

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AVAILABLE NINETEENTH CENTURY CENSUS,  
ASSESSMENT AND CHATTEL MORTGAGE RECORDS, SUFFOLK COUNTY

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I. UNITED STATES CENSUS

Population schedules:

Manuscript population census returns for 1790-1880 (1890 returns were almost all-destroyed) are all on microfilm but only those for 1850-1880 are listed here. Before 1850 the kinds of data recorded were more limited and therefore less useful to historians.

- Seventh Census of the United States, 1850. National Archives, Microfilm Productions, microcopy M-432 (SUSB library, microfilm A339, reels 601-602).
- Eighth Census of the United States, 1860. National Archives, Microfilm Productions, microcopy M-653 (SUSB library, microfilm A340, reels 864-865).
- Ninth Census of the United States, 1870. National Archives, Microfilm Productions, microcopy M-593 (SUSB library, microfilm A341, reels 1100-1101).
- Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. National Archives, Microfilm Productions, microcopy T-9 (microfilm A342, reels 934-935).

Industrial Schedules:

All original manuscript industrial schedules for New York State are at the New York State Library, Albany, N.Y. The following are available on microfilm:

- Fourth Census of the United States, 1820. New York State Library microfilm, AFM 203.
- Seventh Census of the United States, 1850. New York State Library microfilm AFM 84. *Microfilm 685 ("Products of Industry")*
- Eighth Census of the United States, 1860. New York State Library microfilm, AFM 85. *Microfilm 686 (" " " ")*
- Ninth Census of the United States, 1870. Suffolk County only. New York State Library microfilm, AFM 131. *Microfilm 687 ("Products of Industry")*
- Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. New York State Library microfilm, AFM 194. *Microfilm 688*

Agricultural schedules:

All original manuscript agricultural schedules for New York State are at the New York State Library, Albany, N.Y. The following are available on microfilm:

- Seventh Census of the United States, 1850. New York State Library microfilm, AFM 113. *Microfilm 680*
- Eighth Census of the United States, 1860. New York State Library microfilm, AFM 114. *Microfilm 681*
- Ninth Census of the United States, 1870. New York State Library microfilm, AFM 115. *Microfilm 682*
- Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. New York State Library microfilm, AFM 116. *Microfilm 683*

## II. ASSESSMENT RECORDS (Tax Rolls)

Assessment records on Long Island are almost universally inaccessible to researchers. The only guide which inventories them, Inventory of All the Records in all the Town Clerks Offices in the County of Suffolk, Long Island, New York (1935) available in the East Hampton Free Library, is very out of date and therefore offers only clues. The following entries list what records each Town holds, mainly from the 1935 Inventory, and where the extant records are now located. Researchers interested in the records of a particular town can use these as a start but must conduct their own comprehensive search.

### Babylon (formed 1872)

years (Inventory): no 19th century assessments extant

location: check Town Clerk, Town Hall vault, 200 E. Sunrise Hwy., Lindenhurst;  
see Robert Mills Smith, Town Historian.

### Brookhaven

years (Inventory): 1851 and up

location: Town Historian's Office, Port Jefferson; basement of Tax Receiver's Office, Port Jefferson; see David Overton, Town Historian

### East Hampton

years (Inventory): 1853 and up

location: basement of Town Hall; see Charles Anderson, Town Clerk

### Huntington

years (search): 1856, 1860-62, 1864-1873, 1875-1889, 1891-1900 and up

location: Town Historian's office, Main St., Huntington (1856-1884);  
Assessors vault, basement of Metropolitan Life building, Huntington,  
see Gregory Wujick, Town Assessor, 100 Main St., Huntington

### Islip

years (Inventory): none

location: -

### Riverhead

years (Inventory): none

location: -

### Shelter Island

years (Inventory): 1814, 1820-22, 1826, 1828, 1834, 1836-37, 1840-41,  
1843-45, 1851, 1881-1900 and up

location: Town Clerk's Office, 44 N. Ferry Rd., Shelter Island;  
see Dorothy Ogar, Town Clerk

Smithtown

years (Inventory): 1804-1900 and up  
Location: basement of Assessor's Office, 40 Maple Ave., Smithtown;  
see Natale Amato, Town Assessor

Southampton

years (search): 1846, 1851-1893, 1896, 1898, 1900 and up  
Location: basement of Town Hall; see William Vernon, Town Assessor

Southold

years (Inventory): 1854-55, 1857-63  
Location: ?; see Mrs. Goodrich, Town Historian

III. CHATTEL MORTGAGES

Only five towns have surviving nineteenth century chattel mortgage records, according to the 1935 Inventory. For those that do, the researcher should check the Town Clerk and/or Town Historian for location.

Babylon: 1872-1900

Brookhaven: 1851-1887, 1887-1902, 1858-1902

Huntington: 1841-1900; Town Historian's Office

Islip: 1893-1900

Southold: 1860-1887, 1886-1900

DATA RECORDED IN CENSUS, ASSESSMENT AND CHATTEL MORTGAGE RECORDS

I. United States Census Population Schedules

1850

- dwelling number
- family number
- name of each person living with the head of household, including non-family members
- age of each person
- sex of each person
- color (race)
- occupation of each male over 15 years
- value of real estate owned
- place of birth
- married within the year
- attended school within the year
- persons over 20 years who cannot read or write
- whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict

1860

1850 data plus:

- post office location (i.e. Northport, Bridgehampton, etc.)
- occupation of each person, male and female, over 15 years
- value of personal estate

1870

1860 data plus:

- if mother and father are of foreign birth
- if born within the year
- cannot read; cannot write
- whether citizen of U.S., if male 21 or over
- whether male citizen 21 years or over whose right to vote has been denied

1880

1870 data plus:

- relationship to head of household
- whether single, married, widowed, divorced
- number of months unemployed
- sickness or disability on day of census visit (e.g. blind, deaf, dumb, idiotic, crippled, etc.)
- birthplaces of mother and father

## II. United States Census Productions of Agriculture Schedules

### 1850

name of owner, agent or manager of farm  
 number of improved and unimproved acres  
 cash value of farm  
 value of farm implements  
 number each of horses, mules, milk cows, working oxen, other cattle, sheep  
 and swine  
 value of livestock  
 number of bushels each of wheat, rye, corn, oats, peas and beans, Irish  
 potatoes, barley, buckwheat, clover seed, other grass seed  
 number of pounds each of rice, tobacco, wool, butter, cheese, hops, flax,  
 flaxseed, silk cocoons, maple sugar, cane sugar, beeswax and honey  
 number of bales of cotton  
 number of gallons of wine and molasses  
 number of tons each of hay and hemp  
 value of orchard products  
 value of produce of market gardens  
 value of homemade manufacture  
 value of animals slaughtered

### 1860

same as 1850

### 1870

#### 1850 data plus:

acres of woodland  
 wages paid during the year including value of board  
 number of bushels each of spring and winter wheat  
 number of gallons of milk sold  
 value of forest products  
 estimated value of all farm productions, including betterments and  
 additions to stock

### 1880

#### 1870 data plus:

name of the person who conducts this farm  
 tenure (owns or rents for money or shares)  
 improved acres (fallow, grass in rotation, permanent meadow)  
 unimproved acres (woodland, forest, other)  
 cost of building and repairing in 1879  
 cost of fertilizers purchased in 1879  
 weeks of hired labor in 1879  
 acreage of mown and not mown grasslands  
 cattle dropped, purchased, sold, slaughtered and died or strayed, 1879  
 lambs and sheep, dropped, purchased, sold, slaughtered, killed by dogs,  
 died of disease, died of stress of weather, 1879  
 number of fleeces clipped or shorn and weight  
 acres each of barley, buckwheat, corn, oats, rye and wheat grown, 1879

acres each of flax, hemp, sorghum, broom corn, hops, potatoes (sweet and Irish) and tobacco grown, 1879  
 acres each of orchards (apples and peaches), number of trees and bushels of fruit, 1879  
 total value of orchard products of all kinds sold or consumed  
 acres of vineyards, pounds of grapes and gallons of wine sold  
 amount of wood cut, 1879

### III. United States Census Products of Industry

#### 1850

name(s) of corporation, company or individual  
 type of business or product  
 capital invested in business  
 quantities, kinds and values of raw materials used, including fuel  
 kinds of motive power or machinery  
 average number each of male and female hands employed  
 average monthly cost each of male and female labor  
 quantities, kinds and values of products produced annually.  
 location of firm (state, county, city or country subdivision)

#### 1860

same as 1850 data

#### 1870

#### 1850 data plus:

number of units of power source  
 amount of horsepower  
 average number of youths employed  
 average monthly cost of youth labor

### IV. Assessment Records (Tax Rolls)

Note: The conscientiousness with which all categories on the rolls were completed varied from assessor to assessor. You need to check specific records to see if all data is present.

owner or occupant  
 description of property (usually location; sometimes includes type of property, e.g. store, mill, farm etc.)  
 number of acres  
 value of real estate  
 value of personal estate  
 total value  
 tax  
 military commutation  
 total tax  
 (after about 1865 additional taxes, e.g. dogs, highways, etc. were included)

V. Chattel Mortgages

date  
 mortgagee  
 mortgagor  
 town of residence of each (sometimes village or area)  
 amount of mortgage  
 interest  
 when due  
 goods mortgaged by mortgagor (usually farm products, farm implements,  
 livestock, household furniture, household or store contents)

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SECONDARY WORKS USING CENSUS AND ASSESSMENT RECORDS

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