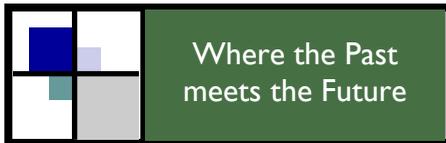


Broome County Local History & Genealogy Center

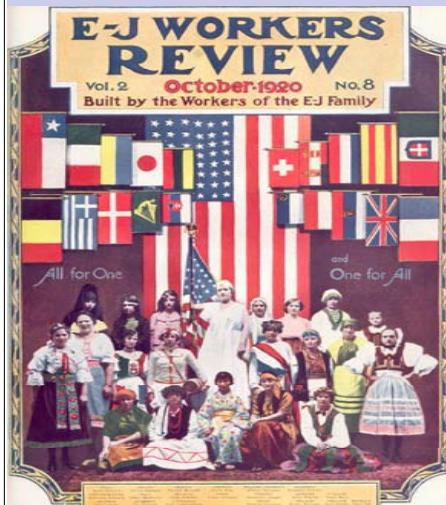
185 Court Street
Binghamton, NY 13901-3503

Phone: 607-778-3572
Email: bcpl_localhistory@yahoo.com



Where the Past
meets the Future

THE BROOME COUNTY LOCAL HISTORY & GENEALOGY CENTER



Cover of the E-J Workers Review, 1920

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9-5;
Tuesday 12-8

Broome County Local
History & Genealogy Center

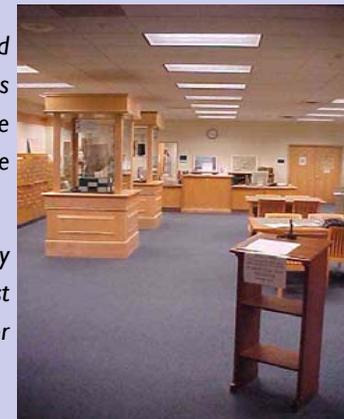
Tel: 607-778-3572

What is the Broome County Local History & Genealogy Center?

The Broome County Local History Center is located on the second floor of the Broome County Public Library at 185 Court Street in Binghamton, New York. The Center incorporates the local history and genealogy holdings of the Broome County Public Library, the Broome County Historical Society, the Broome County Historian and the City of Binghamton Historian.

The Center has large collections of photographic images, printed histories and genealogical resources, maps, vertical files, obituaries and abstracted indices that are further described inside this flyer. In addition, the Center has available four computers for researchers to access either the Internet or use the large collection of CD-ROMs on genealogy.

While the Center is supported through some public funds, the Broome County Historical Society provides both monetary support as well as volunteers to assist users. Use of the Center is free, but we would encourage our users to consider becoming members of the Broome County Historical Society.



Broome County Historical Society Membership Benefits

The Broome County Historical Society maintains its library and archival collections for those interested in doing historical, genealogical or biographical research at the Broome County Local History & Genealogy Center on the second floor of the Broome County Public Library.

Members of the Society receive the following benefits::

- **Broome County History Bulletin**, published twice each year
- Announcements of all upcoming programs (held nine times each year)
- Half price for hourly research for out-of-area users (\$5.00/hour instead of the normal \$10.00/hour)
- 10% discount off all Society publications. A complete listing can be found at www.bclibrary.info/Books2.htm



Broome County Courthouse, circa 1900

Please be sure to mention your membership in your correspondence or present your card whenever you are purchasing items.

We hope you will want to be a part of the growing family of BCHS members

Major Resources of the Broome County Local History & Genealogy Center

The Center's collections are rich with primary and secondary sources. They provide a wonderful resource for use by the general public, students and the media.



Fire engine from the 1870s

In addition, the Center is adjacent to the Microfilm Collections with access to newspapers dating to 1815.

The Center's collections include:

Maps —major maps of the area include:

- 1855 Map of Broome County—the first major map to show owners of property.
- 1866 Atlas of Broome County
- 1876 Everts & Everts Atlas of Broome County—with good illustrations of major buildings
- 1873 Birds-Eye View of Binghamton
- 1882 Birds-Eye View of Binghamton
- 1885 Hopkins Atlas of Binghamton
- 1908 Plat Book of Broome County
- Sanborn maps of Binghamton area for 1887 (microfilm), 1891, 1898, 1918, 1952

Indexed Collections

- Name Index System (also called the Woodward Files) - Alphabetical abstract of local records including; census from 1790 to 1892, cemetery records, church records, newspaper articles. 225,000 cards
- Obituary Collection—clipped obituaries from approximately 1960 to the present. Missing most of years 1975 to 1980. (150,000 cards)
- X-Files—Other indexed materials from scrapbooks, 1925 census for Binghamton, Vestal & Union, and many other materials
- Newspaper Index— by using the online catalog of the Broome County Public Library, users can access an index to over 60,000 local newspaper articles (www.bclibrary.info)

Vertical Files

- Cemetery Records— Cemetery records for approximately 140 cemeteries within Broome County
- Family Files—Over 2,000 separate files on area families
- General Files—Approximately 4,000 subject headings on businesses, disasters, etc.
- Military Records—Contains records and files of military units with local residents
- Municipal Files—Contains article dealing with various governmental aspects, including early school records, tax records, etc.

Photographic Collections

The Center maintains a collection of over 80,000 images of the area. Many are indexed by topic into binders covering areas such as transportation, streets, and people. The originals are kept in the Center's climate-controlled vault.

Archival Collections—Over 60,000 individuals items and collections are located in the climate-controlled vault. The collections range from early maps and broadsides to business records, early published books, and personal letters and diaries. Major collections include:

- William Bingham Collection—Over 100 items dating from the 1780s to the early 100s detailing the creation of Binghamton
- William L. Ford Collection—Over 1400 items related to a Deposit, NY businessman from the 1840s-1860s
- Funeral Record Collection—Various records from 1897 to 1996 for several local funeral homes
- Uriah Gregory Collection—Over 800 items related to an eastern Broome family from the 1840s
- IBM collection—Several boxes of items related to the early years of this major corporation
- J. Edward Turner Collection—Over 500 items from the creator of the New York State Inebriate Asylum
- Weather Records—Local records 1896 to present
- Whitney Collection—over 1600 documents from member of the Joshua Whitney family dating from the late 1780s

Book Collection—The Center has over 8,000 books dealing with genealogy and the history of Broome County and the greater northeastern United States. Collections rang from city directories, government proceedings, yearbooks, area histories and family histories. Major area histories include:

- *The Annals of Binghamton of 1840* by J.B. Wilkinson. The first published history of this region.
- *History of Broome County* by H.P. Smith (1885).
- *Binghamton: Its Settlement, Growth and Development and the Factors of its History, 1800-1900*, edited by William S. Lawyer (1900)
- *Binghamton and Broome County, New York: A History*, edited by William Foote Seward (1924), 3 volumes.
- *Broome County Heritage: An Illustrative History* by Lawrence Bothwell (1983)
- *The Valley of Opportunity: A Pictorial History of the Greater Binghamton Area* by Gerald R. Smith (1988)
- *Partners All: A History of Broome County, New York* by Gerald R. Smith (2006)

NYS Vital Records Index — The Center has the microfiche index to birth, death and marriage records for the state. Please call for more information about availability.

Local Newspaper Collection—The Center has local newspapers on microfilm dating from 1815 to the present.

Census Collections —The Center and the Microfilm areas have area census records from 1790 to 1930

Web Page — Visit our web page for online listings of data at www.bclibrary.info/history.htm

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