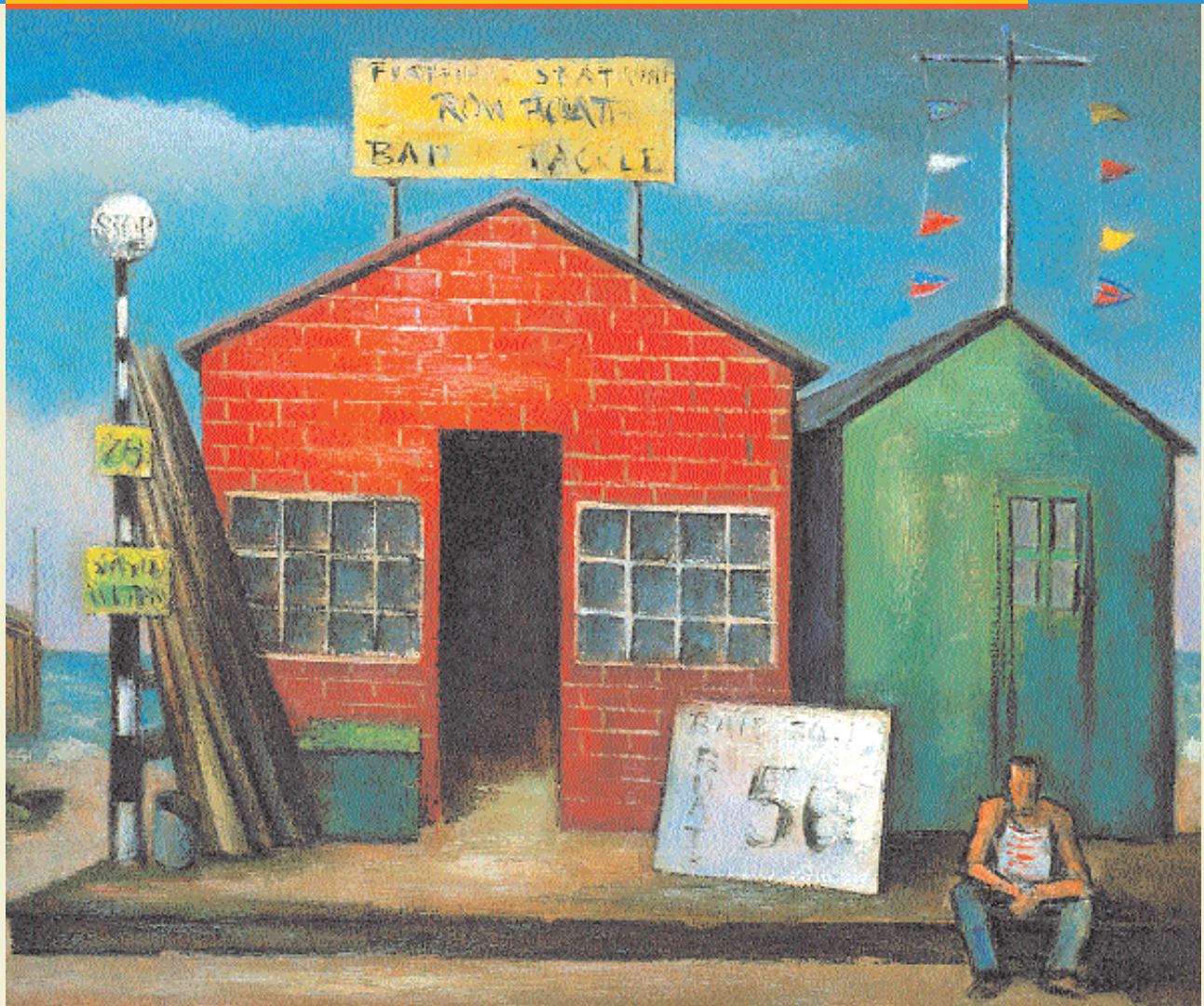


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The New York

Researcher

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**Traugott Bromme's Guide to New York State
for German Emigrants 1840–1866**

The Capital District Genealogical Society

**New York City Municipal Archives:
An Authorized Guide for Family Historians**

Q&A with President D. Joshua Taylor



The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society

The New York Researcher

Volume 27, Number 2 • Summer 2016

The NYG&B publishes *The New York Researcher* and *The NYG&B Record*; both are quarterlies. Subscriptions to each are among the many benefits of membership. The NYG&B warmly welcomes new members; information on membership is on page 47 and on our website.

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ON THE COVER:

"Fishing Station, Long Island Sound."

By Victor Perelli, ca. 1939–1943.

Collection of the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Victor Perelli lived in Astoria, Queens, New York, and may be found there on the 1940 United States census.

ABOUT GENEALOGICAL CREDENTIALS

FGBS designates fellows of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. FASG designates fellows of the American Society of Genealogists. Fellowship in other societies awarded on the basis of scholarship, rather than service or support to the society, may also be recognized by a postnominal designation incorporating the society's initials.

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The mission of the NYG&B is to help people of all backgrounds discover their family histories (especially those aspects of their family histories which relate to New York City, State, and region) and find meaning by placing their own family's experience into the broader context of American history.

We believe that all families are important, all family histories are worthy of preservation, and all families are essential parts of a larger historical narrative. We believe that linking families to the history of the nation is profoundly meaningful and is powerfully beneficial on many levels.

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Letter from the President

Dear Friends,
As summer begins, it seems only yesterday that my first day at the NYG&B began.



We've been extremely busy in recent months. In March we launched the NYG&B webinar series with topics related to online resources for New York and researching your Irish ancestors. You can always learn more about future webinar dates and topics in the *New York Researcher* and on our website calendar. As a benefit

of your membership, topics are available for you to view in the members-only section of the NYG&B website after they are presented.

In May the NYG&B traveled to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida where we presented a series of lectures as part of the National Genealogical Society Conference. While at the NGS Conference, the NYG&B was presented with two awards. The first recognized the *New York Researcher* as first-place amongst major genealogical society newsletters and the second awarded the *New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer* top honors in the source and methodology book category for genealogical research. A sincere congratulations to the entire NYG&B team (past and present) for their dedication to these important publications.

Later in May we officially announced the pre-publication sale for our latest book, *New York City Municipal Archives: An Authorized Guide for Family*

Historians. Expertly compiled by Aaron Goodwin, this work unlocks thousands of potential record sets for genealogists *and* historians researching in New York City. A sincere thank-you to former NYG&B trustee M. David Sherrill for his generous financial support of the project and to the Municipal Archives for their cooperation and diligence in working alongside the NYG&B to identify and share their immense holdings. Once again, Harry Macy Jr.'s knowledge has been invaluable.

It is with great sadness that we share news of the passing of three friends of the NYG&B: Henry Butcher "Hal" Roberts, Jr., who was a longtime friend and Trustee; Clarissa Stallknecht, who worked tirelessly as a volunteer for the New York State Family History Conference; and Laurie Thompson, a veteran of New York City genealogy. Each will be sincerely missed.


As I write we have just welcomed a team of six highly capable and industrious college students to participate as summer interns. They will enrich our digital resources, create content for our website and our blog, and help the NYG&B strengthen the benefits we deliver to our members. Meanwhile, NYG&B staff will mentor the interns as they conduct their own family history research.

Feedback from the genealogical community is essential as the NYG&B strives to evaluate our progress and prioritize new initiatives; for this reason we recently launched a series of surveys. To date we have heard from more than 1,500 active genealogists—both members and nonmembers—who have taken the time to share their thoughts with us. Thank you to everyone who has participated to help make a better NYG&B.

Our spring appeal letter to members describes our ambitious plans for the second half of this year. One of the most tangible ways to endorse our efforts is with a tax-deductible contribution, for which we would be most grateful.

Finally, if you are not already following us on social media, please join us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. We are constantly working to share valuable news and insights relating to New York family history. Until next time, Joshua. ✕

D. Joshua Taylor • P R E S I D E N T



Feedback from the genealogical community is essential as the NYG&B strives to evaluate our progress and prioritize new initiative.... Thank you to everyone who has participated to help make a better NYG&B.

Q&A with President D. Joshua Taylor

What brought you to the NYG&B?

As a long-time member, I know firsthand how valuable the NYG&B's services are—in my case they helped me progress on several of my New York branches. My experience in both the commercial and nonprofit sides of the genealogical field instilled in me a deep respect for genealogical societies. The importance of organizations like the NYG&B cannot be overstated. The long history, the commitment to scholarship, and the community it supports all made me want to be a part of the NYG&B.

How did you get started in genealogy?

My grandmother was an avid genealogist; at age ten she showed me my first census record and the mystery began. Since that time I've traced multiple branches of my family tree. The great irony? That first line we worked on has led me to Orange County, New York where I am still working to find a set of parents for Benjamin Allison. Recently we made a few breakthroughs with DNA, so my hope has been rekindled!

Speaking of genetic genealogy, what other changes do you see in the field of genealogy and specifically for the NYG&B?

The field of genealogy has undergone rapid changes in the past 15 years. We are already seeing ways in which DNA is becoming more and more integrated into research. Those advances coupled with more effective ways to transcribe and digitize records will lead to millions of additional tools we can use to trace the past.

Summer interns
at work



The treasured history and reputation of the NYG&B can (and will) continue to support the scholarship and standards as it has done since 1869. Yet, amongst those changes the NYG&B has a tremendous opportunity to grow and extend its wealth of knowledge and history to *anyone* with a connection to New York. One of the steps in that process is to listen to our members and friends.

How is that going?

What are you learning about the NYG&B?

First, I want to assure everyone that *we are listening*. The incredible response to the surveys has been heartwarming, and I deeply appreciate everyone who has shared their thoughts and ideas with us.

I promise to read and digest each and every response as we work to bring you a better NYG&B. Some common themes are emerging, including providing more online services and demonstrating our focus on the entire state of New York. I'm very pleased to say that is the exact direction we are planning to take.

For someone who is not a member, why should they join the NYG&B?

While many join the NYG&B for access to online records, there are so many other resources that are available to members. For example, the new webinar series is already providing terrific content that highlights New York-specific topics, *The New York Researcher* and *The Record* provide a constant stream of new genealogical content and help to demystify New York research with each page.

Anything else you'd like to share?

Just a note of thanks for everyone's continued support of the NYG&B. I'm always deeply humbled by those who give so willingly to genealogical organizations. From the volunteers who help us index records and interns who help with projects, to a dedicated Board of Trustees, I am extremely grateful for the support I've received thus far. As a member of the NYG&B I always enjoyed being part of a likeminded community and look forward to continued connections for many years. ✕

Traugott Bromme's Guide

to New York State for German Emigrants 1840–1866

INTRODUCTION AND TRANSLATION
by Richard L. Bland

In the early 1800s economic and political problems brought many Europeans to the United States. A large number came from Germany.

Among them was Traugott Bromme, who in fact was more of a traveler than an immigrant. Bromme quickly saw a chance for making a profit from this movement of peoples by writing guide books for Germans entering the United States. Between 1840 and 1866 he wrote and published several editions. His guides included information on many regions of the Western Hemisphere, and covered all the states east of the Mississippi.

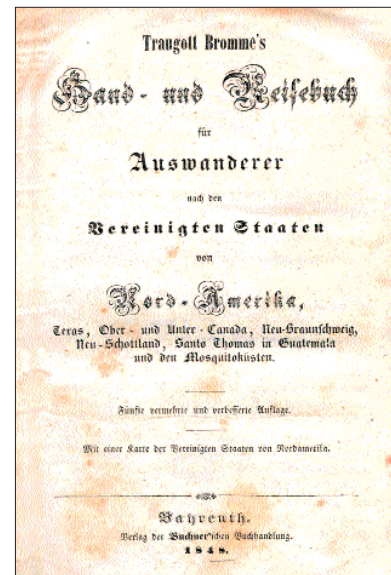
Simon Traugott Bromme was born on December 3, 1802, in Anger, near Leipzig, in what would later become Germany.¹ His father was apparently a well-to-do estate owner and *Gerichtsschöffe*, a legal assistant to the court. Traugott, who had at least four siblings, was orphaned at the age of five. He grew up witnessing, among other pivotal events of the era, Napoleon's troops marching to Russia in 1812.

In 1817 he attended a class at a Leipzig bookshop; this eventually led him into the book business. He did not immediately become a writer or publisher; instead, he spent three years studying and traveling, even finding adventure. In April 1821 Bromme emigrated to the United States and studied medicine. After this he is supposed to have served as a doctor in the "Columbian service" and also spent time in a Haitian jail.²

Bromme's writing career began in 1824. In June of that year he returned to Saxony, settling in Dresden where he became a partner in the *Walther'schen Hoffbuchhandlung*, which his brother-in-law, the book dealer Johann Gottlieb Wagner, had purchased in the same year. In 1833 Bromme again traveled to the United States, this time to Baltimore (where he possibly had relatives), and took up a partnership in the publishing house of Scheld and Company.³ While in Baltimore he published travel guides, producing eight titles between 1834 and 1837. He appears to have returned to Germany by about 1840, settling in Stuttgart.

One thing that Bromme learned in his travels between Germany and America was that many immigrants to America arrived with no prospect of a job and were

Traugott Broome's Guide, published in 1842 (Stuttgart, Germany)



unable to speak English, the dominant language. He also would have seen that many of the people who were looking for a new start in life were Germans. These émigrés needed information that would let them know what to expect. In response, Bromme wrote a travel guide for German emigrants that became relatively popular. It was entitled *Traugott Bromme's Hand- und Reisebuch für Auswanderer nach den Vereinigten Staaten von Nord-Amerika, Texas, Ober- und Unter-Canada, Neu-Braunschweig, Neu-Schottland, Santo Thomas in Guatemala und den Mosquitoküsten* [Traugott Bromme's Hand- and Travel-Book for Emigrants to the United States of North America, Texas, Upper and Lower Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Saint Thomas in Guatemala and the Mosquito Coast].⁴ Bromme's travel guide indicates that he did substantial research on the various states using the maps of Henry Schenck Tanner and others.⁵

The 550-page travel guide is divided into two parts. In the first part, Bromme gives a general overview of the United States, including thumbnail sketches of most of the states, territories, or countries that an emigrant was likely to enter in North America. He devoted more attention to places he considered most likely to benefit an immigrant—for example, the state of New York, which is described in about six pages. Bromme devoted

continued on page 30

much less space to locales he considered inhospitable to immigrants. For example, “The Territory of Missouri and the Oregon Territory” received less than half a page, and Bromme told his readers that for “settlement, this recommendation comes still too early . . . in the two here-named Indian territories with the wild inhabitants of the same.”⁶

In the second part Bromme deals with the question of who should and should not emigrate; he discusses the trades and professions most in demand in the region, about one hundred in all. Bromme touts his book “as the most crucial and accurate purveyor of information on the conditions of the western world, insofar as emigrants might be interested.”⁷

His travel guide is rather formulaic with regard to the information provided for each state. He gives the general geography, economy, industry, some vital statistics, and so on, generally devoting two to four pages to each state. His information appears to have been gleaned from other sources. Historian Klaus Dieter Hein-Mooren, in his study of German travel guides, says of Bromme: “His writings were no scientific works, but rather generally intelligible, popular representations. He also sweepingly declined to name his sources and to state whether his workmanship was only translations of

foreign-language works.”⁸

According to Joseph Sabin, who in 1869 published a massive catalog of books related to America, Bromme produced at least twenty-three titles, all of them concerned with geography. Some were multiple volumes and some supplements to the works of others, such as those of Alexander von Humboldt, a famous naturalist and explorer.⁹ Just as Bromme’s use of sources is uncertain, it is also questionable whether Bromme was actually associated in any way with von Humboldt. Hein-Mooren believes it is more likely that Bromme, or his publisher, was simply using von Humboldt’s name to increase sales.¹⁰

Bromme did not intend that all his books be used solely as guides. For example, in 1842 he published the second volume of his two-volume set *Gemälde von Nord-Amerika* (Portrait of North America).¹¹ As is apparent in the full title, these volumes were intended not only as travel guides but as entertaining instruction as well.

In 1866 Bromme’s eighth and final edition of the *Hand- und Reisebuch* was published posthumously. With regard to the number of books he produced detailing this country, Bromme may be one of America’s most forgotten authors.¹² ✕

ENDNOTES:

- 1 At that time the region consisted of small independent states that would later unify as the country of Germany.
- 2 According to James Grant Wilson and John Fiske, Bromme “settled in the United States in 1820, and afterward traveled extensively in Texas and Mexico, became surgeon on a Columbian war-schooner cruising in the West Indies, and was detained for a year as a prisoner in Hayti” (Wilson and Fiske, eds., *Appleton’s Cyclopaedia of American Biography* (New York, 1888), 1:384). Historian Klaus Dieter Hein-Mooren’s research indicates that Bromme came to the United States in 1821, studied medicine (although he does not say where), later became a doctor in the “Colombian service,” and spent some time in Haiti, returning to Saxony in 1824 (Hein-Mooren, “Gediegene Schriften für Auswanderer: Bromme, Buchner und die Auswandererliteratur” [“Dependable Publications for Emigrants: Bromme, Buchner and the Emigrant Literature”] *Buchhandelsgeschichte* 15: B45–B46, 2001).
- 3 Hein-Mooren, “Gediegene,” B45–B47.
- 4 The fifth edition of Bromme’s *Hand- und Reisebuch*, which is used in this document, was published in Bayreuth, Germany, 1848.
- 5 Henry Tanner created numerous maps in the early 1800s. As a result, it is difficult to say with certainty which ones Bromme used. For those interested, Tanner’s maps can be viewed online at, for example, <http://www.davidrumsey.com/>. Regarding his maps, Bromme wrote the following work: *Post-, Kanal- und Eisenbahn-Karte der Vereinigten Staaten von Nord-Amerika: nach Smith, Tanner, Mitchel und den Berichten des General-Postamts*, bearb. von Traugott Bromme [*Postal, Canal, and Railroad Maps of the United States of North America: After Smith, Tanner, Mitchel, and Reports of the General Post Office*, elaborated by Traugott Bromme] (Stuttgart, Germany, 1850).

- 6 Bromme, *Hand- und Reisebuch*, 186–89, 225–26.
- 7 *Ibid.*, v.
- 8 Hein-Mooren, “Gediegene,” B48. This and other quotations from Hein-Mooren’s article are translations from the German provided by the author.
- 9 Joseph Sabin, *Dictionary of Books Related to America* (New York, 1869), 2:516–18.
- 10 Hein-Mooren, “Gediegene,” B45. Alexander Freiherr von Humboldt (1769–1859) was a German explorer, scientist, and natural philosopher who conducted expeditions to Cuba and Central and South America. His greatest work was the five-volume *Kosmos* (1845–62). Some scholars of the era credit Bromme with working on the illustrations in *Kosmos* by (Sabin, *Dictionary of Books*, 2:516); this, however, is questionable.
- 11 Traugott Bromme, *Gemälde von Nord-Amerika in allen Beziehungen von der Entdeckung an bis auf die neueste Zeit—Eine pittoreske Geographie für Alle, welche unterhaltende Belehrung suchen und ein Umfassendes Reise-Handbuch für Jene, welche in diesem Lande wandern wollen* [*Portrait of North America in All Connections from the Discovery to the Most Recent Time—A Picturesque Geography for Everyone Who Seeks Entertaining Instruction, and a Comprehensive Traveler’s Handbook for Anyone Who Wants to Travel in this Land*] (Stuttgart, Germany, 1842).
- 12 I have left Bromme’s spellings, errors, and omissions as they are in the original, trying not to intrude upon the author. However, at times I have changed his punctuation and syntax in order to bring the text somewhat more in line with modern idiomatic English. I have also broken the text into several paragraphs—only two are in the original. I would like to thank the Staatsbibliothek in Berlin for helpfully providing materials and Nan Coppock for editorial assistance.

Traugott Bromme's Hand- und Reisebuch für Auswanderer nach den Vereinigten Staaten von Nord-Amerika, Texas, Ober- und Unter-Canada, Neu-Braunschweig, Neu-Schottland, Santo Thomas in Guatemala und den Mosquitoküsten

TRANSLATION BY RICHARD L. BLAND

The State of New York

This state, in which the Dutch settled in the year 1614 and gave it the name New Netherlands, lies between 40° 35' and 45° north latitude and between 5° east and 2° 51' west longitude. It borders in the north on Lake Ontario and Upper and Lower Canada, in the east on Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, in the southeast on Long Island Sound and the ocean, in the south on New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and in the west on Lake Erie and the Niagara, which separates it from Upper Canada. The greatest stretch of land from north to south amounts to 265 miles and from east to west to 351 miles, and the ground surface is 47,163 ? miles or 30,184,320 acres.

The shape of the land is exceptionally varied: toward the southeast the ground surface is mixed with pleasant rises, in the middle the land is mountainous, to the northwest it is rolling, toward the lake it is flat, and at the southern end it is hilly. The mountain chains that pass through the state are all branches of the Appalachians and consist of primitive sedimentary mountains containing ores: the Taconic Mountains that stretch along the east side of the Hudson contain significant iron and coal deposits. The Catskill Mountains, a high range whose highest peaks are the High Peak, reaching 3,019 feet, and Round Top, reaching 3,105 feet, pass along the west side of the Hudson; the range is a continuation of the high ridges that come out of Canada and accompanies Lake Champlain with several ranges. These ridges connect in the south highlands, a low mountain group that nowhere rises above 1,600 feet. Below the city of New York rise the so-called Neversink Heights that cross to New Jersey. The Shawangunk Mountains pass through Ulster County and stretch to the south, the Tripp Hills pass through Montgomery and Saratoga, and the Gooseberry Hills stretch along the north side of the Susquehanna.

All these mountain ranges, as well as the remaining ridges, are mostly well forested and are in part composed of primitive mountains wherein granite, gneiss, clay, and mica schist are prevalent. Along the Mohawk and Ontario, however, can be found hills of secondary formation and flood land deposits that at several places form a fertile soil, at others a sandy soil. The ground of Long Island has been formed on the west side by the flow of the Hudson and on the east by sea sand. New York has only a short coast line where the Hudson empties into the sea, and Long Island forms the sound by that name. A number of larger and smaller streams—among which the Hudson, Mohawk, Black, Oswego, Genessee, St. Lawrence, Susquehanna, Delaware, Alleghany, Chanango, and Tioga are the most important—cut through the state and for the most part have their origins here.

The most important river for the state is the Hudson, which takes its course directly south and is about 250 miles

long. At its break through the mountains from Kittating, in the so-called Highlands, it forms several fine natural views; there it flows in an 1,800-foot-wide canal, which on both sides is flanked by almost vertical high cliffs. Farther below it spreads out in the so-called Tappan Zee, which is 5 miles wide. Then it flows through 25-mile-long and 50-foot-high cliff walls, dividing itself at the upper end of Manhattan Island into two arms. One is named the East River, the other the North River. The North River flows north and west around the island of New York, and the East River, whose waters are increased by the tide in the strait of Long Island, flows east. At the city of New York, opposite this island, it is 2,400 feet wide; at its emptying into Long Island Sound is the so-called Hellgate a rapid, formed by prominent cliffs, which is very dangerous to shipping. Below New York the two rivers rejoin and then form the bay of the same name. The tide affects the Hudson as far as Albany, 160 miles up from its mouth, to where it carries ships of 80 tons. Emptying into it there is the Erie Canal, which connects New York with Lake Erie. The western border is formed by Lake Erie, a part of the northern border by Lake Ontario, and in the east Lake Champlain—lined on its western side with high rocky shores and connected with the Hudson by a canal—is part of the eastern border. Inland as well are lakes: Oneida, Cayuga, Seneca, Canandagua, Chataughque, and St. George, the last of which is connected with Champlain.

The climate is extraordinarily changeable, taken as a whole, but healthy. Between the mountain ranges winter is persistent and severe; in the west however it is milder than at the ocean. Winter begins as a rule on the 1st of December and lasts until the middle of March, in which month vegetation begins to grow. The summers are mostly dry, at times oppressively humid, and often afflicted with strong thunder storms; the most pleasant time of the year is the fall, which lasts from the 1st of October until the end of November. New York supports extensive agriculture, and its soil is suitable for the cultivation of all cereals. The most fertile regions are—with the exception of some stretches of Long Island—the lowlands of the upper Hudson, on the Mohawk, the Genessee and Seneca, and around the western lakes.

Wheat there delivers 25- to 30-fold, corn 30 to 60, even on the Genessee about 100 bushels; rye is grown here and there and returns 40–50 bushels; barley yields a rich grain, 60 bushels an acre; oats produce 40- to 50-fold, peas are grown in quantity although their yield is uncertain and 30 bushels an acre is considered a good harvest. Potatoes, turnips, pumpkins, melons, and onions are grown in quantity. Hemp and flax are raised in large amounts, while little tobacco is produced. All the crops ripen quickly, and crop failure is rare. Gardens and fruit growing receive much attention, and

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the tree and seed nurseries on Long Island are in a position to provide all the states with seedlings and good seeds.

There is an abundance of meadows and pastures; the production of hay continues to expand, and livestock breeding is considerable. The forests are quite significant. Especially rich in heavy lumber are the western parts of the state: six kinds of nut trees grow there. The American linden forms in some parts of the state two-thirds of the entire forest; three kinds of magnolia, Virginia cherry tree, the laurel tree, and the most splendid types of oak are also present. At least 5,000,000 acres of land are devoted to sugar maple and deliver annually a considerable quantity (1845: 4,013,702 lbs.) of sugar.

Among the minerals of the land can be found iron, zinc, copper, slate, gypsum, marble, graphite, and coal. Productive salt springs are at Salina on the Oswego, and mineral springs are at Saratoga and Ballston. In manufacturing New York stands behind no other state; plants and factories for wool, cotton, linen, iron, and glass are numerous. Potash refineries, flour and sawmills exist throughout the land, as well as paper plants, powder mills, tanneries, pottery plants, breweries, distilleries, and others are present in large numbers. In the land there is still a lack of laborers, and even in the large cities they are not in excess; workers therefore always find employment and earnings, and above all, a good days pay of 1 to 2 dollars.

The business of the state is of the greatest scope and is supported by 96 banks with a capital of \$36,801,460; the city of New York is indisputably the most significant business place in the entire Union, and the exports from the city amounted in 1845 to \$45,323,072, the imports \$61,012,336.

Innumerable canals, railroads, and streets lighten the traffic of the interior; the sea trade connects New York with all parts of the world. Among the canals that exist is the great Erie Canal, which was begun in 1817 and completed in 1825; it stretches from Albany to Buffalo, is 363 miles long, and required \$7,143,789 for its completion. The Champlain Canal goes from Albany to Whitehall 79 miles distant. The Oswego Canal, 38 miles long, goes from Syracuse to Oswego. The Cayuga and Seneca Canal, of 21 miles length, goes from Montezuma to Geneva. The Chemung Canal stretches from Elmira to Seneca Lake and includes a feeder to Painted Post; it is 39 miles long. The 8-mile-long Crooked Lake Canal connects Crooked Lake with Seneca Lake. The Chenango Canal stretches 97 miles from Binghamton to Utica. All of these canals are branches of the great Erie Canal, forming with it a length of 656 miles, which cost \$11,962,711 to construct.

The Black River Canal goes from Rome, at the Erie Canal, to the foot of the high fall of Black River at Leyden. It is 35 miles long and has a navigable feeder of 11 miles. It cost, including the 40-mile-long improvement of the navigable river to Carthago, \$1,068,437 to build. The Genessee and Alleghany Canal, which stretches from Rochester 107 miles to Olean on the Alleghany, has a branch canal of 15 miles. The construction costs reached \$2,002,285. The Delaware and Hudson Canal, which at Eddyville, on Rondout Creek, begins in the vicinity of the Hudson, reaches to Honesdale on the Lackawaxen, goes up to and through the Delaware, and cost \$2,300,000 to build.

Of the large number of railroads projected for this land the following are already complete: the Harlem Railroad, which goes from New York to Fordham, 12 miles; the Long Island Railroad, which is open from Brooklyn to Suffolk Station, 41 miles distant, and is supposed to run through the entire island to Greenport. The Hudson and Berkshire Railroad is 33 miles long and goes from Hudson to West Stockbridge; the Catskill and Canajoharie Railroad is 78 miles long. The Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad, which stretches 23 miles, goes from Troy to Ballston. The Mohawk and Hudson Railroad, of 16 miles length, connects Albany with Schenectady. The Saratoga and Schenectady Railroad is 21_ miles long; the Utica and Schenectady Railroad is 77 miles; the Utica-Syracuse Railroad, a western continuation of the previous, is 53 miles; the Syracuse-Auburn Railroad is 26 miles; the Auburn-Rochester railroad is 80 miles long. The Towanda Railroad connects Rochester with Attica, has a length of 45 miles, and is planned to be extended to Buffalo. The Buffalo and Niagara Falls Railroad is 23 miles; the Lockport and Niagara Falls Railroad is 20 miles. The Ithaca and Owego Railroad is 20 miles; the Rochester Railroad, 3 miles long, connects Rochester with Port Genessee; the Bath Railroad stretches 5 miles from Bath to Crooked Lake; the Port Kent and Keesville Railroad is 4_ miles long. The New York and Erie Railroad is one of the largest undertakings of this kind in the world; it begins at Kiermont on the Hudson, 22 miles above New York, stretches through the southern counties of the state to Dunkirk on Lake Erie, and has a length of 350 miles. The individual sections of it are for the most part completed, and in the course of the next few years the entire track will be open to business.

The inhabitants of the state are a conglomerate of people of all nations and origins: Anglo-American, Dutch, German, Scots, Irish, Swedish, French, Negro, and Indian. Their entire number amounts at present to 2,648,028, including 50,000 free Coloreds. The Presbyterians are the most numerous religious group; however all groups have representatives here. The Presbyterians and Congregationalists have 564 clergymen, the Baptists 483, the Methodists 591, the Dutch Reformed 142, the Episcopalian 207, the United Reformed 30, the Lutherans 27, the Roman Catholic 32, the Universalists 25, the Unitarians 8, all other sects and churches only a single preacher each. The state counts 13 universities and colleges with 1,285 students; 505 academies with 34,715 students, and 10,593 public and elementary schools with 502,367 students.

As in the New England states the two highest powers are separated from each other. Indeed in New York several anomalies occur: these distinguish and emphasize their constitution from that of New England, because here a definite position is given to the elements of both powers and supervision of the laws. The legislative branch consists of the senate and the assembly. The senate may never number over 100 members, who are elected to 4-year terms by the freeholders, and yearly a quarter of the senators are voted on. The representatives of the assembly are elected according to the number of the population of the county, but their number may not exceed 300. Each year they are newly elected. The executive power rests in the hands of a governor, lieutenant

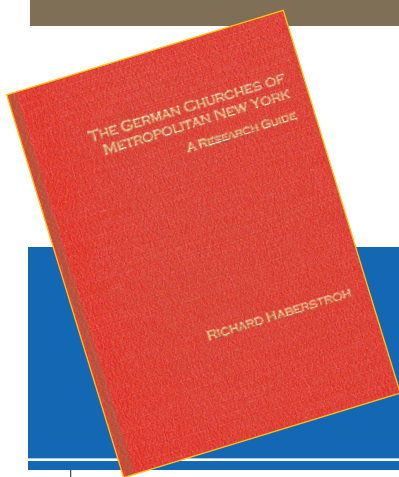
governor, and council. The judicial power is independent. The state's debt amounts to 20,165,254 dollars.

The state of New York is divided into 59 counties and contains the following primary cities: New York, at 42° 43' north latitude and 2° 54' east longitude from Washington. New York is the most important and principal trade city in North America, lies on the southern point of Manhattan Island, and is built in the form of a triangle, whose point reaches far out into the bay. The circumference of the city is 9 miles; it is irregularly constructed in the south but laid out regularly in the north. The houses, of which the city counts 20,283, are throughout built of brick, with slate roofs, and tastefully decorated on the outside.

The streets are well paved and at night lighted by gas; Broadway, the most distinguished street, goes through the middle of the city, is 80 feet wide and the main place to take a stroll of the splendid world here. The public buildings are all most tastefully built and for the most part are constructed of squared stone and marble. The most important buildings are the city hall, a splendid building of 216 feet breadth and a height of 65 feet, the front of which is entirely of white marble; the federal hall, the exchange, the toll house, the university, the hospital, the prison, the convalescent home, and 168 churches of all sects—for the most part provided with towers. The city counts 312,710 inhabitants.

Albany, 160 miles from New York, capital of the state and residence of the governor and the central administration, is a flourishing city of 2,640 houses and 43,026 inhabitants, has a capitol building, 30 churches, 1 academy, 2 arsenals, 1 library,

many prosperously run factories for wool, cotton, linen and leather, and an extensive trade. Troy, on the Hudson, is in an open plain, a regularly built city with broad streets, 1,300 houses, a courthouse, 10 churches, and 19,334 inhabitants. Hudson, on the river by the same name, has 6,479 inhabitants. Ballstown, on the Kayaderosson, has 7 churches and nearly 6,000 inhabitants. Saratoga Springs, on Saratoga Lake, has famous, often-visited mineral springs with magnificently equipped baths and cure houses. Schenectady, on the Mohawk, is a blooming enterprise and trade city of 7,594 inhabitants. Rochester, on the canal, has 10 churches and 24,494 inhabitants. Buffalo, near the entrance of the canal into Lake Erie, is a significant trade city with 20,515 inhabitants. Salem, on the Battenkill, has 3,825 inhabitants. Elizabethtown, on Champlain, has respectable trade with Vermont. Plattsburgh, at the mouth of the Saranack into Champlain, has many mills, factories, and significant trade and shipping. Odgensburgh, at the mouth of the Oswegatchi into the St. Lawrence, has respectable trade. Schoharie, on the river of the same name, has 5,534 inhabitants. Utica, on the canal, has 12,782 inhabitants and significant manufacturing and respectable trade. There are also Rome, on the Mohawk; Oswego, at the mouth of the Onondaga; Ouondaga, on the river of the same name; Norwich, on the Chenango; Ithaca, on Cayuga Lake; Canandaigua, on the lake of the same name; Batavia, on the Tonawanta, a flourishing city that carries out significant trade; and Auburn, at the exit of Lake Ouwasco, with 5,626 inhabitants, many factories, and a famous prison. ✕



German Churches of Metropolitan New York

BY RICHARD HABERSTROH, PH.D., AG

Dr. Haberstroh has identified over 400 Protestant and Catholic churches which have served the German communities in the present five boroughs of New York City, as well as Jersey City and Hoboken, from the 1600s to the present.

- Indexes to church names and Protestant pastors
- The years the church or parish were founded
- Whereabouts of records for that church
- Names of pastors for Protestant churches
- Introductory chapters on
 - the history of Christian denominations in Germany
 - the development of the German-American communities and churches of Metropolitan New York
 - the nature of German church records
- Illustrations of selected churches and church records
- Maps to assist the researcher in identifying churches

2000. Hardcover, 6 x 9.
156 pages. Retail price \$18.
Member price \$13.

**Purchase your copy at
NewYorkFamilyHistory.org**

Members may access the digital book in our eLibrary.

New York City Municipal Archives: An Authorized Guide for Family Historians

by Aaron Goodwin • Harry Macy Jr., CONSULTING EDITOR

The NYG&B is pleased to announce the August 2016 publication of *New York City Municipal Archives: An Authorized Guide for Family Historians*.

August 2016. Softcover, 7 x 10
245 pages. Retail price: \$40
Members: \$30
Print and digital bundle for NYG&B
members only: \$40

The second entry in the NYG&B Research Guide series will describe the genealogically-pertinent collections of the New York City Municipal Archives, the world's largest repository of city records.

Most researchers go to the Municipal Archives for vital records of births, marriages, and deaths generated in the five boroughs of New York, and their predecessor cities, towns, and villages. The Municipal Archives has vast holdings of other rich material that few researchers know about, and even fewer know how to access.

This volume will bring clarity to the complex subject of New York City public records. Given the unusual importance of its holdings, the lack of awareness of their extent and utility, and the difficulty accessing them, this book will be a "must have" for those doing genealogical or historical research on New York City subjects.

"Back-to-back home runs! The landmark New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer is followed by this much needed guide to the Municipal Archives in New York City.... The content listed here takes years for professionals to master—now it's available with multiple sample documents and numerous easy-to-read chronological tables. The best part ... the author navigates the reader through the analysis and utilization of the documents. This volume truly fits the needs of the entire range of New York City researchers!"

—David E. Rencher
CHIEF GENEALOGICAL OFFICER, FAMILYSEARCH

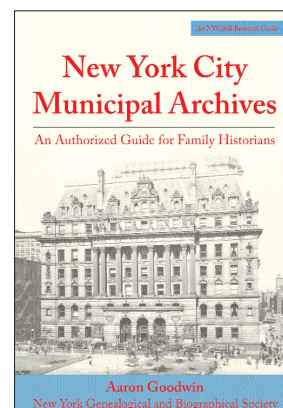
Contents

CHAPTER	TITLE
1	Vital Records (1795–1949)
2	Coroner and Office of Chief Medical Examiner Records (1823–1955)
3	City Cemetery Burials (1872–1980s)
4	Bodies in Transit Records (1859–1894)
5	Civil War Soldiers Relief Fund (1861–1867)
6	Almshouse Records (1758–1953)
7	Assessed Valuation of Real Estate Records (1699–1979)
8	Department of Buildings (1866–1970s)
9	Property Cards (1939–1980s)
10	Farm Histories
11	New Amsterdam Records of the Dutch Colonial Era (1642–1674)
12	Common Council/City Council (1675–1977)
13	Court Records (1683/4–1987)
14	Old Town Records (1647–1898)
15	Richmond County Clerk Records (1706–1947)
16	Censuses [including Jury and Electoral Censuses and Police Census of New York City 1890]
17	City Directories and Civic Directories (1802–1988/89)
18	WPA Federal Writers' Project, New York City Unit (1935–1943)
19	Photography Collections (1850–2013)
Appendix	Former New York City Wards

The book describes collections of particular interest to genealogists and provides clear direction on using the actual material, as well as the Archives' emerging digital resources. Chapters (see sidebar) will include sample records with analysis, instructions for accessing each collection, and a bibliography.

Well-known genealogist and editor Aaron Goodwin is the author, and Harry Macy, Jr., FASG, FGBS, is the consulting editor. The leadership and staff of the Municipal Archives have enthusiastically supported the project and cooperated with the NYG&B and the author. The NYG&B is especially grateful to Pauline Toole, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Records and Information Services, and Kenneth Cobb, Assistant Commissioner.

NYG&B Members receive a \$10 discount on the book and have an option to purchase a members-only print and digital bundle. Pre-order the book for delivery in August at www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org.



Highlights from Our Blog

Every week, we publish a column on our blog devoted to highlighting unique, local resources from one of New York's 62 counties. If you haven't been following online, here are some of the stories you've missed:

Searching for Records in Erie County, NY

If you are searching for records in the Erie County area you should check out the Western New York Genealogical Society (*WNYGS.org*). Their holdings include atlases and gazetteers; directories (including Buffalo City Directories 1832–present); histories; Bible, birth, baptism, church, marriage, burial, cemetery, and death records; a card file vital record index of early Western New York families; census materials for the eight Western New York counties (federal and state); ancestor charts, biographies, family histories, and genealogies; immigration lists and indexes; and military records... and more!

Searching for Records in Clinton County, NY

When searching for records in Clinton County, a great county-wide resource to check out is the Northern New York American-Canadian Genealogical Society/Clinton

County Genealogical Society (*nnyacgs.com*). Their holdings include family histories, local histories, vital records, census microfilms, church records, genealogical discs, and other records ranging from the early-1600s to the present, and encompassing Clinton, Essex, and Franklin counties, nearby counties in Vermont, and sections of Quebec and Ontario. Its collection of French-Canadian genealogy is particularly strong. Its website includes contact information for local historians, a digitized photograph collection, family trees, and journal articles.

Searching for Records in Delaware County, NY

If you are looking for records in Colchester, NY (located in Delaware County) you should check out the Colchester Historical Society (*colchesterhistoricalsociety.org*). Their holdings include unique documents, genealogies, and artifacts. They also have an index of family histories (Genealogy Surname files), as well as a gallery of artifacts available on their website.

Follow us on our blog at nyfamilyhistory.wordpress.com. ✕

Indexes to New York City Clerk's Marriage Licenses 1908–1929 Now Online

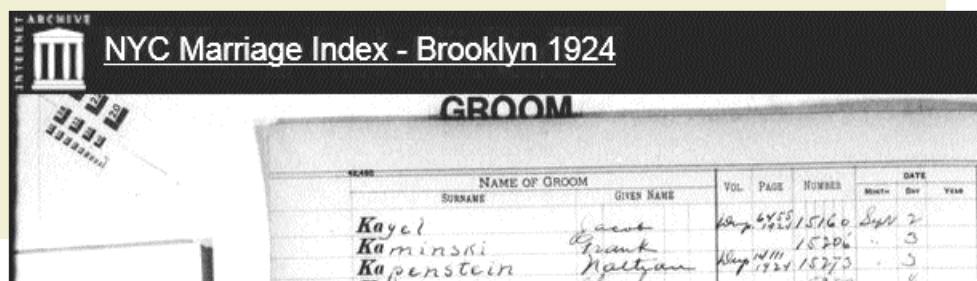
From 1908 to 1937, New York City kept two sets of marriage records. Most, but not all, couples reported their marriages to both the City Clerk and the New York City Department of Health. See Leslie Corn's article, "City Clerk's Marriage Licenses, New York City, 1908–1937: One of 20th Century Genealogy's Best Primary Sources," *NYG&B Newsletter* (now *New York Researcher*), Spring 1999. Members can view an updated version (2003) published as a Research Aid article on the NYG&B website.

This spring the indexes for marriage licenses from the New York City Clerk's office that were previously available only on microfilm onsite at the New York City Municipal Archives have been

put on *Archive.org*. Marriage license indexes for 1930–1951 are currently available at the New York City Municipal Archives on microfilm.

The indexes are handwritten book indexes created by the New York City Clerk, Marriage Bureau. See the sample below of an example for Brooklyn.

To access these indexes, go to the NYG&B blog, NewYorkFamilyHistory.wordpress.com, and search for "NYC Marriage" for the full listing, or add a borough or year to narrow the search. Copies of the licenses may be ordered from the Archives by letter or by using the order form for a marriage certificate.



INTERNET ARCHIVE
NYC Marriage Index - Brooklyn 1924

YEAR	NAME OF GROOM		VOL.	PAGE	NUMBER	DATE		
	SURNAME	GIVEN NAME				Month	Day	Year
	Kayel	Jacob	Vol. 4425	15160	Sept	2		
	Kaminski	Frank	Vol. 4425	15206		3		
	Kapenstein	Isaac	Vol. 4425	15273		5		

The Capital District Genealogical Society

by Terri Moran

The Capital District Genealogical Society (CDGS) was founded in September 1981 by a group of librarians, genealogists, and interested members of the community.

CDGS currently offers programs and activities to educate and celebrate the family history research of its members and the public. Membership currently stands at over 275 members.

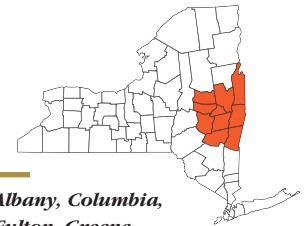
The CDGS covers a wide geographic area including Albany, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, and Washington counties. Membership is not restricted to those living in the region, but includes researchers whose interests coincide with the region.

CDGS publishes a quarterly newsletter which contains genealogical articles, transcripts of records from the Capital District, and the minutes of the meetings. A CD-ROM of the newsletters from 2006–2015 is available for sale on the website. Also for sale is the 1854 Albany County Map on CD-ROM, which contains an 1854 Map & Index of over 2700 persons named on the map (Adobe Acrobat Reader is required). A third CD-ROM available is the 1855 New York state census for Albany County, which contains all of Albany County except the City of Albany. It includes every name, occupation, relationship, blind, deaf or insane, length of residency, owner of land, and county of birth if born in New York State. Over 46,000 names are included.

The Society assists researchers with queries sent to the email address contactcdgs@gmail.com or mailed to Capital District Genealogical Society, Empire State Plaza Station, P.O. Box 2175, Albany, NY 12220-0175. CDGS maintains a list of researchers who will do more extensive research for clients for a fee.

CDGS members volunteer at the New York State Library four days per week. These experienced genealogists are familiar with the library and archives and assist patrons conducting research on the seventh and eleventh floors of the New York State Library. Additional volunteers are scheduled when large groups such as the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, the New England Historic Genealogical Society and other groups have their annual research trips.

The programs vary from nationally known speakers, local historians, professional genealogists, “how-to sessions,” and sharing by the membership. After the main program and refreshments, the Computer Resource



Albany, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, and Washington counties



CDGS Board members D. Alexander Holiday and Angie Hogencamp at Genealogy Research Day 2016

Group meets for an informal review of websites and new technologies. In April each year is a Genealogy Research Assistance Day in which the public is invited to come for one-on-one help with their family histories. In the summer a member sharing event is scheduled in which members bring heirlooms, photographs, or stories to share. From time to time the CDGS sponsors special interest groups, such as a German group or an Irish group.

The Society meets monthly, except for December, at the William K. Sanford Town of Colonie Library, 629 Albany Shaker Road, Loudonville, N.Y. 12211. Meetings are on the fourth Saturday of the month, except for May and November when they are on the third Saturday. They begin at 1:00 PM.

The Society was a sponsor for the 2015 New York State Family History Conference in Syracuse and is a sponsor for the 2016 conference. They will have a booth in the vendor area where our CD-ROMs are for sale and memberships can be obtained.

Membership in the Capital District Genealogical Society is \$15.00 per year. Those who wish to join can go to the website www.capitaldistrictgenealogical.org or can attend a meeting. ✕

Theresa Ekelund Moran, MLS, is the president of the Capital District Genealogical Society. Originally from Staten Island, she resides in the Capital District and is retired after 35 years as a librarian. Theresa has been researching her family's Swedish, German, and Colonial American roots for over 30 years.

IN MEMORIAM:

Henry Butcher “Hal” Roberts, Jr.
1940–2015

Henry Butcher Roberts, Jr., a longtime friend and trustee of the NYG&B, died in Englewood, Florida, on December 11, 2015. Hal was elected a life member of the NYG&B in 1986, a trustee in 1988, and a fellow in 1997. Born in New York City on January 18, 1940, he was educated at the Rye Country Day School and Harvard University and later served in the Marine Corps Reserve and Operation Crossroads Africa. Hal raised six children with his late wife Sylvia Dillon Roberts in Garrison, New York.

By profession he worked in the paper, printing, and book manufacturing industry, following in his father’s footsteps. He brought an enthusiasm to his many interests, which included a love of nature and sailing and a devotion to his family and to family history. Hal was deeply attached to the Adirondacks where he learned to fish and to sail from his grand-



From the 125th Anniversary Celebration supplement to the NYG&B Newsletter (now The New York Researcher) vol. 5, November 1994

mother. A celebration of his life will be held there in July 2016 at St. John’s in-the-Wilderness Church in Paul Smiths, New York. ✕

IN MEMORIAM:

Laurie Thompson
1925–2016

Laurie Thompson, a long-time New York City professional genealogist and member of the NYG&B died February 28, 2016, at her Upper West Side home in New York City at age 90.

Laurie Thompson was born April 9, 1925 in Middletown, New York and was a graduate of Hunter College.

In 1981 Laurie Thompson established Laurie Thompson Consultants, a genealogy firm which she owned and operated for over 35 years. She is survived her son, Wayne Finegan, and three grandchildren. ✕

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An independent quarterly journal, dedicated to the elevation of genealogical scholarship through carefully documented analyses of genealogical problems and through short compiled genealogies

Volume 88 • 2016

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ROGER D. JOSLYN, CG, FASG

DAVID L. GREENE, FASG, *Consulting Editor*

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The New York Family History School

Research in Albany: October 26–28, 2016

The NYG&B's popular fall research trip to Albany, New York, is scheduled for Wednesday, October 26–28, 2016. This is your chance to have three days of assisted research and genealogical camaraderie with the people who know New York best. One of the best features of the research trip is the research questionnaire participants complete before the trip. Consultants provide feedback to the attendees on not only their question, but how to focus the research question itself.

The Library and the Archives are both rich in material available nowhere else that pertains to people who have lived throughout New York State. The Library's has open stacks and holds extensive collections that include family genealogies, local histories, DAR records, church records, census records, early newspapers on film, and city directories, as well as archives and manuscripts.

The holdings of the Archives include State records relating to military service (War of 1812 through World War I); land records (mostly transactions involving the Colony or State of New York); court records (including colonial wills and early 19th-century civil cases); records of some correctional and custodial institutions; and indexes to vital records (excluding New York City). Please note that the Archives and the Library have few resources specific to New York City (most of those are held in New York City), but they do have important statewide collections that include city residents (military records, land grants/patents, etc.).

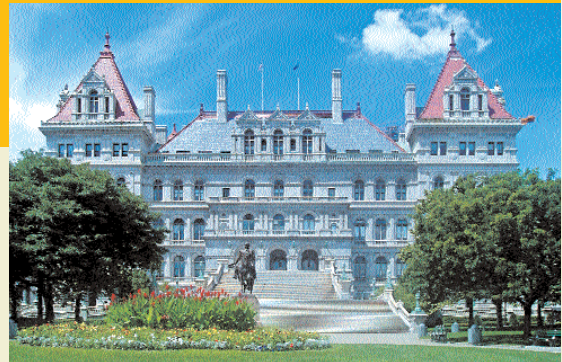
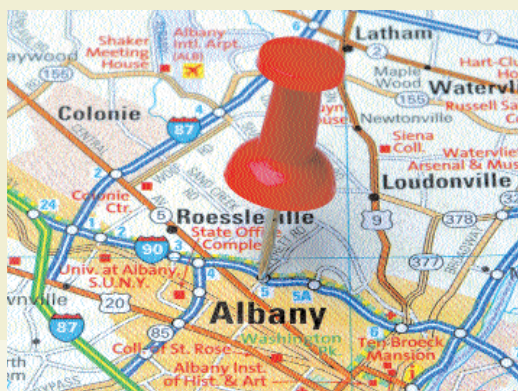


photo: Matt H. Wade

New York State Capitol, Albany, NY

The Library and Archives are conveniently located in the same building, along with the New York State Museum. The Albany Institute of History and Art is within walking distance. The trip will be most productive for research subjects other than those in New York City.

THE FEE INCLUDES:

- Orientation to the New York State Archives and the New York State Library by staff experts
- A private consultation with a professional genealogist and follow up as needed
- Access to professional genealogists for all three days of the program
- Welcome gathering on Tuesday evening (Oct. 25)
- Dinner on Wednesday night (Guests not registered for the research experience may attend the dinner for \$49)
- Wine and cheese reception on Thursday evening
- Reduced rates at the Albany Hilton

REGISTRATION:

Register online at NewYorkFamilyHistory.org; or call 212-755-8532, ext. 211. The program fee is \$320 for members and \$385 for non-members.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

We have arranged a special room rate at the Albany Hilton of \$140 per night, single or double. To make a reservation, please call the hotel directly at 866-691-1183 and mention conference code 1NYGB to get this rate. ✕

New York State Family History Conference September 15–17, 2016, Syracuse, New York



The 2016 New York State Family History Conference will be held from Thursday afternoon, September 15, to Saturday, September 17, 2016 in Syracuse, New York.

This year's conference will be run concurrently with the annual conference of the Association of Public Historians in New York State (APHNYS). Both conferences will be held at the Holiday Inn/Liverpool, just outside Syracuse with lectures in adjoining rooms. Registrants of both conferences will be able to attend sessions of either conference.

The NYSFHC program will feature a New York track of lectures, lectures on ethnic genealogy, lectures on skills, and case studies.

Conference sponsors are the Capital District Genealogical Society, FamilySearch, Family Tree DNA, Findmypast, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, the New York Public Library, New York State

Archives, New York State Library, the Western New York Genealogical Society, and the William G. Pomeroy Foundation.

CONFERENCE WEBSITE: NYSFHC.org

REGISTRATION:

- Online at www.nysfhc.org
- Registration fee (lectures):
 - members \$125
 - non-members \$150
- Meal tickets and the printed syllabus may be purchased in addition to the registration.

HOTEL: The conference hotel is the Holiday Inn/Liverpool. Reservations at the conference rate of \$129 per night, plus applicable fees and taxes, must be made directly with the hotel by calling at 315-457-1122 and using conference code CGS. The toll-free reservations line will not have access to the NYSFHC block of rooms. ✕



SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

- Jen Baldwin, Findmypast
- Blaine Bettinger, PhD, JD, the Genetic Genealogist
- Jim Brewster, Family Tree DNA
- James D. Folts, Ph.D., New York State Archives
- Lindsay Fulton, NEHGS
- Jim Ison, CG, FamilySearch
- Karen Mauer Jones, CG, FGBS, editor of the *NYG&B Record*
- Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D., CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS
- Terry Koch-Bostic, Chair, APG-NY Metro Chapter; NGS Board Member
- Susan R. Miller, NYG&B

- David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FUGA, FIRGS, Chief Genealogical Officer, FamilySearch
- Timothy G. X. Salls, NEHGS
- Holly Sammons, Onondaga County Public Library
- D. Joshua Taylor, NYG&B President; host of the *Genealogy Roadshow*
- Pamela Vittorio, historian and Erie Canal expert
- Jane E. Wilcox, member, *NYG&B Record* editorial board; host of the *Forget-Me-Not* radio program

OPTIONAL WORKSHOPS:

Preconference workshops on Thursday morning on military records and online New York records. Details on nysfhc.org

In Memoriam: Clarissa Stallknecht

Clarissa Stallknecht, 55, died on April 5. She was the youngest daughter of G. Bruce and Erma (Gibbs) Stallknecht, and served her country proudly in the United States Air Force.

Clarissa was a fixture of the Central New York Genealogical Society (CNYGS) and a member of the NYG&B. She was a driving force for the biennial New York State Family History Conference in Syracuse. She put together the Conference's first budget, attended weekly meetings, did registration, and took on a larger role with the 2015 and 2016 conferences, coordinating our vendors and exhibitors.

She worked full-time; volunteered for the Brewerton Fire Department, the NYS Council of Genealogical Organizations, and the Fort Brewerton Historical

Society; and pursued her own genealogical research.

Clarissa lived her life and supported the many organizations and people that she cared about. She had health issues, but she didn't talk about them. She just kept on going.

She didn't seek out accolades; in fact, I think she preferred working out of the spotlight.

Surviving her are children Joseph (Stacie) Mailloux and Jolene (Sam Provost) VanAntwerp; granddaughters, Jasmine, Mya, and Grace; grandson, Steven, and father-in-law, Joseph Mailloux Sr. She also leaves behind her siblings, Margaret Stallknecht, Mary (Neil) Cheney, Sharon Bumann, Richard (Joann) Stallknecht, and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

—NANCY MALIWESKY

NYG&B Programs

WEBINARS

New York City Vital Records Indexes

Confused by multiple indexes for New York City vital records? This webinar will explain the origins of the indexes, cover which indexes contain what years and record groups.

PRESENTER: SUSAN R. MILLER

- Wednesday, August 16, 7:00 p.m. (40 minutes)

Hidden Treasure from FamilySearch.org

The search button misses a billion+ records on FamilySearch that haven't been digitally indexed. A probate case study illustrates their use.

PRESENTER: ROBERT RAYMOND is a genealogical technologist, a FamilySearch deputy CGO, and a director of NGS.

- Thursday, September 16, 8:00 p.m. (50 minutes)

Registration links for webinars are found in the NYG&B calendar.

REGISTRATION:

Advanced registration is essential.

Sign up at NewYorkFamilyHistory.org or by calling 212-755-8532, ext. 211.

RECORDED PROGRAMS

NYG&B members can access recorded webinars and recorded lectures in the member section of the NYG&B website. Look in the Research and Discover area, under the Original Guides, Lectures & More tab. Be sure to log in for access.

- Tips and Tricks for Using the NYG&B eLibrary
BY HEATHER HOFFMAN
- The Empire State and the Big Apple:
Online Records for New York Genealogists
BY JEN BALDWIN
- Innovation in Ireland:
Creative Resources for Your Irish Research
BY JEN BALDWIN

PRE-RESEARCH SESSION

Make your research time productive by attending these new sessions at the NYG&B office.

NYC Municipal Archives:

Beyond the Basics

Learn about the extensive collections at the New York City Municipal Archives. Prepare for your research request before your arrival. Included in this session is a copy of the forthcoming *New York City Municipal Archives: An Authorized Guide for Family Historians*.

- Wednesday, August 10, 6:00–7:00 p.m.
- Friday, November 4, 1:00–2:00 p.m.

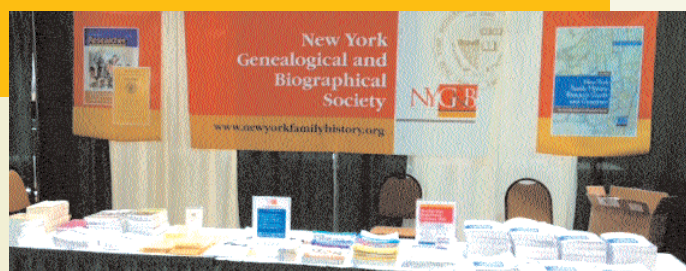
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NYG&B Conference Schedule

PLEASE VISIT US AT OUR BOOTH AT THESE GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCES:

When you visit, pick up your member ribbon and chat with us about your research questions. It's easy to renew your membership as well.

- **Federation of Genealogical Societies Annual Conference**
Springfield, Illinois • Aug. 31–Sept. 3, 2016
- **NY State Family History Conference**
Syracuse, New York • September 15–17, 2016
- **RootsTech**
Salt Lake City, Utah • February 8–11, 2017



- **New England Regional Genealogical Conference**
Springfield, Massachusetts • April 26–29, 2017
- **National Genealogical Society Family History Conference**
Raleigh, North Carolina • May 10–13, 2017 ✕

Volunteer at the booth. If you are attending one of these conferences and wish to help out at the booth, please email education@nygbs.org.

NYG&B Repository Tours

The Genealogy & Map Divisions of the New York Public Library

The New York Public Library is one of the world's great research libraries. NYPL staff will provide an overview of the rich resources of the Milstein Division of United States History, Local History and Genealogy, and the Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division. A guided tour of the Milstein, Milstein Microfilm, and Map rooms will follow. The NYG&B tour will take approximately 60 minutes, after which, individual research may conduct their own research.

- Thursday, November 10, 10:30–11:45 a.m.

Center for Jewish History

Extensive resources for both Jewish and non-Jewish research can be explored at the Center for Jewish History (CJH). Learn about the many collections of the five organizations housed at the CJH, which hold about 100 million archival documents, plus books, artifacts, photographs, and more. The tour will take approximately 60 minutes, after which a genealogical orientation will take 30 minutes. Participants may conduct their own research after the program.

- Thursday, November 17, 1:00 p.m. ✕

Check our website and eNews for more programs as they are scheduled.

REGISTRATION:

Each program \$25 members/\$40 non-members. Advanced registration is required.

You may sign up via our online store at NewYorkFamilyHistory.org or by calling 212-755-8532, ext. 211.

Jointly Sponsored Programs at the NYPL

WORKSHOP New York Records Online

Get started in online research. This hands-on workshop will demonstrate where to find New York State and New York City indexes and records. Learn how to search free and subscription websites. Expected duration is 40 minutes. The workshop is free and no advance registration is required. First come, first served.

- Wednesday, August 24, 1:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, November 30, 6:00 p.m.

PRESENTER: SUSAN R. MILLER

LOCATION: South Court Classroom A

Please see www.nypl/locations/divisions/milstein for more programs and to confirm the program times. These programs are free at the New York Public Library, Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, Fifth Avenue between 40th & 42nd Streets.

*New York Public Library,
Stephen A. Schwarzman Building*

LECTURE Democrat, Republican, or Whig: Uncovering Your Political Family Tree

Since the early days of the nation political parties have shaped the history of the United States. Exploring the political leanings of our ancestors can be an exciting and worthwhile adventure. Discover how to locate records of past political parties and identify the affiliations of your ancestors. Scheduled time: 50 minutes

- Wednesday, October 12, 6:30 p.m.

PRESENTER: D. JOSHUA TAYLOR

LOCATION: Margaret Liebman Berger Forum ✕





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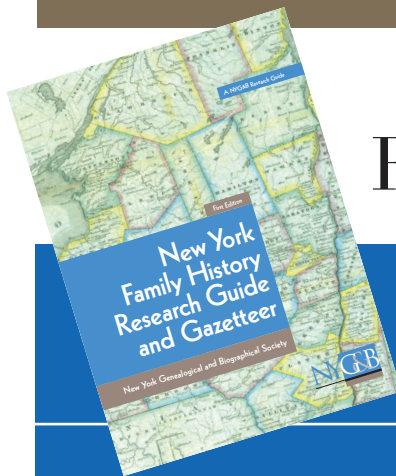
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New York Articles from Beyond Our Boundaries

March–June 2016 • New York-related articles in selected 2015 and 2016 issues of some non-New York journals

Contributed by Stanton Biddle, Ph.D.

The **NEHG Register**, vol. 170, Cherry Fletcher Bamberg, “Major Alexander Hart, A Jewish Confederate Officer, and His Family,” Whole Number 677: 8–21 (Winter 2016).

This multi-part article documents the ancestry of Major Alexander Hart, a Jewish New Orleans store clerk who had served as a Confederate officer during the Civil War. The German based family had lived in Portsmouth, England, and New York City before connecting with the Kokernot family and migrating to New Orleans, Louisiana in 1836.

Connecticut Ancestry, vol. 58 (Whole Number 272), Mary Elizabeth (Marvin) Peterson, “Jonathan Austin of Pound Ridge, New York, His Two Wives Susanna Bishop and Deborah Ann (Whaley) Thorn and a Possibly Previously Unknown Son,” 3: 89–93 (February 2016).

A continuation of Frederick C. Hart, Jr.’s article on Jonathan Austin of Pound Ridge, New York, that includes new information drawn from a previously undisclosed first marriage to a Susanna Bishop.

Connecticut Ancestry, vol. 58 (Whole Number 272), transcribed by Mary Elizabeth (Marvin) Peterson, “Another Jonathan Austin Civil–War Era Letter,” 3: 94–95 (February 2016).

Transcription of a March 16 and 18, 1866 letter from a 35 year-old Civil War soldier, Jonathan Austin of Pound Ridge, New York, to his sister and brother-in-law containing observations of life in the service in Atlanta, Georgia, and hopes for an upcoming furlough.

William and Mary Quarterly, 3rd ser., 73, Susanah Shaw Romney, “‘With & Alongside His Housewife’: Claiming Ground in New Netherland and the Early Modern Dutch Empire,” 2: 187–224 (April 2016).

Based on the initial example of Dutch West India Company employee Jan Cornelisz van Goudriaen (d. 1643) and his wife Aeltgen Jans, the article discusses the Dutch policy of creating stability in new world colonies by encouraging the immigration of women, marriages, establishment of households, and development of communities. It was believed that the presence of women and the formation of families would create the basis for successful settlements and later societies. ✕

Dr. Stanton Biddle, a twenty-plus year member of the NYG&B, is a member of our corps of volunteers. He recently retired as a professor and former chief librarian at Baruch College. He earlier held senior administrative positions at SUNY Buffalo, at Howard University Libraries, and at NYPL’s Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.

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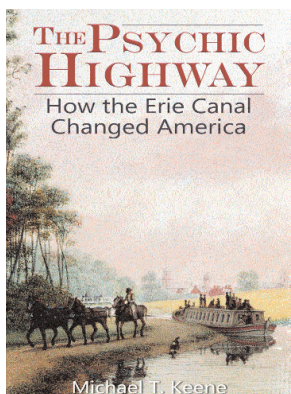
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Book Notes

The Psychic Highway: How the Erie Canal Changed America

By Michael Keene. Willow Manor Publishing, 2016. 213 pages. Maps, document images, and photos. Endnotes and Index. \$23

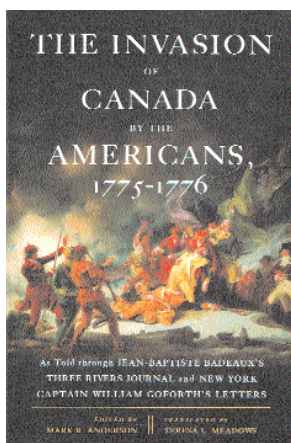


Did a bolt of lightning strike Western New York, fertile ground for the spiritual and political awakenings of the early and mid-nineteenth century New Yorkers? The author explores New York's history, concentrating on those whose ideas shaped our political, economic, and social history: Albert Gallatin, Susan Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, and many more. The author relates the Erie Canal to religious movements and social change. The notes

the book's title originates from Whitney Cross's dubbing the Erie Canal "the Psychic Highway" in 1913. ✕

The Invasion of Canada by the Americans, 1775-1776

Edited by Mark R. Anderson and Teresa L. Meadows. State University of New York Press, 2016. Hard cover. 205 pages. Black and white illustrations and maps, bibliography, index. \$80.



This book uses Jean-Baptiste Badaeux's Three Rivers Journal and the letters of Capt. William Goforth to track the unsuccessful American incursion into Canada in 1775 and 1776. Badaeux's record, one of several to have survived, is also known as "Journal of the Operations of the American Army during the Invasion of Canada in 1775-1776." This book contains a translation of the original French into English. William Goforth (1731-1807) served in the First New York Regiment and while in Canada as military governor of Three Rivers corresponded with a number of

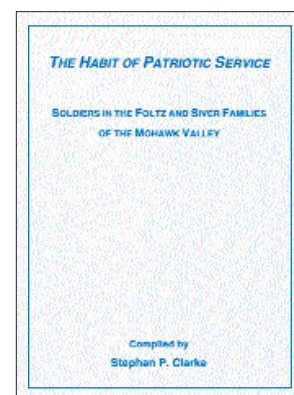
Patriots, including John Jay and Benjamin Franklin, to name two. The journal entries and the heavily-annotated letters are combined to provide a chronological account. This book will appeal to scholars researching details of the Revolutionary War in Canada, and to family historians lucky enough to be researching people described in the journal entries and letters. Unfortunately the index is far from comprehensive. Mark Anderson is an

independent historian; Teresa Meadows is a professor of French at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. ✕

The Habit of Patriotic Service: Soldiers in the Foltz and Siver Families of the Mohawk Valley

Compiled by Stephen P. Clarke. Self-published. 2016. Soft cover. 82 pages. Illustrated, references. \$15.

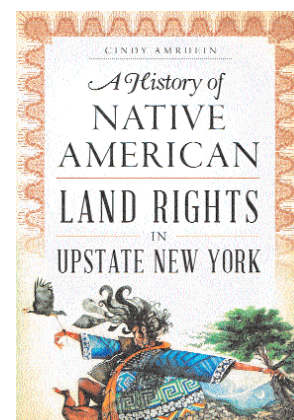
Stephen P. Clarke's legacy to his and his siblings' progeny is this illustrated and well documented tribute to eight generations of members of two interrelated upstate New York (Mohawk Valley) families of German origin who followed a tradition of military service from the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 through the Civil War. The author includes photographs, maps, and copies of historical documents to bring context to the narrative and stories from news-paper articles, local histories, interviews and obituaries to add life and color to the facts. ✕



A History of Native American Land Rights in Upstate New York

By Cindy Amrhein. The History Press, 2016. Soft cover. 206 pages. Black and white photos and maps. Notes. Brief index. \$22.

This is an outstanding and readable introduction to the subject. The book covers the history of the treatment of Indian lands in New York and then recounts the various relevant treaties and arrangements beginning in the late eighteenth century, which involved correspondence from George Washington, and continuing into the early years of the twentieth century. Researchers looking at Indian land in New York State can get good context and historical background from this volume. The book includes transcriptions of some documents and provides a number of useful websites for further research. The author has experience as a town and county historian, and experience in land title research; she offers various points of view and

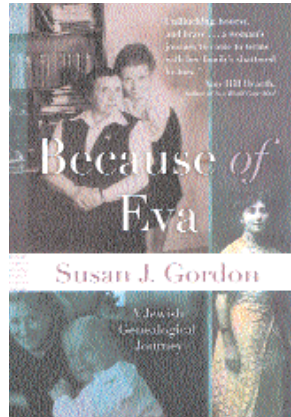


conclusions about the ethics and historical details pertaining to the way Indians and their lands were “managed,” which are not addressed in this book note. ✕

Because of Eva: A Jewish Genealogical Journey

By Susan J. Gordon, Syracuse University Press, 2016. Soft cover. 256 pages. Notes, bibliography, index. \$30.

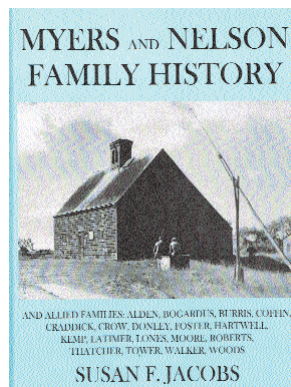
The author, an American Jewish woman, travels to Eastern Europe and Israel to solve mysteries in her family’s past by delving into World War II and Holocaust history. What began as a simple search for “Eva” a relative, who had signed Gordon’s grandmother’s death certificate in New York, became a journey of discovery when Gordon found her in Tel Aviv. The book chronicles Eva’s survival during the Holocaust, her life in occupied Budapest, and journey to Israel. The trail in search of her family’s history takes Gordon to her grandfather’s birthplace in Ukraine and introduces her to the world her ancestors experienced before their migration to America. Gordon reconciles issues of betrayal and loyalty, and finally finds her place in Judaism. ✕



Myers and Nelson Family History

By Susan F. Jacobs. The Author, 2016. Hard cover. 83 pages. Black and white photos, document images and maps. Notes. Brief index.

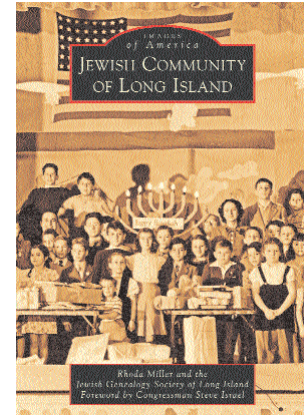
This NYG&B member-written family history, intended primarily for extended family, is written as a narrative work. It contains a limited number of family lines in the finished publication, although the author may be contacted for additional lines. The extensive photographs are charming. Genealogical citations are listed for each family group. For copies, contact the author at susanffjj@gmail.com. ✕



Jewish Community of Long Island

By Rhoda Miller and the Jewish Genealogy Society of Long Island. Foreword by Congressman Steve Israel. Images of America, Arcadia Publishing, 2016. Soft cover. 128 pages. Heavily illustrated, bibliography, index. \$22

A part of the Arcadia Publishing’s “Images of America” series, this heavily illustrated book traces the development of Long Island’s Jewish community from the colonial era to the recent past. Photographs celebrate religious, cultural, social, recreational, educational, historical, political and professional events on the island.



The photographs and their well-researched captions introduce readers to the community history in the form of anecdotes which will have particular appeal to the families mentioned.

The author’s definition of Long Island for the book’s purpose is Nassau and Suffolk counties, so Brooklyn and Queens (Kings and Queens counties, respectively) are not covered.

Other than a mention of early Jewish settlers on eastern Long Island, the story told here begins in the mid- to late-nineteenth century, when a typical congregation started as a minyan (a quorum of ten men). Growth in employment opportunities increased the Jewish population, which was followed by development of cemeteries and synagogues and services for the Jewish population, such as kosher food stores.

The largest Jewish communities date from the post-World War I period. Growth in Jewish communities on Long Island accelerated dramatically after World War II, following national demographic trends like the baby boom, the flight from cities to the suburbs, and other familiar influences which are briefly highlighted. The author also touches on the anti-Semitic activities of the Ku Klux Klan on Long Island, as well as the activities at Camp Siegfried, which espoused Nazi-influenced propaganda briefly prior to World War II. ✕

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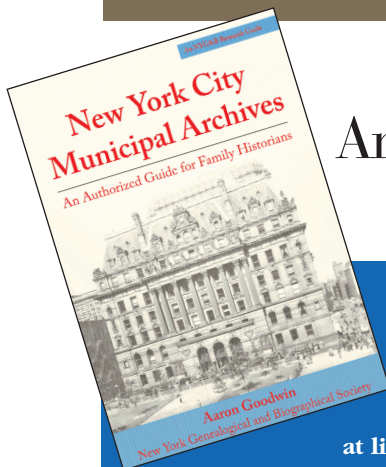
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