

PGCGS NEWSLETTER – Subject Index – Volume 57, Issues 1-4, 2025-2026

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Prince George's County and Maryland Subjects

Adoption Records

Adoption records did not exist in Maryland prior to 1892. In 1892 the first adoption law passed and cases would be filed in the circuit court and handled as equity matters. V 57, N 2, Autumn 2025, p 25.

African American & Slave Articles

Book – Free African Americans of Maryland and Delaware from the Colonial Period to 1810 by Paul M. Heinegg. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 9.

Bible Records

To preserve family history, the PGCGS actively collects, preserves, and publishes information found in Bible records. Information found in the Bibles may appear nowhere else, making it vitally important to record the family information. V 57, N 2, Autumn 2025, p 33.

Births, Marriages & Burial Records

Maryland County Birth and Death Records Start in 1898. With Some Exceptions. Prince George's County register covers 1865-1867 and is housed at MSA. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 16.

Census

Blank census forms can be found on the Prince George's Society website using the Links Section. See the 1810 form on page 11 for example. For Census hints see page 12. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, pp 11 and 12.

Churches & Church Records

Transcriptions of Riverdale Presbyterian Church Records: Marriages, Deaths, Lists of Communicants, Baptized Children, 3 volumes, 1928-1982. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 9.

Benefit of Using Original Church Records. Examples of using these records to compile a family listing. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 13.

Pistols to Pulpits. Church of England Rectors confronted hostile congregations as the struggle for independence continued. When Great Britain began levying taxes on the colonists, they reacted in different ways. Some complied; some objected. Tensions ran high. Rev. Jonathan Boucher was locked out of his church one Sunday. Other Sundays he had to be escorted out of the church by friends. *** "Threats against him increased and for months he preached with two loaded pistols on the pulpit." V 57, N 2, Autumn 2025, pp 21-23.

Church Records (cont'd.)

Louisa Snowden Capron established Saint Philip's Episcopal Church in 1848. A transcription of church records from 1848 through 1868 with a name index is available on FamilySearch and in the book *A Collection of Maryland Church Records* by Henry C. Peden, Jr. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, p 54.

Court Records

Grand Jury Reports from 1803 to 1887 can be found at Series ID C1218 for 1803-1851 and Series ID C1219 for 1852-1887 in the MSA. Some of the criminal charges include dueling, breaking the sabbath, stealing slaves, and illegal billiard tables. The licenses provide information that will help genealogists place ancestors in Prince George's County when other records are non-existent. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 12.

The Planters Advocate article of November 3, 1852 listed Jurors for the fall term for the Circuit Court for Prince George's County. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 14.

Individuals File Protest Against Improvements Being Made to Patuxent River — 1761. Maryland Governor Sharpe and the Houses of Assembly received a petition opposing the planned improvements to the Patuxent River north of Queen Anne's Town which favored the Richard Snowden and [Com]pany but would prevent petitioners from building mills on the river. V 57, N 4, Spring, 2026, p 65.

List of Jacobite Rebels Shipped as Prisoners to Maryland and Virginia Found in Book. The book, *Without Indentures: Index to White Slave Children in Colonial Court Records* by Richard Hayes Phillips, lists prisoners from the battles of Sheriffmuir and Preston in 1715, and Culloden Moor in 1745 and subsequently transported to America as indentured servants. V 57, N 4, Spring, 2026, p 65.

A Book Focused on Prince George's County — A Question of Freedom, The Families Who Challenged Slavery from the Nation's Founding to the Civil War by William G. Thomas III. From 1790-1810, many of the freedom petitions were filed in Prince George's County, MD. V 57, N 4, Spring, 2026, p 66.

March 11, 1756 Petition Requesting Debt Relief from the Colonial Government After A Particularly Poor Tobacco Crop. About 100 persons, many from Charles County, are listed on the petition asking for protection from their creditors. V 57, N 4, Spring, 2026, p 67.

Freeholders of Prince George's Petition Governor Ogle and the Council Concerning Levy of 100,000 Lbs. of Tobacco to Repair the Upper Marlborough Courthouse 1747. Freeholders who signed the petition are listed. V 57, N 4, Spring, 2026, p 68.

Death Records

Maryland County Birth and Death records start in 1898. Some Exceptions. Prince George's County register covers 1865-1867 and is archived at MSA. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 16.

The Maryland State Archives has placed Death Records 1865-1866 online. See Series C1196. V 57, N 2, Autumn 2025, p 25.

Early Marylanders

The Lords Baltimore Remained Firmly in Control of Maryland as exhibited in Entry 1339, pg. 192 of the Calendar of State Papers, No. 1: the Black Books. The difficult world of early Marylanders is described in the book *Unearthing St. Mary's City, Fifty Years of Archaeology at Maryland's First Capitol* (2021). V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, p 48.

Education

A 1754 List of Prince George's County's Schoolmasters Reported to Colonial Maryland's Governor Sharpe Shows Indentured Servants and Convict Servants as described in the March 10, 2003 newsletter of the Maryland State Archives, *The Archives' Bulldog*. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, p 46.

Young Faces from the 1933 Marlboro High School Yearbook "The Elm". The Prince George's County Historical Society has a collection of old yearbooks for county schools and universities. V 57, N 4, Spring, 2026, p 69.

1970 Majorettes of Parkdale High School in Riverdale Park, MD are pictured and named in the yearbook "The Lair" on page 214. V 57, N 4, Spring, 2026, p. 63.

Family Genealogies/Histories/Items

Col. Wm. Duckett Bowie, 1803-1873. His papers from 1683-1830 are on file at the Maryland State Archives and contain numerous documents involving Belt, Bowie, Duckett, Duvall, Odell, Tyler, and Wates families. The papers of Oden Bowie, president of Baltimore and Potomac Railroad and a governor of Maryland, are also housed at MSA. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 12.

The wealthy Diggs family of Warburton Manor on the Potomac River entertained George and Martha Washington. A history of the Diggs family, and their plantation by Anna C. Toogood is titled "Warburton Manor and the Diggs Family of Maryland." V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 12.

Has your family history already been recorded? Check with the Society library and the Maryland State Archives to determine if a history has been prepared and submitted. V 57, N 2, Autumn 2025, p 31.

Family Genealogies/Histories/Items, (cont'd.)

Hamilton Family of Prince George's County & Monogalia and Preston Counties, (West) Virginia by John D. Baldwin III. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, p 48.

Controversies in Lanham Family Genealogy. Three main controversies are documented in interesting detail by Dr. Howard Lanham, a society member. V 57, N 4, Spring, 2026, p 70-71.

Immigrants to Maryland & Emigrants from Maryland

A London Magazine Published 1755 Population Statistics for Lord Baltimore's Colony of Maryland, Listing 1,981 Convicts. The British government and its controlling upper class were responsible for shipping its convicts and its poor to America. Many were released from prison by "volunteering" for a 7-year labor indenture. Once sold in Prince George's County, many of these convicts escaped. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, pp 41-45.

Among the books that describe in detail many of the conditions the emigrants in bondage experienced once they arrived at their destinations in Maryland and Virginia is *The King's Passengers to Maryland and Virginia* and *Emigrants in Chains* by Peter Wilson Coldham. It lists ship names, convict passengers' names and their origins, and where the ship unloaded and sold its living cargo as well as some short biographies. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, pp 43-45.

Daughters of a German Family Escape to America Just Before World War II is an interesting article describing how much information can be derived from researching for various paperwork and forms required to become a naturalized citizen of the United States at the National Archives. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, p 55-57.

After 1680 Indentured Servants Seldom Stayed in Colony of Maryland. Although few indentured servants remained in Maryland after 1680, research finds there are some who did and attained a satisfactory life. V 57, N 4, Spring, 2026, p 73.

Who were the Early Settlers of Lord Baltimore's Colony of Maryland? According to Katharine A. Kellock's book *Colonial Piscataway in Maryland*, although the Second Lord Baltimore preferred to recruit "gentlemen", many were yeomen who could barely afford to transport themselves or persons who came in pre-arranged labor bondage. V 57, N 4, Spring, 2026, p 77.

Independence for Marylanders

Britain's Punitive Actions, such as the Parliament's Prohibitory Act of 1775 prohibiting any trade between the colonies and Great Britain and authorizing the seizure of ships caught trading, along with their cargos in the Autumn of 1775, pushed southern Marylanders to independence. Within the first three months of 1776, Maryland created the Maryland Militia, transported its

Independence for Marylanders (cont'd.)

official records from Annapolis to Upper Marlboro and its patriots reported Fort Whetstone was ready to defend Baltimore against attacks by British ships. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, p 46.

Land Records

A Petition Requesting Debt Relief from the Colonial Government after a Particularly Poor Tobacco Crop was signed by about 100 Charles County inhabitants in March, 1756 and can be found in the Calendar of Maryland State Papers, No. 1: the Black Books. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, p 54.

Sometimes a Lawsuit, or even the Legal Notice of a Lawsuit in a Newspaper, Might Break Down a Brick Wall by its Listing All the Heirs of a Landowner. V 57, N 4, Spring, 2026, p 72.

Maps

The PGCGS Library has an extensive collection of maps. One such source for identifying tracts is Louise Joyner Hinton's book, *Prince George's Heritage: Sidelights on the Early History of Prince George's County Maryland from 1696 to 1800*. Tract names such as *Locust Thicket, Archers Pasture, Batchelors Hope, Dickensons Delight, Marshams Rest or Penncotts Folly* are mentioned. Mrs. Hinton's 5 years of research produced 200 pages of early county history, including an index of people and places. V 57, N 2, Autumn 2025, p 35.

Marriages and Marriage Records

Understanding Early Maryland Marriage Records, an article from *The Bulldog*, the Internal newsletter of the Maryland State Archives. This is a detailed article setting forth the rules, regulations, and dates of Maryland marriages. For example: Quakers could marry without a license in accordance with their practices; strict marriage laws did not apply to Blacks until 1867; Civil marriages were Not permitted until 1963. Marriage Licenses in the original or on microfilm for Prince George's County 1777-1886 are available in the Maryland State Archives. This article should be required reading for anyone needing Maryland marriage information. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 10.

Maryland Migration Patterns

Use of the Casselman River and Great Crossings Bridges to migrate west. Cumberland (National Road). Two photographs and a map, 1811. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 4 -5.

Photograph of first toll gate house on the National Road in Allegany County. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 7.

Maryland Migration Patterns (cont'd.)

List of Southern Marylanders who Emigrated West to the Ohio Territory: Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 6.

Book: "*Marylanders to Ohio and Indiana Migration Prior to 1835*" by Henry C. Peden, Jr. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 6.

Peden's Supplement to the above lists more from Prince George's, Anne Arundel, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 6.

Maryland Records

Did an Ancestor Serve in any Governing Body of Maryland 1635 — 1789? Then a Detailed Biography is on the Website — Archives of Maryland Online. Edward C. Papenfuse compiled these biographies in the book *A Biographical Dictionary of the Maryland Legislature 1635-1789* and his book is now online. V 57, N 4, Spring, 2026, p 68.

County Documents on Bridges in Prince George's County, 1696-1765. Many Maryland residents are mentioned in the court minutes MSA Series ID C1191 about bridges in the County. V 57, N 4, Spring 2026, p 73.

Military

Conflicts always exist and this was true between England and France over land on the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River. Actions by the French and Indians forced settlers east. One of the County militias was Captain Joshua Beall's. List of men who went into the wilderness as members of Captain Joshua Beall's company of Prince George's Militia from the book — "*Marylanders and Delawareans in the French and Indian War 1756-1763*" by Henry C. Peden, Jr. Lists in Peden's book contain detailed information on each militiaman. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, pp 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6.

Recruitment Records for Maryland's Civil War Enrollment. Researchers interested in obtaining further information can access 4 additional MSA record series: **MSA S341, MSA S340, MSA S331 and MSA S352**. Name, residence, age, physical description, occupation, draft number and remarks can be obtained. V57, N 2, Autumn 2025, p 31.

Fold3 "A Website of Military Records and a Whole Lot More". This is a must-read article detailing so much a researcher can find about his ancestor. Fold3 is a fee-based database, but some records can be accessed for free. V 57, N 2, Autumn 2025, pp 28 and 29.

Lists of men from Prince George's County who were drafted and/or required to report for examination in anticipation of The Great War (World War I) appeared in *The Prince George's*

Military Records (cont'd.)

Enquirer & Southern Maryland Advertiser newspaper throughout 1917 & 1918. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, p 49.

250 Years Ago — Independence! Well, Almost. A timeline of events on the path in search of Independence including a photo of John Trumbull's painting of the committee of five presenting their draft Declaration of Independence to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia. V 57, N 4, Spring 2026, p 67.

A Southern Marylander Fights in The Great War: Harry W. Wilmer. This article gives an interesting and detailed description of Harry W. Wilmer's time in World War I when he voluntarily enlisted in Canada as well as his later enlistment with America when it declared war on Germany. V 57, N 4, Spring 2026, p 74-76.

Prince George's County's Flying Camp Soldiers 1776. This article describes the dilemma George Washington faced as the events of 1776 unfolded in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland occurred. It includes a listing of the Muster Rolls of Prince George's County Flying Camps. V 57, N 4, Spring 2026, p 61-62.

An Ancestor Served in Maryland Military in the Revolution? Start Your Research Online for Free. Google 'Archives of Maryland Online', then Consult Volume 18. An image of the Table of Contents page is included. V 57, N 4, Spring 2026, p 63.

The Project Digitizing War of 1812 Pension Files Continues. These 1812 pension records can be found on Fold3 with the database title *US, War of 1812 Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files 1812-1815*. V 57, N 4, Spring 2026, p 65.

Initial Civil and Military Officers of Prince George's County — 1696. In the Proceedings of the Council of Maryland, 1694 — 1697 is a list of Civil and Military Officers for the newly formed Prince George's County. V 57, N 4, Spring 2026, p 66.

Newspapers

Newspapers of note were the *Maryland Gazette Newspaper* published in Annapolis 1727 to 1839. Digitized images are available by googling Archives of Maryland Online. Look for msa.maryland.gov. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 12.

Several authors abstracted items from the Gazette and published them in book form. The Society Library has most of the books available for loan. V 57, N 2, Autumn 2025, p 31.

Any Ancestor Die in 1918-1919? Might Have Been from the So-called 'Spanish' Influenza. The October 11-18, 1918 *Prince George's Enquirer* newspaper contained extracts regarding the Spanish Influenza. V 57, N 4, Spring 2026, p 73.

Pensions

Book – “*Index to U.S. Invalid Pension Records, 1801-1815*” by Murtie June Clark. The first page of the Maryland section is given here. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 17.

Two Hints About Researching Revolutionary War Pensions. Interesting fact: some pensioners requested pension offices closer to them be used. Ex: from Baltimore to the District of Columbia office. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 17.

Plantations

Warburton Manor Plantation, home of the Diggs family, operated by enslaved persons on the Potomac River, is the subject of a 121-page book by Anna C. Toogood. The plantation fell into decline after the War for Independence. It is now a National Park Service site in Ft. Washington, Maryland. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 12.

Prince George’s County

A list of Colonial Prince George’s County Sheriffs from 1727 to 1774. Series ID SC 5906 at MSA. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 16.

In 1757, the court appointed Thomas Harvey as John Loggins’ successor of his responsibilities as overseer of roads in the lower part of Piscataway Hundred, Prince George’s County, due to his imprisonment for failure to pay his debts as described in the MSA newsletter *Bulldog*, Vol. 17, No. 9, May12, 2003. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, p 48.

An article from *The Prince George’s Enquirer and Southern Maryland Advertiser* newspaper dated August 17, 1917 published in Upper Marlboro lists names of Prince George’s County Men as Candidates to Become Army Officers for the Great War 1917. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, p 48.

The U. S. Censuses listed the names, ages and birthplaces for Boys at the House of Reformation in Cheltenham, Prince George’s County. Over the years it was labeled on the census by different names. In the 1950 census, it is in a grouping labeled ‘Other Places’ ‘17-86 Cheltenham Training School for Boys (in Election District 11, Brandywine)’. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, p 50.

Maryland Chronology from 1631 to 1917— Frequently Used Dates in Prince George’s County Research, Compiled by Dr. Howard Lanham, PGCGS Member. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, p 52.

General Genealogical Instructions and Methods

How to use the DAR records for your genealogical research. V 57, N 1, Summer 2025, p 15.

National Society Daughters of Colonial Wars is a lineage society that honors ancestors who served in various conflicts between France, Britain, Spain, and their colonial possessions. Investigate www.nsdcw.org to see if you have such an ancestor. The PGCGS has several volumes. V 57, N 2, Autumn 2025, p 30.

A Gift of Stories: A Journey with Storyworth by Darrell Brown. An inspiring story filled with insights and 'how tos' for creating a journey of remembrance and legacy of our lives for our own children and grandchildren. V 57, N 3, Winter 2026, p 47.

PGCGS Items

One Society, Many Hands: Help Us Fill the Treasurer Position. The PGCGS needs a member to step into the role of Treasurer — an essential position that keeps our Society running smoothly and responsibly. V 57, N 4, Spring 2026, p 64.

Are There Any Prince George's County Records at Maryland State Archives You Would Like Online? You can let the Society know and it will convey the information to the MSA. The Prince George's County Real and Personal Property Assessment Records 1793-1829, MSA Series CM779 should be available online soon. V 57, N 4, Spring 2026, p 64.