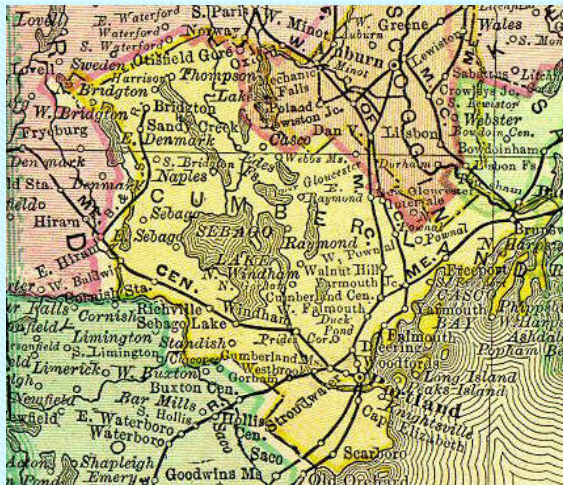
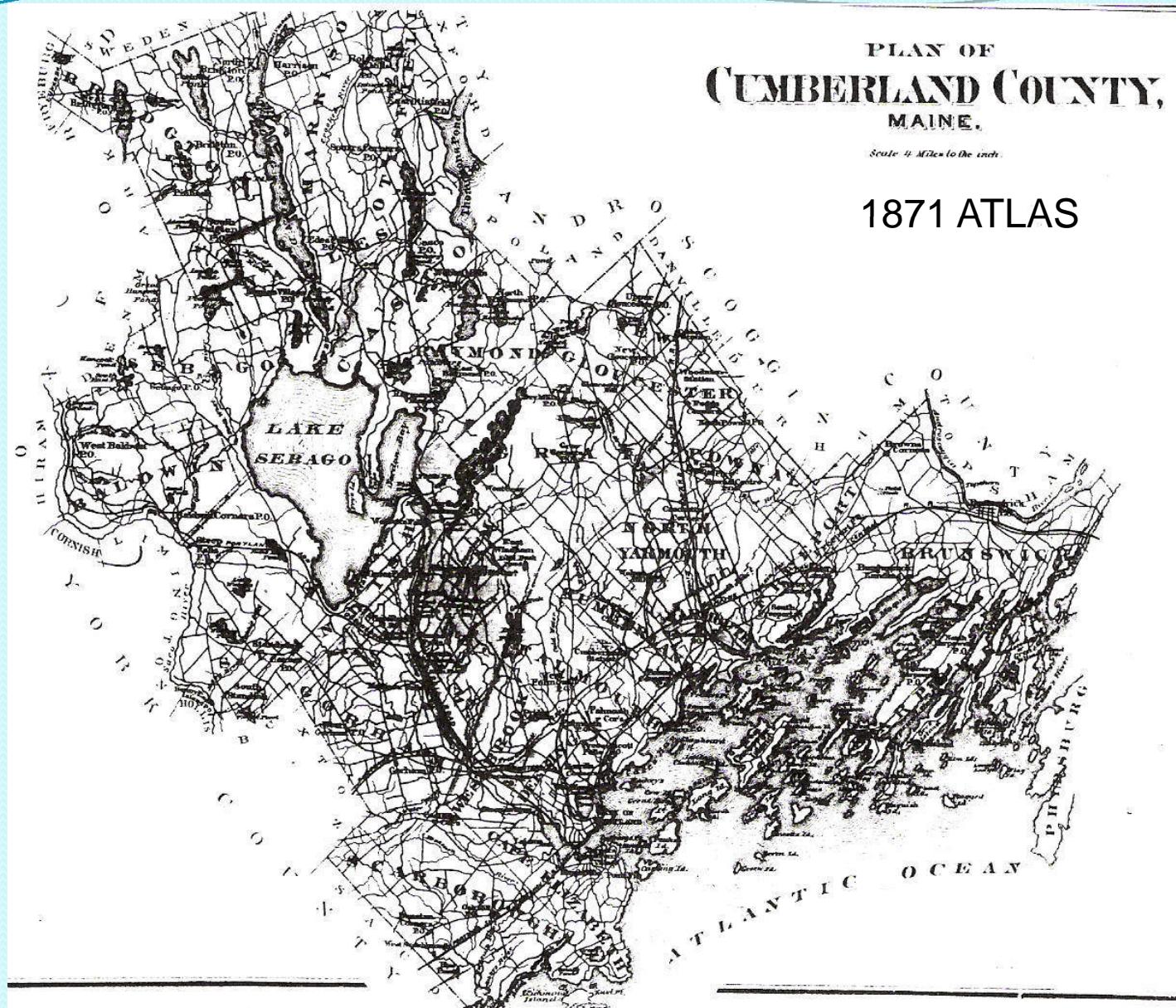


Cumberland County Deed Index Volumes 1-25 (1760-1794)



**Project of the
Greater Portland Chapter of MGS**



3/10/2008

(c) Carol P. McCoy

Early Cumberland County

- Originally created in 1760 from York county, which was the only county at that time.
 - Lincoln county created at the same time.
 - Included a much larger area.
 - Cumberland county at some time went up to the Canadian border.
- Eventually parts of Cumberland county went to other counties
 - To Oxford county (early 1800s)
 - To Androscoggin county in 1854
 - There was quite a bit of trading county land back and forth at various points
 - Parts of early Cumberland are now in Kennebec, Franklin, and Somerset counties

Purpose of Project

Create an Index of Volumes 1-25 of Cumberland County Deeds for the period 1760 – 1796

- Include grantor, grantee, location, date and record of deed, volume/page
- User-friendly, searchable CD
- To become a professional publication
- Special Publication of MGS, Greater Portland Chapter
- Facilitate deed research

Need for the Project

- Currently a researcher must borrow film from FHL or go to the courthouse to see if person is in index
- Actual deed books are small and hard to read
- Current Deed Index Covers Volumes 1-381, 1760-1870
 - Lists only names of 2 parties, vol., page grantor/grantee
- Need to look at 34 bound indexes to find names
- Don't know if it's the right person
- Must go to deed books for location, dates & other parties

Benefits of the Project

- Make valuable contribution to genealogical research in Maine
- Create a significant finding aid which can be purchased cheaply
- Participate in a fun, educational GPC project
- Start a long-term project we can build on
- Encourage use of Cumberland County deeds
- Learn more about deed research and Cumberland County

Current Format of Index

Last Name	First	Other	Volume	Page Grantor	Page Grantee
Adams	Jacob Est	Peter Noyes	1	315	
	Jacob +	Jonathan Williams	9		254
	Jacob	Uriah Nason +	28		74
	James +	Benjamin Waite	24		503

- No location
- No date of signing deed or recording date
- No way to identify multiple grantors or grantees
- Not easy to spot if grantor or grantee

Image of Deed Index Vol. 1

Ledger Index to Records from Vol. 1, 1760, to Vol. 381, 1870, inclusive.

Dresser, McLellan & Co., Booksellers and Stationers, Portland, Me.

For date of Vol. and kind of Instrument, see first page of this Book.

BOOK.	PAGE. Grantor.	PAGE. Grantee.
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Adams	Isaiah	Stephen Furbish	188	27	
	Isaiah H.	Israel H. Hodgdon	190		416
	Isaiah	Ebenezer Hodgkins	212		355
	Isaiah	William Mayberry	242	358	
	Isaiah	Thomas Hancock	247	443	

Proposed Format

Grantor	Grantee	Location	Date of Deed	Date Record	Vol	Page
Abbott, Aaron	Vaughn, William	Scarboroug h	1787	1788	11	577
Abbott, Elizabeth	Phillips, Wm., Jr	Township 1	1795	1795	23	34
Abraham, Tabitha	Bayley, James	Windham	1763	1766	3	301

- Clearly identifies grantor and grantee
- Includes grantors not in index (co-signing spouses, etc.)
- Shows location of property and dates
- Can sort by grantor, by grantee, by location, date, volume/page.
- Sorting by Volume/page will show all parties on the deed!

Sample Database

Grantor	Grantee	Location	Date	Record	Vol	Page
Abbott, Aaron	Vaughan, William	Scarboro	1787	1788	11	577
Abbott, Elizabeth +	Phillips, William, Jr.	Township 1	1795	1795	23	34
Abbott, Ephriam	York, John	Sudbury Canada	1792	1794	21	487
Abbott, Jacob	Phillips, William, Jr.	Township 3	1794	1794	21	92
Abbott, Jacob	Weld, Benjamin +				21	379
Abbott, Moses +	Phillips, William, Jr.	Township 1	1795	1795	23	34
Abbott, Philip	Putman, Stephen	Androscoggin River	1794	1795	22	477
Abbott, Stephen	Small, George	Raymond Town	1795	1796	25	205
Abraham, Tabitha	Bayley, James	Windham	1763	1766	3	301

- The index of Grantor & Grantee & Volume/Page created from the Index Book or from Microfilm
- Deeds are viewed in the deed books or film to identify location
- Deeds are viewed to identify date of signing and of record
- Data entered onto Form & then onto Excel spreadsheet

Sample Deed from Volume 2

Defend by these Presents In Testimony whereof We the S^r Edward Gilman and
Phebe my Wife Jane Ellen Aaron Gould and Sarah my Wife in Token of her free
Consent to the above Sale & Relinquishment of Dower in the Premises have her
unto Set our hands and seals the four Day of August Annoque Domini one
→ Thousand Seven Hund and Sixty Two → Edward Gilman — Seal
Signed Sealed & Delivered → Phebe ^{her} Gilman Seal
in Presence

- Grantor Edward Gilman signs name (in existing Index)
- Grantor Phebe Gilman signs (Not indexed; she must be added in Phase II)
- Date deed signed: 1762 (Added Phase II)
- Date of record is on the next page (Added Phase II)

Phases of Project

- **PILOT**—Create index for Letters A and B showing volume and page numbers. Get kinks out of the process
- **PHASE I** —Create index of grantors for rest of alphabet
- **PHASE II** —Enter location, dates, extra grantors/grantees onto forms
- **PHASE III**—Combine new information into spread sheets
- **PHASE IV** —Proof reading

Logistics

- Need many volunteers—do as much as you like!
- Take charge of a Letter of the Alphabet
- Carol McCoy is the overall project leader
 - Please communicate with her about what you're working on, progress, issues, questions
 - Avoid duplicating work done by other teams
- **There are forms for you to use on the web to handwrite the index (relevant to Vol. 1-25)**
 - Data must be typed onto a pre-made Excel spreadsheet.
 - Some may prefer to type directly into Excel.

Cumberland County Courthouse

- **Phase I—view Index Books covering 1760-1870**
 - Indexes are on first floor, open to public
- **Phase II--view Deed Books for extra information**
 - The Registrar will allow us to view the large old volumes!
 - Court staff must retrieve originals from the attic
 - Large books are easier to read than the small books.
- Parking meters are 75 cents an hour
- No cameras
- Entrance may be front or back—security check
- Can't plug in computers