

Collection Organization

All books in the collection are listed in the Library's online catalog.

The manuscripts, legal documents, and news clipping folders are indexed in an Electronic Database searchable by keyword.

Available items will be retrieved by staff, however, much of the collection is currently in storage and inaccessible.

Newspapers

Three newspapers for which there is an almost complete run are: *Independent Republican*, *Goshen Democrat*, and *The Sybil*.

The library also has three of the many bogus copies of the rare *Ulster County Gazette*.

The newspapers are listed in the New York State Newspaper Project.

Photographs, Postcards, and Videos

The photographs and postcards cover about a century of scenes, buildings, and people in the Goshen area. These often supplement information found in manuscripts and newspapers.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hours

Requests for Local History or Genealogical materials must be made in person at the Reference Desk Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; by e-mail to gplhs@rcls.org; or by letter.

Photocopying

Photocopying of manuscripts is permitted except in cases of fragile and restricted items, but the work must be done by a library employee.

Photocopying of any other materials may be done by the patron, who assumes all responsibility with respect to copyright restrictions.

Credit must be given to the Library when photocopies of any item are used in publications.

The collection is for Reference use only.



Archives at the Goshen Public Library and Historical Society

203 Main Street
Goshen NY 10924
(845)294-6606
Fax: (845)294-7158
[Http://www.rcls.org/gplhs](http://www.rcls.org/gplhs)

Founded 1894

Member of the Ramapo Catskill
Library System

Manuscripts

The document collection comprises about 40,000 items, one thousand of which antedate the Revolution.

Included are letters, diaries, memoranda, surveys, deeds, mortgages, bonds, agreements and other legal documents.

The manuscripts are maintained in accordance with accepted archival standards. The rare and unique items have been professionally preserved.

The microfilm version of the manuscripts may be viewed during library hours.

Among the unique manuscripts are:

- ◆ The Indian deed, dated March 5, 1702/3, conveying the land in the Waywayanda Patent to the Patentees;
- ◆ The two commissions of Henry Wisner to the Continental Congress, one granted at Orangetown and the other at Chester;
- ◆ The militia rolls for the French and Indian War, 1756 and 1757;

- ◆ The deed to Hendrick Wiesner dated March 12, 1715;
- ◆ The letters of John Wood, the only prisoner taken by the Indians after the Battle of Minisink;
- ◆ The groups of items which portray practices and continued into the next century: Slavery from 1/4/1744, Highway Work Orders from 10/18/1753 and Receipts for boarding indigents of 3/21/1791;
- ◆ The documents dealing with the draining of the "Drowned Lands" now the "Black Dirt" among which is a letter dated 7/7/1823, evidencing the early development of discrimination of the Irish;
- ◆ The papers (1806-1842) of Henry G. Wisner, a lawyer and a grandson of the famous Henry Wisner;
- ◆ The accounting records (1813-1864) of the Bank of Orange County, the county's second bank, whose records are invaluable because nearly all those of the Bank of Newburgh were destroyed;
- ◆ Documents of the first half of the 1800s, dealing with many men who achieved both state and national prominence, including: Aaron Burr, James W. Wilkin, John Duer, Samuel S. Seward, William Henry Seward, Ogden Hoffman, and Commodore Matthew Perry.

The document collection is listed in the Guide to Historical Resources in Orange County, produced under the New York Historical Resources Project and the Library's Guide, published in 1982.

Maps

A modest collection of maps and atlases of the county and of its towns, cities, and villages are available.

Included are the 1875 Beers and the 1903 Mueller atlases as well as the unique hand-drawn map of the Village of Goshen, signed by James W. Wilkin.