# **Davidson County Court Loose Records Addition**

# **Collection Summary**

Title: Davidson County Court Loose Records Addition

Summary: Additional loose records belonging to the Davidson County Court

and ranging from 1879-1958

Physical Description: 13 boxes; 5.21 linear feet

Language: English

**Stack Location:** Section 4, shelves 2-4

Repository: Metropolitan Government Archives of Nashville- Davidson County

#### **Historical Note:**

While the history of the Davidson County Court is patchy at best, its beginnings can be traced back to 1783, with Andrew Ewing as the first County Court Clerk and James Robertson elected as the first County Judge. The responsibilities and activities of Davidson County Court extended beyond lawsuits to include the settlement of estates, the building of roads and ferries, mental competency cases, name changes, naturalizations, indentures, adoptions, and guardianship. The Davidson County Court was later consolidated into the General Sessions Court following the approval of a lower court reform bill in 1971.

# **Scope and Contents of the Collection:**

This collection consists of approximately 330 folders relating to the activities of the Davidson County Court between 1879 and 1958. It includes official court and legal documents, notes and correspondence, meeting minutes, and reports made to the Court by other departments, boards, and commissions in Davidson County. This collection sheds light on various undertakings of the Davidson County Court, including the building of the new Davidson County Asylum in 1893, the construction of public roads, and the approval of naturalizations.

### **Index Terms:**

### **Subjects:**

Davidson County (Tenn.)

Davidson County (Tenn.). County Court

Davidson County (Tenn.). Highway Department

Davidson County (Tenn.). History

Davidson County (Tenn.)--Politics and government

Nashville (Tenn.)

Nashville (Tenn.)--Politics and government

#### **Related Collections:**

County Judge Collection

Davidson County Court Loose Records

## Davidson County Court Minutes, 1783-1975

## **Arrangement:**

This collection is arranged into eleven series, including *charitable and per capita institutions, civil districts, committees, county officials, court papers, courts, departments and commissions, general government, licenses, road districts,* and *wards.* The series are then arranged alphabetically.

The *charitable and per capita institutions* series contains reports, petitions, resolutions, and court orders for several institutions, including the Nashville Relief Society, Protestant Orphan Asylum, Randall Cole Industrial School (later Tennessee Industrial School), Tennessee Baptist Orphans Home, and United Charities.

The *civil districts* series contains court papers relating to each of the 29 civil districts in Davidson County.

The *committees* series contains court papers, notes, meeting minutes, and reports relating to various committees in Davidson County. Notable items include the Airfield Committee meeting minutes, Bridge Committee papers for several bridges in the county, and papers from the Railway Committee documenting the use and operations of the railroads and street railways.

The *county officials* series contains reports, applications, correspondence, and court papers from various county officials. Papers include those from the Back-Tax Collector, Coroner inquests, quarterly reports of the County Judge, Notary Public applications.

*Court papers* include adoption petitions, court orders, warrants, lunacy inquisitions, and naturalization certificates. Also included are orders for delayed birth certificates, apprenticeship bonds, and character recommendations for admission to the bar.

The *courts* series contains forms, reports, meeting minutes, bonds, and resolutions relating to several courts in Davidson County, including Chancery, Circuit, County, Juvenile, and Quarterly Courts.

The *departments and commissions* series contains reports, resolutions, and court papers belonging to various departments and commissions in Davidson County. Notable items include information regarding the construction of the new Davidson County Asylum building in 1893, papers for various turnpikes from the Turnpike Board, and reports of activities of the Davidson County Health Department.

The *general government* series contains correspondence, reports, and other information involving general court/government procedures. Items include automobile registrations, information regarding the purchase of election booths and official returns of various elections in Nashville, poll tax information, and published notices in newspapers regarding tax information and elections.

*Licenses* include license applications, attorney, liquor, and medical licenses.

The *road districts* series contains court papers and reports relating to public roads in Davidson County road districts 1-25.

The *wards* series contains court papers and reports relating to wards 1-19 of Civil District 1. Note: folders for wards 16 and 17 are missing.

# **Contents Listing:**

#### **Box 1:**

- **Folder 1:** Charitable and Per Capita Institutions--Nashville Relief Society
- Folder 2: Charitable and Per Capita Institutions--Protestant Orphan Asylum
- Folder 3: Charitable and Per Capita Institutions--Randall Cole Industrial School
- **Folder 4:** Charitable and Per Capita Institutions--Tennessee Baptist Orphans Home
- Folder 5: Charitable and Per Capita Institutions--Tennessee Industrial School
- Folder 6: Charitable and Per Capita Institutions--United Charities
- **Folder 7:** Civil Districts--Annexation
- **Folders 8-39:** Civil Districts 1-29

#### Box 2:

- Folder 1: Committees--Airfield Committee--Minutes
- Folder 2: Committees--Assessments Committee--Petitions
- **Folder 3:** Committees--Assessments Committee--Reports
- Folder 4: Committees--Bridge Committee--Brown's Creek Bridge
- **Folder 5:** Committees--Bridge Committee--Court Papers
- Folder 6: Committees--Bridge Committee--Ewing Creek Bridge
- Folder 7: Committees--Bridge Committee--Free Bridge
- Folder 8: Committees--Bridge Committee--Hyde's Ferry Bridge
- Folder 9: Committees--Bridge Committee--Mill Creek Bridge
- **Folder 10:** Committees--Bridge Committee--Minutes
- Folder 11: Committees--Bridge Committee--North Nashville Bridge
- Folder 12: Committees--Bridge Committee--Pest House Bridge
- Folder 13: Committees--Bridge Committee--Property Acquisition
- Folder 14: Committees--Bridge Committee--Richland Creek Bridge
- Folder 15: Committees--Bridge Committee--Stewart's Ferry Bridge
- Folder 16: Committees--Bridge Committee--Stones River Bridge

- Folder 17: Committees--Bridge Committee--Sugg's River Bridge
- Folder 18: Committees--Bridge Committee--West End Bridge
- Folder 19: Committees--Bridge Committee--White's Creek Bridge
- Folder 20: Committees--Charity Committee--Reports
- Folder 21: Committees--Courthouse Committee--Journal
- Folder 22: Committees--Courthouse Committee--Resolutions
- Folder 23: Committees--Cumberland River Bridge Committee--Contract
- Folder 24: Committees--Cumberland River Bridge Committee--Contracts
- Folder 25: Committees--Cumberland River Bridge Committee--Minutes

#### Box 3:

- Folder 1: Committees--Finance Committee--Minutes
- Folder 2: Committees--Garbage Disposal Committee
- Folder 3: Committees--Hyde's Ferry Bridge Committee--Contract
- Folder 4: Committees--Hyde's Ferry Bridge Committee--Minutes
- Folder 5: Committees--Pay Plan Committee
- Folder 6: Committees--Pest House Committee--Paupers Cemetery
- Folder 7: Committees--Pest House Committee--Reports and Resolutions
- Folder 8: Committees--Railway Committee--Cincinnati-Green River R.R. Co.
- Folder 9: Committees--Railway Committee--Citizens Rapid Transit Co.
- Folder 10: Committees--Railway Committee--Court Papers
- Folder 11: Committees--Railway Committee--Fatherland Street Railway
- Folder 12: Committees--Railway Committee--Lake Railroad Co.
- Folder 13: Committees--Railway Committee--Line St./Watkins Park St. R.R. Co.
- Folder 14: Committees--Railway Committee--Louisville & Nashville Railroad
- Folder 15: Committees--Railway Committee--Mansfield & University Street R.R. Co.
- Folder 16: Committees--Railway Committee--McGavock & Mt. Vernon Horse R.R. Co.
- Folder 17: Committees--Railway Committee--Nashville, Chattanooga, & St. Louis R.R.
- Folder 18: Committees--Railway Committee--Nashville and Columbia Electric Railway
- Folder 19: Committees--Railway Committee--Nashville and Decatur R.R.
- Folder 20: Committees--Railway Committee--Nashville and Edgefield Street R.R. Co.
- Folder 21: Committees--Railway Committee--Nashville and Gallatin Electric Railway
- Folder 22: Committees--Railway Committee--Nashville and Lewisburg Railway
- Folder 23: Committees--Railway Committee--Nashville Railway
- Folder 24: Committees--Railway Committee--Nashville Railway & Light Co.
- Folder 25: Committees--Railway Committee--Nashville Street Railway
- Folder 26: Committees--Railway Committee--Nashville & West Nashville Dummy R.R.
- **Folder 27:** Committees--Railway Committee--Overland R.R. Co.
- Folder 28: Committees--Railway Committee--Public Square & Mt. Olivet Street R.R. Co.
- Folder 29: Committees--Railway Committee--South Nashville Street Railway Co.
- Folder 30: Committees--Railway Committee--Street
- Folder 31: Committees--Railway Committee--Tennessee & Alabama Railroad
- Folder 32: Committees--Railway Committee--Tennessee Midland Railway Co.

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Folder 33: Committees--Railway Committee--Tennessee & Pacific Railroad
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Folder 34: Committees--Railway Committee--West Nashville Building Co.

Folder 35: Committees--Records Committee--Reports

Folder 36: Committees--Tax Levy Committee--Minutes

Folder 37: Committees--Tax Levy Committee--Property Tax

Folder 38: Committees--Tax Levy Committee--Resolution

Folder 39: Committees--Traction Committee--Court Papers

#### Box 4:

Folder 1: County Officials--Back-Tax Collector--Court Papers

Folder 2: County Officials--Back-Tax Collector--Statements

Folder 3: County Officials--Back-Tax Collector--Tax Lists

Folder 4: County Officials--Building Commissioner--Certificates of Compliance

Folder 5: County Officials--Commissioner of Fish--Report

Folder 6: County Officials--Constable--Bonds

Folder 7: County Officials--Coroner--Inquests

Folder 8: County Officials--County Commissioner--Report

Folder 9: County Officials--County Court Clerk--Correspondence

Folder 10: County Officials--County Court Clerk--Court Papers

Folder 11: County Officials--County Court Clerk--Oaths

Folder 12: County Officials--County Court Clerk--Reports

Folder 13: County Officials--County Court Clerk--Statements and Invoices

Folder 14: County Officials--District Attorney--Appointments and Petitions

Folder 15: County Officials--Electrical Inspector--Permits

Folder 16: County Officials--Judge--Microfilm Proposal

Folder 17: County Officials--Judge--Quarterly Report (1889)

Folder 18: County Officials--Judge--Quarterly Report (1890)

Folder 19: County Officials--Judge--Reports

#### Box 5:

Folder 1: County Officials--Magistrates--Lists (1870s)

Folder 2: County Officials--Magistrates--Lists (1880s)

Folder 3: County Officials--Magistrates--Lists (1890s)

Folder 4: County Officials--Magistrates--Lists (1890s)

Folder 5: County Officials--Magistrates--Lists (1900s)

Folder 6: County Officials--Magistrates--Reports

Folder 7: County Officials--Mayor--Correspondence

Folder 8: County Officials--Notary Public--Applications (1927-1931)

Folder 9: County Officials--Notary Public--Applications (1946)

Folder 10: County Officials--Notary Public--Lists

#### Box 6:

Folder 1: County Officials--Oil and Fluids Inspector--Court Papers

Folder 2: County Officials--Public Administrator--Court Papers

Folder 3: County Officials--Public Guardian--Court Papers

Folder 4: County Officials--Public Instruction Superintendent--Reports

Folder 5: County Officials--Ranger--Petition

Folder 6: County Officials--Register--Court Papers

Folder 7: County Officials--Register--Records Management

Folder 8: County Officials--Registration, Commissioner of--Oath

Folder 9: County Officials--Road Commissioner--Chancery Court Suit

Folder 10: County Officials--Road Commissioner--Court Papers

Folder 11: County Officials--School Commissioner--Oath

Folder 12: County Officials--Sheriff--Court Papers

Folder 13: County Officials--Sheriff--Fee and Salary Officers

Folder 14: County Officials--Sheriff--Fees Collected

Folder 15: County Officials--Sheriff--Fi. Fa.

Folder 16: County Officials--Superintendent of Turnpikes--Reports

Folder 17: County Officials--Tax Assessor--Court Papers

Folder 18: County Officials--Tax Assessor--Errors and Corrections

Folder 19: County Officials--Tax Assessor--Tax Aggregate

Folder 20: County Officials--Trustee--Court Papers

Folder 21: County Officials--Trustee--Daily Reports

Folder 22: County Officials--Trustee--Receipts

Folder 23: Court Papers--Abandoned Children

Folder 24: Court Papers--Adoption Petitions, A-L

Folder 25: Court Papers--Adoption Petitions, M-Z

Folder 26: Court Papers--Apprenticeship Bonds

Folder 27: Court Papers--Bastardy Matters

## **Box 7:**

Folder 1: Court Papers--Cemeteries

Folder 2: Court Papers--Character Recommendations

Folder 3: Court Papers--Child Custody

Folder 4: Court Papers--Condolence Resolutions

Folder 5: Court Papers--Delayed Birth Certificates

Folder 6: Court Papers--Delinquent Taxes

Folder 7: Court Papers--Distress Warrants

Folder 8: Court Papers--Invoice

Folder 9: Court Papers--Little Creek Road Matter

Folder 10: Court Papers--Lunacy Inquisitions

Folder 11: Court Papers--Military Companies

Folder 12: Court Papers--Name Changes

Folders 13-33: Court Papers--Naturalizations, A-Z

Folder 34: Court Papers--Pauper Accounts

#### Box 8:

Folder 1: Court Papers--Paupers Assistance Authorizations

Folder 2: Court Papers--Pauper Deaths

Folder 3: Court Papers--Physician's Affidavit

Folder 4: Court Papers--Power of Attorney

Folder 5: Court Papers--Release from Bond

Folder 6: Court Papers--Report of Births and Deaths

Folder 7: Court Papers--Resolutions (c.1880s)

Folder 8: Court Papers--Resolutions (c.18090s)

Folder 9: Court Papers--Road Report

Folder 10: Courts--Chancery Court--Receipt

Folder 11: Courts--Circuit Court--Jury Lists

Folder 12: Courts--County Court--Bond Matters

Folder 13: Courts--County Court--Cancelled Checks

Folder 14: Courts--County Court--Dedication of Street

Folder 15: Courts--County Court--Financial Report

Folder 16: Courts--County Court--Mail Delivery

Folder 17: Courts--County Court--McWherter vs. Cockrill

Folder 18: Courts--County Court--Minutes

Folder 19: Courts--County Court--Newspaper Clippings

Folder 20: Courts--County Court--Reports

Folder 21: Courts--County Court--Resolution

Folder 22: Courts--County Court--School Building Bonds.

**Folder 23:** Courts--Criminal Court--Court Papers

Folder 24: Courts--Criminal Court--Reports

Folder 25: Courts--Juvenile Court--Report

#### Box 9:

**Folder 1:** Courts--Quarterly Court--Appropriations

Folder 2: Courts--Quarterly Court--County Road Resolutions

Folder 3: Courts--Quarterly Court--Peddler's License

Folder 4: Courts--Quarterly Court--Reports

Folder 5: Courts--Quarterly Court--Sales of Property

Folder 6: Courts--Quarterly Court--Zoning Resolution Amendments

Folder 7: Departments & Commissions--Asylum Commission--Accounts (1879)

Folder 8: Departments & Commissions--Asylum Commission--Accounts (1880-1885)

Folder 9: Departments & Commissions--Asylum Commission--New Building

Folder 10: Departments & Commissions--Asylum Commission--Personnel Matters

**Folder 11:** Departments & Commissions--Asylum Commission--Reports (1879)

Folder 12: Departments & Commissions--Asylum Commission--Reports (1880-1884)

Folder 13: Departments & Commissions--Asylum Commission--Reports (1885-1887)

Folder 14: Departments & Commissions--Asylum Commission--Reports (1890-1902)

Folder 15: Departments & Commissions--Asylum Commission--Reports (1927)

- Folder 16: Departments & Commissions--Asylum Commission--Resident Matters
- Folder 17: Departments & Commissions--Auditing Commission--Reports
- Folder 18: Departments & Commissions--Education, Board of--Reports
- Folder 19: Departments & Commissions--Equalization, Board of--Reports
- Folder 20: Departments & Commissions--Ferry Commission--Correspondence
- Folder 21: Departments & Commissions--Ferry Commission--Court Papers

#### Box 10:

- Folder 1: Departments & Commissions--Fire--Resolution
- Folder 2: Departments & Commissions--Health, Board of--Reports (1882-1906)
- **Folder 3:** Departments & Commissions--Health, Board of--Reports (1946)
- Folder 4: Departments & Commissions--Highway Commission--Abstract of Title
- Folder 5: Departments & Commissions--Highway Commission--Deed
- Folder 6: Departments & Commissions--Highway Commission--Reports
- Folder 7: Departments & Commissions--Highway Commission--Road Districts
- **Folder 8:** Departments & Commissions--Hospital Commission--Reports (1946)
- Folder 9: Departments & Commissions--Hospital Commission--Reports (1956-1957)
- Folder 10: Departments & Commissions--Jail Commission--Inspection Report
- Folder 11: Departments & Commissions--Jail Commission--Reports
- Folder 12: Departments & Commissions--Purchasing Commission--Reports
- Folder 13: Departments & Commissions--Purchasing Commission--Requisition Forms
- Folder 14: Departments & Commissions--Revenue Commission--Reports
- Folder 15: Departments & Commissions--Road Commission--Receipts
- Folder 16: Departments & Commissions--Tuberculosis Hospital--Reports
- Folder 17: Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Buena Vista
- Folder 18: Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Central
- Folder 19: Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Contracts
- Folder 20: Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Court Papers

#### **Box 11:**

- **Folder 1:** Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Franklin
- **Folder 2:** Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Gallatin
- Folder 3: Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Granny White
- **Folder 4:** Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Hyde's Ferry
- Folder 5: Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Mill Creek Valley
- **Folder 6:** Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Nashville, Murfreesboro & Shelbyville
- **Folder 7:** Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Nashville and Statesville
- **Folder 8:** Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Nolensville & Owen & Winstead
- **Folder 9:** Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Reports
- Folder 10: Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Richland
- Folder 11: Departments & Commissions--Turnpike Board--Whites Creek

Folder 12: Departments & Commissions--Waterworks--Court Papers

Folder 13: Departments & Commissions--Weights and Measures--Reports (1879)

Folder 14: Departments & Commissions--Weights and Measures--Reports (1946)

Folder 15: Departments & Commissions--Welfare Commission--Reports

Folder 16: Departments & Commissions--Workhouse Commission--Reports

Folder 17: General Government--Automobile Registrations

Folder 18: General Government--Confederate Veterans Reunion

Folder 19: General Government--Elections--Contested Elections

Folder 20: General Government--Elections--Election Booths

Folder 21: General Government--Elections--Election Returns

Folder 22: General Government--Elections--Electors for President

Folder 23: General Government--Elections--Judges

Folder 24: General Government--Metro Financial Report

Folder 25: General Government--Poll Tax

Folder 26: General Government--Published Notices

**Folder 27:** Licenses--Applications

**Folder 28:** Licenses--Attorneys

Folder 29: Licenses--Liquor

Folder 30: Licenses--Medical

Folders 31-39: Road Districts--District 1-9

## **Box 12:**

Folders 1-16: Road Districts--District 10-25

#### Box 13:

**Folders 1-17:** Wards--Ward 1-19 (District 1)

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**Provenance:** Davidson County Court

**Processing Information:** Processed by Kelley Sirko, Program Coordinator, 27 January 2017

**Accruals:** No further accruals expected.