

# ITALIAN GENEALOGY:

# SELECTED SOURCES IN THE GROSVENOR ROOM



## KEY

\* = Oversized book

Buffalo = In Buffalo Collection in Grosvenor Room

Folio = Very oversized book GRO = In Grosvenor Room

HSS = In Humanities & Social Sciences Dept./Closed Stacks

Ref. = Reference book, cannot be borrowed

WNYGS = In collection of Western NY Genealogical Society

Grosvenor Room
Buffalo and Erie County Public Library
1 Lafayette Square
Buffalo, NY 14203-1887
(716) 858-8900
www.buffalolib.org
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#### INTRODUCTION

This guide lists sources for researching Italian genealogy in the Grosvenor Room of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library. Genealogical handbooks, guides, manuals, indexes to record compilations, atlases, maps, gazetteers, surname directories, passenger lists, newspapers, and church records serve numerous purposes and can prove to be invaluable resources to all researchers, regardless of their level of expertise.

Nearly everything listed here can be found in the Grosvenor Room (GRO). Material in the Grosvenor Room does not circulate and cannot be removed from the room. In a few cases, there are duplicate copies of these books that can be borrowed from the Information Services Department (NON-FICT).

Books are listed in call number order. Shelf locations are always subject to change.

To view this and other subject guides online, use the following link: <a href="https://www.buffalolib.org/special-collections/guides-publications">https://www.buffalolib.org/special-collections/guides-publications</a>

#### GENERAL HOW-TO GUIDES & BIBLIOGRAPHIES

GRO Ref. \*CS753 .N45 1997

Nelson, Lynn

A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Italian Ancestors: How To Find and Record Your Unique Heritage

Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, ©1997

GRO Ref. E184 .l8 B86 1996 Brockman, Terra Castiglia

A Student's Guide to Italian American Genealogy

Phoenix, AZ: Oryx Press, 1996

GRO Ref. E184 .I8 C27 1997 Carmack, Sharon DeBartolo

Italian-American Family History: A Guide to Researching and Writing About Your Heritage

Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1997

GRO Ref. \*E184 .I8 C615 1995

Cole, Trafford R.

Italian Genealogical Records: How to Use Italian Civil, Ecclesiastical, & Other Records in Family History Research

Salt Lake City, UT: Ancestry Incorporated, 1995

GRO Ref. E184 .I8 C62 2003

Colletta, John Philip

Finding Italian Roots: The Complete Guide for Americans

Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2003

### CHURCH RECORDS

Records in our collection from churches associated with Italian-Americans in Buffalo and the **baptism**, **marriage and death** records available through the library. Unless otherwise stated, the addresses are in Buffalo, N.Y.

Microfilm Number	Name and Address of Church	Records/Years
Film #359	Holy Angels Roman Catholic Church, (1851-) 348 Porter Avenue  Note: Historically Irish. Italian 1920s onward.	Baptisms: 1854-1913 Marriages: 1856-1910 Deaths: 1860-1920
WNYGS	Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church (1849-2005) 144 Edward St.  Note: Irish until about the 1940s-1950s. Italian after 1920s.	Baptisms: 1849-1924 Marriages: 1852-1946 Deaths: 1877-1952
368	Saint Agnes Roman Catholic Church (1882-2007) 194 Ludington St.  Note: German. Many Italians living in the Lovejoy section of Buffalo attended here until St. Francis of Assisi Church was opened in 1908. Also Irish until 1898.	Baptism: 1883-1918 Marriages: 1884-1917 Deaths: 1884-1982
Film #391	Saint Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church, (1888-) 160 Court St.	Baptisms: 1891-1910 Marriages: 1890-1908 Deaths: 1902-1909

CHURCH RECORDS			
Film #350	Saint Columba/Columbkill Roman Catholic Church, (1888-) 418 N. Division St.	Baptisms: 1888-1912 Marriages: 1888-1914 Deaths: 1888-1926	
	Note: Irish until 1940. Italians attended 1930s-1970s.		
277 278 no.1 278 no.2	St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Cathedral (1847-) 50 Franklin St.	Baptisms: 1855-1880 Marriages: 1855-1899	
	<b>Note:</b> Italians attended until the establishment of St. Anthony of Padua's church building in 1891. Also Irish.		
Film #350	Saint Lucy Roman Catholic Church, (1906-1960) 264 Swan St.	Baptisms: 1906-1912 Marriages: 1906-1924 Deaths: 1907-1921	

# Other Known Italian Churches - Records not held by B&ECPL

Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church, 345 Seventh, (1914-)

Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Church, 85 Dakota St., (1910-), Italian after 1950s

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church, 20 Herkimer St., (1898-2008), Italian after 1920s

Our Lady of Loretto Roman Catholic Church, 158 Fifteenth St., (1924-2008)

Our Lady of Mount Caramel, corner LeCouteulx and Fly, (1906-1953)

St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church, 133 N. Ogden, (1908-2007)

St. Lawrence Roman Catholic Church, 1520 E. Delevan Ave., (1914-)

St. Margaret Roman Catholic Church, 1395 Hertel Ave., Buffalo, (1916-), German/Irish; Italian 1950s-

DATABASES				
http://dbaz.buffalolib.org/dbaz.php#Genealogy				
Name Description Access				
Ancestry Library Edition	Provides access to more than 1 billion names. Includes city directories, 450 million census records from the U.S. Federal Census between the years 1790 and 1940, immigration, vital, military, court, church and ethnic records. Has some birth, marriage and death records from Italy.	Available for walk-in users at every public library in Erie County. No at-home use.		
HeritageQuest Online	Contains U.S. federal census records from 1790-1940, family genealogies, local histories, city directories, and the Social Security Death Index.	Available for walk-in users at every public library in Erie County. Also available from home with a valid Buffalo and Erie County Public Library card. Sign in at address above.		

# **HERALDRY AND CRESTS**

GRO CS757 .A6

Annuario Della Nobilità Italiana

Pisa, Italy: Presso la direzione del Giornale araldico [etc.], 1900

### IMMIGRATION AND PASSENGER LISTS

GRO E184 .l8 l844 1992, 28 vols. Glazier, Ira, and P. William Filby, eds.

Italians to America: Lists of Passengers Arriving at U.S. Ports [1880-1905]

Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, Inc., 1992-2012

#### ITALIAN-AMERICAN HISTORY IN THE BUFFALO AREA

Buffalo BR563 .N4 M54 1996

Millar, Graham

Edison Street Baptist Church: The First Italian Baptist Church in the United States - A Centennial History

Buffalo, NY: Edison Street Baptist Church, 1996

Buffalo BX4603 .B8 D4 1989

Devaney, Michael J.

Steeples and Crosses: A History of Holy Angels Church and School 1851 - 1989

[S.I] Bulletin of the Week, 1989

Buffalo BX4603 .B8 E34 2011

Ederer, Martin F.

An Italian immigrant community and the Scalabrinian Fathers : St. Anthony of Padua Church in Buffalo, New York

Bari, Italy: Arti Grafiche Favia, 2011

Buffalo \*BX4603 .B8 S225 1991

100th Anniversary of St. Anthony of Padua Church: Memories

Buffalo, NY: J. Migliore, 1991

Buffalo D811 .A646 1999

Aquila, Philip L.

Home Front Soldier: The Story of a G.I. and His Italian-American Family During World War II

Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, ©1999

Buffalo E184 . I8 C63 1998

Coppola, Marie Saccomando

Toward a Missing Link in the Identity of Italian American Women: Oral Histories of Sicilian and Sicilian American Women

Thesis (Ph. D.)--State University of New York at Buffalo, 1998

Buffalo E184 .18 D437 2009

Sgovio, Thomas

Dear America! : emigrati pugliesi tra Buffalo e Mosca : Guiseppe e Thomas Sgovio nei gulag staliniani

Bari: Edizioni dal Sud, c2009

Buffalo F128.9 .I8 G46 1980

Germano, Joseph E.

Early Italians in Buffalo and the Niagara Frontier

Buffalo, NY: Federation of Italian-American Societies, 1980

Buffalo F129 .B8 I89

Yans McLaughlin, Virginia

Family and Community: Italian Immigrants in Buffalo, 1880-1930

Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1977

#### ITALIAN-AMERICAN HISTORY IN THE BUFFALO AREA

Buffalo F129 .B8 M126

Yans McLaughlin, Virginia

Like the Fingers of the Hand: The Family and Community Life of First-Generation Italian-Americans in Buffalo, New York, 1880-1930

Ann Arbor, MI: University Microfilms, 1970

Buffalo F129 .B8 M14 Magnani, Ferdinand

La Cittá di Buffalo, N.Y.: E Paesi Circonvicini e le Colonie Italiane

Buffalo, NY: Tipografie Editrice Italiana, 1908

Buffalo \*F129 .B857 V6 1993

Vogel, Michael N.

America's Crossroads: Buffalo's Canal Street/Dante Place; The Making of a City

Buffalo, NY: The Heritage Press, Western New York Heritage Institute, ©1993

Buffalo F129, L32 A53 2009

Andreozzi, John

The Italians of Lackawanna, NY: Steelworkers, merchants, and gardeners

Shoreview, Minn.: Cabin Six Books, 2009

Buffalo GR110 .N7 A38

Ainsworth. Catherine Harris

Italian-American Folktales

Buffalo, NY: Clyde Press, ©1977

Buffalo GV1196 .D57 B54 2005

Big Hands, Big Heart -- Ilio DiPaolo: Great Food Recipes & Stories of Ilio DiPaolo: Celebrating 40 Years of His Dream, 1965-2005

Blasdell, NY: [D. DiPaolo], ©2005

WNYGS 974.7 ER Lac and

Andreozzi, John, comp.

**Biographical Information on Lackawanna Italians** 

[self published manuscript], 2010

#### LOCAL HISTORY FILE

This is a card index of newspaper and periodical articles about people, places, and things in the Buffalo area. In addition to looking up your family surnames, try these headings:

Clubs. Italian Italians in Buffalo

Streets. Canal

# NAMES AND SURNAMES

The following titles help establish what a name means and how it originated.

GRO Ref. \*CS2309 .U55 1973

Foreign Versions, Variations, and Diminutives of English Names. Foreign Equivalents of United States Military and Civilian Titles

Washington, DC: United States Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1973

#### NAMES AND SURNAMES

GRO Ref. CS2715 .F8

Fucilla, Joseph G.

**Our Italian Surnames** 

Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1949

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS			
Call Number/ Location	Title	Dates we have	Notes
On 1 reel of microfilm, no call number	La Fiaccola	1909- 1912	Socialist newspaper published in Buffalo. In Italian.
On GRO periodical shelf	Per Niente	2014-	Local publication of photos & reminiscences of Italian immigrants, neighborhoods, families.
On GRO periodical shelf	POINTers (Pursuing Our Italian Names Together)	2010	"The American Journal of Italian Genealogy." 1988- 2009 is indexed in HeritageQuest database. National organization appears to have disbanded circa 2013. Local chapters may exist.

#### **ORGANIZATIONS**

#### Federation of Italian American Societies in Western New York

27 Castlewood Drive

Buffalo, NY 14227

716-668-9451

http://www.fiaswny.com/

# POINTers in Person (Pursuing Our Italian Names Together)

Western New York Chapter

http://www.rootsweb.com/~nywnycp/

National organization appears to have disbanded circa 2013. Local chapters may exist.

# San Fele Association of Western New York

44 McKinley Ave

Kenmore, NY 14217

716-874-4645

http://www.sanfele.org/

#### RARE BOOK ROOM

Items in the Rare Book Room are available by appointment (716-858-8900).

**RBR WNYO 1991.G5** 

Giangreco, Edward A.

My Wonderful Life Story in the Beautiful U.S.A.: An Autobiography

[Buffalo, NY: Privately Printed, 1991]

# **SCRAPBOOKS**

The Buffalo scrapbooks in GRO were compiled roughly from 1900 to 1960 and are comprised largely of local newspaper clippings and ephemera. All are indexed in the *Local History File*. The title below has articles about Italian immigrants in both volumes.

\*JV7051 .B8 B8, 2 vols.

**Buffalo's Foreign Population** 

SELECTED WEBSITES	Notes
http://www.buffaloah.com/h/ital/index.html Italians in Buffalo	Essays and articles about Italians and Italian neighborhoods
http://www.conigliofamily.com/ConiglioGenealogyTips.htm Angelo Coniglio's Genealogy Tips	Mr. Coniglio is an Italian genealogy expert who lives in the Buffalo, N.Y. area.
http://www.cyndislist.com/italy.htm Cyndi's List: Italy / Italia	A massive link collection for everything related to Italian genealogy
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/ltaly_Genealogy FamilySearch - Italy	Provides an overview of Italian genealogy research, research tools and strategies.
http://aad.archives.gov/aad/ National Archives: Access to Archival Databases	Choose the passenger list category and select: Data Files Relating to the Immigration of Italians to the United States 1855 - 1900
http://www.antenati.san.beniculturali.it/?lang=en Portale Antenati – Online Italian records	This site contains many Italian genealogy records found at Italian State Archives.

# **VERTICAL FILE**

The Grosvenor Room collects articles, pamphlets, and clippings about local history. Ask for these folders:

Clubs - Dante Alighieri Culture Club

Ethnic Groups – Italian

Neighborhoods - Canal District

Neighborhoods - West Side

# THE ONLINE CATALOG OF THE BUFFALO & ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

# https://bepl.ent.sirsi.net/client/en\_US/default

Search the online catalog to find books, magazines, CDs, videos, maps, and manuscripts owned by the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library. It includes the Grosvenor Room, all departments in the Central Library, and every branch library. Access it at the internet address above.

To find additional Italian items in our collection *beyond those listed in this guide*, try these Subject searches.

ITALIAN AMERICANS GENEALOGY
ITALIAN AMERICANS NEW YORK STATE BUFFALO
ITALIANS IN THE UNITED STATES BIBLIOGRAPHY
ITALIANS NEW YORK STATE BUFFALO
NOBILITY ITALY

WHERE ELSE CAN I RESEARCH ITALIAN ANCESTRY?	Notes
Buffalo History Museum's Research Library  1 Museum Court Buffalo, NY 14216-3199 library@buffalohistory.org 716.873.9644 x 306 <a href="http://buffalohistory.org/Learn/Research-Library.aspx">http://buffalohistory.org/Learn/Research-Library.aspx</a>	Collection includes various manuscripts and publications about Italians in Buffalo.
Williamsville Family History Center The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Hours: https://www.familysearch.org/help/fhcenters/locations/
1424 Maple Road Williamsville, New York 14221 (716) 688-2439	Has a large collection of Italian records on microfilm.  Most records are from large towns in Sicily. The focus is on areas from which immigrants settled in Buffalo. They also carry passenger list microfilms from the National Archives.
See also Organizations listed in this guide.	•