



# GENEALOGY RESOURCES IN THE GROSVENOR ROOM



## **GROSVENOR ROOM**

BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

1 LAFAYETTE SQUARE

BUFFALO, NY 14203-1887

(716) 858-8900

<https://www.buffalolib.org/research-resources/special-collections>

Updated June 2024

## WELCOME!

The Grosvenor Room (pronounced *GROVE-ner*) is the Special Collections Department at the Central Library and includes local history, genealogy, and music resources. We are the top genealogical destination in Western New York with over 25,000 local history volumes and 5,500 family histories. The focus of the collection is Buffalo and Erie County genealogy; we have some resources related to other New York counties, other states, and foreign countries.

*Collection highlights include:*

- Vital records and resources
- Buffalo newspapers on microfilm, 1818 to the present
- Buffalo city directories, 1828 to the present
- “Local History File,” a unique resource for all things Erie County
- Church and cemetery records on microfilm
- Over 50 genealogical and local history periodicals
- Buffalo history resources: scrapbooks, histories, and maps

## WHEN YOU VISIT:

No appointment or library card is necessary to use the Grosvenor Room. Rare Book Room materials do require an appointment (716-858-8900).

Please note that the items in our Local History & Genealogy collections are for research purposes and may NOT be borrowed or removed from the room. The exception is a small genealogy how-to book collection that can be borrowed.

## POLICIES:

- **NO food or drink** in the Grosvenor Room.
- **Bags and purses MUST be** stored in the lockers at the entrance.
- Use of **cameras** requires written permission. See a librarian for more information.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY HOURS

MONDAY, TUESDAY: 8:00 – 6:00

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY: 8:00 – 8:00

FRIDAY, SATURDAY: 9:00 – 5:00

**SUNDAY\*: 12:00 – 5:00**

*\*The Library is not open Sundays during the summer; please check the website before your visit: [www.buffalolib.org](http://www.buffalolib.org)*

## CONTACT US

- TELEPHONE: 716-858-8900
- FAX: (716) 858-6211
- EMAIL: <https://www.buffalolib.org/contact/contact-us>
- WEB SITE: <https://www.buffalolib.org/special-collections/genealogy>

## GROSVENOR ROOM RESEARCH GUIDES



Start with a guide! Our librarians have created many guides designed to help you use the collection. Each guide highlights specific Grosvenor Room resources as well as websites, organizations, and local institutions.

Printed guides are available at the Grosvenor Reference Desk and are online at:

<https://www.buffalolib.org/special-collections/guides-publications>

### Subjects covered:

- **Ethnic Genealogy:** Locate resources specific to locating ancestors with African American, Canadian, German, Irish, Italian, Jewish, Latin American, Native American, and Polish backgrounds.
- **Vital, original records:** Resources for birth, marriage, and death records; death notices and obituaries; church and cemetery records; land and property records, naturalizations, passenger lists, and immigration records.
- **Census:** Details the various indexes and microfilm available for Federal & NY State census
- **Military:** Tracing ancestors involved in major conflicts including the War of 1812, the Revolutionary War, and the Civil War.
- **Directories and Yearbooks:** Detailed listing of city directories, telephone books, yearbooks and alumni directories held in the Grosvenor Room.

## BUFFALO COLLECTION

Our local history collection consists of over 4,000 volumes about people, places, and events in Buffalo and Erie County. It includes the popular **Scrapbook** collection, 400 volumes of newspaper clippings compiled between 1930 and 1975. The scrapbooks are indexed in the Local History File (see below), a starting place for articles on your ancestors. Other frequently used resources are yearbooks, local histories, church histories, and voter registrations.

## CARD CATALOGS

- Local History File: A selective local newspaper & book index. Can be used to find information on people, places, and events. It includes citations for many obituaries from the *Buffalo News* and the *Courier Express*. Most comprehensive for **1930 to 1982**.
- Grosvenor Genealogy Catalog: Index to published genealogies, mostly Anglo-American, colonial-era families. It also serves as a select index to genealogy periodicals held in the Grosvenor Room Collection. To find individual family histories, search under *Brown Family*, *Jones Family*, etc.
- Picture File: An index to images found in publications. Several Buffalo high school and college yearbooks are indexed in the 1900s–1940s.

## CENSUS RECORDS

Census records are the backbone of American genealogical research. The Grosvenor Room has every surviving federal and state census microfilm for Erie County for the years 1790–1930. In most cases, we have census films for the rest of Western New York as well.



Our separate guide titled **New York Census Microfilms and Indices in the Grosvenor Room** shows specifically what census films and indices we own for New York State.

\*\*\*All publicly accessible Federal census and most NY State years can also be searched online with *Ancestry Library Edition* and/or *Heritage Quest* databases.\*\*\*

**Ward Maps:** To assist with census research, we have maps depicting **ward boundaries** from 1840 to present. For census-taking purposes, city wards were also divided up into enumeration districts (EDs) beginning in 1880. The Grosvenor Room has ED maps for Buffalo for 1900-1930.

## CHURCH & CEMETERY RECORDS

Our microfilm collection includes many local church records (mostly Roman Catholic) of baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and deaths. Several churches maintained cemeteries and kept records of burials, and the collection includes these and other cemeteries. Microfilmed records of **Forest Lawn**, Buffalo's largest cemetery, are in the collection of the Western New York Genealogical Society (WNYGS), located in the Grosvenor Room. The WNYGS collection includes 40 hard to find church record sets (mainly Evangelical, Lutheran, Congregational).



See these separate guides for specifics: **Church Records in Microfilm and Print** and **Cemetery Records for Erie County, NY**.

## CITY DIRECTORIES

Generally published on a yearly basis (with some exceptions) and typically list adult residents in the city. Early years usually provide an address and occupation. Buffalo directories from 1929 to the present can be searched by address.

We have a complete collection of Buffalo City Directories from **1828** to the present. Most years are available in print in our collection. 1828-1993 are also available on microfilm. In order to preserve the original Buffalo directories, **all photocopying must be done from the microfilm versions**.

**Buffalo Directories, 1832-1913 are available for searching online:**

<https://www.buffalolib.org/research-resources/digital-collections>

Many directories can also be searched online with *Ancestry Library Edition* and *Heritage Quest* databases.

We also own some directories from other cities in New York, other cities in the U.S., and Canada. For more information, see our city directory guide:

<https://www.buffalolib.org/special-collections/guides-publications>

## DATABASES AND DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

**Databases:** The Library's subscription databases can be found on our website.

<http://dbaz.buffalolib.org/dbaz.php>

- **American Ancestors\*\*\*:** This collection of databases from the New England Historic Genealogical Society offers vital records, census records, compiled genealogies, books, and periodicals.
- **Ancestry Library Edition\*:** Includes 450 million census records from the U.S. Federal Census between the years 1790 and 1950, immigration, vital, military, court, church and ethnic records, and nationwide directories.
- **Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867-1970\*\*:** Sanborn fire insurance maps are detailed property and land-use records. Provides access to maps for towns and cities in New York State.
- **FamilySearch\*\*\*:** A massive free website rich with genealogical records. Some records are accessible only at Family History Affiliate Libraries. The Grosvenor Room is an affiliate.
- **HeritageQuest\*\*:** Contains U.S. Federal Census from 1790-1950, Canadian census records, genealogies, local histories, city directories, Revolutionary War pension files, Freedman's Bank Records, and the U.S. Serial Set.

\*Available for use at all Buffalo & Erie County Public Library branches. No at-home use.

\*\* Use at any library or from home with a valid Buffalo & Erie County Public Library card number.

\*\*\*For use in the Grosvenor Room only.

**Digital Collections:** The library has digitized select materials and they are available freely online. A library card is not necessary for access.

<https://www.buffalolib.org/research-resources/digital-collections>

Our digital collections are rich with history and include a wide variety of resources such as African American funeral programs, atlases, Buffalo birth records, city directories, Erie County Poorhouse records, newspapers, oral histories, photographs, scrapbooks, and others. Here are a few:

**Buffalo African American Funeral Program and Obituary Collection** (mainly 1990s) –

<https://nyheritage.org/index.php/collections/buffalo-african-american-funeral-program-and-obituary-collection>

**Buffalo Birth Records** (1850-1881, mainly 1878, 1879, 1881) -

<https://digital.buffalolib.org/collections/show/28>

**Buffalo City Directories** (1832-1913) - <https://nyheritage.org/collections/buffalo-city-directories>

**Erie County Poorhouse Ledgers** (1829-1952) - <https://digital.buffalolib.org/collections/show/5>

**Newspapers** (select titles with various dates from 1847-1989) - [https://www.buffalolib.org/research-resources/digital-collections?field\\_collection\\_category\\_value=5](https://www.buffalolib.org/research-resources/digital-collections?field_collection_category_value=5)

**DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION:** We have a number of D.A.R. publications that can help identify a Revolutionary War ancestor:

GRO E202.5 .A15

**[DAR] Lineage Books** [166 volumes from 1890 to 1939.]

Washington, DC: The Society

*Lists those who aided in the American Revolution, the DAR member, and her lineage traced back to the patriot. (The documentation for some past lineages has been found uncomprehensive for current standards.)*

Ref. E255 .D38 2003, 3 vols.

**DAR Patriot Index**

Baltimore, MD: Gateway Press, 2003

*A list of verified Revolutionary War patriots.*

Ref E494 .R653 R43 1995

**Index to the Roll of Honor**

Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1995

*Indexes the set of DAR Lineage Books.*

\*E202.5 A12, 1892 to present, **American Spirit** (formerly **DAR Magazine**)

## ENGLISH PARISH RECORDS (CA.1558 - 1837)

We have an extensive collection of Parish Records from England in multi-volume sets. Information given: baptisms, marriages, and burials with names, dates, parentage, residence, ages, and sometimes relationships. Despite omissions, parish records are the single most important genealogical source for England because they are the sole written evidence of births, marriages and deaths. See:

Ref. CS434 .B9

Burke, Arthur M.

**Key to the Ancient Parish Register of England and Wales**

London: Sackville Press, ©1908

CS434 .P3, volumes 30, 50, and 61

George W. Marshall

**Parish Registers: A List of Those Printed**

London: Parish Register Society, ©1900, with two updates

Ref. \*CS435 .Y4 1990z

**Yorkshire Parish Register Index**

[n.p.], 1999?

For names and locations of parishes, see:

Ref. \*G1816 .E42P5 1984

Humphrey-Smith, Cecil

**Phillimore Atlas and Index of English Parish Registers**

Chichester, Sussex, England: Phillimore & Co., ©1984

For background historical information about parishes and other locations, see the multiple-volume series *The Victoria History of the Counties of England* (CS434.V5—Closed Stacks). Search the Library's **online catalog** for the following subject headings: [https://bepl.ent.sirsi.net/client/en\\_US/default](https://bepl.ent.sirsi.net/client/en_US/default)

[Church]: [Name of Parish] (e.g. *St. Paul (Church: Exeter, England)*)

*Church Records and Registers - England. - [Name of Parish]*

*Great Britain—Genealogy*



## FAMILY HISTORIES

The original Grosvenor Library of Buffalo had one of the largest genealogy collections in the country. The Grosvenor Room inherited this collection and the Grosvenor Genealogy Card Catalog. It includes published family histories and compiled genealogies, as well as miscellaneous material in files on Western New York families and those from various other locales, particularly the New England states.

## IMMIGRATION RECORDS & PASSENGER LISTS

The Library has few actual, original passenger lists. The collection mostly includes published indexes that provide name, age, occupation, country of origin, name of ship, port of arrival, and date of arrival. These indexes are not comprehensive and do not identify every person who ever came to the United States.



For a list of the specific indexes and lists available, see the separate guide **Passenger Lists: Selected Sources in the Grosvenor Room.**

<https://www.buffalolib.org/special-collections/guides-publications>

Comprehensive passenger lists for 1820 and after are available in the *Ancestry Library Edition* database.

**NATURALIZATION RECORDS:** The Grosvenor Room does not have any actual naturalization records, but researchers can use this index on microfilm:

Film #1059, 20 rolls

Western District Court of New York

**Index to Naturalizations, Sept. 27, 1906 to 1966**

Naturalization records may be found at multiple archives. Many naturalizations of Erie County residents, 1827-1929, are on file in the county clerk's office in Erie County Hall. Beginning in 1906, naturalizations may be available through U.S. District Court records which are kept by the U.S. National Archives.



For more information on naturalization records, see the guide **Miscellaneous Genealogical Records in the Grosvenor Room.**

<https://www.buffalolib.org/special-collections/guides-publications>

## INTERNATIONAL SOURCES

Our genealogy resources for other countries consist primarily of "how-to" books that can provide references to resources for a particular area. Most of the collection focuses on the Western and Eastern European countries that many Buffalonians' ancestors came from: Germany, Ireland, Italy, and Poland. The collection also includes books on researching ancestors from Canada, South America, Africa, and Asia. See a librarian for further international sources for records.

## LOCAL HISTORIES

The collection includes many histories of villages, towns, cities, and counties in New York State, New England, and the East Coast. Many local histories include biographies of settlers and can often provide information on early American ancestors.

Try a subject search in the online catalog for place names: villages, towns, cities, or counties.

[https://bepl.ent.sirsi.net/client/en\\_US/default](https://bepl.ent.sirsi.net/client/en_US/default)

## MAPS & ATLASES

We have numerous atlases covering Buffalo, Erie County, and other NY counties. Others cover the U.S. Civil War, Ireland, Germany, Poland, and Prussia, as well as general world atlases. Many date from the mid-to-late 19th century and can be used to identify local property owners, national boundary changes, or lost villages.

The Grosvenor Room has several early maps of Western New York; of particular interest to genealogists are the Erie County atlases from 1866, 1872, and 1880.



For more information on local maps see the guide **Buffalo & Erie County Atlases: Best Bets for Genealogists and House Researchers.**

<https://www.buffalolib.org/special-collections/guides-publications>

**SANBORN INSURANCE ATLASES** can be very helpful when tracing local ancestors. These detailed maps show buildings, houses, roads, parks, cemeteries, churches, and other structures in Buffalo. Our collection includes staggered volumes with years ranging from 1881 through 1963 in print, plus a 1980s set on microfilm. Sanborn maps for Buffalo and many other cities and towns in New York State can also be accessed through the **Sanborn maps of New York 1867-1970** online database.

## MILITARY RECORDS

Resources to help establish an ancestor's military record, including material relating to the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, Spanish American War, World War I & II, Korea, and Vietnam. For specific information on these resources, see the following separate guides:



- ✧ *Military History and Records: Selected Sources in the Grosvenor Room*  
[Includes all conflicts except Civil War and War of 1812, see below]
- ✧ *Civil War Genealogy & History for Buffalo & Erie County*
- ✧ *Civil War Genealogy & History for New York State*
- ✧ *Civil War Genealogy & History for States other than NY*
- ✧ *War of 1812 on the Niagara Frontier*

<https://www.buffalolib.org/special-collections/guides-publications>

The National Archives holds most historical official military service records. The website of the National Archives provides helpful information about the records research process:

<https://www.archives.gov/research/military>



## NEWSPAPERS

We have many local newspapers on microfilm from 1818 to the present. Selected articles from local papers have been indexed in the Library's **Local History File**. Below are just some of the papers genealogists can search for articles and obituaries:

*Buffalo (Evening) News*—1881 to the present (approximately)\*

*Buffalo Courier Express*—1926 to 1982

*Buffalo Times*—1883 to 1939

*Buffalo Volksfreund*—1891 to 1969 (German-American paper)

*Dziennik Dla Wszystkich*—1930 to 1957 (Polish-American paper)

For more information on local newspapers, see the guides online:

<https://www.buffalolib.org/special-collections/guides-publications>

The Grosvenor Room has a microfilmed collection of **Early American Newspapers** from the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. These newspapers are from several eastern and southern states, including Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Vermont, and Virginia.

## PERIODICALS

The Library subscribes to numerous genealogy and local history related titles, from general interest magazines to the newsletters of local societies and associations. These are just some of the many genealogy magazines and journals that we carry:

\*CS1 .I7, 6 issues per year, 2013 to present

### **Internet Genealogy**

*An exploration of genealogy records, websites, and software.*

CS1 .N567, 4 issues per year, 1870 to present

### **The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record**

*Each annual volume has a cumulative subject and surname index; other cumulative indexes on shelf.*

CS42 .N56, 4 issues per year, 2006 to present

### **NGS Magazine**

*An easy-to-understand how-to magazine for genealogists.*

F118 .W46a, 4 issues per year, 1974 to present

### **Western New York Genealogist** (formerly Western New York Genealogical Society Journal)

*Has annual subject and surname index.*

See also the periodical indexes on the next page.

CS1 .P47 1994, 1995

**Periodical Source Index (PERSI)**

Allen County Public Library Foundation, ©1994, 1995

*An extensive, annual index to the contents of hundreds of local history and genealogy publications. PERSI is available at <https://www.genealogycenter.info/persi/>.*

CS44 .A6, 177 volumes

**American Genealogical Index**

Middletown, CT: Published by a Committee..., 1942-present

*Indexes published local histories and genealogies by surname.*

Ref. Z5313 .U5D95

**Index to American Genealogies, and to Genealogical Material Contained in All Works Such as Town Histories, County Histories, Local Histories...**

Albany, NY: Munsell, 1895 and supplement, 1900-1908

## VITAL RECORDS

Birth, marriage, and death records provide a wealth of information on our ancestors. The Grosvenor Room has several resources that can help you discover the location of such records.

A good starting point is the **New York State Vital Records Index**, which provides births and marriages from 1881, and deaths from 1880. For privacy, NY State restricts the use of recent records. See our Vital Records guide for more information:

<https://www.buffalolib.org/special-collections/guides-publications>

Due to privacy restrictions, researchers may only access the index for births that occurred at least 75 years ago, and marriages and deaths that occurred at least 50 years ago. While this index can identify the date and place of the life event, **actual original records** can be found by contacting the New York State Department of Health or the relevant County, City, or Town Clerk's office. Start with local clerk's offices as the turnaround time is usually considerably quicker.

For other life records sources see our separate guides:



- **Vital Records in the Grosvenor Room**
- **Deaths in Buffalo and Erie County**
- **Miscellaneous Records in the Grosvenor Room** (Includes resources for adoptions, border crossings, draft cards, land & property records, naturalizations, and probate records.)

<https://www.buffalolib.org/special-collections/guides-publications>

## PARTNER COLLECTIONS

The Grosvenor Room houses the collections of two local genealogical societies. These collections provide unique resources that supplement the Library's holdings:

**The June P. Zintz Memorial Library of the Western New York Genealogical Society (WNYGS)** is a collection of over 3000 books, 700+ rolls of microfilm, many periodicals and card catalogs. A repository of genealogical information on early settlers of WNY, primary focus is the 8 counties of Western New York: **Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming**. There are also resources on greater New York, New England, as well as many other states and other countries. The Society's collection includes the following:

- Ancestor charts and family group sheets of members
- Atlases, Gazetteers
- Bible records
- Birth & Marriage records
- Cemetery & Church Records
- Census records
- Family Histories
- Immigration resources including *Germans to America*
- "How-to" books
- Local histories
- Periodicals
- Vital Index of Early Western New York Families

WNYGS volunteers may be on duty in the Grosvenor Room.

**For more information on WNYGS see:** <https://www.wnygs.org/>

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**The Michael Drabik Memorial Library of the Polish Genealogical Society of New York State (PGSNYS)** is a reference collection of approximately 300 titles of materials pertaining to Poland and a variety of Polish American topics. Many of the books are written in Polish. The Society's collection includes the following:

- Bibliographies
- Church histories
- "How-to" books: Polish genealogy, general genealogy
- Immigration/emigration materials
- Periodicals
- Histories of Polish towns/villages/regions, culture, literature, description and guidebooks, social life and customs
- Polish Americans: history, culture, social life and customs

**For more information on PGSNYS see:** <https://pgsnys.online/>

Where Else Can I Research My Family?	Resources Available
<p><b>Family History Centers of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS)</b></p> <p>1424 Maple Rd. Williamsville, NY 14221 (716) 688-2439</p> <p>S-4003 Baker Rd. Orchard Park, NY 14127 (716) 662-3117</p> <p>Call ahead for hours.</p> <p><a href="https://www.familysearch.org/en/">https://www.familysearch.org/en/</a></p>	<p>The LDS has census, church, cemetery, and many, many more microfilmed records of genealogical value for Erie County, as well as records for other states and even other countries.</p> <p>LDS Family History Centers are free and open to the public, regardless of your religion. There is no proselytizing on the premises.</p> <p>Note: Assistance is available only for in-person research. No telephone or mail inquiries accepted.</p>
<p><b>Aurora Town Historian's Office</b> Aurora Municipal Center, 575 Oakwood Ave., East Aurora, NY 14052 (716) 652-7944 <a href="https://www.townofaurora.com/departments/historian/">https://www.townofaurora.com/departments/historian/</a></p>	<p>Obituary files, marriage announcement index, cemetery records and maps for area grounds, scrapbooks, 100 scrapbooks of various events, East Aurora Advertiser (1872-2000s), family group files, photographs, yearbooks, maps, periodic development maps, and atlases.</p>
<p><b>Buffalo History Museum Research Library</b> 1 Museum Court Buffalo, NY 14216-3199 (716) 873-9644 x 306 <a href="https://buffalohistory.org/library-collections/">https://buffalohistory.org/library-collections/</a></p>	<p>Has early marriage notices up to 1880 on microfilm from Buffalo newspapers, Death index covering Erie County prior to 1880 with selected notices after 1880, church &amp; cemetery records, Sanborn maps &amp; other atlases, and much more.</p>
<p><b>Buffalo Irish Genealogical Society Library</b> 100 Lee St. Buffalo, NY 14210 <a href="https://bigswny.org/resources">https://bigswny.org/resources</a></p>	<p>Artifacts and original family letters dating in the mid to early 1800s, genealogical resource books, maps, documents, New York Central Railroad employee cards.</p>
<p><b>Erie County Clerk</b> 92 Franklin Street Buffalo, New York 14202 (716) 858-8785 <a href="http://www2.erie.gov/clerk/">http://www2.erie.gov/clerk/</a></p>	<p>Census for dates 1850 to 1925, Births that occurred in the City of Buffalo from September 17, 1881 to December 15, 1913, Marriages from 1878 to April 29, 1935 and Naturalizations that occurred in Superior, County or Supreme Courts from 1827 to 1929.</p>
<p><b>Historical Society of the Tonawandas</b> 113 Main Street, Tonawanda, NY, 14150-2129 (716) 694-7406 <a href="https://www.tonawandashistory.org/research.html">https://www.tonawandashistory.org/research.html</a></p>	<p>Vertical files, photographs, directories, yearbooks, obituaries, military information.</p>
<p><b>Iroquois Genealogy Society Website</b> <a href="https://www.iroquoisgenealogysociety.org/">https://www.iroquoisgenealogysociety.org/</a></p>	<p>See the Collection menu for digital resources such as censuses, school records, church records, manuscripts, and more.</p>
<p><b>Lucy Bensley Center</b> 23 North Buffalo Street Springville, New York 14141 (716) 592-0094 <a href="https://www.chs14141.org/lucy-bensley-center">https://www.chs14141.org/lucy-bensley-center</a></p>	<p>Springville, NY focused. Books, archives, and digitized material containing old Springville Journals, yearbooks, handwritten journals, photographs, phone books, burial records, and maps.</p>
<p><b>Tonawanda-Kenmore Historical Society</b> 2919 Delaware Avenue, Room 14 Kenmore NY 14217 (716) 275-5647 <a href="https://kentonhistory.org/">https://kentonhistory.org/</a></p>	<p>Scrapbooks, photos, subject files, maps, rare and unique published materials, yearbooks, artifacts.</p>

# Free Internet Resources:

## **Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Digital Collections**

African American funeral programs, Buffalo city directories 1832-1913, Buffalo births 1850-1881 (incomplete), Erie County Poorhouse records, newspapers, photographs, scrapbooks and more.

<https://www.buffalolib.org/research-resources/digital-collections>

## **Buffalo News Death Notices**

Death notices are online free and searchable back to Sept. 11, 1997.

<https://www.legacy.com/search>

## **BuffaloResearch.com**

Family history research in Buffalo, Erie County, and Western NY, with hundreds of useful links.

<https://buffaloresearch.com/>

## **Cyndi's List**

Huge compilation of genealogy websites on different countries and types of records.

<http://www.cyndislist.com>

## **Dates of First Vital Statistics Records in the Towns and Villages of Erie County**

Gives first dates for which civil birth, marriage, and death records exist in each town or village.

<https://www.wnygs.org/county-vital-records>

## **Ellis Island Records**

Records of over 22 million immigrants who arrived at Ellis Island between 1892 and 1924.

<https://heritage.statueofliberty.org/passenger>

## **Erie County Cemeteries, Past and Present**

Includes a growing list of tombstone inscriptions and internment lists, all contributed by volunteers.

<http://www.members.tripod.com/~wnyroots/>

## **Family Search**

A database of census, vital, military and other original records. Search the online catalog to find materials at your local LDS Family History Center. The Grosvenor Room is a FamilySearch Affiliate Library.

<http://www.familysearch.org/>

## **Find a Grave**

A searchable website of user-entered information from gravestones around the country.

<https://www.findagrave.com/>

## **Fulton History**

Independent site of digitized newspapers from across New York State.

<https://www.fultonhistory.com/>

## **New York Heritage**

Photographs, letters, diaries, maps, directories, artifacts, oral histories and more

<https://nyheritage.org/>

## **NYS Historic Newspapers**

Millions of newspaper pages for across New York State.

<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/>

For more online resources, see our more detailed list: <https://www.buffalolib.org/genealogy/genealogy-websites>

## CIRCULATING GENEALOGY HOW-TO BOOKS

The majority of the genealogy collection is for use in-library only, but we do have a small collection of genealogy instructional books that may be borrowed. Topics range from getting started in genealogy to researching specific ethnic groups or record types to genetic genealogy. The books are available on rotating shelving near the Reference Desk. See staff for assistance.

## FREE GENEALOGY CLASSES

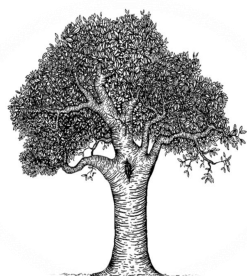
Upcoming Classes: <https://grosvenorroom.wordpress.com/events/>

Recorded Classes: <https://grosvenorroom.wordpress.com/videos-handouts/>

## RESEARCH SERVICES:

Grosvenor Room staff is available to conduct basic remote reference for your convenience. These services include obituary searches, article lookups, city directory searches, and others. Please see the link below for more details and to place a request.

<https://www.buffalolib.org/special-collections/research-services>



### GROSVENOR ROOM

BUFFALO & ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
1 LAFAYETTE SQUARE  
BUFFALO, NY 14203-1887  
(716) 858-8900

EMAIL: <https://www.buffalolib.org/form/email-us-gro>

WEB SITE: <https://www.buffalolib.org/research-resources/special-collections>



### CENTRAL LIBRARY HOURS

MONDAY - THURSDAY: 8:00 – 7:00

FRIDAY, SATURDAY: 9:00 – 5:00

SUNDAY\*: 12:00 – 5:00

*\*The Library is not open Sundays during the summer; please check the website before your visit: [www.buffalolib.org](http://www.buffalolib.org)*

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