [1980?]; FHL films 416880–93; computer number 381295).

Helen Wilkinson Reynolds' *Family Genealogies* (FHL films 931486–94; computer number 360880) and *Notes, Research and Miscellaneous Records* (FHL films 929848–53 and 931482–86; computer number 317947) are collections at the Adriance Memorial Library in Poughkeepsie about families of Dutchess County and nine neighboring counties.

Rider, Fremont, ed. *American Genealogical- Biographical Index*. Vols. 1–186+. Middletown, Conn.: Godfrey Memorial Library, 1952–. (FHL book 973 D22am ser. 2; on 31 FHL films; computer number 49554.) This is a continuing series. An earlier version of 48 volumes was published as *The American Genealogical Index*, 1942–1951. The index contains over 4 million brief citations (name, date, and source) to manuscripts,



periodicals, and books. The earlier version indexed 350 sources. The second version includes the original 350 sources and an additional 800 sources.

To help you understand the source citations and to locate the original sources, use the colored pages in some volumes of:

Clark, Patricia L. and Dorothy Huntsman, eds. *American Genealogical Biographical Key Title Index*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1990. (FHL book 973 D22am index; film 1698167 item 4; fiche 6088377; computer number 491052.) Lists the sources that are at the Family History Library and their call numbers.

Look in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under both NEW YORK - GENEALOGY and NEW YORK - SOCIETIES to find other manuscript collections.

## **Manuscript Collections at Other Repositories**

Most New York libraries and historical societies have valuable collections for genealogical research. Some of the major ones include the following:

***The Colonial Albany Social History Project.*** This project, begun in 1980, is an attempt to compile a detailed biographical profile of all 16,000 persons who lived in the city of Albany before 1800. The information comes from all available published and manuscript sources and includes birth, marriage and death data for each person; information on all members of the household; and information concerning residency, migration, education, religion, wealth, politics, and military service. For more information, contact:

Colonial Albany Social History Project  
Stefan Bielinski, Director  
New York State Museum  
3093 Cultural Education Center  
Albany, NY 12230  
Telephone: 518-474-6917

## **Published Collections**

Examples of important published genealogies include:

Bailey, Rosalie Fellows. *Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York*. 1936. Reprint, New York: Dover, 1968. (FHL book 974 D2bp; film 1421882 item 3; computer number 266819.) Thousands of names with birth, marriage, death, children, and often place of origin.

Bergen, Teunis G. *Register in Alphabetical Order of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, New York from Its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700*. 1881. Reprint, Cottonport, La.: Polyanthos, 1973. (FHL book 974.723 D2b 1973; film 982133;

computer number 156747.) Thousands of names with birth, marriage, death, children, residence, and often place of origin.

Cutter, William Richard. *Genealogical and Family History of Central New York*. 3 vols. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing, 1912. (FHL book 974.7 D2cu; film 1000226; fiche 6051122; computer number 147080.) Index in volume 3. May show four to ten generations including birth, marriage, death, and place of origin.

Cutter, William Richard. *Genealogical and Family History of Northern New York*. 3 vols. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing, 1910. (FHL book 974.75 D2cut; film 1000225; fiche 6051252; computer number 117186.) Has information about families in Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties. May show four to ten generations including birth, marriage, death, and place of origin.

Cutter, William Richard. *Genealogical and Family History of Western New York*. 3 vols. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing, 1912. (FHL book 974.7 D2c; film 1000228; fiche 6046620; computer number 147067.) The above volumes by Cutter have been indexed by Norma Olin Ireland and Winifred Irving, *Cutter Index: A Consolidated Index of Cutter's 9 Genealogy Series* (Fallbrook, Calif.: Ireland Indexing Service, ca. 1970; FHL book 974 D2ci; film 1036507 item 6; fiche 6046737; computer number 122007.) Index in volume 3. May show four to ten generations including birth, marriage, death, and place of origin.

Davis, Norman C. *Westchester Patriarchs: A Genealogical Dictionary of Westchester County, New York Families Prior to 1755*. Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1988. (FHL book 974.7277 D3d; computer number 77655.)

Hoff, Henry Bainbridge., ed. *Genealogies of Long Island Families from The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*. 2 vols. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1987. (FHL book 974.721 D2g; computer number 441606.)

Pearson, Jonathan. *Contributions for the Genealogies of the First Settlers of the Ancient County of Albany, from 1630 to 1800*. 1872. Reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1978, 1984. (FHL book 974.742 D2p; film 1036122; computer number 264441.) Pearson's original manuscript has material not in the book (FHL films 1304637–38; computer number 332126.)

Pearson, Jonathan. *Contributions for the Genealogies of the Descendants of the First Settlers of the Patent and City of Schenectady from 1662 to 1800*. 1873. Reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1976, 1978. (FHL book 974.744 D2p; film 1036211 item 2; computer number 253874.) Pearson's original manuscript (FHL film 1304636 item 3 to film 1304637; computer number 332125.) Has material not in the book.

Reynolds, Cuyler. *Genealogical and Family History of Southern New York and the Hudson River Valley*. 3 vols. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing, 1914. (FHL book 974.7 D3r; film 1000227; fiche 6046616; computer number 147113.)



Reynolds, Cuyler. *Hudson-Mohawk Genealogical and Family Memoirs; A Record of Achievement of the People of the Hudson & Mohawk Valleys in N.Y. State, Included within the Present Counties of Albany, Rensselaer, Washington, Saratoga, Montgomery, Fulton, Schenectady, Columbia & Greene*. 4 vols. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing, 1911. (FHL book 974.74 D3r; film 1000229; computer number 264775.)

Reynolds, Helen Wilkinson. *Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley Before 1776*. 1929. Reprint, New York: Dover Publications, 1965. (FHL book 974.7 H2r; computer number 149404; film 982401 item 4; computer number 149410.) May show historical, birth, marriage, or death information about several generations of a family.

Riker, James, Jr. *Revised History of Harlem (City of New York), Its Origin and Early Annals*. Revised with the assistance of Henry Pennington Toler. New York: New Harlem Publishing, 1904. (FHL book 974.71 H2r; film 1035904 item 3; computer number 99352.) The revised edition has an extensive genealogical appendix.

Seversmith, Herbert Furman. *Colonial Families of Long Island, New York and Connecticut*. 5 vols in 6. Washington, D.C.: H.F. Seversmith, 1939–58. (FHL book 929.273 Se835s; films 525304–306; computer number 210890.) These volumes primarily cover surnames A–L, except volume 5 which covers A–W. The rest of Seversmith's notes for surnames after L are at the Easthampton Free Library and on microfilm as *The Seversmith Manuscripts* (FHL films 569823–24; computer number 334480). Contains about 140 families showing multi-generation genealogical sketches about five to twenty pages long.

Western New York Genealogical Society, Inc. *Ancestors of WNYGS Members*. Hamburg, N.Y.: WNYGS, 1993–. (FHL book 974.79 D2a; computer number 711255.) Gives name, birth year and state, marriage year and state, and relatives' names for eight western counties.

## Published Collections of Records

The following books are genealogical compilations obtained from original source records:

Hoff, Henry Bainbridge, ed. *Long Island Source Records from The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1987. (FHL book 974.721 H29L; computer number 447636.)

Mather, Frederic Gregory. *The Refugees of 1776 from Long Island to Connecticut*. 1913. Reprint, Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1990. (FHL book 974.6 H2m; film 164690; computer number 259034.) This book mentions thousands of patriot families, both those that fled from Suffolk County to Connecticut in 1776 and those that remained during the Revolution.

Penrose, Maryly Barton. *Mohawk Valley in the Revolution: Committee of Safety Papers & Genealogical Compendium*. Franklin Park, N.J.: Liberty Bell Associates, 1978. (FHL book 974.76 H2p; computer number 25253.) Book I, committee papers, includes petitions, declarations, and elections. It is indexed and helps determine residence. Book II, the compendium, cites 33 documents used to compile about 600 alphabetical family groups which may show birth, marriage, death, spouses, children parents, and Revolutionary War service.

Stillwell, John E. *Historical and Genealogical Miscellany: Data Relating to the Settlement and Settlers of New York and New Jersey*. 6 vols. 1903–1932. Reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1970. (FHL book 974.D2sa; fiche 6045846; vols. 1 and 3 on film 908775; vol. 2 on 397793; vol. 4 on 844968 item 2; vol. 5 on 908776; vol. 6 on 1036561 item 8; computer numbers 268115, 268114.) These books contain transcripts primarily for Monmouth and Burlington counties, New Jersey, and for Staten Island, New York. Some volumes also include compiled family genealogies.

## HISTORY

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The following important events in New York history affected political boundaries, record-keeping, and family movements.

1609	Henry Hudson, sailing for the Dutch, established Holland's claim to the New York region.
1624–1626	The Dutch West India Company established the colony of New Netherland. Its chief settlements were at New Amsterdam, on the lower tip of Manhattan Island, and at Fort Orange, the present site of Albany.
1629	The Dutch introduced the patroonship (manorial) system, which established a landholding aristocracy in the Hudson Valley.
1664	New Netherland surrendered to the English, who separated it into the colonies of New York and New Jersey.
1673–1674	The Dutch briefly reconquered New York.
1674	
1683	The twelve original counties were formed (Albany, Cornwall [Maine], Dukes [Massachusetts], Dutchess, Kings, New York, Queens, Orange, Richmond, Suffolk, Ulster, and Westchester).
1731	The boundary between New York and Connecticut was settled.
1769	After long conflicts, the present border with New Jersey was agreed upon. The line was surveyed and marked in 1774.
1773	The New York-Massachusetts boundary dispute was finally resolved.

1776	New York declared independence from Britain and Vermont declared its independence from New York. At the end of the Revolutionary War, in 1783, the British evacuated Loyalists to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the British West Indies.
1786	The Hartford Treaty gave Massachusetts the title to the land in western New York west of the "Pre-emption Line" (a line running north and south between Seneca and Keuka Lakes) but reserved political governance to New York.
1788	New York ratified the U.S. Constitution and became the eleventh state of the Union.
1791	New York's eastern boundary was finally determined when Vermont was admitted as a state.
1796	The state capital moved from New York City to Albany.
1825	The Erie Canal (between Albany and the Great Lakes) was completed, stimulating settlement of the midwestern U.S. By 1842, rail lines connected Albany and Buffalo.
1839–1845	The Anti-Rent War led to the end of the manorial system.
1898	Brooklyn (Kings) established 1683, New York (Manhattan) established 1683, Queens established 1683, and Staten Island (Richmond) established 1683 were incorporated as boroughs of New York City.
1914	Bronx was incorporated as the fifth borough of New York City.

The best one-volume history of New York is probably David M. Ellis, et al., *A History of New York State*, 1957, revised (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1983; FHL book 974.7 H2e; computer number 281403). One of the best multivolume histories is Alexander C. Flick, ed., *The History of the State of New York*, 10 vols. (1933; reprint, Port Washington, N.Y.: Ira J. Friedman Inc., 1962; FHL book 974.7 H2f; computer number 147966).

Some published collections of historical documents essential for early New York genealogical research include:

Brodhead, John Romeyn, comp.; O'Callaghan, Edmund Bailey, and Berthold Fernow, trans. and eds. *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York, Procured in Holland, England and France, by John Romeyn Brodhead, Esq., Agent*. 15 vols. Albany, N.Y.: Weed, Parsons, and Co., 1853–1887. (FHL book 974.7 H2d; computer number 152200; films 824380–91; computer number 152213.) Biographical sketches drawn from official records of governors, courts, and petitions.

*Documentary History of the State of New York*. 4 vols. in 8 parts. Albany, N.Y.: Weed, Parson and Co., 1849–51 (octavo ed.); 1850–51 (quarto ed.). (FHL book 974.7 H2o;

films 986504–07; fiche 6051121; subject index on **film 017137 item 10**; computer number 152889.) Biographical information drawn from official records of governors, courts, and petitions.

O'Callaghan, Edmund Bailey, ed. ***Calendar of Dutch (and English) Historical Manuscripts in the Office of Secretary of State, Albany, N.Y.*** 2 vols. 1865–1866. Reprint, Ridgewood, N.J.: The Gregg Press, 1968. (FHL book 974.7 A3c; fiche 6051113; computer number 146525.) Many of the documents described in this inventory were destroyed or damaged in the 1911 capital fire.

## Local Histories

An excellent bibliography of New York local histories is Harold Nestler, comp., ***A Bibliography of New York State Communities***, 3rd ed. (Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, Inc., 1990; FHL book 974.7 H23nh 1990; computer number 581373).

New York has officially appointed town and county historians who gather material about their locality and its people. They often have original and transcribed cemetery records, newspaper clippings, church records, and local histories. For their addresses, see The County Historians Association of New York State, *1991 Directory of New York State County and Municipal Historians*, 5th ed. (Albany, N.Y.: The New York State Education Department, Division of Research and Collections, 1991; FHL book 974.7 N24v 1991; computer number 596288).

## LAND AND PROPERTY

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### Early Land Records

There are few pre-1660 New York land records. Some records of earliest land grants during the Dutch period are in the following publications:

Gehring, Charles T., trans. and ed. *New York Historical Manuscripts. Dutch. Land Papers, Volumes GG, HH, & II*. Published under the direction of The Holland Society of New York. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1980. (FHL book 974.7 R2lp; computer number 331913.) This book is a translation of land patents, 1630–1651 and 1654–1664, the earliest land records of New Netherland.

O'Callaghan, Edmund Bailey, comp. ***Calendar of New York Colonial Manuscripts, Indorsed Land Papers in the Office of the Secretary of State of New York, 1643–1803***. 1864. Revised reprint, Harrison, N.Y.: Harbor Hill Books, 1987. (FHL book 974.7 R2n; older edition on FHL film 947853; computer numbers 457006, 319651.) This indexes the “Land Grant Application Files, 1642–1803,” commonly referred to as the “New York Colonial Manuscripts, Endorsed Land Papers,” in 63 volumes at the state archives (not at FHL). The records pertain to New York and Vermont. They give name and date and

place of residence. These records have recently been microfilmed by the New York State Archives, and the films are available for sale by the New York State Archives or through interlibrary loan.

Van Laer, Arnold Johan Ferdinand, trans.; Kenneth Scott and Kenn Stryker-Rodda, eds. *New York Historical Manuscripts. Dutch. Register of the Provincial Secretary*, 3 vols. Published under the Direction of The Holland Society of New York. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1974. (FHL book 974.7 H2vL v. 1–3; computer number 152204.) This book contains translations of conveyances recorded in the minutes of the provincial secretary, 1638–1660. Gives name, date, and location of the patent.

A *patent* is a right to a parcel of land granted by the governor. A map and information about the larger patents can be found in Ruth L. Higgins, ed., *Expansion in New York with Especial Reference to the Eighteenth Century* (1931; reprint ed., Philadelphia: Porcupine Press, 1976; FHL book 974.7 H2h 1976, film 1036688 item 2; computer number 148224). For more information about patent maps, see the “Maps” section of this outline.

All colonial patents and land grant applications and many deeds are in the State Archives. Patents and deeds from 1664 on are also on microfilm at the Family History Library. Some of the major collections of early land records are described in the following sections.

## Patents

- New York. Secretary of State. *Patents of the State of New York 1664–1912* (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1973; on 60 FHL films; computer number 481631). May give name, location (residence), and volume number. Indexes include:

Colonial Patents Grantee Card Index, 1638–1780

Grantee Card Index for v. 18–53, ca. 1775–1912

Index to Patents, ca. 1664–1864

Military Card Index for Patents, 1764–1797

- Bowman, Fred Q. *Landholders of Northeastern New York, 1739–1802* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1983; FHL book 974.7 R24b; film 1321009 item 8; computer number 288822). Indexes patents, 1739–1775, and deeds and mortgages, 1764–1802, for the present-day counties of Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Warren, and Washington.

## Surveys

Surveys sometimes contain descriptions, proprietor's records, names of buyers, names of neighbors, and maps. These surveys and accompanying maps sometimes show settlers or occupants of property; most of the surveys were made prior to subdivision of patents or other tracts.

- New York. Secretary of State. *Field Books, New York, 1701–1848* (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1973; on 12 FHL films; computer number 479654). These are in 53 volumes at the state archives and contain the state's official surveys, accompanied by maps.
- New York. Department of Transportation. *Land Survey Field Notes, 1665–1927*. These are at the state archives and consist of notes and maps of land surveyed as well as books of sale, cashbooks, and registers (not at FHL).

## Secretary of State's Deeds and Mortgages

Some pre-1810 land sales between individuals were recorded by the secretary of state instead of a county clerk. Many are deeds in which one of the parties resided in another county, state, or country. Many are transfers between wealthy people. The deeds are not recorded chronologically. Deeds deposited with the secretary of state are now at the state archives.

## Deeds

Deeds usually show buyer, seller, residence, and dates. Sometimes they show previous residence and give relationships.

- New York. Secretary of State. *Grantor Card Index to Deeds, abt 1640–1973*. (FHL films 947643–51; computer number 484175).
- New York. Secretary of State. *Grantee Card Index to Deeds, abt 1640–1973*. (FHL films 947652–54, and 947838–41; computer number 484175).
- New York. Secretary of State. *Deeds, 1659–1846*. 43 vols. (FHL films 945268–87; computer number 484175). Deeds in volumes 40–43, 1810–1855, are *Deeds to State Owned Real Estate*, where the state is represented as the grantee or the grantor. These valuable indexes refer to deeds, manors, patents, military bounty lands, Vermont lands, court, probate, Indian, and other records.
- New York. Secretary of State. *Abstracts and Indexes of Deeds*. 7 vols. (FHL films 947105–106 and 947114–15; computer number 484175.) These are handwritten ledgers indexing and abstracting the 43 volumes of deeds, years 1659–1846, giving volume and page references.

## Mortgages

Mortgages establish when a family resided at a specific place. Mortgage information is found in:

- New York. Secretary of State. *Mortgages Grantor Card Index, 1784–1973*. (FHL film 945399; computer number 483748).
- New York. Secretary of State. *Loan Mortgages, vol. 3, 1807–24*. (FHL film 947121; computer number 483748).
- New York. Secretary of State. *State Mortgages, 1807–42*, 4 vols. Vols. 1–3, 1807–24 (FHL film 947101; computer number 483748).
- New York. Secretary of State. *Index to Deeds and Mortgages, 1641–1842*. (FHL film 947116; computer number 484175).
- New York. State Comptroller. *Bonds and Mortgages for the Sale of State Lands, 1797–1878*. 38 vols. (Not at FHL.) These are account books recording mortgage payments on land purchased from the state.

## Manorial Records

A manor was a tract of land granted by the governor. In some cases, manors had their own courts and exercised civil and criminal jurisdiction over the tenants who leased land. Manorial records are used to establish a place of residence.

The largest manors were Rensselaerswyck (granted in 1630 and 1685), Livingston (granted in 1686), Philipsburgh (granted in 1693), Cortlandt (granted in 1697), Fordham (granted in 1671), Pelham (granted in 1687), and Morrisania (granted in 1697).

The Family History Library has few records about the Hudson Valley manors. However, it does have the Livingston Family Papers, 1630–1929, from the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Library in Hyde Park (FHL films 1421078–90; computer number 339167). The library also has a helpful index, *Van Rensselaer Manor Papers*, published about 1990 (FHL book 974.7 R2r; film 1697716; computer number 554277). This manor was located in what is now Albany and Rensselaer Counties. The original records are at the New York State Library.

A source for more historical information about the manors is Kim, Sung Bok, *Landlord and Tenant in Colonial New York: Manorial Society, 1664–1775* (Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press for the Institute of Early American History and Culture, 1978; FHL book 974.7 R2k; computer number 281407). The appendix, “A Note on Sources,” describes the manorial records that exist and where they are located.

## Military Bounty Land



New York granted military bounty land patents for service in the French and Indian War, and in the Revolutionary War, but did not grant lands to veterans of the War of 1812. Most French and Indian War grants were in the region of the upper Hudson River. In 1782, Revolutionary War veterans were issued land by lottery in the Finger Lakes region of central New York (28 townships in the present counties of Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca, Cortland, Oswego, Wayne, Schuyler, and Tompkins). Many men sold their grants and never settled the land. Before this, lands were made available in the Old Military Tract—located in present-day Clinton, Essex, and Franklin counties—but few soldiers settled there.

The military bounty land patents are at the state archives:

New York. Secretary of State. *Military Patents and Abstracts, 1764–1846*. 10 vols. The first 8 volumes (to 1797) are available on microfilm at the Family History Library (FHL films 945291–95; computer number 481631). The patents give the name of the patentee, reason for the grant, location by township, lot number, and acreage. Each volume is indexed by the name of the patentee.

The names of Military Tract and Old Military Tract patentees are indexed by the *Grantee Card Index to Patents, 1775–1912*. There is also a card index for the Military Tract. It is arranged by the township and lot number and found in the Family History Library Catalog Author/Title Search under New York, Secretary of State, *Military Card Index for Patents* (FHL films 946418–20; computer number 481631).

Soldiers that drew land are listed in *The Balloting Book, and Other Documents Relating to Military Bounty Lands in the State of New York* (Albany, N.Y.: Packard & Van Benthuysen, 1825; FHL film 812864 item 4; computer number 316076). The book is arranged by township, lot number, and grantee name. There are volume and page cross references to the military patent books. An index to this source is M. Frances Ferris, *Index, the Balloting Book and Other Documents Relating to Military Bounty Lands in the State of New York* (Syracuse, N.Y.: Onondaga Historical Association, 1954; FHL film 896803 item 6; computer number 316079).

The state archives has *Revolutionary War Accounts and Claims*. These records were abstracted in James A. Roberts, *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State*, rev. ed. (Albany: 1904). See Revolutionary War under the “Military Records” section of this outline. About two-thirds of the original documents plus the entire name index were destroyed in the Capitol fire of 1911. The surviving records have been microfilmed and the films are available for purchase or interlibrary loan from the New York State Archives.

## Land Companies



Between 1786 and 1791, the New York Land Commission sold 5.5 million acres of western New York to speculators. Many settlers first obtained land from companies such as the Holland Land Company. The Hartford Treaty of 1786 gave Massachusetts the title to land in western New York but reserved political governance to New York.

Massachusetts sold this land, which ultimately resulted in three large tracts: the Holland Land Purchase (present Niagara, Erie, Chautauqua, and Cattaraugus counties and the western parts of Allegany, Wyoming, Genesee, and Orleans counties); the Morris Reserve (eastern Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming, and Allegany counties plus the western portions of present Monroe and Livingston counties); and the Phelps and Gorham Purchase (Ontario, Yates, and Steuben counties; the eastern portions of present Monroe and Livingston counties; the western parts of Wayne and Schuyler counties; and part of Allegany County).

The Holland Land Company surveyed the land and then sold it to individuals. The records are described in Wilhelmina C. Pieterse's *Inventory of the Archives of the Holland Land Company . . . 1789–1869* (Amsterdam, Netherlands: Municipal Printing Office of Amsterdam, 1976; FHL book 974 A1 no. 4; film 1421412; computer number 266706).

A partial index to the collection is Karen E. Livsey, *Western New York Land Transactions, 1804–1835: Extracted from the Archives of the Holland Land Company*, 2 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1991, 1996; FHL book 974.7 R28L; computer number 607047). This record indexes land tables (company accounts) and is useful for finding someone in a particular place at a particular time. The collection is at the Municipal Archives of Amsterdam and on microfilm at the state library, the Daniel E. Reed Library at the State University of New York at Fredonia, the Library of Congress, and the New York Public Library. The largest single set of Holland Land Company records at the Family History Library is the Van Eeghen collection, *Holland Land Company Records* (FHL 202 microfilms; computer number 305375).

A history of the Holland purchase is Wyckoff, William, *The Developer's Frontier: The Making of the Western New York Landscape* (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1988; FHL book 974.7 E3w; computer number 497999).

Another large tract was purchased by Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham. The Phelps and Gorham Papers are located at the New York State Library. The Family History Library does not have these records. A history is Orsamus Turner, *History of Pioneer Settlement of Phelps and Gorham Purchase and Morris' Reserve* (1851; reprint with supps. and indexes by LaVerne C. Cooley and George E. Lookup, Interlaken, N.Y.: Heart of the Lakes Publishing, 1976; FHL book 974.7 H2t index; film 871566 item 3; computer number 152356).

The Macomb Purchase was made in 1792. This four-million-acre tract included all of modern Lewis County; most of modern St. Lawrence, Franklin, and Jefferson counties; and parts of Oswego and Herkimer counties.

## County Land Records

***Deeds and Mortgages.*** After land was transferred from the proprietors to individual owners, county clerks were to record subsequent transactions. Sadly, in many cases the deeds were never recorded. Some colonial deeds were, however, recorded in town records.

Recorded deeds and mortgages are found at the office of the county clerk. These begin with the date when the county was set off from the parent county. Recording of deeds in county clerks' offices became mandatory statewide in 1830. If a deed was not recorded at the time of the sale, a subsequent recorded deed for the same property was valid. In New York City, land records are maintained at the city register's office. The mortgages often include a schedule of payments, the names of assignees, and the name of the mortgagor.

The Family History Library has hundreds of reels of New York county land records. Grantee (buyer) and grantor (seller) and mortgagee and mortgagor indexes are available on microfilm for most counties, as are the deeds, to about 1900. The indexes for Albany and New York counties have been published.

## LAW AND LEGISLATION

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Published New York session laws (laws enacted by both houses of the state legislature) are valuable for information about such things as changing town and county boundaries, militia enrollment, land confiscation, taxation, census laws, naturalizations, divorces, and poor relief.

New York state laws have been published. To find information on persons mentioned in laws and legislation, see Charles Z. Lincoln, ed. *The Colonial Laws of New York from the Year 1664 to the Revolution*, 5 vols. and index (New York: AMS Press, 1894–96; on 3 FHL films; computer number 452363). The volumes are in chronological order, and each volume has an index at the end. Use them to determine residence.

## MAPS

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The New York State Library, New York State Archives, New York Public Library, New-York Historical Society, and most university and public libraries in major cities have extensive map collections. The Family History Library has few original maps but has many on microfilm and microfiche.

Detailed patent maps may show where early settlers lived. An inventory of these is David Ellicott Evans Mix, *Catalogue of Maps and Surveys in the Offices of the Secretary of State, State Engineer and Surveyor and Comptroller and the New York State Library* (Albany, N.Y.: Charles van Benthuyssen, 1859; FHL film 947104 item 5; or 947,853, item 2; computer number 392090). The New York State Archives also has a finding aid that lists the location of specific patent maps.

Street and ward maps are extremely helpful in doing research in city records. Successful census research often depends on finding maps that show ward boundaries, enumeration districts, or election districts. A large collection of pre-1900 ward maps for every major American city, including Albany, Brooklyn, Buffalo, New York, and Rochester, is *Ward Maps of United States Cities* (FHL film 1377700; microfiche 6016554–782; computer number 181937). A helpful atlas for New York City research is Hagstrom Map Co., *Hagstrom New York City 5 Borough Atlas*, 22 ed. (Maspeth, N.Y.: Hagstrom Map, 1987; FHL book Q 974.71 E7h; computer number 492109).

An important set of maps at the Library of Congress is available at the Family History Library on microfiche. The *Land Ownership Map Collection* contains 109 maps for New York counties, showing the names of landowners and the location of their property (FHL fiche 6079710–818; computer number 469740). They date from 1668–1899 but most are from the 1850s. They are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under UNITED STATES - MAPS. A description of each map is found in Richard W. Stephenson, *Land Ownership Maps: A Checklist of Nineteenth Century United States County Maps in the Library of Congress* (Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 1967; FHL book 973 A3Loc; computer number 422816).

For maps showing county and town formation in New York, see:

Thorndale, William and William Dollarhide. *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790–1920*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1987. (FHL book 973 X2th; computer number 452721.)

*County Formations and Minor Civil Divisions of the State of New York*. Series B, No. 4. Salt Lake City, Utah: The Genealogical Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1978. (FHL book Ref 929.1 G286gs Series B, no. 4; fiche 6046845; computer number 340661.)

For maps showing the county boundary changes in the New York City area, see:

Thorne, Kathryn Ford, comp. *New York Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1993. (FHL book 974.7 E7a; computer number 634344.) Maps show when and where each county changed boundaries from colonial times to 1990.

To find 7.5-, 15-, and 30-minute topographic quadrangle maps for New York published between 1884 and 1972, use:

United States Geological Survey. *Topographic Maps of the United States: Historical Reference File*. Suitland, Md.: National Archives and Records Service, 1978. (computer number 340901.) The maps are arranged alphabetically by the name of the quadrangle:

Adams-Buffalo	(FHL film 1433814)
Buffalo-Cambridge	(FHL film 1433815)
Cuyler-Grindstone	(FHL film 1433816)
Grindstone-Ithaca	(FHL film 1433817)
Kasoag-Monticello	(FHL film 1433818)
Mt. Marcy-Owla Head	(FHL film 1433819)
Oxford-Port Jarvis	(FHL film 1433820)
Rochester-Roxbury	(FHL film 1433821)
Stoney Creek-Yankee Lake	(FHL film 1433822)

To get the name of the quadrangle, use the *Omni Gazetteer of the United States of America*, mentioned in the “Gazetteers” section of this outline.

You can order topographic maps from:

- Branch of Distribution U.S. Geological Survey

507 National Center  
Reston, VA 22092  
Telephone: 703-648-6045

- United States/Canadian Map Service

P.O. Box 249  
Neenah, WI 54957-0249  
Telephone: 414-731-0101

A bibliography of atlases and maps found in county histories is Albert Hazen Wright, *A Check List of New York State County Maps Published 1779–1945* (Ithaca N.Y.: Cornell University 1965; not at FHL).

For a list of the county atlases of New York see:

Wright, Albert Hazen. *A Check List of the County Atlases of New York*. Ithaca, N. Y.: A. H. Wright, 1943. (FHL book 974.7 A1 #244 fiche 6093918 computer number 56119)  
This is study number 4 of *New York Historical Source Studies*.

You can order free maps of individual counties from local tourist bureaus and chambers of commerce. Most county highway departments sell county maps for a dollar or two. You can obtain a current price list with addresses called "Information on County Highway Maps" from:

- Mapping Services Bureau

New York State Department of Transportation  
Building 4, Room 105, State Office Building Campus  
1220 Washington Ave.  
Albany, NY 12232  
Telephone: 518-457-3555

You can buy modern commercial maps of New York cities and counties from:

- Hagstrom Map Company, Inc.

46-35 54th Road  
Maspeth, NY 11278  
Telephone: 718-784-0055

- Jimapco

Box 1137  
Clifton Park, NY 12065  
Telephone: 518-899-5091

- Marshall Penn-York Company

538 Erie Blvd. West  
Syracuse, NY 13204  
Telephone: 315-422-2162  
Fax: 315-422-2181

The following state atlases may also be helpful to you:

Burr, David H. *An Atlas of the State of New York*. New York: David H. Burr, 1829. Reprint, Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University, 1970. (FHL film 813651 items 3-4; computer number 273065.)

Bien, Joseph R. *Atlas of the State of New York*. New York: J. Bien and Co., 1895. (FHL film 1870120; computer number 635728.) This includes some of the original land patents.

*New York State Atlas*. Albany, N.Y.: New York State Department of Transportation, 1983. (FHL book Atlas 974.7 E7n; computer number 220183.)

DeLorme Mapping Co. *New York State Atlas & Gazetteer*. Freeport, Me.: DeLorme Mapping, 1988. (FHL book Q 974.7 E7m; computer number 153088.)

DeLorme Mapping Co. *Upstate New York Street Maps*. Freeport, Me.: DeLorme Mapping, 1988. (FHL book Q 974.7 E7d; computer number 134880.) This is an atlas of upstate urban areas from Middletown north to Plattsburgh, and Albany west to Buffalo. It has more than 80 cities and towns in all.

## MILITARY RECORDS

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Many military records are at the Family History Library, the National Archives, and other federal and state archives. The *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) provides more information on federal military records and search strategies.

### Colonial Wars (1664–1775)

New York residents participated in King William's War (1689–97), Queen Anne's War (1701–13), King George's War (1744–48), and the French and Indian War (1756–63). Nearly all original muster rolls for colonial wars were destroyed in the 1911 fire at the state library. Before the fire, however, muster rolls from 1664–1775 were published with a name index:

New York Secretary of State. *Muster Rolls, 1664–1775*. These are in the *Second Annual Report of the State Historian of the State of New York, 1896* and *Third Annual Report of the State Historian of the State of New York, 1897* (Albany and New York: Wynkoop, Hallenbeck, & Crawford Co., 1897–98; FHL book 974.7 M2ne; films 924818–19; fiche 6088376; computer number 348152). Sometimes lists ages and country or town of birth.

A book which is not as complete as the above source, but which may be helpful is Carol M. Meyers, *Early Military Records of New York, 1689–1738* (Saugus, Cal.: RAM, 1967; FHL book 974.7 M2m; fiche 6105194; computer number 149240). Lists counties where units were raised.

### Revolutionary War (1775–1783)

Nearly one-third of all Revolutionary War battles took place in New York, including the battles of Long Island, Oriskany, Bennington, and Saratoga. The British occupied New York City during the war. New York contributed at least 51,972 rebel soldiers, more than any province except Massachusetts and Virginia. Some rosters are:

Roberts, James A. *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State*. 2nd ed. Vol. 1. Albany, N.Y.: Press of Brandow Printing, 1898; Vol. 2. Edited by Frederic Gregory Mather. Albany, N.Y.: J.B. Lyon, 1904. (FHL book 974.7 M28n 1898; vol. 1 on film 940048 item 2; vol. 2 on 1035618 item 14; vol. 1 on fiche 6046684; computer number 149252.) The first volume lists some 45,000 names from regimental rosters. The second volume has lists of bounty land recipients, refugees, naval lists, prisoner of war lists, lists of suspected Loyalists, claimants for damages, and information about confiscated estates.

Fernow, Berthold. *New York State Archives. New York in the Revolution*. Vol. 1. *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*. Vol. 15. 1887. Reprint, New Orleans: Polyanthos, 1972. (FHL book 974.7 H2d vol. 15; film 824391 item 1; computer number 152213.) Indexed. Lists name, regiment, company, rank, and sometimes residence.

DeLancey, Edward F., ed. *Muster and Pay Rolls of the War of the Revolution, 1775–1783. Collections of the New York Historical Society for the Years 1914–15*. 2 vols. Vols. 47–48. 1916. Reprint, Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1990. (FHL book 974.7 B4n v. 47–48; film 845303 items 2–3; v. 2 also on 547506 item 2; fiche 6078201, vols. 47–48; computer number 357090.) Lists name, regiment, company, rank, residence, and sometimes service dates.

Wilson, Thomas B., ed. *Inhabitants of New York 1774–1776*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1993. (FHL book 974.7 X4w; computer number 719178.) This book contains names from various sources of residents in New York County, Queens County, and Suffolk County.

New York. Secretary of State. *Calendar of Historical Manuscripts Relating to the War of the Revolution, in the Office of the Secretary of State, 1638–1801*. 2 vols. Albany, N.Y.: Weed, Parsons and Co., 1868. (FHL film 1550750; computer number 494319.) Vol. 1 includes lists of patriots and loyalists for Charlotte, Cumberland, Dutchess, Orange, Suffolk, and Ulster counties in 1775. Index in vol. 2.

Guides to more sources are:

Bielinski, Stefan, ed. *A Guide to the Revolutionary War Manuscripts in the New York State Library*. Albany, N.Y.: New York State American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, 1976. (FHL book 974.4 A3r; computer number 219106.)

Klein, Milton M., comp. *New York in the American Revolution: A Bibliography*. Albany, N.Y.: New York State American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, 1974. (FHL book 974.7 H23k; film 928293 item 2; computer number 146538.)

**Pension Records.** A man born between 1730 and 1765 who lived in New York is probably listed in some form of military record. If he supported the Revolution, he may be mentioned in records as a rebel, patriot, or Whig. Those who opposed the Revolution were Loyalists or Tories. For patriot records of the Revolutionary War, see:



White, Virgil D. *Genealogical Abstracts of the Revolutionary War Pension Files*. 4 vols. Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Publishing, 1990. (FHL book 973 M28g; computer number 534698.) May include name, unit, service and application dates and places, age, birth date, marriage date, residences, and names of relatives. These abstracts are mainly from:

United States. Veterans Administration. *Selected Records from Revolutionary War Pension & Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1969. (FHL films 840256–406; computer number 356373.)

United States. Veterans Administration. *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1969. (FHL films 970001–2670; computer number 178932.) 80,000 complete pension files alphabetical by surname.

White, Virgil D. *Index to Revolutionary War Service Records*. 4 vols. Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Publishing, 1995. (FHL book 973 M22wv; computer number 755463.) Shows the name, rank, and unit of over 390,000 patriots. Transcripts of:

United States. Adjutant General's Office. *General Index to Compiled Military Service Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1942. (FHL films 882841–98; computer number 280117.)

The service records and pension files for Revolutionary War patriots are available at the Family History Library. For more information, see *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118). You can also use NATF Form 80 to obtain copies of some records from the National Archives for a fee.

## State Service and Pension Records

***Federal Service and Pension Records.*** The Family History Library has microfilm copies of almost all the Revolutionary War service, pension, and miscellaneous records at the National Archives. These are further described in the *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118).

***Burial Records.*** The New York State Library has a special card index called *Revolutionary War Soldiers Grave Card Index*. It indexes Daughters of the American Revolution, *Graves of Revolutionary Soldiers Buried in New York*, 15 vols. (Typescript, 1921–55; FHL films 860330–32; computer number 635651). Each volume is also individually indexed.

The *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) lists several more nationwide indexes to Revolutionary War veterans' graves, including many from New York.



**Loyalists.** New York had one of the highest percentages of Loyalists, and many enrolled in Loyalist military units. The majority of emigrant Loyalists from New York moved to Nova Scotia or New Brunswick after the war. The *American Loyalist Claims* record information about property lost by loyalists. The claims are at the Public Record Office in London and on microfilm at the Family History Library. See the *Canada Research Outline* (34545) and the *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) for more information.

Some published sources of importance include:

Yoshpe, Harry Beller. *The Disposition of Loyalist Estates in the Southern District of the State of New York*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1939. (FHL book 974.7 R2y; computer number 156338.) The appendices include lists of the names of Loyalists whose estates were confiscated. Lists county of residence, date of sale, and awards paid.

New York. Commission for Detecting and Defeating Conspiracies. *Minutes of the Commissioners for Detecting and Defeating Conspiracies in the State of New York. Albany County Sessions, 1778–1781*. 3 vols. Edited by Victor Hugo Paltsits. Albany, N.Y.: J.B. Lyon, 1909–1910. (FHL film 1705179; computer number 507856.) Volume 3 includes the index to all volumes. May show names, dates, residence, military service record, and occupation.

**Hereditary Society Records.** Several lineage societies have been organized for descendants of Revolutionary War veterans. In addition to those described in the “Societies” section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972), the following register helps locate compiled genealogies for descendants of New York patriots:

Sons of the American Revolution. Empire State Society. *Register of the Empire State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution*. New York: the Society, 1899. (FHL book 974.7 C4r; film 238380 or 1673276 item 22; computer number 271963.) Lists soldiers and descendants. Gives clues for finding SAR applications.

## **War of 1812 (1812–1815)**

Many land and naval conflicts occurred along the New York-Canadian border during the War of 1812. The state archives has copies of payrolls and payroll card files. The National Archives (D.C.) has the service and pension records and muster rolls. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of indexes to service and pension records. They are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS.

Applications and awards based on military service are at the New York State Archives. There are some 17,000 claims. A published index is *Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812* (1860; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1969;

FHL book Q974.7 M22i; computer number 149244). The residences of those seeking claims are included.

Military commissions, arranged by year and then by county, have been published in Hugh Hastings, comp. and ed., *Military Minutes of the Council of Appointment of the State of New York, 1783–1821*, 4 vols. (Albany, N.Y.: James B. Lyon, 1901–02; FHL book 974.7 M2ny; films 1425595–96; computer number 150666). Since militia were organized locally, knowing the unit a soldier served in can help you determine where he was from. Index in volume 4. Volume 3 shows which county each unit was from.

## **Mexican War (1846–1848)**

Only two New York regiments participated in the Mexican War: the First and Seventh Regiments of New York Volunteers. The Family History Library has indexes to service and pension records found at the National Archives. They are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS and are described in the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

## **Civil War (1861–1865)**

New York contributed about 465,000 soldiers to Union armed forces, more than any other state. More than 50,000 of them died. Many who served were recent German and Irish immigrants.

A helpful index to New York Civil War soldiers is United States, Adjutant General's Office, *Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers . . . New York*. (Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1964; FHL films 882057–213; computer number 377673). Gives regiment, company, and rank. This information can help locate pension records.

The Family History Library has indexes to federal service and pension records of Union Army soldiers. They are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS. The federal service and pension records themselves have not been filmed and are available only at the National Archives (D.C.). They are described in more detail in the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

During the 1870s and 1880s, New York began making abstracts of various War Department records. These are available only at the state archives and include:

- Abstracts of Civil War Muster Rolls for New York State Volunteers, 1,231 vols. These are printed forms arranged by unit number and then alphabetically by the names of officers and enlisted men (excluding naval personnel). The abstracts were published as *New York Adjutant General, Registers of New York Regiments in the War of the Rebellion* (supplemental vols. to the *Annual Report of the*

*Adjutant-General of the State of New York*, 1893–1905) Serial no. 1–43 (Albany, N.Y.: James B. Lyon, 1894–1906; 1897 and 1901 in FHL book 974.7; 1897 on film 1320818 item 4; computer number 351113). The series is arranged by regiment and then alphabetically by soldiers' names. There is a seventeen-volume name index (not at FHL). The books have most but not all of the information found in the original abstracts. The Library only has volumes for the 15th and 16th Artillery and 81st to 87th Artillery. May show name, age, date, and place of enlistment, unit, or death or discharge date or place.

- Abstracts of Muster Rolls for New York State Militia Units Mustered into Federal Service During the Civil War, 1861–1865. 92 vols. These are arranged by unit and then alphabetically by name. The archives has a separate index to them.
- Abstracts of Muster Rolls for Men Who Served in the United States Navy During the Civil War, 1861–1865. 96 vols. These are arranged by U.S. Regular officers, volunteer officers, and enlisted men.

Many published histories of the individual regiments with unit rosters exist, and some are on microfilm at the Family History Library. Military sketches of regimental officers and organizations are available in Frederick Phisterer, comp., *New York in the War of the Rebellion, 1861 to 1865*, 3rd ed., 6 vols. (Albany, N.Y.: F.R. Lyon or is it J.B. Lyon, 1912; FHL book 974.7 M2p, except vols. 3 and 4 which the library does not have; films 1486494–96; computer number 149870). Volume one (pp. 72–77) has a listing of the units raised in particular counties. A similar listing arranged by county and town is C.E. Dornbusch, comp., *The Communities of New York and the Civil War: The Recruiting Areas of the New York Civil War Regiments* (New York: The New York Public Library, 1962; FHL book 974.7 A1 no. 308; computer number 349853).

Compilations at the state archives include:

- *Town Clerks' Registers of Men Who Served in the Civil War, ca. 1865–1867*. Albany, N.Y.: New York State Archives and records Administration, 1991. (FHL films 1993401–37; computer number 752980.) These registers, arranged by county and town, give the individual's full name, residence, birth date and place, rank, length of enlistment, place of enlistment, race, amount of bounty paid, marital status, previous occupation, parents' names (including mother's maiden name), and promotion dates. Not all the elements are filled in. Birth date and parents' names are usually missing. The registers for New York City, Troy, and other cities are missing.
- *Return of Officers and Enlisted Men Who are Now in the Military or Naval Service*. 3 vols. 1865. They are arranged by county and then alphabetically by town and include such genealogical information as name, age, color, place of birth, marital status, occupation, and status as voter or alien.
- *Return of Officers and Enlisted Men Who Have Been in the Military or Naval Service, 1865*. Similar in content and arrangement to the first-mentioned volumes.
- *Deaths of Officers and Enlisted Men, Which Have Occurred While in the Military or Naval Services, 1865*. 1 vol.

New York took a state census in 1865. This census contains detailed information on Civil War soldiers, both living and deceased. The census is available on film at the Family History Library. It is listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, [COUNTY] - CENSUS. Additionally, a federal census of Union Civil War veterans was taken in 1890 (FHL films 338204–16; computer number 59376; index in book 974.7 X22dv 1890; computer number 312865).

For records of national old soldier homes, including the homes in Bath and Oxford, New York, see:

United States. Veterans Administration. *Registers of Veterans at National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866–1937*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1988. (On 282 FHL films; computer number 508537.) Includes general indexes for each of the twelve homes, but some volumes are indexed separately. These *Historical Registers* may list the soldier's name, date and place of enlistment, rank, military unit, length of service, date and place of discharge, place of birth, age, physical description, religion, occupation, previous residence, marital status, nearest relative, pension, soldier home admission and discharge dates, disability, death date, or cause of death.

### **Spanish-American War (1898) and Philippine Insurrection (1899–1902)**

The New York State Archives has 40 volumes of *Abstracts of Muster Rolls for National Guard Units Mustered into Federal Service*. For a published roster of soldiers see *New York State Adjutant General, New York in the Spanish-American War, 1898*, 3 vols. (Albany, N.Y.: James B. Lyon, 1900; FHL book 974.7 M2nys; fiche 6051368; computer number 343882). Lists age, when and where enlisted, unit, and where mustered out. This was reprinted and indexed as Richard H. Saldaña, ed., *Index to the New York Spanish-American War Veterans, 1898*, 2 vols. (Bountiful, Utah: A.I.S.I. Publishers, 1987; FHL book 974.7 M2nys 1987; computer number 473721).

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of service and pension indexes found at the National Archives. They are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS.

### **World War I (1917–1918)**

A card index to World War I servicemen is available at the New York State Archives.

The New York State Archives has *Abstracts of Service Records for New York National Guard and Naval Militia Units* and *Muster Rolls of New York National Guard Units*. Veterans' discharge records have been filed with county clerks since 1909, and some have been microfilmed.

World War I draft registration cards for men ages 18 to 45 may list address, birth date, birthplace, race, nationality, citizenship, and next of kin. Not all registrants served in the war. For registration cards for New York, see:

United States. Selective Service System. *New York, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1987–1988. (On 441 FHL films; computer number 756756.)

To find an individual's draft card, it helps to know his name and residence at the time of registration. The cards are arranged alphabetically by county, within the county by draft board, and then alphabetically by surname within each draft board.

Most counties had only one board; large cities had several. A map showing the boundaries of individual draft boards is available for most large cities. Finding an ancestor's street address in a city directory will help you determine the draft board number if he lived in a large city.

Draft board addresses for Buffalo and other New York cities can be found in *Second Report of the Provost Marshall General to the Secretary of War on the Operations of the Selective Service System to December 20, 1918* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1919; not at FHL). A street map of Buffalo *without* draft board registration district boundaries is on FHL film 1498803.

Maps of Albany, Rensselaer, Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, Richmond, Rochester, Schenectady, and Syracuse have been prepared which show the draft board registration district boundaries. The cities of New York State (except Buffalo, which is alphabetical under “B”) are at the end of the microfilm. For a copy of these maps see:

United States. Selective Service System. *List of World War One Draft Board Maps*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives. (FHL film 1498803; computer number 702779.)

## **World War II (1941–1945)**

The *United States Research Outline* (30972) describes where to write for service files for those who served in the two world wars.

## **Militia (National Guard) (1832–1962)**

Militia records are valuable for finding military personnel who may have served during peacetime. The New York State Library has the *Annual Report of the Adjutant General*. 192 vols. (Albany, N.Y.: State printers, 1832–1962; 1868, 1886, and 1889 in FHL book 974.7 M2n; 1865 on film 1000223 item 3; computer number 351113). The reports give the names of commissioned officers serving in the militia (later the National Guard). The reports do not list officers and men in the regular U.S. Army and Navy. They give name

and rank. The lists of commissioned officers do not give residences. The published reports are not indexed.

The New York State Archives has *Abstracts of Service Records for New York National Guard and Naval Militia Units* and annual *Muster Rolls of New York National Guard Units*, 1876–1941. The National Guard muster rolls contain no information other than name, rank, and whether present or absent at muster. The records are not indexed and the State Archives will not search them unless the unit number and the year are provided.

## NAMES, PERSONAL

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Many name changes are listed in the court record index for New York County (New York), County Clerk, *Miscellaneous Filed Papers Index, 1812–1934* (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1977; FHL films 1002909–25; computer number 258897).

Also see Barbara Kronman, *The Guide to New York City Public Records*, in the “For Further Reading” section of this outline.

## NATIVE RACES

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Records of American Indians are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK - NATIVE RACES and in the **Subject Search** under the name of the tribe or language group, such as IROQUOIS and ALGONQUIAN. Additional records are listed in the Subject Search under INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA - NEW YORK.

## NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

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### Colonial

Between 1664 and 1708 aliens occasionally sought British citizenship through the King of England or by a special act of Parliament. The Governor of New York or a deputy could also grant a letter of denization (similar to naturalization). Because the process was quite costly, most immigrants did not apply. Oaths of allegiance were also taken in 1664, 1673, 1687, and 1776. Most colonial naturalizations kept during the colonial period followed a 1740 Act of Parliament. Colonial naturalization records rarely give such information as age or town of origin.

Most existing records are found in the session laws described in the “Law and Legislation” section of this outline and in Kenneth Scott and Kenn Stryker-Rodda,



*Denizations, Naturalizations, and Oaths of Allegiance in Colonial New York* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1975; FHL book 974.7 P4sc; computer number 151695).

## Post-1790

After 1790, aliens could declare their intention to become citizens and later be naturalized in any court of record. Most naturalizations took place in the county courts of common pleas, but they were also recorded in city, mayors', district, and other courts. After 1906, naturalizations were usually handled by the county supreme courts.

The counties have naturalization records from 1790 to the present. They also have separate volumes of military petitions of soldiers naturalized following the Civil War and the first World War. You can obtain copies of the papers from the clerk of the appropriate court.

Naturalization documents include declarations of intention, petitions for naturalization, certificates of arrival, and certificates of naturalization (after 1906). Alien depositions of intent to become citizens (1825 through 1913) are at the state archives. These were statements made by aliens who wanted to buy land. They showed the alien's intention to stay in the United States and become a citizen as soon as legally possible.

The Family History Library has microfilmed naturalizations for nearly all New York counties from the 1790s to 1906. The records for some counties were filmed to the 1930s. These are usually listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under:

### NEW YORK, [COUNTY] - NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

Two important indexes to New York City naturalizations (mostly petitions) are:

- Works Projects Administration (W.P.A.) *Index (Soundex) to Naturalization Records, 1792–1906*, filed in the U.S. District Court, Southern District (1824–1906); U.S. Circuit Court, Southern District (1846–76); U.S. District Court, Eastern District (1865–1906); New York County Court of Common Pleas (1792–1895); New York County Superior Court (1828–95); New York County Supreme Court (1868–1906); New York City Marine Court (1806–49); Kings County Court (1856–1906); Brooklyn City Court (1836–94); Queens County Court (1799–1906); Queens County Surrogate's Court (1888–1898); Richmond County Court (1869–1906) (on 294 FHL films; computer number 84175).
- *New York County Index to Naturalization Records, 1792–1906*, filed in the Court of Common Pleas (1792–1895), Supreme Court (1795–1844, 1868–1906), and Superior Court (1828–95) (FHL 82 films; computer number 79423). Note: the W.P.A. Soundex above has the same records as this one except this collection has additional records of the Supreme Court, 1795–1844.

Kenneth Scott, *Early New York Naturalizations: Abstracts of Naturalization Records from Federal, State and Local Courts, 1792–1840*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1981. (FHL book 974.7 P4s; fiche 6088272; computer number 107808.) The record includes abstracts of naturalizations from the New York City Court of Common Pleas (1792–1840); the District Court for the Southern district (1824–1840); the New York County Superior Court (1828–1840); the Marine Court of New York City (1807–40); and some Queens, Richmond, and Brooklyn county court records. May show foreign birthplace, age, or residence in New York.

To find naturalizations performed in federal courts after September 1906, contact an office of the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service found in many federal buildings. Naturalization records sometimes give country or town of birth, age, and residence.

In addition to the previously described W.P.A. index, the National Archives—Northeast Region has:

- U.S. Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York petitions, 1906–1911 (not at FHL); petition index, 1846–1876, 1906–1911 (FHL film 1522858 items 2–3; computer number 497870); and declarations, 1845–1911 (FHL films 1468586–643 and 1477173–77; computer number 68384). This court is now defunct.
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York petitions, 1824–1940 (to 1897 on FHL films; computer number 212761); petition indexes, 1824–1941 (on 102 FHL films; computer number 497828); declarations, 1924–1925 (computer number 641531); declarations, 1842–1940 (not at FHL except 1924–1925); and declaration indexes, 1917–1950 (on 113 FHL films; computer number 84360). This court covers New York, Bronx, Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, Orange, Dutchess, and Sullivan counties.
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York petitions, 1865–1957 (not at FHL); petition indexes, 1865–1957 (FHL 142 films; computer number 2357); declarations, 1865–1929 (computer number 603349); and declaration indexes. This court covers Kings, Queens, Richmond, Nassau, and Suffolk counties.
- Copies of naturalization records from New York City state and local courts, 1792–1906 (microfilms of the originals records of some of these courts are at the Family History Library).

The National Archives Federal Records Center at the same address as the Northeast Region archives has:

- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York petitions, 1958–1985 and declarations, 1960–1979.

The National Archives—Northeast Region has:

- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York petitions, 1929–1940 and declarations, 1967–1976. (The declarations from 1941–1966 are missing.)



If you do not know if your ancestor was naturalized, search for important clues in federal censuses (1870–1920) and state censuses (1825–1925). The 1925 state census specifically asks for the date and place of naturalization. Voting registers often give similar information.

## NEWSPAPERS

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Newspapers mention births, marriages, deaths, anniversaries, family gatherings, family travel, achievements, business notices, engagement information, probate court proceedings, and other news items. Some newspapers are indexed.

The New York State Library and the New York Public Library have large collections of New York newspapers. A guide, now outdated, to newspapers is *A Checklist of Newspapers in Microform in the New York State Library* (Albany, N.Y.: New York State Library, 1979; not at FHL). Most New York newspapers have been microfilmed, and you can borrow them through interlibrary loan.

Newspapers for some cities may still be found only at the public library in that community. Many local historical and genealogical societies have copies of newspapers from their area and are indexing them. A good source is Sylvia G. Faibisoff and Wendell Tripp, comps., *A Bibliography of Newspapers in Fourteen New York Counties* (Cooperstown, N.Y.: New York Historical Association, 1978; FHL book 974.7 B33f; computer number 146529). This source lists newspapers of Allegany, Broome, Cayuga, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, and Yates counties.

The Family History Library has few New York newspapers other than *The New York Times*, 1857–1912 (FHL films 412 reels; computer number 391139). Indexes to the *Times* include:

Falk, Byron A., Jr., and Valerie R. Falk. *Personal Name Index to "The New York Times Index, 1851–1979."* 22 vols. Succasunna, N.J.: Roxbury Data Interface, 1976 and 1975–1989 1993 *Supplement*. 29 vols. Verdi, Nev.: Roxbury Data Interface, 1991. (FHL book 974.71 B3f; computer number 260797.) This indexes *The New York Times Index*, which is not at the Family History Library but is at many public and university libraries.

*The New York Times Obituaries Index*. 2 vols. New York: The Times, 1970. (FHL book 974.71 V42n; computer number 111973.) This index covers 1858–1978.

Other important indexes to and transcripts of other newspaper obituaries and marriages are:

Bowman, Fred Q. *10,000 Vital Records of Central New York, 1813–1850*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1986. (FHL book 974.7 V2bf; computer number 419498.)

Bowman, Fred Q. *10,000 Vital Records of Western New York, 1809–1850*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1985. (FHL book 974.7 V2b; computer number 334901.)

Bowman, Fred Q. *10,000 Vital Records of Eastern New York, 1777–1834*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1987. (FHL book 974.7 V2bfq; computer number 440534.) This is continued by “1,100 Vital Records of Northeastern New York, 1835–1850.” *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* 118 and 119 (July 1987–July 1988).

Bowman, Fred Q. *8,000 More Vital Records of Eastern New York State, 1804–1850*. Rhinebeck, N.Y.: Knshp, 1991. (FHL book 974.7 V2bfqa; computer number 639241.)

Gavit, Joseph. *American Deaths and Marriages, 1784–1829*. Albany, N.Y.: New York State Library, 1977. (FHL films 1022833–34; computer number 26074.) The collection has 40,000 entries alphabetical by surname of husbands and wives from sixty-five newspapers. An index to people other than the brides and grooms was compiled by Kenneth Scott as *Joseph Gavit's American Deaths and Marriages, 1784–1829: Index to Non-Principals* (New Orleans, La.: Polyanthos, Inc., 1976; FHL book 974.7 B32s; computer number 443755).

Scott, Kenneth. *Genealogical Data From Colonial New York Newspapers: A Consolidation From the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1977. (FHL book 974.71 D28s; computer number 22201.) Indexes newspapers from 1726–1783.

Scott, Kenneth. *Genealogical Data from the New York Post-Boy 1743–1773*. Washington, D.C.: National Genealogical Society, 1980. (FHL book 974.71 B38s; computer number 795503.)

In addition to these published books, the Family History Library has clippings and other collections of genealogical extracts from newspapers for Dutchess, Madison, Rensselaer, Schenectady, and other counties.

## OCCUPATIONS

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O'Callaghan, Edmund Bailey. *Calendar of New York Colonial Commissions, 1680–1770*. New York, New York: New-York Historical Society, 1929. (FHL book 974.7 N2n; computer number 150398.) Indexed. Lists office holders, their residences, and dates of commission.

Scott, Kenneth. *Nineteenth Century Apprentices in New York City*: Abstracted and with an Introduction by Kenneth Scott. Arlington, Va.: National Genealogical Society, 1986. (FHL book 974.71 U2s; computer number 430464.) Lists occupation, age, person to whom apprenticed, and sometimes parents.

## ORPHANS AND ORPHANAGES

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“Orphan Train” riders were sent from New York City to western families for adoption. The largest groups came from the New York Foundling Hospital, and from the Children's Aid Society. The following books abstract several censuses taken by the federal and state government at these institutions.

Inskeep, Carolee R. *The Children's Aid Society of New York: An Index to the Federal, State, and Local Census Records of Its Lodging Houses (1855–1925)*. Baltimore, Md.: Clearfield, 1996. (FHL book 974.71 J3i; computer number 773504.) Includes 1855, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890 (police census), 1900, 1905, 1910, 1915, 1920, and 1925 censuses.

Inskeep, Carolee R. *The New York Foundling Hospital: An Index to Its Federal, State and Local Census Records (1870–1925)*. Baltimore, Md.: Clearfield, 1995. (FHL book 974.71 J48i; computer number 770095.) Includes 1870, 1880, 1890 (police census), 1900, 1905, 1910, 1915, 1920, and 1925 censuses. Alphabetical list of children, sisters, and workers.

## PERIODICALS

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Many family history periodicals publish local records of genealogical value. These may include genealogies; information about local records and archives; queries; census indexes; and transcripts of family Bibles, church records, court records, cemetery records, land records, obituaries, and wills.

Some major genealogical periodicals helpful for New York research are:

*The Capital*. 1986–. Published by Arthur C. M. Kelly, 60 Cedar Heights Road, Rhinebeck, NY 12572. (FHL book 974.74 D25c; computer number 401142.) This periodical has material for Albany and Rensselaer counties. Indexed in *Valley Quarterlies* listed below.

***De Halve Maen***. 1922–. Published by the Holland Society of New York, 122 E. 58th Street, New York, NY 10022. (FHL book 974.7 B2ha vols. 19– present, with some incomplete issues; fiche 6050867–77 [vols. 28–63]; computer number 209502.) Articles relate to the Dutch colonial period.

There are two cumulative indexes to *De Halve Maen*: Louis Duermyer, ed., ***Index to Publications, 1885–January, 1977***. (New York: The Holland Society of New York, 1977; FHL book 974.7 B22h; **film 1036770 item 13**; computer number 156127) and Roger D. Joslyn, comp., *Index to “De Halve Maen”: Part 2, 1977–1988* (New York: The Holland Society of New York, 1991; not at FHL).

*Dorot: The Journal of the Jewish Genealogical Society*. 1979–. Published by the Jewish Genealogical Society of New York, P. O. Box 6398, New York, NY 10128. (FHL book 974.7 D25d; computer number 482831.)

*Early Settlers of New York State: Their Ancestors and Descendants*. Edited by Janet Wethy Foley. 9 vols. Akron, N.Y.: T.J. Foley, 1934–42. (FHL book 974.7 D25e; films 962286, 844674 and 844638 item 6; computer number 32747.) This is a valuable resource for central and western New York.

*Lifelines. Official Journal of the Northern New York American-Canadian Genealogical Society*. 1984–. Published by the Northern New York American-Canadian Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1256, Plattsburgh, NY 12901. (FHL book 974.7 D25L; computer number 314396.) This periodical is helpful for researching French-Canadian immigrants.

*The Mohawk*. 1984–. Published by Arthur C.M. Kelly, 60 Cedar Heights Road, Rhinebeck, NY 12572. (FHL book 974.74 D25m; computer number 302976.) This periodical covers Montgomery and Schenectady counties. Indexed in *Valley Quarterlies* listed below.

*The NYG&B Newsletter*. 1990. Published by the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, same as above. (FHL book 974.71 D25n; computer number 594880.) An every-name and subject index for volumes 1–6 was mailed with the fall 1996 issue.

*New York State Queries* Published by Carolyn Wilson Weinder. Spokane, Wash.: the author, 1987–. (FHL book 974.7 D25w; computer number 447862.) The address of the author is W. 2206 Borden Rd., Spokane, WA 99204-9668. There is a cumulative index to volumes 1–11.

*The Patents: The Northeastern New York Genealogical Society Newsletter*. 1982–. Published by the Northeastern New York Genealogical Society, 9 Lydia Street, S. Glens Fall, NY 12803. (FHL book 974.7 D25nn; computer number 309227.)

*Tree Talks*. 1961–. Published by the Central New York Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 104, Colvin Station, Syracuse, NY 13205-0104. (FHL book 974.7 B2t; computer number 65085.) Excludes New York City, Long Island, and the Hudson Valley. Some volumes in the Family History Library's collection are rearranged by counties, not date of publication. An index is Jean D. Worden, comp., *Tree Talks Subject Index for Volumes 1–28 (1961–1988)*. . . . (San Dimas, Calif.: Jean D. Worden, 1988; not at FHL).

*Valley Quarterlies: Upstate New York Directory and Every Name Index*. Newsletters and Journals Series. [Novato, Calif.: Brøderbund Software], 1993. (FHL compact disc no. 9 pt. 160 [does not circulate to Family History Centers]; computer number 728627.) Index to 250,000 entries in the Kinship publications *The Capital*, *The Columbia*, *The Mohawk*, and *The Saratoga* from 1984–1993. These periodicals include information from Bible, cemetery, census, church, guardianship, Justice of the Peace, mid- wife, military, and

naturalization records. The indexed names also appear in the *FamilyFinder™ Index and Viewer* described in the “Census” section of this outline.

*Western New York Genealogical Society Journal*. 1974–. Published by the Western New York Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 338, Hamburg, NY 14075-0338. (FHL book 974.7 B2w; computer number 191623.) Prints material pertaining to Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans, and Wyoming counties.

Periodicals focusing on particular counties are available for Albany, Chautauqua, Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Jefferson, Orange, Richmond, St. Lawrence, Saratoga, Schenectady, Suffolk, Ulster, Westchester, Wyoming, and other counties.

For *nationwide* indexes to some of these and other family history periodicals see:

*Periodical Source Index (PERSI)*. Ft. Wayne, Ind.: Allen County Public Library Foundation, 1987–. (FHL book 973 D25per; 1847–1985 on set of 40 fiche 6016863; 1986–1990 on set of 15 fiche 6016864; computer number 658308.) Indexes thousands of family history periodicals. Annual indexes have been published yearly since 1986. For further details, see the *PERiodical Source Index Resource Guide* (34119).

For more family history periodicals, study the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under:

NEW YORK – PERIODICALS  
NEW YORK - GENEALOGY – PERIODICALS  
NEW YORK - SOCIETIES – PERIODICALS  
NEW YORK, [COUNTY] – PERIODICALS  
NEW YORK, [COUNTY] - GENEALOGY – PERIODICALS  
NEW YORK, [COUNTY] - SOCIETIES - PERIODICALS

## PROBATE RECORDS

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New York has a complicated history regarding the recording of probates. Before 1787, probates were handled by a variety of courts whose jurisdictions changed often.

### New Netherland Period

Until the 1680s, wills were probated by either notary publics or aldermen, according to Dutch law and custom. Unfortunately, the law did not require wills to be recorded at a public archives. The notaries kept these wills and other original legal documents (such as marriage contracts, guardianships, letters of apprenticeship, powers of attorney, contracts, and conveyances) in their personal custody. Some notarial records of persons in New Netherland (what is now New York and New Jersey) eventually ended up at the *old* Amsterdam Municipal Archives.

A 5,000 card index to notarial records of the city of Amsterdam from 1598–1750 gives information about persons in New Netherland (what is now New York and New Jersey). It is called *Noord Amerika Chronologie* (North American Chronology). The abstracts give the old-world place of origin of immigrants to New Netherland. The collection is available on microfilm at the New York State Library, microfilm number A-FM 200-I. It is not available at the Family History Library.

Additional notarial records of New York are found in the West-Indische Compagnie (Nederlands). *Notulenboeken, 1623–1674* (Minute books, 1623–1674) (Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1964; FHL films 373422–23; computer number 310462; and FHL films 488127–30; computer number 423236). Originals are at the Algemeen Rijksarchief (National Archives) in 's-Gravenhage (The Hague) and microfilm copies are at the New York State Library. Some notarial records for Albany and Kingston have also survived.

Some wills are recorded in Arnold van Laer's *Register of the Provincial Secretary, 1638–1660*, described in the “Land and Property” section of this outline.

From 1656–1668, orphanmasters were appointed to oversee the inheritances of minors. In 1668 the orphanmasters court ceased to exist in New Netherland. Their surviving records, primarily for New York families, are at the New York City Municipal Archives, and are translated and published in:

Fernow, Berthold, trans. and ed. *Minutes of the Orphanmasters of New Amsterdam, 1655–1663*. 2 vols. Publications of the Committee on History and Tradition of the Colonial Dames of the State of New York, no. 1. New York: Francis P. Harper, 1902–07. (FHL film 1730415; computer number 534878.)

O'Callaghan, E.B. *The Minutes of the Orphanmasters of New Amsterdam, 1663–1668*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1976. (FHL book 974.7 A1 #147 computer number 144414) Indexed Shows relationships and places of origin

The orphanmaster's court records in the Netherlands (Europe) from the 1650s to 1852 are indexed. A few of these records touch on people who emigrated to New Netherland. They include settlements and divisions of estates with provision for minor children, appointments of guardians, copies of wills, and burial records. They are only available at the Amsterdam Gemeentearchief (Municipal Archives).

## English Period

Many wills were recorded in deed books—particularly in English settlements in New Netherland, such as Gravesend and the eastern towns of Long Island outside Dutch jurisdiction. When the English took over, probates were initially under the jurisdiction of either the court of assizes or the courts of session. By 1686, the governor's prerogative court centralized the recording of probates. In the colonial era, the prerogative court

usually probated wills and administrations. The governor, who functioned as the “ordinary” or “surrogate general,” had the authority to probate estates. Because the governor could not personally oversee probates, he appointed local surrogates to act in his behalf.

In 1691, city and county courts of common pleas also began handling probate matters. Courts of common pleas began handling probates in each county, with the exception that estates in the southern district (Orange, Richmond, Westchester, and Kings counties) were proved in New York County. (The Orange County Court of Common Pleas was allowed in 1750 to rule on probates.) Wills from Suffolk and Queens counties were also filed in New York. All these records later came into the custody of the New York County Surrogate's Court. Before 1787, some wills were also recorded in county and town records.

Under the first state constitution of 1778, the court of probates replaced the prerogative court. The Court of probates handled all probates from 1778–1787, except in British-occupied New York City. There the court continued to operate under the governor's direction throughout the war. Records in the possession of this court date back to 1665. After 1787, it probated the estates of persons who owned property in one county and died in another. It also had appellate jurisdiction over the surrogate courts. The court of probates was done away with in 1823, and the court of chancery assumed its probate functions.

When Albany became the capital of New York in 1797, many records were moved there, particularly for areas outside the southern district. These records were first in the custody of the court of probates and later the court of appeals; therefore, they are not at the Albany County Surrogate's office. As a result of a 1799 law, most pre-1787 probates from Kings, New York, Queens, Richmond, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties that had been sent to Albany were returned to the New York County Surrogate's Court in 1802. They were later deposited at Queens College, and have recently been transferred to the New York State Archives.

When the court of chancery was abolished in 1847, its records were also sent to the court of appeals of Albany. In the 1960s, these and many records of the New York County Surrogate's Court were sent to The Historical Documents Collection at Queens College, where they were later microfilmed. The court of appeals documents have since been transferred back to Albany to the New York State Archives. These records are now at the state archives as *Records of the New York Court of Probates and its Colonial Predecessors, 1664–1823*. The collection contains wills, 1671–1815; accounts, 1666–1823; and administrations, 1700–1823. The records of the First Circuit Chancery Court are still at the New York County Courthouse, Office of the City Clerk.

## **Published Probate Records**



There are several helpful statewide and downstate indexes and transcripts to help you search pre-1823 wills and other probate records. Some are indexed by name of deceased persons, heirs, witnesses, executors, and administrators:

Fernow, Berthold, comp. *Calendar of Wills On File and Recorded in the Offices of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals, of the County Clerk at Albany, and of the Secretary of State, 1626–1836*. 1896. Reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1967. (FHL book 974.7 P28f 1967; computer number 150723; film 416895 or 930248, item 2; fiche 6046668; computer number 150726.) The original wills, dated 1629–1802, are at the New York State Archives, and some are on microfilm at the Family History Library.

Pelletreau, William Smith, ed., and Robert H. Kelby, indexer, *Abstracts of Wills on File in the Surrogate's Office, City of New York, 1665–1801*. 17 vols. *Collections of the New-York Historical Society*, for the Years 1892–1908, vols. 25–41. New York: New-York Historical Society, 1892–1909. (FHL book 974.7 B4n v. 25–41; films 509196, 873857, and 845296–302; fiche 6046928; computer numbers 230016, 319898.) Each volume is individually indexed. The original wills are at the State Archives and handwritten 19th century transcripts are bound in books at the New York County Surrogate's Court. Both sets are on film at the Family History Library, but the originals were filmed to only about 1738. The book and page numbers found in these published abstracts refer to the copies.

Scott, Kenneth and James A Owre, eds. *Genealogical Data from Inventories of New York Estates, 1666–1825*. New York: New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 1970. (FHL book 974.7 P28s; computer number 150754.)

Scott, Kenneth, ed. *Genealogical Data from New York Administration Bonds, 1753–1799*. *Collections of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society*, vol. 10. New York, 1969. (FHL book 974.7 B4ne v. 10; computer number 227449.) From 1753–1799, bonds were required when wills were probated or letters of administration were issued. The bonds often give names, residences, occupations, and family relationships.

Scott, Kenneth, ed. *Genealogical Data from Further New York Administration Bonds, 1791–1798*. New York Genealogical and Biographical Society Collections, vol. 11. New York, 1971. (FHL book 974.7 B4ne v. 11; computer number 222268.)

Sawyer, Ray C., comp. and ed. *Index of Wills for New York County, 1662–1875*. 6 vols. New York: R. Sawyer, 1930–51. (FHL film 860313; computer number 352841.)

Barber, Gertrude Audrey. *Index to Letters of Administration of New York County from 1743–1875*. 6 vols. New York: G. Barber, 1950–51. (FHL book 974.71 P22b; film 1425588 items 2–7; computer number 153670.) Administrators are often relatives of the deceased.

The Family History Library has similar abstracts for many other counties on microfilm.



## Surrogate's Court Records

From May 1787 to the present, county surrogate's courts have recorded probates. However, the court of probates and court of chancery handled estates of deceased persons who died in one county but who owned property in another. An 1823 law mandated that all probates come under the jurisdiction of the county surrogate's courts. Each surrogate's court has a comprehensive index to all probate records, including the unrecorded probate packets.

***Probate Packets.*** The most important probate record is the probate packet, or estate file. A much larger percentage of the New York population is represented in the estate files than in the will books. The file contains copies of all documents related to estate settlement, including will or administration, bond, and inventory. Since about 1830, a petition that lists names of heirs, relationships to the deceased, and residences is also included. These packets have been microfilmed and made available at the Family History Library for some counties of New York.

***Recorded Records.*** Beginning in 1787, copies of probates have been recorded in books by the surrogate. The Family History Library has copies of will books and index books for most counties. For example, the Family History Library has New York County wills from 1665–1916 and an index to 1923 on 525 rolls of microfilm. The library also has microfilms of administrations books and guardianships for most counties. Most counties have consolidated estate index books, which index estate files, wills, administrations, letters testamentary, guardianships, administration bonds, guardian bonds, and so forth. If you need copies of documents from a surrogate court, be prepared to pay a large fee.

In New York the **probate packets** may be called **estate files**. These contain the documents involved in probating an estate. There are also **probate proceedings**, which may contain petitions listing next of kin, petitions for guardianship over minors, and orders for heirs to appear in court. Sometimes the wills are included. Many New York probate packets and probate proceedings are on microfilm at the Family History Library, for example:

New York. Surrogate's Court (New York County). *Probate Proceedings, 1830–1865*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1972. (On 228 FHL films; computer number 376199.) The probate proceedings are arranged by month of final filing. This date can be found under the decedent's surname in the index to wills. The index to the wills from 1662–1910 is on FHL films 872164–69 (computer number 170940).

## SOCIETIES

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For genealogical and historical societies which have records and services to help you with your research see the “Archives and Libraries” and “Periodicals” sections of this outline. Many counties also have local historical and genealogical societies. You can find

local society addresses by using directories cited in the “Societies” section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

## TAXATION

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Many early tax lists, including burgher and freemen lists, exist back to about 1675. Tax records can substitute for census records as tools to locate where a family lived. The Family History Library has tax lists from the early 1700s for Dutchess County, New York City, and some other areas. The state archives has tax lists for the 1770s and 1780s, and *Tax Assessment Rolls of Real Estate and Personal Estates* for 1799–1804. These are arranged by county, year, and town. Tax lists from about 1850–1870 are filed in town clerk and county treasurers' offices, but they are not available on microfilm. The New York 1798 direct tax lists have not been located.

Some tax lists for the 1700s have been published in *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*. Some early New York City lists are in New York Historical Society, *Tax Lists of the City of New York, December 1695 to July 15, 1699*, in the series *Collections of the New York Historical Society*, vol. 43–44 (New York: The New-York Historical Society, 1911–12; FHL book 974.7 B4n v. 43–44; film 845302 item 3–4; computer number 204663).

The National Archives (D.C.) and the Family History Library have microfilm copies of the *Assessment Lists of the Federal Bureau of Internal Revenue, 1862 to 1866* (FHL films 1534827–930, 1549027–102; computer number 462516). They are not indexed, but they are arranged by county. These lists are useful for locating a person's residence during the Civil War.

The National Archives—Northeast Region has assessment lists for New York, 1862–1917. These lists generally contain the names of the taxpayers (individuals and corporations), city of residence, articles or occupations taxed, and the amounts assessed and collected. The taxes during the civil War were gradually abolished until only taxes on liquor and tobacco remained in 1883. Corporate income taxes began in 1909. A draft inventory of these records is available on microfiche from the archives.

## TOWN RECORDS

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Town records contain valuable information such as names of elected officials, lists of freeholders, petitions, vital records, tax records, a few military and militia records, school records, poor relief rolls, deeds, estrays (cattle that had gone astray), cattle earmarks, and other documents useful in locating persons. Most town records are not generally available at the Family History Library, although some towns, such as Huntington, Suffolk County, have published their records.

An inventory of the county supervisor's records has been published:

Wright, Albert Hazen. *Supervisors' Proceedings of Various Counties of New York*. Ithaca, N. Y.: A. H. Wright, 1943. (FHL book 974.7 A1 #244 fiche 6093918 computer number 56119) This is Studies in History number 3 of *New York Historical Source Studies*, and it mentions which county supervisors' proceedings have been preserved in major repositories. The records are mostly for the 1840s to the early 1900s. There are a few county supervisor's records for the 1820s or earlier.

## VITAL RECORDS

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### Records of Births and Deaths

Statewide registration of vital statistics began in 1880 and was usually complied with by 1890 for deaths and by 1915 for births. In some areas of Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley, some births, marriages, and deaths were recorded in town records as early as about 1665. For example, Amenia, Dutchess County, has vital records beginning in 1749.

Births, marriages, and deaths were also recorded for a short time in most counties from 1847 to about 1850. The state legislature passed a law in 1847 requiring school district clerks to send information to the Secretary of State. The law was difficult to enforce, and most school districts stopped doing this by 1852. Historical societies have some of these records, but most are still in the possession of town and county clerks. The very few 1847–1850 vital records that were once on deposit in the New York State Archives have been returned to the towns that deposited them at the archives.

Some cities had pre-1880 registration, such as New York (1847 for births, and 1801 for deaths), Brooklyn (1866 for births and 1847 for deaths), Albany (1870), Buffalo (1878), Syracuse (1873), Rochester (1875), Utica (1873), and Yonkers (1875). You can learn more about the history and availability of vital records in *Guide to Public Vital Statistics Records in New York State (Including New York City)* . . . , 3 vols. (Albany, N.Y.: Historical Records Survey, 1942; FHL book 974.7 V23h; film 928101; fiche 6046676; computer number 146534). The Family History Library has vital records for a few counties, mostly from 1847–1850 and marriages from 1908 to the 1930s.

Births and deaths are recorded in the town, village, or city where the event took place. A copy is sent to the New York Bureau of Vital Statistics. If you know the birth or death place, write to the town, village, or city clerk to obtain a copy of the certificate or record. A microfiche index to births 1881–1918 and deaths 1880–1943 is available for public use at the state archives. The indexes do not cover New York City. The archives will search and abstract the indexes for a fee. You can obtain births and deaths since 1880 (except New York City) for a fee by writing to:

New York State Department of Health  
Bureau of Vital Records

Empire State Plaza, Tower Building  
Albany, New York 12237-0023

Telephone: 518-474-3077 or 518-474-3030

There is a 50-year restriction on death records and a 75-year restriction on birth records.  
The state fees and restrictions apply also to records held by the local clerks.

Birth and death records for Albany, Buffalo, and Yonkers to 1914 are filed with local registrars, and the state restrictions apply.

**Albany** births and deaths 1848, births 1866 to the present, and deaths 1870 to the present can be obtained for a fee from:

Registrar of Vital Statistics  
City Hall, Room 107  
24 Eagle Street  
Albany, NY 12207

**Buffalo** births 1878–1914, and deaths 1852–1914, can be obtained for a fee from:

Bureau of Vital Statistics  
City Hall, Room 613  
Niagara Square  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
Telephone: 716-851-5848

**Yonkers** births and deaths 1875 to the present can be obtained for a fee from:

Registrar of Vital Statistics  
City Hall  
Yonkers, NY 10701  
Telephone: 914-964-3066

**New York City** The New York City counties of Kings, Queens, Richmond, and New York were established in 1683. The Bronx was made a separate borough when the five boroughs were created in 1898, and in 1914 it was made a separate county as well. Between 1898 and 1914 the Bronx was part of New York County but not part of the Borough of Manhattan. Vital records may be listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under the borough (for example, NEW YORK, KINGS, BROOKLYN - VITAL RECORDS), or they may be under NEW YORK, NEW YORK (CITY) - VITAL RECORDS.

The Family History Library has microfilms of some New York City births to 1909, deaths to 1919, and indexes to both to 1965. The New York Public Library has the indexes to the present, but it does not search them in response to mail or telephone inquiries. Birth records to 1909 and death records to 1948 for the five boroughs of New York City are at the New York City Municipal Archives. Microfilms at the Family History Library include:

- **Birth Records**

**All Boroughs** (*All of New York City*)

Birth index books 1881–1965 FHL films 1322457–86 (only for Manhattan and Brooklyn from 1881–1897)

**Bronx** (*Bronx County*)

Birth records 1898–1909 30 FHL films beginning with film 2022836

Wakefield births 1890–1895 FHL film 1398783

Westchester births 1881–1895 FHL film 1398783

**Brooklyn** (*Kings County*)

Birth card index 1866–1897 34 FHL films beginning with film 1324701

Birth returns 1866–1868, 1870–1906 104 FHL films beginning with film 1380499

Birth register 1869 FHL film 1315322 item 2

Births 1847–1851, 1880–1895 (years vary) for the towns of Flatbush, Flatlands, Gravesend, New Lots, and New Utrecht are found in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, KINGS, [TOWN] - VITAL RECORDS

**Manhattan** (*New York County*)

Birth records card index 1830–1865 19 FHL films beginning with film 1378956

Birth returns card index 1866–1897 153 FHL films beginning with 1323501

Birth registers 1846–1848, 1851–1873 (missing Liber 3, 1854–1856, E–Z, and Liber 4, 1856–1857 A–J); computer number 150675

Birth returns 1866–1897 393 FHL films beginning with film 1322001

Birth records 1898–1909 8 FHL films beginning with film 1953076

**Queens** (*Queens County*)

Birth records 1898–1909 21 FHL films beginning with film 1992977

Births 1847–1898 (years vary) for the towns of College Point, Far Rockaway, Flushing, Jamaica, Long Island City, Newtown, Richmond Hill, Rockaway, and Whitestone are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, QUEENS, [TOWN] - VITAL RECORDS

**Staten Island** (*Richmond County*)

Birth index 1600–1900s FHL films 539053–71

Birth index 1847–1897 FHL films 1324935–37

Birth records 1898–1909 10 FHL films beginning with film 1984042

Births 1847–1853, 1881–1897 (years vary) for the towns of Castleton, Edgewater, Middletown, Northfield, Port Richmond, Southfield, Tottenville, and Westfield are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, RICHMOND, [TOWN] - VITAL RECORDS

- **Death Records**

***All Boroughs (All of New York City)***

Death index books 1888–1965      FHL films 1324914–31 (only for Manhattan and Brooklyn from 1888–1897)

***Bronx (Bronx County)***

Death records 1898–1919      91 FHL films beginning with film 1322702

Wakefield deaths 1878–1881, 1890–1895      FHL film 1398783

Westchester births 1887–1895      FHL film 1398783

***Brooklyn (Kings County)***

Death ledger card index 1848–1866      FHL films 1378813–19

Death certificate index 1862–1898      78 FHL films beginning with film 1378830

Death records 1847–1853, 1857–1861      FHL films 1315321–22

Death register 1847–1853, 1857–1858      FHL films 447542

Death certificates 1862–1897      339 FHL films beginning with film 1323651

Coroner's reports 1897–1914      16 FHL films beginning with film 1435709

Death certificates 1898–1920      FHL films 1324001–342

Coroner's reports, death records 1898–1916      FHL films 1435700–708

Deaths 1847–1851, 1880–1895 (years vary) for the towns of Flatbush, Flatlands, Gravesend, New Lots, and New Utrecht are found in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, KINGS, [TOWN] - VITAL RECORDS

***Manhattan (New York County)***

Death certificates card index 1868–1890      4 FHL films beginning with film 1324809

Death registers 1795, 1801–1804, 1808, 1811–1865      FHL films 447544–68 (by first letter of surname)

Death certificates 1866–1919      1,069 FHL films beginning with film 1323352

Cholera cases 1866      FHL films 1324501–502

Coroner inquests 1797–1820, 1862–1864, 1868–1918      9 FHL films beginning with film 514332

Coroner inquests 1823–1898      101 FHL films beginning with film 1318155

Coroner reports 1839      FHL film 1255743

Bodies-in-transit 1859–1894      3 FHL films beginning with film 1671686

***Queens (Queens County)***

Death certificates 1898–1919      FHL films 1323384–472

Deaths 1847–1898 (years vary) for the towns of College Point, Far Rockaway, Flushing, Jamaica, Long Island City, Newtown, Richmond Hill, Rockaway, and Whitestone are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, QUEENS, [TOWN] - VITAL RECORDS

***Staten Island (Richmond County)***

Death index 1600–1900s

FHL films 539053–71

Death register card index      FHL films 1324932–34  
1847–1897

Death certificates 1898–1920 FHL films 1322793–815

Deaths 1847–1853, 1881–1897 (years vary) for the towns of Castleton, Edgewater, Middletown, Northfield, Port Richmond, Southfield, Tottenville, and Westfield are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, RICHMOND, [TOWN] - VITAL RECORDS

You can obtain New York City birth (1910 to the present) and death (1949 to the present) certificates for a fee from:

Division of Vital Records  
City of New York, Department of Health  
P.O. Box 3776  
Church Street Station  
New York, NY 10007  
New York City Department of Health  
Bureau of Vital Records  
125 Worth St. Room 133  
New York, NY 10013-0046  
Telephone: 212-788-4500

For birth records through 1909 and death records through 1948, write to:

New York City Department of Records and Information Services  
Municipal Archives  
31 Chambers St., Room 103  
New York, NY 10007  
Telephone: 212-788-8580 or 212-566-5292  
Fax: 212-385-4253

New York City Birth and Death Records are available using a credit card. Write to the New York City Department of Health, 125 Worth St., New York, NY 10013. A “Hotline” telephone number, 212-788-4505, is available for information and for ordering birth and death certificates using a credit card. You can order birth records from 1910 to the present or death records from 1949 to the present. Using a credit card the cost is \$15.00. Five to seven business days are required for delivery. You can also order by sending a fax of the application to 212-962-6105. They can fax a copy of the application to your fax machine. The fee is also \$15.00. Five to seven business days are required for delivery.

The records are not available for genealogical purposes and are subject to certain other restrictions.



All other local registrars sent copies of their records to the State Department of Health. Most New York deaths after 1962 are in the Social Security Death Index, a FamilySearch™ computer file.

For more information, see Barbara Kronman, *The Guide to New York City Public Records* in the “For Further Reading” section of this outline.

## Provincial Marriage Licenses

Marriages in colonial times were initiated either by publishing the banns in church on three successive Sundays or by obtaining a civil marriage bond and license. The Prerogative Court granted marriage licenses between 1753 and 1783. Most people published the banns since buying a license could cost a month's wages.

Marriage bonds, 1753–1783, that were recorded at the Secretary of State's Office in Albany appear in *New York Marriages Previous to 1784* (1860; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1984; FHL book 974.7 V28n 1968; computer number 152355; film 514675 has the 1860 edition; computer number 328290). The book lists names of brides and grooms, date of the bond (not the marriage), bond volume, and page numbers. Many marriage bonds were destroyed in a fire in 1911. Those that survived are at the state archives. The full data from these remaining bonds is transcribed in Kenneth Scott's *New York Marriage Bonds, 1753–1783* (New York: St. Nicholas Society of the City of New York, 1972; not at FHL).

About 152,000 individuals are indexed in *Marriage Index: Selected Areas of New York, 1639–1916* ([Novato, Calif.]: Brøderbund Software, 1996; FHL compact disc no. 9 pt. 401 [does not circulate to Family History Centers]; computer number 784065). These marriages were originally indexed by Knshp publishers. The index is especially good for the years prior to 1810 and in the Hudson and Mohawk valleys from 1810–1899.

## County Marriage Records

New York is one of the few states that *does not* have county marriage records dating back to the time when each county was formed. From 1908–1935, county clerks kept copies of marriages filed with the town clerks and also sent copies to Albany. Some counties, though, recorded marriages only to 1916 or 1926. The Family History Library has county marriage records on microfilm for all upstate counties except Albany, Dutchess, and Erie.

## Town and State Marriage Records

Town and city clerks generally began registering marriages in 1881. Copies are sent to the state capital in Albany. Between 1847 and about 1850, before the state began registering vital statistics, some marriages were recorded by justices of the peace, and

some were recorded by school districts. Some justice of the peace registers have been published in the periodicals *Tree Talks* and *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*.

If you know where a marriage took place, you can write to the town, village, or city clerk to request a copy of the certificate or record. A microfiche index to marriages, 1881–1943, is available for public use at the New York State Archives. This index does not include New York City. The archives will search and abstract the index for a fee. If you do not know the exact place of marriage and are willing to wait six or seven months for a reply, you can get marriage records (including those from Albany, Buffalo, and Yonkers, 1908 to the present) for a fee by writing to the State Department of Health. There is a 75-year restriction on marriage information needed for genealogical purposes. The state fees and restrictions apply when obtaining records from the village, town, and city clerks.

For marriage records for Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Richmond through 1937, write:

New York City Department of Records and Information Services  
Municipal Archives  
31 Chambers St., Room 103  
New York, NY 10007  
Telephone: 212-788-8580 or 212-566-5292  
Fax: 212-385-4253

Pre-1938 New York City marriages, some as early as 1830, are found at the Municipal Archives. The Family History Library has microfilmed marriages of:

***All Boroughs*** (*All of New York City*)

Groom marriage index books (*to Health Department marriages but not City Clerk marriages*); 12 FHL films beginning with film 1543903 (only for Manhattan from 1888–1893, and only for Manhattan and Brooklyn from 1894–1897)

***Bronx*** (*Bronx County*),

Bride marriage indexes 1898–1937	4 FHL films beginning with film 1983782
Health Dept. Groom index 1898–1937	FHL film 1976292–93
Health Dept. marriage certificates 1897–1938	FHL film 1939720

***Brooklyn*** (*Kings County*)

Health Dept. marriage certificates 1866–1937	203 FHL films beginning with film 1543711
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***Manhattan (New York County)***

Marriage register 1823–1853 FHL film 017785 item 5  
(Mariners' Church)

Mayor's marriage records FHL film 017776  
and index 1830–1854

Marriage register and index FHL films 1671673–85  
1829–1887;

Health Dept. marriage records and indexes 1866–1937 1447 FHL films beginning with film 1522995

Marriage indexes 1898–1937 4 FHL films beginning with film 1983782

***Queens (Queens County)***

Health Dept. groom index 56 FHL films beginning with film 1908328  
1881–1937, bride index  
1905–1937, marriage  
certificates 1898–1937

Marriages 1847–1897 (years vary) for the towns of Far Rockaway, Flushing, Jamaica, and Newtown are listed in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, QUEENS, [TOWN] - VITAL RECORDS

***Staten Island (Richmond County)***

Marriage index and records FHL films 539053–71  
1600s–1900s

Marriages after 1937 are in the borough offices of the city clerk.

The Family History Library has not filmed the city marriages of Albany, Buffalo, or Yonkers. Albany city marriages 1848 and 1870–1917 and county marriages 1908–1936 are available at:

Albany County Hall of Records  
250 South Pearl Street  
Albany, NY 12202  
Telephone: 518-447-4500

Albany city marriages, 1920 to the present, are also available at the Albany City Clerk's office (24 Eagle Street, Albany, NY 12207; Telephone: 518-434-5081). You can get Buffalo marriages 1837–1935 by writing to the Erie County Clerk's offices. Buffalo marriages 1935 to the present and Yonkers marriages 1900 to the present can be obtained from the respective city registrars of vital statistics.

## **Published Newspaper Notices of Marriages and Deaths**

For New York City's five boroughs and some other counties, many newspaper notices of births, marriages, and deaths have been published. See the "Newspapers" section of this outline for a partial list. In the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog, these notices are listed under:

NEW YORK, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - NEWSPAPERS NEW YORK, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - OBITUARIES

Check also under the state and county levels.

You will also find that many church marriage records have been published or have been microfilmed for the five boroughs. You can look for these in the Family History Library Catalog Locality Search under NEW YORK, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - CHURCH RECORDS. An example is:

Fisher, William Scott, comp. *New York City Methodist Marriages, 1785-1893*. Camden, Me.: Picton Press, 1994. (FHL book 974.71 K2fn vols. 1-2; computer number 733324.) This contains a groom index and a bride index, each of which has about 41,000 names.

## **Divorce Records**

Before 1787, divorce was practically nonexistent in New York. Some petitions for divorce were made to the governor or legislature, but only a few were granted. Records of divorces granted by acts of the legislature consist both of the legislative act and petitions that were sent to the legislature. Acts of divorce are indexed in the index mentioned under "Law and Legislation" in this outline.

From 1787-1847, divorces were recorded in chancery court records. Chancery court divorces are at the state archives or for the New York City area at:

New York County Clerk's Office  
Division of Old Records  
31 Chambers Street  
7th floor  
New York, NY 10007  
Telephone: 212-788-8580 or 212-566-5292  
Fax: 212-385-4253

Since 1846, the supreme court has recorded divorce proceedings. Many people before 1966 found it easier to obtain a divorce out of state. Access to supreme court divorce records less than 100 years old is prohibited without judicial permission. You must obtain a court order to see a file. The actual trial records are sealed.

The Family History Library has microfilmed very few divorce judgements. For New York County, only the index to divorce records has been microfilmed:

New York County (New York). County Clerk. *Index to Matrimonial Actions, 1784–1910*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1977. (FHL films 1017465–67; computer number 258893.)

## VOTING REGISTERS

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Voting registers are valuable in helping you find ancestors in other records such as naturalizations, censuses, and passenger lists. Voting lists usually record the name of the voter, country or state of birth, race, age, street address, length of residence, whether native or naturalized, date of naturalization, and court where the naturalization occurred. Some counties have saved their voter registration lists, and others have not.

Some eighteenth-century New York City voters are named in *A Copy of the Poll List of the Election for Representatives for the City and County of New-York., 1761, 1768, 1769 . . .* (1880; reprint, Tomball, Tex.: Genealogical Publications, 1977; FHL film 497705; computer number 350549.) The New York City Municipal Archives has 50,000 registers for Manhattan 1772–1920, Queens 1898–1956, and Staten Island 1878–1956. Records for the remaining boroughs and more recent records are filed with the borough offices of the Board of Elections. Manhattan voter registrations from 1925 to the present, for example, are at:

New York City Board of Elections (Manhattan)  
200 Varick, 10th Floor  
New York, NY 10012  
Telephone: 212-886-3800  
Fax: 212-886-3820

## FOR FURTHER READING

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Sources of information about research and records in New York not already mentioned are:

Austin, John D, Jr. *Genealogical Research in New York State: An Informal Finding List of Published Materials with Supplementary Notes*. Glens Fall, N.Y.: the author, 1983. (FHL book 974.7 D23a; fiche 6051316; computer number 228459.) Includes maps, vital records, census, estates, land, immigration, cemeteries, and many other categories.

Bailey, Rosalie Fellows. *Guide to Genealogical and Biographical Sources for New York City (Manhattan), 1783–1898*. New York: R.F. Bailey, 1954. (FHL book 974.71 D27b;

fiche 6051128; computer number 153946.) Discussion and bibliographies on citywide probates, vital records, land, church records, and many others.

Burke, Kate. *Searching in New York: A Reference Guide to Public and Private Records*. Costa Mesa, Calif.: ISC Publications, 1987. (FHL book 974.7 D27b; computer number 536684.) Useful for adoption research. List of counties, towns, county seats, institutions, cemeteries.

Eichholz, Alice, ed. *Ancestry's Red Book: American State, County, and Town Sources*. Rev. ed. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1992. (FHL book 973 D27rb 1992; computer number 594021.) Contains bibliographies and background information on history and ethnic groups. Also contains maps and tables showing when each county was created.

Epperson, Gwenn F. *New Netherland Roots*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1994. (FHL book 974.7 D27e; computer number 698385.) Discusses and quotes examples from passenger lists, early government records, marriage registers, church records, and court records of New Netherland. Also discusses early Dutch, German, Belgian, French, and Scandinavian sources.

Guzik, Estele M., ed. *Genealogical Resources in the New York Metropolitan Area*. New York: Jewish Genealogical Society, 1989. (FHL book Ref 974.1 A3ge; FHL fiche 6100654; computer number 505986.)

Kronman, Barbara. *The Guide to New York City Public Records*, 4th ed. New York: Public Interest Clearinghouse, 1992. (FHL book 974.71 A3k; computer number 695334.) Includes chapters on city government, courts, libraries, and personal information. Shows how to obtain vital records, name change records, and naturalizations.

Kurzweil, Arthur and Miriam Weiner. *The Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy: Sources in the United States and Canada*. Northvale, N.J.: Jason Aronson, 1991. (FHL book 929.1 En19e; computer number 563295.) Forty pages about New York area repositories and bibliographies of their key resources.

Schweitzer, George Keene. *New York Genealogical Research*. Knoxville, Tenn.: G. Schweitzer, 1988. (FHL book 974.7 D27s; computer number 491634.) Gives historical background and describes all types of records. Includes bibliography of each record type.

Seversmith, Herbert F. and Kenn Stryker-Rodda. *Long Island Genealogical Source Material: A Bibliography*. National Genealogical Society Special Publication 24. Washington, D.C.: National Genealogical Society, 1962. Second printing, 1980. (FHL book 974.721 A3s; computer number 157555.) Includes place and record index.

## COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

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The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

Publications Coordinator  
Family History Library  
35 North West Temple Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400  
USA

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## New York Historical Background

### History

Effective family research requires some understanding of the historical events that may have affected your family and the records about them. Learning about wars, governments, laws, migrations, and religious trends may help you understand political boundaries, family movements, and settlement patterns. These events may have led to the creation of records that your family was listed in, such as land and military documents.

The following important events in New York history affected political boundaries, recordkeeping, and family movements.

1609	Henry Hudson, sailing for the Dutch, established Holland's claim to the New York region.
1624–1626	The Dutch West India Company established the colony of New Netherland. Its chief settlements were at New Amsterdam, on the lower tip of Manhattan Island, and at Fort Orange, the present site of Albany.
1629	The Dutch introduced the patroonship (manorial) system, which established a landholding aristocracy in the Hudson Valley.
1664	New Netherland surrendered to the English, who separated it into the colonies of New York and New Jersey.
1673–1674	The Dutch briefly reconquered New York.
1683	The original counties were formed: Albany, Dutchess, Kings, New York, Orange, Queens, Richmond, Suffolk, Ulster, and Westchester.
1731	The boundary between New York and Connecticut was settled.
1769	After long conflicts, the present border with New Jersey was agreed upon. The line was surveyed and marked in 1774.
1773	The New York-Massachusetts boundary dispute was finally resolved.
1776	New York declared independence from Britain, and Vermont declared its independence from New York. After the Revolutionary War, in 1783 the British evacuated Loyalists to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the British West Indies.
1786	The Hartford Treaty gave Massachusetts the title to the land in western New York west of the "Pre-emption Line" (a line running north and south between Seneca and Keuka Lakes) but reserved political governance to New York.
1788	New York ratified the U.S. Constitution and became the eleventh state of the Union.
1790	New York recognized Vermont's independence.
1791	New York's eastern boundary was finally determined when Vermont was admitted as a state in 1791.
1796	The state capital was changed from New York City to Albany.

1825	The Erie Canal was completed, stimulating settlement of the Midwestern U.S. By 1842, rail lines connected Albany and Buffalo.
1839–1847 1898	The Anti-Rent Movement led to the end of the manorial system. Brooklyn (Kings), established in 1683; New York (Manhattan), established in 1683; Queens, established in 1683; and Staten Island (Richmond), established in 1683. All these areas were incorporated as boroughs of New York City.
1898	Over 300,000 men were involved in the Spanish-American War, which was fought mainly in Cuba and the Philippines.
1914 1917–1918	Bronx was incorporated as the fifth borough of New York City. More than 26 million men from the United States ages 18 through 45 registered with the Selective Service for World War I, and over 4.7 million American men and women served during the war.
1930s	The Great Depression closed many factories and mills. Many small farms were abandoned, and many families moved to cities.
1940–1945	Over 50.6 million men ages 18 to 65 registered with the Selective Service. Over 16.3 million American men and women served in the armed forces during World War II.
1950–1953	Over 5.7 million American men and women served in the Korean War.
1950s–1960s	The building of interstate highways made it easier for people to move long distances.
1964–1972	Over 8.7 million American men and women served in the Vietnam War.

Your ancestors will become more interesting to you if you also use histories to learn about the events that were of interest to them or that they may have been involved in. For example, by using a history you might learn about the events that occurred in the year your great-grandparents were married.

## Historical Sources

You may find state or local histories in the Family History Library Catalog under New York or the county or the town. For descriptions of records available through Family History Centers or the Family History Library, click on Family History Library Catalog in the window to the left. The descriptions give book or film numbers, which you need to find or to order the records.

## Local Histories

Some of the most valuable sources for family history research are local histories. Published histories of towns, counties, and states usually contain accounts of families. They describe the settlement of the area and the founding of churches, schools, and businesses. You can also find lists of pioneers, soldiers, and civil officials. Even if your ancestor is not listed, information on other relatives may be included that will provide important clues for locating your ancestor. A local history may also suggest other records to search.

Most county and town histories include separate sections or volumes containing biographical information. These may include information on 50 percent or more of the families in the locality.

In addition, local histories should be studied and enjoyed for the background information they can provide about your family's lifestyle and the community and environment in which your family lived.

About 5,000 county histories have been published for over 80 percent of the counties in the United States. For many counties there is more than one history. In addition, tens of thousands of

histories have been written about local towns and communities. Bibliographies that list these histories are available for nearly every state.

For descriptions of bibliographies for New York available through Family History Centers or the Family History Library, click on Family History Library Catalog in the window to the left. Look under BIBLIOGRAPHY or HISTORY - BIBLIOGRAPHY.

An excellent bibliography of New York local histories is Harold Nestler, comp., *A Bibliography of New York State Communities*, 3rd ed. (Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, Inc., 1990; FHL book 974.7 H23nh 1990.)

New York has officially appointed town and county historians who gather material about their locality and its people. They often have original and transcribed cemetery records, newspaper clippings, church records, and local histories. For their addresses, see The County Historians Association of New York State, *1991 Directory of New York State County and Municipal Historians*, 5th ed. (Albany, N.Y.: The New York State Education Department, Division of Research and Collections, 1991; FHL book 974.7 N24v 1991)

Local histories are extensively collected by the Family History Library, public and university libraries, and state and local historical societies. Two useful guides are:

Filby, P. William. *A Bibliography of American County Histories*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1985. (FHL book 973 H23bi.)

Kaminkow, Marion J. *United States Local Histories in the Library of Congress*. 5 vols. Baltimore: Magna Charta Book, 1975-76. (FHL book 973 A3ka.)

## State History

The best one-volume history of New York is probably David M. Ellis, et al., *A History of New York State*, 1957, revised (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1983; FHL book 974.7 H2e). One of the best multivolume histories is Alexander C. Flick, ed., *The History of the State of New York*, 10 vols. (1933; reprint, Port Washington, N.Y.: Ira J. Friedman Inc., 1962; (FHL book 974.7 H2f).

Some published collections of historical documents essential for early New York genealogical research include:

Brodhead, John Romeyn, comp.; O'Callaghan, Edmund Bailey, and Berthold Fernow, trans. and eds. *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York, Procured in Holland, England and France, by John Romeyn Brodhead, Esq., Agent*. 15 vols. Albany, N.Y.: Weed, Parsons, and Co., 1853-1887. (FHL book 974.7 H2d; films 824380-91.) Biographical sketches drawn from official records of governors, courts, and petitions.

*Documentary History of the State of New York*. 4 vols. in 8 parts. Albany, N.Y.: Weed, Parson and Co., 1849-51 (octavo ed.); 1850-51 (quarto ed.). (FHL book 974.7 H2o; films 986504-07; fiche 6051121; subject index on film 017137 item 10.) Biographical information drawn from official records of governors, courts, and petitions.

O'Callaghan, Edmund Bailey, ed. *Calendar of Dutch (and English) Historical Manuscripts in the Office of Secretary of State, Albany, N. Y.* 2 vols. 1865-1866. Reprint, Ridgewood, N.J.: The Gregg Press, 1968. (FHL book 974.7 A3c; fiche 6051113.) Many of the documents described in this inventory were destroyed or damaged in the 1911 capital fire.

## United States History

The following are only a few of the many sources that are available at most large libraries:

Schlesinger, Jr., Arthur M. *The Almanac of American History*. Greenwich, Conn.: Bison Books, 1983. (FHL book 973 H2alm.) This provides brief historical essays and chronological descriptions of thousands of key events in United States history.

*Webster's Guide to American History: A Chronological, Geographical, and Biographical Survey and Compendium*. Springfield, Mass.: G&C Merriam, 1971. (FHL book 973 H2v.) This includes a history, some maps, tables, and other historical information.

*Dictionary of American History*, Revised ed., 8 vols. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1976. (FHL book 973 H2ad.) This includes historical sketches on various topics in U.S. history, such as wars, people, laws, and organizations.



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## New York Statewide Indexes and Collections

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### Guide

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#### Introduction

In the United States, information about your ancestors is often found in town and county records. If you know which state but not the town or county your ancestor lived in, check the following statewide indexes to find the town or county. Then search records for that town or county.

The indexes and collections listed below index various sources of information, such as histories, vital records, biographies, tax lists, immigration records, etc. You may find additional information about your ancestor other than the town or county of residence. The listings may contain:

- The author and title of the source.
- The Family History Library (FHL) book, film, fiche, or compact disc number. If the words *beginning with* appear before the film number, check the Family History Library Catalog for additional films.
- The name of the repository where the source can be found if the source is not available at the Family History Library.

#### What You Are Looking For

- Your ancestor's name in an index or collection.
- Where the ancestor was living.

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### Steps

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These 2 steps will help you find information about your ancestor in statewide indexes or collections.

#### Step 1. Find your ancestor's name in statewide indexes or collections.

On the list below, if your ancestor lived between the years shown on the left, he or she may be listed in the source on the right.

1580 to present	<i>Ancestral File</i> <i>International Genealogical Index.</i> <i>Family History Library Catalog</i> - Surname Search.
1600–1970	New York State Library. <i>Surname Card Index.</i> (FHL fiche 6331486 parts 1–33.) This is an index to hundreds of family and local history books. Includes cards by surname and sometimes given names. Alphabetical. About 65,000 names.

- 1600–1900 Filby, P. William, ed. *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index: 500,000 Passengers Who Came to the United States and Canada in the Seventeenth, Eighteenth, and Nineteenth Centuries*. (FHL book 973 W32p, & supp.; films beginning with 1597960 items 4–6.) An excellent source for finding information about immigrants.
- 1580–1930 Kirkham, E. Kay. *An Index to Some of the Bibles and Family Records of the United States: 45,500 References as Taken From the Microfilm at the Genealogical Society of Utah*. (FHL book 973 D2kk vol. 2; fiche 6089184.) Indexes the two DAR collections below.
- 1600–1972 Whitaker, Constance M. *Master Index New York State DAR Genealogical Records*. (FHL book 974.7 D22 Index; film 1206452 item 13; fiche 605149.1) Indexes the two DAR collections below.
- 1600–1978 Whitaker, Constance M. *Master Index Supplement 1972–1978: Records and Corrections*. (FHL book 974.7 D22 Index, supp; film 1206452 item 14; fiche 6051491.) Indexes the two DAR collections below. About 3,000 surnames.
- 1600–1970 Daughters of the American Revolution (New York). *Bible, Family and Miscellaneous Records from New York State*. (FHL films 860276; 862765–794; 862793–index.) Indexed by Constance Whitaker's *Master Index* above. See the *New York Research Outline* for an explanation.
- 1600–1970 Daughters of the American Revolution (New York). *Cemetery, Church and Town Records*. (On 86 FHL films beginning with 836756; fiche 6331439–447.) These are indexed by Constance Whitaker's *Master Index* above.
- 1580–1940 Rider, Fremont, ed. *The American Genealogical-Biographical Index to American Genealogical, Biographical and Local History Materials*. (FHL book 973 D22am ser. 2 vols. 1–186+; films beginning with 1698167.) The new series now has surnames A to W and is continuing. The old series has surnames A to Z.
- 1600–1908 *Index to American Genealogies: And to Genealogical Material Contained in All Works, Such as Town Histories, County Histories, Local Histories, Historical Society Publications, Biographies, Historical Periodicals and Kindred Works*. (FHL book 973 D22m 1984; film 599811 items 2–3; fiche 6051301.) Known as Munsell's Index.
- 1600–1930 Newberry Library. (Chicago, Illinois). *Genealogical Index of the Newberry Library, Chicago*. (FHL book Ref Q 929 N424g; films 928135–137.) About 20,000 surnames. This similar to Munsell's Index above.
- 1600–1982 Worden, Jean D. *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record Master Index, 1870–1982*. (FHL book 974.7 B2n Index No. 3.) About 32,000 names.
- 1600–1973 New York Public Library. Research Libraries. *Dictionary Catalog of the Local History and Genealogy Division*. (FHL book Q 974.71 A3nd, 18 vols.) This is similar to Munsell's Index and the Newberry Library index above. Over 100,000 names.
- 1600–1836 Fernow, Berthold. *Calendar of Wills on File and Recorded in the Offices of the Clerk of the County Court Appeals, of the County at Albany and of the Secretary of State, 1626–1836*. (FHL book 974.7 P28f 1967; films 416895, 930248 item 2; fiche 6056668.) About 18,000 names.
- 1600–1801 New York. Surrogate's Court (New York County). *Abstracts of Wills on File in the Surrogate's Office, City of New York, 1665–1801*. (FHL book 974.7 B4n vols. 25–41; on films beginning with 509196; fiche 6046928.) The abstracts are chronological; each volume is well indexed. About 90,000 names.

- 1600–1784 New York. Secretary of State. *New York Marriages Previous to 1784: A Reprint of the Original Edition of 1860 With Additions and Corrections Including: Supplemental List of Marriage Licenses; New York Marriage Licenses [1639–1784].* (FHL book 974.7 V28n 1968; film 514675 item 5.) About 30,000 names.
- 1580–1657 Colket, Meredith B. *Founders of Early American Families: Emigrants from Europe, 1607–1657.* (FHL book 973 W2cm.) Refers to books and articles which have been published concerning early immigrants.
- 1580–present *Periodical Source Index (PERSI)* lists records (by place or surname) that were published in genealogical magazines or periodicals. This resource should not be overlooked. It is available on the Internet through Ancestry.com. (FHL book 973 D25 per, various combined indexes and, annual supplements; fiche 6016863, 6016864; compact disc no. 61.)
- 1600–1990s Pohl, Gunther. *The New York State Biographical, Genealogical, and Portrait Index.* (Not at FHL.) A search can be made, for a fee, by the compiler, 24 Walden Pl., Great Neck, NY 11022.
- 1600–1995 *Ancestors of WNYGS Members.* Western New York Genealogical Society, Inc. (FHL book 974.79 D2a.) About 10,000 names.
- 1600–1910 Eardeley, William A. *Manuscripts and Notes of William A. Eardeley.* For the Eastern States. (FHL films 416880–893.) Has information on many early New York families. About 650 surnames.
- 1600–1988 Worden, Jean, *Tree Talks Subject Index for Volumes 1–28, 1961–1988.* (Not at FHL.) *Tree Talks* is published by the Central New York Genealogical Society.
- 1600–1840 Hoff, Henry. *Genealogies of Long Island Families From the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record.* (FHL book 974.721 D2g vols.1–2.)
- 1600–1900 Hoff, Henry. *Long Island Source Records: From the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record.* (FHL book 974.721 H29L.)
- 1600–1700 Bergen, Teunis G. *Register in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, New York, From its First Settlement by Europeans to 1770.* (FHL book 974.723 D2b 1973.) About 5,000 names.
- 1600–1950 Breton, Arthur J. *A Guide to the Manuscript Collections of the New York Historical Society.* (FHL book 974.7 H23B vols.1–2.) About 57,000 names.
- Note: the eleven items below have information about Dutch families and their relatives.
- 1600–1850 William B. Bogardus has a significant collection of records about the early Dutch families of New York and New Jersey prior to 1850. (Not at FHL) His address is: 1121 Linhof Rd., Wilmington, OH 45177, tel. 513-382-3803.
- 1600–1977 Holland Society of New York (New York City). *Index to Publications, 1885–January, 1977.* (FHL book 974.7 B22h; film 1036770 item 13–15.)
- 1600–1988 Joslyn, Roger D. *Index to "De Halve Maen" Part 2 1977–1988.* Holland Society of New York. (Not at the FHL.)
- 1600–1850 Holland Society of New York (New York City). *Analytical Index.* (FHL films 1002769–770.) Lists family and local histories. About 3,000 names.
- 1600–1960 Holland Society of New York (New York City). *Compiled Genealogies.* (FHL film 1016510–556.) Has many genealogies of early families. About 100,000 names.



- 1600–1950 Holland Society of New York (New York City). *Membership Records*. (On 76 FHL films beginning with 1015870.) Has records of members of the Holland Society of New York. About 5,000 names.
- 1600–1850 Zabriskie, George Olin. *Dutch Family Records*. (FHL films beginning with 1421759 item 2.) Mr. Zabriskie made an in-depth study of the early families from Holland who settled in New York. About 1,000 names.
- 1600–1850 Zabriskie, George Olin. *Dutch Families of Old New York and New Jersey*. (FHL films beginning with 1421770.) About 1,000 names.
- 1600–1850 Zabriskie, George Olin. *Early Dutch - New Netherlands - Family Correspondence*. (On FHL films beginning with 1421766 item 5.) About 1,000 names.
- 1600–1850 Zabriskie, George Olin. *Family Group Sheets*. (FHL films 1421754–59.) End of eleven Dutch families items. About 12,000 names.
- 1600–1980 Ledley, Wilson. *Index to Baptisms Surnames in the Reformed Churches of: Claverack, Cortlandt, Fishkill, Gallatin/Ancram, Gravesend, Hillsdale/Krum, Kaatsbaan/Saugerties, Kinderhook, Lenlithgo/Livingston, Pilipsburg/Tarrytown, Poughkeepsie, Red Hook/Old, Red Hook/Upper, Reyn Beeck/Pink's Corner, Rhinebeck Flatt, Rochester/Accord*. (FHL book 974.7 K22L.) About 3,900 names.
- 1600–1800 New York State Archives. *The Colonial Albany Social History Project*. (Not at FHL.) This study seeks to gain biographical information on all the persons who resided in Albany before 1800. Contact the New York State Museum for more information.
- 1600–1917 Robison, Jeannie F. *Genealogical Records: Manuscript Entries of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, Taken From Family Bibles, 1581–1917*. (FHL book 974.7 D28r; fiche 6087382.) About 3,000 names.
- 1600–1783 *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York: Procured in Holland, England and France*. (FHL book 974.7 H2d vols.1–15; films 824380–391.) The index to vols.1–10 is in vol.11. About 20,000 names in vol. 11.
- 1600–1776 *Calendar of Historical Manuscripts in the Office of the Secretary of State, Albany, New York; 1630–1776*. (FHL book 974.7 A3c, 2 vols.; fiche 6051113.) About 15,000 names.
- 1600–1664 Gehring, Charles T. *Land Papers, Volumes GG, HH & II, 1630–1664*. (FHL book 974.7 R2Lp.) Records of land patents. About 1,000 names.
- 1600–1660 Van Laer, Arnold J. F. *Register of the Provincial Secretary; Council Minutes 1638–1660*. (FHL book 974.7 H2vL 4 vols.) About 4,000 names.
- 1600–1780 New York. Secretary of State. *Patents of the State of New York, 1649–1912*. (FHL films 947842–45.) Records of land patents. About 10,000 names.
- 1600–1855 New York. Secretary of State. *Deeds 1659–1846*. (FHL films 947105–6 and 947114–15, 43 vols.) About 120,000 names.
- 1600–1973 *Deeds, 1659–1846, and Index*. (FHL films 947652–654 and films beginning with 947838.) For grantee and grantor Indexes see below. About 14,000 names.
- 1600–1973 *Deeds, 1659–1846, and Grantor Index*. (FHL films 947643–651.) Has indexes by grantor, grantee, and location (by county). Index to present-day Vermont area, film 947107. About 20,000 names.
- 1600–1842 *Deeds and Mortgages, 1659–1846*. (FHL film 947116.) About 15,000 names.

- 1600–1775 *Complete Index to Colonial Laws and Ordinances of New Netherlands and New York 1638–1775.* (FHL book 974.7 P3i; film 1036082 item 7.) About 2,000 names.
- 1600–1783 Fernow, Berthold, comp. *Calendar of Council Minutes, 1668–1783.* (FHL book 974.7 N2f; film 1320694 item 3.) About 7,000 names.
- 1600–1803 New York. Secretary of State. *Calendar of NY Colonial Manuscripts, Indorsed Land Papers in the office of the State of New York 1643–1803.* (FHL book 974.7 R2n; films 947853 and 930250.) About 11,000 names.
- 1600–1656 New Netherlands. Council. Gehring, Charles T. ed. *Council Minutes, 1652–1656.* (FHL book 974.7 H2vl vol. 5.) About 1,000 names.
- 1600–1674 Fernow, Berthold. *The Records of New Amsterdam from 1653 to 1674, Anno Domini.* (FHL book 974.71 P2f, 7 vols.; films 982184 and 982187 item 1–3.) Includes index. About 4,000 names.
- 1600–1663 *Minutes of the Orphanmasters of New Amsterdam, 1655 to 1663.* (FHL film 1730415.) About 200 names.
- 1600–1668 O'Callaghan, E.B. *The Minutes of the Orphanmasters of New Amsterdam, 1663–1668.* (FHL book 974.7 A1 # 147.) About 180 orphans' names.
- 1600–1664 Meyers, Carol M. *Early Immigrants to New Netherlands, 1657–1664.* (FHL fiche 6105203.) About 500 names.
- 1600–1799 *Lists of Inhabitants of Colonial New York: Excerpted From the Documentary History of the State of New York by Edmund Bailey O'Callaghan.* (FHL book 974.7 D4L; fiche 6046723.) About 10,000 names.
- 1600–1699 Baird, Charles W. *History of the Huguenot Emigration to America.* (FHL book 973 F2hb, vols. 1–2; film 496568.) About 600 names.
- 1600–1675 Christoph, Peter R. ed. *Kingston Papers, 1661–1675.* (FHL book 974.734/K1 P2k.) Court records. Translated by Versteeg, Dingman.
- 1600–1688 Christoph, Peter, ed. *New York Historical Manuscripts, English, 1664–1688.* (FHL book 974.7 H2ny, 3 vols.) About 3,000 names.
- 1600–1662 Lachaire, Solomon. *The Register of Salomon Lachaire, Notary Public of New Amsterdam, 1661–1662: Translated From the Original Dutch Manuscript in the Office of the Clerk of the Common Council of New York.* (FHL book 974.7 N3L.) About 500 names.
- 1600–1875 Sawyer, Ray C. *Index of Wills for New York County, (New York City), From 1662–1850.* (FHL films 860313 items 1–3, or 017827.) About 8,550 names.
- 1600–1772 Meyers, Carol M. *Early New York State Census Records, 1663–1772.* (FHL book 974.7 X28m.) About 7,000 names.
- 1600–1912 New York. Secretary of State. *Patents of the State of New York, 1649–1912.* (FHL beginning with film 947122.) The patents for 1714–1912, are at Family History Library. About 5,600 names.
- 1600–1759 *Annual Report of the State Historian of the State of New York.* (FHL book 974.7 M2ne v.1–2; films 924818–19; fiche 6088376.) Has lists of soldiers 1664–1775. Index is at end of vol. 2. About 23,000 names.
- 1600–1776 Scott, Kenneth. *Denizations, Naturalizations, and Oaths of Allegiance in Colonial New York.* (FHL book 974.7 P4sc.) For 1664–1776. About 3,000 names.

- 1600–1809 *The Documentary History of the State of New York, 1666–1809*. (FHL book 974.7 H2o, 4 vols.; films 896504–7; fiche 6051121.) Indexes are at the back of vols. 2–4. About 800 names.
- 1600–1825 Scott, Kenneth. *Genealogical Data from Inventories of New York Estates, 1666–1825*. (FHL book 974.7 P28s.) About 5,000 names.
- 1600–1675 Christoph, Peter, ed. *New York Historical Manuscripts, English*. (FHL book 974.7 H2ny.) About 1,000 names.
- 1600–1784 Morris, Richard, ed. *Select Cases of the Mayor's Court of New York City, 1674–1784*. (FHL book 974.71 P2m; film 1697371 item 6.)
- 1600–1866 *The Burghers of New Amsterdam and the Freemen of New York, 1675–1866*. (FHL book 974.7 B4n vol.18; film 845292 item 2.) The list of Burghers is for 1657. There are also lists of freemen. About 5,000 names.
- 1600–1760 Scott, Kenneth. *New York City Court Records, 1684–1760: Genealogical Data From the Court of Quarter Sessions*. (FHL book 974.71 P2s.) About 3,000 names.
- 1600–1687 *Records of Domine Henricus Selyns of New York, 1686–7: With Notes and Remarks by Garrett Abeel Written a Century Later 1796*. Dutch Reformed church members. (FHL book 974.7 B4n v. 5; film 874335 item 3.) This is a census substitute for 1686–87. About 1,000 names.
- 1600–1815 Scott, Kenneth. *Records of the Chancery Court; Province and State of New York: Guardianships, 1691–1815*. (FHL book 974.7 P28sc; fiche 6088050.) About 7,000 names.
- 1600–1699 New York, (New York). Assessor. *Tax Lists of the City of New York December 1695 to July 15, 1699; Assessment of the Real and Personal Property of the East Ward, City of New York, June 24, 1791*. (FHL book 974.7 B4n vols. 43–44; film 845302 items 3–4.) About 2,000 names.
- 1630–1776 Jones, Henry Z., Jr. *The Palatine Families of New York: A Study of the German immigrants Who Arrived in Colonial New York in 1710*. (FHL book 974.7 D2J vols. 1–2.) This lists early German immigrants and their descendants. About 18,000 names.
- 1630–1776 Jones, Henry Z., Jr. *More Palatine Families: Some Immigrants to the Middle Colonies 1717–1776 and Their European Origins Plus New Discoveries on German Families Who Arrived in Colonial New York in 1710*. (FHL book 973 W2jo.) This lists early German immigrants and their descendants. About 8,000 names.
- 1630–1820 Scott, Kenneth. *Genealogical Data from Administrative Papers from the New York State Court of Appeals in Albany*. (FHL book 974.7 D2g.) About 14,000 names. This has information on estates probated 1717–1820.
- 1640–1783 Scott, Kenneth. *Genealogical Data from Colonial New York Newspapers A Consolidation of Articles From the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*. (FHL book 974.71 D28s.) This has information for events from 1726 to 1783, and has about 10,000 names.
- 1650–1738 Meyers, Carol. M. *Early Military records of New York, 1689–1738*. (FHL book 974.7 M2m; fiche 6105194.) About 1,500 names.
- 1650–1802 Bowman, Fred Q. *Landholders of Northeastern New York, 1739–1802*. (FHL book 974.7 R24b; film 1321009 item 8.) About 500 names.
- 1650–1773 Scott, Kenneth. *Genealogical Data from the New York Post-Boy 1743–1773*. (FHL book 974.71 B38s.) About 5,000 names.

- 1660–1875 Barber, Gertrude A. *Index to Letters of Administration of New York County From 1743–1875*. (FHL book 974.71 P22b, 6 vols.; film 1425588 items 2–7.) About 96,000 names.
- 1660–1799 Scott, Kenneth. *Genealogical Data from New York Administration Bonds, 1753–1799 and Hitherto Unpublished Letters of Administration*. (FHL book 974.7 B4ne, vol.10.) About 6,000 names.
- 1660–1799 Scott, Kenneth. *Genealogical Data from Further New York Administration Bonds, 1791–1798*. (FHL book 974.7 B4ne, vol.11.) About 1,000 names.
- 1700–1900 Mather, Frederic G. *The Refugees of 1776 from Long Island to Connecticut*. (FHL book 974.6 H2m pts.1–2; film 164690.) About 250,000 names.
- 1700–1727 New York (New York). Bureau of City Chamberlain. *Ledger Number 1, Chamberlain's Office, Corporation of the City of New York, May 11, 1691, to November 12, 1699; Indentures of Apprentices October 21, 1718, to August 7, 1727*. (FHL book 974.7 B4n vol. 42; film 845302 item 2.) About 800 names.
- 1700–1783 Scott, Kenneth. *New York Marriages, 1753–1783*. (Not at FHL.) A copy is at the New York State Library at Albany.
- 1700–1797 Scott, Kenneth. *New York City Court Records, 1760–1797: Genealogical Data From the Court of Quarter Sessions*. (FHL book 974.71 P2sk.) About 6,000 names.
- 1700–1783 Scott, Kenneth. *Rivington's New York Newspaper: Excerpts from a Loyalist Press, 1773–1783*. (FHL book 974.71 H2ri.)
- 1700–1769 *A Copy of the Poll List of the Election For Representatives For the City and County of New York, 1761, 1768, 1769 for the City and County of New York, 1761, 1768, 1769*. (FHL film 497705.) About 3,000 names.
- 1700–1776 Wilson, Thomas B. *Inhabitants of New York, 1774–1776*. (FHL book 974.7 X4w.) These names were taken from about eighty different lists from New York, Queens, and Suffolk Counties. About 13,000 names.
- 1700–1846 New York. Secretary of State. *Patents of the State of New York, 1649–1912* (FHL film 946418.) Part of this record is *Military Patents and Abstracts, 1764–1797* which indexes military patents and abstracts. About 3,460 names.
- 1700–1899 *Register of the Empire State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution*. (FHL book 974.7 C4r; film 238380.) Lists Rev. War patriots with descendants in 1899 and their lineages to the soldier. About 2,000 names.
- 1700–1860 White, Virgil D. *Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files [1775–1783]*. (FHL book 973 M28g 4 vols.) There is a full index in vol. 4. About 400,000 names.
- 1700–1790 Ferris, M. Frances. *Index, The Balloting Book and Other Documents Relating to Military Bounty Lands in the State of New York [Revolutionary War soldiers] [1775–1783]*. (FHL film 896803 item 6.) The balloting book itself is on film 812864 item 4. About 3,000 names.
- 1700–1860 Daughters of the American Revolution. *DAR Patriot Index*. (FHL 973 C42da 1990 3 vols.) Centennial edition. Lists Rev. War patriots and their spouses. About 100,000 names.
- 1700–1860 Daughters of the American Revolution. *DAR Patriot Index*. (FHL 973 C42da vol. 3.) Volume 3 is especially useful in that it is an index to the wives of the soldiers. About 60,000 names.

- 1700–1868 *D.A.R. Revolutionary War Burial Index*. (FHL films 1307675–82.) Alphabetical. Prepared by Brigham Young University from DAR records. Often lists name, birth date, death date, burial place, name of cemetery, company or regiment, sometimes gives the place of birth, etc. About 67,000 names.
- 1700–1860 Hatcher, Patricia Law. *Abstracts of Graves of Revolutionary Patriots*. (FHL book 973 V38h vols. 1–4.) About 55,000 names.
- 1700–1860 Brakebill, Clovis. *Revolutionary War Graves Register*. (FHL book 973 V3br.) About 55,000 names.
- 1700–1860 *A General Index to a Census of Pensioners For Revolutionary or Military Service, 1840*. (FHL book 973 X2pc index; film 899835 items 1–2; fiche 6046771.) Lists Revolutionary War pensioners whose names are on the 1840 census lists.
- After using the general index, go to the original book (FHL book Ref 973 X2pc 1967; film 899835 item 3). This book gives the pensioner's town of residence, the name of the head of household where he was living, and age of pensioner or his widow..
- 1700–1783 Fernow, Berthold. *New York in the Revolution*. (FHL book 974.7 H2d vol. 15; fiche 6051123.) Has records for 1775–1783. About 43,000 soldiers' names.
- 1700–1783 *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State: These Records Were Discovered, Arranged and Classified in 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1898*. (FHL book 974.7 M28n 1898; film 940048 item 2; fiche 6046684.) Has records for 1775–1783. About 45,000 soldiers.
- 1700–1783 New York. Comptroller's Office. *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State, V. II: A Compilation of Documents and Records From the Office of the State Comptroller*. (FHL book 974.7 M28n 1904; film 1035618 item 14.) Has records for 1775–1783. About 57,000 soldiers.
- 1700–1783 *Muster and Pay Rolls of the War of the Revolution, 1775–1783*. (FHL book 974.7 B4n vols. 47–48; films 845303 items 2–3; 547506 item 2; fiche 6078201.) About 5,900 names.
- 1700–1834 *The Pension Roll of 1835*. Indexed Edition. (FHL book 973 M24ua 1992 vols. 1–4.) Vol. 4 has the index; vols. 1 to 4 list Revolutionary War soldiers. Gives county of residence, state of service, and often age; often has data on soldiers who received pensions and died from 1820s–1835.
- 1700–1783 Yoshpe, Harry B. *The Disposition of Loyalist Estates in the Southern District of the State of New York 1775–1783*. (FHL book 974.7 R2y.) About 400 names.
- 1700–1783 New York. Commission for Detecting and Defeating Conspiracies. *Minutes of the Commissioners for Detecting and Defeating Conspiracies in the State of New York: Albany County Sessions, 1778–1781*. (FHL film 1705179.) About 5,000 names.
- 1700–1821 New York. State Historian. *Military Minutes of the Council of Appointment of New York, 1783–1821*. (FHL book 974.7 M2ny vols. 1–4; films 1425595–6.) Lists militia; helps you find the place where the man lived. About 41,000 names.
- 1700–1900 New York. Secretary of State. *Patents of the State of New York 1649–1912*. (FHL films 945386–397.)
- 1700–1973 New York Secretary of State. *Mortgages, 1807–1824, 1877–1878 Approx., by Index 1784–1973 Index, 1784–1973*. Has a grantor card index, 1784–1973; has a location and tract index, film 946404. (On FHL films beginning with 945399.) About 1,440 names.



- 1700–1829 Gavit, Joseph. *American Deaths and Marriages, 1784–1829*. (FHL film 1022833–34.) Has marriage records 1784–1829, and obituaries 1784–1829. About 20,000 names.
- 1700–1829 Scott, Kenneth. *Joseph Gavit's American Deaths and Marriages 1784–1829: Index to Non-principals in Microfilm Copies of Abstracts in New York State Library, Albany, New York*. (FHL book 974.7 B32s.) About 6,000 names.
- 1700–1912 Holland Society of New York (New York City). *Cemetery and Geographical Files*. (FHL films 1019527–9.) About 8,000 names.
- 1700–1964 *New York State Cemetery Records*. (FHL 974.7 V3n, vols. 1–23; films 844624 items 2–4; 844631 items 2–4.) Film 844624 has a list of the counties covered and the cemeteries for each county. About 3,500 names.)
- 1700–1801 Scott, Kenneth. *New York City Court Records, 1797–1801: Genealogical Data From the Court of General Sessions*. (FHL book 974.71 P2sb.) About 6,000 names.
- 1700–1804 Scott, Kenneth. *New York City Court Records, 1801–1804: Genealogical Data From the Court of General Sessions*. (FHL book 974.71 P2sc.) About 4,000 names.
- 1700–1860 French, John Homer. *Gazetteer of the State of New York: Embracing a Comprehensive View of the Geography, Geology, and General History of the State, and a Complete History and Description of Every County, City, Village, and Locality With Full Table of Statistics*. (FHL book 974.7 E5f index; film beginning with 930129, item 1; fiche 6051206.) Published in 1860. See the index. Index has about 14,000 names.
- 1720–1906 *Index (Soundex) to Naturalization Records: 1792–1906*. For New York City and its boroughs. (On 294 FHL films beginning with 1419807.) Includes petitions and some declarations of intention.
- 1720–1834 Bowman, Fred Q. *10,000 Vital Records of Eastern New York, 1777–1834*. (FHL book 974.7 V2bfq.) Marriages and obituaries 1777–1834. About 10,000 names.
- 1720–1850 Bowman, Fred Q. *8,000 More Vital Records of Eastern New York State, 1804–1850*. (FHL book 974.7 V2bfqa.) About 6,100 names.
- 1720–1850 Bowman, Fred Q. *10,000 Vital Records of Western New York*. Marriages and obituaries 1809–1850. (FHL book 974.7 V2b.) About 10,000 names.
- 1720–1850 Bowman, Fred Q. *10,000 Vital Records of Central New York 1813–1850*. Marriages and obituaries. (FHL book 974.7 V2bf.) About 10,000 names.
- 1740–1920 *Census indexes, 1790–1860, 1870 (for Brooklyn and Manhattan), 1880, 1900, and 1920*. See What to Do Next, and click on **Family History Library Catalog**. Then select CENSUS or CENSUS - INDEXES from the topics that are listed.
- 1740–1900 White, Virgil D. *Index to War of 1812 Pension Files 1812–1900*. (FHL book 973 M22i 3 vols.) The spouse is often listed. About 150,000 names.
- 1740–1815 *Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812*. (FHL book Q 974.7 M22i.) Lists men who presented claims. About 17,000 names.
- 1740–1840 Scott, Kenneth. *Early New York Naturalizations: Abstracts of Naturalization Records From Federal, State, and Local Court, 1792–1840*. (FHL book 974.7 P4s; fiche 6088272.) About 15,000 names.
- 1740–1824 Livsey, Karen. *Western New York Land Transactions, 1804–1835: Extracted From the Archives of the Holland Land Company*. (FHL book 974.7 R28L.)

- 1740–1846 United States. Immigration and Naturalization Service. *Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, 1820–1897; Index to Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving in New York, 1820–1846*. (On FHL films beginning with 350204.) About 700,000 names.
- 1740–1828 Fay, Loren. *Quaker Census of 1828: Members of the New York Yearly Meeting, the Religious Society of Friends in New York, Ontario, Vermont, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Quebec, at the Time of the Separation of 1828*. (FHL book 974.7 K2fL.) About 19,000 names.
- 1740–1855 Maher, James P. *Indexes to Marriages and Deaths in the New York Herald, 1835–1855*. (FHL book 974.71 V22m.) About 52,000 names.
- 1770–1978 *The New York Times Obituaries Index . . .* (FHL book 974.71 V42n.) Indexes obituaries for 1858–1968. About 389,000 names.
- 1780–1850 Olsson, Nils. *Swedish Passenger Arrivals in New York, 1820–1850*. (FHL book 974.7 W3o.) About 7,600 names.
- 1780–1888 Glazier, Ira. *Germans to America: Lists of Passengers Arriving at U. S. Ports*. ed. Glazier, Ira. (FHL book 973 W2ger, over 54 vols.) Volumes will be published with names to about 1896. Over 1,000,000 names.
- 1780–1984 Falk, Byron A. *Personal Name Index to The New York Times Index, 1851–1993*. (FHL book 974.71 B3f.) There are supplements to 1996. About 3,000,000 names.
- 1790–1943 *Vital Records Index*. Births 1881–1918; marriages and deaths 1880–1943. (Not at the FHL.) This is on fiche at the New York State Archives. They can search the index for one name for a small fee.
- 1800–1850s Glazier, Ira, ed. *The Famine Immigrants: Lists of Irish Immigrants Arriving at the Port of New York, 1846–1851*. (FHL book 974.71 W3f, 7 vols.) The Balch Institute in Philadelphia plans to publish lists of Irish immigrants to 1896. Over 1,000,000 names.
- 1800–1900 Scott, Kenneth. *Nineteenth Century Apprentices in New York City*. (FHL book 974.71 U2s.) About 17,000 names.
- 1800–1899 Scott, Kenneth. *Petitions for Name Changes in New York City, 1848–1899*. (FHL book 974.71 D48s.) About 4,000 names.
- 1800–1865 United States. Adjutant General's Office. *Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations From the State of New York*. (FHL films 882057–212.) About 488,000 names.
- 1800–1934 United States. Veterans Administration. *General Index to Pension Files, 1861–1934*. (On 544 FHL films beginning with 540757.) This is a card index to pension applications of Civil War and Spanish-American War veterans. Copies of the original files may be ordered from the National Archives.
- 1800–1933 United States. Veterans Administration. *Veteran's Administration Pension Payment Cards, 1907–1933*. (Over 2,000 FHL films beginning with 1634036.) Lists veterans and wives who received pension payments for the Civil War and the War with Spain.
- 1800–1865 Phisterer, Frederick. *New York in the War of the Rebellion, 1861 to 1865*. (FHL book 974.7 M2p vols. 1–6; films 1486494–496.) Vol. 6 has a full index. See vol. 1 page 72–77, gives the county where the unit was raised. Indexes officers only. 24,000 names.



- 1800–1865 New York Adjutant General's Office. *Annual Report of the Adjutant-General*. (FHL book 974.7 M2n; FHL films beginning with 1000223 item 3.) Register of New York regiments in the Civil War. Lists names by regiment. Includes about 8,300 names.
- 1800–1890 Dilts, Bryan Lee. *1890 New York Census Index of Civil War Veterans or Their Widows*. (FHL book 974.7 X22dv 1890.) About 130,000 names.
- 1800–1902 United States Immigration and Naturalization Service. *Index to Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, June 16, 1897 June 30, 1902; Index (soundex) to Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, July 1, 1902–December 31, 1943; Passenger and Crew lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, 1897–1924*. (On 3,370 FHL films beginning with 1403751.) About 1,000,000 names.
- 1810–1952 United States Immigration and Naturalization Service. *St. Albans District Manifest Records of Aliens Arriving from Foreign Contiguous Territory: Arrivals at Canadian Border Ports from January 1895 to June 30, 1954; Indexes (Soundex), 1895–1952*. (FHL films beginning with 1472801).
- 1840–1954 *Card Manifests of Individuals Arriving in the Buffalo, New York District, 1920–1954*. (Not at FHL.) See the web site National Archives for locations of regional centers.
- 1840–1954 *Soundex Index to Arrivals at Malone, Ogdensburg, and Rooseveltown, New York, 1929–1956*. (Not at FHL.) See the web site National Archives for locations of regional centers.
- 1870–1898 *New York in the Spanish American War, 1898: Part of the Report of the Adjutant General of the State for 1900*. (FHL book 974.7 M2nys; fiche 6051368.) About 24,000 names.
- 1870–1898 Saldana, Richard H., ed. *Index to the New York Spanish-American War Veterans, 1898*. (FHL book 974.7 M2nys 1987, 2 vols.) About 24,000 names.
- 1873–1918 Haulsee, W. M. *Soldiers of the Great War*. (FHL book 973 M23s; fiche 6051244.) Vol. 2 lists New York soldiers who died in World War I, 1914–1918. About 7,900 names.
- 1874–1918 United States. Selective Service System. *New York, World War I Selective Service Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918*. (On 442 FHL films beginning with 1711815.) Men ages 18 to 45 are listed alphabetically by county or draft board.
- 1875–1918 *Abstracts of World War I Military Service, 1917–1919*. (Not at FHL.) This index is at the New York State Archives. The forms for requesting a search are available on their Internet site. The index cards often give the soldier's birth date or age, and birth place.
- 1875–1918 *Index to World War I Officers*. (Not at FHL.) At the Division of Military and Naval Affairs. This is for the period 1914–1918.
- 1900–1945 *Index to World War II Officers*. (Not at FHL.) At the Division of Military and Naval Affairs. This is for the period 1941–1945.

For ideas on ways your ancestor's name might be spelled by indexers or in collections, see Name Variations.

## Step 2. Copy and document the information.

The best method of copying information is to:

- Make a photocopy of the page(s) that include your ancestor's name.
- Document where the information came from by writing the title, call number, and page number of the index or collection on the photocopy. Also write the name of the library or archive.

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## Where to Find It

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### Family History Centers and the Family History Library

You can use the Family History Library book collection only at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, but many of our books have been microfilmed. Most of the films can be requested and used at our Family History Centers. To locate the address for your nearest Family History Center, [click here](#).

For information about contacting or visiting the Library or a center, see [Family History Library and Family History Centers](#).

### Libraries and Archives

You may be able to find the books at public or college libraries. If these libraries do not have a copy of the book you need, they may be able to order it from another library on interlibrary loan.

To use interlibrary loan:

- Go to a public or college library.
- Ask the librarian to order a book or microfilm for you through interlibrary loan from another library. You need the title of the item and the name of the author.
- The library staff will direct you in their procedures. Sometimes this is free; sometimes there is a small fee.

You can find addresses and phone numbers for most libraries and archives in the [American Library Directory](#), published by the American Library Association. The *American Library Directory* is available at most public and college libraries.

# Maps

## Computer Resources

### **MapQuest Maps**

Summary: Must know address, city, state, and zip code; more recent maps

### **Animap**

BYU FHL – on computer

Summary: Has each state with maps. Shows county boundary changes and allows marking of cities and finds distances.

### **Google Maps**

Summary: Has address finder, allows keyword searching, and allows street, satellite, or terrain views

### **Geology.com Maps**

Summary: Has Relief, Elevation, Drainage, Political and Road Maps for each state.

## **New York Maps Bibliography**

Andriot, Jay. *Township Atlas of the U.S.* McLean, Virginia, 1991.

Mic/Gen Ref – **G 1201.F7 A5 1991**

Summary: Shows "minor county subdivisions" maps start after 1930 and are provided by the Bureau of the Census. Census county subdivisions or minor civil divisions. Does not include Hawaii or Alaska.

Evaluation of New York Maps: pp. 223-229. General history of counties with precincts, census county divisions, public land surveys and townships.

Jackson, Richard H. *Historical & Genealogical Atlas of the U.S.: East of the Mississippi, vol.1.* 1970.

Mic/Gen Ref – **G 1201 .E6225 J33x 1970z**

Summary: Gives a chronological list of the counties.

Evaluation of New York Maps: Chronological list of Counties p. 109. 1960 p111; 1860 pp. 112-113; 1838 p114; 1823 p 115; 1804 p116; Revolutionary Period p 117.

Kirkham, E. Kay. *A Genealogical and Historical Atlas of the United States.* Utah: Everton Publishers, Inc. 1976.

Mic/Gen Ref – **G1201.E6225.K5 1976.**

Summary: Shows changes in boundaries in the United States from colonial days up to 1909. Civil War maps and information.

Evaluation of New York Maps: State historical information, p. 26-30. Maps: 1790-1900, 72; 1823, 105; NY City Area 1909, 231; 1909, 232-233.

Mattson, Mark T. *Macmillan Color atlas of the States.* Toronto: Simon Schuster Macmillan, 1996.

Mic/ Gen Ref – **Quarto Shelves G 1200.M4 1996**

Summary: General state information.

Evaluation of New York Maps: pp. 223-229. General state information includes; Maps with highways, climate & environment, history & important events, population & government, ethnicity & education, economy & resources.

Thorndale, William and William Dollarhide. *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1947.* Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1987.

Mic/Gen Ref – **G1201.F7 T5 1987**

Summary: Outlines counties and changes in 10 year intervals. Gives brief history on census, its growth and accuracy. Sources for maps come from state/territorial laws.

Evaluation of New York Maps: pp. 236-244. Shows modern boundaries and changes.

## **Map Collection on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the old section of HBLL**

Beauchamp, William M. *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*, Grand River Books, Detroit, 1971.

Map Collection – **F 117 .B37 1971**

Summary: Places names and what each one is nearby (lake, river, new town etc).

Evaluation: Indexed with all aboriginal names as well as new or more common names.

Collins, Charles W. *New York an Atlas*, Madison, Wisconsin, 1978.

Map Collection – **G 1250 .C6x 1978**

Summary: General government background information, physical (weather, geology, rivers) information.

Evaluation: Excellent for showing population of cities, their economy, agriculture and statistical data.

DeLorme Mapping Company. *New York State Atlas & Gazetteer*. Freeport, Maine, 1991.

Map Collection Quarto – **G 1250 .D4 1991**

Summary: Index to towns for grids.

Evaluation: Good source to find waterways, roads, main settlement areas.

Map Collection – **Map Cases G3800 – G3804**. Individual maps that illustrate things from military movement to censuses.

## **Web Sites/Computer Programs**

[www.topozone.com](http://www.topozone.com)

Summary: Gives options, of place name searches, coordinate searches, UTM searches.

Evaluation: Excellent for finding what new town your old town (etc) may be in.

[www.MapQuest.com](http://www.MapQuest.com)

Summary: Must know address, city, state and zip code, more recent maps.

Evaluation: Good, to find an existing relative if you have their address.

## **Animap**

Mic/Gen Family Search room – on computer and C.D. version available

Summary: Each state is different, with maps. Shows boundary changes with now boundaries.

Evaluation: Excellent to find older maps quick.



Family History Library • 35 North West Temple Street • Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400 USA

# New York Federal Census Population Schedules, 1790 to 1920

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## Guide

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### Introduction

Federal censuses are taken every 10 years. New York residents are included in censuses from 1790 through 1920.

- The 1790 through 1840 censuses give the name of the head of each household. Other household members are mentioned only by age groupings of males and females.
- The 1850 census was the first federal census to give the names of all members of each household.

For more information about U.S. Federal Censuses, see Background.

### What you are looking for

The information you find varies from record to record. These records may include:

- Names of family members.
- Ages of family members, which you can use to calculate birth or marriage years.
- The county and state where your ancestors lived.
- People living with (or gone from) the family.
- Relatives who may have lived nearby.

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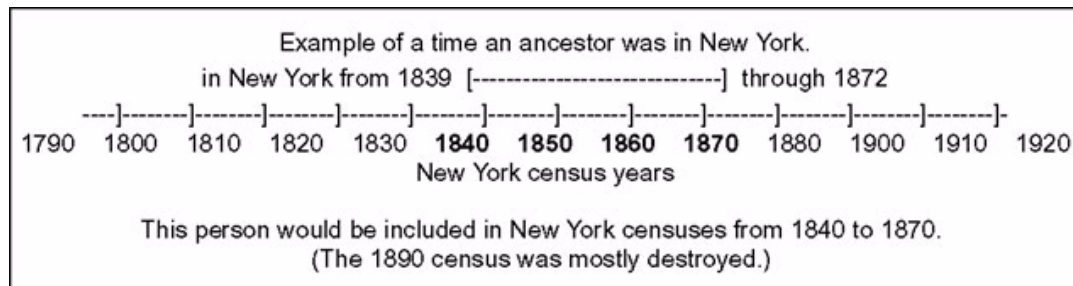
## Steps

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These 5 steps will help you use census records.

### Step 1. Determine which censuses might include your ancestors.

Match the probable time your ancestor was in New York with the census years. This will determine which censuses you will search.



## Step 2. Determine a census to start with.

Start with the last census taken during the life of your ancestor.

The censuses from **1850 to 1920** give more information and include the name, age, and birthplace of every person in the household.

The censuses from **1790 to 1840** give the name of the head of household and the number of males and females in age groups **without** their names.

The censuses for 1930 and later are available from the U.S. Census Bureau only.  
For ways the census can help you find your ancestor's parents, see Tip 1.

## Step 3. Search the census.

For instructions on how to search a specific census, click on one of the following years:

1790 1800 1810 1820 1830 1840 1850  
1860 1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920

For information about archives and libraries that have census records, see [Where to Find It](#).

## Step 4. Search another census.

Repeat steps 2 and 3 until you search all the censuses taken during the life span of your ancestor. Each census may contain additional information.

If you skip a census taken when your ancestor lived, you risk missing additional information, such as names of in-laws or other relatives who may have lived with or near the family. Those names and relationships may help you identify earlier generations.

For other information about how to search the census, see [Tips](#).

## Step 5. Analyze the information you obtain from the censuses.

To effectively use the information from the census, ask yourself these questions:

- Who was in the family?
- About when were they born?
- Where were they born? (Birthplaces are shown in censuses for 1850 to 1920.)
- Where were they living—town or township, county, and state?
- Where were their parents born? (Birthplaces are shown in censuses for 1880 to 1920.)
- Do they have neighbors with the same last name? Could they be relatives?

For more about comparing information in several censuses, see [Tip 3](#).



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## Tips

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### Tip 1. How can the census help me find my ancestor's parents?

Searching the census taken closest to the time the ancestor married has the best possibility of finding your ancestor and spouse living close to their parents and other family members.

### Tip 2. How can I understand the information better?

Sometimes knowing why the census taker asked a question can help you understand the answer. Detailed instructions given to census takers are in the book, *Twenty Censuses: Population and Housing Questions 1790–1980*, updated as *200 Years of U.S. Census Taking*, both by the U.S. Census Bureau.

### Tip 3. How can comparing information in more than one census help me?

Comparing censuses indicates:

- Changes in who was in the household, such as children leaving home or the death of grandparents or a child.
- Changes in neighbors. Remember, neighbors might be relatives or in-laws.
- Changes about each individual, such as age.
- Movement of the family within New York to a different county or town.
- Movement of the family out of New York if the family no longer appears in the census for New York.

You will eventually want to know every country, state, county, township, and town where your ancestor was located. You can then check information in other records for those places. A careful check of all available federal census records can help you identify those places.

The age and estimated birth date of an individual may vary greatly from census to census. Often ages are listed more accurately for young children than for adults.

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## Background

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### Description

A census is a count and a description of the population of a country, colony, territory, state, county, or city. Census records are also called census schedules or population schedules.

Early censuses are basically head counts. Later censuses give information about marriage, immigration, and literacy. United States censuses are useful because they begin early and cover a large portion of the population.

### What U.S. Federal Censuses Are Available

Censuses have been taken by the United States government every 10 years since 1790. The 1920 census is the most recent federal census available to the public; the 1930 census will be released in 2002.

Most of the 1890 census was destroyed by fire, although the census records for Brookhaven Township, in Suffolk County, and Eastchester, in Westchester County, are available. Portions of a special schedule taken in 1890, of Union Civil War veterans and their widows, have survived. The surviving 1890 veterans' schedules cover Washington D.C., half of Kentucky, and all of Louisiana through Wyoming (states are in alphabetical order from K through W). These schedules contain approximately 700,000 names.

## Types of Census Schedules

The following census schedules are available for New York and were created in various years by the federal government:

- **Population schedules** list a large portion of the population; most are well-indexed and are available at many repositories.
- **Mortality schedules** list those who died in the 12 months prior to the day the census was taken for the 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 censuses.
- **1840 pensioners' schedules** list people who were receiving pensions in 1840. Included were men who fought in the Revolutionary War or in the War of 1812 or their widows.
- **1890 veterans' schedules** list Union veterans from the Civil War or their widows who were living in 1890.
- **Agricultural schedules** list data about farms and the names of the farmers for the 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 censuses.
- **Manufacturing or industrial schedules** list data about businesses and industries for 1810 (listed on the microfilms in this order: Broome, Chenango, Essex, Genesee, Niagara, Orange, Clinton, Dutchess, Cayuga, and Queens Counties), 1820, 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880. The name of the owner of the business is often given, with information about what was produced. The 1810 manufacturing schedules are found with the population schedules. See page 133 of the Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Bureau of the Census for page numbers for the New York 1810 manufacturing schedules. The 1820 manufacturing schedules are also available on films.

## How Censuses Were Taken

People called enumerators were hired by the United States government to take the census. The enumerators were given forms to fill out and were assigned to gather information about everyone living in a certain area or district. Enumerators could visit the houses in any order, so families who are listed together in the census may or may not have been neighbors. The accuracy of the enumerators and the readability of their handwriting varies.

After the census was taken, usually one copy was sent to the state and another to the federal government. Sometimes copies were also kept by the counties. Few of the state and county copies survived.

## When the Censuses Were Taken

Census takers were supposed to gather information about the people who were part of each household on the following dates:

1790 to 1820: First Monday in August  
1830 to 1900: 1 June (2 June in 1890)  
1910: 15 April  
1920: 1 January  
1930: 1 April

If your ancestor was born in the census year, your ancestor should be listed only if he or she was born before the census date.

If your ancestor died in the census year, your ancestor should be listed only if he or she died after the census date.

The census may have actually taken several months to complete and may reflect births and deaths after the census date.

## Censuses from 1930 to the Present

U.S. Federal Censuses from 1930 to the present are confidential. The 1930 census will be available in 2002. You may ask the U.S. Census Bureau to send information about:

- Yourself.
- Another living person, if you are that person's "authorized representative."
- Deceased individuals, if you are "their heirs or administrators."

You may request information for only one person at a time. There is a fee for each search. To request information, you must provide the person's name, address at the time of the census, and other details on Form BC-600, available from the U.S. Census Bureau.

For the address of the U.S. Census Bureau, see *Where to Find It*.

## Colonial, State, and Local Censuses

Colonial, state, and local governments also took censuses. Nonfederal censuses generally contain information similar to and sometimes more than federal censuses of the same period. There are some colonial censuses for New York. Many are published in *Early New York State Census Records, 1663-1772*, and *Lists of Inhabitants of Colonial New York Excerpted from the Documentary History of the State of New York by Edmund Bailey O'Callaghan* (with lists for 1657 to 1799).

New York became a state in 1788. State censuses were taken in 1825, 1835, 1845, 1855, 1865, 1875, 1892, 1905, 1915, and 1925. (See the "Census" section of the *New York Research Outline* for more information.)

Colonial, state, and local censuses may be available on the Internet, at Family History Centers, at the Family History Library, and in state and local archives and libraries.

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## Where to Find It

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### Internet

Many Internet sites include census records, census indexes, or information about censuses. You may find the following sites helpful:

- New York GenWeb and USGenWeb have links to indexes and records and may have links to archives, libraries, and genealogical and historical societies.
- CensusLinks on the Net includes links to Internet sites that have United States and Canada censuses and indexes. It includes information about censuses and how to use them, a Soundex calculator, census forms you can print, an age calculator, and more.
- The Archives and Libraries section of the *New York Research Outline* lists Internet addresses for several New York archives, libraries, and historical societies. These organizations may have microfilms and indexes of New York census records, and the Internet sites may list what records they have.

## Family History Centers

Many Family History Centers keep copies of some census microfilms. Family History Centers can borrow microfilms of a U.S. Federal Census from the Family History Library. A small fee is charged to have a microfilm sent to a center.

You may request photocopies of U.S. Federal Censuses from the Family History Library. Staff at the Family History Center can show you how to request this service.

Family History Centers are located throughout the United States and other areas of the world. See Family History Centers for the address and phone number of the center nearest you.

## Family History Library

The Family History Library has complete sets of the existing U.S. Federal Censuses from 1790 to 1920. No fee is charged for using census microfilms in person.

For a list of indexes and other census records, click on **Family History Library Catalog** in the window to the left. Select from the list of titles to see descriptions of the records with the film or book call numbers. Use that information to obtain the records at a family history center or at the Family History Library.

For information about contacting or visiting the library, see *Family History Library and Family History Centers*.

## National Archives

Copies of the existing federal censuses from 1790 to 1920 are available in the Microfilm Research Room in the National Archives Building and at the 13 Regional National Archives. The National Archives has a microfilm rental program for census records. Call 301-604-3699 for rental information. For information on how to order photocopies of census records from the National Archives, click [here](#).

## College and Public Libraries

Many college libraries have copies of census microfilms, particularly for their own states. Many larger public libraries have copies of census soundex and populations schedules. Smaller public libraries may be able to obtain the records through interlibrary loan.

## State Archives, Libraries, and Historical Societies

The Archives and Libraries section of the *New York Research Outline* lists Internet and mailing addresses for several New York archives, libraries, and historical societies. These organizations may have microfilms and indexes of New York census records, and the Internet sites may list what records they have.

## U.S. Census Bureau

To request information from the 1930 census and later censuses, you must provide your relative's name, address, and other details on Form BC-600, available from:

The U.S. Census Bureau  
P.O. Box 1545  
Jeffersonville, IN 47131  
Telephone: 812-218-3300

## **Genealogical Search Services**

Many genealogical search services will search the census for a fee. These sources can help you find a genealogical search service:

- CyndisList lists many companies and individuals who do research and mentions publications about how to hire a professional genealogist.
- Advertisements in major genealogical journals may help you find a researcher.

For more information, see [Hiring a Professional Genealogist](#).

## U.S. State Censuses

### NEW YORK

Census of the electors and total population of the city and county of New-York.	Microfiche 080 Sh64a no. 13218
Enumeration of the inhabitants of the city of New-York.	Microfiche 080 Sh64a no. 10998
Unpublished census records of the towns of Union, Vestal, Lisle, and Barker, Broome County, N.Y.	Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH3185
Census of the electors and total population of the city and county of New York.	Microfiche CS43 .G46x LH5201
1663-1772 Early New York State census records, 1663-1772.	FHC Table 7 CS49.Z99 N7 1663
1673 Nassau County (town of Hempstead)	0896504
1698 Westchester County (Fordham, <u>Eastchester</u> , Bedford and Westchester townships)	Microfiche CS 43 .G46x GS no. 1 Card 133
Westchester County (Mamaroneck, Morrisania and New Rochelle townships)	Microfiche CS 43 .G46x GS no. 1 Card 258
1702, 1714, 1720 Orange County (1702), Dutchess County (1714), Albany County (1720)	0590446
ANOTHER FILMING Orange County (1702), Dutchess County (1714), Albany County (1720)	0896504 item 2
1703 City of New York (East Ward)	0896504
1706 Stanten Island	0908775 item 1
1710 New York Colonial Census of Palatines	F118 .M19x 1981
1738 Township of Flatbush	0896506
1755 Ulster, Orange, Dutchess, Westchester, Kings and Queens counties	0896506 item 1

# U.S. State Censuses

## NEW YORK (cont.)

..763	Westchester County	974.7006 N48c Vol. 35 No. 3
1776	Suffolk County (Town of Southampton)	0836756
1795, 1801	Statitital Census	State Census Microfiche Card 1 of 1
1807-1814	Statistical Census	State Census Microfiche Card 1 of 1
1815	St. Lawrence County	0556597
1821	Statitital Census	State Census Microfiche Card 1 of 1
1825	Statistical Census	State Census Microfiche Cards 2 of 2
	Broome County	0806800
	Cattaraugus County (Vol. 1)	0583827
	Chautauqua County	0479631
	Cortland County	0843779
	Cortland County Index (towns of Willet, Virgil, Truxton, Scott, Preble, Harrison (Marathon), Freetown and Cincinnatus	0017605
	Herkimer County	0845903 Item 2
	Jefferson County (A-W)	0895239
	Lewis County	0900774
	Orange County (Warwick Minisink, Goshen, Cornwall, New Windson, Blooming Grove, Wallkill, Deerpark, Montgomery, Monroe, Calhoun)	0834632 Item 1
	Otsego County (town of Otsego only)	0869023
	Schoharie County	0868877 Item 1
	Steuben County	0512419 Item 1
	Tioga County	0816363 Item 2
	Tomkins County (vol 1)	0856513 Item 1
	Washington County	0542453
	Washington County (county copy)	0513913 Item 1
	Yates County (vols. 1-2)	0838912
1835	Statitital Census	State Census Microfiche Cards 5 of 5

Cont. 7 sheets forward



**U.S. State Censuses****NEW YORK (cont.)**

Herkimer County (part)	0845905
Lewis County	0900779
Madison County (Brookfield-Sullivan)	0408501
Monroe County (vol. 1-8) (part)	0833783
Monroe County (vol. 9-16) (part)	0833784
Monroe County (towns) (part)	0833785
Montgomery County (pts. 1-2)	0479335
Niagara County	0878329
Onondaga County (Camillus, Cicero, Clay, De Witt, Elbridge, Fabius, Geddes, Lysander, LaFayette, Manliusm Marcellus, Onondaga & Otisco)	0860906
Onondaga County (Pompey, Spafford, Skaneateles, Salina, Tully, VanBuren, Onondaga Reservation, House of Good Shepard, County Home, Onondaga County Penitentiary & Syracuse)	0860907
Onondaga County (duplicate of the material on the film 860907 except does not include Syracuse)	0873184
Onondaga County (part of Syracuse)	0860908
Onondaga County (part of Syracuse)	0860909
Ontario County (vol. 1-2) (part)	0590814
Orleans County (vol. 7)	0592751
Oswego County (A-O) (vols. 1-2)	0857444
Oswego County (O-W) (vol. 3)	0857445
Otsego County (B-W)	0869029
Rockland County	0564819 item 2
Saratoga County (Northumberland - Wilton)	0559941
Schenectady County	0503210
Schoharie County	0868883 item 1
Steuben County (vols. 1-3)	0512430
Tioga County	0816369 item 1
Tompkins County (vol. 1)	0856517
Warren County	0474181 item 1
Washington County	0512705
Wayne County (A-N) vol. 1)	0479873
Wayne County (O-W) vol. 2)	0479874 item 2
Yates County (vol. 7)	0838916

1905

## Statitital Census

**State Census  
Microfiche  
Cards 9 of 9**

Albany County	0521946
Albany County	0521947
Albany County	0521948
Allegany County	0501960
Allegany County	0501963
Broome County	0809003
Broome County	0809004
Cattaraugus County	0584496
Cattaraugus County	0584497
Cortland County	0843869
Fulton County	0465984 item 2
Fulton County	0465985

# U.S. State Censuses

## NEW YORK (cont.)

Genessee County	0810479	
Greene County	0480081	
Hamilton County	0550033	
Herkimer County	0845906	
Jefferson County	0892399	
Jefferson County	0892400	
Jefferson County	0892401	
Lewis County	0900779	
Lewis County	0900780	
Madison County	0408502	
Monroe County	0833786	
Monroe County	0833787	
Monroe County	0833788	
Monroe County	0833789	
Monroe County	0833790	
Monroe County	0833791	
Montgomery County	0479336	
Niagara County	0878330	
Niagara County	0878331	
Onondaga County	0860910	
Onondaga County	0860911	
Orleans County	0592751	
Oswego County	1017602	
Oswego County	1017603	
Otsego County	0869030	
Rensselaer (city of Troy)	0549904	
Rensselaer County	0549905	
Rensselaer County	0549906	
Rockland County	0564820	
Saratoga County	0559942	
Saratoga County	0559943	
Schenectady County	0513834	
Schoharie County	0868883	
Seneca County	0501963	
St. Lawrence County	0885346	
Steuben County	0512431	
Steuben County	0512432	
Tioga County	0816369	
Tompkins County	0856518	
Ulster County	0842652	
Ulster County	0842653	
Ulster County	0842654	
Ulster County	0842655	
Warren County	0474181	item 2
Washington County	0512706	
Wayne County	0479874	item 5
Wayne County	0479875	item 2
Westchester County (Bedford-Mamoroneck)	0589696	
Westchester County	0589662	
Westchester County	0589663	
Yates County (vol. 7)	0838916	

## U.S. State Censuses

### NEW YORK (cont.)

Herkimer County (part)	0845905
Lewis County	0900779
Madison County (Brookfield-Sullivan)	0408501
Monroe County (vol. 1-8) (part)	0833783
Monroe County (vol. 9-16) (part)	0833784
Monroe County (towns) (part)	0833785
Montgomery County (pts. 1-2)	0479335
Niagara County	0878329
Onondaga County (Camillus, Cicero, Clay, De Witt, Elbridge, Fabius, Geddes, Lysander, LaFayette, Manliusm Marcellus, Onondaga & Otisco)	0860906
Onondaga County (Pompey, Spafford, Skaneateles, Salina, Tully, VanBuren, Onondaga Reservation, House of Good Shepard, County Home, Onondaga County Penitentiary & Syracuse)	0860907
Onondaga County (duplicate of the material on the film 860907 except does not include Syracuse)	0873184
Onondaga County (part of Syracuse)	0860908
Onondaga County (part of Syracuse)	0860909
Ontario County (vol. 1-2) (part)	0590814
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Oswego County (A-O) (vols. 1-2)	0857444
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Otsego County (B-W)	0869029
Rockland County	0564819 item 2
Saratoga County (Northumberland - Wilton)	0559941
Schenectady County	0503210
Schoharie County	0868883 item 1
Steuben County (vols. 1-3)	0512430
Tioga County	0816369 item 1
Tompkins County (vol. 1)	0856517
Warren County	0474181 item 1
Washington County	0512705
Wayne County (A-N) vol. 1)	0479873
Wayne County (O-W) vol. 2)	0479874 item 2
Yates County (vol. 7)	0838916

1905

### Statitital Census

State Census  
Microfiche  
Cards 9 of 9

Albany County	0521946
Albany County	0521947
Albany County	0521948
Allegany County	0501960
Allegany County	0501963
Broome County	0809003
Broome County	0809004
Cattaraugus County	0584496
Cattaraugus County	0584497
Cortland County	0843869
Fulton County	0465984 item 2
Fulton County	0465985

## U.S. State Censuses

### NEW YORK (cont.)

Genessee County	0810479	
Greene County	0480081	
Hamilton County	0550033	
Herkimer County	0845906	
Jefferson County	0892399	
Jefferson County	0892400	
Jefferson County	0892401	
Lewis County	0900779	
Lewis County	0900780	
Madison County	0408502	
Monroe County	0833786	
Monroe County	0833787	
Monroe County	0833788	
Monroe County	0833789	
Monroe County	0833790	
Monroe County	0833791	
Montgomery County	0479336	
Niagara County	0878330	
Niagara County	0878331	
Onondaga County	0860910	
Onondaga County	0860911	
Orleans County	0592751	
Oswego County	1017602	
Oswego County	1017603	
Otsego County	0869030	
Rensselaer (city of Troy)	0549904	
Rensselaer County	0549905	
Rensselaer County	0549906	
Rockland County	0564820	
Saratoga County	0559942	
Saratoga County	0559943	
Schenectady County	0513834	
Schoharie County	0868883	
Seneca County	0501963	
St. Lawrence County	0885346	
Steuben County	0512431	
Steuben County	0512432	
Tioga County	0816369	
Tompkins County	0856518	
Ulster County	0842652	
Ulster County	0842653	
Ulster County	0842654	
Ulster County	0842655	
Warren County	0474181	item 2
Washington County	0512706	
Wayne County	0479874	item 5 & 6
Wayne County	0479875	item 2
Westchester County (Bedford-Mamoroneck)	0589696	
Westchester County	0589662	
Westchester County	0589663	
Yates County (vol. 7)	0838916	

**U.S. State Censuses****NEW YORK (cont.)**

1915

## Statistical Census

State Census  
Microfiche  
Cards 15 of 15

Albany County (vol. 1-3)	0521949
Albany County (vol. 4-6)	0521950
Albany County (vol. 7-10)	0521951
Albany County (vol. 13)	0521953 item 1
Allegany County (vol. 14-16)	0521953 items 2-4
Allegany County	0501961
Cattaraugus County (vol. 59)	0521971
Cayuga County (vol. 60-61)	0521972
Cayuga County (vol. 62-63)	0521973
Chautauqua County	0479652
Chautauqua County	0479653
Chautauqua County (vol. 64-67)	0521974
Chautauqua County (vol. 68-70)	0521975
Bronx County (vol. 17-18)	0521954
Bronx County (vol. 19-21)	0521955
Bronx County (vol. 22-23)	0521956
Bronx County (vol. 24-26)	0521957
Dutchess County (vol. 88-89)	0521983
Erie County (vol. 97-98)	0521987
Erie County (vol. 99-100)	0521988
Erie County (vol. 102-104)	0521989
Erie County (vol. 105-106)	0521990
Erie County (vol. 107-109)	0521991
Erie County (vol. 110-113)	0521992
Erie County (vol. 114-115)	0521993
Fulton County (vol. 120-121)	0521996
Green County (vol. 124-126)	0521998 item 1
Kings County (vol. 135-136)	0525703
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## COUNTY HISTORIES ON MICROFILM

For many years the library has been purchasing county histories on microfilm. There are now county histories for eight states. The states are:

1. California
2. Indiana
3. Illinois
4. Michigan
5. New York
6. Ohio
7. Pennsylvania
8. Wisconsin

California, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin are classified in the Dewey Decimal Classification. The number is 900 with reel numbers following. Illinois, Michigan, New York, and Pennsylvania are classified in the LC (Library of Congress) classification. The number is F with the reel numbers following.

Of all these histories New York is the only one where the name of the county or counties are found on the rolls of microfilm. For the other states, in order, to locate the call number for a particular county the patron has had to use the BYU Card Catalog.

Recently it was brought to my attention there are county indexes for each state in book form located in Hist/Rel Ref. This will make it much easier for the patron to locate the exact reel number for a particular county without a trip to the card catalog.

Most of the states use a different indexing system. Some counties are arranged alphabetically within the index and some are randomly arranged.

For each state attached to this sheet is a step by step explanation of how to use the index. The call numbers are given for both the book index and the microfilm on the explanation sheet for each state.

There are two states that have a surname biography index to their counties. These two states are Indiana and Ohio. The Indiana surname is on microfiche F and the Ohio surname index is on microfilm CS. There is an explanation on how to use these two indexes.

These tools should be helpful as you help the patrons in the future.

Donna McGee



## STATE OF NEW YORK

Hist/Rel Ref      Book on shelves titled:  
F                   REEL INDEX TO THE MICROFORM COLLECTION OF  
119                NEW YORK COUNTY AND REGIONAL HISTORIES AND ATLASES  
.x1  
R47x

Microfilm\*        Microfilm collection of New York County Histories  
F  
#1-116

1. There is an Index of Collection numbers by county in the back of the book. The same instructions apply to New York as it did for Illinois. Some county histories are combined with other county histories so the patron will want to search this index as well as the Reel Index.
2. In the Reel Index the histories for the state and Regions are listed before the county histories. The county histories are alphabetically arranged. Hist/Rel Ref has placed an F in front of Reel numbers 1, 2, and 3 on page 1 with BYU written above the Reel No. The reel number in the index corresponds with the reel number on each roll of microfilm.

Periodically you will see where a call number has been added in pencil indicating there is a printed index for a particular county. All indexes notated are in book form unless otherwise stated. On page 7 for Chautaugua County there is a copy of the same history with a Genealogical Society film number. This indicates we have two copies of this film.

When the word Quarto is used as part of the call number for an index it means an oversized book.

For the state of New York the county name is printed on each label for each reel of microfilm. If it is a state and regional history it will say State and Regional.

\*Microfilm indicates this is in the LC collection. It is located on the north side of the area with pink labels in the windows.

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1. New York, New York (City) - Directories

# New York Naturalization Petitions

## Index, 1791-1906

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Contains records kept by the Mayors Court, Court of Common Pleas, Supreme Court, and Superior Court of the State of New York.

Supreme Court records prior to 1869 incomplete; no Supreme Court records for 1869-1895.

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1. New York, New York - Naturalization and citizenship

# Police census, 1890

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Census lists names of persons, sex, and age.

Index contains lists and maps of the assembly districts--showing election district and census volume numbers for each district.

Includes a copy of Wilson's Street and Avenue Directory of the city of New York, 1888.

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1. New York, New York (City) - Census - 1890

## **Other New York Resources**

### **New York State Censuses Availability**

<http://www.frontiernet.net/~halsey1/ny/ny-census.htm>

### **New York County Formation Maps**

[http://www.mynewyorkgenealogy.com/ny\\_maps/ny\\_cf.htm](http://www.mynewyorkgenealogy.com/ny_maps/ny_cf.htm)

### **Cornell University Interlibrary Loan**

<http://216.54.119.126/illiad/logon.html>

### **Cornell University Genealogy Resources**

<http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/EAD/browselists/geneo.html>

### **Study Center for Early Religious Life in Western New York**

In September 1981 295 collections, mainly on microfilm, came to Cornell. The church records collected include minute books, sermons, membership registers, subscription books, trustee records, Sunday school records, circuit books, and Bible society records from numerous denominations. In addition there are papers of families and individuals including diaries, journals, letters, and account books.

Sixteen counties are represented, some more extensively than others.

<http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/eguides/lists/churchlist1.htm>