

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.

SOMERSET COUNTY (SO) - formed in 1666

Table of Contents

I. Published City or County Histories.....2	
II. Published Genealogy Sources and Journals2	
III. Vital Records2	
IV. Church and Cemetery Records/Histories2	
V. Land, Deed, Tax and Other Records3	
	VI. Newspapers 3
	VII. Related Manuscript Collections 3
	- Family Papers
	- Business Papers/Accounts
	- Land/Official Records
	- Religion/Church Records
	- Miscellaneous
	VIII. Maps and Atlases5

I. Published City or County Histories

- *They Lived in Somerset County, Maryland, 1700-1725*, compiled by Wilmer O. Lankford (F189.S63 L37 1990)
- *Crisfield Maryland, 1676-1976* (MF187.S6C8W53)
- *History of Crisfield and Surrounding Areas on Maryland's Eastern Shore* (MF187.S6B4)
- *Maryland's Historic Somerset* (MF187.S6S67)
- *Some Historical Notes on Old Somerset, 1620-1958* (PAM 2839)
- *Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland: A Study in Foundations and Founders* (MF187.S6T68)
- *The Deal Island Story* (PAM 2841)
- *The Economy of Colonial Somerset, Maryland in Comparative Perspective* (ME195.C748)

II. Published Genealogical Sources and Journals

- *A Somerset Sampler: Families of Old Somerset County Maryland* (MF187.S6S64)
- *Genealogical Abstracts of Somerset and Coventry Parishes* (MF187.S6T94)
- *Genealogical Data from Somerset County, Maryland Court Records, 1675-1677* (PAM 11,016)
- *Early Families of Southern Maryland, 10 volumes* (MF187.S7J86E)
- *Early Settlers of Bogerternorton Hundred and Surrounding Areas of Old Somerset County, Maryland* (F187.S7T56)
- *They Lived in Somerset: 17th Century Marylanders* (PAM 11,651)
- *They Lived in Somerset County, Maryland: 1700-1725* (F187.S7.L37)
- *They Lived in Somerset County, Maryland: 1726-1750* (F187.S7L38)
- *Thirty-four Families of Old Somerset County, Maryland* (CS71.W75)
- *Somerset Historical Society News Bulletin* (MF187.S6S69)
- *Somerset County Historical Quarterly* (F142.S6Q1)

III. Vital Records – Birth, Death, Marriage

- *Marriages and Deaths of the Lower Delmarva, 1835-1840: from the Newspapers of Dorchester, Somerset, and Worcester Counties, Maryland*, compiled by F. Edward Wright (PAM 11, 108)
- *Somerset County Maryland Marriage Records, 1796-1871* (MF187.S6P65)
- *Marriage Licenses: Somerset County, Maryland, 1796-1831* (MF187.S6M35 oversized or Micro 3238)
- *Index to Somerset County Liber I.K.L., 1600-1720: Births, Marriages, Deaths* (MF187.S6S66)
- *Southern Maryland Birth Index, 1898-1919* (MF187.S7B168)
- *Southern Maryland Death Index, 1898-1923* (MF187.S7H635)
- *Somerset County Maryland Wills, 1667-1799, 2 volumes* (MF187.S6D799S)
- *Somerset County Maryland Will Book, 1800-1820* (MF187.S6D799S)
- *Somerset Count Maryland Will Book J.P.4, 1820-1837* (MF187.S6D799S)
- *Somerset Count Maryland Will Book J.P.5, 1837-1859* (MF187.S6D799S)

- *Maryland Wills: St. Mary's County, 1662-1960; Somerset 1664-1955* (MF187.S2H8)
- *Other Wills in the Prerogative Courts of Somerset and Worcester Counties, 1644-1775* (PAM 10,811)

IV. Church and Cemetery Records/Histories

Church Records

- *Coventry Parish Records: 1736-1828* (PAM 10,421)
- *Register and Vestry Proceedings (1734?-1899) and Index to Register and Vestry Proceedings of Coventry Parish, Somerset County, Maryland* (Micro 3238)
- *Parish of Somerset, Records of Somerset County, Maryland* (MF187.S6D799P)
- *Register and Vestry Proceedings (1703-1890) and Index to Register and Vestry Proceedings of Stepney Parish, Somerset County, Maryland* (Micro 3239)
- *Stepney Parish, Records of Somerset County, Maryland: St. Bartholomew's at Green Hill, St. Mary's at Cyaskin* (MF187.S6D799sp)

Church Histories

- *History of the Manokin Presbyterian Church, Princess Anne, Maryland* (MF187.S6P94M2F)
- *Summons to Somerset, Manokin Presbyterian Church* (PAM 10,111)
- *Two Centuries and a Half at Manokin Presbyterian Church, Princess Anne, Maryland* (PAM 2844)
- *The Churches of Somerset County, Maryland: Evolving Church Architecture in the Changing Rural Landscape, Somerset County, Maryland, 1600-1993* (NA5230.M32S665)
- *Old Greenhill Church (St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church)* (PAM 3588)

Cemetery Records

- *Cemetery Records of Somerset County, Maryland* (MF187.S6D99C)
- *Tombstone Inscriptions in St. Andrew's: Somerset Parish; Tombstone Inscriptions in the Manokin Church Cemetery, Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland* (PAM 10,418)

V. Land, Deed, Tax, and Other Records

- *Somerset County Rent Rolls, 1663-1723* (MF187.S6D799C)
- *Land Records of Somerset County, Maryland* (MF187.S6D799L)
- *Inventories of Somerset County, Maryland, 166-1720: A Locator Index* (F187.S7J66)
- *Inventories of Women of Old Somerset on Maryland's Eastern Shore, 1677-1726* (F187.S7L68)
- *Tax Lists of Somerset County, 1730-1740* (MF187.S6R971)
- *Somerset County, Maryland 1739 Tax List* (F187.S7P88)

- *1783 Tax lists of Somerset and Worchester County, Maryland* (MF187.S6D799T)
- *1798 Federal Direct Tax Somerset County Maryland* (MF187.S6R323)
- *Somerset County, Maryland 1800 Census* (CS42.M391)
- *Somerset County, Maryland, 1850* (MF187.S6D79)
- *1860 Census of Somerset County, Maryland* (PAM 11,798)
- *1890 Special Census of the Civil War Veterans of the State of Maryland, Volume 4: Caroline, Dorchester, Queen Anne, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worchester Counties* (E494.M66)
- *Somerset County Orphans Court Proceedings, 1777-1792, 1811-1838* (MF187.S6H473P)
- *Somerset County Maryland Judicial Records, 1707-1717* (MF187.S6W157)
- *Colonial Records of Southern Maryland* (MF187.S7J86C)
- *Free Blacks and the County Courts of Colonial Maryland: Law vs. Custom; Somerset Co. courts* (ME195.C748)
- *Free Blacks in Harford, Somerset, and Talbot Counties, Maryland, 1832* (PAM 10,802)
- *A Listing of Slaves and Indentured Servants, 1668-1720; Somerset Co.* (F187.S7J66)
- *Washington Hotel and Tavern Ledger: 1789-1793, Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland* (PAM 5317)

VI. Related Manuscript Collections

Family Papers

- *Disharoon Family Genealogical Notes, 1691-1894; Disharoon and related families of Dorchester and Somerset Counties* (MS2598)
- *Harry Lee Benson Collection; notes on families of Eastern Shore, primarily in Somerset and Worcester Counties* (G5005)
- *Benjamin J. Dashiell Collection; genealogical manuscripts of Dashiells and other Somerset families; marriage licenses, land records* (G5014)

Business Papers/Accounts

- *Ernest Clark Jr. Collection; letter introducing candidate for surveyor of Somerset County* (MS2243)
- *Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company Records; Somerset and Mineral Point Railroad, Somerset and Cambrian Railroad, and Somerset and Johnston Railraod* (MS1925)
- *Thomas Seon Sudler Account Book, 1785-1935; Sudler/Coulbourne family of Somerset and Kent Counties* (MS2646)
- *Tangier Steamboat Company Account Book, 1855-56; steamboat company with trips from Baltimore to Prince George's and Somerset Counties* (MS802)
- *Dr. H.G. Alexander's Physicians Ledger, 1899-1901; family doctor/surgeon for Somerset Co.* (MS2633)
- *James Teackle Dennis Collection, 1651-1917; Somerset County attorney* (MS233); see finding aid at <http://www.mdhs.org/library/mss/ms000233.html>

Land/Official Records

- *Miscellaneous Land Papers*, 1659-1915; includes some land grants for Somerset County (MS1342)
- *Somerset County Maryland Court Records*, 1665-1719 (MS757)
- *Maryland Tax Lists*, 1798-1905; includes 3 vols. for Somerset Co. (MS807 on Micro)
- *Taylor Family Land Papers*, 1700-1937; land and legal papers of Somerset Co. family (MS2655)
- *States and Counties of Maryland Records*, 1663-1852; includes levy lists and land records for Somerset Co. (MS1117)
- *Isaac Dashiell Jones Papers*, 1729-1871; includes large collection of land papers from Somerset and Worcester Counties (MS501)
- *Harry Lee Banson Manuscript Collection*, n.d.; includes Somerset Co. records (MS120)

Church/Religious Records

- *Dashiell Collection*, mostly 19th c.; Stepney Parish records and misc. (MS1804)

Miscellaneous

- *Hammond Harwood House Collection*; short history of Somerset Parish and history of a silver service presented to the parish in 1712 (MS1303.1)
- *David Ridgely Papers*, 1841; letters describing Princess Anne's early settlement (MS1603)

VII. Atlases and Maps

- *Atlas of Land Surveys of Somerset County, Maryland*, 1942 (MF187.S6B4)
- *Somerset County Atlas* (MF187.S6M38)