



THE DUTCHESS NEWSLETTER

Dutchess County Genealogical Society
P. O. Box 708, Poughkeepsie, New York 12602-0708

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Library Report

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These are new books that have been added to our library collection between September, 2006 and February, 2007

We filled in some holes in our collection with three out-of-print titles published by the Dutchess County Historical Society early in the 20th century. They are actually photocopies of the originals made for us by the historical society. They include:

Reynolds, Helen Wilkinson. *Poughkeepsie; The Origin and Meaning of the Word*. Poughkeepsie, NY: 1924. More extensive than the name implies, based mostly on extensive research in deeds and land records, there is information about place names as well as original settlers in the town and city of Poughkeepsie; discusses Dutch, Indian and English words.

Reese, William Willis, compiler. *Eighteenth Century Records of the Portion of Dutchess County New York That Was Included in Rombout Precinct and the Original Town of Fishkill. Presenting Historical Source-Material Regarding Land and People*. Poughkeepsie, NY: 1938. Includes alphabetical list of Fishkill tax-payers 1717-1779, abstracts of deeds (1718-1800), mortgages (1754-1800), estates (to 1805), and road acts (to 1788).

Roosevelt, Franklin D., ed. *Records of the Town of Hyde Park, Dutchess County*. Hyde Park, NY: 1928. Includes minutes of Hyde Park town meetings 1821-1875; information about the Stoutsburg Religious Society, Regina Coeli Catholic Church and the Baptist Society; and information and early vital records of 3 churches - the Reformed Church of Hyde Park, Methodist Episcopal and St. James [Episcopal] Church.

Cassidy, Henry. *The Rombout Patent*. Dutchess County Historical Society, 1985. Pamphlet, 16pp. "Including biographical information on the two original purchasers, Francis Rombout and Gulian Verplanck."

Tompkins, Louise. *The History of St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church at Lithgow, New York [founded 1801]. A Landmark*. 1971. Pamphlet, 27pp.

Bruno, Maryann and Elizabeth A. Daniels. *Vassar College*. Arcadia Publ, c2001. The College History Series. 128pp, laminated softcover, photos, no index. History of the college through use of photographs with extensive captions covering the period from the founding of the college in 1861 to the present.

Records of the Reformed Dutch Church of Bergen, N.J. now Jersey City. Collections of the Holland Society of New York Vol. IV. Reprinted from the Holland Society Year Books of 1913, 1914, 1915. Baptisms 1666-1788; marriages 1665-1788, burials 1666-1788, members 1664-1788 (each section indexed). Includes historical sketches of the church, the founding of Bergen and its first settlers.

Brittenham, William Robert and Ruth Z. Lewis. *The Garter Family of New York and Michigan*. Self-published, 2006. Donated by the authors. Garter descendants lived in Herkimer and Orleans Counties, New York; in Oakland, Ionia, Kent and Ottawa Counties, Michigan; and elsewhere.

Chisamore, Donald R., transcr. *The 1875 and 1891 Diaries of George K. Taber, Pawling, New York*. [2006] Manuscript, 168pp. Includes CD-ROM version. Donated by the transcriber. George K. Taber, a farmer of Pawling, NY, was active in his local Baptist Church. Most diary entries of the 2 volumes are relatively brief. They always mention the weather, record many financial transactions, and cover major farm chores done. The compiler has abstracted some of the events for each year into separate lists - funerals noted, notable events of the year, Baptist Church members. There is no index, per se, but Mr. Chisamore does include a list of all the names noted in each diary, with a separate list of family members mentioned and additional information about the Pawling Baptist Church. In the CD-ROM version, a Control-F "Find" command in the text files will search for any word or phrase entered.

Church record transcriptions done by Arthur Kelly and published by Kinship all have the same format, a column arrangement in the original (usually chronological) order with names, dates, and remarks/other information as appropriate for the type of record; all are indexed.

Kelly, Arthur C.M., transcriber. *Early Records of First Reformed Church of Fishkill, Dutchess County, N.Y. 1717-1922*. Rhinebeck, NY, 2006. Includes various lists of church officers, members, ministers, dismissals, notes from Consistory minutes, and recorded deaths 1837-1916. The numerous "Remarks" have additional detail.

Kelly, Arthur C.M., transcriber. *Vital Records of St. Paul's (Zion's) Lutheran Church, Red Hook, Dutchess County, N.Y. 1803-1968*. Rhinebeck, NY, 2006. Baptisms, 1900-1950; Marriages, 1900 - 1950; Deaths, 1803-1968.

Kelly, Arthur C.M., transcriber. *Early Records of St. Paul's (Zion's) Lutheran Church, Red Hook, Dutchess County, N.Y. 1738-1954*. Rhinebeck, NY, 2006. Members, 1738-1954; Confirmands, 1846-1960; Officers, 1846-1881; Communicants, 1872-1941.

Kelly, Arthur C.M., transcriber. *Vital Records of Fishkill Landing Methodist Church, Beacon, Dutchess County, N.Y. 1860-1962*. Rhinebeck, NY, 2006. Baptisms of children and adults 1860-1951; marriages 1860-1953; and cemetery plot owners, circa 1879.

Kelly, Arthur C.M., transcriber. *Early Records of Fishkill Landing Methodist Church, Beacon, Dutchess County, N.Y. 1862-1933*. Rhinebeck, NY, 2006. Includes various lists of probationers, officers, class lists, and member lists with many remarks (usually including marital status).

Kelly, Arthur C.M., transcriber. *Vital Records of Matteawan Methodist Church, Beacon, Dutchess County, N.Y. 1860-1962*. Rhinebeck, NY, 2006. Baptisms of children and adults 1861-1961, marriages 1860-1962, and deaths 1881-1884, 1931.

Kelly, Arthur C.M., transcriber. *Early Records of Matteawan Methodist Church, Beacon, Dutchess County, N.Y. 1862-1920*. Rhinebeck, NY, 2006. Membership records include lists of probationers, offices, class lists, members with many remarks (usually including marital status).

DCGS LIBRARY NEW YORK MILITARY RECORDS

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This article focuses on some of the standard references used in researching your New York ancestors' service in the Revolutionary War, covering books and CDs in our collection as well as some online resources, particularly at Ancestry.com. This is to remind everyone that free access to all Ancestry.com collections and databases is available at any LDS Family History Center with on-line computers, including ours here in Poughkeepsie. HeritageQuest Online, available through local public libraries that pay for it, also has some of these items digitized. At the end of this article, there is a list of some resources on other wars and time periods available in our library.

Note: We have Family Tree Maker CD-ROM #143 *Military Records: New York in the Revolution and the War of 1812* (Genealogy.com, c2000) which contains digitized versions of a number of the titles listed below; it is referred to simply as FTM CD #143.

Berthold Fernow was New York State Archivist in the 1880s when he was directed by the state government to collect together all manuscript records held by the state archives relating to the military during the Revolutionary War. He found records on

about 40,000 named soldiers. The published result of that effort was:

Fernow, Berthold, ed. *New York in the Revolution*. Volume XV of *Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York*. State Archives. Vol. 1. Albany: 1887. (DCGS has a reprint in book form and it is also available on FTM CD #143.)

After these records were published, additional Revolutionary War records were discovered in the custody of the office of the NY State Comptroller, James A. Roberts. These were mostly original muster rolls and pay rolls, and receipts for soldiers' pay. Some of these records were published, with no index, in a first 1897 edition. A 2nd edition with an index was published as: *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State. Vol. 1, Second Ed. Albany, 1898*, "A compilation of documents and records from the Office of the State Comptroller". It included all known records on military service then found in the Comptroller's Office, as well as some materials acquired from other sources. The original records were then bound together, amounting to 55 volumes of manuscripts. Over 60% of them were destroyed or damaged in a 1911 state library and Capitol fire at Albany. Therefore, for the destroyed records, the 2nd edition (commonly referred to as "Roberts" for the name of the Comptroller listed on the title page) may be the only remaining proof of service for many Revolutionary War soldiers. Named soldiers numbered 51,972, which is still considered an incomplete listing. DCGS has a facsimile reprint in book form of a 1904 printing of this edition. (The same is available on FTM CD #143. It is also available as part of HeritageQuest Online, digitized in its original form; and reformatted as an online database called "New York Military in the Revolution" at Ancestry.com.)

Additional material in the Comptroller's office which did not relate directly to military service – like who gave supplies to the troops, lists of "Forfeited Estates" of Tories, and information about the general conduct of the war – had also been found. A kind of condensed history of the Revolutionary War in NYS was written based on these records, with some of the original documents reproduced as examples of cited records. This was published in 1901 as a Supplement to Volume 1:

Mather, Frederick G., compiler. *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State, Vol.2 Supplement*. Albany: 1901. (Available in our library on FTM CD #143.)

Miscellaneous original muster rolls and payrolls for New York and other American colonies are part of the collection of the New-York Historical Society. These were published in 2 volumes as part of their *Collections of the New-York Historical Society* for 1914 and 1915 as:

Muster and Pay Rolls of the War of the Revolution 1775-1783. New-York Historical Society, 1916. (Available on FTM CD #143. Also available as the online database "Muster and Pay Rolls of the War of the Revolution, 1775-1783: Miscellaneous Records" on Ancestry.com.)

The compiler of the Supplement to *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State*, Frederick Mather, became interested in the records of American sympathizers who were forced to flee Long Island and New York City after the British won the Battle of Long Island in 1776. The Comptroller's office held records of

the claims made on the state by the refugees for the expenses of their removal. Mather collected more names and records on the 1776 refugees from other official sources, as well as biographical material from their descendants and local historians. This material was published as:

Mather, Frederic G. *The Refugees of 1776 From Long Island to Connecticut*. Albany, 1913. (DCGS has the Heritage Classic Reprint of 1990 (in 2 volumes) in book form. The 1972 reprint by GPC is available on FTM CD #143.)

Additional materials on the Revolutionary War in the DCGS library include:

Frank J. Doherty, "Colonel Jacobus Swartwout's Dutchess County Regiment of Minute Men", *NYG&B Record*, Vol.120 #2 (April, 1989) thru Vol.121 #4 (October, 1990).

Smith, Philip H. *General History of Dutchess County from 1609 to 1876 inclusive*. Pawling, NY, 1877. Appendix B includes lists of signers of the 1775 Association (This history is also available online in digitized form).

Platt, Edmund. *The Eagle's History of Poughkeepsie from the Earliest Settlements 1683 to 1905*. Poughkeepsie, NY: Platt & Platt, 1905. [General Appendix p.300-310: Signers of the Revolutionary Pledge of Association 1775 in the Poughkeepsie Precinct; Those who refused to sign; Names of persons in the precinct of Poughkeepsie whose personal property was confiscated & sold during the Revolution.]

Peterson, Clarence S. *Known Military Dead During the American Revolutionary War 1775-1783*. Clearfield Co, 1990 (orig. 1959).

Hasbrouck, Frank. *The History of Dutchess County, New York*. Reprint 2005, Higginson Book Company [orig. 1909]. Hasbrouck has very useful chapters on the Revolutionary War, including lists of Associaters (signers of the Pledge of Association), as well as those who refused to sign.

After New York came under British control in 1776, Brigadier-General Oliver De Lancey raised 3 battalions of Loyalists for the British defense of Long Island. The New-York Historical Society published De Lancey's Orderly Book covering 1776 to 1778. This publication also includes a list of Loyalists living in New York City from 1776 to 1783, based on contemporary manuscripts and newspapers. These records were published as:

Orderly Book of the Three Battalions of Loyalists Commanded by Brigadier-General Oliver De Lancey, 1776-1778. [with] List of New York Loyalists in the City of New York During the War of the Revolution. New-York Historical Society, 1917. (1972 reprint by GPC available on FTM CD #143.)

Additional books on Loyalists in the DCGS library include:

Vincent, Gerald R. *The Civil Sword. James Delancey's Westchester Refugees 1776-1785*. Duncan, BC, Canada: Cobequid Press, 1997. This is about Loyalists who served with the British, mostly farmers from Westchester, some from Dutchess County, and most of whom moved to Nova Scotia after the war.

Bunnell, Paul J. *The New Loyalist Index*. Bowie, MD: Heritage Books, 1989.

Coldham, Peter Wilson. *American Loyalist Claims. Vol.1*. Washington, D.C.: NGS, 1980.

Crowder, Norman K. *Early Ontario Settlers. A Source Book*. Baltimore: GPC, c1993. [includes official documents on

Loyalists]

Reeks, Lindsay. *Ontario Loyalist Ancestors*. Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1992.

Fraser, Alexander. *United Empire Loyalists. Enquiry into the Losses and Services in Consequence of Their Loyalty - Evidence in the Canadian Claims*. 2 vol. Baltimore: GPC, 1994. (orig. 1904).

Proof of Revolutionary War service can also be found in:

The Balloting Book and other documents relating to Military Bounty Lands in the State of New-York. Higginson reprint, 2004. (orig. Albany, 1825). Among other items, this book includes a listing by New York regiment of each soldier's name, rank, and bounty land awarded (with township name and lot number), as well as another alphabetical list of the persons awarded bounty land and to whom they delivered (sold) their patents to the land. Bounty lands for New York veterans were located on the Military Tract in the Finger Lakes region of central New York and included the present counties of Cayuga, Cortland, Onondaga, Seneca, and parts of Oswego, Schuyler, Tompkins and Wayne.

The Balloting Book does not have an index. Luckily, Lloyd Bockstruck's *Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments* (GPC, 1996) indexes the names of New York veterans found in *The Balloting Book*. It is available as an online database "Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants" on Ancestry.com.

Pension files, of course, would be excellent proof of Revolutionary War service. The library has:

White, Virgil D. *Index to the Revolutionary War Pension Files*. 4 vol. Waynesboro, TN: National Historical Publishing Co, 1995.

HeritageQuest Online has digitized images of the original documents that are indexed in White's *Index to Revolutionary War Pension Files*. The advantage of White's index is that it is an every-name index to the pension files, while the online documents are only indexed by name of pensioner.

Finally, lineage societies, such as the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), have extensive records on military service. Some resources in our library include these titles:

DAR Patriot Index Centennial Edition. Washington:1990. 3 vols. c1994. Indexes men & women whose service in the Revolution has been established by the DAR. Data extracted from original applications for membership in DAR in addition to name may include date and place of birth & death, name of spouse, rank & type of service, if pension papers are known to exist.

DAR Patriot Index. An Index to the Spouses of the DAR Patriots. Published by National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Washington:1986. This volume indexes only the wives of male patriots whose surnames are proven beyond reasonable doubt and were documented as of December 1984. (Does not include spouses named in a 1982 Supplement to the Patriot Index.) This index is used to refer to the main entry under the patriot's name.

Other Resources for Military Research

New York Colonial Muster Rolls, 1664-1775. Reprinted in 2 volumes, by Clearfield Co., Baltimore, 1999. (Originally published as *Second Annual Report of the State Historian of the State of New York*, Appendix H, Albany, 1897. And as *Third Annual Report of the State Historian of the State of New York*, Appendix M, Albany, 1898). Digitized on FTM CD #143.

De Lancey, Edward F. (ed.). *Muster Rolls of New York Provincial Troops 1755-1764.* Heritage Classic reprint, 1990. (Originally published as part of *Collections of the New York Historical Society*, 1891)

Revolutionary Pensioners of 1818. Baltimore: Southern Book Co, 1959 (originally published 1818).

Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812. Reprinted With an Added Introduction by Brigadier General Francis J. Higgins, Adjutant General, and an errata list by GPC, Baltimore, 1969. Reprinted Clearfield 1994. (Orig. publ. by New York Adjutant-General's Office, Albany, 1860.) Digitized on FTM CD #143. Also available as a database "New York Military Equipment Claims, War of 1812" on Ancestry.com.

White, Virgil D. *Index to War of 1812 Pension Files.* 3 vol. Waynesboro, TN: Nat. Hist. Publ. Co, 1989.

White, Virgil D., transcriber. *Index to Old Wars Pension Files 1815-1926.* 2 vol. Waynesboro, TN: Nat. Hist. Publ. Co, 1987.

The Pension Roll of 1835. Indexed Edition in 4 Volumes. Baltimore: GPC, 1992. Originally publ. by U.S. War Dept, 1835. 4 vol.

CD-ROM *Roll of Honor: Civil War Union Soldiers.* Broderbund Software, c1996. (FTM Family Archives CD#351.) Orig. publ. by Genealogical Publishing Company. (Arranged by place of interment as burials were inventoried). Names of Soldiers Who Died in Defense of the American Union Interred at.... Vol.1-27. The Final Disposition Vol.1-4. The Unpublished Roll of Honor.

Callahan, Edward W., compiler. *List of Officers of the Navy of the United States and of the Marine Corps from 1775 to 1900.* NY: L.R. Hammersly & Co, 1901.

Powell, Col. Wm. H., comp. *List of Officers of the Army of the United States from 1779 to 1900.* NY: L.R. Hammersly & Co, 1900.

Heitman, Francis B. *Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army, from its organization, September 29, 1789 to March 2, 1903.* Washington, DC: GPO, 1903. 2 vol.

Ancestry.com has an extensive collection of military records on-line from the colonial period through the Vietnam War. Just a few databases are:

WW I Draft Registration Cards 1917-1918 (excellent source for men born 1873-1900).

New York Civil War Records (79th and 80th Regiments).
General Index to Civil War Pension Files.

Town of Dover record book

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The Dutchess County Town of Dover kicked off its bicentennial celebration Saturday, February 24th, with a ceremony including a reenactment of the first town meeting that took place 200 years ago when Dover separated from the Town of Pawling. The record book of those meetings from 1807 to 1875 has been in the care of a series of owners of the Inn. The current owner, David Wilson, presented the town with this record book. Included with the gift was a transcription of those records which can now be viewed at the Dover Library in Wingdale, NY. Visit the Poughkeepsie Journal web site for more (but the picture caption should say David Wilson gave the record book to Jill Wray!)
<http://www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2007702250347>

Membership news

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There was a problem with a very few address labels when the Winter issues of The Dutchess (Volume 34 Number 2) and Newsletter (Volume 15, No. 2) were mailed. If you did not receive these please advise me at <reormsby@optonline.net> or at the DCGS address shown on the top of this newsletter. We will send a replacement.

Membership listings (concluded)

(Membership listings are not included in web version.)