



ULSTER COUNTY NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION
OFFICE OF ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
244 FAIR STREET
KINGSTON, NEW YORK 12401

PHONE: 845.340-3900
FAX: 845.340.3651
www.co.ulster.ny.us
www.ulstercountyny.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Records Donation Program

KINGSTON, NY - Ulster County Clerk Nina Postupack receives historic colonial records and announces Records Donation Program.

Continuing a more than 320-year tradition of responsible records management that began with a locked wooden chest and is now the Ulster County Records Center, the Honorable Nina Postupack, our 45th Clerk of the County of Ulster, announces a new initiative called the Records Donation Program.

On the occasion of the inaugural donation, Nina Postupack is pleased to recognize Diane Lindsey, Joan Larkin Dresow, Arthur A. Davis III, Robert E. Davis, Stephen J. Davis, and William L. Davis. In memory of their parents, Judge Arthur A. Davis Jr. and Jean Larkin Davis, they have donated Kingston Town Court Minutes 1718-1724; Court of Common Pleas & Court of General Sessions Minutes 1705-1712 & 1729-1737; and Proceedings of the Supervisors & Justices' Meetings 1700-1710 to the Archives of the County Clerk's Office.

"Although Kingston's formative years have been accessible to scholars ever since the Dutch records (1658-1684) were translated over a century ago, governmental records of early eighteenth century Kingston and Ulster County have until now been scarce and fragmentary. Through the generosity of the Davis family, a huge remedial step has been taken in expanding the archival resources for study of Ulster County's English colonial period."

Marc B. Fried, Author and Historian

"It is exciting, indeed, to read these documents, for one feels the present and the past merge. The Records are a window through which one views life in Ulster County 300 yrs. ago, the people, how they lived, what they ate, the condition of their homes, the taxes they paid, the crimes they committed. In many ways, the past mirrors the present."

Rose Irvine, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus SUNY at New Paltz

"The Records Donation Program is another step forward in the preservation of these and other original documents. I have no doubt that this records bureau is the top-notch records facility in New York State. On a personal note, I attended Kingston High School with Judge Arthur and Jean Larkin Davis and knew them both well as outstanding members of our community. It is most fitting to have them honored by the donation of these priceless documents in their memory"

Edwin M. Ford, City of Kingston Historian

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As custodian of records, the County Clerk oversees the Ulster County Records Management Program – a proven success that is recognized throughout New York State. That recognition has led to recent returns of official Ulster County records of historical value – some from the New York State Archives in 2003 and others from the Huguenot Historical Society in 2001 and 2005.

The Records Donation Program is designed to encourage the rightful return of official county records, especially those of historical value, and to recognize their donors. Official county records are those that were at one time, filed or recorded by the County Clerk's Office.

For further information, please contact Laurie Hancock, Deputy County Clerk for Records Management, or Ken Gray, Archival Processing Technician, at the Ulster County Records Center, 300 Foxhall Avenue, Kingston, NY, 12401 or (845) 340-3415.