

Using the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York Collection

Kalyn P. Loewer

Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York Collection

<https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/online-records/collection/sons-revolution-state-new-york>

The [Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York, Inc.](https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/online-records/collection/sons-revolution-state-new-york) (SRNY) is a nonprofit society composed of descendants of those who served in the American Revolutionary War. Since 1883, the organization has worked to preserve the memory, history, and principles of the American Revolution. It is known for its stewardship of Fraunces Tavern, a historic landmark located in the downtown Financial District of Lower Manhattan.

Each membership application traces a member's descent from a Revolutionary War patriot, offering a wealth of genealogical and other historical details, including:

- Birth, marriage, and death information
- Places of residence
- Correspondence and certificates
- Biographical detail on both everyday New Yorkers and notable figures such as descendants of the Astor, Hamilton, Morgan, and Roosevelt families
- Records of SRNY's activities and the stewardship of Fraunces Tavern

This collection was preserved and made accessible online through the NYG&B's [Digitize New York Initiative](#).

How to Access the Collections Catalog

<https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/online-records/browse-catalog>

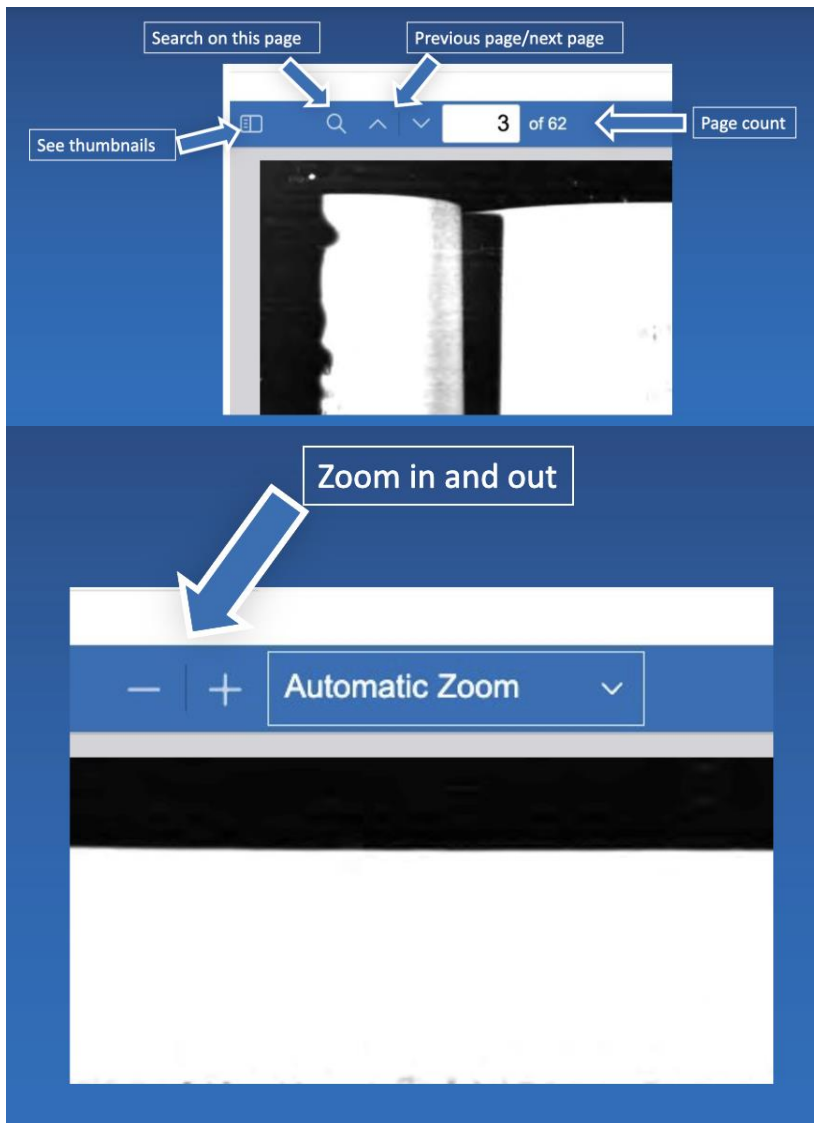
The NYG&B's Online Collections Catalog can most easily be located from the top navigation bar under "Online Records", which is viewable from any page of the website. When hovering the mouse over "Online Records", the button for "Collections Catalog" appears as the second item in the drop-down menu.

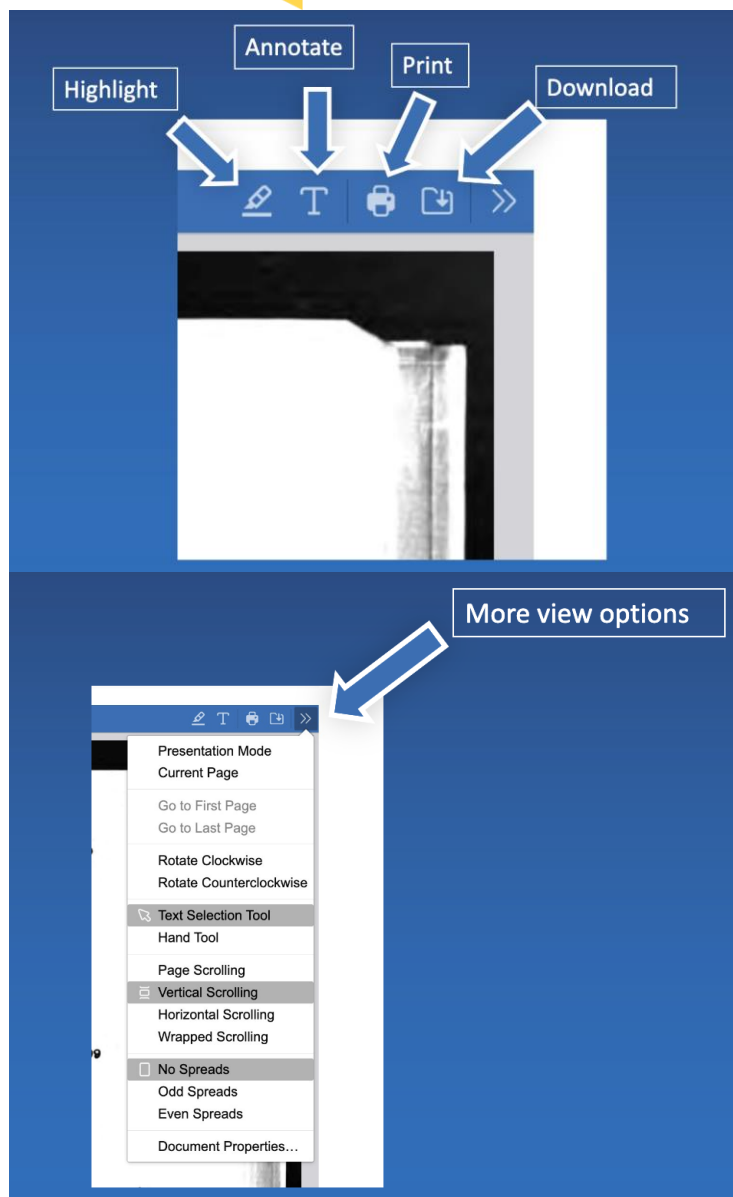


Navigating the PDF Viewer

Every image in our online collections is visible by using our standard PDF viewer. In addition to browsing through the images, the PDF viewer utilizes functions that allow users to interact with documents in ways most helpful for them. These functions include highlighting, annotating, zooming in and out, printing, and downloading. Users may

also adjust how the image is viewed by expanding to full screen, rotating, and adjusting how the page may be scrolled through.





How to Search the Applications

The collection page offers researchers multiple avenues to locate the information they're seeking. In addition, the unique search and browse features allow for a range of entry points to the collection; researchers may find the collection to be a valuable tool whether starting with a lot of information already or starting with just an interest in the records.

Indexed applications can be browsed or searched, both directly on the collection page and from an expanded view of the search results. The first search box that appears on the page is the standard collection search tool, which includes first name, last name, and keywords fields. All fields on the applications that were indexed are searchable via this search box.

Beneath the standard search box is a find by membership number box. This allows researchers to search by membership number and name. This feature is particularly helpful if a researcher knows that a member exists and has preexisting knowledge about that member or application. All membership numbers were indexed. Using either of these search boxes will ultimately redirect the user to the search results page, which will show all fields indexed for each application that appears as a result, in addition to a direct link to that application.

An important note: While many helpful fields were indexed, this is only a portion of the information available as part of these applications. Researchers will benefit from utilizing the index to locate an application they wish to spend more time analyzing, and then examine every document connected to that application to make the most of the record.

Utilizing

Browsing

Features

As users scroll down the page, they will encounter a section of the page dedicated to browsing the collection. Like the two search features, there are two separate ways in which researchers may browse. First, volumes in their entirety can be opened and browsed page by page. The original applications were bound into volumes that contained 100 applications each. Later, as applications became larger with additional supplemental materials required, applications were sometimes bound in groups of 50 rather than 100. By and large, applications are in numerical order. This is a fantastic starting place for researchers who would like to get a sense of how the applications are organized, what the original bound volumes contain from start to finish, and for those who do not yet have names or keywords they wish to search.

The second browsing feature offers the ability to browse the full index. A condensed version of the full index, beginning with member number 1, appears beneath three fields that will search this index directly on the page. Users can search by membership number, member name, and qualifying ancestor. As users fill any of the search fields, the index will automatically generate results. To the right of the results are links to view the full application.

Tips for Indexed and Full-Text Search

Depending on the collection, you may have the opportunity to do a deeper review of the records through an indexed or keyword-based search. This option is available for collections labeled “Collection Type: OCR” (optical character recognition)¹ or “Collection Type: Indexed.” Some collections may be labeled with both.

¹ Optical character recognition (OCR) is a technology that uses automated data extraction to quickly convert images of text into a machine-readable format.

Collection Category: County Histories | **Collection Type:** OCR |

Location: Montgomery County, Fulton County

Collection Category: Periodicals | **Collection Type:** Indexed | **Location:** All NY Counties

When using collections with these Collection Type labels, you can use keywords to explore the records within the collection.

- Keyword**

Search	Example
When a collection has OCR applied, you can search by any keyword, including names, dates, locations, and more. On the collection page, locate the "Search" box, which offers several field options. Type your search term into the "Keywords" field, then click the blue "Search" button. Your matches will appear under "Full-text Search Results," each with a link to the document page where the term was found.	Keyword search for the date "1809"

Keyword search for the date "1809"

Search

☐ Exact Spelling [What's this?](#)

Search results for the date "1809" within the collection

Match	Collection	Title	Location	Documentation
retired farmer, St. Johnsville; b. 1809. Nellis, J. D., farmer and cider, Powell, Abner,...	History of Montgomery and Fulton Counties, NY	History of Montgomery and Fulton Counties, NY	Montgomery County, Fulton County	View Document
such, at Kingsboro, in the year 1809. That village and the surrounding, quantities are now...	History of Montgomery and Fulton Counties, NY	History of Montgomery and Fulton Counties, NY	Montgomery County, Fulton County	View Document
Van Horne, David I. Zieley, 1809. Daniel Cady, James Allen, David	History of Montgomery and Fulton Counties, NY	History of Montgomery and Fulton Counties, NY	Montgomery County, Fulton County	View Document

Matches to your search will appear under the “Match” column in italicized text (yellow highlighter has been added as a visual aid).

If you're searching for a specific name or phrase, place quotation marks around your search terms. This tells the search to look only for instances where the words appear in that exact order. Searching is not case sensitive, but punctuation may affect results.

Keyword search for the phrase “Sunny Side” using quotation marks

Search

First Name

Last Name

☐ Exact Spelling [What's this?](#)

"Sunny Side"

SEARCH

Search results for the entire phrase “Sunny Side” within the collection

Full-text Search Results [What's this?](#)

20 Results Per Page

Match	Collection	Title	Location	Documentation
Live Stock and Real Estate, <i>Sunny Side</i> Farm, Otego, N. Y. (See Adv, Live Stock and Real...	American Agriculturist Farm Directory and Reference Book of Otsego and Herkimer Counties, New York, 1917	American Agriculturist Farm Directory and Reference Book of Otsego and Herkimer Counties, New York, 1917	Otsego County	View Document
Live Stock and Real Estate, <i>Sunny Side</i> Farm, Otego, N. Y. (See Adv, Live Stock and Real...	American Agriculturist Farm Directory and Reference Book of Otsego and Herkimer Counties, New York, 1917	American Agriculturist Farm Directory and Reference Book of Otsego and Herkimer Counties, New York, 1917	Otsego County	View Document
JOHN E. (Gertrude) 3ch " <i>Sunny Side</i> " farmer (dairy) WOS 137a	American Agriculturist Farm Directory and Reference Book of Otsego and	American Agriculturist Farm Directory and Reference Book of Otsego and	Otsego County	View Document

- Indexed Search Example**

When a collection has been indexed, you can search by first name, last name, or both. On the collection page, locate the "Search" box. Type your search term(s) into the name field(s), then click the blue "Search" button. Your matches will appear under "Indexed Results," each with a link to the document page where matches to your terms were found.

Index search for the name "John McNeil"

Search

☐ Exact Spelling [What's this?](#)

Search results for the name "John McNeil" within the index

Indexed Results [What's this?](#)

20 Results Per Page

Last Name	First Name	Collection	Additional Details	Documentation
McNeill	John	NYG&B Record	Article Title: The McNeil Family of Carlisle, Schoharie County ▼ Volume: 139 Issue: 2 Page: 124	View Document

Matches to your search will appear under the “Last Name” and/or “First Name” columns (yellow highlighter has been added as a visual aid).

By default, the search will show exact and similar matches to the spelling of the first and/or last name. If you want to search by the exact spelling of a last name, you can click the check box under the “Last Name” field for “Exact Search.”

Looking for more ways to get involved with the NYG&B? Learn more below.

JOIN

The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society (NYG&B) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving, documenting, and sharing family history and stories from across New York State. Our award-winning publications, expert staff, professional research services, extensive online records and collections, and comprehensive educational programming and resources help our members become New York family history experts. Learn more at:

www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/content/join

VOLUNTEER

Volunteering with the NYG&B—either in person or remotely—is a great way to actively support a community dedicated to researching New York ancestors. And there are so many ways to help, whether virtually wherever you may be, at one of our regional Digitization Centers, or at our bustling New York City headquarters. Volunteers can assist with scanning documents, indexing records, and editing images. We provide both remote and in-person training and guidance. Please reach visit www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/volunteer or email us at volunteer@nygbs.org for more information.

PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAMMING

The NYG&B holds a wide range of online and in-person events, conferences, classes, research trips, and seminars, both paid and free of charge. To see a list of upcoming events and to register, please visit www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/events

DONATE TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION

Consider making a tax-deductible donation to advance our mission and support additional record and collection preservation efforts, educational programming, and landmark publications and resources. Learn more at www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/get-involved/donate or call 212-755-8532, ext. 208.

STAY CONNECTED

Stay up to date on the latest happenings at the NYG&B and broader genealogy community—including new programming, publications, and more—by subscribing to our free eNews. Sign up on our website at newyorkfamilyhistory.org. You can also follow on Facebook at www.facebook.com/nyfamilyhistory and Instagram at www.instagram.com/nyfamilyhistory.