

Office of the Public Records Administrator  
and State Archives

**Guide to the Records  
of the  
Judicial Department**

State Archives Record Group No. 3

**Second Edition**

Connecticut State Library  
Hartford, Connecticut  
2001

By  
Nancy M. Shader  
Archivist

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## **Preface**

Since 1855, the Connecticut State Library has acquired government archival records documenting the evolution of state government and the formation and implementation of its policies, the rights and claims of citizens, and the history of its institutions, economy, ethnic and social groups, politics, families and individuals. In 1909, the General Assembly recognized the State Library's unique role by making it the official repository, or State Archives, for historical public records. Today the Office of the Public Records Administrator and State Archives carries out that important function.

Records of the Judicial Branch of State government form one of the premier collections of the State Archives. For decades, acquisition of historical court records has been a priority. Since the Library received the first transfer of files and books, court records have been in high demand. Today these records are in even higher demand with growing interest in genealogy and Native American ancestry.

Due to this ongoing interest in court records, the State Archives has given court records a high processing priority. This second edition of the *Guide to the Records of the Judicial Department* builds upon work created by members of the State Archives (specifically former Assistant State Archivist, Lizette Pelletier) and projects funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). This updated guide owes much of its new information to detailed inventories created by student workers Elizabeth Brettschneider, Edward Gutiérrez, Adam Palmer and Lawrence Urrichio,

This summary guide gives an overview of all records of the Judicial Department in the custody of the State Archives, with the exception of records from the Probate Court (separate finding aids are available for Probate Court records). Detailed container lists are so extensive they were not published as part of this overview. These lists are available from the State Archives and will be posted on the State Library's web page at [www.cslib.org](http://www.cslib.org).

The State Archives welcomes comments about this guide from researchers and will carefully consider suggestions for changes that will increase the ease of access. Send comments to: State Archives, Connecticut State Library, 231 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106. Comments may also be submitted via our web page.

Mark H. Jones, State Archivist

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# Records of the Judicial Department 1636-1991 State Archives Record Group No. 003

## History<sup>1</sup>

### **First Connecticut Judicial Proceedings**

The first Connecticut judicial proceeding were probably held on April 26, 1636 at “A Corte holden in Newtown” (Hartford) under the commission granted to eight leaders by the General Court of Massachusetts Bay.

In 1638, the General Court established the Particular Court (often called the “Quartet Court” because it was required to meet every three months). While the General Court, later called the General Assembly, controlled the administration of justice, the Particular Court was the principal body until the union of the New Haven and Connecticut colonies and the granting of the Charter from King Charles II in 1662.

In 1665, with the new Charter, the Particular Court was abolished and two new levels of courts were established: the Court of Assistants in 1665, and the county courts one year later. Separate probate courts were established in 1698 to handle such matters as wills and estates.

The Court of Assistants was abolished in 1711. Its powers of original and appellate jurisdiction were assumed by the newly created Superior Court, the forerunner of the sole trial court of general jurisdiction, which exists in Connecticut today.

### **Creation of an Independent Judiciary**

During the period between the Revolutionary War and the adoption of the Connecticut Constitution in 1818, significant developments in the direction of creating an independent judiciary took place.

In 1784, the Supreme Court of Errors was created as the highest appellate tribunal of the state, with the power to review lower court cases based on a writ of error, a power previously held by the General Assembly.

In 1818, the first Connecticut Constitution was adopted, setting forth the doctrine of separation of powers and establishing the three separate branches of government. This constitution created “...a Supreme Court of Errors, a Superior Court, and such inferior courts as the general assembly shall from time to time ordain and establish.”

County courts were abolished in 1855 and their functions were transferred to a strengthened Superior Court. As the volume of cases continued to increase, however, the General Assembly found it necessary to create a series of Courts of Common Pleas.

### **Justices of the Peace**

Justices of the Peace have played a vital part in the judicial system, beginning in 1686. By the end of the seventeenth century, justices were commonly authorized to take jurisdiction over small actions. As towns were incorporated, the General Assembly authorized the creation of town and borough courts in order to handle small cases. Justices of the peace presided over these courts.

### **Twentieth Century Developments**

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<sup>1</sup> History from the State of Connecticut, Judicial Branch website at [www.jud.state.ct.us](http://www.jud.state.ct.us).



In 1939, the trail justice system was enacted, vesting a limited criminal jurisdiction formerly within the power of all justices of the peace in specially designated trail justices.

In 1921, Connecticut's first juvenile courts were established in several towns, and in 1942, a statewide Juvenile Court came into existence.

In 1941, the General Assembly enacted legislation to establish a single Court of Common Pleas for the entire state with judges subject to periodic reassignment on a statewide basis. Prior to this legislation, judges sat only in the counties to which they had been appointed.

When the General Assembly abolished county governments in 1960, the municipal courts and trail justice system were replaced by a statewide Circuit Court. The three-level system of state, county and municipal courts was dissolved in favor of a completely state-maintained system.

On December 31, 1974, the Circuit Court was merged with the Court of Common Pleas. The Circuit Court judges were elevated to the Court of Common Pleas. This consolidation was followed four years later by the merger of the Court of Common Pleas and the Juvenile Court with the Superior Court on July 1, 1978. Common Pleas and Juvenile Court judges became judges of the Superior Court. The Superior Court thus became the sole trial court of general jurisdiction in the state, and Connecticut acquired the first unified court system in the county.

In 1982, the state Constitution was amended to establish the Appellate Court to help alleviate the caseload burden of the Supreme Court.

#### **Probate Court**

In addition to the state-operated courts, Connecticut has probate courts, which have jurisdiction over the estates of deceased persons, testamentary trusts, adoptions, conservators, commitment of the mentally ill, guardians of the persons, and estates of minors.

Each probate court has one judge, who is elected to a four-year term by the electors of the probate district. Probate judges need not be attorneys. They are paid for their services from court fees.

For Records relating to the Probate Courts, see State Archives Record Group Number 004.

**Timeline**  
**Key Dates in the History of Connecticut's Courts<sup>2</sup>**

**1636:** First judicial proceeding held in the state by the General Court.

**1638:** Particular Court established (also called the “Quarter Court”).

**1639:** Town courts established.

**1642:** Particular Court required to meet every three months (called “Quarter Court” during such sessions; called “Particular Court” when meeting at irregular times).

**1662:** General Court becomes known as the General Assembly.

**1665-66:** Particular Court abolished and replaced with Court of Assistants (1665) and the county courts (1666).

**1686:** Justices of the Peace first appointed.

**1698:** Probate courts established to handle such matters as wills and estates. Justices of the Peace formally recognized.

**1704:** General Assembly orders appointment of prosecuting attorneys for each county (previously, prosecutors were appointed on a case-by-case basis).

**1711:** Court of Assistants abolished. The newly created Superior Court assumes its powers.

**1784:** Supreme Court of Errors created to review lower court cases on appeal. City courts established to hear civil cases involving their residents or matters occurring within their boundaries.

**1785:** General Assembly required written opinions by the judges of the Superior Court in all cases decided in Connecticut. This was the first publication of its kind in the United States.

**1789:** Ephraim Kirby, of Litchfield, publishes the first volume of reports of cases decided in Connecticut. This was the first publication of its kind in the United States.

**1814:** First appointment of the Reporter of Judicial Decisions. The reports of cases decided in Connecticut hereafter known as the Connecticut Reports.

**1818:** First Connecticut Constitution adopted setting forth the doctrine of separation of powers and establishing the judiciary as one of three separate branches of government.

**1819:** A new act called for the Supreme Court of Errors to be held once a year in each county in the state.<sup>3</sup>

**1855:** General Assembly abolishes county courts and jurisdiction split between municipal courts and superior courts. Position of Commissioner of the Superior Court created: duties included authorization to sign writs and subpoenas and to administer oaths. Today, all attorneys admitted to practice in Connecticut are Commissioners of the Superior Court.

**1870:** First Courts of Common Pleas established in Hartford and New Haven counties.

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<sup>2</sup> Provided by the External Affairs Division, Office of the Chief Court Administrator.

<sup>3</sup> Loomis, Dwight Hon. and J. Gilbert Calhoun, *The Judicial and Civil History of Connecticut*. Boston: Boston History Comp, 1895.

**1883:** Court of Common Pleas established in Litchfield County.

**1889:** Appointments of state referees authorized.

**1921:** First Juvenile Court created.

**1929:** Traffic Court of the District of Danbury created.

**1939:** Trial justice system enacted which vested the limited criminal jurisdiction formerly within the power of all justices of the peace in specially designated trial justices.

**1941:** Single Court of Common Pleas established for the entire state with judges subject to periodic reassignment on a statewide basis. Prior to this legislation, judges sat only in the counties to which they had been appointed.

**1942:** Juvenile Court becomes first state-maintained juvenile court in the nation.

**1950:** Circuit Court replaces municipal courts and trial justice system.

**1955:** Office of the Chief Court Administrator created.

**1977:** Circuit Court merged with Court of Common Pleas.

**1978:** Court of Common Pleas and Juvenile Court merged with the Superior Court.

**1982:** Appellate Court established.

**1983:** Appellate Court begins operations.

## Scope and Content

This record group consists of all types of legal documents relevant to court action, including but not limited to dockets, formal decisions, rules, appointments, judges' notes and opinions, indexes, case files, record books, executions, reports, and administrative papers, as well as materials from related entities such as the State Bar Examining Committee, Coroners, and Medical Examiners. The records date from 1636 to the late 20th century with the bulk from the 17th through the 19th century. Most extant state court records prior to 1870 are in the State Archives along with a substantial volume of municipal and justice court records. The collection also includes probate records (wills, inventories, bonds, administration reports, etc.) until 1698, when the General Assembly established the separate probate court system see Records of the Probate Court (RG 004).

This guide utilizes the same record descriptions used by the records creators as closely as possible: *records* (or sometimes *trials* or *minutes*) are official records of court proceedings, entered chronologically in bound volumes; *files or judgments* are papers received or created by the court session and arranged numerically; *dockets* are lists of cases scheduled or heard. Materials grouped under *Papers by Subject* were removed from the *files*, sorted and classified in the Library in the 1910s and 1920s; they are filed by subject, with indicative titles, and thereunder either chronologically or alphabetically<sup>4</sup>. A glossary of commonly used terms and list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about court records are at the end of this guide. This record group contains 4881.5 cubic feet of materials.

The record group is organized into eight headings:

- I Early Records, 1636-1901
- II County Courts, 1666-1969
- III District and Municipal Courts, 1716-1962
- IV Judges' Notes, Dockets and Drafts, 1845-1891
- V Justice of the Peace Courts, 1729-1936
- VI Naturalization Records, 1700-1900
- VII State Bar Examining Committee, 1918-1984
- VIII Coroners, 1883-1979

**Early Records** (1636-1901) contains materials from the General Court (General Assembly), the Supreme Court of Errors, the Particular Court, the Court of Assistants, and the Superior Court. Please see the administrative history and timeline in this guide for information regarding these early courts.

**County Courts** (1666-1969) by far the largest collection of court records at the State Archives, contains records generated by the various courts within each county including Supreme Court of Errors, Superior Court, County Court<sup>5</sup>, Maritime Court, and Court of Common Pleas.

**District and Municipal Courts** (1716-1962) includes records created by the now defunct district and municipal courts that were presided over by the Justices of the Peace. When the county government system was abolished in 1960, these courts were replaced by the statewide circuit court.

**Judges' Notes, Dockets and Drafts** (1845-1891) contains various records from different courts that were not included in the "official" records of those courts. It is unclear if the materials were transferred to the State Library at another time (and were therefore considered a separate collection) or if they were included with the other records of the various courts but were not incorporated into those files by the court clerk. Some also came with private manuscript collections.

**Justice of the Peace Courts** (1729-1936) includes writs and dockets which contain only minimal information including name and residence of the accused, the complaint, the trial date, name of the justice

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<sup>4</sup> Not all materials were removed to *Papers by Subject*. Researchers should check original files for any additional cases of interest.

<sup>5</sup> County Courts were created in 1666 and abolished in 1855 with their functions transferred to the Superior Court.

and a note on serving of the writ. See also the district and municipal court records for materials relating to Justice of the Peace.

**Naturalization Records** (1700-1900) document naturalization proceedings that occurred in various Superior Courts, Courts of Common Pleas, county District Courts, and Municipal courts. Included are declaration of intention, petitions for naturalization, indexes, and related materials.

**State Bar Examining Committee** (1918-1984) consists of correspondence, minutes and applications. For information on admissions to the bar prior to 1918, see County and Superior Court records for appropriate jurisdiction.

**Coroners** (1883-1979) records consist of several series including Records, Case Files, Hearings, Medical Examiner Reports, Coroner's Reports, and Administrative files. A detailed scope and content note is available at the beginning of list of Coroner's Records (section VIII).

### **Provenance**

Since the establishment of the Connecticut State Library in 1854, the Judicial Branch has transferred its records to the State Library. One of the first guides to the State Library's manuscript collection (1916) lists a substantial collection of early court records. The first half of the twentieth century saw the continued growth of the State Library's collection of judicial records with materials deposited with the Library from various courts throughout the state. In the early 1980s, the Judicial Department established its own record center in Enfield, CT. As a result, the number of accessions transferred to the State Library has significantly decreased. For access to modern judicial records, contact the individual court for information.

### **Restrictions**

Due to the age, fragile condition, and the intrinsic value of many of the judicial records, portions of this collection have been restricted for the following reasons.

**Use Copies:** Researchers must use any microfilm, Photostat, or photocopy when available. Requests to access the original record must be approved by the State Archivist.

**Fragile Materials:** Some records are temporarily closed due to their extremely fragile condition. At this time no use copy is available. The State Archives is investigating ways to make these records available to researchers in the near future.

**Native American Materials:** Due to the historic value, and the fragile condition of many of these records, the State Archives has been systematically photocopying all court documents relating to Native Americans. The original documents are then restricted.

**Privacy Restrictions:** Some materials in the State Bar Examining Committee and the Coroner's Office contain information that is protected by statute. Access to these records can only be obtained by written permission from either the State Bar Examining Committee or the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

**Processing:** At times, portions of collections may be temporarily closed for processing projects. Once the project is completed this guide will be updated and the materials will be made available to researchers.

Any collection that is restricted for any of the above listed reasons will be noted in **(Restricted)**. Researchers with any questions regarding these restrictions should contact a member of the State Archives staff.

### **Off-site Storage**

Due to limited storage space at the 231 Capitol Ave location, the State Archives stores large portions of Judicial Department records at various off-site facilities. As a result, these materials are not available on a same day basis. Any materials stored off-site will be noted in (**Off-site**).

### **Research Tips**

Researchers should consult all types of court records when tracing a case. If the specific court hearing the case is unknown, researchers should check both County and Superior Court records. If the researcher knows the case's approximate date, he/she should scan the docket for that time period to establish the exact hearing date. Because bound record volumes are arranged chronologically (and occasionally indexed by name), researchers can check them for a brief case summary. Often the execution is available.<sup>6</sup> Arranged in chronological order, an execution provides information on how the court carried out the decision, usually in the form of a sheriff or constable's report. If either party appealed the case from the County Court to the Superior Court, researchers should check the bound appeals volumes. The records usually list the original writ's date, the plaintiff's claims and the appealing party's bond pledge. These are not, however, available for all counties.

Individuals looking for a specific case during the 18th century who are uncertain of the original court should check the Superior Court *Records*, 1711-1798. These are a good starting point to find such cases because the books cover all courts. The records are listed chronologically by session and by location of the court.

In addition to the bound volumes, the collection has a large number of file papers. These consist primarily of writs of *Mittimus* or executions used by the sheriff or constable. Researchers may find them difficult to use because they are tightly folded and packed into metal file drawers or cardboard boxes and only roughly arranged chronologically or alphabetically. Some boxes have no arrangement at all. Since the files often contain several papers related to a given case, researchers will find them worth investigating if the bound records do not provide sufficient information.

The clerks of the court have retained the permanent dockets. Therefore, researchers must obtain dockets numbers from the particular Superior Court for a case prior to requesting the file. This applies to most criminal and judgment (divorce) files.

### **Related Materials**

It is important to note that while the records of the judicial department contain a wide variety of information it may be necessary to check other collections within the State Archives to ensure a complete search. For example, if a researcher is interested in records relating to wills and estates, please check the Probate Court Records (RG 004). If a researcher is investigating a case with political ramifications, check the records of the Governor (RG 005) to see if any correspondence was exchanged regarding this litigation.

In addition to archival collections, researchers should make a point to visit the Law and Legislative Reference Unit (LLR) of the State Library. The collections in that Unit include the official court reports (decisions) of state and federal courts as well as their digests (indexes). The records and briefs for the U.S. Supreme Court and Connecticut Supreme and Appellate Court cases may also give valuable background information for cases appealed to higher courts. The Unit has biographical files and resources, which include attorneys and judges of note.

Also please note that the New Haven County Superior Court transferred some of its historical records to the New Haven Colony Historical Society when it moved from its former location on the Green to Church Street. A list of the records located at the Society is available from the Archives Staff.

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<sup>6</sup> A record of when and how a writ was completed, not to be confused with capital punishment.

### **Container Lists**

In the **List of Records**, there are references to separate container lists (e.g. See container list **Superior No. 2**). These lists are box level inventories of materials in this collection. The lists are too numerous to be included in this published volume. For copies of these container lists please contact the State Archives.

## List of Records

### Part I. Early Records, 1636-1901

#### A. General Court (General Assembly) 1636-1820

1. Records, 1636-1776 Main Vault  
**See:** Early General Records, RG 1, volumes 1 - 11. Also published in *The Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut*, J. Hammond Trumbull and Charles J. Hoadly, eds. Hartford, 1850-1890, 15 volumes.  
**Hist Ref Conn Doc G25**
  
2. Files, 1636-1820 Main Vault  
**See:** Early General Records, RG 1, also known as the *Connecticut Archives*. **Available on microfilm.** Judicial records are found throughout several series but the most significant are:  
*Crimes and Misdemeanors, 1st series, 1663-1789.* 6 volumes.  
*Crimes and Misdemeanors, 2d series, 1671-1820.* 5 unbound volumes.  
*Private Controversies, 1st series, 1639-1717.* 6 volumes.  
*Private Controversies, 2d series, 1636-1811.* 31 unbound volumes.  
**Note:** Separate index volumes and slips are also available. **(microfilm)**

#### B. Supreme Court of Errors, 1784-1901<sup>7</sup>

1. Reasons of Court, 1786-1807 Main Vault  
*1786-1797.* 0.10 cubic feet. Accession: 1919-003  
*1803-1807.* 1 volume. Accession: 1919-001 Box 1  
Vol 97
  
2. Records, 1810-1817 Main Vault  
1 volume. 0.05 cubic feet. Accession: 1919-002 Vol 98
  
3. Files, 1784-1819 Main Vault  
Chronological. 5 cubic feet. See container list **Early Records No. 1.**
  
4. Dockets, 1785-1819, 1825 Main Vault  
0.10 cubic feet. Accession: 1919-003 Box 1
  
5. Miscellaneous Papers, 1799-1901 Main Vault  
Includes Appointments of Court Reporter, 1820-1854; Decisions (Judges' Notes), 1822-1873; Rules, 1819-1874; List of Weights and Measures, n.d.; Lists of Cases, 1830-1858; Letters, Notes, Bills, Receipts, etc., 1799-1901.  
0.05 cubic feet. Accession: 1919-003 Box 1
  
6. Judges' Notes and Opinions, 1872-1875 Main Vault  
Two notebooks containing notes and drafts of opinions in Supreme Court cases, by Judges James Phelps and Lafayette S. Foster. 1.5 inches. Accession: 1919-003. Box 1
  
  
7. Court Reporters' Notes, 1858-1893 Main Vault  
Notes of Court Reporter John Hooker, 37 volumes, 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1985-001

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<sup>7</sup> After 1819, Supreme Court justices met in the Superior Courts, which maintained the records of these deliberations.



1858-1861	Box 1
1861-1866	Box 2
1866-1871	Box 3
1871-1875	Box 4
1875-1881	Box 5
1881-1888	Box 6
1888-1893	Box 7

**C. Particular Court, 1639-1665**

Records, 1639-1665<sup>8</sup>

Main Vault

**See:** Early General Records, RG 1: Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Vol. 1, 1639-1649 (indexed by subject); Vol. 55, 1650-1663 and Vol. 56, 1663-1665. (indexed by name). Published versions of Vols. 55 and 56 are **available on microfilm**. A separate manuscript index to Vol. 55 is available, **Main Vault 974.6 qC71p Index**. Records prior to April 1663 were published in *Records of the Particular Court of Connecticut, 1639-1663*. Connecticut Historical Society Collections. Vol. 22 (Hartford, 1928). **Hist Ref F 91 C7**

**D. Court of Assistants, 1665-1711**

1. Records, 1665-1711

Main Vault

**See:** Early General Records, RG 1: Vol. 53, 1669-1686, 1696-1701; Vol. 56, 1665-1677; Vol. 58, 1687-1696, 1702-1711. (All indexed by name.)<sup>9</sup> Vols. 53 (**LH4419/20**) and 56 (Orange tape **974.6 C762crp Mfilm**) are **on microfilm**.

2. Files, 1665-1711

*1665-1711*

Main Vault

**See:** General Court (General Assembly) Files above.

*1699-1706*

Main Vault

**See:** Early General Records, RG 1, the *Connecticut Archives: Court Papers, 1649-1709* (mostly 1699-1706). 1 volume. (Indexed) (**microfilm**)

*1705-1711* Alphabetical by plaintiff, followed by miscellaneous material Main Vault

(inquests, boundaries of Rye, etc.) 1.25 cubic feet.  
Accession: 1919-006

Box 37

**E. Superior Court, 1711-1879<sup>10</sup>**

1. Records, 1711-1798

Main Vault

*1711-1717, 1748-1749*

**See:** Early General Records, RG 1, Vol. 58, 1711-1715; Vol. 57, 1711-1715, 1748-49. (Indexed by name)

*1714-1798*. 31 volumes. 4 cubic feet.

See container list **Early Records No. 2**.

*1774-1796*. Chancery cases. 1 volume. Accession: 1919-007

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<sup>8</sup> For case files, see under the individual counties. Records for the Particular Court of the Andros period, 1687-1688, are part of the County Court records for Hartford County.

<sup>9</sup> Norbert B. Lacy transcribed records for the period 1665-1711 in 1937. A copy of this transcript (2 volumes) is in Box 648 – Main Vault.

<sup>10</sup> For other papers of the Superior Court, see under individual county names. The volumes cover all of the courts chronologically by session.

- |  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| <p>2. Executions, 1784-1798<br/>1747-1734. See above Records of Supreme Court, container list <b>Early Records No. 2.</b><br/>1784-1798. 1 volume. Accession: 1919-009</p>   | <p>Main Vault<br/>Vol 96</p> |
| <p>3. Reasons of Court, 1786-1797<br/>0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1919-010</p>   | <p>Main Vault<br/>Box 47</p> |
| <p>4. Docket Books, 1798-1867<sup>11</sup><br/>Includes: 1 volume, 1805-1815. Jacob Loomis(?). Superior Court and County Court in Windham, New London, Tolland and Hartford Counties; 1 volume, 1810-1812. William Dixon. Superior Court and County Court in Hartford and Tolland Counties; 1 volume, 1798-1809. Superior Court, New London County and Circuit Court, New Haven and Hartford; 1 volume, 1816-1834. Superior Court and County Court, Tolland County; 5 volumes. 1846-1856, 1858-1861. Superior Court and County Court, Hartford County; 1 volume, 1865-1867. Superior Court, Hartford County. 10 volumes. 5 cubic feet. Accession: 1919-010</p> | <p>Main Vault<br/>Box 47</p> |
| <p>5. Reports, 1800-1801<br/>Fairly complete (compared to the published reports for other years) reports of cases heard from the Middletown term, July 1800 through the Fairfield term, January 1801. 1 volume. (plus unbound Photostat copy). 0.05 cubic feet. Accession: 1919-010</p>  | <p>Main Vault<br/>Box 47</p> |
| <p>6. Administrative Papers, 1760-1879<br/>Miscellaneous correspondence, notes, bills, and receipts, probably from the several court clerks (George Pitkin, 1798; Winthrop Saltonstall, 1798-1808; and others.) Included are a few depositions and other papers filed with the Court. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1919-010</p>  | <p>Main Vault<br/>Box 47</p> |

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<sup>11</sup> Acquired from various sources, these books were probably personal rather than official records.

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## Part II. County Courts, 1666-1969

### A. Fairfield County

#### 1. Supreme Court of Errors, 1822-1964

- a. Case notes, 1822-1824 Main Vault  
**See:** Early Records. Supreme Court of Errors. Miscellaneous Papers.
- b. Dockets, 1841-1964 Off-site  
Bridgeport. See container list **Fairfield Supreme No. 1.**
- c. Records, 1894-1943 Off-site  
Bridgeport. 5 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-082  
1894-1912 Vol 1  
1912 Vol 2  
1923 Vol 3  
1933 Vol 4  
1943 Vol 5

#### 2. Superior Court, 1711-1944

- a. Records, 1756-1939 Main Vault  
*1756-1769* Box 51  
Fragmentary coverage for Feb. 1756, Aug. 1757, Aug. 1759, and Feb. 1769. These seem to be first drafts of the official records located in RG 1 bound volumes with the exception of February, 1769. 0.5 cubic feet.  
Accession: 1919-021  
*1798-1939* Main Vault  
See container list **Fairfield Superior Court No. 1.**
- b. Files, 1712-1939 Main Vault  
*1712-1869.* Chronological then some alphabetical. 37 cubic feet. Main Vault  
See container list **Fairfield Superior Court No. 2.**  
*1869-1939.* Arranged by year or term. 369 cubic feet. Off-site  
See container list **Fairfield Superior Court No. 3.**
- c. Papers by Subject, 1711-1799 Main Vault  
Arranged alphabetically by subject. Includes Appointments; Chancery Cases; Common Fields; Conservators and Guardians; Costs; Court Expenses; Confiscated Estates and Loyalists; Divorces; Executions; Inquests; Jurors; Miscellaneous; Militia; Travel; and Partition Land. 8 cubic feet.  
See container list **Fairfield Superior Court No. 4.**
- d. Dockets, 1712-1908 Main Vault  
*1712-1798.* .75 cubic feet. Accession: 1919-021 Box 51  
*1858-1908.* See container list **Fairfield Superior Court No. 5.** Main Vault
- e. Criminal Files, 1928-1944<sup>12</sup>  
Bridgeport  
*1926-1932.* Prohibition and Union Activity Cases, 1 cubic foot. Main Vault  
See container list **Fairfield Superior Court No. 6.**  
*1928-1944.* Arranged by date and docket number, 14 cubic feet. Main Vault  
See container list **Fairfield Superior Court No. 7.**

#### Fairfield County

<sup>12</sup> The State Archives has only those criminal files transferred by the Judicial Department. Some criminal files may remain with the courts or at the Judicial Department's Superior Court Records Center in Enfield. Due to past record keeping practices, some gaps may exist within this record series.

- |   |   |                   |
|---|---|-------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>f. Defaults, 1841-1882<br/>1.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-066<br/>1841-1858<br/>1859-1869<br/>1870-1882</li> <li>g. Divorces, 1853-1940<br/>Records, 1853-1940. Arranged chronologically. Includes alphabetical name index. See container list <b>Fairfield Superior Court No. 8.</b><br/><b>See also:</b> Superior Court Files, 1869-1939</li> <li>h. Executions, 1712-1820<br/>1712-1798 See Papers by Subject – Executions.<br/>1790-1807<br/>1808-1811<br/>1811-1819<br/>1819-1820<br/>1.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-073</li> <li>i. Foreclosures, 1884-1960<br/>Records, 1884-1908. 2.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-068<br/>1884-1892<br/>1896-1903<br/>1903-1909<br/>Files, 1895-1960. See container list <b>Fairfield Superior Court No. 9.</b></li> <li>j. Judgments, 1865-1948<br/>3 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-071<br/>1865-1899<br/>1901-1933<br/>1933-1948</li> <li>k. Indexes, 1854-1939<br/>Plaintiff/Defendant, 1 volume. Accession: 1997-067</li> <li>l. Court Appointments, 1861-1932<br/>Appointments of Deputy Sheriffs, 1861-1901, 1915-1923, 3 volumes.<br/>Appointments of Justices of the Peace, 1911-1932, 1 volume.<br/>2 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-074</li> <li>m. Notary Publics and Commissioners, 1907-1922<br/>1 volume. Accession: 1997-084</li> <li>n. State Highway Commission, 1929-1939<br/>Civil Cases. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1997-044</li> </ul> | <p>Main Vault</p> <p>Vol 1<br/>Vol 2<br/>Vol 3</p> <p>Main Vault</p> <p><b>Off-site</b></p> <p>Main Vault<br/>Box 612<br/>Vol 1 &amp; 2<br/>Vol 3<br/>Vol 4<br/>Vol 5</p> <p>Main Vault</p> <p>Vol 1<br/>Vol 2<br/>Vol 3<br/><b>Off-site</b></p> <p>Main Vault</p> <p>Vol 1<br/>Box 1<br/>Box 2</p> <p>Main Vault</p> <p>Main Vault</p> <p>Main Vault</p> <p><b>Off-site</b><br/>Box 11-28A</p> |                   |
| <p><b>3. County Court, 1701-1881</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Records, 1702-1851<sup>13</sup><br/>See container list <b>Fairfield County No. 1.</b><br/><b>Fairfield County</b></li> </ul>   |   | <p>Main Vault</p> |

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<sup>13</sup> Records for the period 1666-1702 appear lost, except for those included in the records of the Court of Assistants listed in Part I.

- b. Files, 1701-1881 Main Vault  
 Parts of this series are disarranged and most of it is in poor physical condition.  
 Papers for 1701, and 1713-1748 have been processed (unfolded, arranged and identified.)  
 Boxes 125-147 contain items (in rough chronological order) to be inter-filed, 1749-1881.  
 Box 162 contains fragments and unidentified papers. 66 cubic feet.  
 See container list **Fairfield County No. 2.**
- c. Papers by Subject, 1740-1835 Main Vault  
Box 163  
 Other court records relating to these topics may remain in the main file listed above. Papers by Subject is not conclusive. Includes Appointment of Officers; Bills and Receipts; Common Lands; Confiscated Estates and Loyalists; Conservators and Guardians; Costs; Court Expenses; Divorce; Indians; Jails; Jurors; Licenses; Meeting House; Militia; Partition Land; Shipping; Travel. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1919-033.  
**Original Native American materials restricted. Photocopies available for research.**
- d. Defaults, 1851-1855 Main Vault  
 1 volume. Accession: 1997-079
- e. Dockets, 1848-1855 Main Vault  
 2 volumes. Accession: 1997-078
- f. Executions, 1730-1807 Main Vault  
 1730-1785 See County Court Records, container list **Fairfield County No. 1.**  
 1785-1807 2 volumes. Accession: 1997-077
- 4. Maritime Court, 1777-1783**
- a. Records, April 1779-October 1782 Main Vault  
Box 649  
 One record book and one register book, 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-036  
**Original restricted, photocopy available.**
- b. Files, 1777-1783 Main Vault  
 Approximately chronological. 2 cubic feet Accession: 1980-036  
 Volumes 1-35 Box 649  
 Volumes 36-end Box 650  
**Original restricted, photocopy available.**
- c. Index, 1777-1783 Main Vault  
Box 649  
 Alphabetical by name for vessel and subject.<sup>14</sup> 0.25 cubic feet  
 Accession: 1980-036
- 5. Court of Common Pleas, 1879-1958**
- a. Criminal Files, 1889-1918<sup>15</sup> Off-site  
 Bridgeport. Arranged chronologically. 13 cubic feet.  
 See container list **Fairfield Common Pleas No. 1.**

### Fairfield County

- b. Civil Dockets, 1917-1958 Off-site  
 Bridgeport. Arranged chronologically with some overlap. 4 cubic feet.

<sup>14</sup> Prepared in 1980 by Patricia Q. Wall.

<sup>15</sup> Some criminal files remain with the courts or at the Judicial Department's Superior Court Records Center in Enfield. Due to past record keeping practices, some gaps may exist within this record series.

Accession: 1985-007	
September 1917-September 1947	Box 30-7B
September 1947-September 1953	Box 30-8A
October 1870- 1920	Box 30-8B
January 1921-September 1932	Box 30-9A
c. Discontinued Cases, 1899-1943	<b>Off-site</b>
Bridgeport. 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1985-007	
1899-1943	Box 30-9A
1918-1921	Box 30-9B
d. Daily Blotters (Entries), 1904-1977	Main Vault
2 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-070	
1904-1956	Box 1
1957-1977	Box 2
e. Default, 1870-1909	Main Vault
2 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-083	
1870-1876	Vol 1
1876	Vol 4
1880	Vol 8
1888	Vol 11
f. Disposition of Liquor, 1929-1931	Main Vault
1 volume. Accession: 1997-080	
g. Appeals, 1907-1975	Main Vault
Logs, 1941-1960 and Appeals to the Supreme Court, 1907-1975.	
1 volume. Accession: 1997-085	
h. Foreclosures, 1880-1903	Main Vault
1 cubic foot. Accession: 1997-081	
1880	Vol 7
1885	Vol 10
1891	Vol 12
1900	Vol 14
1903	Vol 15
<b>6. County Commissioners, 1889-1937<sup>16</sup></b>	
Minutes and records, 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1997-072	Main Vault

### Fairfield and Hartford Counties

<b>7. Bar Association, 1806-1971</b>	Main Vault
Scrapbook 1928-1971, includes annotated printed list of members, 1 volume.	Box 1
Bar Record 1806-1808, includes regulations and adopted fees, 1 volume.	
Bar Record 1867-1887, loose pages documenting regulations, 1 folder	

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<sup>16</sup> With the abolition of county government on October 1, 1960, records created by the county were distributed to various local and state agencies. In some cases, County Commissioner records were transferred to the courts. Additional County Commissioner records may be found in County Government (RG 061).

Record of Meetings, 1891-1912, meeting minutes, 1 volume.  
Record of Meetings, 1917-1934, meeting minutes, 1 volume.  
Record of Meetings, 1933-1957, meeting minutes, 1 volume.  
Accession: 1997-047

**8. Representatives and Senators, 1851-1960**

Meeting minutes of Representatives and Senators to the General Assembly.  
1851-1917  
1918-1949  
1950-1960  
Accession: 1997-075

Main Vault  
Vol 1  
Vol 2  
Vol 3

**B. Hartford County**

**1. Supreme Court of Errors, 1820-1977**

a. Files, 1820-1977

*1820-1894.* Alphabetical by plaintiff. 3.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-003

A-Bri  
Bro-Con  
Coo-F  
G-Hi  
Ho-L  
M-Phe  
Phe-Se  
Se-T  
U-Z

Main Vault  
Box 14  
Box 15  
Box 16  
Box 17  
Box 18  
Box 19  
Box 20  
Box 21  
Box 22  
[Off-site](#)

*1890-1977.* Chronological by case number.<sup>17</sup> 104 cubic feet.

See container list **Hartford Supreme No. 1.**

b. Dockets, 1820-1932

*1820-1894*

Printed and annotated dockets, Accession: 1932-003

*1879-1931*

Printed dockets, 6 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-078

1879-1893  
1894-1907  
1907-1916  
1916-1931  
1930-1932

Main Vault  
Box 23  
  
[Off-site](#)  
Box 14-71A  
Box 14-70A  
Box 11-71B  
Box 14-71A  
Box 15-61A

c. Correspondence, 1848-1890

Judges. 0.05 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-003

Main Vault  
Box 23

d. Records, 1820-1935

2 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-081

1894-1925  
1925-1935

[Off-site](#)  
Box 14-70A  
Box 14-71A

**Hartford County**

e. Transcripts, 1969-1973

Case number 6363, State vs. Vernard, 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-083

[Off-site](#)  
15-25B &  
15-26A

f. Decisions, 1894-1946

3 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-077

[Off-site](#)

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<sup>17</sup> There are no cases for the years 1943-1964.



- |           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| 1894-1925 | Vol 1 |
| 1926-1935 | Vol 2 |
| 1935-1940 | Vol 3 |
| 1940-1946 | Vol 4 |
- g. Briefs, 1929-1968  
Printed briefs, years overlap, 11 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-076 **Off-site**
- |                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| 1929-1940        | Box 1       |
| 1962-1966        | Box 2       |
| <i>1785-1855</i> | Box 3       |
| <i>1785-1856</i> | Box 4       |
| <i>1785-1857</i> | Box 5       |
| <i>1785-1858</i> | Box 6       |
| <i>1785-1859</i> | Box 7       |
| <i>1785-1860</i> | Box 8       |
| <i>1785-1861</i> | Box 9       |
| <i>1785-1862</i> | Box 10 & 11 |
- h. Statistical reports, c. 1965-1959 **Off-site**  
1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-082  
Box 1
- i. Hartford Housing Authority, 1950-1955 **Off-site**  
Building files, 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-080  
Box 1
- 2. Superior Court, 1711-1969**
- a. Records, 1798-1952 Main Vault
- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| <i>1798-1827</i> . 5 volumes. 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-002 |       |
| 1798-1804   | Vol 1 |
| 1804-1810   | Vol 2 |
| 1810-1816   | Vol 3 |
| 1817-1821   | Vol 4 |
| 1821-1827   | Vol 5 |
| <i>1830-1952</i> . 44 cubic feet. <b>Off-site</b>               |       |
| Also includes Criminal Records, 1875-1942. 8 cubic feet.        |       |
| See container list <b>Hartford Superior No. 1.</b>              |       |
- b. Files, 1711-1899 Main Vault & Probate  
Chronological until 1874, then by case number. 298 cubic feet.  
See container list **Hartford Superior No. 2.**  
**See also:** *Civil Cases.*
- c. Divorce, 1740-1952 Main Vault
- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| <i>1740-1794</i>                                   | Box 96 |
| 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-015               |        |
| <b>See also:</b> <i>Papers by Subject.</i>         |        |
| <i>1871-1952</i> . 14 cubic feet. Probate Vault    |        |
| See container list <b>Hartford Superior No. 3.</b> |        |
| <b>Hartford County</b>                             |        |
- d. Executions, 1711-1820 Main Vault
- |                                      |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| <i>1711-1749</i>                     |        |
| 1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-012 |        |
| 1711-1719. A-Z                       | Box 97 |
| 1720-1729. A-V                       | Box 97 |
| 1720-1729. W-Z                       | Box 98 |
| 1730-1739. A-Z                       | Box 98 |

- 1740-1749. Box 99  
 1799-1855 Main Vault  
 0.25 cubic feet, Accession: 1932-019  
 1799-1806. 1 volume  
 1807-1820. 1 volume  
**See also: Papers by Subject.**
- e. Inquests, 1711-1849 Main Vault  
 0.25 cubic feet Accession: 1932-009 Box 100
- f. Papers by Subject, 1711-1849 Probate  
 Includes Applications for Admission to the Bar, 1812-1845; Appointments, 1764-1806; Conservators and Guardians, 1824-1845; Costs, 1711-1849; Court Expense, 1740-1847; Criminal Warrants, 1800-1820; Divorces, 1796-1849 (**microfilm**); Executions, 1790-1855; Insolvents, 1809, 1846; Jurors, 1711-1848; Jury Warrants, 1843-1844; Loyalists, 1777-1779; Meeting House; Miscellaneous; Partition Land, 1802-1839; Petitions for Aliens to Hold Land, 1826-1847; Petitions for Reward, 1755-1846; Travel, 1755-1847; Vouchers and Miscellaneous, 1821-1835. 18 cubic feet.  
 See container list **Hartford Superior No. 4.**  
 Railroad Land Cases, 1849-1914. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1996-003 Main Vault
- g. Dockets, 1713-1956  
 1713-1806. Chronological. 1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-010. Main Vault  
 1713-1780 Box 101  
 1781-1806 Box 102  
 1806-1849. Chronological. 1.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-011. Main Vault  
 1806-1811 Vol 1  
 1812-1819 Vol 2  
 1820-1826 Vol 3  
 1827-1833 Vol 4  
 1834-1839 Vol 5  
 1840-1844 Vol 6  
 1845-1849 Vol 7  
 1855-1897 Printed dockets in chronological order, 1 cubic foot. Box 103  
 Accession: 1932-010.  
 1855-1943 Chronological order, 33 cubic feet. **Off-site**  
 Includes Criminal Dockets, 1894-1900.  
 See container list **Hartford Superior No. 5.**

### Hartford County

- h. Criminal Files, 1848-1945<sup>18</sup>  
 1848-1945. Chronological, then by file number. 27 cubic feet. Main Vault  
 See container list **Hartford Superior No. 6.**  
 1919-1954. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-057 **Off-site**  
 1919-1920; 1935-1940. Case number J1-J49; J147-J18. Box 10-18B  
 1923-1924. Case numbers 511-5989. 1 cubic foot. Box 14-41B

<sup>18</sup> Some criminal files may remain with the courts or at the Judicial Department's Superior Court Records Center in Enfield. Due to past record keeping practices, some gaps may exist within this record series.

- 1949-1954. Criminal Court. 1 volume. Accession: 1987-057 Box 14-58A
- i. Civil Cases, 1899-1945  
Chronological then by case number (#9881-74819), 293 cubic feet. **Off-site**  
See container list for **Hartford Superior No. 7.**
- j. Hartford Circus Fire Settlement, 1944-1946 Main Vault  
Arbitration Agreements,<sup>19</sup> 1944-1946  
Signed arbitration agreements and awards for victims of the Circus Fire.  
Arranged by case number. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-021.  
See container list for **Hartford Superior No. 8**  
Claimant Files, 1944-1946  
Case files for each individual claimant. May include copy of award, correspondence,  
death certificate and photographs. Arranged by case number. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1993-  
138. See container list for **Hartford Superior No. 8A.** For additional information on the  
Hartford Circus Fire see *Subject Guide to the Hartford Circus Fire, July 6, 1944.*
- k. Land Condemnations, 1884-1968 **Off-site**  
Includes highway and redevelopment projects. Chronological. 26 cubic feet  
See separate container list for **Hartford Superior No. 9.**
- l. Insolvent Debtors' Petitions, 1829-1841 Main Vault  
1 volume, 0.25 cubic feet, Accession: 1932-032
- m. Withdrawn/Discontinued, 1942-1946 **Off-site**  
By case number, 4 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-075  
1942, File# IJ-171J Box 12-11A  
1942, File# 172J-369J Box 12-11B  
1943, File# 370J-560J Box 12-12A  
1943-1946, File# 561J-688J Box 12-12B
- n. Depositions, c. 1910-1959 **Off-site**  
Chronological, 8 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-059  
1910-1920 14-15A  
1930 14-15B  
1930 14-16A  
1940-1943 14-16B  
1940 14-17B  
1940-1950 14-17A  
1950 14-18A  
1950 14-18B

#### Hartford County

- o. Notary Public, 1871-1953, 1957<sup>20</sup> **Off-site**  
10.25 cubic feet. See container list for **Hartford Superior No. 10.**
- p. Costs, 1890-1969 **Off-site**  
Volumes relating to various aspects of court costs. 4 cubic feet.  
1890-1924 Cash (Volumes), Accession: 1987-055 14-51A  
1901-1910 Cash Ledgers, Accession: 1987-063 14-50A  
1920-1931 Trust Acts, Accession: 1987-055 14-49B  
1949; 1959-1969 Criminal Cost Witness Fee, Accession: 1987-055 14-48B

<sup>19</sup> For an alphabetical list of claimants and their respective case numbers see Appendix 1 of this guide.

<sup>20</sup> There are several gaps in the dates. See the container list.

- q Financial, 1947-1955 **Off-site**  
Files, 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-062.  
1947-1955. Clerk Raymond G. Calnen Files. Box 1  
1954-1955. Files. Box 2
- r. Insolvencies, 1829-1841 **Off-site**  
0.5 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-056 **See also** *Papers by Subject*. Box 14-49A
- s. Court Calendars, 1904-1912 **Off-site**  
Volumes for years 1904, 1909, and 1912. .5 cubic foot. Box 14-49A  
Accession: 1987-056
- t. Grand Juries, 1924-1956 **Off-site**  
1924. Minutes. 0.5 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-063 Box 14-50A  
1951. One-man grand jury. Judge Maltbie. Hartford Housing Box 1-3  
Authority (HHA) Investigation. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-064  
1953-1956. One-man grand jury. Judge Malloy. Prison Conditions. Box 14-21B  
1 cubic foot, Accession: 1987-053
- u. Journals, 1901-1904, 1947-1956 **Off-site**  
1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-063 Box 14-50A
- v. Judgments, 1926-1948 **Off-site**  
1 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-068 Box 14-65B
- w. Judges and Attorneys, 1825-1959 **Off-site**  
1885-1930. Judges Annual Meeting. Accession: 1987-067 Box 15-55A  
1885-1930. Proceedings in Chamber. Accession: 1987-071 Box 15-55B
- x. Justices of the Peace and Sheriff's Deputies, 1854-1967 **Off-site**  
1854-1967. Sheriff's Deputies, 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-078 Box 11-71B  
&  
1897-1922. Justice of the Peace, 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-070 Box 15-72B  
Box 15-72B
- y. Daybooks, 1854-1947 **Off-site**  
1854-1947. volumes 16-21. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-058 Box 15-73B  
1854-1947. volumes 22-25. 1 cubic foot. Box 15-74A

#### **Hartford County**

- z. Transcripts, c. 1920-1968 **Off-site**  
1920-1940. Testimony. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-074 Box 17-03A  
1945. Case #16831, 1 volume  
*n.d.* Case #27696
- aa. Habeas Corpus, c. 1930-1969 **Off-site**  
State Cases, alphabetical. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-065 Box 1
- ab. Juries, 1918, 1932-1947 **Off-site**  
Charges to the jury from the judge. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-069 Box 16-49B
- ac. Foreclosures, 1875-1960 **Off-site**  
Hartford, 1875-1954; New Britain, 1916-1958; Bristol, 1946-1955;

West Hartford, 1924-1951, 42 cubic feet.  
See separate container list **Hartford Superior No. 11.**

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| ad. Unassigned Items, 1875-1970            | <b>Off-site</b> |
| 6 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-089.         |                 |
| 1875-1944. Books, miscellaneous materials. | Box 15-69A      |
| 1925-1960. Bail bond books.                | Box 15-75A      |
| 1945-1950. Case #1740.                     | Box 14-68A      |
| 1960. Dead cases.                          | Box 15-44B      |
| 1951-1958. Case #19396                     | Box 14-68B      |
| 1967-1970. Case #28666, State vs. Delgado. | Box 15-44A      |

**3. County Court, 1666-1881**

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| a. Records, 1666-1881   |            |
| 1666-1677. In Early General Records (RG 1), Vol. 56. Indexed by name.   | Main Vault |
| 1677-1706. In the Records of the Hartford Probate Court (RG 4): Indexed by name. Feb. 9, 1677 - Oct. 26, 1687. Vol. 4; May 20, 1689 - Mar. 4, 1696/7, Vol. 5; Mar. 4, 1697 - Jul. 21, 1697. Vol. 4; Nov. 30, 1697 - Nov. 15, 1706, Vol. 6.  | & Probate  |
| <b>Hartford Probate Court Record Book microfilms. L.H. 184-85. Reel 663.</b>  |            |
| 1687-1688. Court of Sessions and the Inferior Court of Pleas of Hartford County during the administration of Sir Edmond Andros. Published as <i>Records of the Particular Court of the Colony of Connecticut. Administration of Sir Edmond Andros, Royal Governor, 1687-1688</i> , A.E.T. (Annie Eliot Trumbull), ed. Hartford: 1935. <b>974.61 H25cs.</b> 0.5 cubic feet . | Main Vault |
| 1706-1717, 1719-1763, 1771-1774, 1798-1855. Includes executions, deputations, and county commission minutes. The last volume includes tax levy meeting records, 1858-1881, and railroad appraisal proceedings, 1869-1871. <sup>21</sup> 29 volumes. 7 cubic feet.   | Main Vault |
| See separate container list <b>Hartford County No. 1.</b>   |            |
| b. Defaults, 1775-1855  | Main Vault |
| Chronological, 19 volumes. 3.50 cubic feet.   |            |
| See container list <b>Hartford County No. 2.</b>  |            |

**Hartford County**

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|--|------------|
| c. Dockets, 1754-1855  | Main Vault |
| 1754-1798. Includes dockets and records of proceedings including drafts later transcribed into the Records volumes and the official record of 1799-1855. 18 volumes, 3 cubic feet. |            |
| See container list <b>Hartford County No. 3.</b>   |            |
| d. Executions, 1744-1855   | Main Vault |
| 1744-1829. Chronological. 16 volumes. 2.5 cubic feet.  | & Probate  |
| 1750-1855. Chronological by decade then alphabetical. 40 cubic feet.   |            |
| See container list <b>Hartford County No. 4.</b>   |            |
| e. Taverners, 1800-1860  | Main Vault |
| 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-016  |            |
| 1796-1799. See above County Court Dockets.   | Vol 16     |
| 1800-1816. Chronological by year.  | Vol 1      |
| 1816-1861. Chronological by year.  | Vol 2      |

<sup>21</sup> The Watkinson Library has a volume "rescued from a paper mill" covering the period Apr. 8, 1718, to Jun. 9, 1719. Records for the period 1775 to 1797 are in *Dockets and Records* below.

- |    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| f. | Auditors, 1804-1841<br>1 volume. 0.25 cubic feet Accession: 1932-017   | Main Vault  |
| g. | Appeals, 1798-1855<br>0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-018<br><i>1798-1809.</i> Chronological by year.<br><i>1809-1820.</i> Chronological by year.<br><i>1820-1835.</i> Chronological by year.<br><i>1836-1854.</i> Chronological by year.            | Main Vault<br><br>Vol 1<br>Vol 2<br>Vol 3<br>Vol 4  |
| h. | Pension Applications, 1820-1832<br>Revolutionary War veterans, alphabetical list. 0.25 cubic feet. <sup>22</sup> Accession: 1951-001<br><i>1820-1832.</i> A-G.<br><i>1820-1832.</i> H-Z, Miscellaneous.<br><b>See also <i>Papers by Subject.</i></b> | Main Vault<br><br>Box 298<br>Box 299  |
| i. | Files, 1713-1855<br>Chronological. 271 cubic feet.<br>See separate container list <b>Hartford County No. 5.</b><br>1860-1940. Miscellaneous court materials, 0.25 cubic feet.<br>Accession: 1987-023B  | Probate<br><br>Main Vault<br>Box 1  |
| j. | Costs, 1718-1815<br>Chronological, 7 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-022<br>1718-1758<br>1759-1767<br>1768-1775<br>1776-1786<br>1787-1794<br>1795-1802<br>1803-1809<br>1809-1816<br>1817-1832<br>1833-1855   | Probate<br><br>Box 467<br>Box 468<br>Box 469<br>Box 470<br>Box 471<br>Box 472<br>Box 473<br>Box 474<br>Box 475<br>Box 476 |

**Hartford County**

- |    |   |                       |
|----|---|-----------------------|
| k. | Papers by Subject, 1715-1855<br>Includes Applications for Revolutionary Pensions, 1822-1855; Applications of Admission to the Bar, 1768-1855; Appointment of Officers, 1762-1854; Common Field; Confiscated Estate and Loyalists, 1778-1782; Conservators and Guardians, 1739-1855; County Taxes; Court Expenses, 1761-1855; Inquests, 1830-1846; Insolvents; Jurors, 1718-1855; Licenses, 1750-1855; Meeting House, 1749-1855; Militia, 1717-1782; Miscellaneous and "Unsortable;" Partition Land, 1715-1855; Travel, 1718-1855. 25 cubic feet.<br>See separate container list <b>Hartford County No. 6.</b> | Probate               |
| l. | Notes on Cases, 1811 <sup>23</sup><br>Also contains New London County Court miscellaneous papers. 0.25 inch.<br>Accession: 1951-001   | Main Vault<br>Box 298 |

**4. Maritime Court, 1776-1783**

- |    |                  |            |
|----|------------------|------------|
| a. | Files, 1776-1783 | Main Vault |
|----|------------------|------------|

<sup>22</sup> Duplicate copies, bound as Volumes 106-107, catalogued as manuscripts under 345.42 fC752.

<sup>23</sup> Received with "the Turner Papers" from Mr. A.C. Bates in 1951.

Numerical order, 1 cubic foot, Accession: 1980-037

**Originals restricted, photocopy available.**

*1776-1783.* Files 1-824.

Box 651

*1776-1783.* Files 825-1336.

Box 652

*1776-1783.* Files 825-1336.

Box 653

Index.<sup>24</sup> Alphabetical by name, vessel, or subject. Copy available in the classified manuscript collection, **974.61 H25w.**

- b. Records or "Decrees," 1777-1783  
Separate sheets or booklets for each session or group of cases. There are some notes for a "rough working list of cases," and instructions for privateers and related materials. .025 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-025  
Main Vault  
Box 42
- 5. Court of Common Pleas, 1859-1965**
- a. Files, 1869-1946  
*1869-1892* By file number (#1-10015). 120 cubic feet.  
*1892-1946* By case number (#1-45925). 81 cubic feet.  
See container list **Hartford Common Pleas No. 1.**  
High Attic  
& **Off-site**
- b. Dockets, 1869-1910  
72 volumes, 24.5 cubic feet.  
See container list **Hartford Common Pleas No. 2**  
Main Vault
- c. Records, 1869-1901  
Chronological. 7 volumes. 1.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-038  
1869-1875  
1876-1882  
1882-1893  
1894-1897 with index  
1897-1898  
1897-1899  
1899-1901  
Main Vault  
Vol 1  
Vol 2  
Vol 3  
Vol 4  
Vol 5  
Vol 6  
Vol 7
- Hartford County**
- d. Judgments, 1901-1965  
Chronological, 55 volumes, 42 cubic feet.  
See container list **Hartford Common Pleas No. 3.**  
**Off-site**
- e. Defaults, 1869-1900  
Chronological, 6 volumes, 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1932-039  
1869-1873  
1869-1873  
1873-1878  
1879-1881  
1881-1897  
1898-1901  
Main Vault  
Index  
Vol 1  
Vol 2  
Vol 3  
Vol 4  
Vol 5
- f. Account Ledgers, 1859-1905  
*1859-1870.* Charles E. Fellowes, court clerk. 0.25 cubic feet  
Accession: 1932-040  
*1900-1905.* Journal of clerks accounts. 1 volume. Accession: 1987-049  
Main Vault  
**Off-site**

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<sup>24</sup> Prepared in 1980 by Patricia Q. Wall. (Box 1)

- g. Jurors, 1906-1907 Off-site  
 1 volume. Accession: 1987-051
- 6. Unidentified Court, 1888-1908** Off-site  
 Financial records. 2 volumes. Accession: 1987-092  
 1898-1899. Account Book. Vol 1  
 1901-1904. Account Book. Vol 2  
 1905-1908. Account Book. Vol 3
- 7. Various Courts, 1896-1961** Off-site  
 Miscellaneous materials from various Hartford County courts including Superior Court and Court of Common Pleas. 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-091  
 1944. Appointment of County Tax Commissioner. Box 15-53B  
 1905. Criminal Files.  
 1924-1925. Dissolved Corporations.  
 1916-1928. State Attorney.  
 1826; 1920-1950. Bar Association Resolutions. Box 15-54A  
 1910-1920. Bonds for Liens  
 1910-1940. Election Cases.
- 8. County Commissioners, 1890-1950<sup>25</sup>** Off-site  
 Records, 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-085 Box 1 & 2
- 9. County Detectives, 1920-1930** Off-site  
 Files, 15 cubic feet, Accession: 1987-086  
 See container list **Detectives No. 1.**
- 10. Licenses, 1933-1937** Off-site  
 Unnumbered volumes for each of the following years, 1933, 1935, 1937. Accession: 1987-087  
**Hartford and Litchfield Counties**
- 11. Life Insurance Companies, n.d.** Off-site  
 Records relating to the following companies, O.R. Flyer Insurance Company, Charter Oak Life, Continental Life includes information on dues and assessments, payments to policyholders, and report on committee claims.  
 6 volumes, Accession: 1987-088
- 12. State Attorney, 1922-1924** Off-site  
 Case files, 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-052
- C. Litchfield County**
- 1. Supreme Court of Errors, 1853-1880** Main Vault  
 Miscellaneous papers consisting primarily of Sheriff's bills for court attendance, Box 1  
 with a few orders for copies of court records. 0.50 inch. Accession: 1927-019
- 2. Superior Court, 1752-1945**
- a. Files, 1752-1927 Main Vault  
 1752-1900. Chronological then alphabetical, 36 cubic feet.  
 1899-1927. Chronological then by case number (2731-6275A), 28 cubic feet.  
 See container list **Litchfield Superior No. 1.**

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<sup>25</sup> With the abolition of county government on October 1, 1960, records created by the county were distributed to various local and state agencies. In some cases, County Commissioner records were transferred to the courts. Additional County Commission records may be found in County Government (RG 061).



- b. Criminal Files, 1866-1945<sup>26</sup> Main Vault  
*1866-1923.* Chronological then alphabetical.  
*1867-1945.* Chronological by case number (1-2909)  
 See container list **Litchfield Superior No. 2.**  
 See also Dockets, 1752-1909 for Criminal Dockets.  
 See also Case Notes, 1932-1933.
- c. Discontinuances, 1836-1922 Main Vault  
 Chronological then alphabetical. 24 feet.  
 See container list **Litchfield Superior No. 3.**
- d. Executions, 1772-1891 Main Vault  
*1793-1797.* Register kept by John Cotton Smith. Accession: 1927-005  
*1772-1798.* Chronological than alphabetical. Box 291  
*1853-1891.* Chronological then alphabetical. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1927-006  
 1853-1859. A-Z Box 291  
 1860-1869. A-Z, 1870-1891 A-G Box 292  
 1870-1891. H-Z Box 293
- e. Depositions, 1830-1915 Main Vault  
 Chronological. 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1927-007  
 1830-1865 Box 294  
 1866-1877 Box 295  
 1878-1889 Box 296  
 1890-1897 Box 297  
 1897-1899 Box 298  
 1900-1915 Box 299

#### Litchfield County

- f. Papers by Subject, 1751-1920 Main Vault  
 Includes but not limited to Admissions to the Bar; Confiscated Estates and Loyalists, 1753-1876; Conservators and Guardians, 1753-1876; Costs, 1752-1902; Court Expense, 1752-1910; Divorces, 1752-1922 (**microfilm**); Indians, 1753-1856; Inquests, 1751; Insolvents, 1810-1841, 1863; Jurors, 1752-1907; Justices of the Peace, 1851-1895; Medical Examiners and Coroners' Reports, 1841-1843, 1883-1905, 1910-11, 1915; Meeting House, 1752-1919; Militia, 1753-1856; Miscellaneous, 1752-1919, 1811-1892; Miscellaneous Papers: Seth P. Beers, Silas E. and D.E. Judd, 1898; Miscellaneous Receipted Bills, 1808-1816; Partition Land, 1752-1915; Receipted Bills: W.J. Bissell, Receiver for C.M. Cheney, and Beeman and Hollister; Travel, 1760-1876. 56 feet.  
**Original Native American materials restricted. Photocopies available for research.**  
 See separate container list **Litchfield Superior No. 4.**
- g. Dockets, 1752-1909 Main Vault  
*1752-1798.* 3 inches, Accession: 1927-009 Box 104  
*1798-1909.* Criminal and Civil Dockets, 26 volumes Main Vault  
 See container list **Litchfield Superior No. 5.**
- h. Short Calendar, 1898-1906 Main Vault  
 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1928-002

<sup>26</sup> The State Archives has only those criminal files transferred by the Judicial Department. Some criminal files may remain with the courts or at the Judicial Department's Superior Court Records Center in Enfield. Due to past record keeping practices, some gaps may exist within this record series.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1898 March- 1902 February  | Vol 1   |
| 1902 March- 1906 February  | Vol 2   |
| i. Clerk's Receipts, 1900-1905<br>Chronological. 1 volume. Accession: 1928-012   | Main Vault  |
| j. Cost Books, 1833-1903<br>Includes both the Superior and County Courts. 11 volumes<br>See container list <b>Litchfield Superior No. 6.</b>   | Main Vault  |
| k. Juries Impaneled, 1884-1899<br>1 cubic foot, Accession: 1928-004<br>1884 April-1887 April<br>1887 June-1890 May<br>1890 June-1893 November<br>1894 April-1895 June<br>1895 October-1899 April | Main Vault<br>Vol 1<br>Vol 2<br>Vol 3<br>Vol 4<br>Vol 5 |
| l. Case Notes, 1932-1933<br>Case notes relating to criminal trials under Judge Ernest A. Inglis. 1 volume Accession: 1928-011  | Main Vault  |
| m. Liquor Licenses, 1897-1903<br>Liquor Licenses, 1897-1903. 1 volume<br>Appeal by Julius Scoville regarding liquor license, July 1903. 1 volume<br>Accession: 1928-010                          | Main Vault  |
| n. Index to Records, 1855-1887<br>August 1855-June 1887. 1 volume. Accession: 1928-005   | Main Vault  |

### **Litchfield County**

#### **3. County Court, 1751-1897**

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| a. Index to Records, 1751-1855<br>Chronological order, 11 volumes.<br>See container list <b>Litchfield County No. 1.</b>   | Main Vault            |
| b. Records, 1751-1855<br><i>1751-1855.</i> Chronological. 22 volumes.<br>See container list <b>Litchfield County No. 2.</b>  | Main Vault            |
| c. Files, 1751-1855<br>Chronological then alphabetical. 180 cubic feet.<br>See separate container list <b>Litchfield County No. 3.</b>   | Main Vault            |
| d. Discontinuances, 1831-1855<br>Alphabetical order. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1928-017.  | Main Vault            |
| e. Executions, 1768-1855<br><i>1768-1820.</i> Chronological. 5 volumes<br><i>1795-1855.</i> Chronological then alphabetical. 8 cubic feet.<br>See container list <b>Litchfield County No. 4.</b> | Main Vault            |
| f. Jurors, 1751-1855<br>Alphabetical by town. 4 cubic feet. Accession: 1927-014<br><i>1754-1854.</i> Barkhamsted-Litchfield  | Main Vault<br>Box 167 |

- |                          |  |   |
|--------------------------|--|---|
|                          | <i>1756-1854. Litchfield-Roxbury</i>   | Box 168   |
|                          | <i>1754-1854. Salisbury-Woodbury</i>   | Box 169   |
|                          | <i>1753-1801. Meetinghouse</i>   | Box 169   |
| g.                       | Papers by Subject, 1751-1855<br>Includes Admissions to the Bar, 1796-1855; Appointment of Officers;<br>Confiscated Estates and Loyalists, n.d.; Conservators and Guardians, 1751-<br>1855; Costs, 1765-1854; Court Expense, 1821-1854; Indians, 1835-1837;<br>Inquests, 1810; Insolvents, 1764; Licenses, 1751-1839; Meeting House, 1753-<br>1855; Militia, 1758-1777; Miscellaneous; Travel, 1800-1855. 21 cubic feet.<br><b>Original Native American materials restricted. Photocopies available for<br/>research.</b><br>See container list <b>Litchfield County No. 5.</b> | Main Vault  |
| h.                       | Papers by Subject, Travel, 1769-1829<br>Materials separated from Papers by Subject.<br>1.5 cubic feet Accession: 1927-013<br>1757-1801; Index 1796-1860<br>1802-1809<br>1809-1908  | Main Vault<br><br>Box 1<br>Box 2<br>Box 3                   |
| i.                       | Dockets, 1759-1855<br><i>1709-1855. Chronological. 19 volumes.</i><br>See container list <b>Litchfield County No. 6.</b><br><i>1759-1790. These dockets were used to wrap the County Court Files<br/>transferred to the State Library in 1927. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1927-018.</i>  | Main Vault<br><br>Box 186                                   |
| <b>Litchfield County</b> |  |   |
| j.                       | Appeals, 1798-1854<br>Chronological. 5 volumes. Accession: 1928-022.<br>1798 September-1808 December<br>1809 March-1816 December<br>1817 March-1829 September<br>1829 December-1838 October<br>1838 December-1854 October  | Main Vault<br><br>Vol 1<br>Vol 2<br>Vol 3<br>Vol 4<br>Vol 5 |
| k.                       | Defaults, 1798-1855<br>Chronological. 16 volumes.<br>See container list <b>Litchfield County No. 7.</b>  | Main Vault  |
| l.                       | Notaries Public, 1871-1897<br>Chronological. 3 volumes. Accession: 1928-024<br>1871 November-1880 January<br>1880 January-1889 January<br>1889 January-1897 January  | Main Vault<br><br>Vol 1<br>Vol 2<br>Vol 3                   |
| m.                       | Cost Books, 1833-1855<br>County court cost books included with Superior Court Cost Books.<br>See separate container list <b>Litchfield Superior No. 6.</b>   | Main Vault  |
| n.                       | Liquor Licenses, 1879-1903<br>1 volume. Accession: 1928-023  | Main Vault  |
| <b>4.</b>                | <b>Maritime Court, 1782-1787</b>   | Main Vault  |

Papers. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1927-016	Box 1
<b>5. District Court, 1872-1912<sup>27</sup></b> Files, 1872-1912. Chronological. 10 cubic feet. See container list <b>Litchfield District No. 1.</b>	Main Vault
<b>6. Circuit Court, 1962-1973</b> Files from Circuit Court No. 18 held at Torrington. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1996-020 1971-1973 1962-1968 1968-1972	<b>Off-site</b> Box 1 Box 2 Box 3
<b>6. Court of Common Pleas, 1877-1949</b>	
a. Files, 1877-1926 Arranged by case number (#40 – 4399). 64 cubic feet See container list <b>Litchfield Common Pleas No. 1.</b>	Main Vault
b. Criminal Cases, 1927-1946 <sup>28</sup> Numerical by case number (#1-754). 11 cubic feet. See container list <b>Litchfield Common Pleas No. 2.</b> <b>Litchfield &amp; Middlesex Counties</b>	Main Vault
c. Civil Cases, 1906-1949 Numerical by case number (#1972; #4902-8264). 9.5 cubic feet. See container list <b>Litchfield Common Pleas No. 3.</b>	Main Vault
<b>D. Middlesex County</b>	
<b>1. Supreme Court of Errors, 1819-1934</b> Records. 1 volume. Accession: 1932-056	Main Vault Box 1
<b>2. Superior Court, 1786-1958</b>	
a. Records (drafts), 1821-1849 1821 October-1849 August. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-053	Main Vault Box X-61
b. Files, 1786-1797 Files. 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-053 1786-1789 1790-1797. A-H 1790-1797. J-Z	Main Vault Box X-63 Box X-64 Box X-62
c. Criminal Cases, 1873-1945 <sup>29</sup> Numerical by case number. 5 cubic feet. Accession: 1945-001 June 1873-December 1886 December 1887-December 1905 July 1906-December 1921 April 1922-March 1930 March 1930-May 1945	Main Vault Box 1 Box 2 Box 3 Box 4 Box 5

<sup>27</sup> Established in 1872; succeeded in 1883 by the Court of Common Pleas.

<sup>28</sup> The State Archives has only those criminal files transferred by the Judicial Department. Some criminal files may remain with the courts or at the Judicial Department's Superior Court Records Center in Enfield. Due to past record keeping practices, some gaps may exist within this record series.

<sup>29</sup> The State Archives has only those criminal files transferred by the Judicial Department. Some criminal files may remain with the courts or at the Judicial Department's Superior Court Records Center in Enfield. Due to past record keeping practices, some gaps may exist within this record series.

d.	Papers by Subject, 1786-1797 Includes Costs; Court Expenses; Divorces ( <b>microfilm</b> ); Inquests; Jurors, 1786-1789; Miscellaneous, 1786-1789; Partition Land, 1790-1797; and Travel, 1790-1797. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-053	Main Vault Box X-65
e.	Judgments and Defaults, 1798-1904 Similar to "files" in other Superior Courts and include divorces inter-filed with other documents. Chronological. 75 cubic feet. See container list <b>Middlesex Superior No. 1.</b>	Main Vault
f.	Executions, 1772-1896 Chronological. 6 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-050 <i>1772-1828</i> <i>1829-1844</i> <i>1845-1859</i> <i>1860-1872</i> <i>1873-1881</i> <i>1882-1896</i>	Main Vault  Box 1 Box 2 Box 3 Box 4 Box 5 Box 6
g.	Withdrawals, 1798-1887 Chronological. 22 cubic feet. See separate list <b>Middlesex Superior No. 2.</b> <b>Middlesex County</b>	Main Vault
h.	Dockets, 1785-1933 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-051 <i>1785-1810</i> Manuscript dockets in chronological order. Printed dockets in chronological order. <i>1856-1933</i> <i>1856-1887</i> <i>1888-1907</i> <i>1908-1933</i> <i>1805-1819; 1821-1822</i> copies of dockets inter-filed with naturalization records. Accession: 1986-012	Main Vault  Box X-100  Box X-101 Box X-102 Box X-103  Box 1
i.	Cost Book, 1853-1860 Criminal cases. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-050	Main Vault Box X-104
j.	Appointment Book, 1874-1922 County Commissioners. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-050	Main Vault Box X-104
k.	Naturalization Hearings, c. 1880-1890 Bound photocopy. <sup>30</sup> 1 volume. Accession: 1932-050	Main Vault Box X-104
l.	State's Attorney, 1904-1918 Papers from the estate of Judge Frank D. Haines, former State's Attorney. Arranged in chronological order. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1951-002 1904 April-1906 April 1906 September-1908 September 1908 December-1911 April 1911 September-1913 September 1913 December-1916 June Correspondence and memoranda, 1904-1907, reports to the Comptroller of	Main Vault  Box 105 Box 106 Box 107 Box 108 Box 109 Box 110

<sup>30</sup> Original is located at the Federal Records Center in Waltham, MA.

"criminal business" and fines collected, 1909-1916, "Law notes et cet," miscellaneous notes, memoranda and correspondence, docket book, 1904-1918, and printed dockets and trial lists, 1899-1901.

- m. Sworn Witnesses, 1936-1958 Main Vault  
 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1958-001  
 1936 May-1948 October Vol 4  
 1948 October-1958 August Vol 5
  
- n. Depositions, 1800-1906 Main Vault  
 0.5 cubic feet. See container list **Middlesex Superior No. 3.**
  
- 3. County Court, 1785-1855**
- a. Judgments, 1785-1855 Main Vault  
*1785-1855* Chronological then alphabetical. 5.5 cubic feet  
**Partially restricted.** See container list **Middlesex County No. 1.**  
*1800-1855.* Includes Taverners (1800-1819). Chronological order. Main Vault  
 6 volumes. Accession: 1932-067  
 1800 December-1812 November Vol 1  
 1813 January-1819 October Vol 2  
 1820 March-1826 April Vol 3  

**Middlesex County**

 1826 June-1837 January Vol 4  
 1837 October-1854 April Vol 5  
 1854 April-1855 April Vol 6
  
- b. Defaults, 1785-1855 Main Vault  
*1785-1855.* Chronological then alphabetical. 8 cubic feet.  
**Partially restricted.** See container list **Middlesex County No. 2.**  
*1800-1810.* Includes appeals. Chronological order. 1 volume. Main Vault  
 Accession: 1932-61  
*1807-1855.* Chronological order. 4 volumes. Accession: 1932-063 Main Vault  
 1807 November-1815 September Box 2  
 1815 September-1820 September Box 3  
 1820 September-1833 October Box 4  
 1833 October-1855 April Box 5
  
- c. No Appearance Files, 1785-1855 Main Vault  
 Chronological then alphabetical. 5 cubic feet.  
 See container list **Middlesex County No. 3.**
  
- d. Executions, 1789-1832 Main Vault  
*1789-1832.* 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1932-065 Box 56  
*1800-1820.* Chronological order, 3 volumes. Accession: 1932-070 Main Vault  
 1800 December-1811 March Vol 1  
 1811 March-1819 January Vol 2  
 1816 October-1820 May Vol 3
  
- e. Papers by Subject, 1785-1855 Main Vault  
 Includes but not limited to Admissions to the Bar; Conservators and Guardians;  
 Costs; Court Expenses; Insolvents; Jurors; Licenses; Meeting House; Militia;  
 Miscellaneous; Revolutionary Pensions; Partitioned Land; and Travel. 8 cubic feet  
 See container list **Middlesex County No. 4.**

- |    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| f. | Dockets, 1785-1855<br>Chronological. 16 volumes.<br>See container list <b>Middlesex County No. 5.</b>  | Main Vault                                |
| g. | Appeals, 1810-1852<br>Chronological order, 3 volumes. Accession: 1932-061<br>1800 December-1810 March, includes defaults.<br>1810 November-1835 October<br>1835 October-1852 April | Main Vault<br><br>Vol 1<br>Vol 2<br>Vol 3 |
| h. | Account Book, 1788-1829<br>1 volume. Accession: 1932-060   | Main Vault                                |

## E. New Haven County

### 1. Superior Court, 1712-1944<sup>31</sup>

- |    |  |                                |
|----|--|--------------------------------|
| a. | Dockets, 1713-1874<br><i>1713, 1723-1798.</i> Manuscript dockets. 0.25 cubic feet.<br><i>1798-1874.</i> Printed dockets, chronological order. 26 volumes.<br>See container list <b>New Haven Superior No. 1.</b><br><i>1855-1872.</i> Jury dockets. Chronological. 3 volumes. Accession: 1925-003<br>1855 October-1859 October<br>1859 December-1865 September<br>1865 October-1872 May  | Main Vault                     |
| b. | Papers by Subject, 1712-1900<br>Vault<br><i>1712-1798.</i> Includes Appointment of Officers; Confiscated Estates and Loyalists; Conservators and Guardians; Costs, 1742-1798; Court Expenses, 1742-1798; Executions; Indians; Inquests; Jurors, Alphabetical by Town, 1712-1798; Meeting House; Militia; Partition Land; and Revolutionary Pensions. 3 cubic feet.<br><i>1798-1900.</i> Includes Admission to the Bar; Bonds; Court Expenses; Inquests; Jurors; Miscellaneous; Naturalization; Partition Land; Protections; and Revolutionary Pensions. 1 cubic foot.<br>See container list <b>New Haven Superior No. 2.</b> | Probate                        |
| c. | Files, 1712-1798<br>Vault<br>Chronological. 6 cubic feet.<br>See container list <b>New Haven Superior No. 3.</b>   | Probate                        |
| d. | Judgments (Civil Case Files), 1798-1944<br><i>1798-1899.</i> Chronological. 67 cubic feet.<br>See separate container list <b>New Haven Superior No. 4.</b><br><i>1900-1944.</i> Chronological then alphabetical by last name. 265 cubic feet.  | Probate<br><br><b>Off-site</b> |

<sup>31</sup> In 1973, the New Haven County Superior Court donated 31 cubic feet of historical court records to the New Haven Colony Historical Society. The records are in the Society's Manuscript Collection #3, "Connecticut Superior Court. Documents for New Haven County." A copy of the inventory of these records is available from the History and Genealogy staff.

See container list **New Haven Superior No. 5.**

- |    |  |            |
|----|--|------------|
| e. | No Appearance Files, 1808-1900   | Probate    |
|    | <i>1808-1900.</i> Chronological then alphabetical. 17.5 cubic feet.      |            |
|    | See container list <b>New Haven Superior No. 6.</b>                      |            |
|    | <i>1875-1887.</i> Alphabetical. 4 cubic feet.                            | Main Vault |
|    | See container list <b>New Haven Superior No. 7.</b>                      |            |
| f. | Criminal Files, 1797-1945 <sup>32</sup>                                  | Probate    |
|    | New Haven  |            |
|    | <i>1797-1899.</i> Chronological then alphabetical. 96 cubic feet.        |            |
|    | See separate container list <b>New Haven Superior No. 8.</b>             |            |
|    | <i>1900-1945.</i> Chronological by file number (#1-7960). 28 cubic feet. | Main Vault |
|    | See container list <b>New Haven Superior No. 9.</b>                      |            |

### New Haven County

- |    |   |            |
|----|---|------------|
|    | Waterbury   |            |
|    | <i>1901-1945.</i> Chronological by file number(#1-6853). 10 cubic feet. | Main Vault |
|    | See container list <b>New Haven Superior No. 10.</b>                    |            |
| g. | Appeals, 1783-1798  | Probate    |
|    | Lists of Appeals from County Court. Accession: 1925-013                 | Box 699    |
| h. | Executions, 1800-1872   | Probate    |
|    | Alphabetical. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1925-013                         |            |
|    | 1800-1836. A-Z  | Box 699    |
|    | 1837-1847. A-Z  | Box 700    |
|    | 1848-1854. A-Z  | Box 701    |
|    | 1855-1857. A-Z  | Box 702    |
|    | 1858-1865. A-Rey  | Box 703    |
|    | 1858-1865. Ric-Z  | Box 704    |
|    | 1866-1872. A-Z  | Box 705    |
| i. | Travel, 1798-1900   | Probate    |
|    | Alphabetical. 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1925-013                         |            |
|    | A-DBox 705  |            |
|    | E-Mid   | Box 706    |
|    | Mil-New   | Box 707    |
|    | New   | Box 708    |
|    | New-Woo   | Box 709    |
| j. | Insolvents, 1798-1896   | Probate    |
|    | <i>1798-1849;1893-1896.</i> 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1925-013           |            |
|    | 1798-1839. A-Z  | Box 712    |
|    | 1840-1896. A-Z  | Box 713    |
| k. | Divorces, 1712-1900   | Probate    |
|    | <b>Researchers must use microfilm.</b> 18 cubic feet.                   |            |
|    | See container list <b>New Haven Superior No. 11.</b>                    |            |

<sup>32</sup> The State Archives has only those criminal files transferred by the Judicial Department. Some criminal files may remain with the courts or at the Judicial Department's Superior Court Records Center in Enfield. Due to past records keeping practices, some gaps may exist within this record series.



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|---|--|
| <p>1. Assignments, 1838-1844<br/> <i>1774-1797</i>. List of assignments, incomplete. Accession: 1925-013<br/> <i>1838-1844</i>. Includes records for both Superior and County Court.<br/> 1 volume. Accession: 1925-017</p>   | <p>Main Vault<br/> Box 699<br/> Vol 1</p>                          |
| <p><b>2. County Court, 1666-1862<sup>33</sup></b></p>   |  |
| <p>a. Dockets, 1749-1855<br/> <i>1749-1855</i>. Chronological order. 20 volumes.<br/> See container list <b>New Haven County No. 1.</b><br/> <i>1832-1837</i>. Private docket of Samuel J. Hitchcock, New Haven. 1 volume.<br/> Accession: 1925-015</p>   | <p>Main Vault</p>  |
| <p><b>New Haven County</b></p>  |  |
| <p>b. Executions, 1700-1855<br/> <i>1764-1820</i>. Chronological. 6 volumes.<br/> <i>1700-1855</i>. Chronological. 12 cubic feet.<br/> See container list <b>New Haven County No. 2.</b></p>  | <p>Main Vault<br/><br/> Probate</p>                                |
| <p>c. Assignments, 1838-1844<br/> Includes records for both County and Superior Court. 1 volume.<br/> Accession: 1936-002</p>   | <p>Main Vault</p>  |
| <p>d. Reports of Cases, 1838-1841<br/> Narrative of selected trails by unknown author. Accession: 1936-003<br/> 1838 June-November<br/> 1840 March-April. Includes Naturalization records.<br/> 1840 November<br/> 1841 November-December</p>   | <p>Main Vault<br/><br/> Vol 1<br/> Vol 2<br/> Vol 3<br/> Vol 4</p> |
| <p>e. Records, 1666-1862<br/> <i>1666-1855</i>. Chronological. Vol. 16 includes appeals, 1812-1818. 24 volumes.<br/> See container list <b>New Haven County No. 3.</b><br/> <i>1805-1842</i>. Miscellaneous Records.<br/> Includes Appointments and Reports of Conservators, Rules, Jail Limits,<br/> Appointment of States Attorney, Tax Collector, Deputy Sheriffs, Inspectors and County<br/> Surveyors, Tanners Licenses, and Appointment and Accounts of Overseers of Turkey Hill<br/> Indians (1811-1839). 1 volume. Accession: 1936-006.</p> | <p>Main Vault<br/><br/> Main Vault</p>                             |
| <p>f. Defaults, 1841-1855<br/> 1 volume. Accession: 1936-004</p>  | <p>Main Vault<br/> Vol. 25</p>                                     |
| <p>g. Trials and Appeals, 1841-1855<br/> 1 volume. Accession: 1936-004<br/> Includes separate index.</p>  | <p>Main Vault<br/> Vol. 26</p>                                     |
| <p>h. Equity Records, 1773-1855<br/> <i>1773-1821</i>. 1 volume. Accession: 1936-005<br/> <i>1841-1855</i>. 1 volume. Accession: 1936-004<br/> Includes separate index.</p>   | <p>Main Vault<br/> Vol. 1<br/> Vol. 27</p>                         |

<sup>33</sup> The New Haven Colony Historical Society has a small collection of miscellaneous New Haven County, County Court records in Manuscript Group #28, "New Haven City and County Documents." A copy of the inventory is available from State Archives staff.

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|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Files, 1700-1855<br/>128 cubic feet. See container list <b>New Haven County No. 4.</b></li> </ul>  | <p>Probate</p>                          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>j. Papers by Subject, 1700-1855<br/>Includes Admissions to the Bar; Appointment of Officers; Common Fields; Confiscated Estates and Loyalists; Conservators and Guardians, 1720-1855; Costs, 1700-1855; Court Expenses, 1712-1855; Equity Bills, 1784-1794; Insolvents; Jurors: Alphabetical by Towns, 1700-1855; Justices of the Peace, 1800-1889; Licenses; Meeting House; Militia, 1712-1855; Miscellaneous; Orders, Bills, etc.; Partition Land; Revolutionary Pensions; and Travel.<br/>25 cubic feet.<br/>See separate container list <b>New Haven County No. 5.</b></li> </ul> | <p>Probate</p>                          |
| <b>New Haven and New London Counties</b>   |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>k. Summonses, 1774-1792<br/>Packet in box of Superior Court records. Contains mostly County Court summonses but also includes summonses to City and Superior Court.</li> </ul>  | <p>Probate<br/>Box 699</p>              |
| <b>3. Maritime Court, 1776-1783</b>  |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Files, 1776-1783<br/>Divided into two categories: libels against goods, libels against ships.<br/><b>Original restricted, researchers must use photocopy.</b><br/>1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-035</li> </ul>  | <p>Main Vault<br/>Box 654 &amp; 655</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Index to Files<br/>Alphabetical by name, subject and vessel.<sup>34</sup> A second copy is in the classified manuscript collection as <b>974.61 N42w</b>. 0.25 cubic feet.<br/>Accession: 1980-035</li> </ul>  | <p>Main Vault<br/>Box 654</p>           |
| <b>4. Court of Common Pleas, 1869-1945</b>   |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Withdrawn Cases, 1869-1924<br/>Chronological order. 35 cubic feet.<br/>See container list <b>New Haven Common No. 1.</b></li> </ul>  | <p>Main Vault</p>                       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Cases Stricken from Docket, 1891-1909<br/>Chronological. 12 cubic feet.<br/>See container list <b>New Haven Common No. 2</b></li> </ul>  | <p>Main Vault</p>                       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Judgments, 1869-1945<br/>Chronological. 146 cubic feet.<br/>See container list <b>New Haven Common No. 3.</b></li> </ul>   | <p>High Attic</p>                       |
| <b>F. New London County</b>  |   |
| <b>1. Supreme Court of Errors, 1819-1952</b>   |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Trials, 1819-1864<br/>Records. 1 volume. 0.25 cubic feet</li> </ul>  | <p>Main Vault<br/>Item #24</p>          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Files, 1819-1952<br/><i>1819-1889</i>. Chronological. 2.25 cubic feet.<br/><i>1901-1932</i>. Chronological. 8.75 cubic feet.<br/><i>1932-1952</i>. Chronological. 7.25 cubic feet</li> </ul>   | <p>Main Vault</p>                       |

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<sup>34</sup> Prepared in 1975 by Patricia Q. Wall.

See container list **New London Supreme No. 1.**

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| c. Dockets, 1819-1875<br>0.25 cubic feet, Accession: 1932-059              | Main Vault<br>Box 29 |
| d. Court Expense Papers, 1819-1874<br>0.25 cubic feet, Accession: 1932-059 | Main Vault<br>Box 29 |
| e. Travel Papers, 1831-1847<br>0.25 cubic feet, Accession: 1932-059        | Main Vault<br>Box 29 |

**New London County**

**2. Superior Court, 1711-1969**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a. Trials, 1798-1874<br><i>1798-1874.</i> Chronological. 14 volumes, 8 cubic feet<br>See container list <b>New London Superior No. 1.</b>   | Main Vault  |
| b. Defaults, 1853-1881<br><i>1853-1881.</i> Chronological. 3 volumes. Including Index from 1853-1875.<br>1.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-005  | Main Vault<br>Vol 1 & 2   |
| c. Insolvency Cases, 1833-1841<br>1 volume. 0.25 cubic feet.<br>Accession: 1921-006   | Main Vault  |
| d. Declaration of Intended Citizenship, 1856-1873<br>Photocopy. August 1856-1873. 1 volume <sup>35</sup> 0.25 cubic feet<br>Accession: 1921-007   | Main Vault  |
| e. Dockets, 1713-1919<br><i>1713-1835.</i> Manuscript dockets, chronological order. 0.75 cubic feet.<br>Accession: 1921-003<br><i>1836-1919.</i> Chronological. 33 volumes. 8 cubic feet.<br><i>1855-1891.</i> Printed dockets. Chronological. 9 volumes. 2 cubic feet.<br>See container list <b>New London Superior No. 2.</b> | Main Vault<br>Box 35 & 36<br><br>Main Vault                           |
| f. Files, 1711-1891<br><i>1711-1875.</i> Chronological. 47.25 cubic feet.<br><i>1875-1891.</i> Chronological. 15 cubic feet.<br>See container list <b>New London Superior No. 3.</b>  | Main Vault<br>Main Vault  |
| g. Criminal Cases, 1868-1907 <sup>36</sup><br><i>1868-1901.</i> Files. 5 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-041<br>1868-1881<br>1881-1885<br>1885-1889<br>1889-1895<br>1895-1901   | Main Vault<br><br>Box 603<br>Box 604<br>Box 605<br>Box 606<br>Box 607 |

<sup>35</sup> Original records located at the Federal Regional Archives in Waltham, MA.

<sup>36</sup> The State Archives has only those criminal files transferred by the Judicial Department. Some criminal files may remain with the courts or at the Judicial Department's Superior Court Records Center in Enfield. Due to past records keeping practices, some gaps may exist within this records series.

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|---|---|
| <p>1879-1881. Criminal decisions. 1 volume. 1.25 cubic feet.<br/>Accession: 1921-009</p> <p>1899-1907. Bill of costs. 2 volumes. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-010<br/>1899-1900<br/>1901-1907</p> | <p>Main Vault</p> <p>Main Vault<br/>Vol 1<br/>Vol 2</p> |
| <p>h. Passport Lists, 1942-1944<br/>1942 August 13-1944 June 30. 1 volume. 0.25 cubic feet Accession: 1945-002</p>  | <p>Main Vault</p>                                       |

### New London County

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| <p>i. Papers by Subject, 1711-1900<br/>Includes Admissions to the Bar, 1814-1875; Appointments of Officers, 1713-1881; Conservators and Guardians, 1870-1871; Costs (Court Expenses), 1716-1879; Depositions, 1859-1882; Divorces, 1719-1875 (alphabetical) (<b>microfilm</b>); Executions, 1712-1799, 1832-1879; Indians, 1715-1887; Inquests, c. 1711-1870; Insolvents, 1808-1841, 1867, 1873-1874; Jurors, 1711-1875 (alphabetical by town); Jury Warrants, 1840-1881 (incomplete); Militia (missing Jan. '79); Miscellaneous, 1713-1885; Miscellaneous Civil Case Files c. 1850-1900; Partition Land, 1711-1887; Revolutionary War Pensions, 1821-1840; Travel, 1734-1881. 16 cubic feet.<br/><b>Original Native American materials restricted. Photocopies available for research.</b><br/>See separate container list <b>New London Superior No. 4.</b><br/>For Indian Papers see separate container list <b>New London Superior No. 4a.</b></p> | <p>Main Vault</p>  |
| <p>j. Civil Case Files, c. 1850-1969<br/>1890-1969. Arranged chronologically from 1890-1906. Arranged by case (docket) number from 1906-1969. Researchers will have to contact the court to obtain docket numbers. 210 cubic feet.<br/>See container list <b>New London Superior No. 5.</b></p>  | <p>Main Vault<br/>&amp; <b>Off-site</b></p>                  |
| <p>k. Discontinuance/ Withdrawn, 1892-1955<br/>1892-1955. Chronological. 2 boxes. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1985-042<br/>1892-1899<br/>1900-1955</p>  | <p>Main Vault</p> <p>Box 1<br/>Box 2</p>                     |
| <p>l. Dissolutions of Corporations, 1917-1956<br/>1917-1956. Chronological. 1.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1985-043<br/>October 1917- March 1931<br/>April 1931- April 1939<br/>May 1939- April 1945<br/>May 1945- April 1956</p>   | <p>Main Vault</p> <p>Box 1<br/>Box 2<br/>Box 3<br/>Box 4</p> |
| <p>m. County Jail Warrants, 1881-1896<br/>1881-1896. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-013</p>   | <p>Main Vault<br/>Box 1</p>                                  |
| <p>n. Special Police Appointments, 1908-1942<br/>1908-1942. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1985-044</p>  | <p>Main Vault<br/>Box 1</p>                                  |
| <p>o. Justice of the Peace, 1797-1935<br/>Oaths, 1797-1935. 1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1985-045<br/>1797-1868<br/>1868-1887<br/>1888-1935</p>   | <p>Main Vault</p> <p>Box 1<br/>Box 2<br/>Box 3</p>           |

- p. Survey of Pequot Indian Reservation, 1856 Main Vault  
 Survey conducted by Isacc Gallup (912.7462 – L51g). Accession: 1921-035.  
**Original restricted. Photostat available in H&G map cabinet.**

### New London County

#### 3. County Court, 1661-1873

- a. Records copy, 1661-1667 Main Vault  
 1 volume. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-015
- b. Trials, 1661-1855 Main Vault  
*1661-1855.* Chronological order, includes index. 35 volumes. 8.5 cubic feet.  
**The first six volumes available on microfilm (345.42 - fC752ct LH 4416/17).**  
 There is a partial card index in the HG Reading Room.<sup>37</sup>  
 See container list **New London County No. 1.**
- c. Judgments, 1850-1855 Main Vault  
*1850 November-1855 July.* 1 volume. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-017
- d. Dockets, 1730-1855 Main Vault  
*1730-1835.* 5 boxes. 2.25 cubic feet.  
*1835-1855.* Chronological. 5 volumes. 0.9 cubic feet.  
 See container list **New London County No. 2.**
- e. Defaults, 1809-1847 Main Vault  
 Chronological. 5 volumes. 2.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-020  
 1809 December-1815 Vol 1  
 1816 March-1819 March Vol 2  
 1819 June-1826 March Vol 3  
 1826 June-1836 June Vol 4  
 1837 February-1847 February Vol 5
- f. Executions, 1782-1820 Main Vault  
 Chronological. 5 volumes. 1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-021  
 1782 January-1790 October Vol 1  
 1790 July-1799 February Vol 2  
 1798 December-1810 May Vol 3  
 1808 November-1816 May Vol 4  
 1816 March-1820 June Vol 5
- g. Appeals, 1809-1855 Main Vault  
 Chronological. 3 volumes. 1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-022  
 1809 February-1827 May Vol 1  
 1827 May-1851 September Vol 2  
 1852 February-1855 March Vol 3
- h. Files, 1691-1855 Main Vault  
 Chronological. 197 boxes. 98 cubic feet.

See container list **New London County No. 3.**

### New London County

- i. Papers by Subject, 1693-1855 Main Vault  
Includes Admissions to the Bar, 1753-1855; Appointments of Officers, 1767-1854; Confiscated Estates and Loyalists, 1781-1782; Conservators and Guardians, 1699-1855; (Alphabetical); Costs, 1693-1855; Court Expenses, 1755-1855; Executions, 1700-1855; Indians, 1716-1855; Inquests, 1711; Insolvents, 1756-1855; Jurors (Alphabetical by town), 1700-1855; Jury Warrants, 1844-1855; Licenses, 1702-1855 (Alphabetical); Meeting House, 1749-1817; Militia, 1707-1709, 1833-1834 (2 cases only); Miscellaneous, 1700-1855<sup>38</sup>; Partition Land, 1744-1755; Revolutionary War Pension, 1820-1855; Summons for Evidence, 1700-1768; Travel, 1707-1855. 23 cubic feet.  
**Original Native American materials restricted. Photocopies available for research.**  
See separate container list **New London County No. 4.**  
For Papers by Subject: Indians see separate container list **New London County No. 4a.**
- 4. Maritime Court, 1781-1784**
- a. Files, 1781 November-1784 June. 1.25 cubic feet. Main Vault  
**Researchers must use photocopy.** 1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-038.  
Name Index (alphabetical by name subject and vessel)<sup>39</sup> and folders 1-27. Box 656  
(A second copy is in the classified manuscripts, **974.61 N446w.**)  
Folders 28-57 Box 657  
Folders 58-73 Box 658  
Folders 74-93 Box 659
- 5. Court of Common Pleas, 1870-1969**
- a. Records, 1870-1903. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-027 Main Vault  
1870 September-1881 February. Records Vol 402  
1890 August-1903 August. Records Vol 403  
1870 October-1881 April. Court and Jury Trails Vol 404  
1870 September-1881 October. Defaults Vol 405  
1880 April-1890 April. Court and Jury Trails, Defaults Vol 406
- b. Files, 1870-1903 Main Vault  
1870 September-1903 August. 16.75 cubic feet.  
See container list **New London Common Pleas No. 1.**
- c. Civil Cases, 1903-1969 Main Vault  
New London County at New London, 1903-1915  
1903-1915. 11 cubic feet.  
New London County at Norwich, 1914-1969  
1914-1925. Numerical by case (#1-3050). 11 cubic feet.  
See container list **New London Common Pleas No. 2.**  
1925-1969. Numerical by case (#3051-21912) 78 cubic feet. Off-site  
See container lists **New London Common Pleas No. 3.**

<sup>38</sup> Largely unsorted and unarranged; a few items and groups have been identified and labeled.

<sup>39</sup> Prepared in 1980 by Patricia Q. Wall.

### New London and Tolland Counties

- d. Criminal Files, 1895-1915<sup>40</sup> Main Vault  
Chronological. 5 cubic feet.  
See container list **New London Common Pleas No. 4.**
- e. Miscellaneous, 1871-1889 Main Vault  
Includes dockets, court costs, and some case files. 0.5 cubic feet.  
Accession: 1921-028  
Box 1
- f. Jury Warrants, 1870-1886 Main Vault  
0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-028  
Box 2
- g. Executions, 1870-1902 Main Vault  
0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-028  
Box 3
- h. Dockets, 1870-1904 Main Vault  
1870-1902. 12 volumes. 2 cubic feet.  
1870-1904. Printed. 9 volumes. 1.25 cubic feet.  
See container list **New London Common Pleas No. 5.**
- 6. County Commissioners, 1768-1873<sup>41</sup>** Main Vault  
Includes materials on county meetings, grand lists, and resolutions.  
0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-023  
Box 405

### G. Tolland County

#### 1. Supreme Court of Errors, 1819-1942

- a. Files, 1858-1942 Main Vault  
2.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1942-005.  
1858-1875  
1900-1942  
A-GBox 30  
Go-L  
M  
M-SBox 33  
S-Z  
Box 30  
Box 31  
Box 32  
Box 33A
- b. Miscellaneous Papers, 1819-1915 Main Vault  
Includes Sheriff's bills, rules of court, printed documents. 0.1 cubic foot.  
Accession: 1942-005  
Box 33
- c. Docket, 1825 Main Vault

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<sup>40</sup> The State Archives has only those criminal files transferred by the Judicial Department. Some criminal files may remain with the courts or at the Judicial Department's Superior Court Records Center in Enfield. Due to past records keeping practices, some gaps may exist within this records series.

<sup>41</sup> With the abolition of county government on October 1, 1960, records created by the county were distributed to various local and state agencies. In some cases, County Commissioner records were transferred to the courts. Additional County Commission records may be found in County Government (RG 061).

Accession: 1919-003

Box 1

**See:** Supreme Court of Errors. Miscellaneous.

### **Tolland County**

## **2. Superior Court, 1787-1945**

### a. Files, 1787-1937

*1787-1910.* Chronological. 24.75 cubic feet.

Main Vault

*1807-1910.* Mittimus cases. Alphabetical. 9.25 cubic feet.

*1911-1937.* Chronological by case number (#1307-4035). 18.75 cubic feet.

See container list **Tolland Superior No. 1.**

### b. Papers by Subject, 1787-1940

Main Vault

Includes Admission to the Bar; Appointments of Officers; Conservators and Guardians; Costs; Court Expenses; Depositions; Divorces (**microfilm**); Executions; Insolvents; Jail Bills; Jurors; Justice Files; Liquor License; Meeting House; Partition Land; Prison Commitments; Revolutionary War Pensions; and Travel 9.25 cubic feet.

See container list **Tolland Superior No. 2.**

### c. Miscellaneous Documents, 1787-1940

Main Vault

Includes subpoenas, bills, withdrawn cases, and warrants. As well as records from the county and the City Court of Rockville. Materials have not been processed but are in roughly alphabetically order. 1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1942-004

Box 46-48

### d. Inquests, 1890-1929

Main Vault

Includes coroner's and medical examiner's reports and related papers. Chronological with some alphabetical sections within. 2.5 cubic feet.

**See also:** *Part VIII. Coroners, 1883-1979.*

See container list **Tolland Superior No. 3.**

### e. Dockets, 1787-1923

*1787-1855.* 0.75 cubic feet.

Main Vault

1787-1830

Box 55

1831-1855

Box 56

*1916-1923.* Private. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1942-002

Box 57

### f. Records, 1876-1900

Main Vault

Printed records. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1942-002

Box 58

### g. Criminal Files, 1900-1945<sup>42</sup>

Main Vault

Numerical by case number (#1-1275). 3 cubic feet.

1900 September-1921 April. (#1-450)

Box 1

1921 April-1932 March. (#451-875)

Box 2

1932 March-1945 February. (#876-1275)

Box 3

Accession: 1978-007

## **3. County Court, 1786-1855**

### a. Files, 1786-1855

Main Vault

Chronological. 14.75 cubic feet.

See container list **Tolland County No. 1.**

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<sup>42</sup> The State Archives has only those criminal files transferred by the Judicial Department. Some criminal files may remain with the courts or at the Judicial Department's Superior Court Records Center in Enfield. Due to past records keeping practices, some gaps may exist within this records series.



## Tolland and Windham Counties

- b. Papers by Subject, 1786-1855 Main Vault  
Includes Admissions to the Bar; Appointments of Officers; Conservators and Guardians (alphabetical); Court Expenses; Executions; Inquests; Insolvents; Jurors, 1786-1855; Licenses; Meeting House; Miscellaneous; Revolutionary War Pensions; and Travel, 1786-1855. 3.75 cubic feet.  
See container list **Tolland County No. 2.**
  
  - c. Dockets, 1786-1855 Main Vault  
Chronological. 1.5 cubic feet.  
1786-1839 Box 86  
1840-1855 Box 87  
Accession: 1942-009
  
  - d. Executions, 1786-1793. Main Vault  
1 volume. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1942-009 Box 86
- H. Windham County**
- 1. Supreme Court of Errors, 1820-1886**
    - a. Files, 1820-1886 Main Vault  
Chronological. 1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-042  
1820-1843 Box 34  
1844-1886 Box 35
  
    - b. Dockets, 1823-1883 Main Vault  
0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-042 Box 36
  
    - c. Expenses, 1820-1849 Main Vault  
0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-042 Box 36
  
  - 2. Superior Court, 1726-1947**
    - a. Dockets, 1844-1923 Main Vault  
*1726-1872.* 1.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-043 Box 39 & 40  
1726-1850 Box 41 & 42  
1850-1872 Main Vault  
*1844-1923.* Chronological. Includes some County and Superior Court dockets. 21 volumes. 4 cubic feet.  
See container list **Windham Superior No. 1.**
  
    - b. Trials, 1798-1871 Main Vault  
8 volumes. 2 cubic feet.  
See container list **Windham Superior No. 2.**
  
    - c. Defaults, 1872-1883. Main Vault  
1 volume. 1 cubic foot.  
See container list **Windham Superior No. 2.**
  
    - d. Insolvent debtors, 1828-1841. Main Vault  
1 volume. 1 cubic foot.  
See container list **Windham Superior No. 2.**

## Windham County

- e. Notaries Public, 1870-1935 Main Vault  
1870-1872. Certificates. 1 volume.  
1913-1935. 2 volumes  
1913-1918 Vol 1  
1926-1935 Vol 2  
Accession: 1915-003
- e. Appointments, 1886-1915 Main Vault  
Includes Justices of the Peace, Notaries Public, Commissioners of the  
Superior Court and Licenses, and Medical Examiners. 1 volume.  
0.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1915-004 Vol B
- f. Clerk of the Court, 1912-1927 Main Vault  
Quarterly accounts. 2 volumes. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1932-046  
1912 Vol. 1  
1924-1927 Vol. 2
- g. Files, 1726-1913 Main Vault  
Chronological. 56.75 cubic feet.  
**Some material restricted due to fragile condition.**  
Numerical by case number (#901-1859). 5 cubic feet.  
See container list **Windham Superior No. 3.**
- h. Criminal Cases, 1883-1947<sup>43</sup> Main Vault  
1883-1911. Chronological. 7.25 cubic feet.  
1911-1925. Chronological. 3.25 cubic feet.  
1927-1947. Chronological by case number. 3 cubic feet.  
See container list **Windham Superior No. 4.**
- i. Papers by Subject, 1726-1907 Main Vault  
Includes Applications for Admission to the Bar, 1800-1885; Appointments to Office,  
1752-1873; Boundary, Lebanon-Norwich, 1755; Confiscated Estates and Loyalists;  
Conservators and Guardians, 1836-1877; Costs, 1748-1897; Court Expenses, 1735-  
1883; Divorces, 1726-1907 (Alphabetical by name) (**microfilm**); Executions, 1730-  
1901; Hartford and Fishkill RR Co., c. 1853-1855 (**restricted**); Inquests, c. 1799-  
1840; Insolvents, 1763-1901; Jurors, 1726-1887 (Alphabetical by town); Licenses, c.  
1895; Meeting House, 1803-1804; Militia, 1783-1862; Miscellaneous, c. 1850-1880;  
Name Changes, 1862-1886; Partition Land, 1792-1870; Prosecuting Agents' Reports,  
1887-1893; Revolutionary War Pension Applications, 1789; and Travel, 1760-1901.  
11.25 cubic feet.  
See container list **Windham Superior No. 5.**
- j. Mittimus Cases, 1886-1904 Main Vault  
Alphabetical. 4.25 cubic feet.  
See container list **Windham Superior No. 6.**
- l. Discontinued Cases, 1891-1903. Main Vault  
0.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1915-011  
Box 13 & 14

## Windham County

<sup>43</sup> The State Archives has only those criminal files transferred by the Judicial Department. Some criminal files remain with the courts or at the Judicial Department's Records Center in Enfield. Due to past records keeping practices, some gaps may exist within this records series.

- m. Civil Cases, 1913-1921  
Numerical by case number (#1860-3129). 6.75 cubic feet. Main Vault  
See container list **Windham Superior No. 7.**
- 3. County Court, 1727-1855**
  - a. Records, 1726-1855 Main Vault  
Includes trials, land executions, defaults and appeals. 35 volumes. 3 cubic feet.  
See separate container list **Windham County No. 1.**
  - b. Files, 1726-1855 Main Vault  
Chronological. 23 cubic feet.  
See container list **Windham County No. 2.**
  - c. Papers by Subject, 1727-1855 Main Vault  
Including Applications for Admission to the Bar, 1769-1852; Appointments to Office, 1789-1854; Confiscated Estates and Loyalists, 1779; Conservators and Guardians, 1726-1855; Costs, 1727-1855; Executions, 1726-1855; Insolvents, 1782; Jurors, 1717-1852 (alphabetical by town); Licenses, 1726-1855; Meeting house, 1749-1818; Militia, 1728-1759; Miscellaneous; Partition Land; Revolutionary War Pension Applications, 1820-1831; Travel, 1726-1855. 10 cubic feet.  
See container list **Windham County No. 3.**
  - d. Dockets, 1726-1855 Main Vault  
Chronological. 2.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1915-015  
1726-1805 Box 257  
1806-1855 Box 258
  - e. Executions, 1726-1764 Main Vault  
0.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1915-016  
**See also *Papers by Subject* above.** Box 259 & 260
- 4. Court of Common Pleas, 1941-1945<sup>44</sup>** Main Vault
  - a. Files, 1941-1945  
Numerical by case number (#1-299). 2.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1978-003 Box 477 & 478

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<sup>44</sup> For earlier records contact the Judicial Records Center in Enfield, CT.

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## Part III. District and Municipal Courts, 1716-1946

**District and Municipal Courts** (1716-1962) includes records created by the now defunct district and municipal courts that were presided over by the Justices of the Peace. When the county government system was abolished in 1960, these courts were replaced by the state-wide circuit court.

### **Ansonia**

City Court, 1958-1960  
*Civil Cases*. Accession: 1996-020

**Off-site**  
Box 1

### **Berlin**

City Court, 1951-1960  
*Civil Cases*. Accession: 1996-020

**Off-site**  
Box 6

### **Bloomfield**

City Court, 1951-1960  
*Civil Cases*. Accession: 1996-020

**Off-site**  
Box 6

### **Branford**

City Court, 1950-1960  
*Civil Cases*. Accession: 1996-020

**Off-site**  
Box 6

### **Bridgeport**

City Court, 1884-1909.  
*Files*. Accession: 1980-002

Main Vault  
Box X-111

### **Bristol**

City Court, 1958-1960  
*Civil Cases*. Accession: 1996-020

**Off-site**  
Box 7 & 8

### **Brookfield**

City Court, 1958-1959  
*Civil Cases*. Accession: 1996-020

**Off-site**  
Box 8

### **Coventry**

City Court, 1955-1962  
*Civil Cases*. Accession: 1996-020

**Off-site**  
Box 9

### **Danbury**

City Court, 1889-1960  
*Files, 1889-1946*. Arranged numerically, (#1-1560). 3 cubic feet.  
*Files, 1884-1953*. Arranged chronologically, 16 cubic feet.  
*Civil Cases, 1959-1960*. Arranged chronologically, 1 cubic foot.  
See container list **Municipal No. 1**.

Main Vault  
& **Off-site**

### **Derby**

Town Court, 1875-1921  
*Files*. Materials are water damaged. 1 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-003  
City Court, 1957-1960  
*Civil Cases*. Accession: 1996-020

Main Vault  
Boxes X-115  
**Off-site**  
Box 10

### **East Hartford**

City Court, 1959-1960 <i>Civil Cases</i> . Accession: 1996-020	<b>Off-site</b> Box 11
<b>Enfield</b> City Court, 1959-1960 <i>Civil Cases</i> . Accession: 1996-020	<b>Off-site</b> Box 12
<b>Fairfield</b> City Court, 1960 <i>Civil Cases</i> . Accession: 1996-020	<b>Off-site</b> Box 12
<b>Glastonbury</b> City Court, 1951-1960 <i>Civil Cases</i> . Accession: 1996-020	<b>Off-site</b> Box 13
<b>Greenwich</b> City Court, 1956-1960 <i>Civil Cases</i> . Accession: 1996-020 Borough Court, 1889-1939 <i>Civil Cases</i> , 1889-1930 See container list <b>Municipal No.2</b> <i>Civil and Criminal Cases</i> , 1912-1930 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-007 <i>Warrants</i> , 1911-1913 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-007 <i>Records</i> , 1920-1939 Includes dockets and financial records. See container list <b>Municipal No. 3</b> <i>Common Bonds</i> , 1912-1918 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-007 <i>Court Clerk</i> , 1913-1914 Correspondence of clerk William P. Mulville. Accession: 1980-007 <i>Police Blotters</i> , 1925-1937 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1980-007 1925-1930 1930-1935 1935-1937	<b>Off-site</b> Box 14 Main Vault  Box 1 Box 1  Box 1  Box 1  Volume 1 Volume 2 Volume 3
<b>Groton</b> City Court, 1951-1960 <i>Civil Cases</i> . Accession: 1996-020	<b>Off-site</b> Box 14
<b>Guilford</b> City Court, 1950-1960 <i>Civil Cases</i> . Accession: 1996-020	<b>Off-site</b> Box 15
<b>Hamden</b> City Court, 1940-1960 <i>Foreclosures, 1940-1945</i> Arranged numerically by file number (#375-1083). 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1994-052 <i>Civil Cases, 1957-1960</i> Accession: 1996-020	Main Vault Box CCF-20  <b>Off-site</b> Box 16
<b>Hartford</b> City Court, 1804-1960 <i>Files, 1804-1867</i>	Main Vault

<p style="text-align: center;">Arranged chronologically, except for the year 1867 with files arranged by file number (#1-6347). 14 cubic feet. <i>Civil Cases, 1951-1960</i> See container list <b>Municipal No. 4.</b></p>	<p>&amp; <b>Off-site</b></p>
<p><b>Killingly</b> City Court, 1959-1960 <i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b> Box 19 &amp; 53</p>
<p><b>Manchester</b> City Court, 1956-1960 <i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b> Box 20</p>
<p><b>Meriden</b> City Court, 1867-1963 <i>Civil Cases, 1894-1899; 1959-1960</i> <i>Dockets, 1867-1919</i> <i>Judgements, 1879-1916</i> <i>Foreclosures, 1898-1932</i> See container list <b>Municipal No. 5.</b></p>	<p>Main Vault &amp; <b>Off-site</b></p>
<p><b>Middletown</b> City Court, 1957-1960 <i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b> Box 22</p>
<p><b>Milford</b> Town Court, 1882-1899 <i>Case Files, 1882-1960.</i> <i>1882-1899.</i> Case (#1-459). Accession: 1980-006 <i>1958-1960.</i> Chronological. Accession: 1996-020 <i>Foreclosures, 1940-1960</i> <i>1940-1960.</i> Case (#2940-4104). <i>1952-1957.</i> Case (#2433-3164). Accession: 1994-051</p>	<p>Main Vault &amp; <b>Off-site</b> Box X-131 Box 23 &amp; 53 Main Vault Box CCF 21 Box CCF 23</p>
<p><b>Monroe</b> City Court, 1954-1960 <i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: No. 96-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b> Box 53</p>
<p><b>Naugatuck</b> City Court, 1954-1960 <i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b> Box 24</p>
<p><b>New Britain</b> City Court, 1951-1960 <i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b> Box 25</p>
<p><b>New Canaan</b> City Court, 1956-1960 <i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b> Box 28</p>
<p><b>New Haven</b> City Court, 1784-1960 <i>Dockets, 1811-1833</i> <i>Writs and Summonses, c. 1784-1817</i> <i>Civil Case Files, 1785-1960</i></p>	<p>Main Vault  Main Vault</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>1785-1854, 1865-1899; 1960</i> 45 cubic feet.  <i>Foreclosures, 1877-1957.</i> 16 cubic feet.  <i>Executions, 1790-1832</i>          Arranged chronologically. Dates are not inclusive. 1.5 cubic feet.  <i>Miscellaneous Papers, 1807-1841.</i>          See container list <b>Municipal No. 6.</b></p>	<p>&amp; <b>Off-site</b>           Main Vault</p>
<p><b>New London</b>          City Court, 1784-1960          Accession: 1980-011  <i>Dockets, 1784-1819.</i> 6 vols  <i>Writs, etc., 1787-1846, 1887</i>  <i>Record Books, 1784-1870.</i> 2 volumes.  <i>Civil Case Files, 1951-1960</i>          Accession: 1996-020              Case # 1321-1575              Case # 2088-2399              Case # 2179-3093</p>	<p>Main Vault                    Box X-159          Box X-159          Box X-160  <b>Off-site</b>            Box 29          Box 30          Box 31</p>
<p><b>New Milford</b>          City Court, 1958-1960  <i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>          Box 32</p>
<p><b>Newington</b>          City Court, 1955-1960  <i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>          Box 27</p>
<p><b>Newtown</b>          City Court, 1931-1954, 1958-1960  <i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>          Box 33</p>
<p><b>North Haven</b>          City Court, 1954-1960  <i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>          Box 53</p>
<p><b>Norwalk</b>          Town Court, 1895-1860  <i>Civil Case Files, 1895-1960</i>  <i>1895-1898.</i> Arranged numerically. 5 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-012              Case No. 1-84              Case No. 85-212  <i>1959-1960.</i> Accession: 1996-020              Case No. 2127-3184              Case No. 3186-3683              Case No. 2136-3693</p>	<p>Main Vault                    Box X-161          Box X-162  <b>Off-site</b>          Box 34          Box 35          Box 36</p>
<p><b>Norwich</b>          Court of Equity, 1716  <i>Docket, November 7, 1716.</i> Accession: 1980-013          City Court, 1959-1960  <i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p>Main Vault          Box X-163  <b>Off-site</b>          Box 37</p>
<p><b>Old City</b></p>	



<p>City Court, unknown  <i>Civil Cases</i>. Accession: 1996-020  Case No. 36115-40224  Case No. 40226-41343  Case No. 41359-42899  Case No. 42990-45814</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>   Box 2  Box 3  Box 4  Box 5</p>
<p><b>Orange</b>  City Court, 1929-1960  <i>Foreclosures, 1940-1955</i>  <i>Files # 24-131</i>. Accession: 1994-050  <i>Civil Cases, 1929-1960</i>  Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p>Main Vault  Box CCF-22  <b>Off-site</b>  Box 38</p>
<p><b>Plainfield</b>  City Court, 1954-1960  <i>Civil Cases</i>. Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>  Box 53</p>
<p><b>Plainville</b>  City Court, 1957-1960  <i>Civil Cases</i>. Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>  Box 39</p>
<p><b>Portland</b>  City Court, 1954-1960  <i>Civil Cases</i>. Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>  Box 53</p>
<p><b>Putnam</b>  City Court, 1950-1960  <i>Civil Cases</i>. Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>  Box 40</p>
<p><b>Rockville</b>  City Court, 1955-1960  <i>Civil Cases</i>. Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>  Box 41</p>
<p><b>Rocky Hill</b>  City Court, 1954-1960  <i>Civil Cases</i>. Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>  Box 53</p>
<p><b>Salisbury</b>  City Court, 1954-1960  <i>Civil Cases</i>. Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>  Box 53</p>
<p><b>Seymour</b>  City Court, 1955-1960  <i>Civil Cases</i>. Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>  Box 42</p>
<p><b>Shelton</b>  City Court, 1955-1960  <i>Civil Cases</i>. Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>  Box 43</p>
<p><b>South Windsor</b>  City Court, 1929-1960  <i>Civil Cases</i>. Accession: 1996-020</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b>  Box 46</p>
<p><b>Southington</b>  City Court, 1955-1960</p>	<p><b>Off-site</b></p>

	<i>Civil Cases</i> . Accession: 1996-020	Box 45
<b>Stafford</b>	Borough Court, 1884-1892 <i>Files, 1884-1892</i> . 1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-014	Main Vault Box X-164
<b>Stafford Springs</b>	Borough Court, 1887-1916 <i>Records</i> . 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1980-014	Main Vault Box X-165
<b>Stamford</b>	Borough Court, 1883-1962 1883-1897. 9 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-015 1883-1897. Case No. 1-677. 1890-1897. Case No. 373-1349. 1896-1897 <i>1956-1962</i> Accession: 1996-060	Main Vault Box X-166 Box X-167 Box X-168 <b>Off-site</b> Box 47
<b>Stonington</b>	Town Court, 1893-1915 <i>Case Record List, 1893-1915</i> . 1 volume. <i>Unidentified Indexes, n.d.</i> 2 volumes Accession: 1980-016	Main Vault
<b>Stratford</b>	City Court, 1960 Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020	<b>Off-site</b> Box 49
<b>Suffield</b>	City Court, 1955-1960 <i>Civil Cases</i> . Accession: 1996-020	<b>Off-site</b> Box 50
<b>Thomaston</b>	Town Court, 1876-1899. <i>Civil Case Files</i> , 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1980-017	Main Vault Box X-169
<b>Torrington</b>	City (Justice) Court, 1798-1885 <i>Civil Case Files, 1798-1960</i> <i>1798-1885</i> 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1980-018 <i>1959-1960</i> 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1996-020	Main Vault Box X-170 <b>Off-site</b> Box 51
<b>Wallingford</b>	Borough Court, 1886-1943 <i>Files, 1886-1943</i> Arranged chronologically and numerically. 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-022 Case No. 1-870 Case No. 871-1120 <i>Foreclosures, 1949-1955</i> 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1994-050	Main Vault   Box X-171 Box X-172  Box CCF-22
	City Court, 1955-1960	<b>Off-site</b>

<i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020	Box 52
<b>Washington</b>	
City Court, 1954-1960	<b>Off-site</b>
<i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020	Box 53
<b>Waterbury</b>	Main Vault
City Court, 1881-1882	
<i>Minutes kept by Judge Albert Bradstreet.</i> 1 volume.	Box X-173
District Court, 1883-1895	
<i>Minutes kept by Judge Albert Bradstreet.</i> 34 volumes. & 174	Box X-173
Accession: 1980-021	
<b>Waterford</b>	
City Court, 1954-1960	
<i>Civil Cases</i>	<b>Off-site</b>
Accession: 1996-020	Box 53
<b>Watertown</b>	
City Court, 1954-1960	<b>Off-site</b>
<i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020	Box 53
<b>West Hartford</b>	
City Court, 1959-1960	<b>Off-site</b>
<i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020	
Case No. 6137-6418	Box 54
Case No. 5447-5879	Box 55
Case No. 5880-6422	Box 56
<b>West Haven</b>	
City Court, 1933-1960	
<i>Foreclosures, 1933-1954.</i>	
Chronologically and numerically. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1994-053	Main Vault
1933-1943. Case No. 757-1775.	Box CCF-17
1943-1947. Case No. 1776-2212.	Box CCF-18
1947-1954. Case No. 2213-3917.	Box CCF-19
<i>Civil Cases, 1959-1960</i>	<b>Off-site</b>
Accession: 1996-020	Box 57
<b>Wethersfield</b>	
City Court, 1953-1960	<b>Off-site</b>
<i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020	Box 58
<b>Windsor</b>	
City Court, 1942-1960	<b>Off-site</b>
<i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020	Box 59
<b>Windsor Locks</b>	
City Court, 1959-1960	<b>Off-site</b>
<i>Civil Cases.</i> Accession: 1996-020	Box 60

## **Part IV. Judges' Notes, Dockets and Drafts, 1845-1891**

### **A. Notes and Opinions, 1849-1891**

Handwritten notes concerning court proceedings, with drafts or preliminary minutes and opinions.  
In some cases, neither author nor court has been identified. 2.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1912-001

Main Vault

Fairfield Superior Court, 1863, 1865-1867, 1869, 1871-1872  
11 volumes

Box 540

Hartford Superior Court, 1863-1866, 1871, 1873  
7 volumes

Box 541

Litchfield Superior Court, 1863, 1868-1869, 1872-1873 5 volumes	Box 542
Middlesex Superior Court, 1864-1867, 1869-1871, 1874-1875 15 volumes	Box 543
New Haven County Court, 1849-1852 4 volumes	Box 544
New Haven Court of Common Pleas, 1885-1887, 1889, and 1891 7 volumes	Box 546
New London Superior Court, 1865, 1867, 1871 6 volumes	Box 545
Tolland Superior Court, 1864, 1868-1870, 1873-1874 8 volumes	Box 545
Windham Superior Court, 1864 1 volume	Box 545
<b>B. Unidentified Notes, n.d.</b> Miscellaneous. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1912-001	Main Vault Box 546
<b>C. Judge William Thomas Minor, 1868-1872</b> Superior Court of Fairfield, New Haven, New London, and Windham Counties and Fairfield County Court minutes and notes. 15 volumes. 0.5 cubic feet Accession: 1912-001	Main Vault Box 547
<b>D. Judge John Turner Wait, 1845-1876</b> Lawyer who practiced in Norwich and New London and member of Congress. 0.05 cubic feet. Accession: 1912-001	Main Vault Box 548
<b>E. Judge John Cotton Smith, 1796-1800</b> Lawyer, member of the General Assembly, member of Congress, Judge of the Superior Court, Governor. Born in Sharon, 1765, son of Rev. Cotton Mather Smith. Died in 1845. 1 volume. 0.05 cubic feet. Accession: 1912-001	Main Vault Box 549
<b>F. Judge Roger Sherman Baldwin, 1846-1862</b> Main Vault Lawyer, member of the General Assembly, Governor, United States Senator. Born New Haven, 1793. 1 volume. 0.05 cubic feet. Accession: 1913-001	Box 548

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## Part V. Justice of the Peace Courts, 1729-1936

### History

Justices of the Peace have played a vital part in the judicial system, beginning in 1686. By the end of the seventeenth century, justices were commonly authorized to take jurisdiction over small actions. As towns were incorporated, the General Assembly authorized the creation of town and borough courts in order to handle small cases. Justices of the peace presided over these courts. In 1939, the trail justice system was enacted, vesting a limited criminal jurisdiction formerly within the power of all justices of the peace in specially designated trail justices.

### Scope and Content

For the most part, these records consist of writs and dockets, and usually contain information only on the name and residence of the accused, the complaint, the trial date, the name of the justice, and a note on the service of the writ or summons. The list below is arranged alphabetically by town followed by the records' inclusive dates and total number of cubic feet of records. When known the justice's name is noted.

### Provenance

The largest accessions (1940-001 and 1940-002) were transferred from Vault 16 from the Judicial Side of the State Library and Supreme Court Building to the State Archives in 1940. Another small accession was transferred to the State Archives from the Town Clerk of Darien, CT in 1986.

### Related Materials

Researchers should also check the records of the Towns and Municipalities (RG 062) and the Manuscripts Collection (RG 069) for additional records relating to Justices of the Peace. Researchers may also find additional references in the Archives and Manuscripts Catalogue in the History and Genealogy Unit under *Courts*, *Writs*, *Justices of the Peace*, and *Warrants*.

### Series List

<b>Justice of the Peace Courts, 1729-1936</b>	Main Vault Box 548a-584
Records relating to various Justice of the Peace Courts throughout the state. Arranged alphabetically by court <sup>45</sup> . 34.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1940-001	
<b>Barkhamsted, 1849-1880</b>	Main Vault Box 548a
Justice Daniel Young. 1.25 cubic feet.	
<b>Bristol, 1799-1800</b>	Main Vault Box 549
Justice Simeon Hart, also includes Justice Solomon Whitman of Farmington. 1 volume. 0.05 cubic feet.	
<b>Burlington</b>	
See: <i>Towns and Boroughs (RG 62)</i>	
<b>Canton</b>	
See: <i>Towns and Boroughs (RG 62)</i>	
<b>Chatham, 1832-1839</b>	Main Vault

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<sup>45</sup> All materials listed are part of this single accession unless otherwise noted.

Judge Noah Brooks. 0.05 cubic feet.	Box 549
<b>Colchester, 1767-1790</b> Judge John Watrous. Includes marriages, 1770-1772. 0.05 cubic feet.	Main Vault Box 549
<b>Columbia</b> <i>See: Towns and Boroughs (RG 62)</i>	
<b>Cornwall</b> <i>See: Towns and Boroughs (RG 62)</i>	
<b>Coventry, 1729-1905</b> 1729-1796, 1845-1905. 1.5 cubic feet.	Main Vault Boxes 549 & 550
<b>Danbury, 1892-1922</b> 4 cubic feet. Accession: 1940-002 <i>1892-1896</i> <i>1896-1903</i> <i>1904-1914</i> <i>1915-1922</i>	Main Vault  Box 1 Box 2 Box 3 Box 4
<b>Darien, 1883-1907</b> 1 volume. 0.05 cubic feet. Accession: 1986-036.	Main Vault
<b>Derby, 1777-1803</b> Justice Thomas Clark. 0.05 cubic feet.	Main Vault Box 551
<b>East Haddam, 1857-1864</b> 0.05 cubic feet.	Main Vault Box 551
<b>East Windsor, 1785-1801</b> Justice Joseph Allen, 1785-1791 Justice Roswell Grant, 1798-1801 <i>See also: Roswell Grant Papers, Manuscript Collection (RG 069:053)</i>	Main Vault Box 551
<b>Farmington, 1763-1795</b> Justice Solomon Whitman. 1763-1769 <i>See also: John Treadwell Papers, Manuscript Collection (RG 069:025) and Justice of the Peace Records for Bristol, CT (above).</i> Justice Noadiah Hooker, 1777-1783, 1789-1795 0.05 cubic feet.	Main Vault Box 551
<b>Glastonbury, 1773-1796</b> Justice Elizur Hale, Jr., 1773-1796. 0.25 cubic feet. <i>See also: Jonathan Hale Transcript, 974.61 H25cs, Classified Archives (RG 000); Towns and Boroughs (RG 062).</i>	Main Vault Box 552
<b>Goshen, 1795-1820</b> 0.05 cubic feet.	Main Vault Box 553
<b>Groton, 1819-1820</b> Volume also includes Montville. 0.05 cubic feet.	Main Vault Box 553
<b>Guilford, 1810</b> <i>Conn. v. Wm. Fowler.</i> 1 document. 0.05 cubic feet.	Main Vault Box 553



- Hampton, 1795** Main Vault  
*Utley v. Utley*. 1 document. 0.05 cubic feet. Box 553
- Hartford, 1767-1884** Main Vault  
 Writs, 1767, 1824, 1825, 1884. 0.05 cubic feet. Box 553  
**See also:** *Goslee Family Papers, Manuscript Collection, (RG 069:083); Jonathan Palmer Jr. Papers, Manuscript Collection, (RG 069: 087),*
- Hartland**  
 1718-1919. **See:** *Towns and Boroughs (RG 062).*
- Killingworth, 1927-1936** Main Vault  
 0.25 cubic feet. Box 554
- Litchfield (County)**  
**See:** *Dwight D. Kilbourne Papers, Manuscript Collection (RG 069:060); Lewis and Henry Norton Papers, Manuscript Collection (RG 069:037); George Catlin Woodruff Papers, Manuscript Collection (RG 069:094); Rodger Minott Sherman, 920 Sh560, Classified Archives (RG 001).*
- Lyme, 1790-1812** Main Vault  
 Justice William Noyes, 1790-1806. 0.05 cubic feet. Box 554  
 Justice David F. Sill, 1794-1812. 0.05 cubic feet. Box 554  
**See:** *Richard Ely Selden Papers, Manuscript Collection (RG 069:086).*
- Marlborough**  
 1983-1911. **See:** *Towns and Boroughs (RG 062).*
- Mansfield, 1774-1920** Main Vault  
 1774-1825. 0.05 cubic feet. Box 555  
 1780-1835. Justice John Fitch. 24 cubic feet. Boxes 556-561  
 1803-1920. 4 cubic feet. Boxes 562-564  
 See container list: **Justice No. 1.**
- Middletown, 1790-1826** Main Vault  
 1.25 cubic feet. Boxes 564a  
 & 564b
- Montville**  
**See:** *Justice of the Peace Records, 1819-1820, Groton.*
- New Haven**  
**See:** *Wadsworth Papers, Manuscripts Collection (RG 069:052)*
- New London, 1739-1892** Main Vault  
 Justices Joshua and John Hempsted, 1739-1779. 0.05 cubic feet. Box 565  
 1763-1892. Records have not been processed. 6 cubic feet. Boxes 566 - 571  
**See also:** *Coddington Billings Papers, Manuscript Collection (RG 069:075); Roger Hurlbutt, 974.61 N44hu, Classified Archives (RG 001); Richard Ely Selden Papers, Manuscript Collection (RG 069:086); Towns and Boroughs (RG 062)*
- Newtown, 1861-1881** Main Vault  
 0.05 cubic feet. Box 573
- Norfolk, 1861-1881** Main Vault  
 0.05 cubic feet. Box 573

<b>Norwich, 1744-1760</b> Justice Isaac Huntington. 0.05 cubic feet. <b>Temporarily restricted, please see State Archives staff for details.</b>	Main Vault Box 574
<b>Pomfret, 1792-1903</b> Justice Lemuel Ingals, 1792-1811. 0.05 cubic feet. <b>Temporarily restricted, please see State Archives staff for details.</b> <b>See also:</b> <i>Towns and Boroughs (RG 62).</i>	Main Vault Box 574
<b>Preston, 1807-1934</b> Justice Jonah Witter, 1807-1818. 0.05 cubic feet. <b>See also:</b> <i>Towns and Boroughs (RG 62).</i>	Main Vault Box 575
<b>Salisbury, 1757-1850</b> 2 cubic feet. 577	Main Vault Boxes 576 & 577
<b>Saybrook, 1819</b> 1 document. 0.05 cubic feet.	Main Vault Boxes 578
<b>Sharon</b> <b>See:</b> <i>Towns and Boroughs (RG 062).</i>	
<b>Simsbury</b> <b>See:</b> <i>Towns and Boroughs (RG 062).</i>	
<b>Somers</b> <b>See:</b> <i>RG 62, Towns and Boroughs (RG 062).</i>	
<b>Southbury</b> <b>See:</b> <i>1788-1915. RG 62. Restricted due to condition.</i>	
<b>Stafford, 1796-1809</b> Justice Eleazar W. Phelps, 1796-1807. Justice Jesse Cady, 1798-1809. 2 volumes. 0.05 cubic feet.	Main Vault Box 578
<b>Stonington, 1769-1855</b> Justice Nathaniel Minor, 1769-1794. Justice Francis Sheffield, 1848-1855. 1.5 cubic feet.	Main Vault Box 579 Box 579
<b>Tolland</b> <b>See:</b> <i>Towns and Boroughs, (RG 62).</i>	
<b>Torrington, 1789-1927</b> 2 cubic feet. & 581	Main Vault Boxes 580
<b>Union, 1774-1802</b> 1774. 1 document. 0.05 cubic feet. Justice Solomon Wales. 0.05 cubic feet.	Main Vault Box 582 Box 582
<b>Wethersfield</b> <b>See:</b> <i>Towns and Boroughs (RG 62).</i>	
<b>Winchester, 1874-1888</b>	Main Vault

1874-1885. Justice George M. Carrington. 0.05 cubic feet.

Box 582

**Windham, 1729-1875**

1729-1875. 2 cubic feet.  
&584

Main Vault  
Boxes 583

Justice Jedediah Morse, 1784-1801, includes Woodstock. 0.05 cubic feet.

Box 584

**See also:** *Chester Hunt Papers, Manuscript Collection (RG 069:079).*

**Windsor Locks**

**See:** *Towns and Boroughs (RG 062).*

**Wolcott**

**See:** *Towns and Boroughs (RG 062).*

**Woodbury**

**See:** *Towns and Boroughs, (RG 62).*

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## **Part VI. Naturalization Records, 1700-1900**

Naturalization records of non-Federal courts in Connecticut were **transferred in 1984 to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) branch in Waltham, MA.** The records document naturalization proceedings that occurred in various superior courts, courts of common pleas, county district courts, and municipal courts. Included are declarations of intention, petitions for naturalization, indexes, and related materials. Pre-1906 records are primarily record and ledger books.

For a complete list of records transferred to NARA, see container list **Naturalization No. 1.**  
For a copy of the NARA finding aid please see appendix A of this guide.

The following materials are available at the Connecticut State Archives:

**Middlesex County. Superior Court**

Naturalization Hearings, c. 1880-1890  
1 volume. Photocopy

Main Vault  
Box X-104

**New London County. Superior Court**

Declaration of Intended Citizenship, 1856-1873  
1 volume. Photocopy

Main Vault

Microfilm of some materials transferred to NARA are available.  
See container list **Naturalization No. 2.**

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## Part VII. State Bar Examining Committee, 1890-1984

### History

In May, 1708, the General Court resolved that “no person, except in his own case, shall be admitted to make any plea at the bar, without being first approved of by the court before whom the plea is to be made...”<sup>46</sup> The 1750 Statutes vested the authority for appointment of attorneys in the County Courts. From 1808 to 1821, the Superior Court also exercised the power to recognize attorneys. Since the abolition of the County Courts in 1855, the Superior Court has administered the procedures under a statute enacted that year.<sup>47</sup> Since about 1890, the Bar Examining Committee has had responsibility for conducting examinations. It currently holds exams twice a year.

### Scope and Content

The records consist of correspondence, minutes and applications after 1890 as listed below. Researchers interested in admissions to the bar in the 18th and 19th centuries should consult County and Superior Court records for the appropriate jurisdiction in Part II of this guide.<sup>48</sup>

### Provenance

The Bar Examining Committee regularly transfers minutes, applications and supporting documents to the State Library.

### Restrictions

Minutes and applications less than 75 years old are restricted by an agreement with the Bar Examining Committee.<sup>49</sup> Application files over 75 years old are partially restricted. The application form is open but all letters of recommendation, regardless of age, are permanently restricted. Any questions regarding access to these materials should be directed to the State Archives staff.

### Series List

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>A. Correspondence, 1926-1937</b>  | Main Vault |
| From Treasurer concerning applications. 3 inches. Accession: 1978-004  |            |
| <b>B. Minutes, 1890-1977</b>   | Main Vault |
| Arranged chronologically. 11 volumes. Accession: 1978-001 <b>Partially Restricted.</b>   |            |
| <b>C. Applications, 1911; 1918-1984</b>  | High Attic |
| Applicants including supporting documentation, arranged chronologically by court session and then by county or by surname. 256 boxes. <b>Partially Restricted.</b><br>See container list <b>State Bar No. 1.</b> |            |

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<sup>46</sup> Colonial Record, Volume 48.

<sup>47</sup> See *General Statutes Revised to 1993*, Sec. 51-80; a good brief history is in 129 *Connecticut Reports* 52-53.

<sup>48</sup> In 1973, the New Haven County Superior Court donated historical court records to the New Haven Colony Historical Society. These records are found in the Society’s Manuscript Collection #3, “Connecticut. Superior Court. Documents for New Haven County” and include admissions to the bar (no dates given) and records of the county bar association.

<sup>49</sup> See *Agreement Between the State Library and Bar Examining Committee*, November 1990.

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## **Part VIII. Coroners, 1883-1980**

### **History**

On 20 February 1639 members of the General Court requested the Deputy “to consider of some orders concerning an inquiry into the death of any that happen either accidentally or by violence ... and present it to the next Court. . . .”<sup>50</sup> The Code of Laws adopted in May 1650 included provision that in case of any “very sudden, untimely or unnatural death, some Magistrate or the Constable of that Town shall forthwith summon a Jury of six or twelve discreet men to inquire of the cause and manner of their death, who shall present a true verdict thereof unto some near Magistrate upon their oath.”<sup>51</sup>

For more than two hundred years this arrangement changed little. A justice of the peace or a grand juror, acting as a coroner, would convene a jury to make inquiry, take evidence, and report to the court as appropriate. The files of the Superior Court and the County Courts during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries usually include some papers pertaining to “Inquest.”

The General Assembly formally established the office of coroner on 1 May 1883.<sup>52</sup> Judges of the superior court appointed one coroner for each county, on the recommendation of the state’s attorneys, for a term of three years. Each coroner then appointed a medical examiner for each town, who was to make immediate inquiry into any “sudden, violent or untimely death” or death of unknown causes. If the medical examiner could not certify that someone’s “criminal act, omission or carelessness” caused the death, he referred the matter to the coroner for inquiry. The coroner could summon a jury of six to assist him. If warranted, he referred its verdict or his report to a grand juror or a prosecuting attorney. Afterward, the coroner was to transmit inquiry records and findings to the clerk of the superior court.

In 1969, the General Assembly established a Commission on Medicolegal Investigation and an Office of the Chief Medical Examiner that reported to the commission.<sup>53</sup> The Chief Medical Examiner investigated all violent, sudden, unexpected or suspicious deaths (and other categories) and filed the findings and reports. The coroners continued to exercise their functions as before, but gradually it became evident (as it had in other states) that the office had become superfluous. In 1979, the General Assembly abolished the office of coroner on 1 October 1979.<sup>54</sup> The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner now carries out investigations and reports its findings, when appropriate, to the state’s attorney.

### **Scope and Content**

Because each county coroner’s office operated autonomously, each county managed its records in a slightly different way. Each county, however, has the following basic record series, record books, hearings (also known as coroner’s findings), case files, and administrative files. Record Books (1883-1979) arranged chronologically by date of death, includes the official copy of the medical examiners’ report and may also include a copy of the coroners’ reports or findings (if a formal inquiry into the death was held), as well as any autopsy or laboratory reports. Hearings (1898-1979) consist of the transcript of the coroner’s inquiry into the death and a copy of the coroner’s report or finding. In some cases, these materials were filed separately. In those instances, the official transcript is listed under Hearings and the report is listed under Coroners Reports. Please note that a formal inquiry was only held if the Medical Examiner believed the death was “caused by the criminal act, omission, or carelessness of any other person or persons.” Case Files (1949-1979) include police investigation reports comprised of photographs and witnesses’ testimony, coroners’ notes and reports, and copies of medical examiners’ reports and hearing transcripts. These files were established in the latter half of the twentieth century. In most deaths prior to 1960 no case file was created.

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<sup>50</sup> C.R.I., 42.

<sup>51</sup> C.R.I., 523.

<sup>52</sup> Public Acts 1883, Chapter 118.

<sup>53</sup> Public Act 699; 1969.

<sup>54</sup> Public Act 79-619.

In addition to these series, some county coroners also contained additional copies of materials that were later incorporated into the official Record Books. These series include Medical Examiner Reports, Coroners Reports, and various Laboratory Reports. In most cases these small series are duplicates. Researchers should access the record book first and check these series only if these materials are noted but not included in the record books. It is also important to note that the amount of records for each county coroner varies greatly. For example the State Archives has an almost complete set of records for the Hartford County Coroner but very little for the Middlesex County Coroner.

### Provenance

The bulk of these records arrived at the State Library as a result of a memorandum issued by the Deputy Court Administrator on 1 August 1979 directing the coroners to turn over all records except for financial materials. During the next fourteen months, the State Archives received records from various sources including former coroners, court clerk and the Court Records Center. The latest accession of materials occurred on 30 August 1995 when the Fairfield Superior Court transferred 123 volumes of records from 1883-1948.

In 1973, the New Haven County Superior Court donated historical judicial records to the New Haven Colony Historical Society. They are found in Manuscript Collection #3, "Connecticut Superior Court Documents for New Haven County." The collection includes inquests, 1790-1882, boxes 4-7 and Coroner's Reports and Inquests, 1883-1899, boxes 8-25. Researchers should contact the Society directly for access to these records.

### Restrictions

**Please note:** Records in possession of the State Library from the coroner's office are open, public records, except those records received by the coroner's office from the office of the medical examiner on or after July 1, 1970 are not available to the public through the State Library but only through the Office of the Medical Examiner. Researchers must obtain written permission from the Medical Examiner to obtain access.<sup>55</sup>

**Please note:** Due to the age, condition, and the intrinsic value of many records in this group, researchers **must use** the available microfilm or Photostat copy when designated. Archival materials including microfilm of the *Connecticut Archives* and court records are **not** available for interlibrary loan. All restricted materials will be noted in red (**Restricted**).

Materials stored at an off-site location are not available on a same day basis. Please contact the History and Genealogy reference staff for further information. All materials off-site are noted (**Off-site**).

### Container List

#### A. Fairfield County (Bridgeport), 1883-1979

##### 1. Record Books, 1883-1979

Contain medical examiner's reports, coroner's findings, pathologist's findings and laboratory reports.

1883-1948. 123 volumes. 65 cubic feet.

1948-1970. 140 volumes. 50 cubic feet. **Partially restricted**

1970-1979. Unbound materials, no index. 5.5 cubic feet. **Restricted**

See container list **Fairfield Coroner No. 1.**

**Off-site &  
Main Vault**

##### 2. Case files, 1968-1979

1954-1966. Homicide cases

Alphabetical by name of decedent. 1 box 0.5 cubic feet.

Accession: 1980-025

Main Vault

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<sup>55</sup> Opinion of Attorney General Joseph I. Leiberman to State Librarian Richard G. Akeroyd, Jr., May 4, 1987.

1977. Homicide case  
Records relating to single homicide investigation. 3 boxes, 1 rolled. Box 1-3  
2 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-026. **Restricted**
- 1968-1979. Non-homicide cases Main Vault  
Police reports, witness statements, photographs, and copies of coroner's findings and medical examiner's reports. Chronological by year of death then alphabetical by decedent's surname. 36 boxes. 36 cubic feet. **Partially restricted**  
See container list **Fairfield Coroner No. 2.**
3. Coroner's findings, 1967-1979 Main Vault  
Duplicate information from the record books. Includes a list of findings, 1964-1977. Arranged chronologically by year then alphabetically by decedent's surname. 1 box. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-025. **Partially restricted.**
4. Hearings, 1967-1979  
1908-1965. Typed transcripts of hearings. **Off-site**  
Arranged chronological by hearing date. 57 cubic feet.  
See container list **Fairfield Coroner No. 3.**
- 1967-1979. Typed transcripts Main Vault  
Arranged chronological by hearing date. 2.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-027
- 1967-1968 Box 1  
1969-1971 **Partially restricted** Box 2  
1972-1974 **Restricted** Box 3  
1975-1977 **Restricted** Box 4  
1978-1979 **Restricted** Box 5
- 1976-1979. Stenographic notes and sound tapes  
Stenographer's note books and audio tapes of hearings. 1 cubic foot. Box 6  
Accession: 1980-027. **Restricted.**
5. Laboratory reports, 1967-1979 Main Vault  
1967-1979. 1 box. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1980-028. **Partially restricted.**  
1973-1979. Reports and related papers. 1 box. 0.50 cubic feet.  
Accession: 1980-025. **Restricted.**
6. Administrative files, 1961-1979 Main Vault  
Coroners' correspondence with deputies, medical examiners, pathologists, financial records, and an "index" to files, 1883-1955. 1 box. 0.5 cubic feet  
Accession: 1980-025. **Partially Restricted.**
- B. Hartford County, 1883-1979**
1. Records, 1883-1979 Main Vault  
Contain medical examiner's reports, coroner's findings, pathologist's findings and laboratory reports. Arranged chronologically. 55.5 cubic feet.  
1883-1934. Bound volumes, 1883-1930 (**microfilm**).  
1935-1963. Unbound originals.  
1964-1979. Unbound originals. **Partially restricted**  
1947-1979. Indices to record books.  
See container list **Hartford Coroner No. 1.**
2. Hearings, 1898-1979 Main Vault  
Contains transcript of hearing (also known as Coroner's Inquiry) and copy of Coroner's Report (also known as Coroner's Findings).  
1898-1979. Types transcripts of hearings. 52.25 cubic feet. **Partially Restricted**  
1967-1979. Stenographic notes and audio tapes. **Partially Restricted.**  
See container list **Hartford Coroner No. 2.**

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 3.  | Case files, 1968-1979<br><i>1968-1979.</i> Includes files on homicide and non-homicide cases. Files contain coroners' reports, police reports, hearing transcripts, correspondence, and other related records. Arranged chronologically by death date.<br><b>Partially Restricted.</b> See container list <b>Hartford Coroner No. 3.</b>   | Main Vault                                |
| 4.  | Medical Examiner Reports, 1892-1935<br>Original handwritten reports of medical examiner to coroner, information later transcribed and put in official Record Book (see above).<br>See container list <b>Hartford Coroner No. 4.</b>  | Main Vault                                |
| 5.  | Medical Examiner Appointments, 1883-1932<br>Record book listing appointments to position of town medical examiner by the Hartford County Coroner. 1 volume. Accession: 1986-050A.  | Main Vault                                |
| <b>C. Litchfield County (Torrington), 1883-1979</b> |  |   |
| 1.  | Records, 1883-1979<br>Contains medical examiner's reports, coroner's findings, pathologist's findings and laboratory reports. Arranged chronologically by medical examiner's report. <i>1883-1944.</i> Bound volumes, 1883-1930 ( <b>microfilm</b> ). <i>1952-1979.</i> Unbound originals. 6 cubic feet. <b>Partially Restricted.</b><br>See container list <b>Litchfield Coroner No. 1.</b> | Main Vault                                |
| 2.  | Hearings, 1917-1979<br>Contains transcript of hearing (also known as Coroner's Inquiry) and copy of Coroner's Report (also known as Coroner's Findings). 7 cubic feet.<br><b>Partially Restricted.</b> See container list <b>Litchfield Coroner No. 2.</b>   | Main Vault                                |
| 3.  | Case files, 1951-1978<br>Includes files on homicide and non-homicide cases. Files contain coroners' reports, police reports, hearing transcripts, correspondence, and other related records. Arranged alphabetically by year. 19.25 cubic feet.<br><b>Partially Restricted.</b> See container list <b>Litchfield Coroner No. 3.</b>  | Main Vault                                |
| 4.  | Medical Examiner Reports, 1903-1928<br>Duplicate copies of materials in the Record Books (see above).<br>1 cubic foot. Accession: 1979-013<br>1903 April 1-1910 June 28<br>1927 January 2-1928 March 24  | Main Vault<br><br>Box 1<br>Box 2          |
| 3.  | Administrative files, 1950-1979<br>Includes correspondence, administrative papers, and reference materials.<br>1 cubic foot. Accession: 1979-009   | Main Vault<br>Box 1                       |
| <b>D. Middlesex County (Middletown), 1951-1979</b>  |  |   |
| 1.  | Records, 1963-1966;1977<br>Contains medical examiner's reports, coroner's findings, pathologist's findings and laboratory reports. Arranged chronologically by medical examiner's report. 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-015<br><i>1963 January-1964 October</i><br><i>1964 November-1965 December</i><br><i>1966 January-December</i>  | Main Vault<br><br>Box 1<br>Box 2<br>Box 3 |

- 1977 January-August **Restricted** Box 4
2. Hearings, 1967-1970 Main Vault
 

Transcripts of Coroner's Hearings. Arranged chronological by date of hearing.  
0.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-015  
*1967 January-1969 December* Box 1  
*1970 February-1971 April* **Partially Restricted** Box 2
  3. Case files, 1953-1979 Main Vault
 

Includes coroners' notes and reports, police and medical examiners' reports, laboratory reports, photographs, hearing transcripts, etc. Arranged into three groups.  
10 cubic feet. **Partially Restricted**  
See contain list **Middlesex Coroner No. 1.**
  4. Administrative files, 1951-1979 Main Vault
 

Office files including correspondence, directives, supply orders, receipts for valuables and various reports including police, toxicological and autopsy reports. 0.75 cubic feet.  
Accession: 1979-015.  
*1953-1978. Files* **Partially Restricted** Box 1  
*1951-1979. Reports* **Partially Restricted** Box 2
- E. New Haven County (New Haven), 1883-1980**
1. Record books, 1883-1979 Main Vault
 

Contains medical examiner's reports, coroner's findings, pathologist's findings and laboratory reports. Arranged chronologically. 51 cubic feet.  
*1883-1935 April.* Bound volumes, 1883-1931 (**microfilm**).  
*1935 July-1979.* Unbound originals. **Partially Restricted.**  
See container list **New Haven Coroner No. 1.**
  2. Coroner's Findings, 1975-1979 Main Vault
 

Report issued by coroner after inquiry. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-036  
**Partially Restricted** Box 1
  3. Hearings, 1962-1978 Main Vault
 

Transcripts of Coroner's Inquiry. Arranged chronologically by death date.  
**Partially Restricted.**  
See container list **New Haven Coroner No. 2.**
  4. Case Files, 1969-1979 Main Vault
 

State Police investigation files of automobile accidents only. Files contain eyewitness interviews, lab reports, medical examiner and coroner's findings, diagrams and photographs. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-033.  
*1968 January-1974 December* **Partially Restricted** Box 1  
*1976 June-1979 February* **Restricted** Box 2  
*1976 August-1979 December* **Restricted** Box 3
  5. Toxicological Reports, 1976-1980. Main Vault
 

Copies of toxicological reports. 0.25 c.f. Accession: 1979-035 **Restricted** Box 1
  6. Administrative files, 1961-1979. Main Vault
 

Correspondence and administrative instructions. 0.50 cubic feet.  
Accession: 1979-034 **Partially Restricted** Box 1
- F. New Haven County (Waterbury), 1917-1979**
1. Record books, 1917-1970 Main Vault
 

Contains medical examiner's reports, coroner's findings, pathologist's findings

and various laboratory reports. Arranged chronologically by medical examiner's report. 96 cubic feet.

*1917-1935 June*. Bound volumes. (1917-1931 **microfilm**)

*1935 July-1945 December* Unbound originals

*1945 December-1970 September* Bound volumes. **Partially restricted**

*1971 January-1979 August* Unbound originals. **Restricted**

*1917-1979*. Index

See container list **Waterbury No. 1**

2. Coroner's Findings, 1923-1935 Main Vault  
Report issued by coroner after inquiry. Copy often availed in record books.  
2 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-030  
*1923 December-1927 November* Box 1  
*1927 November-1933 September* Box 2  
*1933 September-1935 July* Box 3  
*1933-1936 Miscellaneous findings* Volume 11
3. Hearings, 1917-1979 Main Vault  
Transcripts of Coroner's Inquiry. Arranged chronologically by death date.  
**Partially restricted.** See container list **Waterbury No. 2.**
4. Case files, 1949-1979 Main Vault  
Includes police reports, photographs, hearing transcripts, coroner's notes and reports. Arranged alphabetically by year with some overlap. 25 cubic feet.  
**Partially restricted.** See container list **Waterbury No. 3.**
5. Medical Examiner's Reports, 1922-1935 Main Vault  
Duplicate copies of materials in the Record Books (see above). 2.5 cubic feet.  
Accession: 1979-030  
*1922 January-1929 June* Box 1  
*1929 June-1934 November* Box 2  
*1934 November-1935 June* Box 3
6. Toxological Reports, 1970-1975 Main Vault  
Copies of toxological reports. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-030  
**Restricted.** Box 1
7. Personal Effects, 1959-1970 Main Vault  
Receipts for valuables. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-030 Box 1
8. Administrative Files, 1919-1976 Main Vault  
Office files including correspondence, directives, supply orders, photographs and various reports including police, toxicological and autopsy reports.  
1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-030  
*1919-1936*. Financial records Box 1  
*1947-1976*. Miscellaneous correspondence. **Partially restricted.** Box 2  
*1954-1967*. Box 3  
*1968-1972*. **Partially restricted.** Box 4

#### G. New London County (New London), 1883-1979

1. Records, 1883-1969 Main Vault  
Contains medical examiner's reports, coroner's findings, pathologist's findings

and laboratory reports. Arranged chronologically by medical examiner's report.  
 1883-1935. Bound volumes (1883-1932 **microfilm**)  
 1935-1969. Unbound originals.

See container list **New London Coroner No. 1.**

- |    |   |                         |
|----|---|-------------------------|
| 2. | Hearings, 1928-1957<br>Transcripts of Coroner's Hearings. Arranged chronological by date of hearing.<br>See container list <b>New London Coroner No. 2.</b>   | Main Vault              |
| 3. | Case files, 1972-1979.<br>Includes police reports, photographs, hearing transcripts, coroner's notes and reports.<br>Arranged alphabetically. 8 cubic feet.<br>See container list <b>New London Coroner No. 3.</b>      | Main Vault              |
| 4. | Medical Examiner Reports, 1893-1935<br>Duplicate set of Medical Examiner Reports. Materials are unbound and dates are not complete.<br>See container list <b>New London Coroner No. 4.</b>                              | Main Vault              |
| 5. | Appointments, 1883-1939.<br>Record book listing appointments to position of town medical examiner by the<br>New London County Coroner. Accession: 1979-023  | Main Vault<br>Vol. 1    |
| 6. | Administrative papers, 1973-1979<br>Contains correspondence, lab reports, coroner's findings, medical examiner<br>reports and other materials generated by the Coroner's Office. 1.5 cubic foot.<br>Accession: 1979-024 | Main Vault<br>Box 1 & 2 |

**H. Tolland County (Rockville), 1883-1979**

- |    |   |                         |
|----|---|-------------------------|
| 1. | Record books, 1883-1936; 1968-1978<br>Contains medical examiner's reports, coroner's findings, pathologist's findings<br>and laboratory reports. Arranged chronologically by medical examiner's report.<br>1883-1936. Bound volumes (1883-1930 <b>microfilm</b> ).<br>1968-1978 August. Unbound originals. <b>Partially restricted.</b><br>See container list <b>Tolland No. 1.</b> | Main Vault              |
| 2. | Hearings, 1931-1969<br>Transcripts of Coroner's Hearings. Arranged chronological by date of hearing. 8 cubic feet.<br>Accession: 1979-025<br>See container list <b>Tolland No. 2</b>  | Main Vault              |
| 3. | Case files, 1964-1979<br>Includes investigation reports, autopsy and lab reports, correspondence, hearing<br>transcripts. Arranged by case number see card index listed above. 20 cubic feet. <b>Partially restricted.</b><br>See container list <b>Tolland No. 3.</b>  | Main Vault              |
| 4. | Index to Case Files, n.d.<br>Two card index files. One arranged alphabetically by deceased name, the<br>second chronologically then alphabetically. Accession: 1979-026.  | Main Vault<br>Box 1 & 2 |
| 5. | State Police Reports, 1967-1979.<br>State Police reports on untimely deaths, 1967-1979. Arranged chronologically.<br><b>Partially restricted.</b> 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-025   | Main Vault<br>Box 20    |
| 6. | Administrative files, 1964-1978.  | Main Vault              |

Includes correspondence and a form file consisting of property receipts and toxicology reports. Arranged in a roughly chronological order. 0.50 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-025 Box 1

**I. Windham County (Putnam), 1883-1979**

1. Record books, 1883-1942 Main Vault  
Contains medical examiner's reports, coroner's findings, pathologist's findings and laboratory reports . 4 cubic feet. Volumes. 1-7, 1883-1932. **(microfilm)**.  
*1883-1935 June*. Bound originals  
*1935 July-1942 June*. Unbound originals.  
See container list **Windham No. 1**.
2. Case files, 1960-1979 Main Vault  
Includes police reports, photographs, hearing transcripts, coroner's notes and reports. Arranged alphabetically. 6 cubic feet. **Partially restricted**.  
See container list **Windham No. 2**.
3. Medical Examiner Reports, 1927-1928 Main Vault  
Manuscript copies of Medical Examiner Reports (duplicate). Box 1  
0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-019
4. Hearings, 1961-1965 Main Vault  
Transcripts of Coroner's Inquiry, arranged chronologically with list. Box 1  
0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-019
5. Appointments, 1915-1963 Main Vault  
Medical examiners appointed by town. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-019 Box 1

## Judicial Records Frequently Asked Questions

### What are court records?

All types of legal documents relevant to court action including but not limited to dockets, formal decisions, rules, appointments, judges' notes and opinions, indexes, case files, record books, executions, reports, and administrative papers, as well as materials from related entities such as the State Bar Examining Committee, Coroners and Medical Examiners, County Commissioners, and Sheriffs.

### Who uses these historic records?

Researchers interested in a wide variety of subjects use the court records. For example, genealogists often find a wealth of information about their ancestors in court records. Historically a large portion of the population used the court system to settle simple civil matters like actions to collect debts in addition to obtaining a divorce or license. People interested in land boundaries find the court records useful in



determining past litigation surrounding a particular piece of property. Rights of way can also be researched using court records. Historians use court records to research a wide array of topics from the history of the judicial system in Connecticut to analyses of early race relations.

**Which courts created these records?**

*State Courts:* General Court (General Assembly), 1636-1820; Supreme Court of Errors, 1784-1901; Particular Court, 1639-1665; Court of Assistants, 1665-1711; and Superior Court, 1711-1879.

*Courts at the County Level:* (dates vary among the counties) Supreme Court of Errors, 1819-1977; Superior Court, 1711-1969; County Court, 1661-1897; Maritime Court, 1776-1787; and Court of Common Pleas, 1859-1969.

The State Library does not have records from every county’s court. See table below:

Court	Fairfield	Hartford	Litchfield	Middlesex	New Haven	New London	Tolland	Windham
Supreme Court of	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Superior Court	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
County Court	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Maritime Court	X	X	X		X	X		
Court of Common	X	X	X		X	X		X

**How do I determine which court created records relating to my research?**

It is sometimes difficult to determine which court heard a particular case, but certain basic guidelines do apply.

- 1). The approximate date of the case. It is important to know when the case was heard. The Connecticut judicial system is not static and has undergone several major organizational changes over the past 350 years. Knowing the date of the case will help determine which court most likely heard the case or at least help narrow down the possibilities.
- 2). Was the case criminal or civil? There is often not a clear cut division between the courts (some heard civil, some heard criminal, some heard both), but knowing the nature of the case can help narrow your search. The Particular Court and the Supreme Court of Errors heard early criminal cases. Later, these cases were heard by the individual county courts including the Supreme Court, Superior Court, Court of Common Pleas, and the Maritime Court. The Particular Court and the Supreme Court of Errors also heard early civil cases. The Superior Court, County Court, Court of Common Pleas, and the Maritime Court handled later civil litigation.
- 3) Once you have determined which court may have heard the individual case, the docket book is the best place to start. The volumes are arranged chronologically and occasionally indexed by name. Docket books often contain a brief case summary and the execution is often available. [Note: execution, when used here, refers to a record of when and how a writ was completed.] Researchers can also determine the exact hearing date from the docket books. Also request the Trials volume (the brief case summary) for the time period of your case if it is available. Originally, dockets and trials were put together, but in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, the courts separated them into different volumes.
- 4) With the hearing date from the docket, researchers can then request the files (also know as case files or judgments). These files include the papers received or created by the court session, but not transcripts of the proceedings.

5) In addition to files, researchers should also consult Papers by Subject. This is an artificial collection of materials removed from the main court files by library staff in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. These cases are sorted by subject and some topics include Appointments, Conservators and Guardians, Divorces, Executions, Indians, and Travel.

**What about divorce records?**

Early divorce records can be found in court files (often placed in Papers by Subject). Later cases were filed separately by some individual courts and are arranged by case number. The clerks of the court have retained the permanent dockets. Therefore, researchers must obtain docket numbers from the particular Superior Court for a case prior to requesting the file. The State Library only has divorces till the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century any divorce after that time is available at the individual court.

**Where can I find a will?**

Probate courts have jurisdiction over the estates of deceased persons, testamentary trusts, adoptions, conservators, commitment of the mentally ill, guardians of the persons and estates of minors. Please check records of the Probate Court (RG 004) for these records.

**What about modern court records?**

The bulk of the court records held by the State Archives is from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century. Early 20<sup>th</sup> century records are available at the State Library but the majority of modern records remain with the individual courts or have been transferred to the court's record center in Enfield, CT. Researchers must contact the individual clerks of the court to obtain access.

## Selected Glossary<sup>56</sup>

**APPEAL.** To resort to a superior court to review the decision of an inferior court or administrative agency.

**APPOINTMENT.** The designation of a person, by the person or person having authority therefore, to discharge the duties of some office or trust. For example the County Coroners were given the power, by statute, to appoint Medical Examiners for every town within their county.

**ASSIGNMENT.** A transfer or making over to another of the whole of any property, real or personal, in possession or in action, or of any estate or right therein.

**AUDITOR.** 1) One who checks the accuracy, fairness, and general acceptability of accounting records and statements and then attests to them. 2) An officer of the court, assigned to state the items of debit and credit between the parties in a suit where accounts are in question, and exhibit the balance.

**BAR ASSOCIATION.** An association of members of the legal profession.

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<sup>56</sup> Definitions taken from *Black's Law Dictionary* (5<sup>th</sup> Ed) 1979 and (6<sup>th</sup> Ed) 1990. Examples and other definitions (records related) provided by State Archives Staff.

**BRIEF.** A written statement prepared by the counsel arguing a case in court. It contains a summary of the facts of the case, the pertinent laws, and an argument of how the law applies to the facts supporting the counsel's position.

**CASE.** A general term for an action, cause, suit, or controversy, at law or in equity.

**CIVIL CASE.** Of or relating to the state or its citizenry. Relating to private rights and remedies sought by civil actions as contrasted with criminal proceedings.

**CLERK.** Officer of the court who files pleadings, motions, judgments, etc., issues process, and keeps records of court proceedings.

**COSTS.** 1) A pecuniary allowance, made to the successful party (and recoverable from the losing party), for his expenses in prosecuting or defending an action or a distinct proceeding within an action. 2) Fees and charges required by law to be paid to the courts or some of their officers.

**COURT CALENDAR.** A list of cases awaiting trial or other disposition; sometimes called "trail list" or "docket."

**COURT REPORTER.** A person who transcribes testimony during court proceedings, or at trial related proceedings such as depositions.

**CORONER.** Public official charged with duty to make inquiry into the causes and circumstances of any death which occurs through violence or suddenly and with marks of suspicion; i.e. unnatural death. The functions and duties of coroners have been diminished having been replaced by medical examiners.

**CORONER'S INQUEST.** An inquisition or examination into the causes and circumstance of any death happening by violence or under suspicious conditions, held by the coroner with the assistance of a jury.

**CRIMINAL.** That which pertains to or is connected with the law of crimes, or the administration of penal justice, or which relates to or has the character of crime.

**DECISION.** A determination of judicial or quasi-judicial nature. A judgment or decree pronounced by a court in settlement of a controversy submitted to it and by way of authoritative answer to the questions raised before it.

**DECLARATION.** The first of the pleadings on the part of the plaintiff in an action at law, being a formal and methodical specification of the facts and circumstances constituting his cause or actions.

**DEFAULT.** The omission or failure to perform a legal or contractual duty, e.g. the failure to appear when summoned to court.

**DEFAULT-JUDGEMENT.** Under Rules of Civil Procedure, when a party against whom a judgment for affirmative relief is sought has failed to plead (i.e. answer) or otherwise defend, he is in default and a judgment by default may be entered either by the clerk or the court.

**DEPOSITION.** Testimony of witness, taken in writing, under oath or affirmation, before some judicial officer in answer to questions or interrogatories. A transcript, word for word account, is made of the deposition.

**DISCONTINUED CASE.** The cessation of the proceedings in an action where the plaintiff voluntarily puts an end to it, either by giving notice in writing to the defendant before any step has been taken in the action subsequent to the answer, or at any other time by order of the court or a judge. A non-suit; dismissal.

**DISPOSITION.** Act of disposing; transferring to the care or possession of another. The parting with, alienation of, or giving up property. In criminal procedure, the sentencing or other final settlement of a criminal case.

**DISMISSAL.** An order or judgment finally disposing of an action, suit, motion, etc., without trial of the issues involved. Such may be either voluntary or involuntary.

**DIVORCE.** The legal separation of man and wife, effected by the judgment or decree of a court, and either totally dissolving the marriage relation, or suspending its effects so far as concerns the cohabitation of the parties.

**DOCKET.** A formal record, entered in brief, of the proceedings in a court of justice. A book containing an entry in brief of all the important acts done in court in the conduct of each case, from its inception to its conclusion. The name of “docket” or “trial docket” is sometimes given to the list or calendar of causes set to be tried at a specified term, prepared by the clerks for the use of the court and bar.

**EXECUTION.** Record of when and how a writ was completed, not to be confused with capital punishment.

**FILE.** Papers received or created by the court session. Also called judgments.

**FORECLOSURE.** A termination of all rights of the mortgagor or his grantee in the property covered by the mortgage. Procedure by which mortgaged property is sold on default of mortgagor in satisfaction of mortgage debt.

**HABEAS CORPUS.** The name given to a variety of writs having for their object to bring a party before a court or judge.

**INSOLVENCY.** The condition of a person who is insolvent; inability to pay one’s debts; lack of means to pay one’s debts.

**INQUEST.** The inquiry by a coroner or medical examiner, sometimes with the aid of a jury, into the means of death of any one who has been slain, or had died suddenly or by violence or in prison.

**JUDGMENT.** The final decision of the court resolving the dispute and determining the rights and obligations of the parties. Some county courts used the term judgments interchangeably with files meaning the official record of the proceedings.

**JURY.** A body of persons selected according to law, and sworn to inquire of certain matters of fact, and declare the truth upon evidence to be laid before them. This definition embraces the various subdivisions of juries: as grand jury, petit jury, common jury, special jury, coroner’s jury, and sheriff’s jury.

**JURIES IMPANELED.** Impanel, the act of the clerk of the court in making up a list of the jurors who have been selected for the trial of a particular cause. All the steps of ascertaining who shall be the proper jurors to sit in the trial of a particular case up to the final formation.

**LICENSE.** The permission by competent authority to do an act which, without such permission, would be illegal, a trespass, or a tort.

**MARITIME COURT.** A court exercising jurisdiction over all maritime contracts, torts, injuries, or offenses.

**MEDICAL EXAMINER.** Public officer charged with responsibility of investigating all sudden, unexplained, unnatural or suspicious deaths reported to him, including the performance of autopsies and assisting the state in criminal homicide cases. The medical examiner has replaced the coroner in many states.

**MINUTES.** A memorandum of what takes place in court, made by authority of the court.

**MITTIMUS.** 1) The name of a precept in writing, issuing from a court, directed to the sheriff or other officer, commanding him to convey to the prison the person named therein, and to the jailer, commanding him to receive and safely keep such person until he shall be delivered by due course of law. 2) Transcript of minutes of conviction and sentence duly certified by court clerk. 3) A writ enclosing a record sent to be tried in a county, it derives its name from the Latin word mittimus, “we send.”

**NATURALIZATION.** The process by which a person acquires nationality after birth and becomes entitled to the privileges of citizenship.

**NO APPEARANCE FILE.** Cases in which both parties in lawsuit failed to appear in court.

**NOTARY PUBLIC.** One who is authorized by the state or federal government to administer oaths, and to attest to the authenticity of signatures.

**PAPERS BY SUBJECT.** Materials removed from County Court and Superior Court files by State Library staff and placed into artificial subject categories.

**REASONS OF THE COURT.** An inducement, motive, or ground for action, as in the phrase “reasons for an appeal.”

**RECORD.** A written account of some act, court proceeding, transaction, or instrument, drawn up, under authority of the law, by a proper officer, and designed to remain as a memorial or permanent evidence of the matters to which it relates.

**STATE’S ATTORNEY.** An officer who represents the State in securing indictments and in prosecuting criminal cases. Also called the District Attorney or Prosecuting Attorney.

**SUMMONS.** Writ or process directed to the sheriff or other proper officer, requiring him to notify the person names than an action has been commenced against him in the court from where the process issues, and that his is required to appear, on a day named, and answer the complaint in such action.

**TAVERNER.** In old English law, a seller or wine; one who kept a house or shop for the sale of wine.

**TORT.** A private or civil wrong or injury, other than breach of contract, for which the court will provide remedy in the form of an action for damages.

**TRANSCRIPT.** An official copy of the record of proceedings in a trial or hearing. Word-for-word typing of everything that was said “on the record” during a trial.

**TRIAL.** A judicial examination, in accordance with law of the land, of a cause, either civil or criminal, of the issues between the parties, whether of law or fact, before a court that has proper jurisdiction.

**WITNESS.** A person whose declaration under oath (or affirmation) is received as evidence for any purpose, whether such declaration be made on oral examination or by disposition or affidavit.

**WRIT.** An order issued from a court requiring the performance of a specified act, or giving authority to have it done.

**WITHDRAWAL.** (of charges) A failure to prosecute by the person preferring charges-distinguished from a dismissal, which is a determination of their invalidity by the tribunal hearing them.