

## **Local History resources in the Norwalk Public Library and other Norwalk institutions**

Norwalk Public Library – Main Library, 1 Belden Avenue, Norwalk  
[www.norwalklib.org](http://www.norwalklib.org)

### **Books**

- Local History Collection - Over 200 reference titles covering Norwalk and the surrounding towns which constituted the original colonial settlement as well as towns to which many Norwalk settlers emigrated in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The subject heading “Local History Collection” will identify all cataloged items shelved in this location. Loose-leaf binders shelved at the beginning of the collection contain photocopied record extractions and articles which may assist patrons. Also, city directories, 1961-1992, the years for which microfilm is not available; Norwalk Hour 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary issue (bound original newspaper, Aug 7, 1951) – can be digitally photographed; Norwalk Street property listing books (SpecPrint) – current and some back years; Pictorial Norwalk, 1939 (oversized book).

Circulating - General genealogical titles, how-to guides and some family histories - 929 headings.

Reference – State and regional family compilations, directories and specialized how-to guides - R 929 headings.

### **Microfilm**

- Norwalk vital records from 1848 to ca. 1900 – earlier vital records were recorded within land record volumes. These have been extracted and published in the Barbour Collection and Ricker Compilation (CD Rom) series. The originals are archived at the Town Clerk’s office.
- The Norwalk “Hour” (newspaper) from 1895 to the present
- Norwalk city directories 1882-1960
- U.S. Census 1790-1930 for Norwalk, Fairfield Co. & CT (partial)
- Hale Headstone Collection (cemeteries) for Norwalk (1934)
- Marriage and death transcriptions from newspapers – mid 19<sup>th</sup>-century

## **Online**

Norwalk "Hour" index / vital records – 5/1983 – present

Social Security Death Index (ca. 1963- ) – <http://ssdi.rootsweb.com>

Databases, free in-house and to CT library card-holders via [www.iconn.org](http://www.iconn.org):

- Historical New York Times (1851-2003) - (Norwalk cards only)
- Historical Hartford Courant (1764-1922)
- U.S. Census 1790-1930 – scanned, partially indexed, via HeritageQuest

## **CD-ROM**

Ricker Compilation of Connecticut Vital Records [to ca. 1850] - (can be used on the Local History Collection PC). This database incorporates the Barbour Collection of Connecticut vital records in one alphabetized list, along with selected cemetery listings and previously published books of town vital records.

## **File cabinet in Local History Collection**

- Newspaper clipping, maps, pamphlet publications of local historical interest including the Norwalk Islands, clippings about Long Island Sound lighthouses, Revolutionary War and NPL library history.
- "Mark", [filed under County Magazine] – weekly/biweekly newspaper, 8/1954 - 3/1966 - & other publications

## **DVD, Video**

Search keywords "Dolly Curtis Norwalk" – DVD

"Survival of a small city: a new documentary" [South Norwalk], 1987-VHS

## **File Cabinets near Circulating Literature (800s)**

2-year file of selected municipal documents; Norwalk business and non-profit institution files

## **Closed Stacks**

- Original copies (2 for most years) of city directories, 1890/91-1992. Volumes for 1920 and 1943-44 were not published. Patrons should be directed to the microfilm for these years, which, reproduced from the Library of Congress collection, begin in 1882. The Norwalk Museum and Town Clerk's office hold copies of the 1874/75 city directory edition.
- Cross-reference and telephone directories from 1981.
- Atlas of Fairfield County (several maps missing)

### Norwalk Museum – 41 South Main Street, South Norwalk

The museum houses a collection of former municipal records, the archival collection of the former Lockwood House and many artifacts of local interest which are regularly exhibited. Access to archival records is granted by appointment with the curator. The museum is owned and operated by the City of Norwalk.

[www.norwalkct.org/norwalkmuseum/index.htm](http://www.norwalkct.org/norwalkmuseum/index.htm)

### Norwalk Historical Society – 2 East Wall Street, Norwalk

A membership organization which promotes the preservation and enjoyment of the city's past history. The museum complex offers frequent programs, exhibits and has publications available for sale. For further information, contact the executive director. [www.norwalkhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.norwalkhistoricalsociety.org)

### Town Clerk, City of Norwalk – 125 East Avenue, Norwalk, Room 102

The town clerk's office records and preserves vital records of the city. Books recording deaths, marriages (and births to 1898) are available for public consultation in the Land Records room. There are bound indexes to births 1848-1898, burials from 1924 through 1989 (with gaps) and "removals" (burials elsewhere) from 1909-1950, as well as a set of published city directories (1874/5, 1880s-1980s). A volume of burial records, 1885-1920 is available from the staff. Records of births within the last one hundred years are confidential according to state law and are available from the clerk only to those permitted to access them.

[www.norwalkct.org/CityDept/twnclk.asp](http://www.norwalkct.org/CityDept/twnclk.asp)