

Getting Started with the 1940 Census

1940 Federal Population Census will be available on April 2, 2012. 9:00 am is the estimated release time.

The National Archives is putting it online for free at the following website:

<http://1940census.archives.gov/>

No index will be available. You will need to know your ancestor's address to find them.

Resources are available in the Grosvenor Room for finding Buffalo and Erie County addresses.

Use the following tools to find the enumeration district for an address:

- **Find an enumeration district for a specific address in a large city/town** (Erie Co: Buffalo, Depew, Kenmore, Lackawanna, Tonawanda):
 - <http://stevemorse.org/census/unified.html>
 - **This site is the best place to start for large cities/towns!!!!**
- **Find an enumeration district maps for a city/town**
 - **Buffalo maps are available in the Grosvenor Room. A guide to finding a ward number for a specific address in Buffalo is also available in the Grosvenor Room.**
 - <http://stevemorse.org/census/xml1940edmaps.html>
 - <http://www.archives.gov/research/search/>
 - Enter 1940 Census maps + the county + the state:
1940 Census maps Erie New York.
 - You can narrow the search by including a town name in the search:
1940 Census maps Erie Buffalo New York.
 - **Note:** Not all towns will have individual maps. You may need to look at county maps for some towns.
 - For more information see:
<http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/start-research.html>
- **Read definitions of 1940 enumeration districts**
 - Buffalo descriptions are available in the Grosvenor Room
 - <http://stevemorse.org/ed/ed.php>—Choose the state and county and input the town name as a keyword.
 - <http://www.archives.gov/research/search/>
 - Enter 1940 Census enumeration district descriptions + the county + the state:
1940 Census enumeration district descriptions Erie New York.
 - You can narrow the search by including a town name in the search:
1940 Census enumeration district descriptions Erie Akron New York.
 - For more information see:
<http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/start-research.html>

Getting Started with the 1940 Census Cont'd

Census extraction forms

- Blank census templates
- Print only form—<http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/1940.pdf>
- Fillable form—
<http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/1940-census-form-fillable.pdf>

Tools for understanding the 1940 Census

- Enumerator instructions—
<http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/instructions-to-enumerators.pdf>
- National Archives blog—<http://blogs.archives.gov/online-public-access/?cat=163>
- Census codes—<http://stevemorse.org/census/mcodes1940.htm>
- Getting Ready for the 1940 Census: Searching without a Name Index—
<http://stevemorse.org/census/1940census.htm>

Other sites to access the 1940 Census

- www.familysearch.org—will begin posting images online for free on 4/2. Will take up to 10 days to post the entire country. Volunteers will be indexing the census once it is online.
- www.ancestry.com—will begin posting images online for free on 4/2. Access to the images and index (when created) will be free through 2013.

Learn about the US Census and how to use it for genealogy research

- <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/ma.html>—Measuring America: The Decennial Censuses from 1790 to 2000
- http://www.ancestry.com/wiki/index.php?title=Overview_of_the_U.S._Census—*Overview of the U.S. Census*—A chapter from **The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy** by Lorretto Dennis Szucs and Matthew Wright
- Books in the Grosvenor Room:
 - **Your Guide to the Federal Census**—by Kathleen W. Hinckley—GRO Ref HA37.U6 H556 2002
 - **The Census Book : A Genealogist's Guide to Federal Census Facts, Schedules and Indexes : with master extraction forms for federal census schedules, 1790-1930**—by William Dollarhide—GRO Ref HA214 .D63 1999

Resources Available in the Grosvenor Room for Finding Addresses

<u>Resource</u>	<u>Notes</u>
City and County Directories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our directory holding list is online at: http://www.buffalolib.org/libraries/collections/genealogy/subjectguides.asp#7 . • Buffalo directories include 1939-1941. • Erie County directories include 1938, 1941. • Directories from out-of-county and out-of-state.
Telephone Books (most on microfilm)	<p>The 1939/1940 and/or the 1940/1941 Buffalo telephone books cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Akron, Alden, Angola, Boston, Buffalo, Clarence, Clarence Center, Depew, Derby, East Aurora, Eden, Forte Erie Ontario, Garden, Grand Island, Hamburg, Holland, Lancaster, North Collins, North Tonawanda, Orchard Park, Ridgeway Ontario, Strykersville, Tonawanda, Wanakah, Williamsville.
Social Register Buffalo F129 .B8 A195	Include "society" names and addresses for Buffalo and surrounding areas; Collection includes 1939-1941.
Dau's Society Blue Books Buffalo F129 .B8 A19	Includes "society" names and addresses for Buffalo and surrounding areas; Collection includes 1937 and 1941.
Atlas, Erie County GRO Folio F127 .E6 N6 1939	This 1939 atlas shows names of land owners.
Buffalo Voter Registers	Buffalo lists include the years 1939-1941. Buffalo F129 .B8 B37 City of Buffalo Voter Registration Directories.
Erie County Voter Registers	Erie County lists include the years 1939-1941. Buffalo F127 .E6 A12 County of Erie Voter Registration Directories.
1930 Census Records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancestry Library Edition—A database available at every B&ECPL location. Covers the entire United States and has an every name index. • HeritageQuest Online—A database available at every B&ECPL location and from home with a B&ECPL card. Covers the entire United States, but there is only an index for a few states: Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Texas, Virginia. The rest of the country can be browsed page by page. • 1930 Census microfilm—Available in the Grosvenor Room for the following counties: Erie, Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Niagara, Orleans, Wyoming, Yates.
World War II Draft Cards "Old Man's Registration"	The Fourth Registration, often referred to as the "old man's registration", was conducted on 27 April 1942 and registered men who born on or between 28 April 1877 and 16 February 1897. Available in Ancestry Library Edition , a database available at every B&ECPL location.
Other resources may be helpful if the documents were created around 1940.	Vital records, newspapers (birth/marriage/death announcements), naturalization papers/declarations of intent to become a U.S. citizen, estate papers, church records, cemetery records, letters, others.
To see more Grosvenor Room resources see:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grosvenor Room research guides: http://www.buffalolib.org/libraries/collections/genealogy/subjectguides.asp • Online catalog: http://elibrary.buffalolib.org/
To see what resources may be available for research online try the following sites:	www.buffalolib.org/libraries/collections/genealogy/websites.asp?cid=0 www.buffalolib.org/libraries/collections/genealogy/databases.asp www.buffaloresearch.com www.cyndislist.com www.familysearch.org