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
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.ctstatelibrary.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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History

First Connecticut Judicial Proceedings

The first Connecticut judicial proceedings 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.

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1 History from the State of Connecticut, Judicial Branch website at www.jud.state.ct.us.
Twentieth Century Developments

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

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.

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.

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2 Provided by the External Affairs Division, Office of the Chief Court Administrator.
1870: First Courts of Common Pleas established in Hartford and New Haven counties.

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. 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 Court5, 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.

4 Not all materials were removed to Papers by Subject. Researchers should check original files for any additional cases of interest.
5 County Courts were created in 1666 and abolished in 1855 with their functions transferred to the Superior Court.
**Justice of the Peace Courts** (1729-1936) includes writs and docketts which contain only minimal information including name and residence of the accused, the complaint, the trial date, name of the justice 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. 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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6 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
   7
   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
      1858-1861
      1861-1866
      1866-1871
      Box 1
      Box 2
      Box 3

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

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<td>1875-1881</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>1881-1888</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>1888-1893</td>
<td>7</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

Records, 1639-1665


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


974.6 C762crp Mfilm are on microfilm.

2. Files, 1665-1711

1665-1711

See: General Court (General Assembly) Files above. 1699-1706

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

**E. Superior Court, 1711-1879**

1. Records, 1711-1798

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

Vol 95

2. Executions, 1784-1798

1747-1734. See above Records of Supreme Court, container list Early Records No. 2.

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8 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.

9 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.

10 For other papers of the Superior Court, see under individual county names. The volumes cover all of the courts chronologically by session.
1784-1798. 1 volume. Accession: 1919-009

3. Reasons of Court, 1786-1797
   0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1919-010

4. Docket Books, 1798-1867
   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

5. Reports, 1800-1801
   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

6. Administrative Papers, 1760-1879
   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

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11 Acquired from various sources, these books were probably personal rather than official records.
Part II. County Courts, 1666-1969

A. Fairfield County

1. Supreme Court of Errors, 1822-1964
   a. Case notes, 1822-1824
   b. Dockets, 1841-1964
      Bridgeport. See container list Fairfield Supreme No. 1.
   c. Records, 1894-1943
      Bridgeport. 5 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-082
      1894-1912
      1912
      1923
      1933
      1943

2. Superior Court, 1711-1944
   a. Records, 1756-1939
      1756-1769
      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
      See container list Fairfield Superior Court No. 1.
   b. Files, 1712-1939
      1712-1869. Chronological then some alphabetical. 37 cubic feet.
      See container list Fairfield Superior Court No. 2.
      1869-1939. Arranged by year or term. 369 cubic feet.
      See container list Fairfield Superior Court No. 3.
   c. Papers by Subject, 1711-1799
      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
      1712-1798. .75 cubic feet. Accession: 1919-021
      1858-1908. See container list Fairfield Superior Court No. 5.
   e. Criminal Files, 1928-1944\textsuperscript{12}
      Bridgeport
      1926-1932. Prohibition and Union Activity Cases, 1 cubic foot.
      See container list Fairfield Superior Court No. 6.
      1928-1944. Arranged by date and docket number, 14 cubic feet.
      See container list Fairfield Superior Court No. 7.

\textsuperscript{12} 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.
Fairfield County

f. Defaults, 1841-1882
   1.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-066
   1841-1858
   1859-1869
   1870-1882

Main Vault

1841-1858 Vol 1
1859-1869 Vol 2
1870-1882 Vol 3

Fairfield County

f. Defaults, 1841-1882
   1.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-066
   1841-1858
   1859-1869
   1870-1882

Main Vault

1841-1858 Vol 1
1859-1869 Vol 2
1870-1882 Vol 3

g. Divorces, 1853-1940
   Records, 1853-1940. Arranged chronologically. Includes alphabetical
   name index. See container list Fairfield Superior Court No. 8.
   See also: Superior Court Files, 1869-1939
   Off-site

h. Executions, 1712-1820
   1712-1798 See Papers by Subject – Executions.
   1790-1807
   1808-1811
   1811-1819
   1819-1820
   1.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-073

Main Vault

1712-1798 Box 612
1790-1807 Vol 1 & 2
1808-1811 Vol 3
1811-1819 Vol 4
1819-1820 Vol 5

i. Foreclosures, 1884-1960
   Records, 1884-1908. 2.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-068
   1884-1892
   1896-1903
   1903-1909
   1884-1908 Vol 1
   1896-1903 Vol 2
   1903-1909 Vol 3
   1884-1908 Files, 1895-1960. See container list Fairfield Superior Court No. 9.
   Off-site

Main Vault

Vol 1 & 2

j. Judgments, 1865-1948
   3 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-071
   1865-1899
   1901-1933
   1933-1948
   1865-1933 Vol 1
   1901-1933 Box 1
   1933-1948 Box 2

k. Indexes, 1854-1939
   Plaintiff/Defendant, 1 volume. Accession: 1997-067

Main Vault

l. Court Appointments, 1861-1932
   Appointments of Deputy Sheriffs, 1861-1901, 1915-1923, 3 volumes.
   Appointments of Justices of the Peace, 1911-1932, 1 volume.
   2 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-074

Main Vault

m. Notary Publics and Commissioners, 1907-1922
   1 volume. Accession: 1997-084

Main Vault

n. State Highway Commission, 1929-1939
   Civil Cases. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1997-044
   Off-site

Box 11-28A

3. County Court, 1701-1881
   a. Records, 1702-1851
      See container list Fairfield County No. 1.

Main Vault

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

- 14 -
Fairfield County

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
   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
      One record book and one register book, 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-036
      Box 649
      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
   Alphabetical by name for vessel and subject.14 0.25 cubic feet
   Accession: 1980-036
   Box 649

5. Court of Common Pleas, 1879-1958
   a. Criminal Files, 1889-191815
      Off-site
      Bridgeport. Arranged chronologically. 13 cubic feet.
      See container list Fairfield Common Pleas No. 1.

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14 Prepared in 1980 by Patricia Q. Wall.
15 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.
Fairfield County

b. Civil Dockets, 1917-1958
   Bridgeport. Arranged chronologically with some overlap. 4 cubic feet.
   Accession: 1985-007
   September 1917-September 1947
   September 1947-September 1953
   October 1870-1920
   January 1921-September 1932
   Box 30-7B
   Box 30-8A
   Box 30-8B
   Box 30-9A

   Off-site

   c. Discontinued Cases, 1899-1943
      Bridgeport. 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1985-007
      1899-1943
      1918-1921
      Box 30-9A
      Box 30-9B

   Off-site

   d. Daily Blotters (Entries), 1904-1977
      2 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-070
      1904-1956
      1957-1977
      Box 1
      Box 2

   Main Vault

   e. Default, 1870-1909
      2 cubic feet. Accession: 1997-083
      1870-1876
      1876
      1880
      1888
      Vol 1
      Vol 4
      Vol 8
      Vol 11

   Main Vault

   f. Disposition of Liquor, 1929-1931
      1 volume. Accession: 1997-080

   Main Vault

   g. Appeals, 1907-1975
      Logs, 1941-1960 and Appeals to the Supreme Court, 1907-1975.
      1 volume. Accession: 1997-085

   Main Vault

   h. Foreclosures, 1880-1903
      1 cubic foot. Accession: 1997-081
      1880
      1885
      1891
      1900
      1903
      Vol 7
      Vol 10
      Vol 12
      Vol 14
      Vol 15

   Main Vault

6. County Commissioners, 1889-1937
   Minutes and records, 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1997-072

Main Vault

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16 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).
Fairfield and Hartford Counties

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

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
         1890-1977. Chronological by case number.17 104 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
   c. Correspondence, 1848-1890
      Judges. 0.05 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-003
   d. Records, 1820-1935
      2 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-081
      1894-1925
      1925-1935

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17 There are no cases for the years 1943-1964.

- 17 -
Hartford County

e. Transcripts, 1969-1973
   Case number 6363, State vs. Vernard, 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-083

f. Decisions, 1894-1946
   3 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-077
      1894-1925
      1926-1935
      1935-1940
      1940-1946

h. Statistical reports, c. 1965-1959
   1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-082

i. Hartford Housing Authority, 1950-1955
   Building files, 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-080

2. Superior Court, 1711-1969
a. Records, 1798-1952
   1798-1827. 5 volumes. 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-002
      1798-1804
      1804-1810
      1810-1816
      1817-1821
      1821-1827
   1830-1952. 44 cubic feet.
      Also includes Criminal Records, 1875-1942. 8 cubic feet.
      See container list Hartford Superior No. 1.

b. Files, 1711-1899
   Chronological until 1874, then by case number. 298 cubic feet.
   See container list Hartford Superior No. 2.
   See also: Civil Cases.

   See also: Papers by Subject.

   See container list Hartford Superior No. 3.
Hartford County

d. Executions, 1711-1820
   1711-1749
      Main Vault
      1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-012
      1711-1719. A-Z
      1720-1729. A-V
      1720-1729. W-Z
      1730-1739. A-Z
      1740-1749.
      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
     Main Vault
     1713-1780
     1781-1806
     Vol 1
     1806-1811
     Vol 2
     1812-1819
     Vol 3
     1820-1826
     Vol 4
     1827-1833
     Vol 5
     1834-1839
     Vol 6
     1840-1844
     Vol 7
     1845-1849
     1855-1897 Printed dockets in chronological order, 1 cubic foot.
     Main Vault
     Accession: 1932-010.
     1855-1943 Chronological order, 33 cubic feet.
     Off-site
     Includes Criminal Dockets, 1894-1900.
     See container list Hartford Superior No. 5.
h. Criminal Files, 1848-1945

Chronological, then by file number. 27 cubic feet.

Main Vault

See container list Hartford Superior No. 6.

Off-site


1923-1924. Case numbers 511-5989. 1 cubic foot.


i. Civil Cases, 1899-1945

Chronological then by case number (#9881-74819), 293 cubic feet.

See container list for Hartford Superior No. 7.

Off-site

j. Hartford Circus Fire Settlement, 1944-1946

Arbitration Agreements, 1944-1946

Main Vault

Signed arbitration agreements and awards for victims of the Circus Fire.


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

Includes highway and redevelopment projects. Chronological. 26 cubic feet

Off-site

See separate container list for Hartford Superior No. 9.

l. Insolvent Debtors’ Petitions, 1829-1841

1 volume, 0.25 cubic feet, Accession: 1932-032

Main Vault

m. Withdrawn/Discontinued, 1942-1946

By case number, 4 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-075

Off-site

1942, File# IJ-171J

1942, File# 172J-369J

1943, File# 370J-560J

1943-1946, File# 561J-688J

n. Depositions, c. 1910-1959

Chronological, 8 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-059

Off-site

1910-1920

1930

1940-1943

1940

1940-1950

1950

1950

14-15A

14-15B

14-16A

14-16B

14-17B

14-17A

14-18A

14-18B

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18 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.

19 For an alphabetical list of claimants and their respective case numbers see Appendix 1 of this guide.
Hartford County

o. Notary Public, 1871-1953, 1957\(^{20}\)
   10.25 cubic feet. See container list for Hartford Superior No. 10.

p. Costs, 1890-1969
   Volumes relating to various aspects of court costs. 4 cubic feet.
   1890-1924 Cash (Volumes), Accession: 1987-055
   1901-1910 Cash Ledgers, Accession: 1987-063

q. Financial, 1947-1955

r. Insolvencies, 1829-1841
   0.5 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-056 See also Papers by Subject.

s. Court Calendars, 1904-1912
   Volumes for years 1904, 1909, and 1912 .5 cubic foot.
   Accession: 1987-056

Hartford County

\(^{20}\) There are several gaps in the dates. See the container list.
Hartford County

z. Transcripts, c. 1920-1968  
   1920-1940. Testimony. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-074  
   1945. Case #16831, 1 volume  
   n.d. Case #27696  
   Off-site  
   Box 17-03A

aa. Habeas Corpus, c. 1930-1969  
   State Cases, alphabetical. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-065  
   Off-site  
   Box 1

ab. Juries, 1918, 1932-1947  
   Charges to the jury from the judge. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-069  
   Off-site  
   Box 16-49B

ac. Foreclosures, 1875-1960  
   West Hartford, 1924-1951, 42 cubic feet.  
   See separate container list Hartford Superior No. 11.

ad. Unassigned Items, 1875-1970  
   1960. Dead cases.  
   1951-1958. Case #19396  
   Off-site  
   Box 15-69A

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  
      & Probate  
      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.  
      Hartford Probate Court Record Book microfilms, L.H. 184-85. Reel 663.  
      1687-1688. Court of Sessions and the Inferior Court of Pleas of Hartford  
      Main Vault  
      County during the administration of Sir Edmond Andros. Published as  
      Records of the Particular Court of the Colony of Connecticut.  
      Administration of Sir Edmond Andros, Royal Governor, 1687-1688, A.E.T.  
      (Annie Elliot Trumbull), ed. Hartford: 1935. 974.61 H25cs. 0.5 cubic feet.  
      1706-1717, 1719-1763, 1771-1774, 1798-1855. Includes executions,  
      Main Vault  
      deputations, and county commission minutes. The last volume includes  
      tax levy meeting records, 1858-1881, and railroad appraisal proceedings, 1869-1871. 21  
      29 volumes. 7 cubic feet.  
      See separate container list Hartford County No. 1.

   b. Defaults, 1775-1855  
      Chronological. 19 volumes. 3.50 cubic feet.  
      See container list Hartford County No. 2.

21 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.
Hartford County

c. Dockets, 1754-1855  
   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 Hartford County No. 3.

d. Executions, 1744-1855  
   1744-1829. Chronological. 16 volumes. 2.5 cubic feet.  
   1750-1855. Chronological by decade then alphabetical. 40 cubic feet.  
   See container list Hartford County No. 4.

e. Taverners, 1800-1860  
   0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-016  
   1796-1799. See above County Court Dockets.  
   1800-1816. Chronological by year.  
   1816-1861. Chronological by year.  

f. Auditors, 1804-1841  
   1 volume. 0.25 cubic feet Accession: 1932-017

g. Appeals, 1798-1855  
   0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-018  
   1798-1809. Chronological by year.  
   1809-1820. Chronological by year.  
   1820-1835. Chronological by year.  
   1836-1854. Chronological by year.  

h. Pension Applications, 1820-1832  
   Revolutionary War veterans, alphabetical list. 0.25 cubic feet.  
   1820-1832. A-G. 
   See also Papers by Subject.

i. Files, 1713-1855  
   271 cubic feet.  
   See separate container list Hartford County No. 5.  
   1860-1940. Miscellaneous court materials, 0.25 cubic feet.  
   Accession: 1987-023B  
   Box 1

j. Costs, 1718-1815  
   7 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-022  
   1718-1758  
   1759-1767  
   1768-1775  
   1776-1786  
   1787-1794  
   1795-1802  
   1803-1809  
   1809-1816  
   1817-1832  
   1833-1855  
   Box 467  
   Box 468  
   Box 469  
   Box 470  
   Box 471  
   Box 472  
   Box 473  
   Box 474  
   Box 475  
   Box 476

22 Duplicate copies, bound as Volumes 106-107, catalogued as manuscripts under 345.42 fC752.
Hartford County

k. Papers by Subject, 1715-1855

Probate
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; Insolvent; Jurors, 1718-1855; Licenses, 1750-1855; Meeting House, 1749-1855; Militia, 1717-1782; Miscellanea and "Unsortable;" Partition Land, 1715-1855; Travel, 1718-1855. 25 cubic feet. See separate container list Hartford County No. 6.

l. Notes on Cases, 1811
Also contains New London County Court miscellaneous papers. 0.25 inch. Accession: 1951-001

4. Maritime Court, 1776-1783
a. Files, 1776-1783
Numerical order, 1 cubic foot, Accession: 1980-037

Originals restricted, photocopy available.
1776-1783. Files 1-824.
1776-1783. Files 825-1336.
1776-1783. Files 825-1336.

Index. 24 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

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.

b. Dockets, 1869-1910
72 volumes, 24.5 cubic feet.

See container list Hartford Common Pleas No. 2

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

23 Received with “the Turner Papers” from Mr. A.C. Bates in 1951.
24 Prepared in 1980 by Patricia Q.Wall. (Box 1)
Hartford County

d. Judgments, 1901-1965  
   Chronological, 55 volumes, 42 cubic feet.  
   See container list Hartford Common Pleas No. 3.

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

f. Account Ledgers, 1859-1905  
   1859-1870. Charles E. Fellowes, court clerk. 0.25 cubic feet  
   Accession: 1932-040  

g. Jurors, 1906-1907  
   1 volume. Accession: 1987-051

6. Unidentified Court, 1888-1908  
   Financial records. 2 volumes. Accession: 1987-092  
   1901-1904. Account Book.  

   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.  
   1905. Criminal Files.  
   1910-1920. Bonds for Liens  
   1910-1940. Election Cases.

8. County Commissioners, 1890-1950  
   Records, 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-085  
   Box 1 & 2

9. County Detectives, 1920-1930  
   Files, 15 cubic feet. Accession: 1987-086  
   See container list Detectives No. 1.

10. Licenses, 1933-1937  
    Unnumbered volumes for each of the following years, 1933, 1935, 1937. Accession: 1987-087

25 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).
Hartford and Litchfield Counties

11. Life Insurance Companies, n.d.
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
Case files, 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1987-052

C. Litchfield County

1. Supreme Court of Errors, 1853-1880
Miscellaneous papers consisting primarily of Sheriff’s bills for court attendance, with a few orders for copies of court records. 0.50 inch. Accession: 1927-019

2. Superior Court, 1752-1945
   a. Files, 1752-1927
      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.
   b. Criminal Files, 1866-194526
      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
      Chronological then alphabetical. 24 feet.
      See container list Litchfield Superior No. 3.
   d. Executions, 1772-1891
      1793-1797. Register kept by John Cotton Smith. Accession: 1927-005
      1772-1798. Chronological than alphabetical.
      1853-1891. Chronological then alphabetical. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1927-006
      1853-1859. A-Z
      1870-1891. H-Z
      See container list Litchfield Superior No. 4.
   e. Depositions, 1830-1915
      Chronological. 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1927-007
      1830-1865
      1866-1877
      1878-1889
      1890-1897
      1897-1899
      1900-1915

26 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.

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RG003_Judicial_Dept.doc
Litchfield County

f. Papers by Subject, 1751-1920
   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 Received Bills, 1808-1816; Partition
   Land, 1752-1915; Received 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.

   Main Vault

   g. Dockets, 1752-1909
      1752-1798. 3 inches, Accession: 1927-009
      1798-1909. Criminal and Civil Dockets, 26 volumes
      See container list Litchfield Superior No. 5.

      Main Vault

   h. Short Calendar, 1898-1906
      0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1928-002
      1898 March- 1902 February
      1902 March- 1906 February
      Vol 1
      Vol 2

      Main Vault

   i. Clerk's Receipts, 1900-1905
      Chronological. 1 volume. Accession: 1928-012

      Main Vault

   j. Cost Books, 1833-1903
      Includes both the Superior and County Courts. 11 volumes
      See container list Litchfield Superior No. 6.

      Main Vault

   k. Juries Impaneled, 1884-1899
      1 cubic foot. Accession: 1928-004
      1884 April-1887 April
      1887 June-1890 May
      1890 June-1893 November
      1894 April-1895 June
      1895 October-1899 April
      Vol 1
      Vol 2
      Vol 3
      Vol 4
      Vol 5

      Main Vault

   l. Case Notes, 1932-1933
      Case notes relating to criminal trials under Judge Ernest A. Inglis. 1 volume Accession: 1928-011

      Main Vault

   m. Liquor Licenses, 1897-1903
      Liquor Licenses, 1897-1903. 1 volume
      Appeal by Julius Scoville regarding liquor license, July 1903. 1 volume
      Accession: 1928-010

      Main Vault

   n. Index to Records, 1855-1887
      August 1855-June 1887. 1 volume. Accession: 1928-005

      Main Vault
Litchfield County

3. County Court, 1751-1897
   a. Index to Records, 1751-1855
      Chronological order, 11 volumes.
      See container list Litchfield County No. 1.
   b. Records, 1751-1855
      1751-1855. Chronological. 22 volumes.
      See container list Litchfield County No. 2.
   c. Files, 1751-1855
      Chronological then alphabetical. 180 cubic feet.
      See separate container list Litchfield County No. 3.
   d. Discontinuances, 1831-1855
      Alphabetical order. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1928-017.
   e. Executions, 1768-1855
      1768-1820. Chronological. 5 volumes
      1795-1855. Chronological then alphabetical. 8 cubic feet.
      See container list Litchfield County No. 4.
   f. Jurors, 1751-1855
      Alphabetical by town. 4 cubic feet. Accession: 1927-014
      1754-1854. Barkhamsted-Litchfield
      1756-1854. Litchfield-Roxbury
      1754-1854. Salisbury-Woodbury
      1753-1801. Meetinghouse
   g. Papers by Subject, 1751-1855
      Includes Admissions to the Bar, 1796-1855; Appointment of Officers;
      Confiscated Estates and Loyalists, n.d.; Conservators and Guardians, 1751-1855;
      Costs, 1765-1854; Court Expense, 1821-1854; Indians, 1835-1837; Inquests,
      1810; Insolvents, 1764; Licenses, 1751-1839; Meeting House, 1753-1855;
      Militia, 1758-1777; Miscellaneous; Travel, 1800-1855. 21 cubic feet.
      Original Native American materials restricted. Photocopies available for
      research.
      See container list Litchfield County No. 5.
   h. Papers by Subject, Travel, 1769-1829
      Materials separated from Papers by Subject.
      1.5 cubic feet Accession: 1927-013
      1757-1801; Index 1796-1860
      1802-1809
      1809-1908
   i. Dockets, 1759-1855
      1709-1855. Chronological. 19 volumes.
      See container list Litchfield County No. 6.
      1759-1790. These dockets were used to wrap the County Court Files
      transferred to the State Library in 1927. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1927-018.
Litchfield County

j. Appeals, 1798-1854
   Chronological. 5 volumes. Accession: 1928-022.
   1798 September-1808 December Vol 1
   1809 March-1816 December Vol 2
   1817 March-1829 September Vol 3
   1829 December-1838 October Vol 4
   1838 December-1854 October Vol 5

k. Defaults, 1798-1855
   Chronological. 16 volumes.
   See container list Litchfield County No. 7.

l. Notaries Public, 1871-1897
   Chronological. 3 volumes. Accession: 1928-024
   1871 November-1880 January Vol 1
   1880 January-1889 January Vol 2
   1889 January-1897 January Vol 3

m. Cost Books, 1833-1855
   County court cost books included with Superior Court Cost Books.
   See separate container list Litchfield Superior No. 6.

n. Liquor Licenses, 1879-1903
   1 volume. Accession: 1928-023

4. Maritime Court, 1782-1787
   Papers. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1927-016

5. District Court, 1872-191227
   Files, 1872-1912. Chronological. 10 cubic feet.
   See container list Litchfield District No. 1.

   Files from Circuit Court No. 18 held at Torrington. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1996-020
   1971-1973
   1962-1968
   1968-1972

6. Court of Common Pleas, 1877-1949
   a. Files, 1877-1926
      Arranged by case number (#40 – 4399). 64 cubic feet
      See container list Litchfield Common Pleas No. 1.

   b. Criminal Cases, 1927-194628
      Numerical by case number (#1-754). 11 cubic feet.
      See container list Litchfield Common Pleas No. 2.

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27 Established in 1872; succeeded in 1883 by the Court of Common Pleas.
28 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.
Litchfield & Middlesex Counties

c. Civil Cases, 1906-1949
   Numerical by case number (#1972; #4902-8264). 9.5 cubic feet.
   See container list Litchfield Common Pleas No. 3.

D. Middlesex County
   1. Supreme Court of Errors, 1819-1934
      Records. 1 volume. Accession: 1932-056
      Main Vault

   2. Superior Court, 1786-1958
      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
         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

      d. Papers by Subject, 1786-1797
         Includes Costs; Court Expenses; Divorces (microfilm); 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 Middlesex Superior No. 1.

      f. Executions, 1772-1896
         Chronological. 6 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-050
         1772-1828
         1829-1844
         1845-1859
         1860-1872
         1873-1881
         1882-1896
         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 Middlesex Superior No. 2.

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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.
Middlesex County

h. Dockets, 1785-1933
   3 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-051
   1785-1810 Manuscript dockets in chronological order.
   1856-1933
   Printed dockets in chronological order.
   1856-1887
   1888-1907
   1908-1933
   1805-1819; 1821-1822 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 I

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. 30 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
   Main Vault
   Box 105
   Box 106
   Box 107
   Box 108
   Box 109
   Box 110

m. Sworn Witnesses, 1936-1958
   2 cubic feet. Accession: 1958-001
   1936 May-1948 October
   1948 October-1958 August
   Main Vault
   Vol 4
   Vol 5

n. Depositions, 1800-1906
   0.5 cubic feet. See container list Middlesex Superior No. 3.
   Main Vault

3. County Court, 1785-1855
   a. Judgments, 1785-1855
      1785-1855  Chronological then alphabetical. 5.5 cubic feet
      Partially restricted. See container list Middlesex County No. 1.
      6 volumes. Accession: 1932-067
      1800 December-1812 November
      1813 January-1819 October
      1820 March-1826 April
      Main Vault
      Vol 1
      Vol 2
      Vol 3

30 Original is located at the Federal Records Center in Waltham, MA.
Middlesex County

1826 June-1837 January  
1837 October-1854 April  
1854 April-1855 April

Vol 4  
Vol 5  
Vol 6

b. Defaults, 1785-1855
   1785-1855. Chronological then alphabetical. 8 cubic feet.  
   Partially restricted. See container list Middlesex County No. 2.
   Accession: 1932-61  
   1807-1855. Chronological order. 4 volumes. Accession: 1932-063  
   1807 November-1815 September  
   1815 September-1820 September  
   1820 September-1833 October  
   1833 October-1855 April

Main Vault  
Box 2  
Box 3  
Box 4  
Box 5

c. No Appearance Files, 1785-1855
   Chronological then alphabetical. 5 cubic feet.  
   See container list Middlesex County No. 3.

Main Vault

d. Executions, 1789-1832
   1789-1832. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1932-065  
   1800-1820. Chronological order, 3 volumes. Accession: 1932-070  
   1800 December-1811 March  
   1811 March-1819 January  
   1816 October-1820 May

Main Vault  
Box 56  
Vol 1  
Vol 2  
Vol 3

e. Papers by Subject, 1785-1855
   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.

Main Vault

f. Dockets, 1785-1855
   Chronological. 16 volumes.  
   See container list Middlesex County No. 5.

Main Vault

g. Appeals, 1810-1852
   Chronological order, 3 volumes. Accession: 1932-061  
   1800 December-1810 March, includes defaults.  
   1810 November-1835 October  
   1835 October-1852 April

Main Vault  
Vol 1  
Vol 2  
Vol 3

h. Account Book, 1788-1829
   1 volume. Accession: 1932-060

Main Vault
E. New Haven County

1. Superior Court, 1712-194431
   a. Dockets, 1713-1874
      1713, 1723-1798. Manuscript dockets. 0.25 cubic feet.
      1798-1874. Printed dockets, chronological order. 26 volumes.
      See container list New Haven Superior No. 1.
      1855 October-1859 October
      1859 December-1865 September
      1865 October-1872 May
   b. Papers by Subject, 1712-1900
      1712-1798. 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.
      1798-1900. Includes Admission to the Bar; Bonds; Court Expenses; Inquests; Jurors; Miscellaneous; Naturalization; Partition Land; Protections; and Revolutionary Pensions. 1 cubic foot.
      See container list New Haven Superior No. 2.
   c. Files, 1712-1798
      Chronological. 6 cubic feet.
      See container list New Haven Superior No. 3.
   d. Judgments (Civil Case Files), 1798-1944
      1798-1899. Chronological. 67 cubic feet.
      See separate container list New Haven Superior No. 4.
      1900-1944. Chronological then alphabetical by last name. 265 cubic feet.
      See container list New Haven Superior No. 5.
   e. No Appearance Files, 1808-1900
      1808-1900. Chronological then alphabetical. 17.5 cubic feet.
      See container list New Haven Superior No. 6.
      1875-1887. Alphabetical. 4 cubic feet.
      See container list New Haven Superior No. 7.
   f. Criminal Files, 1797-194532
      New Haven
      1797-1899. Chronological then alphabetical. 96 cubic feet.
      See separate container list New Haven Superior No. 8.
      1900-1945. Chronological by file number (#1-7960). 28 cubic feet.
      See container list New Haven Superior No. 9.

31 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.
32 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, same gaps may exist within this record series.

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New Haven County

Waterbury

See container list New Haven Superior No. 10.

g. Appeals, 1783-1798
Lists of Appeals from County Court. Accession: 1925-013
Box 699

h. Executions, 1800-1872
Alphabetical. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1925-013
1800-1836. A-Z
1837-1847. A-Z
1848-1854. A-Z
1855-1857. A-Z
1858-1865. A-Rey
1858-1865. Ric-Z
1866-1872. A-Z
Box 699
Box 700
Box 701
Box 702
Box 703
Box 704
Box 705

i. Travel, 1798-1900
Alphabetical. 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1925-013
A-D
Box 705
E-M
Box 706
Mil-New
Box 707
New
Box 708
New-Woo
Box 709

j. Insolvents, 1798-1896
1798-1839. A-Z
1840-1896. A-Z
Box 710
Box 711
Box 712
Box 713

k. Divorces, 1712-1900
Researchers must use microfilm. 18 cubic feet.
See container list New Haven Superior No. 11.

l. Assignments, 1838-1844
1774-1797. List of assignments, incomplete. Accession: 1925-013
1838-1844. Includes records for both Superior and County Court.
1 volume. Accession: 1925-017
Vol 1
Box 699
Box 700
Box 701
Box 702
Box 703
Box 704
Box 705

2. County Court, 1666-1862

a. Dockets, 1749-1855
1749-1855. Chronological order. 20 volumes.
See container list New Haven County No. 1.
1832-1837. Private docket of Samuel J. Hitchcock, New Haven. 1 volume.
Accession: 1925-015

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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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RG003_Judicial_Dept.doc
b. Executions, 1700-1855
   1764-1820. Chronological. 6 volumes.
   1700-1855. Chronological. 12 cubic feet.
   See container list **New Haven County No. 2.**

c. Assignments, 1838-1844
   Includes records for both County and Superior Court. 1 volume.
   Accession: 1936-002

d. Reports of Cases, 1838-1841
   Narrative of selected trials by unknown author. Accession: 1936-003
   1838 June-November Vol 1
   1840 March-April. Includes Naturalization records. Vol 2
   1840 November Vol 3
   1841 November-December Vol 4

e. Records, 1666-1862
   See container list **New Haven County No. 3.**
   Includes Appointments and Reports of Conservators, Rules, Jail Limits,
   Appointment of States Attorney, Tax Collector, Deputy Sheriffs, Inspectors and County
   Surveyors, Tanners Licenses, and Appointment and Accounts of Overseers of Turkey Hill

f. Defaults, 1841-1855
   1 volume. Accession: 1936-004
   Vol. 25

g. Trials and Appeals, 1841-1855
   1 volume. Accession: 1936-004
   Includes separate index.
   Vol. 26

h. Equity Records, 1773-1855
   1773-1821. 1 volume. Accession: 1936-005
   1841-1855. 1 volume. Accession: 1936-004
   Includes separate index.
   Vol. 1
   Vol. 27

i. Files, 1700-1855
   128 cubic feet. See container list **New Haven County No. 4.**

j. Papers by Subject, 1700-1855
   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.
   25 cubic feet.
   See separate container list **New Haven County No. 5.**
New Haven and New London Counties

k. Summonses, 1774-1792
   Packet in box of Superior Court records. Contains mostly County Court
   summonses but also includes summonses to City and Superior Court.

3. Maritime Court, 1776-1783
   a. Files, 1776-1783
      Divided into two categories: libels against goods, libels against ships.
      **Original restricted, researchers must use photocopy.**
      1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-035

   b. Index to Files
      Alphabetical by name, subject and vessel.³⁴ A second copy is in the
      classified manuscript collection as 974.61 N42w. 0.25 cubic feet.
      Accession: 1980-035

4. Court of Common Pleas, 1869-1945
   a. Withdrawn Cases, 1869-1924
      Chronological order. 35 cubic feet.
      See container list New Haven Common No. 1.

   b. Cases Stricken from Docket, 1891-1909
      Chronological. 12 cubic feet.
      See container list New Haven Common No. 2

   c. Judgments, 1869-1945
      Chronological. 146 cubic feet.
      See container list New Haven Common No. 3.

F. New London County
1. Supreme Court of Errors, 1819-1952
   a. Trials, 1819-1864
      Records. 1 volume. 0.25 cubic feet
      Item #24

   b. Files, 1819-1952
      1819-1889. Chronological. 2.25 cubic feet.
      1901-1932. Chronological. 8.75 cubic feet.
      1932-1952. Chronological. 7.25 cubic feet
      See container list New London Supreme No. 1.

   c. Dockets, 1819-1875
      0.25 cubic feet, Accession: 1932-059

   d. Court Expense Papers, 1819-1874
      0.25 cubic feet, Accession: 1932-059

   e. Travel Papers, 1831-1847
      0.25 cubic feet, Accession: 1932-059

³⁴ Prepared in 1975 by Patricia Q. Wall.
New London County

2. Superior Court, 1711-1969
   a. Trials, 1798-1874
      1798-1874. Chronological. 14 volumes, 8 cubic feet
      See container list New London Superior No. 1.

   b. Defaults, 1853-1881
      1853-1881. Chronological. 3 volumes. Including Index from 1853-1875.
      1.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-005

   c. Insolvency Cases, 1833-1841
      1 volume. 0.25 cubic feet.
      Accession: 1921-006

   d. Declaration of Intended Citizenship, 1856-1873
      Photocopy. August 1856-1873. 1 volume\(^{35}\) 0.25 cubic feet
      Accession: 1921-007

   e. Dockets, 1713-1919
      1713-1835. Manuscript dockets, chronological order. 0.75 cubic feet.
      Accession: 1921-003
      1836-1919. Chronological. 33 volumes. 8 cubic feet.
      1855-1891. Printed dockets. Chronological. 9 volumes. 2 cubic feet.
      See container list New London Superior No. 2.

   f. Files, 1711-1891
      1711-1875. Chronological. 47.25 cubic feet.
      1875-1891. Chronological. 15 cubic feet.
      See container list New London Superior No. 3.

   g. Criminal Cases, 1868-1907\(^{36}\)
      1868-1901. Files. 5 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-041
      1868-1881
      1881-1885
      1885-1889
      1889-1895
      1895-1901
      1879-1881. Criminal decisions. 1 volume. 1.25 cubic feet.
      Accession: 1921-009
      1899-1907. Bill of costs. 2 volumes. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-010
      1899-1900
      1901-1907

   h. Passport Lists, 1942-1944
      1942 August 13-1944 June 30. 1 volume. 0.25 cubic feet Accession: 1945-002

\(^{35}\) Original records located at the Federal Regional Archives in Waltham, MA.

\(^{36}\) 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.
New London County

i. Papers by Subject, 1711-1900
   Main Vault
   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) (microfilm);
   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.
   Original Native American materials restricted. Photocopies available for research.
   See separate container list New London Superior No. 4.
   For Indian Papers see separate container list New London Superior No. 4a.

j. Civil Case Files, c. 1850-1969
   Main Vault & Off-site
   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.
   See container list New London Superior No. 5.

k. Discontinuance/Withdrawn, 1892-1955
   Main Vault
   1892-1955. Chronological. 2 boxes. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1985-042
   Box 1
   1892-1899
   1900-1955
   Box 2

l. Dissolutions of Corporations, 1917-1956
   Main Vault
   1917-1956. Chronological. 1.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1985-043
   October 1917- March 1931
   Box 1
   April 1931- April 1939
   Box 2
   May 1939- April 1945
   Box 3
   May 1945- April 1956
   Box 4

m. County Jail Warrants, 1881-1896
   Main Vault
   1881-1896. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-013
   Box 1

n. Special Police Appointments, 1908-1942
   Main Vault
   1908-1942. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1985-044
   Box 1

o. Justice of the Peace, 1797-1935
   Main Vault
   Oaths, 1797-1935. 1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1985-045
   1797-1868
   Box 1
   1868-1887
   Box 2
   1888-1935
   Box 3

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
      1 volume. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-015
         Main Vault

   b. Trials, 1661-1855
      1661-1855. Chronological order, includes index. 35 volumes. 8.5 cubic feet.
      The first six volumes available on microfilm (345.42 - fC752et LH 4416/17).
      There is a partial card index in the HG Reading Room. See container list New London County No. 1.
      Main Vault

   c. Judgments, 1850-1855
      1850 November-1855 July. 1 volume. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-017
         Main Vault

   d. Dockets, 1730-1855
      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.
         Main Vault

   e. Defaults, 1809-1847
      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
         Main Vault

   f. Executions, 1782-1820
      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
         Main Vault

   g. Appeals, 1809-1855
      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
         Main Vault

   h. Files, 1691-1855
      Chronological. 197 boxes. 98 cubic feet.
      See container list New London County No. 3.
         Main Vault
New London County

i. Papers by Subject, 1693-1855

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; 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


Name Index (alphabetical by name subject and vessel)39 and folders 1-27.

(A second copy is in the classified manuscripts, 974.61 N446w.)

Folders 28-57
Folders 58-73
Folders 74-93

4. Maritime Court, 1781-1784

b. Files, 1870-1903

1870 September-1903 August. 16.75 cubic feet. See container list New London Common Pleas No. 1.

5. Court of Common Pleas, 1870-1969

a. Records, 1870-1903. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-027

1870 September-1881 February. Records
1890 August-1903 August. Records
1870 October-1881 April. Court and Jury Trails
1870 September-1881 October. Defaults
1880 April-1890 April. Court and Jury Trails, Defaults

b. Files, 1870-1903

1870 September-1903 August. 16.75 cubic feet. See container list New London Common Pleas No. 1.

c. Civil Cases, 1903-1969

New London County at New London, 1903-1915
1903-1915. 11 cubic feet.

New London County at Norwich, 1914-1969
See container list New London Common Pleas No. 2.


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38 Largely unsorted and unarranged; a few items and groups have been identified and labeled.
39 Prepared in 1980 by Patricia Q. Wall.
New London and Tolland Counties

d. Criminal Files, 1895-1915\(^{40}\)
   Chronological. 5 cubic feet.
   See container list New London Common Pleas No. 4.

   e. Miscellaneous, 1871-1889
      Includes docket, court costs, and some case files. 0.5 cubic feet.
      Accession: 1921-028

   f. Jury Warrants, 1870-1886
      0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-028

   g. Executions, 1870-1902
      0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-028

   h. Dockets, 1870-1904
      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\(^{41}\)
   Includes materials on county meetings, grand lists, and resolutions.
   0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1921-023

G. Tolland County

1. Supreme Court of Errors, 1819-1942
   a. Files, 1858-1942
      2.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1942-005.
      \(1858-1875\)
      \(1900-1942\)
      A-GBox 30
      Go-L
      M
      M-SBox 33
      S-Z

   b. Miscellaneous Papers, 1819-1915
      Includes Sheriff's bills, rules of court, printed documents. 0.1 cubic foot.
      Accession: 1942-005

   c. Docket, 1825
      Accession: 1919-003
      See: Supreme Court of Errors. Miscellaneous.

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\(^{40}\) 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, same gaps may exist within this records series.

\(^{41}\) 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).
Tolland County

2. Superior Court, 1787-1945
   a. Files, 1787-1937
      1787-1910. Chronological. 24.75 cubic feet. Main Vault
      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
   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
      Main Vault
      1787-1855. 0.75 cubic feet.
      1787-1830
      1831-1855
      1916-1923. Private. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1942-002
      Box 55
      Box 56
      Box 57
   f. Records, 1876-1900
      Main Vault
      Printed records. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1942-002
      Box 58
   g. Criminal Files, 1900-1945\(^{42}\)
      Main Vault
      Numerical by case number (#1-1275). 3 cubic feet.
      1900 September-1921 April. (#1-450)
      1921 April-1932 March. (#451-875)
      1932 March-1945 February. (#876-1275)
      Accession: 1978-007
      Box 1
      Box 2
      Box 3

3. County Court, 1786-1855
   a. Files, 1786-1855
      Main Vault
      Chronological. 14.75 cubic feet.
      See container list Tolland County No. 1.

\(^{42}\) 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, same gaps may exist within this records series.

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RG003_Judicial_Dept.doc
Tolland and Windham Counties

b. Papers by Subject, 1786-1855
   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
   Chronological. 1.5 cubic feet. 1786-1839
   1840-1855
   Accession: 1942-009
   Main Vault

   Box 86

   1840-1855
   Box 87

   0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1942-009
   Box 86

H. Windham County

1. Supreme Court of Errors, 1820-1886
   a. Files, 1820-1886
      Chronological. 1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-042
      1820-1843
      1844-1886
      Main Vault
      Box 34
      Box 35

   b. Dockets, 1823-1883
      0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-042
      Main Vault
      Box 36

   c. Expenses, 1820-1849
      0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-042
      Main Vault
      Box 36

2. Superior Court, 1726-1947
   a. Dockets, 1844-1923
      1726-1872. 1.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1932-043
      1726-1850
      1850-1872
      1844-1923. Chronological. Includes some County and Superior Court
      dockets. 21 volumes. 4 cubic feet.
      Main Vault
      Box 39 & 40
      Box 41 & 42

      See container list Windham Superior No. 1.

   b. Trials, 1798-1871
      8 volumes. 2 cubic feet.
      See container list Windham Superior No. 2.

   c. Defaults, 1872-1883.
      1 volume. 1 cubic foot.
      See container list Windham Superior No. 2.

   d. Insolvent debtors, 1828-1841.
      1 volume. 1 cubic feet.
      See container list Windham Superior No. 2.
Windham County

e. Notaries Public, 1870-1935
   1870-1872. Certificates. 1 volume.
   1913-1935. 2 volumes
   1913-1918
   1926-1935
   Accession: 1915-003

f. Clerk of the Court, 1912-1927
   Quarterly accounts. 2 volumes. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1932-046
   1912
   1924-1927

i. Papers by Subject, 1726-1907
   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
   Alphabetical. 4.25 cubic feet.
   See container list Windham Superior No. 6.

l. Discontinued Cases, 1891-1903
   0.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1915-011

43 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, same gaps may exist within this records series.
Windham County

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
      Includes trials, land executions, defaults and appeals. 35 volumes. 3 cubic feet.
      Main Vault
      See separate container list Windham County No. 1.
   
   b. Files, 1726-1855
      Chronological. 23 cubic feet.
      Main Vault
      See container list Windham County No. 2.
   
   c. Papers by Subject, 1727-1855
      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.
      Main Vault
      See container list Windham County No. 3.
   
   d. Dockets, 1726-1855
      Chronological. 2.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1915-015
      Main Vault
      1726-1805
      Box 257
      1806-1855
      Box 258
   
   e. Executions, 1726-1764
      0.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1915-016
      Main Vault
      Box 259 & 260
      See also Papers by Subject above.

4. Court of Common Pleas, 1941-1945
   a. Files, 1941-1945
      Numerical by case number (#1-299). 2.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1978-003
      Main Vault
      Box 477 & 478

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44 For earlier records contact the Judicial Records Center in Enfield, CT.
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.
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

Main Vault
Boxes X-115

City Court, 1957-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

Off-site
Box 10

East Hartford
City Court, 1959-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

Off-site
Box 11
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Court Dates</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Accession Dates</th>
<th>Box</th>
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<td>City Court, 1959-1960</td>
<td><strong>Civil Cases.</strong> Accession: 1996-020</td>
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<td><strong>Fairfield</strong></td>
<td>City Court, 1960</td>
<td><strong>Civil Cases.</strong> Accession: 1996-020</td>
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<td><strong>Glastonbury</strong></td>
<td>City Court, 1951-1960</td>
<td><strong>Civil Cases.</strong> Accession: 1996-020</td>
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<td><strong>Greenwich</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Civil Cases.</strong> Accession: 1996-020</td>
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<td>Borough Court, 1889-1939</td>
<td><strong>Civil Cases.</strong> Accession: 1889-1930</td>
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<td><strong>Civil and Criminal Cases.</strong> Accession: 1912-1930</td>
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<td>0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-007</td>
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<td><strong>Warrants, 1911-1913</strong></td>
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<td>0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-007</td>
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<td><strong>Records, 1920-1939</strong></td>
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<td>Includes dockets and financial records. See container list <strong>Municipal No. 3</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Common Bonds, 1912-1918</strong></td>
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<td>0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-007</td>
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<td><strong>Court Clerk, 1913-1914</strong></td>
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<td>Correspondence of clerk William P. Mulville. Accession: 1980-007</td>
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<td><strong>Police Blotters, 1925-1937</strong></td>
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<td>1 cubic foot. Accession: 1980-007</td>
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<td><strong>Groton</strong></td>
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<td>City Court, 1951-1960</td>
<td><strong>Civil Cases.</strong> Accession: 1996-020</td>
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<td><strong>Guilford</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Hamden</strong></td>
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<td>City Court, 1940-1960</td>
<td><strong>Foreclosures, 1940-1945</strong></td>
<td>Main Vault</td>
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<td>Arranged numerically by file number (#375-1083). 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1994-052</td>
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<td><strong>Civil Cases, 1957-1960</strong></td>
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<td>Accession: 1996-020</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Hartford
City Court, 1804-1960
Files, 1804-1867
Arranged chronologically, except for the year 1867 with files arranged
by file number (#1-6347). 14 cubic feet.
Civil Cases, 1951-1960
See container list Municipal No. 4.

Killingly
City Court, 1959-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

Manchester
City Court, 1956-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

Meriden
City Court, 1867-1963
Civil Cases, 1894-1899; 1959-1960
Dockets, 1867-1919
Judgments, 1879-1916
Foreclosures, 1898-1932
See container list Municipal No. 5.

Middletown
City Court, 1957-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

Milford
Town Court, 1882-1899
Case Files, 1882-1960.
Foreclosures, 1940-1960
Accession: 1994-051

Monroe
City Court, 1954-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: No. 96-020

Naugatuck
City Court, 1954-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

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

New Canaan
City Court, 1956-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>City Court Years</th>
<th>Accession Dates</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Haven</td>
<td>1784-1960</td>
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<td>Main Vault</td>
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<td><strong>Dockets, 1811-1833</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Writs and Summons, c. 1784-1817</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Civil Case Files, 1785-1960</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1785-1854, 1865-1899; 1960. 45 cubic feet.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Foreclosures, 1877-1957. 16 cubic feet.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Executions, 1790-1832</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Arranged chronologically. Dates are not inclusive. 1.5 cubic feet.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Miscellaneous Papers, 1807-1841.</strong></td>
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<td>See container list Municipal No. 6.</td>
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<td><strong>Dockets, 1784-1819. 6 vols</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Writs, etc., 1787-1846. 1887</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Record Books, 1784-1870. 2 volumes.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Civil Case Files, 1951-1960</strong></td>
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<td>Case # 2088-2399</td>
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<td>Case # 2179-3093</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Milford</td>
<td>1958-1960</td>
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<td><strong>Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Newington</td>
<td>1955-1960</td>
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<td>Off-site</td>
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<td><strong>Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>North Haven</td>
<td>1954-1960</td>
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<td>Off-site</td>
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<td><strong>Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Norwalk</td>
<td>1895-1860</td>
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<td>Main Vault</td>
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<td><strong>Civil Case Files, 1895-1960</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1895-1898. Arranged numerically. 5 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-012</strong></td>
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<td>Case No. 1-84</td>
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<td>Case No. 85-212</td>
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<td>Case No. 2136-3693</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Norwich
Court of Equity, 1716
City Court, 1959-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

Old City
City Court, unknown
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020
Case No. 36115-40224
Case No. 40226-41343
Case No. 41359-42899
Case No. 42990-45814

Orange
City Court, 1929-1960
Foreclosures, 1940-1955
Files # 24-131. Accession: 1994-050
Civil Cases, 1929-1960
Accession: 1996-020

Plainfield
City Court, 1954-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

Plainville
City Court, 1957-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

Portland
City Court, 1954-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

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

Rockville
City Court, 1955-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

Rocky Hill
City Court, 1954-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

Salisbury
City Court, 1954-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

Seymour
City Court, 1955-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type of Court</th>
<th>Accession and Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>South Windsor</td>
<td>City Court, 1929-1960</td>
<td>Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stafford</td>
<td>Borough Court, 1884-1892</td>
<td>Files, 1884-1892. 1.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stafford Springs</td>
<td>Borough Court, 1887-1916</td>
<td>Records. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1980-014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stamford</td>
<td>Borough Court, 1883-1862</td>
<td>1883-1897. 9 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stratford</td>
<td>City Court, 1960</td>
<td>Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomaston</td>
<td>Town Court, 1876-1899</td>
<td>Civil Case Files, 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1980-017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Torrington</td>
<td>City (Justice) Court, 1798-1885</td>
<td>Civil Case Files, 1798-1960 1798-1885 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1980-018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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RG003_Judicial_Dept.doc
Wallingford
Borough Court, 1886-1943
Files, 1886-1943
Arranged chronologically and numerically. 2 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-022
Case No. 1-870
Case No. 871-1120
Foreclosures, 1949-1955
1 cubic foot. Accession: 1994-050
City Court, 1955-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020
Main Vault
Box X-171
Box X-172
Box CCF-22

Washington
City Court, 1954-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020
Off-site
Box 52

Waterbury
City Court, 1881-1882
Minutes kept by Judge Albert Bradstreet. 1 volume.
District Court, 1883-1895
Minutes kept by Judge Albert Bradstreet. 34 volumes.
& 174
Accession: 1980-021
Main Vault
Box X-173
Box X-173

Waterford
City Court, 1954-1960
Civil Cases
Accession: 1996-020
Off-site
Box 53

Watertown
City Court, 1954-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020
Off-site
Box 53

West Hartford
City Court, 1959-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020
Case No. 6137-6418
Case No. 5447-5879
Case No. 5880-6422
Off-site
Box 54
Box 55
Box 56

West Haven
City Court, 1933-1960
Foreclosures, 1933-1954.
Chronologically and numerically. 3 cubic feet. Accession: 1994-053
1933-1943. Case No. 757-1775.
Civil Cases, 1959-1960
Accession: 1996-020
Main Vault
Box CCF-17
Box CCF-18
Box CCF-19
Off-site
Box 57

Wethersfield
City Court, 1953-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020
Off-site
Box 58
Windsor
City Court, 1942-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

Windsor Locks
City Court, 1959-1960
Civil Cases. Accession: 1996-020

- Off-site
  Box 59

- Off-site
  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

- Fairfield Superior Court, 1863, 1865-1867, 1869, 1871-1872, 11 volumes
- Hartford Superior Court, 1863-1866, 1871, 1873, 7 volumes
- Litchfield Superior Court, 1863, 1868-1869, 1872-1873, 5 volumes
- Middlesex Superior Court, 1864-1867, 1869-1871, 1874-1875, 15 volumes
- New Haven County Court, 1849-1852, 4 volumes
- New Haven Court of Common Pleas, 1885-1887, 1889, and 1891, 7 volumes
- New London Superior Court, 1865, 1867, 1871, 6 volumes
- Tolland Superior Court, 1864, 1868-1870, 1873-1874, 8 volumes
- Windham Superior Court, 1864, 1 volume

B. Unidentified Notes, n.d.
Miscellaneous. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1912-001

C. Judge William Thomas Minor, 1868-1872
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

D. Judge John Turner Wait, 1845-1876
Lawyer who practiced in Norwich and New London and member of Congress. 0.05 cubic feet. Accession: 1912-001

E. Judge John Cotton Smith, 1796-1800
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

F. Judge Roger Sherman Baldwin, 1846-1862
Lawyer, member of the General Assembly, Governor, United States Senator. Born New Haven, 1793. 1 volume. 0.05 cubic feet. Accession: 1913-001
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

Justice of the Peace Courts, 1729-1936

Records relating to various Justice of the Peace Courts throughout the state.
Arranged alphabetically by court. 34.5 cubic feet.
Accession: 1940-001

Barkhamsted, 1849-1880

Justice Daniel Young. 1.25 cubic feet.

Bristol, 1799-1800

Justice Simeon Hart, also includes Justice Solomon Whitman of Farmington. 1 volume. 0.05 cubic feet.

Burlington

See: Towns and Boroughs (RG 62)

Canton

See: Towns and Boroughs (RG 62)

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All materials listed are part of this single accession unless otherwise noted.
Chatham, 1832-1839
Judge Noah Brooks. 0.05 cubic feet.

Colchester, 1767-1790
Judge John Watrous. Includes marriages, 1770-1772. 0.05 cubic feet.

Columbia
See: Towns and Boroughs (RG 62)

Cornwall
See: Towns and Boroughs (RG 62)

Coventry, 1729-1905
1729-1796, 1845-1905. 1.5 cubic feet.

Danbury, 1892-1922
4 cubic feet. Accession: 1940-002
1892-1896
1896-1903
1904-1914
1915-1922

Darien, 1883-1907
1 volume. 0.05 cubic feet. Accession: 1986-036.

Derby, 1777-1803
Justice Thomas Clark. 0.05 cubic feet.

East Haddam, 1857-1864
0.05 cubic feet.

East Windsor, 1785-1801
Justice Joseph Allen, 1785-1791
Justice Roswell Grant, 1798-1801
See also: Roswell Grant Papers, Manuscript Collection (RG 069:053)

Farmington, 1763-1795
Justice Solomon Whitman. 1763-1769
See also: John Treadwell Papers, Manuscript Collection (RG 069:025) and Justice of the Peace Records for Bristol, CT (above).
Justice Noadiah Hooker, 1777-1873, 1789-1795
0.05 cubic feet.

Glastonbury, 1773-1796
Justice Elizur Hale, Jr., 1773-1796. 0.25 cubic feet.
See also: Jonathan Hale Transcript, 974.61 H25cs, Classified Archives (RG 000); Towns and Boroughs (RG 062).

Goshen, 1795-1820
0.05 cubic feet.

Groton, 1819-1820
Volume also includes Montville. 0.05 cubic feet.
Guilford, 1810

Conn. v. Wm. Fowler. 1 document. 0.05 cubic feet.

Hampton, 1795

Utley v. Utley. 1 document. 0.05 cubic feet.

Hartford, 1767-1884

Writs, 1767, 1824, 1825, 1884. 0.05 cubic feet.

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

0.25 cubic feet.

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

Justice William Noyes, 1790-1806. 0.05 cubic feet.
Justice David F. Sill, 1794-1812. 0.05 cubic feet.

See: Richard Ely Selden Papers, Manuscript Collection (RG 069:086).

Marlborough

1983-1911. See: Towns and Boroughs (RG 062).

Mansfield, 1774-1920

1774-1825. 0.05 cubic feet.
1803-1920. 4 cubic feet.

See container list: Justice No. 1.

Middletown, 1790-1826

1.25 cubic feet.
& 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

Justices Joshua and John Hempsted, 1739-1779. 0.05 cubic feet.
1763-1892. Records have not been processed. 6 cubic feet.

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
0.05 cubic feet.
Main Vault
Box 573

Norfolk, 1861-1881
0.05 cubic feet.
Main Vault
Box 573

Norwich, 1744-1760
Justice Isaac Huntington. 0.05 cubic feet.
Main Vault
Box 574
Temporarily restricted, please see State Archives staff for details.

Pomfret, 1792-1903
Justice Lemuel Ingals, 1792-1811. 0.05 cubic feet.
Main Vault
Box 574
Temporarily restricted, please see State Archives staff for details.
See also: Towns and Boroughs (RG 62).

Preston, 1807-1934
Justice Jonah Witter, 1807-1818. 0.05 cubic feet.
Main Vault
Box 575
See also: Towns and Boroughs (RG 62).

Salisbury, 1757-1850
2 cubic feet.
Main Vault
Boxes 576 & 577

Saybrook, 1819
1 document. 0.05 cubic feet.
Main Vault
Boxes 578

Sharon
See: Towns and Boroughs (RG 062).

Simsbury
See: Towns and Boroughs (RG 062).

Somers
See: RG 62, Towns and Boroughs (RG 062).

Southbury
See: 1788-1915. RG 62. Restricted due to condition.

Stafford, 1796-1809
Justice Eleazar W. Phelps, 1796-1807.
Justice Jesse Cady, 1798-1809. 2 volumes. 0.05 cubic feet.
Main Vault
Box 578

Stonington, 1769-1855
Justice Nathaniel Minor, 1769-1794.
Justice Francis Sheffield, 1848-1855. 1.5 cubic feet.
Main Vault
Box 579

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

Torrington, 1789-1927
2 cubic feet.
Main Vault
Boxes 580
& 581
Union, 1774-1802
1774. 1 document. 0.05 cubic feet.
Justice Solomon Wales. 0.05 cubic feet.
Main Vault
Box 582

Wethersfield
See: Towns and Boroughs (RG 62).

Winchester, 1874-1888
1874-1885. Justice George M. Carrington. 0.05 cubic feet.
Main Vault
Box 582

Windham, 1729-1875
1729-1875. 2 cubic feet.
&584
Justice Jedediah Morse, 1784-1801, includes Woodstock. 0.05 cubic feet.
See also: Chester Hunt Papers, Manuscript Collection (RG 069:079).
Main Vault
Boxes 583
Box 584

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

**New London County. Superior Court**
- Declaration of Intended Citizenship, 1856-1873
- 1 volume. Photocopy

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.”46 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.47 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. 48

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.49 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

A. Correspondence, 1926-1937
   From Treasurer concerning applications. 3 inches. Accession: 1978-004

B. Minutes, 1890-1977

C. Applications, 1911; 1918-1984
   Applicants including supporting documentation, arranged chronologically by court session and then by county or by surname, 256 boxes. Partially Restricted. See container list State Bar No. 1.

46 Colonial Record, Volume 48.
47 See General Statutes Revised to 1993, Sec. 51-80; a good brief history is in 129 Connecticut Reports 52-53.
48 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.
49 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. . . .”50 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.”51

For more that 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 1883.52 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.53 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 1979.54 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 Coronors 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.

50 C.R.I., 42.
51 C.R.I., 523.
52 Public Acts 1883, Chapter 118.
54 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.

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. Off-site & Main Vault
   
   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.

2. Case files, 1968-1979
   
   1954-1966. Homicide cases
   
   Alphabetical by name of decedent. 1 box 0.5 cubic feet.
   
   Accession: 1980-025
   
   1977. Homicide case

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Records relating to single homicide investigation. 3 boxes, 1 rolled.  
2 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-026. Restricted  
1968-1979. Non-homicide cases  
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  

Arranged chronological by hearing date. 57 cubic feet.  
See container list Fairfield Coroner No. 3.  
1967-1979. Typed transcripts  
Arranged chronological by hearing date. 2.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1980-027  
1967-1968  
1969-1971 Partially restricted  
1972-1974 Restricted  
1975-1977 Restricted  
1978-1979 Restricted  
1976-1979. Stenographic notes and sound tapes  
Stenographer’s note books and audio tapes of hearings. 1 cubic foot.  

5. Laboratory reports, 1967-1979  

6. Administrative files, 1961-1979  
Coroners’ correspondence with deputies, medical examiners, pathologists, financial records, and an “index” to files, 1883-1955. 1 box. 0.5 cubic feet  

B. Hartford County, 1883-1979  
1. Records, 1883-1979  
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).  
See container list Hartford Coroner No. 1.

2. Hearings, 1898-1979  
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  
See container list Hartford Coroner No. 2.
3. **Case files, 1968-1979**  
   *(1968-1979)*. 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.  
   **Partially Restricted.** See container list **Hartford Coroner No. 3.**

4. **Medical Examiner Reports, 1892-1935**  
   Original handwritten reports of medical examiner to coroner, information later transcribed and put in official Record Book (see above).  
   See container list **Hartford Coroner No. 4.**

5. **Medical Examiner Appointments, 1883-1932**  
   Record book listing appointments to position of town medical examiner by the Hartford County Coroner. 1 volume. Accession: 1986-050A.

C. **Litchfield County (Torrington), 1883-1979**

1. **Records, 1883-1979**  
   Contains medical examiner’s reports, coroner’s findings, pathologist’s findings and laboratory reports. Arranged chronologically by medical examiner’s report.  
   **1883-1944.** Bound volumes, 1883-1930 (microfilm).  
   **1952-1979.** Unbound originals. 6 cubic feet. **Partially Restricted.**  
   See container list **Litchfield Coroner No. 1.**

2. **Hearings, 1917-1979**  
   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. **Partially Restricted.**  
   See container list **Litchfield Coroner No. 2.**

3. **Case files, 1951-1978**  
   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. **Partially Restricted.**  
   See container list **Litchfield Coroner No. 3.**

4. **Medical Examiner Reports, 1903-1928**  
   Duplicate copies of materials in the Record Books (see above).  
   1 cubic foot. Accession: 1979-013  
   1903 April 1-1910 June 28  
   1927 January 2-1928 March 24  
   See container list **Litchfield Coroner No. 4.**

3. **Administrative files, 1950-1979**  
   Includes correspondence, administrative papers, and reference materials. 1 cubic foot. Accession: 1979-009

D. **Middlesex County (Middletown), 1951-1979**

   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  
   1963 January-1964 October  
   1964 November-1965 December  
   1966 January-December  
   1977 January-August **Restricted**
   Transcripts of Coroner’s Hearings. Arranged chronologically by date of hearing.
   0.75 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-015
   1967 January-1969 December
   1970 February-1971 April Partially Restricted
   Box 1
   Box 2

3. Case files, 1953-1979
   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
   Office files including correspondence, directives, supply orders, receipts for valuables and various reports including police, toxicological and autopsy reports. 0.75 cubic feet.
   1953-1978. Files Partially Restricted
   1951-1979. Reports Partially Restricted
   Box 1
   Box 2

E. New Haven County (New Haven), 1883-1980
1. Record books, 1883-1979
   Contains medical examiner’s reports, coroner’s findings, pathologist’s findings and laboratory reports. Arranged chronologically. 51 cubic feet.
   See container list New Haven Coroner No. 1.

2. Coroner’s Findings, 1975-1979
   Report issued by coroner after inquiry. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-036
   Partially Restricted
   Box 1

   Transcripts of Coroner’s Inquiry. Arranged chronologically by death date.
   Partially Restricted.
   See container list New Haven Coroner No. 2.

   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
   1976 June-1979 February Restricted
   1976 August-1979 December Restricted
   Box 1
   Box 2
   Box 3

   Copies of toxicological reports. 0.25 c.f. Accession: 1979-035 Restricted
   Box 1

   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

   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

   Report issued by coroner after inquiry. Copy often availied in record books.
   2 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-030
   1923 December-1927 November
   1927 November-1933 September
   1933 September-1935 July
   1933-1936 Miscellaneous findings

3. Hearings, 1917-1979

   Transcripts of Coroner’s Inquiry. Arranged chronologically by death date.
   Partially restricted. See container list Waterbury No. 2.

4. Case files, 1949-1979

   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

   Duplicate copies of materials in the Record Books (see above). 2.5 cubic feet.
   Accession: 1979-030
   1922 January-1929 June
   1929 June-1934 November
   1934 November-1935 June


   Copies of toxological reports. 0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-030
   Restricted.


   Receipts for valuables. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-030
   Box 1

8. Administrative Files, 1919-1976

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

1. **Records, 1883-1969**
   - 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*).
   - See container list New London Coroner No. 1.

2. **Hearings, 1928-1957**
   - Transcripts of Coroner’s Hearings. Arranged chronological by date of hearing.
   - See container list New London Coroner No. 2.

3. **Case files, 1972-1979**
   - Includes police reports, photographs, hearing transcripts, coroner’s notes and reports.
   - Arranged alphabetically. 8 cubic feet.
   - See container list New London Coroner No. 3.

4. **Medical Examiner Reports, 1893-1935**
   - Duplicate set of Medical Examiner Reports. Materials are unbound and dates are not complete.
   - See container list New London Coroner No. 4.

5. **Appointments, 1883-1939**

6. **Administrative papers, 1973-1979**
   - Contains correspondence, lab reports, coroner’s findings, medical examiner reports and other materials generated by the Coroner’s Office. 1.5 cubic feet.
   - Accession: 1979-024

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

1. **Record books, 1883-1936; 1968-1978**
   - Contains medical examiner’s reports, coroner’s findings, pathologist’s findings and laboratory reports. Arranged chronologically by medical examiner’s report.
   - 1883-1936. Bound volumes (1883-1930 *microfilm*).
   - See container list Tolland No. 1.

2. **Hearings, 1931-1969**
   - Transcripts of Coroner’s Hearings. Arranged chronological by date of hearing. 8 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-025
   - See container list Tolland No. 2

3. **Case files, 1964-1979**
   - Includes investigation reports, autopsy and lab reports, correspondence, hearing transcripts. Arranged by case number see card index listed above. 20 cubic feet. Partially restricted.
   - See container list Tolland No. 3.

4. **Index to Case Files, n.d.**
   - Two card index files. One arranged alphabetically by deceased name, the second chronologically then alphabetically. Accession: 1979-026.
   Partially restricted. 0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-025
   Box 20

   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).
   0.5 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-019
   Box 1

   Transcripts of Coroner’s Inquiry, arranged chronologically with list.
   0.25 cubic feet. Accession: 1979-019
   Box 1

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Court</th>
<th>Fairfield</th>
<th>Hartford</th>
<th>Litchfield</th>
<th>Middlesex</th>
<th>New Haven</th>
<th>New London</th>
<th>Tolland</th>
<th>Windham</th>
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<td>Maritime Court</td>
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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 19th century, the courts separated them into different volumes.

4) With the hearing date from the docket, researchers can then request the files (also known 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 20th 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-20th 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 18th and 19th century. Early 20th 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

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.

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 trail 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 of 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.

Definitions taken from Black’s Law Dictionary (5th Ed) 1979 and (6th Ed) 1990. Examples and other definitions (records related) provided by State Archives Staff.
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.

DISMISAL. 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 named 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.