
WEST VIRGINIA CODE CHAPTER 37
ARTICLE 10

WV Legislature

§37-10-1. Custody of records procured from Virginia.

That the records, books documents and papers, relating to land titles in this state, the assessments, delinquency sales and redemptions of lands, and which have been heretofore procured from the state of Virginia by the Governor of this state, under and by virtue of an act of the general assembly of Virginia entitled "An act to authorize the Auditor of public account and the register of the land office to deliver to the State of West Virginia certain of the original title papers respecting land in the State of West Virginia, and to authorize the said state to obtain copies of such title papers to lands as cannot be properly so delivered," approved February fifth, eighteen hundred and ninety-two, shall be placed and kept in the Auditor's office of this state as part of the public records of said office. The foregoing provision relates to the following list of records, books, documents and papers, as well as to other records and papers of a similar character, viz: 1 vol. western delinquent lands, 1840, 1845; 1 vol. western delinquent lands, 1845, 6, 7, 8 and 9; 1 vol. loose-printed, 1821, 1831; 1 vol. western delinquent lands, 1850, 1, 2, 3, and 4; 1 vol. eastern delinquent lands, 1840, 45; 1 vol. eastern delinquent lands, 1845, 6, 7, 8 and 9; 1 vol. eastern delinquent lands, 1851, 2, 3 and 4; 1 vol. delinquent lands, east Allegheny, to 1820 inclusive; 1 vol. delinquent lands and lots, printed; 1 vol. written delinquent lands since 1831, loose; 1 vol. delinquent lands, east Allegheny, to 1820 inclusive; 1 vol. lands not ascertainable, since 1832; 1 vol. lands not ascertainable since 1832; 1 unbound book written, without title or back; 1 vol. lands sold and bought for the commonwealth, 1855, 1860; 1 vol. lands sold and bought for the commonwealth, 1851, 1855; 1 vol. taxes paid in advance; 1 vol. receipts for redeemed lands, from N. to Z.; 1 vol. (thin book) of forfeitures; 1 vol. list of delinquent lands and lots, western; 1 vol. receipts for lands, from A. to M.; 1 vol. lands sold and bought for the commonwealth, 1844, 45; 1 vol. delinquent lands, since 1831, since 1839. Unascertained lands for the following counties, 1 vol. for each year named, viz: Barbour 1843; Braxton 1841, 42 and 44; Brooke 1848; Fayette 1832 and 44; Gilmer 1845, 46 and 47; Hampshire 1832; Hardy 1832, 33 and 34; Harrison 1832, 41, 42 and 44; Jackson 1832; Kanawha 1841 and 32; Lewis 1834, 44, 45, 46, 47, 41, 42 and 43; Logan 1832; Marion 1843; Mason 1834 and 32; Monongalia 1832; Morgan 1832, 33, 34, 36, 38 and 40; Nicholas 1832 and 41; Preston 1834; Randolph 1832, 41, 44 and 48; Taylor 1847; Tyler 1832; Wood 1832. assessor's books for the following counties, one volume for each year named, viz: Barbour, Berkeley, Boone, Braxton and Brooke for 1850; Cabell 1830; Fayette and Gilmer 1850; Greenbrier 1850; Hampshire and Hancock 1850 and 1856; Hardy 1856; Harrison 1850 and 1856; Jackson and Jefferson 1838 and 1850; Kanawha, Lewis, Logan, Marshall, Mason and Mercer, 1850; Monongalia 1838 and 50; Monroe 1838; Morgan 1838 and 1850; Nicholas 1838; Pendleton, Pocahontas, Preston, Putnam, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Taylor, Tyler, Wayne, Wetzell, Wood and Wyoming, 1850. Delinquent list for the following counties and years, viz: Barbour 1843 and 44; Berkeley 1835, 6, 7 and 8; Braxton 1836, 7, 8, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4; Brooke 1835; Cabell 1835, 6, 7, 8, 9, 41, 2 and 3; Fayette 1841, 2, 3 and 4; Greenbrier 1835, 6, 7, 8, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4; Hampshire 1834, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 41, 2, 3 and 4; Hardy 1835, 6, 7, 8, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4; Harrison 1835, 6, 7, 8, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4; Jackson 1841, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9; Jefferson 1835, and 43; Kanawha 1835, 6, 7, 8, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4; Lewis 1834, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4; Logan 1835, 6, 7, 8, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4; Marion 1842, 3 and 4;

Marshall 1836, 7, 8, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4; Mason 1835, 6, 7, 8, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4; Mercer 1840, 42 and 4; Monongalia 1835, 6, 7, 8, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4; Monroe 1835, 6, 7, 8, 9, 41, 2, 3 and 4; Morgan 1841, 2, 3 and 4; Nicholas 1835, 7, 8, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4; Ohio 1842, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9; Pendleton 1840, 3 and 4; Pocahontas 1836, 7, 8, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4; Preston 1836, 7, 8, 9, 41, 2, 3 and 4; Randolph 1835, 6, 7, 8, 9, 41, 2 and 4; Ritchie 1843 and 44; Taylor 1844; Tyler 1835, 6, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4; Wayne 1842, 3 and 4; Wood 1835, 7, 8, 9, 40, 1, 2, 3 and 4. Land books as follows, viz: Barbour 2, 1843 to 54 and 1855 to 1860; Berkeley 9, 1779 to 1826, 1827 to 1837, 1838 to 1850, 1851 to 1856, 1857 to 1861, 1782 to 1794, 1795 to 1803, 1804 to 1812, 1813 to 1818; Boone 1, 1847 to 1860; Braxton 3, 1836 to 1850, 1851 to 1856, and 1857 to 1861; Brooke 5, 1716 to 1725, 1797 to 1815, 1826 to 1830, 1831 to 1850, 1851 to 1860; Cabell 5, 1809 to 1822, 1823 to 1831, 1832 to 1840, 1841 to 1852, 1853 to 1860; Clay-Calhoun 1, 1856 to 1861; Doddridge 1, 1845 to 1860; Fayette 2, 1831 to 1850, 1851 to 1861; Gilmer 2, 1845 to 1855, 1856 to 1861; Greenbrier 11, 1782 to 1811, 1812 to 1820, 1821 to 1825, 1826 to 1829, 1830 to 1834, 1835 to 1839, 1840 to 1844, 1845 to 1851, 1852 to 1856, 1857 to 1860, 1861 to 1863; Hampshire 15, 1782 to 1797, 1798 to 1801, 1805 to 1811, 1812 to 1815, 1816 to 1819, 1820 to 25, 1826 to 28, 1829 to 32, 1833 to 36, 1837 to 1840, 1841 to 1844, 45 to 50, 51 to 54, 55 to 57, 58 to 60; Hancock 1, 1848 to 1860; Hardy 12, 1786 to 1805, 1806 to 14, 15 to 20, 21 to 26, 27 to 32, 33 to 39, 40 to 44, 45 to 49, 50 to 53, 54 to 56, 57 to 59, 60 to 61; Harrison 12, 1796 to 1806, 1807 to 1813, 14 to 19, 20 to 25, 26 to 31, 32 to 34, 35 to 37, 38 to 41, 42 to 45, 46 to 52, 53 to 56, 57 to 60; Jackson 3, 1831 to 1845, 46 to 55, 56 to 61; Jefferson 5, 1802 to 24, 25 to 35, 36 to 48, 49 to 56, 57 to 61; Kanawha 6, 1793 to 1813, 14 to 31, 32 to 44, 45 to 53, 54 to 57, 58 to 61; Lewis 7, 1817 to 1826, 27 to 33, 34 to 39, 40 to 46, 47 to 52, 53 to 56, 57 to 60; Logan 3, 1824 to 1845, 46 to 55, 56 to 60; Marion 4, 1842 to 1850, 51 to 54, 55 to 57, 58 to 60; Marshall 4, 1836 to 1844, 45 to 52, 53 to 57, 58 to 60; Mason 5, 1814 to 1823, 24 to 35, 36 to 50, 51 to 56, 57 to 60; Mercer 2, 1837 to 1855, 56 to 63; Monongalia 10, 1788 to 1806, 1807 to 15, 16 to 23, 24 to 32, 33 to 38, 39 to 45, 46 to 51, 52 to 54, 55 to 57, 58 to 60; Monroe 4, 1851 to 1854, 55 to 57, 58 to 60, 61 to 63; Morgan 4, 1820 to 1830, 31 to 44, 45 to 55, 56 to 61; McDowell 1, 1859 to 1863; Nicholas 4, 1818 to 1833, 34 to 45, 46 to 52, 53 to 61; Ohio 12, 1784 to 1795, 96 to 1801, 1802 to 1806, 07 to 13, 14 to 22, 23 to 30, 31 to 36, 37 to 43, 44 to 51, 52 to 54, 55 to 57, 58 to 60; Pendleton 11, 1789 to 1804, 1805 to 14, 15 to 19, 20 to 25, 26 to 30, 31 to 36, 37 to 42, 43 to 48, 49 to 54, 55 to 59, 60 to 63; Pleasants 1, 1851 to 1860; Pocahontas 3, 1822 to 1838, 39 to 53, 54 to 61; Preston 5, 1818 to 37, 38 to 47, 48 to 53, 54 to 57; Putnam 1, 1848 to 1861; Raleigh 1, 1850 to 61; Randolph 7, 1802 to 1819, 20 to 29, 30 to 38, 39 to 47, 48 to 53, 54 to 57, 58 to 61; Ritchie 2, 1843 to 1854, 55 to 60; Roane 1, 1856 to 1861; Taylor 1, 1844 to 1860; Tucker 1, 1856 to 60; Tyler 4, 1815 to 1830, 31 to 41, 42 to 55, 53 to 60; Upshur 1, 1851 to 1860; Wayne 2, 1842 to 1855, 56 to 61; Webster-Wyoming 1, 1850 to 1861; Wetzel 2, 1846 to 1855, 56 to 60; Wirt 1, 1848 to 1860; Wood 5, 1802 to 1822, 23 to 34, 35 to 44, 45 to 54, 55 to 60. Total 206 books. Also copies of five books containing record copies of sheriffs' returns of lands delinquent for taxes and of sales made by the sheriffs of lands sold for taxes.

§37-10-2. Charge of such records by Auditor.

All such books, records, documents and papers relating to land titles in this state, which may hereafter be procured by this state from the state of Virginia, under and by virtue of said act of the general assembly of Virginia, and all copies in whole or in part of records, books, documents and papers relating to land titles in this state, which may hereafter be procured from the state of Virginia by the Governor of this state by his agent, under and by virtue of said act of the general assembly of Virginia, and which shall be prepared and made under the authority and direction of the Governor, shall be placed in the Auditor's office as they are procured from time to time and shall be kept in said Auditor's office as part of the public records of said office.

§37-10-3. Copies from records as evidence; fees.

All copies in whole or in part of books, records, documents and papers, which have heretofore been or which shall hereafter be procured from the state of Virginia by the agent of the Governor of this state, under and by virtue of said act of the general assembly of Virginia, and which shall be placed and kept in the Auditor's office under the provisions of this article, shall be treated and held to be prima facie correct, and may be used for all purposes in like manner and with like effect as the originals from which they were copied could be used: Provided, however, That any person shall have the right to prove that any such copy or any part thereof was not correctly made from the original in Virginia, and that it is not a correct copy of such original. The Auditor shall take charge of and be the custodian and keeper of the books, documents and papers mentioned in this article, and make and certify copies or abstracts thereof. The books in the Secretary of State's office, containing the record of land grants, surveys and plats shall be transferred to the Auditor's office, and the Auditor shall be the custodian and keeper of such books; and copies thereof attested by the Auditor shall be held to be prima facie correct and may be used for all purposes in like manner and with like effect as the originals from which they were copied could be used. For making searches and certifying copies and abstracts from such books, documents and papers the Auditor shall charge such fees as are allowed by law to clerks of the county courts for like services, which fees shall be allowed when the services are rendered. A record and account shall be kept of all such fees. Such fees shall be paid into the State Treasury at the end of every six months.

§37-10-4. Fees.

The provisions contained in sections seven and eight, article one, chapter fifty-seven of this code shall apply to a copy of or from any of the books, records, documents or papers, or copies of books, records, documents or papers, which shall be placed and kept in the Auditor's office under the provisions of this article, attested as provided in said sections; and to any certificate of the Auditor based in whole or in part upon the contents of any such books, records, documents and papers, or copies of books, records, documents and papers, as to the return of any real estate as delinquent, or sale thereof for taxes or payment or nonpayment of taxes or forfeited or delinquent lands, or nonentry of lands, or the books of the commissioners of the revenue.