Genealogical and Family History Resources

A guide to Episcopal church records in NY State

Are you trying to find out how to research NYS Episcopal church records? Or how to learn more about your family's history within your church? This guide is here to do just that by providing a comprhensive and detailed list of various resources on how to find these records through different databases and contacts.



By: Sunny Jane Morton & Harold A. Henderson This book takes you step-by-step through the process of identifying, locating, and gaining access to U.S. church records. Included in this peer-reviewed book are hundreds of links to church research resources, as well as chapters devoted to specific resources for the major Christian denominations before 1900.

General Church Resources

New York Heritage, Digital Collection:
 Ladies's Christian Union Records

This resource contains records dating back to the 1850 in regards to the Ladies's Christian Union. This was a group of women who came together to help provide safe housing to single women in NYC. Records from this collection include meeting minutes, correspondences, brochures, real estate documents, and histories.

• New York Genealogy: Ecclesiastical Records

These records bring together a larger number of the ecclesiastical documents of the colonial period relating to New York and New Jersey. These records date from 1621 to 1800 and are presented in the form on 6 volumes of books available for free download online.

New York State Religious Records 1716-1914

These are transcribed and published religious records of baptisms, marriages, deaths, and list of church memebers from dozens of NYS churches of various denominations.

Episcopal Diocese of Long Island Resources

Diocesan Archives of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island

This Archives works to preserve the materials of closed parishes and the history of the Diocese as a whole. They hold a variety of materials such as sacramental register, vestry minutes, written histories, and much more. You can contact their archivist Caroline Zhu, czhu@dioceseli.org, to request records or to come in for a visit.

Current and Open Parishes

Parishes that are currently open still maintian their own records and history. You can contact these parishes by finding their information through the 'Church Directory' page on the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island website.

Historian in Residence for Racial Justice

The Rev. Dr. Craig D. Townsend has been working to support congregations looking into the history of their involvement with slavery, the slavery-driven economy, anti-slavery, and abolition movements, and later forms of racial justice or injustice. You can contact Fr. Townsend through email to request infromation on his research ctownsend@dioceseli.org.

NYS Episcopal Resources

 Ancestry: New York, Episcopal Diocese of Rochester Church Records, 1800-1970

This online collection contains baptism, confirmation, marriage, and death records from the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester church records between the years of 1800 and 1970.

 Ancestry: New York, Episcopal Diocese of Central New York Church Records, 1800-1970

This online collection contains baptism, confirmation, marriage, and death records from the Episcopal Diocese of Central New York church records between the years of 1800 and 1970.

 Ancestry: New York, Episcopal Diocese of New York Church Records, 1767-1970

This online collection includes baptism, confirmation, marriage, and death records from the Archives of the Episcopal Diocese of New York church records between the years of 1767 and 1970.

 Diocesan Archives of The Episcopal Diocese of New York

The NY Diocesan Archives has the sacramental registers for many churches that have closed over the past century; active churches maintain their own registers. You can contact their archivist Wayne Kempton, archives@dioceseny.org , to request records.

General Church Resources

• Rochester (N.Y) Church Records

The Rochester Churches Indexing Project began in 2009 by a group of researchers with ties to the Rochester Genealogical Society. Together they have complied over 220,000 records with 38,908 marriages, 104,251 births/baptisms, and 96,430 deaths/burials/funerals from different branches of Christianity. Check their Churches tab to see the 6 episcopal churches included in this index.

• The Archives of the Episcopal Church

The Archives of the Episcopal Church is a canonical agency of the General Convention. The Archives seeks to connect history with today's ministries by creating innovative information pathways. Their holding include materials on General Convention, the Presiding Bishop, Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, affiliated Episcopal church organizations, historical organization, personal papers, and their special collections.



Sources and their links

General Resource

- New York Heritage, Digital Collection: Ladies's Christian Union Records
 https://cdm16694.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p16124coll1/search/search
 term/Ladies'%20Christian%20Union%20(New%20York%2C%20N.Y.)/field/creato
 /mode/exact/conn/and
- New York Genealogy: Ecclesiastical Records
 https://newyorkgenealogy.org/state/ecclesiastical-records-state-of-new-york.htm
- New York State Religious Records 1716-1914
 https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-records/new-york-state-religious-records-1716-1914
- Rochester (N.Y) Church Records https://rRcip.info/
- The Archives of the Episcopal Church https://www.episcopalarchives.org/resources/genealogical-research

Episcopal Diocese of Long Island Resources

- Diocesan Archives of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island https://www.dioceseli.org/index.html
- Current and Open Parishes https://www.dioceseli.org/about-the-diocese/parish-directory/index.html
- Historian in Residence for Racial Justice https://www.edliparishhistories.org

Episcopal Resources

- Ancestry: New York, Episcopal Diocese of Rochester Church Records, 1800-1970 https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/61652/
- Ancestry: New York Episcopal Diocese of Central New York Church Records, 1800-1970 https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/61653/
- Ancestry: New York, Episcopal diocese of New York Church Records, 1767-1970 https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/61224/
- Diocesan Archives of the Episcopal Diocese of New York https://dioceseny.org/the-diocese/diocesan-archives/