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INDEX TO SELECTED CITY STREETS AND ENUMERATION DISTRICTS, 1930 CENSUS

Introduction

On the seven rolls of this microfilm publication, M1931, is reproduced a 57-volume index to selected city streets and enumeration districts of the Fifteenth Census of the United States, taken in 1930. These records are part of the Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group (RG) 29.

Background

As a part of its work to organize and adequately prepare for the taking of the Fifteenth Census of the United States in 1930, the Bureau of the Census (hereafter "the Bureau") created a number of written tools to ensure that the entire country was completely enumerated. Many U.S. cities had grown rapidly during the 1920s, and therefore, presented special challenges to complete enumeration.

One of the Bureau's tools for the 1930 census was its 57-volume index to selected city streets and enumeration districts. While no information has been found in the Bureau's administrative records describing when or how the street index was created, the Bureau may have begun drafting it in 1928-1930 at the same time as it crafted its plans of division. Certain streets are listed as having "no population," however, so it is likely that the final version was made after the completion and tabulation of the census. These volumes consist of typescript mimeographs on which annotations have been handwritten in red ink.

Records Description

Arrangement

Most of the volumes contain all or part of a major U.S. city; a few also contain smaller cities. Except as later indicated, each volume includes the following:

- 1. Title page. This indicates the city (or cities) included and a short table of contents.
- 2. List of enumeration district (ED) numbers. This indicates the numbered census volume in which each ED is found in Microfilm Publication T626, *Fifteenth Census of the United States* (2,667 rolls).²

¹ The 1930 plans of division (geographic descriptions of enumeration districts) have been reproduced on rolls 61-90 as T1224, *Descriptions of Census Enumeration Districts*, 1830–1950.

² After the Bureau received the census schedules from each enumerator, it arranged them in numbered bound volumes. In order to find a schedule from a particular ED in the bound volumes, the Bureau needed to know which volume to look in; hence, it needed this list. Today's researchers don't usually need to know what volume a particular ED is in because NARA's *The 1930 Federal Population Census: Catalog of National Archives Microfilm* provides a complete list of the EDs on each microfilm roll. (Each roll contains one or more of the

- 3. List of named streets (roads, boulevards, avenues, lanes, etc.) arranged alphabetically. This indicates the EDs in which the street is located, as further described below. Streets with a prefix such as North, East, South, or West may be listed either under the prefix or under the street name. For example, East Archwood Avenue might be listed as "E. Archwood Ave." or as "Archwood Ave. E."
- 4. List of numbered streets (roads, boulevards, avenues, lanes, etc.) arranged numerically. This indicates the EDs in which the street is located, as further described below. Prefixes such as North, East, South, or West do not affect the arrangement. Thus, E. 26th and W. 26th will both be found together. There may be a few exceptions to this rule; for example "Six Mile Road" in Detroit is listed with named streets and not with the numbered streets. In Los Angeles, there is a separate list for "Avenue 16" through "Avenue 67," but other numbered avenues (e.g., 16th Ave.) will be found in the list of numbered streets.
- 5. List of institutions and named apartments. This indicates the ED in which the institution or apartment will be found.
- 6. List of unnamed apartments. This indicates the ED in which the apartment will be found. Only a few of the larger cities have this list.

Corrections. The Bureau made handwritten corrections on these lists, presumably after the census was completed.

Information Provided for Named and Numbered Streets

For named and numbered streets, the ED number³ is given for ranges of house numbers. If the street was entirely within one ED, the house number range is not given. If odd house numbers were in one enumeration district and even house numbers in another, the word "odd" or "even" follows the range of house numbers. For examples from Detroit, Michigan:

Streets	House Nos.	ED
Aaron		82-385
Abbott	(400-900)	82-88
	(1000-1200)	82-143
	(1300-1400)	82-142
	(1500–1800) even	82-194
	(1500–1800) odd	82-193
Aberle Ave.		82-190

If the street had no population, the words "(no pop.)" follow the house number range. Streets with alternative names have a "see" designation, such as "Weston Rd. (See E. Archwood Ave.)"

North Carolina

Bureau's old bound volumes.)

³ For the 1930 census, enumeration district numbers have a prefix and a suffix. The prefix is the county number; the suffix is the enumeration district within that county. Thus, for example, Wayne County, Michigan, was "county 82" in the State of Michigan, and all Detroit, Michigan, enumeration districts have the prefix 82-.

The Bureau created special finding aids for this state:

- 1. Index to 22 Cities over 10,000 Population. These cities are arranged alphabetically in one volume, and, for each city, have the street name/house range/enumeration number information described above.
- 2. Index to Named Places under 10,000 Population. Named places are arranged alphabetically by name, and, for each, the following information is given: county in which located, enumeration district number, and adjacent enumeration district numbers (if any). For examples:

Place	County	ED	Adjacent ⁴
Rominger	Watauga	95-10	95-13; 15
Ronda	Wilkes	97-5	97-6; 16; 8
Rooks	Pender	71-5	71-4
Roosevelt	Henderson	45-5	

- 3. Index to Townships. Townships are listed by alphabetically by name, and, for each, the following information is given: county in which located and its enumeration district number(s).
- 4. Index to Institutions. Institutions are listed alphabetically by name, and, for each the following information is given: county or city in which located and enumeration number.
- 5. County Maps. These consist of hand-drawn rough sketches of each county. The enumeration district numbers and their approximate boundaries are shown. These maps were probably drawn to assist Bureau employees in using the four North Carolina indexes described above.

Philadelphia. In 1930, the city of Philadelphia comprised the entirety of Philadelphia County; the Philadelphia index, however, indicates for many streets the name of the neighborhood in which the street is located, such as Blue Bell Hill, Bridesburg, Bustleton, Chestnut Hill, Fox Chase, Falls of Schuylkill, Frankford, Germantown, Holmesburg, Manayunk, Olney, Palm West Philadelphia, Roxborough, Somerton, Tacony, and West Philadelphia.

Related Records

Additional geographic finding aids exist for the 1930 Federal population census. Rolls 61 through 90 of T1224, *Descriptions of Census Enumeration Districts, 1830-1950* (156 rolls) contain geographic descriptions of each of the 120,105 enumeration districts for the 1930 census of the United States and its territories. Those descriptions are arranged by state, then by county, then by locality. M1930, *Enumeration District Maps for the Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930* (36 rolls) reproduces in color each of the more than 5,000 maps of the 1930 census enumeration districts. They are arranged by state, then by county, then by locality.

⁴ As indicated in footnote 3, all 1930 enumeration districts have a prefix and a suffix. In the Index to Named Places Under 10,000 Population, where multiple adjacent enumeration districts are listed, the prefix is omitted for the second and subsequent enumeration districts in order to conserve space.

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