



VITAL RECORDS IN THE GROSVENOR ROOM

Births, Marriages, and Deaths in
Buffalo, Erie County, and New York State



KEY

- * = Oversized book
- Buffalo = In Buffalo Collection
- GRO = In Grosvenor Genealogy collection
- RBR = Seen by appointment in Rare Book Room
- WNYGS= In WNY Genealogical Society collection

Grosvenor Room
Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
1 Lafayette Square
Buffalo, NY, 14203-1887
(716) 858-8900
<http://www.buffalolib.org/libraries/collections/grosvenor.asp>
Ed. May 2018

Births	City of Buffalo	Erie County	New York State
City of Buffalo Birth Records on Microfilm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the WNYGS microfilm collection. • No index. In rough chronological order by date filed. 	1881 to 1913	Not Included	Not Included
City of Buffalo <u>Delayed</u> Births on Microfilm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the WNYGS microfilm collection. • No index. In rough chronological order by birth year. 	1864 to 1913	Not Included	Not Included
➔ New York State Vital Records Index on Microfiche <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B&ECPL library card or photo ID required. • Researchers may use one fiche at a time. • Photocopying <u>not</u> permitted. • Does not include New York City or Brooklyn. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An index to NYC area births from 1846-1909 is online for free at www.familysearch.org. • Does not include Buffalo, Albany and Yonkers prior to 1914. • Note: NYS will not provide the birth index for 1938-on due to privacy concerns. Copies of records may still be requested from NYS and town/city vital offices. 	1914 to 1937	1881 to 1937	1881 to 1937
New York State Delayed Birth Certificate Index (Pre 1881) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B&ECPL library card or photo ID required. • Photocopying not permitted. • Most were filed for births occurring in the 1870's. • Does not include New York City. 	Unknown-City of birth is not listed	1873-1880	1823-1881
Town of Eden Birth Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On Reel 21 of B&ECPL cemetery records 	Not Included	Eden Only 1847-1851	Not Included

Birth Announcements in Newspapers

Scan the *Buffalo (Evening) News* and the *Courier-Express* for a few weeks after the date of birth, and the *Buffalo Daily Law Journal*. No known index of local newspaper birth notices.

The Vital Records Office in Buffalo City Hall stopped releasing baby names to newspapers in 2006.

Adoptions: Unfortunately, birth notices are a poor source for adoption researchers, as the names of babies intended for adoption were not released to newspapers.

See our *Adoptions & Orphanages* handout for other adoption sources.

Dates	Newspaper	Microfilm Holdings
1932-1970	<i>Buffalo (Daily) Law Journal</i>	GRO Film #112. Also available in bound volumes, 1960-present (*K2. U34). Staff will retrieve them for you.

Marriages	City of Buffalo	Erie County	New York State
GRO Ref. *F129 .B8 Z4 1999 Zintz, June Partridge, comp. Marriages from Buffalo, N.Y. Newspapers 1811-1884 Hamburg, NY: June P. Zintz, 1999	1811 to 1884	1811 to 1884	Not Included
RBR MSS. I94 1901 Ives, William The Why of This Book: The Bound Volumes of Newspapers from which the Copies of Early Marriages ... [Buffalo, NY] : The Author, 1901 <i>Marriages in Buffalo and surrounding communities 1811-1833.</i> <i>**Available by appointment in Rare Book Room.</i>	1811-1833**	1811-1833**	Not Included
GRO Ref. *F129 .B8 Z45 2004 v.1 Zintz, June Partridge, comp. Marriages from Buffalo, N.Y. [Episcopal & Presbyterian] Church Records, 1825-1900 Hamburg, NY: June P. Zintz, 2004	1825-1900	1825-1900	Not Included
Erie County Justice of the Peace Records on Microfilm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the WNYGS microfilm collection. Indexes are on rolls #1 and #2. Records are on roll #19. 	1837 to 1876	1837 to 1876	Not included
GRO Ref. *F129 .B8 J49 1984, 3 vols. + index Jewitt, Allen E. Early Justice of the Peace Marriages Performed in Buffalo, Erie County, New York (1840-1880) Hamburg, NY: Allen E. Jewitt, 1984	1840-1880	1840-1880	Not Included
Erie County Clerk's Marriage Records on Microfilm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the WNYGS microfilm collection. Indexes are on rolls #1 to #18. Records--rolls #20 to #159. <p><i>Note: same records at the Inactive Recs Center, Buffalo</i></p>	1877 to 1935	1877 to 1935	Not included
Buffalo *F129 .B8 A195 1904-1973 Social Register, Buffalo New York: Social Register Association <i>Each vol. includes a listing of the maiden and married names of "society" women married the previous year.</i>	1904-1973	1904-1973	Not included

Marriages	City of Buffalo	Erie County	New York State
<p>New York State Vital Records Index on Microfiche</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B&ECPL library card or photo ID required. • Researchers may use one fiche at a time. • Photocopying <u>not</u> permitted. • This index is online in <i>Ancestry Library Edition</i> in a database called: New York State, Marriage Index, 1881-1967 • Does not include New York City or Brooklyn. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An index for NYC area marriages for 1908-1972 is available online for free: https://archive.org/details/nycmarriageindex. ○ An index for NYC area marriages for 1950-1995 is available online for free: https://www.nycmarriageindex.com/ ○ An index for NYC area marriages for 1829-1940 is available for free on www.familysearch.org. • Does not include Buffalo, Albany and Yonkers prior to 1908. 	1908 to 1964	1881 to 1964	1881 to 1964
<p>WNYGS 974.7 ER san Sanford, Richard M. Marriages Abstracted from Rev. Richard M. Sanford's Journal... <i>Includes Aurora, Colden, Hamburg, Orchard Park</i> Online at FamilySearch.org. Search the catalog for microfilm number 1411736.</p>	Not Included	Various towns 1845-ca.1897	Not Included
<p>WNYGS 974.7 ER Amh cra Cramer, Robert A., comp. Marriages by Timothy A. Hopkins, Esq., Justice of the Peace, Town of Amherst...1841-1884</p>	Not Included	Amherst only 1841-1884	Not Included
<p>WNYGS 974.7 ER COL tay Taylor, George W. Marriages 1875-1895 by George W. Taylor, Spiritualist Minister, Collins, Erie County</p>	Not Included	Collins only 1875-1895	Not Included
<p>Town of Eden Marriage Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On Reel 21 of B&ECPL cemetery records 	Not Included	Eden only 1847-1851	Not Included
<p>Town of Elma Marriage Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On WNYGS film ML101 [missing] 	Not Included	Elma only Up to 1902	Not included

General Sources for New York State Marriages
<p>GRO *CS68 .C262 Rev. Campbell's Record Book: Marriages and Funerals [Buffalo, NY?] C.J. McCabe, 1970 <i>Names are mostly from NY, CT, MA, OH, PA, VT, RI. Includes a few names from the south towns of Erie County from 1847 to 1886. We are not sure of Rev. Campbell's denomination.</i></p>
<p>GRO CS83 .B86 2004 Bunnell, Paul J. French and Native North American Marriages, 1600-1800 Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, ©2004</p>

<p>Buffalo *F118 .M6 Miscellaneous Cemetery Inscriptions and Records in New York State [Buffalo, NY: Abigail Fillmore Chapter N.S.D.A.R, 1931] <i>Includes 8 pages of marriages and deaths published in the <u>Niagara Journal</u>, 1819-1820</i></p>
<p>GRO *F118 .N487 1962 New York State Marriages: Some Marriage Records Gleaned from County Histories of New York State Buffalo, NY: Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, 1962</p>
<p>GRO F118 .N485 1968 New York Marriages previous to 1784... Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1984, c1968. <i>Focuses on Long Island & Eastern area of NY State, 1639-1783.</i></p>
<p>GRO F130 .G3 B54 2000 Biebel, Frank A. Index to Marriage and Death Notices in the <i>New-Yorker Staats-Zeitung</i>, 1836-1870 New York: New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 2000</p>

Marriage Announcements in Newspapers		
<p>There is no comprehensive index of local newspaper wedding announcements. Browse the <i>Buffalo (Evening) News</i>, <i>Courier-Express</i>, and the <i>Buffalo Daily Law Journal</i> for a few weeks around the date of the wedding. In some years, announcements were published every day, scattered throughout the paper. A brief notice of marriage license may be found in some years.</p>		
Dates	Newspaper	Microfilm Holdings, notes.
1932-1970	<i>Buffalo (Daily) Law Journal</i>	GRO Film #112. Also available in bound volumes, 1960-present (*K2. U34). Staff will retrieve them for you.

Deaths	City of Buffalo	Erie County	New York State
<p>New York State Vital Records Index on Microfiche</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> B&ECPL library card or photo ID required. Researchers may use one fiche at a time. Photocopying not permitted. Does not include New York City or Brooklyn. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An index to NYC area deaths from 1795-1949 is online for free at www.familysearch.org. Does not include Albany, Buffalo and Yonkers prior to 1914. This index is online for the years 1957-fifty years ago: https://health.data.ny.gov/Health/Genealogical-Research-Death-Index-Beginning-1957/vafa-pf2s This index from 1880-1956 is online. See: https://www.reclaimtherecords.org/ (free) This index is online in two separate databases in Ancestry Library Edition. <i>New York, Death Index, 1880-1956</i> and <i>New York State, Death Index, 1957-1968</i>. 	1914 to 1964	1880 to 1964	1881 to 1964

Deaths	City of Buffalo	Erie County	New York State
Index to Deaths in Buffalo, New York, 1852-1944 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online for free through Reclaim the Records at: https://archive.org/details/buffalodeathindex 	1852-1944	Not Included	Not Included
Death Notices from the <i>Buffalo News</i> on Microfilm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 6 rolls of microfilm in the WNYGS collection. No index. 	1962 to 1976	1962 to 1976	Not Included
Village of East Aurora Death Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On Reels 17 & 18 of B&ECPL cemetery records Not true "death records," but includes some death & burial information and gravestone transcriptions. 	Not Included	E. Aurora only 1810-1976	Not Included
Town of Eden Deaths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On Reel 21 of B&ECPL cemetery records 	Not Included	Eden only 1847-1851	Not Included
Town of Elma Deaths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On WNYGS cemetery film ML101 [missing] 	Not Included	Elma only Up to 1902	Not Included

Additional Sources for Deaths, Obituaries, and Burial Records

See the following free handouts for additional sources of death information:

- *Deaths in Buffalo*
- *Tips for Finding Obituaries in Buffalo Newspapers*
- *Cemetery Records in Erie County*
- *Church Records in Microfilm and Print*

For Wills, Estate Papers, and Probate Records, see *Misc. Genealogical Records* handout.

General Vital Records: Sources that may include births, marriages, and/or deaths for Buffalo, Erie County, and New York State.

Vital Index of Early Western NY Families

Approximately 120,000 cards that provide birth, marriage, or death information. Compiled by the Western New York Genealogical Society (WNYGS) from sources such as local histories, cemetery records, land records, probate records, old newspapers, etc.

GRO Ref. *CS69 .B9

Names and Origins of Early New York State Settlers

[Buffalo, NY]: Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, n.d.

GRO Ref. F118 .F65 1993, 2 vols.

Foley, Janet Wethy

Early Settlers of New York State

Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1993

Focuses mostly on Western New York

GRO Ref. F125 .B68 1985

Bowman, Fred Q.

10,000 Vital Records of Western New York 1809-1850

Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1985

General Vital Records: Sources that may include births, marriages, and/or deaths for Buffalo, Erie County, and New York State.

F128.9 .H9 N4

Wittmeyer, Alfred, ed.

Registers of the Births, Marriages, and Deaths of the "Eglise Françoise à la Nouvelle York," from 1688 to 1804

Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1968

Buffalo *F129 .B8 B696

Ramsey, Mrs. James A.

Vital Statistics and Personal Items Found in *The Buffalo Republican* from March 14, 1828 to Feb. 15, 1830

[Buffalo, NY? n.d.]

Buffalo *F129 .B8 W5

Vital Statistics Taken from *The Western Star* July-October 1834

[Buffalo, NY? n.d.]

Reference Sources for Vital Records Research

GRO Ref *CS42.7 .K46 2017

Kemp, Thomas Jay

International Vital Records Handbook, 7th ed.

Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Pub. Co., 2017

Provides addresses, phone numbers, and reproducible forms for vital records departments in all 50 states, US territories, and every nation.

GRO Ref. F118 .B68 1995

Bowman, Fred Q.

Directory to Collections of New York Vital Records

Bowie, MD: Heritage Books, 1995

GRO Ref. F118 .N39 2014

Joshi, Naomi et al., eds.

New York Family History Guide and Gazetteer

New York, NY : New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, c[2014]