

## Where to Find Information on Corrections and Correctional Facilities

by Christine Bruzzese

### **Department of Correction.**

Established in 1895, the New York City Department of Correction oversees and maintains prison facilities. The *Annual Report* was published until 1975. These offer information on facilities, inmate population, programs and services and the year's accomplishments. Statistical tables and charts can generally be found here, too. Holdings are from 1905 to 1975, though not complete. Other Department of Correction publications on statistics, prisons and rules of the agency may be helpful. *Correction Sidelights*, a newsletter for employees, was published from 1957 to 1967, covering news and events concerning employees, facilities and the agency. Before 1895, Correction was part of the Department of Public Charities and Commissioner of Correction. *Annual Reports* of this entity are kept from 1860 to 1894.

**Board of Correction.** The Board is involved in evaluating the Department of Correction, dealing with inmate and Correction employees, monitoring conditions in prisons and similar oversight activities. *Annual Reports* provide background on their activities and relevant issues. Holdings are from 1971 to 1980. *Report on the future of the Manhattan House of Detention* is an example of the reports the Board issues. This publication, from 1974, reviews conditions at the prison known as "the Tombs" and makes recommendations for future improvements.

**Department of Juvenile Justice.** This agency handles detention services for alleged juvenile offenders. *Annual Reports* were published from 1980 to 1992 with discussion of agency activities and statistical information. The Family Ties Program was instituted in the early 1990's and several reports were published on its goals and accomplishments. This program attempted to rehabilitate problem juveniles by working with the family at home rather than sending the youth to a detention center.

**Websites.** The following websites may be useful: Department of Correction at [www.nyc.gov/doc](http://www.nyc.gov/doc); Department of Juvenile Justice at [www.nyc.gov/djj](http://www.nyc.gov/djj); Department of Probation at [www.nyc.gov/prob](http://www.nyc.gov/prob). New York State Department of Correctional Services can be found at [www.docs.state.ny.us](http://www.docs.state.ny.us). All these websites contain information on agency services and programs, key personnel and may offer online access to publications.