

A Guide to the New Kent County (Va.) Fee Book, marriage list, and tax list, 1850-1871

New Kent County (Va.) Fee Book, marriage list, and tax list, 1850-1871
1850-1871

A Collection in the Library of Virginia 1165271
Library of Virginia
2006
Author: Sarah Nerney

History

Processed by: Library of Virginia Staff

Title Statement

A Guide to the New Kent County (Va.) Fee Book, marriage list, and tax list, 1850-1871
Subtitle: New Kent County (Va.) Fee Book, marriage list, and tax list, 1850-1871
Collection: 1165271
Author: Sarah Nerney

Publication Statement

File size: ca. .01 Kilobytes
Date: © 2006 By the Library of Virginia. All rights reserved.
Publisher: Library of Virginia
[Conditions of Use](#)

Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from Archives database, created by Sarah Nerney, 18 January 2006
Language Usage: Description is in English

Revision Description

2013-11-21 Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

Descriptive Summary

Barcode number
1165271
Language
English
Physical Characteristics
1 vol. (ca. 162 p.)
Repository
Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open to research.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

This item came to the Library of Virginia in a transfer of court papers from New Kent County.

Preferred Citation

New Kent County (Va.) Fee Book, marriage list, and tax list, 1850-1871. Accession 42127, Local Government Records Collection, The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Additional New Kent County marriage records can be found on microfilm at the Library of Virginia. Consult "[A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm.](#)"

New Kent County is one of Virginia's Lost Records Localities. Additional New Kent County Records may be found in the Virginia Lost Records Localities Collection at the Library of Virginia. Search the [Lost Records Localities Digital Collection](#) available at Virginia Memory.

For more information and a listing of lost records localities see [Lost Records research note](#).

Historical Information

New Kent County may have been named either for the English county of Kent or for Kent Island, in the upper waters of the Chesapeake Bay. William Claiborne, a native of Kent who had been driven from Kent Island by Lord Baltimore, was a prominent resident of the New Kent area about 1654 when the county was formed from York County. Part of James City County was added in 1767. The county seat is New Kent.

Records were destroyed when John Posey set fire to the courthouse on 15 July 1787. Many records were lost when the courthouse was partially destroyed by fire during Civil War hostilities in 1862. Additional records were burned in Richmond on 3 April 1865, where they had been moved for safekeeping during the Civil War.

A fee book shows the date of a duty performed by the clerk of court, the name of the person paying the fees, and the amount. It includes fees charged attorneys, cash accounts, and the clerk's fees in common law and chancery suits. This particular fee book is from the county court.

Prior to 1853, when the Commonwealth began recording vital statistics, Virginia marriages were recorded at the county or city level. Beginning in 1661, in order to be married by license, the groom was required to go before the county clerk and give bond with security that there was no lawful reason to prevent the marriage. The license, issued then by the clerk, was given to the minister who performed the service. Written consent from a parent or guardian was needed for individuals younger than twenty-one years.

An act passed by the Virginia legislature in 1803 required every free negro or mulatto to be registered and numbered in a book to be kept by the county clerk.

Scope and Content

New Kent County (Va.) Fee Book, marriage list, and tax list, 1850-1871, for the county court includes the date of the charge, the person to whom charged, the reason, the style of suit, and the cost of the service to be paid to the clerk of court. There are also various lists of accounts received by the clerk for various licenses, taxes, and other services. There is no index.

Near the back of this volume there are seven pages of lists of marriage licenses issued to colored and white couples for the years 1865-1871. The lists are divided into colored and white sections and give the date the license was issued, the names of the bride and groom, and the fee charged. There is no index.

The final page of the fee book contains three lists for the years 1854, 1855 and 1856 noting persons who had paid tax on free negro registers. Listed are the date the tax was paid, the name of the person paying, and the amount of tax charged.

Access Terms

New Kent County (Va.). Circuit Court.
African Americans--Virginia--New Kent County.
Clerks of court--Virginia--New Kent County.
Costs (Law)--Virginia--New Kent County.
Courts--Virginia--New Kent County.
Free African Americans--Virginia--New Kent County.
Marriage--Virginia--New Kent County.
Tax collection--Virginia--New Kent County.
New Kent County (Va.)--History--19th century.
Fees--Virginia--New Kent County.
Lists--Virginia--New Kent County.
Local government records--Virginia--New Kent County.
Marriage licenses--Virginia--New Kent County.
Marriage records--Virginia--New Kent County.
Registers (lists)--Virginia--New Kent County.
Taxes--Virginia--New Kent County.