

Finding Your Ancestors at the Troy Public Library

A Guide to Genealogical Resources

Prepared by
Robert B. Hudson
February 1993

Revised 2005, 2018



PREFACE

The Troy Public Library has prepared this guide to assist the genealogical researcher in using many of the resources available in the Troy Room collection, and as a complement to **Rensselaer County from the Inside Out: A Selected Bibliography of Genealogical Sources**. Free copies of this guide and the bibliography are available to the public.

Each section of this guide deals with a different research tool or area of research. At the end of each section is a short bibliography and a list of subject headings for further research.

INTRODUCTION.....	2
GETTING STARTED	3
FINDING VITAL RECORDS: VITAL RECORDS INDEXES.....	4
USING NEWSPAPERS	5
TROY CITY DIRECTORIES	7
USING THE FEDERAL CENSUS.....	8
NEW YORK STATE CENSUS RECORDS.....	9
SPECIAL INDEXES AND COLLECTIONS	10
CHURCH AND CEMETERY RECORDS	11
FINDING HIDDEN GENEALOGIES.....	12
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION RECORDS	13
FINDING MILITARY RECORDS.....	14
MICROFILM COLLECTION.....	15
COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS	16
WILLS	17
BIOGRAPHIES	17
ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS AND HERITAGE SOCIETIES.....	18
HELPFUL PERIODICALS, NEWSLETTERS, DATABASES AND WEBSITES	18
DIRECTORIES OF GENEALOGISTS, HERITAGE SOCIETIES AND FAMILY ASSOCIATIONS	20
REFERRALS	20

INTRODUCTION

The Troy Room collection at the Troy Public Library contains a wealth of resources for researching families in Rensselaer County. The researcher will find indexes of vital records, church and cemetery records, census records, city directories, genealogies, local histories and more. This guide is to help the researcher locate and better use these resources, many of which are unique to the Troy Public Library.

The Troy Room collection is divided into two rooms. The outer room is open to the public and has tables for study. Many commonly used books such as city directories, vital records indexes, census indexes and general works of genealogy are shelved in this room. The inner room contains the bulk of the collection and is closed to the public. To get books shelved in the inner room, please ask at the Information Desk. Troy Room books do not circulate.

The Troy Room is open during regular library hours. Patrons wishing to use the Troy Room must register at the Information Desk.

The Catalog

Records for all Troy Room materials can be located through the online catalog of the Upper Hudson Library System: www.catalog.uhls.org. This catalog can be accessed from any computer with Internet access. Troy Room materials are also listed in the card catalog found in the Troy Room; outer room books generally have a plastic sleeve over the title card. The card catalog also contains the scrapbook index, the local history and portrait file, part of the death and marriage index and the special collections file.

The Vertical File

The vertical file contains uncataloged materials and is arranged by subject. In addition to various lists, directories, newsletters and pamphlets, the vertical file contains family data for a number of local families.

Bibliography

A special bibliography, **Rensselaer County from the Inside Out: A Selected Bibliography of Genealogical Sources**, is available for use in the Troy Room. This annotated bibliography is arranged by subject and includes the most frequently used items in the Troy Room. Copies of this bibliography are available for patrons to take home.

Binders

Several works cited in this manual are in binders. With a few exceptions, these binders are filed in call number order with the rest of the collection.

GETTING STARTED

Before beginning research in the library, you will need to gather and prepare the family information you already have.

Write down everything you already know. Begin with yourself and your parents. Any information, however incomplete, can assist you greatly in your search. From family members, get information such as birth dates, marriage dates, death dates, military service, towns and cities of residence, names of parents, children, etc.

Once you have gathered your information, you will need to organize it. Organizing your family information properly will help you determine what information you need to find.

Binder: Records Available at the New York State Library

This binder contains handouts on genealogy published by the New York State Library in Albany. Although they were created for use at the State Library, they contain a great deal of information that is applicable anywhere. They are also available on the State Library's website: <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/gengen.htm>

Genealogies have been published for many families. The Library of Congress has one of the largest collections of family genealogies. Their collection is searchable at the following website: <http://catalog.loc.gov>

Tips for searching for genealogical materials in the Library of Congress online catalog can be found here: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/tips.html>

For additional genealogical websites, see page 19 of this guide.

For more information, check in the online catalog under the following subject headings:

Genealogy

United States -- Genealogy

[Family Name]

FINDING VITAL RECORDS: VITAL RECORDS INDEXES

Bound Indexes

These indexes cover Troy and Lansingburgh newspapers from 1787 to 1895, with several additional years in binders. The records in these books are organized by year or groups of years, and then alphabetically by surname. Each individual entry contains a surname, first name, date and location in the newspaper. Sometimes additional information is given. In the case of marriage notices, both the bride and groom are indexed, with the full entry given under the groom's name. The location in the newspaper is given in page:column format. Newspapers are available either in bound form or on microfilm. Consult a librarian for the exact location. Also, see "**Using Newspapers**" on page 5 of this guide.

TR 929.3 T	Obituary Notices Appearing in Troy Newspapers 1797-1860
TR 929.3 T	Marriage Notices Appearing in Troy Newspapers 1797-1860
TR 929.13 M	Marriages, Deaths & Miscellany from the W. Troy Advocate, 1837-1864
TR 929.397471 V	Vital Records: Troy Newspapers 1812-1885
TR 929.397471 V	Vital Records: Troy Daily Times 1861-1881
TR 929.397471 V	Vital Records: Troy Daily Whig 1834-1875
TR 929.397471 V	Vital Records from Troy Newspapers 1901, 1902, 1904
TR 929.397471 O	Obituaries from the Troy Record, 1991
TR 929.5 T	Obituary Notices Appearing in Lansingburgh Newspapers 1787-1895
TR 929.5 T	Marriage Notices Appearing in Lansingburgh Newspapers 1787-1895

(These bound indexes are also available on microfilm; ask the reference librarian for assistance.)

Card Indexes

Vital records on cards cover Troy newspapers from 1882-1900 and 1975-1992. The 1882-1992 records cover deaths and marriages. The 1975-1992 records also include births. The cards are arranged alphabetically in groups of years, and the entries are similar to the books. Entries in the 1882-1900 records are from the **Troy Times** unless otherwise indicated. Entries from 1975-1992 are from the **Troy Record**.

Deaths	1882-1899	--	In Card Catalog
Marriages	1882-1899	--	In Card Catalog
Deaths	1900	--	In Card Catalog
Marriages	1900	--	In Card Catalog
Deaths	1975-1979	--	In Card Catalog
Marriages	1975-1979	--	In Card Catalog
Births	1975-1979	--	In Closet (Ask for assistance)
Deaths	1980-1984	--	In Card Catalog
Marriages	1980-1984	--	In Closet (Ask for assistance)
Births	1980-1984	--	In Card Catalog
Deaths	1985-1987	--	In Card Catalog
Marriages	1985-1988	--	In Card Catalog
Births	1985-1992	--	In Closet (Ask for assistance)
Deaths	1988-1991	--	In Closet (Ask for assistance)
Marriages	1989-1990	--	In Closet (Ask for assistance)

USING NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers are an excellent source of vital records. Troy Public Library has a collection of newspapers from Troy and Lansingburgh dating from 1787 to the present. Much of the collection is on microfilm, which can be found in the Troy Room. Others are bound and may be accessed. Ask for assistance.

Most newspapers establish a regular location for vital records. Places to look include the rightmost columns of page two, the financial page, in the "obituaries" column, or on the second editorial page beneath the weather column. More recent papers have an index on page one. Additional obituaries may be found in the local news section of the newspapers. These sections are an important place to look if the deceased lived outside of the city of Troy.

TPL Newspaper Holdings (some issues may be missing)

On Microfilm:

Aquarian (Troy, NY) April 22, 1843 - July 27, 1844

Federal Herald May 5, 1788 - May 17, 1790

Freie Deutsche Press various years 1879 - 1949

Lansingburgh Chronicle April 6, 1864 - December 5, 1866

Lansingburgh Courier December 24, 1875 - July 19, 1894◆

Lansingburgh Democrat Feb. 12, 1828 - April 6, 1861◆

Lansingburgh Democratic Press January 13, 1838 - December 5, 1840

Lansingburgh Gazette December 4, 1798 - 1883 (some years missing)◆

Lansingburgh Times 1887 - 1895

New York State Journal September 14, 1836 - June 7, 1837

Northern Budget 1798 - May 1854, 1884 - 1931 (missing 1854-1883) (continues as Troy Observer Budget)

Northern Centinel & Lansingburgh Advertiser May 21, 1787 - January 1, 1788

Rensselaer Beacon November 26, 1996 - February 6, 2001

Troy Daily Post April 1846 - December 1851

Troy Daily Press Feb. 11, 1833 - June 1834, Dec. 1858 - June 1859, Aug. 8, 1863 - June 1911

Troy Daily Record January 1897 - December 1972

Troy Daily Times June 25, 1851 - February 1, 1935; semi-weekly Jan. 1903 - May 1929

Troy Daily Whig July 1834 - June 1836; January - December 1847

January - June 1851; January - June 1853

July - December 1856; January - June 1859

July 1861 - June 1862; July 1863 - January 1864

(*** All other dates are bound. ***)

Troy Observer Budget 1932 - 1953 (continues Northern Budget)

Troy Post September 1, 1812 - July 1, 1823

Troy Times Record May 1, 1935 - present (current title: The Record) – the library is in the process of digitizing The Record.

View digitized issues at - <http://troy.advantage-preservation.com/>

◆ These papers are also available digitally at - <https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/>

Bound Newspapers (Archived and in storage; ask for assistance)

American Spy April 8, 1791 - June 6, 1797

Family Journal December 1852 - December 1857

Farmer's Museum (Walpole, NH) 1800 - 1801

Morning Telegram 1881 - 1891 (continued Troy Morning Whig)

New York State Journal September 9, 1835 - September 7, 1836

New York Republican January 8, 1850 - December 30, 1851

Rensselaer County Post September 22, 1846 - January 2, 1849

Sunday Telegram October 1870 - July 1871

Troy Commercial Advertiser March 28, 1848 - December 1848

Troy Daily Arena October 18, 1859 - April 29, 1861

Troy Daily Morning Mail 1837 - 1840

Troy Daily Traveller October 1854 - January 1856

Troy Daily Union May 18, 1861 - July 27, 1861

Troy Daily Whig July 1, 1834 - December 1873

Troy Gazette September 5, 1802 - May 1810

Troy Morning Whig January 1874 - December 1880

Troy News August 21, 1864 - November 1866

Troy Record (morning) April 1935 - December 1942

Troy Republican July 29, 1828 - January 5, 1830

Troy Sentinel July 15, 1823 - December 1832 (July 15, 1823 - July 9, 1824 in Troy Room)

Troy Whig (weekly) 1835, 1841 - 1868



TROY CITY DIRECTORIES

Directories for the city of Troy have been published annually since 1829. City directories list various names, addresses and professions of heads of households and persons over 20 years of age. Various adjacent towns and cities have been added to the directory listings throughout the years. The directories also listed removals, sometimes indicating where the person moved to (i.e. removed to Buffalo).

Information on street names, ward boundaries, businesses, schools, churches, city and county government, fraternal and social organizations can also be found in the directories.

From about 1880 to 1960, death dates were listed in the city directory. This can be very helpful in locating obituaries that have not been indexed.

Abbreviations used in City Directories:

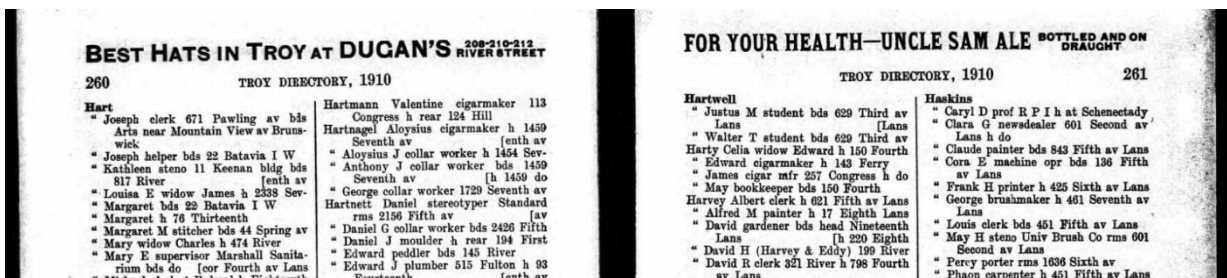
A number of abbreviations are used in the city directories that may be unfamiliar to some people. A guide to abbreviations used is located at the beginning of the listings.

Here are a few commonly used abbreviations:

ab. = above	al. = alley	b. or bd. = boards
c. or cor. = corner	do. = ditto	h. = house
n. = near	opp. = opposite	pl. = place

Some helpful hints for using directories:

1. Do a year-by-year survey of the directories. Take down all persons with the same surname, their professions and addresses. This can give you an idea of the neighborhoods they lived in, what kind of work they did, and who they may have been related to (persons living at the same address).
2. When searching for an individual, skip 3-5 years at a time. This can reduce your search time considerably, especially when looking for a death or removal.



USING THE FEDERAL CENSUS

Federal census schedules are available for Rensselaer County from the first decennial census in 1790 to the recently released 16th decennial census taken in 1940. The 1790 schedules are in print (TR 929.1 U) and volumes are also available for several other states. The schedules from 1800 to 1930 are on microfilm. The 1880 census (Troy wards only) is also available as a printout located in several binders. The 1890 census schedules, except for the census of veterans and their widows, burned before the advent of microfilm.

The breadth of information to be found in the census schedules has changed over the decades. From the 1790 census to the 1840 census only heads of households were named. Starting in 1850, all family members were named. Other details, such as place of birth, education, language and parents' language were added as well.

Using the Census Indexes

The index to the 1790 federal census is bound with the schedules. Indexes for 1800-1860 federal census for New York, as well as the 1890 census of veterans and their widows, are available for use with the census microfilm. (TR 929.3747 N)

Each index is arranged by surname, and each entry includes a frame number. Frame numbers are found on the upper right-hand corner of the microfilmed pages. Be careful, because sometimes there are more than one set of numbers. Each index volume has a preface including instructions for use.

A special kind of index, known as the Soundex, exists for the 1900-1910 censuses. This index is available at the New York State Library.

Using the 1920 and later Troy City Directories with the Federal Census

The 1920 and later Troy City Directories can be used, in a limited way, as an index to the corresponding federal census. To find a name, follow these steps:

1. Locate the name in the city directory, noting the street address.
2. Turn to the street guide (green pages), find the street address and locate the block by crossing streets.
3. Consult the corresponding city directory map (in the reading room map file) to determine the ward number.
5. Locate the ward on the census microfilm.
6. Street names are listed in the left margin of the schedule. The first column is the number of the building. The street names will skip around, so keep looking until you find the right address.

TR **1850 Greenbush, Rensselaer County, New York census**

929.3 copied by Mrs. George C. Darbyshire. (Troy, NY: Philip Schuyler D.A.R., 1984)

EIG A detailed copy of the 1850 federal census for the town of Greenbush, Rensselaer County. Includes population, mortality and agricultural schedules. Indexed.

7	17	Wood	300	18	Robert H. ...	18 M	...	...	3	1	1	Jarvis	/	/	/
8					Caroline ...	22 F	...	...	2	1	1				
9					Ezra ...	2 M	...	...					
10					...	...	...	...			
11	18	Wood	300	18	William H. ...	25 M	...	...				Jarvis	/	/	/
12					...	...	...	...	2	1	1				
13					...	...	...	...			
14					...	...	...	...			
15	17	Wood	500	17	...	...	...	...	4	1	1	Jarvis	/	/	/
16					...	...	...	...	4	1	1				
17					...	...	...	...			
18					...	...	...	...			
19					...	...	...	...			
20					...	...	...	...			
21	17	Wood	300	30	...	...	...	...	10	1	1				
22					...	...	...	...			
23					...	...	...	...			
24					...	...	...	...			
25					...	...	...	...			
26	17	Wood	51	32	...	...	...	...	5	1	1	Casbrite	/	/	/
27					...	...	...	...			
28					...	...	...	...			
29					...	...	...	...			
30					...	...	...	...			

NEW YORK STATE CENSUS RECORDS

The Troy Public Library has the following state census records available on microfilm:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1855 -- Rensselaer County | 1905 -- Troy |
| 1865 -- Rensselaer County | 1915 -- Rensselaer County |
| 1875 -- Rensselaer County | 1925 -- Rensselaer County |

Census records for the state of New York are not available in any one depository. The works listed below will help you locate state census records.

TR New York State Census Records, 1790-1925

- 929.3 Bibliography Bulletin 88, compiled by Marilyn Douglas and Melinda Yates. (Albany, NY: State Education Department, 1981)
 N An inventory of federal and state census manuscripts in depositories throughout the state.

TR State Census Records

- 929 by Ann S. Lainhart (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Cp., 1992)
 .397 A state-by-state inventory and description of state census records. The section on New York State is very helpful, as NYS census records are widely dispersed.
 L

SPECIAL INDEXES AND COLLECTIONS

Scrapbook Index

The Troy Room houses a collection of newspaper scrapbooks that were kept by the librarians up to 1969. The index to these scrapbooks is located in the card catalog in the Troy Room.

Organization is by subject. Each entry is referenced by its scrapbook number and page (i.e. L. Scr. 112, pg. 15) and by its source and date (i.e. Tr. Rec., Aug. 23, 1899). The source reference can be used to locate an item in the newspaper microfilm, which is the preferred method (see page 5 on Using Newspapers). The microfilm of the scrapbooks may also be used (located in Drawer #3; see page 15). Use of the original scrapbooks is discouraged, as they are very brittle.



Local History and Portrait Index

These indexes, also located in the card catalog, help to locate photos and drawings of places and people. A guide card at the beginning of each explains the codes used in the entries. Most of the portraits indexed are from the Troy Times Art Section, a special weekly supplement that was published during the first two decades of the 1900's.

Special Collections

The special collections are a growing collection of photographic and uncataloged materials such as pamphlets and other ephemera. An unpublished finding aid (in a binder kept on top of the card catalog) provides lists of some of the larger special collections. Special collections are organized by accession number (i.e. 92-16.234). The index to special collections is in the card catalog.

CHURCH AND CEMETERY RECORDS

Church records are available for a number of Troy, Rensselaer County and eastern Albany County churches. Among the kinds of records available are baptismal records, church membership records, marriage records and death records. Cemetery records for many Troy and Rensselaer County cemeteries are available. Many of these were compiled during the first two decades of the 1900's by the D.A.R. Most of these records are located on the shelves marked "Cemetery Records" and "Church Records."

Also available is a microfilm copy of **Burial Records: Troy Burial Grounds** (1833-1891) that includes a list of plot owners for the New Mt. Ida Cemetery (1815-1969). To use these burial records, the date of death must be known. Among the information included in these records is the age, address, cause of death, place of birth, parents' names and place of burial. Not all information is included in all entries.

A master index, **Surname Index to Cemetery, Church and Miscellaneous Records Books**, is available (TR 929.3 H). This index, compiled in 1990, lists surnames that appear in church, cemetery and other records books two or more times. **List of Clergymen in Troy, NY Churches** (TR 253 LIS), an alphabetical list of clergymen in Troy before 1889 can be used to determine church affiliation of persons listed in newspaper marriage records. **Rensselaer County Cemetery Inscriptions** (TR 929.5 REN) is a four-volume list of cemetery inscriptions found in the county, alphabetical by surname.

TR **Guide to Vital Statistics of Churches** (2 vol.)

929.3 (Albany, NY: Historical Records Survey, 1942)

H Arranged by county, this lists individual churches and gives details on what vital records the churches possess.

For more information, check the library catalog under the following subject headings:

Cemeteries

[Name of cemetery]

[Name of church]

[Denomination of church]

Cemeteries--New York (State)--Rensselaer County

Cemeteries--New York (State)--Troy

Troy (NY)—Churches



FINDING HIDDEN GENEALOGIES

The Troy Room maintains a collection of over 200 family genealogies. In many cases, genealogies index not only members of the subject family, but associated names as well. To facilitate finding these associated names, a master index was created. (**Family Name Index to Genealogical Books** (TR 929.1 F)--see below) This index is by no means complete, as it indexes only surnames that appear a significant number of times in any given genealogy's index. Instructions for using the master index are located on its second page.

Genealogies can be found in other sources as well. The **Compendium of American Genealogy** by Virkus is one such work (see below). The Troy Room collection also contains a number of town histories from the New England states. There are a number of indexes to genealogies found in these. The vertical file also contains some family data.

TR **The Abridged Compendium of American Genealogy: The Standard Genealogical**
929.1 **Encyclopedia of the First Families of America** (7 vols.)
V by Frederick A. Virkus (Chicago: F.A. Virkus, 1925-1942)
v.1-7 This massive work contains more than 45,000 lineages, with indexes listing more than 425,000 names of ancestors.

TR **Family Name Index to Genealogical Books** (Troy Public Library, 1990)
929.1 Indexes over 1600 surnames found in the indexes of Troy Public Library's collection of
TRO genealogies. This is an abridged index.

TR **Bibliographia Genealogica Americana: An Alphabetical Index to American**
929.1 **Genealogies and Pedigrees**
D by Daniel S. Durrie (Albany, NY: Joel Munsell, 1868)

TR **Index to American Genealogies: and to Genealogical Material Contained in All**
929.1 **Such as Town Histories, County Histories, Local Histories, Historical Society**
I **Publications, Biographies, Historical Periodicals and Kindred Works,**
Alphabetically Arranged
(Albany, NY: Joel Munsell's Sons, 1900) (A 1908 supplement is also available.)

For more information, check the library catalog under the following subject headings:

[Family Name]
Genealogy
Genealogy--Bibliography
United States--Genealogy
United States--Genealogy--Bibliography

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION RECORDS

America's great cultural diversity is a result of immigration from all the nations of the world. There are several sources of information relating to immigration available at the Troy Public Library.

Passenger Lists and Indexes:

These books list names of immigrants, their date and port of entry, and sometimes the name of the vessel they traveled on. Of the following titles, **Passenger and Immigration Lists Index** is the most extensive.

TR **The Famine Immigrants: Lists of Irish Immigrants Arriving at the Port of New**
929.3 **York, 1846-1851**

F ed. by Ira A. Glazier (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1983)

TR **Immigrants to New England, 1700-1775**

929.3 by Ethel Stanwood Bolton (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1973)

B

Naturalization Records

Some naturalization records for Troy and Rensselaer County are available. A set of microfilm, **Rensselaer County Naturalizations & Alien Declarations** (1844-1906), contains alien declarations. (Located in Drawer #2; see page 15.)

TR **Early New York Naturalizations: Abstracts of Naturalization Records from**
929.3 **Federal, State and Local Courts, 1792-1840**

S by Kenneth Scott (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1981)

TR **Rensselaer County Court Naturalizations** (vols. 1-3)

929.3 by Loretta M. Nial (Troy, NY: L.M. Niall, 1975, 1983)

N

For more information, check the library catalog under the following subject headings:

Immigrants--United States--Registers

Immigrants--United States--Sources

Naturalization records

Ships--Passenger lists

FINDING MILITARY RECORDS

Revolutionary War Records

TR **Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army During the War of the**
929 **Revolution, April 1775 to December 1783**

.31 by F.B. Heitman (Washington, DC: 1893)

H Brief biographies of officers who served during the Revolutionary War.

TR **New York in the Revolution as Colony and State**

973 by James A. Roberts, 2nd ed. (Albany, NY: Brandow Printing Co., 1898)

.3447 A roster of the regiments during the Revolutionary War. Indexed.

N

Civil War Records

TR **New York in the War of the Rebellion, 1861-1865**

973 comp. by Frederick Phisterer (Albany, NY: J.R. Lyon Co., 1912)

.7447 These volumes are arranged by branch of service and regiment. At the beginning

N of each regimental entry is a brief description of the regiment's recruiting and service history. Next appears a chronological listing of the unit's battles and casualties. The main part of the entry is a list of the regiment's officers and a capsule service record of each officer. No information is provided on individual enlisted men. The best general sources of individual enlistment records are the New York State Adjutant General's records and the National Archives military and pension files. The New York State Adjutant General's records are available in the New York State Archives in printed manuscript form.

TR **A Record of the Commissioned Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates**
973 **of the Regiments Which Were Organized in the State of New York and Called into**
.7447 **the Service of the United States to Assist in Suppressing the Rebellion**

N New York State Adjutant-General's Office (Albany, NY: Comstock & Cassidy, 1864)
These records are arranged by branch of service, regiment and company. They include the names of individual enlisted men and officers. A major limitation to these records, besides being very brief, is they provide only the names of men who originally mustered in the regiment. Anyone who joined after the first muster is not included.

TR **A Regimental History: The One Hundred and Twenty-fifth New York State**
973 **Volunteers**

.7447 by Ezra Simmons (NY: Ezra D. Simmons, 1888)

S The only full-length history of a regiment recruited in Rensselaer County. The book includes biographical sketches and portraits of most of the officers, and a roster of the regiment by company. The index is poor. Other regiments that were principally recruited in Rensselaer County were the 2nd & 21st NY Cavalry, and the 2nd & 169th NY Infantry.

TR **History of Rensselaer Co., New York: with illustrations and biographical sketches...**
974 by Nathaniel Sylvester (Philadelphia: Everts & Peck, 1880)

.741 Includes lists of individuals who served during the Civil War. These lists,

S located at the end of each chapter, include brief information on the individual's service.

MICROFILM COLLECTION

Here is a listing, by drawer, of the Troy Room microfilm collection. Two viewer-printers are located in the Troy Room for use with this microfilm. The cost to print is 25¢ per page.

DRAWER #1 -- Federal Census Schedules, 1800-1930

Abstract of Wills, Rensselaer County, 1787-1850 (Nassau, NY)
(microfiche)

DRAWER #2 -- Library Scrapbooks, 1804-1969

New England Historical and Genealogical Society Register, 1855-1896

Scrapbooks of John A. Griswold & General John E. Wool

DRAWER #3 -- Library Scrapbooks, 1804-1969

Register of Interments, Forest Park Cemetery

Burial Records: Troy Burial Grounds

v.1 -- 1833-1867

v.2 -- 1867-1882

v.3 -- 1882-1891 (includes Mt. Ida Cemetery plot owners, 1815-1969)

Oakwood Cemetery Records, 1835-1985

Rensselaer County Naturalizations & Alien Declarations, 1844-1906

New York State Census, 1855, 1865, 1875, 1905, 1915, 1925

Sanborn Fire Maps (Troy)

1885

1903-1904

1950-1970

These maps, intended for fire insurance use, are also a good source of information on buildings. Street names, house numbers, and lot and building outlines are among the details included.

DRAWER #4 -- Troy City Directories, 1829-1974



COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Students from across the country have come to Troy to attend Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Russell Sage and the Emma Willard School. Lists of students who have attended these institutions are available in the Troy Room.

TR **Emma Willard and Her Pupils, 1822-1872**
92 by Mrs. Russell Sage (Troy, 1898)
WILLARD Contains short biographies of Emma Willard students.

TR **Biographical Record of the Officers and Graduates of the Rensselaer Polytechnic**
607 **Institute, 1824-1886**
REN by Henry B. Nason (Troy: William H. Young, 1887)
 RPI graduates by year of graduation. Indexed.

High school and college yearbooks are a great source of photographs, as well as students' memberships in academic clubs. The Troy Room houses the following yearbooks:

TR **Dardanian** -- Troy High School
379.74741 1916-1918, 1923-1933, 1938, 1939, 1943, 1946, 1949, 1951, 1953, 1955, 1957-59
T 1960-1996, 1998-2004, 2008
 also: **Janus** (January graduates) 1931-1934

TR **The Odyssey** -- Lansingburgh High School
379.747 1917-1919, 1921, 1924, 1930-1933, 1935-1939, 1940-1944, 1946-1949, 1953,
L 1957, 1967, 1971, 1980, 1995, 1997-1999, 2000, 2002

TR **Islander** -- Heatly High School (Green Island)
379 1959, 1975, 1977-1979, 1981-1984, 1986, 1987, 1989-1999, 2000-2004
ISL

TR **Catholicon** -- Catholic Central High School
379 1939, 1941, 1944, 1950, 1963, 1966, 1969, 1970, 1982, 1993, 1996-1998, 2001
CAT 2004

TR **The Gargoyle** -- Emma Willard
373.747 1921-1925, 1936, 1945-1947, 2003
E

TR **Trocoday** -- Troy Country Day School
373.747 1929-1931
T

TR **Sage Leaves** -- Russell Sage College
376.8 1927-1934, 1936-1938, 1940, 1970
R

TR **Transit** -- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
607 1896, 1903, 1915, 1919, 1920, 1956-1959, 1962, 1963
R

WILLS

Wills and their abstracts are a good source for finding names of relatives. Wills are housed mainly at county courthouses. Abstracts and indexes of wills are available:

TR **Calendar of Wills: 1626-1836**
929.3 by Berthold Fernow
F (New York: Colonial Dames of New York, 1846)

TR **Abstract of Wills, Rensselaer County, NY, 1787-1850**
974.741 (3 vols.) (Nassau, NY: 1938) (Drawer #1--microfiche)
A

For more information, check the library catalog under the following subject heading: **Wills**

BIOGRAPHIES

Troy has been home to many famous people. Uncle Sam (Samuel Wilson), Emma Willard and Henry Highland Garnett are known nationwide. Others, such as Henry Burden, Russell Sage and Clinton Meneely were prominent in business and education in Troy. Searching a person's name as a subject in the library catalog will reveal any books about that individual.

Other biographies can be found in local histories such as Anderson's **Landmarks of Rensselaer County** (TR 974.741 A), Hayner's **Troy and Rensselaer County, New York** (TR 974.741 H) and Sylvester's **History of Rensselaer County, New York** (TR 974.741 S).

TR **Henry Burden: His Life, and a History of His Inventions, Compiled from the**
92 **Public Press**
BURDEN by Mrs. Margaret E. (Burden) Proudfit (Troy: Pafreats Press, 1904)

TR **Emma Willard, Daughter of Democracy**
92 by Alma Lutz (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1929)
WILLARD

TR **Uncle Sam**
92 by Thomas I. Gerson and Flora M. Hood (New York: Bobbs-Merrill, 1963)
WILSON

TR **Citizens Historical Association**
920 (Indianapolis, 1940-1945)
C Brief biographies of prominent Troy citizens. Separate index.

TR **People**
920. by John Scanlon (Troy: 1989)
.009 Biographies of Troy-area people from Scanlon's **Troy Record** column.
S

ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS AND HERITAGE SOCIETIES

Some ethnic and religious groups have particular books and associations. Lineage books and yearbooks from several heritage societies are also available.

TR **Black Genesis**

929.1 by James M. Rose (Gale Research Co., 1977)

ROS

TR **Finding Our Fathers: A Guidebook to Jewish Genealogy**

929.1 by Dan Rottonberg (New York: Random House, 1977)

R

TR **DAR Patriot Index** (4 volumes)

929.3 Daughters of the American Revolution (Washington, DC: DAR, 1966, 1967-74, 1986)

D

TR **Mayflower Families through Five Generations** (3 volumes)

929.1 edited by Lucy Mary Kellogg et al. (Plymouth, MA: General Society of Mayflower

M Descendants, 1975)

For more information, check the library catalog under the following subject headings:

Afro-Americans--Genealogy

German-Americans--Genealogy

Jews--Genealogy

[Ethnic group]--Genealogy

HELPFUL PERIODICALS, NEWSLETTERS, DATABASES AND WEBSITES

The following periodicals are available in the Troy Room:

Everton's Genealogical Helper (formerly: **The Genealogical Helper**) Useful articles, "Bureau of Missing Ancestors" and "Missing Folk Finder" (queries), book reviews, "Digital Age" section, directories, advertising. Each issue is indexed.

New England Ancestors (formerly: **Nexus**) Articles on genealogy, listings of recently published genealogies, "Query Connection," columns: "New England Online" and "The Computer Genealogist."

New England Historical and Genealogical Record Published since 1847. Volumes 1-50 have been indexed. (TR 929 N)

New York Archives From the NYS Archives, includes a genealogy section in each issue.

Newsletters: (Located in Vertical File) **Brunswick Historical Society, Capital District Genealogical Society** and other genealogy newsletters can be found in the vertical file.

Websites

www.familysearch.org

This is the official genealogy site of the Church of the Latter-day Saints (the Mormons). This free site offers research tips, searching of databases including the Social Security Death Index, and links to share your research with other genealogists.

www.nysl.nysed.gov/gengen.htm

The genealogy page of the New York State Library focuses on the library's holdings, but also offers general advice on research and provides links to other genealogy websites.

www.cyndislist.com

Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet is organized by topic and cross-referenced.

www.ellisland.org

Search for records of immigrants who came to the U.S. through Ellis Island.

DIRECTORIES OF GENEALOGISTS, HERITAGE SOCIETIES AND FAMILY ASSOCIATIONS

Several directories are available to help the researcher find names and addresses of genealogists, heritage and family associations. In addition to these sources, listings may also be found in **Everton's Genealogical Helper** magazine.

TR **Directory of Genealogical and Local Historical Researchers in North America:**
016 **Volume 1, The Southern States and Volume II, The Northeastern States**
.973 (Conyngam, PA: Pioneer Books, 1990)

D

REFERRALS

If you don't find all that you are looking for at the Troy Public Library, or would like to engage the services of a local professional genealogist, the following local organizations may be consulted:

Rensselaer County Historical Society

59 2nd Street
Troy, NY 12180
(518) 272-7232

www.rchsonline.org

Capital District Genealogical Society

Box 2175
Empire State Plaza Station
Albany, NY 12220-0175

Many of the members of CDGS are professional genealogists.

Latter Day Saints Family History Center

411 Loudon Road (Rt. 9)
Loudonville, NY 12211
(518) 463-2566

Other referrals are available in the Troy Room vertical file, in the **Directories** folder.