



New York State Archives

**New York State Supreme Court of Judicature (Geneva)
Certificates of Clerkships J2104**

New York State Archives
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Overview of the Records

Repository:	New York State Archives
Summary:	This series contains documents relating to clerkships served by persons who eventually would seek admission to practice as attorneys in the Supreme Court of Judicature. Records concerning law clerkships include certificates stating that a student began a clerkship and setting the term of the clerkship, affidavits of clerkship applicants, certificates attesting to the clerk's moral character, reports of examiners on whether individual candidates passed, and related documents. These documents appear to have been filed at Utica, not Geneva.
Creator:	New York (State). Supreme Court of Judicature (Geneva)
Title:	Certificates of clerkships
Quantity:	1.3 cubic feet
Quantity:	3 boxes
Inclusive Date:	1838-1844
Series:	J2104

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Arrangement

Chronological by year and court term, then alphabetical by name of clerk.

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Scope and Content Note

Records concerning law clerkships include certificates stating that a student began a clerkship and setting the term of the clerkship, affidavits of clerkship applicants, certificates attesting to the clerk's moral character, reports of examiners on whether individual candidates passed, and related documents.

This series contains documents relating to clerkships served by persons who eventually would seek admission to practice as attorneys in the Supreme Court of Judicature. A typical file

includes the following documents: certificate of attorney of the Supreme Court stating that a student commenced his clerkship on a certain date; certificate by a Supreme Court justice setting the term of clerkship, and reducing it up to four years for time spent in classical studies; affidavit of applicant for clerkship, describing the course of study he offers in place of up to four years of clerkship, with allowance of time by a justice; certificate of instructor stating length of time the applicant was a student; the certificate of attorney of the Supreme Court stating that the applicant has served his clerkship for a certain term of years and attesting to his good moral character. The affidavit describing the course of study often lists subjects taken or textbooks read.

Occasionally there are found appointments of examiners; certificates of examiners stating names of individuals who have been found qualified to be admitted to practice as attorneys or counsellors; reports of examiners on whether individual candidates passed; and calculations of fees and of months spent in classical studies. On the dorso of each document is the name of the clerk and the date of filing, which is soon after the examination. These documents appear to have been filed at Utica, not Geneva.

The rules regarding clerkship and admission to practice as an attorney in the Supreme Court of Judicature were adopted by the court in the October term, 1797, and amended in 1803.

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Related Information

Related Material

Series J0104, New York State Supreme Court of Judicature (Albany) Certificates of Clerkships, may contain Geneva certificates for other years

Series J0126, New York State Supreme Court of Judicature (Utica) Motions, contains related records

Series J0128, New York State Supreme Court of Judicature (Utica) General Term Minute Books, may contain names of attorneys and counsellors for the Geneva territory

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Use of Records

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions regarding access to or use of this material.

Administrative Information

Custodial History

The Court of Appeals placed these records on deposit at the Historical Documents Collection, Queens College, from 1973-1982.

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Access Terms

- Clerks of court
- Courts
- Lawyers
- Education, Secondary
- Certificates
- Certifying
- New York (State)
- New York (State). Court of Appeals
- New York (State). Supreme Court of Judicature