

LIBRARIANS' BEST PICKS



NEWSLETTER

Focusing on web sites of interest to Westchester -- Fall 2006

Westchester County History

Two vital places for Westchester County history are the county's archives and the county's historical society. Archives contain government related documentation whereas historical societies focus on documentation from individuals or private organizations. Below are highlighted the web sites for these two depositories. You can find these links from the **Librarians' Best Picks** web page. Click on *Westchester*. Then click on *History*.

Westchester County Archives

www.co.westchester.ny.us/wcarchives

www.westchestergov.com/wcarchives

For an overview of holdings, start with the *Guide to the Collections* section which provides descriptions of the paper records, photographs, maps and plans collections held by the Archives.

Under *Online Resources*, *Online Indexes* offer access to personal names, corporations, and school reports. The *Online Documents* link of particular interest is the 1867 Beers *Atlas of New York and Vicinity*. The vicinity is Westchester and shows ownership of plots, structures present and named streets.

More online documents can be found in the *Virtual Archives* section, which also has a direct link off of the **Librarians' Best Picks Westchester History** page. The *Civil War Era in Westchester* displays images and descriptions covering Westchester during the war. The current imaging project is *Historical Treasures of Westchester County*, a presentation of documents of unique or historical value arranged by community. Background information is given for each document. For instance, from 1844-1850

John MacDonald interviewed 241 Westchester residents as to their recollections of the American Revolution. Images of two of these interviews are provided here.

Resources for Genealogists can be accessed from the home page or by way of the *Online section*. Besides the before mentioned online indexes, there are also descriptions of records of interest to genealogists: will, probate, naturalization and deed.

To illustrate the variety of materials found at the Archives website, take a look under the *Exhibits* section for the 1931 lawsuit Theodore Dreiser filed against a film producer in connection with *An American Tragedy*.

Westchester County Historical Society

www.westchesterhistory.com

Click on *The Library* to discover information about the collections held by the Society and to search the online indexes. Indexes include an index of personal names found in approximately 30 books owned by the Society and in its Vertical File; a *Westchester Historian* index by author and subject; a listing of church records on microfilm and a Westchester cemetery index to headstone information.

From *The Library* page you can also view selected images of Westchester by clicking on *Photo Gallery* on the left side. For Frank Sanchis' architecture photos or images from *Picturing Our Past: National Register Sites in Westchester* go to the *Photo Gallery Archives* link at the bottom of the Gallery page

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