

Guide to Maryland County/Regional Resources at the Maryland Historical Society

What resources are available for specific counties and how do I find them?

Most of the published county resources available at the Maryland Historical Society can be located in section MF187 of the Rhodes Reading Room (the row farthest from the reference desk). Books on specific counties or regions of Maryland are arranged alphabetically by county beginning with Allegany County in the northeast stacks and continuing across the room in the southeast stacks of the Reading Room. Some records are also available on microfilm or in pamphlet form. Patrons may access microfilm and those books on the first floor of the Rhodes Reading Room themselves; however, pamphlets must be retrieved by the staff. Since searching the Library's on-line catalogue by county name would result in too many hits, we have listed below some of the most popular resources for each county. **Please note that this is not an inclusive list**, just an example of the types of records available for each county and where you might find them. If you are interested in a particular type of record, you can search the Library's on-line catalog using specific key words.

KENT COUNTY (KE) – formed in 1642

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I. Published City or County Histories

- *First Century of Kent Island* (MF187.Q4K3I)
- *Kent Island, Maryland's Oldest Settlement* (PAM 2522)
- *Old Kent: The Eastern Shore of Maryland* (MF187.K3H25)
- *Beyond the Roadgate: Kent County, 1900-1980* (MF187.K3S967)
- *History of Kent County Maryland: 1630-1916* (MF187.K3U85)
- *Historical Houses of Kent county, An Architectural History, 1642-1860* (MNA730.M32K37)
- *Of History and Houses, A Kent Island Heritage* (MF187.Q4S36H)
- *Ancient Shrewsbury, Scenes of Early Protestant Struggles: A Short Historical Sketch of Shrewsbury Parish, Kent County, Maryland* (PAM 321)
- *New Yarmouth, a Town of a Vanished Era, 1675-1697* (PAM 2139)
- *The Organizational Development of Kent County, Maryland* (MF187.K3H813)
- *Creeks and Manors of Old Kent* (PAM 2138)
- *Flower of Caroon, Maryland; Kent Co.* (F172.K3R463)
- *The Government of Kent County* (MF187.K3H85)
- *Gravesend, Serene but still Profound; Rock Hall, Kent Co.* (PAM 10,354)
- *Kent's Part in the War: 1812-1814: "The Battle of Caulk's Field"* (PAM 10,606)

II. Published Genealogy Sources and Journals

- *Inhabitants of Kent County Maryland, 1637-1787* (MF187.K3P371I)
- *Old Kent: A Publication of the Historical Society of Kent County* (MF187.K3O44)
- *Family Bible Records of Kent County, Maryland* (MF187.K3D23 1937)
- *Bible Records of Families Who Reside on the Upper Peninsula of the Eastern Shore of the State of Maryland* (MF187.E2S93)
- *Genealogical Record of Cecil County and Kent County Families* (CS71.V394)
- *Prominent Families of Kent County, Maryland...* (CS71.B262)

III. Vital Records – Birth, Death, Marriage

- *Kent County Marriage Licenses*, copied from the records at Chestertown, dating from 1796 to 1802, the earliest available; names are spelled as in the records (PAM 10,344)
- *Kent County Marriage Licenses, 1796-1866*, copied from original records in the court house of Chestertown (Micro 3229 or MF187.K3M36)
- *Kent County, Maryland Marriage Licenses 1796-1850 and lists of Kent County Ministers* (PAM 10,342)
- *Marriages, Collected from Land Records in Kent and Queen Anne's Counties, 1763-1845* (MF187.K3S93, Micro 3223)
- *Kent County Wills, 1738-1831, 2 volumes* (MF187.K3S932)
- *Colonial Records of Kent County* (PAM 10,347)
- *Eastern Shore Mortality Record, 1870* (PAM 970)
- *Abstracts of Kent County (MD) Wills, 1777-1867* (MF187.K3C556)
- *Maryland Wills: Howard County, 1840-1950; Kent County, 1642-1960* (MF187.H8H8)

IV. Church and Cemetery Records/Histories

Church Records

- *Marriages (1947-1992), Deaths (1947-1992), and First Communion (1879-1992) of Sacred Heart Parish, Chestertown, Kent County, Maryland (Micro 3210)*
- *Combined Register (1954-1991) of St. Christopher Parish, Chester, Kent Island, Kent County, Maryland (Micro 3237)*
- *Baptisms and Marriages (1856-1876) of St. Denis Parish, Galena, Kent County, Maryland (Micro 3230)*
- *Baptisms (1876-1984), Marriages (1879-1991), Deaths and Burials (1876-1991), First Communion (1878-1991), Confirmations (1886-1991), and Cemetery Plot Plan of St. Denis Parish, Galena, Kent County, Maryland (Micro 3210)*
- *Births, Marriages, and Deaths with Index (1650-1818) and Vestry Proceedings with Index (1693-1799) of St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church, Kent County, Maryland (Micro 3298)*
- *Register (1650-1818) and Index to Register for St. Paul's Parish, Kent County, Maryland (Micro 3227)*
- *Register and Vestry Proceedings (1702-1885) and Index to Register and Vestry Proceedings for Shrewsbury Parish, Kent County, Maryland (Micro 3228)*

Church Histories

- *Methodist Preaching in Cecil and Kent Counties, 1793-1795 (BX8495.A131S)*
- *An Historical Sketch of Methodism In Millington, Maryland, 1923; Kent Co. (PAM 11,584)*
- *Old Cecil Meeting on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, 1696-1900; Kent Co. Quakers (PAM 3345)*
- *History of St. James Methodist Protestant Church, Kent County, Maryland, 1825-1904 (MF187.K3M59S4M)*
- *Colonial St. Paul's Parish (PAM 5137)*
- *A Souvenir History of the Parish of St. Paul's, Kent County, Maryland (PAM 2144)*
- *History and Directory of Still Pond Methodist Episcopal Church, 1872-1912 (PAM 3879)*
- *Worton Gleanings: A History of Union M. E. Church and Development of the Area (PAM10,489)*

Cemetery Records

- *Tombstoning in Kent County, Maryland, 4 volumes (F187.K3T68)*
- *Bible and Gravestone Records of Kent County, Maryland, 2 volumes (MF187.K3D23)*
- *Gravestone Records and Bible Records of Kent County Maryland (MF187.K3G7)*
- *Historic Graves, Private Burial Grounds, and Cemeteries of Kent County, Maryland (PAM 10,731)*
- *Tombstone Inscriptions in Kent County, Maryland... (PAM 10,345)*

V. Land, Deed, Tax, and Other Records

- *Roll Call: Civil War in Kent County Maryland* (MF187.K3K58)
- *Kent County, Maryland and Vicinity List of Militia and Oaths of Allegiance* (PAM 4622)
- *Revolutionary Patriots of Kent and Queen Anne's Counties* (MF187.K3P371)
- *Kent County Court Records (1656-1662) and Index to Records* (Micro 3227)
- *The African American Collection, Kent County, Maryland* (F187.K3H96)
- *Free African Americans of 1832...*; includes Kent County (E185.86H95)
- *Maryland Freedom Papers*; includes Kent County (MF191.H997F)
- *The Farmer's Companion, Direction how to Survey Land After a New and Particular Method* (Rare MP3.M662F)

VI. Newspapers and Periodicals

- *Apollo*: Mar.-Dec., 1793 (Micro 3006, 3325)
- *Kent Shoreman: Kent and Queen Anne's County, Maryland* (MAP.K37)
- *Maryland Eastern Shore Newspaper Abstracts* (MF187.E2W949)

VII. Related Manuscript Collections

Family Papers

- *Barroll Family Letters*, 1845-1953; Kent Co. family; includes Civil War letters (MS108)
- *Samuel Ringgold Papers*, 1849-65; describes farm in Kent Co. (MS1407)
- *Joseph Wickes Correspondence*, 1822-66; miscellaneous correspondence of Kent County family (MS179)
- *Hepbron Papers*, 1837-53; letters from Missouri to Kent County family (MS2410)
- *Hynson Family Collection*, typescript of Hynson genealogy with photographs (G5027)
- *Mrs. Duncan Brent (Harriet Carrington Brown) Collection*, notes, letters, and charts of Kent County families (G5049)

Business Papers/Accounts

- *The Account Book of James Hyland*, 1817-69; Kent Co. blacksmith (MS2776)
- *Kent County Farmers' Alliance Record Books*, 1890-92 (MS509)
- *Thomas Seon Sudler Account Book*, 1785-1935; Sudler/Coulbourn(e) family of Somerset and Kent Counties (MS2646)

Land/Official Records

- *Kent County Court Records*, 1655-76 (MS411)
- *Kent County Tax List*, 1807 (Micro MS508)
- *Ezekial F. Chambers Papers*, 1798-1862; includes partial list of Kent Co. taxables for 1813 (MS1233)
- *Wilmer Family of Kent County, Maryland Records*, 1700-1829; mainly land records of Wilmer and other Kent and Cecil Co. families (MS2644)
- *States and Counties of Maryland Records*, 1663-1852; includes Kent Co. land records, 1787-88 (MS1117)
- *Talbot County, Maryland Survey Book*, 1667-1726; includes portions of what is now Kent Co. (MS1595)

War/Military

- *Percy G. Skirven Collection*, includes muster rolls of Kent County militia, 1775-76 (G5064)

Miscellaneous

- *Richard G. Sharp Collection*, 1794-1895; includes photocopies of the manumission of the slaves of Thomas Wilkins of Kent County (MS2309)
- *Colonel George Gale Papers*, 1853-76; political correspondence of Gale of Kent Co. (MS1282)
- *Mary Robertine Stokes Essay*, n.d.; on Kent County (Vertical File)
- *Kent County School Records*, 1855-84; register of attendance and grades; essays on teaching; deeds and plats of land for county schoolhouses (MS1708)
- *Tolchester Photograph Collection* (PP128); see finding aid at <http://www.mdhs.org/library/fotofind/PP0128lnk.html>

VIII. Maps and Atlases

- *An Illustrated Atlas of Kent and Queen Anne's Counties, Maryland*, 1877 (MG1271.K3L1)
- *Kent County, Maryland Street Map*, 1984 (Ref. MG1273.K3A4)
- *Map of Chestertown, Maryland*, Sanborn Map Co., 1903 (MG1271.K3C5S19)