



Record Group: Council of Proprietors of West New Jersey
Series: Account Books, ca. 1676-1951
Accession #: 2005.048
Series #: PWESJ003
Guide Date: 12/2005 (EC)
Volume: 0.5 c.f. [3 vols.]; 0.3 reel [35-mm]

[Contents](#) | [Reel List](#)

Content Note

This series consists of three accounts documenting the distribution of proprietary land. Below is a preliminary description of the books.

Item 1. **“Proprietors Book” or “Danl Ellis Book,” ca. 1676-1951** - This volume provides an accounting of acreage sold by, or due to, specific individuals. Although the dates of the entries span from 1676 to 1951, there are relatively few for the twentieth century. It is not clear how this volume is arranged and unfortunately, it does not include a name index.

Each individual’s account includes names of persons bought from or sold to, amount of acreage, date of transaction and generally, but not always, citations to a book and page number. The volumes cited include not only the minutes and survey books of the Council of Proprietors of West New Jersey, but also the West Jersey books in the series Secretary of State’s Office/Deeds, Surveys and Commissions.

Citations to the minute books are done by reference to the dividend from which the warrant for land was derived:

| <u>Citation</u> | <u>Minute Book</u> |
|--------------------------|--|
| 3 rd dividend | Book 2 (3 September 1700 - 19 March 1711/12) |
| 4 th dividend | Book 3 (18 April 1712 - 5 February 1728/29) |
| 5 th dividend | Book 5 (4 May 1737 - 7 May 1751) |

For example, a reference to “4th dividend, folio 99” is citing Minute Book 3, page 99.

[NOTE: Includes a folder of loose pages.]

Item 2. **Accounts of Warrants and Rights Purchased, ca. 1714-1922** - This is an account of acreages deeded under specific warrants or “rights purchased” from ca. 1714-1922. As with the previous account, there are relatively few twentieth-century entries. The format of each account varies but generally includes the name of the person holding the warrant or right, amount of acreage and date. This is usually followed by listing of grantees, deed dates and acreage amounts. A survey book and page number is also sometimes included.

There is a name index at the beginning of the volume, but portions of the H section and all of G and L are missing

due to lost page corners.

[NOTE: Includes a folder of loose material.]

Item 3. **“Warrant Book,” ca. 1717-1748** - This is an accounting of acreages surveyed under specific warrants. The arrangement of the book is unclear and it does not include an index. Each account includes warrant date, acreage amount and name of warrant holder. Below this is a listing of surveys made for that warrant. Survey entries include name of individual to whom the survey was made and the acreage. Some accounts include amounts of land sold in one column followed by the actual amount surveyed. Each entry includes a book-and-page citation to survey books A through O. (The “Book B” referenced is Bull’s Book; there appear to be no references to Sharp’s Book which is also sometimes referred to as B.)

Contents

1. "Proprietors Book" or "Danl Ellis Book," ca. 1676-1951
2. Accounts of Warrants and Rights Purchased, ca. 1714-1922
3. "Warrant Book," ca. 1717-1748

Reel Listing - WEST JERSEY PROPRIETORS

| <u>Reel</u> | <u>Contents</u> | <u>Explanatory Note</u> |
|-------------|---|--|
| 4 | Index to Minutes; Abstract of Surveys and Warrants; Account Books | Grantor/Grantee Index to Minute Books 1 - 8 [1688-1782] Extract of Surveys and Warrants, 1717-1756 Account Books, ca. 1676-1951 [3 vols.] |

Created May 2006

If you have any questions about the information in this collection guide, please contact njarchives@sos.state.nj.us