

Using Divorce Records in Your Family History Research

Winter Stay-At-Home 2023

Rhonda R. McClure, Senior Genealogist
February 2023

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors®
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

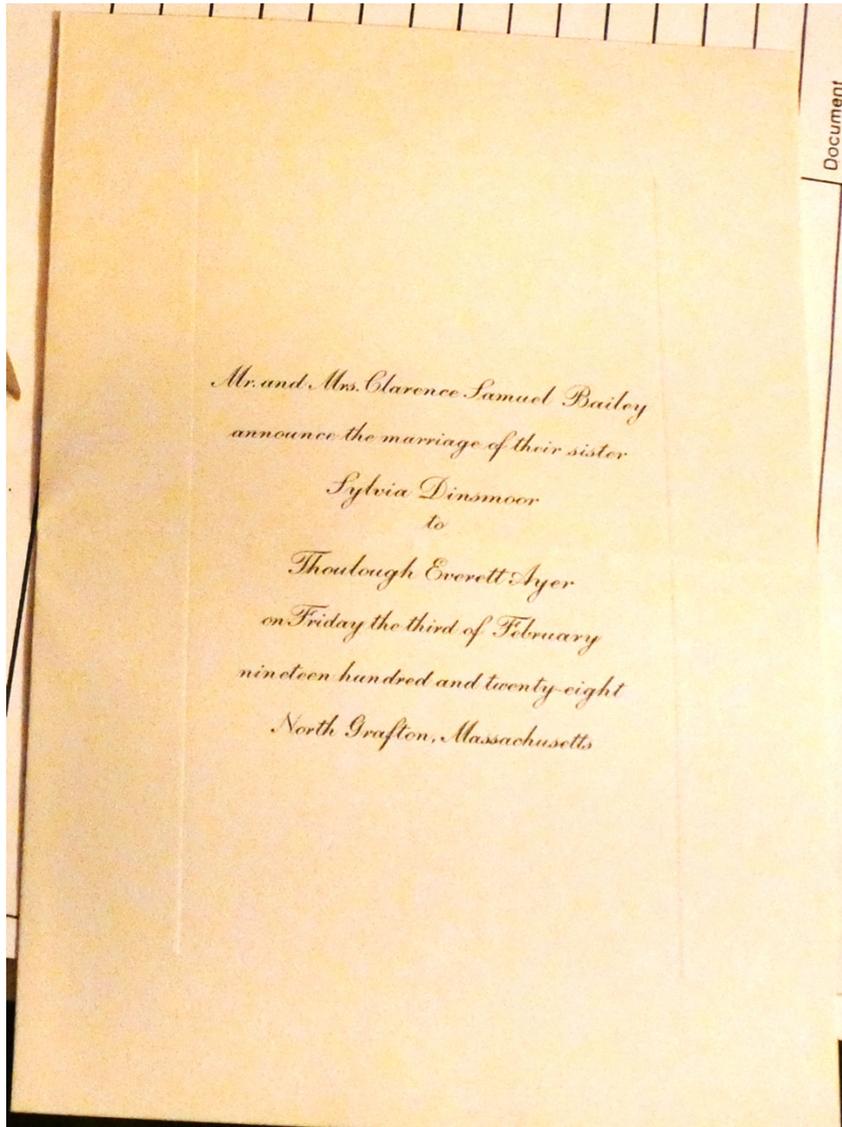
Divorce Records



Discover

Discover

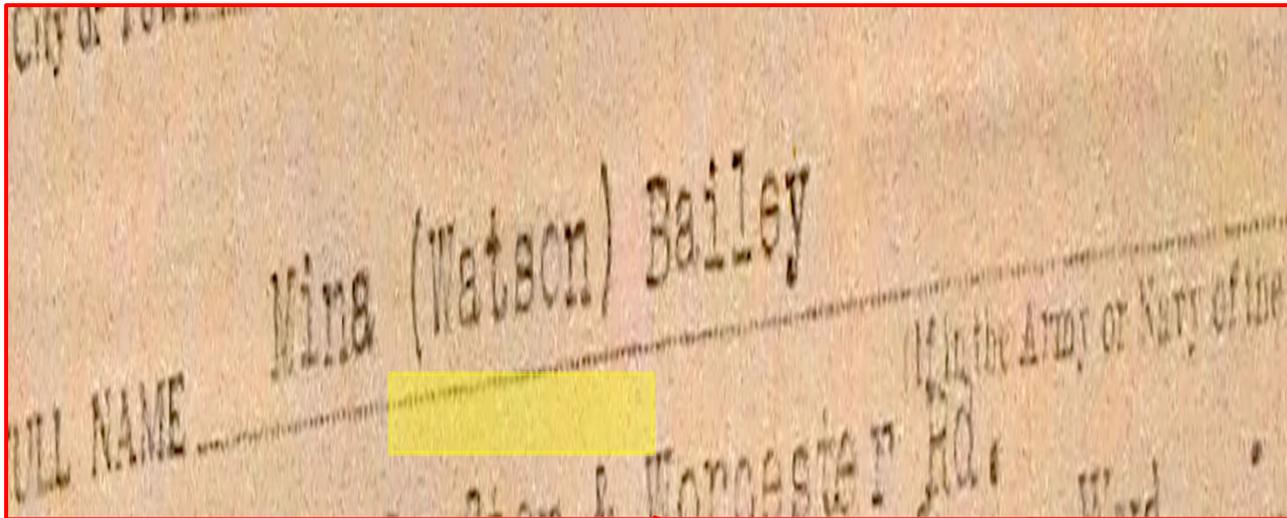
- Was not always talked about
- May be revealed in other research
 - Family papers
 - Vital records
 - Newspapers
 - City directories
 - Census
- Usually required a reason



The announcement of the marriage of my grandparents Sylvia Dinsmoor Bailey and Thoulough Everett Ayer in 1928.

Why was her brother making the announcement?

Family Papers



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
OFFICE OF VITAL RECORDS AND STATISTICS

362/

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS

1 PLACE OF DEATH
County Worcester State Mass. Registered No. 362/
City or Town Millbury, Mass. No. Grafton & Worcester Rd. 5 Ward
(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its name instead of street and number)

2 FULL NAME Mina (Watson) Bailey
(If in the Army or Navy of the United States, give rank, organization, etc.)
City or Town Grafton & Worcester Rd. Ward Millbury
(If non-resident, give city or town and State)

3 SEX Female 4 COLOR OR RACE white 5 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED divorced
6 DATE OF BIRTH June 11 1900
7 AGE 61 Years - Months - Days 8 OCCUPATION OF DECEASED none
9 BIRTHPLACE (City) Tewksbury (State or country) Mass.
10 NAME OF FATHER Watson
11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (City) Cannot be learned (State or country)
12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER
13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (City) (State or country)
14 Informant Clarence Bailey (Address) Millbury, Mass.
15 Date June 11 1923 (Month) (Day) (Year) Signature *Chas & Whitcomb*
20 UNDERTAKER John J. Mulhane ADDRESS Millbury
21 I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am the Registrar of Vital Records and Statistics, and I do hereby certify that the above is a true copy from said records.

16 DATE OF DEATH June 8 1923
17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from May 18, 1923 to June 8, 1923
18 CAUSE OF DEATH Cancer of the liver 44
19 PLACE OF BURIAL, CREMATOR, OR BURIAL Hope Worcester DATE OF BURIAL June 12 1923
20 CONTRIBUTORY (duration) yrs mos. da.
21 WHOSE WAS DEATH CONTRACTED (duration) yrs mos. da.
22 Did an operation precede death? - Date of
23 Was there an autopsy? -
24 What test confirmed diagnosis? -
25 Signed: John J. Hayden (Address) #360 Grafton St., Worcester. (Date) June 10 1923 (Month) (Day) (Year)

WITNESS my hand and the SEAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH at Boston on this 3RD day of NOVEMBER 19 23

Death Record

Sullivan Progress (Sullivan, Illinois)

March 5, 1870

May Term A. D. 1870, of the
Moultrie Co. Circuit Court.
STATE OF ILLINOIS, }
Moultrie County, } ss. sh. at a
Martha Standefer,) Bill for Di-
vs) vorce.
Benjamin Standefer)
Satisfactory Affidavit having been filed
in my office showing the non residence of
Benjamin Standefer, the defendant in the
above entitled case.
Notice is therefore hereby given, to you
the said Benjamin Standefer, that a bill
for divorce, has been filed in our said
Court against you by Martha Standefer,
and that a summons has been issued there-
on returnable to said Term of said Court
which summons has been returned by the
Sheriff, Defendant not found in the coun-
ty. Now therefore if you the said Benja-
min Standefer, shall not personally be and
appear at the next Term of the Circuit
Court of said county, on the first day
thereof to be holden in the Court House
in Sullivan on the second Tuesday of May
A. D. 1870, and plead answer or demur, to
said Bill, the allegations thereof will be
taken for confessed as against you, and a
Decree will be entered accordingly.
J. H. WAGGONER Clerk. L. S.
A B LEE, Sol's. for Pet.
vol 13—no 15

Newspaper Entry

Hickey Thomas, stonecutter, n. Carney place
Hickling Charles, 131 Washington
Hicks Charles S. printer, h. 6 Mason
Hicks James H. & Co. (*R. Swift*), merch'ts, 18 Central
wharf. H.'s h. 7 Otis place
Hicks J. C. & Co. dry goods, 49 Kilby, h. 5 Pearl
Hicks Mary, widow, 39 Prince
Hicks Nancy J. h. 3d st. near Dorchester
Hicks Zechariah, house 5 Pearl
Higgins E. A. oysters, 88 Cambridge
Higgins George, mason, h. D st. corner Silver
Higgins George, blacksmith, h. 6 Travers
Higgins John, h. 68 1-2 Ann
Higgins John S. oysters, 114, h. 112 Court

1840 City Directory for
Boston

1841 City Directory for
Boston

Hickman James, housewright, h. 101 Salem
Hickling Charles, 131 Washington
Hicks Charles S. printer, h. 6 Mason
Hicks Cyrus, housewright, h. opposite 20 Kneeland
Hicks James, mariner, h. rear 6 Mason
Hicks James H. & Co. (*R. Swift*), merchants, 18 Central
wharf. H.'s house 7 Otis place
Hicks J. C. & Co. dry goods, 49 Kilby, h. 5 Pearl
Hicks Nancy J. widow, h. rear Canton
Hicks Thomas, shoemaker, h. 9 High
Hicks W. H. nails and steel, 27 Central, h. 5 Pearl
Hicks Zechariah, house 5 Pearl
Higgins Ezekiel H. bookbinder, h. Dedham n. Washing.

City Directories

STATE Maine DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
 COUNTY Kennebec THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910—POPULATION
 TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY X NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE Argusville City
 NAME OF INSTITUTION _____ ENUMERATED BY ME ON THE 29th DAY OF April, 1910.

Serial Number	Locality	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION							NATIVITY			CITIZENSHIP		OCCUPATION		
				Sex	Color or race	Age at last birth	Whether single, married, or divorced	Number of years of present marriage	Number of years born in this country	Number of years born in this State	Place of birth of this person	Place of birth of Father of this person	Place of birth of Mother of this person	Year of immigration to this country	Whether naturalized or alien	Whether able to speak English or, if not, give language spoken	Trade or profession of, or particular kind of work done by this person, as spinner, workman, laborer, etc.	General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which this person works, as cotton mill, dry goods store, farm, etc.
51	22 191 207	Barley, Coratia B.	Daughter-in-law	M	W	73	Wd					Maine	Maine	Maine		English	Farmer (Retired)	
52		Wittling, Ellis	Head	M	W	36	M	23				Maine	Maine	Maine		English	Machinist shop	
53		Wittling, Ida M.	Wife	F	W	29	M	3	0	0		Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
54		Wittling, Everett W.	Son	M	W	14	S					Maine	Maine	Can-English		English	None	
55		Wittling, Jennie J.	Daughter	F	W	12	S					Maine	Maine	Can-English		English	None	
56	27 191 208	Wittling, George	Head	M	W	74	M	49				Maine	Maine	Maine		English	Carpenter	
57		Lucy A. D.	Wife	F	W	61	M	49	6	5		Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
58		Bertha A.	Daughter	F	W	47	M	4				Maine	Maine	Maine		English	Clerk Publishing House	
59	29 192 209	Lighton, Frank H.	Head	M	W	50	M	27				Maine	Maine	Maine		English	Carpenter	
60		Jennie G.	Wife	F	W	48	M	27	4	4		Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
61		Blady, J.	Daughter	F	W							Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
62		Harry E.	Son	M	W							Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
63		Bertrice M.	Daughter	F	W							Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
64		Maurice H.	Son	M	W							Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
65	31 193 210	White, James W.	Head	M	W							Maine	Maine	Maine		English	Gardening	
66		Ellen J.	Wife	F	W							Maine	Maine	Can-English	1850	English	None	
67	33 194 211	White, Nathaniel W.	Head	M	W							Maine	Maine	Maine		English	Mail carrier (city)	
68		Flora D.	Wife	F	W							Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
69		Gettrude	Daughter	F	W							Maine	Maine	Maine		English	Teacher	
70		Leona F.	Daughter	F	W	17	S					Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
71	34 195 212	Wardner, Williams	Head	M	W	33	M	9				Maine	Maine	Maine		English	Billing Clerk, Freight Office	
72		Marian H.	Wife	F	W	31	M	9	2	2		Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
73		Lola	Daughter	F	W	3	S					Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
74		Norman W.	Son	M	W	1 1/2	S					Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
75		Jones, Annie J.	Daughter-in-law	F	W	29	S					Maine	Maine	Maine		English	Bookkeeper Grocery Store	
76	191 214	Samford, Anna H.	Head	F	W	37	D		3	2		Maine	Maine	Maine		English	Clerk Pension Office	
77		Hazel A.	Daughter	F	W	12	S					Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
78		Eva M.	Daughter	F	W	9	S					Maine	Maine	Maine		English	None	
79		Viella, George O.	Lodger	M	W	50	M	1				Maine	Maine	Maine		English	Farmer	

When was she divorced?



[eI

Look for statewide
indexes

Important Definitions:

Libelant: *the petitioner or plaintiff in a divorce proceeding*

Cause: *there was no such thing as “no fault” divorce – there had to be a reason for seeking the divorce*

Record of Divorce.

Husband's name in full
Rufus H. Bailey.....
Wife's name in full
Mina W. Bailey.....
Residence Windham.....
Date of Marriage Dec. 17, 1885.....
Place of Marriage Tewksbury, Mass.....

Sex of Libelant Male.....
Date of Divorce May 27, 1905.....
Cause Extreme Cruelty.....

The State of New Hampshire.

Rockingham ss. Superior Court.

I certify that the above record is correct.

C. H. Knight
Clerk.

Date May 29, 1905.....

NH Divorce Index to 1938

[eI

Be prepared to learn
WHY they divorced

Records

Courts

- Chancery Court
- Circuit Court
- Court of Common Pleas
- District Court
- Family Court
- Law and Equity Court
- Probate Court
- Superior Court



Bound Volumes

Indexes

Dockets

Minutes

Orders

Judgements

Bound Volumes

- Usually arranged chronologically
- May have an index at the front of the volume
- Include just the highlights of the case
 - When the divorce is requested
 - When certain motions or orders are filed
 - Basic information about petitions, motions, summons, etc.

Suffolk Co., Mass. Supreme Judicial Court Docket

Montgomery 3⁴ Nancy J. Hicks v. Joseph A. D. Hicks
Libel
24
" Divorce a vinculo. Custody of the child Zorilda Adams
decreed to the libellant. D.

Divorce a vinculo = Divorce bond

The couple had a child,
Zorilda Adams Hicks, and she
was to be in the custody of
Nancy J. Hicks

Nancy J. Hicks of Boston

Ballow, T. C. et al	vs. Coleman, Mary A. et al
Bacon, M. S. et al	vs. Sarah & Elizabeth Wilhoit
Breeding, Rachel-----Guardianship	
Battley, James N.-----Guardianship	
Bennett, Robert H. Admr.	vs McMahon & Brown
Barlow, Alice R.-----Guardianship	
Brown, Edmond	vs Barksdale F. Admr
Barlow, Florence and Light-----Guardianship	
Bell, David ----Estate	
Byans, Harriet-----Estate	
Bailey, Wm. S -----Estate	
Barksdale, Fountain Admr	vs Gould, R. H. Admr
Boaz, Fennesse	vs Boaz, Saml. F.
Brown, Agnes & husband	vs Jones, W. H et al
Bunch. Martha et al	vs Shannon. Wm. H et al

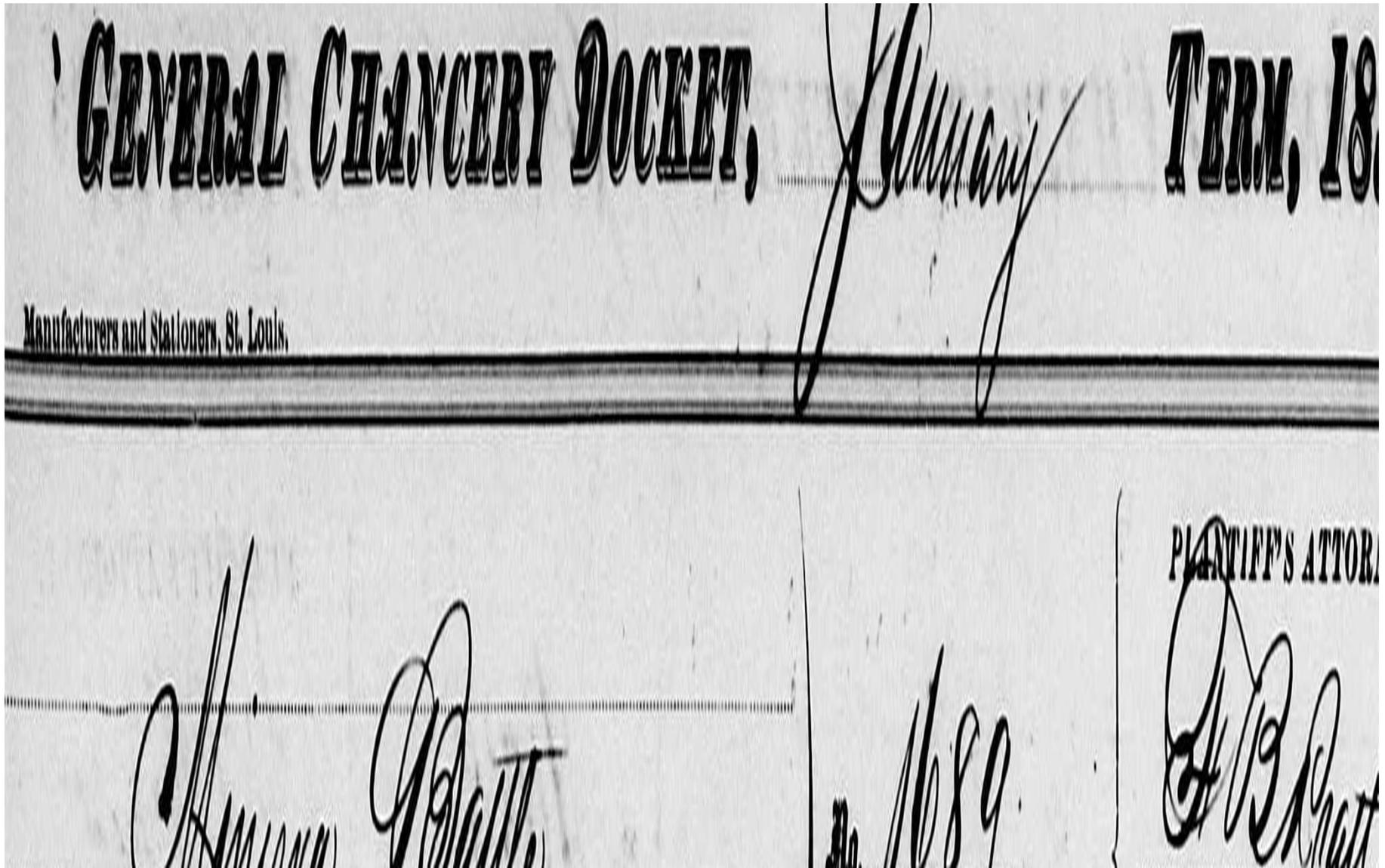
Madison Co., Mississippi

Plaintiff: *Minerva Battle*
Defendant: *Turner Battle*

Docket Book: *No. 1*

Case File: *1689*

Index to Docket



Docket Book

F. G. Fependen

3

Susan J. Taylor v. Eugene S. Taylor

Filed Jan. 16/88 + summons issued
Same day returnable 1st Mond.
Feb. 1888. Mar. 5. Mar. 29/88 deft.

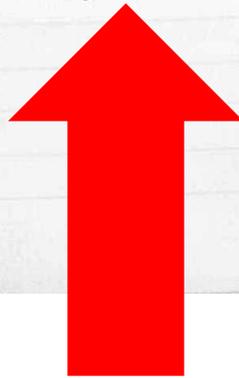
D. Divorce nisi Mar. 29/88 for
cause of sentence of imprisonment
for life in state prison. Custody of
minor child Price William Taylor
to libellant. Divorce made absolute
April 21. 1890

(certif issued)

D. Mar. 29/88.
Divorce nisi Mar. 29/88
for cause of sentence
of imprisonment for
life in state prison.
with custody of minor
child Price William
Taylor to libellant.

Recorded

Vol. 40. Page 1



Docket Book – Franklin Co.,

Mass

1

Susan J. Taylor of Deerfield in the County of Franklin,
 libellant for divorce against Eugene S. Taylor, her husband
 of said Deerfield, libellee.

"To the Honorable the Justices of the Superior Court, at Green-
 field within and for the County of Franklin

Humbly shows Susan J. Taylor of Deerfield in said County
that she was lawfully married to Eugene S. Taylor now of
Deerfield aforesaid, at Moses in the County of Chester and
State of New York, on the seventh day of September A.D. 1882,
 that they have since lived together as husband and wife in
 Deerfield aforesaid, except about four months from November
 1, 1882, until March 1883, and she has ever conducted towards
 him as a faithful, chaste, and affectionate wife, yet the said
 Eugene S. Taylor, regardless of his marriage vows and obli-
 gations, on the twenty fifth day of October A.D. 1886, at Green-
field in said County was convicted of the crime of murder (in the
second degree) of his son George Eugene Taylor, and was then
sentenced by the consideration and sentence of the Justices
of the Supreme Judicial Court then holden at Greenfield
in and for said County of Franklin, to be punished by im-

No 3
 Susan J. Taylor
 v
 Eugene S. Taylor

Court Minutes

ered by said Court that the allegation of the imprisonment for life of the said libellee as set forth in said libel and complaint was proved.

And thereupon it was ordered by said Court that a decree of divorce nisi from the bonds of matrimony be entered in favor of the said Susan J. Taylor, for the cause of the imprisonment for life of the said Eugene S. Taylor, her husband, to become absolute on the application of either party to the Court or any justice thereof after the expiration of six months from the entry of said decree, unless the Court should have sufficient cause, on application of any party interested otherwise ordered. And it was further ordered by said Court that the care and custody of the said minor child of said Susan J. and Eugene S. Taylor be given to said libellant.

And on the 14th day of April A. D. 1890 said libellant made application to the Court that said decree of divorce nisi be made absolute. And on said application the clerk of said Court made his certificate that in said libel a decree nisi was entered in favor of the said Susan J. Taylor, for the cause of imprisonment for life in State Prison, on the 29th day of March A. D.

Court Minutes

McAdams Geo. W. vs K. C. St. John et al. Page 5
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 Mourning H. W. vs W. M. Wickhampton 287
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 Moulton H. H. vs Thos. M. Hackett & Son 311
 M. P. Lawrence & J. P. Taylor et al 331

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Appearance Docket 18, District Court, Atchison Co. Kansas.

TITLE OF CAUSE	ATTORNEYS	Clerk's Costs	Sheriff's Costs	Credits
Mary J. Moor	J. F. Allsworth			
- vs -				
Samuel Moor				
Oct 9	Petition filed & set	50		
	Process	10		
	County affidavit	40		
	Summons issued to Sheriff Atch. Co	25		
	Motion for temporary alimony & suit money	20		
	Summons returned by Sheriff Atch. Co	20	1.00	
	Set on by Judge	50		J. B. Hargrove
	aff. of Mary Moor filed set, done	40		
	Final entry on Motion for judgment	35		
	Warrant & return	20		
	Entering order & decree & judgment	1.50		
	Dial	50		
	Printing cost	25		
		7.25		

Mary J. Moor Plaintiff
 vs
 Samuel Moor. Defendant.

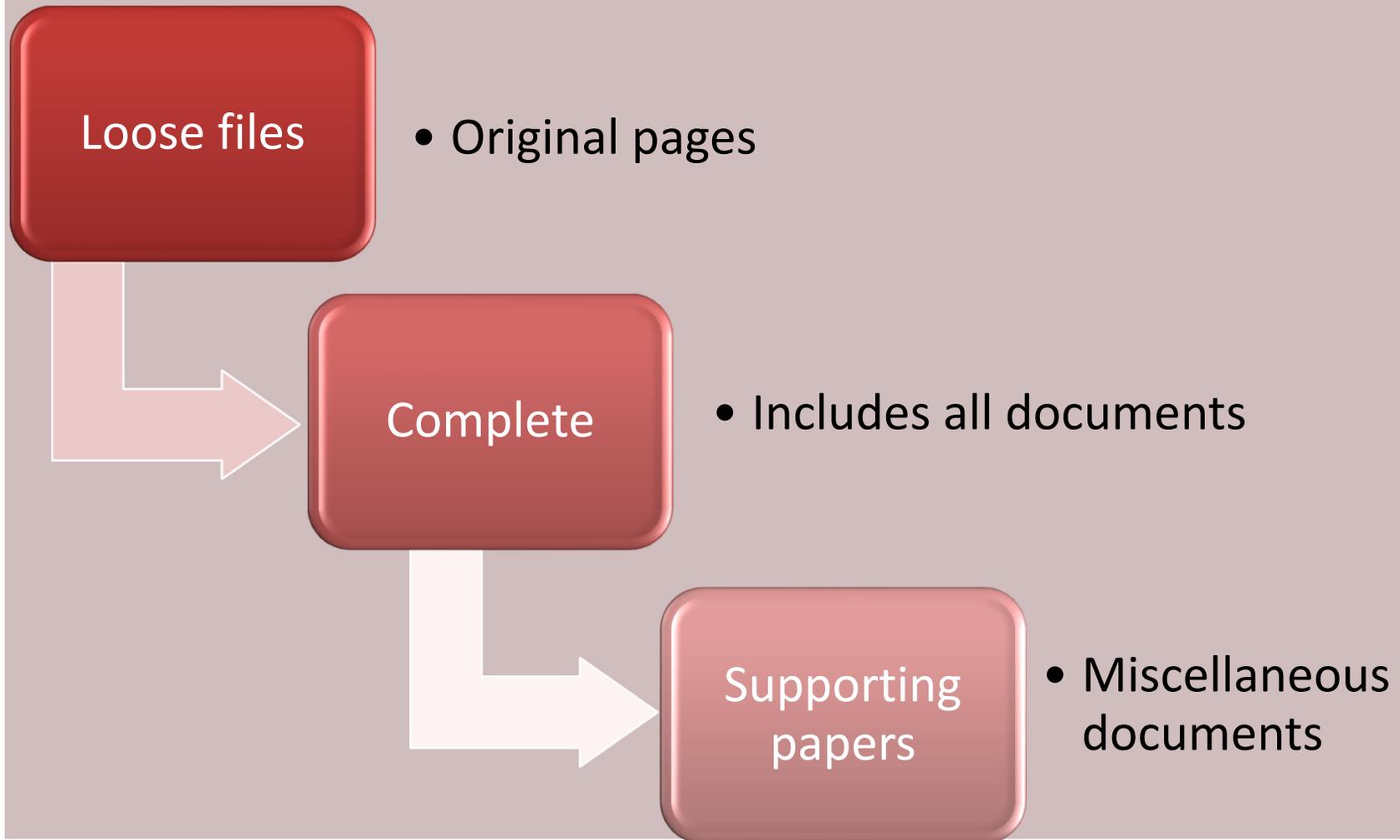
Now comes the Plaintiff by J. F. Allsworth, her Attorney and Friends
her motion for temporary alimony and suit money, for reasons in said motion
 contained, and which motion after argument by Counsel and Consideration of the
 Court, is Sustained, and said defendant ordered to pay to said Plaintiff or her
 Attorney within thirty days from date fixed the sum of Ten (10) Dollars as
 suit money herein.

Docket & Minutes

Y A b J

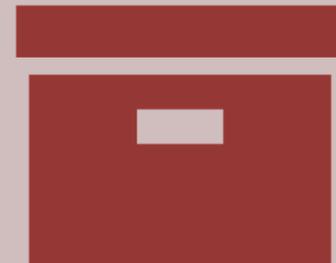
The case files may
allude to unpleasant
topics.

Case Files



Types of Records

- Petitions
- Affidavits
- Præcipes
- Summons
- Motions
- Orders
- Depositions
- Miscellaneous documents



Case Files

- Include a variety of documents
 - Depositions from witnesses
 - Full information on summons
 - Additional records
 - Financial information
 - Marriage certificate
- Bundled or put together in some way

Ballow, T. C. et al	vs. Coleman, Mary A. et al
Bacon, M. S. et al	vs. Sarah & Elizabeth Wilhoit
Breeding, Rachel-----Guardianship	
Battley, James N.-----Guardianship	
Bennett, Robert H. Admr.	vs McMahon & Brown
Barlow, Alice R.-----Guardianship	
Brown, Edmond	vs Barksdale F. Admr
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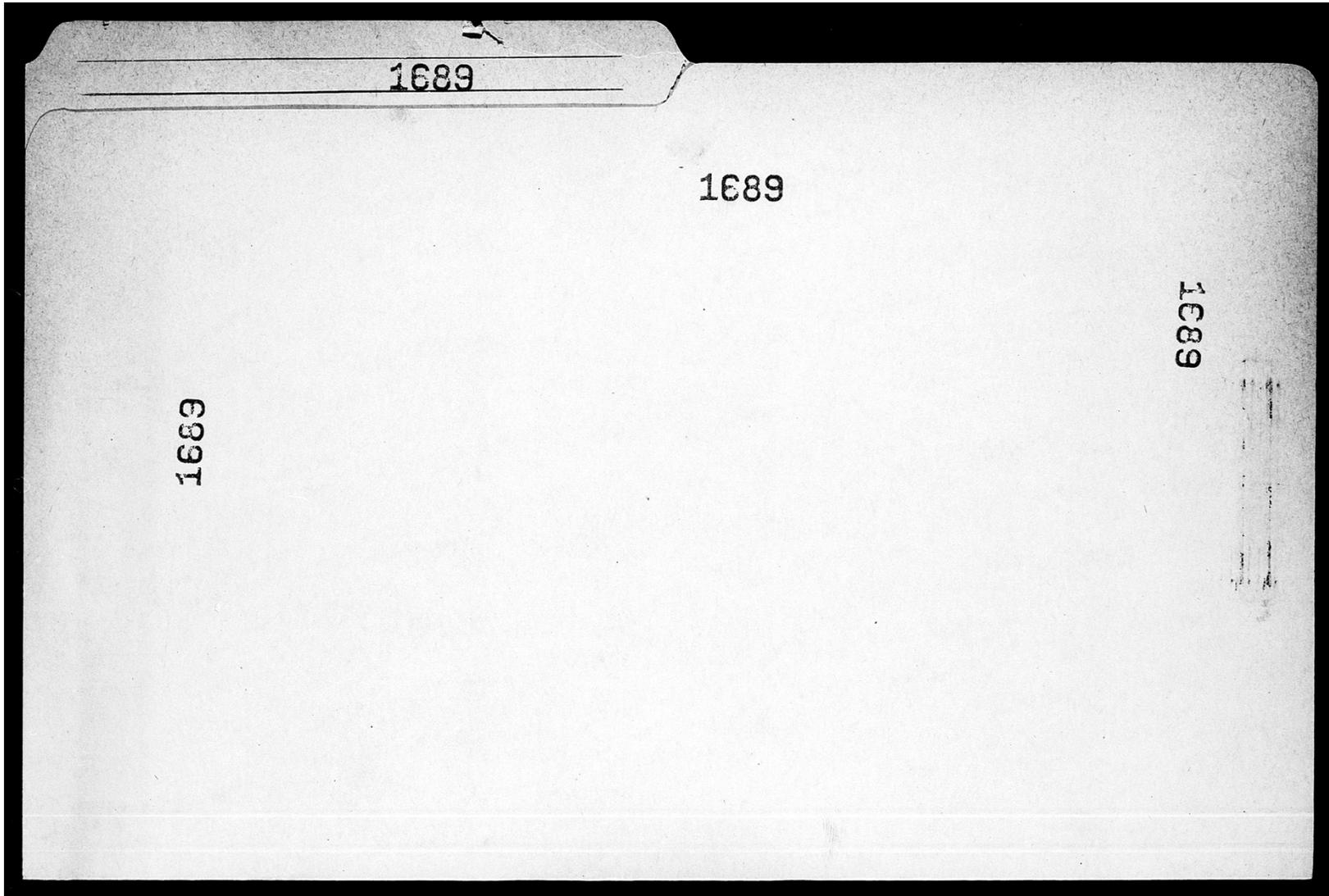
Madison Co., Mississippi

Plaintiff: *Minerva Battle*
 Defendant: *Turner Battle*

Docket Book: *No. 1*

Case File: *1689*

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Case File 1689

1689

State of Mississippi
Madison County

In Chancery Court of
said County do January
Term thereof 1878.

Minnora Battle
vs
Turner Battle

To the Hon. E. G. Peyton
Chancellor of the Chancery
District of the State of Mississippi
Your Oratory Minnora
Battle a resident of Madison
County Miss. would respect-
fully show unto your
Honor that her maiden
name was Minnora
Smith; that on the day
of January 1871 she was
married to her present
husband Turner Battle
at said County of Hinds
by George Whitfield a Justice of
the Peace of said County of Hinds.
Your Oratory would further
show that soon after her
said marriage her said

husband Turner Battle com-
menced a course of cruel
& inhuman treatment
towards her often striking,
beating & kicking her
without cause or provoca-
tion; which said treatment
of your Oratory on the part
of her said husband was
habitual from the time
it commenced until
she was compelled with her
infant child to abandon
his bed & board, about the
1st day of September 1876

Your Oratory would further
show that for several months
prior to leaving her said
husband he neglected to
provide sufficient food
& clothing for herself &
her infant child, after
leaving them without
food for several days at
a time, although he was
at the time able to furnish
her with necessary food
& clothing if he desired so

Case File 1689 – Complaint

CHANCERY COURT SUBPENA.—O'Brien, Page, Hooper & Co., Stationers, Chicago.

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI,
Chancery Court of Madison County, } TO WHOM: **1689**
To *Samuel Batts*

GREETING:

For certain causes offered before us in our Court of Chancery of Madison County, we command and strictly enjoin you, that, laying all matters aside, and notwithstanding any excuse, you personally appear at a Court of Chancery, to be holden at the Court Room in the City of Canton, on the *20th* Monday of *December* next, *1877*, ensuing, to answer a bill of complaint exhibited against you

by *Minerva Batts*

Complainant in our said Court: And further, do and receive what our Court shall have considered in this behalf; And in this you shall in no wise omit, under the penalty of one hundred dollars, as well as the consequences that may fall thereon.

And have you then and there this writ.

WITNESS, The Hon. *Sam'l Young*, Chancellor of the *9th* Chancery District of said State, the *23rd* day of *November* A. D. 1877, and seal of said Court.

Issued the *23rd* day of *November* A. D. 1877

W. D. Jeffery Clerk.

To the Sheriff of *Winds* County }
to execute and return.

CHANCERY COURT,
Madison County.

vs.

Minerva Batts

Samuel Batts

received _____ day of _____ A. D. 1877

Sheriff.

O'Brien, Page, Hooper & Co., Stationers, Chicago.

by constitute & appoint *Harmon*
my special deputy

Case File 1689 – Subpoena

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	Summons returned by Sheriff Atch. Co	20	1.00	
	Set on by Judge	50		J. B. Hargrove
	off of Mary Moore filed set, done	40		
March 6	Final entry on Motion for judgment	35		
	Warrant & Writ	20		
	Entering order & decree & judgment	1.50		
	Dial	50		
	Printing cost	25		
		7.25		

Mary J. Moore Plaintiff
 vs
 Samuel Moore Defendant
 Now comes the Plaintiff by J. F. Allsworth, her Attorney and friends
her motion for temporary alimony and suit money, for reasons in said motion
 contained, and which motion after argument by Counsel and consideration of the
 Court, is sustained, and said defendant ordered to pay to said Plaintiff or her
 Attorney within thirty days from date fixed the sum of Ten (10) Dollars as
 suit money herein.

Moore vs Moore, Case 5084

5084
 No. 208
 Mary J. Moore
 Plaintiff
 - vs -
 Samuel Moore
 Defendant.

Filed Dec 9th 1885
 John Moore
 Clerk

J. T. Allenworth
 Atty for Plaintiff
 Cost not paid

In the District
 Court of Atchison
 County Kansas
 Mary J. Moore
 Plaintiff
 vs.
 Samuel Moore
 Defendant.

Amended Petition.
 For cause of action against
 said defendant plaintiff,
 alleges that she is now
 for more than one year last
 has been a bona fide res-
 of Atchison County Kansas
 and at the time of the
 of this action was a resident
 said County.
 That she and said defen-
 are husband and wife
 were married on or about
 October 27th 1879, and that
 since their said marriage
 plaintiff has conducted
 self toward said defend-
 a dutiful and affec-
 wife; but that said
 disregarding his
 ties and has been
 extreme cruelty toward

The State of Kansas, } ss.
 COUNTY OF ATCHISON, }

To the Sheriff of said County of Atchison, Greeting:

You are Hereby Commanded to Notify Samuel Moore

that he has been sued by Mary J. Moore

in the District Court within and for the said County of Atchison, and that unless he
 answer by the 8th day of January A. D. 1886, the petition of said
Mary J. Moore

filed against him

in the clerk's office of said Court, such petition will be taken as true, and judgment
 rendered accordingly.
 You will make due return of this summons on or before the 19th day
 of December A. D. 1885.

Witness my hand and the seal of said Court, at the
 city of Atchison, this 9th day
 of December A. D. 1885.

SEAL

John Moore
 CLERK.
 DEPUTY CLERK.

~~Suit brought for the recovery of money. Amount claimed, \$~~

Received this summons on the 9th day of December
 1885 at 6 o'clock P. M. and served the same in my County (atchison)
 on the within named defendant Samuel Moore, on the 15th day
 of December 1885 by delivering to him in person a true and certified
 copy of this same summons with all the endowments thereon.
 December 15th 1885
 L. B. Hasgrove Sheriff
 By John Bonshaw Deputy

Moore vs Moore, Case 5084

The Undersigned having been appointed
Special Commissioner to take testimony
in the above entitled cause, begs
leave to report as follows:

John Bolin being first duly sworn
according to law deposes as
follows:

Inter-st. State whether or not you are
acquainted with the parties to this
suit, if so how long have you known
them and where?

Ans. I have known them both
ever since they were babes.
Said Benjamin Standefer first in
Shelby County Illinois, and
in Moultrie County Ills, ever
since Moultrie has been
a county - and the said
Martha Standefer in Moultrie
County ever since she was
born

2^d State what you know of the parties
to this cause being married,
and living together as husband
and wife?

Ans. I was not present at any
marriage between these parties,
but understand they were married
at Douglas County Illinois, some
time in the summer of 1867; and
I know they lived together in said
Moultrie County from the time
it was said they were married,
as husband and wife, until
about the first day of December
of the same year.

Deposition

of the same year -
Just 3rd If you know of the said Benjamin
Standafer deserting the said Martha
Standafer, state all the circum-
stances?
Ans In the fall of 1867, he sold all the property
of his wife, ~~Martha~~ Martha Standafer
consisting of Lands & personal property,
and took the money the said ~~Martha~~
had on hand of her own, amounting
in all to about five hundred
dollars, and went to Nebraska
for the pretended purpose of as he said

of buying a place, and was to have
returned for his wife; which he
did not do. He did return in
the fall of 1868 drapped, but failed
and refused to live with his ^{said} wife
and has ever since so failed
and refused to live with or
provide for her. Ever since
he sold her property and left
her, she has been compelled
to work out, to get a living
for herself and a child of
the said Benjamin Standafer
born since he left. The last I
heard of the said Benjamin Standafer
he was in the State of Iowa -

Deposition

64



This is to Certify

*That Mr Thomas Laughlan of Adams Creek in the State of
Kansas and Miss Phebe E. Wyckoff of Adams Creek
in the State of Kansas were by me joined together in*

HOLY MATRIMONY

*on the Twenty Third day of September in the Year of our Lord
One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Six*

*In Presence of
Nicholas Wyckoff
William Wyckoff*

*Joseph Denison
Minister of the Gospel.*

W. B. Hanson & Hanks, New York

Marriage Record

Archives

Where to find records

- County courthouses
- State Archives
- Online resources

Record of Divorce.

Husband's name in full
Rufus W. Bailey

Wife's name in full
Mina W. Bailey

Residence Windham

Date of Marriage Dec. 17, 1885

Place of Marriage Tewksbury, Mass.

Sex of Libellant Male

Date of Divorce May 27, 1905.

Cause Extreme Cruelty

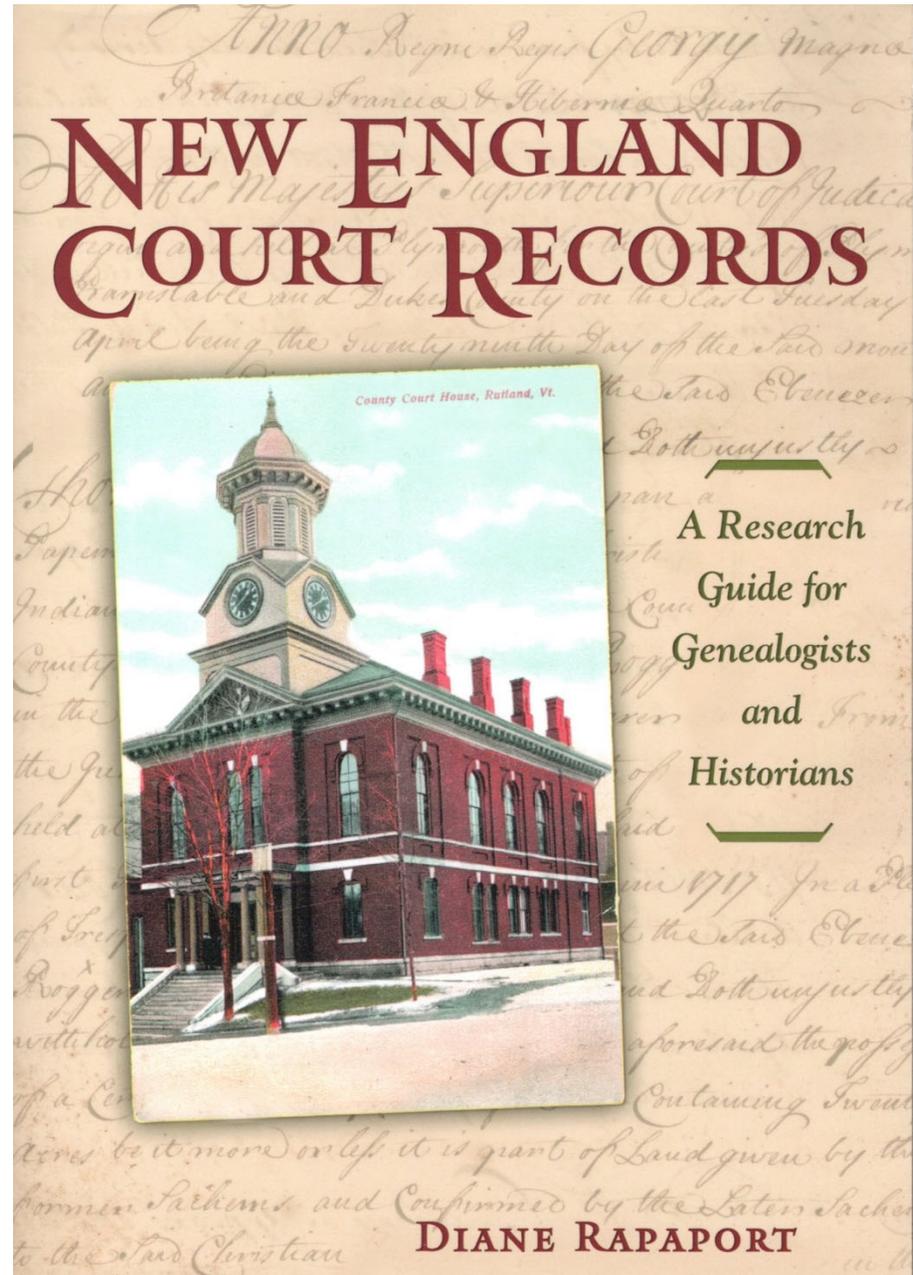
The State of New Hampshire.

Rockingham ss. Superior Court.

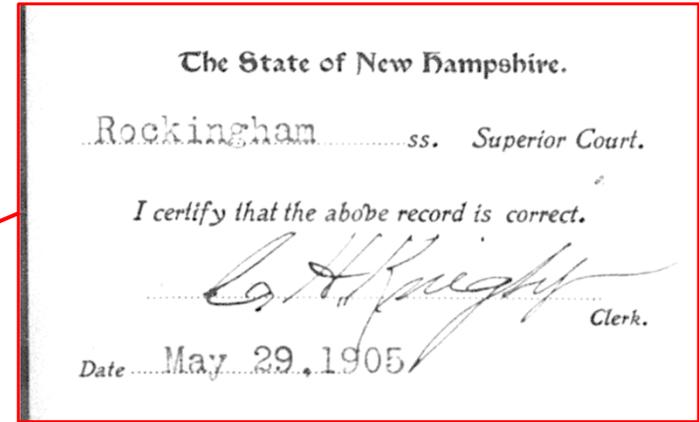
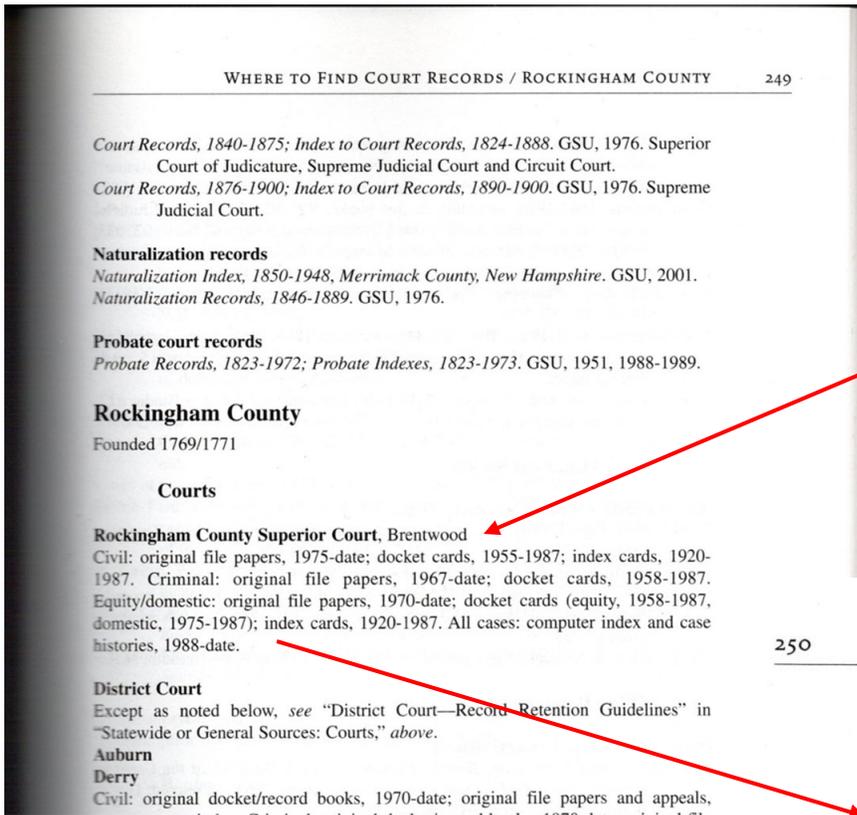
I certify that the above record is correct.


Clerk.

Date May 29, 1905



NH Divorce Index to 1938



State Archives

New Hampshire Division of Archives and Records Management, Concord

Court records: 1643-1980, including docket books, V29-30, 76; Supreme Judicial Court records, 1855-1900 (024131, 024134, 024143, 024163, 025033, 026151-026153, 026161-026164); index vols. and cards.

Exeter town records, including earliest court records, before 1643.

Merrill, Phinehas (Surveyor). Probate Record Rockingham Co. #9012 (1815) DC005001, F3, V74.

Naturalization: 1771-1923, Bin 528-530; records, 1898-1940, V31; intentions, petitions/orders, 1906-1991, Bin 611; indexes, 1771-1996, Binder #15, cards and computer.

Probate: record vols. and file papers, 1643-1980; indexes, 1643-1919 in Binder #17, cards and computer, 1870-1918.

State Historical Society

New England Court Records

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
David M. Scanlan
Secretary of State

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Send Mail to:
 N.H. Department of State
 9 Ratification Way
 Concord, NH 03301

<https://sos.nh.gov/>

Maine Divorce Records

1799-1909

Search Divorce Records

First Name	Last Name	Exact Spelling
<input type="text" value="anna"/>	<input type="text" value="sanford"/>	<input type="text" value="Exact Spelling"/>
County	Year	Exact Year
<input type="text" value="All"/>	<input type="text" value="All"/>	<input type="text" value="Exact Year"/>
<input type="button" value="Search"/>	<input type="button" value="Clear"/>	



Of the 28,396 records in this collection, those dated prior to 1892 were indexed by the Maine State Archives, which notes that "[a]ll Maine counties are listed with the exception of Lincoln County, who still has their records at the Court House in Wiscasset. Also not indexed are divorce cases heard in the Courts of Common Pleas or the early District Courts."

Since 1892 Maine county clerks have been required to return to the State abstracted records of all divorces and annulments granted by the courts convened in their counties. The returns generally give the names of the parties involved, the dates of marriage and divorce, and the grounds for divorce. (Note that marriage dates in these records are often incorrect.) The post-1891 records in this database are taken from these returns, available at [Digital Maine](#) (see index below). Certified copies of these later records may be obtained from the [Maine Office of Vital Records](#).

Further details on divorce proceedings—which may include place of marriage, places of residence, names and ages of children, and

https://www.maineancestry.com/divorce_search.asp

Maine Divorce Records

1799-1909

Search Results

Results 1 to 1 of 1

[New Search](#)

	Libellant	Libellee	Her Former Name	Year	County
1	Anna H. Sanford	Lewis H. Sanford		1905	Kennebec



Refine Your Search

First Name	Last Name	
<input type="text" value="anna"/>	<input type="text" value="sanford"/>	<input type="text" value="Exact Spelling"/>
County	Year	
<input type="text" value="All"/>	<input type="text" value="All"/>	<input type="text" value="Exact Year"/>
<input type="button" value="Search"/>		

Search Result

MAINE GENEALOGY Home Databases Blog Support This Site [Search All](#)

Maine Divorce Records

1799-1909

Divorce Record of Anna H. Sanford & Lewis H. Sanford

[New Search](#)

Libellant:	Anna H. Sanford
Libellee:	Lewis H. Sanford
Date of Marriage:	2 Sept. 1894
Date of Divorce:	17 April 1905
County:	Kennebec
Source:	Maine Divorce Returns, Volume 7, Page 74.
	<p>An image of this record might be available at FamilySearch. (Note: Records of the Kennebec County Superior Court, which began granting divorces in 1879, are not available.)</p> <p>Find it now <i>Free registration is required</i></p>



Divorce Information

digitalmaine repository DPLA
DIGITAL PUBLIC LIBRARY OF AMERICA

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Home > StateDocs > sos > ARCHIVES > ARC_IMG > VITAL_RECORDS > DIVORCE_INDEX > 7 < Previous Next >

Divorce Index

Maine Divorce Returns, Volume 07, 1904-1905
[Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics](#)

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Contributing Institution
Maine State Archives

Document Type
Text

Identifier
10-VR-V007

Broad Creation Date
1904-1905

https://digitalmaine.com/divorce_index/7/

FORM L.

CLERK OF COURTS' BLANK.

74.

Divorces decreed before the Superior Court of Newbury County for the year ending Dec. 31, 1905.

Sex of Libelant.	Name of Libelant.	Name of Libelee.	Former Name of Female.	Date of Marriage.	Date of Divorce.	Cause of Divorce.
F.	Kathleen Marble	Fred K. Marble		7.26.'93	1.23.'05	Intoxication ✓
M.	Carlton D. Braum	William M. Braum		6.2.'98	1.23.'05	Desertion ✓
F.	Lizzie E. Reed	Geo. R. Reed		11.12.'04	1.23.'05	Do ✓
M.	Thomas McCreely	Crissa E. McCreely		3.16.'75	1.13.'05	" ✓
M.	Henry M. Faught	Emma E. Faught		2-192	1.23.'05	" ✓
F.	Mildred W. Ryder	Arthur D. Ryder		7.1.'02	5.2.'05	Cruelty ✓
F.	Bertha F. Emerson	Sutton S. Emerson		2.5.'01	5.2.'05	" ✓
F.	Mabel M. Colant	Fredrick L. Colant		9.14.'01	5.2.'05	Non-support ✓
F.	Glenn A. Waters	James K. Waters		12.6.'00	5.2.'05	Do ✓
F.	Suey McRae	Daniel McRae		6.5.'84	4.18.'05	Intoxication ✓
M.	Frederic Crocker	Lillie B. Crocker		5.6.'93	5.2.'05	Adultery ✓
M.	Geo. P. Gross	Edith M. Gross		7.8.'01	5.2.'05	Desertion ✓
F.	Alice E. Rickford	Roy L. Rickford		11.18.'00	5.2.'05	Cruelty ✓
M.	Edwin B. Blaisdell	Idellia Blaisdell		5.3.'03	5.2.'05	Do ✓
M.	Timothy E. Wilson	Emma Milton		11-'02	4.8.'05	Adultery ✓
F.	Margaret A. Astle	Jacob C. Astle		6.20.'00	5.2.'05	Do ✓
F.	Anna B. Fisher	Herbert B. Fisher		1.14.'91	4.8.'05	Cruelty ✓
F.	Anna H. Sanford	Lewis H. Sanford		9-2-94	4.17.'05	Do ✓
F.	Mary Swath	Walter Swath		7.4.'01	6.27.'05	Adultery ✓
F.	Glorious A. Crafts	Wm. Crafts		7.23.'93	6.16.'05	Non-Support ✓
F.	Alice M. Brewster	Quincy A. Brewster		5.30.'95	6.27.'05	Do ✓

THIS SPACE IS RESERVED FOR BINDING.

I hereby certify that the above return is correct according to the best of my knowledge and belief, L. M. Jones Clerk of Courts.

Anna H. Sanford, Divorce

Finding Archives

- Google Search
- FamilySearch Wiki

FamilySearch Research Wiki

A Genealogy Resource Guide

104,663 articles

Find the birth, death, marriage, census records, and other genealogy resources for your ancestor by selecting the region and country below.

maine state Archives Find Search Tips

North America

Europe

Asia

Africa

South America

Australia/Oceania

List of all Localities

Jump-start your research

Guided Research will help you find the best databases for select locations.

Guided Research

www.FamilySearch.org/wiki/Main_Page

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Search by place or topic

Maine State Archives

To Do: Complete this page by adding brief collection descriptions to the **Alternate Repositories** list.

United States → Maine → Kennebec County → Archives and Libraries → Maine State Archives

Maine State Archives

Contents [hide]

- 1 Contact Information
- 2 Collection Description
- 3 Tips
- 4 Guides
- 5 Alternate Repositories
- 6 Sources

Contact Information [edit | edit source]

Address:^[1]

Mailing: 84 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Physical: 230 State Street
Augusta, Maine 04333

Telephone:^[1] 207-287-5795 **Fax:** 207-287-5517

Hours and holidays:^[2] Monday-Friday 8:00 to 4:00 (except [legal holidays](#))

Internet sites and databases:

- [Maine State Archives](#) includes online services, publications, news, Archives Interactive, CCC info, marriage and death databases, downloadable databases, researcher and historical group services.
- [Archives Interactive](#) describes records available at the MSA including photos, maps, court records, municipal records (birth, marriage, death) and microfilms, town legal histories, and newspapers.
- [Marriage database 1892-2009](#) search by bride's/groom's names, and/or by town, and narrow by date.
- [Death database 1660-2000](#) search by name, and/or by town of death, and narrow by date.



Maine State Library, Museum & Archives, Augusta, ME.

Google search results for "kentucky department for libraries and archives". A red arrow points to the search bar. A red bracket highlights the search results.

Search results include:

- <https://kdla.ky.gov> > Pages
- Home Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives
The Kentucky State Archives' Research Room has reopened to the public. ... Archives, and Records Commission advises the Department for Libraries and ...
- Kentucky State Digital Archives**
The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives ...
- Records Management**
Records Retention Forms · Box Labels (for use with Avery 6878 ...)
- Collections**
The State Library is dedicated to meeting the ...
- State Employees**
Who Is Classified as a State Employee? · Search the KDLA ...
- [More results from ky.gov >](#)
- <https://kdla.ky.gov>
Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives: Home
Our Services · KDLA Catalog · Kentucky State Digital Archives · Public Library Directory · Job List · Records Retention Schedules · Order Records.
[Records Management](#) · [State Employees](#) · [Archives & Reference](#) · [Library Support](#)
- <https://kentucky.gov> > Pages > AgencyProfile > Title=K...
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The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives serves Kentucky's need to know by assuring equitable access to high quality library and information ...

People also ask

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- What is the biggest library in KY? ▾
- What is an archival library? ▾

Ky Department For Libraries & Archives

Website Directions Save Call

4.9 ★★★★★ 7 Google reviews
Public library in Frankfort, Kentucky

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives is a collection of library and information resources. KDLA's mission is to serve "Kentucky's need to know" through its services "assuring equitable access" to information and services. Many of the materials available from KDLA are public domain. [Wikipedia](#)

Located in: Archives Office
Address: 300 Coffee Tree Rd, Frankfort, KY 40601
Hours: Open · Closes 4 PM -
Phone: (502) 564-8300

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(No answers)
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				2 PM: Usually not too busy		

www.Google.com



Our Mission

Serving Kentucky's Need to Know

KTBL Book Club

Continuing education calendar for public library staff

8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

Local Records Program Grants

What is eligible: Damaged or endangered public records or access to those records during or in the immediate aftermath of the flood. In fact, only on July 26-30, 2022.

Use of funds: Grant funds may only be used for the direct recovery of damaged or at risk local public documents resulting from the July 26-30, 2022, floods in Kentucky, or to purchase equipment destroyed in the flooding, or its immediate aftermath that is necessary to allow the governmental office to access public records stored electronically and resume operations. Any expenditures made after the date of the flooding are eligible for reimbursement consideration. Priority will be given to the preservation and restoration of permanent records. Grant funds will not be used for non-urgent items that may be funded by the normal Local Records Grant program. Only expenditures not covered by insurance are eligible.

What is eligible: Eligible items or services include, but are not limited to: services such as freeze drying, storage, transportation of materials, and rental facilities, supplies, including acid-free boxes and folders, storage cartons, cleaning materials, plastic milk crates, and protective gear; professional services acquired to mitigate damage, and to defray the costs of workers hired through a temporary agency to assist with the recovery. Other items or materials will be considered on an individual basis and an

The Collection Connection

News From Your State Library

Volume 2 Issue 4

The holidays are upon us! As we prepare to wrap up this year and unfold a new one, now is a good time to create a "To Read" list of books for those cold winter evenings. In this issue, discover our place and wellness titles to assist you in reaching some of those New Year's resolutions. As always, we have bestseller fiction too! Finally, this issue features titles to help with your holiday entertaining; information on our sister library, the Kentucky Talking Book Library; and a spotlight on

Our Services

KDLA Catalog

Kentucky State Digital Archives

Public Library Directory

Job List

Records Retention Schedules

Order Records

Calendar

February 2023 < >

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

t:30p Adv



<https://kdla.ky.gov/pages/index.aspx>



Archives & Reference

[Visiting the Archives](#)

[Resources for Researchers](#)

[Requesting Records from the Archives](#)

Requesting Records from the Archives

Submit your request for records from the collections of the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) online using this form.

CLICK HERE
TO
ORDER RECORDS



- If you experience any issues with the form consult these instructions for clarification: [Online Ordering Instructions](#)
- Consult our Records Inventory for the availability of KDLA records when considering placing an order with us: [County Records Inventory](#)
- Refer to our Research Guides to learn more about KDLA holdings of specific record types or subjects: [Research Guides](#)

Records Request Forms

If you prefer to not use a credit card for the research fee, you can fill out one of the request forms below and mail it, along with a check, to:

Archives Research Room
Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives
P.O. Box 537
300 Coffee Tree Road
Frankfort, KY 40602

Your request will be handled in the order of its receipt. Please allow 4-6 weeks for a response. **Check or money order should be payable to the Kentucky State Treasurer. Do not send cash.**

[Birth Record Request](#)

- For birth records after 1911, please contact the [Office of Vital Statistics at \(502\) 564-4212](#).
- ([CLICK HERE](#) for a list of birth records for 1852-1910 available at the Archives, by county.)

Kentucky Records

[eI

Check any available
holdings lists before
ordering records



Your request will be handled in the order of its receipt. Please allow 4-6 weeks for a response. **Check or money order should be payable to the Kentucky State Treasurer. Do not send cash.**

[Birth Record Request](#)

- For birth records after 1911, please contact the [Office of Vital Statistics at \(502\) 564-4212](#).
- ([CLICK HERE](#) for a list of birth records for 1852-1910 available at the Archives, by county.)
- ([CLICK HERE](#) for a list of birth records for 1852-1910 available at the Archives, by city.)

[Census Record Request](#)

[Civil Case File Record Request](#)

- ([CLICK HERE](#) for a list of dates of civil and criminal case files available at the Archives, by county.)

[Court of Appeals Record Request](#)

[Criminal Case File Record Request](#)

- ([CLICK HERE](#) for a list of dates of civil and criminal case files available at the Archives, by county.)

[Death Record Request](#)

- For death records after 1966, please contact the [Office of Vital Statistics at \(502\) 564-4212](#).
- ([CLICK HERE](#) for a list of death records for 1852-1910 available at the Archives, by county.)
- ([CLICK HERE](#) for a list of death records for 1852-1910 available at the Archives, by city.)

[Deed Record Request](#)

[Divorce Record Request](#)

- ([CLICK HERE](#) for a list of dates of civil and criminal case files available at the Archives, by county.)

[Marriage Record Request](#)

[Military Record Request](#)

[Name Change Record Request](#)

[Naturalization Record Request](#)

[Probate/Will Record Request](#)

[Tax Record Request](#)

Kentucky Records

Kentucky State Archives Center Holdings

County	Civil/Divorce Cases	Criminal Cases	Probate Cases	Order Books Available
Adair	1802-1977	1805-1977	none	1802-1977
Allen	1903-1961	none	none	1903-1977
Anderson	1828-1977	~1828-1977	none	1827-1977
Ballard	1864-1977	1908-1977	none	1842-1977
Barren	1798-1981	1799-1977	none	1806-1977
Bath	1809-1983	1848-1925, 1970-77	none	1811-1977
Bell	1876-1984	(1876?) 1920-1960	none	1875-1977
Boone	1800-1977	1864-1960	none	1799-1977
Bourbon	1785-1984	1853-1977	1977	1803-1977
Boyd	1861-1986	1911-1982	1977-1986	1860-1977
Boyle	1842-1986	1842-1986	none	1842-1977
Bracken	none	none	none	none
Breathitt	1866-1986	1870-1986	1963-1983	1839-1977
Breckinridge	1852-1984	1886-1984	1977-1984	1903-1977
Bullitt	1804-1982	1867-1982	1977	1803-1977
Butler	1810-1986	1810-1977	none	1810-1977
Caldwell	none	none	none	none
Calloway	1901-1983	1906-1983	1977-1983	1856-1973 (77 crim)
Campbell	1803-1985	1856-1984	1942-1960	1839-1966 (63 crim)
Carlisle	1884-1977	1884-1961, 1967-77	none	1886-1977
Carroll	1838-1977	1824-1958, 1965-77	1838-1970	1838-1977
Carter	1838-1983	1905-1977	1978-1986	1838-1977
Casey	1811-1977	1807-1960	none	(crom 1889-) 1935-1977
Christian	1802-1977	1893-1977	1977-1981	1807-1977
Clark	1793-1982	1862-1977	none	1803-1977
Clay	1807-1986	1921-1957, 1978-86	none	1809-1977
Clinton	1864-1977	1865-1977	some 1946-1963	1869-1969, 1976-77
Crittenden	1842-1989	1860-1989	1978-1989 *	1842-1977
Cumberland	1874-1888, 1934-70	1952-1977	none	1820-1860, 1928-1977
Daviess	1815-1977	1816-1986	1977-1986	1815-1977
Edmonson	1826-1977	1857-1950	none	1825-1977
Elliott	1958-1983	1958-1983	none	1958-1977

Kentucky Records

FamilySearch.org

- Offers many court records
- Digitized images may be available from home
- Catalog entries list repositories of originals

[← BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS](#)

PRINT Catalog Print List (0)

Chancery case files (divorces), 1833-1855

[Add to Print List](#)

Authors: [Michigan. Circuit Court \(Macomb County\) \(Main Author\)](#)

Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Film

Language: English

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 2002

Physical: 4 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

Hillsdale County created in 1855

Notes

Microfilm of [original records at the State Archives of Michigan, Lansing, Michigan.](#)

[View this catalog record in WorldCat for other possible copy locations](#)

Subjects

Locality Subjects

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Chancery case files, no. 45-78, 1851-1852	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	2364300	8613194	
Chancery case files, no. 79-138, 1852-1854	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	2364301	8613195	
Chancery case files, no. 139-153, 1854-1855	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	2364302	8613196	

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[Chancery case files \(divorces\), 1833-1855](#) [Add](#)
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Chancery case files (divorces), 1833-1855

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Authors: [Michigan. Circuit Court \(Macomb County\)](#) (Main Author)

Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Film

Language: English

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 2002

Physical: 4 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

Notes

Microfilm of original records at the State Archives of Michigan, Lansing, Michigan.

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- [United States, Michigan, Hillsdale - Divorce records](#)

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Early Divorce Cases



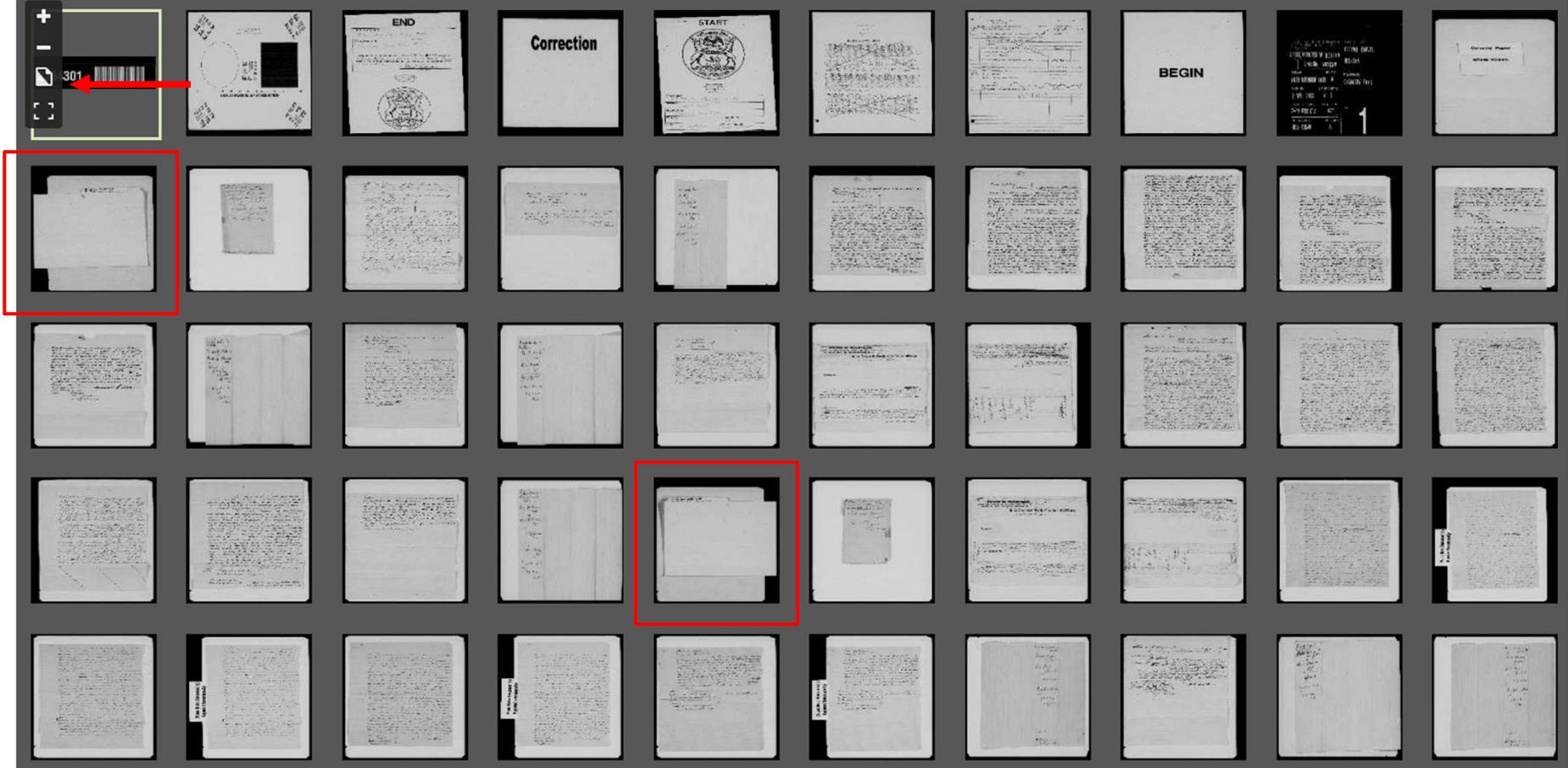
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Image 1 of 1971

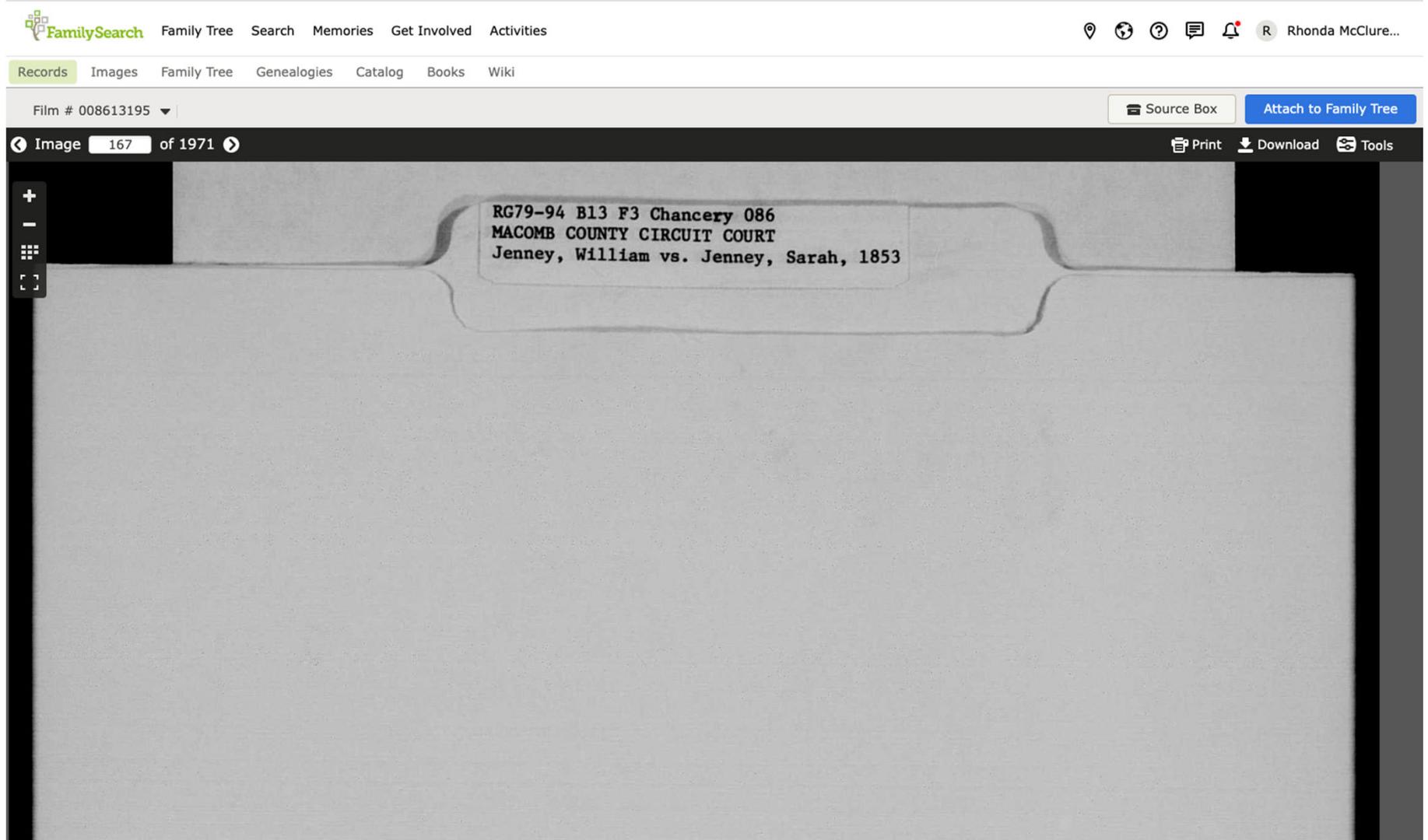
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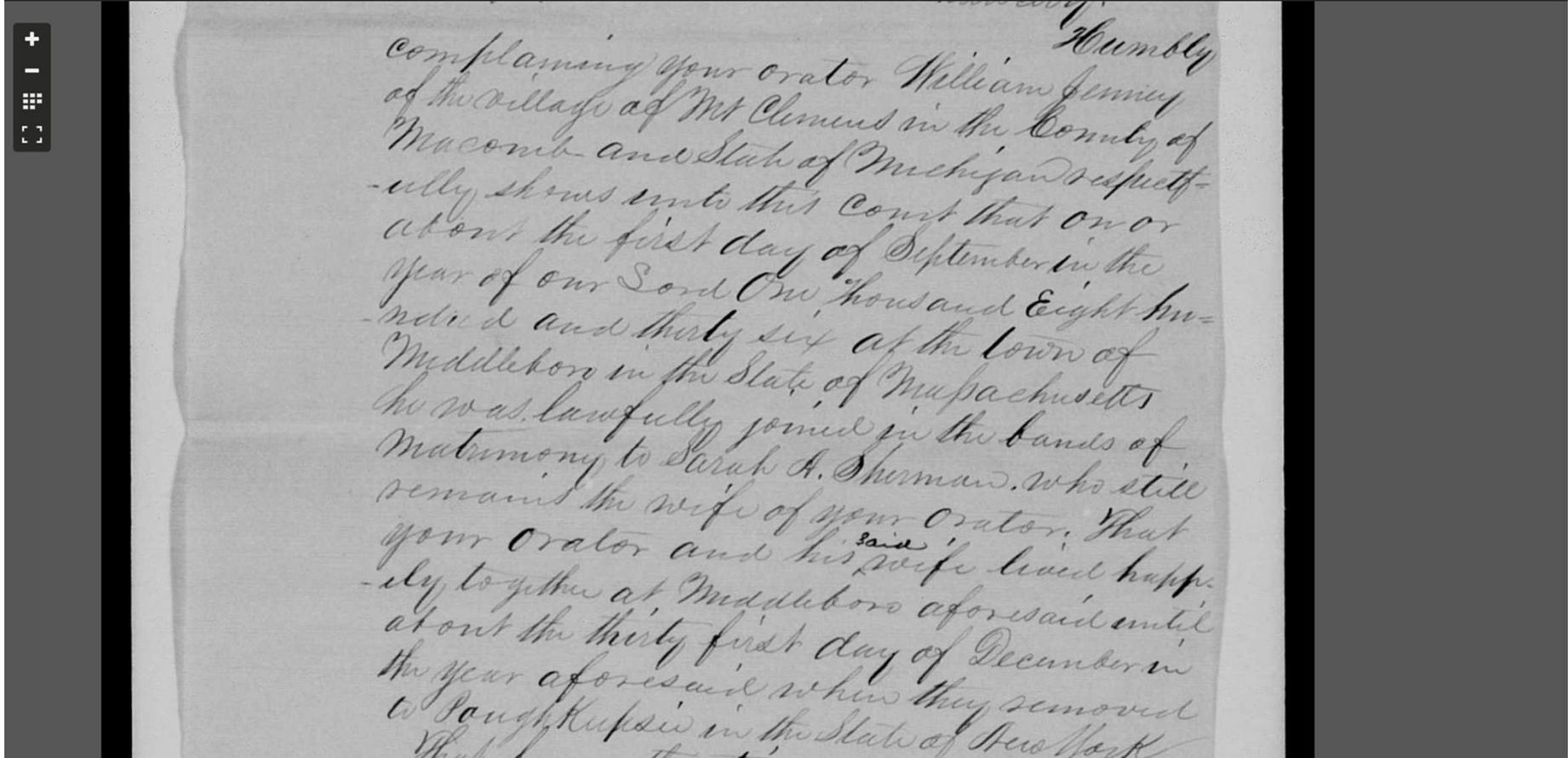
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The screenshot displays the FamilySearch.org website interface. At the top, the navigation menu includes 'FamilySearch', 'Family Tree', 'Search', 'Memories', 'Get Involved', and 'Activities'. A user profile for 'Rhonda McClure...' is visible in the top right corner. Below the navigation, there are tabs for 'Records', 'Images', 'Family Tree', 'Genealogies', 'Catalog', 'Books', and 'Wiki'. The main content area shows a document image, identified as 'Image 11 of 1971'. A red arrow points to the 'Image Index' icon in the left sidebar. The document image features a label with the following text: 'RG79-94 B12 F49 Chancery 079', 'MACOMB COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT', and 'Aldrich, George vs. Aldrich, Sarah, 1852'. At the bottom of the interface, there are buttons for 'Image Index' and 'Information'.

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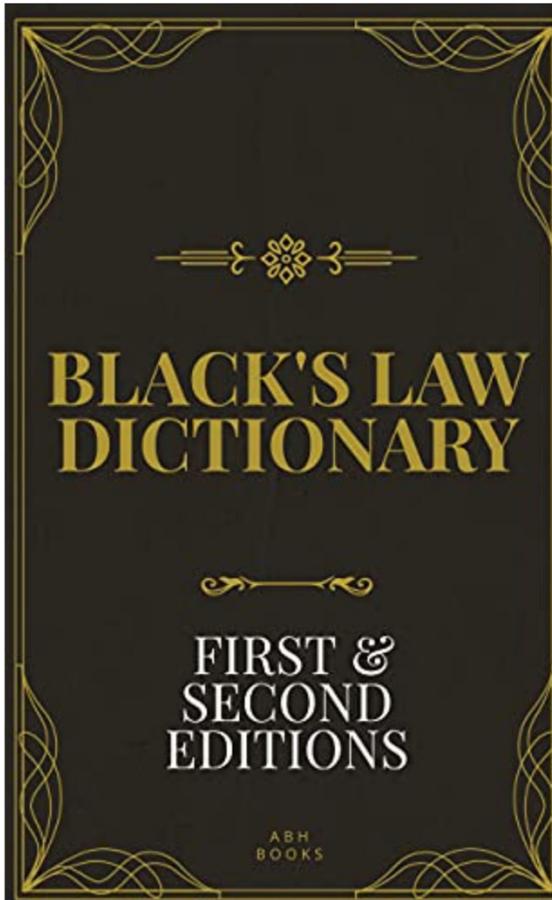
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Jenney Divorce Case File

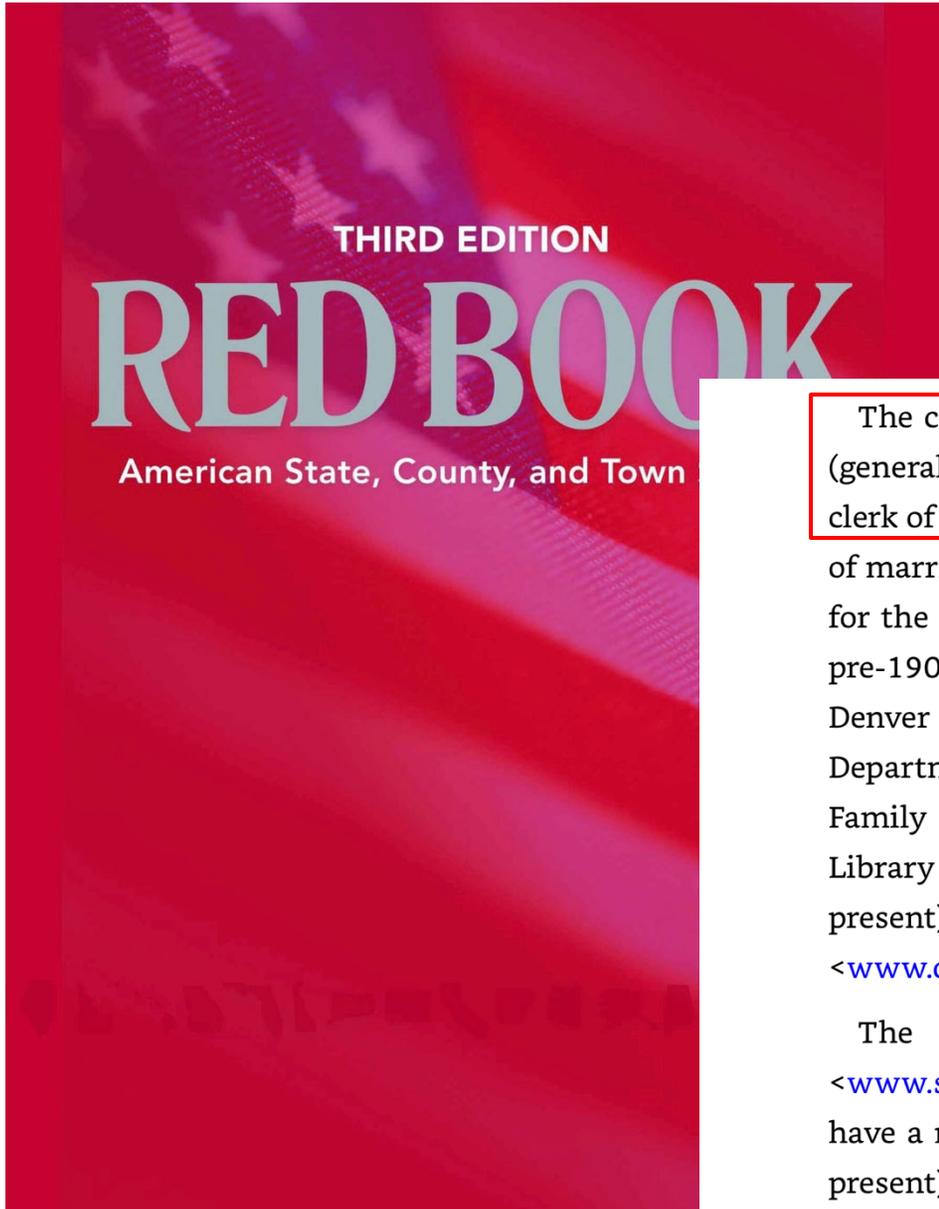
Aids

Black's Law Dictionary



...
NIHIL SIMUL INVENTUM, ETC. 816
Nihil simul inventum est et perfectum. Co. Litt. 291. Nothing is invented and perfected at the same moment.
Nihil tam conveniens est naturali equitati quam unumquodque dissolvi eo ligamine quo ligatum est. Nothing is so consonant to natural equity as that a thing should be dissolved by the same means by which it was bound. 2 Inst. 359; Broom, Max. 877.
Nihil tam conveniens est naturali equitati quam voluntatem domini rem suam in alium transferre ratam habere. 1 Coke, 109. Nothing is so consonant to natural equity as to regard the intention of the owner in transferring his own property to another.
Nihil tam naturale est, quam eo genere quidque dissolvere, quo colligatum est; ideo verborum obligatio verbis tollitur; nudi consensus obligatio contrario consensu dissolvitur. Nothing is so natural as to dissolve anything in the way in which it was bound together; therefore the obligation of words is taken away by words; the obligation of mere consent is dissolved by the contrary consent. Dig. 50, 17, 35; Broom, Max. 887.
Nihil tam proprium imperio quam legibus vivere. Nothing is so becoming to authority as to live in accordance with the laws. Fleta, lib. 1, c. 17, § 11.
NIHILIST. A member of a secret association, (especially in Russia,) which is devoted to the destruction of the present political, religious, and social institutions. Webster.
Nil agit exemplum item quod lito resolvit. An example does no good which settles one question by another. 15 Wend. 44, 49.
Nil consensu tam contrarium est quam vis atque metus. Nothing is so opposed to consent as force and fear. Dig. 50, 17, 116.
NIL DEBET. He owes nothing. The form of the general issue in all actions of debt on simple contract.
Nil facit error nominis cum de corpore vel persona constat. A mistake in the name does not matter when the body or person is manifest. 11 Coke, 21; Broom, Max. 634.
NISI PRIUS
NIL HABUIT IN TENEMENTIS. He had nothing [no interest] in the tenements. A plea in debt on a lease intended, by which the defendant sets up that the person claiming to be landlord had no title or interest.
NIL LIGATUM. Nothing is, no obligation has been incurred. Lat. Max.
Nil sine prudenti fecit ratas. Antiquity did nothing without reason. Co. Litt. 65.
Nil temere novandum. No be rashly changed. Jenk. Cont.
Nimia certitudo certitudi destruit. Too great certainty taints itself. Leitt, 241.
Nimia subtilitas in jure. Too much subtlety is discountenanced.
Nimium altercanda veritas. Too much altercated.
NIMMER. A thief; a pilferer.
NISI. Lat. Unless. The word is often used, as a kind of elliptical expression, in the words "rule," "order," "decree," "judgment," or "confirmation," to the adjudication of is or stand as valid and operative unless affected by it shall appear against it, or take some other step to avoid it or procure its revocation. Thus a "decree nisi" is one which will definitely conclude the defendant's rights unless, within the prescribed time, he shows cause to set it aside or successfully appeals. The word, in this sense, is opposed to "absolute." And when a rule nisi is finally confirmed, for the defendant's failure to show cause against it, it is said to be "made absolute."
NISI FECERIS. Lat. If you do not do it. By virtue of this clause commonly occurring in judicial writs, commanding that, if it be done, the king's court or do it. By virtue of this clause court usurped the jurisdiction of manorial, or local courts. Still.
NISI PRIUS. Lat. The trial are such as are held for the fact before a jury and one presiding judge. In America the phrase is familiarly used to denote the forum (whatever may be its title).

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NISI. Lat. Unless. The word is often adjoined, as a kind of elliptical expression, to the words "rule," "order," "decree," "judgment," or "confirmation," to indicate that the adjudication of is one which is to stand as valid and operative unless the party affected by it shall appear and show cause against it, or take some other appropriate step to avoid it or procure its revocation. Thus a "decree nisi" is one which will definitely conclude the defendant's rights unless, within the prescribed time, he shows cause to set it aside or successfully appeals. The word, in this sense, is opposed to "absolute." And when a rule nisi is finally confirmed, for the defendant's failure to show cause against it, it is said to be "made absolute."
NISI FECERIS. Lat. The name of a

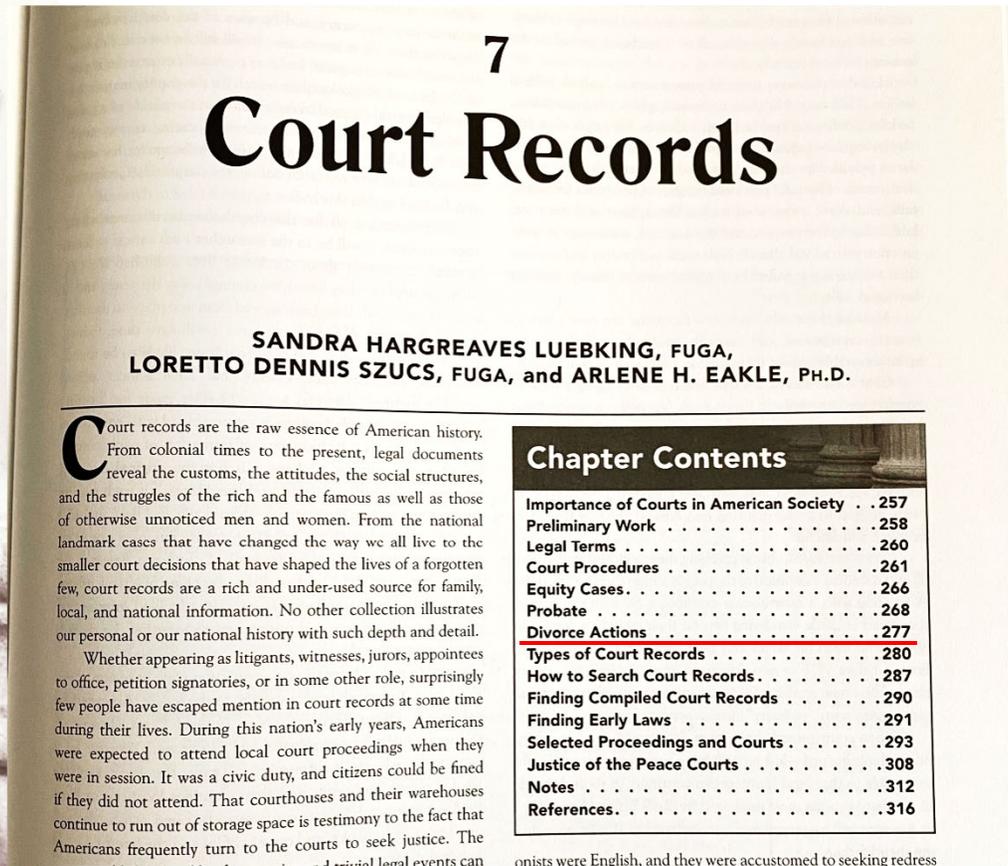
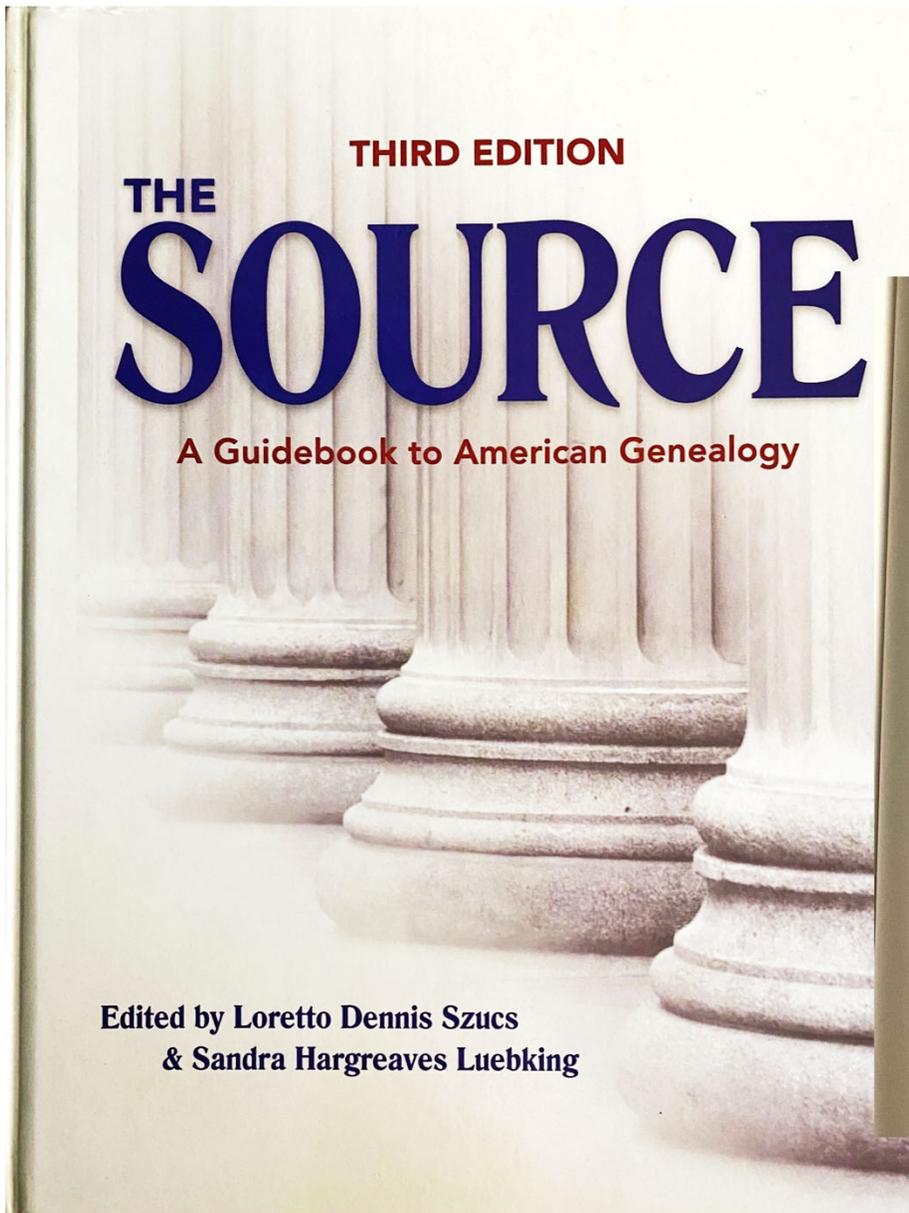


Colorado

The county's clerk and recorder maintains marriage records (generally available from the early days of the county), and the clerk of the district court holds divorce records. A statewide list of marriages and divorces indexed by name of the groom exists for the years 1900 through 1939 (with one quarter of entries pre-1900) and is located at the Colorado State Archives and Denver Public Library—Western History and Genealogy Department (see Archives, Libraries, and Societies) and the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City. Denver Public Library has an online version of the marriage index (1975-present) that will include brides as well as grooms at www.denverlibrary.org/research/genealogy/index.html.

The divorces are indexed online at www.sctc.state.co.us/marriages/divorces.aspx. Both agencies have a microfiche marriage index, by bride and groom (1975-present) and a divorce index (1968-present). An up-to-date

Red Book



7
Court Records

**SANDRA HARGREAVES LUEBKING, FUGA,
 LORETTO DENNIS SZUCS, FUGA, and ARLENE H. EAKLE, PH.D.**

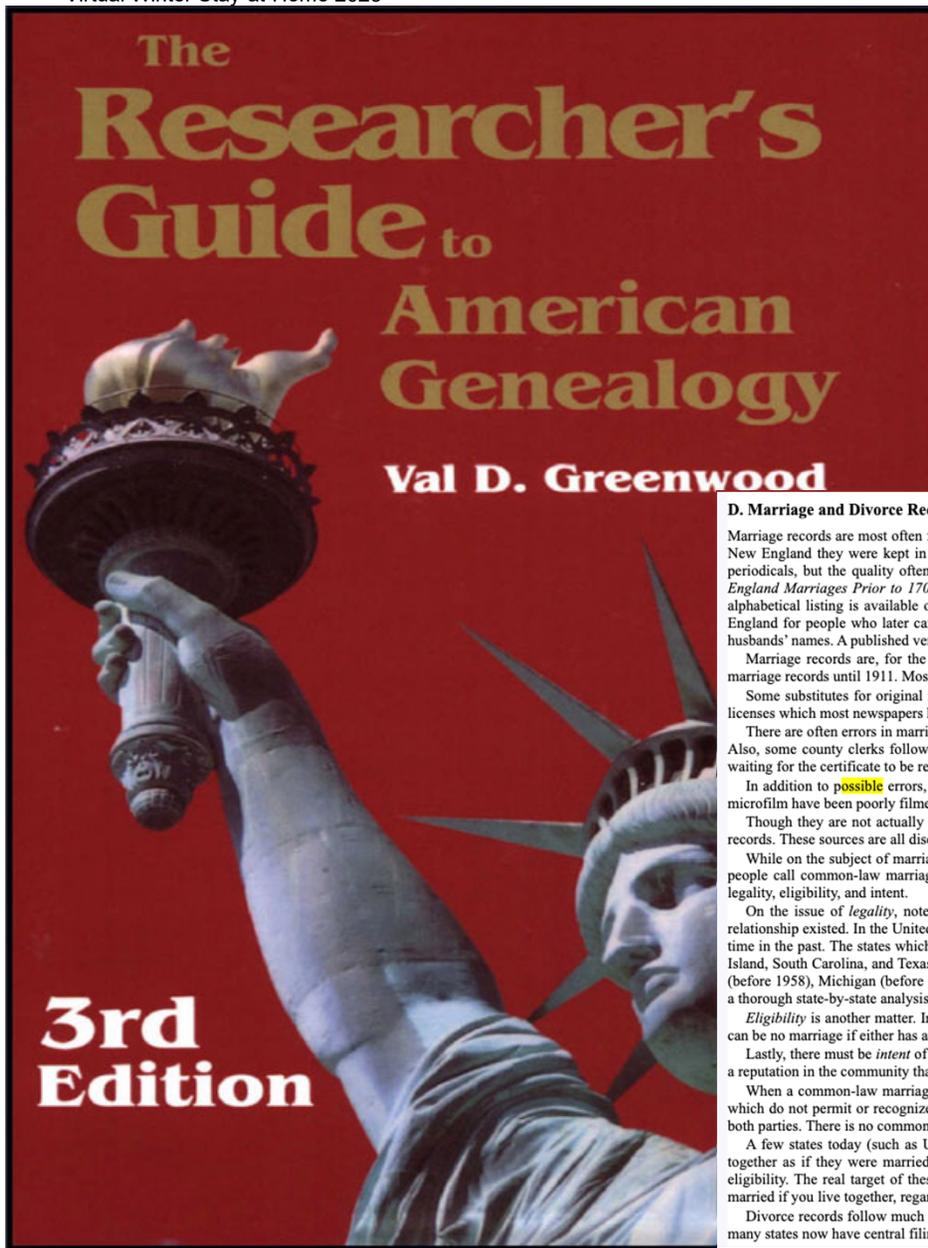
Court records are the raw essence of American history. From colonial times to the present, legal documents reveal the customs, the attitudes, the social structures, and the struggles of the rich and the famous as well as those of otherwise unnoticed men and women. From the national landmark cases that have changed the way we all live to the smaller court decisions that have shaped the lives of a forgotten few, court records are a rich and under-used source for family, local, and national information. No other collection illustrates our personal or our national history with such depth and detail.

Whether appearing as litigants, witnesses, jurors, appointees to office, petition signatories, or in some other role, surprisingly few people have escaped mention in court records at some time during their lives. During this nation's early years, Americans were expected to attend local court proceedings when they were in session. It was a civic duty, and citizens could be fined if they did not attend. That courthouses and their warehouses continue to run out of storage space is testimony to the fact that Americans frequently turn to the courts to seek justice. The

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onists were English, and they were accustomed to seeking redress

The Source



D. Marriage and Divorce Records

Marriage records are most often found in the county where the licenses were issued, usually in the jurisdiction of the county clerk or county recorder. However, in New York and New England they were kept in the town. The early records consist mostly of records of licenses and bonds. Many of these early records have been published in books and periodicals, but the quality often leaves much to be desired. One such publication of importance to those with early New England ancestry is Clarence Almon Torrey's *New England Marriages Prior to 1700* (a manuscript index in twelve handwritten volumes of some 37,000 marriages from about 100,000 references in about 2,000 sources). This alphabetical listing is available on microfilm and on photocopy at the New England Historic Genealogical Society Library in Boston. The listing includes many marriages in England for people who later came to New England. The Barbour Collection (Connecticut) was apparently not used as an input source. Listings are alphabetical according to husbands' names. A published version of the Torrey work was produced by the Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, in 1985.

Marriage records are, for the most part, available quite early in many areas of the U.S., with such well-known exceptions as South Carolina, which did not have official marriage records until 1911. Most early marriage records do not contain detailed genealogical data; however, there are exceptions to this.

Some substitutes for original marriage records that are of interest to the genealogist are newspaper notices and announcements, as well as the vital records lists of marriage licenses which most newspapers have carried. The former, especially, can provide interesting details.

There are often errors in marriage records, and you should always be alert to that possibility. The parties themselves sometimes falsified the data they gave to the record keeper. Also, some county clerks followed the questionable practice (in order to be more efficient) of recording the date of the marriage at the time the license was issued instead of waiting for the certificate to be returned. There are also spelling errors in these records, as in all other records you will use.

In addition to possible errors, the researcher should be aware that some marriage records will be wholly or partially unreadable for one reason or another. Some of those on microfilm have been poorly filmed. In others the record keepers had poor handwriting. Some records have been damaged and/or faded by time and the elements.

Though they are not actually vital records, there are other possible sources of marriage information. These include widows' pension applications, family Bibles, and census records. These sources are all discussed elsewhere in this book.

While on the subject of marriages, I would also like to make a few brief comments on common-law marriages. They are widely misunderstood and many relationships which people call common-law marriages are not marriages at all but only unlawful cohabitations. A common-law marriage is a legal marriage. Its existence is largely a matter of legality, eligibility, and intent.

On the issue of *legality*, note that, in order for a legal common-law marriage to exist, such a relationship must be recognized as a legal marriage in the state where the relationship existed. In the United States many states (as well as the District of Columbia) now recognize common-law marriages, and many others have recognized them at some time in the past. The states which currently recognize common-law marriages are Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Texas. Some states which have recently recognized and permitted common-law marriages are Colorado (before 1973), Florida (before 1968), Indiana (before 1958), Michigan (before 1957), Minnesota (before 1941), Mississippi (before 1956), Montana (before 1978), Nevada (before 1943), and South Dakota (before 1959). For a thorough state-by-state analysis see Noel C. Stevenson, *Genealogical Evidence* (Laguna Hills, CA: Aegean Park Press, 1979), pages 93-102.

Eligibility is another matter. In order for a legal common-law marriage (or any other legal marriage) to come into existence, both parties must be eligible for marriage. There can be no marriage if either has a legal, undivorced spouse or if there are other impediments, such as a relationship between the man and woman too close to permit marriage.

Lastly, there must be *intent* of the parties to be husband and wife to each other. Some indications of this intent which must be present include consummation, cohabitation, and a reputation in the community that they are husband and wife.

When a common-law marriage exists it is the same as any other marriage in the eyes of the law, and such a marriage is usually given full faith and credit even in the states which do not permit or recognize creation of such within their own boundaries. And a common-law marriage can be dissolved only by a legal divorce or by the death of one or both parties. There is no common-law divorce.

A few states today (such as Utah) are statutorily recognizing presumptive marriages. That is, the state presumes that a couple are married to each other if they have lived together as if they were married for a specified period of time. Such presumptions, of course, can be rebutted through presentation of evidence on such grounds as lack of eligibility. The real target of these statutes is prevention of welfare abuse, and they have nothing to do with the common law. They essentially say "we will presume you are married if you live together, regardless of your intent." Such statutes will certainly be tested in the courts and will no doubt create some bigamists.

Divorce records follow much the same pattern as marriage records but are not generally as early. Most of the records are in the counties where the divorces were granted, but many states now have central filing of official divorce records. More is said about divorce records, their location, and their use in [chapter 21](#).

The Researcher's Guide...

A. Divorce Records

Divorce records were discussed briefly in [chapter 12](#) but, because they are essentially court records, it is appropriate to discuss them further here. Many wonder about the genealogical value of **divorce** records because they do not understand them, but if the couple who sought the **divorce** had children, the names and ages of those children are usually given in the court records (though not on the certificate). Dates of birth (or ages) of both parties, state or country of birth of both parties, the date and place of the marriage, plus the date and grounds for the **divorce** itself are also given.

In most states the court having authority to grant divorces is the court which has control over other equity matters. There are only a few exceptions to this. Following is a list of the courts having jurisdiction in **divorce** cases in the several states. The records are ordinarily kept in these courts and, in many cases, are open to public use:

ALABAMA:	Circuit Court in county.
ALASKA:	Superior Court in district (there are four judicial districts).
ARIZONA:	Superior Court in county.
ARKANSAS:	Chancery Court in county.
CALIFORNIA:	Superior Court in county.
COLORADO:	District Court in county.
CONNECTICUT:	Superior Court in county.
DELAWARE:	Family Court (after 1975) and Prothonotary (to 1975) in county.
D.C.:	Family Division, Superior Court (from September 1956) and U.S. District Court for District of Columbia (for earlier records).
FLORIDA:	Circuit Court in county.
GEORGIA:	Superior Court in county.
HAWAII:	Family Court Division, Circuit Court (there are four judicial circuits).
IDAHO:	District Court in county (County Recorder).
ILLINOIS:	Circuit Court in county.
INDIANA:	Circuit and Superior Courts in county (County Clerk).
IOWA:	District Court in county.
KANSAS:	District Court in county.
KENTUCKY:	Circuit Court in county.
LOUISIANA:	District Court in parish (Parish Clerk).
MAINE:	District Court in county.
MARYLAND:	Equity Court in county.
MASSACHUSETTS:	Probate Court in county.
MICHIGAN:	Circuit Court in county (County Clerk).
MINNESOTA:	District and County Courts in county (concurrent jurisdiction).
MISSISSIPPI:	Chancery Court in county (Chancery Clerk).
MISSOURI:	Circuit Court in county.
MONTANA:	District Court in county.
NEBRASKA:	District Court in county.
NEVADA:	District Court in county (County Clerk).
NEW HAMPSHIRE:	Superior Court in county.
NEW JERSEY:	Superior Court (Chancery Division, Family Part) in county.
NEW MEXICO:	District Court in county.
NEW YORK:	Supreme Court in county (County Clerk).
NORTH CAROLINA:	District Court in county.
NORTH DAKOTA:	District Court in county (in Family Court Division in counties over 10,000).
OHIO:	Court of Common Pleas in county.

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divorce

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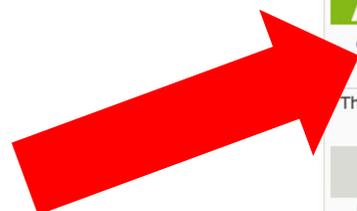
- 1 What is in This Collection?
 - 1.1 Image Visibility
 - 1.2 To Browse This Collection
- 2 What Can These Records Tell Me?
- 3 Collection Content
 - 3.1 Sample Images
- 4 How Do I Search This Collection?
 - 4.1 Search the Index
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 - 4.3 How Do I Analyze the Results?
- 5 What Do I Do Next?
 - 5.1 I Found the Person I Was Looking For, What Now?
 - 5.2 I Can't Find the Person I'm Looking For, What Now?
 - 5.3 Research Helps
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 - 6.2 FamilySearch Historical Records
 - 6.3 FamilySearch Digital Library
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What is in This Collection? [edit | edit source]

This collection contains a divorce index from the Colorado Department of Health for the years 1900 to 1939. The index is arranged in alphabetical order.

Image Visibility [edit | edit source]

Whenever possible FamilySearch makes images and indexes available for all users. However, rights to view these data are limited by contract and subject to change. Because of this there may be limitations on where and how images and indexes are available or who can see them. Please be aware some collections consist only of partial information indexed from the records and do not contain any images. For additional information about image restrictions see [Restrictions for Viewing Images in FamilySearch Historical Record Collections](#).



Access the Records

Colorado, Statewide Divorce Index, 1900-1939

This article describes a collection of records at FamilySearch.org.

Colorado, United States



Flag of Colorado



Location of Colorado

Record Description

Record Type	Divorce Index
Collection years	1900-1939

FamilySearch Resources

- Colorado Guided Research

FamilySearch Wiki

Colorado Statewide Divorce Index, 1900-1939

Colorado Department of Health card index of divorces in Colorado from 1900-1939. The index is arranged in alphabetical order.

🔗 HOW TO USE THIS COLLECTION

🖼️ BROWSE ALL 82,674 IMAGES



Cite This Collection

"Colorado Statewide Divorce Index, 1900-1939." Database with images. *FamilySearch*. <https://FamilySearch.org> : 18 July 2022. Colorado State Archives, Denver.

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[FEEDBACK](#) [ENGLISH](#)

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Add Ancestor Information

NAME ALTERNATE NAME SEX

First Names

alice

Last Names

smith

Add Life Event

ANY BIRTH MARRIAGE RESIDENCE DEATH

Place

City, County, State, Province, or Country

Year (Range)

1910

1920

Add Family Member

SPOUSE FATHER MOTHER OTHER PERSON

Add Record Options

LOCATION TYPE BATCH NUMBER IMAGE GROUP NUMBER (DGS) OR FILM NUMBER

Country or Location

State or Province

Show Exact Search

🔍 SEARCH

FEWER OPTIONS

www.FamilySearch.org



Filtered Results (112)

PREFERENCES SEARCH

Collection: Birth, Marriage, & Death, Colorado Statewide Divorce Index, 1900-1939 (112)

Collection Sex Race Marriage Other

Name	Events	Relationships
Alice H Smith Principal Colorado Statewide Divorce Index, 1900-1939	Divorce 1 October 1917 El Paso, Colorado, United States Marriage 24 March 1913	Spouses Clinton George Smith
Alice G Smith Principal Colorado Statewide Divorce Index, 1900-1939	Divorce 3 October 1933 Boulder, Colorado, United States Marriage 7 January 1912	Spouses Claude A Smith
Alice Hemenway Smith Principal Colorado Statewide Divorce Index, 1900-1939	Divorce 9 December 1911 El Paso, Colorado, United States Marriage 15 June 1910	Spouses George Clinton Smith
Alice Smith Spouse Colorado Statewide Divorce Index, 1900-1939	Divorce 1 June 1911 Chaffee, Colorado, United States Marriage 9 December 1905	Spouses George Crvle Smith
Alice Smith Principal Colorado Statewide Divorce Index, 1900-1939	Divorce 16 November 1920 Huerfano, Colorado, United States Marriage 10 March 1920	Spouses Alex Smith
Alice Smith Spouse Colorado Statewide Divorce Index, 1900-1939	Divorce 1 March 1920 El Paso, Colorado, United States Marriage 3 July 1901	Spouses Elmer E Smith
Rose Alice Smith Principal Colorado Statewide Divorce Index,	Divorce 23 February 1893 Colorado, United States Marriage 3 Mar 1888	Spouses David A S

Feedback

Record Information

Alice Hemenway Smith

Legal • Colorado Statewide Divorce Index, 1900-1939

VIEW RECORD

Name **Alice Hemenway Smith**

Spouse's Name **George Clinton Smith**

Divorce Date **9 Dec 1911**

Divorce Place **El Paso, Colorado, United States**

Marriage Date **15 Jun 1910**

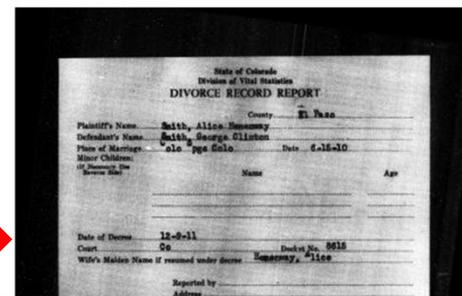
Event Type **Divorce**

Court Docket Number **8615**

Alice Hemenway Smith's Spouses and Children

OPEN ALL

George Clinton Smith Ex-spouse



ATTACH TO FAMILY TREE



State of Colorado
Division of Vital Statistics
DIVORCE RECORD REPORT

County El Paso

Plaintiff's Name Smith, Alice Hemenway
Defendant's Name Smith, George Clinton
Place of Marriage El Paso, Colo Date 6-15-10

Minor Children:
(If Necessary Use
Reverse Side)

Name Age

Date of Decree 12-9-11
Court Co Docket No. 8615
Wife's Maiden Name if resumed under decree Hemenway, Alice

Reported by _____
Address _____

SON-YI-28-39-HIRSCHFELD PRESS, DENVER

Information X

Alice Hemenway Smith

Legal • Colorado Statewide
Divorce Index, 1900-1939

VIEW RECORD

Name **Alice Hemenway
Smith**

Spouse's Name **George Clinton Smith**

Divorce Date **9 Dec 1911**

Divorce Place **El Paso, Colorado,
United States**

Marriage Date **15 Jun 1910**

Event Type **Divorce**

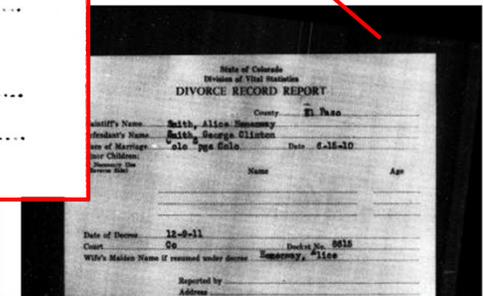
Docket Number **8615**

Alice Hemenway Smith's Spouses and

OPEN ALL

George Clinton Smith

Ex-spouse



ATTACH TO FAMILY TREE

1900-1939

Rose Alice Smith

Principal

Colorado Statewide Divorce Index,

Divorce 23 February 1893
Colorado, United States

Marriage 3 Mar 1888

Spouses David A Smith

Feedback

www.FamilySearch.org

Divorce Records

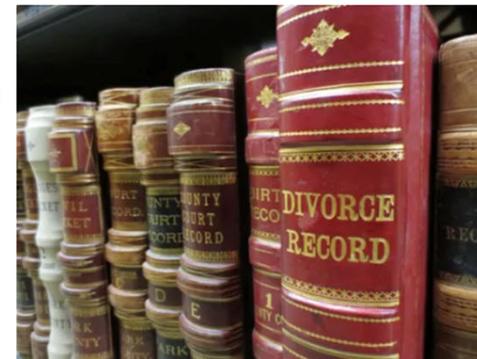
Collections	▼
Authenticated Constitution	
Genealogy - Vital Records	▶
Census Records	
Corrections Records	
Governors	▶
Historic Mine Reports	
History	▶
Legal Records	▼
Divorce Records	
Arapahoe Divorce	
Boulder Divorce	
Probate Records	

PLEASE READ THIS PAGE BEFORE REQUESTING DOCUMENTS. IT COULD SAVE YOU CONSIDERABLE TIME IN THE PROCESS OF RETRIEVING THE RECORDS YOU NEED.

Colorado State Archives does NOT have most divorce records for people who are alive and need their own divorce records to file for Social Security, claim child support, or prove their divorce in order to be re-married.

This list of [Divorce Records you can get at the State Archives](#) outlines the counties and years we have divorce records. If the county and time frame of your divorce are not included on this list, then State Archives does not have your record.

- If the divorce happened in the county and during the time period detailed on this list, then you can request the record from the State Archives. You will need to provide the case number for most requests. If you don't have a case number, try using the [Archives Search](#). If you are still unable to find a case number, contact the [District Court](#) in which the divorce was filed.
- If the county and time period for the divorce you are looking for is not on this list, the record is still held by the District Court. Contact the [District Court](#) in which the divorce was filed for your record. Most people who are looking for divorce records that concern themselves will need to contact the courts for their records.



archives.colorado.gov/collections/legal-records/divorce-records



Colorado State Archives - Records Request Form

(not shared) [Switch account](#)

* Required

This form is designed to gather all the information we need to fulfill your request, as well as answer questions you may have about the request process.
7/1/2022 - Please read each page thoroughly as some pages have changed.

I am... *

- ...requesting to make an appointment to view records in the research room
- ...requesting records be sent to me, so I don't have to visit the research room

Next

Never submit passwords through Google Forms.

This form was created inside of State.co.us Executive Branch

Google Forms

State of Colorado Division of Vital Statistics DIVORCE RECORD REPORT		
County.....	El Paso	
Plaintiff's Name.....	Smith, Alice Hemmery	
Defendant's Name.....	Smith, George Clinton	
Place of Marriage.....	Colo. pgs Colo.	Date 6-15-10
Minor Children: (If Necessary Use Reverse Side)	Name	Age
.....
.....
Date of Decree.....	12-9-11	
Court.....	Co.	Docket No. 8615
Wife's Maiden Name if resumed under decree.....	Hemmery, Alice	
Reported by.....	
Address.....	

808-11-28-29-HIRSCHFELD PRESS, DENVER

Record Request Form

Review

1. Divorces were civil court cases
2. Most of the time these courts were on the county level
3. Older records may no longer be at the county courthouse
4. There is a difference between bound volumes and case files
5. May require searching indexes, dockets, and finding aids



THANK YOU!

AmericanAncestors.org/Education



NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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