

Loudoun County Marriage Records 1767 to 1850

Around the year 1899 the Clerk's Office purchased their first typewriter. One of the earliest projects this "new" technology completed included a typed copy of the first Marriage Index. Clerks transcribed the original hand written index into a loose leaf book covered in Moroccan red leather. The original marriage index contained only Minister Returns, did not include references for Marriage Bonds, and unfortunately contained more than a few typographical errors. Used since the turn of the twentieth century, this index became worn and very fragile.

In an effort to produce a more accurate and complete record of Loudoun County Marriages, the Clerk's Office began a new index in the summer of 2008, using the original hand written index, the circa 1899 typewritten index, the original Minister Returns, and Marriage Bonds. The names in this index are open to interpretation as the original sources included poorly written, overwritten, and misspelled names. The most common spelling of each name from all four sources is included in the index.

- **Minister Returns:** Lists of names and dates submitted to the Clerk's Office by ministers who performed the marriage ceremonies. They do not contain any information regarding ages of the married individuals, places of birth, or parents. These records span from 1793 to 1850.
- **Marriage Bonds:** Bonds posted by the groom (with a surety) prior to the marriage. Once the marriage took place the bond was void. Bonds often include information regarding parents, or other family members and friends. With a few exceptions prior to 1793, the vast majority of bonds fall between 1793 and 1850.

As a guide for using this index please note the following:

Location:

- **Numbers** refer to pages within the Minister Returns
- **MB** refers to a Marriage Bond

An asterisk (*) prior to a name indicates Minister Returns not included in the original index or the circa 1899 Index.