

A Guide to the Norfolk County (Va.) Business Records, 1889-1927

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1889-1927

A Collection in the Library of Virginia
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2024

History

Processed by: Bari Helms

Title Statement

A Guide to the Norfolk County (Va.) Business Records, 1889-1927

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Publication Statement

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Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word, created by Jennifer Taylor, 07 May 2024

Language Usage: Description is in English

Descriptive Summary

Language

English

Collector

Norfolk County (Va.) Circuit Court

Physical Characteristics

3 volumes.

Location

State Record Center-Archives Annex, Library of Virginia

Repository

Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

These records came to the Library of Virginia in transfers of court papers from Chesapeake, City of/Norfolk County in an undated accession.

Processing Information

The records in this collection were processed in 2010 by Bari Helms.

Prior to 2024, the various business records in this collection were originally described as individual records, but they have been consolidated into one large business record for the locality.

Encoded by J. Taylor, May 2024

Preferred Citation

Norfolk County (Va.) Business Records, 1889-1927. [include volume title]. Local government records collection, Chesapeake, City of/Norfolk County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va. 23219.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Additional Norfolk County Court Records can be found on microfilm at The Library of Virginia. Consult ["A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm."](#)

Historical Information

Context for Record Type: Business Records, both volumes and loose records, are in some cases transferred to the Library of Virginia as components of court record transfers. These business records in some cases were simply stored in the local court building for safe keeping by business owners. In other cases, business records (particularly ledgers, account books, etc.) may have been filed in a court case as an exhibit. These business record exhibits appeared both in chancery causes and in judgments, these records serving as exhibits for business dissolution cases, debt suits, and contract disputes.

Locality History: Norfolk County was created in 1691 when Lower Norfolk County was divided into Norfolk County and Princess Anne County. Norfolk County became extinct on 1 January 1963, when it was consolidated with the city of South Norfolk to form the city of Chesapeake. The county seat was Portsmouth.

Scope and Content

Norfolk County (Va.) Business Records, 1889-1927, is comprised of various records created by individuals and companies in pursuit of documenting business activities in and around Norfolk County (Va.). Represented records largely consist of letter books and a minute book.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into two series:

- Series I: Business Records of the Dinwiddie Realty Corporation, 1910-1927
- Series II: Business Records of James A. Kerr, 1889-1907

Contents List

Series I: Business Records of the Dinwiddie Realty Corporation, 1910-1927

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location State Records Center

Scope and Content

Scope and Content: The business records of the Dinwiddie Realty Corporation consist of a minute book, which recorded the stockholders' meetings of Dinwiddie Realty Corporation located in Portsmouth. Information includes date and location of meetings and the election of officers. Volume also includes accounts of an unknown business dated 1910-1913. Transactions are listed in chronological order and then

by individual account. Information includes name of account and amounts credited and debited.

Barcode Number 1095755: Diniwiddie Realty Corporation Minute Book 1910-1927

Series II: Business Records of James A. Kerr, 1889-1907

Extent

2 volumes

Physical Location State Records Center

Scope and Content

Historical Information: James A. Kerr was lawyer practicing in Norfolk, Va., during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Scope and Content: The business records consist of two letter books which provide a record of outgoing correspondence related to Kerr's law practice; Kerr appears to have specialized in property law.

Barcode Number 1127443: Letter Book of James A. Kerr, Atto. 1889-1892

Scope and Content

Letter Book, 1889-1892, contains frequent correspondence with the Board of Directors of the Twin City Permanent Building Association of Norfolk about transfer of property rights along with other letters concerning the settlement of cases and finalizing of clients bills. Also included are several letters to Kerr's aunt Rosa, no surname provided, and his brother Henry Kerr detailing the settlement of his aunt Martha's estate to which Kerr was administrator.

Barcode Number 1127444: Letter Book of James A. Kerr, Atto 1902-1907

Scope and Content

Letter Book, 1902-1907, consists almost solely of correspondence with the clerk's office of the county and corporation courts of Norfolk regarding legal rights to transfer property titles. Included in the letters regarding property rights are detailed descriptions of the property and any improvements along with the names of the original property owners and to whom the title was being transferred.