

BOOKS RELATING TO NEW YORK STATE

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There is no library too small, too new or too poor to have its local history collection. This can be built up with very little outlay if the librarian or trustees will give it some thought and vigilant attention. The material is already in the community, in garrets, offices, homes, printing offices, etc. The chief task is to bring it together in the library — arrange it attractively — and to get and keep interested in its growth those people (found in every village) who care greatly for such material. Such a collection as complete as it can be made, and well kept, is a solid satisfaction and a proper pride for both library and community.

All books, pamphlets, pictures, photographs and posters have a place here. The local newspapers, town and county histories, genealogies of local families will doubtless be gladly contributed if the library is known to be desirous of such items. Even fugitive and seemingly unimportant things like programs of plays, handbills, church bulletins, banquet menus gather interest and value with age.

Buy these things, *borrow* them, but *buy* only as a last resort. Make your wants known, keep the material well arranged and attractively displayed and gifts of a similar sort will often be made by families, institutions and interests.

In accumulating a local history collection libraries should get in touch with the local historical society (if there is one) to avoid duplication of effort. One such collection in each community is of course enough and it should be kept in the safest, yet most accessible public place and in charge of active persons really interested in its growth and use.

From the village to the State is the natural course of development and in a zeal for strictly local material one must not forget the State as a whole, for there are certain books about the State that will make an appeal in every community.

The Indian occupation is always interesting. Beauchamp's *History of the New York Iroquois* should be in practically every library in the State. For a community where there is a special interest in the Indians, Morgan's *League of the Iroquois* is well worth buying, although costing \$5, for it is the best and most

authoritative work on the subject. Stone's *Life of Red Jacket* and his *Life of Brant* will be needed by any library that is making a feature of the Iroquois occupation. These books have not been included in the following list because they are out of print but they can often be bought from secondhand dealers. The same is true of Turner's *History of the Phelps and Gorham purchase*, which is indispensable to libraries in the western part of the State that are interested in the history of the early settlers and the purchases of the lands from the Indians.

The volumes of Parkman and Fiske included in the general list one would expect to find in every library in the State, for it is from Parkman's glowing pages that we learn of the expedition to Canada through the trackless regions of Lake George and Lake Champlain, and of La Salle's journeys along the Niagara frontier. Fiske's *Dutch and Quaker colonies* gives a picture of colonial life on this continent that can not be excelled in interest and fascination by any colonial narrative, not even Virginia's.

There are some early biographies, too, that make more than a local appeal. The *diary* of Caroline Cowles Richards (Mrs Clarke) first published in the Naples, N. Y., weekly paper and afterwards privately printed in book form, now published under the title *Village life in America* (Holt \$1.50) gives a picture of life in Canandaigua, N. Y., in the late fifties and early sixties, and because of its originality, humor and sincerity it makes a universal appeal. Gebhard's *Parsonage between two manors*, now unfortunately out of print, is a delightful record of life in the Rensselaer and Livingston manors (Claverack and vicinity) during the days of the revolution and early nineteenth century. Mrs Anne Grant's *Memoirs of an American lady* (also out of print) written more than a hundred years ago preserves its freshness and charm in a most amazing manner, transports us in a delightful way to the society of Colonel Schuyler and Sir William Johnson, and describes life in the vicinity of Albany in prerevolutionary days.

Books making a general appeal in which the New York interest is secondary are Channing and Lansing's *Story of the Great Lakes* with its chapter on the Iroquois trail, and Hepburn's *Artificial waterways*, which treats of the Erie canal very fully but has chapters also on the Panama canal and the world's waterways in general.

There are other books of purely local interest which have not been included because they are too local; they would have great

value in one part of the State but little in another. For instance: Canfield's *Things worth knowing about Oneida county* would be of little use in village libraries in the Adirondack region, while in libraries in Oneida county it might be in constant demand.

The following list does not pretend to be exhaustive; it contains a few of the good histories, some of the more striking and interesting of the less expensive books on the life of the early settlers, and books descriptive of the natural scenery of the State. Only a few books covering the political history and commercial development have been listed and no attempt has been made to include biographies of New York people, nor fiction which relates to the State.

New York State

Description

- 917.47 Bacon, E. M. *Chronicles of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow*; rev. ed. Putnam \$1.25
Early life, interesting houses, legends and bits of local history. Chiefly relating to revolutionary period.
- 917.47 — Hudson River from ocean to source. Putnam \$3.50
Treats of its history and legends from the Battery to Troy. Based on original records some not hitherto published. Large sectional map and many illustrations.
- 917.47 Bayles, W. H. *Old taverns of New York*. Allaben \$2.50
- 917.47 Earle, Mrs Alice (Morse). *Colonial days in old New York*. Scribner \$1.25
Town and country life, schools, Sunday, dress, domestic and social manners, etc., under Dutch and early English rule.
- 917.47 Johnson, Clifton. *Picturesque Hudson*. (Picturesque river ser.) Macmillan \$1.50
Well-taken photographs show many characteristic scenes. Some range back some distance from the main stream to views in the Catskills. Text based on Bacon's *Hudson River*.
- 917.47 — *Picturesque St Lawrence*. (Picturesque river ser.) Macmillan \$1.25
Companion to *Picturesque Hudson*, recounting the beauties, historical associations, and life along this great river. Illustrated from photographs.
- 917.47 Longstreth, T. M. *The Adirondacks*. Century \$2.50
Delightfully entertaining and informing account of the wanderings of two young men and an amiable pack-pony through the Adirondacks from June to December. Good descriptions, attractive pictures and a map.
- 917.47 — *The Catskills*. Century \$2.50
Describes a four weeks' tramping trip in the Catskills. Admirable descriptions of scenery, personal anecdotes and bits of legends and history. About 30 excellent halftone illustrations.
- X 917.47 Mack, A. C. *Palisades of the Hudson: their formation, tradition, romance, historical associations, natural wonders and preservation*. Palisades Press, Edgewater, N. J. 75c
Contains numerous sepia halftone reproductions of excellent photographs.
- 912.747 New York (State) Highways commission. *Map of the state of New York, showing the improved highways and many points of historical interest*, issued May 1, 1917. 32 x 38 inches. Scale about 9 miles to the inch. Inset map of Long and Fishers Islands. Places of historical interest are

numbered on the map, and on the back after its number, is given information about each place. Apply to the Highways Commission, Albany.

- 917.47 New York (State). *Niagara state reservation commissioners*. Annual report.
Handsome pictures, good maps, popular treatment of an interesting subject. May be had from the office of the Commissioners at Niagara Falls.
- 917.47 Reid, W. M. *Lake George and Lake Champlain*. Putnam \$3.50
An exceptionally well-illustrated description of the country of the two lakes, including Indian myths, pioneer legends and accounts of the battles of the French and Indian war and of the revolution.
- 917.47 — *Mohawk Valley*. Putnam \$3.50
History, legends, notes on pioneers, old houses, historic sites, etc. Of special interest in central New York.
- 917.47 — *Story of old Fort Johnson*. Putnam \$3
History of Sir William Johnson's colonial mansion, with gossip about his family life, an account of his part in the events of the time and descriptions of surrounding scenery.

Personal Narratives

- 917.47 or 921 Bowne, E. S. *Girl's life 80 years ago*. Scribner \$3
Now out of print but may often be purchased at remainder sales for less than the list price.
- 917.47 or 921 Clarke, Mrs C. C. (Richards). *Village life in America, 1852-72*. Holt \$1.30
An entertaining and refreshingly original diary of a school girl in Canandaigua, N. Y. An absolutely truthful record of the young writer's life from early childhood until marriage.
- 917.47 or 921 Grant, Mrs Anne (MacVicar). *Memoirs of an American lady; with sketches of manners and scenes in America as they existed previous to the revolution; new ed.* Dodd \$2.50

History: General

- 974.7 American scenic and historic preservation society. *Annual report*. Free. Apply to Society, 154 Nassau st., New York City.
Contains much valuable material relating to New York State history. Gives account of historic buildings and places in New York and often full accounts of historical events that are difficult to secure in any other way; e. g., 14th annual report (1906) contains a good account of Sullivan's expedition against the Iroquois.

- 974-7 Armbruster, E. L. Long Island: its early days and development. Brooklyn Daily Eagle 25c
Contains maps, illustrations and biographical sketches.
- 974-7 Brooks, E. S. Story of New York. (Story of the states) Lothrop \$1.50
Popular sketches of political, social and industrial affairs from the first Dutch settlements to 1888.
- 974-7 Carpenter, W. S. The summer paradise in history. General passenger dept., Delaware & Hudson Co. 25c
Compilation of fact and tradition covering Lake George, Lake Champlain, the Adirondack mountains, and other sections reached by the rail and steamer lines of the Delaware and Hudson Company. Subtitle.
Though obviously an advertisement and without pretense to completeness or historical accuracy, will be a useful reference book in any New York library. Alphabetical subject arrangement. Illustrations, maps, bibliography.
- 974-7 Crockett, W. H. History of Lake Champlain, 1609-1909. Shanley \$1.25
Chronicle rather than a personal narrative, far less attractively printed and illustrated than Reid's *Lake George and Lake Champlain*, but more valuable for reference and probably more accurate.
- 974-7 Fiske, John. Dutch and Quaker colonies. 2v. Houghton \$3.60
Social and political history of New York and Pennsylvania in the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.
- 974-7 Griffin, W. E. Story of New Netherland. Houghton \$1.25
The beginnings and growth of the Dutch settlements in New York, telling the stories of the governors, patroons and lesser personalities, and describing customs, social life, school and church interests.
- 974-7 Halsey, F. W. Old New York frontiers. Scribner \$2.50
History of northern and central New York during seventeenth and eighteenth centuries: its people, its settlement and its wars.
- 974-7 Horne, C. F. History of the state of New York. Heath \$1.20
A clear presentation of the most stirring events in New York's history, covering from the beginning to the present time but devoting about four-fifths of its pages to the earlier period before 1815. Prepared for use in schools in New York State.
- 974-7 New York (State) University. Lake Champlain tercentenary, June 4-10, 1909. The University of the State of New York, free.
- 974 Niles, G. G. The Hoosac Valley: its legends and its history. Putnam \$3.50
Chronicles the share of this region (which covers parts of New York, Vermont and Massachusetts) in colonial and revolutionary history, and more briefly in that of the succeeding period, and describes enthusiastically scenery, historical and literary shrines, etc. Notes in appendix explain Indian names and give muster rolls. Several small maps and about 200 halftones from photographs. Full index.
- 971 Parkman, Francis. Jesuits in North America. Little \$1.35
Opening chapter, a truthful picture of savage life and manners.
- 973-2 ——— Montcalm and Wolfe. 2v. Little \$2.70
Story of downfall of France in America. Perhaps of greater general interest and more typical of the whole series than any other volume.
- 974-7 Phillips, M. S. Colonial New York. Colonial Dames of Amer., 2605 Eden av., Cincinnati, O. 25c
Tells in simple language story of colonial New York. Compiled by the Colonial Dames of Ohio for use in the Ohio schools.
- 974-7 Powell, L. P. ed. Historic towns of the middle states. Putnam \$3
(Amer. historic towns)
Popular historical and descriptive monographs on Albany, Schenectady, Saratoga, Newburgh, Tarrytown, New York, Brooklyn, Buffalo. Well illustrated.
- 974-7 Prentice, W. R. History of New York. Bardeen \$1.50
In simple language for the use of schools.
- 974-7 Roberts, E. H. New York: the planting and growth of the Empire State. 2v. (Amer. commonwealths) Houghton \$1.35 ea.
Complete history of New York from its discovery and settlement to 1903.
- 974-7 or 342 Sullivan, James. Government of the state of New York. Scribner 60c
Arranged for schools but will be useful to the small library.
- 974-7 Williams, Sherman. New York's part in history. Appleton \$2.50
Popular history of New York, devoting most space to the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, pointing out the work of some of its most distinguished citizens. Last chapter describes the State's public school system. Many of the illustrations are from interesting old prints. Index and bibliographies.
- 974-7 ——— Stories of early New York history. Scribner 65c
For young people. Gives brief accounts of events, persons, places and conditions.

History: Indian Occupation

- 970.4 *Legends of the Ho-de-no-sau-nee, or Iroquois*, by J. H. Morgan. (Dodd \$5) was the first thoroughly scientific work on the Indians ever published and still remains the best and most authoritative work on the subject, but is rather expensive for the average library.

Other museum publications that should be in all New York State libraries and may be purchased from the Education Department are:

— Aboriginal occupation of New York.	30c
— Aboriginal place names of New York.	40c
— Civil, religious and mourning councils and ceremonies of adoption.	25c
— Earthenware of the New York aborigines.	25c
— Metallic implements of the New York Indians.	25c
— Perch Lake mounds.	20c
— Besuchamp, W. M. Polished stone articles used by the New York aborigines.	25c
— Converse, H. M. & Parker, A. C. Iroquois myths and legends.	50c
— Parker, A. C. The constitution of the Five Nations.	50c
— An Erie Indian village and burial site.	30c

- 970.4 Seaver, J. E. Narrative of the life of Mary Jemison. 20th ed., enl.

Amer. scenic and historic preservation soc., 154 Nassau st., N. Y. \$1.50

The best story of the incidents in the history and common life of the Seneca Indians.

- 970.4 Skinner, Alanson. The Indians of Greater New York. (Little histories of North American Indians)

Torch Press \$1

The history and customs of the Delawares, Mahikans and Mohicans who inhabited the region now known as Greater New York. In part a compilation from the records of early explorers and settlers and in part description of the relics found in shell heaps examined by the author. Interesting and reliable. Map, bibliography and index.

New York City

- 974.7 Brown, H. C. History of the city of New York. Society of old New Yorkers, 15 East 40th st., N. Y. 25c

- 974.7 City history club of New York. Historical guide to the city of New York. Stokes \$1.50

Compiled under the direction of the City history club, it gives careful directions both as to route and conveyance, for 60 excursions designed to include the historical relics, sites and commemorative tablets in Greater New York. Maps and illustrations. Unfortunately now out of print but may be picked up from second-hand dealers.

- 917.47 Comstock, Sarah. Old roads from the heart of New York. Putnam \$2.50

Interestingly written, the result of careful research, this fully illustrated guidebook conducts the reader along historic highways within a radius of 30 miles from the Battery, telling of past events and seeking out the still existing relics of colonial and revolutionary days.

- 917.47 Janvier, T. A. In old New York. Harper \$1.75

Excellent for reference or entertainment.

- 917.47 Jenkins, Stephen. The greatest street in the world. Putnam \$3.50

History and description of Broadway from the discovery of the Hudson to the present day, recounting events and describing buildings from Bowling Green to Albany.

- 974.7 — The story of the Bronx. Putnam \$3.50

Comprehensive popular history of the New York city borough, covering period from the Dutch purchase in 1639 to present day and embodying much local information not easily found elsewhere. More useful for reference than reading. Illustrations chiefly from the author's photographs. Maps and good index.

- 917.47 Rider, Fremont. New York city. Holt \$3.10

Comprehensive guide book, modeled on Baedeker, containing necessary information as to hotels, railroads, theaters etc., and authoritative, well-digested historical and descriptive material on the various sections of the city and its environs. 16 maps, 18 plans, and bibliography.

- 917.47 Singleton, Esther. The children's city. Sturgis & Walton \$1.25

Child's guide book to New York, narrating in lively conversational style a series of excursions taken by two children and their aunt to parks, museums and other places of interest.

- 917.47 — Dutch New York. Dodd \$3.50

Account of household and social life in New Amsterdam, colored somewhat by a rosy imagination.

- 974.71 Wilson, R. R. New York, old and new. 2v. Lippincott \$2.50

Most complete standard history of New York city.

Miscellaneous

- 977 Channing, Edward, & Lansing, M. F. Story of the Great Lakes. Macmillan \$1.50

Contains chapters on the Iroquois trail and the road which followed it and also a chapter on the Erie canal.

- 917.47 or 386 Hepburn, A. B. Artificial waterways and commercial development (with a history of the Erie canal). Macmillan \$1.25

Has a short chapter on the Panama canal and one on the world's waterways in general but most of the book is given to the canal system of New York and its relation to New York city.

917.47 or 630 New York (State) Agriculture dep't. Agricultural advantages of the Empire State. (Bulletin 73)

Sets forth the advantages of farming in New York and demonstrates that they are not excelled by those of any other state.

917.47 or 630 ——— Farms for sale or rent in New York, 1917. (Bulletin 90)

A list of farms for sale is published annually by the Department.

917.47 or 626 New York (State). State engineer and surveyor. History of New York canals. 2v. 1905. Free