



120 Academy Street, Trenton, N.J. 08608  
609-392-7188 \* [www.trentonlib.org](http://www.trentonlib.org)

**Trenton City Clerk Collection**  
**Circa 1876–1989 (bulk ca. 1930–1970)**

**By Chris Loos**  
**April 2024**

**Summary Information**

**Creator(s):**

City of Trenton; Harry B. Salter (creator, ca. 1904-1912); John L. Haney (creator, 1931-1940); Thaddeus J. Burns (creator, 1940 - 1952); Stanley Maziarz (creator, 1952-1975); Margaret K. Ture (creator, 1975-1982)

**Donor:**

Unknown (found in collections); Betty Holland (donor)

**Language of Materials:**

English

**Extent:**

Approximately 4 cubic feet

**Location of Repository:**

Trentoniana Department, Trenton Free Public Library, 120 Academy St., Trenton, NJ  
08608

**Subjects:**

Burns, Thaddeus J. (ca. 1882-1952) / Dog licenses / Donnelly, Frederick William (1866-1935) / Fish and game licenses--New Jersey / Haney, John L. (1894-1940) / Licenses--New Jersey--Trenton / Maziarz, Stanley (1914-1975) / Municipal government--New Jersey--Trenton /

Municipal law--New Jersey / Municipal officials and employees--New Jersey / Salter, Harry B. (1873-1938) / Trenton (N.J.)--History / Trenton (N.J.)--Politics and government / Ture, Margaret Kish (1920-2000) / Urban policy--New Jersey--Trenton

### **Administrative Information**

#### **Conditions Governing Access:**

No access restrictions.

#### **Reference Number:**

CITY—CLERK

#### **Preferred Citation:**

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Trenton City Clerk Collection, Trentoniana Department, Trenton Free Public Library, 120 Academy St., Trenton, NJ 08608

### **Scope/Content**

This portion of the city records includes much of the work of Trenton's city clerk. Although the city clerk appears throughout the city records (see below), this collection focuses primarily on the clerks' direct roles in managing licenses, city records, and other day-to-day managerial matters. Of particular note are the files of John Haney, who served as clerk from 1931 until his sudden death in 1940. His papers shed light on how Trenton weathered the Great Depression and worked alongside the New Deal agencies like the Works Progress Administration. Note that certain specific aspects of the clerk's remit--in particular, tax assessment, elections, and licensing for alcoholic beverages--have each been separated into their own collections.

*Archivist's Note:* Like with all collections within the Trenton City Records, these items have been compiled from various locations within the Trentoniana Department and arranged *ad hoc*. Many of the items from the 1950s through the 1980s were likely originally part of the Arthur Holland Papers, having been removed by previous librarians. Folders in subseries IA (John L. Haney subject files) have their names taken verbatim

from the original folders, with my additions in [square brackets]. The folders are in the same order as they were found.

*[See also the rest of the City Records, including: The F.W. Donnelly Collection (CITY-FWD), the Arthur Holland Papers, the Trenton Administration Collection (CITY-ADMIN), the Trenton Elections and Politics Collection (CITY-ELEC), and the Trenton Alcoholic Beverages Commission Collection (CITY-ABC).]*

### **Administrative History**

Since at least the 1844 New Jersey state constitution, clerks, surrogates, and similar municipal officers have been elected positions. These civil servants have historically played an important role in designing ballots and therefore shaping elections at the local level. In other words, clerks played a vital role in developing the “county line.” An extensive history of Trenton’s city clerks is beyond the scope of this finding aid; at present, not enough information exists to sketch a complete list of the people who served as clerks. For a broad historical summary, see [the work of the Constitutional Officers Association of New Jersey \(https://coanj.com/history/clerks/\)](https://coanj.com/history/clerks/). In Trenton’s case, the following list from *A History of Trenton* (1929) gives some insight into the people who served as the city’s clerk until 1929 (later clerks my own addition):

- Benjamin Smith (1792-1796)
- Jacob Benjamin (1796-1806)
- Peter Forman (1806-1822)
- Samuel T. Machett (1822-1827)
- John S. Chambers (*pro tempore*) (1827)
- David Johnston (1828-1836)
- John R. Tucker (1836-1837)
- Thomas J. Macpherson (1837-1842)
- Henry C. Boswell (1842-1843)
- Alexander M. Johnston (1843-1848)
- L. R. Justice (1848-1849)
- Charles W. Jay (1849-1850)
- Alexander M. Johnston (1850-1857)

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- John O. Raum (1857-1859)
- William N. Nutt (1859-1862)
- Mathew Brown (1862-1865)
- Benjamin Naar, Jr. (1865-1866)
- Alexander M. Johnston (1866-1871)
- Edward E. Hooker (1871)
- Benjamin Moorhouse (1871-1873)
- Frederick S. McNeely (1873-1875)
- Alexander C. Yard (1875-1882)
- William H. Earley (1882-1885)
- Eckford Moore (1885-1887)
- John C. Owens (1887-1892)
- Charles J. Fury (1892-1894)
- C. Edward Murray (1894-1904)
- Harry B. Salter (1904-1912)
- Frank Thompson, Sr. (1912-1916)
- Leon D. Hirsch (1916 - 1932?)
- John L. Haney (1932-1940)
- Thaddeus J. Burns (1940-1952?)
- Stanley Maziarz (1952-1975)
- Margaret K. Ture (1975-1982)
- Eugene Kalinowski (1982-1992?)
- Anthony J. Conti (1992-after 2001)
- Unknown
- Richard Kachmar (ca. 2014)
- Matthew H. Conlon (before 2020-2022)
- Brandon Garcia (2022-present)

**Arrangement**

**Series I: City Clerk Administrative (Reports, Financial Documents, Forms and Fees)**

Box 1, Folder 1: City Clerk basic information; document retention schedule (ca. 1978)

Folder 2: Reports (financial and other) from city clerks

Folder 3: City clerk reports on newsprint (photocopied from Donnelly scrapbooks, CITY-FWD)

Folder 4: Miscellaneous licenses and certificates

***Subseries IA: John L. Haney subject files, 1932-1940***

Folder 5: Council, City--General

Folder 6: Annexation, 1937-1939 (Lawrence, Ewing, Hamilton)

Folder 7: Auditor, City -- 1963-1939

Folder 8: Boards and Commissions

Folder 9: Canal Fill Project

Folder 10: Certifications [of Common Council minutes, resolutions, etc.]

Folder 11: City Council Special Meetings - 1939

Folder 12: City Manager -- Applications

Folder 13: Constables -- 1936-1939

Folder 14: Fire Department

Folder 15: Police Department

Folder 16: Inspection, Dept. of

Folder 17: Insurance [of city employees, properties, etc.]

Folder 18: Invitations

Folder 19: Labor Department

Folder 20: League of Municipalities

Folder 21: "Plumbing Ordinance -- Amendments proposed -- not presented formally"

Folder 22: Police Court

Folder 23: Power and Light Plant

Box 2, Folder 1: Manager, City -- General

Folder 2: Workers' Alliance [W.P.A. workers' group]

Folder 3: McDermott Claim [of damages due to alleged failure of storm drain system]

Folder 4: Municipal Colony

Folder 5: Licenses -- General

Folder 6: Business Licenses

Folder 7: Public Buildings and Grounds, Dept. of

Folder 8: Housing

Folder 9: General Motors Corporation -- Sewer Data

Folder 10: Executive Orders [from City Manager]

Folder 11: Fireworks Permits

Folder 12: Fish and Game Licenses

Folder 13: Elections

Folder 14: Electric Rates

Folder 15: Department Head Notices

Folder 16: Budget Estimates

Folder 17: Buses

Folder 18: Legal Department -- General

Folder 19: Legal Department -- Opinions

Folder 20: [City Employees? (original label lost)]

Box 3, Folder 1: [Ordinances and Resolutions? (original label lost)]

Folder 2: Requisitions -- 1936

Folder 3: Requisitions -- 1937

Folder 4: Requisitions -- 1938

Folder 5: Requisitions -- 1939

Folder 6: Purchases and Supplies, Dept. of

Folder 7: Public Welfare, Dept. of

Folder 8: Public Works and Service, Dept. of

**Series II: Miscellaneous Correspondence and Documents**

Box 3, Folder 9: Documents from the case of Joseph Travis (re: pool room licenses), 1937-1938

Folder 10: Miscellaneous Correspondence from John Haney, 1935-1939

Folder 11: Stanley Maziarz -- Correspondence and documents re: 1966  
Municipal Election (duplicates from CITY-ELEC)

Folder 12: Miscellaneous Correspondence from Stanley Maziarz, ca.  
1955-1962

Folder 13: Stanley Maziarz -- Testimonial dinner booklets, misc. semi-  
personal items

Folder 14: Margaret K. Ture -- Misc. certificates, ceremony booklets, etc.

Folder 15: Miscellaneous city clerk correspondence -- Other (from Harry  
Salter, Margaret Ture, and Eugene Kalinowski)

Folder 16: Miscellaneous City Clerk ephemera, reports, etc.

**Series III: Ledgers**

Box 4, Folder 1: City Clerk ledger book, 1907 - 1910 (FRAGILE)

Folder 2: City Clerk's account book, 1947 - 1963

Folder 3: "State Licenses up to 1967" (1943 - 1967)

Box OS1, Folder 1: City deed book, ca. 1911 - ca. 1950s?

Unfolded: Special Officers' Oaths, December 1961 - July 1987