

Columbia City Justice Court Dockets, 1892-1906

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Columbia City (Wash.) Police Court
Title	Columbia City Justice Court Dockets
Dates	1892-1906 (inclusive) 1892 1906
Quantity	4 volumes
Collection Number	5605-01
Summary	Summaries of civil and criminal cases heard in Justice Court for the City of Columbia Precinct before annexation to Seattle.
Repository	Seattle Municipal Archives Seattle Municipal Archives Office of the City Clerk City of Seattle PO Box 94728 98124-4728 Seattle, WA Telephone: 206-233-7807 Fax: 206-386-9025 archives@seattle.gov
Access Restrictions	Records are open to the public.
Languages	English

Historical Note

Land speculation and a new streetcar line to downtown Seattle turned Columbia from a sleepy area with only a few homesteaders into a fast-growing residential community. The populace quickly built a town hall, a school, and churches. Columbia residents approved incorporation as a city of the fourth class in 1892, and changed its name to Columbia City. After incorporation, elections were held for mayor, city council, city clerk, judge, and town marshal. The town advanced to city of the third class status in 1905 and 18 months later voted 109-3 in favor of annexation to Seattle. Consolidation came on May 3, 1907.

Content Description

These dockets contain summaries of cases heard in Justice Court for the City of Columbia Precinct. Most are civil cases, although Volume 4 also includes some criminal cases. The majority of civil cases relate to debts or personal property, while criminal cases include offenses such as larceny, assault & battery, threatened assault, and display of a deadly weapon. There is also a series of requests for search warrants, apparently part of an effort to crack down on gambling. Volume 1 contains numerous

pasted-in Transcripts of Judgments, all relating to cases brought by the State Insurance Co. against individuals for money owed.

Case information includes names of parties to the case, names of attorneys, costs, lists of filings, and disposition of the case. Because of the type of book used, these details are less clearly delineated in Volume 1 than in the later volumes. Volume 4 and (to a lesser extent) Volume 2 have names indexed at the front. The cases represented in this collection all took place before Columbia City was annexed and therefore were not under the purview of the Seattle Municipal Court system.

Use of the Collection

Preferred Citation

[Item and date], Columbia City Justice Court Dockets, Record Series 5605-01. Volume [number], Page [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

Administrative Information

Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Columbia City Justice Court Dockets, 1892-1906

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Volume		
1	Justice Docket	1892/03-1895/11
2	Justice Docket	1895/12-1898/02
3	Justice Docket	1898/03-1899/01
4	Justice Docket	1899/01-1906/09

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Crime--Washington (State)--Seattle
Law enforcement--Washington (State)--Seattle
Municipal courts--Washington (State)--Seattle

Geographical Names :

Columbia City (Seattle, Wash.)

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<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv96797>

Form or Genre Terms :

Court records--Washington (State)--Seattle

Finding aid prepared by Julie Kerksen
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