



*To pursue,
preserve
and promote
the history of
correctional services
in the city and state
of New York.*

Correction * Probation * Juvenile
Justice * Youth Services * Parole *
Incarceration Alternatives * Post
Release Support

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New York Correction History Society
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(212) 266-1016

(212) 266-1579
Fax

*Room 608,
60 Hudson St.,
N.Y., N.Y. 10013

macjudge@aol.com
www.correctionhistory.org



Clicking the above image on the NYCHS' home page accesses its archives web page.

Help Rescue Our History

In cooperation with participating correctional agencies and organizations, NYCHS has launched an Artifact Recovery Program promoting the help of former correctional agency employees in "liberating" correction artifacts from "imprisonment" in attics, cellars and garages so they can be given places of honor in the agencies' and the society's archival collections for display and study. For the NYCHS Artifact Recovery
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NYCHS launches archival services

The New York Correction History Society has initiated archival and research services at the New York City Department of Correction (NYC DOC) Academy in Middle Village, Queens.

Materials being archived and progressively made available for researchers include (but are not limited to) various NYC DOC annual reports, publications, documents and photos. The collection also includes some NYS Department of Correctional Services, NYC Department of Juvenile Justice, the Correction Officers Benevolent Association and the Correction Captains Association newsletters. Books, magazines, newspapers, and clippings related to New York correctional matters also have been gathered. During the next several weeks and months the materials which came together mostly as a random assortment will be organized so that a general guide can be devised and be made available to researchers in printed form as well as posted on the society's web site.

Some material is already sufficiently organized to permit limited research access but only to individuals and only by prior advance appointment.

Arrangements may be made by phone with the New York Correction History Society's general secretary, Thomas McCarthy, at (212) 266-1016. Written requests may be mailed to him at 60 Hudson St., Room 608, N.Y., NY, 10013, or e-mailed to webmaster@correctionhistory.org but
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NYCHS Archives' first researcher, Stacy Horn, wields her No. 2 pencil making notes while studying a 127-year ledger of Potter's Field burials.

Help Rescue Our History

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Program's purposes, an "artifact" is any object that was used or created in past New York correctional service and now could help illustrate the history of that service. The obvious ones include

- hardware (such as but not limited to cuffs, keys, chains, locks),
- clothing (such as but not limited to inmate and staff uniforms),
- documents (such as but not limited to records, ledgers, reports and plans),
- photographs, illustrations and signs.

Each agency participating in the program has named a contact person whose office phone number is listed so that retirees and other former employees of that agency may call concerning the recovery of that agency's artifacts.

The society will provide anyone offering an artifact to it the phone number of the appropriate agency contact person and will encourage making arrangements di-

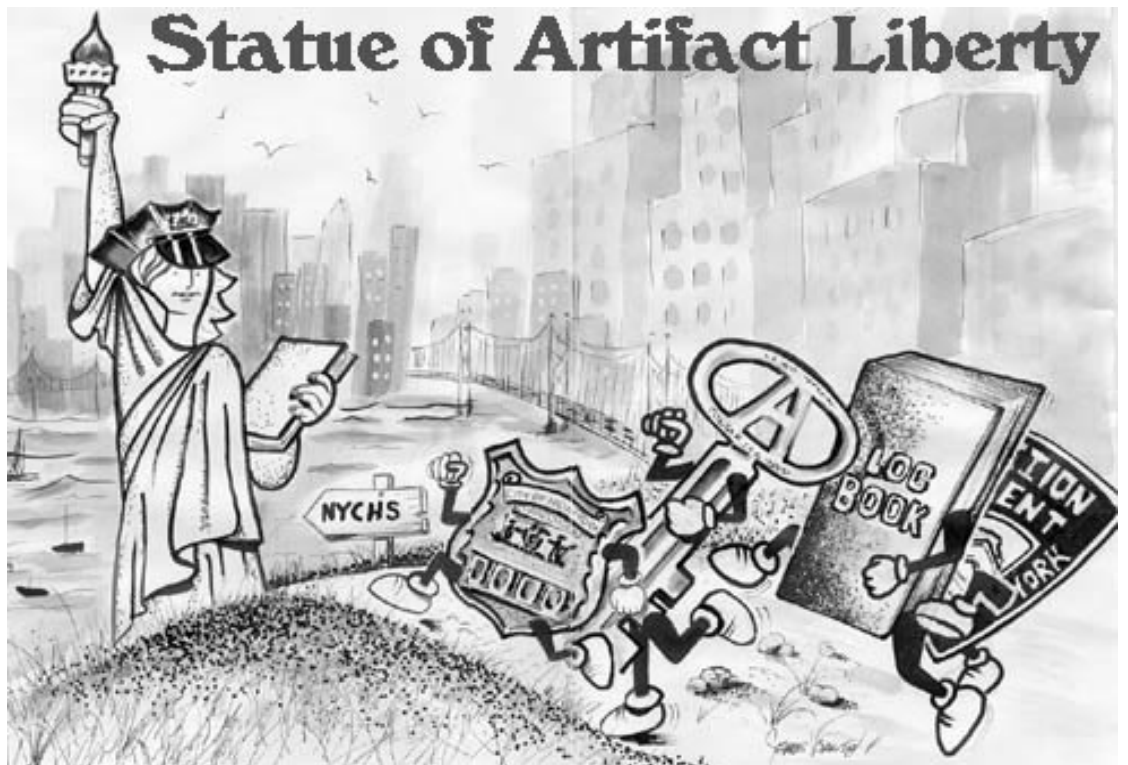


Illustration by Ret. CO Jimmy Vann.

Give me your tired, poor, huddled artifacts yearning to breathe free. Lest they get lost or tossed, send these, the relics of your service, to me. I lift my lamp beside Correction History's archival door.*

*Poetic apologies to Emma Lazarus.

rectly with the agency contact. Individuals preferring to make artifact recovery arrangements through the society can do so by calling NYCHS general secretary Thomas McCarthy at (212) 266-1016, by e-mailing him at webmaster@correctionhistory.org, or by writing him at New York Correction History Society, 60 Hudson Street, Room 608, New York, N.Y., 10013. Please include a callback phone number.

Where title to an artifact offered to the society clearly belongs to the person offering it, the society will accept it for its own artifacts collection or for the collection of the agency formerly associated with the object, whichever course the offering person chooses. If the latter course is chosen, the society

will forward the artifact to that agency's contact person, unless that agency designates the society to hold the object in the agency's name on loan.

Where title to an artifact offered to the society may still reside with the agency formerly associated with the object, the society will refer the matter to the Artifact Recovery Program contact person for that agency.

When the offering person requests to remain anonymous,

the society will respect those wishes in referring the matter that agency's contact person.

However, whenever the offering person is agreeable to having his or her identity and role in the artifact recovery noted, the society will make and maintain a record so that proper credit may be given whenever the artifact is placed on display or made available for study.

A secure storage area has been made available to the NYCHS for documentary archival and artifact collection purposes at the NYC Correction Academy in Middle Village, Queens.

By promoting recovery of correction history artifacts, the society seeks to prevent those objects becoming lost or tossed into the trash by persons unaware of their historical value.

Agency Artifact Recovery Contacts

**NYS DOCS
Training Academy
Superintendent
John Maloy
(518) 453-1885**

**NYC DOC
Editorial/
Communications
Services Director
Thomas McCarthy
(212) 266-1016**

**NYC Juvenile Justice
Public Affairs Director
Sarina Roffe
(212) 925-7779 Ext. 205**

**NYS Parole
Special Assistant
Thomas Grant
(518) 474-2121**

**NYC Probation
Asst. Commissioner
John Evangelista
(212) 442-2910**

**COBA
Retiree Consultant
Vincent Coppola
(212) 965-0152**

**CCA
Frances Mulvaney
(212) 227-4090**



Researchers Melinda Hunt and Will Van Sant copy notes.

NYCHS launches archival services at DOC Academy

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must include a callback phone number. Stacy Horn of EchoNYC recently became NYCHS' first researcher when she completed the registration procedure and began making notes in the Research Reading Room as she perused the society's archival treasure, a 1872-1875 ledger book that recorded Hart Island Potter's Field burials, and other Hart Island-related materials.

Ms. Horn was welcomed by the society's curator, Deborah Kurtz, who as NYC Correction Deputy Commissioner for Training, Organizational Development and TEAMS has charge of the Correction Academy. Captain Ralph Greenberg also greeted her.

A few days later Robin McDowell of the Associated Press became the NYCHS Archives' second

registered researcher and was greeted by Correction Academy Deputy Warden Alonzo Davis. In February, the third and fourth registered researchers, Hart Island historian Melinda Hunt and Columbia Graduate School of Journalism student Will Van Sant, became the Year 2000's first users of the society's archives research services.

The Academy has made available space and resources assisting the society to mount and manage an archival program preserving historical materials for study and research.

With the exception of certain items that have come into the society's possession by direct donation to it, all materials being made available to researchers belong to the NYC Department of Correction or to the other correctional agencies that have placed them in the society's custody for preservation and presentation purposes.

All rights to those materials are retained by the agencies to whom they belong. The society's making the materials available for research does not constitute a waiver of those rights by the respective agencies.

The society has devised a set of Research Reading Room Rules and a research registration application procedure using as templates the Rules of the Research Room and the Research Room Registration Form of the Manuscripts and Special Collections section of the New York State Library and State Archives Research Services in the State Cultural Education Center, Albany.

In general, the rules and registration procedures are intended to safeguard the archival materials and establish the identity of each researcher given access to them.



Researcher Stacy Horn shows society curator, Deputy Commissioner Deborah Kurtz, interesting photos among the archived Potters Field materials.



Capt. Ralph Greenberg welcomes researcher Stacy Horn.

SEARCHES

Can you help these NYCHS members searching for information on the following:

- Any Rikers, Hart Islands' Civil War U.S. Colored Troops in once-overgrown LI Cemetery? (Member is on the cemetery's restoration committee.)
- Youngest convict ever executed in U.S.? (Member is a law officer/ writer.)
- Jail/prison-based anti-gambling programs? (Member is a correction staffer/ professor.)
- Jail/prison-based art programs, shows? (Member is a professor/ author.)
- Prison/jail cemeteries to compile burial lists for family historians. Non-profit. (Member is author, historian, entertainment industry employee.)

We will pass along to them the helpful ideas that you e-mail us

*webmaster@
correctionhistory.org*



DW Alonzo Davis greets researcher Robin McDowell.

NYCHS RESEARCH READING ROOM RULES (Abbreviated)

The following rules are to be read by each applicant seeking to view materials for research. Making the materials available does not constitute a waiver of any copyrights.

1. Register yearly.
2. Registration requires making a photocopy of personal identifier (identifica-

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**NYCHS RESEARCH
READING ROOM
RULES (Abbreviated)**

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tion that includes a portrait photo).

3. A researcher may take into the reading room only pencils, paper, notepads, spiral notebooks, a camera (no carrying case), and a small portable computer (no carrier bag). Personal belongings (coats, jackets, pocket-books, bags, brief-cases, ring type binders, pens) may not be brought into the reading room. A locker will be provided for such items. Bring a working lock.

4. Make a photocopy request list that indicates priorities because, if the list is very extensive, the staff may not be able to do all the copying requested. Researchers may not do their own photocopying of fragile materials, nor mark any research materials, nor remove any from the Research Reading Room. Staff reserves the right to search all notes, papers and articles of the researcher leaving the room.

5. Children under 18 are not permitted in the research reading room without advance special permission.

6. Sign the log book with name, phone number and registration number each time the Research Reading Room is visited. Make appointments at least a week in advance and make known the kind of materials being sought for review.



In MEMORIAM

NYCHS' web site has initiated a page dedicated to the memory of correctional personnel -- uniformed and civilian; city, county, state, and federal -- who died in the line of duty in New York. Memorial roll entries may be faxed to (212) 266-1597 or submitted to webmaster@correctionhistory.org

Include "For NYCHS Honor Roll" in the subject title and a callback phone number. Anonymously submitted entries will not be considered. All entries considered will be fact-checked.

The web site memorial begins with March, 1869 when one of the Sing Sing prison keepers was killed -- Edward Craf. He is believed among the first New York correctional officers killed in the line of duty. It includes:

■ Jan. 9, 1887 when a jail turnkey, John Walters, was killed by two alleged horse thieves in Seneca Fall.

■ Oct. 19, 1900 when Ward-er Hugh McGovern was killed in 10th District Court, 315 W.54th St., Manhattan, by two detainees trying to escape.

■ Jan. 9, 1901 when Auburn Prison Guard Archibald Benedict was killed by an inmate because the officer reported him for talking in the prison cloth mill.

■ Sept. 15, 1975 NYC CO George Motchan died six days after having been shot Sept. 9, 1975, by an escaping inmate.

wwwatch us on the wwweb

NYCHS' web site has expanded significantly since the organizational meeting last July 13 when its UTL was first announced to the membership: www.correctionhistory.org

Then it featured chiefly the society's draft constitution, proposed slate of officers, enrollment form, all accessed from the "About Us" key and a biography of the 1914-15 DOC Commissioner Katharine Bement Davis, accessed from the "Chronicles" key.

Since then more material has been added to those sections as well as several new features including some detailed in this first issue of *The Key*.

Other content includes a report on the Regents chartering NYCHS Sept. 17 and histories on POW use of NY prisons and jails during the Civil War, on the Office of Sheriff in England and the U.S., on the Women's Prison Association, on Berkshire Farm for Youth, on NYC's Juvenile Justice Dept., on Potters Field, and on NYS fingerprinting identification. The site is now listed on the major search engines and has won its first award.

The New York Correction History Society
thanks the administration and staff of the

MUSEUM 
THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE MUSEUM

for their courtesy and consideration
in hosting
NYCHS's first Year 2000 meeting Feb. 16.