

***SALEM in History***  
**How to Search Salem Deeds in Person**

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Registry of Deeds, Southern Essex District  
36 Federal Street, Salem  
(978) 741-0200 x250

Current Contacts: Donna Deschenes / Linda Ferese

Current Hours: Hours: 8:00 a.m. til 4:30 p.m. Mon.- Fri.

*Note:*

You must know in advance which volumes you want to view.

You must request an appointment a day in advance.

Be aware that while handling the deeds you will be asked to wear protective gloves (currently, latex gloves, which cause some people to experience an allergic reaction).

Once you have the volumes, note that there are several reference numbers associated with each deed. The volumes in the Registry collection were hand-copied in the early 1700s from earlier folios. The original folio reference numbers are printed as smaller numbers down the side of the page. (See examples in this packet.) The larger numbers in page corners correspond to the present book pages (These are used when searching on-line. See information below).

The records are not necessarily in chronological order. They are more likely to be found under the date on which they were copied into the present volumes. The deeds we used, for example, were listed under the year 1705.

Once you have found desired deeds, personnel at the registry will make photocopies at your request.

**How to Search Salem Deeds Online:**

To find the documents on the internet, go to: <http://www.salemdeeds.com/>

- Click on the “Historic Records” tab on the left-hand menu.
- In the “Book #” field, enter the number of the volume you want, then, in the “Page #” field, enter the page number found at the top of the deed (note that this is not the folio number, as explained above)  
*If you do not have a page number, you can search the entire book, but this would be a cumbersome project, given the size of the pages scanned into the database.*
- Click “Show”