

***Doing Pre-1800 Genealogical Research at  
the New York State Library:  
A Collection of Titles of  
Books and Articles That  
May or May Not Help You 😊***

*Draft Copy*

# New York State Library

## Resources for Researching Colonial Ancestors

### General Hints

This list is by no means all-inclusive. It is hoped that the titles listed here will lead you to a call number in the New York State Library's collection where you will find other books that will prove useful.

Start your research by doing a simple keyword search on family last names (smith, jones), community names (rochester, onondaga), regions (mohawk valley), church names (reformed dutch church, lutheran church), names of ethnic groups (huguenots, palatines) or types of records (wills, tax) on the New York State Library's online catalog ([www.nysl.nysed.gov](http://www.nysl.nysed.gov)).

Some of the books listed are here because they encompass the entire state for the time period or are considered seminal works. Others, focussing on a specific year or region, serve as examples of what can be found in the collection.

Check the Genealogy Research Series available in paper at the New York State Library and on the State Library's Website. On the homepage, click on the Collections link; on the next screen, click on the Genealogy link; on the next page, click on any link that interests you.

Many of the books in this list have indexes and many of those indexes are basically name indexes. Always check an index if there is one but don't rely on it to be all inclusive. You may have to go through a book page by page.

Always check the introductory material in books to determine what books, documents and methodology was used to compile the information in the book. You may want to look at those books or documents also.

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## BIBLE RECORDS

The New York State Library is a depository for several record series compiled by New York State chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) , including 266 volumes of Bible records. For more information on the DAR records, see the DAR Records fact sheet

( <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/genealogy/dar.htm> ), which is part of the Genealogy Research Series ( <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/gengen.htm> ). The Bible records are indexed in:

*Revised Master Index to the New York State Daughters of the American Revolution Genealogical Records Volumes. Prepared by the General Peter Gansevoort Chapter.* (Zephyrhills, Fla.: Jean D. Worden, 1998). 2 v. The Bibles are indexed in Volume 1.

New York State Library call number: R-REF,929 qD23 98-005610

This is a revision of the *Master Index, New York State DAR Genealogical Records* ([S.l.: Daughters of the American Revolution, 1972. 371 p. (New York State Library call number: R 929 qD23m) and *Master Index, Supplement 1972-1978, Records and Corrections* ([S.l.: s.n., 1978?). 66 p.

New York State Library call number: R 929 qD23m 1972b

Surname Card Index on the 7<sup>th</sup> Floor – Index to genealogies the New York 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 Bible and Family Records of the United States (Excluding the Southern States): 45,000 References as Taken from the Microfilm at the Genealogical Society of Utah.* ([Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers], 1984). 104 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 016.9292097 qK59 88-032857

Robison, Jeannie Floyd Jones. *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).

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 R666

## CEMETERY RECORDS

The New York State Library is a depository for several record series compiled by New York State Chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, including 650 volumes of cemetery, church, and town records. The series is indexed in:

*Revised Master Index to the New York State Daughters of the American Revolution Genealogical Records Volumes. Prepared by the General Peter Gansevoort Chapter.* (Zephyrhills, Fla.: Jean D. Worden, 1998). 2 v. The cemetery records are indexed in Volume 1.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 qD23 98-005610

Vital Records Card Index on the 7<sup>th</sup> Floor – Arranged alphabetically by county and then by location in the county.

Cemetery records also are published in periodicals such as *Tree Talks* (New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.105 qT786) and the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* (New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 qN54)

## CENSUS RECORDS

Meyers, Carol M. *Early New York State Census Records, 1663-1772*. 2nd ed. (Gardena, Calif.: RAM Publishers, 1965). 178, [66] p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 312.09747 M613

"[Material] edited and rearranged ... in a phonetic alphabetical sequence from the *Documentary History of New York State*, Vol. I-IV, originally copyrighted in 1850." Counties covered that are still in New York State are Albany (including parts of present-day Columbia, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Schenectady counties), Dutchess, Kings, New York, Orange, Queens, Richmond, Suffolk, Ulster, and Westchester. Included are Cumberland and Gloucester counties which were created from Albany County in what is present-day Vermont.

New York (State). Secretary of State. *Calendar of Historical Manuscripts Relating to the War of the Revolution in the Office of the Secretary of State, Albany, N.Y.* (Albany, N.Y.: Weed, Parsons and Co., 1868). 2 vol. (Vol. 1 has 2 parts.)

New York State Library call number: A and R-REF 973.3447 qA

Massive name index in volume 2.

Scott, Kenneth. *New York: State Census of Albany County Towns in 1790*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1975). 68 p.

New York State Library call number: A 929.3097474 S427 76-258

Stemmons, John D. *The United States Census Compendium: A Directory of Census Records, Tax Lists, Poll Lists, Petitions, Directories, etc. Which Can Be Used as a Census*. (Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, [1973]). 144 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 016.929373 qS824 74-8123

New York State entries: Pp. 82-88.

Cemetery records also are published in periodicals; see the section on PERIODICALS.

## CHURCH RECORDS

The New York State Library is a depository for several record series compiled by New York State chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, including 650 volumes of cemetery, church and town records. The records are indexed in:

*Revised Master Index to the New York State Daughters of the American Revolution Genealogical Records Volumes. Prepared by the General Peter Gansevoort Chapter*. (Zephyrhills, Fla.: Jean D. Worden, 1998). 2 v.

New York State Library / Manuscripts and Special Collections

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 qD23 98-005610  
The church records are indexed in Volume 1.

Historical Records Survey. New York (State). *Guide to Vital Statistics Records of Churches in New York State (exclusive of New York City)*. (Albany, N.Y.: The Survey, 1942). 2 vol.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 qH67g

Historical Records Survey. New York (City). *Guide to Vital Statistics in the City of New York, Borough of Brooklyn. Churches*. (New York: The Survey, 1942). 67 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.71 qH672g

\_\_\_\_\_. *Guide to Vital Statistics in the City of New York, Borough of the Bronx. Churches*. ([New York: The Survey], 1942). 26 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.71 qH672g

\_\_\_\_\_. *Guide to Vital Statistics in the City of New York, Borough of Manhattan. Churches*. ([New York: The Survey], 1942). 73 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.71 qH672g

\_\_\_\_\_. *Guide to Vital Statistics in the City of New York, Borough of Queens. Churches*. ([New York: The Survey], 1942). 39 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.71 qH672g

\_\_\_\_\_. *Guide to Vital Statistics in the City of New York, Borough of Richmond. Churches*. ([New York: The Survey], 1942). 21 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.71 qH672g

## CITY DIRECTORIES

The New York State Library has a microfiche collection of city directories published before 1800. However, holdings for the eighteenth century are relatively sparse. New York State communities with pre-1800 directories are Brooklyn (1796) and New York City (1665, 1786-87, 1789+). There are scattered pre-1800 holdings for Baltimore, Boston, Charleston, Hartford, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. The State Library's holdings are listed in alphabetical order by the name of the city or county at <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/genealogy/citydir.htm>

## COURT RECORDS

In 1626 Peter Minuit arrived in New Netherland to become director. He was assisted in his duties by a council and a provincial secretary. The council served as a judicial panel, hearing all cases in which capital punishment could be invoked and reviewing decisions of lower courts on appeal, as well as serving as the local court for the New Amsterdam area. The council minutes, therefore, are of importance for the study of criminal activity in the province. The registers of the provincial secretary contain court

depositions, bonds, deeds, leases and other legal declarations and agreements which had to be filed with the secretary; they also provide the legal basis for land titles. Most of those documents contain names of individuals

Van Laer, Arnold Johan Ferdinand, 1869-1955, comp. *New York Historical Manuscripts: Dutch*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1974). 5 v.

New York State Library call number: A and R-REF 974.702 V259 74-6594

Register of the Provincial Secretary, 1638-1660 (Volumes 1-3). Council Minutes, 1638-1649, 1652-1654 (Volumes 4-5). Each volume is indexed.

Many names mentioned in the documents are not listed in the indexes.

In 1653, on the orders of the Dutch government, a court was organized. It consisted of a *schout*, who prosecuted cases and executed the court's orders and judgments, two burgomasters and five *schepens* (aldermen).

New York (N.Y.) *The Records of New Amsterdam from 1653 to 1674 Anno Domini*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1976). Reprint of 1897 edition. 7 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.71 N541 1976

Translated from original Dutch manuscript records; edited by Berthold Fernow. Includes administrative minutes, March 8, 1657, to Jan. 28, 1661. Volume 7 is the index.

Immigrants and their occupations are sometimes listed.

The Court of Assizes for the Colony of New York was established in 1665. It served as the colony's high court through 1683, hearing major civil and criminal suits both as a court of first instance and as a court of appeals. The few surviving records of this court are in the New York State Archives (Series A0271, available on microfilm). In 1683 it was replaced by the Court of Oyer and Terminer (1683-1895), which met in each county at least once a year to "hear and determine" major criminal and civil cases. The court's jurisdiction was the same as that of the Court of General Sessions except that Oyer and Terminer had jurisdiction over crimes punishable by life imprisonment or death. (Any surviving records of the Court of Oyer and Terminer are held by the county clerks.

Christoph, Peter R. and Florence A. Christoph, eds. *Records of the Court of Assizes for the Colony of New York, 1665-1682*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1980).

Part of series: *New York Historical Manuscripts, English*.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.702 N533

The records contain appeals and some probates and divorce records.

The Court of General Sessions (1683-1847) was a county-level court having jurisdiction over all felony cases not punishable by death or life imprisonment. Certain city courts had equivalent jurisdiction. Surviving minute books and indictment files are usually held by the county clerk.

Scott, Kenneth. *New York City Court Records, 1684-1760: Genealogical Data from the Court of Quarter [sic] Sessions*. (Washington, D.C.: National Genealogical Society, 1982). 161 p. Includes index.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 N269 no. 50

\_\_\_\_\_. *New York City Court Records, 1760-1797: Genealogical Data from the Court of Quarter [sic] Sessions*. (Washington, D.C.: National Genealogical Society, 1983). 244 p.

New York State Library call number: 929 N269 no. 52

Records contain names of persons involved in cases of stealing, assault, battery, counterfeiting, riot, extortion, keeping a disorderly house, maintaining a billiard table or permitting card playing in a tavern and illegitimacy. The court also dealt with complaints of apprentices, appointment of guardians, manumissions of slaves, etc. – Introduction

The Mayor's Court, created in 1665 (also known as the Court of Common Pleas after 1686), replaced the Dutch magistrates with a mayor, five aldermen and a sheriff. 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. (The Mayor's Court of Albany replaced the Court of Albany, Rensselaerswyck and Schenectady, which in turn had replaced the Court of Rensselaerswyck and the Court of Fort Orange and Beverwyck.)

New York (N.Y.). Mayor's Court. *Minutes of the Mayors Court of New York, 1674-1675*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1983). 87 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.71 N532n4

This book lists probates, marriages, lawsuits, licenses, names of freemen and persons taking allegiance oaths.

Albany (N.Y.) Court of Albany, Colony of Rensselaerswyck and Schaenhectede. *Minutes of the Court of Albany, Rensselaerswyck and Schenectady, 1668-1685*. (Albany, N.Y.: University of the State of New York, 1926-1932). 3 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 974.743 A323

Beverwyck (New Netherland). Kleine Banck van Justitie, Fort Orange. *Minutes of the Court of Fort Orange and Beverwyck, 1652-1660*. (Albany, N.Y.: University of the State of New York, 1920-1923). 2 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 974.743 F73

The ... court ... was ... for the trial of civil and minor causes. The jurisdiction of the court comprised Fort Orange, the village of Beverwyck, Schenectady, Kinderhook, Claverack, Coxsackie, Catskill and, until May 16, 1661, when a court was established at the Esopus, also the region around Kingston. Excluded was the colony of Rensselaerswyck, which maintained its own court until 1665 when the two courts were consolidated. – Preface.

This publication has been superceded by: New Netherland. Inferior Court of Justice (Beverwyck, N.Y.) *Fort Orange Court Minutes, 1652-1660* ([Syracuse, N.Y.]: Syracuse University Press, 1990).

New York State Library call number: 974.74301 A326 91-28153

Rensselaerswyck. Court. *Minutes of the Court of Rensselaerswyck, 1648-1652*. (Albany, N.Y.: University of the State of New York, 1922).

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 974.742 R414

The court ... corresponded to the usual courts of *schout* and *schepens* ... a court of limited civil and criminal jurisdiction. – Preface.

In 1691 the Supreme Court of Judicature replaced the Court of Oyer and Terminer. It is a statewide court which holds terms in each county and possesses all the civil, criminal and appellate jurisdictions of English common-law courts.

New York Historical Society. *Collections of the New-York Historical Society for the Year ...*

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 N552

“Minutes of the Supreme Court of Judicature, April 4, 1693 to April 1, 1701”. (Vol. 45, 1912)

“Minutes of the Supreme Court of Judicature of the Province of New York, Oct. 6, 1691 through Oct. 12, 1692 and Aug. 11, 1701 through Oct. 14, 1704. (Vol. 79, 1952)

For more information on courts in colonial New York State:

“Courts” in *Encyclopedia of New York City*. (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 1995).

New York State Library call number: R and A 974.71003 qE56 96-439

“Courts” in *Encyclopedia of New York State*. (Syracuse, N.Y.: Syracuse University Press, 2005).

New York State Library call number: R and A 974.7 qE563 205-5021

Goebel, Julius and T. Raymond Naughton. *Law Enforcement in Colonial New York: A Study in Criminal Procedure, 1664-1776*. (Montclair, N.J.: Patterson Smith, 1970).

New York State Library call number: R 345.74705 G593 95-14665.

Greenberg, Douglas. *Crime and Law Enforcement in the Colony of New York, 1691-1776*. (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1976). 259 p.

New York State Library call number: C 364.9747 G798 77-24701.

New York State Archives. *List of Pre-1847 Court Records in the State Archives*. (Albany, N.Y.: Office of Cultural Education, 1984)

New York State Library call number: ARC 955-4 LISPE 85-71942

## EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION RECORDS

Epperson, Gwenn F. *New Netherland Roots*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1994). 147 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.3747 E64 95-8739

Discusses passenger lists of the Dutch West India Company, early Dutch marriage registers and other records of New Netherland, plus steps to follow and research aids to use in establishing families in Europe.

Baird, Charles Washington. *History of the Huguenot Emigration to America*. (S.l.: s.n., 1966). 2 vol.  
New York State Library call number: Z 284.5 B16a

Finnell, Arthur Louis. *Register of Qualified Huguenot Ancestors of the National Huguenot Society*. 4th ed. (Bloomington, Minn.: The Society, 1995). 337 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.30882 qF514,94-81026

This edition includes the current (as of 1995) compiled list of Huguenot names recognized by the National Huguenot Society.

Jones, Hank. *The Palatine Families of New York: A Study of the German Immigrants Who Arrived in Colonial New York in 1710*. (Universal City, Calif.: H.Z. Jones, 1985). 2 v. (1298 p.)

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 J77p

\_\_\_\_\_. *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.: H.Z. Jones, 1991). 592 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 N532 92-3850

Dobson, David. *Directory of Scottish Settlers in North America, 1625-1825*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1984-1986). 6 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.3089916 D635 84-35407

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Original Scots Colonists of Early America, 1612-1783*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1989). 370 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.3089916 D635 89-25279

*Passenger and Immigration Lists Index*. (Detroit, Mich.: Gale Research Co., 1981- ).

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.373 qP287 81-26439 1981b2

“*Passenger and Immigration Lists Index (PILI)* was first published in 1981 in three volumes which indexed more than 300 published lists covering about 500,000 persons. *PILI* and its 27 supplements now cover more than 4,056,000 persons” – Introduction to *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index ... 2003 Supplement*.

The 2003 supplement is a bibliography of sources indexed for all volumes published and is a good place to look for titles of genealogy-related books of lists.

Filby, P. William. *Passenger and Immigration Lists Bibliography, 1538-1900: Being a Guide to Published Lists of Arrivals in the United States and Canada. Supplement with Combined Index to Basic Volume and Supplement*. 1st ed. (Detroit, Mich.: Gale Research Co., 1984- ). Includes index.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 016.92933 qP287 82-20465

Coldham, Peter Wilson. *The Complete Book of Emigrants*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1987-1993). 4 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF,973.0042,C688,88-28777

"A comprehensive listing compiled from English public records of those who took ship to the Americas [between 1607 and 1776] for political, religious, and economic reasons; of those who were deported for vagrancy, roguery, or non-conformity; and of those who were sold to labour in the New Colonies."

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Complete Book of Emigrants in Bondage, 1614-1775*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1988). 920 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.373 C688 89-4854

Revised edition of: *Bonded Passengers to America*. 1983.

Lancour, Harold. *A Bibliography of Ship Passenger Lists, 1538-1825: Being a Guide to Published Lists of Early Immigrants to North America*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Revised and enlarged by Richard J. Wolfe. (New York: New York Public Library, 1963).

New York State Library call number: A 016.929 L25a

"On the assumption that the researcher, in looking for a particular individual's name, will know at least one of three things: the place of arrival, the approximate date of arrival, or the name of the ship, the list is arranged, first by the state to which the ship came, and second, under each state, chronologically by the year of arrival. In addition, there is a complete index to all ships' names mentioned in the several books and articles listed in the bibliography giving exact page references to the books and articles referred to."

## GAZETTEERS

Several guides to New York place names have been published. Three of the many are:

Beauchamp, William M. *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*. (Detroit, Mich.: Grand River Books, 1971). 333 p.

New York State Library call number: A 929.4 B37 1971.

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, Town, Village and Locality, with Full Tables of Statistics*. (Syracuse, N.Y.: R. Pearsall Smith, 1860). 751 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 917.47 F87a

Also, in microfiche: New York State Library call number: MA 929.373 G326 86-24269,LH4397

Includes dates of settlement, early settlers, newspapers, geographical features, schools, churches, and industries.

Place, Frank. *Index of Names in J.H. French's Gazetteer of the State of New York (1860)*. (Cortland, N.Y.: Cortland County Historical Society, 1983). 145, 42 p.  
This is an index of personal names in the gazetteer.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 917.47 F87I 1983

Spafford, Horatio Gates, ed. *Gazetteer of the State of New-York, Carefully Written from Original and Authentic Materials, Arranged on a New Plan, in Three Parts*. (Albany, N.Y.: H.C. Southwick, 1813). 334 p.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 917.47 S733  
Also available in microfiche: New York State Library call number: MB/FF 810.8 E12 87-028530 no. 29836)

## GENEALOGIES

The books listed in this section serve as a history of a region written through the lives of the people who settled and lived there. Generally, they do not list primary source documents. William Applebie Eardeley wrote a number of books dealing with cemeteries, wills, estates, etc. for communities on Long Island and in the southeastern part of New York State. A search on *eardeley william* on the New York State Library online catalog will provide you with more detailed information. Helen Wilkinson Reynolds did the same for Dutchess County. A search on *reynolds helen wilkinson* on the New York State Library online catalog will provide you with more detailed information

Bergen, Teunis G. *Register in Alphabetical Order, of the Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, N.Y., from its First Settlement by Europeans to 1700, with Contributions to Their Biographies and Genealogies*. (New York: S.W. Green's Son, 1881). 452 p.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.722 B49  
Thousands of names of birth, marriage, death, children, residence and often place of origin.

*Collections of the Holland Society of New York*. ([New York]: The Society, 1891- ).  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 qH731  
This lineage society collects information about the early Dutch settlers and their descendants. Each volume has also a distinctive title.

Davis, Norman. *Westchester Patriarchs: A Genealogical Dictionary of Westchester County, New York, Families Prior to 1755*. (Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1988). 325 p.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7277 W524 89-4974

Doherty, Frank J. *Settlers of the Beekman Patent, Dutchess County, New York: An Historical and Genealogical Study of All the 18<sup>th</sup> Century Settlers in the Patent*. (Pleasant Valley, N.Y.: The Author, 1997- ).  
New York State Library call number: 974.733 D975-40991

To date 13 volumes, covering the Abbot through Swift families, have been published, the most recent volume appearing in 2015; the New York State Library has Volumes 1-12.

*Genealogies of Long Island Families: From the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record.* (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1987). 2 v.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.374721 G326

Knittle, Walter Allen. *Early Eighteenth Century Palatine Emigration.* (Philadelphia: Dorrance & Co., 1937). 320 p.

New York State Library call number: A 974.7

Includes a good bibliography and an appendix of ten lists of names, of which, the author says, “Heretofore, the largest list of these emigrants published contained only 6,000 people. The lists given here double that total.”

Pearson, Jonathan. *Contributions for the Genealogies of the First Settlers of the Ancient County of Albany, from 1630 to 1800.* (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1978). 182 p. Reprint of the 1872 ed. published by J. Munsell, Albany.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.742 P36 1976

\_\_\_\_\_. *Contributions for the Genealogies of the Descendants of the First Settlers of the Patent and City of Schenectady, from 1662 to 1800.* (Albany, N.Y.: J. Munsell, 1873). 324 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.744 S326

Also available on microfilm: New York State Library call number: MA/FM 974.744 S326

Reynolds, Cuyler. *Genealogical and Family History of Southern New York and the Hudson River Valley: A Record of the Achievements of Her People in the Making of a Commonwealth and the Building of a Nation.* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1914). 3 v. (1480 p.)

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 qR46g

\_\_\_\_\_. *Hudson-Mohawk Genealogical and Family Memoirs: A Record of Achievements of the People of the Hudson and Mohawk Valleys in New York State, Included within the Present Counties of Albany, Rensselaer, Washington, Saratoga, Montgomery, Fulton, Schenectady, Columbia and Greene.* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1911). 4 v. (1847, lxxxii p.)

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 qR46

Riker, David. *Genealogical and Biographical Directory to Persons in New Netherland from 1613 to 1674.* (Salem, Mass.: Higginson Book Co., [1999?]). 4 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.37474 qR572 200-15834

Riker, James. *Revised History of Harlem (City of New York.): Its Origin and Early Annals, Prefaced by Home Scenes in the Fatherlands, or, Notices of Its Founders Before Emigration. Also, Sketches of Numerous Families and the Recovered History of the Land-titles.* (New York: New Harlem Publishing Co., 1904).

New York State Library / Manuscripts and Special Collections

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.71 R57a

The revised edition has an extensive genealogical appendix.

The Colonial Albany Social History Project (CASHP), 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 published and manuscript sources and includes birth, marriage, and death data, as well as information concerning residency, migration, education, religion, wealth, politics, and military service. Available at the CASHP Website ( <http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/albany/pcalhindex.html> ) are censuses for 1679 (Albany householders); 1697 (Albany households); 1714 (provincial census); 1756 (British army inventory of city households) and 1790 (first Federal census)

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

*Long Island Source Records: From the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record.* (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1987). 737 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.721 L848

Mather, Frederic Gregory. *Refugees of 1776 from Long Island to Connecticut.* (Albany, N.Y.: J.B. Lyon Co., 1913). 1202 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and C 973.309 Am2

Also available on microfilm and microfiche: New York State Library call number: MA/FF 929.373 G326 86-24269 LH6828

This book mentions thousands of families, both those that fled from Suffolk County to Connecticut in 1776 and those that remained during the Revolution.

*Mohawk Valley in the Revolution: Committee of Safety Papers & Genealogical Compendium.* (Franklin Park, N.J.: Liberty Bell Associates, 1978). 369 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7602 Am6

Book I, the 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 Edwin. *Historical and Genealogical Miscellany: Data Relating to the Settlement and Settlers of New York and New Jersey.* (New York; [The Author], 1903-32). 5 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 qS85

These books contain transcripts of civil and church records primarily for Monmouth and Burlington counties, New Jersey, and for Staten Island, New York. Some volumes also include compiled family genealogies.

## **HISTORIES: STATE and LOCAL**

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

*Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New-York.* (Albany, N.Y., Weed, Parsons and Company, Printers, 1853-87). 15 v. No more published.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 74.7 qD63

Also available in microfilm: New York State Library call number: MA/FM 974.7 qD63 91-7654)

Contents: V. 1-10. Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New-York Procured in Holland, England and France, by John Romeyn Brodhead, Agent, under an Act of the Legislature, passed May 2, 1839. (Vol. 1-2, Holland Documents. 1856-58. Vol. 3-8, London Documents. 1853-57. Vol. 9-10, Paris Documents. 1855-58.) Vol. [11] General Index to the Documents; in V.1-10 prepared by E.B. O'Callaghan. 1861. Vol. 12 [New Series, Vol. 1] Documents Relating to the History of the Dutch and Swedish Settlements on the Delaware River, 1877. Vol. 13 [New Series., Vol. 2] Documents Relating to the History and Settlements of the Towns along the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers (with the Exception of Albany), from 1630 to 1684, 1881. Vol. 14 [New Series, Vol. 3] Documents Relating to the History of the Early Colonial Settlements Principally on Long Island, 1883. Vol. 15. New York State Archives [Vol. 1] New York in the Revolution: Prepared under the Direction of the Board of Regents, by Berthold Fernow.

*The Documentary History of the State of New-York Arranged under Direction of the Hon. Christopher Morgan, Secretary of State by E.B. O'Callaghan...* (Albany, N.Y.: Weed, Parsons & Co., Public Printers, 1850-1851). 4 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 qD632

Look at tables of contents to identify papers related to specific regions of the state. For example: Vol. 3, Chapter 9: Papers Relating to Palatines.

Meyers, Carol M. *Early New York State Census Records, 1663-1772*. 2nd ed. (Gardena, Calif.: RAM Publishers, 1965). 178, [66] p.

"[Material] edited and rearranged ... in a phonetic alphabetical sequence from the *Documentary History of New York State*, vol. I-IV, originally copyrighted in 1850." : Counties covered that are still in New York State are Albany (including parts of present day Columbia, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Schenectady counties), Dutchess, Kings, New York, Orange, Queens, Richmond, Suffolk, Ulster and Westchester. Included are Cumberland and Gloucester counties which were created from Albany County in what is present-day Vermont.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 312.09747 M613

Johnson, William, Sir. *Papers of Sir William Johnson*. (Albany, N.Y.: University of the State of New York, 1921). 14 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 973.209 J71j

Also available in microfiche: New York State Library call number: MA/FF 929.373 G326 86-24269 PS314)

Sir William Johnson was a wealthy land owner and trader, controlling most of the lands in New York State's Mohawk Valley. In his official capacity as Indian agent or as a military officer, and in the conduct of his private affairs, he corresponded with people in all walks of life. The collection consists of documents ranging from bills and receipts to correspondence to household inventories for the years 1733 through 1808. Volumes 1-8 include the documents in the collection that survived the 1911 New York State Capitol fire. Significant numbers of documents were located while the first eight volumes were being published. These were published in two separate series: Volumes 9-12 and Volume 13. Volume 14 is an index to all the volumes. Sample entry: A letter dated July 11, 1750 refers to Teady Megin in Vol. 1, as Teady Magin in the *Calendar of the Sir William Johnson Manuscripts in the New York State Library*, and as Magin (McGin), Teady in Vol. 14 (Index).

Day, Richard E. *Calendar of the Sir William Johnson Manuscripts in the New York State Library*. (Albany, N.Y.: University of the State of New York, 1909). 683 p.

New York State Library call number: A 973.209 J71n

This calendar was issued prior to the fire and the absence of particular documents in the published collection is easy to ascertain.

New York (State). Secretary of State. *Calendar of Historical Manuscripts in the Office of the Secretary of State, Albany, New York, 1630-1664*. (Albany, [N.Y.]: Weed, Parsons and Company, Printers, 1865-1866). 2 parts (4 v.)

New York State Library call number: A 016.9747 N55

Part 1: Dutch Manuscripts, 1630-1664. Part 2: English Manuscripts, 1664-1776.

The preface to the Dutch Manuscripts volume notes: "The series ... divides itself into two classes; one relating to Titles of Real Estate, -- the other, to the Administration of justice and of the government in general; the enactment of Laws; the introduction of Municipal Institutions; erection of Towns and establishment of Local Courts and Magistrates; the internal and external policy of the Colony; its correspondence with Fatherland and with the neighboring American Provinces, and its various wars with the Aborigines."

Great Britain. Colonial Office. *New York Records, 1664-1781*.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 974.702 G786 1637361) 48 reels.

This collection is reproduced from the original correspondence of the Secretary of State and the Board of Trade with the colonial governors (C.O.5/1037-1078 and C.O.5/1081-1132). The original documents are located in the British Public Record Office. Many of these documents are in volumes 3 through 8 of the *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*. (New York State Library call number: R and A 974.7 qD63; microfilm: New York State Library call number: MA/FM 973.21 A5) Sample entry: Letter signed by David Abeel, March 29, 1774 (C.O.5/1078, p. 43)

Great Britain. Public Record Office. *Lists and Indexes*. (New York, N.Y.: Kraus Reprint Corp., 1963).

New York State Library call number: C 942 qG786Li

See Vol. 36, pp. 23-25.

Also check the bibliographies in the following:

Kammen, Michael G. *Colonial New York: A History*. (New York: Scribner, [1975]). 426 p.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.702 K15 76-572

Klein, Milton, ed. *The Empire State: A History of New York*. (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 2001). 837 p.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 N532 201-12050

The New York State Library also has an extensive collection of local histories. Most are located on the seventh floor of the Cultural Education Center and New York State-related items have call numbers beginning with 974. Items not available in paper copy may be available on microfilm or on microfiche in the Genealogy/Local History microfiche collection or digitally.

## LAND AND PROPERTY

*New York Historical Manuscripts, Dutch: Land Papers, Volumes GG, HH & II*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1980). 141 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.702 N532

Covers land patents and conveyances issued between 1630 and 1664; also contains some “Indian deeds.”

New York (State). Secretary of State. *Calendar of N.Y. Colonial Manuscripts, Indorsed Land Papers in the Office of the Secretary of State of New York, 1643-1803*. (Harrison, N.Y.: Harbor Hill Books, 1987). 1087 p. "Revised reprint." Reprint. (Originally published: Albany, N.Y.: Weed, Parsons & Co., 1864).

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 016.974702 N532

This book indexes the 63 volumes of “Applications for Land Grants, 1642-1803” in the New York State Archives (New York State Archives call number: A0272) commonly referred to as the “New York Colonial Manuscripts, Endorsed Land Papers.” The records pertain to New York and Vermont and give names and dates and places of residence and include information about the land and people not included in the final land patent. These records have been microfilmed by the NYS Archives.

New York (N.Y.). Notary Public. *New York Historical Manuscripts, Dutch: 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 by E. B. O'Callaghan*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1978). 241 p.

New York State Library call number: A 974.71 N532

This book contains translations of conveyances recorded in the minutes of the provincial secretary, 1638-1660. Gives name, date and location of patent.

## Patents

A patent is a right to a parcel of land granted by the governor. All colonial patents and land grant applications and many deeds are in the New York State Archives.

Bowman, Fred Q. *Landholders of Northeastern New York, 1739-1802*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1983). 228 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.75 B787

Contains a list of land grants in patents in the present New York State counties of Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Warren, and Washington.

Higgins, Ruth Loving. *Expansion in New York with Especial Reference to the Eighteenth Century*. ([Columbus, Ohio]: The Ohio State University, 1931). 209 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 H63

Includes a map and information about the larger patents. "The purpose of this study has been to trace expansion of settlement and land ownership in New York."--Pref.

Vermont. Secretary of State. *New York Land Patents, 1688-1786, Covering Land Now Included in the State of Vermont (Not Including Military Patents)*. (S.l.: s.n., 1947).

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.3 V519 v.7

This book is volume 7 of the *State Papers of Vermont*.

## Surveys

Surveys sometimes contain descriptions, proprietors' 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. See collections A4019, A0452 and A4694 at the New York State Archives.

## Deeds and Mortgages

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 did not become mandatory statewide until 1830. Deeds usually show buyer, seller, residence, and dates. Sometimes they show previous residence and give relationships. See collections A4688, A4684 and A3074 at the New York State Archives.

Mortgages establish when a family resided at a specific place. See collection A0479 at the New York State Archives.

Hulslander, Laura Penny. *Abstracts of Deeds and Wills of Albany County, New York, 1768-1771*. (Mililani, Hawaii: Sleeper Co., 1992). 106 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.742 qA326

*The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record.* (New York: New York Genealogical and Biographical Society). V. 1- (Jan. 1870- )

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 qN54

Abstracts of early deeds for Kings and Westchester counties have been published in the *NYGBR*, beginning in volumes 48 and 50, respectively.

## **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, sometimes spelled Rensselaerwyck, (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 New York State Library has the Rensselaerswyck Papers

New York State Library call number: SC7079

Kim, Sung Bok. *Landlord and Tenant in Colonial New York: Manorial Society, 1664-1775.* (Chapel Hill, N.C.: Published for the Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, Va., by the University of North Carolina Press, 1978). 456 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 974.7 K49

The appendix 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 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. See collection A0479 at the New York State Archives.

New York (State). Secretary of State. *The Balloting Book and Other Documents Relating to Military Bounty Lands, in the State of New York.* (Albany, N.Y.: Printed by Packard & VanBenthuyssen, 1825 . Ovid, N.Y.: Reprinted by W.E. Morrison & Co., 1983). 214 p.

Includes the general index compiled by M. Frances Ferris in 1954.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 973.3447 qA2b

New York State Library / Manuscripts and Special Collections

Also available on microfilm: New York State Library call number: MB/FM 973.3447 A2b,1635792  
Soldiers who drew land are listed in this book, which is arranged by township, lot number and grantee name. There are volume and page cross-references to the military patent books. For lands allotted to Canadian refugees, see *Calendar of N.Y. Colonial Manuscripts, Indorsed Land Papers in the Office of the Secretary of State of New York, 1643-1803*, p. 797+ (New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 016.974702 N532).

New York (State). Secretary of State. *Balloting Book, and Other Documents Relating to Military Bounty Lands, in the State of New York. Index.* (Syracuse, N.Y.: Onondaga Historical Association, 1954). 27 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and C 973.3447 qA2bb  
Indexes the *Balloting Book* and is included in the 1983 reprint.

The New York State Archives has *Revolutionary War Accounts and Claims, 1775-1808 (bulk, 1782-1799)*. Collection A0200.

Roberts, James A. *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State*. 2nd ed. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., [1996]) 2 v. (534, 336 p.) First work originally published: Albany, N.Y.: O.A. Quayle, 1898. 2nd work originally published: Albany, N.Y.: O.A. Quayle, 1901.  
New York State Library call number: RR 973.3447 qA2 1996

Contains indexes to names found in the records before many of them were destroyed in the 1911 Capitol Fire

## Land Companies

The Holland Land Company surveyed land in Western New York and then sold it to individuals. The records are described in Pieterse, Wilhelmina Chr. *Inventory of the Archives of the Holland Land Company: Including the Related Amsterdam Companies and Negotiations Dealing with the Purchase of Land and State Funds in the United States of America, 1789-1869*. (Amsterdam: Municipal Printing Office, 1976). 75 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.79 P625

Holland Land Company. *Archives of the Holland Land Company*. 202 microfilm reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 333.33 H735 86-25349.

The 1789-1869 records of six Dutch banking houses which purchased over five million acres of land, mostly in New York and Pennsylvania, are included in this collection of financial records, land records and correspondence of both the board of directors and company representatives in the United States.

Livsey, Karen E. *Western New York Land Transactions, 1804-1824: Extracted from the Archives of the Holland Land Company*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1991). 472 p. Includes index.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.79 N532

Holland Land Company. *Holland Land Company Records, 1794-1863, 1798-1821 (bulk)*. 23 microfilm reels.

New York State Library / Manuscripts and Special Collections

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 333.33 H735 99-18512

The bulk of the collection consists of the papers of Joseph Ellicott, surveyor and land sales agent for the company. In addition, there are the papers about the company's legal matters collected by Henry Glowacki. Many of these papers concern the business dealings of Jacob LeRoy and Herman J. Redfield. There is an assortment of other letters, deeds, indentures, agreements, law cases and briefs, ledgers of accounts, death notices and survey maps of counties in western New York and northern Pennsylvania. The finding aid is available at the beginning of each reel. The originals are owned by the Buffalo History Museum.

“The Holland Land Company and Canal Constructions in Western New York” in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society*. (Buffalo, N.Y.: The Society, 1910) Vol. 14. Many of the letters were selected from the Joseph Ellicott Correspondence and the Charles Worthington Evans Collection.

Evans, Paul Demund. “The Holland Land Company” *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society*. (Buffalo, N.Y.: The Society, 1928) Vol. 28.

An historical study of the company’s operation in the United States.

Bingham, Robert Warwick. “Holland Land Company’s Papers: Reports of Joseph Ellicott” in *Publications of the Buffalo Historical Society*. (Buffalo, N.Y.: The Society, 1937, 1941) Vol. 32 and 33.

Transcriptions of the report of the Grand Survey of the Holland Purchase, related correspondence and the annual reports of the Batavia Land Office between 1800 and 1835.

Another large tract was purchased by Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham. *The Phelps and Gorham Company, 1776-1892 Records* (New York State Library call number: SC10440) are available at the New York State Library. Volume 134 is available on microfiche (New York State Library call number: MA/FF 974.703 P538 202-1722). An unpublished finding aid is available at the State Library.

*Peter Smith Papers, 1763-1850*. (New York State Library call number: MB/FM 974.7 S656) 12 reels.

In 1789 Peter Smith moved to Old Fort Schuyler, now Utica, N.Y., where he established a store and bought and sold land. In 1793 he bought a tract of 50,000 acres from the Oneida Indians. The collection consists of correspondence and business and land records related to central New York.

*Guide to the Microfilm Edition of the Peter Smith Papers, 1763-1850, and Gerrit Smith Papers, 1775-1924*. Glen Rock, N.J.: Microfilming Corporation of America, 1974. 88 p.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 016.9747 qS656

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.

## LAW AND LEGISLATION

Published New York session laws 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.

The session laws are published in chronological order and each volume has an index. Use them to determine residence of persons mentioned in the indexes.

New York (Colony) Laws, statutes, etc. *Laws and Ordinances of New Netherland, 1638-1674 Compiled and Translated from the Original Dutch Records in the Office of the Secretary of State, Albany, N.Y., by E.B. O'Callaghan.* (Albany, N.Y.: Weed, Parsons and Company, printers, 1868). 602 p.

New York State Library call number: A 345.12 N5485 1638-74

New York (State) Laws, etc. (Session laws : 1691-1775) *The Colonial Laws of New York from the Year 1664 to the Revolution Including the Charters to the Duke of York, the Commissions and Instructions to Colonial Governors, the Duke's Laws, the Laws of the Dongan and Leisler Assemblies, the Charters of Albany and New York and the Acts of the Colonial Legislatures from 1691 to 1775 Inclusive Transmitted to the Legislature by the Commissioners of Statutory Revision, Pursuant to Chapter 125 of the Laws of 1891.* (Albany, N.Y.: J.B. Lyon, State Printer, 1894). 5 v.  
New York State Library call number: LAW 671-4 COLLN and A 345.12 N5485

New York (Colony) Laws, statutes, etc. *Laws of the Colony of New York, Passed in the Years 1774 and 1775. Fourteenth and Fifteenth George III. Republished under direction of Frederick Cook, Secretary of State, Pursuant to Chapter One Hundred and Seventy-one, Laws of Eighteen Hundred and Eighty-eight.* (Albany, N.Y.: James B. Lyon, 1888). 239p.

New York State Library call number: A 345.12 N5485 1774-75

New York (State) Laws, etc. *Laws of the State of New York Passed at the Sessions of the Legislature Held in the Years 1777-[1800]. Republished by the Secretary of State, Pursuant to Chapter Three Hundred and Forty-one of the Laws of Eighteen Hundred and Eighty-five.* (Albany, N.Y.: Weed, Parsons, 1886-1887). 5 v.

New York State Library call number: A 345.12 N55 1777-1801

## MAPS

Detailed patent maps may show where early settlers lived. Some manuscript collections have hand-drawn maps that may include names of individuals living on plots of land.

New York (State). Secretary of State. *Catalogue of Maps and Surveys in the Office of the Secretary of State, State Engineer and Surveyor, and Comptroller, and the New York State Library. Printed by Order of the Assembly and Under the Direction of the Secretary of State, 1851, and Revised, Corrected and*

New York State Library / Manuscripts and Special Collections

*Enlarged by Order of the Assembly and Under the Direction of the Secretary of State*, by David E. E. Mix, C.E. (Albany, N.Y.: Printed by C. Van Benthuysen, 1859). 375 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 016.912747 N55

Also available on microfilm: New York State Library call number: MB/FM 016.912747 N55

Also available online:

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3Ascds%3AUS%3A88d1f46c-591f-45d4-96f1-0fbf6ba5d531#pageNum=1>

Also, there is a PDF version of the catalog on the Soundex PC in the 11<sup>th</sup> floor reading room.

*Atlas of Historical County Boundaries. New York.* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1993). 242 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 974.7 qA881

Maps show when and where each county changed boundaries from colonial times to 1990.

Wright, Albert Hazen. *Check List of New York State County Maps Published 1779-1945.* (S.l.: s.n., 1965).

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 016.912747 qW94c

\_\_\_\_\_. *New York Historical Source Studies.* (Ithaca, N.Y.: [The Author], 1943).

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 016.912747 qW94

Part 1. Supervisors' proceedings of various counties of New York, by A. H. Wright. — Part 2. A checklist of the country atlases of New York, by A. H. Wright and W. W. Ellis.

Burr, David H. *An Atlas of the State of New York, Containing a Map of the State and of the Several Counties. Projected and Drawn Under the Superintendence and Direction of Simeon de Witt ... And Also the Physical Geography of the State ...* (New York: D. H. Burr, 1829). 29 p.

New York State Library call number: A 912.747 xB96

Bien, Joseph Rudolph. *Atlas of the State of New York.* (New York: J. Bien & Co., 1895). [133 p. of maps]

New York State Library call number: A 912.747 xB58

Includes a map showing all patents and a list of names of all patents.

*American Manuscript Maps in British Repositories. Phase I, 1763-1783: The Peace of Paris to the American Revolution.* (East Ardsley, Wakefield, England: E.P. Microform, 1978?) 4 reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 912.73 A512 86-23082

Reels 3 and 4 contain maps related to New York State, including a couple versions of “Sir William Johnson’s Tract.”

*Manuscript Maps Relating to North America and the West Indies, Part 1: The Revolutionary Era, in the Public Record Office, London.* ([London, England]: EP Microform Limited Publication, 1980). 69 p.

New York State Library call number: A 912.73 qM294 86-23081

## MILITARY RECORDS

The New York State Archives (also known as the New York State Archives and Records Administration or SARA) has some muster rolls, bounty records and pension records for Revolutionary War soldiers. However, many of those records were destroyed in the Capitol fire of 1911. The records do not contain personal information. Consult a SARA archivist for more information.

Horowitz, Lois. *A Bibliography of Military Name Lists from Pre-1675 to 1900: A Guide to Genealogical Sources*. (Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1990).

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.373 H816 90-14241

## Colonial Wars

New York residents participated in King William's War (1689-1697), Queen Anne's War (1702-1713), King George's War (1740-1748) and the French and Indian War (1754-1763). Nearly all original muster rolls for colonial wars were destroyed in the Capitol fire in 1911. Before the fire, however, muster rolls from 1664 to 1775 were published with a name index.

New York (State). State Historian. *Annual Report of the State Historian*. (Albany; New York: Wynkoop, Hallenbeck Crawford Co., state printers, 1896-1898). 3 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 974.7 N556

Also available in microfiche: New York State Library call number: HIS 050-1 7657401

In 1895 New York State Governor Levi P. Morton appointed a state historian, whose duties were "to collect ... edit, and prepare for publication all official records ... and data, relative to the colonial wars, war of the revolution, war of 1812, Mexican war, and war of the rebellion [etc.]." The second and third annual reports are lettered on cover: Colonial series. Vol. I-II. They contain, as appendices, papers relating to the part taken by military organizations of the state during the civil war, colonial records (1664-1675), and muster rolls (1664-1775). "Appendix N" of the third annual report was issued separately (1899-1904) as volumes 1-7 of the *Public Papers of George Clinton, First Governor of New York, 1777-1795, 1801-1804*, issued in 10 volumes, (New York, 1899-1914).

New York State Library call number: D GOV 075.0-4 PUBPA 1777-1804 7659940

Herein you will find the names of members of the units of the colonial militia.

## Revolutionary War (1775-1783)

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 information on what the New York State Archives has relative to the Revolutionary War, go to the State Archives military-records website – <http://www.archives.nysed.gov/research/military-records> .

Roberts, James A. *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State*. 2nd ed. Baltimore, Md: Genealogical Pub. Co., [1996] 2 vol. (534, 336 p.) First work originally published: (Albany, N.Y.: O.A. Quayle, 1898). 2nd work originally published: Albany, N.Y.: O.A. Quayle, 1901. Includes indexes.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 973.3447 qA2 1996

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 in the Revolution*. (Cottonport [La.]: Polyanthos, 1972). 638 p. Reprint of the 1887 edition published by Weed, Parsons, Albany, which was issued as volume 15 of *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*. (R and A 974.7 qD63)

New York State Library call number: A 974.7 qD63 1972

Lists name, regiment, company, rank and sometimes residence.

*Muster and Pay Rolls of the War of the Revolution, 1775-1783: Reprinted from Collections of the New-York Historical Society for the Years 1914 and 1915*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., Inc., 1996). 2 v. in 1 (707 p.) Originally published: New York: New York Historical Society, 1916. (*Collections of the New-York Historical Society for the Year 1914-1915*; v. 47-48. New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 N552). Includes index.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 973.34 M991

Lists name, regiment, company, rank, residence and sometimes service dates. Includes Canadian troops.

New York (State). Council of Appointment. *Military Minutes of the Council of Appointment of the State of New York, 1783-1821*. (Albany, N.Y.: James B. Lyon, 1901-02). 4 vol.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 974.7 N555

Listed here are names of men who served in various militia regiments in New York State between 1783 and 1821. Volume 4 is an index of names.

New York (State). Secretary of State. *Calendar of Historical Manuscripts Relating to the War of the Revolution in the Office of the Secretary of State, Albany, N.Y., 1868*. 2 vol. (Volume 1 has 2 parts)

New York State Library call number: A and R-REF 973.3447 qA

Volume 1 includes lists of patriots and loyalists for Charlotte, Cumberland, Dutchess, Orange, Suffolk and Ulster counties in 1775.

Albany County, N.Y. Committee of Correspondence. *Minutes of the Albany Committee of Correspondence, 1775-1778*. (Albany, N.Y.: University of the State of New York, 1923-25). 2 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 974.742 qA321

Volume 2 is “Minutes of the Schenectady Committee, 1775-1779.” The index in volume 2 covers both volumes.

### **Guides to more Revolutionary War-era sources:**

Bielinski, Stefan. *A Guide to the Revolutionary War Manuscripts in the New York State Library*. (Albany, N.Y.: New York State American Bicentennial Commission, 1976). 97 p.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 973.3 qB587

Grundset, Eric. *New York in the American Revolution : A Source Guide for Genealogists and Historians* (Washington D.C.: National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, [2012]). 687 p.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 974.703 qG925 213-1526

Klein, Milton Martin. *New York in the American Revolution: A Bibliography*. (Albany, N.Y.: State American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, [1974]). 197 p.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 016.9733 K64

### **Patriot Records/Pension Records**

Hoyt, Max E. *Index of Revolutionary War Pension Applications*. (Washington, D.C.: National Genealogical Society, 1966). 1324 p.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 351.5 qH871

The pension and bounty land warrant files indexed in this book are *not* in the New York State Library or the New York State Archives. For information on the records, contact the National Archives and Records Administration.

White, Virgil D. *Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files*. (Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Pub. Co., 1990-1992). 1st ed. 4 v. (5265 p.)  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 973.34 qW588 93-43101

May include name, service and application dates and places, age, birth, date, marriage date, residence, and names of relatives.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Index to Revolutionary War Service Records*. 1st ed. (Waynesboro, Tenn.: The National Historical Publishing Company, 1995). 4 v.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 973.4 qW588

The New York State Library has the Revolutionary War Soldiers Grave Card Index that indexes:

Daughters of the American Revolution. New York. Historic Research and Preservation of Records Committee. *Graves of Revolutionary Soldiers Buried in New York*. (Rhinebeck, N.Y.: [Daughters of the American Revolution], 1922- ). 15 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 973.3447 qA2c

Also available on microfilm: New York State Library call number: MA/FM 973.3447 qA2c

The 15 volumes also are indexed in Volume 2 of *Revised Master Index to the New York State Daughters of the American Revolution Genealogical Records Volumes*. Prepared by the General Peter Gansevoort Chapter.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 qD23

## Loyalists

A search on the term *american loyalists* in the SUBJECT field of the New York State Library's online catalog will yield nearly 300 matches on items that are in the State Library's research library, the manuscripts and special collections unit, the State Archives and in collections at repositories around the state. (To get to the catalog, go to the State Library's Website – [www.nysl.nysed.gov](http://www.nysl.nysed.gov) – and click on the NYSL Catalog link.

Palmer, Gregory, ed. *A Bibliography of Loyalist Source Material in the United States, Canada and Great Britain*. (Westport, Conn.: Meckler Pub, 1982). 1964 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 016.973314 B582 83-20756

The index includes names of individuals listed in collections described. The bibliography also includes an annotated list of Loyalist newspapers published between 1763 and 1783 and an annotated list of American Loyalist Papers in the Records of the Colonial Office in the Public Record Office.

Great Britain. Commission Appointed to Enquire into the Losses of American Loyalists. *American Loyalist Claims. [Records of Claims and Their Adjudication] 1776-1831*. (Millwood, N.Y.: Kraus-Thomson Organization, 1972). 30 microfilm reels (146 volumes).

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 973.314 G782

This collection reproduces records of the Exchequer and Audit Department records, (Audit Office Series I, A.O. 12) in the British Public Record Office. Series I consists of entry books and ledgers containing the evidence of witnesses, reports and other communicated documents, the examinations and decision of the commissioners, and lists of claims. Sample entry: "Dr. Joseph Clarke, Conn." Name is not in Colham's *American Loyalist Claims* but there are several entries for Joseph Clarke (with and without middle initials) in Bunnell's *New Loyalist Index*.

Great Britain. Public Record Office. *Lists and Indexes*. (Millwood, N.Y.: Kraus-Thomson Org. Ltd., 1966). 55 v.

New York State Library call number: C 942 qG786Li.

At the beginning of Reel 1 is an alphabetical listing of names showing in which volume and on what page in that volume the information on that individual will be found.

Andrews, Charles McLean. *Guide to the Materials for American History to 1783 in the Public Record Office of Great Britain*. (Washington, D.C.: Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1912-14). 2 v.

New York State Library call number: A 016.973 A56,1965.

Includes description of the collection.

Great Britain. Public Record Office. *The Records of the Foreign Office, 1782-1939*. (London, Eng.: H.M. Stationery Office, 1969). 180 p.

New York State Library call number: A 016.32742 G7865r

Includes description of the collection.

Great Britain. Commission Appointed to Enquire into the Losses of American Loyalists. *American Loyalists. Transcript of the Manuscript Books and Papers of the Commission of Enquiry into the Losses and Services of the American Loyalists Held under Acts of Parliament of 23, 25, 26, 28 and 29 of George III. Preserved Amongst the Audit Office Records [series I, A. O. 12] in the Public Record Office of England, 1783-1790.* Reprint of 1898-1903 edition. (Millwood, N.Y.: Kraus-Thomson, 1960). 29 microfilm reels (60 volumes)

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 973.314 G782a

The collection reproduces transcripts of the manuscript books and papers of the Commission of Enquiry into the losses and services of the American Loyalists held under acts of Parliament of 23, 25, 26, 28 and 29 of George III, preserved among the Audit Office Records (Series I, A.O. 12) in the Public Record Office of England, 1783-1790. The collection was transcribed for the New York Public Library by B.F. Stevens.

Sample entry: “Thos. Michell, Mercht & Mariner.” Name is not in Colham’s *American Loyalist Claims* or Bunnell’s *New Loyalist Index*.

Contents of the transcript, by volume, are listed in Andrews, Charles McLean. *Guide to the Materials for American History to 1783 in the Public Record Office of Great Britain.*

(Washington, D.C.: Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1912-14). 2 v.

New York State Library call number: A 016.973 A56,1965

Great Britain. Public Record Office. *Guide to the Contents of the Public Record Office.* (London, Eng.: H.M. Stationery Office, 1963). 3 v.

New York State Library call number: C 016.942 G78gc

Describes the collection.

Great Britain. Commission Appointed to Enquire into the Losses of American Loyalists. *American Loyalists. Transcript of Various Papers Relating to the Losses, Services and Support of the American Loyalists and to His Majesty's Provincial Forces During the War of American Independence, Preserved Amongst the American Manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain, London, 1777-1783.*

Reprint. (New York: New York Public Library, 1960). 3 microfilm reels (8 volumes)

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 973.314 G782a2

The collection includes transcripts of various “papers relating to the losses, services, and support of the American Loyalists and to His Majesty’s provincial forces during the War of American Independence, preserved amongst the American manuscripts in the Royal Institution of Great Britain, London, 1777-1783.” Transcribed for the New York Public Library in 1903 by B.F. Stevens. The collection is comprised of Audit Office records, A.O. 13, Series II, in the Public Record Office of Great Britain. It includes 140 bundles of original memorials, certificates, accounts and vouchers of the various claimants as presented to the Commission, and as such listed in volume 46 of Great Britain. Public Record Office. *Lists and Indexes.* Millwood, N.Y.: Kraus-Thomson Org. Ltd., 1966. 55 v.

New York State Library call number: C,942 qG786Li.

Sample entry: “Memorial etc. of Margaret Brush, widow of Crean Brush, to Col. Morris” is not in Coldham’s *American Loyalist Claims*; in Bunnell’s *New Loyalist Index*, there is an entry for a Crean Brush.

Palmer, Gregory. *Biographical Sketches of Loyalists of the American Revolution*. (Westport, Conn: Meckler, 1984). 959 p.

New York State Library call number: A 973.314 P174

Draws on the information found in A.O. 12 and A.O. 13 described above. Generally lists the state (including community and sometimes county name) the individual emigrated from and size of property lost; may include name of wife, age, where he was born, when he immigrated to America, etc.

Fraser, Alexander. *Second Report of the Bureau of Archives for the Province of Ontario*. (Toronto: L.K. Cameron, Printer to the King’s Most Excellent Majesty, 1905). (Title on second title page: *United Empire Loyalists. Enquiry into the Losses and Services in Consequence of Their Loyalty. Evidence in the Canadian Claims*.) 1,376 pages in 2 parts (volumes). Part II (Volume 2) includes a surname index to Parts I and II.

New York State Library call number: A 971.3 O591 1904.

“The migration of the Loyalists to Canada, which began from New York State as early as 1774, continued in varying degrees till 1789.” In July 1783 the British Parliament appointed a commission to classify the Loyalists’ losses and services; the commission opened its investigation in October. “Claimants had to state specifically in writing the nature of their losses ... in their Rights, Properties and Professions during the late unhappy dissensions in America.”

A transcript of “the notes of the proceedings and evidence taken before the two commissioners sent to Canada were retained by Col. Thomas Dundas ... [was] placed in the Public Records Office ... The original manuscript ... [was sent to] the Smithsonian Institute ... and there the papers remained for some years ... till an act of Congress was passed transferring the manuscripts ... to the Archives of the Congress, where they have since remained.”

Tells where applicant lived in what became the United States; frequently tells when he came to America and sometimes lists names of family members and describes the land and other property lost.

Bunnell, Paul J. *The New Loyalist Index*. (Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1989-98). 3 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.373 B942

Names of over 9,500 Loyalists listed in published and unpublished sources. Information provided for each may include where they lived before emigrating from the United States before, during or after the Revolutionary War, where they settled, birth and death dates, number of children, etc. Volume 2 includes names of many widows.

Yoshpe, Harry Beller. *The Disposition of Loyalist Estates in the Southern District of the State of New York*. (New York: AMS Press, 1967, [1939]). 226 p.

New York State Library / Manuscripts and Special Collections

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.703 N532

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 (State). *Commission for Detecting and Defeating Conspiracies, 1777-1778. Minutes of the Commissioners for Detecting and Defeating Conspiracies in the State of New York. Albany County Sessions, 1778-1781.* (Albany, N.Y.: Pub. by the State of New York [J. B. Lyon Company, State Printers] 1909-10). 3 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 973.314 qN55

Volume 3 includes the index to all volumes. May show names, dates, residence, military service record and occupation.

Sons of the American Revolution. Empire State Society. *Register of the Empire State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution ... Containing an Account of the Origin of the Sons of the American Revolution ... the Constitution and By-laws of the Empire State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Lists of the National, State and Chapter Officers, Roll of Members with Personal Data and Genealogies, Roll of Revolutionary Ancestors.* (S.l.: s.n., 1899).

New York State Library call number: C 369.133 qN54

Lists soldiers and descendants.

## NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP RECORDS

### 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 also were 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 much information as age or town of origin. Most existing records are found in the session laws described in the LAW AND LEGISLATION section.

Scott, Kenneth. *Denizations, Naturalizations and Oaths of Allegiance in Colonial New York.* (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1975). 120 p. Includes index.

New York State Library call number: A 929.3747 S427

### 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 also were recorded in city, mayors' district and other courts. The counties have naturalization records from 1790 to the present.

Scott, Kenneth. *Early New York Naturalizations: Abstracts of Naturalization Records from Federal, State, and Local Courts, 1792-1840*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981). 452 p. Includes index.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.3747 S427

The book includes abstracts of naturalizations from the Court of Common Pleas for the City and of the Superior Court of New York County (1792-1840) and of the Queens County Court (1799-1839). May show foreign birthplace, age, or residence.

Hulslander, Laura Penny. *Oaths of Allegiance, Declarations of Intent and Naturalizations in Washington County, New York, 1794-1833*. (Alexandria, Va: The Sleeper Co., 1996). 67 p. Includes index.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.749 qW319 96-16325

*Court Records of Washington County, New York, 1773-1895*. (Schenectady, N.Y.: Capitol Microfilm, 1992). 16 microfilm reels.

New York State Library call number: MA/FM 929.374749 C862

Includes some records related to naturalizations dating to the early 1800s.

## NEWSPAPERS

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

Several pre-1800 newspapers now are available in a digital format. For more information, go to <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/newspprs.htm>

Many New York State newspapers are available on microfilm. For more information, go to <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/nysnp/>

Early English Newspapers, 1603-1818 (individual titles NOT on the State Library's online catalog)

New York State Library call number: MC/FM 072 E11 83-27444

This collection reproduces the Dr. Charles Burney and John Nicholls collections of 17<sup>th</sup>-, 18<sup>th</sup>-, and 19<sup>th</sup>-century English newspapers in the British Library and the Bodleian Library at Oxford.

Cox, Susan M. and Janice L. Budeit. *Early English Newspapers: Bibliography and Guide to the Microfilm Collection*. (Woodbridge, Conn.: Research Publications, 1983)

New York State Library call number: RR 011.35 qC878 84-27585

Early American Newspapers (individual titles are on the State Library's online catalog)

New York State Library call number: MC/FM 072 E12 84-25695

When complete, the collection will contain all obtainable issues of more than 2,000 newspapers.

Latham, Edward Connery. *Chronological Tables of American Newspapers, 1690-1820: Being a Tabular Guide to Holdings of Newspapers Published in America through the Year 1820*. ([Worcester, Mass.]: American Antiquarian Society, [1972]). New York State Library call number: A 016.0713 qL352 73-1580

Provides a quick picture of what newspapers were published where for which there is microform copy.

Indexes to early obituaries and marriage notices collected from newspapers include:

Bowman, Fred Q. *10,000 Vital Records of Eastern New York, 1777-1834*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1987). 356 p. Includes indexes.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 929.3747 B787

\_\_\_\_\_. *8,000 More Vital Records of Eastern New York State, 1804-1850*. (Rhinebeck, N.Y.: Kinship, 1991). 287 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.3747 B787

Gavit, Joseph. [*American Deaths and Marriages, 1784-1829*] ([Albany, N.Y.: s.n., 19--?]).

New York State Library call number: MA/FM 929.3747 G283

Index cards of abstracts of some 40,000 marriage and death notices arranged alphabetically by surname which appeared in some sixty-five newspapers, primarily but not exclusively, of New York State from the Hudson River Valley north to Plattsburgh, N.Y., and from Pittsfield, Mass., west to Utica, N.Y., during the years 1784-1829, with a few through 1834. Six reels arranged in two sets. The second set (two reels) is a reduced image version of the first set (four reels) and is paginated to coincide with an every-name index compiled by Kenneth Scott.

Scott, Kenneth. *Joseph Gavit's American Deaths and Marriages, 1784-1829: Index to Non-principals in Microfilm Copies of Abstracts in the New York State Library, Albany*. (New Orleans: Polyanthos, 1976).

New York State Library call number: MA and A 929.3747 G283

*Genealogical Data from Colonial New York Newspapers: A Consolidation of Articles from the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1977). 278 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.3747 G326

Material extracted from the *New-York Gazette*, 1726-1744; the *New-York Weekly Journal*, 1733-1751; the *New-York Mercury*, 1752-1768; and the *New-York Gazette and the Weekly Mercury*, 1768-1783; published in various volumes of the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* from October 1964 to October 1976.

Scott, Kenneth. *Genealogical Data from the New York Post-Boy*. (Washington: National Genealogical Society, [1970], 1980 printing). 188 p.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.2 N269 no. 35

## OCCUPATIONS

New York (Colony). *Calendar of New York Colonial Commissions, 1680-1770*. (New York: New-York Historical Society, 1929).

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 N548ca

Lists office holders, their residences and dates of commission.

Scott, Kenneth. *Nineteenth Century Apprentices in New York City*. (Arlington, Va.: National Genealogical Society, 1986). 474 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 N269 no. 55

Lists occupation, age, person to whom apprenticed and sometimes parents.

## PERIODICALS

Many history periodicals publish articles of genealogical value. These may include genealogies, information about local records and where to find them, census indexes, transcripts of family Bibles, church records, court records, cemetery records, land records, obituaries, and wills.

The best way to search these publications is through indexes. The New York State Library has a number indexes that cover items in several periodicals; some periodicals publish quarterly and annual indexes and some even publish cumulative indexes that cover several years and sometimes decades.

*Periodical Source Index (CD-ROM) (PERSI)* (Orem, Utah: Ancestry Incorporated, 1997- ).

New York State Library call number: RT 016.9292 P445

Indexes thousands of family history periodicals from around the United States.

*Periodical Source Index (PERSI)*. Prepared by the Staff of the Allen County Public Library, Genealogy Department, Fort Wayne, Indiana. (Fort Wayne, Ind.: Allen County Public Library Foundation, 1987- ).

New York State Library call number: R-REF 016.9292 qP445

The paper copy that pre-dated the CD-ROM copy.

*Tree Talks*. (Syracuse, Central New York Genealogical Society). V. 3- (1963- ).

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.105 qT786

A subject index for volumes 1 through 28 (New York State Library call number: R 929.105 qT786 Subj.) covers issues published between 1961 and 1988.

*Valley Quarterlies Directory*. (Rhinebeck, N.Y.: Kinship, 1997).

Directory/index to records of births, deaths, marriages, baptisms, etc., as found in *The Capital, The Columbia, The Mohawk, and The Saratoga*.

New York State Library / Manuscripts and Special Collections

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.3747 V187

Directory/index to 250,000 entries (births, deaths, marriages, baptism, etc.) in four publications – *The Capital*, *The Columbia*, *The Mohawk* and *The Saratoga* – from 1984 to 1993. These periodicals include information from Bible, cemetery, census, church, guardianship, justice of the peace, mid-wife, military and naturalization records.

*The Capital*. ([Rhinebeck, N.Y.: Valley Quarterlies, 1986- ). Annual, 1999- .  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.74 C244

*The Columbia*. (Rhinebeck, N.Y: Valley Quarterlies, 1985- ). Annual, 1999- .  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.1072074 C726

*The Mohawk*. (Rhinebeck, N.Y.: Valley Quarterlies, 1984- ). Annual, 1999-  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.37474 M697

*The Saratoga*. (Rhinebeck, N.Y.: Valley Quarterlies, 1984- ). Annual, 1999- .  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.37474 S243

*The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*. (New York: New York Genealogical and Biographical Society). V. 1- (Jan. 1870- )

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 qN54

Worden, Jean D. *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record: Master Index, 113 Years, 1870-1982*. (Franklin, Ohio: J.D. Worden, 1983). 239 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 qN54 1870b

*New England Historical and Genealogical Register*. Boston, Vol. 1- (1847- )

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 N535

*De Halve Maen*. (New York: Holland Society of New York.) Vol. 1, no. 1- (1922- )

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 qH197

Quarterly magazine of the Dutch colonial period in America.

Holland Society of New York. *Index to Publications, 1885-January 1977*. (New York: The Society, 1977). 30 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 qH73i 1977

*Early Settlers of New York State: Their Ancestors and Descendants*. (Akron, N.Y.: T.J. Foley, 1934-1942). 9 v. Monthly. Vol. 1, no. 5 (Nov. 1934)-v. 9, no. 4-5-6 (Oct. 1942).

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 E12

This resource covers central and western New York.

*Lifelines: Official Journal of the Northern New York American-Canadian Genealogical Society*. (Plattsburgh, N.Y.: The Society). Vol. 3, no. 2- (Spring 1986- )

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.3747

New York State Library / Manuscripts and Special Collections

Covers French-Canadian immigrants.

*The Patents: The Northeastern New York Genealogical Society Newsletter.* (Hadley, N.Y.: The Society). Bimonthly. Vol. 4, no. 1- (Jan. 1985-March 2013)  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.3747 qP295

*Western New York Genealogical Society Journal.* ([Hamburg, N.Y.]: The Society). V. 1- (June 1974- )  
Covers Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming counties.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.37479 qW527

## **PROBATE RECORDS (WILLS, ESTATES)**

### **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 Amsterdam Municipal Archives.

A 5,000-card index to notarial records of the city of Amsterdam from 1598 to 1750 gives information about persons in New Netherland. 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: *Notarial Records Relating to New Netherland Held by the Amsterdam Archives.*

New York State Library call number: MA/FM 929.3747 N818 221-1361

Some wills are recorded in:

Van Laer, Arnold Johan Ferdinand, 1869-1955, comp. *New York Historical Manuscripts: Dutch.* (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1974). 5 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 974.702 V259 74-6594

Register of the Provincial Secretary, 1638-1660 (Volumes 1-3). Council Minutes, 1638-1649, 1652-1654 (Volumes 4-5). Each volume is indexed.

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

New York (N.Y.). Orphanmasters. *The Minutes of the Orphanmasters of New Amsterdam, 1655 to 1663.* (New York: F.P. Harper, 1902-1907). 2 v.

New York State Library call number: MA/FF 929.373 G326 86-24269 PS290

New York (City). *Orphan Masters. The Minutes of the Orphanmasters of New Amsterdam, 1663-1668.* (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1976). 29 p.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.71 N542 1976  
Shows relationships and places of origin.

## English Period

For a description of the probate records in the New York State Archives, see “Probate Records in the New York State Archives” (Information Leaflet #3), which is available in electronic format at [http://www.archives.nysed.gov/research/res\\_tools\\_nysa\\_path\\_probate](http://www.archives.nysed.gov/research/res_tools_nysa_path_probate) .

The New York State Library has a 12-reel microfilm copy of original wills in the Queens College Historical Documents Collection. The collection currently is housed at the New York State Archives. Queens College, Flushing, N.Y. Historical Documents Collection. *Record of Wills, Albany, New York. From a Collection of New York State Court Records.*  
Includes card index to testators.  
New York State Library call number: MA/FM 974.7 Q3  
Queens College, Flushing, N.Y. Historical Documents Collection. *Record of Wills, Albany, New York. From a Collection of New York State Court Records. Index.*  
New York State Library call number: MA 016.9747 qQ3  
Indexes NYS Archives’s J0038-82 Probated Wills, 1671-1815.  
Photocopy of typescript derived from card index; indicates the numerous wills not indexed in Fernow.

There are several helpful statewide and downstate indexes and transcripts of pre-1823 wills and other probate records held by the New York State Archives (NYSA) and other repositories.

Fernow, Berthold. *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.* (New York: [Colonial Dames of the State of New York?], 1896 ([New York?]: Knickerbocker Press)) 657 p.  
A history of the legal proceedings to which last wills were and are subjected: p. iii-xv.  
New York State Library call number: MA/FF 929.373 G326 86-24269 LH3633  
Indexes NYS Archives’s J0038-82 Probated Wills, 1671-1815.  
Indexes NYS Archives’s J0043-85 Record of Wills and Probates, 1787-1822 (Cited as Vol. I and II).  
Indexes NYS Archives’s J0039-85 Exemptions of Wills and Letters of Administration, 1783-1801 (1 vol.) (Cited as Vol. III)  
Indexes NYS Archives’s J0041-82 Record of Wills Proved at Albany, 1799-1829 (1 vol.) (Cited as Vol. IV)  
Indexes NYS Archives’s J0020-82 Record of Wills Proved at Utica, 1818-29 (1 vol.)

Kelly, Arthur C.M. *Dutchess County, N.Y. Probate Records, 1787-1865: Register of Wills and Letters Testamentary and of Administration in the Surrogate's Office, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.* (Rhinebeck, N.Y.: Kinship, 1997). 320 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.733 qD975 97-17430

*National Genealogical Society Quarterly*. ([Washington, D.C.: National Genealogical Society]). No. 1- (Apr. 1912- ).

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 qN27

“Early Original New York Wills” by Kenneth Scott. Volume 51 (1963), pp. 90-99+  
Indexes NYS Archives’s J0038-92 Probated Wills, 1665-1787. Indexes wills in sub-series 1 and indicates those wills not recorded in series J0043-92.

“Wills of Colonial New York, 1736-1775” by Julius M. Bloch, Leo Hershkowitz and Kenneth Scott. Volume 54 (1966), pp. 98-124.

Indexes wills in NYS Archives’s J0038-92 Probated Wills, 1665-1787. Indexes sub-series 2.

“Index of Original Wills, 1776-1829” by Kenneth Scott and Leo Hershkowitz. Volume 55 (1967), pp. 119-45.

Indexes wills in NYS Archives’s J0038-92 Probated Wills, 1665-1787.  
Indexes NYS Archives’s J1038-92 Probated Wills, 1787-1829 (3.5 cu. ft.)

“Early New York Inventories of Estates,” Volume 53 (1965), pp. 133-38.

Indexes NYS Archives’s J0043-92 Record of Wills and Probates, 1665-1787 (38 vols.)  
Also indexes estate inventories for New York County and nearby counties for 1725-1753 and 1776-1786 that are in possession of the New-York Historical Society.

“New York Inventories, 1666-1775” by Kenneth Scott. Volume 54 (1966), pp. 246-59.

Indexes NYS Archives’s J0301-82 Inventories and Accounts, 1666-1822 (7 rolls microfilm).

New York Historical Society. *Collections of the New-York Historical Society for the Year ...*

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 N552

“Abstracts of Unrecorded Wills Prior to 1790 on File in the Surrogate’s Office, City [i.e. County] of New York, 1665-1800” by William H. Pelletreau. Volume 35 (1902).

Abstracts and indexes only the wills of NYS Archives’s J0038-92 that were not recorded in series J0043-92.

“Abstracts of Wills on File in the Surrogate’s Office, City [i.e. County] of New York, 1665-1800” by William H. Pelletreau. Volumes 25-34 (1892-1901), 36 (1903), 40-41 (1907-08).

Indexes NYS Archives’s J0043-92 Record of Wills and Probates, 1665-1787 (38 vols.)  
Includes name indexes to testators.

New York (Colony). *New York Marriages Previous to 1784*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1968).

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 974.7 N548 1968

Pages 573-618 indexes NYS Archives's J0043-92 Record of Wills and Probates, 1665-1787 (38 vols.)

Post, John J. *Index of Wills Proved in the Supreme Court, Court of Common Pleas, County Court, and Court of Probate, and On File in the Office of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals [New York]*. (New York: S.V. Constant, 1899). [49] p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.71 P857

Indexes wills in NYS Archives's J0038-92 Probated Wills, 1665-1787.

Indexes only wills affecting title to real property located within present five boroughs of New York City

*Record of Wills, Albany, New York, from a Collection of New York State Court Records*. 12 reels

New York State Library call number: MA/FM 974.7 Q3

Microfilm of the original records in the Queens College collection.

Queens College, Flushing, N.Y. Historical Documents Collection. *Records of Wills, Albany, New York, from a Collection of New York State Court Records. Index*. (Flushing, N.Y.: Queens College, 196?).

New York State Library call number: MA 016.9747 qQ3

Annotations indicate many wills on the microfilm are not listed in the Fernow index. Also, there are wills on the film that are not listed in this index.

Sawyer, Ray Cowen. *Index of New York State Wills, 1662-1850, On File at the Office of the Surrogate for New York County in the Hall of Records, New York City*. ([New York: s.n., 1932]). 2 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.71 qS27

Also available on microfiche: New York State Library call number: MA/FF 929.373 G326 86-24269 LH6087

Indexes NYS Archives's J0043 Record of Wills and Probates, 1665-1787 (38 volumes)

Indexes NYS Archives's J1043-92 Record of Wills and Probates, 1787-1879 (128 vols.)

Scott, Kenneth. *Genealogical Data from Inventories of New York Estates, 1666-1825*. (New York: The Author, 1970).

New York State Library call number: A 974.7 qS427

Indexes NYS Archives's J0301-82 Inventories and Accounts, 1666-1822 (7 rolls microfilm).

\_\_\_\_\_. *Genealogical Data from Administration Papers from the New York State Court of Appeals in Albany*. ([New York]: National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New York, [1972]). 506 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 929.374 S427

Indexes NYS Archives's J0033-82 Administration Papers, ca. 1700-1823 (17 rolls microfilm).

\_\_\_\_\_. *Genealogical Data from New York Administration Bonds, 1753-1799, and Hitherto Unpublished Letters of Administration*. (New York: [New York Genealogical and Biographical Society], 1969). 194 p.  
New York State Library call number: 929.3747 N532 219-2170

Another copy in: New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. Collections  
New York State Library call number: 929 qN541 (v. 10)

From 1753 to 1799 bonds were required when wills were probated or letters of administration were issued. The bonds often give names, residences, occupations and family relationships.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.3747 S427 84-32291

Indexes 1787 through 1799 of NYS Archives's J0032-83, -85 Letters of Administration, 1787-1823 (4 vols.)

## TAXATION

In the New York State Library's online catalog, do a search on *tax lists* in the WORDS OR PHRASE mode. A couple examples of the results of such a search:

Christoph, Florence A. *Upstate New York in the 1760s: Tax Lists and Selected Militia Rolls of Old Albany County, 1760-1768*. (Camden, Me.: Picton Press, 1992). 312 p. Includes index.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 N532 92-43795

Buck, Clifford M. *Dutchess County, NY Tax Lists: 1718-1787*. (Rhinebeck, N.Y.: Kinship, 1991). 300 p.  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.733 qD975

Some tax lists for the 1700s have been published in the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*  
New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 qN54:

New York City, 1730 (Vol. 95, No. 1 and 3); New Rochelle, 1767 and 1771 (Vol. 107, No. 4), and Ulster County, 1709-21 (Volume 62, No. 2).

Some early New York City lists are in "Tax Lists of the City of New York, December 1695 to July 15, 1699" in *Collections of the New-York Historical Society for the Year ...* Vol. 43-44 (1910-1911)

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 N552

## TOWN RECORDS

The New York State Library is a depository for several record series compiled by New York State chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, including 650 volumes of cemetery, church, and town records. The series is indexed in:

*Revised Master Index to the New York State Daughters of the American Revolution Genealogical Records Volumes. Prepared by the General Peter Gansevoort Chapter*. (Zephyrhills, Fla.: Jean D. Worden, 1998). 2 v.

New York State Library / Manuscripts and Special Collections

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929 qD23 98-005610

The town records are indexed in Volume 1.

New York State American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. *Local Records on Microfilm in the New York State Archives*. Albany, N.Y.: The Commission, 1979. 41 p.

New York State Library call number: D and A BIC 500-4 LOCRM 80-70452

Materials microfilmed by communities and counties vary in type and dates covered. Many items are listed as “record book” and need to be looked at to determine what was recorded.

Town records contain lists of freeholders, petitions, vital records, tax records, military and militia records, school records, poor-relief rolls, deeds, estrays (cattle that have gone astray), cattle earmarks and other documents useful in locating persons.

Many town, village and county records have been microfilmed through the New York State Archives’s Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF) and copies of the microfilm are available at the State Archives in Albany.

## **VITAL RECORDS (Birth, Death, Marriage)**

Statewide registration in New York State of vital statistics began in 1880. Some earlier births, marriages and deaths were recorded in town records.

Hartley, Robert M. *Marriage and Birth Records as Recorded by Rev. James Dempster, 1778-1803*. (Alexandria, Va.: The Sleeper Co., 1995). 36 p.

New York State Library call number: R-REF 929.37474 qH332

Covers Montgomery County.

Historical Records Survey. New York (State). *Guide to Public Vital Statistics Records in New York State, including New York City Prepared by the Historical Records Survey, Division of Community Service Programs, Work Projects Administration*. (Albany, N.Y.: The Survey, 1942). 3 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and A 016.312 H673

Also available electronically from the URL in the record on the online catalog.

Jarboe, Betty M. *Obituaries: A Guide to Sources*. (Boston, Mass.: G.K. Hall, 1989). 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 326 p.

New York State Library call number: R 016.929373 qJ37 89-5882

Lists books and articles that either index or abstract obituaries or death notices from newspapers and periodicals.

New York (Colony). *New York Marriages Previous to 1784*. (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1968).

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 N548 1968

“Originally published as *Names of Persons for Whom Marriage Licenses Were Issued by the Secretary of the Province of New York Previous to 1784*. (Albany: Weed, Parsons & Co., 1860);

New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 N548) with the addition of *Supplementary List of Marriage Licenses* (University of the State of New York, State Library Bulletin, History, No. 1. April 1898; New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 N548a), “New York Marriage Licenses” from the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* (Vol. 46, No. 3-4 and Vol. 47, No. 1-3, July 1915 through July 1916), “New York Marriage Licenses, 1639-1706” by Kenneth Scott in the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* (Vol. 98, No. 1 and 2, January and April 1967), with the hitherto unpublished “Index to New York Marriage Licenses, 1639-1706” by Kenneth Scott.”

This book indexes the marriage licenses, ca. 1694-1702, in New York (Colony). Court of Probates. *Records of Wills and Probates, 1665-1822*. (New York State Archives call number: J0043).

Scott, Kenneth. *New York Marriage Bonds, 1753-1783*. (Middletown, N.Y.: Trumbull Pub., 1972). 570 p. New York State Library call number: R-REF 974.7 S427n

Gavit, Joseph. *American Deaths and Marriages, 1784-1829*.

New York State Library call number: MA/FM 929.3747 G283 77-23280

Six reels arranged in two sets. The second set (two reels) is a reduced image version of the first set (four reels) and is paginated to coincide with an every-name index compiled by Kenneth Scott.

Joseph Gavit was a librarian at the New York State Library for 50 years. Over a period of ten years he compiled a listing of 40,000 marriage and death notices which appeared in some 65 newspapers during the years 1784 and 1829. The emphasis is on New York State records but there are also records from other states, Canada, and foreign countries. The microfilm is a reproduction of the original alphabetical card file. A supplementary index of non-principals is paginated sequentially with the microfilm page numbers on Set 2.

Scott, Kenneth. *Joseph Gavit's American Deaths and Marriages, 1784-1829: Index to Non-Principals in Microfilm Copies of Abstracts in the New York State Library*. (New Orleans: Polyanthos, 1976).

New York State Library call number: MA 929.3747 G283 77-23285

## VOTING REGISTERS

New York (N.Y.) *A Copy of the Poll List of the Election for Representatives for the City and County of New-York, Which Election Began on Tuesday the 17th Day of February, and Ended on Thursday the 19th, of the Same Month in the Year of Our Lord MDCCLXI*. ([New York: Printed by F. Hart & Co., 1880]). 42p.

New York State Library call number: MA/FF 929.373 G326 86-24269 LH4922

New York (N.Y.) *A Copy of the Poll List of the Election for Representatives for the City and County of New-York, Which Election Began on Monday the 7th Day of March, and Ended on Friday the 11th, of the Same Month, in the Year of Our Lord MDCCLXVIII*. ([New York: Printed by F. Hart & Co., 1880]). 56 p. New York State Library call number: MA/FF 929.373 G326 86-24269 LH4923

New York State Library / Manuscripts and Special Collections

New York (N.Y.) *A Copy of the Poll List of the Election for Representatives for the City and County of New-York, Which Election Began on Monday the 23d Day of January, and Ended on Friday the 27th, of the Same Month, in the Year of Our Lord, MDCCLXIX.* (New York: F. Hart & Co., 1880). 43 p.  
New York State Library call number: MA/FF 929.373 G326 86-24269 LH6123

## **WILLS**

See PROBATE RECORDS (Wills, Estates) section.

## Going to the Next Level: Digging Deep

At some point in your research you will have to read New York State and American history. You then will need to look at collections of public papers or individuals' papers that the New York State Library has either in their original format or on microfilm.

### *Try New York State Library manuscript collections of families whose roots go back to the days of the patents:*

Rutger Bleecker Papers (New York State Library call number: SC11846)  
DePeyster Family Papers (New York State Library call number: SC10919)  
Samuel Ludlow Frey Papers (New York State Library call number: SC9829)  
Glen Family Papers (New York State Library call number: SC18229)  
Azal Hough Business Records (New York State Library call number: SC19271)  
Van Rensselaer Manor (Rensselaerwyck) (New York State Library call number: SC7079)  
Van Vechten Family Papers (New York State Library call number: SC15213)  
Abraham Van Vechten Papers (New York State Library call number: SC7006)

### *Try the collections of famous people of the period:*

*Sir Jeffery Amherst, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Amherst, Official Papers, 1740-1783.* 202 reels.  
New York State Library call number: MB/FM 971.02 A515 84-30010

The collection contains the official papers and correspondence (1740-1783) of Amherst, commander-in-chief of the British forces in North America, 1748-1764.

*Sir Jeffery, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Amherst, Official Papers and Correspondence, 1740-83: [List of Contents of Reels].* (New York: Clearwater Pub. Co., Inc., [1979]).

New York State Library call number: R 971.02 A515 85-27841

Sample entry: Reel 38 ... Letters to Amherst from various correspondents 1758-61.

*Aaron Burr Papers, 1756-1836.* 27 reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 973.409 B96 1636963

The papers include letters from clients and family, material on Burr's career in the New York State Assembly, material on land speculations, orderly books from White Marsh, Valley Forge, Orange County and White Plains, and legal papers from his law practice in New York.

*Guide and Index to the Microfilm Edition of the Papers of Aaron Burr, 1756-1836.* (Glen Rock, N.J.: Microfilming Corporation of America, 1978).

New York State Library call number: R 016.973409 K65 78-3239516

The 100-page book includes a 50-page index of names.

Sample: The inventory of the estate of Aaron Burr, Sr., and Esther Edwards Burr includes an entry for April 2, 1759 that reads "To a debt pd. John Gordon for 2 Books".

*Albert Gallatin Papers, 1761-1880.* 46 reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 973.409 G16

The Swiss immigrant Gallatin's career as congressman from Pennsylvania, Secretary of the Treasury and diplomat is reflected in public and private papers dealing with government, boundary settlements, foreign affairs, U.S. financial affairs and Indian affairs.

Reel 46 is a name index of thousands of names.

Prince, Carl E. *Guide to the Microfilm Edition of the Papers of Albert Gallatin*. ([New York]: New York University, 1970).

New York State Library call number: R-REF 016.973409 P95

London (Diocese) Bishop. *Fulham Papers in the Lambeth Palace Library: American Colonial Section, 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> Century*. 19 reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 283.73 L84732

General correspondence and other papers, including ordination papers, sent to the Bishop of London. Items are from the 13 original states, Canada and the West Indies; includes 167-page name index.

Manross, William Wilson. *The Fulham Papers in the Lambeth Palace Library: American Colonial Section, Calendar and Indexes*. (Oxford, England: Clarendon Press, 1965).

New York State Library call number: R-REF 283.73 M28f

*Robert Livingston Papers*. 57 reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 974 R642 83-26913

Series II (Legal and Financial Papers, 1658-1888) and Series V (Rent Lists, 1742-1879) of the Livingston Family Papers (Reels 18-56) would be of most interest to genealogists. The legal and financial papers, dating primarily between 1780 and 1885, include indentures, deeds, land patents, surveys, maps, promissory notes, wills, and inventories. The rent lists relate to land in Rhinebeck, Woodstock, Oliver, Shandaken and Clermont, New York, and basically include information about the tenant, the land, the lease and the rent.

Ericson, Jack T. and Donald L. Haggerty. *Robert R. Livingston Papers, 1658-1888: A Guide to the Microfilm Edition*. (Sanford, N.C.: Microfilming Corp. of America, 1980).

New York State Library call number: R 974.7 R642 83-26913 1980b

*General Friedrich Wilhelm Von Steuben Papers, 1777-1794*. 7 reels

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 973.330924 S842 86-28775

The collection includes letters, maps, testimonials, general orders, and numerous documents which make mention of Steuben directly or indirectly.

Zemensky, Edith von. *The Papers of General Friedrich von Steuben, 1777-1794*. (White Plains, N.Y.: Kraus International Publications, 1984).

New York State Library call number: R-REF 016.9733309 S842 86-28782

Sample index entry: Porteous, John (dry goods merchant in Little Falls, N.Y.) to whom several letters were sent between 1792 and 1794, one of which was a request for flour, shoes "agreeable to the measure which I send by this Bearer," and a blanket.

*Abraham Yates Papers, 1688-1825.* 3 reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 973.3 Y31 76-11827

Yates was an Albany lawyer and local office holder. He was chairman of the city's Committee of Safety, helped draft the state constitution and later became a member of the state senate. In 1790 he became mayor of Albany. Included are papers relating to Rensselaerwyck Manor and the Albany Committee of Correspondence, as well as land and family records. An alphabetical index and chronological listing of correspondence are included on the film.

Sample item: Item 25 is a draft will for Hermanus Wendell dated April 18, 1757.

***Try the records of other states and other countries:***

*Calvert Papers.* 27 reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 975.202 C167 87-016367

The Calvert family were the proprietors of the colony of Maryland from 1584 to 1805.

The land records (reels 6 and 7) consist of grants, warrants, patents, alienation fines and quit rents. The Land Office records, dated 1736 to 1761, are the most complete set of records of this proprietary office. The most important group of documents is the quit rents containing manuscripts from every colonial Maryland county except for Caroline and Harford which were not erected until 1773.

Cox, Richard J. *A Guide to the Microfilm Edition of the Calvert Papers.*  
(Baltimore, Md.: Maryland Historical Society, 1973).

New York State Library call number: R 016.975202 C877 87-016365

*Early Massachusetts Record Inventory: The Records of the Six Concord-Lexington Towns (Acton, Bedford, Carlisle, Concord, Lexington and Lincoln), 1635-1830.* 20 reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 974.4 E12

The documents include records of taxes, assessments, selectmen, town meetings, committee reports, treasurers' accounts, and court warrants, all of which may include names of residents. There is no index and no vital records are included.

Great Britain. Colonial Office. *Massachusetts Records, 1689-1783.* 7 reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 974.4 G786

The collection includes original correspondence between the Secretary of State and the governors and other colonial officials.

Sample entry: Case of Colony of Connecticut relating to Samuel Mason ... Mohegan Indians (C.O.5/752, p. 384)

Great Britain. Public Record Office. *Lists and Indexes.* (New York, N.Y.: Kraus Reprint Corp., 1963).

New York State Library call number: C 942 qG786Li

See Vol. 36, pp. 17-19.

*Guide to English Parish Registers in the New York State Library.* (Albany, N.Y.: New York State Library, 1979). 12 v.

New York State Library call number: R-REF and C 016.942 qN532 79-24056

Also available in microfiche: New York State Library call number: MA/FF 016.942 N532 79-224080

Alphabetical by shire (county). Some counties continue to publish new material. (A search on the name of the shire in the online catalog will pull them up.) Registers from London are not included. The published registers, mostly housed in the 942s, include baptisms, marriages, burials, names of tax payers, tombstone inscriptions.

*Records of the British Colonial Office, Class 5.* 53 reels

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 973.208 R311 84-25412)

While not rich in names, the indexes are useful in determining what was going on in a region at a particular time between 1700 and 1784. For example, one of the items is a 13-page document on “Proceedings on a controversy over Wappinger territory in Dutchess Co., N.Y., 1765” involving a “petition of Daniel Nimham, Jacobus Nimham, One Pound Poctone, Stephen Cowenham and other native Indians of the tribe of Wappinger” and Beverly Robinson.

Womanski, Linda and Randolph Boehm. *A Guide to British Public Record Office, Colonial Office, Class 5 Files.* (Frederick, Md.: University Publications of America, 1983-1984). 5 parts in 3 vol.

New York State Library call number: MA 973.208 G946 84-20512

### ***Try federal publications:***

United States. Continental Congress. *Journals of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789.* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office). 34 v.

New York State Library call number: C 328.731 U52

Also available on microfiche: New York State Library call number: MB/FF 351.73 U115 202-2963 LC405-1 to LC 405-1

*Index. Journals of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789.* (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Service, 1976). 429 p.

New York State Library call number: REF GS 4:2C 76/2/774-89

Includes names of individuals. Sample: The index says information about “Brush, Crean” appears on page 871 of the volume for 1776.

United States. Congress. *Debates and Proceedings in the Congress of the United States [1789-1824].* (Washington, D.C.: Gales and Seaton, 1834-1856). 42 v.

New York State Library call number: C 328.73 U49

### ***Try miscellaneous collections:***

*Early American Orderly Books, 1748-1817.* 19 reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 973.34 N53.

The bulk of the collection consists of American orderly books for the period of the Revolution, although the manuscripts cover the period of the French and Indian Wars through the War of 1812. There are some British manuscripts as well.

Research Publications, Inc. *Reel Guide and Subject Index to the Microfilm Collection of Early American Orderly Books, 1748-1817*. (Woodbridge, Conn.: Research Publications, Inc., 1977).

New York State Library call number: R 016.97334 qR432 78-26752)

Sample: Item 69, a book kept by Capt. Stephen Kemble, Adjutant General, British Headquarters Orders, New York, for Sept. 11 through Oct. 24, 1778, contains the following note: John Connoly Private Soldier in the 64<sup>th</sup> Reg. Tried for having Deserted from Said Regt. is found Guilty & Sentenced to received 1000 Lashes.

*Miscellaneous Numbered Records (The Manuscript File) in the War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records, 1775-1790s*.

New York State Library call number: MA/FM 973.34 U587 88-61277

The records pertain to Revolutionary War military operations, service of individuals and pay and settlement of account and supplies. The New York State Library has 32 reels relating to New York State troops.

*Special Index to Numbered Records in the War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records, 1775-1783*. (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1970). 39 reels. The New York State Library does not own this index.

*Published American Colonial Records*. 166 reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 973.2 A5

The collection includes records from the first 15 states. Included among the New York State holdings are: *Acts of Assembly Passed in the Province of New-York from 1691 to 1718* (London: John Baskett, 1719), and *Journal of the Votes and Proceedings of the General Assembly of the Colony of New-York ... 1691 ... 1743* (New York: Hugh Gaine, 1764). Note that there are many names in these volumes that are not listed in the indexes.

*Published Colonial Records of the American Colonies: Title Listing*. [Woodbridge, Conn.]: Research Publications, [1995]. 7 pages.

New York State Library call number: RR and MA 973.2 qA5

Just a listing by state of the documents and the reels on which they can be found.

*Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783*. 138 reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 973.34 R454 88-60952

The records, part of the War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records, Record Group 93, contains muster rolls, payrolls, strength returns and miscellaneous personnel, pay and supply records of American army units, 1775-1783. The New York State Library has reels for New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and all the New England states (reels 1-28, 35-78, 80-88, 90-114).

*Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783*. (Washington, D.C.: National Archives Trust Fund Board, National Archives and Records Service, 1980).

New York State Library call number: MA 973.34 R454 88-61058

Sample of New York regiments: Baldwin's Company of Rangers (1777), Cantine's Regiment of Militia Levies (1778-79), Lamb's Company of Artillery (1775-76), Wood's Hired Guard (1779).

*Sol Feinstone Collection of the American Revolution*. 5 reels.

New York State Library call number: MB/FM 973.3 F299

This collection of over 2,300 manuscripts focuses primarily on the American Revolution. Included are legal documents (court records, permits, will, etc.), business records, military correspondence, and private correspondence. There are two separate alphabetical arrangements in the collection, reels 1-3 and reels 4-5.

*Sol Feinstone Collection of the American Revolution. Guide to the Microfilm Edition [Reels 1-3]*. (Philadelphia: Historic Publications, 1969).

New York State Library call number: R 973.3 qF299b

*Supplement to the Sol Feinstone Collection of the American Revolution: Guide to the Microfilm Edition, Rolls 4-5*. (Philadelphia: Scholarly Resources, 1975).

New York State Library call number: R 973.3 qF299c

***Can't find a title on the online catalog? Try ...***

*[Genealogy and Local History]*.

New York State Library call number: MA/FF 929.373 G326 86-24269

The microfiche collection is divided into four sections: genealogy (G), genealogical serials (GS), local history (LH) and primary sources (PS). The New York State Library holds the entire genealogy (G) section issued to date; primary sources (PS) numbers 1-221, 224-225 and 256-259, comprising the vital records of the towns of Massachusetts issued in parts 1 to 3 of the collection, and the local history (LH) section covering New York State local history beginning with part 7.

*Genealogy and Local History: Guide*. (Sanford, N.C.: Microfilming Corporation of America, 1981- . P. 1 –

New York State Library call number: MA 016.973 qG326

There are no cumulative volumes; each volume must be searched to locate information on a specific surname or community name.