



MASSIVE LAW COURT PROJECT COMPLETED

The largest processing project undertaken by the department was completed in November 2022 when the last of **18,306** Johnson City Law Court case files was finished. Work on this collection began in 2018 and involved at one time or another most of the archives' staff and volunteers. A special thanks to volunteers Shirley Hinds, Kim Livaditis, and Terry Millhorn. And an especial commendation to Britney Helton, Archive Associate, who supervised and completed the last phase of the effort and typed the hefty guide found on our webpage.

The collection consists of **806** boxes of records, stretching 408 linear feet. This is the length of one football field and a third of another one. Records span from when the court was established in 1891 through 1979. The records in this collection cover the period 1891-1960. Among the types of cases found are damages, debt, divorce, property disputes, road condemnation, and workmen's compensation, as well as other causes. Document types include correspondence, plaintiff and defendant answers, exhibits, notes, notices, pleas, receipts, summons, and transcripts.

Law Court was established as a division of Washington County Circuit Court in 1891 to hear civil cases in Johnson City rather than at the courthouse in Jonesborough. This made it easier for lawyers and clients based in Johnson City to avoid so much travel to the county seat. Civil cases not originating in Johnson City and criminal court cases continued to be heard by Circuit Court in Jonesborough.

A guide listing all cases is found on the archives' website:
<https://wordpress.com/page/wctnarchives.org/6374>

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