

000 3830
001 000
002 024
003
004 Supreme Court
140 Case Files
141
142
200 1754
210 1832
220
241 20.85 cf (in 43 @ 0.47, 6 @ 0.24, 1@ 1.08 and one roll)
261 Records filed with or created by the Supreme Court relating to cases brought before the Court. These records include *certiorari*, narratives, petitions, subpoenas, summons, citations, bonds, recognizances, replevins, affidavits, *venire facias*, warrants, *habeas corpus*, depositions, interrogations, and jail inspector appointments.

27X Most case documents show the court term, year, case number, names of plaintiff and defendant, type of case, date, returns by clerk or sheriff and costs. A certiorari is a request to a Justice of the Peace or Court of Common Pleas for a copy of a case record from the lower court. The transcript is usually attached to the *certiorari*. Replevins list the property and their values that are to be returned to the rightful owner. Rules of Reference are records of cases referred to referees to be decided. They include oaths, certificates, and directions to the referees (commissioners), names of referees appointed, decision of the referees, and their signatures. Affidavits and depositions are sworn statements by witnesses to a case that provide information on the facts of a case. There are several affidavits relating to Revolutionary War pensions (1820, 1822) which describes the soldiers' military service and includes an inventory of his personal property. Warrants to lay down pretensions were used in cases involving land disputes. The warrant ordered two surveyors, one for each plaintiff and defendant, to resurvey the land in dispute in the presence of the sheriff. Narratives are complaints by the plaintiff against the defendant and are statements of the reasons why the suit is being brought. Jury lists show the names of jurors selected for each term. Lists may show jurors' occupation, hundred of residence, miles traveled, fees paid, and bailiff's names. Writs of Venire Facias are commands to the sheriff to summon jurors to hear a specific case. The date of the trial, names of plaintiff and defendant, and type of case is given. A list of jurors and their hundred of residence may be attached. A writ of Habeas Corpus was an order to the sheriff to deliver a prisoner to the Justice of the Supreme Court and explain why he was imprisoned. There are various types of petitions present. They include: Insolvent Debtor Petitions are requests to the court from persons in prison because of a non-payment of debts. These show the names of the debtor and creditors, age, and may mention if married, number of children, and circumstances why he should be released. A Notice to Creditors usually accompanies the petition and notifies creditors that they must give security when the debtor is released. Other petitions include requests to export or import slaves our or/into the state (1812, 1815, 1821, 1827-1831) which names the slave, and may give the age, reason for export, and the date they are to be freed. There are a few petitions from apprentice indentures requesting to be released from their indenture. These show the names of the apprentice and master, hundred, and reason for release. Petitions for Naturalization (1798) show the name of the petitioner, native country, years resided in the state and date of immigration.

Case files before 1800 include execution papers. These records usually relate to cases in which the sheriff seized and may have sold the real

or personal property of a debtor in order to pay creditors. Inventories and appraisals are often included which list the property of the debtor. Executions after 1800 were maintained as a separate series by the court. Because of the Revolutionary War, the Supreme Court did not meet between October 1775 and April 1779.

29X
310
329

WORK STATUS

needs sorting
 needs unfolding
 needs foldering/reboxing
 other: _____

ARCHIVIST:

review for identification/
further determination
 processing
 determine origin/purpose
 other:

CONDITION:

totally disorganized
 order not apparent
 origin questionable

FILM:

for security
 destroy original

other: plot from 1815 case involving town of Smyrna underwent conservation treatment in 1995.

330 Arranged chronologically by year and court term.
331 Index through court dockets.
332 Handwritten; form printed with writing.
350
360 Fair; water damage; acid damage; storage damage; dirt damage.
390
430 Processed by Tom, Barbara, Randy.
900
990 June 1, 1993
995 June 7, 1993; February 15, 1996; April 23, 1996; April 29, 1996; August 2, 1996; October 4, 1996; April 3, 1997; June 24, 1999
999 3830.18 moved here August 2, 1996 per bhh
rlg