

Record Groups CY

# County Records

Repository:  
Massachusetts Archives  
220 Morrissey Blvd  
Boston, MA 02125

Reviewed 2020-08-04

## Record Group List:

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## **Record Group Descriptions and Related Series:**

**Record Group Number:** CY1.02

**Record Group Name:** Berkshire County (Mass.) – County Commissioners

### **Historical Note:**

Commissioners were first appointed by the General Court in 1668, two for each county, to enforce equitable taxation while working with Court-appointed commissioners for each of the colony's four seaports (Mass Recs 4, pt. 2: 363-364). However, county commissioners in modern usage were provided for as gubernatorial appointees pursuant to St 1827, c 77 (1828), which assigned them administrative powers and duties exercised since 1781 at various times by county courts of general sessions of the peace, county courts of common pleas, and circuit courts of common pleas. Election of commissioners by the inhabitants of each county was authorized by St 1835, c 152. As codified in RS 1836 c 14, ss 31-37, county commissioners' responsibilities were to erect and repair jails, courthouses, and other county public buildings; to lay out, alter, or discontinue county highways; to grant and other liquor licenses; to estimate, apportion, and assess taxes for county charges and debts; and to examine and settle county accounts.

Currently three commissioners serving as a board are elected for four-year terms in each county except Nantucket, where their function is filled by the selectmen, and Suffolk, where it is filled in Boston by the mayor and city council, in Chelsea and Revere by their respective municipal councils, and in Winthrop by the selectmen (MGLA c 34, s 3). In each county the clerk of courts serves as clerk to the commissioners (MGLA c 221, s 3). However, county government including its commissioners has been abolished as follows: Franklin (1997), per St 1996, c 151, s 567, Middlesex (1997), Hampden (1998), and Worcester (1998), per St 1997, c 48.

Powers and duties of boards of county commissioners include the following:

- (1) preparation of an annual budget of estimated revenues and expenditures, which after a public hearing is forwarded to the advisory board on county expenditures (MGLA c 35, ss 28, 28B)
- (2) with the approval of the advisory board, levying, apportioning, and assessing taxes from cities and towns (MGLA c 35, ss 30-31)
- (3) approving all disbursements by the county treasurer, including county payrolls (MGLA c 35, ss 11, 19)

- (4) borrowing money for county expenses in anticipation of county revenues (MGLA c 35, s 37)
- (5) contracting for construction and maintenance at county expense of jails, which the commissioners inspect twice yearly, and of other public buildings, and, at state or local expense, for the construction and repair of highways (MGLA c 34, s 14, 17; c 35, s 34A; c 126, ss 1-2)
- (6) making rules, regulations, and orders governing purchasing, delivering and handling of, and contracting (by bid) for supplies, equipment, and services (MGLA c 34, s 17)
- (7) with the assent of local authorities, the acquisition (by purchase or eminent domain) or sale of county land (MGLA c 34, ss 14, 25)
- (8) laying out, altering, and discontinuing county highways and maintaining county maps (MGLA c 82, ss 1, 11; c 34, s 2)
- (9) preparation of an annual report listing petitions and actions regarding highways; repairs to public buildings; salaries paid to county officers; taxes due and unpaid; and assets of the county, including land, buildings, and furniture therein (MGLA c 35, s 26)

#### **Related Series:**

#### **Records, 1822-1969**

Identifier: CY1.02/2824X

Extent: 26.25 cubic feet (4 boxes, 2 document boxes, 1 volume, 18 record center cartons)

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Berkshire Registry of Deeds (Middle District) (2019/25, Aug.-Sept. 2019) excepting (under the former series designation 2456X): microfilm (2000/38, Aug. 16, 2000) deposited while original records remained in registry custody, as still do railroad maps); and meeting minutes, 1938-1946 (2004/21, Mar. 24, 2004) from Supreme Judicial Court Archives.

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**Record Group Number:** CY1.05

**Record Group Name:** Essex County (Mass.) – County Commissioners

#### **Related Series:**

#### **Audit reports, 1986-1998**

Identifier: CY1.05/2216X

Extent: 1.25 cubic feet (1 record center carton)

**Docket files, 1882-1978**

Identifier: CY1.05/2217X

Extent: 60.0 cubic feet (48 record center cartons)

**Votes and orders, 1988-1998**

Identifier: CY1.05/2218X

Extent: 3.75 cubic feet (3 record center carton)

**Budgets, 1997-**

Identifier: CY1.05/2219X

Extent: 1.25 cubic feet (1 record center carton)

**County tax assessments, 2220X, 1988-1999**

Identifier: CY1.05/2220X

Extent: 1.25 cubic feet (1 record center carton)

**Annual (treasurer) reports, 1866-1988**

Identifier: CY1.05/2221X

Extent: 3.75 cubic feet (3 record center cartons)

**Meeting files: Agenda items and minutes, 1951-1999**

Identifier: CY1.05/2222X

Extent: 21.25 cubic feet (17 record center cartons)

**County advisory board meeting files, 1990-1995**

Identifier: CY1.05/2223X

Extent: 1.25 cubic feet (1 record center carton)

**Closing file, 1998-1999**

Identifier: CY1.05/2224X

Extent: 1.25 cubic feet (1 record center carton)

**Miscellaneous financial records, 1827-1878**

Identifier: CY1.05/2418X

Extent: 24 volumes

**Proceedings, 1900-1916**

Identifier: CY1.05/2419X

Extent: 2 volumes

**Liquor licenses, 1868-**

Identifier: CY1.05/2601X

Extent: 1 volume

**Docket books, 1833-1936**

Identifier: CY1.05/2602X

Extent: 9 volumes

**Town meridian lines, 1870-**

Identifier: CY1.05/2603X

Extent: 1 volume

**Examination of County Treasurer's accounts, 1856-1865**

Identifier: CY1.05/2604X

Extent: 1 volume

**Index of highways**

Identifier: CY1.05/2605X

Extent: 1 volume

**Essex Turnpike Corporation records, 1803-1835**

Identifier: CY1.05/2606X

Extent: 1 volume

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**Record Group Number: CY1.07**

**Record Group Name:** Hampden County (Mass.) – County Commissioners

**Related Series:**

**Annual reports, 1890-1997**

Identifier: CY1.07/2420X

Extent: 2.0 cubic feet (1 record center carton and 2 document boxes)

**Meeting files, 1964-1998**

Identifier: CY1.07/2421X  
Extent: 2.5 cubic feet (2 record center cartons)

**Docket books, 1812-1979**

Identifier: CY1.07/2422X  
Extent: 10 cubic feet (8 record center cartons)

**Votes and Orders – Record of orders, 1942-1950**

Identifier: CY1.07/2423X  
Extent: 26.25 cubic feet (21 record center carton and 6 volumes)

**County Commissioners' Books of Accounts, 1888-1926**

Identifier: CY1.07/2424X  
Extent: 8 volumes

**Books of licenses, 1868-**

Identifier: CY1.07/2425X  
Extent: 0.5 cubic feet (1 document box)

**Returns of votes, 1816-1838**

Identifier: CY1.07/2426X  
Extent: 1.5 cubic feet (3 document boxes)

**County Commissioners' records, 1956-1995**

Identifier: CY1.07/2427X  
Extent: 1.0 cubic feet (1 document box and 2 volumes)

**Tax abatement files, 1979-1998**

Identifier: CY1.07/2428X  
Extent: 2.5 cubic feet (2 record center cartons)

**Mt Tom Reservation Commission files, 1977-1987**

Identifier: CY1.07/2429X  
Extent: 1.0 cubic feet (2 document boxes)

**Tourist guide files, 1983-**

Identifier: CY1.07/2430X  
Extent: 0.5 cubic feet (1 document box)

**Energy Office project files, 1982-1994**

Identifier: CY1.07/2432X

Extent: 1.25 cubic feet (1 record center carton)

**Advisory Board meeting files, 1982-1991**

Identifier: CY1.07/2433X

Extent: 5.0 cubic feet (4 record center cartons)

**Charter Commission files, 1984-1988**

Identifier: CY1.07/2434X

Extent: 1.0 cubic feet (2 document boxes)

**Procedures manuals, 197- - 198-**

Identifier: CY1.07/2435X

Extent: 0.5 cubic feet (1 document box)

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**Record Group Number: CY1.09****Record Group Name: Middlesex County (Mass.) – County Commissioners****Historical Note:**

Middlesex County was incorporated on May 10, 1643 (Mass Recs 2:38), continuing under successive governments of Massachusetts, most recently the Commonwealth (1780), as outlined in MGLA c 34. Administrative powers and duties previously exercised at various times under the laws of the Commonwealth by county treasurers and clerks of the county courts of general sessions of the peace, county courts of common pleas, and circuit courts of common pleas, were assigned to commissioners in Middlesex and other counties upon their establishment per St 1827, c 77 (1828). The government of Middlesex County was abolished as of the effective date of St 1997, c 48 (approved July 11, 1997).

**Related Series:****Survey notebooks: Index**

Identifier: CY1.09/2089X

**Road layouts: Index**

Identifier: CY1.09/2090X



### **Photographic plates for annual reports, 1915-1946**

Identifier: CY1.09/2141X  
Extent: 0.79 cubic feet (5 boxes)  
Notes: Box 1: Charts.  
Box 2: Buildings.  
Box 3: Persons.  
Boxes 4-5: Assorted.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/854996242>

### **Dockets, 1829-1997**

Identifier: CY1.09/2151X  
Extent: 126.25 cubic feet (101 record center cartons)  
Arranged: In two segments:  
(1) Boxes A1-30--1829-1905; arranged chronologically  
(2) Boxes B1-71, 1906-1997; arranged by docket no.  
Notes: Files also contain unnumbered items through 1908 which from 1909 are classified as: Orders ((M-Ar)2154X)  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/80620514>

### **Extended record, 1831-1997**

Identifier: CY1.09/2152X  
Extent: Subseries (1): 5.7 cubic feet (28 volumes)  
Subseries (2): 11.25 cubic feet (14 volumes in 2 record center cartons and 37 volumes)  
Arranged: In two subseries:  
(1) Record books, 1831-1929  
(2) Item books: Dockets/Orders, 1851-1997; Contracts, 1922-1997; arranged within each subseries chronologically.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/79021302>

### **Meeting minutes, 1910-1997**

Identifier: CY1.09/2153X  
Extent: 63.75 cubic feet (51 record center cartons)  
Arranged: In four subseries:  
(1) Minutes, 1910-1997  
(2) Agendas, 1963-1997  
(3) Agenda items, 1983-1997  
(4) Sanatorium/hospital minutes, 1936-1996;  
Arranged within each subseries chronologically.

Notes: Subseries (1), 1910-1921 and subseries (4), 1936-1940, 1955-1957  
extracted from: Orders ((M-Ar)2154X)  
Also known as: Proceedings.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/82630779>

### **Orders, 1909-1997**

Identifier: CY1.09/2154X  
Extent: 46.25 cubic feet (37 record center cartons)  
Notes: Pre-1909 orders currently interfiled with: Dockets ((M-Ar)2151X);  
1909-1947 orders were also so interfiled before processing, including  
meeting minutes (now (M-Ar)2153X) and annual reports (now (M-Ar)2156X)

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/78435166>

### **Tax abatement files, 1963-1983**

Identifier: CY1.09/2155X  
Extent: 2.5 cubic feet (2 record center cartons)  
Arranged: Arranged in two chronological segments, thereunder alphabetically by  
municipality.  
Notes: Box 1: 1963-1974 A-Wi Box 2: 1963-1974 Wo; 1975-1983.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/80524670>

### **Annual reports, 1891-1996**

Identifier: CY1.09/2156X  
Extent: 2.05 cubic feet (11 document boxes)  
Notes: Extracted from: Middlesex County (Mass.). County Commissioners.  
Orders ((M-Ar)2154X), including parts of that series currently  
interfiled with: Dockets ((M-Ar)2151X)

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/84275739>

### **Books of account, 1827-1946**

Identifier: CY1.09/2157X  
Extent: 6 volumes in partial record center carton

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/80362480>

### **Record of variations of the compass from the true magnetic meridian, 1871-1914**

Identifier: CY1.09/2158X  
Extent: 1 volume in partial record center carton  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Series incomplete: records after 1914 lacking.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/78903373>

**Licenses issued, 1868-1869**

Identifier: CY1.09/2159X

Extent: 1 volume in partial record center carton

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/81378886>

**Charter commission minutes, 1987-1988**

Identifier: CY1.09/2160X

Extent: 0.17 cubic feet (1 document box)

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/81069513>

**Charter commission report of findings and recommendations, 1987-1988**

Identifier: CY1.09/2161X

Extent: 0.17 cubic feet (1 document box)

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/83086260>

**Descriptions of railroad locations, 1831-1913**

Identifier: CY1.09/2162X

Extent: 0.85 cubic feet (1 document box and 2 volumes)

Copies: 0.5 cubic feet (2 volume)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/83086260>

**Advisory board minutes, 1974-1997**

Identifier: CY1.09/2163X

Extent: 1.42 cubic feet (1 record center carton and 1 document box)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/79752305>

**Studies and proposals, 1977-1989**

Identifier: CY1.09/2164X

Extent: 0.17cubic feet (1 document box)

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/84445933>

**Audit reports, 1981-1995**

Identifier: CY1.09/2165X

Extent: Partial record center carton

Arranged: Arranged chronologically by fiscal year.

Notes: Report for FY 1982 lacking.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/82803763>

**Policy and procedures manuals, 1977-1991**

Identifier: CY1.09/2166X  
Extent: Partial record center carton  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/80617216>

**Municipal files, 1980-1996 (bulk 1985-1988)**

Identifier: CY1.09/2167X  
Extent: 2.5 cubic feet (2 record center cartons)  
Arranged: Arranged alphabetically by municipality.  
Notes: Box 1: A-Lincoln  
Box 2: Lincoln-Z  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/84317551>

**Contract registers, 1894-1922**

Identifier: CY1.09/2168X  
Extent: 1.6 cubic feet (4 volumes in 1 record center carton; 1 document box)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/83086276>

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**Record Group Number: CY1.14**

**Record Group Name: Worcester County (Mass.) – County Commissioners**

**Related Series:**

**Treasurer annual reports, 1876-1975**

Identifier: CY1.14/2436X  
Extent: 3 Records center cartons

**Meeting files, 1977-1998**

Identifier: CY1.14/2437X  
Extent: 7 Records center cartons

**Personnel board rules and regulations**

Identifier: CY1.14/2438X  
Extent: 1 Records center carton

**Budgets**

Identifier: CY1.14/2439X  
Extent: 1 Records center carton

**Hospital Trustees' reports**

Identifier: CY1.14/2440X  
Extent: 1 Records center carton

**County tax assessments, 1983-1984**

Identifier: CY1.14/2441X  
Extent: 1 Records center carton

**County Commissioners' records, 1887-1891**

Identifier: CY1.14/2442X  
Extent: 6.5 Records center cartons

**Docket books, 1825-1839**

Identifier: CY1.14/2443X  
Extent: 12 Records center cartons and 1.5 document boxes

**Tax abatement files, 1972-1991**

Identifier: CY1.14/2444X  
Extent: 14 Records center cartons

**Votes and orders, 1826-1998**

Identifier: CY1.14/2445X  
Extent: 63.5 Records center cartons

**County advisory board meeting files, 1982-1993**

Identifier: CY1.14/2446X  
Extent: 2 Records center cartons

**Audit reports**

Identifier: CY1.14/2447X  
Extent: 1 Records center carton

**License books, 1840-1865**

Identifier: CY1.14/2454X  
Extent: 0.5 document box

**Account books, 1829-1859**

Identifier: CY1.14/2455X  
Extent: 0.5 document box

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**Record Group Number: CY2.03****Record Group Name: Bristol County (Mass.) – Sheriff****Historical Note:**

St 1746-47, c 15 made Taunton the shire town for Bristol County (instead of the Town of Bristol). The Taunton (i.e., Bristol County) Jail, originally in an old schoolhouse in Taunton (1746-1785), relocated to a stone structure on Court Street (1818-1873) and was replaced by the Hodges Avenue Jail (1873-1923). The Hodges Avenue Jail was no longer used as of 1920. --St 1827, c 135 (1828) allowed citizens of New Bedford, Fairhaven, Dartmouth, or Westport to be tried in New Bedford, while citizens of any of the other towns were still tried in Taunton. The New Bedford jail was built on Court Street in New Bedford in 1829. St 1834, c 151 charged county commissioners with providing houses of correction for every county, and a house of correction was added to the jail beginning in 1835, with a new building constructed in the 1860s. Surviving records suggest that those committed for more serious crimes had already been so segregated from 1829. St 1886, c 152 and St 1886, c 215 called for county commissioners to enlarge the New Bedford complex by demolishing the jail and constructing an Ash Street facility. This operated as the primary location to house inmates from 1888 until specialized facilities for addiction and pre-release were constructed by 1990 at North Dartmouth, as part of a new jail/house of correction facility (see below). Today it is known as the Ash Street Jail and Regional Lock-up.

Lizzie Borden was housed in the Hodges Avenue Jail (Taunton) in 1892-1893 while awaiting trial at the New Bedford Courthouse for the murders of her parents, Andrew and Abby. She was transported to the Ash Street Jail (New Bedford) for her arraignment in May 1893 and again for her trial in June 1893, when she was found not guilty.

St 1897, c 297 authorized construction of a jail in Fall River, which in fact never opened and was sold to the City of Fall River in 1915. The current Bristol County Jail and House of Correction was opened in North Dartmouth in 1990 to house male inmates of sentences of 2 1/2 years or less, high risk males and females awaiting trial, and pre-release and drug treatment programs. All programs for women were moved to the Bristol County Sheriff's Women's Center at the same site, added in 1999. Also located there is the Carreiro Immigration Detention Center.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/145429331>

### **Related Series:**

#### **New Bedford jail/House of Correction fines and expenses collected, 1857-1937 and 1958-1969**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2622X

Extent: 7 volumes and 1 file folder in partial record center carton and 2 volumes

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991858971>

#### **Taunton Jail fines and costs collected, 1886-1901**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2623X

Extent: 2 volumes (partial record center carton)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859284>

#### **New Bedford Jail and House of Correction punishment books, 1842-1973**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2624X

Extent: 1.25 cubic ft. (12 volumes (including 2 indexes) in 1 record center carton)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991858972>

### **New Bedford Jail and House of Correction daily log books, 1903-1977**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2625X

Extent: 1.95 cubic ft. (25 volumes in 2 document boxes and 1 record center carton)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991858971>

### **New Bedford House of Correction records of conduct, 1856-1937**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2626X

Extent: 0.6 cubic feet (4 volumes)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Volume 1: 1856-1882; Volume 2: 1882-1893; Volume 3: 1893-1916; Volume 4: 1916-1937

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991858973>

### **Fines and forfeitures imposed by Superior Court, 1908-1978**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2627X

Extent: 0.2 cubic feet (2 volumes)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Volume 1: February 1908-November 1927; Volume 2: February 1928-June 1978

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991858975>

### **New Bedford House of Correction calendar, 1829-1976**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.



Identifier: CY2.03/2705X  
Extent: 12.7 cubic feet (39 volumes)  
Indexes: 1.4 cubic feet (4 document boxes)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Vols. [A]-[D], 1829-1875 have unnumbered entries. Volumes [1]-[39], 1864-1976 include inmate no. Vols. [6], [12--including Lizzie Borden entry], [25], [29] are lacking, presumably retained in sheriff's office. Vol. [A] includes also: New Bedford Jail debtors calendar, 1829-1884 (CY2.03/2711X).  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859291>

#### **New Bedford Jail criminal calendar, 1829-1974**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2706  
Extent: 5.5 cubic feet (34 volume)  
Indexes: 0.7 cubic feet (2 document boxes)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Vols. [A]-[D], 1829-1875 have unnumbered entries. Volumes [1]-[32], 1864-1974 include inmate no. Vol. [5--including Lizzie Borden entry] lacking, presumably retained in sheriff's office.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859292>

#### **Taunton Jail criminal calendar, 1836-1920**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2707X  
Extent: 2.4 cubic feet (10 volumes)  
Indexes: 0.35 cubic feet (1 document box)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Vols. [A]-[B], 1829-1869 have unnumbered entries. Vols. [1]-[8], 1866-1920 include inmate no.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859293>

#### **Miscellaneous unidentified criminal calendars, 1848-1864**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2708X

Extent: 0.5 cubic feet (3 volumes in 1 box)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Vols. [A]-[B], 1829-1869 have unnumbered entries. Vols. [1]-[8], 1866-1920 include inmate no.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859294>

### **New Bedford House of Correction calendar blotters, 1882-1959**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2709X

Extent: 1 cubic foot (7 volumes)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859295>

### **Taunton Jail criminal calendar blotters, 1897-1920**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2710X

Extent: 0.5 cubic feet (2 volumes)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Vol. [1]: 15360-28130 and index, ca. 1897-1911. Vol. [2]: 228131-36262, 1911-1920.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859278>

### **New Bedford Jail debtors calendar, 1829-1884 (bulk 1829-1855)**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2711X

Extent: Partial volume

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859217>

### **Taunton Jail debtors calendar, 1836-1870**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2712X

Extent: 0.2 cubic feet (1 volume)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859279>

### **New Bedford House of Correction Female Department records, 1858-1956**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2713X

Extent: 1.39 cubic feet (14 volumes (including 3 indexes) in 5 document boxes)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Box 1: Calendar, 1865-1885. Box 2: Receiving/clothing, 1864-1885. Box 3: Receiving/clothing, 1885-1907. Box 4: Receiving/clothing, 1907-1956. Box 5: Industry (piece work) with amounts paid, 1858-1859. Logbooks, 1935-1956.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859280>

### **New Bedford House of Correction yard officer calendars/dockets, 1855-1958**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2714X

Extent: 8.2 cubic feet (37 volumes in 6 record center cartons and 2 document boxes)

Indexes: 1.05 cubic feet (33 volumes in 3 document boxes)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Box 1: 1855-1871. Box 2: 1872-1886. Box 3: 1886-1895. Box 4: 1895-1902. Box 5: 1902-1913. Box 6: 1913-1919. Box 7: 1929-1948. Box 8: 1948-1958.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859281>

### **New Bedford Jail and House of Correction discharge and sentence logs, 1868-1964**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2715X

Extent: 1.95 cubic feet (15 volumes in 1 record center carton and 2 document boxes) 0.2 cubic feet (2 volumes)

Arranged: Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Box 1: Discharges, 1868-1903. Sentence books--Box 2: 1905-1930. Box 3: 1930-1954. Volumes for 1877-1886, 1961-1964. Coverage lacking: 1904, 1910-1913, 1955-1960. Complete volume list in Archives series control file.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859282>

### **New Bedford House of Correction leave and release permit stub books, 1880-1956**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2716X

Extent: 3.75 cubic feet (48 volumes in 3 record center cartons)

Arranged: In two subseries; arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Subseries (1)--Box 1: 1880-1890. Box 2: 1900-1956. Subseries (2)--Box 3: 1881-1937. Complete volume list in Archives series control file.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859283>

### **New Bedford House of Correction official visitor logs, 1858-1936 (bulk 1864-1885)**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2717X

Extent: 4 volumes (partial record center carton)

Arranged: In two subseries; Arranged chronologically.

Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Vol. [1] 1864-1869 (also letters 1858-1859). Vol. [2] 1870-1875 (also holidays, staffing) Vol. [3] 1876-1885. Vol. [4] letters to adjoining counties, 1867-1936.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859312>

### **New Bedford Jail and House of Correction visitor logs, 1902-1925**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2718X  
Extent: 7 volumes and 1 file folder in partial record center carton and 2 volumes  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859313>

### **Taunton Jail visitor logs, 1910-1920**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2719X  
Extent: 0.56 cubic feet (2 volumes in 1 document box)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859314>

### **New Bedford House of Correction journals/ledgers of industry and labor, 1831-1927**

Identifier: CY2.03/2720X  
Extent: 2.8 cubic feet (27 volumes in 5 document boxes)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Box 1: 1831-1872. Box 2: 1858-1878. Box 3: 1861-1895. Box 4: 1879-1895. Box 5: Labor 1860-1927.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859315>

### **New Bedford House of Correction journals, 1857-1914**

Identifier: CY2.03/2721X  
Extent: 4.87 cubic feet (22 volumes in 2 document boxes and 3 record center cartons)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Box 1: 1857-1867. Box 2: 1867-1874. Box 3: 1874-1890. Box 4: 1890-1905. Box 5: 1905-1914  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859316>

### **New Bedford House of Correction ledgers, 1857-1905**

Identifier: CY2.03/2722X

Extent: 3.62 cubic feet (17 volumes in 2 document boxes and 2 record center cartons)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Box 1: 1857-1863. Box 2: 1863-1871. Box 3: 1871-1884. Box 4: 1887-1905.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859317>

#### **New Bedford Jail and House of Correction expenditures, 1859-1881**

Identifier: CY2.03/2723X  
Extent: 0.5 cubic feet (3 volumes in 1 document box)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Vol. [1]: 1859-1860. Vol. [2]: 1860-1870. Vol. [3]: 1870-1881.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859318>

#### **New Bedford Jail and House of Correction expense journals, 1861-1980**

Identifier: CY2.03/2724X  
Extent: 11.47 cubic feet (44 volumes in 7 document boxes and 7 record center cartons)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Box 1: 1861-1875 daily supplies. Box 2: 1864-1865. Box 3: 1875-1877. Box 4: 1877-1879. Box 5: 1879-1885. Box 6: 1885-1891. Box 7: 1891-1900. Box 8: 1900-1914. Box 9: 1915-1927. Box 10: 1927-1939. Box 11: 1942-1954. Box 12: 1954-1967. Box 13: 1967-1975. Box 14: 1975-1980.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859326>

#### **Taunton Jail expense journals, 1886-1923**

Identifier: CY2.03/2725X  
Extent: 1.68 cubic feet (7 volumes in 3 document boxes)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Box 1: 1886-1896; Box 2: 1896-1914; Box 3: 1914-1923  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859327>

#### **New Bedford Jail and House of Correction payrolls, 1839-1948**

Identifier: CY2.03/2726X  
Extent: 0.52 cubic feet (8 volumes in 2 document boxes)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013; Contents: Box 1: 1839-1911; Box 2: 1911-1948.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859328>

#### **New Bedford Jail and House of Correction medical records, 1872-1921(?)**

**Restrictions:** Criminal offender record information restricted by statutory provision, for conditions of access, consult repository; MGLA c 6, ss 167-178.

Identifier: CY2.03/2727X  
Extent: 0.35 cubic feet (6 volumes (including 1 index) in 1 document box)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859226>

#### **New Bedford House of Correction outgoing correspondence, 1874-1913**

Identifier: CY2.03/2728X  
Extent: 1.25 cubic feet (8 volumes in 1 record center carton)  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859227>

#### **New Bedford House of Correction industry correspondence, 1923-1940**

Identifier: CY2.03/2729X  
Extent: 1.25 cubic feet (1 record center carton)  
Arranged: Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North Dartmouth, MA, August 2013  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859333>

#### **New Bedford House of Correction industry orders and shipments, 1877-1921**

Identifier: CY2.03/2730X  
Extent: 2.6 cubic feet (14 volumes in 1 record center carton and 1 volume)  
Arranged: Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.



Notes: Transferred to Archives from Bristol County Sheriff's Office, North  
Dartmouth, MA, August 2013

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991859334>

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**Record Group Number: CY2.13**

**Record Group Name: Suffolk County (Mass.) – Sheriff**

Historical Note:

Massachusetts St 1799, c 81 established a municipal court to handle Suffolk County criminals, taking over from the Court of General Sessions. Any prisoners ordered committed or awaiting trial were to be committed to the custody of the keeper of the Suffolk County Jail, i.e., the town or so-called Boston gaol located since 1635 off Court Street. --Begun around 1819, the Leverett Street Jail opened in 1822. It was replaced by the Charles Street Jail in 1851. This was closed in 1991, replaced by the Suffolk County Jail on Nashua Street, which opened in 1990.

In October 1823, one of the two stone prison buildings, North Jail at Leverett Street, was converted into a house of correction, and employed inmates in hammering stone. St 1824, c 28 established the House of Correction in the City of Boston as the House of Correction for the County of Suffolk, under the control of the city. A new building was erected in 1825 at South Boston for the House of Correction, although the move to the new building was delayed.

In 1833, the City Council finally ordered the removal of the houses of correction on Leverett Street and on Governor's Island (fl. 1820-1833) to South Boston. The House of Correction was located in South Boston until 1896. St 1896, c 536 moved the House of Correction from South Boston to the former House of Industry on Deer Island, which was designated the House of Correction at Deer Island. In 1991 this facility was replaced by the Suffolk County House of Correction at South Bay, which opened on Dec. 26, 1991. St 1991, c 138, ss 356-363, placed the House of Correction in the charge of the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office.

For Massachusetts sheriffs and county correctional institutions generally, see:  
Massachusetts. Sheriffs. Agency history record, including county correctional institutions.

**Additional Description:** <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/908448978>



## **Related Series:**

### **Debtors calendar, 1799-1943**

Identifier: CY2.13/408X  
Extent: 2.6 cubic feet (11 volume)  
Copies 3 microfilm reels (1 partial) ; 35 mm  
Notes: Vols. 1-2 have cover title: Sheriffs kalender.  
Vol. for Sept. 1820-June 1823 lacking.  
Vol. 1-3, 1799-1812, also include: Criminal calendar, 1799-June 1814  
(for later vols. see series (M-Ar)409X)  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/78696864>

### **Suffolk County Jail criminal calendar, 1799-1988**

Identifier: CY2.13/409X  
Extent: 56.4 cubic feet (143 volume)  
Copies 29 microfilm reels (1 partial) ; 35 mm  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically.  
Notes: Vols. 12-47, 47A, 48-97 (1852-1942) numbered 2-88; others unnumbered.  
Calendars for June 1823-Feb. 1827; pages for Jan.-Feb. 1842; calendars for Aug. 1848-Sept. 1849, Dec. 1850-Dec. 1851, Jan.-Aug. 1942, Nov. 1976-Feb. 1979, Apr. 1980-Jan. 1981, Dec. 1983-Oct. 1984, Oct. 1985-Jan. 1988 lacking. Holdings terminate Oct. 1988. Listings for 1840-1841 for federal witnesses and prisoners only.  
Calendars for 1799-June 1814 bound with: Debtors calendar ((M-Ar)408X), 1799-1812.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/84461448>

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## **Record Group Number: CY2.091**

## **Record Group Name: Middlesex County Training School (Mass.)**

### **Historical Note:**

Middlesex County commissioners were authorized to build one or more truant schools per St 1892, c 273. Such a school was opened in 1894 at Chelmsford, later being moved to Lowell. Per St 1898, c 496, the Middlesex County school was to accept inmates from Revere, Winthrop, and Chelsea, while the Boston parental school (St 1886, c 282) functioned as the truant school for the rest of Suffolk County. Under the 1898 act

(amended by St 1903, c 330), children defined as habitual truants (between seven and fourteen), habitual absentees (between seven and sixteen), and habitual school offenders (under fourteen; under sixteen per St 1913, c 779 s 8) could, if boys, be committed for up to two years at a county truant school ; or, in the case of absentees or offenders, to the Lyman School for Boys. (Girls were committed only to the State Industrial School for Girls at Lancaster.) County commissioners could grant and revoke parole from the truant schools. Truant school inmates guilty of gross misbehavior there could be sent (under fifteen) to the Lyman School or (fifteen or over) to the Massachusetts Reformatory.

St 1904, c 220 removed the two-year limit of truant school commitment, but specified sixteen as the latest age of release. St 1906, c 389 provided for commitment only to county truant schools of habitual truants, absentees, or school offenders. St 1913, c 779, s 11 provided that boys in county training schools (as they were now called per St 1908, c 103) guilty of gross misbehavior if over fifteen be sent to the Industrial School for Boys at Shirley rather than to the Massachusetts Reformatory.

In anticipation of the repeal of current law providing for the institutionalization of school and other youthful offenders (St 1973, c 1073, s 2), the Middlesex County Training School was closed in Feb. 1973.

**Additional Description:** <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/84275710>

## **Related Series:**

### **Client case files, 1894-1973**

**Restriction:** Personal information restricted by agreement with donor and by statutory provision; for conditions of access consult repository; MGLA c 4, s 7, cl 26 (c ) and c 66A.

Identifier: CY2.091/875X  
Extent: 120 cubic feet (96 record center cartons)  
Arranged: Arranged alphabetically by inmate name.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Middlesex County Commissioners,  
November 3, 1978.

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/180703010>

### **Commitment registers, 1894-1973**

**Restriction:** Personal information restricted by agreement with donor and by statutory provision; for conditions of access consult repository; MGLA c 4, s 7, cl 26 (c ) and c 66A.

Identifier: CY2.091/2142X  
Extent: 1.23 cubic feet (1 volume, 1 box, 1 document. box)  
Arranged: In three subseries

(1) Register and information cards, 1894-1973 (1 volume and 1 box)  
(2) Supplementary card, 1969-1972 (partial document box)  
(3) Log sheets, 1966-1973 (partial document box)  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Middlesex County Commissioners,  
January 22, 1998.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/180705875>

### **Expense ledger, 1901-1903**

Identifier: CY2.091/2144X  
Extent: 1 volume  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically by month.  
Notes: Transferred to Archives from Middlesex County Commissioners,  
January 22, 1998.  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/83176328>

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## **Record Group Number: CY3**

### **Record Group Name: Registries of Deeds**

#### Historical Note:

There is a registry of deeds for recording property ownership in each of the Massachusetts counties or registry districts within a county -- Essex, Middlesex, and Worcester counties are divided into two districts each; Berkshire and Bristol counties are divided into three districts each (St 1697, c 21, ss 1, 5; MGLA c 36, s 1). Each county or registry district elects for a six-year term a register of deeds to administer the registry (St 1783, c 60, s 1; MGLA c 36, s 2). As a part of the county government, registers relate to county commissioners for administrative matters.

Registers accept for recordation, deeds and other documents such as mortgages, liens, or plans that affect land in their district. Procedures for recordation are governed by statute (MGLA c 36, s 14). Deeds and instruments are processed in order of receipt, with grantors, grantees, and municipality where the land lies being recorded. The register copies each document, the original being returned to the individual filing it.

The register acts as the assistant recorder of the Land Court for his district (St 1898, c 562, s 10). The Land Court, a part of the judicial system, determines the actual state of the title

to land and operates the state's system of land registration. The record copy of its decrees and certificates of title to individual parcels of land is maintained by the register in a discrete location at the registry of deeds.

The register also relates to municipal, state, and federal governments in land-related matters, such as title, taxes, and liens. Upon request of the board of assessors of any municipality in the district, the register furnishes the board with copies of instruments recorded at the registry that affect the title to real estate in the municipality, or taxation of that real estate. Municipal planning boards are required to file subdivision control rules and regulations with the register; no rules and regulations are effective until such certified copies have been filed (St 1953, c 674, s 7)

The register notifies the state Dept. of Revenue when any declaration of trust is filed, and the state Dept. of Public Welfare when instruments creating charitable trusts are filed. The register keeps a current list of all taxpayers against whom federal liens have been entered. After a petition in bankruptcy is filed, the bankrupt, trustee, receiver, custodian, referee, or any creditor may file a copy of the petition at the registry. In order to enhance preservation of landmarks and sites, registers are required to record certification of an historic or archeological site and the withdrawal of such certification (St 1963, c 697, s 1).

**Additional Description:** <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/122297690>

#### **Related Series:**

##### **Registry of Deeds modernization and efficiency commission files, 2013**

Identifier: CY3/2659X

Extent: 0.52 cubic feet (2 document boxes)

Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/945925425>

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#### **Record Group Number: CY3.13**

#### **Record Group Name: Suffolk County (Mass.) – Registry of Deeds**

#### **Related Series:**

##### **Record books, 1629-1800**

**Restriction:** Restricted as fragile; access by permission of state archivist or curator of Massachusetts Archives only.

Identifier: CY3.13/1205  
Extent: 64 cubic feet (191 volumes in 187 boxes -- volumes 3-4, 7-8, 11-12, 13-14 boxed in pairs)  
Transcripts 1.5 cubic ft. (4 volumes (boxed))  
Arranged: Arranged chronologically by date/time of recordation.  
Notes: Volumes numbered 1-111, 113, 115-193.  
Volumes 112 (Jan.-July 1868) and 114 (Jan.-Mar. 1769) either lost or destroyed, probably when the registry was moved to Dedham in 1776. In 1983, volumes 1-14 (1629-1687) ms. volumes reported missing; recovered 2003. For printed version see above.  
Volumes 3-4, 7-8, 11-12, 13-14 boxed in pairs.  
Deposited in Archives by Suffolk County Registry of Deeds, Jan. 4, 1999; by Massachusetts Registry of Deeds, Suffolk District: volumes 1-12, Nov. 19, 2003, v. 13-14, Dec. 17, 2003. (Per St 1999, c 127, s 53, the registry passed to the general superintendence of the state secretary as of Sept. 1, 1998, and its staff became employees of the secretary effective July 1, 1999.)  
Additional Description: <http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/78847737>

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## **Record Group Number: CY3.022**

## **Record Group Name: Berkshire County (Mass.) – Registry of Deeds (Middle District)**

### **Related Series:**

#### **Record books, 1761-1978**

Identifier: CY3.022/2815  
Extent: 123 Volumes, 68 Records center cartons  
Notes: Includes: (1) Subseries 1: Record books, 1761-1951  
(2) Subseries 2: Grantor/grantee indexes, 1760-1978  
(3) Subseries 3: Pittsfield transfer assessors records, 1882-1950