

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SUSAN F. BULAY
Penobscot County Register of Deeds

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January 29, 2016

Ms. Cassie Nixon
State and Local Government Committee
c/o Legislative Information Office
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333


RE: Registers of Deeds Surcharge Accounting

Dear Ms. Nixon:

Title 33, Sec. 752(5) requires that the Registers of Deeds file an accounting of the restoration surcharge with the State and Local Government Committee each year. Enclosed are the accountings for each registry for 2015.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



SUSAN F. BULAY
President, Maine Registers of Deeds Association

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS
SURCHARGE REPORT

County: Androscoggin, Register: Tina M. Chouinard

Amount Collected (2014) : \$46,557.00

Amount Spent (2014) : \$134,362.32

Projects worked on in 2015:

Restoration of indices

Completed preservation storage project

Projects planned for 2016:

Continue to restore indices

Scanning and restoring County Commissioner Plans
to the Registry's web site and creating an index

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS
SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

County Agooctok North Register Louise Caron

Amount Collected (2015) \$9,036.00

Amount Spent (2015) \$305.96

Projects worked on in 2015:

Storage boxes for films and upgrade for
more storage to our system.

Projects planned for 2016:

repair some old books.

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS
SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

County Arroostook South ^{Acting} Register Wendy J Holmes

Amount Collected (2015) \$25,536.00

Amount Spent (2015) \$24,144.04

Projects worked on in 2015:

Projects planned for 2016:

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS
SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

Cumberland Register Nancy A Lane _____

Amount Collected
(2015) \$164,781.00 _____

Amount Spent (2015) \$49,595 _____

Projects worked on in 2015:

Moved Compact Books back to Court House.

Scanned all the Commissioners Records

Projects planned for 2016:

Move Original Books to the Archives, waiting to hear back if they will accept.

Considering a 2nd field in Search for “From quill pen to pixels. Example transcribing the language into “easy speak”. We will show the original document handwritten, then show another window transcribed.

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS
SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

County Franklin Register Susan A Black

Amount Collected (2015) 17,806.76

Amount Spent (2015) 45,092.92

Projects worked on in 2015:

reclad my old plans on new shelves

new plan copies to scan old plans

refurbished county map

Projects planned for 2016:

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

County Hancock Register: Julie Curtis

Amount Collected (2015) \$34,308.00

Amount Spent (2015) \$35,462.83

Projects worked on in 2015: We have finished with our Corporation books indexing and they are on the system. We sent 5 books to be rebound. We had a plan restored. We are still working on our unindexed documents and conversion issues.

Projects planned for 2016: We are going to have another map restored this year and finish indexing our old documents.

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS
SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

County: Knox

Registrar: Lisa J. Simmons

Amount Collected (2015)----\$25,305.00

Amount Spent (2015)---\$59,477.76

Projects worked on in 2015:

1. Re-indexing project from 1960 – 1950 to eventually include all documents to be in the same database
2. Digitized various old books and created new microfilm

Projects planned for 2016:

1. More re-indexing from 1950 - 1940

2015 Registry of Deeds
Surcharge Report

County: Lincoln

Register: Rebecca S. Wotton

Amount collected: \$26,157.00

Amount Spent : \$1,721.69

Projects worked on in 2015

indexed and scanned older documents

Projects planned for 2016

index and scan older documents and add to the database

**2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING
OXFORD COUNTY EAST**

AMOUNT COLLECTED 2015 24,948.00

INTEREST EARNED 446.80
TOTAL \$25,394.80

EXPENSES

RESTORATION OF PLAN BOOK B.
INCLUDES DIGITAL AND MICROFILM
AS WELL AS RESTORATION OF
PAPER ORIGINALS WITH ARCHIVAL
SLEEVES AND BOXES. RESTORATION BY Kofile. \$ 13,609.00

PROJECTS PLANNED

CONTINUED RESTORATION,
NEW DIGITAL AND NEW MICROFILM
OF OVER 1000 OLD PLANS CURRENTLY
BOUND IN BOOKS.

Patricia A. Shearman
REGISTER OF DEEDS

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

County Oxford West Register Jean Watson

Amount Collected (2015) \$6,738.00

Amount Spent (2015) 0

Projects worked on in 2015:

I did not do any projects as I need more
money to do the maps and addition of some
of the older documents to the index/books.

Projects planned for 2016:

Listed above.

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS
SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

County: Penobscot Register: Susan F. Bulay

Amount Collected (2015) \$65,232.00

Amount Spent (2015) \$22,858.10

Projects worked on in 2015:

Computer website upgrades and maintenance to improve security and public access to old records; scanning of old books into the system; repair and recreation of old record books

Projects planned for 2016:

Continue scanning old books; process old book recreations for any possible errors before they are made available to the public; continue book repair

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS
SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

County: Piscataquis Register: Linda M. Smit

Amount Collected (2015): \$11,952.00

Amount Spent (2015): \$19,973.52

Projects worked on in 2015:

Back indexing – 1965 - 1967

Document binders #31-47 and # 49-84

Index binders 1-24 A-Z & 2 special books

Book repair and page punching for new binders

Film retrieval from Iron Mtn for placement in MSA

Projects planned for 2016:

Contract for back indexing 1961-1964

Recreation of plan microfilm & creation of digital
images and linking to indexing

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS
SURCHARGE REPORT

County: Sagadahoc

Lynn C Moore, Registrar

Amount Collected (2015): \$18,810.00

Amount Spent (2015): \$31,671.67

Projects worked on in 2015:

Had a part-time clerk index and scan old books

Projects planned for 2015:

Scan all indices to create virtual books

Complete back scanning and indexing of old books

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

County Somerset
Laura L. Price, Deputy Registrar

Amount Collected (2015) \$27,294.00

Amount Spent (2015) \$40,205.90

Projects worked on in 2015:

Historic plan digitization preservation and storage with part-time recreation employee. Land record books image clean up and recreation. Examination of stored files in basement. Upgraded two computers and two scanners (one was a large format scanner) to meet ACS/Xerox program upgrades (software was no longer supported) so we can continue to update old document and plan images. This expense should not occur again for many years.

Projects planned for 2016:

Continue plan files. Continue land record books image clean up and recreation. Add more information to 20/20 system of pre 1956 documents.

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS
SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

County Waldo Register Stacy L. Grant

Amount Collected (2015) \$21,005

Amount Spent (2015) \$26,635

Projects worked on in 2015:

Preserved 1859 County map (Kofile).

Scanned index's from 1971-1980 and had an infodex created and loaded onto our in house system.

Back indexing/scanning 1978-1979 to go online and in house

Record books storage

Projects planned for 2016:

Back indexing/scanning 1975-1978 to go online and in house

Purchasing a new digital plan copier/scanner

Record books storage

Having 1,862 plans microfilmed

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

County Washington Register Sharon D. Strout

Amount Collected (2015) \$13,764.00

Amount Spent (2015) \$8,933.00

Projects worked on in 2015:

Converting some of our microfilm to digital image and loading onto
our system. We now have images back as far as 1945.

Projects planned for 2016:

I am taking the steps to have some of our plans that are being adversely
affected by the rapid deterioration of the envelopes.

2015 REGISTRY OF DEEDS SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

County: York Register: Debra L. Anderson

Amount Collected (2015): \$117,186.00

Amount Spent (2015): \$ 141,635.00

Projects worked on in 2015: 128 old volumes from 1600's & early 1700's, 72,437 scans, converted to bi-tonal, all enhanced pages were copied to replace unreadable copies in our research room. 20 of our oldest books with complete page restoration were incapsulated into preservation grade mylar sleeves and inserted into 20 leather binders. All new scans were sent to PropertyIno by FTP, where they will replace the unreadable scans with the new scans.

Projects planned for 2016: Still have more volumes, and maps to be restored, copied, scanned and downloaded.