

A Guide to the Charles City County (Va.) Business Records, 1866-1879

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1866-1879

A Collection in the Library of Virginia
Library of Virginia
2025

History

Processed by: Greg Crawford

Title Statement

A Guide to the Charles City County (Va.) Business Records, 1866-1879

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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, 25 February 2025

Language Usage: Description is in English

Descriptive Summary

Language

English

Collector

Charles City County (Va.) Circuit Court

Physical Characteristics

11 volumes.

Location

Library of Virginia

Repository

Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Many of the business volumes are fragile and should not be handled, please check alternative formats for volumes that have been microfilmed. Please use microfilm if available.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

These records came to the Library of Virginia in transfers of court papers from Charles City County in an undated accession

Processing Information

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.

These records were processed by Greg Crawford in 2001.

Encoded by J. Taylor: February 2025

Preferred Citation

Charles City County (Va.) Business Records, 1866-1879. [include volume title]. Local government records collection, Charles City County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va. 23219.

Alternative Form Available

Please see [Charles City County Microfilm](#) index in the [Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm](#) available on the [Library of Virginia](#) website for full listing.

Neston General Store Daybook, 1870 is available as Charles City County (Va.) Microfilm Reel 24

Neston General Store Daybook, 1872 is available as Charles City County (Va.) Microfilm Reel 24

Neston General Store, 1874-1875 is available as Charles City County (Va.) Microfilm Reel 25

Neston General Store Ledger, 1875-1878 is available as Charles City County (Va.) Microfilm Reel 25

Neston General Store Daybook, 1876 is available as Charles City County (Va.) Microfilm Reel 25

Neston General Store Daybook, 1876-1877 is available as Charles City County (Va.) Microfilm Reel 25

Neston General Store Daybook, 1878 is available as Charles City County (Va.) Microfilm Reel 25

Ledger of R.L. Adams' General Store, 1866-1878 is available as Charles City County (Va.) Microfilm Reel 24

Ledger of an Unidentified General Store, 1871-1875 is available as Charles City County (Va.) Microfilm Reel 26

Ledger of Willcox and Graves General Store, 1873-1874 is available as Charles City County (Va.) Microfilm Reel 26

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

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

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

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: Charles City County was named for King Charles I and was one of the original shires, or counties, first enumerated in 1634. The county seat is Charles City. Part of James City County was added to Charles City in 1721.

Lost Locality Notes: Records have been destroyed at various times. The most damage occurred during the Civil War when the records were strewn through the woods in a rainstorm. A few pre-Civil War volumes such as deed books, will books, minute books, and order books exist.

Scope and Content

Charles City County (Va.) Business Records, 1866-1898 is comprised of various records created by individuals and companies in pursuit of documenting business activities in and around Charles City County (Va.). Represented records largely consist of daybooks, ledgers, and an account book.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into four series:

- Series I: Business Records of the Neston General Store, 1870-1879
- Series II: Business Records of R.L. Adams, 1866-1878
- Series III: Business Records of an Unidentified General Store, 1871-1878
- Series IV: Business Records of Willcox and Graves, 1873-1875

Contents List

Series I: Business Records of the Neston General Store, 1870-1879

Extent

7 volumes

Physical Location Library of Virginia

Scope and Content

Scope and Content: The business records of Neston General Store consist of daybooks and a ledger. The daybooks recorded on a daily basis the name of customer, merchandise purchased, and the amount owed or paid. Merchandise sold include whiskey, mackerel, molasses, fabric, and sugar.

The ledger recorded the accounts of individual customers. Each account lists page numbers to daybooks that contain relative information to transactions between customer and merchant or store. Each account also lists amount of payment made. Payments were made by cash, barter such as watermelon and fish, or labor such as cutting wood. Merchandise sold include whiskey, mackerel, molasses, fabric, and sugar.

Barcode Number 1103446: Neston Store Daybook, 1870

Barcode Number 1103449: Neston Store Daybook, 1872

Barcode Number 1103448: Neston Store Daybook, 1874-1875

Barcode Number 1103457: Neston Store Ledger, 1875-1878

Barcode Number 1103461: Neston Store Daybook, 1876

Barcode Number 1103455: Neston Store Daybook, 1876-1877

Barcode Number 1103445: Neston Store Daybook, 1878-1879

Series II: Business Records of R.L. Adams, 1866-1878

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location Library of Virginia

Scope and Content

Scope and Content: The business records of R.L. Adams consist of a ledger. The volume doubled as a daybook and an accounts ledger. Daybook portion records transactions on a daily basis from January to August 1866. Information includes name of customer, merchandise purchased, and amount owed and paid. Merchandise sold include oysters, ham, whiskey, corn, and fish. The accounts ledger portion lists the accounts of individual customers from 1872 to 1878. Each account lists page numbers to daybooks or journals that contain relative information to transactions between customer and merchant or store. Each

account also lists amount of payment made. Payments were made by cash, barter such as wine and birds, or labor such as plowing and cutting oats.

Barcode Number 1103460: R.L. Adams Ledger, 1866-1878

Series III: Business Records of an Unidentified General Store, 1871-1878

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location Library of Virginia

Scope and Content

Scope and Content: The business records of the unidentified general store consist of a ledger. The volume recorded the accounts of individual customers. Each account lists transactions in chronological order, items purchased, the amount owed, and the amount paid. Payments were made by cash, labor, and barter such as wood. Merchandise sold include whiskey, looking glasses, soap, food, jewelry and clothes.

Barcode Number 1103458: Ledger of an Unidentified General Store, 1871-1878

Series IV: Business Records of Willcox and Graves, 1873-1875

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location Library of Virginia

Scope and Content

Scope and Content: The business records of Willcox and Graves consist of a ledger. The volume recorded the accounts of individual customers. Each account lists transactions in chronological order, items purchased, the amount owed, and the amount paid. Payments were made by cash, labor such as loading vessel wood and cleaning out wells, and barter such as wood and meal. Merchandise sold include meal, molasses, bacon, and tobacco.

Barcode Number 1103459: Ledger of Willcox and Graves, 1873-1875

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