

2021 Historic Records Accomplishments



The Year of Digitization

**Clerk of the Circuit Court, Gary M. Clemens
Historic Records and Deed Research Division**



The Historic Records and Deed Research Division maintains county court records dating from the formation of Loudoun County in 1757. Loudoun contains one of the most complete collections of court records in Virginia and is one of only a few of Virginia's ninety-eight counties whose records have not been destroyed by fire, war, or environmental factors.

Clerk of the Circuit Court
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Historic Records and Deed Research Staff

**Gary M. Clemens,
Clerk of the Circuit Court**

**Eric Larson,
Historic Records Manager**

**Shannon Fuller,
Historic Records Clerk**

**Lori Kimball,
Historic Records Clerk**

**Volunteer
John Fishback**

2021-Year of Digitization

by: Eric Larson Historic Records Manager



2022 Clerk of the Circuit Court Historic Records Team

First Row L-R Brenda Butler, Shannon Fuller, Lori Kimball, Wendy Rutherford, Debbie Tavenner and Clerk of the Circuit Court Gary Clemens Back Row L-R John Fishback and Eric Larson

With 2021 now behind us, it's time to reflect on Historic Records accomplishments in the last year. In April 2021, the Clerk's Office and the Historic Records Division resumed normal business operations after one year of modified business operations resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. There is still a mandatory face mask policy at the courthouse for visitors, but there are no limitations on what can be viewed and handled.

The Clerk and deputy clerks in the Clerk's Office once again stepped up to the challenges presented by the pandemic and addressed these challenges by learning and incorporating virtual, digital, and online technologies to meet the critical needs of our customers, to offer safe yet informative education programs and to continue essential preservation projects. For the first time, the Historic Records team offered virtual programs to the public in collaboration with our valued and reliable historic preservation partners. Historic Records increased the number of preservation and digitization projects by obtaining grants and technology.

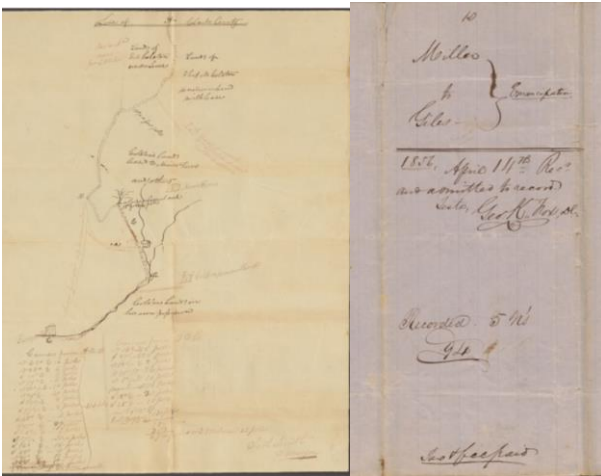
Looking to the New Year

If 2021 was the year of digitization, then 2022 will be the year of greater access to Loudoun's historic court records. In FY2021, Historic Records budgeted to purchase a web-based database that permits our clients to conduct enhanced research. The database will eliminate users having to research Historic Records' online PDF indexes. The online database will allow users the ability to search across numerous fields searching for individuals, record types and much more. In addition, some of the larger record groups will have images attached to the records

Please take time to review our list of achievements in 2021 and projects for 2022.

On behalf of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, we wish all of you a safe and healthy new year.

Digitization



Road Survey from the Loudoun County Road Cases, 1757-1940-Digitized in 2021

Deed of Emancipation from Loudoun County Enslaved Records, 1757-1865-Digitized in 2021

Record Collections and Books Digitized

- 1757-1865 Enslaved Records
- 1757-1865 Criminal Enslaved Records
- 1757-1920's Loudoun County Road Cases
- 1757-1850 Marriage Bonds & Licenses
- 1926-1948 & 1983-1989 Land Tax Books
- 1757-1872 Indenture and Bound Out Children
- In-house digitization of forty-two deed books to replace poor quality images on the Land Records system
- 85,320 individual records & 19,246 deed book pages scanned

Conservation



Tithable conserved in 2021 with grants from the Library of Virginia and the Kectoctin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution

Professional Conservation

- 1774-1786 County Tithables
- 1761-1767 Deed Book C
- 1854-1856 Court Minute Book
- 1783-1788 Will Book C
- 1788-1793 Will Book D

Current In-House Conservation by staff and volunteers

- 1757-1950 Will packets
- 1840s County and Superior Court Judgment Packets
- 1851-1991 Land Tax Books

Grants



Clerk of the Circuit Court receiving a grant check from the Ketoctin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, July 2021

2021-Public and Private Grants

- Library of Virginia
- Ketoctin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution
- Community Foundation of Loudoun and Northern Fauquier Counties-Van Huyck Chockley Family Foundation
- Loudoun County Preservation Society
- TMMG Gives Back Community Golf Fund Raiser Event for Historic Records



Historic Records Manager Eric Larson shows two of thirteen Historic Trading Cards created by the Historic Records staff

Programs

Programs-First Presentations Since October 2019!

Virtual Programs

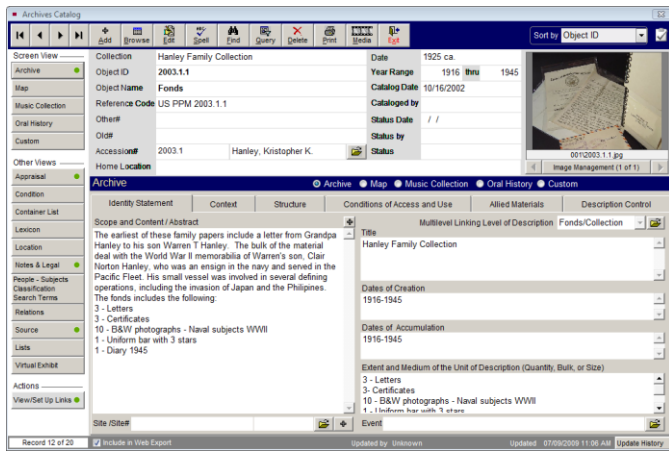
- Expanded Access to History: Loudoun County's Free Black and Enslaved Papers
- The Udderly Fantastic Dairy Industry in Loudoun County
- Back to School: Education in Loudoun's Past
- The Ground Holds Secrets

Special Thank You to Historic Records Virtual Presentation Partners:

- Loudoun County Public Library
- The Thomas Balch Library
- Edwin Washington Project
- Loudoun County Planning and Zoning

Historic Records Trading Cards

- Historic Records created thirteen trading cards highlighting important records, events and individuals that shaped Loudoun's history
- Special thank you to the Loudoun County Public Library System, Chamber of Commerce and The Thomas Balch Library who assisted in distributing the cards



PastPerfect Archival Screen Shot

2022
Greater Access
to the Records

Technology

- Online database and conversion of most Excel spreadsheets

Digitization-

- Continue scanning the 1851-1989 Land Tax Books
- 1757-1865 Criminal Records-Made possible by a Library of Virginia Grant
- Back scanning Deed Books
- Exploring other records collection for digitization

Programs

- Four in-house or virtual presentations
- New brochure on African American History at the Courthouse, in conjunction with the Black History Committee of the Friends of the Thomas Balch Library
- Updated walking brochure for the courthouse grounds
- Exploring the creation of a new set of Historic Trading Cards

Conservation

- 1757-1950 Will packets
- 1840s County and Superior Court Judgment Packets
- 1851-1991 Land Tax Books

Grants

- Explore more options for public and private funding for Historic Records' preservation, programs and digitization projects

