

Information regarding the Index

Two indexes have been prepared to assist researchers with locating individuals and as an overview of this practice. One index is arranged by the name of child bound over and the other index is arranged by the name of the person accepting the child. Fields of information covered include the following:

SURNAME: The last name of the child who was bound over.

NAME: The first name of the child who was bound over.

AGE: The child's age when indentured.

CONTRACT: Name of the person (usually a male) taking the child, last name then first name.

JOB: The purpose of the indenture. The following are used as codes:

Farm A	= Farm apprentice
Farm S	= Farm Servant
Hwfery	= Housewifery
Cooper A	= Cooper (barrel maker) apprentice
Hk A	= Housekeeper apprentice
Hk Spinning	= Housekeeper and spinner
Farm/Dom	= Housekeeper and sewer
Freed	= Farm and Domestic (House) laborer
Servant	= Manumission of a slave
Discharge	= Apprenticeship had come to an end
Trial	= Child was taken to see how the arrangement would work out

NOTE: A few occupations are listed, such as blacksmith and businessman.

LOCATION: The town or state where the family lived that took the child.

DATE: The date of the indenture. Since these are filed by year, the date will aid in location of the document.