

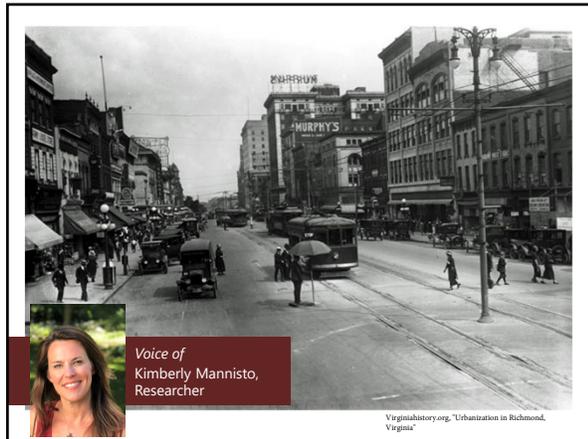
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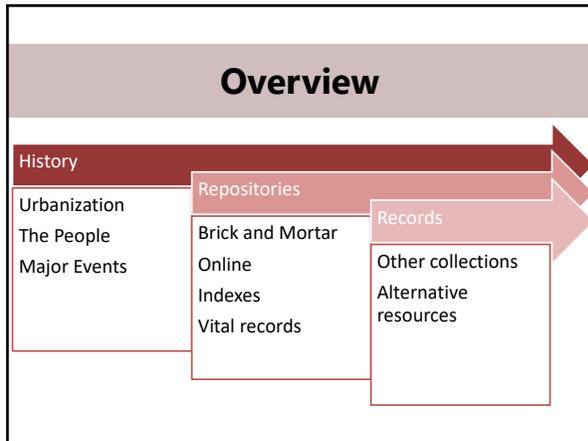
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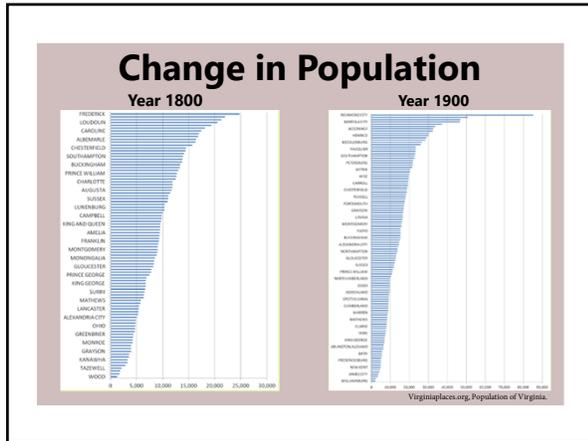


5

Entering the 20th Century

- After the Civil War, emancipation and the Reconstruction era created new opportunities for previously enslaved people.
- At the end of the 19th century and in the beginning of the 20th century, the working class and newly freedmen started to migrate out of traditionally rural Virginia and into urban cities and towns.

6



7

A Century of Change

- By the end of the 20th century:
 - Virginia underwent major political transformations.
 - The state would cease to resemble colonial or even 19th century Virginia.
 - Virginia would feel the impact of further segregation, the Woman's Suffrage Movement, several wars, and eventually desegregation.
 - The state's population would continue to shift away from traditionally rural Virginia to urban areas and by the end of 20th century, over 80% of the population would live in urban Virginia.

8

Urbanization

9

Slide 8

KM0 I swapped this slide with the population slide.

Kathleen Mackenzie, 2023-02-18T02:24:55.332

Slide 9

KM0 Original title: Urbanization: First Half of the 20th Century

Kathleen Mackenzie, 2023-02-18T02:17:20.944

Rural to Urban Virginia

- The 1920 U.S. Federal Census records showed that more people were living in urban areas than rural ones for the first time.
- Virginia would not show this type of population shift for another 30 years.
 - The state experienced a mass exodus of people, particularly African Americans, due to continued discrimination in the 20th century.
- Advances in manufacturing, technology, and industrialization still helped urban areas expand and prosper.

10

The Ford Model T

- Further improvements in transportation and the introduction of the first affordable automobile, the Ford Model T, helped cities take further advantage of outlying land and expand suburban development.



Hulton-Deutsch Collection/Corbis via Getty Images, "Model T", History.com, updated May 2, 2015.

11

The Virginia Railroad

- Improved railroads allowed coal and other raw materials to be transported to cities like Richmond and Norfolk and then on to coastal Virginia, which had a positive impact on coastal growth.
- In 1903, Virginia had 4,000 miles of railroad track and forty railroad companies that employed 28,000 workers.



The Great Atlantic City Railway and Dock, circa 1900. Wikimedia Commons, the free media repository, "Is Two over One Railroad Fair?"

12

The Coal Industry

- Demand for coal and steel remained high at the beginning of the 20th century.
- Virginia's rich coal beds (shaded in gray) existed under the capital of Richmond and along in the Appalachian Plateau near West Virginia and Kentucky.



Virginiaplaces.org, Coal in Virginia

13

Virginia's Military Industry

- In 1917, after the United States entered World War I, the Naval Station Norfolk was founded and built in Coastal Virginia's Hampton Roads area.
- By 1918, 35,000 people lived on the Naval base.
- In 1940, the military population in Norfolk was approximately 60,000 people and an additional 8,000 individual civilian contractors worked at the naval base.



The Virginia Pilot, "The birth of a naval base: The Navy in Norfolk, 1917-1919."

14

Newport News Shipbuilding

- By 1920, shipbuilding had become a major industry and Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, also located in the Hampton Roads area, was the largest employer in the state of Virginia.



Virginiaplaces.org, Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company.

15

Urban Sprawl Begins

- Urban cities and towns in the second half of the 20th century continued to offer more jobs and greater opportunities for people to succeed.
- Until World War II, an estimated 90% of farms in rural Virginia still did not have electricity.
- Improved and affordable transportation now allowed the working class to move from the outskirts of town into the heart of the city in places like Richmond.
- Urban growth meant Suburban development continued to expand well beyond city centers.

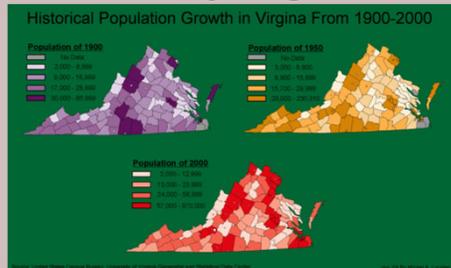
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Two World Wars

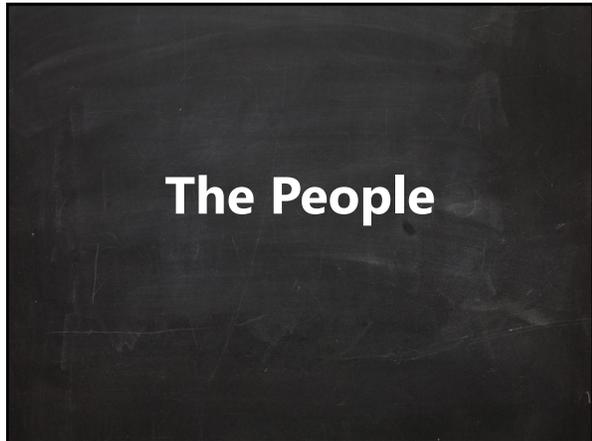
- Both World Wars brought an influx of people into Virginia's cities.
- The war efforts increased federal spending and helped support Virginia's already expanding military-related industry.
- The Pentagon, the headquarters of the U.S. Department of Defense, was opened in Arlington in 1943 and as a result, Northern Virginia would become home of some of the world's biggest defense and aerospace companies.

17

100 Years of Growth in 20th Century Virginia



18



19

Regional Differences

- “Until World War II, Virginians could make an educational guess about a person’s original region by observing their distinct accents, food preferences, and other patterns of behavior.” –*Virginiaplaces.org*
- By the end of the 20th century, urban Virginia was a blend of different ethnicities and cultures that were hard to distinguish.
- Starting with the 1960 U.S. Federal Census onward, Virginia showed an average growth rate of 15%, which made Virginia one of the fastest growing states in America at the end of the 20th century.

20

Ethnic Groups of 20th Century Virginia

- White/Caucasian (70.2%) - a large portion claim to be descendants of the English who settled in Virginia during the colonial period.
- African American (19.4%) - the majority are descendants of once enslaved peoples of Virginia.
- Hispanic (4.7%)
- Asian and Pacific Islander (3.7%)
- Other (2%) - which included American Indian, Inuit, and Melungeons.

21

Slide 21

KM0

Inuit instead of eskimo?

Kathleen Mackenzie, 2023-02-18T20:57:51.496

Melungeons

- Melungeons are a mixed-raced group who, in the 19th century, claimed descent from Portuguese and Turkish ancestors to escape discrimination.
- The ethnic group is concentrated in the Valley and Ridge province in Wise, Scott and Lee counties.
- By 1950, 15,000 people claimed they were Melungeon, which had been reclassified as Native American, White, and Portuguese.
- More recent studies and supporting genetic evidence shows that many Melungeons are an offspring of Sub-Saharan African men and white women.

22

Indigenous People

- Virginia has always been inhabited by its original Indigenous populations, but expansion of White Euro-American settlers displaced many Native groups from their homelands.

State Recognized Indigenous Groups		
Nation	Year Recognized	Location
Mattaponi	17 th century	Banks of the Mattaponi River, King William Co.
Pamunkey*	17 th Century	Banks of the Pamunkey River, King William Co.
Chickahominy*	1983	Charles City Co.
Eastern Chickahominy*	1983	New Kent Co.
Pappahanoek*	1983	Indian Neck, King & Queen Co.
Upper Mattaponi*	1983	King William Co.
Nansemond*	1985	Cities of Suffolk and Chesapeake
Monacan Indian Nation*	1989	Bear Mountain, Amherst Co.
Cheroenhaka (Nottoway)	2010	Courtland, Southampton Co.
Nottoway of Virginia	2010	Capron, Southampton Co.
Patawomeck	2010	Stafford Co.

*Federally recognized

Marghan Stehman, New England Historical Genealogical Society, 19th Century Virginia class, 15 February 2023.

23

Diversification By the End of the 20th Century

- Level of diversity across Virginia in 1990:

The Virginia Public Access Project, "Diversification of Virginia, 1990-2020," average in 1990.

24

Slide 22

KM0 Native American instead of Indian?
Kathleen Mackenzie, 2023-02-18T20:58:18.558

Historical Events: First Half of the 20th Century

25

Disenfranchised Voters

- In 1901, Virginia state delegates met at the constitutional convention to discuss how to restrict voting rights of African Americans.
- In 1902, delegates ruled Virginia voters needed to pass a literacy test or pay a poll tax to vote in the state of Virginia.
 - The amendment disenfranchised both African American and White voters.
- At the same time, the Woman’s Suffrage movement was in motion and the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia was created in 1909.

26

Racial Fear and Discrimination

27

KM0

The Virginia Government

- “By 1915, antisuffragists were openly exploiting racial fears. They argued that giving women the vote, which meant providing African American women the vote, could as much double the African American vote and lead to Black control at the polls.” - *Encyclopedia Virginia*
- In 1920, the Federal government ratified the 19th Amendment which gave women the right to vote, but as was the case with the 15th Amendment, the Virginia government would continue to turn a blind eye and ignore Federal law.
- The Virginia government’s actions disenfranchised a large portion of Virginia voters for decades.

28

KM0

Virginia and World War I

- 100,000 Virginians served in World War:
 - Regardless of the inability to vote, 1,071 Virginian women joined the Navy during World War I.
 - 39% of drafted men in World War I were African Americans who were in segregated units like the 510th Engineer Service Battalion and Company A of the 808th Pioneer Infantry.
 - Native Americans were segregated into White and all Native American units.
- Embarkations stations were established in port areas in the Hampton Roads region to ship much needed supplies to Allies in Europe.
- The Front Royal Remount (Quartermaster) Depot was built in the Shenandoah Valley, which shipped tens of thousands of the one million horses sent by the United States for the war effort.

29

The Red Summer

- The summer of 1919, after the end of World War, I became known as the “Red Summer.”
- On July 21, 1919, in Norfolk, a parade celebrating the return of African American troops turned violent and two African American service men were killed:
 - Thousands of African Americans in the nation, including those that survived World War I, would be killed over the next several decades in the fight for racial equality.
- Continued fear, racial discrimination, and segregation laws caused bloody riots to break out across the country.
- “Many Whites feared that the return of tens of thousands of Black Veterans, with experience living abroad and, more significantly, having received military training, would be unwilling to resubmit to traditional political and social subjugation.” - The National WWI Museum and Memorial
- Scholars and historians agree that African American soldiers helped usher in America’s Civil Rights Movement.

30

Slide 28

KM0 Swapped with Virginia and World War I
Kathleen Mackenzie, 2023-02-18T19:17:41.710

Slide 29

KM0 Swapped with Racial Fears and Discrimination
Kathleen Mackenzie, 2023-02-18T19:17:24.084

One-Drop Rule

- Dr. Walter Pleckler was the first registrar of the Virginia Bureau of Vital Statistics which was established in 1912.
- Pleckler strived to define “pure” white as someone with not a drop of African American, Native American, or mixed heritage blood in their veins:
 - Having an ancestor several generations back in their lineage, would disqualify them from being categorized as “white.”
- His racial stereotyping was often referred to as the “One-Drop Rule.”

31

Racial Integrity Act

- In 1924, the Virginia General Assembly enacted the *Racial Integrity Act*.
- The Act was meant to end the intermixture of white people with other races like African Americans, Native American Indians, and mixed-races.
 - Some descendants of Pocahontas, who were deemed to have one-sixteenth or less of American Indian blood were allowed to categorize as white.

32

Interracial Marriage Ban

- A ban on interracial marriage continued well into the 20th century in Virginia.
- After the 1924 *Racial Integrity Act* was introduced, an *Application For Marriage License* asked if a person was white, colored, or mixed race.
- The application also asked if either party was a habitual criminal, suffered from idiocy, imbecility, or was an epileptic, which would allow them to be sterilized or institutionalized under the *Virginia Sterilization Act of 1924*.

33

Mixed-Race Surname List

- Unfortunately, Plecker was Registrar for over thirty years until he retired in 1946.
- He was well known for creating surname lists of individuals in different counties who were of “mixed race.”
- He methodically checked marriage and birth records for errors and updated these registers.



Rockbridge County, VA, Clerk's Correspondence, 1912-1943, Local Government Records Collection, Rockbridge County Court Records.

34

World War II (1939-1945)

35

Impact of World War II

- During World War II, Virginians had a real fear of being attacked, especially in the Tidewaters area.
- Virginia, as well as the rest of the country, were faced with the ordeal of rationing food and vital materials for the war effort.
- German POWs were arriving in Norfolk, Virginia and being placed in the states ten major POW camps.
- Women acted as Air Raid Wardens and Spotter Towers were erected along to coast.



Everett Collection; Bridgeman Images; African American school children, Fairfax County, Virginia, ca 1942-1945.

36

Unit Classification

- The Selective Service began drafting men for World War II based on their race.
 - Initially African American men were not drafted into WWII, but this changed in 1943.
 - A large amount of African American women volunteered for service in WWII.
- African Americans were still segregated into “colored” units.
- Native Americans were classified as both “colored” and “white” based on the amount of Indian blood they carried:
 - Native Americans with one quarter or less of Indian blood were considered “white” and assigned white units.

37

**Historical Events:
Second Half of the
20th Century**

38

School Protests

- On April 23, 1951, African American students in Farmville, Prince Edward County organized a protest to address segregation in the schools and the vast difference between accommodations and resources available to White students versus African American students.



Larry Heberg, student led strike in Prince Edward County, Virginia, 1951. "Barbara Johns: The US forgotten civil rights hero", BBC.com

39

Massive Resistance Movement

- *Brown v. Board of Education* fueled the Virginia governments Massive Resistance movement of 1956, which was created to stop desegregation in Virginia's public schools.
- The Massive Resistance movement was spearheaded by Democratic U.S. senator Harry F. Byrd.
- In response to the U.S. Supreme Court decision, Virginia closed the states' public schools to prevent integration.
- School closures impacted both White and African American schools:
 - American Indian students were not granted state-funded public education until 1963, so were unaffected by school closures.

40

Desegregation in Schools

- In 1959, the Virginia Supreme Court finally ruled that school closures were unconstitutional.
- Schools in Virginia slowly reopened, except the district of Prince Edward County which remained closed until 1964.
- Desegregation in the schools continued in some areas of Virginia until the middle of the 1970s.
- In 1971, the Constitution of Virginia was amended to include the new public education provision regarding desegregation.

41

The Right to Vote

- Even though the 19th Amendment, approved by Congress in 1919, gave women the right to vote, Virginia wouldn't ratify Virginia's Constitution until 1952.
- In 1964, the 24th Amendment was ratified by the Federal government and determined that a poll tax based on race or color was unconstitutional.
- In 1965, the *Voting Rights Act* signed by President Lyndon Johnson prohibited racial discrimination at the polls, but again Virginia ignored Federal declarations.
- It was not until 1966, when the U.S. Supreme Court heard the case *Harper v. Virginia Board of Elections* that the use of a poll tax in Virginia was eliminated because it violated the *Equal Protection Clause*:
 - At the end of 1965, a quarter million African Americans were registered to vote.

42

Slide 41

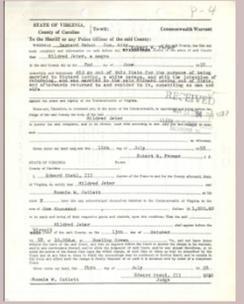
KM0 Swapped with The Right to Vote
Kathleen Mackenzie, 2023-02-18T20:52:41.431

Slide 42

KM0 Swapped with Desegregation in Schools
Kathleen Mackenzie, 2023-02-18T20:53:04.318

Loving v. Virginia

- In 1967 the U.S. Supreme Court heard the case of *Loving v. Virginia*:
 - Richard Loving, a white man, and Mildred Loving, who was part African American, were arrested five weeks after they married and charged with violating the 1924 *Racial Integrity Act*.
 - They originally pleaded guilty and left Virginia to avoid jail time.
 - The 1967 U.S. Supreme Court ruling determined a ban on interracial marriage was unconstitutional.

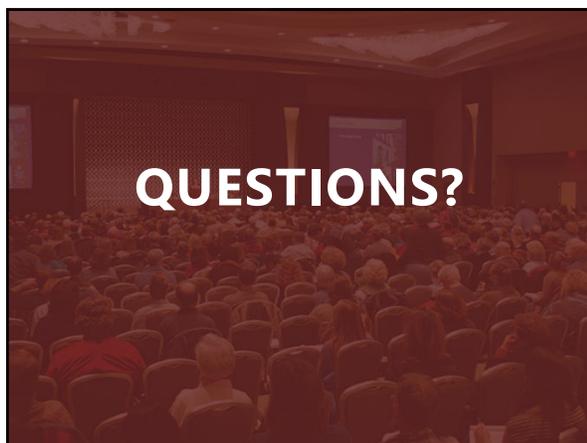


43

Minority Recognition

- In 1983, *Virginia Joint Resolution 54* allowed the state of Virginia to official recognize Native American Tribes.
- By 1989, six more Native American tribes were recognized by the state of Virginia:
 - Chickahominy in Charles City County
 - Eastern Chickahominy in New Kent County
 - Rappahannock in Indian Neck, King & Queen County
 - Upper Mattaponi in King William County
 - Nansemond in Suffolk and Chesapeake County
 - Monacan Indian Nation in Bear Mountain, Amherst County
- In 1985, Attorney General Mary Sue Terry was the first woman to win a state office in a public election.
- In 1989, L Douglas Wilder became the first African American to be elected governor of the state of Virginia.

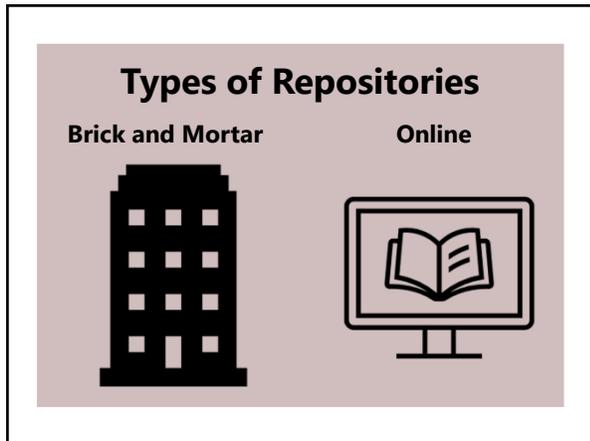
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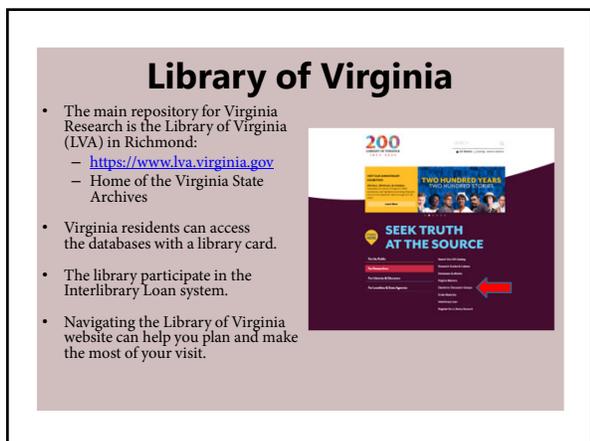
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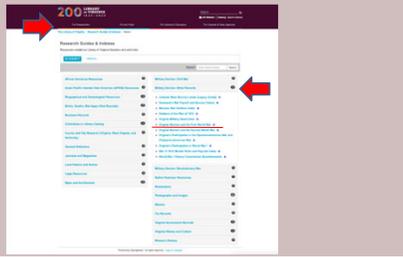
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48

Research Guides & Indexes

- The library provides a list of collections, by subject, that are available at the library.



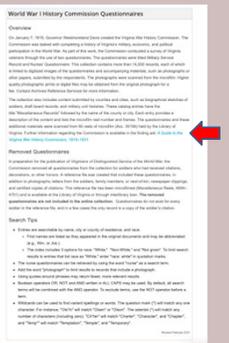
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- The LVA does a good job offering articles like this one titled “Virginia Women And The First World War” and they often include archival resources in their collection.



50

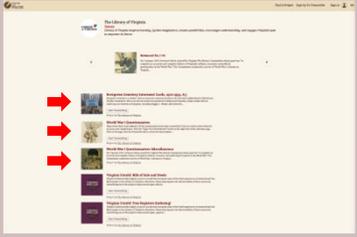
- The LVA also offers alternative locations for records, further links, and tips on how to search record collections like the *World War I History Commission Questionnaire*.
- We always recommend clicking the hyper-links in informational pages from the Research Guides & Indexes for more information on the subject.



51

From The Page

- "From The Page" is a transcription platform on Virginia Memory, that provides access to records currently being transcribed from the LVA collections.



55

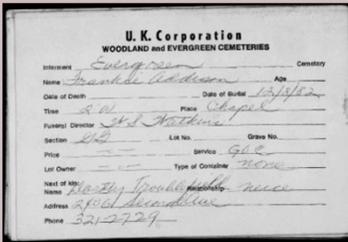
WWI History Commission Questionnaire

- In 1919, Virginia Governor Davis created the *Virginia War History Commission* to track Virginian's participation in the World War I.
- The collection *World War I Questionnaires* is housed included a *Military Service Record* questionnaire and a *Nurses' Questionnaire*.
- Questionnaires for decorated service members and recipients of Citation Stars for valor were removed from the original collection and placed in their own collection called the *World War I Questionnaires: Miscellaneous*.

56

Internment Cards

- Internment cards can be a great source of information.



57

- Locate funeral home records:
 - If a funeral home no longer exists, check with your local library or historical society for funeral director books.
- FindaGrave.com and Billiongraves.com
- Cemetery Records may contain further information about the deceased, like who purchased the burial plot:
 - Local county clerks, libraries, or historical societies may be able to help you locate cemetery records if an office no longer exists.

58

Encyclopedia Virginia

- An incredible resource for Virginia history and culture is the Encyclopedia Virginia (in partnership with LVA):
 - Search by subject to see a list of available entries: <https://encyclopediavirginia.org>



59

Dictionary of Virginia Biography

- In partnership with the LVA, the *Dictionary of Virginia Biography* is available on Encyclopedia Virginia and includes individuals from the 20th century.

<https://encyclopediavirginia.org/az/?alpha=biographies>

Pauline Adams (1874–1957)

SUMMARY

Pauline Adams was an Irish-born [suffrage activist](#) who took an extraordinarily active role in her community for a woman of that time. Born in 1874, Adams arrived in the United States during the 1890s. She married a physician in 1898 and they soon settled in Norfolk. There, she served as president of the Norfolk League, a National American Woman Suffrage Association affiliate. Her militant approach to securing suffrage alienated many other women in the area.

Although she supported the United States' entry into World War I (1914–1917) and sold War Bonds, she was arrested and jailed at the Occoquan Workhouse after leading suffrage banners in front of President Woodrow Wilson during a selective service parade. After the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920, Adams became a lawyer and remained active in politics. She died in 1957.



Pauline Adams in Prison Cell

60

Virginia Museum of History & Culture

- Most collections remain undigitized and are in closed stacks which require call slips to view the material:
 - They offer fee-based research and limited digital scans of materials in their collection.
- In addition to common vital, land, and probate records, the collection includes compiled genealogies, manuscripts, bible records, research notes, photographs, newspapers, and African American genealogy.
- The website offers an immense amount of information about the history of Virginia, and is easy to navigate: <https://virginiahistory.org>

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Explore Time Periods

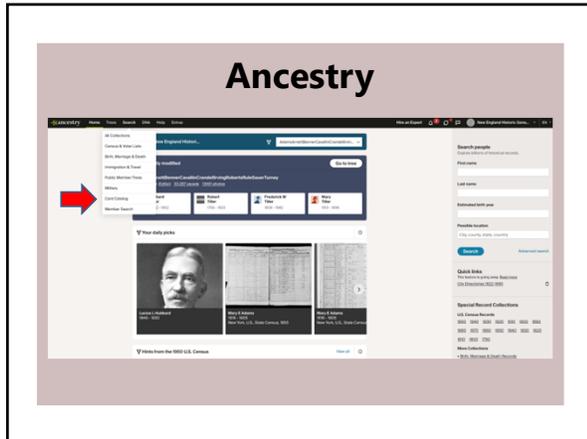
- From the homepage under the “Learn” tab you can find a link to “Explore Time Periods” that walk you through the history of Virginia.



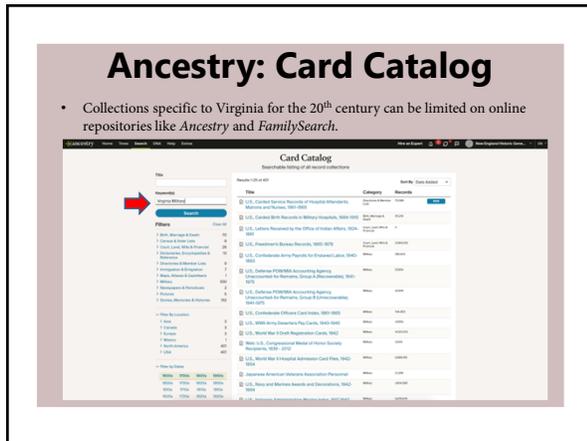
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Ancestry and FamilySearch

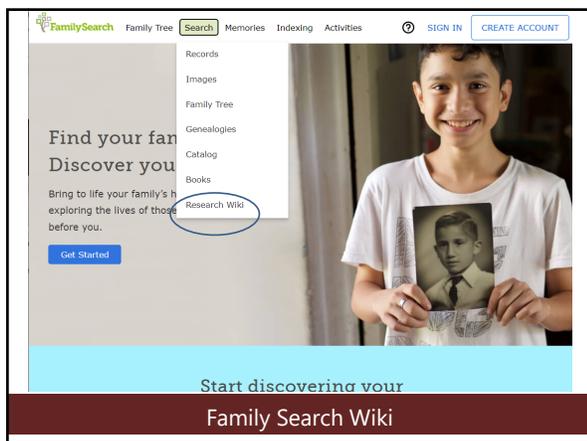
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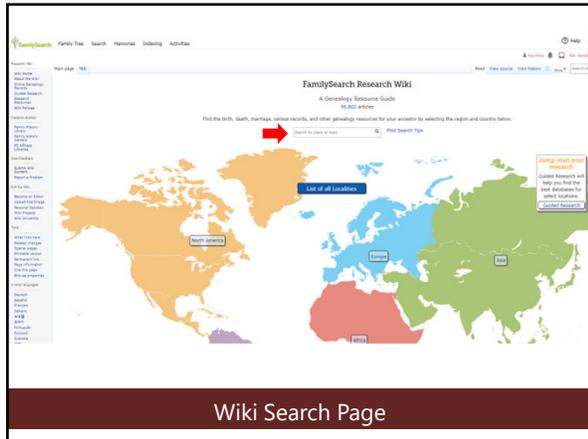
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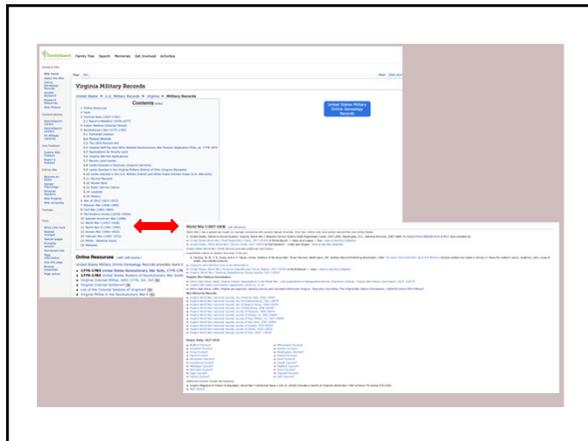


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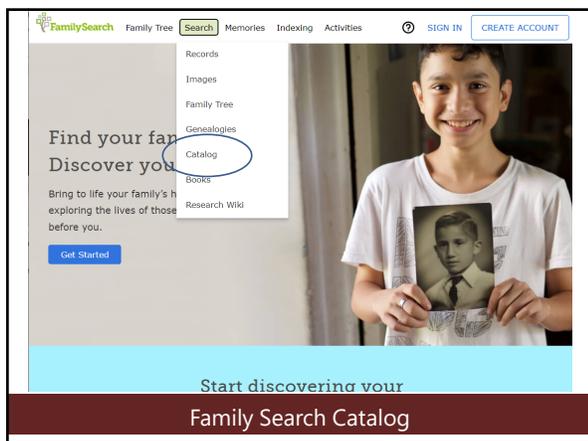


Wiki Search Page

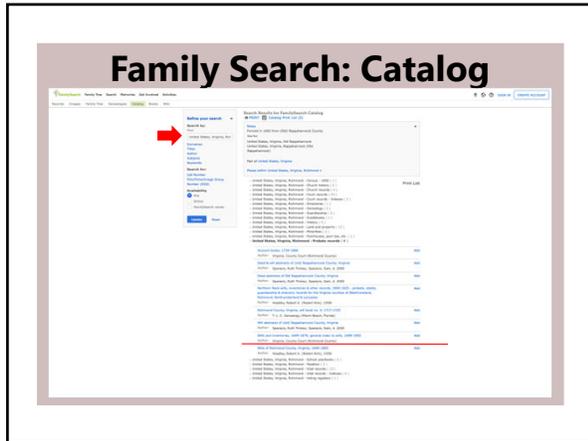
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68



69



70



71

Indexes

- *Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine, 1853-1935* - several volumes are available on FamilySearch : <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/238155?availability=Family%20History%20Library>
- *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, volumes 1-38, 1893-1930* - several volumes are available on FamilySearch : <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/16216?availability=Family%20History%20Library> and on Internet Archives : <https://archive.org>
- *William and Mary Quarterly, series I and II, 1892-1930* - several volumes are available on Internet Archives : <https://archive.org> and HathiTrust : <https://babel.hathitrust.org>

72



Vital Records

73

Births and Death Records

- Birth and death records were originally kept by local court clerks.
- In 1853, the Virginia General Assembly required commissioners of revenue to keep a register of births and deaths in their district for tax purposes:
 - Commissioners were required to send a copy of their registers to the auditor of public accounts.

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- This process remained in effect until 1896, when the Virginia legislature ended these procedures for financial reasons.
- It explains why there are no statewide births in Virginia between 1896 and 1912:
 - Some cities continued to keep birth and death records at the local level, so contact local public health departments about available records.
- In 1918, the auditor of public accounts turned records over to the Virginia Bureau of Statistics.

75

- Birth and death registers were eventually transferred to the state archives located at the Library of Virginia.
 - Due to state law, birth information does not become public until 100 years after the individual was born.
 - Death records are released 25 years after the event.
- The Library of Virginia partnered with *Ancestry* and over 16 million Virginia records are available on Ancestry.com.

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- Certified copies of birth and death records can only be ordered from the Virginia Department of Health.
- The following link is a searchable database on *Ancestry* regarding vital records available at the Virginia Department of Health:
 - The collection includes birth, marriage, divorce, and death records.

<https://www.ancestry.com/collections/search/va/doh>
- The websites Findagrave and Billiongraves are a good alternative source for locating birth and death dates.

77

Graves and Burials

- Virginia cemeteries are not protected sites
 - Graves and whole cemeteries can be moved for roads, infrastructure, housing, ect.
 - Generations of Virginians were buried on family farms and many graves are in unknown overgrown wooded areas.
- African American cemeteries built before 1948 are eligible for restoration and preservation.
 - List of Virginia African American Cemeteries by county: <https://accessgenealogy.com/cemetery/virginia-african-american-cemeteries.htm>
- The 1990 Federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act made it illegal to start building projects without first checking with Native American tribes.

78

Funeral Programs

- The "Virginia, African-American Funeral Programs" on *FamilySearch*, also available on *Ancestry*, is a collection of images and programs of deceased African Americans in Virginia.



79

Marriage Records

- Statewide marriage registrations were required after 1853:
 - A statewide marriage index for 1853-1935 is on microfilm at the Library of Virginia.
- Marriage records in Virginia are considered public record 25 years after the event occurred”
 - Marriage records are difficult to obtain due personal information included in the record, but you may be able to request a verification letter from local officials.
- To locate a marriage record you can submit a request to the Virginia Department of Health's Office of Vital Records.

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/vital-records/>

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Divorce Records

- Divorce records are public records 25 years after the event occurred.
 - After 1848, divorces were recorded at the county level.
- A list of petitions for divorce in Virginia can be found at:

<http://www.lva.virginia.gov/whatwehave/petitions/index.htm>
- To locate a divorce record, submit a request to the Virginia Department of Health's Office of Vital Records.

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/vital-records/>
 - Marriage and divorce records can often be found in local courthouses.

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82

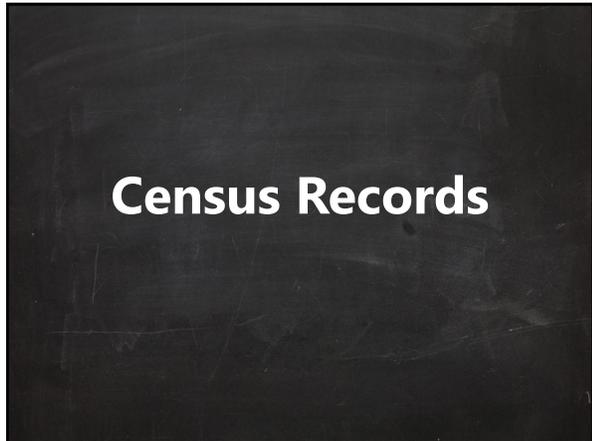


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Newspapers

- Search for birth and marriage announcements, as well as obituaries in Newspaper collections on Newspapers.com and the *Virginiachronical.com*
- A resource guide, organized by county, for African American Newspapers is located on the LVA website:
<https://lva-virginia.libguides.com/c.php?g=1216703&p=8899154>

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Census Records

- Census Records are available for the years 1900-1950:
 - The 1900-1920 U.S Federal Census records contain the age, birth month, and the year an individual was born.
 - Only Population Schedule are available for 1940. Housing and agricultural schedules were destroyed.
 - For more information about Virginia census records visit:
https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Virginia_Census
- Census records from 1960- 2020 can be obtained by the person named in the record or the surviving heir by completing form BC-600.

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Naturalization Records

- Citizenship was a two-step process until 1952.
- After living in the United States for three years, an individual filed a Declaration of Intention:
 - This could occur in the city where they first arrived or where they were living the first few years after entering the United States.
- Two years after filing an intention, a Petition for Naturalization was filed:
 - These two documents may have been filed in different courts.

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- On September 27, 1906, standardized forms were implemented, and the forms were filed with both the Federal court and the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization.
- Information on the forms included: name, county of origin, birthplace, date of birth, port of departure, mode of arrival, arrival date, and names of spouse and the immigrant's children.
- During World War I and World War II, the Federal government suspended the requirement to file a *Declaration of Intention* for military personal:
 - Soldiers' naturalization records are often found where they were stationed.

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- After 1952, a Declaration of Intention was no longer required, but those seeking citizenship still had to reside in the United States for a full five years.
 - Immigrant spouses of a U.S citizen only need to be a resident for eighteen months.
- After 1906, naturalization records were held at the United States Citizenship and Immigrations Services (USCIS).
- Records that were originally filed in the court were copied and sent to the National Archives.

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USCIS Collection

- Records at the USCIS include:
 - C-Files: which were records filed between September 27, 1906 and March 31, 1956.
 - A-Files: were records created after April 1, 1956.
 - Further information regarding C-Files and A-Files is located on the USCIS website:
<https://www.uscis.gov/history-and-genealogy/genealogy/requesting-records>
- A-Files for anyone born over 100 years ago were transferred to the National Archives and their database is searchable by name.
- In addition to C-Files and A-Files, we recommend ordering the court record from the National Archives.
 - The court file may contain information not included in the USCIS files.
 - If an individual decided not to apply for naturalization, the National Archives destroyed record after seven years.
 - Local courthouse may also still have the original documents that were sent to the National Archives.

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Location of Naturalization Records

Records	National Archives	USCIS
Federal Court naturalization records 1790-1906	Original records (Record Group 21)	N/A
State and local court naturalization records 1790-1906	N/A*	N/A
Federal Court naturalization records 1906-1956	Original records (Record Group 21)	Duplicate copies of court records and any additional records created in the case. See C-Files
State and local naturalization court records 1906-1956	N/A	Duplicate copies of court records and any additional records created in the case. See C-Files
All court naturalization records 1956-1992	Federal Courts only. Original records (Record Group 21)	Duplicate copies of all court records and any additional records created in the case filed in A-Files . See also the A-Files image gallery .

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- Declaration of Intentions, Petitions of Naturalization and Naturalization Certificates are also at the LVA.
- Some Naturalization records filed at the local courthouse level are also available on *FamilySearch* - "Virginia Naturalization Petitions, 1906-1929" and *Ancestry* - "U.S. District Court, 1906-1929" which includes federal court files for:
 - "Abingdon, 1914-1929"
 - "Charlottesville, 1910-1929"
 - Richmond, "1906-1929"
 - Alexandria, 1909- 1929"
- U.S. Index to Alien Card Files, 1944-2003 on *Ancestry*

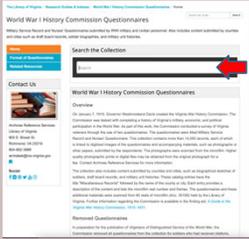
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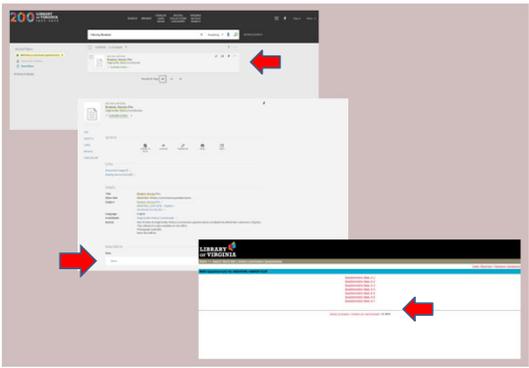
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WWI History Commission Questionnaire

- Questionnaires are available and can be accessed by non-residents through the LVA.
 - The collection is searchable by name at <https://va-virginia.libguides.com/WWI>
 - The removed collection (“Miscellaneous Reels, 4694-4701”) are not include in the online database, but can be ordered through the Interlibrary Loan system.



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Official Military Personnel Files

- Official Military Personnel Files (OMPF) are available at the National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri.
 - OMPF's become public 62 years after the service member was discharged from the military.
- A fire at the archives in 1973 destroyed 16-18 million OMPFs which destroyed:
 - 80% of Army OMPF's who were discharged between November 1, 1912 and January 1, 1960
 - 75% of Air Force OMPF's who were discharged between September 25, 1912 and January 1, 1964 and who's name came after Hubbard, James E.

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OMPF Archival Holdings

- <https://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel-archival>

Branch of Service	Official Military Personnel Files, Archival Holdings
Army <i>(Includes Army Air Corps and Army Air Forces)</i>	Enlisted discharge dates 1912 to 1959*
	Officers discharge dates 1917 to 1959*
Navy	Enlisted discharge dates 1885 to 1959*
	Officers discharge dates 1902 to 1959*
Air Force	All Personnel with discharge dates 1947 to 1959*
Marine Corps	All Personnel with discharge dates 1905 to 1959*
Coast Guard	All Personnel with discharge dates 1898 to 1959*

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Alternate Source for OMPFs

- Search Auxiliary and Organizational Records held in the following series at the National Archives:
 - <https://www.archives.gov/st-louis/other-records>
 - Morning Reports, Army
 - Unit Rosters, Army
 - Officer Pay Cards, Army (WWI)
 - Officer Pay Cards, Army (WWII)
 - Morning Reports, Air Force
 - Muster Rolls, Navy (Ships Only)
 - U.S. Army Surgeon General's Office
 - VA Index Cards (WWI) and VA Index Cards WWII

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Classification History

- In addition to Draft Registration Cards, which can be found on *Ancestry* and on the National Archives, a service members Classification History may also be available.
 - The records contains "date of birth, classification, mailing notices, results of physical examinations, service entered, mode of entry, date of separation ect." - *National Archives*
 - Complete a search request by completing National Archives Form NA-13172. It's helpful to include an individual's Draft Registration Card with your request.



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Minority Record Collections

- The LVA has a study guide listing all its collections that pertain to the Indigenous groups in Virginia. It can be a helpful starting point to searching for more historic context of Indigenous peoples of Virginia: <https://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/ResourcesOnVirginiaIndians.pdf>
- FamilySearch has compiled a list of records available for both Native and African American research:
 - Native American: https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Indigenous_Peoples_of_Virginia
 - African American: https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/African_American_Resources_for_Virginia

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Other Records

- Local Town and City Records, including courthouse records.
 - Visit the LVA website to see what records are available for your location: <http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/local>
- List of Historical Societies in Virginia are available on the LVA website: <https://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/historical.asp>
- For Immigration records refer to the National Archives: <https://www.archives.gov/research/immigration>
- Wills and probate records may be available at the LVA, but we recommend contacting local courthouses.
- Land and Tax records
 - Records regarding land warrants and grants were transferred to the State Archives (LVA) in 1948, and the state librarian assumed the duties of the registrar in 1952
 - Tax records are housed in the State Record Center at the LVA

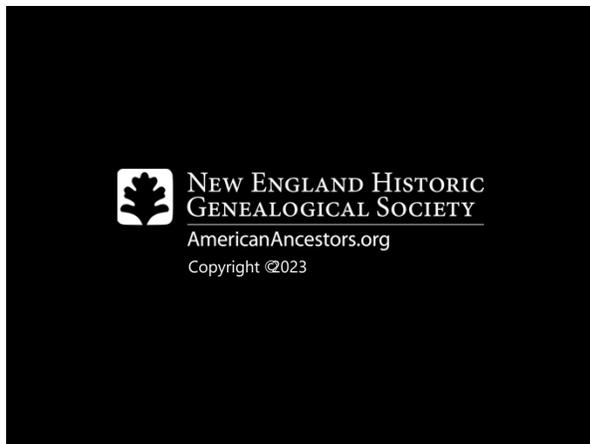
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