Civil Rights in Virginia
Bibliography

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Introduction
This bibliography is a part of DHR’s New Dominion Virginia initiative, which focuses on the
post-World War II period through 1991. The majority of sources cited herein concern African
American history and the Civil Rights Movement (1940s-1960s) in Virginia. A limited number
of sources below focus on the history of Virginia Indians’ rights and women’s voting rights. The
bibliography is a work in progress. Additional sources will be added as they become known.
When known, links to full-text materials published online are included in the bibliographic entry.
Please report broken links to lena.mcdonald@dhr.virginia.gov.

Books and Articles
Allen, Jody, and Brian Daugherity. Recovering a “Lost” Story Using Oral History: The United
States Supreme Court’s Historic “Green v. New Kent County, Virginia”, Decision. The Oral

Ayers, Edward L. The Promise of the New South: Life after Reconstruction. New York, NY:


Barnes, Diane. Artisan Workers in the Upper South: Petersburg, Virginia, 1820-1865. Baton

Bartley, Numan V. The Rise of Massive Resistance: Race and Politics in the South during the
1999.

Barton, Craig Evan, ed. Sites of Memory: Perspectives on Architecture and Race. New York:

Bates, N. “Blurred Lines: African American Community, Memory, and Preservation in the
Southwest Mountains Rural Historic District.” Master’s Thesis, University of Virginia. Retrieved

Baumann, Timothy, Andrew Hurley, Valerie Alitzer, and Victoria Love. “Interpreting
Uncomfortable History at the Scott Joplin House State Historic Site in St. Louis, Missouri.” The


City of Petersburg and the Institute for the Study of Race Relations at Virginia State University, funded by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. The Modern Civil Rights Movement in Petersburg, Virginia. Available at the Petersburg Public Library and at the Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA.


Jackson, Luther P. “The Early Strivings of the Negro in Virginia,” *Journal of Negro History* 25:1 January, 1940.

Jackson, Luther P. *A Short History of the Gillfield Baptist Church of Petersburg, Va.* Petersburg, Va.: Virginia Print Co., 1937.

Jackson, Luther P. “Manumission in Certain Virginian Cities,” *Journal of Negro History* 15:3 July, 1930.


Kern, John. “Oliver White Hill, Civil Rights Attorney in Roanoke and Throughout Virginia.” Manuscript available at the Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA.


Sherwood, William Henry. Life of Charles B. W. Gordon, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, Petersburg, Virginia and History of the Church from 1756 to 1885. Petersburg, Va.: J. B. Ege, 1885.


Williams, Henry. The Reverend Henry Williams Papers 1856-1901. Special Collections and Archives, Johnston Memorial Library, Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA.


**Court Decisions**

United States Supreme Court


*Griffin et al. v. County School Board of Prince Edward County et al.* 337 US 218 (1964) Washington, D.C.


State and District Courts:

*Davis et al. v. County School Board of Prince Edward County,* 103 F. Supp. 337, I Race Rel. L. Rep. 82.
Griffin et al. v. County School Board of Prince Edward County et al. 337 US 218

**Education and Civil Rights**


Includes overviews of the civil rights movement: “The Need for Change,” “The Players,” “The Cost,” and “The Prize.” Also includes a link to the Robert Russa Moton High School of Prince Edward County Historic Site.


Howard University School of Law. *Brown at 50: Fulfilling the Promise.*
http://www.brownat50.org/index.html


Lest We Forget Inc. “Overview: Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas.”
http://www.lwff.org/overview.htm


http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/twhp/wwlps/lessons/104newkent/104newkent.htm


**Education and Civil Rights – Prince Edward County**


Powell, Henry W. *Witness to Civil Rights History: The Essays and Autobiography of Henry W. Powell*. [Hasting, N.Y.: Patrick Cooney, 2000?]. Henry Ward Powell was an African American teacher in Prince Edward County during the time of the strike against unfair conditions at R. R. Moton High School that led to the suit of *Davis et al. v. County School Board of Prince Edward County, Virginia, et al.*, one of the cases consolidated into the *Brown* decision.


Rorty, James. “Desegregation: Prince Edward County, VA.” Commentary; a Jewish Review. 21 (1956): 431-.


Wallenstein, Peter. “Seizing the “Equal” in “Separate but Equal”: The NAACP and the Public Schools of Virginia in the 1940s.” Paper presented at he annual meeting of the Society of Legal History, Richmond, Virginia, 1996.
Historic Sites
These historic sites are open to the public on at least a limited basis, and they include research collections, interpretive exhibits, and other materials that can assist researchers.

African American Cultural Heritage Sites (list compiled by the Virginia Tourism Corporation). http://www.virginia.org/directory/culturalheritage/?categories=18&view=list


Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia. http://blackhistorymuseum.org/


Petersburg National Battlefield, Petersburg, VA. http://www.nps.gov/pe/index.htm


National Register Nominations*
Following is a list of historic properties in Virginia that have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places at least in part due to their association with civil rights and/or African American heritage. The nominations typically include historic contexts and bibliographies that can be useful for research projects.
*Some of these properties are publicly owned; however, please note that the National Register also includes private properties that are not accessible to the public.


African-American Historic Resources of Alexandria -


Booker T. Washington National Monument -


Carver Residential Historic District -


Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery -


First Baptist Church - http://www.dhr.virginia.govregisters/Counties/PrinceEdward/144-0027-0167_First_Baptist_Church_2012_NRHP_FINAL.pdf


Jackson Ward Historic District (Additional Documentation) -

Jackson Ward Historic District 2008 Boundary Increase -

John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church and Cemetery -


Lomax African American Methodist Episcopal Zion Church -


Mount Olive Methodist Episcopal Church -

New Kent School and George W. Watkins School -


Rosenwald Schools in Virginia Multiple Property Documentation Form - http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/registers/Counties/Brunswick/012-5041Rosenwald_textlist.htm
(Note: numerous individual schools are listed under this MPD; please consult with DHR staff for information about specific schools)


Shiloh Baptist Church (Old Site) - http://dhr.virginia.gov/registers/Cities/Fredericksburg/111-0096_ShilohBaptistChurchOldSite_2015_NRHP_FINAL.pdf
Skyline Historic District (2003 Boundary Increase) -


Uptown/Parker-Gray Historic District -


Virginia University of Lynchburg - http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/registers/Cities/Lynchburg/118-5297_Virginia_University_Lynchburg_2010_NR_FINAL.pdf

Whitaker Memorial Hospital -

**Newspapers**

Newspapers are often a rich source for gathering information pertinent to local events associated with the Civil Rights Movement and African American history in Virginia. Most local public libraries maintain newspaper clipping files on various subjects. In Richmond, the Library of Virginia (LVA) holds thousands of original newspapers, as well as copies on microfilm. They also have a subject file for news articles called “the Freeman File” which can be obtained from
the reference desk. An online guide to conducting newspaper research at LVA is here -

The LVA also participates in the United States Newspaper program, a national effort to locate,
describe, inventory, preserve, and provide public access to the United States imprint newspapers.
The Virginia Newspaper Project can be accessed at http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/vnp/.

Finally, the LVA has established Virginia Chronicle at http://virginiachronicle.com/. Research
guides and indexes provide a comprehensive overview of the available resources for newspaper
research.

**Oral History Collections (Sampling)**

African American Richmond: Educational Segregation and Desegregation Oral History Project.
Virginia Commonwealth University, James Branch Cabell Library, Special Collections and
Archives, 901 Park Avenue, Richmond, VA.

Afro-Americans in Fauquier County, Virginia, Oral History Collection. Afro-American
Historical Association of Fauquier County, 4243 Loudoun Avenue, The Plains, VA.

Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, Alexandria, VA.

Black Appalachians Oral History Project. Virginia Tech, Special Collections, Newman Library,
1 Kent Street, Blacksburg, VA.

Civil Rights Oral Histories of Norfolk, Virginia. Norfolk State University, Harrison B. Wilson
Archives and Art Gallery, 700 Park Avenue, Norfolk, VA.

Danville, Virginia, Various (ca. 1830-present). Manuscripts, monographs, audio-visual
recordings. Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History, 975 Main Street, Danville, VA.

Forty-Ninth Governor’s Conference in Williamsburg, Virginia. Library of Virginia, 800 E.
Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia.

University, Carrier Library, Special Collections, 880 Madison Drive, Harrisonburg, VA.

Lynchburg, Virginia, Civil Rights Oral History Collection. Legacy Museum, 403 Monroe Street,
Lynchburg, VA.

Mapping Local Knowledge, Danville, Virginia, 1945-1975. University of Virginia, Alderman
Library, Charlottesville, VA. http://www.vcdh.virginia.edu/cslk/danville/index.html
Virginia Historical Highway Markers
The Department of Historic Resources maintains a historical marker program that focuses on subjects of statewide significance in Virginia. Especially since the late 1990s, the program has grown to include numerous markers about the Civil Rights Movement, African American history, Virginia Indians, and women’s history. The markers include both well-known events and persons and those that were revealed only after diligent research.

Full texts of Virginia’s historical highway markers are accessible online at DHR’s database, http://dhr.virginia.gov/HistoricMarkers/Account/Logon. Markers can be searched by Keyword, ZIP code, County or City, Route, and Marker Number.

Websites


African Americans in the Civilian Conservation Corps. [http://newdeal.feri.org/aaccc/index.htm#resources](http://newdeal.feri.org/aaccc/index.htm#resources)


A Digital Collection Celebrating the Founding of the Historically Black College and University [http://contentdm.auctr.edu/](http://contentdm.auctr.edu/)
DOVE – Desegregation of Virginia Education. [http://www.lib.odu.edu/specialcollections/dove/]

Edward H. Peeples Prince Edward County (Va.) Public Schools Collection. [http://dig.library.vcu.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/pec]


Greater Petersburg History Society. [http://www.gphsva.org/]


Hening’s Statutes at Large Being a Collection of all the Laws of Virginia from the first session of the Legislature, in the Year 1619. [http://vagenweb.org/hening/]


The Internet Archive. [https://archive.org/]


Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. [www.civilrights.org]


Library of Virginia: Virginia Black History Archives. [http://www.library.vcu.edu/jbc/speccoll/vbha/vbha.html]
Linking to Our Past: Documenting the African American Experience in Virginia
http://www.vahistorical.org/tah/intro.htm


National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program.
http://www.nps.gov/subjects/ugrr/index.htm

Pamplin Historical Park and the National Museum of the Civil War Soldier.
http://www.pamplinpark.org/

Petersburg and the Atlantic World, Local History in a Global Contact. Virginia State University.
http://www.voicesofpetersburg.org/recordingList.html

Petersburg Public Library. http://www.ppls.org/

Record Search for Civil War Sailors. http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/sailors_index.html


Runaway Slave Advertisements from 18th Century Virginia Newspapers
http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/subjects/runaways/search.html

School Desegregation in Norfolk, Virginia.
http://www.lib.odu.edu/specialcollections/schooldesegregation/index.htm

Separate is not Equal: Black Students on Strike! Farmville, Virginia.
http://americanhistory.si.edu/brown/history/4-five/farmville-virginia-1.html

South Atlantic Humanities Center. http://sahc.lib.vt.edu/

Digital History, University of Virginia, Charlottesville.
http://www2.vcdh.virginia.edu/civilrightstv/index.html

“They Closed Their Schools”: An Era in the School History of Prince Edward County, Virginia.
Provides a lengthy bibliography of published resources about desegregation of Prince Edward

Underground Railroad at the Eppes Plantations.
www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/pe/ugrr.pdf
Unknown No Longer: Database of Virginia Slave Names.  
http://unknownnolonger.vahistorical.org/


Virginia Emigrants to Liberia. www.vcdh.virginia.edu/liberia

Virginia Heritage Guides to Manuscripts and Archival Collections in Virginia  
http://www.lib.virginia.edu/small/vhp/

Virginia State University Special Collections. http://library.vsu.edu/Special_Collections.htm

Waterways to Freedom: Virginia’s Underground Railroad Network.  
http://www.visitnorfolktoday.com/site/waterways-to-freedom/#home/

We Shall Overcome: Historic Places of the Civil Rights Movement.  
http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/travel/civilrights/


Further Guidance

The following list provides links to full-text online sources with extensive information about the National Register nomination process and associated materials that may assist with preparing nominations. Please report any broken website links in this document to Lena McDonald (lena.mcdonald@dhr.virginia.gov).

Department of Historic Resources (DHR)
DHR’s Website - http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/
How to Research Your Historic Property -  


Virginia Cultural Resources Information System (VCRIS) -  
https://vcris.dhr.virginia.gov/vcris/Account/Login

National Park Service
Discover History and Historic Preservation - http://www.cr.nps.gov/
Heritage Documentation Programs - [http://www.nps.gov/history/hdp/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/hdp/index.htm)
Standards and Guidelines - [http://www.nps.gov/history/hdp/standards/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/hdp/standards/index.htm) - for
- Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS)
- Historic American Engineering Record (HAER)
- Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS)
- Cultural Resources Geographic Information Systems (CRGIS)

National Historic Landmarks program – [http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/index.htm)
Tutorial on preparing NHL nominations - [http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/tutorial/Workshop1/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/tutorial/Workshop1/index.htm)

NHL publications - [http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/ProcessPubs.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/ProcessPubs.htm)

Theme Studies - [http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/themes/themes-allnew.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/themes/themes-allnew.htm)

National Park Histories - [http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/park_histories/index.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/park_histories/index.htm)

National Register of Historic Places
Home page - [http://www.nps.gov/nr/](http://www.nps.gov/nr/)

Fundamentals - [http://www.nps.gov/nr/national_register_fundamentals.htm](http://www.nps.gov/nr/national_register_fundamentals.htm)


Policy Clarifications - [http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/policy.htm](http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/policy.htm)

Frequently Asked Questions - [http://www.nps.gov/nr/faq.htm](http://www.nps.gov/nr/faq.htm)

Sample Nominations - [http://www.nps.gov/nr/sample_nominations.htm](http://www.nps.gov/nr/sample_nominations.htm)

Research - [http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/research/](http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/research/)


Preservation Briefs (guidance on preserving, rehabilitating, and restoring historic buildings) - [http://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs.htm](http://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs.htm)

**Battlefields**

Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Reports - [http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/abpp/battles/tvii.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/abpp/battles/tvii.htm)
Civil War Trust - http://www.civilwar.org/

**Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (eCFR)**

National Historic Landmarks Program - http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?c=ecfr&rgn=div5&view=text&node=36:1.0.1.31&idno=36

Protection of Historic Properties - http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title36/36cfr800_main_02.tpl

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