

# The Conan Archival Project

The New York State History Book Collection  
of  
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## Introduction

Bob Conan Jr. was an avid reader since an early age. As a child his mother would often read to him and he would sometimes receive a book for his birthday or for Christmas. He enjoyed science fiction and read many Isaac Asimov books in the 1950s and 1960s. During this time period he became interested in his family tree which began in Ireland and continued into New York State. His ancestors moved from the Upperchurch area of Tipperary County, Ireland, to the neighboring towns of Pompey and LaFayette in Onondaga County, New York.

In the pre-internet era Bob spent a lot of time at the Syracuse Public Library searching for any relevant information he could find about his family's roots. He obtained the death dates of relatives from the inside cover of an old family bible and from local cemeteries. The library's microfilm reader allowed him to search old newspapers for obituaries which often listed names of surviving family members. This enabled him to locate and track families using the U.S. Federal Census records which were also on microfilm.

Once he exhausted those resources he began reviewing old historical books about central New York. Oftentimes these books were rare or fragile and could not be removed from the library, so his ability to gather information was limited to taking handwritten notes.

Bob determined that in order to efficiently continue his research he needed his own copy of these books. That decision began his quest to build his own personal library. Bob became a regular visitor to several small bookstores in central New York, and an occasional visitor to bookstores in New York City. He let the employees know what kind of books he was looking for, and they would contact him if they found one. His New York State book collection contains 40 books published between 1800 and 1900, and 37 books between 1901 and 2000.

Bob's quest for knowledge led him to study the history of Ireland and the United Kingdom, and the history of the Middle East and Israel. He studied the family relationships that are mentioned in the Bible and tried to determine if connections could be made with family trees from other sources. This led to Bob's interest in ancient world history and he became a passionate collector of ancient Roman coins.

Bob determined that the next logical thing for him to do was to collect books about local, regional, national, and global history. He collected hundreds of books on these topics and built his own history library. During his summer trips to Ireland he would always visit bookstores and return home with books about Irish history.

The purpose of the index contained on the following pages is to document the part of Bob's book collection that pertains to New York State and Onondaga County.

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# Bob's Collection of New York State History Books

## 1800-1850

1. Caines' New York Reports Volume III.  
By George Caines  
1814
  
2. The History of the late Province of New-York Vol. I  
By Hon. William Smith  
1829  
From its discovery to the appointment of Governor Colden in 1762
  
3. The History of the late Province of New-York Vol. II  
By Hon. William Smith  
1830  
From its discovery to the appointment of Governor Colden in 1762
  
4. New York Gazatteer  
By Thomas F. Gordon  
1836  
Gazatteer of the State of New York: Comprehending its Colonial history; general geography, geology, and internal improvements; its political state, etc. ...
  
5. Gordon's Gazatteer  
By Thomas F. Gordon  
1836  
Gazatteer of the State of New York: Comprehending its Colonial history; general geography, geology, and internal improvements; its political state, etc. ...
  
6. The Documentary History of the State of New York, Vol. I.  
By E.B. O'Callaghan, M.D.  
1849
  
7. The Documentary History of the State of New York, Vol. II.  
By E.B. O'Callaghan, M.D.  
1849  
From 1666 ...
  
8. The Documentary History of the State of New York, Vol. III.  
By E.B. O'Callaghan, M.D.  
1850

## 1851-1875

9. The Documentary History of the State of New York, Vol. IV.  
By E.B. O'Callaghan, M.D.  
1851
  
10. Lives of the Governors of the State of New York  
By John S. Jenkins  
1851
  
11. History of Jefferson County in the State of New York  
By Franklin B. Hough, A.M., M.D.  
1854  
From the earliest period to the present time
  
12. History of Delaware County, and Border Wars of New York  
By Jay Gould  
1856  
A sketch of the early settlements in the county, and a history of the late anti-rent difficulties in Delaware with other historical and miscellaneous matter never before published.
  
13. Boyd's Syracuse Directory 1857  
By William H. Boyd  
1857  
The Syracuse directory containing the names of the citizens, a business directory, state and city record, and an appendix ...
  
14. Historical and Statistical Gazetteer of New York State  
By J.H. French  
1860  
Gazetteer of the State of New York: Embracing a Comprehensive View of the Geography, Geology, and General History of the State, and a Complete History and Description of Every County, City, Town, Village, and Locality. With Full Tables of Statistics.
  
15. Daily Journal Directory of the City of Syracuse for 1866-7  
By various  
1866
  
16. Manual of the Corporation of the City of New York  
By D.T. Valentine  
1866

17. Gazetteer and Business Directory of Madison County, N.Y. for 1868-9  
By Hamilton Child  
1868
  
18. Gazetteer and Business Directory of Oneida County, N.Y. for 1869  
By Hamilton Child  
1869
  
19. Herkimer County Directory 1869-1870  
By Hamilton Child  
1869  
Gazetteer and Business Directory of Herkimer County, NY for 1869-70 (I have 2 copies of this book)
  
20. The Evening Journal Almanac 1870  
By S.C. Hutchins  
1870
  
21. Oswego County Directory 1870-1871  
By R.J. Oliphant  
1871
  
22. Manual of the Corporation of the City of New York  
By John Hardy  
1871
  
23. Topographical Survey of the Adirondack Wilderness of New York - Second Report 1873-74  
By Verplanck Colvin  
1874
  
24. Once More: A Story of New York  
By Washington Frothingham  
1875
  
25. Re-Union and History of Pompey  
By Various  
1875  
Re-Union of the Sons and Daughters of the old Town of Pompey held at Pompey Hill, June 29, 1871, proceedings of the meetings, speeches, toasts and other incidents of the occasion. Also, a history of the Town, reminiscences and biographical sketches of its early inhabitants.

## 1876-1900

26. Boyd's Syracuse Directory 1876-1877  
By Boyd  
1876  
Containing also the names of the residents of Geddes, a new census, a map and appendix ...
  
27. Topographical Survey of the Adirondack Region of New York - Third to Seventh Report 1874-79  
By Verplanck Colvin  
1879  
New-York term reports of cases argued and determined in the Supreme Court of that State.
  
28. History of Chenango and Madison Counties, New York  
By James H. Smith  
1880  
1784-1880, with illustrations and biographical sketches of some of its prominent men and pioneers.
  
29. Civil List and Constitutional History of the Colony and State of New York  
By Stephen C. Hutchins  
1880
  
30. Boyd's Five County Directory 1881  
By Boyd  
1881  
Directory of Onondaga, Cayuga, Oswego, Madison and Cortland Counties. With a map.
  
31. The Onondagan of Syracuse University, March 1883  
By Secret Fraternities  
1883
  
32. The Onondagan of Syracuse University 1887-1888  
By Fraternity Men of the Junior Class  
1888  
Onondagan '89 S.U.
  
33. Boyd's Syracuse Directory 1890-1891  
By Boyd  
1890  
Containing a census of the city, a map, names of residents of East Syracuse, a business directory of Baldwinsville, Cortland, Homer, Fulton, Skaneateles, Oneida, Phoenix, Jordan, Elbridge, Fayetteville, Manlius, Mottville, Weedsport, etc.

34. Fifty Years in Journalism  
By Beman Brockway  
1891  
Articles from the Times & Reformer (Watertown)
  
35. Supplement to Boyd's Syracuse Directory  
By Boyd  
1891  
Containing the names of Farmers and Country Merchants, Onondaga County, NY
  
36. Memorial History of Syracuse, N.Y.  
By Dwight H. Bruce  
1891  
From its Settlement to the Present Time
  
37. A History of the Schools of Syracuse  
By Edward Smith  
1893  
From its early settlement to January 1, 1893.
  
38. Onondaga's Centennial Volume I.  
By Dwight H. Bruce  
1896  
Gleanings of a Century
  
39. Onondaga's Centennial Volume II.  
By Dwight H. Bruce  
1896  
Gleanings of a Century
  
40. History of Onondaga County (in German)  
By Druck Von J.P. Pinzer  
1897  
History of Onondaga County from a German perspective (written in German)



## 1901-1925

41. New York at Gettysburg Volume I  
By William F. Fox, Lieut.-Col. 107<sup>th</sup> N.Y. Vols  
1902  
New York Monuments Commission for the Battlefields of Gettysburg and Chattanooga - Final Report on the Battlefield of Gettysburg
  
42. The Political Blue Book of Syracuse  
By Kingsley, Knauber, Neville and Buckenberger  
1902  
Listing of public officials in Syracuse along with biographies.
  
43. Notable Men of Central New York  
By Dwight J. Stoddard, Publisher  
1903  
Syracuse and vicinity; Utica and vicinity; Auburn, Oswego, Watertown, Fulton, Rome, Oneida, Little Falls
  
44. The Syracuse and Central New York Society Blue Book  
By Dau Publishing Co.  
1904  
Containing the names and addresses of prominent residents; also ladies' maiden names, receiving days and other valuable social information.
  
45. The Syracuse Directory 1906  
By Sampson & Murdock Co.  
1906  
Containing: A street directory; general directory of the citizens; business directory; house directory; City, County and State registers with new map.
  
46. Calandar of the Sir William Johnson Manuscripts  
By Richard E. Day M.A. Lit.D.  
1909  
In the New York State Library
  
47. Moravian Journals in Central New York  
By Rev. Wm. M. Beauchamp. S.T.D.  
1916  
Moravian Journals relating to Central NY 1745-66

48. Historical Sketches of Moravia

By James A. Wright

1918

Historical sketches of the Town of Moravia from 1791 to 1918

49. Bibliography of Syracuse History (2 copies)

By Franklin H. Chase

1920

Contains: Books upon Syracuse history; books in which Syracuse history has been written; pamphlets devoted to Syracuse history; souvenirs and illustrations of Syracuse; important articles, reminiscences and recollections of Syracusans published in Syracuse newspapers, magazines, etc., with the dates of such publications, and where they can be found, almost all books and articles being readily accessible in the Syracuse Public Library and the Library and Records of the OHA. Also a complete list of the publications of the OHA.

50. New York Walk Book

By American Geographical Society of NY – Raye R. Platt, Editor

1923

Suggestions for excursions afoot within a radius of fifty to one hundred miles of the city and including Westchester County, the Highlands of the Hudson and the Ramapo, northern and central New Jersey and the New Jersey Pine Barrens, Long Island, the Shawangunk Range, the Catskills, and the Taconics

51. The Red Book of Syracuse and Onondaga County

By Ray B. Smith, Editor

1923

Hand book of reference of the powers and duties with a roste of the chief officers, past and present, of the several state departments ...

52. The Old Mohawk-Turnpike Book

By Nelson Greene

1924

A Historical and Present-day Description of the Mohawk Valley, from Schenectady to Rome, traversed by this Historical Road ...

53. Syracuse and Its Environs - A History - Volume I

By Franklin H. Chase

1924

Historical and Biographical Volume I

54. Syracuse and Its Environs - A History - Volume II  
By Franklin H. Chase  
1924  
Historical and Biographical Volume II

55. Syracuse and Its Environs - A History - Volume III  
By Franklin H. Chase  
1924  
Historical and Biographical Volume III

56. Some Cross-Bearers of the Finger Lakes Region  
By Rev. Bernard Leo Heffernan, A.M.  
1925  
Religious beginnings

## 1926-1950

57. History of New York State 1523-1927 Volume I  
By Dr. James Sullivan  
1927
58. History of New York State 1523-1927 Volume II  
By Dr. James Sullivan  
1927
59. Oneida, Oneida Castle, Wampsville, Durhamville, Kenwood and Sherrill Directory 1927  
By H.A. Manning Company  
1927  
General Directories of the Citizens, Classified Business Directories, Street and House Directories, a Record of the City and Town Governments, Societies, Churches, Etc., County, State and United States Governments Volume XIX
60. Johnson of The Mohawks  
By Arthur Pound w/Richard E. Day, Litt. D.  
1930  
A biography of Sir William Johnson, Irish immigrant, Mohawk war chief, American soldier, empire builder.
61. The Papers of Sir William Johnson  
By Alexander C. Flick Ph.D., Litt. D.  
1931
62. Listen for a Lonesome Drum (2 copies - 85A, 85B)  
By Carl Carmer  
1936  
A New York State Chronicle
63. The Bloody Mohawk  
By T. Wood Clarke  
1940
64. New York - A Guide to the Empire State  
By various  
1940-C  
Compiled by worker of the Writers' Program of the Work Projects Administration in the State of NY

65. Genesee Fever (2 copies – 85A, 85B)  
By Carl Carmer  
1941
66. Manning's Cortland, Homer & McGraw Directory (For Year Beginning September 1941)  
By H.A. Manning Company  
1941  
Alphabetical Directories of Citizens, Classified Business Directories, Numerical Street Directories, Records of City and Village Governments, Societies, Churches, Etc., Map, County, State and U.S. Governments
67. The Towpath  
By Arch Merrill  
1945  
Life on the Erie Canal
68. Marcellus in the World War  
By Mark K. Davenport  
Date not listed  
Lists of those from Marcellus, NY that served in the World War
69. Clarissa Putnam of Tribes Hill  
By John J. Vrooman  
1950  
A romantic history of Sir William Johnson, his family and Mohawk Valley neighbors through the flaming years 1767-1780

## 1951-2000

70. The Story of the New York Times 1851-1951  
By Meyer Berger  
1951
71. The Development of Central and Western New York  
By Clayton Mau  
1944, 1958  
From the arrival of the White Man to the Eve of the Civil War as portrayed chronologically in contemporary accounts by Clayton Mau
72. The New York Red Book 1962-1963  
By Myron D. Hartman, Editor  
1962  
An illustrated yearbook of authentic information concerning New York State, its departments and political subdivisions and the officials who administer its affairs.
73. Moravia and Its Past  
By Leslie L. Luther  
1966  
Moravia and its past and adjoining townships: The story of a community in Central New York State 1789-1966.
74. A History of New York State  
By Ellis, Frost, Syrett, Carman  
1967  
Originally written in 1957 as "A Short History of New York State"
75. A History of the New York Iroquois (Now Commonly Called the Six Nations)  
By William M. Beauchamp, S.T.D.  
1904, 1968
76. Wilderness Empire  
By Allan W. Eckert  
1969  
Narrative of the Iroquois and those who settled here.
77. Nine Mile Country - A History of the Town of Marcellus, New York  
By Kathryn C. Heffernan  
1979



These books were collected by Bob Conan Jr. between the 1950s and 1990s. Bob's nephew Jim Conan created this index so that his family would have a written record of the book collection.