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

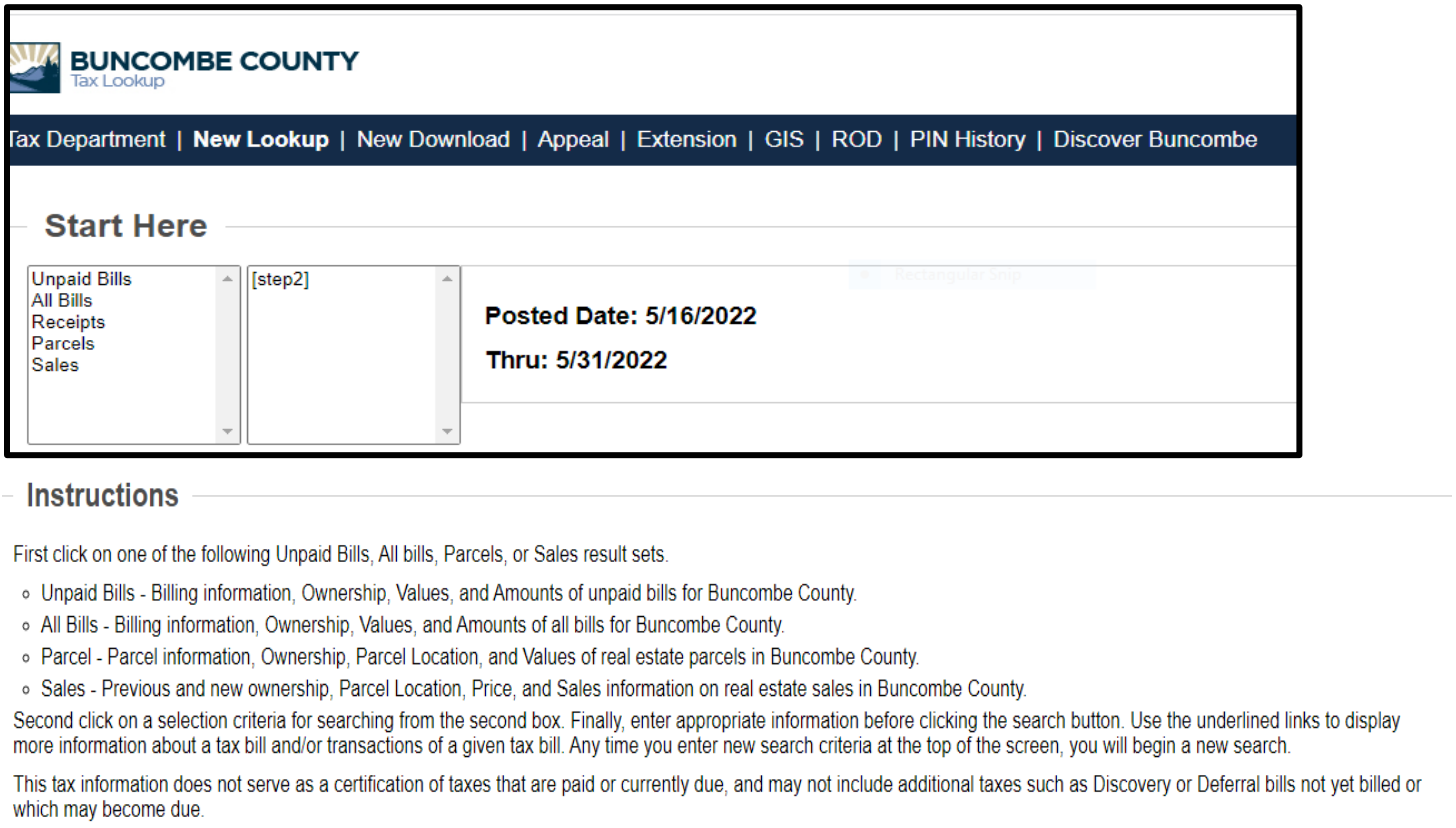
Buncombe County Tax Lookup
https://tax.buncombecounty.org/

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/

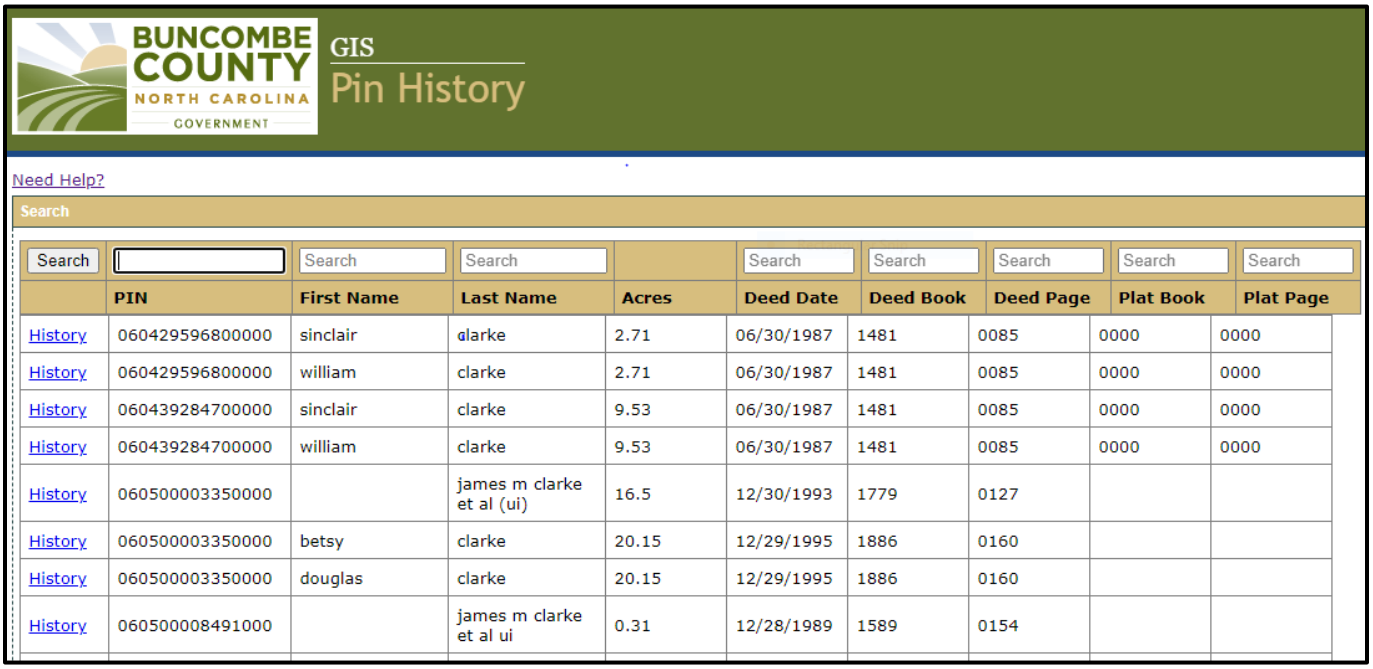


This page is for searching current tax information.
You can also choose from options on the top black banner for ROD, GIS or PIN History.

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 (**G**eographic **I**nformation **S**ystem)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 -**P**arcel **I**dentification **N**umber 9648649940.00000 This change in mapping systems created the need for PIN History.


BUNCOMBE COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNMENT

GIS Pin History

Need Help?

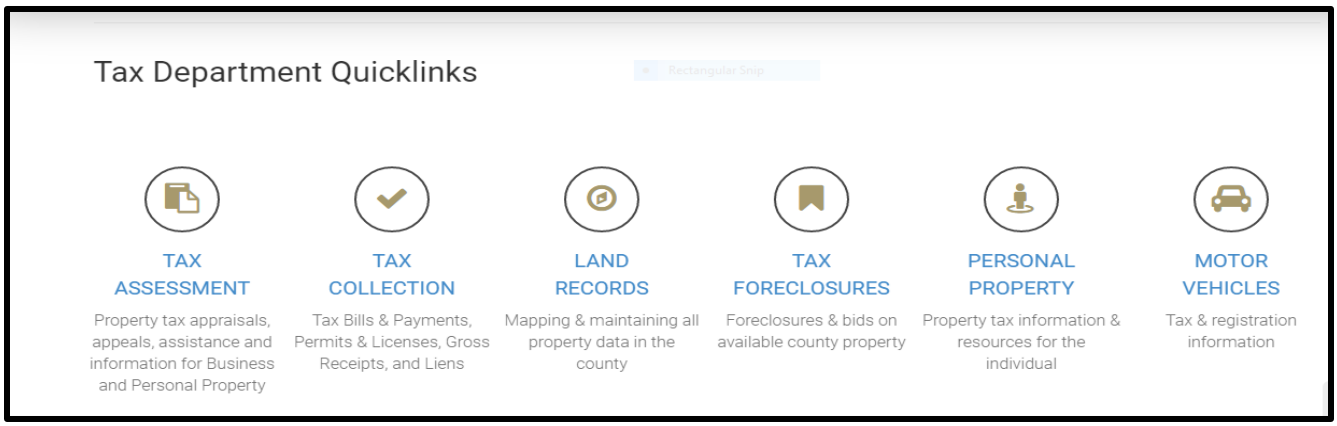
Search

Search		Search	Search		Search	Search	Search	Search	Search
	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		

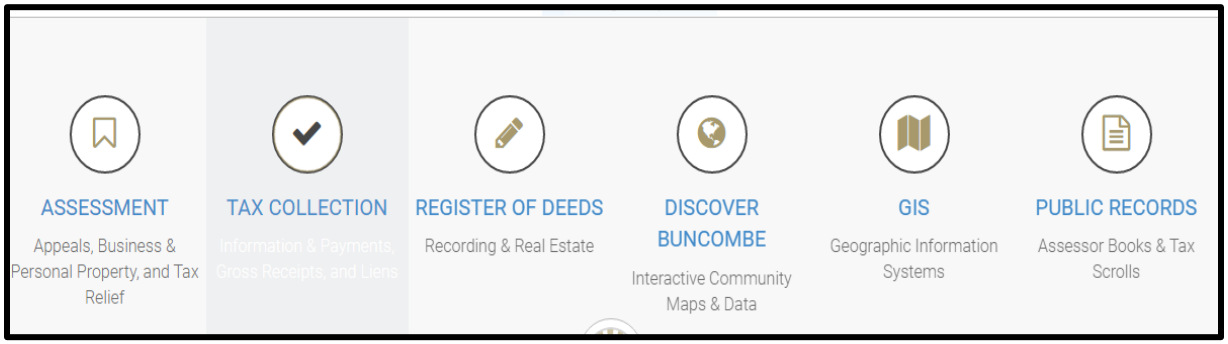
The first screen shows historic deed data, acreage, ownership, etc. PIN History search screen – search options to view the following help sheet click on Need Help? At top left corner

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.

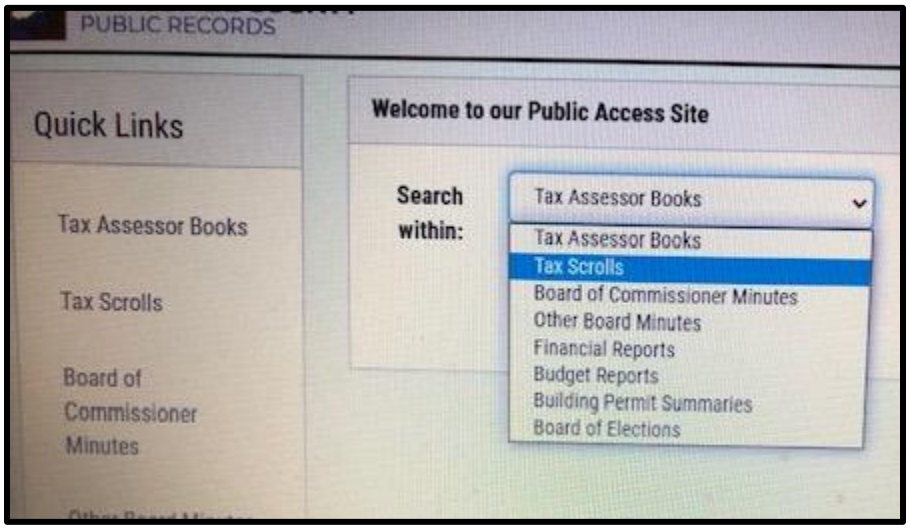
Historic information
Tax Scrolls – produced by the Tax Collector to report the amount and type of taxes collected. **Oldest records 1858.**
To Access historic information, choose Tax Department from top banner on the first page. Scroll down to "Tax Department Quick Links".



Choose "Land Records"
Then choose "Public Records"



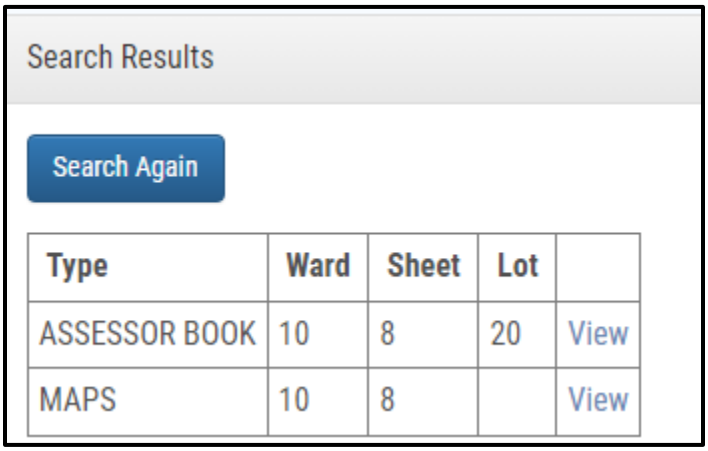
You can access the records from the drop down or from the Quick links on the left.

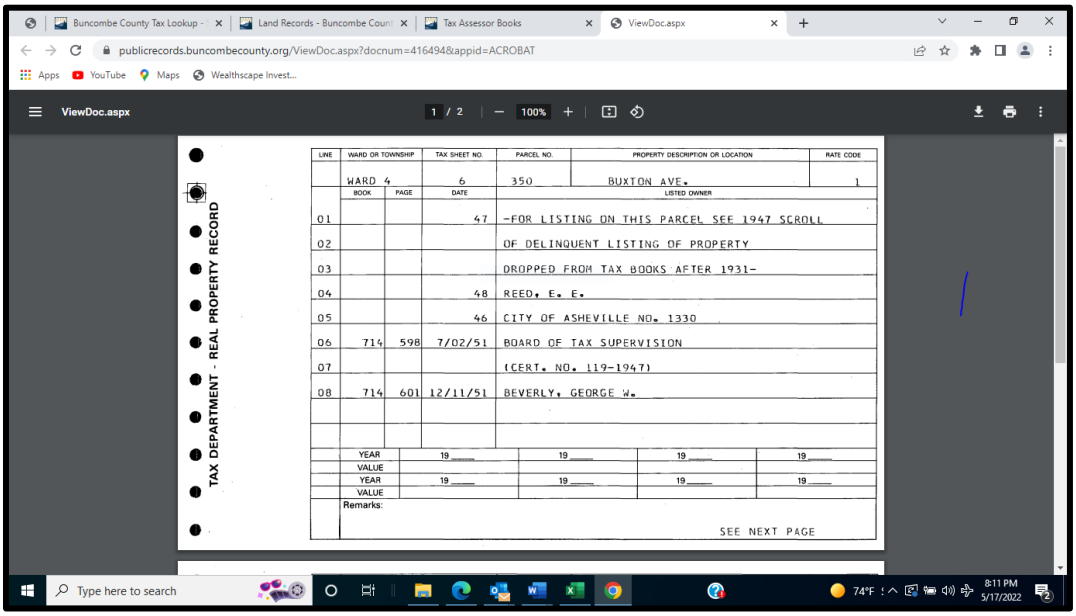


Tax Assessors Books- lists land owner, acreage deed book/page, old ward sheet lot mapping system maps (pre 1987). These tax ID numbers do not change.
Ability to find oldest tax maps online and locate property
.Some old deeds have Ward Sheet Lot number as description of property.
Example

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 own 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”**

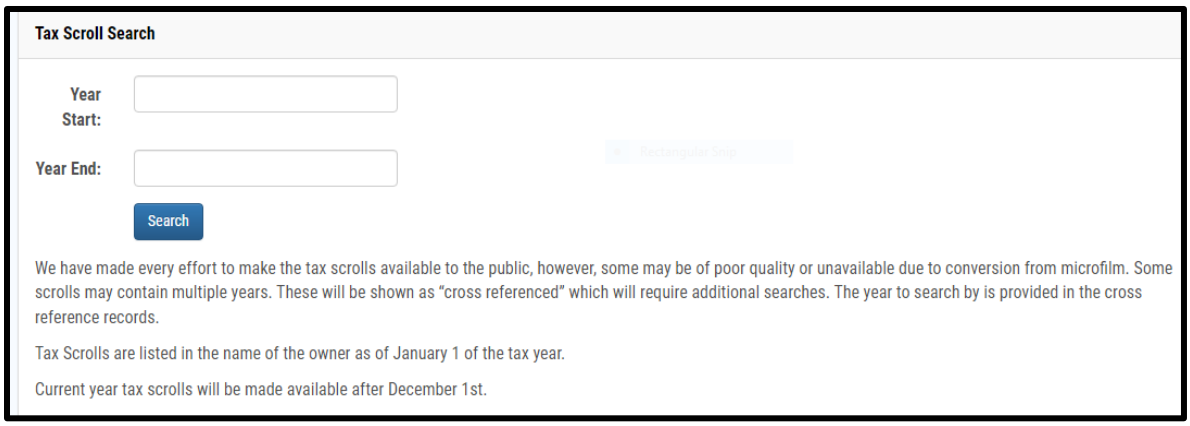


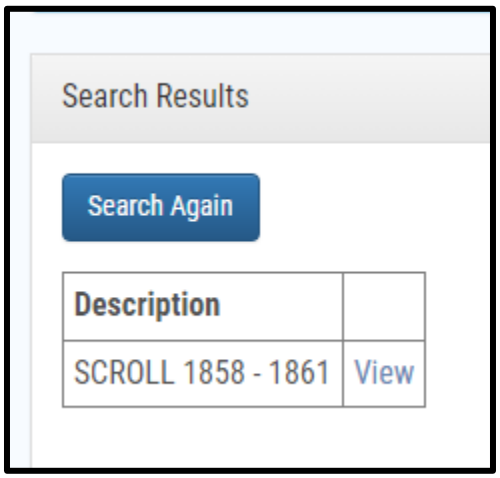


This is ward 6 sheet 4 lot 350 – Assessor Book Entry

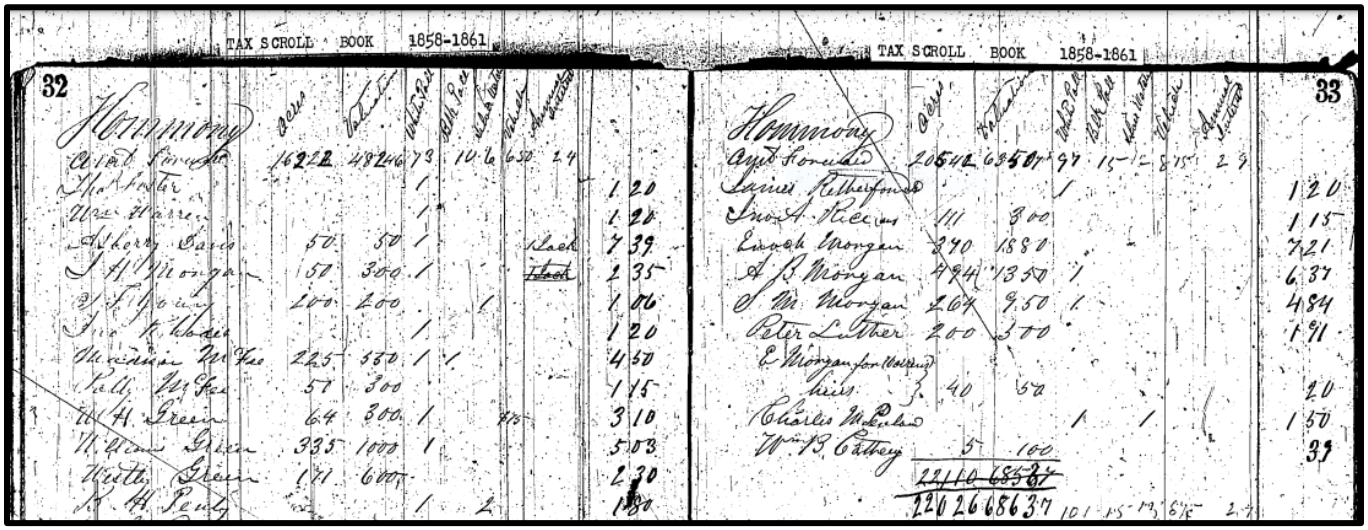
Close window and view additional information or search again to look at another ward/sheet.

The Tax scroll option you request a year to view.





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



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

BUNCOMBE COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA INDEX TO DEEDS 1783-1850

DEATH RECORDS OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY, NC

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DEATH RECORDS OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY, NC;

DEEDS & LAND SALES - 1796-1916 BUNCOMBE CO NC; ARTHUR C RAY PAPERS

DEEDS WILLS LETTER AND FAMILY TREES DAVIS FAMILY

INDEX AND ABSTRACT OF DEEDS OF YANCEY COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA BOOK 1

ABSTRACTS OF HAYWOOD COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA DEEDS BOOKS A-C 1808-1838