DESCRIPTIONS OF CENSUS ENUMERATION DISTRICTS, 1830-1890 AND 1910-1950

Introduction

This microfilm reproduces on 156 rolls of 35mm microfilm 513 original volumes of descriptions of geographic subdivisions (enumeration districts) that were used in the decennial United States censuses from 1830 to 1950. These records are part of Record Group 29, Records of the Bureau of Census.

The census subdivision or enumeration district served as the basic geographic area of a size that could be covered by a single census taker (enumerator) within one census period. It may have been as large as one county or as small as part of a city block, depending on the density of population. The term "subdivision," referring to a part of the supervisor's or marshal's division or district, was used in the early censuses. With the 1880 census the term was changed to "enumeration district" and the census taker was officially called an "enumerator."

For the censuses of 1830 and 1840 the two volumes included in this microfilm are entitled Accounts of Compensation to Assistant Marshals. They contain brief statements identifying the geographic jurisdictions covered by each census taker, as well as his name and rate of pay. Later volumes from 1850 to 1900 show both "names of persons employed as enumerators" as well as "descriptions of their subdivisions." Beginning in 1910 the names of the enumerators were no longer included in the volumes, which by then were called Descriptions of Enumeration Districts. The records are further described in entries 2, 3, 13, 27, 42 and 189 of National Archives Preliminary Inventory No 161, Records of the Bureau of Census.

A table of contents for each census year has been provided. The original volumes are arranged by assigned volume number, beginning anew with each census year. Within individual volumes the pages are typically arranged numerically by supervisor's or marshal's district and thereunder numerically by subdivision or enumeration district. This arrangement often conforms to an alphabetical arrangement by county. Major cities are sometimes arranged separately from the counties. As an aid to the user the 1850 and 1860 volumes, which have little order in the original, have been filmed out of the original page sequence so that the states and territories appear on film in alphabetical order.

The amount of detail shown in the volumes varies greatly from year to year, from a brief
statement of the town or jurisdiction covered by the census taker to the streets and landmarks that form the boundaries. In the earlier years the distinction between two subdivisions is not always clear, as in the examples "Part of Bristol County" and "Remainder of Bristol County." Typically included are the number of the subdivision (enumeration district), the county, township, city, ward, borough or other civil division that comprises it or a description of its boundaries, the number of square miles it contains and the name of the assistant marshal, census taker or enumerator with his post office address and rate of pay (1830 to 1900 only). The number of returns from each subdivision (population, dwellings or farms from the ongoing or previous census) is sometimes included. The 1870 volume includes an "industrial description" that indicates whether the economy of the subdivision is primarily commercial, residential, industrial or mining.

The 1900, 1940 and 1950 volumes were microfilmed prior to the preparation of this final microfilm. The 1900 volumes were the first to be filmed by the National Archives and were originally assigned roll numbers 1-10, which now have been renumbered to follow the chronological sequence of the remaining film (see table of contents). The 1940 and 1950 volumes were also given obsolete roll numbers when they were filmed while still in the Bureau of the Census before they were deposited in the National Archives and they also have been assigned new roll numbers.

After 1880 it is often helpful to use the descriptions in conjunction with the enumeration district maps that exist in the National Archives. The maps cover only a few counties for the 1880 and 1890 censuses, but cover nearly all of the counties and cities for the later censuses of 1900 to 1960. The maps were marked by hand in the census offices at the time of each census to show the boundaries that each enumerator was to follow. These maps are reproducible on request, although their size often precludes their being microfilmed on 35mm film and their colored boundaries are difficult to interpret when reproduced as black and white copies.

Summary of Microfilm Rolls for All Census Years

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Census Year</th>
<th>Roll No.</th>
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<td>1880</td>
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<td>1890</td>
<td>7-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>18-27 (previously filmed as rolls 1-10)</td>
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<td>1910</td>
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<td>1920</td>
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<td>1930</td>
<td>61-90</td>
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<td>1940</td>
<td>91-118 (previously filmed as rolls 1-28)</td>
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<td>1830 (Listed in the order in which they appear in the volume):</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut,</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi,</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michigan Territory, Arkansas Territory, Florida Territory, District of</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Columbia.</td>
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<td>Vermont, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland,</td>
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<td>Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi,</td>
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<td>Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri,</td>
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<td>Arkansas, Michigan Territory, Florida Territory, Wisconsin, Territory,</td>
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<td>Iowa Territory, District of Columbia.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1850 (Filmed out of original order. Although 1850 census schedules exist for</td>
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<td>Oregon Territory, no subdivision descriptions are included in this volume.)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Alabama, 153-154, 156-157 [original page numbers]</td>
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<td>Florida, 56</td>
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Arizona Territory
California
Colorado Territory
Connecticut
Dakota Territory
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Idaho Territory
Illinois
Indians - All States
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico Territory
New York
North Carolina
Ohio
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Utah Territory
Vermont
Virginia
Washington Territory
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming Territory

1880 (Missing Alabama, Arizona Territory, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Montana Territory, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania & Wisconsin)
Dakota Territory (part)
Delaware (part)
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Idaho Territory
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico Territory
New York
North Carolina
Rhode Island
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Utah Territory
Vermont
Virginia
Washington Territory
West Virginia
Wyoming Territory

1890
Alabama
Arizona Territory
Arkansas
California
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Indian Territory
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri
Montana
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
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North Dakota
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Carolina
South Dakota
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Vermont
Virginia
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming
Alabama
Arizona
Arkansas
California
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida

29
Georgia
Idaho
Illinois (Cook County)
Illinois (except Cook County)

30
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland

32
Massachusetts
Michigan

33
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri

34
Montana
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
North Carolina
North Dakota

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New York Supervisor's District 2 (Brooklyn, Queens, Richmond, towns in Nassau & Suffolk counties)
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Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon

37
Pennsylvania

38
Rhode Island
South Carolina
South Dakota
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<th>Number</th>
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<td>Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin,</td>
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<td>Wyoming, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico</td>
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<td>Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida,</td>
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<td>Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa,</td>
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<td>46</td>
<td>Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana,</td>
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<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan,</td>
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<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana,</td>
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<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico</td>
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New Jersey
New York Supervisor's Districts 1 & 2 (Manhattan & Bronx)
New York Supervisor's District 3 (part) (Kings County)

New York Supervisor's District 3 (part) and 4-6 (Queens & Richmond)
New York Supervisor's Districts 7-22

North Carolina
North Dakota
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Dakota
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Virginia
Washington

West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming
Alaska
Hawaii
Panama
Canal Zone
Puerto Rico
Virgin Islands

1930

Alabama
Arizona
Arkansas

California (Alameda Co to Los Angeles [part])
California (Los Angeles [part] to Yuba Co)
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Idaho
Illinois (Adams Co to Cook Co outside Chicago)
Illinois (Chicago)
Illinois (Crawford Co to Woodford Co)
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri
Montana
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York (Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan & Richmond)
New York (Queens)
New York (Albany Co to Jefferson Co)
New York (Lewis Co to Yates Co)
North Carolina
North Dakota
Ohio (Adams Co to Lorain Co)
Ohio (Lucas Co to Wyandot Co)
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania (Adams Co to Perry Co)
Pennsylvania (Philadelphia Co to York Co)
Rhode Island
South Carolina
South Dakota
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Virginia
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming
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<th>State/Region Information</th>
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<td>Alaska, American Samoa, Hawaii, Panama Canal Zone, Guam, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands</td>
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<td>Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas</td>
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<tr>
<td>92</td>
<td>California (Long Beach City to San Francisco; Alameda Co to Inyo Co)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93</td>
<td>California (Kern Co to Yuba Co)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida</td>
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<td>Georgia, Idaho</td>
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<td>96</td>
<td>Illinois (Chicago; Adams Co to Macoupin Co)</td>
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<td>97</td>
<td>Illinois (Madison Co to Woodford Co)</td>
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<td>Indiana, Iowa, Kansas</td>
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<td>Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine</td>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Maryland, Massachusetts Boston City to Worcester City; Barnstable Co to Franklin Co</td>
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<td>Massachusetts (Hampden Co to Worcester Co)</td>
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<td>Michigan (Detroit City, Flint City, Grand Rapids City; Alcona Co to Allegany Co)</td>
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<td>105</td>
<td>Minnesota (Dakota Co to Yellow Medicine Co)</td>
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<td>Mississippi, Missouri (Kansas City, St Louis; Adair - Clark Co)</td>
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<td>107</td>
<td>Missouri (Clay Co to Wright Co)</td>
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<tr>
<td>108</td>
<td>Montana, Nebraska, Nevada</td>
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New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York (Albany, Buffalo, Bronx, Brooklyn)
New York (Richmond, Manhattan, Queens)
New York (Rochester, Syracuse, Utica; Albany Co to Yates Co)
North Carolina
North Dakota
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania (Erie, Philadelphia, Reading, Pittsburg, Scranton)
Pennsylvania (Adams Co to York Co)
Rhode Island
South Carolina
South Dakota
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Virginia
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming
Alaska
American Samoa
Hawaii
Panama Canal Zone
Guam
Puerto Rico
Virgin Islands

1950
Alabama
Arizona
Arkansas
California (Alameda Co to Santa Cruz Co, including San Francisco City)
California (Shasto Co to Yuba Co; Alameda City to Pasadena Co)
California (Richmond City to Stockton City, except San Francisco)
Connecticut
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida (Alachua Co to Washington Co; Jacksonville City to Miami City)
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<tr>
<th>Page</th>
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| 125  | Florida (St Petersburg, Orlando, Tampa)  
Florida  
Georgia  
Idaho  
Illinois (Adams Co to Woodford Co)  
Illinois (Chicago)  
Illinois (Cicero City to Springfield City)  
Indiana  
Iowa  
Kansas  
Kentucky  
Louisiana  
Maine  
Maryland  
Massachusetts (Barnstable Co to Worcester Co; Boston City to Malden City)  
Massachusetts (Medford City to Worcester City)  
Michigan (Alcona Co to Wexford Co; Dearborn City)  
Michigan (Detroit City to Saginaw City)  
Minnesota (Aitkin Co to Roseau Co)  
Minnesota (St Louis Co to Yellow Medicine Co)  
Mississippi  
Missouri  
Montana  
Nebraska  
Nevada  
New Hampshire  
New Jersey (Atlantic Co to Mercer Co)  
New Jersey (Middlesex Co to Warren Co)  
New Mexico  
New York (Albany Co to Cattaraugus Co)  
New York (Cayuga Co to Yates Co)  
New York (Bronx and Brooklyn)  
New York (Manhattan and Queens)  
New York (Richmond Borough; Albany City to Yonkers City)  
North Carolina (Alamance Co to Halifax Co)  
North Carolina (Harnett Co to Yancey Co; Asheville City to Winston-Salem City)  
North Dakota  
Ohio (Adams Co to Henry Co)  
Ohio (Highland Co to Wyandot Co; Akron City to Cincinnati City)  
Ohio (Cleveland City to Youngstown City)  
Oklahoma (Adair Co to Pawnee Co)  
Oklahoma (Payne Co to Woodward Co; Oklahoma City to Tulsa City)  
Oklahoma (Payne Co to Woodward Co; Oklahoma City to Tulsa City) |
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