

Cumberland County
New Search Features and Instructions
Full System (Indexing Searches with Links to all Images)

We have recently completed the conversion of all land record data from 1754 to current. This includes all of the land record index books (scanned) and the documents themselves. All of these images are available on the site, including the Photostat deed books, which have been both enhanced and inverted (the image has been reversed from white letters with a black background to black letters with a white background). This will improve the quality of the printing and faxing of these records.

In addition to the additional data, we have added search features to the computerized database portion of the site that contains indexing data from 1984 to current. First, we have made three land record databases. These include:

- January 1, 1995 to current (This includes all data indexed after North Carolina law required certain indexing standards. These standards required most counties to change the way they abbreviated certain names, including business names. In addition, the standards required the register to adopt a set of instrument type abbreviations. A list of the abbreviations currently used in the office is available from each of the three search screens by clicking on the link to instrument types.)
- January 1, 1984 to December 31, 1994 (indexing data prior to the implementation in 1995 of indexing standards)
- January 1, 1984 to current (This includes all data in a computerized relational database. Some searchers may choose to use this option for name searches that were indexed the same both before and after the standards. Users of this option will be warned that the data contains both pre-standards and post-standards data.)

The site has added a feature that allows users to search for records by date of filing only. This feature allows the users to further restrict the search by instrument type. For example, all deeds of trust can be searched for a particular date range. The user should note that if they are using the instrument type restriction for any data prior to 1995, there may be inconsistencies in the instrument types prior to the implementation of standards in 1995.

The next change is the addition of formatted printing of indexing search results. This is available from both the indexing screen and the final detail screen. The formatted print provides additional room between entries to better enable users to take notes on the search results. If the user presses the print button, a print image is rendered on the screen, and the user will be prompted to print the search results that have been rendered. Once the user has printed the search results, they need to close the image rendered image of the search results. Once that window is closed, the user will be back at the indexing search results.

The site has added a “related documents” link. This link is provided for all index entries that contain book and page information in the description field. If there are multiple

references, there will be multiple links. This link, just like the description, is unwarranted.

Another additional feature is the ability to put multiple directory entries into the indexing screen at the same time. This is accomplished by checking the box next to the directory entry. If the user wants to add additional data, they simply click an additional box. If they want to remove the entries associated with a directory entry, they can uncheck the box. Once in the index screen, the user can re-sort the entries by date or alphabetical order. This is done through clicking on the red “file date” or red “name of business” underlined feature links. If the user clicks on the same link twice, the list will invert. Therefore, the first click on file date will put the records in order from oldest to newest. The second click on file date will invert and put the most current records first. If printed, the results will print in the last sorted order.

The final change is to note that all images will be displayed in PFD format. The site will no longer utilize ActiveX controls for the viewing and printing of images.