

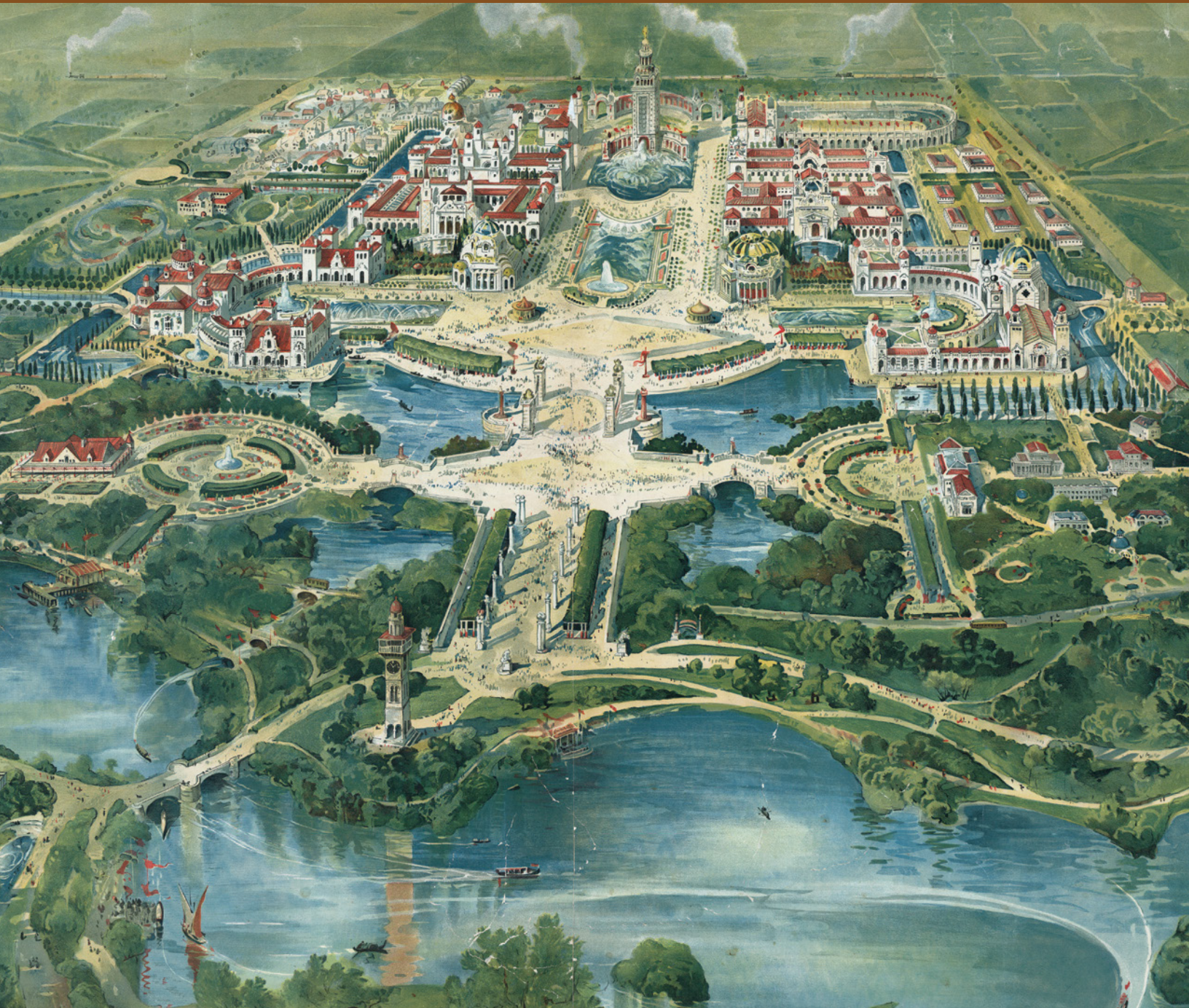
NYG&B

NEW YORK Researcher

NEW YORK GENEALOGICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY | VOLUME 28, NUMBER 3 | FALL 2017

Bird's Eye View of the 1901 Pan-American Exposition

BUFFALO: SITE OF THE WESTERN NEW YORK GENEALOGY CONFERENCE



Revised Edition 2017

New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer

Thanks to the support of many NYG&B members and other New York researchers, the second printing of the *New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer* has sold out. Several very exciting developments are coming for the revised edition.

Print Edition

The *New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer* is an essential New York resource and serves as the textbook for researching New York genealogy.

An updated vital records chapter keeps researchers informed on the many new online indexes. Revised tables accompany the new chapter organization for this critical and often confusing subject. More than one hundred other revisions keep researchers up to date in the 16 chapters and 64 guides to counties and special regions.

The revised edition comprises two volumes. **Part One** contains chapters on the many record types and major ethnic and religious groups of New York genealogy. **Part Two** encompasses guides for the 62 New York counties, plus a special guide for New York City and for Long Island. A place-name index for more than 11,000 communities assists researchers in finding a locale.

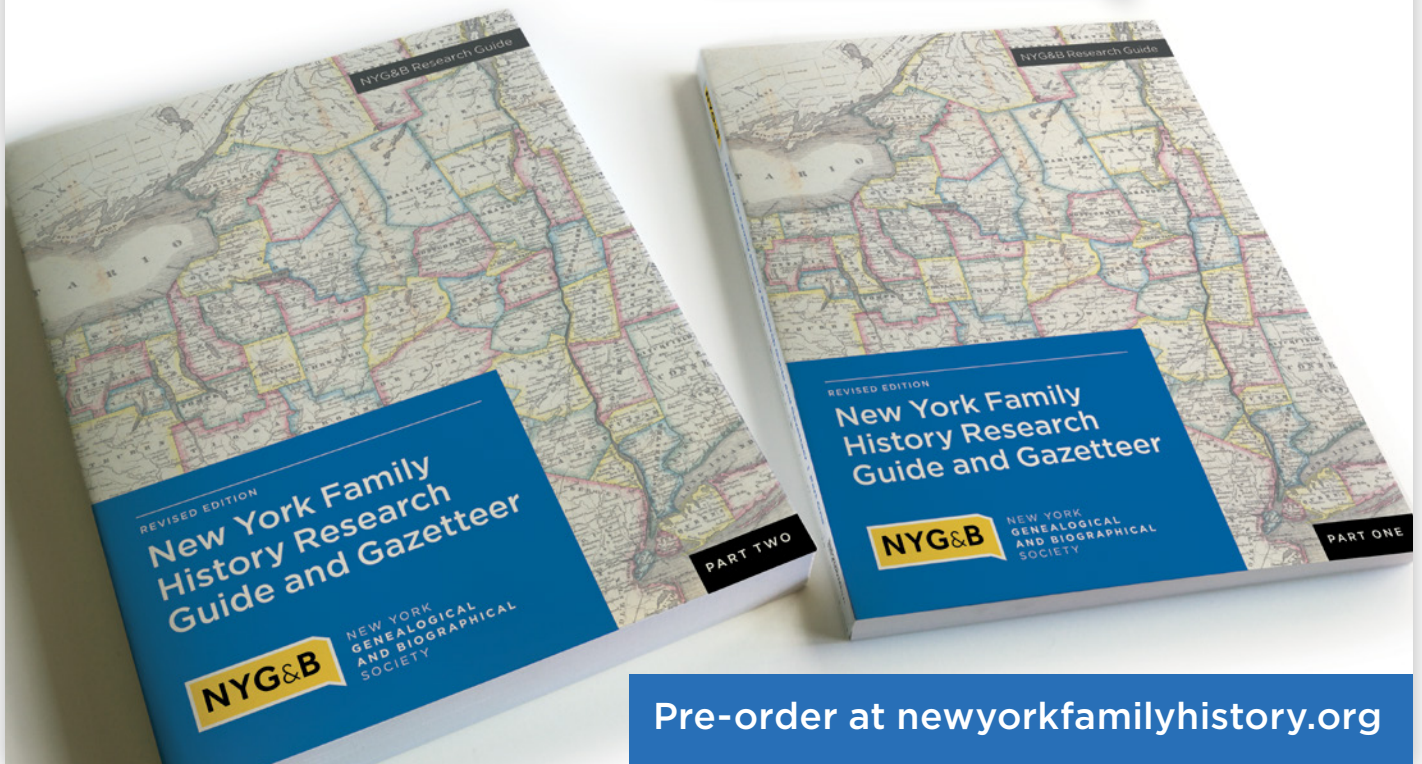
Digital PDF Edition

A digital edition of the revised edition will be available to those who purchased the first or second printings. This digital version is limited to those buyers and proof of purchase is required to unlock the new Digital PDF Edition.

Availability

The Revised Edition and the Digital PDF Edition will ship and/or be available for download in fall 2017.

Winner—2016 National
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Dear Friends,

It seems as if only a brief time ago I sat to pen an introductory letter for the *New York Researcher's* summer issue. As fall rolls forward, there is certainly no lack of activity. The NYG&B has had an extremely busy summer and we have already begun launching into a number of our planned ventures for the rest of 2017.

Shortly, we will be releasing the revised edition of the award-winning *New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer*. Now in two volumes, the revised edition includes more than 100 updates to the publication, including new insights on New York's vital records, updated online resources, and further details in a number of the county guides. In addition, the publication is now available as a searchable PDF for the first time—exclusive to those who own a previous edition.

We were delighted to welcome many friends and members in Albany a few weeks ago. As part of our annual research tour, attendees had hands-on help as they explored the rich resources of the New York State Archives, and the New York State Library, including the Manuscripts and Special Collections division.

In October we will host author Brooke Kroeger at our annual Fall Benefit Luncheon who will speak on her fascinating new book, *The Suffragents: How Women Used Men to Get the Vote* (see page 16). We will also visit Buffalo for the Western New York Genealogy Conference jointly sponsored by the Western New York Genealogical Society. At our headquarters we will host a variety of research sessions, live webinars, and a two-day DNA workshop. Next year we will also launch a new research trip: Empire State Exploration (see page 17), a week of researching New York families from across the state anchored from the NYG&B headquarters in Manhattan.

We continue to expand our range of member services. Recently we welcomed Meryl Schumacker as our first Genealogist-in-Residence at the NYG&B. Ms. Schumacker's article on New York County insolvency assignments in the summer issue of the *New York Researcher* is just a glimpse into her skills in identifying and analyzing genealogical records. As the first Genealogist-in-Residence, she will be assisting with a variety of ongoing NYG&B projects, including providing research services and consultations for members.

The NYG&B is also extremely grateful to Karen Mauer Jones, who will retire as Editor of *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* at the end of this year. For more than five years Ms. Jones has worked tirelessly to ensure the longstanding tradition of scholarship remains alive and well in *The Record*. We wish her well in her retirement and remain grateful for her dedication to New York genealogy and family history (see page 13).

As always, I sincerely hope our paths cross—whether in person, online, or through email. Thank you for the role you play in assisting the NYG&B share and preserve the stories of New York families.



Joshua

D. JOSHUA TAYLOR

NEW YORK RESEARCHER | VOLUME 28, NUMBER 3 | FALL 2017

Susan R. Miller, Editor

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About the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society

Since 1869, the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society (NYG&B) has been preserving, documenting, and sharing the stories of families across the state of New York. Through our programs, resources, publications, and services we actively engage with genealogists, biographers, historians, and organizations to establish the broader contexts of New York's past and foster connections between New York's past and the present.

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 and benefits may be found on our website, newyorkfamilyhistory.org.

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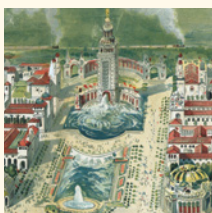
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ON THE COVER:

The Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo was held in 1901, with the Electric Tower a main attraction. Publicity for the Exposition stated "There are more people who live within a day's journey of Buffalo, than of any other place in the Western Hemisphere."¹ Birdseye view of the Pan-American exposition, Buffalo, May 1 to November 1, 1901, Buffalo: Pan-American Exposition Co., c1900. Image from the Library of Congress, loc.gov/pictures/item/2003674793.

¹ Pan-American Exposition Company, "Pan American Exposition Buffalo 1901," Buffalo, 1901. http://panam1901.org/documents/original_sources/purpose_and_plan.PDF accessed 12 July 2017.

New Yorkers in the Official Correspondence of the American Consulate in Mainz, Germany 1871–1906

By Kenneth W. Heger, Ph.D.

This article discusses the official correspondence created and maintained by the American consulate in the German city of Mainz. Official correspondence was how the Department of State categorized communication between a foreign service post and the Department in Washington, D.C. Official consular correspondence contains hidden gems, but because the records are unindexed and require extra effort, family historians often overlook this record set. Researchers will learn how to find those references with the assistance of this article, which includes an overview of the consulate, cites specific documents containing information on New Yorkers, and tell how to access the records.

Mainz, towards the Rhine,
the Rhine, Germany,
1890–1900, Detroit
Publishing Co., Detroit,
MI.; Library of Congress.





Plan von Mainz, Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany, 1849, by Joseph Meyer; David Rumsey Historical Map Collection, image number 4807041 (davidrumsey.com)

Consulate in Mainz

Mainz is located on the Rhine River near the confluence of the Rhine and Main rivers. It was the largest city in the Grand Duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt, an important mid-sized German state. In 1871 after the Franco-Prussian War, the Grand Duchy joined the new German Empire. As the Empire's political unity solidified and its economy grew, the city of Mainz became the Grand Duchy's economic center. Soon Mainz became a key port city and railroad hub on the Rhine for the entire German Empire.

This combination of factors persuaded the Department of State to establish a formal presence in Mainz. When the Department opened the post in 1871, it designated it as a consular agency, tasked with looking out for American economic interests in the region. In 1881 the Department elevated the post to a commercial agency, a reflection of the city's growing importance. Finally, in 1894, the post became a full-fledged consulate so it could provide greater assistance to American tourists and businessmen traveling through the city.

A 1907 Department of State inspection of the consulate provided a good description of the Mainz consular district. It indicated that the district was "bounded on the left bank of the Rhine from Mainz to Coblenz, by the right bank of the Mosel River from Coblenz to the Lorraine frontier, along the Lorraine frontier to Saargemünd, from the Bavarian border and the border of Rhein-Hessen near Alsheim, across the Rhine up to behind Pfungstadt, then in a bow around Darmstadt and the Main up to and below Kelsterbach."¹ This boundary put the consulate at the center of the Grand Duchy of Hesse's political and economic life.

Although the consulate's primary work concerned American business interests, it was also responsible for

1 Mainz Inspection Report June 1907, Entry 865, Inspection Reports on Foreign Service Posts, 1906–1939; NAID 1229804; National Archives and Records Administration Record Group 59, General Records of the Department of States.

carrying for the interests of the approximately 100 American citizens who lived in the district. Since none of those people was involved in business, the consulate helped them in their dealings with local officials, to settle estate matters, facilitated payment of pensions to veterans and their dependents, and reported the deaths of American citizens residing in or traveling through the district to the Department of State. The consulate continued to do so until the Department abolished the post and twenty-eight other posts in Germany in June 1908 as a cost-savings device.²

Despatches from the Consulate in Mainz to the Department of State in Washington, D.C.³

Although the primary purpose of a consulate was to provide the American government with information to support American businesses and foreign policy, many despatches pertained to American citizens in a consular district. This was particularly true for matters such as issuing passports, reporting deaths of Americans, assisting with settlement of estates, and fielding inquiries concerning the whereabouts of people. An examination of the despatches from Mainz revealed the following documents with a New York connection.

Editor's note: spelling of despatches follows the Department of State and National Archives spelling commonly used in the nineteenth century.

Passports

Despatch 31 December 1872⁴

For the most part, the despatches relating to issuing passports among the Mainz records are frustrating, merely

2 Ibid

3 Despatches from consulates to the Department of State in Washington, D.C. form part of National Archives and Records Administration Record Group 59, General Records of the Department of State. (Hereafter cited as NARG 59.)

4 Despatch 31 December 1872 from the American consulate in Mainz to the Department of State in Washington, D.C.; National Archives microfilm publication T635, *Despatches from American Consuls at Mainz, March 31, 1871–July 18, 1906*; Roll 1. NARG 59 (Hereafter cited as NARG 59; T635, followed by the roll number).



stating the applicant's name. This despatch is a notable exception and contains personal information on seven applicants, five of whom listed New York as their United States residence.⁵ This level of detail is exceptional.

- **Adolph Oechs.** Passport issued 20 October 1870. His last place of residence was New York [City]. He was born in Mainz. He listed his occupation as “a gentleman.” He was 52 years old; 5' 8 ½" tall; had a high forehead; blue eyes, a medium nose; a medium mouth; a round chin, grey hair; and a fair complexion.
- **Maria Theresia Meletta.** Passport issued 10 November 1870. Her last place of residence was New York. She was born in Mainz. She did not list an occupation. She was 30 years old; 5' 4" tall; had a medium forehead; black eyes; a medium nose; a medium mouth; a round chin; brown hair; and a dark complexion.
- **Emma Blum.** Passport issued 15 December 1870. Her last place of residence was New York. She was born in Germany. She listed no occupation. She was 20 years old; 5' 3 ½" tall; had a medium forehead; dark eyes; a medium nose; a medium mouth; a round chin; black hair; and a dark complexion.
- **Stephan A. Jamonos.** Passport issued 26 February 1871. His last place of residence was New York. He was born in New York. He listed his occupation

5 The other two people mentioned in the despatch are Paul Weber of Philadelphia, PA; and John H. Straub of Pittsburgh; PA.

- as “a gentleman.” He was 36 years old; 5' 11" tall; had a high forehead; black eyes; a large nose; a medium mouth; a sharp chin; black hair; and a dark complexion.
- **Mary Barly.** Passport issued 28 February 1872. Her last place of residence was New York. She was born in New York. She did not list an occupation. She was 50 years old; 5' 4 ½" tall; had a medium forehead; blue eyes; a straight nose; a small mouth; a round chin; brown hair; and a fair complexion.

Death Reports & Estates

Despatch 1 May 1886—Martin Schaefer, Catharina Schaefer, and Rudolph W. Wolffsohn⁶

This despatch relates to Martin Schaefer's estate; Schaefer had died in 1885 in Mainz. It mentions Catharina, his wife, provides details of his personal effects (including a gold watch), and mentions Rudolf W. Wolffsohn of 20 West Swan St, Buffalo, New York.

Despatch 2 October 1903—Emil Klein⁷

This despatch relates to Klein's claim to an estate in Darmstadt. Klein was a resident of Staten Island Heights, New York at the time. This despatch was the reply to the 19 September 1903 incoming despatch from the Department, cited below.

Whereabouts of People

Despatch 3 December 1886 & Despatch 16 September 1887—Johann Jung, Johannes Jung, Daniel Jung, and Adam Hahn⁸

These two despatches pertain to the consulate's attempts to locate Johann Jung's two brothers who immigrated to the United States.

- The first despatch mentions Johannes and Daniel Jung by name. It states that Johannes might go by the nickname “Dutch John,” and may have worked for Adam Hahn of Brooklyn, New York.
- The 1887 despatch was the consulate's follow up request to the Department of State, stating that the consulate still had not gotten a reply and still needed the information.

Despatches from the Department of State to the Consulate in Mainz⁹

The Department of State corresponded with consulates asking them to make special reports, look into matters relating to specific people, and replying with information

6 Despatch 1 May 1886 from the consulate in Mainz to the Department of State in Washington, D.C.; T635, Roll 2.
 7 Despatch 2 October 1903 from the consulate in Mainz to the Department of State in Washington, D.C.; NARG 59; T635, Roll 6.
 8 Despatches 3 December 1886 & 16 September 1887 from the consulate in Mainz to the Department of State in Washington, D.C.; NARG 59; T635, Roll 3.
 9 The Instructions and Despatches from the Department of State to the consulate at Mainz form part of National Archives and Records Administration Record Group 84, Records of Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State. (Hereafter cited as NARG 84).

from a previous request. Information on people is even rarer and more difficult to find than in the despatches from the consulate. Examining these records may prove fruitful. An examination of the correspondence the Department of State sent to the consulate in Mainz revealed the following two despatches relating to New Yorkers.

Despatch 8 February 1902 (No. 18)—Walter F. Bolger¹⁰

This document consists of a circular the Department sent to consulates concerning the disappearance of Walter F. Bolger of Yonkers, New York. The circular includes Bolger's picture.

Despatch 19 September 1903 (No. 166)—Emil Klein and William Federlein¹¹

This despatch forwarded a letter from Emil Klein of Shelter Island, New York to the consulate concerning his claim to an inheritance in Germany. It also mentions William Federlein of Cincinnati, Ohio. The consulate replied on this topic to the Department on 2 October 1903, cited above.

Accessing the Records

Despatches from the Consulate to the Department of State

These despatches are part of National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Record Group 59, General Records of the Department of State and form part of a worldwide record series consisting of consular officer's despatches. To provide access to these records, NARA microfilmed all the despatches and those discussed in the article in NARA microfilm publication T635, *Despatches from American Consuls at Mainz, March 31 1871–July 18, 1906*. There are seven rolls of microfilm in this publication.

- **Roll 1:** March 31, 1871–October 17, 1883
- **Roll 2:** September 1, 1883–June 28 1886¹²
- **Roll 3:** July 19, 1886–December 31, 1887
- **Roll 4:** January 6, 1888–February 15, 1890
- **Roll 5:** March 1, 1890–March 6, 1894
- **Roll 6:** April 4, 1894–December 1, 1903
- **Roll 7:** January 5, 1905–July 18, 1906

The despatches are arranged chronologically and may be accessed in NARA's facility in College Park, Maryland (also known as Archives II). No appointment is necessary for the Microfilm Research Room; access to the rolls is self-serve. Copies may be printed onsite.

10 Despatch 8 February 1902 (No. 18) from the Department of State in Washington, D.C. to the consulate in Mainz; Instructions and Despatches from the Department of State; Volume 9; National Archives Identifier 1327350; Records of the consulate in Mainz; NARG 84. (Hereafter cited as Vol. 9; Mainz Consulate; NARG 84.)

11 Despatch 19 September 1903 (No. 166) from the Department of State in Washington, D.C. to the consulate in Mainz; Vol. 9; Mainz Consulate; NARG 84.

12 The overlap in dates between rolls 1 and 2 is correct. The Consulate bound the records this way; when the National Archives microfilmed the records, they left the organized the way the Consulate had bound them.

Despatches from the Department of State to the Consulate in Mainz

Records the Mainz consulate kept onsite form part of the National Archives Record Group 84, Records of Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State. Both of the documents in this article are in the same bound volume. None of the records are available on microfilm or digitally online. To examine the original records researchers can request: Records of the consulate in Mainz, Instructions and Despatches from the Department of State, Volume 9, National Archives Identifier 1327350, Record Group 84. See catalog.archives.gov/id/1327350 for the catalog record.

NARA Inventory

NARA has an inventory to the Mainz consulate's records in RG 84. The inventory organizes the consulate's documents into records series, describing each series, and listing the volumes in each series. The inventory will guide help you research other consular records, such as the unofficial correspondence the consulate sent and received and the separate estate case files the consulate kept. [catalog.archives.gov/id/1125640, then click on button for "search within this series"]

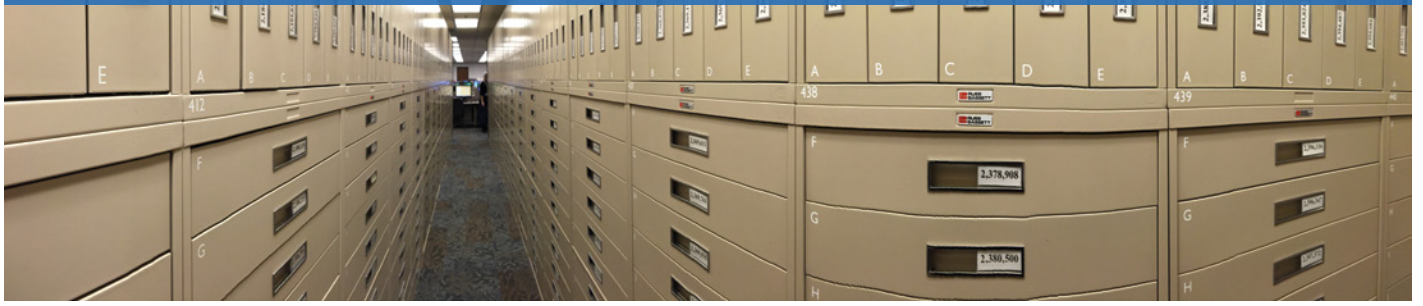
Additional Research Guides

Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society

The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society (MAGS) wrote detailed research guides to the records relating to Mainz this article discusses, as well as to a set of earlier despatches from Hesse-Darmstadt prior to the establishment of the Mainz consulate. These guides provide an administrative background to the records, detailed lists of names mentioned in the records, and cite examples of despatches containing valuable information on the local economy, social conditions, and emigration from Hesse-Darmstadt. The guides are available on the members-only portion of the MAGS website. For more publically available information on the resources on the MAGS website see: Kenneth W. Heger. "Researching the Grand Duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt on MAGS' Website," *Der Kurier: Quarterly of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society* March 2017 (Vol. 35, No. 1): 3–10; and Bob Greiner. "Estate Case Files from American Consulates in Germany: Brake, Königsberg, Mainz." *Der Kurier: Quarterly of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society* December 2016 (Vol. 34, No. 4): 83–87.



Kenneth W. Heger, Ph.D. is on the faculty of the University of Maryland's College of Information Studies (the iSchool). Prior to joining the iSchool's faculty, he was an employee of the National Archives for over 30 years. During his career he worked with records of civilian and military Federal agencies and directed programs across the nation, including NARA's genealogy program. He is the president of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society, and has a Ph.D. in History from the University of Maryland.



Microfilm Access from FamilySearch

FamilySearch has made great strides in digitizing some of the most heavily used microfilm from their Family History Library (FHL) collection, and making the digitally images available on FamilySearch.org. The FHL holds more than 2.5 million reels of microfilm and additional lesser used microfilm is held at their off site storage facility at Granite Mountain, Utah. According to FamilySearch, all the film requested through their Family History Centers by patrons over the past five years, more than 1.5 million rolls, is part of the already digitized materials.

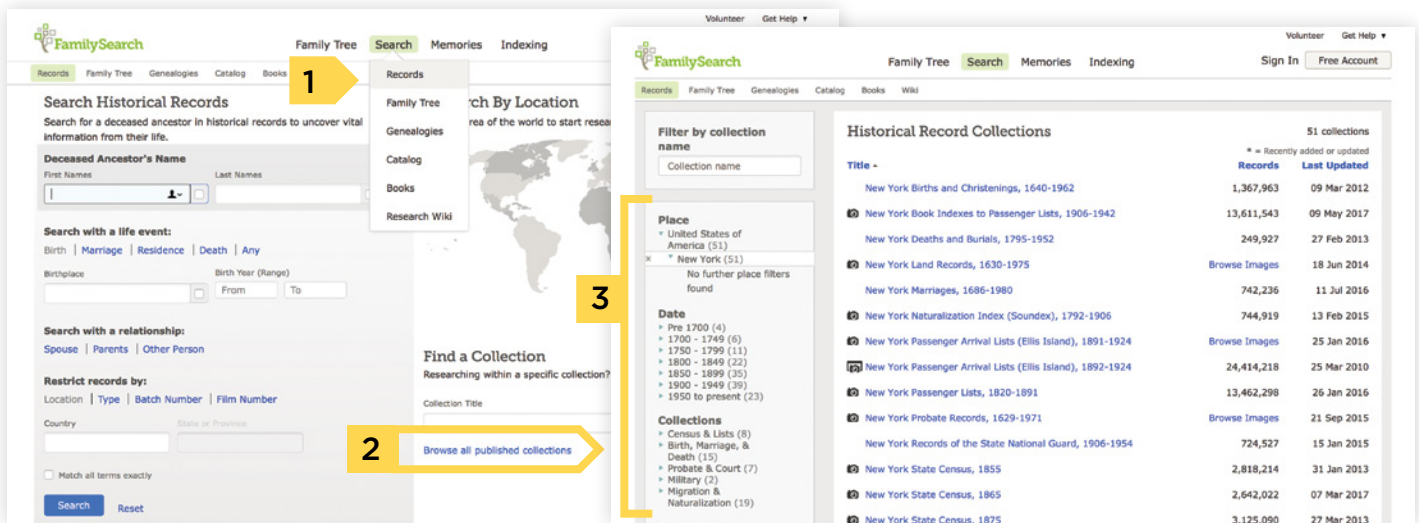
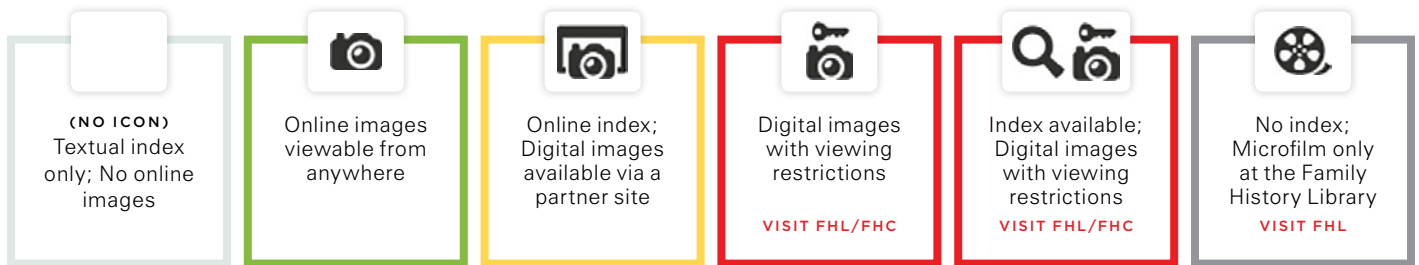
The digital images are made from the master microfilm, not from circulating/library film, ensuring the best available image. At the current pace of conversion—at about 600,000 reels per year—FamilySearch expects to have most of the collection digitized by 2020.

But with progress comes some, hopefully temporary, restrictions. Re-imaging the film requires that FamilySearch reviews the original contracts with the record owners and updates the contract to include the use and distribution of digitized images—which is a slow process. While contracts are being reviewed and amended, FamilySearch has

implemented some new icons (located to the left or right of the record entry) to help researchers understand what they can access from home and what may have restrictions.

The icons shown below in red indicate that the digital images may only be accessed while working within a Family History Center (FHC), affiliate library, or at the Family History Library (FHL), or may be restricted to members of the LDS. These restrictions are usually due contractual reasons and may require approval by the record owner to make images available online.

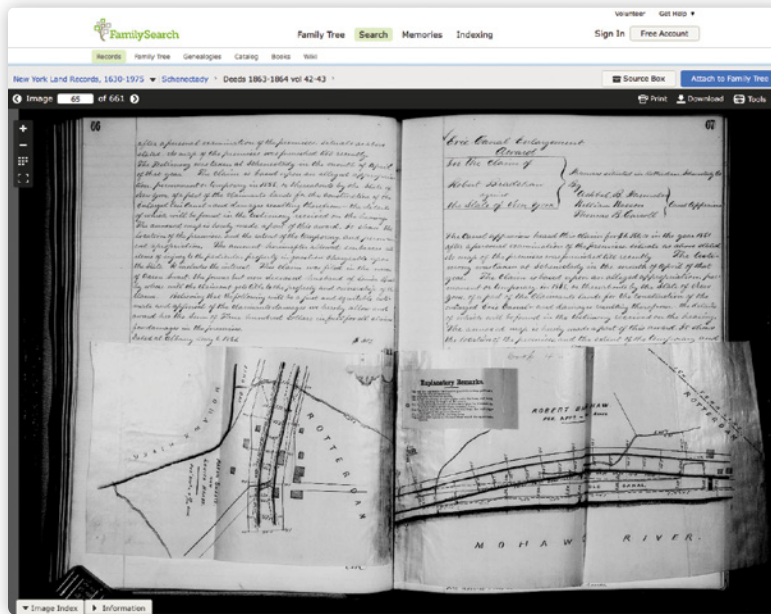
Images of other records (shown in yellow) may be hosted



Browse the imaged collections (a significant number of imaged collections are not yet indexed and will not show up in name searches) by: 1 visiting the Search > Records page, 2 selecting “Browse all published collections” at the lower-right and, 3 filter results to the collections you wish to view.

by partner sites, such as Ancestry or Fold3, and may have been indexed (only) by FamilySearch. Visit your local FHC or the FHL to access these sites for free.

The icon of the reel (shown in the gray box) indicates that the film has not yet been digitized and is available only on site at the Family History Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. If you require this film, check whether it is available at the FHL or if it has to be ordered in advance from the Granite Mountain storage facility.



A digitized image from “New York Land Records, 1630-1975,” for Schenectady County, 1863–1864, and an example of the excellent quality of the digitized images.

Good News for New York Research

Vast numbers of microfilms have been digitized, including land and probate records for most of New York counties, and are available on FamilySearch. To learn how to access this critical material, see our on-demand webinar “Hidden Treasure from Family Search” presented by Robert Raymond, Deputy Chief Genealogical Officer of FamilySearch.

A listing of New York-titled databases may be found at familysearch.org/search/collection/list/?page=1&countryId=22 (we recommend bookmarking this page), or by using the main search page and the map to access New York content.

How it Affects New York City Research

Given the huge population of New York City, many of our members are researching people who lived in New York City at one time. And New York City was, as far as New York is concerned, an early adopter of civil vital records. Various indexes for New York City vital records are online (see our

on-demand webinar “NYC MUNI Vital Indexes” presented by Susan R. Miller for some of those indexes).

Options for accessing copies of the original records are:

- visiting the NYC Municipal Archives
- submitting a request to the NYC Municipal Archives, nyc.gov/html/records/html/archives/archives.shtml
- visiting the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City to access the microfilm or digital images.

- visiting a Family History Center or affiliate library for access to digital images
- using the [NYG&B Record Retrieval Service](http://nyg&b.org/record-retrieval-service) once you know the certificate or ledger number (For more information on our Records Retrieval Service, see nyg&b.org/research-services)

What is no longer an option is requesting the microfilm from FamilySearch to be sent to your local Family History Center.

The FamilySearch news release and links to FAQs may be found in our blog post “Changes to FamilySearch Microfilm Distribution” dated July 26, 2017—see nyg&b.org/blog. According to FamilySearch, “if customers need access to a particular film yet to be digitized, they can express interest to have it added to the priority digitization list by contacting FamilySearch Support (Toll Free: 1-866-406-1830).

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

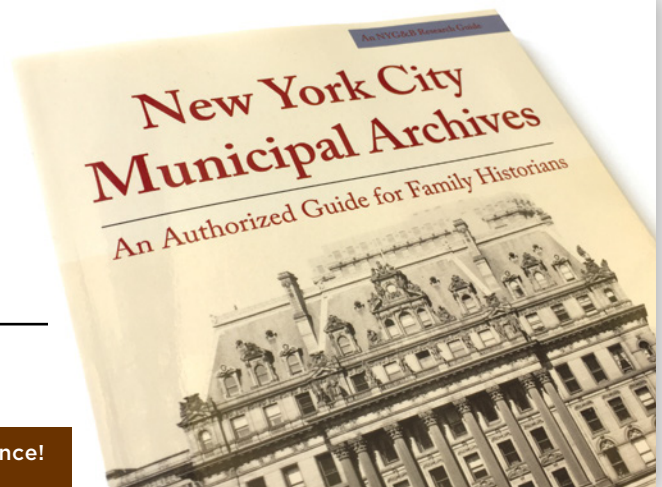
By Aaron Goodwin

Harry Macy Jr., Consulting Editor
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New Record Access, Indexes, and Databases

The NYG&B Record and *New York Researcher*: Recent Issues Easier to Access newyorkfamilyhistory.org/read-online

The most recent issues of *The Record* and the *New York Researcher*, published in PDF format are now easier to access. NYG&B Members can access the recent issues, page through, or download the entire issue, and, if digital only delivery is your preference for receiving new publications, you can select that option in the Member dashboard.

New NYG&B Genealogy Tips on YouTube nygbs.org/blog or [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8Wz8Y8Y8Y8Y8Y8Y8Y8Y8Y8)

The NYG&B YouTube channel offers short genealogy tips from our recent YouTube Live sessions. Watch them in our blog posts or see all available clips on YouTube.

New York Knowledgebase newyorkfamilyhistory.org/new-york-knowledge-base

We've updated a number of New York Knowledge Base articles to include recently released online record sets. These invaluable articles can kick-start your research:

- “Featured New York Repositories for Genealogy” (new)
- “Research Guide: 1855 New York State Census, Ward 17 (Manhattan)” (new)
- “Kings County Colonial Church Records” (updated)
- “Dutch Reformed Records of New York City (Manhattan)” (updated)

New York, New York, Death Index, 1949–1965

This new index, available on Ancestry.com and covering the years 1949–1965, was provided by vital-searchworldwide.com and made from images of the NYC Department of Health indexes. While images of the indexes have been available online, this is the first time a fully-searchable database of indexed names is available. However, we have noticed that some images are faint and searching the database may not return expected results. Additionally, some pages were not indexed. If the name(s) you are looking for is not found, we recommend browsing the images page by page.

According to Ancestry.com, the indexes list: name, age at death, date of death, death certificate number, and the borough in which they died.

The certificates in this dataset held at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and must be requested from that agency. <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/services/death-certificates.page>.

The addition of this database extends Ancestry's collection of New York City death indexes. Ancestry's initial collection—“New York, New York, Death Index, 1862–1948”—contains indexes to death certificates in New York City reported to the Health Department prior to 1949.

New York State Death Indexes 1880–1956 Archive.org > “New York State Death Index” / Searchable Database on Ancestry.com

As reported in the last issue, images of the New York state death indexes previously available only on microfiche in 11 locations around New York State are coming online, published by Reclaim the Records. The images are very legible for most years, but some are quite faint. A few years are not available as of this printing.

To find the images, go to archive.org, and search using quotation marks “New York State Death Index.” If the index of the year needed is not available online, 11 New York repositories hold copies of the microfiche. Request a copy of the original certificate from the New York State Department of Health, at health.ny.gov/vital_records/.

Ancestry.com recently created a database of these indexes that is accessible to subscribers.

New York Marriage License Index 1950–1995

Last year images of New York City's marriage license index files from the City Clerk's office went online (nycmarriageindex.com). Now FamilySearch has indexed the images (familysearch.org/search/collection/2727138), however, the index does not contain the license file number which is available on The New York City Marriage Index—Reclaim The Records.

New York Historic Newspapers nyshistoricnewspapers.org

Four new newspaper titles have been added to New York Historic Newspapers—bringing the total number of pages available online to nearly 7.4 million pages. From the home page of the site, you can browse titles by county of publication, view all titles, or search for specific keywords. Recent additions include (by date):

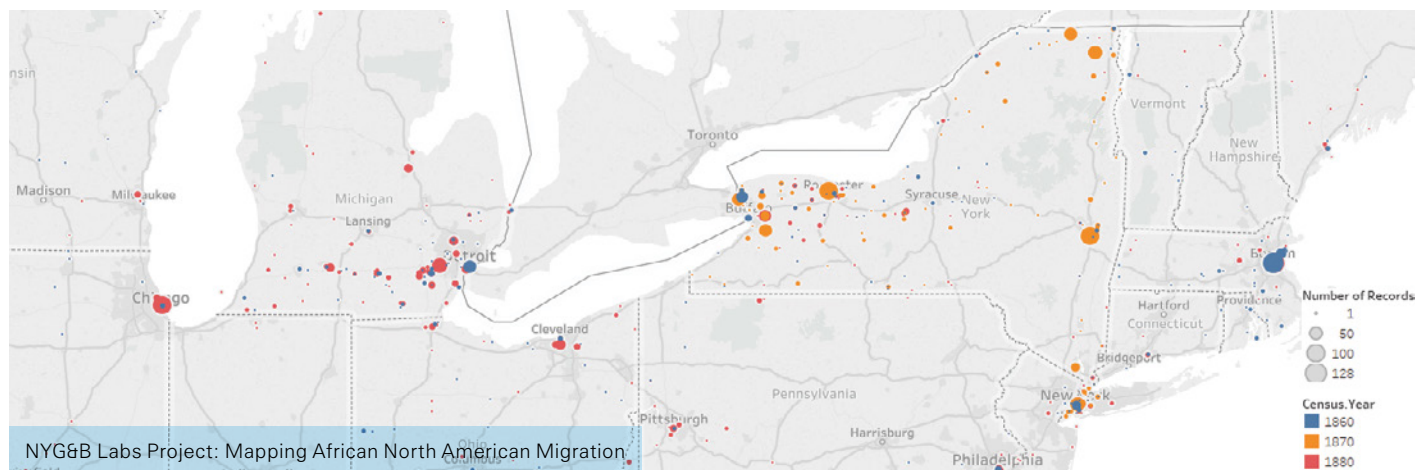
- *Buffalo Morning Express*, Buffalo, NY, 1849–1855
- *Buffalo Morning Express* and *Daily Democracy*, Buffalo, NY, 1855–1858
- *Buffalo Morning Express*, Buffalo, NY, 1878–1926
- *The Leader*, Freeport, NY, 1941–1987

New Jersey Online Indexes

The New Jersey State Archives (NJSA) has a number of indexes on their website which are being continually updated. One of these is the New Jersey Death Index, which (as of printing) covers up to June 1896. There are currently nearly 520,000 records indexed and the database is updated with new records on a daily basis. You can view all the online indexes and access request forms at https://wwwnet-dos.state.nj.us/DOS_ArchivesDBPortal/index.aspx

Highlights from our blog (nygbs.org/blog)

The NYG&B blog keeps our community informed of events, articles, and timely news. Visit nygbs.org/blog to read the full articles.



NYG&B Labs Project: Mapping African North American Migration

This summer, students from Manhattan College joined our NYG&B Labs team and Professor Adam Arenson, PhD, in his project tracking and visualizing migration patterns of African North Americans prior to, during and after the American Civil War. A portion of the project focused on processing and analyzing Civil War pension files of African American Civil War soldiers, as well as locating Canadian-born African North Americans in the U.S. Federal Censuses for 1860, 1870, and 1880.

While the full project is still a work in progress, the students wrote a series of fantastic blog posts that share their discoveries and reflections working on this exciting endeavor this summer.

The People of Ward 17 (Manhattan): Statistics from the Ward 17 1855 Census Index

One of the most valuable record sets in our eLibrary is the collection of county originals of the 1855 New York state census for New York City's 17th Ward. This neighborhood on the Lower East Side of Manhattan was home to many of our immigrant ancestors—particularly German and Irish. This census is especially useful due to the detailed questions asked of all members of the household, which was unusual for a census from that period.

The NYG&B was the first institution to digitize the original ledgers, which was a difficult undertaking due to the fragile state of the

originals. NYG&B volunteers also took time to index three of the four volumes contained in the collection (the first volume wasn't feasible to index due to extensive fire damage, but the images are available). We recently revisited the index file and did some statistical and demographic analysis of the population of Ward 17.

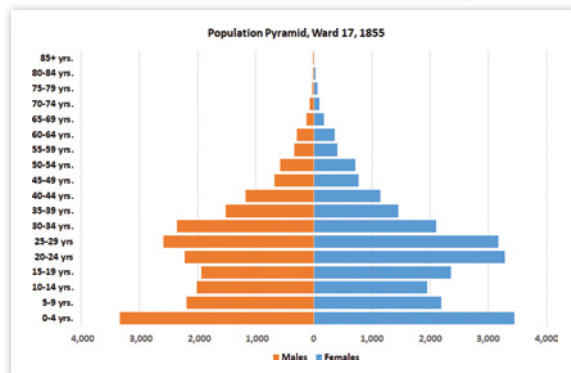
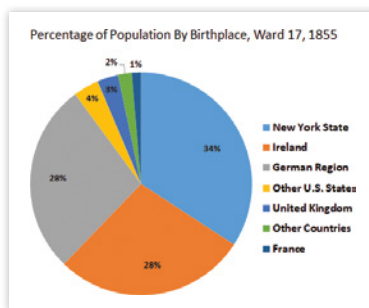
Overall, we looked at the age, gender, birthplace, and profession of more than 45,000 names and generated quite a few interesting graphs and statistics. Our blog has the full story, and our recently-updated Knowledge Base article contains a wealth of research tips on using the collection.

New York Genealogy Tips from D. Joshua Taylor and Susan R. Miller

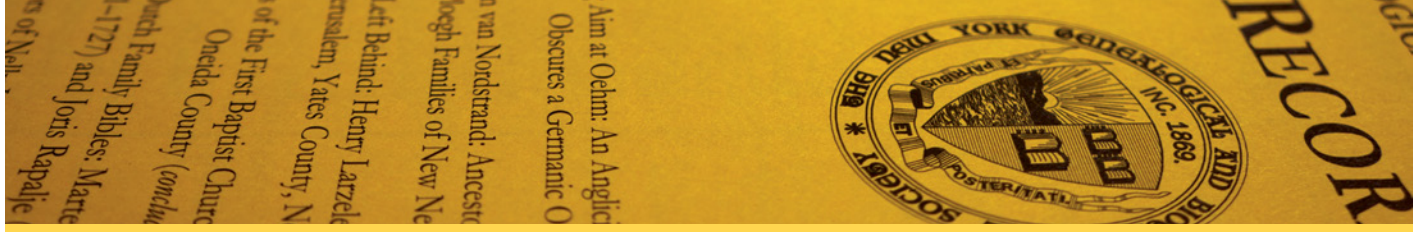
We welcomed a large audience at our June YouTube Live Q&A with D. Joshua Taylor and Susan R. Miller. Many sent their New York genealogy research questions beforehand and then tuned in live to hear the advice Josh and Sue had to offer.

We have rounded up most of the questions and tips on our blog. Our post contains tips in writing, as well as the video clips from the live show. We also have links to all resources discussed in the various answers. Topics covered included immigration records, the NYS Red Books, records currently being digitized by the NYG&B, New York State land records, writing your family history and more!

Our next YouTube Live Q&A is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24. Visit nygbs.org/events to learn more and submit your question.



Some key statistics from the Ward 17 1855 Census Index.



The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record

Thank You, Karen!



After six years at the helm of *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, Editor Karen Mauer (Green) Jones, CG, FGBS, will retire in December 2017. Ms. Jones has provided hundreds of pages of stalwart scholarship detailing numerous stories of New York families. We asked those who work with her on the NYG&B team, board of directors, and the editorial team of the *Record* to share their thoughts...

“ Under Karen’s editorial leadership, the *Record*’s coverage has widened its horizons both geographically and chronologically, and maintained its excellent standards of presentation and documentation. ”

— James D. Folts, PhD, FGBS, head of Research Services at the New York State Archives

“ Karen’s dedication and attention to detail have always been inspiring to us on the Editorial Board. Her skillful leadership of the editorial process has kept the *Record* at the highest level of genealogical journalism. She can be assured that authors and readers of *Record* articles have both benefited greatly from her stewardship. ”

— Frederick C. Hart, CG, FASG, FGBS, member of the *Record* editorial board

“ Karen has been a writer-friendly editor who pushed us writers to make sense of our own half-formed ideas. And she has had the patience and industry to do what it took to bring even rough manuscripts to publication. ”

— Harold A. Henderson, CG, member of the *Record* editorial board



LEFT: Karen Mauer Jones (at left) on her wedding day in 2015 with Karen’s daughter, mother, and grandchild, comprising four generations.

ABOVE: NYG&B celebrates winning the National Genealogical Society award for *New York City Municipal Archives: An Authorized Guide for Family Historians* at the 2017 Family History Conference in Raleigh, NC. Pictured are Director of Education Sue Miller, President D. Joshua Taylor, Trustee Terry Koch-Bostic, Karen Mauer Jones, and Digital Services Manager Fred Wertz. Author and honoree Aaron Goodwin joined the celebrations by phone.

“ Karen Jones began as co-editor of the *Record* in 2011 and, after three years, agreed to become sole editor in October 2014 for another three years. She has risen to the many challenges of editorship with tact, energy, and expertise. Karen’s six years of editorship included her resourceful efforts at conferences to identify and meet prospective authors. She sought new authors; although editing their early submissions often required more time and effort, Karen thought growing the list of potential authors was important to the future of the *Record* and of the G&B. She also expanded the Editorial Board into a working group which critiqued new submissions and proof-read the final drafts of articles early enough to easily make changes. The Board’s concern is not only with typos and the usual gremlins arising in editing, but also citations and suggestions of unexplored sources or interpretations. Karen’s broad experience, ability to work with almost anyone, and dedication to the *Record* has been extraordinary. We expect to see her name in the *Record* soon, this time as a contributing author. ”

— Anita A. Lustenberger, CG, FGBS, member of the *Record* editorial board, and NYG&B trustee emeritus

“ Editing the *Record* is a learning experience. Each article may present aspects of New York State history, geography, and genealogy that are beyond the editor’s prior experience. It has been a pleasure to watch Karen develop her editorial skills and broaden her knowledge of New York and its families. As co-editor and then editor for the past six years she has produced *Record* issues filled with a wide variety of well-edited articles. Although she is retiring from this responsibility, I trust that we can look forward to future contributions from her, both as both a writer and speaker. ”

— Harry Macy, FGBS, FASG, Editor of the *Record* 1987-2006

“ Even before coming to the NYG&B, I had been an admirer of Karen’s devotion to the *Record*. Her contributions to New York genealogy and family history are nearly immeasurable. The devotion and care she exhibits in the role is admirable and an incredible example for every genealogist. The time she spends to mentor new authors and promote the stories of families from across New York will have a lasting impact for many generations—thank you Karen! ”

— D. Joshua Taylor, NYG&B President

“ Karen has made a lasting impact on the quality of the *Record* by broadening the subjects we cover and making our journal more inclusive. Her scholarly integrity and passion for New York family history has left its mark on the *Record* and on the NYG&B. We are grateful for her service and wish her all the best in her retirement. ”

— Kathleen Hill Tesluk, Vice-Chairman, NYG&B Board of Trustees

“ When I joined the editorial team for the *Record* a few years ago, Karen Mauer Jones was starting the review process for an article on an enslaved African American family and their free descendants in the Town of New Paltz in Ulster County—my home county at the time. I was delighted to see an article on an under-represented community in New York genealogy and history. Karen’s dedication to finding authors to tell the stories of all of New York’s inhabitants through the years stands out to me. Thanks to Karen for her outstanding stewardship of the *Record* during her tenure as editor. ”

— Jane E. Wilcox, member of the *Record* editorial board



Karen Mauer Jones with her husband, Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS on a recent vacation to Hawaii.

In Other Lines

A column in which we ask NYG&B members to tell us their own stories.

Luke Ives Pontifell, Newburgh, NY
Member since 2005; Board of Trustees member

Why is genealogy important to you?

The question: “Who am I and where did I come from?” is a universal question asked by all people, from all walks of life, throughout history. Looking at the past, learning from history, is critical to our understanding of how we think about the present. It shapes our values, our worries and our dreams.

I grew up in an 18th century farmhouse, living in a place with things that were there long before me... and will be there long after I am gone. Thinking about one’s place in the context of what came before you and what you may leave behind for the future is very inspiring to me.

My family is from Germany (my mother is the first person to leave Hamburg in her family in hundreds of years) and New York (my father was a quintessential New Yorker who could never imagine living anywhere else. New York was the center of his universe).

What brought you to the NYG&B?

I believe in the mission of the NYG&B; not just its commitment to being a preeminent gateway into the world of



genealogy, but also to its focus on biography, telling the story of America through individual stories that together form a tapestry that becomes so much more than the sum of its parts.

Why would you encourage others to research their family’s story?

No one lives in a vacuum. Learning about who you are and where you have come from is part of how you define your identity. The struggles and triumphs, hardships and joys of those who came before you are part of who you are, and your story will be part of those who come after you.

What was your start in specialty publishing?

I began hand binding books during college summers and found demand enough to build a business—Thornwillow. In recent years we consolidated our global operations to a facility in Newburgh, New York, now a growing community for craft and artistic pursuits.

New York Articles from Beyond Our Boundaries

New York-related articles in selected issues of some non-New York journals.

“George Harris of Southampton, Long Island”

***The Genealogist*, vol. 31, Gale Ion Harris and Janice Pranger, 1: 3–33 (Spring 2017).**

Authors Harris and Pranger document descendants of Southampton, Long Island, resident George Harris and their possible relationships to the Raynor and Jessup families of the same community.

“The Peripatetic Van Epps Family of Genesee County, New York: Identifying Mrs. Margaret Alice Winchester”

***The Genealogist*, vol. 31, Adrian Benjamin Burke, 1: 34–64 (Spring 2017).**

Using census returns, burial records, deeds, wills, and other published materials including those found on the Old Fulton Postcard website, a great-great-grandson of Margaret (Van Epps) Winchester traces his peripatetic Dutch ancestors’ migration across many communities in western New York State over several generations.



Stanton Biddle, PhD, is a 20-plus year Member of the NYG&B and an active volunteer. 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.

NYG&B

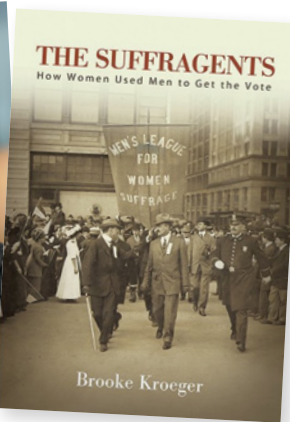


NYG&B Fall Benefit Luncheon

Please join the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society for our Annual Fall Benefit Luncheon, featuring Brooke Kroeger, author of *The Suffragents*.

The Suffragents is the untold story of how some of New York's most powerful men formed the Men's League for Woman Suffrage, which grew between 1909 and 1917 from 150 founding members into a force of thousands across thirty-five states. Brooke Kroeger explores the formation of the League and the men who instigated it to involve themselves with the suffrage campaign, what they did at the behest of the movement's female leadership, and why and how together they swayed the course of history.

Brooke Kroeger is a journalist, author of five books, a professor of journalism at the NYU Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute and director of its MA unit, Global and Joint Program Studies, which she founded in 2007.



Tuesday, October 10, 2017, Noon-2pm
Sarabeth's, 381 Park Avenue South

\$100 for Individual Ticket

\$250 for Benefactor Ticket

\$1,000 for Patron Ticket—includes a 30-minute consultation with the NYG&B Genealogist-in-Residence

Tickets available on
nygbs.org/events or by
calling 212-755-8532
x208.

Benefit Committee

Bruce Addison
Adrienne Aueberbach
Lorraine D. Bell
Iain Bruce
McKelden Smith

(TOP: Suffragists marching, probably in New York City in 1913; Library of Congress, Image ID 00055u)

Save the Date—13-15 September, 2018

2018 New York State Family History Conference | Tarrytown, NY

Conference registration opens in November!

Hotel Venue—The 2018 NYSFHC will be held at the DoubleTree Hilton. Hotel reservations are open for the group rate of \$151 per night. Book online at tarrytown.doubletree.com and enter the group code **GBS** by clicking the "Add special rate codes" option. Reservations may also be made by calling directly at 914-524-6418.





**NEW EVENT!—Register at
NewYorkFamilyHistory.org**

Empire State Exploration

February 5–8, 2018 | New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, New York, New York

Join New York’s largest genealogical society for four days of research as you uncover your New York ancestors. With a home base at the NYG&B headquarters you will be steps away from the NYG&B’s statewide collections at the New York Public Library—and access to experts to guide you along your way. Empire State Exploration is an ideal setting for those just beginning their search and those seeking to answer longstanding New York research questions.

A personal, one-on-one consultation will enable you to begin your search immediately, with advice from an expert genealogist at the NYG&B offices. In addition to social events, the program also includes topical lectures on tracing New York ancestors, using *The Record*, and other essential topics to help guide you throughout the week. You will also have access to some of the nation’s best repositories for New York research including the New York Public Library (NYPL), the New York Historical Society, the Center for Jewish History, the National Archives at New York City and county and borough repositories for the New York City area.

Unlike the New York City Research Trip offered by the NYG&B, this experience focuses on tracing ancestors from across the entire state of New York, not just within the New York City area.

Looking for more specialized assistance during your week? Additional consultations will be available for a small fee to program participants. Please note that this trip does not include individual tours of all the research repositories, though a general orientation to the resources available at the major repositories will be given Monday morning.

Visiting New York City? Hotel options include accommodations one block from the NYG&B’s headquarters Sunday through Wednesday night. Participants may extend their stay at the group rate. Local to New York City? Commuter options are also available.

Registration

	Early Registration (through Nov. 30)	Registration (after Nov. 30)
Member—Commuter Registration	\$725	\$925
Member—Hotel Registration	\$1,285	\$1,485
Non-member—Hotel Registration	—	\$1,685

Cancellation Policy—Cancellations prior to and including sixty days before the event are subject to an administrative fee. Cancellations later than sixty days prior to the event are not refundable. No partial refunds are given if the registrant does not complete the event.

Register at newyorkfamilyhistory.org.

Program Schedule (Schedule may be subject to change.)

Sunday	Arrive in New York City	Wednesday	
Monday		9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.	Independent research and consultations <i>NYG&B offices open 8:15am to 6:00pm</i> <i>NYPL is open until 7:45 pm</i>
9:00–10:30 a.m.	Continental breakfast, followed by an orientation to New York State and New York City research repositories	9:30 a.m.	Optional Lecture at the NYG&B
11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	Individual Consultations at the NYG&B and research at the NYPL.	6:30–7:30 p.m.	Reception at the NYG&B
6:00–7:00 p.m.	Light dinner at the NYG&B	Thursday	
Tuesday		9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	Independent research and optional consultations <i>NYG&B offices open 9:00am to 5:00pm</i>
All Day	Independent research and consultations <i>NYG&B offices open 8:15am to 6:00pm</i>	12:30–2:30 p.m.	Wrap-up lunch at the NYG&B
9:30 a.m.	Optional Lecture at the NYG&B <i>NYPL is open until 7:45 pm</i>		

DNA and Family History: A Seminar for Genealogists



October 27-28, 2017 | New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, New York, New York, Presented by Blaine Bettinger, PhD, JD and Angie Bush, MS

The NYG&B is proud to host "DNA and Family History: A Seminar for Genealogists," featuring two of the world's leading genetic genealogists, Blaine Bettinger and Angie Bush. Through the course of eight sessions, the seminar will cover the fundamentals of DNA testing for genealogists and quickly move to advanced tools for analysis, incorporating the DNA findings into your writing, and ethics and standards in DNA testing.

DNA Program Schedule

Personal Consultation sessions (15-minute sessions, additional fee) will be available both days. Schedule may be subject to change.

Friday, 27 October

Overview: Types of DNA Tests, Testing Companies, and Developing a DNA Testing Plan

Understanding Ethnicity, Admixture, and Haplogroups

Genetic Networks (DNA Circles, NADs, GWorks and other tools for pedigree analysis)

Third Party Tools

Saturday, 28 October

Chromosome Mapping and Visual Phasing

The Genealogy Proof Standard and Writing

Ethics and Standards

The Future of Genetic Genealogy with a Rum-based Strawberry DNA Extraction

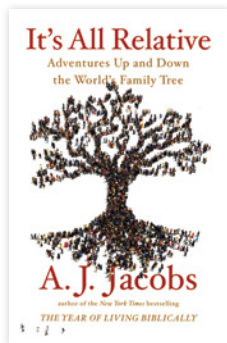
Registration

Visit newyorkfamilyhistory.org, or call 212-755-8532 x211.

	Members	Non-Members
Registration	\$270	\$295
Box Lunch	\$26 per lunch, per day	
Personal Consultation	\$28 per 15-minute consultation session (A limited number of personal consultations will be offered to program participants (additional fee) on a first-come, first-served basis.)	

Upcoming Events

Book Talk: It's All Relative



Thursday, December 7, 7:00 p.m.
New York Genealogical and Biographical Society,
New York, New York
Presented by **A.J. Jacobs**

New York Times bestselling author and member of the NYG&B Board of Trustees, A.J. Jacobs, will talk about his new book, *It's All Relative: Adventures Up and Down the World's Family Tree*. Mr. Jacobs will discuss

to discover what "family" is and what really the ties that bind us are. Please join us for this educational and entertaining event.

Registration

No charge, but registration is required. Register online at newyorkfamilyhistory.org.

Brown-bag Lunch at the NYG&B

December 7, 1:00 p.m. | New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, New York, New York
Presented by NYG&B staff

Bring your lunch and join us for a discussion on tapping the member resources of the NYG&B website. Learn the best ways to use New York Knowledge Base, the County Guides, and more.

Registration

No charge, but registration is preferred. Register online at newyorkfamilyhistory.org.

Repository Tours

For current tours, registration fees, and sign-up information, visit our events page on newyorkfamilyhistory.org to register, or call 212-755-8532 x211.

NYG&B Upcoming Webinars

Register online at nygbs.org/events. The live broadcast of this webinar is free and open to the public. A recording will be available on-demand for NYG&B members after the broadcast.

Family History Research in Central New York



Thursday, October 12, 7:00 p.m.
Presented by Holly Sammons, MLS

Did your family settle or move through this area of New York State? Are you are interested in learning more about where to find information and documentation for those people? This presentation will provide an overview of where you might look, what archives, repositories, resources are available to you—in brick and mortar settings or available remotely.

Using Autosomal DNA for 18th and 19th Century Mysteries



Tuesday, February 13, 2018, 7:00 pm
Presented by Blaine T. Bettinger, PhD, JD

Even though our 18th and 19th century ancestors have been dead for decades, their DNA still survives in their descendants. Learn how to use autosomal DNA to attack and potentially solve genealogical mysteries and brick walls for ancestors who were born or lived in the 1800's, 1700's, and beyond. Together we'll also examine some of the ways that leaders in the field have attacked or solved their 18th and 19th century mysteries using autosomal DNA.

NYG&B On-Demand Webinars

Log into the Members' section at newyorkfamilyhistory.org to view these webinars and others—a NYG&B Member benefit!

Should You Add DNA Testing to Your Genealogy Toolbox?



Presented by Skip Duett, professional genealogist

You can't escape the advertising. Should you be wearing a kilt or lederhosen? Is genetic genealogy (DNA testing) a passing fad? This presentation will provide you with a basic overview of DNA testing for genealogy, covering the principal tests available, how the testing is performed, the three major testing companies, and give you a better understanding of the risks and rewards involved. The presentation will introduce you to DNA testing and provide a foundation for further study and skill building in genetic genealogy.

Using newyorkfamilyhistory.org for Family History Research



Presented by Frederick Wertz, Digital Services Manager, NYG&B

The NYG&B website has many resources that can help you discover your New York family history. In this webinar, we take a tour of the website and demonstrate how members and non-members can take advantage of our expertise. At the end of the webinar, you will know how to:

- Find and use the many free resources available to members and non-members
- Browse and search the digital record sets in our eLibrary
- Find expert-authored articles in the New York Knowledge Base
- View webinars, use the forum, and use the events calendar

Genealogical Research at the New York Public Library



Presented by Philip Sutton, New York Public Library

Philip Sutton, a Librarian in the Paul and Irma Milstein Division of U.S. History, Local History, and Genealogy at the New York Public Library (NYPL), outlines the various ways you can use the NYPL's Stephen A. Schwarzman Building to research your family history. In this webinar, Philip covers:

- Basic information about the library
- Its genealogy collection (including online resources)
- How to access the various collections
- How to best prepare for a research trip to library
- A tour of the library's website, including how to use the research catalog and archive search engine

The Empire State and the Big Apple: Online Records for New York Genealogists



Presented by Jen Baldwin, professional genealogist

Those with family connections to New York are lucky; there are copious online resources to investigate. We will discuss everything from the "must utilize," to the "hidden gems" across this historically vital territory.



NYG&B Visits the American Museum of Natural History’s Middle School Institute

On August 21, the day of the solar eclipse, the NYG&B team were guest speakers at the American Museum of Natural History’s Middle School Institute in New York City. Sixteen students attended a two-week class on genetics—first learning the basics, then studying their own genetic genealogy test results, and concluding with the students doing their own genealogical research to bring all the elements together. The students hailed from many parts of the globe and also interviewed family members to gather critical information about their family history.

To kick-start the students’ genealogical research, D. Joshua Taylor walked the class through the research process, beginning with developing a research plan and questions, and then through the steps to answer those questions. The students

discovered famous people in the 1940 federal census and some of Josh’s very distant relations wowed students.

Susan R. Miller’s talk to the students wove together genealogical research, family trees, and genetic testing. One student’s researched his great-grandparents in the 1940 federal census using strategies for name variants—and he beamed when he discovered the family group (minus his grandmother who was born in December 1940).

Before heading into the institute, the NYG&B team broadcast a short live video introduction from outside the museum on Facebook. To receive notifications of NYG&B’s live events and future broadcasts, visit and “Like” our Facebook page, facebook.com/nyfamilyhistory/.

2018 NYG&B Week

January 8-12, 2018 | New York City and Online

Join us for a week-long series of webinars and events focused on ethnic genealogy. Watch for announcements in our eNews and on our website calendar for details and registration.

NYG&B 2018 Conference Schedule

Join us at the NYG&B booth, attend a NYG&B sponsored talk, or catch a NYG&B presenter at these events.

RootsTech 2018

February 28–March 3 | Salt Lake City, Utah

Details and registration (now open, early bird pricing) at rootstech.org.

Ohio Genealogical Society 2018 Conference *Blazing New Trails*

April 11–14, 2018 | Columbus, Ohio

See www.ogs.org for details.

NGS 2018 Family History Conference *Paths to Your Past*

May 11–14, 2018 | Grand Rapids, Michigan

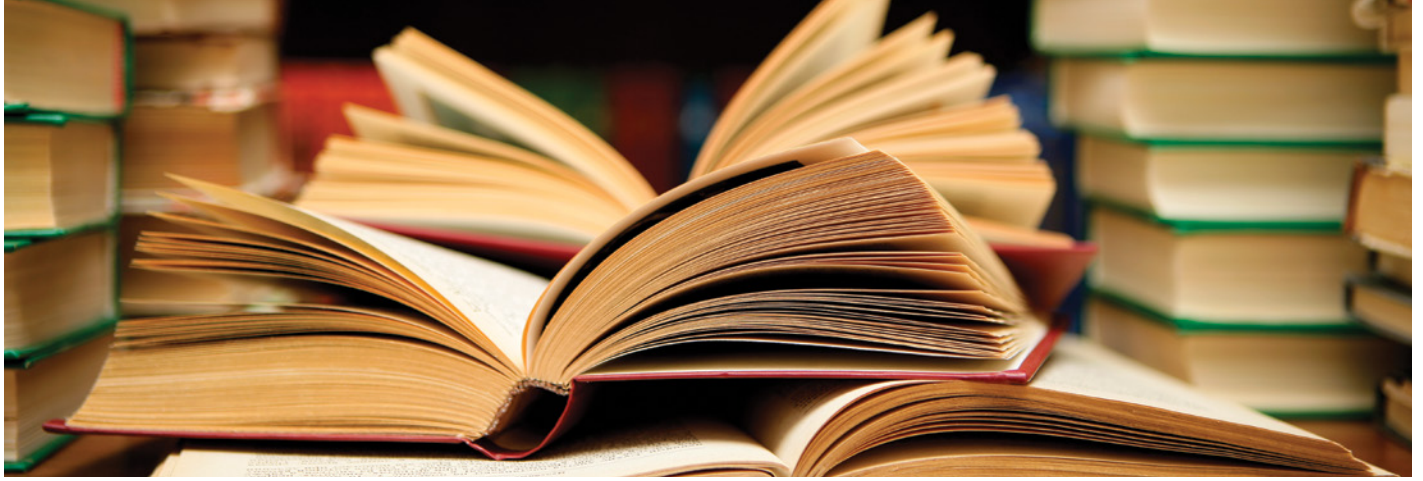
Hotel reservations are now open. Conference registration opens December 1, 2017. See conference.ngsgenealogy.org.



2018 Research in Albany Tour

October 30–November 2, 2018

The NYG&B’s annual Albany research tour kicks off on Tuesday evening with a welcome gathering. Wednesday through Friday features three days of assisted research and genealogical camaraderie with the people who know New York best. Mark the dates on your calendar—this trip usually fills up early. Registration will open in January 2018.



Write It Up! A Workshop for Family Historians



March 16–17, 2018 | Syracuse, NY

Presented by Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS

Whether you are just beginning to write or have written reams but need to refine your work, this workshop is for you. Learn from an expert genealogical writer and editor, Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG. 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.

Participants will bring a 500-word genealogical writing sample in an editable format. There is pre-reading and overnight homework. Each session will include at least one hands-on writing activity.

This seven-session workshop includes:

- **Gearing Up and Getting Started.** This session focuses on six essential tools for genealogical writers and the process of starting a writing project.
- **Shaping Your Writing.** Participants will learn about word choice, structuring sentences and paragraphs, reducing word count, and other strategies to improve their genealogical writing’s readability.
- **Infusing Structure and Flow.** Students will learn techniques for structuring genealogical essays with sentences, paragraphs, and sections that flow from one to the next.
- **Documenting Your Writing.** Students will learn how to answer five questions about each source supporting their research conclusions, and then to use those answers to craft citations to document their writing. Citing online sources will receive emphasis.
- **Self-editing feedback I.** The instructor will “live edit” student writing samples to demonstrate and apply the principles taught in sessions 1–3.
- **Self-editing Feedback II.** The instructor will “live edit” student writing samples to demonstrate and apply the principles taught in sessions 1–3.
- **Creating Genealogy Compilations and Summaries.** This session focuses on organizing, structuring, and numbering compiled genealogies and genealogical summaries.

Location

492 E. Brighton Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13210

Close to downtown Syracuse, and 20 minutes from airport; there are hotels in the vicinity.

Registration

Fee includes seven sessions, morning coffee, soft drinks, and an end of day social gathering. A lunch break is scheduled (neighborhood lunch options are available or bring your own).

	Early Registration (through Jan. 31)	Registration (after Jan. 31)
Member Registration	\$235	\$260
Non-member registration	—	\$290

Cancellation Policy—Cancellations prior to and including sixty days before the event are subject to an administrative fee. Cancellations later than sixty days prior to the event are not refundable. No partial refunds are given if the registrant does not complete the event.

[Register at newyorkfamilyhistory.org.](http://newyorkfamilyhistory.org)

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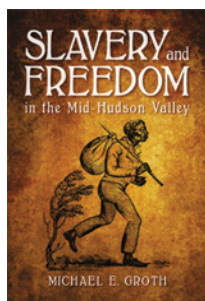
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Book Notes

Slavery and Freedom in the Mid-Hudson Valley



By **Michael E. Groth**

African slavery in the United States is commonly associated with the southern states and the growing of cotton and tobacco. Many are unaware of the role slavery played in the history of the northern states and that by the end of the eighteenth century (1790s) the State of New York held the largest number of slaves in the North. Three-fifths of them

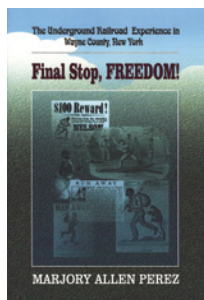
lived and worked in the Hudson Valley between New York City and Albany. African American slavery and the struggle for freedom before the Civil War have been largely overlooked in histories of the region. African slaves were central actors in the drama that unfolded in the region during the American Revolutionary War period. They waged a long and bitter battle for freedom during the decades that followed. Slavery in the countryside was more oppressive than slavery in the urban environments. The agonizingly slow pace of “gradual emancipation,” constraints of rural poverty, and persistent racial hostility in the rural communities also presented formidable challenges to free black life in the central Hudson Valley.

Michael E. Groth explores how Dutchess County’s black residents overcame these obstacles to establish independent

community institutions, engage in political activism, and fashion a vibrant racial consciousness in antebellum New York. By drawing attention to the African American experience in the rural Mid-Hudson Valley, the book provides new perspectives on slavery and emancipation in New York, on black community formation, and on the nature of black identity in the early American republic. Groth provides a systematic overview focused on the history of African Americans in the Mid-Hudson Valley during the decades before the American Revolution through emancipation and during the national political struggle for abolition and the regional struggle for civil rights.

State University of New York Press, Albany, 2017. Hardcover and softcover. 266 pages. Endnotes, bibliography, index. Both print and ebook editions (\$90 hardcover, \$30 softcover, \$16 ebook) at sunypress.edu.

Final Stop, Freedom: The Underground Railroad Experience in Wayne County, New York



By **Marjory Allen Perez**

Written by the long-time Wayne County Historian, this collection of brief biographical sketches is centered on newspaper advertisements by slaveholders seeking the return of their “property.” Three time periods are covered, pre-New York State emancipation, post-New York State emancipation to 1850, then post-1850 when the Fugitive Slave Act was in

effect. The families included all lived in Wayne, but also lived in other western New York counties and other states.

Written from an historical perspective, not as a genealogy, the documentation is not footnoted; rather the author has included a brief source list for each family, and in some cases described the information source in the narrative. For those not familiar with Wayne County, original maps are included showing transportation routes and towns. The newspaper clipping images are included, usually with the publication information entwined in the narrative discussion. Photographs of several of the subjects enhance the stories.

Hérons Bend Productions, Rochester, 2017. Softcover. 104 pages. \$18. Black and white photographs, images, index, maps, abbreviated source list. Available from the author at marjory.perez1944@gmail.com or through the publisher at heronsbend.com.

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Empire State Exploration

February 5-8, 2018
New York Genealogical and Biographical Society,
New York, New York

Join New York's largest genealogical society for four days of research as you uncover your New York ancestors. With a home base at the NYG&B headquarters you will be steps away from the NYG&B's statewide collections at the New York Public Library—and access to experts to guide you along your way. Empire State Exploration is an ideal setting for those just beginning their search and those seeking to answer longstanding New York research questions.

NEW EVENT!—Register at NewYorkFamilyHistory.org