



Getting Started on the 1950 Census

Finding your census sheet online:

A quick note regarding census terminology. The person who went door-to-door to collect the information on the census was called an enumerator. Each enumerator was assigned a specific geographic area called an Enumeration District or ED.

To find your census sheet online you will need to 1) sign out a sheet to transcribe and 2) find it online.

Sign out a census sheet

Go to the 1950 Census Transcription Sheet for that community.

[City of Ithaca](#)

Town of Caroline-completed

[Town of Danby](#)

[Town of Dryden](#)

[Town of Enfield](#)

[Town of Groton](#)

[Town of Ithaca](#)

[Town of Lansing](#)

Town of Newfield-completed

Town of Ulysses-completed

- Look for the first available sheet to sign out.
 - If the sheet is full, check the next ED tab on the bottom to the right.
- Enter your name and the date in Col. D.
- Follow the instructions below to find that census sheet online, you will need the ED and sheet number.

Once you have transcribed all the lines on the sheet and completed your self-review:

- Enter the total number of lines transcribed in Col. E (making sure it is the same as the number in Col. C), and
- Check the box in Col F. to indicate you've completed the self review.

If you are unable to finish the sheet in a month, the remaining rows may be reassigned.

Access your census sheet online

Find the Enumeration District (ED)

The ED is made up of two sets of numbers separated by a hyphen (-). The first set of numbers is the county code (55=Tompkins County). The second set of numbers is the ED.

ED	State	County/City	Pages
55-19	New York	Tompkins	46
Enumeration District Description			
Ithaca city: Ithaca city - That part of Ward 1 Bounded by Cascadilla, Park Pl., Esty; N. Plain; State; N. Meadow			
(View Original ED Description)			

[Share](#)[ED Maps](#)[Population Schedules](#)

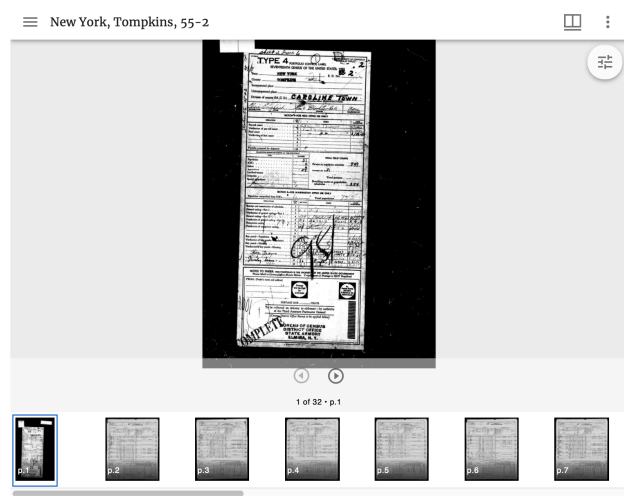
- Go to the 1950 Census for [Tompkins County](#) (click here) or go to the National Archives 1950 census page for Tompkins County:
<https://1950census.archives.gov/search/?county=Tompkins&page=1&state=NY>
- Scroll down or go to the next page to find the correct ED.

Find the Sheet Number

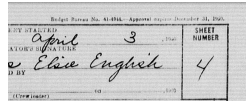
When you have found the correct ED, select the button marked Population Schedules underneath that ED on the bottom right.

The first page or image is the Portfolio Control Label so all other images will be at least one number off. If census sheets were captured twice in the digitization process, the numbering could be off by more.

- Use the scroll bar underneath the thumbnails to advance to your sheet.



- Always check the sheet number and the ED on the census sheet
 - o The sheet number is in the top right corner of the census sheet.
 - o The ED is in the top left corner of the census sheet.



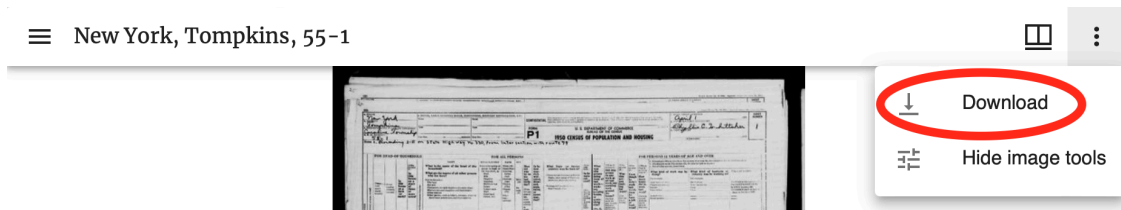
- Adjust the image if necessary
 - o To adjust the image's brightness or contrast, select the icon of the circle with three lines on the upper right corner of the image itself.



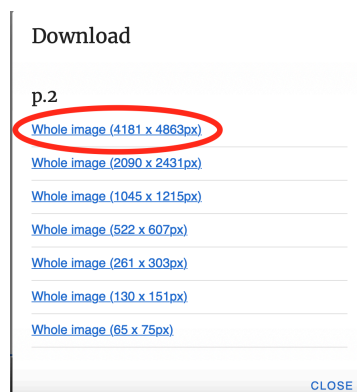
- Download the image (recommended)
 - o To download the image, click the icon of the three dots in a vertical line on the right side above the image.



- Then select Download.



- Select the first option listed for the best resolution.



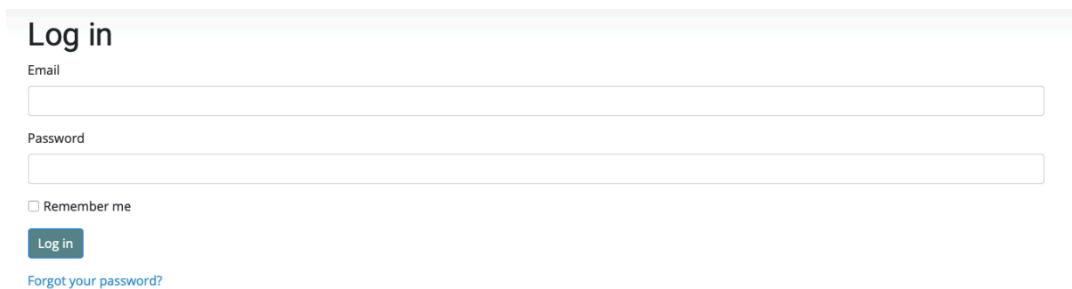
*Keep the census website up in case you need to access it later.

How to open a new data entry page on HistoryForge:

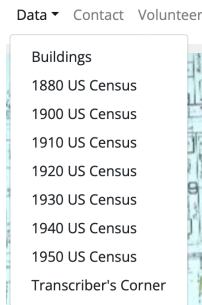
- Go to your HistoryForge homepage: <https://tompkins.historyforge.net/>
- Select Log In in the top right corner of the page.

Log In The Forge Data ▼ About Contact Volunteer

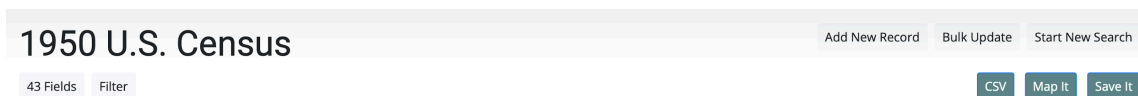
- Enter your email and password and click Log In.



- Select Data in the top right corner of the page, then 1950 US Census.



- Select Add New Record on the top right of the screen.



*Add New Record will only be visible if you are logged in.

HistoryForge has been made possible in part by the
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