

**Buncombe County Register of Deeds—A Treasure Chest of Local Records
May 21, 2022 Handout**

Old Buncombe Counties Register of Deeds (ROD) Search Systems

All counties in North Carolina have been requested to scan and post deeds online. Some counties have made more progress than others. Funds for this project are limited. Also, some county ROD websites are more easily searched than others.

Counties with the same deed search software system(Cott) as Buncombe

1. Graham <https://grahamcounty.org/register-of-deeds>
2. Polk <https://cotthosting.com/ncpolkexternal>
3. Jackson <https://www.jacksonnc.org/register-of-deeds/home>
4. Rutherford https://www.rutherfordcountync.gov/departments/register_of_deeds/index.php
5. Buncombe <https://www.buncombecounty.org/governing/depts/register-of-deeds/default.aspx>

Counties using North Carolina Public Search System

1. Swain <https://www.swaincorod.org>
2. Cherokee <https://www.cherokeecounty-nc.gov/261/Register-of-Deeds>

Counties using Registry- Online System

1. Transylvania <https://search.transylvaniadeeds.com/index.php>
2. Haywood <https://search.haywooddeeds.com/index.php>
3. Macon <https://search.macondeeds.com/index.php>
4. Yancey <https://search.yanceydeeds.com/index.php>
5. McDowell <https://search.mcdowelldeeds.com/index.php>
6. Clay <https://search.claydeeds.com/index.php>

Counties using Courthouse Computer Systems

1. Madison <http://216.27.81.171/madisonnc/disclaimer.asp>
2. Henderson <http://henderson.courtcompsys.com/hendersonnc/>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON BUNCOMBE COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS WEBSITE

1. “AS LONG AS THE GRASS SHALL GROW” — A history of Cherokee land cessions and the formation of Buncombe County
2. CEMETERY FINDER — Locate & Contact

If you have general information about any of these cemeteries, like an alternate name or location or if you would like us to add a new cemetery to the map, please contact the Buncombe County Register of Deeds.

For information regarding the history of these sites please contact [Old Buncombe Genealogical Society](#) or the [Buncombe County Special Collections](#) at Pack Memorial Library.

3. Slave Deeds

Documents sales of slaves, gifts of slaves, people used as collateral for loans.

For a more robust searching tool, check out the [Digital Library on American Slavery](#) which now hosts Buncombe County Slave Deeds and other records of slavery from multiple counties across North Carolina.

4. Cohabitation Records

Created in 1866 to identify and legitimize marriages and children born during slavery. Also includes marriages performed in 1866-1868.

Buncombe County Tax Department Info online

Buncombe County Tax Lookup

<https://tax.buncombecounty.org/>

Tax Information available:

Current tax value, maps, photos, sales history. Also access Mapping system(GIS) Register of Deeds and Property history-PIN History

Historic information

PIN History- History of current tax parcels – how the property has changed.

Tax Scrolls – produced by the Tax Collector to report the amount and type of taxes collected. **Oldest 1858.**

Tax Assessors Books- lists land owner, acreage deed book/page, old ward sheet lot mapping system maps (pre- 1987). Ability to find oldest tax maps online and locate property.

<https://tax.buncombecounty.org/>

The screenshot shows the Buncombe County Tax Lookup website. At the top left is the logo for Buncombe County Tax Lookup. Below the logo is a dark blue navigation banner with white text: "Tax Department | **New Lookup** | New Download | Appeal | Extension | GIS | ROD | PIN History | Discover Buncombe". Below the banner is a section titled "Start Here" with a horizontal line. Under "Start Here" are two vertical dropdown menus. The first menu contains "Unpaid Bills", "All Bills", "Receipts", "Parcels", and "Sales". The second menu contains "[step2]". To the right of these menus is a "Rectangular Drop" button. Below the dropdowns, the text "Posted Date: 5/16/2022" and "Thru: 5/31/2022" is displayed.

Instructions

First click on one of the following Unpaid Bills, All bills, Parcels, or Sales result sets.

- Unpaid Bills - Billing information, Ownership, Values, and Amounts of unpaid bills for Buncombe County.
- All Bills - Billing information, Ownership, Values, and Amounts of all bills for Buncombe County.
- Parcel - Parcel information, Ownership, Parcel Location, and Values of real estate parcels in Buncombe County.
- Sales - Previous and new ownership, Parcel Location, Price, and Sales information on real estate sales in Buncombe County.

Second click on a selection criteria for searching from the second box. Finally, enter appropriate information before clicking the search button. Use the underlined links to display more information about a tax bill and/or transactions of a given tax bill. Any time you enter new search criteria at the top of the screen, you will begin a new search.

This tax information does not serve as a certification of taxes that are paid or currently due, and may not include additional taxes such as Discovery or Deferral bills not yet billed or which may become due.

This page is for searching current tax information.

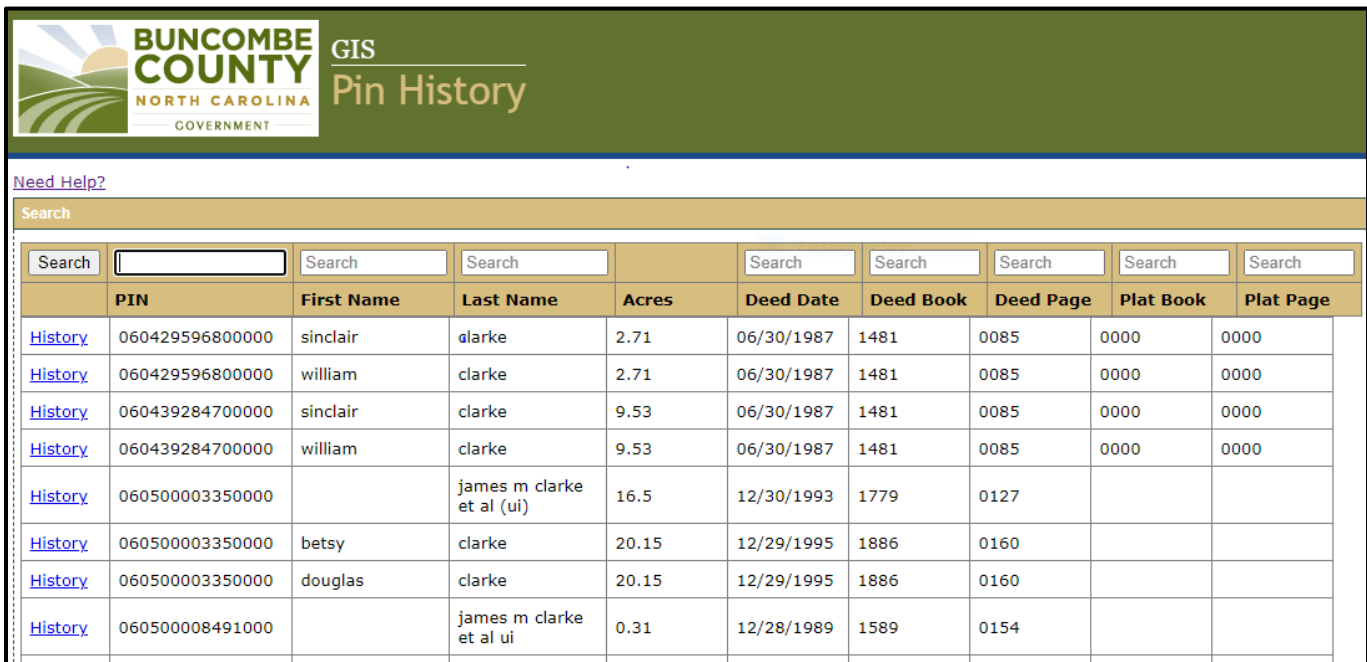
You can also choose from options on the top black banner for ROD, GIS or PIN History.

PIN History

Until 1987 tax maps were created using the Ward(township) -Sheet- Lot mapping system to identify property. The WSL system was very stable – the numbers rarely changed . The number format was XX-XXX-XXX.XX Example: 08005215.50 or ward 8 sheet 5 lot 215 and 1/5. When tax numbers were listed on the property deed it was as ward 8 sheet 5 lot 215.50.

Since 1987 tax maps are created using GIS (Geographic Information System)state grid mapping system. The tax identifier is based on the center of the parcel which changes when property is sold or added or property boundaries change.

Example PIN -Parcel Identification Number 9648649940.00000 This change in mapping systems created the need for PIN History.



| | PIN | First Name | Last Name | Acres | Deed Date | Deed Book | Deed Page | Plat Book | Plat Page |
|-------------------------|-----------------|------------|---------------------------|-------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| History | 060429596800000 | sinclair | clarke | 2.71 | 06/30/1987 | 1481 | 0085 | 0000 | 0000 |
| History | 060429596800000 | william | clarke | 2.71 | 06/30/1987 | 1481 | 0085 | 0000 | 0000 |
| History | 060439284700000 | sinclair | clarke | 9.53 | 06/30/1987 | 1481 | 0085 | 0000 | 0000 |
| History | 060439284700000 | william | clarke | 9.53 | 06/30/1987 | 1481 | 0085 | 0000 | 0000 |
| History | 060500003350000 | | james m clarke et al (ui) | 16.5 | 12/30/1993 | 1779 | 0127 | | |
| History | 060500003350000 | betsy | clarke | 20.15 | 12/29/1995 | 1886 | 0160 | | |
| History | 060500003350000 | douglas | clarke | 20.15 | 12/29/1995 | 1886 | 0160 | | |
| History | 060500008491000 | | james m clarke et al ui | 0.31 | 12/28/1989 | 1589 | 0154 | | |

The first screen shows historic deed data, acreage, ownership, etc. PIN History search screen – search options to view the following help sheet click on [Need Help?](#) At top left corner

Pin History can be used to find the deed book/page etc. and the old tax ID number which can then be used to find the oldest tax records.

Historic information

Tax Scrolls – produced by the Tax Collector to report the amount and type of taxes collected. **Oldest records 1858.**

To Access historic information, choose Tax Department from top banner on the first page. Scroll down to [“Tax Department Quick Links”](#).

Tax Department Quicklinks

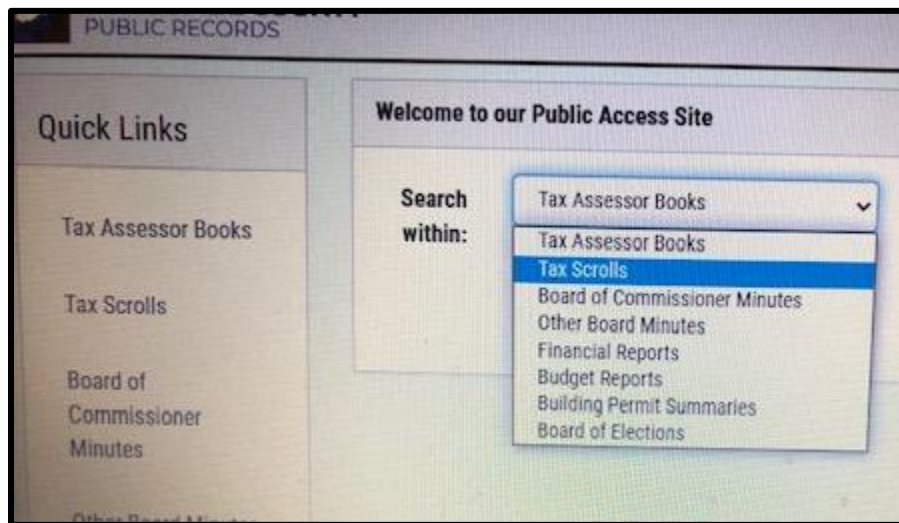
Rectangular Strip

- TAX ASSESSMENT**
Property tax appraisals, appeals, assistance and information for Business and Personal Property
- TAX COLLECTION**
Tax Bills & Payments, Permits & Licenses, Gross Receipts, and Liens
- LAND RECORDS**
Mapping & maintaining all property data in the county
- TAX FORECLOSURES**
Foreclosures & bids on available county property
- PERSONAL PROPERTY**
Property tax information & resources for the individual
- MOTOR VEHICLES**
Tax & registration information

Choose **“Land Records”**
Then choose **“Public Records”**

- ASSESSMENT**
Appeals, Business & Personal Property, and Tax Relief
- TAX COLLECTION**
Information & Payments, Gross Receipts, and Liens
- REGISTER OF DEEDS**
Recording & Real Estate
- DISCOVER BUNCOMBE**
Interactive Community Maps & Data
- GIS**
Geographic Information Systems
- PUBLIC RECORDS**
Assessor Books & Tax Scrolls

You can access the records from the drop down or from the Quick links on the left.



Tax Assessors Books- lists land owner, acreage deed book/page, old ward sheet lot mapping system maps (pre 1987). These tax ID numbers do not change.

Ability to find oldest tax maps online and locate property

.Some old deeds have Ward Sheet Lot number as description of property.

Example

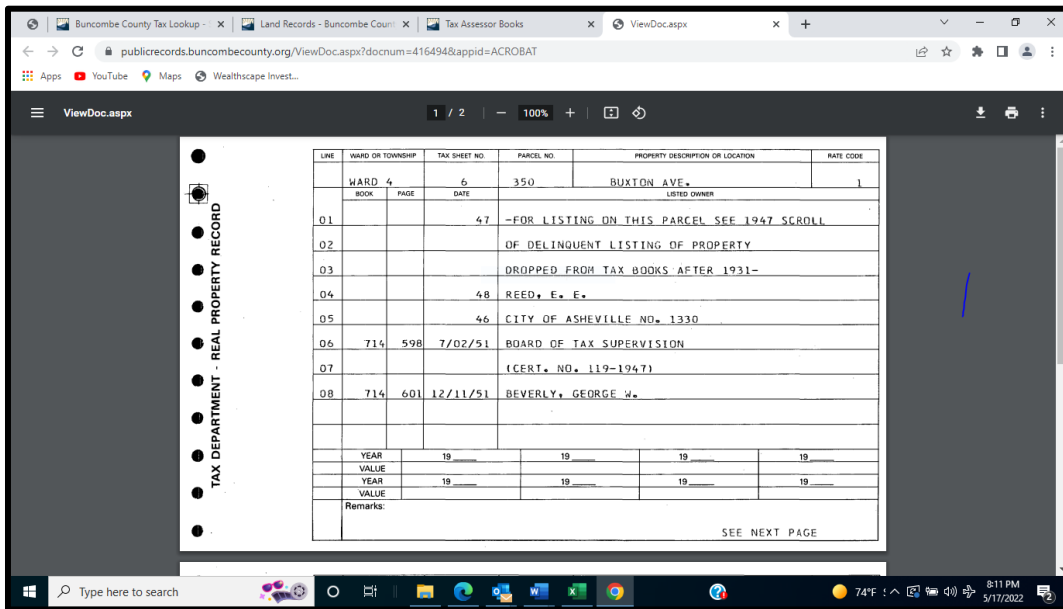
| | | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------|
| 01/18/1952 | BOARD OF TAX SUPERVISION | BEVERLY, GEORGE W | Lot 350 SH 6 W 4 | 714/601 |
|------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------|

1. Go to <https://www.buncombecounty.org/governing/depts/tax/>
2. Scroll down and choose "Land Records"
3. Scroll down and choose "Public Records"
4. Choose from dropdown options: "Assessor's Books" or "Tax Scrolls" etc.
5. Tax Assessors Books, submit, accept
6. Search by old Ward/Sheet/Lot map number
7. Options – look at individual lots or map by choosing "View"

Search Results

[Search Again](#)

| Type | Ward | Sheet | Lot | |
|---------------|------|-------|-----|----------------------|
| ASSESSOR BOOK | 10 | 8 | 20 | View |
| MAPS | 10 | 8 | | View |



This is ward 6 sheet 4 lot 350 – Assessor Book Entry

Close window and view additional information or search again to look at another ward/sheet.

The Tax scroll option you request a year to view.

Tax Scroll Search

Year Start:

Year End:

We have made every effort to make the tax scrolls available to the public, however, some may be of poor quality or unavailable due to conversion from microfilm. Some scrolls may contain multiple years. These will be shown as "cross referenced" which will require additional searches. The year to search by is provided in the cross reference records.

Tax Scrolls are listed in the name of the owner as of January 1 of the tax year.

Current year tax scrolls will be made available after December 1st.

Search Results

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Description | |
| SCROLL 1858 - 1861 | View |

Choose "View" to see the copy of the microfilm of 1858 Tax Scroll.

| TAX SCROLL BOOK 1858-1861 | | | | | | | | | | TAX SCROLL BOOK 1858-1861 | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|-----------|-------------|------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|--|------|
| 32 | | | | | | | | | | 33 | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Hammond</i> | | | | | | | | | | <i>Hammond</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>David Smith</i> | <i>1622</i> | <i>48246</i> | <i>79</i> | <i>14</i> | <i>6</i> | <i>650</i> | <i>24</i> | | | <i>And Son</i> | <i>20542</i> | <i>65507</i> | <i>97</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>815</i> | <i>29</i> | | |
| <i>Sho. Water</i> | | | | | | | | | 1.20 | <i>James Rutherford</i> | | | | | | | | | 1.20 |
| <i>Wm. Warren</i> | | | | | | | | | 1.20 | <i>Snod. Stearns</i> | <i>111</i> | <i>300</i> | | | | | | | 1.15 |
| <i>Abner Davis</i> | <i>50</i> | <i>50</i> | <i>1</i> | | | | | <i>Lead</i> | 7.39 | <i>Emek Morgan</i> | <i>290</i> | <i>1880</i> | | | | | | | 7.21 |
| <i>J. H. Morgan</i> | <i>150</i> | <i>300</i> | <i>1</i> | | | | | <i>Head</i> | 2.35 | <i>A. B. Morgan</i> | <i>494</i> | <i>1350</i> | <i>1</i> | | | | | | 6.37 |
| <i>W. H. Morgan</i> | <i>200</i> | <i>200</i> | <i>1</i> | | | | | | 1.00 | <i>O. M. Morgan</i> | <i>267</i> | <i>950</i> | <i>1</i> | | | | | | 4.84 |
| <i>J. H. Hoad</i> | | | <i>1</i> | | | | | | 1.20 | <i>Peter Luther</i> | <i>200</i> | <i>370</i> | | | | | | | 1.91 |
| <i>Meridian Mc Fee</i> | <i>225</i> | <i>550</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>1</i> | | | | | 4.50 | <i>E. Morgan for Morgan</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Polly W. Fee</i> | <i>57</i> | <i>300</i> | | | | | | | 1.15 | <i>Miss</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>40</i> | <i>50</i> | | | | | | 2.0 |
| <i>W. H. Green</i> | <i>64</i> | <i>300</i> | <i>1</i> | | | | | | 3.10 | <i>Charles McLeod</i> | | | | <i>1</i> | <i>1</i> | | | | 1.50 |
| <i>W. H. Green</i> | <i>335</i> | <i>1000</i> | <i>1</i> | | | | | | 5.03 | <i>W. H. Cathey</i> | <i>5</i> | <i>100</i> | | | | | | | 3.7 |
| <i>Walter Green</i> | <i>171</i> | <i>600</i> | | | | | | | 2.30 | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>H. H. Smith</i> | | | <i>1</i> | <i>2</i> | | | | | 1.80 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | <i>22110</i> | <i>68587</i> | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | <i>22026</i> | <i>68637</i> | <i>101</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>13</i> | <i>615</i> | <i>2.7</i> | | |

The word "poll" is an archaic term for "head" or "top of the head". "AKA "head count". In 1858 in NC Head of household paid a head tax on all men 21-44 and slaves 12-49, Women were not taxed.

BOOKS AT OBCGS LIBRARY— OLD BUNCOMBE DEED & VITAL RECORD INFORMATION

McDowell County N C Land Entry Abstracts 1843-1869

Rutherford County Abstracts of Land Entries 7779-1775, 1795-1803,1804-1826, 1826-June 1834

BUNCOMBE COUNTY MARRIAGE REGISTER: FEMALES 1990-1993

BUNCOMBE COUNTY MARRIAGE REGISTER: MALES 1990-1993

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 1 A-B

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 2 B-C

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 3 C-C

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 4 C-F

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 5 F-G

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 6 G-H

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 7 H-K

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 8 K-M

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 9 M-M

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 10 M-P

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 11 P-R

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 13 S-V

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 14 V-W

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NC BIRTH RECORDS 1913-1965 VOL 15 W-Z

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DEATH RECORDS OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY, NC

DEATH RECORDS OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY, NC

DEATH RECORDS OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY, NC

DEATH RECORDS OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY, NC

DEATH RECORDS OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY, NC;

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