

A Guide to the Newport News (Va.) and Warwick County (Va.) Records, 1646-1971

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1646-1971

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History

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A Guide to the Newport News (Va.) and Warwick County (Va.) Records, 1646-1971

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Profile Description

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

Descriptive Summary

Language

English

Collector

Newport News (Va.) Circuit Court.

Physical Characteristics

41 boxes, 4 volumes.

Location

State Records Center--Archives Annex, Library of Virginia

Repository

The Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Selected Warwick County, Records, 1650-1840, have been digitized and can be found on the [Lost Records Localities Digital Collection](#) available electronically at the website of the Library of Virginia.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

Record Book, October 25, 1680, was acquired in 1923 under accession 18655.

Warrant, May 22, 1799, was acquired in 1931 under accession 20321.

Contract for sale, between Cole Diggs and Richard Young, of property in Warwick County, 1810, [photostat] were acquired in 1933 under accession 20606.

Will of William Garrow of Warwick County and Court Order in re will of John Young of Warwick County [photostat] were acquired in 1933 under accession 20607.

Minutes, 1691, was acquired in 1936 under accession 21071.

Indenture between Grace Mobbs and Stephen Burgess of Warwick County, September 17, 1698 [photostat] was acquired in 1938 under accession 21314.

Robert Hooper's bill, 1678; James Bates vs. Edward Loftus, 1707; Robert Philipson and Dorothy Price vs. Richard Hyde, 1723; Elizabeth Cary's petition, 1730, were acquired in 1939 under accession 21369.

Records, 1688, was transferred by the Newport News Circuit Court Clerk in 1940 under accession 21708.

Probate record 1697, was transferred by the Newport News Circuit Court Clerk in 1942 under accession 22028.

Orders, 1653-1686, pages 51-56, 59-74, 1690-1691; Records, 1695-1697, pages 449-462 were transferred by the Newport News Circuit Court Clerk in 1942 under accession 22057.

Order Book, 1713-1714, was transferred by the Newport News Circuit Court Clerk in 1947 under accession 22641.

Miscellaneous Court Papers, 1701-1726, were transferred by the Newport News Circuit Court Clerk in 1947 under accession 22642

Records, 1688, were acquired in 1958 under accession 24853.

Court Records, 1685, were acquired in 1958 under accession 24867.

Orders, June 21-July 21, 1705, were acquired in 1960 under accession 25129.

Court Docket Book, March 1813-September 1818, were transferred by the Newport News Circuit Court Clerk in 1975 under accession 28694.

Warwick County (Va), Order Book, 1699-1701 [photocopies] was acquired in 1975 under accession 28729.

Order Book (Fragment), 1701, was acquired in 1981 under accession 31286.

Commission for Justices of Peace, 1840, was acquired in 1981 under accession 31287.

Clerk's Records, 1689-1726 ca. [photocopies] were acquired in 1992 under accession 34287.

Court Records, 1875-1971 were transferred by the Newport News Circuit Court Clerk in 2007 under accession 43558.

Bond, 1719; Judgments, 1688 and 1718; and Wills, 1718 and 1751, were transferred by the Newport News Circuit Court Clerk in 2012 under accession 50416.

Will of Henry Cary, January 27, 1716, was acquired in 2013 under accession 50827.

Order Book pages, 1695, 1705, was acquired in 2021 under accession 53322.

Records, 1658-1744 circa, were acquired in 2025 under accession 54416.

Processing Information

Owing to the number of Warwick County court records taken during the Civil War, a significant portion of these records were acquired piecemeal over decades through donations from individuals of both original materials and reproductions. Transfers of original surviving records from the Circuit Court Clerk duplicated some of the previously acquired reproductions. In 2014, many of the original records were digitized as part of the Lost Records Localities Digital Collection. Consequently, in October 2025, it was decided to deaccession reproductions for which both the original and a digitized copy existed. Reproductions were maintained (BC#7417689) for those records not held in original form.

Due to the scarcity of pre-1865 original Warwick County court records, as well as the incomplete nature of many donated records, the pre-1865 materials have been organized under the heading "Records." Individual documents have been foldered and labeled, but have not been organized into established local records series at this time. Box lists for the records in Series I: Processed Records has been provided. Post-1865 records have been organized under local records series.

Encoded by C. Freed: September 2020; updated by V. Brooks: October 2025.

Preferred Citation

Newport News (Va.) and Warwick County (Va.) Records, 1646-1971. Local government records collection, Newport News/Warwick County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Additional Newport News and Warwick County Records can be found on microfilm at the Library of Virginia. Consult ["A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm"](#) found on the Library of Virginia's web site.

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

Historical Information

Locality History: Warwick County (extinct) was named for Robert Rich, earl of Warwick, a prominent member of the London Company, or for the county of Warwick in England. The county was originally called Warwick River and was one of the original shires, or counties, first enumerated in 1634. The name was shortened to Warwick in 1643. Warwick County became extinct in 1952, when it became the city of Warwick. The new city was consolidated with the city of Newport News in 1958 and took the latter's name.

Newport News probably commemorated Christopher Newport, who made five voyages to Virginia between 1607 and 1619. The Old Dominion Land Company bought land there in 1880 and began laying out a new village in October. Newport News was incorporated as a city by Act of the General Assembly in 1896 without ever having been incorporated as a town. On 1 July 1958 Newport News was enlarged by consolidating with the City of Warwick, which then became extinct. In the years before consolidation, Newport News annexed land from Warwick County in 1917, 1921 and 1940; from Elizabeth City County in 1927 and 1937; and from both Elizabeth City County and Warwick counties in 1921.

Warwick County court records were destroyed several times, with most destruction occurring during the Civil War. The clerk's office was burned on 15 December 1864. County court minute books and loose records from 1787 to 1819 were destroyed by this fire. Additional records were burned on 3 April 1865, in Richmond, where the county records had been moved for safekeeping during the Civil War.

Scope and Content

Newport News (Va.) and Warwick County (Va.) Records, 1646-1971, consist of the following series: County and City Court Records (subfield series include Judgments, Clerk's Records, Jury Records, Common Law papers and Chancery Records, Election Records, Fiduciary Records, Bonds/Commissions/Oaths, County Administrative Records (subfield series include Board of Supervisors Records and Board of Supervisors Records: Road and Bridge Records), Tax and Fiscal Records, Business Records, Organization Records, Fiduciary Records, Wills, Military and Pension Records, Miscellaneous Records and Property Records.

Many of the surviving pre-1866 Warwick County records are incomplete, damaged, or fragments. This includes materials originally part of volumes, as well as loose papers.

Arrangement

For descriptive purposes, the collection has been divided into two series:

- Series I: Processed Records, 1646-1875
- Series II: Unprocessed Records, 1866-1971

Box List

Series I: Processed Records, 1646-1875

Extent

2.25 cubic feet (4 boxes)

Physical Location Library of Virginia

Scope and Content

This series contains both original and reproduction copies of Warwick County records. A significant number of these records are partial or damaged.

Arrangement

Loosely chronological.

Barcode 7417689: Records [reproductions], 1646-1875

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Clerk's Records, 1683-1787
- Order Book, 1699-1701
- Deed, Mobbs to Burgess, 1698
- Contract, Digges and Young, 1810
- Will of William Garrow, 1815; Petition to prove will of John Young, 1875
- Record Book, 21 November 1719
- Orders, 1646-1647
- Order Book, 1728-1729
- Court Papers, 1669-1837 [3 folders]

Barcode 7417216: Records, 1650-1865

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Wood photo frame back with inscription, 1865 circa
- Assignment of Bond, 1678
- Deed and Plat, Aylett to Carey, 1798
- Deed, Carey to Aylett, 1798
- Judgment, Exr. of Haynes v. Wills, 1770
- Deed, Ballard to Aery, 1792
- Fifa, Blake for vs. Dixon & Page [Gloucester County], 1827
- Will of Henry Cary, 1716
- Order Book, 1713-1714
- Justice of the Peace commission, 1840
- Fiduciary Records: Division of Real and Personal Property, 1656-1686
- Court Orders, 1650-1651
- Records, 1657-1837
- Court Papers, 1701-1728 and undated
- Capias for Peter Houghton, 1799
- Docket Book, 1813 March - 1818 September
- Order Book page, 1663
- Order Book pages, 1685
- Order Book fragment, 1680
- Record Book, 1687 28 December - 1688 21 March
- Record Book, 1688 18 May - 1866 July
- Court Records, 1690/1691
- Court of Claims, Order, 1691 1 April
- Order Book pages, 1695 & 1705
- Record Book, 1695-1697
- Appointment of Mary Kensington as Executrix of Nicholas Kingston, 1697
- Order Book fragment, 1701

- Judgments and Chancery Cause, 1707, 1728, 1730
- Orders, 1705
- Orders, 1705
- Casa, Perry v. Crandol, 1785

Barcode 0007917060: Records, 1658-1743

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Property Records: Indenture, 1715
- Fiduciary Records: Guardians Account, 1743
- Court Records: Order Book page, 1663
- Unidentified Account, 1658

Barcode 0007448096: Records, 1688-1751

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Bond, 1719
- Judgments, 1688 and 1718
- Wills, 1718 and 1751

Series II: Unprocessed Records, 1866-1971

Extent

40.9 cubic feet (37 boxes), 4 volumes

Physical Location State Records Center- Archives Annex

Scope and Content

This series consists of unprocessed County Court, Corporation Court, and Circuit Court papers; County Administrative Records; Health and Medical Records; Fiduciary Records; Tax and Fiscal Records; Bonds, Commissions, and Oaths; Military and Pension Records, and Election Records.

Arrangement

Loosely chronological.

Barcode 1182747: Common Law Papers, 1896-1912 circa

Barcode 1182748: Common Law Papers, 1896-1912 circa

Barcode 1182711: Conditional Sales Book, 1890-1893

Barcode 1182677: Corporation Court, 3A and 4A, 1896-1912 circa

Barcode 1182678: Corporation Court, 5A and 6A, 1896-1912 circa

Barcode 1182679: Corporation Court, 7A and 8A, 1896-1912 circa

Barcode 1182680: Corporation Court, 9A and 10A, 1896-1912 circa

Barcode 1182681: Corporation Court, 11A and 12A, 1896-1912 circa

Barcode 1182692: Corporation Court Records, 1897-1899

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments, petitions
- Fiduciary Records
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor licenses/bonds, erroneous assessment of lands, commonwealth claims, lists of fines, etc.

Barcode 1182693: Corporation Court Records, 1899-1900

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments, petitions
- Fiduciary Records
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor licenses/bonds, erroneous assessment of lands, commonwealth claims, lists of fines, etc.

Barcode 1182694: Corporation Court Records, 1901

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments, petitions
- Fiduciary Records
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor licenses/bonds, erroneous assessment of lands, commonwealth claims, lists of fines, etc.

Barcode 1182695: Corporation Court Records, 1902-1903

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments, petitions
- Fiduciary Records
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor licenses/bonds, erroneous assessment of lands, commonwealth claims, lists of fines, etc.

Barcode 1182696: Corporation Court Records, 1903-1904

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments, petitions
- Fiduciary Records
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor licenses/bonds, erroneous assessment of lands, commonwealth claims, lists of fines, etc.

Barcode 1182697: Corporation Court Records, 1904-1906

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments, petitions
- Fiduciary Records
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor licenses/bonds, erroneous assessment of lands, commonwealth claims, lists of fines, etc.

Barcode 1182698: Corporation Court Records, 1906-1907

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments, petitions
- Fiduciary Records
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor licenses/bonds, erroneous assessment of lands, commonwealth claims, lists of fines, etc.

Barcode 1182699: Corporation Court Records, 1907-1908

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments, petitions
- Fiduciary Records
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor licenses/bonds, erroneous assessment of lands, commonwealth claims, lists of fines, etc.

Barcode 1182700: Corporation Court Records, 1908-1909

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments, petitions
- Fiduciary Records
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor licenses/bonds, erroneous assessment of lands, commonwealth claims, lists of fines, etc.

Barcode 1182701: Corporation Court Records, 1910

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments, petitions
- Fiduciary Records
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor licenses/bonds, erroneous assessment of lands, commonwealth claims, lists of fines, etc.

Barcode 1182702: Corporation Court Records, 1911-1912

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments, petitions
- Fiduciary Records
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor licenses/bonds, erroneous assessment of lands, commonwealth claims, lists of fines, etc.

Barcode 1182703: Corporation Court Records, 1912-1913

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments, petitions
- Fiduciary Records
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor licenses/bonds, erroneous assessment of lands, commonwealth claims, lists of fines, etc.

Barcode 1182752: County Court Records, 1896 Feb.-1899 Dec. circa

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments
- Fiduciary Records
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor License Bonds/Applications, Commonwealth & County claims, Erroneous Assessments, etc.
- Petitions (most re: church trustees)
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths

Barcode 1182751: County Court Records, 1900 Jan.-1902 Dec.

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments
- Fiduciary Records
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor License Bonds/Applications, Commonwealth & County claims, Erroneous Assessments, etc.
- Petitions (most re: church trustees)
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths

Barcode 1182754: County Court Records, 1896-1933 circa

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments
- Fiduciary Records
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor License Bonds/Applications, Commonwealth & County claims, Erroneous Assessments, etc.
- Petitions (most re: church trustees)
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths

Barcode 1182742: Old Circuit Court Terms, 1904-1907 July

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments
- Fiduciary Records
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor License Bonds/Applications, Commonwealth & County claims, Erroneous Assessments, etc.
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths

Barcode 1182743: Old Circuit Court Terms, 1907 Sept-1912 Jan

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments
- Fiduciary Records
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor License Bonds/Applications, Commonwealth & County claims, Erroneous Assessments, etc.
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths

Barcode 1182744: Old Circuit Court Terms, 1912 Mar-1915 Nov

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments
- Fiduciary Records
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor License Bonds/Applications, Commonwealth & County claims, Erroneous Assessments, etc.
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths

Barcode 1182745: Old Circuit Court Terms, 1916 Jan-1919 Nov

Scope and Content

Box list:

- Court Records: Judgments
- Fiduciary Records
- Tax and Fiscal Records: Liquor License Bonds/Applications, Commonwealth & County claims, Erroneous Assessments, etc.
- Bonds/Commissions/Oaths

Barcode 1182713: Record of Executions, 1869-1893

Barcode 1182710: Health and Medical Records: Register of Certificates of Physicians and Dentists No. 1, 1896-1971

Barcode 1181899: Health and Medical Records: Medical Register No. 1, 1912-1961

Barcode 1182691: Judgments; Fiduciary Records; Bonds/Commissions/Oaths; Tax and Fiscal Records, 1896-1897

Barcode 1182704: Oaths of Office and Qualifications of Office, 1897-1913 circa

Barcode 1012887: Election Records, Court Records, County Administrative Records: Board of Supervisors Records: Road and Bridge Records, Tax and Fiscal Records, Bonds/Commissions/Oaths, 1866-1923

Barcode 1012919: County and City Court Records, Tax and Fiscal Records, Election Records, 1866-1924

Barcode 1012917: Court Records, County Administrative Records: Board of Supervisors Records: Road and Bridge Records, Tax and Fiscal Records, 1872-1926

Barcode 1012899: County and City Court Records, Miscellaneous Records, Election Records, County Administrative Records: Board of Supervisors Records: Road and Bridge Records, 1876-1923

Barcode 1012886: County and City Court Records, Tax and Fiscal Records, Election Records, County Administrative Records: Board of Supervisors Records, 1884-1920

Barcode 1202662: Court Records, County Administrative Records: Board of Supervisors Records, Election Records, 1888-1902 circa

Barcode 1012852: County Administrative Records: Board of Supervisors Records, City Court Records, Tax and Fiscal Records, 1895-1926

Barcode 1012890: Military and Pension Records, Election Records, Bonds/Commissions/Oaths, City Court Records, 1895-1926

Barcode 1012883: Court Records, Business Records, Election Records, Organization Records, Tax and Fiscal Records, 1904-1941