

Silas Bronson Library

Highlights of the Genealogy and Local History Collection

About Waterbury

- Histories of Waterbury.
- Information about certain industries which were important in Waterbury, including manufacturing of metals (brass and copper), clocks, and buttons.
- Histories of various companies, especially the major brass manufacturers.
- Records for certain ancient cemeteries in Waterbury and the surrounding towns.
- Probate Court records.
- Scrapbooks from the Parks Department.
- Post card collection (photographs of local buildings and monuments).
- Church histories.
- Maps.
- Histories of different ethnic groups that lived in Waterbury.
- City directories (1868-present) – available on microfilm in the East Wing.
- 1876 Waterbury Census – available on microfilm.
- Local newspapers available on microfilm in the East Wing:
 - American (1844-1990)
 - Republican-American (1884-present)
 - Democrat (Dec. 5, 1887-Oct., 1946)
 - Observer (1993-1997)
- School yearbooks (very few).
- Fiction, poetry, nonfiction, and biography by local authors.
- Publications by nonprofit agencies based in the Greater Naugatuck Valley.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance maps for Waterbury – available on microfilm in the East Wing.
- Waterbury Hall of Fame publications.
- Waterbury Biographies – compiled by library staff, provides access to biographical information about people who lived or worked in Waterbury.

- Waterbury Fact Book –covers the highlights of Waterbury history, lists major monuments and landmarks.

About Connecticut

- Histories of most cities and towns, with emphasis on New Haven County and the Greater Naugatuck Valley.
- Maps
- Books about Connecticut history, geography, wildlife, art, and agriculture.
- Higher education – histories of colleges.
- Weekly Italian/English language newspaper – Verita (1926-1946) – available on microfilm in the East Wing.
- Federal census for most Connecticut counties (1790-1930) – available on microfilm or through Heritage Quest database.
- Genealogies of various families.
- Military:
 - Information about Connecticut veterans of many wars.
 - Large number of primary source materials pertaining to the U.S. Civil War, including eyewitness accounts of nurses.

About New England

- New England history (all states), legends, and folklore.
- Maps.

Outside of New England

- History of New York City and State.
- There is a limited amount of material about states outside of the Northeast.