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Abstracts of Deeds

Northampton County, Pennsylvania

Deed Book A1: 1752-1763

Deed Book B1: 1763-1773

Plus Abstracts of Miscellaneous Public Records: 1749-1838

Volume 1

by
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PART 2

ABSTRACTS OF MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC RECORDS
OF NORTHAMPTON AND NEIGHBORING COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA, 1749-1838

This collection of miscellaneous public records appears to contain the original records, not copies of them, inserted between the leaves of a book for storage. Apparently, in the early-19th century, an attempt was made to arrange the many types of public records by copying them into large volumes by subject and date. Perhaps these records were found after the bulk of this organization was completed and, thus, placed into a separate, miscellaneous, book. Whatever the reason, these records contain some valuable information for the researcher. The records begin with a contract between an indentured servant and his benefactor. Other records include several marriage contracts, the birth record of a child born to a servant, a slave's manumission, maps of land tracts, applications for land warrants and surveys, several letters written to public officials, court proceedings and complaints, oaths of allegiance, and petitions for new townships, for new roads, and for licenses to open taverns. As can be seen from the title, the records begin in 1749, three years before Northampton County was formed. Many of the later records are records for Monroe County, which was formed in 1836, rather than Northampton.

There were no page numbers recorded in this book of records. However, the author has tried to maintain the order in which the records were organized in the volume. Occasionally, though, she has moved a shorter record before or after a longer one to fill-in space on a page. Since many of these records are the original records, signatures on the documents were the actual signatures of the people involved with the record. Many of the signatures were difficult to read. Apparently, some men could barely write their names for their signatures appear to be drawn rather than written. Some names are blotted with ink and some have faded over time. Other names are written with fancy script or in German script. The author has underlined the names about which she was not quite certain. Other conventions that the author has used are:

- ▶ words in quotation marks are copied exactly from the record except that surnames have been capitalized
- ▶ a name in parentheses indicates a second spelling of the name used within the same record (often, the spelling used in the parentheses was the spelling used in the signature)
- ▶ the symbol (a) after a name indicates that the person affirmed, by solemn affirmation, his willingness to abide by the conditions of the document (as opposed to swearing an oath)
- ▶ the symbol (m) after a name indicates that the person signed with "his mark" and someone else wrote his name

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC RECORDS

Indenture delivered to court in Easton, 18 June 1755 (recorded after changes in provisions were added):
Henry WISE, Jr. indentured to Peter HAUSE (HAUS, HAASS); HAUSE paid 10 pounds for his "fret."
Term—8 years, beginning 9 September 1749
HAUSE to provide meat, drink, apparel, washing, lodging, usual freedom dues, plus "a mare or four pounds"
Clerk—William PARSONS

Petitions to County Court of Quarter Sessions, Easton, 16 June 1752:
Petition of George CLINE for license to run house of public entertainment in Upper Milford
Petition of Christopher WALBERT for license to run house of public entertainment in Up. Milford Tp.

Petition to County Court of Quarter Sessions, Easton, 16 June 1752:
Petition of freeholders and inhabitants of Heidelberg Township to have township boundaries recorded
Survey—township was laid out on 2-4 June 1752 on west side of Lehigh River, at foot of Kittantiny Mountain, bounded by Great Road, District of Allemingle, Jordan Creek, Stop Hills, Mill Creek, BIELMAN's Mill, Adam MOORE's Plantation, District of Egypt, Trout Creek; 25,000 acres; 25 miles, 200 perches in circumference
Survey signed by David SCHULTZE for Nicol SCULL, Surveyor General

Miscellaneous Public Records

Summons, the King versus Melcher TANNER, heard before Lewis KLOTZ, 1 March 1774:

TANNER was committed to the gaol last 23 February

Witnesses, bound over for 20 pounds each, to appear in next Court on 22 March to give evidence against Melcher TANNER, "concerning of being a Barrator"; all were of "Lega" Township, Northampton Co:

Peter MUFLY	Fallatin STARRY	William BECK, the younger
William BECK	Henry HEASLY	Catherine, the younger, wife of Wm. BECK

Deed or articles of agreement between Philip BOSSERT and Evah Catherine BOSSERT, both of Hamilton Township and

John Melchor BOSSERT, their son, 12 April 1773:

For mutual love and affection and divers other good causes and services, and, since they were moving, the BOSSERTS sold their land to their son for 225 pounds. It was patented land of about 200 acres plus 100 acres warranted land surveyed for them by Edward SCULL about 19 years ago. He also got all the grain that was sown and growing on the land, except for 2 acres reserved for their son-in-law, John SHARPIENTER. The parents could still live in a house that was being built on the place. The son was to cut and haul firewood for them yearly; deliver to them two fat swine, weighing at least 200 pounds together, dead, drawn, and delivered; carry to the mill 20 bushels of rye, 10 of wheat, and keep 2 "milch" cows for them at his cost, plus the fruit of 25 apple trees and half the garden, and 6 pounds of wool yearly. If the son failed to perform these duties, he would be expelled from the land. After the death of one parent, he would only be required to deliver half of this amount.

Grand Inquest for Northampton County, in the 14th year of the reign of King George III (1774):

Defendant—Hugh McDANIEL, late of the county, yeoman, on 10 August in Forks Township, stole "two pieces of Linnen cloth of the value of three pounds," which belonged to Melchor STECHER

Sworn before ALLEN, Attorney General

Witnesses—Melcher STECHER, Isaac DAWNING, Roger DAWNING, George DAWNING

Grand Inquest for Northampton County, in the 15th year of the reign of King George III (1775):

Defendant—John HEINLY, Macungie Township, yeoman, on 11 February and at diverse other times, kept a tipping house without a license and sold rum, wine, cyder, and other spiritous liquors

Sworn before ALLEN, Attorney General

Witnesses—Jacob SWARTZ, Dewald SCHOTT, John Nich-s KLINE, Henry LUBLER

Petition to Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace at Easton, 19 December 1775:

Petition of Roger DOWNING, Chestnuthill Township, yeoman, for a license to run a house of entertainment along the Great Road from Wyoming to the Wind Gap and from thence to Easton

Petition to Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace at Easton, 19 December 1775:

Petition of John HEINLEY (Johannes HEINLE), Macungie Township, yeoman, for a license to run a house of entertainment (an inn and stable) along the Great Road in Macungie Township from Oley to the tavern of John TREXEL and from thence to Town of Northampton

Petition to Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace at Easton, 20 December 1775 (repeated entry):

Petition of Roger DOWNING (DONING), Chestnuthill Township, yeoman, for a license to sell beer and cyder along the Great Road from Wyoming to the Wind Gap and from thence to Easton

Petition to Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace at Easton, 20 September 1775:

Petition of John RITTER, Weisenberg Township, yeoman, for a license to run a house of entertainment in the old frequented tavern lately occupied by Christopher EDDINGER