

A Guide to the Staunton (Va.) Naturalization Records, 1906-1910

Staunton (Va.) Naturalization Records, 1906-1910
1906-1910

A Collection in the Library of Virginia
Library of Virginia
2014

History

Processed by: Library of Virginia staff

Title Statement

A Guide to the Staunton (Va.) Naturalization Records, 1906-1910

Subtitle: Staunton (Va.) Naturalization Records

Author: J. Porter

Publication Statement

Date: © 2014 By The Library of Virginia. All Rights Reserved.

Publisher: Library of Virginia

Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MARC record by Joanne Porter, 30 May 2014

Language Usage: Description is in English

Descriptive Summary

Language

English

Collector

Staunton (Va.) Circuit Court

Extent

1 volume

Location

Library of Virginia

Repository

The Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

These volumes came to the Library of Virginia in an undated transfer of court papers from the city of Staunton.

Processing Information

The standardized volume of naturalization records issued by the federal government was microfilmed by the Library of Virginia's Imaging Services Division in 1978.

Encoded by J. Porter: March 2014; updated by M. Long: November 2025.

Preferred Citation

Staunton (Va.) Naturalization Records, 1906-1910. Local government records collection, Staunton (City) Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia, 23219.

Alternative Form Available

Department of Commerce and Labor, Division of Naturalization, Petition and Record, 1906-1910, is available on microfilm stored at the Virginia State Records Center on reel barcode 100751, SRC box 3526. Security microforms (i.e. microfilm and microfiche) stored through this program are not used for reference purposes and access restrictions apply. Contact the [State Records Center](#) with questions regarding these materials.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Additional Staunton Court Records can be found on microfilm at The Library of Virginia. Consult "[A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm.](#)"

Historical Information

Context for Record Type: Following the passage of the Naturalization Act of 1906, the federal government standardized the naturalization process by issuing bound volumes containing standard naturalization forms. These bound volumes were kept by the various courts of record in which a person could make a declaration of intent to become a U.S. citizen, and copies of the records were sent on to the federal government.

Locality History: The City of Staunton, in Augusta County, was named, according to tradition, for Rebecca Staunton, wife of Sir William Gooch, lieutenant governor of Virginia from 1727 to 1749. Staunton was laid out in 1748 at the site of the Augusta County courthouse and was established as a town in 1761. It was incorporated as a town in 1801 and as a city in 1871.

Scope and Content

Staunton (Va.) Naturalization Records, 1906-1910, consists of Department of Commerce and Labor, Division of Naturalization, Petition and Record, 1906-1910, a standardized volume of naturalization records issued by the federal government. There were two primary types of naturalization volumes issued by the federal government: Declaration of Intention volumes and Petition volumes. Oftentimes, applicants were documented in both of these volume types within a locality, but that is not always the case. An applicant may have entered their declaration of intention in one locality before moving and completing their naturalization petition elsewhere.

Declaration of Intention volumes record declarations of intent to become United States citizens. Information on the declaration of intent includes a person's name, age, occupation, color, complexion, height in feet and inches, weight, color of hair, color of eyes, other visible distinctive marks, place and date of birth, current residence, place from where emigrated to the United States, vessel arrived on, last foreign residence, a renunciation of allegiance and fidelity to the state of which the person is currently a citizen, and the date the intention was sworn.

Petition volumes, often called Petition and Record, record the petitions for naturalization, oaths of allegiance, and orders of court admitting petitioner to United States citizenship. Not all parts may be completed as all stages of the citizenship process could be completed in different courts and in different locations in the United States.

A petition for naturalization contains the petitioner's name, address, occupation, birthdate and place, place where emigrated from and date and port of arrival in the U.S., name of ship on which emigrated, where declared intention to become a citizen, spouse's name, place of birth and address, and number of children

with their names, birth dates and places of birth. Additional recorded information includes a renunciation of allegiance and fidelity to the state of which the person is currently a citizen or subject, a statement that the petitioner can speak English, and the date since the petitioner has resided constantly in the U.S. An affidavit of witness to these facts is signed by two persons.

For many petitions, a declaration of intent and occasionally other correspondence or related documentation is inserted into the volume facing the naturalization petition. Also sometimes included is an order of the court admitting the petitioner to United States citizenship that includes date of citizenship and certificate of naturalization number.

Inserted into the volumes at various points were correspondence and regulations from the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Naturalization.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into the following series:

- Series I: Naturalization Volumes, 1906-1910, arranged chronologically.

Contents List

Series I: Naturalization Volumes, 1906-1910

Extent

1 volume

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically.

1129019: Department of Commerce and Labor, Division of Naturalization, Petition and Record, 1906-1910