

# **NEW YORK CITY GENEALOGY**

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**1. Today's Workshop**

**2. A Brief but Essential History and Geography Lesson**

**3. The Census (Federal, State, and City)**

**4. Vital Records (Birth, Marriage, Death)**

**5. Newspapers**

**6. City Directories**

**7. Naturalizations**

**8. Other Records (if time permits)**

# New York City Boroughs & Counties

Borough Name
<i>County Name</i>



# NEW YORK STATE CENSUS

COUNTY	1855	1865	1875	1892	1905	1915	1925
BRONX					See NY	✓	✓
KINGS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
NEW YORK	✓				✓	✓	✓
QUEENS				✓		✓	✓
RICHMOND	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓

**ALSO: The New York City “Police” Census of 1890 included New York (Manhattan) and part of the Bronx**

# NEW YORK CITY VITAL RECORDS

## Available Without Restriction

1. All original records for the indicated years are available from the NYC Municipal Archives. They are also available on microfilm at the Salt Lake City Family History Library and may be viewed on-line at Family History Centers such as Oakland FHC, using methods described on the following pages.
2. Later birth and death records are available (with difficulty, especially for birth records) from the Department of Health.
3. Later marriage records are available from the City Clerk's office.

<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>BIRTHS</b>	<b>MARRIAGES</b>	<b>DEATHS</b>
<b>New York (Manhattan)</b>	1847-1909	1847-1848; 1853-1937	1795-1808 (with gaps); 1812-1948
<b>Kings (Brooklyn)</b>	1866-1909	1866-1937	1847-1853;1857-1948
<b>Queens</b>	1898-1909	1898-1937	1898-1948
<b>Bronx</b>	1898-1909	1898-1937	1898-1948
<b>Richmond (Staten Island)</b>	1898-1909	1898-1937	1898-1948

# Viewing Original New York City Vital Records on FamilySearch Using stevemorse.org

*Note: Original records can only be viewed at Family History Centers*

1. Go to [stevemorse.org](http://stevemorse.org), scroll about half-way down the list.
2. Click on one of the following (note that title must have “**igg**” at the end):
  - New York City Birth Records (1879-1909): Searching the New York City Birth Index in One Step (igg)**
  - New York City Groom Records (1864-1937): Searching the New York City Groom Index in One Step (igg)**
  - New York City Bride Records (1866-1937): Searching the New York City Bride Index in One Step (igg)**
  - New York City Death Records (1862-1948): Searching the New York City Death Index in One Step (igg)**
3. Fill in the form using the least information required to narrow down choices.
4. Click on “Search IGG”
5. Select a record, write down the document number.
6. Click on “Click Here”, then “Fetch Initial Image”. That will get you to the correct microfilm roll and the approximate location of the document on the roll.
7. Either scroll to the desired record from Step 5 (they are in numerical order) or go back to the previous search form and fill out item **2**.

# Viewing Abstracted NYC Vital Records on FamilySearch Using stevemorse.org

*May be viewed on any computer*

1. Go to [stevemorse.org](http://stevemorse.org), scroll about half-way down the list.

2. Click on one of the following (note that title must have “**familysearch**” at the end):

**New York City Birth Records (1846-1909): Searching the New York City Birth Index in One Step (familysearch)**

**New York City Marriage Records (1829-1937): Searching the New York City Marriage Index in One Step (familysearch)**

**New York City Death Records (1795-1949): Searching the New York City Death Index in One Step (familysearch)**

3. Fill in the search form. Don't use Father or Mother name at first, as they are often incorrect. Don't use “Born In” for foreign births.

4. Click on Search, then click on View.

# ONLINE NEW YORK CITY NEWSPAPERS

## PAID SITES

- A. NewspaperArchive
- B. GenealogyBank
- C. Newspapers.com
- D. Ancestry.com has some papers, but not as good as other sites, runs are incomplete.

## FREE SITES

- A. [www.fultonhistory.com](http://www.fultonhistory.com) has many NYC papers. Somewhat hard to use but worth it.
- B. Chronicling America (LoC site)
- C. Brooklyn Public Library: Brooklyn Daily Eagle 1841 to 1955.
- D. NY Times: several approaches including the Times' own archive site.
- E. Staten Island Historical Newspapers Online
- F. Suffolk County Historic Newspapers
- G. NYS Historic Newspapers

# City Directories Published

- Manhattan: 1786 -1787, 1789 - 1924, 1931, 1933
- Brooklyn: 1796, 1802, 1811, 1822 - 1910, 1912, 1933
- Bronx: Combined with Manhattan
- Queens: 1898, 1899, 1901, 1904, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1912, 1933
- Staten Island: 1886, 1890, 1933



## INTERNET RESOURCES FOR NEW YORK CITY GENEALOGY

Where a URL is not shown, it is easier to just search with Google

1. [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org) (free site) Indexed data collections are easiest to use, but most of the 2.5 million rolls of microfilm must be viewed (at Family History Centers) in their original form. Now the most important genealogy site on the Internet.
2. [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com) (paid site): Some overlap with FamilySearch, and easier to use.
3. [stevemorse.org](http://stevemorse.org): contains many useful genealogy search tools. Of special note here are the tools for the Census and NYC Vital Records.
4. NYC Department of Health: for later birth and death records not available from Municipal Archives. Restrictions apply.
5. <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/records/historical-records/order.page> To order publicly-available vital records from the Municipal Archives, including marriage certificates to 1937 and marriage licenses to 1949. Also, tax photographs 1939-1941.
6. <http://www.italiengen.org/> Use Database Searches for indexes to vital records and naturalizations. Steve Morse's front-end to these indexes is more flexible and easier to use.
7. New York City Clerk for post-1949 marriages
8. (county name) County Clerk: for divorce records. Remember to use county, not borough, name.
9. Sutro Library: Located at San Francisco State, a major genealogy library that has a very large collection of microfilmed city directories.
10. [Fold3.com](http://Fold3.com) (paid site): has NYC directories and naturalizations
11. National Archives at New York City: Especially helpful for finding and ordering naturalizations. Use this office and not the main Washington, DC office for faster response.
12. (county name) County Surrogate's Court: for probate records