

A Guide to the Isle of Wight County (Va.) Naturalization Records, 1823

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1823

A Collection in the Library of Virginia

Library of Virginia

2024

History

Processed by: Library of Virginia staff

Title Statement

A Guide to the Isle of Wight County (Va.) Naturalization Records, 1823

Subtitle: Isle of Wight County (Va.) Naturalization Records

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Publication Statement

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Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from being created directly into EAD, created by McKenzie Long, 23 September 2024

Language Usage: Description is in English

Descriptive Summary

Language

English

Collector

Isle of Wight County (Va.) Circuit Court

Extent

.1 cu. ft. (1 box)

Location

Library of Virginia

Repository

The Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Isle of Wight County's loose naturalization records, 1823, are digitized and available through the [Naturalization Records Digital Collection](#) on the Library of Virginia website. Please use digital images.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

These items came to the Library of Virginia in a transfer of court papers from Isle of Wight County.

Processing Information

Loose naturalization records, 1823, were processed and indexed for the purpose of inclusion in the Library of Virginia's Naturalization Records digital collection by Library of Virginia staff.

Encoded by M. Long: September 2024.

Preferred Citation

Isle of Wight County (Va.) Naturalization Records, 1823. Local government records collection, Isle of Wight County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia, 23219.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

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

Isle of Wight County is one of Virginia's Lost Records Localities. Additional Isle of Wight County Court Records may be found in the [Lost Records Localities Digital Collection](#) available on the Library of Virginia website.

Historical Information

Context for Record Type: Beginning in 1795, a person could declare their intent to become a citizen at any time and in any place after they arrived in the United States. Prior to the Naturalization Act of 1906, the naturalization process primarily occurred in local and state courts. Declarations of intent were the record by which an applicant for U.S. citizenship declared their intent to become a citizen and renounced their allegiance to a foreign government. This document typically preceded proof of residence or a petition to become a citizen by two or more years.

Locality History: Isle of Wight County was named probably for the Isle of Wight off the south coast of England. It was first known as Warrosquyoake for an Indian tribe living in the area whose name means "swamp in a depression of land," and was one of the original shires, or counties, first enumerated in 1634. The present name was given in 1637. Parts of Nansemond County were added in 1769 and 1772. The county seat is Isle of Wight.

Lost Locality Note: Most pre-Revolutionary War-era loose records are missing. Volumes that record deeds, court orders, and wills exist. During the Civil War, the county clerk had Randall Boothe, a Black man he enslaved, transport the court records to Greensville and Brunswick Counties for safekeeping. After the war ended, Boothe returned the records to Isle of Wight and served as Courthouse Caretaker.

Scope and Content

Isle of Wight County (Va.) Naturalization Records, 1823, consists of loose naturalization records filed in the local court. Loose naturalization records may include affidavits, reports for naturalization, declarations of intent to become United States citizens, and notices of application for admission of citizenship. The reports are narrative accounts made by applicants summarizing their journey to the United States. The declarations of intent record the person's name, place of birth, age, country of previous citizenship, renunciation of allegiance and fidelity to the nation of which the person is currently a citizen, and the date the intention was sworn. Affidavits, signed by those who knew the applicant and could vouch for their loyalty to the United States, may also be filed with the reports and declarations.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into the following series:

- Series I: Loose Naturalization Records, 1823, arranged chronologically and housed in a box with other Isle of Wight County court records.

Contents List

Series I: Loose Naturalization Records, 1823

Extent

.1 cubic feet (1 box)

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically and housed in a box with other Isle of Wight County court records.

Barcode number 1161440: Records, 1771-1961

Library of Virginia