

## PRIMARY SOURCES

### Quarterly Report of Newly Processed Collections October–December 2009

Welcome to the latest issue of the Library of Virginia's quarterly report *Primary Sources*. Here you will find a listing of the latest collections processed, microfilmed, or digitized by the Library. Since 1999, the Library has annually received General Assembly support for archival positions in order "to relieve the 54-year backlog in processing significant archival, special, and other historical collections."

## LOCAL RECORDS

The Local Records Services Branch is charged with preserving, cataloging, and providing access to the records that document the daily activities of Virginia's counties, towns, and independent cities. The branch administers the Circuit Court Records Preservation Program (CCRP), which provides grant funds to the Commonwealth's 120 circuit court clerks to help preserve the historically valuable records maintained in their offices and those that have been transferred to the Library of Virginia for archival processing and storage.

Since 2007, the Virginia Circuit Court Records Program (CCRP) has scanned and posted images of original Chancery Causes for 37 localities totaling nearly 41 million images. This quarter the Library added scanned Chancery Causes for 8 counties totaling 926,770 images. For more information, including a complete listing of all chancery projects, see the [Chancery Records Index \(CRI\)](#). As part of the branch's duplication effort to update our reading room microfilm holdings to 1900, we have added 105 reels this quarter for the following localities: Washington, Westmoreland, Wise, and Wythe Counties. For additional details and a complete guide to local records available at the Library of Virginia, please see [County and City Records at the Library of Virginia](#).

The Library has added scanned images and indexes of Cohabitation Registers to [Virginia Memory](#) for the following localities: Caroline County.

#### **Accomack County**

Naturalization Petition and Record, 1912–1925. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

#### **Amherst County**

Public Buildings and Grounds, 1808–1823, undated. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

#### **Arlington County (then Alexandria County)**

Chancery Causes, 1790–1845 (bulk 1801–1842). ([Click here for finding aid](#))

#### **Bedford County**

Chancery Causes, 1755–1912 (bulk 1783–1912). ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Botetourt County**

Minute Book for Court Exemption from Military Draft, 1861–1865. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

Minutes of the Provisional Committee, 1861–1865. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Buckingham County**

Teacher's Daily Registers, 1886–1895. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Charlottesville (City)**

Chancery Causes, 1889–1926 (bulk 1889–1913). ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Chesterfield County**

Public Buildings and Grounds, 1805–1807, 1842. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Elizabeth City County**

Chancery Causes, 1816–1933 (bulk 1873–1898). ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Herndon**

Town Minutes, 1940–2009. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Lancaster County**

Public Buildings and Grounds, 1787–1937. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Lunenburg County**

Official map number one of Victoria, Va., Lunenburg Co., 1915 (1926). ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Northampton County**

Land records relating to Gingaskin Indian lands, 1795–1815. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Powhatan County**

Road and Bridge Records, 1782–1912. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Prince Edward County**

Chancery Causes, 1856–1913. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Richmond (City)**

List of the taxable town lots, ca. 1840. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Tazewell County**

Chancery Causes, 1800–1920 (bulk 1843–1915). ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Warren County**

Public Buildings and Grounds, 1834–1839. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

### **Westmoreland County**

Chancery Causes, 1753–1902 (bulk 1788–1873). ([Click here for finding aid](#))

### **Wise County**

Chancery Causes, 1855–1912 (bulk 1857–1912). ([Click here for finding aid](#))

## **PRIVATE PAPERS**

The Private Papers section of the Description Services Branch at the Library of Virginia is charged with collecting records that supplement the official documents of the Commonwealth. These records include Bible Records, Business Records, Church Records, Genealogical Notes and Charts, Organization Records, and Personal Papers. They put a personal face on the activities of the citizens of the Commonwealth and provide a human touch to the records collected by Local and State Records.

### **Guide to the Personal Papers Collections at the Library of Virginia. Edited by Trenton E. Hizer. Richmond: The Library of Virginia, 2008.**

The *Guide to the Personal Papers Collections at the Library of Virginia* contains entries for 5,730 personal papers collections. Ranging from diaries and correspondence to blogs and Web sites, these collections document more than 400 years of Virginia history. They offer an in-depth view of topics such as agriculture, economics, education, politics, society, travel, and war, and are essential in studying African American and women's history. The collections also contain deeds, wills, and other legal documents that may have otherwise been lost to fire or other disasters, along with photographs, postcards, scrapbooks, videos, and sound recordings. The Personal Papers Collections are invaluable resources for historians and genealogists. The *Guide to the Personal Papers Collections at the Library of Virginia* may be purchased at [The Virginia Shop](#) at the Library of Virginia.

### **Barnes, Thomas Rufus.** 2 pages.

Letter, 12 September 1864, from Thomas Rufus Barnes (d. 1864) of Company K, 10th West Virginia Infantry to his brother John of Ritchie County, West Virginia, detailing the action at the Battle of Berryville, Virginia, fought 3–4 September 1864. Barnes also asks how the presidential contest is going in Ritchie County and adds that he is a Lincoln man. Purchased. (44377)

### **Confederate States of America. Ordnance Dept.** 1 volume (225 leaves).

Contract book, 1863–1865, of the Richmond Arsenal, Confederate States of America, Ordnance Department. Includes agreements with local companies and merchants for supplies such as horseshoes, musket caps, pistol cartridges, lumber, sheet iron, hides and sheepskin, haversacks, swords, belts, glue, spurs, and other materials. Includes agreements with companies in Albemarle, Amelia, Botetourt, Charlotte, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Henrico, Nelson, New Kent, Page, Pulaski, and Rockingham Counties; in Farmville, Gordonsville, Lexington, and Richmond, Virginia; and in North

Carolina and South Carolina. The agreements were signed on behalf of the Confederate States by Lieutenant Colonel William LeRoy Broun (1827–1902), commander of the Richmond Armory; Josiah Gorgas (1818–1883), chief of ordnance; and W. S. Downer, superintendent of the Richmond Armory. Also includes an index. Donor information unavailable. (43999)

**Downing, Thomas N.** 196.7 cubic feet.

Papers, 1947–1977, of Thomas Nelms Downing (1919–2001) of Newport News, Virginia, consisting of Downing’s campaign and legislative files during his years as a member of the United States House of Representative from Virginia. Gift of Honorable Thomas N. Downing, Newport News. (29773) ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Hunter, Sarah.** 1 leaf.

Letter, 25 May 1835, from Sarah Hunter of Norfolk, Virginia, to Charles S. Morgan (1799–1859), superintendent of the Virginia State Penitentiary in Richmond, Virginia, asking if her husband, William Hunter (b. ca. 1795) has been released from the penitentiary and requesting information on his case so that she might use it in pursuing a divorce. Purchased. (44199)

**McDowell, Charles.** 17 cubic feet.

Papers, 1944–2004, of Charles McDowell (b. 1926) of Alexandria, Virginia, documenting his career as a reporter for the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, panelist on the PBS program “Washington Week in Review,” and other journalistic activities. Includes columns, correspondence and subject files, books, and videotapes. Gift of Ann McDowell, Alexandria. (44427) ([Click here for finding aid](#))

## STATE RECORDS

The State Records section of the Description Services Branch at the Library of Virginia is charged with preserving, cataloging, and providing access to the records of Virginia's state government.

### **Attorney General.**

Virginia Attorney General’s records regarding the Lemmon Slave Case, 1857–1860, 1 folder, Accession 44648.

### **Auditor of Public Accounts.**

Personal Property Tax Book Microfilming Project. Currently, the Library of Virginia has a complete run on microfilm of personal property tax records from 1782 to 1921, Loudoun County, v. 73. Click [here](#) for an up-to-date list of available microfilm (including reels available through interlibrary loan).

### **Bureau of Vital Statistics.**

West Virginia Vital Statistics, 1853–1863, Accession 38788.  
Microfilmed on WVVS 1-14.

**Governor, Office of the.**

William Fleming.

Executive papers of Acting Governor William Fleming, 1781,  
24 items, Accession 44479. ([Click here for finding aid](#))  
Microfilmed on Miscellaneous Reels 2964–2965.

Thomas Nelson.

Executive papers of Governor Thomas Nelson, 1781,  
3.35 cubic feet, Accession 44502. ([Click here for finding aid](#))  
Microfilmed on Miscellaneous Reels 2964–2969.

David Jameson.

Executive papers of Acting Governor David Jameson, 1781,  
32 items, Accession 44653. ([Click here for finding aid](#))  
Microfilmed on Miscellaneous Reel 2969.

William Smith.

Requests to Governor William Smith for military service exemption,  
1864, .68 cubic feet, Accession 44645. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Health, Dept. of.**

State Board of Health.

Minutes of the State Board of Health, 1896–2003, 9 v. and 15 cu. ft.,  
Accessions 34146 and 43045. ([Click here for finding aid](#))

**Southwestern State Hospital.**

Records of Southwestern State Hospital, 1887–1948, 57 v.  
Accessions 23890 and 24773. ([Click here for finding aid](#))