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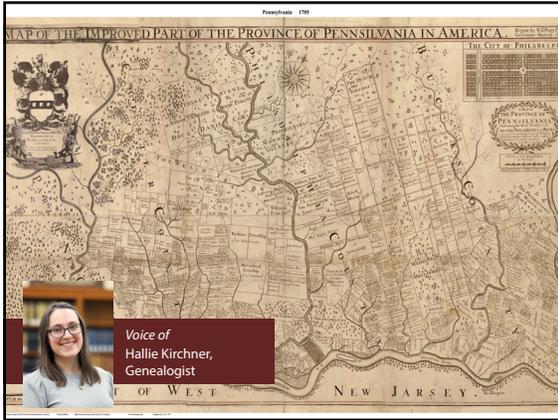
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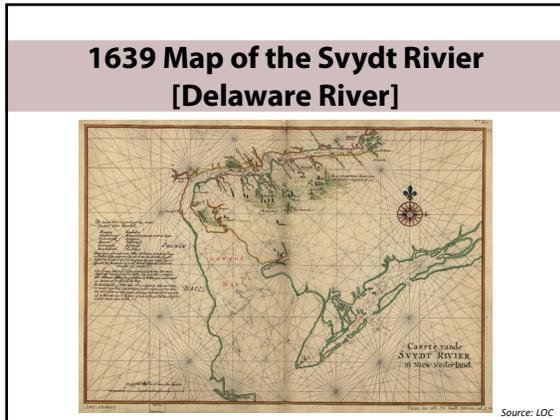
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**New Sweden**

- Swedish colony on the Delaware River, settled beginning in 1638
  - New Sweden Company formed to trade furs and tobacco in North America
- Included parts of modern-day NJ, PA, and DE
- Centered at Fort Christina (now Wilmington, DE)
  - First permanent settlement in the Delaware Valley

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**New Sweden**

- Total of 11 vessels and 600 settlers (Swedes and Finns)
- Three governors over 17 years
- Absorbed by New Netherland in 1655, but given autonomy

NEW SWEDEN

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**New Netherland**

- Dutch colony founded 1614-1615 encompassing parts of modern-day MA, RI, CT, NY, NJ, PA, and DE
- Centered in NY, along the Hudson River
- Policy of religious tolerance, though most settlers were Dutch Reformed (Calvinist)
- Annexed New Sweden in 1655
- Ceded to the British Empire in 1664 (recaptured Aug 1673-Nov 1674)

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**1672 Map of New Netherland and the Virginias**



Source: NYPL

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**Pennsylvania:  
A British Colony**

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**Province of Pennsylvania**

- Proprietary system had been in place for colonies
  - “Feudal” estate limited only by loyalty to the king
  - Proprietors controlled land grants, titles, taxes, commerce, justice system, etc.
  - System changing by Penn’s time: laws had to be approved by the king, Parliament could tax the colony, had to have an Anglican minister, could not grant titles of nobility
- Charter granted by King Charles II of England to William Penn in March 1681
  - Settled a debt owed by the king to Penn’s father
  - Royal charter, but still had to sign purchase treaties with local Native American tribes

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**William Penn**



- Born 1644, died 1718
- Joined the Quaker religion while living in Ireland in the 1660s (to his father’s dismay)
- Published books and pamphlets on the Quaker faith
- Advocate for religious freedom and religious tolerance
- Only spent 4 years in North America

*William Penn in 1666*

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**Penn’s Colony**

- Settlers recruited from Britain and the Continent, largely Quakers but also Mennonites
- Plan laid out in July 1681 and governmental framework established May 1682
  - Governor
  - Provincial Council
  - General Assembly
- Three original PA counties (“upper counties”): Chester, Philadelphia, Bucks
- “Lower counties” or “annexed counties” in DE: Kent, Sussex, New Castle
  - Had their own government after 1701

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**First Purchasers**

- Penn needed to sell land to make a profit from the colony
  - Purchasers needed to have capital and also settle the land (by themselves or with tenants)
- 1681 “Conditions or Concessions”
  - Purchasers received 10 acres in Philly for every 500 purchased
  - Purchases of more than 1,000 acres needed to be settled on by a family within 3 years
  - 50-acre bonus for servants brought over; servants received land after completing service

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**First Purchasers**

- 300,000 acres sold to 300 purchasers in first four months (July-Oct 1681)
- Another 400,000 acres and 300 purchasers by 1685
- Sales slowed after 1685
- Tracts as small as 125 acres sold
- Three large tracts sold

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**First Purchasers: Largest Tracts**

- Welsh Quakers
  - 30,000 acres in the area of Bryn Mawr, Merion, and Haverford
- Free Society of Traders
  - Joint-stock company of English Quakers
  - 20,000 acres and 3 seats on the Provincial Council
  - Went bankrupt in a few years
- Frankfort Land Company
  - German investors
  - 15,000 acres
  - Land settled by Quakers as investors did not immigrate

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**Who were the First Purchasers?**

- Mostly urban, middle-class Englishmen
- Artisans and shopkeepers with entrepreneurial ambitions
- About half immigrated and settled in PA

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**Settlement of Penn's Colony**

- 23 ships arrived between Dec 1681 and Dec 1682
  - Penn arrived in Oct 1682
- 4,000 settlers in the first two years



*The Landing of William Penn, Jean Leon Gerome Ferris*

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**Who were the early settlers?**

- Farmers, laborers, artisans
- Came from northwestern England, Germany, and Holland as well as Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and London
- No official religion; Quakers were a minority though they held much political influence

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**Quakers**

- Society of Friends
- George Fox (1624-1691)
- Centered around northern England, Bristol, and London in the early years
- Beliefs
  - Inward apprehension of God
  - No creed, no clergy, no ecclesiastical forms

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**Quakers**

- Persecuted in England
- Many fled to the colonies and continued to preach and convert
  - MD, MA, RI, NJ, VA, NC, PA

Source: The British Museum



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**Thomas Holme**



- First Surveyor General of PA
- Arrived in Aug 1682
- Laid out the city of Philadelphia and mapped the province of Pennsylvania

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**Philadelphia**

- Supposed to be the economic and moral hub of the colony, per Penn's plan
- A "green cuntry towne"
- City was envisioned before settlers arrived
  - Planned city
  - Street grid
  - Public squares
  - Surrounded by vacant land to allow for future growth ("city liberties")

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**Pennsylvania at the end of the 17th Century**



*Source: Pennsylvania: A History of the Commonwealth*

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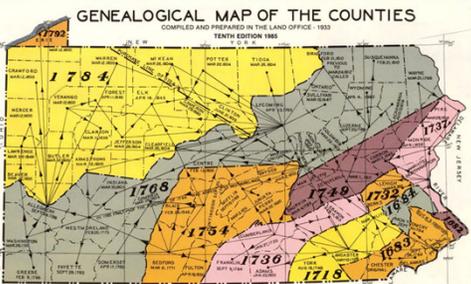
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**Upcoming Developments**



*Source: PA Historical and Museum Commission*

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**Early Record Loss**

- Royal Palace in Stockholm burned in 1697
- Pre-1700 records of the East and West India Companies sold at public auction in 1821
- As historians/genealogists, we're reliant many times on English sources

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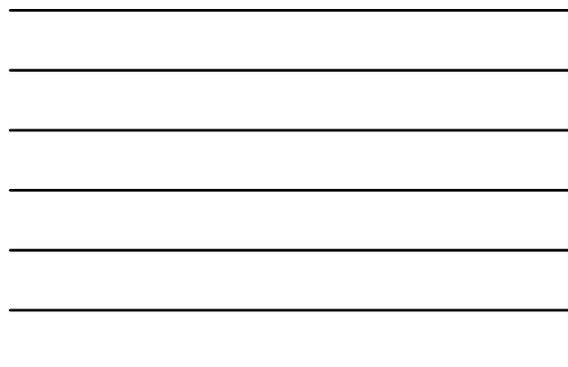
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**Documents relating to the history of the Dutch and Swedish settlements on the Delaware River (1877)**

- Vol. 12 of *Documents relative to the colonial history of the state of New York*
- Transcriptions of primary sources from 1624-1682 relating to Delaware River settlements
- Available on Archive.org

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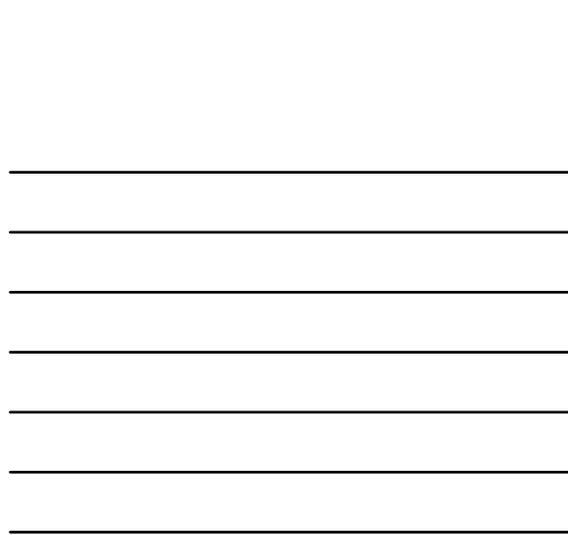
**Documents relating to the history of the Dutch and Swedish settlements...**

32



**Documents relating to the history of the Dutch and Swedish settlements...**

33



**Swedish Settlers on the Delaware River (1911)**

- By Amandus Johnson
- Contains a list of “Officers, Soldiers, Servants, and Settlers in New Sweden” that is known to have errors
  - Contains names of ship crew members who never settled
  - Confuses variant spellings with multiple individuals (too many people)
  - Omitted settlers who happened to have the same name (too few people)

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**New Sweden Settlers, 1638-1664**

- Project of Peter S. Craig to document settlers to New Sweden, updating Johnson’s 1911 work
- Largely used resources in the National Archives of Sweden
- Published as a series of articles in the *Swedish American Genealogist*
  - Journal available online from Augustana College
- List of names on Geni.com (New Sweden, Settlers 1638-1664 project)

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**Swedish American Genealogist, Swenson Center (Augustana College)**

**About this collection**

Swedish American Genealogist is a quarterly journal devoted to Swedish American biography, genealogy, and personal history. The journal was founded in 1981 by Vils Willem Olson and is currently edited by Geoffrey Frisberg Harris. This online collection is free to the public and contains issues published as recently as 2011. Recent issues and paper subscriptions are available from the [Swenson Center](#).

View Issues by year:  
 [1981] < [20]

Please note that the digital version of the journal does not include Peter Swenson Craig's copyrighted articles on New Sweden. See [this page](#) for a list of back issues available for purchase.

Questions about this collection? Contact: [SwensonCenter@augustana.edu](mailto:SwensonCenter@augustana.edu) or 1-800-794-7224

Swedish American Genealogist archives, Swenson Center at Augustana College

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**Why use land records?**

- Determine earliest date of settlement in an area
- Determine movements
- Place ancestor on a specific parcel of land
- Build a network - learn names of friends, associates, and neighbors

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**Research Guide**

- Donna Bingham Munger, *Pennsylvania Land Records: A History and Guide for Research*, (Wilmington, Del.: Scholarly Resources, Inc., 1991)

The image shows the front cover of the book "Pennsylvania Land Records: A History and Guide for Research" by Donna Bingham Munger. The cover is white with a light blue header. The title "Pennsylvania Land Records" is in a large, serif font. Below it, the subtitle "A History and Guide for Research" is in a smaller, sans-serif font. The author's name "by Donna Bingham Munger" is at the bottom. There is a small logo for "SR Scholarly Resources Inc." and a barcode at the very bottom.

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**Pre-Penn Land Records**

- *The Duke of York Record: Original Land Titles of Delaware, 1646-1679*
  - Patents, permits, commissions, surveys, and plats granted by the Duke of York
- *Patents By Royal Governors of New York*
- *New Castle County Survey Notes*
- Court records
- Anything held by the state of PA will apply only to PA, DE records were transferred to DE in 1801

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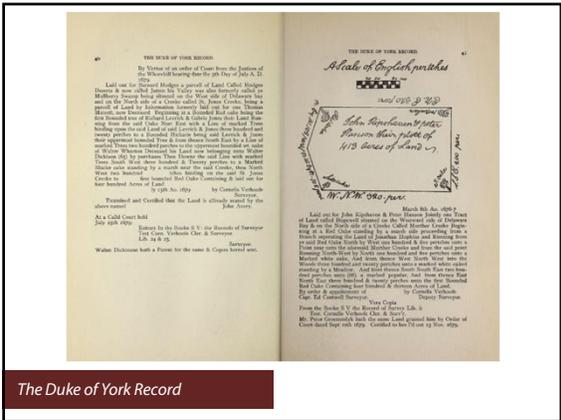
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**Patents by Royal Governors of New York**

- Location and boundaries of each tract patented, acreage patented, name of patentee, date of patent, the quitrent, and the name of the Governor General of New York under whom the patent was granted
- Microfilm at the PA State Archives
- Also transcribed in Philadelphia County Deeds, Exemplification Book 8 (FHL Film 21872 Item 2)

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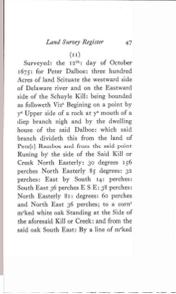
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**New Castle County Survey Notes**

- Covers 1675-1679
- Contains 50 land surveys made by Walter Wharton
- Microfilm at PA State Archives
- Published as Albert Cook Myers, *Walter Wharton's Land Survey Register, 1675-1679* (Wilmington, Del., 1955)
  - Available on FamilySearch.org




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**Land Records, ca. 1682-1700**

- Penn's charter received in 1681
- Land grants (colonial/state)
- County land records (Bucks, Chester, Philadelphia)

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**Original Land Grant Process**

- Application – requests a tract of land
- Warrant – authorizes a survey of a particular area
- **Survey** – describes/assesses a particular area
- Return – describes the survey
- **Patent** – finalizes the sale

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### Surveys

- Original surveys for Bucks, Chester, and Philadelphia indexed in “Old Rights Registers”
- PHMC website
  - Index to surveys  
<http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/rg/di/r17-78OldRightsIndexBucksChester/r17-78MainInterface.htm>
- FamilySearch.org
  - *Index to old rights in Bucks and Chester Counties, 1682-1761, Pennsylvania Surveyor General*
  - *Index to old rights in Philadelphia County, 1682-1748, Pennsylvania Surveyor General*

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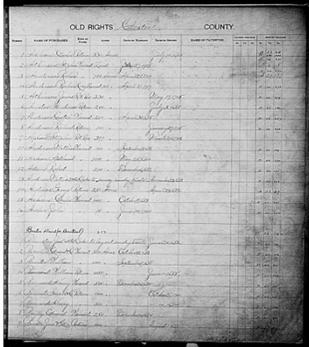
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OLD RIGHTS *Chester* COUNTY

Chester County Old Rights Index

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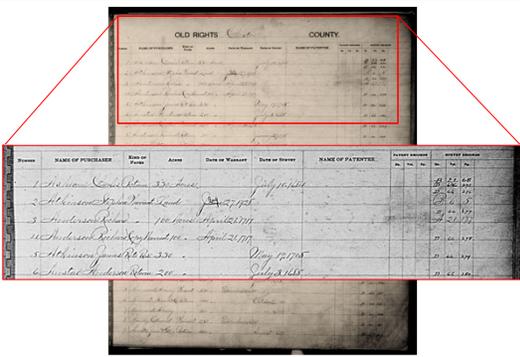
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OLD RIGHTS *Chester* COUNTY

Chester County Old Rights Index      Anstad, Anderson[?] vol. D-66 pg. 280

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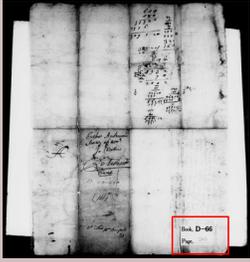
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## Surveys

- FamilySearch.org
  - Original surveys, 1682-1920, Pennsylvania Surveyor General
  - Survey books A to D-114 online
- Called a “book” but really a collection of loose papers



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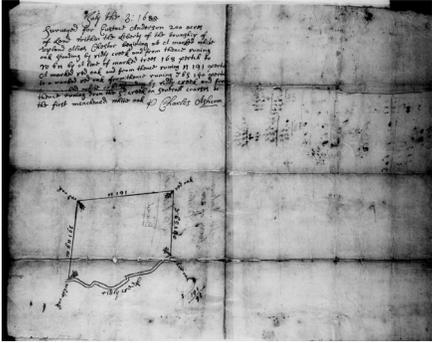
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Chester County Original Survey

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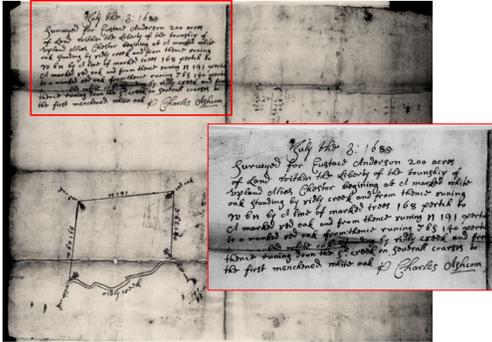
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Chester County Original Survey

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**Patents**

- PHMC website
  - Patent indexes available at <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/rg/di/r17PatentIndexes/r17-PatentIndexMainInterface.htm>
  - Order paper copy of original from the state Archives
- FamilySearch.org
  - Patent books, 1676-1960, Pennsylvania Bureau of Land Records

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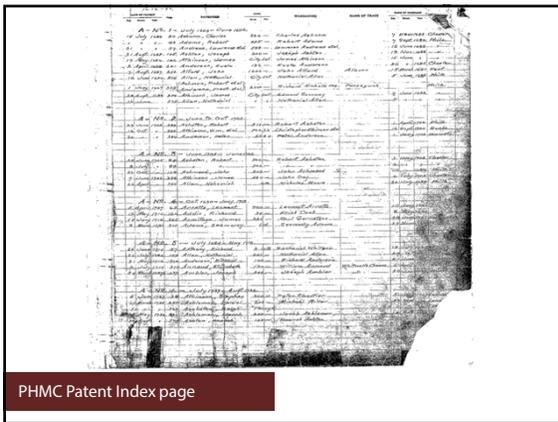
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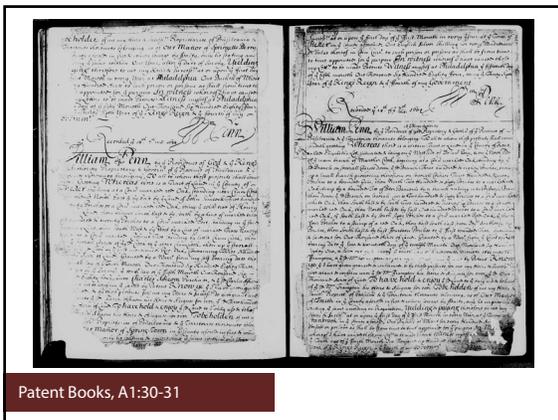
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**Warrant Register, 1682-1950**

- Index to warrants held by the PA Bureau of Land Records
- Available on FamilySearch
- **Actually contains records beginning in 1733**

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**County Land Records**

- Mostly person-to-person sales
- Some Penn grants
- Available on FamilySearch.org
  - Use catalog to locate county page
  - Locate “land and property” collection
  - Browse index for a name (grantee/grantor)
  - Determine volume and page number
  - Browse microfilm of correct deed book

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**Why use court records?**

- Determine legal actions involving an ancestor
- Build a network – what people was your ancestor involved with?

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**Record Availability**

- No known court records from the Swedish period survive
- Any court records from the Dutch period (spanning less than ten years) are mostly recorded as Colonial New York Records

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**Record of the Court at Upland [New Castle], 1676-1681**

- English period records of a traditionally Swedish community
- Upland district covered from about Wilmington, DE to the Falls of the Delaware near Trenton, NJ
- Published by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (1860) and the Colonial Society of Pennsylvania (1904, reprint by Clearfield in 2000 and 2006)

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## Chester County

- Guides, indexes, and related links available online at <https://www.chesco.org/1387/Civil-Court-Debt-Related-Records>
- Court records (unindexed) 1681-1712 on FamilySearch
- Published collection *Record of the courts of Chester County, Pennsylvania, 1681-1697* (1910)
  - On Archive.org

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## Philadelphia County

- Few surviving records from the 17<sup>th</sup> century
  - Limited records from 1685-1686, 1695

THE COURT RECORDS OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY 1681-1695

COUNTY OF COMMON PLEAS

Docket

Combined Common Pleas and Orphans Sessions Docket: March, 1681; 1 vol., 24 cm., 86 pp. - HSP#B01 (Box 2014) - Report of the committee plan case system in Chester & Delaware, Philadelphia County Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas, Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography 71 (1975), 97-100. Most of the common plea cases were not reported, however, because Brainerd was never admitted to the records of the court of quarter sessions.

Combined Approvers and Custodian Docket: June 1706-June 1709; 4 vols., 24 cm., 62 pp. - HSP#B01 (Box 2011) - Sessions covered are June, Sept., Dec., 1706; April 1709; June, Dec., 1712; March 1713; March, June, Sept., Dec. 1715; June 1717; June 1748.

For an account of the 1706-1686 Act 1701 and its subsequent docket, and for June 1706 there is only a custodian docket. The other sessions have both approvers and custodian dockets.

Approvers Docket: June 1712-March 1723; 1 vol., 24 cm., 108 pp. - HSP#B11 (Box 2093) - Sessions covered are June and Dec. 1722, and March 1723.

Combined Approvers and Custodian Docket: Dec. 1744; 1 vol., 23 cm., 81 pp. - HSP#B01 (Box 2036, Box 2)

Executors Docket: 1713-1763; 1 vol., 23 cm., 81 pp. - HSP#B01 (Box 2036, Box 2)

Custodian Docket: June 1714 - February, 1715; 1 pp. - HSP#B01 (Box 2037)

Custodian Docket: Dec. 1714; 1 vol., 23 cm., 12 pp. - HSP#B01 (Box 2034, Box 2)

*Marylynn Salmon, "The Court Records of Philadelphia, Bucks, and Berks Counties in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries"*

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# Church Records

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**Why use church records?**

- Vital record substitutes
- Build a network – what people was your ancestor involved with?
- Uncover clues to origins – many congregations were centered on immigrants from a specific area/region in Europe

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**Early Church Records**

- Vary widely in terms of appearance and scope, depending on the congregation
- May contain births/baptisms, marriages, deaths/burials, membership lists, and more
- Sometimes the journal or notebook of the minister exists even if congregational records do not

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**Quaker Records**

- Hierarchy of meetings
  - Preparative meeting (smallest)
  - Monthly meeting (most genealogically relevant)
  - Quarterly meeting
  - Yearly meeting (largest)
- Men’s minutes and women’s minutes
- Instructions for recordkeeping set out by George Fox in 1653 but not required until 1810

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## Quaker Records



Caln Friends Meetinghouse

- Births, marriages, deaths
- Certificates of removal
- Members received
- Disownment
- Warnings

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## Quaker Dates

- Quaker records use the number of the month, not the name
  - 10<sup>th</sup> of the 2<sup>nd</sup> month 1692
- Gregorian calendar adopted in 1752
  - Before that, March was the first month



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Ancestry.com database

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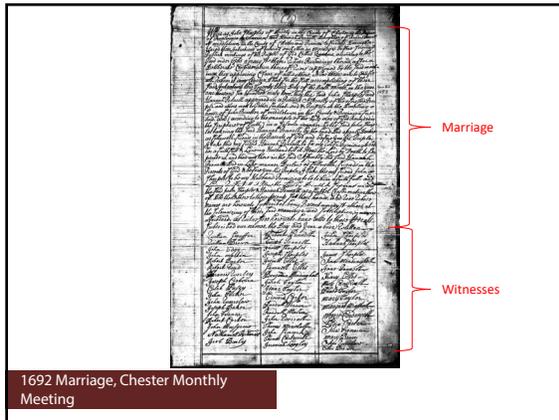
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**Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy**

- Compiled by William Wade Hinshaw
- Abridged events from meeting minutes, arranged alphabetically by monthly meeting
  - Births, marriages, deaths, membership details
- 7 volumes
  - Vol. 2 covers PA and NJ, but only has 4 meetings total (Salem, Burlington, Philadelphia, Falls)

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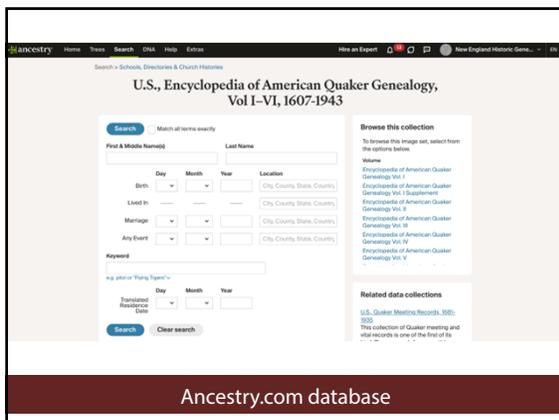
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**Lutheran Records**

- Some early Swedish Lutheran records
- Old Swedes Church/Gloria Dei Episcopal in Philadelphia
- Holy Trinity/Old Swedes in Wilmington



Gloria Dei

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**Passenger Lists**

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**Why use passenger lists?**

- Determine origins and dates of arrival

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**17th-Century Arrivals**

- No true passenger lists (that is, Customs lists)
- Many compiled or “reconstituted” lists in published sources
  - Various sources from Europe and the U.S. used to create the list

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**Passengers and Ships Prior to 1684 (1970)**

- Compiled and edited by Walter Lee Sheppard Jr.
- Intro contains details on how the lists were compiled
- Articles that provide context
- Info on vessels
- Available on Ancestry.com



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**Filby's Passenger and Immigration Lists Index**

- By William P. Filby, published 1981
- Somewhat misleading title as not all entries are passenger lists – includes lists of early settlers and naturalizations
- On Ancestry.com
  - Read the entry/entries thoroughly and consult original sources

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**County Land Records**

- Charlotte D. Meldrum, *Abstracts of Bucks County, Pennsylvania land records, 1684-1723*, (Westminster, Md.: Family Line Publications, 1995)
- Carol Bryant, *Abstracts of Chester County, Pennsylvania land records, Vol. 1: 1681-1730*, (Westminster, Md.: Willow Bend Books, 2000)

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**Pennsylvania Births Series**

- Baptism and birth information extracted from church records and arranged alphabetically by county – work done by John T. Humphrey
- Covers 15 counties
- 17th-century records appear in:
  - Bucks County
  - Chester County
  - Delaware County
  - Montgomery County
  - Philadelphia County

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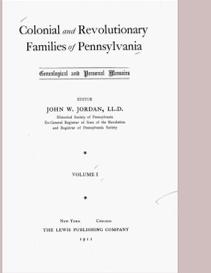
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**Colonial and Revolutionary families of Pennsylvania: genealogical and personal memoirs**

- 3 volume work first published in 1911
- Contains genealogies of many early families
- Available as a searchable database on Ancestry.com
- **Beware!** Use caution when working with an older genealogy



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**Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine**

- Published by the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania beginning in 1895
- Available as a database on AmericanAncestors.org, 1895-2012
  - Early volumes focused on southeastern PA and neighboring NJ and DE and contain many record transcriptions
  - Later volumes focused on biographies and genealogies

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**Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography**

- Published by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania beginning in 1877
- Issues from 1907-2017 available from Penn State at <https://journals.psu.edu/pmhb/index>
  - Basic search on website

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**Locate Published Resources**

- WorldCat.org
  - Aggregator of online library catalogs
  - Sort by library location
- Search by title, author, keyword, or subject
  - Bucks County Land Records
  - New Sweden Settlers

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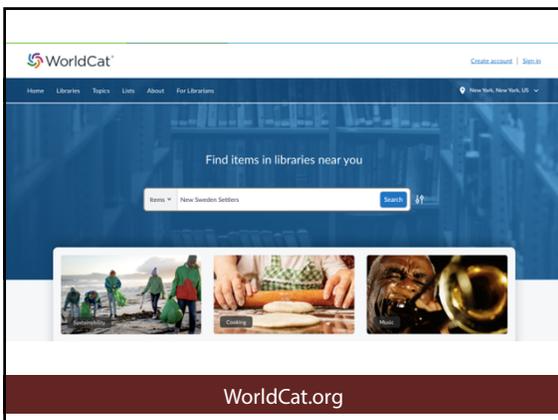
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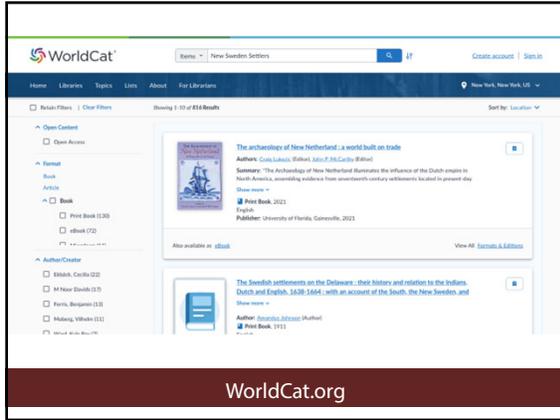
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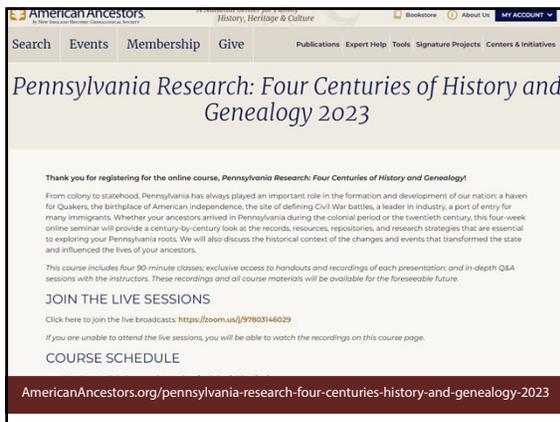
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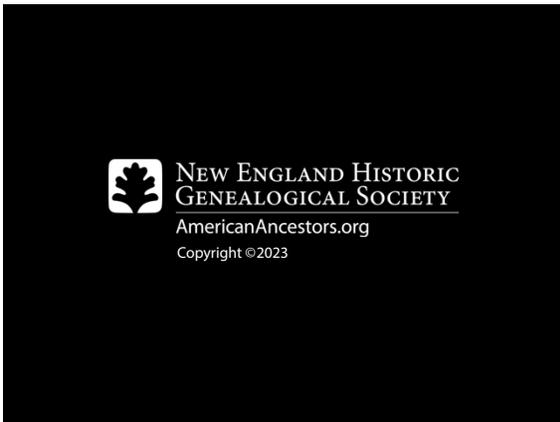
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