

SELECTED SOURCES FOR LONG ISLAND HISTORY

- I. Eckert, Pauline G. An Introduction to Long Island History in Nassau and Suffolk Counties (available at the Reference Desk, in Government Documents, and in Microforms).
- II. New York (State). State University, Stony Brook. Institute for Colonial Studies. The Microfilm Collection of the Institute for Colonial Studies.
- III. Records of the States of the United States of America: a microfilm compilation.
- IV. Long Island Newspapers on Microfilm at S.U.N.Y. at Stony Brook.

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Collection: New York (State). State University, Stony Brook.
 Institute for Colonial Studies.
 The Microfilm Collection of the Institute for Colonial Studies.

Location number: Microfilm ICS.

Scope and content: This large collection is comprised of microfilmed contemporary source documents from New York, Massachusetts, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, and other states and colonies on the eastern seaboard. The over 600 microfilm reels include documents ranging primarily from the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries, with the time period covered and the types of documents available varying with the locality. Probate records, tax lists, minutes of the proceedings of governmental bodies, legal records, deeds, and miscellaneous town and personal records are among the many types of material in the collection.

Indexes, bibliographies, and other finding tools:

1. New York (State). State University, Stony Brook. Institute for Colonial Studies. Acquisitions Books (uncataloged notebooks in Micro., shelved with no. 2 below). These ten notebooks provide a frame by frame microfilm reel guide to approximately half of the reels in the collection (reel A to reel MT). The reel designations are listed alphabetically as follows: reel A, reel B, etc., to reel Z; then reel AA, reel AB, etc., to reel AZ; then reel BA, reel BB, etc., to reel BZ, and so on. Individual frames on a particular reel are indicated with a three digit number, e.g. KB293, for frame 293 on reel KB. These reel guides will therefore often make it possible to pinpoint the location of a specific document, especially in sections devoted to miscellaneous records. The "Indian Deed for Cataconocke on the Great Neck, known as Old Field," for example, is listed as frame AA713, with reel AA being devoted to Brookhaven Town, Suffolk County, New York. The Acquisitions Books are sometimes difficult and confusing to use, however. Occasionally revisions have been made in the notebooks which do not correspond with the actual microfilm reels, and in some cases gaps occur in the alphabetical listing of reels. There are also discrepancies on occasion between the Acquisitions Books and the Microfilm Collection guide (no. 2 below). In such cases the microfilm must be consulted to determine the exact location of the document in question.
2. New York (State). State University, Stony Brook.

Institute for Colonial Studies. Microfilm Collection of the Institute for Colonial Studies (Micro. and Ref. Z1237.N5). This guide is arranged by reel according to the same alphabetical scheme followed in the Acquisitions Books (no. 1 above). It covers the entire collection, from reel A to reel ZQ. Although it includes a description of the contents of each reel, it lacks the frame by frame specificity of the Acquisitions Books. Instead a listing of the major groups of documents on each reel is provided, without a listing of individual documents in most cases. The guide does offer a geographical approach not found in the Acquisitions Books, however. A separate column next to the descriptive section for each reel gives the source locality for each major group of documents. Unfortunately no index is provided, so one must scan the geographical column for the entire alphabetical reel listing in order to locate the documents for a particular place. As with the listing in the Acquisitions Books, there are occasional discrepancies between the guide and the actual microfilm which necessitate a check of the microfilm reel in question. Some of the reel listings in the guide (those reels filmed by the Institute itself and not purchased from another source) have been marked with a "✓," an "x," or an "o." These designations apply to the arrangement and retrieval of the microfilm and are discussed in the section devoted to that topic below.

Reflection of holdings in public catalogs:

- Microforms: The collection as a whole is cataloged, but individual items are not reflected.
- Author/Title: No reflection of holdings.
- Subject: No reflection of holdings.
- Public Serials File: No reflection of holdings.

Arrangement and retrieval: Microfilm is filed in the cabinets labelled "ICS," located in the rear storage area next to the center column. Filing is alphabetical according to the following scheme: reel A, reel B, etc., to reel Z; then reel AA, reel AB, etc., to reel AZ; then reel BA, reel BB, etc., to reel BZ, and so on. A small minority of the reels (approximately forty) were filmed by the Institute itself and may present special retrieval problems. These reels are marked with a "✓" in the Microfilm Collection guide (no. 2 above) to indicate that Stony Brook holds the master negative microfilm. The master negatives for these reels are located in a drawer to the left of the main ICS cabinet. They are not to be used by patrons as regular ICS service copies. In most cases duplicate copies of these reels have been made and these are

filed in the main ICS cabinet in the regular alphabetical sequence. These reels for which duplicate copies are available are marked with an "x" in the Microfilm Collection guide. A few of the master negative reels do not have service copies in microfilm reel form, but microfilm aperture cards, located in a cabinet opposite the main ICS cabinet, are used as service copies instead. The aperture cards are filed according to the standard alphabetical and frame number sequence followed in the Acquisitions Books (no. 1 above). A "✓" in the Microfilm Collection guide without an "x" along with it would indicate that the aperture cards should be used. Finally, an "o" marked in the guide indicates that a particular reel is missing.

Acquisitions status: This collection was assembled by the Institute for Colonial Studies, which is no longer in operation. As a result no further acquisitions will be received.

Availability at the Center for Research Libraries: The Center does not hold this microform collection.

Example: Probate records from the various colonies and states are one type of primary source material to be found in this collection. As they often include a detailed inventory of the personal possessions, real estate, etc., owned by the decedent, these records are very important to the student of social and economic history. A researcher investigating the social structure of late eighteenth century New Hampshire, for example, might make use of this collection by first scanning the geographical location column in the Microfilm Collection guide (no. 2 above) for relevant listings. Microfilm reel CQ, "Cheshire County [N.H.] Probate Records, Inventories, Claims, Accounts (1771-1800) vols. 1, 2, & 3," is one source located by this method. A sample selection from these records is reproduced on the following page. The particular record reproduced, "An Inventory of the Estate of L. Benjamin Tucker late of Marlborough ..." (dated October 29, 1786) is typical of many in the collection in its detailed listing and valuation of personal property.

(382)

An Inventory of the Estate of ¹ Benjamin
 shown us by Hephiah Tucker Administrator
 Nine Narrow Beds wth wth 40 — £ 1.. 0.. 0 One
 One Iron Bed — — — — — 0.. 6.. 0 One
 One Tenant Saw — — — — — 0.. 15.. 0 One
 One Carpenter's Adle — — — — — 0.. 2.. 0 One
 One Inch & half Auger — — — — — 0.. 1.. 0
 One three Quarter Auger — — — — — 0.. 0.. 0
 One Inch Chisel — — — — — 0.. 1.. 0
 Two small Iron Hoops — — — — — 0.. 1.. 0
 One Strait bodied Coat — — — — — 1.. 16.. 0
 One Black Jacket — — — — — 0.. 6.. 0
 One Pair of Breeches — — — — — 0.. 4.. 0
 One old Coat & Jacket — — — — — 0.. 8.. 0
 Three pair of Stockings — — — — — 0.. 4.. 6
 Three White Caps — — — — — 0.. 1.. 0
 One Pair of Linen Breeches — — — — — 0.. 1.. 0
 One Pair of Leather Ditto — — — — — 0.. 0.. 0
 One sword — — — — — 0.. 1.. 0
 One Great Coat — — — — — 0.. 10.. 0

Warrborough October 29th 1786 —

Wharfedale Jan. 9 22^d 1787. Personally appeared
and sworn to by the subscribers with the...
100
30

Collection: Records of the States of the United States of America: a microfilm compilation.

Location number: Microfilm A307.

Scope and content: Also known as "Early State Records," this collection contains a wide variety of material from the middle 1600s to the first half of the nineteenth century. These records of the colonies and states were microfilmed by the Library of Congress and total roughly 1700 reels. Stony Brook holds approximately one sixth of this total. The various categories of material include the following:

Legislative Records	Administrative Records
Journals, Minutes, Proceedings	Executive Records
Legislative Debates	Court Records
Legislative Papers	Local Records - County and City
Statutory Law	Records of American Indian Nations
Codes and Compilations	Newspapers
Session Laws	Rudimentary States and Courts
Special Laws	Miscellaneous Records
Constitutional Records	

Newspapers in this set not held at Stony Brook as part of Microfilm A307 may be found in some cases in the Early American Newspapers collection (Microprint 4). See page 90 of this guide for more information on Early American Newspapers.

Indexes, bibliographies, and other finding tools:

Primary tool.

1. A Guide to the Microfilm Collection of Early State Records (Micro. and Ref. JK2408.U65); Supplement (Micro. and Ref. JK2408.U65 Suppl.). The Guide provides access to the first six groups of records outlined above, from Legislative Records through Court Records. The remaining sections, from Local Records through Miscellaneous Records, are covered in the Supplement. A detailed "Arrangement Outline" serves as a more specific table of contents and introduces the numbering system employed. The body of the guide is organized first by classes in the arrangement outline, (e.g. Legislative Records and sub-sections thereof) then by state, and finally in chronological order within the sub-classes of records. A comprehensive introduction discusses the specific nature of the materials found in the various classes. Items checked in the Guide and Supplement are definitely held at Stony Brook. Other items held are not checked, however, so the microfilm drawer must be consulted to determine for certain if a given reel is held.

Selected additional tool.

2. Carruth, Gordon. The Encyclopedia of American Facts and Dates (Ref. E174.C3 1972). This and other comparable works can be used to help locate material in the records collection by verifying the date and place of a given event and then checking A Guide to the Microfilm Collection of Early State Records (no. 1 above) to determine if any relevant items are available.

Reflection of holdings in public catalogs:

Microforms: The most comprehensive reflection of this set appears in the Microforms catalog under the title Records of the States of the United States. Catalog cards are included listing holdings for each state represented, but not all materials are reflected. The microfilm drawer must be consulted to determine for certain if a given reel is held at Stony Brook. There is also some reflection in the catalog by main entry for individual records, especially in the case of newspapers.

Author/Title: The collection as a whole is cataloged, and there is some reflection by main entry for individual records, especially in the case of newspapers.

Subject: No reflection of holdings.

Public Serials File: The collection as a whole is cataloged, and there is some reflection by main entry for individual serial titles, especially in the case of newspapers.

Arrangement and retrieval: Microfilm reels are shelved first by state, then by type of record according to the Guide's alphanumeric numbering system, then by reel number. Retrieval of the reel containing the Journal of the Assembly for the 1743 North Carolina General Assembly can serve as an example. As the Guide assigns the designation A.lb to journals of lower houses of legislatures, in this case filing and retrieval would be by North Carolina, then A.lb, then Reel 1, which the Guide lists as the location for the 1743 Journal.

Acquisitions status: No further items in this collection are being received at present.

Availability at the Center for Research Libraries: The Center holds this microform collection in its entirety.

Example: A researcher investigating American military preparations for the defense of Boston after its recapture in the Spring of 1776 would find this collection very useful. A Guide to the Microfilm Collection of Early State Records (no. 1 above) might be checked for Massachusetts under the section Legislative Records and the sub-class Journals, Minutes, and Proceedings. This sub-class includes Journals of Lower Houses, in this case the Journal of the House of Representatives, group A.lb. The chronological arrangement within this group indicates that reel

9 contains the Journal for May and June 1776. A relevant sample passage from the afternoon session of Friday, May 31, 1776 is reproduced on the following page.

Do
H.
1776

(12)

A F T E R N O O N.

Petition of Jobson Moulton

A Petition of *Jobson Moulton*, praying Allowance of his Account for refitting the Schooner *Diligent*, which was cast on Shore at York, in April last—for Reasons set forth in said Petition.

Read and committed to Mr. *Jackson*, Mr. *Waggon* and Col. *Donist*.

Mr. Secretary *Morton* came down and read to the House the following Message.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

Message from the Council

BY Intelligence from all Quarters, we have the greatest Reason to expect the speedy Arrival of a very large Body of Ministerial Troops from Europe; Part of which we have had Accounts were intended for Boston. Although a great Body of their Troops has been lately driven from that Place, it is very probable they may return to it, as soon as they shall be reinforced by the Troops expected. It is therefore highly expedient, that the Harbour of Boston should with all possible Expedition be put into the best State of Defence; and that strong Guards be stationed in such Parts of the Sea-Coast, where it is most likely they may attempt to Land.— This Measure, Gentlemen, we earnestly recommend to your immediate Attention.

A Letter from the President of the Continental Congress of the 16th May, will inform you, that in the present Situation of Affairs, it is highly necessary that the Town of Boston should receive a Reinforcement, to prevent it from falling again into the Hands of the Ministerial Army. The Congress therefore, considering the small Number of Troops in that Place, and the Impossibility of detaching any from the Continental Army, have Resolved, That the Five Battalions now in Massachusetts-Bay, be recruited to their full Complement, and that Three Additional Battalions be raised in the Eastern Department, for the Service of the Continent. The Recruits to be taken into Continental Pay as soon as they shall be armed and mustered. That Two of the Additional Battalions be raised in Massachusetts-Bay, and the other in Connecticut: That it be recommended to the General Assemblies of those Colonies to endeavour to have the Battalions enlisted for Two Years, unless sooner discharged by Congress; in which Case they are to be allowed One Month's Pay on their Discharge; but if the Men cannot be prevailed on to enlist for Two Years, that they may be enlisted for One Year, and that they be ordered, as soon as raised and armed, immediately to march to Boston. And by the said Letter, the Congress rest assured, that you will do every Thing in your Power to carry these Resolves

LONG ISLAND NEWSPAPERS ON MICROFILM

1-28-80

BROOKLYN

Microfilm A178*

Nova Vanguard
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Library has: Three issues in 1968

Microfilm A178*

The Other Other
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Library has: May 20, 1968

EAST HAMPTON

Microfilm 668

The East Hampton Star
East Hampton, N.Y.

Library has: Scattered issues from
Dec. 1885 to June, 1917 (3 reels)

ELMHURST

Microfilm A178*

The Family Voice
Elmhurst, N.Y.

Library has: April - Dec., 1972

FARMINGDALE

Microfilm 192

Long Island Head-light
1872-Feb. 27, 1875.
Farmingdale, N.Y.

Library has: Nov. 1873-1875

FLUSHING

Microfilm A173*

News Project
Flushing, N.Y.

Library has: scattered issues in
1967 and 1968

GARDEN CITY

Microfilm A2

Newsday (Suffolk edition)
SEE
Melville

(Continued)

GREAT NECK

Microfilm A178*

Roach
Great Neck, N.Y.

Library has: one issue in 1969

HEMPSTEAD

Microfilm A30

Hempstead Sentinel
Hempstead, N.Y.
June 3, 1858-Jan.27, 1949

Library has: June 3, 1858 - Jan. 27, 1949
(inclusive dates)

HICKSVILLE

Microfilm A178*

Express
Hicksville, N.Y.

Library has: scattered issues in 1973, 1974,
and one issue in 1976

HUNTINGTON

Microfilm A252

Long Islander
Huntington, N.Y.
June 5, 1838 -

Library has: July 12, 1839 - Dec 25, 1936

JAMAICA

Microfilm A256

Long Island Press
Jamaica, N.Y.
1889 - 1977.

Library has: 1970 - March 25, 1977.
(ceased publication)

LINDENHURST

Microfilm A178*

Island Surfing
Lindenhurst, N.Y.

Library has: Two issues in 1973

(Continued)

MELVILLE

Microfilm A2

Newsday (Suffolk edition)

Melville, N.Y.

July 17, 1944-

Library has: July 17, 1944 - Nov. 1979

PORT JEFFERSON

Microfilm 193

Independent Press

Port Jefferson, N.Y.

Aug. 17, 1865 - Aug. 1874

Library has: Nov. 2, 1865; Jan 24, Mar. 14, 1867;
June 17, Aug. 19, Nov. 11, 1869

Microfilm 192

Long Island Leader

Port Jefferson, N.Y.

April 12, 1873 -1881

Library has: 1873-1881 (incomplete)

Microfilm 192

Long Island News Letter

Port Jefferson, N.Y.

Feb. 22, 1884-1889

Library has: Aug. 30, Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 15, 1884;
Mar. 28-April 25, 1885, July 17-Sept. 11,
Sept. 25-Nov 6, Dec. 11-18, 1886;
July 2-9, 1887

Microfilm 193

Long Island Star

Port Jefferson, N.Y.

1866-1870.

Library has: Sept 13, 1867, July 3, 1868-Aug. 17, 1870
(some issues missing)

Microfilm A394

Port Jefferson Times

Port Jefferson, N.Y.

Dec. 14, 1878-Nov. 4, 1966.

Library has: Mar. 15, 1879-1885;
1887-1890; 1892-1893;
1895-1905; April 17, 1915 (incomplete)

(Continued)

SAYVILLE

Microfilm A371

Suffolk County News
Sayville, N.Y.
1885-

Library has: 1888 - July 10, 1942

STONY BROOK

Microfilm A425

The Statesman
Stony Brook, N.Y.
1958 -

Library has: Feb. 1958 - May 12, 1976

Microfilm A180

Three Village Herald
Stony Brook, N.Y.
July 16, 1954-

Library has: July 16, 1954 - Jan. 1, 1975

WESTBURY

Microfilm A178*

Long Island Free Press
Westbury, N.Y.

Library has: Two issues in 1970 and
Two issues in 1971

WESTHAMPTON BEACH

Microfilm A178*

Moniebogue Press
Westhampton Beach, N.Y.

Library has: scattered issues in 1972

* - Underground Newspaper Collection.