

EARLY TAX LISTS ARE NOW DIGITAL

In the first digital collection available on the archives' website, the surviving 18th Century tax lists for Washington County can now be viewed online at the following url:
<https://wctnarchives.org/early-tax-lists/>.

As part of North Carolina and continuing with the establishment of Tennessee in 1796, Washington County was divided into specific political sub-divisions known as Captain's Companies based on the militia units in the county, each of which was named for the unit's commanding militia captain. This way of organizing the county remained in place until 1835 when the county was divided into Civil Districts.

These tax lists are invaluable for researchers, as the lists often provide the only record on an individual's habitation in the county prior to surviving census records. The records also provide a record of the wealth of the county at the time the taxes were collected. The tax lists vary from year to year as to the information provided, as this changed with changes in the law. Generally, the records list the individual's name, the number of white polls, the number of black polls, acreage owned, and the tax. For some years additional information may include type and number of livestock (horses, cattle, etc.); cash held; etc.

A total of 96 individual tax lists of various Captain's Companies are uploaded. For some years no lists were found, while in other cases, not every Captain's Company record survived.

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