

GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES  
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An Introduction to Genealogy for Librarians  
Midstate Library Service Center, Berlin  
24 September 2013

- 1) Town and county histories – Many contain genealogical sections.  
**For people unable to come to the Library in person, Interlibrary Loan is possible if we own 2 copies of a Vermont Room book, otherwise an ILL request for photocopies is possible (if the book is indexed) or the Table of Contents can be copied to direct you to more specific photocopy requests.** Refer to Vermont Genealogy, vol. 10, January 2005, “Genealogies Found in Vermont Histories” by Scott A. Bartley.
- 2) Hemenway’s Vermont Historical Gazetteer has information on early settlers and prominent families (all counties, except Windsor, are covered).
  - a) Amount and kind of information to be found is not consistent.
  - b) Good for overview of early, general history of the town.
  - c) Two indexes: names and topics/places
- 3) Vermont Families in 1791. 2 vols. A collection of submitted genealogies of families who were in Vermont at the time of statehood. V 929 V59VF
- 4) Census
  - a) Vermont Census of 1771: acts as an index to names in early Vermont documents.
  - b) Printed census information for the first two censuses, 1790 [DOL has the printed volumes for the fourteen states] and 1800 for Vermont.
  - c) Vermont Census on microfilm: 1790-1880, 1900-1930.
    - i) Water damage during a fire led to the orders to destroy the 1890 Census for most of the U.S., including Vermont’s.
    - ii) 1890 Census of Vermont Civil War Pensioners and Widows. On microfilm.
  - d) The Censuses of 1790-1840 name only the heads of household. Other household members are grouped by gender and age range. Beginning with the 1850 Census all family members are named.
  - e) Printed indexes: 1790, 1800, 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860 and 1870.
  - f) Soundex indexes: 1880, 1900, 1920. On microfilm.
    - i) Warning: the 1880 Soundex Index includes only families with children under the age of ten years.
    - ii) Heads of Households and persons in the household with a different surname than the Head of Household are indexed in the Soundex indexes, except as noted in i.
  - g) Censuses of Agriculture: 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880. List quantity of individual crops grown by each farmer, number of specific livestock and value of property. On microfilm.
  - h) Censuses of Manufacturing: 1820, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880. May include a farmer’s “side business.” On microfilm.
  - i) Mortality Schedules list persons who died during the year previous to the taking of the Census (June 1) in 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880.

Arranged alphabetically by county and subdivided alphabetically by town. 1870 and 1880 are not indexed.

- 5) Rosters, etc.
  - a) Rolls of the Soldiers in the Revolutionary War 1775-1783: V 929 V59R
  - b) Soldiers, Sailors and Patriots of the Revolutionary War-Vermont: V 974.3 F535
    - i) Often gives place of birth.
    - ii) Often gives place of residence at time of service.
  - c) Roster of Soldiers in the War of 1812-1814: V 929 V59A
  - d) Revised Roster of Vermont Volunteers in the War of the Rebellion [Civil War]: V 929 V59
  - e) Vermont in the Civil War, 2 vols.: V 974.3 V59
  - f) Memoirs, collections of Civil War soldiers' letters.
  - g) Roster of Vermont Men and Women in the Military and Naval Services of the United States and Allies in the World War 1917-1919: V 929 V597
  - h) Roster of Vermonters in Uniformed Service of the United States During the Second World War, 1941-1945, 2 vols.: V 929 V598
  - i) Roster of Vermonters Who Served in the Korean War, 1950-1955: V 929 V59K
  - j) Roster of Vermonters Who Served in the Vietnam War, 1964-1975: V 959.7043 R73
- 6) State Papers
  - a) Sequestration, Confiscation and Sale of Estates gives information about Loyalists in Vermont: V 328.3 V59V vol. 6
  - b) General Petitions, 1778-1799, 4 vols. Indexes all petition signers. Text of petition gives their place of residence and political/economic interest: V 328.3 V59V, v.8-11.
- 7) A List of the Principal Civil Officers of Vermont from 1777 to 1918: V 351.1 D39AC
- 8) Vermont Warnings Out locates some residents in a specific time and place: V 929 R65, 2 vols.
- 9) Index to Known Cemetery Listings in Vermont: V 929.5 IN2 1999; V 929.3743 N51
- 10) Material relating to individual cemeteries: V 929.5
- 11) Burial Grounds of Vermont: V 929.5 V58B c.1991. Key to locating Vermont cemeteries using VT Highway Dept. maps and written directions; also tells span of time used, condition and number of graves. Burial Grounds of Vermont Addendum, [200?] [A later ed. of this, which includes the Addendum, is available from the VT Old Cemeteries Assoc., on CD for \$20. Contact the VOCA c/o Charles E. Marchant, PO Box 132, Townshend, VT 05353.]
- 12) Beers Atlases: Addison Co., 1871; Bennington Co., 1869; Caledonia Co., 1875; Chittenden Co., 1869; Franklin Co., 1871; Lamoille and Orleans Cos., 1878; Orange Co., 1877; Rutland Co., 1869; Windham Co., 1869; Windsor Co., 1869; Washington Co., 1873. Maps show location of houses and the names of the owners at that time.
- 13) Proceedings of the Vermont Historical Society; Vermont History; Vermont Quarterly. 1911- present. V 974.3 V59P
- 14) Index to Vermont History: The Proceedings of the Vermont Historical Society. V 974.3 V59P INDEX
- 15) Index to Branches and Twigs: a Genealogical Periodical Published by the Genealogical Society of Vermont: V 929.3743 IN2
- 16) Branches and Twigs: V 929.3743 B73
- 17) Sources on Canadian ancestors
  - a) In Search of Your Canadian Roots: Tracing Your Family Tree in Canada: c.2000 REF 929 Baxter
  - b) Tracing Your Ancestors in Canada. c.2007 REF 929.1 National
  - c) French-Canadian Names: Vermont Variants: V 929.42 G21

- 18) Sources on Native American/Abenaki ancestry
  - a) Tracing Your Native Ancestry: Wabanaki People of the Dawnland: V 929.1 T67N
  - b) Paquette-Picard, Elaine. The St.-Francis Abenaki Paper Trail, 1790-1900. 2 vols. c.2006 V 971.4004 P19
- 19) City Directories give home address and occupation. Cover the larger communities.
- 20) Vermont newspapers on microfilm, from 18<sup>th</sup> century onward.
  - a) Only dependable as an obituary, marriage and birth announcement source in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but earlier ones are sometimes found.
  - b) Little local news in earliest newspapers; publishers used stories from newspapers that came to town from out of state.
  - c) DOL lends newspapers on microfilm through interlibrary loan.
- 21) Hagerman, Robert L. Vermont Newspapers Which Have Been Indexed: A Descriptive Listing. c.1976 V 016.07 H12V
- 22) Hance, Dawn D. Extracts from the Rutland Weekly Herald and Vermont Courier [covering 1800-1825] [199-?] V 974.37 H19
- 23) Rising, Marsha Hoffman. Vermont Newspaper Abstracts 1783-1816. c.2001 V 011.35 R49
- 24) Smith, Anne Kendall. Vital Statistics from St. Johnsbury Caledonian. [1837-1917] c.2000- in 24 volumes. V 974.334 SM5
- 25) Smith, Anne Kendall. Vital Statistics from Farmer's Herald, St. Johnsbury, Vt., June 1828 to June 1832; Weekly Messenger, St. Johnsbury, July 1832 – July 1833. c.2004 V 974.334 SM5F
- 26) Smith, Anne Kendall. Vital Statistics from St. Johnsbury Republican: With Supplement (September thru [sic] December) from the Evening Caledonian, 1918. c.2005 V 974.334 SM5R
- 27) Collected biographies contain information on the most prominent men of the day.
  - a) Encyclopedia, Vermont Biography, c.1912: V 920 D66
  - b) Genealogical and Family History of the State of Vermont, c.1903: V 920 C21
  - c) Successful Vermonters, c.1904: V 920 J37S and V 920 J37 SV
- 28) Directories of organizations: Medical Society, Bar Association, Merino Sheep Breeders, religious organizations.
- 29) Inventory of the Town, Village and City Archives of Vermont. WPA-collected inventories of vital material, by town. The entire state is not covered. V 352.0743 H62I
- 30) Town Reports. From about 1890 to the present.
- 31) HeritageQuest Online: available at the State Library, public libraries that subscribe to Vermont Online Library and their patrons at home.
- 32) [www.AncestryLibrary.com](http://www.AncestryLibrary.com) and [www.AncestryInstitution.com](http://www.AncestryInstitution.com) : only on the staff and public access computers at the State Library, 109 State St., Montpelier.
- 33) Genealogical reference material (at the State Library in Montpelier, unless another location is noted) (Older titles not listed. See subject=genealogy in DOLCAT for a complete list.) **All Reference and LS books are available for ILL.**
  - a) Ancestry's Red Book: American State, County & Town Sources: c.2004 REF 929 Ancestry's
  - b) Bartley, Scott A., "Genealogies Found in Vermont Histories." In Vermont Genealogy, v.10, no.1, 2005.
  - c) Bentley, Elizabeth Petty. The Genealogist's Address Book. c.2005 REF 929.1 Bentley
  - d) Best, Laura. Genealogy for the 1<sup>st</sup> Time: Research Your Family History. c.2003 REF 929.1 Best
  - e) Crawford-Oppenheimer, Christine. Long-distance Genealogy. c.2000 at MLSC 929

- f) Crowe, Elizabeth Powell. Genealogy Online. 8<sup>th</sup> ed. c.2008 REF 929 Crowe
- g) Dowell, David R. Crash Course in Genealogy. C.2011 LS 929 Dowell
- h) Eicholz, Alice. Collecting Vermont Ancestors. c.1993 V 929 EI2 1993
- i) Greenwood, Val D. The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy. c.2000 REF 929 Greenwood
- j) Grenham, John. Tracing Your Irish Ancestors: The Complete Guide. c.2006 REF 929.3 Grenham
- k) Hull, Lise. Tracing Your Family History: The Complete Guide to Locating Your Ancestors and Finding Out Where You Came From. c.2006 REF 929 Hull
- l) Jonas, Linda. A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Scottish Ancestors. c.2002 REF 929 Jonas
- m) Kemp, Thomas Jay. The Genealogist's Virtual Library: Full-text Books on the World Wide Web. c.2000 REF 929 Kemp
- n) Kemp, Thomas Jay. International Vital Records Handbook. c.2000 REF 929 Kemp
- o) Kovacs, Diane. Genealogical Research on the Web. c.2002 LS 929.1 Kovacs
- p) Leppman, John A. A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy. c.2000 V 929.3743 L55
- q) Librarian's Genealogy Desk Reference. c.2000 REF 929.1 Librarian's
- r) LoVerde, Mary. Touching Tomorrow: How to Interview Your Loved Ones to Capture a Lifetime of Memories on Video or Audio. c.2002 at MLSC 929
- s) McClure, Rhonda R. The Complete Idiot's Guide to Online Genealogy. c.2002 REF 929.1 McClure
- t) Melnyk, Marcia D. Yannizze. Family History 101. c.2005 REF 929.1 Melnyk
- u) Melnyk, Marcia Yannizze. The Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research. c.1999 REF 929.1 Genealogist's
- v) Melnyk, Marcia Yannizze. The Genealogist's Question & Answer Book. c.2002 REF 929 Melnyk
- w) Melnyk, Marcia Yannizze. The Weekend Genealogist: Timesaving Techniques for Effective Research. c.2000 929 Melnyk, M.
- x) Radford, Dwight A. A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering your Irish Ancestors: How to Find and Record Your Unique Heritage. c.2001 at REF 929.089 Radford
- y) Rapaport, Diane. New England Court Records: A Research Guide for Genealogists and Historians. c.2006 REF 929.1 Rapaport and V 929.1 R18
- z) Rising, Marsha Hoffman. The Family Tree Problem Solver: Proven Methods for Scaling the Inevitable Brick Wall. c.2005 REF 929 Rising
- aa) Savage, James. A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England. 4 vols. 1969 Orig. published 1860-1862. 929 Savage, J.
- bb) Simpson, Jack. Basics of Genealogy Reference: A Librarian's Guide. c.2008 LS 929 Simpson
- cc) The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy c.2006 REF 929.1 Source
- dd) Swan, James. The Librarian's Guide to Genealogical Services and Research. c.2004 LS 026.9291 Swan
- ee) Thorndale, William. Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920. c.1985 REF 911 Thorndale
- ff) Thorndale, William. Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses. New Hampshire and Vermont, 1790-1920. C.1985 V 312 T39

## OTHER RESOURCES FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN VERMONT

**Leahy Library of the Vermont Historical Society:** 802-479-8500, at the Vermont History Center, 60 Washington St., Barre VT 05641-4209. Has published state and local history (New England/New York-wide); genealogy and periodicals, published military service records and pension lists; microfilmed index to Vermont vital records to 1870; some cemetery inscriptions; WPA graves index for soldiers buried in Vermont; Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records on microfilm. From the VT chapter of the DAR, transcriptions of various records. See [www.vermonthistory.org](http://www.vermonthistory.org) for hours, fees and a more complete description of the collections.

**Vermont State Archives and Records Administration.** Visit their website at <http://vermont-archives.org/> for full information on their expanded public research facility in Middlesex and a description of their services for researchers.

**Genealogical Society of Vermont, Inc.** This organization is “dedicated to assisting genealogists everywhere who are researching their Vermont ancestry.” See [www.genealogyvermont.org](http://www.genealogyvermont.org) for information about their journal, and the society.

**Family History Center,** Montpelier Ward Chapel: 802-229-0482. Hershey Rd., Berlin (off Rte. 302, the Barre-Montpelier Rd. Turn next to the Wayside Restaurant in Berlin; drive to end of road.) Call for current schedule. Provides access to the records and services of the Family History Department’s Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Salt Lake City, Utah. FamilySearch CD-ROM databases also. The LDS library catalog can be found at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) Order microfilms in that catalog at the Family History Center for viewing there for a small fee.

**Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society.** [www.vt-fcgs.org](http://www.vt-fcgs.org) See their web-site for directions, current hours of their library (located at 29 Ethan Allen Ave., Fort Ethan Allen in Colchester), society activities, their journal and much more.

**Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington (the diocese for the entire state)**  
Sacrament Records are mainly held by the individual parishes. If the parish isn’t known, seek the town of residence from Census records or the Vermont State Archives and Records Administration first. Call the Diocese Archivist at 802-658-6110 (ask for the Archives) for help locating the parish when you know the town of residence. Some Diocese baptism records were compiled by the Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society and published as St. Joseph Baptism Repertoire: St. Joseph Co-Cathedral, Burlington, Vermont, 1834-1963.

Providence Orphan Asylum and St. Joseph’s Orphanage: Call 802-658-6110 and ask for Catholic Charities (351 North Ave., Burlington VT 05401). Proof of relationship is necessary to obtain records of residents of the orphanages.

**Vermont Old Cemetery Association.** <http://voca58.org>

See their web-site for activities of the association. Site also includes longitude and latitude of Vermont cemetery locations, downloadable to your GPS!

**Vermont in the Civil War.** [www.vermontcivilwar.org](http://www.vermontcivilwar.org)

Organization devoted to information on Civil War soldiers from Vermont. Web-site contains a discussion forum, registration for descendants of the soldiers, etc.

**Vermont GenWeb** for Vermont history and genealogy.

[http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~vtgenweb/VT\\_History.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~vtgenweb/VT_History.htm)

This site is part of the U.S. GenWeb Project, a collection of volunteer-run websites of information on history and genealogy at the state and county level.

**Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet.** [www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com)

327, 750+ links (as of 7/30/2013) to family history websites. Most are categorized for help in searching.

