



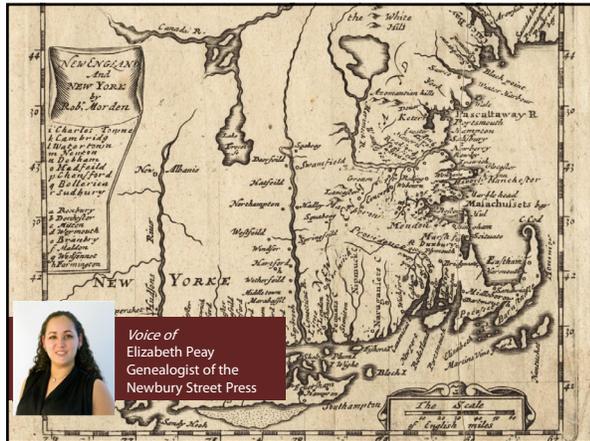
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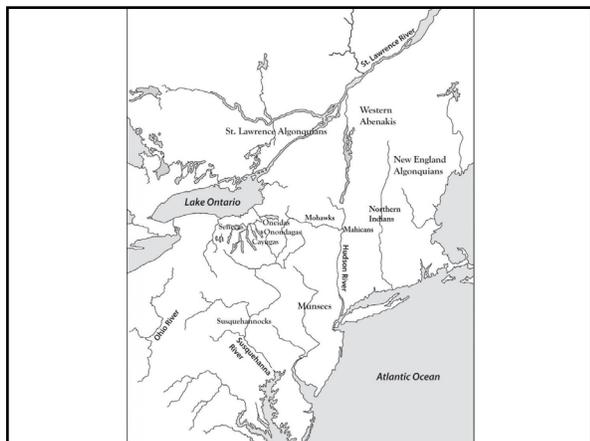


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Native People

- Different tribes throughout colony
- Fort Orange
 - Mohawks
 - Mahicans
- New Amsterdam
 - Esopus
 - Wappinger
 - Tappan
 - Manhattan

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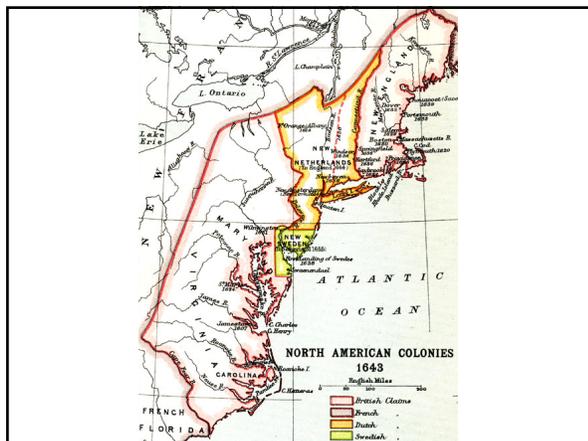
New York Colony

- After 1609 – began as series of competitive fur-trading posts owned by Amsterdam merchants
- 1621 – Dutch West India Company was granted control of New Netherland
- 1624 – First settlement of families at Fort Orange (Albany)
- 1625 – Small group in New Amsterdam (New York City)

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Struggle for New York Colony

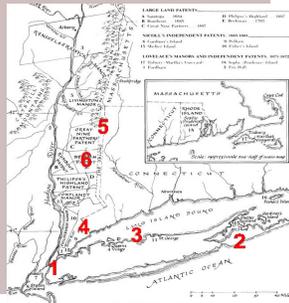
- 1664 – British conquered New Netherland
- 1673-74 – Dutch retake colony for 12 months
- 1674 – British take back New Netherland



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Early Settlements

1. Gravesend – 1640 from MA
2. Southampton – 1640 from Lynn, MA
3. L.I. – Migration from CT
4. Bedford & Rye – from CT, RI, southeastern MA
5. The Oblong – mainly Cape Cod Quakers
6. Beekman Patent & Dutchess Co. – NY, L.I., MA, CT, RI



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Major Groups in Colonial New York

- Dutch, 1609-1664, major settlement beg. 1624
- English throughout
- French (Huguenots), esp. after 1685
- German (Palatines), arriving 1710

Our chiefest unhappiness here is too great a mixture of nations, and English the least part.

12

Enslaved People

- As early as 1626, enslaved people were brought to New Netherland to construct infrastructure
- Dutch West India Company largest owner of enslaved people
- Small population until the 1660s
 - 1639 – 100 enslaved people
 - 1664 – 250 enslaved people

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Tracing Dutch Origins

- Population of New Amsterdam reflected diversity of Amsterdam
- Church marriage registers usually recorded where the bride and groom were from
- Passenger lists and notarial records



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NEW NETHERLAND ROOTS

By Swann F. Epperson



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Tracing English Origins

- Origins typically not noted in English records
- May be discerned through family papers, known associations, or Dutch records

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Great Migration

- Directed by Robert Charles Anderson, FASG
- Started in 1988
- Genealogical and biographical sketch for immigrants to New England from 1620 to 1640
- Arranged alphabetically in two series: 1620–1633 and 1634–1635
- Thirteen published volumes, with updated sketches and additional compendia
- Searchable online databases

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Tip
Don't assume a
New England connection.

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Tracing French Origins

- French Protestants (Huguenots) among the earliest settlers of New Netherland
- By 1650s other French Protestants from France, Germany, and elsewhere settled around New Amsterdam
- 1677 - Group settled New Paltz in present-day Ulster County

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Huguenots

- Banned from France in 1685
- Most settled in New York City or in New Rochelle in Westchester County



20



The French
French Huguenot Protestants, including those who fled France in 1685, were among the earliest settlers of New Netherland. They settled in New Amsterdam, New York, and other parts of the colony.

The German
While Huguenot Protestants were among the early settlers of New Netherland, they were not the only ones. German Protestants, including those who fled Germany in 1685, also settled in New Netherland.

Book and Article on Huguenots in New York
Book: *Book of the Huguenots in New York* by Robert G. Dickson, published by the Huguenot Society of New York, 1975.
Article: "The Huguenots in New York" by Robert G. Dickson, published in *American Ancestors*, Winter 2013, pages 52-54.

Book and Article on Huguenots in New York
Book: *The Huguenots in America: A Saga of the New World* by James H. Merrett, published by the University of North Carolina Press, 2004.
Article: "The Huguenots in America" by James H. Merrett, published in *American Ancestors*, Winter 2013, pages 52-54.

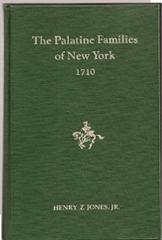
Book and Article on Huguenots in New York
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Article: "The Huguenots in America" by James H. Merrett, published in *American Ancestors*, Winter 2013, pages 52-54.

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The Germans

- 1710 major settlement
- Most Palatines settled upper Hudson Valley
- Married among themselves; then into local Dutch families
- Church records are key

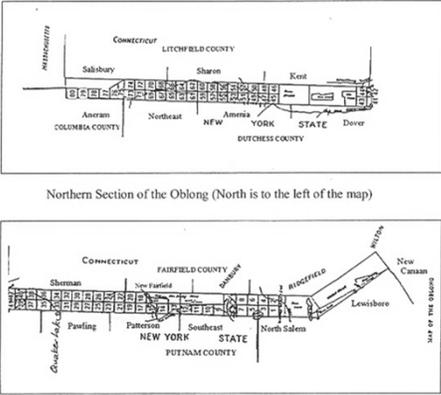
The Palatine Families of New York 1710, 2 vols. by Henry Z Jones, Jr.



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Boundary Disputes

23



Northern Section of the Oblong (North is to the left of the map)

Southern section of the Oblong (North is to the left of the map)

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Boundary disputes

- New York-established counties in Vermont:
 - Cumberland in 1766
 - Gloucester in 1772

25

Eastern and Western Union of Vermont, 1781

- 30 New Hampshire Towns in the Eastern Union
- 12 New York towns in the Western Union
- Desired to join Vermont
- Affecting birthplaces later

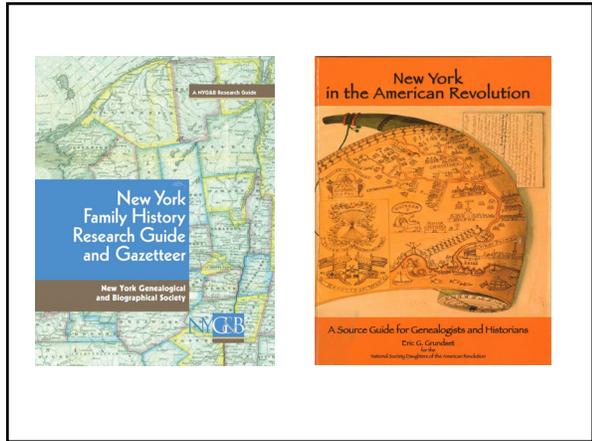
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QUESTIONS?

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Colonial Records

- Vital records
- Church Records
- Colonial censuses
- Naturalizations
- Poor records
- Military records
- Land records (*class 3*)
- Probate records (*class 4*)

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Vital Records

- Statewide registration begins 1880
- Some vital records kept before 1800:
 - Colony level: Published marriage licenses (1684-1706; 1730-1783)
 - Long Island towns, some births and marriage published
 - Illegitimate births in Overseers of the Poor records

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Church Records

- Essential source of vital records for this period
- Baptisms, sometimes including birth date
- Marriages: intentions or banns
- Burials: cemetery records may be your best record of a death prior to 1880



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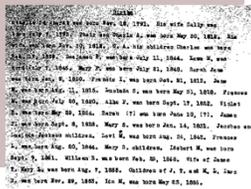
Locating Church Records

- Look at what churches are in the area
- What church was the bride's family associated with?
- Spread your search over a large area

33

Early Church Transcriptions

- Royden Vosburgh: Collection of Protestant Church Records, most begin in the mid to late eighteenth century
- Arthur Kelly: Mostly east side of Hudson Valley
- Jean Worden: Mostly west side of Hudson Valley
- Online databases at:
 - AmericanAncestors.org
 - Ancestry.com



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Genealogical Records Committee reports

- More than 1,000 volumes for New York
- Church records, cemetery records, family records, etc.
- Online, every-name index: services.dar.org/public/dar_research/search/
- Volumes available at DAR Library, Family History Library, and New York State Library

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Newspapers

- First NY newspaper *New York Gazette*, 1725
- Marriage notices
- Death notices
- Creditor notices
- Sale by executors
- Desertion by spouse

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Abstracted Newspapers

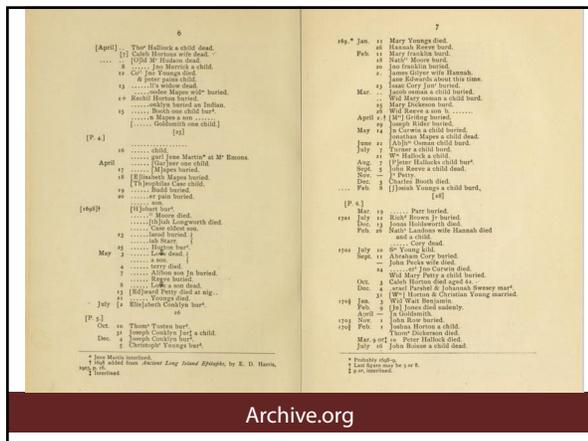
- Fred Q. Bowman and Thomas J. Lynch, *Directory to Collections of New York Vital Records, 1726–1989* (1995)
- Joseph Gavit, *American Deaths and Marriages, 1784–1829*, 2 reels of microfilm (1975)
- Digitized newspapers on newspapers.com, genealogybank.com, FultonHistory.com, nyshistoricnewspapers.org, and other historic newspapers sites

40

Private Records

- Journals
- Diaries
- Account books

41



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Oneida Continental Officers

JAMES WAKARANTHROW

JAMES WAKARANTHROW (or Powles) was born in 1749 or 1750, son of a chief of the 1st Christian party of the Oneida Indian nation. He entered the service in 1777 as captain of an Indian company. By resolution of Congress (3 April 1779) he was granted a Continental commission as a captain in the corps of Indian rangers, and served under Lt. Col. Louis Ata-pa-tag-hron-ghta, James Wakarantrow served until December 1784. He was awarded New York State bounty land of three lots, 29 January 1791. He was also issued a federal bounty land warrant, 8 March 1792. He lived at Oneida until the death of his wife in 1828, and continued to live there for several years after, until he moved to Green Bay, Wisconsin, where he died 15 March 1849, in the 99th year of his age.

James Wakarantrow was married to Nelly Sagoharase in the spring of 1788, by the Reverend Samuel Kirkland (q.v.), of Clinton, New York. (John Sagoharase, q.v. served as a lieutenant, and died in service in 1780) She died at Oneida, 25 April 1828, in the 60th year of her age. They had children as follows: Elizabeth Powles, Jinny Powles, Polly Powles, Caty Powles, Glestia Powles, and Henry Powles. As of 17 August 1853, the sole surviving children were Polly Powles, and Henry Powles (or Powlas), a resident of the town of Lenox, Oneida County, New York.

58

Major Series

- E. B. O'Callaghan, *Documentary History of the State of New-York*, 4 vols. (Albany: Weed, Parsons & Co., 1849-51); some useful lists reprinted in *Lists of Inhabitants of Colonial New York* (Baltimore: GPC, 1969).
- E. B. O'Callaghan and B. Fernow, ed., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New-York*, 15 vols. (Albany: Weed, Parsons & Co., 1856-87).
- E. B. O'Callaghan, *Calendar of Historical Manuscripts in the Office of the Secretary of State*, 2 vols. (Albany: Weed, Parsons & Co., 1865-66), Part I: Dutch Manuscripts 1630-1664, Part II: English Manuscripts, 1664-1783.
- New York Historical Manuscripts series (1974-present), continued as two series: New Netherland Documents and New York Historical Manuscripts: English.

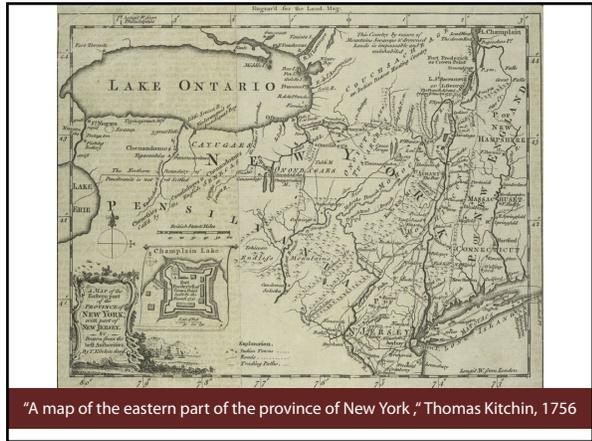
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QUESTIONS?

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Post-Revolutionary War Migrations

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"A map of the eastern part of the province of New York," Thomas Kitchin, 1756

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Post-Rev War Migration

- Available farmland
- Need for tenants
- Bounty land claims

"The state of New York," Samuel Lewis, 1800

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Biographical Sketches

- DAR, Society of the Cincinnati, SAR, etc.
 - Connecticut
 - Massachusetts
 - Rhode Island
 - New Hampshire
 - New Jersey

HEZEKIAH HOLDRIDGE

QUALIFICATION: Original Member

MILITARY ABSTRACT: Captain, 22nd Connecticut Continental Regiment, 1 Jan. 1776; Major, 3 Sept. 1776; Major, 2nd Connecticut Continental Regiment, 1 Jan. 1777; Lieutenant Colonel, 7th Connecticut Continental Regiment, 15 Nov. 1778; retired by consolidation, 1 Jan. 1781.

BIRTH: Connecticut, about 1737?

MARRIAGE: Colchester, New London County, Connecticut 20 April 1763 to **EROSER NORTHAM**, who was baptized Colchester 3 Nov. 1734, daughter of Jonathan Northam, and died Spencertown, Columbia County, New York 20 March 1823, at the age of 88.

DEATH: Canaan, Columbia County 27 Oct. 1798, at the age of 61.

CHILDREN: All born/baptized at Colchester?

i. ASA HOLDRIDGE, bp. 6 May 1764, d. Spencertown 2 June 1812, at the age of 48 m. bef. Nov. 1790, MOLLY _____, b. abt. 1764, d. Spencertown 13 Nov. 1790.

ii. BETHSUDA HOLDRIDGE, bp. 12 July 1767; d. unknown.

Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Connecticut

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The Importance of Chain Migration

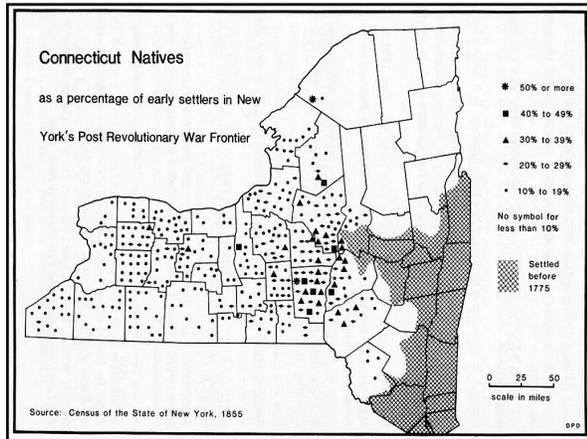
- Learn where a town's early settlers were from
- Later residents may have been from the same place

65

Maps from Davenport's "Yankee Settlement of New York"

- Connecticut
- Massachusetts
- Vermont
- New Hampshire
- Rhode Island
- Also . . .
 - New Jersey
 - Schoharie County, New York

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**Key Questions in the
New York State 1855 Census**

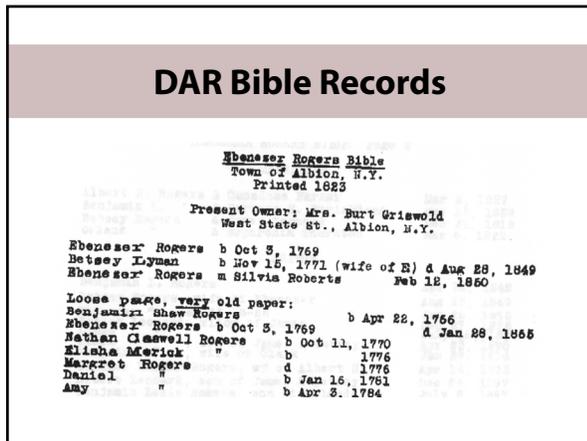
- Every person as of 1 June 1855
- Age
- Sex
- Relation to head of the family
- In what county of this state, or in what other state or foreign country born
- Married
- Widowed
- Years resident in this city or town

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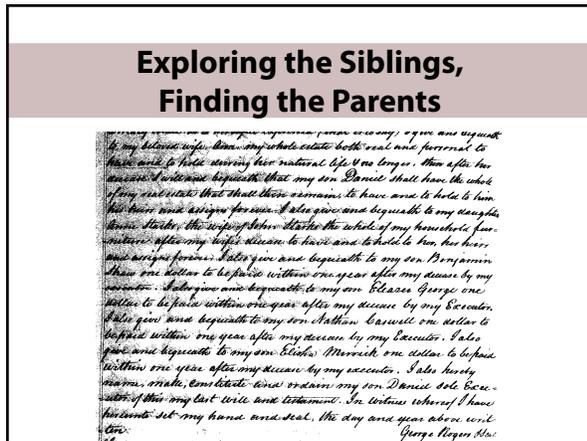
**Frank J. Doherty, Settlers of the
Beekman Patent, Dutchess County**

- 18th-century settlement of the Beekman Patent by Palatines, Dutch, and the English from Long Island and New England
- Fourteen volumes
- Searchable database on AmericanAncestors.org

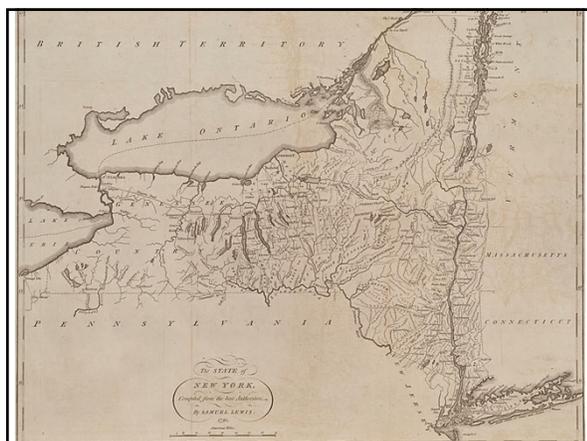
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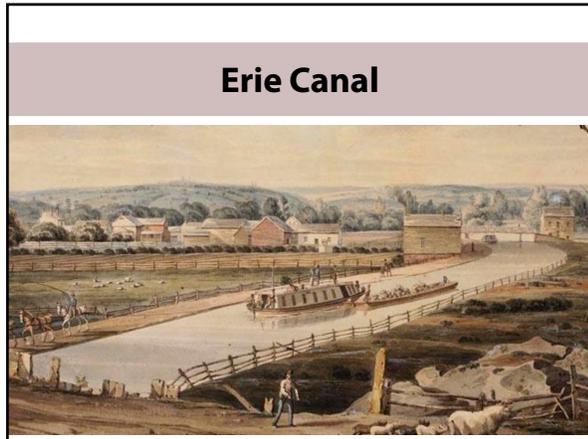
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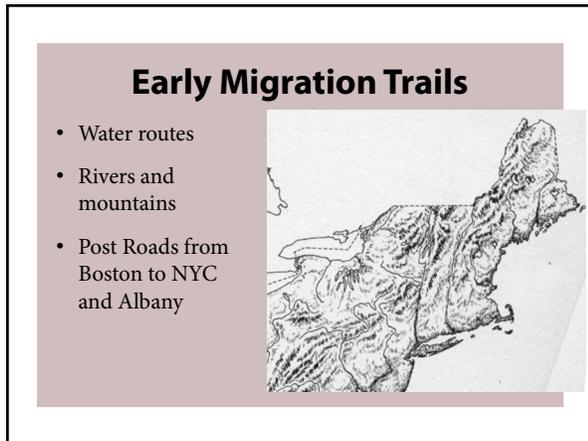


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Erie Canal

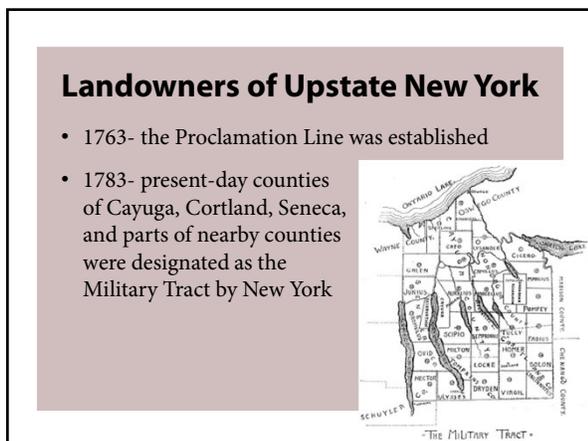
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Early Migration Trails

- Water routes
- Rivers and mountains
- Post Roads from Boston to NYC and Albany

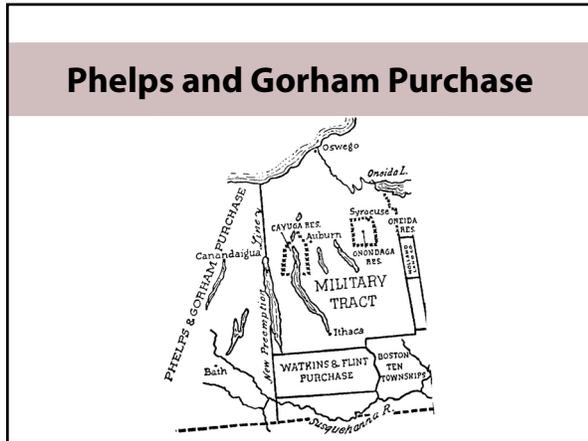
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Landowners of Upstate New York

- 1763- the Proclamation Line was established
- 1783- present-day counties of Cayuga, Cortland, Seneca, and parts of nearby counties were designated as the Military Tract by New York

78



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Counties and Towns

- 1788- Reorganization Act recognized boundaries of existing thirteen New York counties; Clinton County was created from Washington County
- A newly-established county had to have a certain population before it was “organized,” and could keep its own records

80

Records Not Kept Until After the Revolution

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Censuses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Federal Census, 1790–present – Federal Direct Tax, 1798 – New York State Census, 1825–1925 • For Veterans of the Revolution, War of 1812, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pensions – Bounty land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vital Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Towns 1847–1853 (a few later) – Some cities 1852–present – New York City 1847–present (deaths 1795–present) – Brooklyn 1847–present
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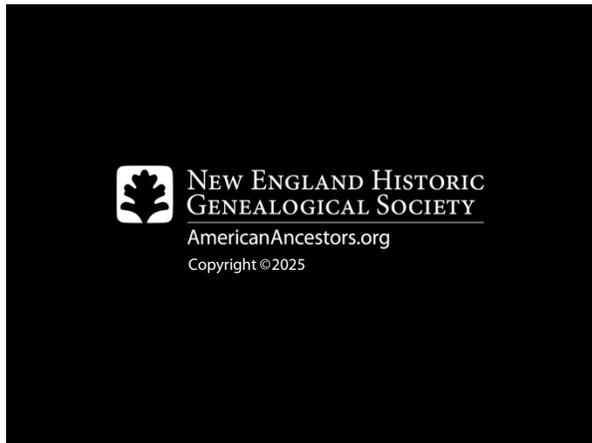
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