

A PUBLICATION OF
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Genealogical and
Biographical Society

The New York Researcher

Fall 2016 • Volume 27, Number 3



Image from a 1657 American Indian Deed for Staten Island

NYG&B

**Lost New York Administration Bonds
Rediscovered: Liber A, 1742–1753**

**Dutch Records at the New York State Archives
and the Current Digitization Project**

2017 Programs Announced

The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society

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The New York Researcher

Volume 27, Number 3 • Fall 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 71 and on our website.

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ON THE COVER:

The American Indian deed for Staten Island, 1657, includes a small doodle of Native Americans and a Dutchman smoking a pipe. (See page 55 for details.)

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.

The words *Certified Genealogist* are a registered certification mark, and the designations CG, CGL and *Certified Genealogical Lecturer* are service marks of the Board for Certification of Genealogists®. Accredited Genealogist and AG are certification marks of the International Commission for Accreditation of Professional Genealogists. Individuals are licensed to use the credential designations after meeting the competency standards of those organizations.



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.

The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society

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Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

As the leaves begin to change across the state of New York (and indeed across the country), the NYG&B is bustling with activity.



We had a busy summer, as our interns worked diligently on a number of projects which will lead to expansions in our eLibrary and online educational tools. A few weeks ago we welcomed hundreds of fellow researchers at the 2016 New York State Family History Conference in Syracuse, New York where we gathered with our friends from the Central New York Genealogical Society and the Association of Public Historians of New York State. It was wonderful to see so many friendly faces at the NYG&B membership reception, and attendees left the conference refreshed and full of new ideas to continue with personal research.

Over the course of the past several months, and looking to the future, the NYG&B remains focused on three key areas: programs and events, publications, and access to content and resources. Next year will bring new programs including a joint program in Buffalo, New York with the Western New York Genealogical Society and a two-day in-depth genealogical writing workshop. In addition, the NYG&B will lead research tours to Albany and New York City. We also look forward to expanding our longstanding partnerships with members of the community, including lineage and historical organizations throughout the state of New York. This year, we are delighted to be hosting a joint luncheon with the Knickerbocker Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Whether you join us during one of our members-only webinars, at a conference somewhere across the country, or at an

event hosted at the NYG&B offices we look forward to sharing in your discoveries in the coming months.

The NYG&B also remains committed to creating publications for our members and the community. With the publication of *New York City Municipal Archives: An Authorized Guide for Family Historians* and more than forty individual New York county guides (all of which will be released by the end of the year), the NYG&B continues to dedicate its efforts to provide resources for the entire state of New York. While forthcoming publication activities will be announced in the future, we are actively seeking feedback on the subjects you would find useful to your activities. You are invited to email your ideas to president@nygbs.org.

We continue to release new materials within the NYG&B eLibrary, and are in the beginning stages of launching efforts to provide an even wider array of content for our members to access. In August the NYG&B welcomed Frederick Wertz as our new Digital Services Manager. With a background in history and technology Mr. Wertz has previously worked within the commercial genealogical field and brings a wealth of experience and dedication to the NYG&B.

Over the summer we were grateful to have received a bequest from the estate of longtime member Genevieve Lanyon. Because of this gift we are actively working at ways to improve our website, NewYorkFamilyHistory.org and expand a number of our existing activities, including our newly launched webinar series. Ms. Lanyon's gift is a reminder of the generosity of our members and the great work we can do together. If you have questions about including the NYG&B within your estate planning—or have already done so, please let us know. Those who have made preparations for a planned gift or bequest are invited to join the 1869 Circle, which recognizes the spirit of generosity towards ensuring the future success of the NYG&B.

Thank you for your support and participation in the NYG&B community. ×

Until next time,

D. Joshua Taylor • P R E S I D E N T



Over the course of the past several months, and looking to the future, the NYG&B remains focused on three key areas: programs and events, publications, and access to content and resources.

Lost New York Administration Bonds Rediscovered:

Liber A, 1742–1753

by Aaron Goodwin

New York State's present system of Surrogate's Courts, one in each county, was established in May 1787. Prior to that time, probate proceedings

and their resultant records were produced by a number of different officials or courts with various titles and jurisdictions. Thankfully, Harry Macy Jr. untangles that confusion in his article “New York Probate Records Before 1787,”¹ a critical resource for colonial research. Macy's article clarifies the laws as they evolved and provides a detailed inventory of available records.

Estate Administrations

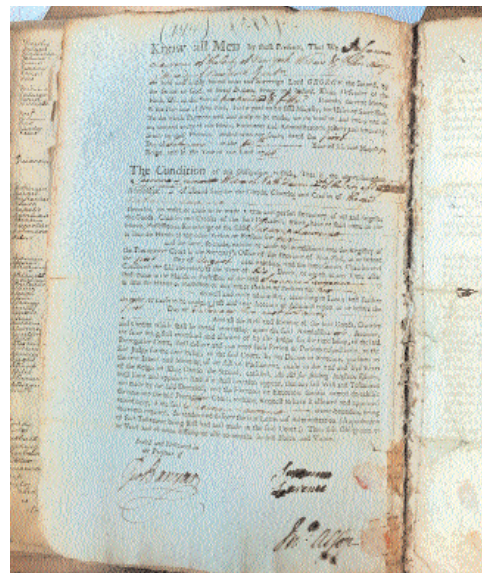
In his discussion of administrations for this period, Mr. Macy notes that letters of administration were copied into will books until 1743, when the Prerogative Court (the pertinent body at the time) began issuing them on pre-printed forms, copies of which were later bound in separate libers. Each application for letters of administration had to be accompanied by an administration bond, surety that the estate would be settled according to law.

As it did with letters of administration, the Prerogative Court began producing pre-printed bond forms in 1743, which were also later bound in libers. Those in libers B–F (1753–1783) were abstracted by Kenneth Scott and published by the NYG&B in 1969.² Liber A (1742–1753), however, was lost before it could be abstracted or micro-filmed.

Discovered Liber

During the course of research for the NYG&B's new guide, *New York City Municipal Archives: An Authorized Guide for Family Historians*, we made a surprising discovery. Among the Archives' Old Town Records was a small collection of “Old New York City” records. The category itself was unexpected as Old Town Records are intended to contain only those records of the towns and villages of

Nathaniel Laurence estate, Administration Bond, 1 February 1745[/6?], Liber A (1742–1753), page 194, Prerogative Court of the Province of New York, “Old New York City,” Old Town Records, New York Municipal Archives



Kings, Queens, Richmond, and parts of Westchester counties prior to their consolidation with the City of New York in 1898.³ There should be no “Old New York City” records there. But perhaps more surprising was a single listing in the finding aid for that collection: “Administration Bonds - A 1742–1753.”

Liber A of Administration Bonds for the Prerogative Court in New York City contains about 310 bonds arranged roughly chronologically. Most are on pre-printed forms, but some are entirely manuscript. All of the information regarding the deceased, administrators, and bondsmen is manuscript. Signatures are original and accompanied by remnants of wax seals. The liber was ultimately paginated, and an index by decedent was inserted in the front. Both its binding and the edges of its pages are very fragile.

Future Access to the Records

Now that the volume has been properly identified, the Municipal Archives is scheduling it for conservation. Until that conservation is complete, the public will not have access. Given the condition of the volume, along with scheduling and prioritization concerns, that conservation could take some time. In the meantime, abstracts of Liber A will be published by the NYG&B in the near future.

This publication will be an important addition for many New York researchers of the period, not just those of New York City. While the Prerogative Court sat in New York City, its jurisdiction extended to Kings, Richmond, Westchester, and Orange counties. In other counties the Court of Common Pleas could process some estates, but those valued at £50 or more were referred to the Prerogative Court in New York City. Each bond records the names of the deceased, the administrator, and one or more bondsmen, all of whom are frequently described by residence, occupation, and/or relationship. Women are often found in all three roles.

Until the abstracts are published researchers can check the list of letters of administration in the N-YHS *Abstracts of Wills* series to see which administrations are likely to be included in Liber A. Those for 1742–1753 are in vol. 3:427–428 and 4:483–487 (there is a typo on 4:483 where the first year is “1754” but should be 1744).

Sample Records

As a sample, the liber’s first three bonds are abstracted here:

Doctor Joanis Laws, of Schohary in the County of Albany, deceased; John Lawyer, Esq., of Schohary, and Luykes Wyngart, Esq., of the City of Albany, administrators and bondsmen; 29 March 1742.

Phebe Seaman, late of Jerusalem in the township of Hemsted, [Queens County,] deceased; Nicholas Deane and Peter Totten, administrators; Nicholas Deane, Peter Totten, and Aaron Quimby, all of the County of Westchester, bondsmen; 5 April 1742.

William English, late of the City of New York, vintner, deceased; John Moore, William Walton, Cornelius Van Horne, Christopher Bancker, Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Abraham DePeyster, James Henderson, Henry Cuyler, Nicholas Bayard, and Richard Annelly of the City of New York, merchants, administrators and bondsmen; 22 July 1742.

Related Resources from the NYG&B

Macy, Harry, Jr. “New York Probate Records Before 1787.” See footnote 1.

Macy, Harry, Jr. “New York Probate Records Since 1787.” *NYG&B Newsletter* (now *New York Researcher*), Spring 1992. Updated August 2011 and published as a Research Aid on NewYorkFamilyHistory.org.

Macy, Harry, Jr. “Using FamilySearch.org’s New York Probates Collection; Part 1: ‘New York County’ Wills 1665–1800.” *New York Researcher*, Fall 2015, 57–59. [NYG&B eLibrary]

Macy, Harry, Jr. “Using FamilySearch.org’s New York Probates Collection; Part 2: Early Administrations, Inventories, and Other Records.” *New York Researcher*, Winter 2015, 76–78. [NYG&B eLibrary]

Scott, Kenneth. *Genealogical Data from Further New York Administration Bonds, 1791–1798*. New York: New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 1971. [NYG&B eLibrary—digital books collection]

Scott, Kenneth. *Genealogical Data from New York Administration Bonds, 1753–1799 and Hitherto Unpublished Letters of Administration*. New York: New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 1969. [NYG&B eLibrary—digital books collection] Scott’s introduction includes an excellent historical background of colonial probate courts, some of which supplements information in Macy’s article. ✕

FOOTNOTES

1 Harry Macy, Jr., “New York Probate Records Before 1787,” *NYG&B Newsletter* (now *New York Researcher*) Spring 1991. Updated June 2011 and published as a Research Aid on NewYorkFamilyHistory.org.

2 Kenneth Scott, *Genealogical Data from New York Administration Bonds, 1753–1799 and Hitherto Unpublished Letters of Administration* (New York: New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 1969). Available in the NYG&B Digital Book Collection. Note that Liber F ends in 1783. No bond books were produced between 1783 and 1789. Subsequent bonds are those of the Surrogate’s Court rather than the Prerogative Court.

3 Aaron Goodwin, *New York City Municipal Archives: An Authorized Guide for Family Historians* (New York: New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 2016), page 181, table 4.

Aaron Goodwin is the author of New York City Municipal Archives: An Authorized Guide for Family Historians. He is former contributing editor to the NYG&B Record, former editor of the Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine, and was the American Society of Genealogists’ scholar for 2011.

Bequest from Genevieve Lanyon

The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society is grateful to be the recipient of a generous bequest from the late Genevieve Evelyn Randall Lanyon, who first joined the NYG&B in 1978.

A prodigious researcher, Mrs. Lanyon co-authored *A Randall Family of Long Island New York, 1667–1989*, which documents the descendants of Samuel Randall of Ridge, New York and was published in 1989 by the Randall Association. The 268-page book is indexed and illustrated; it is in the NYG&B collection at the New York Public Library and at other selected repositories.

Mrs. Lanyon died at her home in Westhampton Beach, New York, on February 20, 2016 at the age of 97. She was predeceased by her parents, Ellsworth Hawkins Randall and Ella Hawkins Randall, and her sister, Ella Randall Hulse. A graduate of New Paltz State Teachers



**Genevieve Evelyn
Randall Lanyon**

College, New York University, and Columbia University, Mrs. Lanyon was an instructor and supervisor of student teachers at the East Stroudsburg Teacher's College prior to her marriage to Dr. William Liel Lanyon in 1949. A past president of the Genealogy Section of the Suffolk County Historical Society, Mrs. Lanyon was an enthusiastic member of several patriotic and lineage groups. She was also a competitive golfer and croquet player. Mrs. Lanyon is interred at Union Cemetery in Middle Island, New York. ✕

An Invitation to Join the 1869 Circle

The 1869 Circle recognizes friends who have demonstrated their commitment to the NYG&B's future by remembering the NYG&B in their estate planning. If you have made an intended bequest or other planned gift, let us know: we want to thank you now for your forethought and generosity.

Members of the 1869 Circle receive a certificate of recognition, an invitation to an annual reception with the Board of Trustees, and an annual listing in *The New York Researcher*. Your willingness to be listed as a member of the 1869 Circle encourages others to follow your example. However, participation may also be anonymous if preferred. For more information please call Cathy Michelsen at 212-755-8532, ext. 208. ✕

Advertising

Both *The New York Researcher* and *The Record*, quarterly publications of the NYG&B, welcome advertising. The members of the NYG&B receive both publications as benefits of membership, and about 300 libraries also subscribe. *The New York Researcher* is also circulated at conferences and special events.

The NYG&B's website includes detailed, current information on advertising sizes and rates. The link to this information appears at the bottom of every page on the website (except the eLibrary). You are welcome to submit your own advertisement or we will design it for you.

THE NEW YORK RESEARCHER

The New York Researcher runs advertisements in color and black and white. There are deep discounts for frequency.

THE RECORD

The Record accepts advertisements to run in four issues.

COMBINATION ADVERTISING

We now offer combination rates for those advertisers wishing to appear in both *The New York Researcher* and *The Record*. Information on combination rates is online.

For more information or to submit your advertisement, send email to education@nygbs.org or call 212-755-8532, ext. 211. ✕

New New York Online Indexes and Datasets

A number of new databases and indexes pertaining to New York have been put online recently.

Shipwrecked Passengers — new in the NYG&B eLibrary

A list of passengers who were shipwrecked on their journey to the United States was compiled by member Frank Biebel (see the *New York Researcher*, Winter 2014).

Most shipwrecked passenger lists did not make it into standard immigration arrival databases; passengers found in this new addition to our digital collections may not be easy to locate elsewhere. Researchers will also find descriptions of each shipwreck along with the recorded names of passengers in our eLibrary.

1930–1995 Marriage License Indexes for New York City

On a new website at www.nycmarriageindex.com, the index data from the New York City Clerk’s Marriage Bureau that was obtained by Reclaim the Records has been published. The website also has search function.

1890 New York City Police Census

This important substitute for the lost 1890 federal censuses has been indexed by FamilySearch. The title of database is New York, New York City, Police Census, 1890. The index includes 87% of the people recorded in the census; the remaining 13% would have been listed in volumes that have been lost. Read about the historical context and more details of the records in our blog.



Police officer in the 1890s
Credit: New York Public Library digital collections

Troy Databases

The large Irish population in and around Troy and Albany left a lasting legacy, and our friends at the Troy Irish Genealogy Society are industriously indexing more records. The latest releases include a newspaper marriage notice index and a World War II Honor Roll. See www.troyirish.org to access their projects.

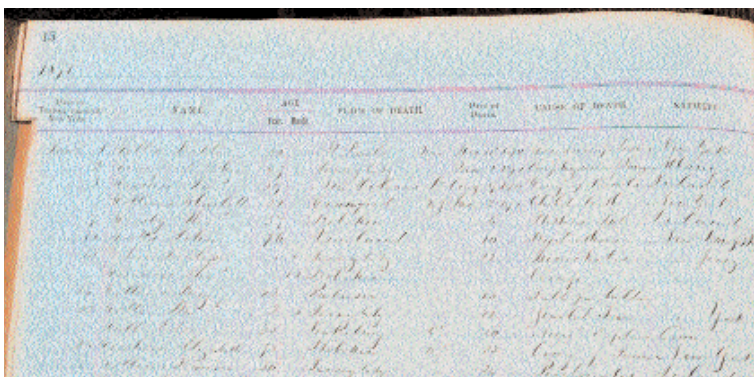
Bodies in Transit Index

Persons from all over the country and overseas may be found in this dataset. The microfilmed record set from the New York City Municipal Archives has been newly indexed by the German Genealogy Group, and the index is free. See www.germangenealogygroup.org for access.

Federal Criminal Records (New York)

A new 194,063-entry index to criminal cases in the New York Federal District Court from 1831–1959 was also created by the German Genealogy Group. The original records are found at the National Archives at New York City. See www.germangenealogygroup.org for access.

To learn about new online records as they are released, read our blog or subscribe to it by email (which is different than the eNews). Here’s the link: www.nygbs.org/blog. To read just the articles about new and updated datasets, choose **News You Can Use** from the side panel. ✕



Bodies in Transit, 1871, original volume
at the New York City Municipal Archives

Credit: Susan R. Miller, reprinted with permission

Dutch Records

at the New York State Archives and the Current Digitization Project

by James D. Folts, PhD, FGBS
and Monica Gray

Family historians who discover forebears who lived in New Netherland can consider themselves fortunate, because of the relatively abundant documentation surviving from the Dutch colony.

The New York State Archives holds the surviving official records of New Netherland, which document the earliest European settlements in the broad region that became the states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. The records also include documents relating to the island of Curaçao, another Dutch colony, closely associated with New Netherland. All the records were maintained by the provincial secretary. They total approximately 12,000 folio pages of manuscript text. They span 1630–1664, when an English fleet seized control of the colony, renamed “New York.” There are also records dating from 1673 to 1674, when the Dutch government was temporarily reestablished during one of several Anglo-Dutch wars.

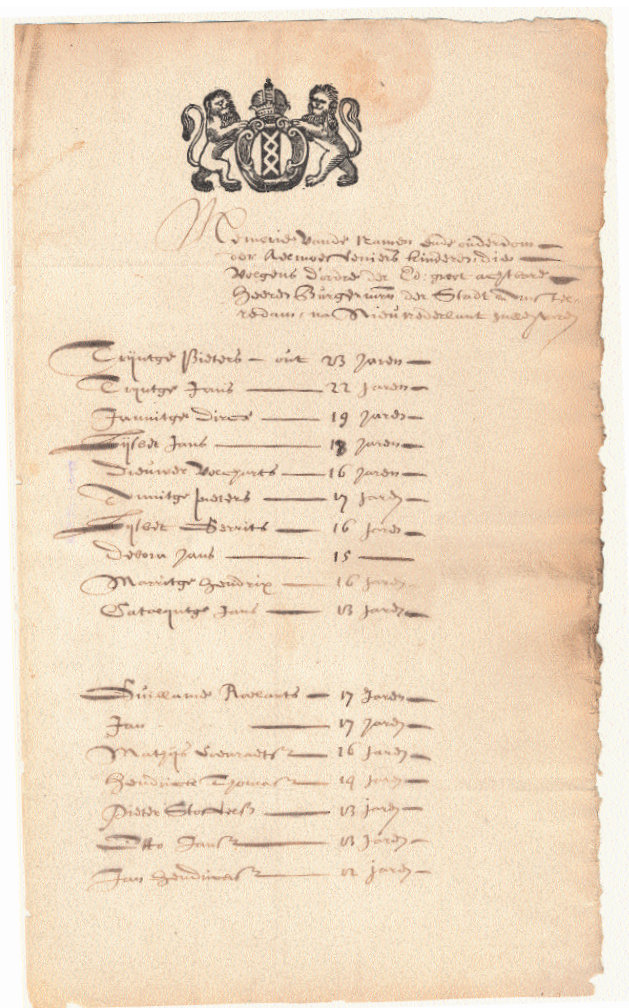
Records Content

The Dutch records in the State Archives consist of minutes of proceedings of the director general and his council, correspondence, laws and ordinances, land patents and deeds. They concern a wide range of governmental functions, including general administration, revenue generation, economic development, civil disputes and criminal prosecutions, and relations with the native inhabitants, particularly the Mohawks, Mahicans, and various groups around New Amsterdam and the Delaware River.

Dutch records often described the facts of an issue or court case in great detail, much more so than the later English records of New York colony. The Dutch records therefore contain a wealth of information about the people of New Netherland, with great potential for biographical and genealogical research.

The records are a rich source of names, such as this list of children from the Amsterdam almshouse selected to go to New Netherland, circa 1655.

*Credit: New York State Archives
Identifier: NYSA_A1810-78_V12_61*



Custody and Losses

Official custody of the records has been continuous since their creation. They were transferred to the English government of New York in 1664, and again in 1674, and to the state government in 1783.

The records came perilously close to destruction during the Revolutionary War, when they were stored in the hold of a British vessel in New York harbor, and again in 1911, when the New York State Library, then located in the Capitol in Albany, was destroyed by fire. Most of the Dutch records fortunately survived the fire. They were preserved by the State Library in the new Education Building dedicated in 1912, and were transferred to the newly-established State Archives in 1978.

Prior and Current Projects

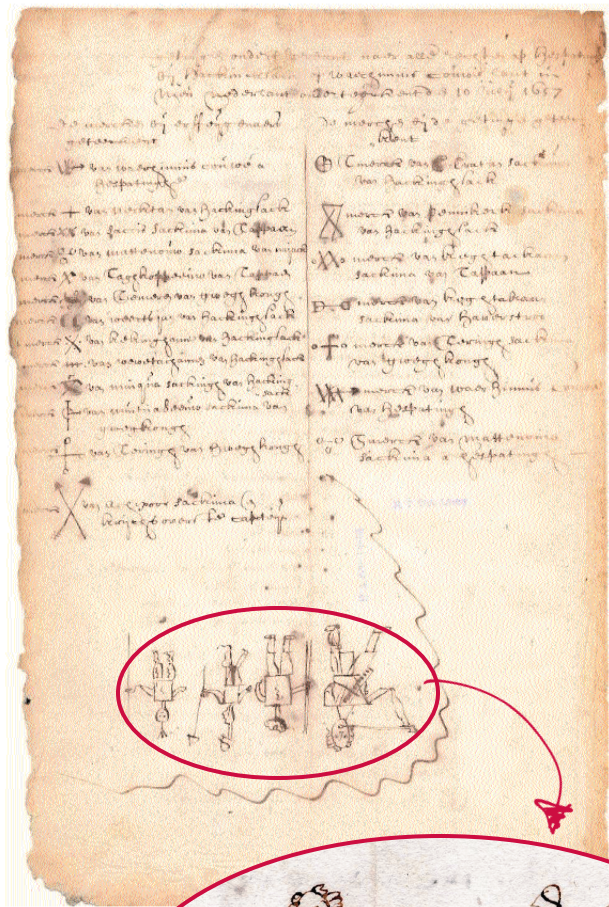
The surviving Dutch records are damaged and incomplete, but their historical importance has been recognized since the early nineteenth century. The records have been preserved, according to the best standards of the time, in the 1850s, after 1911, and again in 2000 with a “Save America’s Treasures” grant to the State Archives.

E. B. O’Callaghan, *Calendar of Historical Manuscripts in the Office of the Secretary of State: Dutch Manuscripts* (Albany: 1866) is a detailed calendar (chronological listing) of the documents with a selective name index. The calendar continues to be the best general guide to the records’ contents. Successive translation projects have made English-language versions of most but not yet all of the Dutch records available to researchers in book format.

Since 1974 the New Netherland Project, now the New Netherland Institute, located in the New York State Library, has been producing expert translations. Its goal is to make all the records available in English.

Historical Context

The history of the Dutch colony of New Netherland was long neglected, causing the early history of the eastern United States to be interpreted largely as a story of English colonization. That is changing. Since the 1970s many dissertations, books, and articles about New Netherland have appeared, almost all relying more or less on the Dutch records in the State Archives. They provide a multi-faceted view of New Netherland. The colony was primarily a commercial enterprise of the Dutch West India Company, organized in 1621 to promote trade in the western hemisphere. By the 1650s New



The American Indian deed for Staten island, 1657, includes a small doodle of Native Americans and a Dutchman smoking a pipe.

http://digitalcollections.archives.nysed.gov/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/45251

Credit: New York State Archives
Identifier: NYSA_A1810-78_V12_61

Netherland had two towns each with several thousand people—New Amsterdam (now New York City) and Beverwijck (now Albany), and several smaller communities, both Dutch and English.

New Netherland was Dutch in its government and its official language and religion, but with significant differences from the Netherlands and the English colonies. New Netherland was the most multi-ethnic colony in North America, with only about half of its inhabitants coming from the provinces comprising the modern Netherlands.

Needing talented foreigners and having endured

continued on page 58

persecution during a long war with Spain, the Dutch Republic and its North American colony were more tolerant of national and religious differences, than the English colonies. Like the mother country, New Netherland depended for its survival on trade networks, involving furs and wampum from Native Americans, locally harvested lumber and grain, tropical products from the Caribbean, and manufactured items from Europe. New Amsterdam was a tolerant, diverse, mercantile community, like modern New York City on a far larger scale.

Accessing Data for Genealogy

How is information in the Dutch records in the State Archives accessed for genealogy and biography? Most of the records have been translated and published, earlier volumes by the Genealogical Publishing Company, later ones by Syracuse University Press, seventeen volumes in all, so far. Each volume contains a complete name index.

To make best use of the translations and indexes, genealogists must become familiar with complex Dutch naming practices for baptismal names, patronymics, and often fluid surnames. A valuable guide is Kenn Stryker-Rodda, “New Netherland Naming Systems and Customs,” *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, vol. 126 (1995), no. 1: 35–45; also available in the NYG&B eLibrary. Several articles by Henry B. Hoff provide excellent guidance for research; one may start with “Researching New York Dutch Families: A Checklist Approach,” *NYG&B Newsletter*, vol. 7 (Summer 1996): 12–14; also a “Research Aid” on the NYG&B website. A compendium of data on families in New Netherland is David M. Riker, *Genealogical and Biographical Directory to Persons in New Netherland, from 1613 to 1674*, 4 vols. (Salem, MA: 1999); Supplement (2004). The chapter on the “Dutch” in the NYG&B’s *New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer* (2014) is an indispensable introduction.

James D. Folts, Ph.D., FGBS, is head of research services for the New York State Archives in Albany. His knowledge of the resources of the Archives is encyclopedic, with specialties in land and court records. He is an expert on New York state and local history and government, is widely published, and has contributed to the Encyclopedia of New York State (2005) and the Oxford Handbook of New York State Government and Politics (2012).

Current Digitization Project

Expert scholarship and digital technology are now combining to make the Dutch records in the State Archives available online in multiple formats. The Dutch government has provided funds through a program called the Mutual Cultural Heritage Programme, which promotes and makes available the shared history and culture of the Netherlands and the partnering country. With additional support from the Society of Daughters of Holland Dames, the Archives is undertaking the digitization of the remaining 9,500 pages of records not already digitized. Many of the records are fragile due to burn damage, so Archives staff are working with a specialist vendor that has equipment and staff able to accommodate our special requirements. Document descriptions are being taken from O’Callaghan’s calendar (a 150-year old printed finding aid is being repurposed in the digital age!). The translations are products of Dr. Charles Gehring and Dr. Janny Venema at the New Netherland Institute, along with earlier work by A. J. F. Van Laer. When the project is complete, researchers will be able to browse the State Archives’ “Digital Collections,” search to locate specific records and names, and download high resolution images and English translations from the website at no cost.

For further information about these Dutch records, contact New York State Archives, Cultural Education Center Room 11A42, Albany, NY 12230; telephone 518-474-8955; fax 518-408-1940; e-mail archref@nysed.gov; website www.archives.nysed.gov

In the table below, the three left-hand columns cite the volume number, Archives series number, and title and date span of the original Dutch records. The right-hand column contains references to digital images, Dutch language transcriptions, and English translations now available on the website of the New Netherland Institute. Information in the table is current as of summer 2016. ✕

Monica Gray, M.A., has worked at the New York State Archives since 2006 as an archivist in the Collections Management unit. She supervises processing and reformatting of records and is an expert in digitization and audio-visual records. She regularly assists researchers in the Archives’ research room and responds to public inquiries via e-mail and phone.

Dutch Records in the New York State Archives: Texts and Translations

Digital images, Dutch transcriptions, and published English translations now available on the New Netherland Institute website: www.newnetherlandinstitute.org/research/online-publications

Vol. no.	“Colonial Manuscripts” title/date span	NYSA series no.	Notes
1	Register of Provincial Secretary 1638–1642	burned in 1911	Van Laer, trans./ed., <i>Register of the Provincial Secretary, 1638–1642</i> (Baltimore: 1974). Partial transcription and full translation are available online. (Vol. 1 was translated before the 1911 Capitol fire.)
2	Register of Provincial Secretary 1642–1647	A0270	Van Laer, trans./ed., <i>Register of the Provincial Secretary, 1642–1647</i> (Baltimore: 1974). Digital images, transcription, and translation are available online.
3	Register of Provincial Secretary 1648–1660	A0270	Van Laer, trans./ed., <i>Register of the Provincial Secretary, 1648–1660</i> (Baltimore: 1974). Digital images, transcription, and translation are available online.
4	Council Minutes 1638–1649	A1809	Van Laer, trans./ed., <i>Council Minutes, 1638–1649</i> (Baltimore: 1974). Transcription and translation are available online.
5	Council Minutes 1652–1654	A1809	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Council Minutes, 1652–1654</i> (Baltimore: 1983). Translation is available online.
6	Council Minutes 1655–1656	A1809	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Council Minutes, 1655–1656</i> (Syracuse: 1995). Translation is available online.
7	Council Minutes	A1809	[duplicates parts of vols. 6, 8]
8-10	Council Minutes 1656–8, 1660–64	A1809	Gehring and Venema, trans./ed., translations in progress
11	Correspondence 1646–1653	A1810	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Correspondence, 1647–1653</i> (Syracuse: 2000). Digital images and translation are available online.
12	Correspondence 1654–1658	A1810	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Correspondence, 1654–1658</i> (Syracuse: 2003). Digital images and translation are available online.
13-15	Correspondence 1659–1664	A1810	Gehring and Venema, trans./ed., translations in progress
16 Pt. 1	Ordinances 1647–1658	A1875	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Laws and Writs of Appeal, 1647–1663</i> (Syracuse: 1991). Supersedes O’Callaghan, trans., <i>Laws and Ordinances of New Netherland, 1638–1674</i> (Albany: 1868). Translation is available online.
16 Pt. 2	Fort Orange Court Records 1656–1657	A1876	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Fort Orange Court Minutes, 1652–1660</i> (Syracuse: 1990). Previously translated as Minutes of the Court of Fort Orange and Beverwijck 1652–1660, 2 vols. (Albany: 1920–23). Translation is available online.
A-B	Fort Orange Records 1654–1679	Albany County Clerk	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Fort Orange Records, 1656–1678</i> (Syracuse: 2000); Gehring and Venema, trans./ed., <i>Fort Orange Records, 1654–1679</i> (Syracuse: 2009) [mostly conveyances of real property]. Translations are available online.

continued on page 60

Dutch Records in the New York State Archives: Texts and Translations (continued)

Digital images, Dutch transcriptions, and published English translations now available on the New Netherland Institute website: www.newnetherlandinstitute.org/research/online-publications

Vol. no.	"Colonial Manuscripts" title/date span	NYSA series no.	Notes
16 Pt. 3	Fort Orange Court Records 1660	A1876	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Fort Orange Court Minutes, 1652–1660</i> (Syracuse: 1990). Translation is available online. Also translated in Van Laer, trans./ed., <i>Minutes of the Court of Fort Orange and Beverwyck 1652–1660</i> , 2 vols. (Albany: 1920–23).
16 Pt. 4	Writs of Appeal 1658–1663	A1877	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Laws and Writs of Appeal, 1647–1663</i> (Syracuse: 1991). Translation is available online.
17	Curaçao Papers 1640, 1643–1665	A1883	Gehring and Schiltkamp, trans./ed., <i>Curaçao Papers, 1640–1665</i> (Syracuse: 1987). Digital images, transcription, and translation are available online.
18–19	Delaware Papers 1648–1664	A1878	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Delaware Papers: Dutch Period, 1648–1664</i> (Baltimore: 1981). Transcription and translation are available online.
20–21	Delaware Papers 1664, 1667–1682	A1879	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Delaware Papers: English Period, 1664–1682</i> (Baltimore: 1977). Translation is available online.
GG	Patents 1630–1649, 1651	A1880	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Land Papers, 1630–1664</i> (Baltimore: 1980). Translation is available online.
HH Pt. 1	Deeds 1652–1653	A1882	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Land Papers, 1630–1664</i> (Baltimore: 1980). (Volume is also lettered II.) Note: Additional conveyances are found in A0270 Register of the Provincial Secretary and in Fort Orange Records, Albany County Clerk's Office. Translation is available online.
HH Pt. 2	Patents 1654–1661, 1664	A1880	Gehring, trans./ed., <i>Land Papers, 1630–1664</i> (Baltimore: 1980). Translation is available online.
23	Gov. Colve 1673–1674	A1881	O'Callaghan, trans./ed., <i>Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New-York</i> , vol. 2 (Albany: 1858), pp. 569–730 (vol. 23, pp. 1–270 only). Translation is available online.

NOTE: Older published translations are available for many of the Dutch records, but the translations often contain inaccuracies. See Berthold Fernow, ed., *Documents Relating to the History of the Dutch and Swedish Settlements on the Delaware River* (Albany: 1877) (documents from vols. 18, 19, 20, and 21; and *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* (Albany: 1881) and *Documents Relating to the History of the Early Colonial Settlements Principally on Long Island* (Albany: 1883) (selected documents from vols. 1–6, 8–16, GG, and HH). These three volumes comprise vols. 12–14 (new series, vols. 1–3) respectively of *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New-York*, 15 vols. (Albany: 1853–1887).

On the complex history of the Dutch records and their translations, see Charles T. Gehring, "Dutch Manuscripts Relating to New Netherland in U.S. Repositories," *New Netherland Studies: An Inventory of Current Research and Approaches* (Bulletin KNOB, 84) (Amsterdam: 1985), pp. 136–41; Jaap Jacobs, "Dutch Sources on Native American History," *Mohican Seminar 1: The Continuance—An Algonquian Peoples Seminar; Selected Research Papers—2000*, ed. Shirley W. Dunn (New York State Museum Bulletin 501) (Albany: 2004), pp. 29–37; and Gehring, "A Survey of Manuscripts Relating to the History of New Netherland," in Joyce D. Goodfriend, ed., *Revisiting New Netherland: Perspectives on Early Dutch America* (Leiden: 2005), pp. 287–307.

Free Access to New Findmypast Records for NYG&B Members

NYG&B members have access to even more records since Findmypast's September reorganization into three packages: Free, Starter, and Premium.

The NYG&B subscription package now includes all collections in the Findmypast Starter package, plus selected record sets in the Findmypast Premium package. (NYG&B members may purchase a full Findmypast Premium subscription at a 63% discount.)

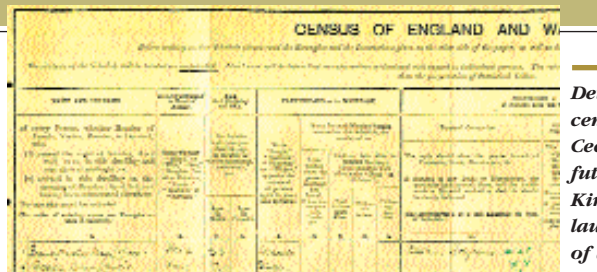
Your free NYG&B subscription gives you the NYG&B eLibrary collections, plus:

Selected Findmypast Premium collections

- United States Marriage Records
- U.S. military records
- PERSI, the PERiodical Source Index
- Canadian records and newspapers

All Findmypast Starter collections

- U.S. Birth, Marriage (selected), and Death records
- U.S. immigration and travel records
- U.S. Newspapers
- United Kingdom/Ireland Census Records



Detail of the 1911 census record for Cecil Day-Lewis, future United Kingdom poet laureate and father of actor Daniel Day-Lewis.

Credit: Findmypast

All Findmypast Free collections

- U.S. and Canada Census
- Irish Parish Catholic Registers
- Exclusive land records and Irish Prison Registers
- Exclusive Court records and Petty Sessions Orders
- Findmypast Family Tree

Every NYG&B member receives an email containing a unique voucher code to activate their free subscription, which stays current as long as the NYG&B Membership is active. When you are logged in at Findmypast, you may also create an online family tree and enroll in Findmypast First, a free program which provides priority customer support and other premium services. For assistance, please email webmaster@nygbs.org. ✕

Highlights from Social Media

Every week, we publish New York State research tips, genealogy news and interesting New York stories on our blog (www.nygbs.org/blog). Here are some recent highlights:

Onondaga County Search Tips

If you're researching in Onondaga County, the Onondaga County Office of Vital Statistics is a great resource. Onondaga is one of the four "County Registration Districts" which have consolidated the administration of birth and death records, making this location an excellent central repository. You'll also want to visit the Central New York Genealogical Society (cnygs.org) — their website is a goldmine of helpful information. The full blog contains more tips and detailed repository holdings.

From our eLibrary:

New York State Religious Records

The transcriptions of vital records from 50 churches in 22 different New York Counties were compiled in the early 20th century by the NYG&B's Historian

and Archivist, Royden Woodward Vosburgh. These carefully crafted transcriptions are among the most accurate and complete you can hope to find. Vosburgh goes into incredible detail, ensuring to capture every piece of information that might help you in your genealogy research. Read the full blog post to see what information the records contain, and which specific counties are included.

Marble Hill's Move across the River

Did you know that the New York City neighborhood Marble Hill — the only Manhattan neighborhood located on mainland North America — was actually once a part of Manhattan Island? In 1895, New York City undertook a major infrastructure project to allow large shipping boats better access to the Hudson River, which changed the geographic location of the neighborhood. Our post tells the story of Marble Hill's unlikely move through maps, newspaper articles, and other interactive media.

You can also follow us at NYFamilyHistory on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. ✕

NYG&B Programs

“Write It Up!”: A Workshop for Family Historians

PRESENTER: Dr. Thomas W. Jones, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS
DATES: March 10–11, 2017

We all love to do research. But how do you get started writing up your family stories and the research? Join fellow genealogists for this intensive writing workshop at the NYG&B.

This two-day hands-on workshop gives family historians practice in writing, experience in self-editing, and feedback on their writing samples. Topics focus on gearing up to write, writing processes, and structures and formats

specific to genealogical writing. There is pre-reading and one overnight homework assignment.

Fee includes seven sessions, morning coffee, soft drinks, end of day social gathering. There will be a scheduled lunch break (neighborhood lunch options abound).

REGISTRATION

Early member registration \$225 (thru January 31)

Member registration \$260 (after January 31)

Non-member registration \$290

(will open February 1)

Sign up at NewYorkFamilyHistory.org. ✕

From Virginia to NY: An African-American Family's Journey

PRESENTER: Kenyatta Berry
With nearly 20 years of experience in genealogical research and writing, Kenyatta focuses on African-American and slave ancestral research. The Detroit native's ancestors migrated to Michigan in the late 1920s from the greater Rochester area, where they have lived since the late 1880s.

Using newspapers, town clerks, libraries, primary resources and oral history, she has been able to discover more about her diverse family history in Upstate NY.

- Wednesday, November 2, 6 p.m.
- Reservations required, please RSVP to RSVP@nygbs.org or call 212-755-8532 x 206 ✕

Book Talk at the NYG&B

Puzzle of a Life: Using Genealogical Resources in Writing Biography
PRESENTER: Susan Rubenstein DeMasi
BOOK: *Henry Alsberg: Driving Force of the New Deal Federal Writers' Project*

This first biography of an important, but forgotten, historical figure and human rights champion tells of Alsberg's work with the New Deal agency. It also depicts his efforts during the 1920s helping Jewish refugees in Eastern Europe, founding the first international political prisoner aid group, and reporting world-shaking events as a foreign correspondent. See page 67 for a review.

- Wednesday, October 19, 6:00–7:30 p.m.
- Please RSVP to RSVP@nygbs.org or call 212-755-8532, x206. ✕

Benefit Luncheon & Book Talk

Author Thelma Adams will talk about the life and legend of Josephine Marcus, the Brooklyn-born daughter of Jewish immigrants who shared a colorful life with Wyatt Earp and her novel *The Last Woman Standing*. Ms. Adams resides in Hyde Park, New York and is a widely published entertainment writer and film critic.

- Friday, November 18, Noon–2:00 p.m.
- Location: Sarabeth's Park Avenue South
- Sponsors: NYG&B and Knickerbocker Chapter of the NSDAR
- Tickets: \$100 individual (\$40 tax-deductible)
\$250 benefactor (\$190 tax-deductible)
Proceeds will benefit the NYG&B
Purchase tickets at NewYorkFamilyHistory.org or call (212) 755-8532, ext. 208. ✕

Research in New York City: March 25–30, 2017

The New York City research trip is back! Join us in 2017 for four-plus days of intensive research as well as camaraderie.

Begin on Sunday afternoon with an introduction to research in New York City and an overview of research repositories. Our NYG&B New York experts will help you research at our partner repositories the New York Public Library, the New York City Municipal Archives, the New-York Historical Society, the Center for Jewish History, and the National Archives at New York City. Individual consultations and research assistance during the week are included. The week will include a tour of the historic Fraunces Tavern Museum followed by dinner in its restaurant.



photo: Boris Dzhingarov

Trip with hotel accommodation and “commuter” options will be offered. Our hotel is the Hotel Mela, on West 44th Street between 6th Avenue and Broadway, a block from the NYG&B offices, and two blocks from the New York Public Library.

Registration will open in October. ✕

Research in Albany

October 26–28, 2016

The NYG&B’s popular fall research trip to Albany, New York has a waiting list for 2016.

DINNER AND LECTURE

Intuition and Success in Genealogy: Is It a Sixth Sense, Chance or Serendipity?

Genealogist Terry Koch-Bostic will present her talk and members in the Albany area may join us for dinner and the talk on Wednesday, October 26.

Do serendipitous findings in genealogy come from hard work on a topic, honing our skills and intuition, developing a sixth sense, or just plain luck? Find out after a social hour and dinner with fellow researchers.

Terry has in-depth experience in New York family history research, lecturing, and writing. She is the Vice President of the National Genealogical Society and the manager of the New York Metro chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists.

- Wednesday, October 26, 6 p.m.
Tickets are available in the online store on NewYorkFamilyHistory.org. ✕

September 13–15, 2017

The Research in Albany trip moves to September for 2017 only.

Don’t put it off next year! The trip includes a personal consultation and assisted research for three days. Mark your calendar now for this popular research trip. Registration will open in January.

THE PROGRAM 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
- Dinner on Wednesday night
- Wine and cheese reception on Thursday evening
- Reduced rates at the Albany Hilton ✕



photo: Matt H. Wade

Albany, NY

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.

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.

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.

NYG&B Programs & Webinars

PRE-RESEARCH SESSIONS
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*.

- Friday, November 4, 1:00–2:00 p.m.
Members \$30; Non-members \$65

NYC Municipal Archives Basics: Birth, Marriage, and Death Records

Learn how to use the vital records collections at the New York City Municipal Archives. This session will cover the various indexes and how to search them, where to find the microfilms, and how to request copies. Also covered will be some procedures and rules of the research room.

- Wednesday, January 18, 6:00–7:00 p.m.
Members free; Non-members \$25

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.

New online:

- “Hidden Treasure from FamilySearch” presented by ROBERT RAYMOND
- “NYC Municipal Archives Indexes for Birth, Marriage and Death Records” presented by SUSAN R. MILLER
- “Five Things Every Genealogist Should Know How to Do in Word” presented by MICHELLE NOVAK ✕

REGISTRATION:

Advanced registration is essential. Sign up 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. The workshop is free, however, advance registration is required. Registration opens November 1 on the NYPL website.

- 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

Save the Date: Western NYGS Joint Program, October 7, 2017

The NYG&B is coming to Buffalo for a joint program with the Western New York Genealogical Society in October 2017. This one-day event will feature lectures by D. Joshua Taylor and Jane E. Wilcox. In addition, local speakers will fill out

the day. Registration will open in late October.

Also, at least one repository tour and a local history walking tour will be planned for Friday, October 6, 2017. So mark your calendar and watch our eNews and the *New York Researcher* for details. ✕

New York State Family History Conference Returns in 2018

The New York State Family History Conference returns in 2018 after a tremendously successful 2016 conference in Syracuse, New York. The 2016 conference was run concurrently with the Association for Public Historians of New York State and featured nationally-known speakers. See our blog (www.nygbs.org/blog) for a conference wrap-up.

The next conference in 2018 will be held in Tarrytown, Westchester County, New York on

September 13–15. You will have the opportunity to hear nationally-known speakers, visit a vibrant exhibit hall, and connect with researchers from the region, as well as other parts of the United States and Canada.

Mark your calendar now, and watch for further details in our eNews, the *New York Researcher*, and on our blog. ✕



New York Articles from Beyond Our Boundaries

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

Contributed by Stanton Biddle, Ph.D.



American Ancestors by the New England Historic Genealogical Society, vol. 17, Henry B. Hoff, “Focus on New York: Guardianship Records in New York State” 2: 58–59 (Spring/Summer 2015).

Using the Allegany County entry in Gordon Remington’s *New York State Probate Records* (2011), Hoff outlines sources for New York State Guardianship Records in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries.

The New England Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 170, Cherry Fletcher Bamberg, “Major Alexander Hart, A Jewish Confederate Officer, and His Family,” Whole Number 678: 163–72 (Spring 2016).

This is the second in a multi-part series begun in the Winter 2016 issue documenting 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.

The New England Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 170, Roger D. Joslyn, “Timothy and Melvin Shaw of Wales, Erie County, New York: Brothers from Massachusetts?” Whole Number 678: 101–20 (Spring 2016).

Beginning with an 1850 citation in the Wales, Erie County, New York Federal Census, Roger Joslyn is able to track Timothy and Melvin Shaw back to their Worcester County, Massachusetts, roots and document their relationship to their parents, wives, and each other.

NGS Magazine, vol. 42, Kate Cordes, “The Map Division at the New York Public Library” 3:24–27 (July–September 2016).

The New York Public Library’s Assistant Director of Maps, Local History and Genealogy presents an overview of the range and variety of the “global to local” holdings of the Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division. Especially noteworthy is the 15 year effort to digitize holdings and to make them available online. ✕

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.

Print County Guides Released

The NYG&B is pleased to announce the availability of individual county and regional guides for New York. Each guide includes resources based upon the award-winning *New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer* and includes a list of towns with a chronology of selected events for the town,

key records, important compilations, and other resources.

All 62 New York counties will be available by December 2016. Guides are individually priced, and range from \$10.95–\$12.95 each.

To order, visit the NYG&B online store at NewYorkFamilyHistory.org or call 212-755-8532. ✕

RECENTLY RELEASED GUIDES

- Albany
- Cattaraugus
- Cortland
- Fulton
- Madison
- Oswego
- Steuben
- Allegany
- Cayuga
- Delaware
- Genesee
- Manhattan
- Otsego
- Sullivan
- Brooklyn (Kings)
- Chautauqua
- Dutchess
- Hamilton
- (New York)
- Queens
- Tioga
- Bronx
- Chemung
- Erie
- Herkimer
- Monroe
- St. Lawrence
- Warren
- Broome
- Clinton
- Essex
- Jefferson
- Onondaga
- Schenectady
- Washington
- Lewis
- Orange
- Schuyler
- Wayne
- Westchester

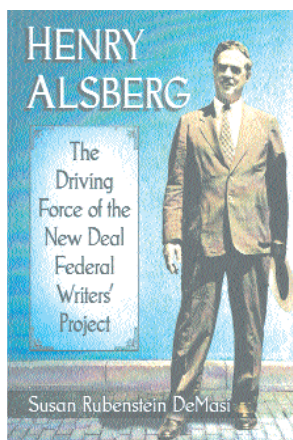
Book Notes

Henry Alsberg: Driving Force of the New Deal Federal Writers' Project

By Susan Rubenstein DeMasi. McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers, 2016. Softcover. 296 pages. Notes, bibliography, index. \$35.

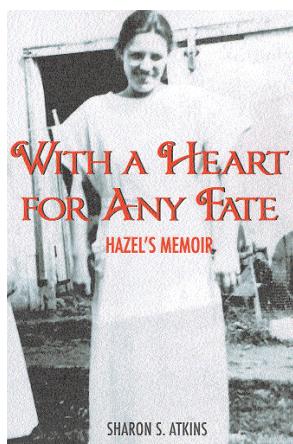
Susan Rubenstein DeMasi has written the first full-length biography of Henry Alsberg (1881–1907), a giant of the New Deal era whose name is little known today. Using foundational genealogical sources and less traditional ones Ms. DeMasi vividly reconstructs the life story of Henry Alsberg, who was born into an affluent Jewish family of liberal intellectuals in New York City and became a lawyer, writer, theatrical

producer, journalist, and above all, a tireless crusader for human rights. A witness to great tumults in modern history and a friend to such legendary figures as Emma Goldman and Richard Wright, Henry Alsberg reported on the war in Bolshevik Russia; advocated for the release of international political prisoners; organized aid for Jewish refugees and pogrom survivors in Eastern Europe; and led the Federal Writers Project of the WPA, whose legacy has benefited generations of genealogists. ✕



With a Heart for Any Fate: Hazel's Memoir

By Sharon S. Atkins, Self-published by the author, 2016. Soft cover 286 pages, list of "Historical Sources." Purchase through www.sharonsatkins.com.



Drawing upon her grandmother's surviving diaries, Sharon S. Atkins chronicles Hazel Hungerford Howland's coming of age during the early decades of the 20th century. The diaries describe her courtship, marriage, and move from rural upstate New York Jefferson County to cosmopolitan Southampton, Long Island, as Hazel transitions from a young student to a high school teacher between 1908 and 1920. Personal events during the period are heavily influenced by an

influenza epidemic in 1918, the First World War, and continuing agitation for voting rights for women. ✕

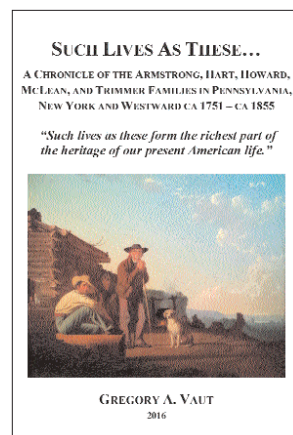
Such Lives as These: A Chronicle of the Armstrong, Hart, Howard, McLean, and Trimmer Families in Pennsylvania, New York and Westward ca 1751–ca 1855

By Gregory A. Vaut. Self-published electronically in 2016. Extensive footnotes, charts, maps, illustrations. Bibliography. 288 pages. Digital format only. Free download at <https://independent.academia.edu/GregVaut>.

This superb book covers five inter-related, Scotch-Irish families that started their North American experience in the mid-eighteenth century in Pennsylvania. Numerous family members moved north into New York State (then Ontario County) in the 1790s, and then in the early nineteenth century family members migrated to numerous places in Ohio, Missouri, and other points west. The five families, whose histories are covered for three and four generations in this book, are surnamed Armstrong, Hart, Howard, McLean, and Trimmer. The author is an Armstrong and Hart descendant.

Mr. Vaut has done exhaustive research over "several decades," consulting and sharing data with other researchers, whom he generously credits, and has fully documented his findings, explained the logic of his conclusions, and writes very clearly about the relative reliability of his findings. This book is certainly a gold mine for people researching these families and their complex relationships. However, the book is also valuable for people researching the various locations and time periods covered in the book, because the author describes all of his sources, many of which will be unfamiliar, identifying various repositories and evaluating the relative quality and extent of records. Searchable text, links to footnotes in the text, and links to many online sources are among the benefits of the medium.

The author also has a website with information "in raw form," which he reports is frequently updated: www.acvancestors.com. The website has data on more recent generations and on the author's wife's Pennsylvania family, among other resources. ✕

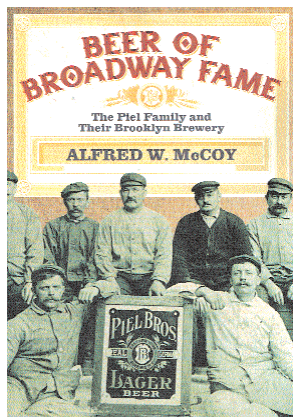


(continued on page 68)

Beer of Broadway Fame:

The Piel Family and Their Brooklyn Brewery

By Alfred W. McCoy, Excelsior Editions, State University of New York Press, 2016. Soft cover, 487 pages, chapter notes, bibliography, index. \$30.



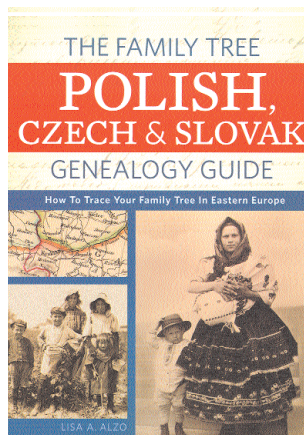
An exciting yet comprehensive three-generation, one hundred-year narrative of how the immigrant German family built their company, Piel Bros. brewery, from the smallest in Brooklyn in 1884 to the sixteenth largest in America by 1952. Piel descendant Alfred W. McCoy describes how Piel Bros. used quality

and innovation to build the company and then survive waves of social and political change including World War I, Prohibition, local police corruption, anti-German sentiment, competition from national brands, and changes in the United States brewing industry and the country's economy. The story also includes misdeeds of United States intelligence agencies from drug running to torture. The book is a tribute to hard-working immigrants and their struggle to succeed and to a family that holds a unique place in brewing history. ✕

The Family Tree Genealogy Guide: Polish, Czech & Slovak

By Lisa A. Alzo. Family Tree Books, 2015. Softcover. 239 pages. Index, bibliography, maps, and illustrations. \$27.

This lucid and well-organized book is an outstanding introduction to the topic for beginners and inexperienced researchers, and the very extensive references to websites will likely be of value to all researchers, regardless of experience level. The first seven chapters of this attractively designed book deal with the most basic topics, with essential history and geography clearly explained and demonstrated with



maps and charts. There are five chapters on key record groups (census, military, and vital records) and information on newspapers and local histories. Appendixes cover language issues and relevant sources in the United States and Europe. The author provides sample letters in the vernacular

languages for making traditional inquiries by mail. The book concludes with some information on advanced research techniques. The author began her own Eastern European research in 1990; she is a frequent conference lecturer and maintains a website at lisaalzo.com. ✕

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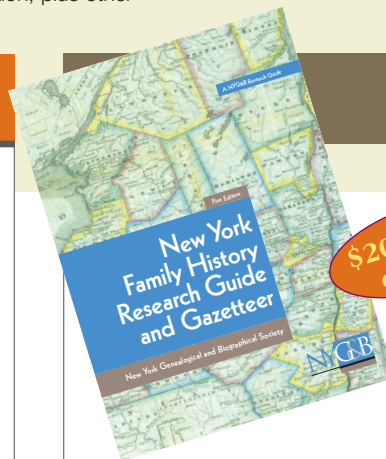
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