

Washington County formed from  
Westmoreland County,  
Pennsylvania, on March 28, 1781.

County offices are housed in:  
· Washington County Courthouse  
One South Main St.  
Washington, PA 15301

· Courthouse Square Office Bldg.  
100 W. Beau St.  
Washington, PA 15301

Hours: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Monday-Friday; Closed on court holi-  
days.

On site records: self-serve & staff  
serve copying; copy fee required.

Off site records: allow two days for  
access. Retrieval fee may be required  
at time of record  
request.

County Information:  
(724) 228-6700  
[www.co.washington.pa.us](http://www.co.washington.pa.us)

**Key:**  
mf= microfilm  
pc = photocopy

Information has been verified by public  
records' originating offices and is correct as of  
6-1-06.

## Recommended Web Sites for Genealogical Research

- ▶ California University of Pennsylvania  
(Manderino Library) [www.library.cup.edu](http://www.library.cup.edu)
- ▶ Citizens Library– Local Public Library  
[www.citlib.org](http://www.citlib.org)
- ▶ Genealogy & History in Washington County  
[www.chartiers.com](http://www.chartiers.com)
- ▶ Genealogical Society of SW PA  
[www.cobweb.net/gssp](http://www.cobweb.net/gssp)
- ▶ National Archives, Washington, D.C  
[www.archives.gov/dc-metro/washington/index.html](http://www.archives.gov/dc-metro/washington/index.html)
- ▶ National Military Personnel Records Center  
(NPRC), St. Louis, MO,  
[www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/  
index.html](http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/index.html)
- ▶ Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission  
[www.phmc.state.pa.us](http://www.phmc.state.pa.us)
- ▶ U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services  
[uscis.gov](http://uscis.gov)
- ▶ Washington County Law Library  
[http://www.washingtoncourts.us/pages  
/lawLibrary.aspx](http://www.washingtoncourts.us/pages/lawLibrary.aspx)
- ▶ Washington County Historical Society  
[www.wchspa.org](http://www.wchspa.org)
- ▶ Washington & Jefferson College  
U. Grant Miller Library  
[www.washjeff.edu](http://www.washjeff.edu)
- ▶ Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society  
[www.wpgs.org](http://www.wpgs.org)

Washington County Law Library  
1 South Main Street  
Suite G004  
Washington, PA 15301

## Washington County Pennsylvania Public Records for Genealogists



Prepared by the Washington  
County  
Law Library  
August  
2013

## Register of Wills

Courthouse, Room 1002  
Phone: (724) 228-6775

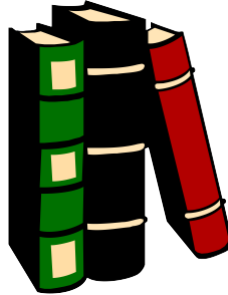
### Vital Records:

- Marriage Licenses: applications and docket (1885-present)
- Births & Deaths (1893-1906)
- Delayed Birth Records (1941-1970; births ca. 1870-19006)

Note: Births, marriages, and deaths before 1893 were not systematically recorded; they may be found in church records, newspaper accounts, etc. After 1906, birth & death records can be found at: PA Dept. of Health, Division of Vital Records, P.O. Box 1528, New Castle, PA 16103; www.state.pa.us

### Probate Records:

- Accounts & Administration Bonds (1781-present)
- Adoption Records (1925-present) Note: Confidential; access only by court order.
- Court Audits (1880-present)
- Guardianships: incapacitated & minors (1781-present)
- Inventories & Appraisements (1781-present)
- Orphans Court (1781-present)
- Partitions (1781-1968)
- Wills (1781-present)



## Tax Assessment

Courthouse Square, Suite 205  
Phone (724) 228-6850

### Tax Assessment Record Holdings:

- Current year's tax records: available on site
- Tax Records from 1860-year preceding present: stored off-site.
- Tax Records ca. 1781-1859: mf and pc available in Law Library.

## Recorder of Deeds

Courthouse Square, Suite 204  
Phone (724) 228-6806

### Property Records: Deeds & Mortgages (1781-present)

### Miscellaneous Records:

- Articles of Incorporation (1794-1994)
- Military Discharges (1862-present) Note: available for public inspection only if discharge occurred more than 75 years prior to request.
- Oaths & Commissions: Notaries public; Justices of peace; County Officers (1781-present)
- Plan Books (1781-1921)
- Powers of Attorney (1781-present)
- Surveys (1781-1921)

## Prothonotary

Courthouse, Room 1001  
Phone: (724) 228-6770

Civil Record Holdings: (Civil action records including, but not limited to, divorce, custody, protection from abuse, equity, appeals, judgments, and liens)

- Indexes: Miscellaneous & Ejectment (1782-present); Ad Sectum (1782-1985); Judgment (1855-present)
- Fictitious names in business (1917-1983) Note: after 1983 filed only with PA Department of State
- Adoptions (before 1925). Note: Confidential: access only by court order.
- Naturalizations (1802-1906; 1917-1964) Note: Other information about naturalizations available at: U.S. District Court, U.S. Courthouse, Pittsburgh; National Archives Mid Atlantic Region, Philadelphia, and uscis.gov

## Veterans Affairs

Courthouse Square, Suite 703  
Phone (724) 228-6865  
Appointments recommended.

Veterans Office Holdings: Veterans' Grave Registration Index (1781-present); Veterans' Discharge Papers (if papers were recorded at Recorder of Deeds office; discharges less than 75 years old available only to next of kin through Veterans Affairs Office)

If military discharge is available from neither Recorder of Deeds nor Veterans Affairs Office, try:

- National Archives in Washington, D.C. for military service records from Revolutionary War—1912.
- National Military Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, MO, for military service records from WWI—present.



## Clerk of Courts

Courthouse, Room 1005  
Phone (724) 228-6787

Criminal Records: (1782-present); also see ujsportal.pacourts.us (1987-present)

### Miscellaneous Records:

- Argument & Motion Lists (1887-1917)
- Appointments: Tax Collectors & Constables (1781-present)
- Construction of Roads & Bridges (1781-present)
- Establishment of New Twps & Boroughs (1781-present)
- Inns & Taverns Licenses (1797-1918)
- Private Detective Licenses (1887-present)

## Planning Commission

Courthouse Square, Suite 701  
Phone (724) 228-6811  
County Road Maps Available

Warrantee (Land Grant) Maps of Washington Co. (1769-1799); Farm Quadrangle Maps (1911); Veterans' Cemeteries Maps (1781-1935)

## Law Library

Courthouse, Room G004  
Phone (724) 228-6747

\* = privately-prepared abstract, transcript, compilation, index, etc.

### Court Records:

- Washington Co. Quarter Sessions Dockets (1781-1803) pc

### Probate Records:

- Account Index (1781-1917) mf and pc
- Administrator's Bonds (1781-1806) \* pc
- Will Index (1781-1900) \*
- Will Book Abstracts ( v. 1-8, 1776-1864) \*

### Tax Records:

- Wash. Co. Tax Assessment Records (1781-1859) mf and pc

### Veterans Records:

- Veterans' Grave Registration Record & Index (graves 1781-1986) mf and pc
- Cemetery Maps for Soldiers' Graves Registration, undated mf and hardcopy

### Miscellaneous:

- County Home Records (1830-1960): recent records confidential. mf
- Maps: Horn Book\*, Sanborn Fire Insurance, Wash. Co. plat books & other local maps 1856, 1876, 1911, etc.
- Index to Vital Records (1852-1853) Wash. Co. birth, marriage, death\*
- Collection of county & township histories, biographies, directories, maps, and other secondary historical and genealogical materials.