



Dictionary of Virginia Biography Receives Largest NEH Grant In Virginia For 2004

The Library of Virginia's *Dictionary of Virginia Biography* has received a grant of \$244,432 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support the completion of volumes 3 and 4 of this ambitious project to document the contributions of Virginians to four centuries of local, state, and national history. The grant is the largest awarded to a Virginia institution for the 2004–2006 grant cycle.

The *Dictionary of Virginia Biography* is the first scholarly, comprehensive biographical reference work on Virginia. It is intended to meet the needs of historians, archivists, reference librarians, museum professionals, educators, students, genealogists, journalists and local history specialists, among others, who require information on people of significance in order to understand local, regional, state and national events and to place them accurately in their political, social, and economic contexts. The project's national significance has been recognized by *Choice*, a publication of the Association of College and Research Libraries, which selected the first volume of the *Dictionary of Virginia Biography* as one of the Outstanding Academic Titles of 1999.

The *DVB*'s contributors and editors research every biography in primary sources and verify all facts found in the extant secondary literature. Virtually every biography published in the first two volumes

contains corrections or additions to the life histories previously available. Many of the *Dictionary's* entries offer the first reliable biography ever printed about their subjects. The comprehensive character of the *DVB* has already led to a significant revision of portions of the written history of Virginia through the expansion of the cast of characters, the correction of facts and the elucidation of relationships and networks, and the new interpretations presented in the biographies. By the time the project is completed, the publication of the *DVB* will necessitate a complete rewriting of the history of Virginia to take account of the many economic, institutional, organizational and personal history resources that the project has discovered and employed for the first time. Researchers can use the bricks and mortar of the *DVB* biographies as the raw materials to construct new histories of Virginia and to provide a deeper, more thorough understanding of the lives of all Virginians.

Planning for the *Dictionary of Virginia Biography* began more than 20 years ago. The first step was a massive survey of the extant primary and secondary literature to create a master list of candidates, from A to Z. The list, which currently includes almost 19,500 names, is constantly growing through the appearance of new scholarship and the staff's morbid daily scanning of obituaries in major state newspapers. The names on the master list are subject to a rigorous selection process, volume by volume. As a historical reference work, no subjects are included who were alive at the time of publication. Because for two and a half centuries of its history Virginia encompassed a much larger territory than it does today, the *DVB* defines Virginia as the current state boundaries plus Kentucky before its separate statehood in 1792 and West Virginia before its separate statehood in 1863.

Volume 3, scheduled to appear in 2005, will contain 468 biographies ranging alphabetically from Allen Taylor Caperton (1810–1876), member of the state constitutional convention of 1850–1851, the secession convention and the Confederate States Senate, to Edward Daniels (1828–1916), a Boston-born agricultural reformer who in 1868 purchased Gunston Hall, the former Fairfax County home of George Mason, and for the next 23 years ran it as an experimental farm. In between readers will find the fascinating stories of such disparate Virginians as Cockacoeske (d. 1686), the queen of the Pamunkey Indians, the land baron Robert "King" Carter (ca. 1663–1732), the Revolutionary War general George Rogers Clark (1752–1818), the convicted murderer Thomas Judson Cluverius (1861–1887), the "Sleeping Prophet," Edgar Cayce (1877–1945), the social activist and labor advocate Naomi Silverman Cohn (1888–1982), the folk sculptor Miles Burkholder Carpenter (1889–1985), the actor Joseph Cotten (1905–1994) and the Danville attorney and civil rights activist Ruth LaCountess Harvey Wood Charity (1924–1996). Volume 4, slated for publication in 2008, will cover the surnames from Darden through the end of the letter F. When completed, the projected 14 volumes will contain approximately 6,000 biographies.

Editors Sara B. Bearss, John T. Kneebone, Brent Tarter and Sandra Gioia Treadway and assistant editors John G. Deal, Donald W. Gunter and Marianne E. Julienne are the editorial team for the third volume. Volumes 1 (surnames Aaroe–Blanchfield) and 2 (surnames Bland–Cannon) are available from the Library Shop for \$49.95 each, 804-692-3524.

—submitted by Sara Bearss,
Publications and Educational Services



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READ ALL ABOUT IT: THE VIRGINIA NEWSPAPER PROJECT RAMPS-UP MICROFILMING EFFORT

Preservation microfilming. Now there's a topic that doesn't always stir the emotions.

But for library employees, patrons and interested citizens, preservation microfilming of historically significant newspapers is actually something to get excited about, particularly when all that is left of a community newspaper from, say, the late 19th century are a scattering of issues.

In fact, at Mary Washington College, library workers were so excited about having the school newspaper, *The Bullet*, preserved on film by the Virginia Newspaper Project (VNP) that they held a campus-wide contest to guess the total number of pages of the hard copy file. And in Botetourt County, library staff and local citizens spearheaded a cooperative effort to pool their valued collections of the *Fincastle Herald* and *Buchanan News* in order that the Library of Virginia might film the most complete file possible.

With the Virginia Newspaper Project about half-way through its scheduled field work visits to every county and independent city, word has gotten out about the Project's efforts to microfilm Virginia newspapers that, as yet, have not been preserved. Project field-work catalogers have been meeting and working with staff at libraries, museums, publishing offices and historical societies, to locate newspapers that have yet to be cataloged and inventoried, identify titles in need of preservation, and to coordinate the shipping and preparation of titles for preservation

filming. Such interaction with patrons and staff throughout the commonwealth has helped to foster goodwill and has gotten people excited about not only the Virginia Newspaper Project's work but also the Library of Virginia's support for such initiatives.

In 1997, the Virginia Newspaper Project's coordinator and senior cataloger packed up the one known existing file of *The Recorder* (Monterey) for the years 1893 to 1950 and had them reformatted to microfilm. Since then, the Virginia Newspaper Project and the Library of Virginia have worked to steadily increase production of newspaper reformatting. They are in a race against time to save every deteriorating page of old newspapers held in the state.

With the help of VNP project assistants Silver Persinger and Lakesha Christian, more than 50 individual newspaper titles and 160,000 pages have been prepared and filmed under the supervision of the Virginia Newspaper Project. In addition, rare single issues have been collected and filmed. In many cases, each page must be mended with heat sensitive tape and further stabilized using basic repair treatments and even ironing to ensure a flat image during filming.

Funding for filming comes from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the VNP's funding agency, as well as generous matching funds from the Library of Virginia.

The Library has an interest in preserving newspapers on film for a number of reasons.

A film copy of the title enters the Library of Virginia collection (many of the titles found in the counties are either unique to the Library of Virginia's catalog or there are holdings not found in the Library's collections) In addition, the Library will keep the negative of the film in its film vault as a preservation master, which can be used a later date for creating additional film copies as well as for use in future imaging or digital projects.

As Project catalogers canvass the state, and as the list of potential titles for filming grows, one is struck by the diversity of newspapers published over the decades—company-town papers, college and school papers, political broadsides, and eccentric hometown newspapers recording every local car wreck and hunting trophy.

To date, the project has identified more than 150 titles new to the Library of Virginia's collections, not found anywhere else that have been identified for cataloging and preservation microfilming. Each title will serve to better preserve the historic record of Virginia while also strengthening the Library's collections.

Postscript: All titles on loan from donors are returned after filming. Titles held by the Library that are preserved on film are retained.

—submitted by Errol S. Somay,
Collection Management Services

2004 "Adopt-A-Book, Etc." Program to Focus on the 1828 Library of Virginia

This year, the Library of Virginia Foundation's "Adopt-A-Book, Etc." program will focus on the preservation of the Library's magnificent 1828 Library Collection. In 1828, the General Assembly passed "An Act Concerning the Public Library," the first legislation that provided for the library's administration. This legislation required the governor and Council to provide a room for the library and authorized a salary for a public librarian. Also, in 1828 William Harvie Richardson, clerk of the Council and librarian ex officio compiled and published a list of the library's holdings of 1,582 volumes, plus several maps. Virtually all of the pre-1776 volumes appear to have come from the colonial Council's library.

The collection of books and manuscripts gathered and preserved by Virginia's colonial governor's Council form the nucleus of the Library of Virginia's holdings. The Council, formed of prominent male colonists, advised the governor and sat together as the upper chamber of the General Assembly. The Virginia Company of London purchased numerous books on law, naviga-

tion, natural history and other topics for use by the Council as an official reference library.

Over the years volumes on English and Scottish history, peerage, parliamentary proceedings and law were added to the library. In 1774 it was to this collection of books which by this included other essential documentary records that several members of the House of Burgesses, including Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, Richard Henry Lee and Francis Lightfoot Lee turned for guidance in crafting a response to the Coercive Acts, which were adopted by the British Parliament to punish the colonists for the Boston Tea Party. After reviewing documentary histories of England for successful protests against improper official action the members drafted a resolution calling for "a day of fasting, humiliation & prayer." This action led to the first of Virginia's revolutionary conventions and the first Continental Congress in the autumn of 1774.

There were several attempts to create a state library for Virginia after the Revolutionary War by Thomas ...see **Adopt**, pg. 4

Rare Atlases Feature Prominently in Current Library Exhibition

Two very rare atlases recently acquired as a gift, to the Special Collections department, not only have the distinction of being featured prominently in the current exhibition *Maps, Charts and Atlases: The Alan M. Voorhees Collection at the Library of Virginia*, but also have undergone meticulous restoration in honor of two retiring Library of Virginia Foundation Board members. The atlases, given in November 2003 by Alan Voorhees, were conserved with funding from the Library of Virginia Foundation's highly successful "Adopt-A-Book, Etc." program.

The earlier of the two atlases, *Claudii Ptolemaei Alexandrini Geographicae Enarrationis Libri Octo*, better known as the Ptolemy Atlas, was restored in honor of retiring Foundation Board member Henry C. Spalding, Jr. According to Marianne McKee, the Library of Virginia's map archivist, Claudius Ptolemy, a scientific scholar in Alexandria, Egypt, produced two works in the 2nd century A.D. that had great influence on the perception of the world and the development of cartography as a science — the *Almagest* on astronomy, and his *Geographia*. This latter work included a world map and 26 regional maps, a gazetteer and the setting out of a method to organize scientific observations relating to mapmaking, including topics we often take for granted today such as projections — ways of drawing the round earth on a flat surface — and latitude and longitude. There were errors in his work, from the acceptance of Aristotle's theory that the sun revolves around the earth to the rejection of the measurement of the earth by Erastosthenes, thus basing his maps on a smaller circumference of the earth, but his work addressed many issues on which later cartographers would build. Ptolemy's work was lost for centuries until re-discovered from surviving Byzantine and Islamic manuscripts around the late 13th or early 14th century. The Library of Virginia's copy, printed by Melchior and Gaspar Treschel in Lyon, France, in

1535 is known as the "Servetus" edition, the addition associated with its editor, Michael Servetus, who was burned alive in 1553 as were many copies of the volume, thus its rarity. Servetus was a Spaniard who was tried by John Calvin for criticism of the doctrine of the trinity and opposition to infant baptism. One charge was based on a statement in this atlas. The volume consists of 27 woodcut maps of the Old World and 22 of the Modern World, all done from the same woodblocks used in the earlier 1522 and 1525 editions.

The second atlas featured prominently in the exhibition and restored in honor of retiring Foundation Board member Andrew H. McCutcheon is an untitled volume commonly known as *The World Described; or a New and Correct Set of Maps; Shewing the Several Empires, Kingdoms, Republics...* or simply the Moll Atlas. This collection of Herman Moll's maps, printed circa 1736 in London, reflect popular themes, especially that of empire. McKee notes in her research that Herman Moll was born in Bremen in 1654 and came to London as a refugee from the Scanian wars, in which Bremen was captured. Working as an engraver, he became part of a unique group of intellectuals who met in London coffeehouses and included the scientist and cartographer Robert Hooke (1635-1703), writers Daniel Defoe (1660?-1731) and Jonathan Swift (1667-1745), and the pirates William Dampier (1651-1715) and Woodes Rogers (1679?-1732), and archaeologist the Rev. Dr. William Stukeley (1687-1765). Themes for discussion included Britain as an empire, literature, and geography and cartography. Moll effectively documented British territorial claims in America, often coming up against French claims made by Guillaume Delisle (1675-1726). But his greatest atlas, *The World Described...*, in its compact narrow format, highlighted his prime attributes of design and engraving and ...see [Atlases](#), pg. 5

LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF DEVELOPING PUBLIC LIBRARIES

CELEBRATING THE PAST, FOCUSING ON THE FUTURE

On March 8, 2004, librarians, present and former Library of Virginia staff, library trustees and supporters gathered to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Library of Virginia's work establishing public libraries in the commonwealth. The program began with remarks from Nolan T. Yelich, the Librarian of Virginia. He congratulated all library development staff for their efforts in expanding and improving library services throughout the state. He then announced that while much remained to be done in the state, a major milestone had been achieved. Pending completion of the paperwork by Craig County, every county in Virginia will now have a public library. Craig County, located west of Roanoke and bordering West Virginia, has a population of slightly more than 5,000 people. Starting in April it will have its first public library.

"Part of the Craig County Public Library saga involves a young woman's desire to have a library and a merit badge," said Yelich. Craig County resident Caitlyn Day decided that getting a library for the county would be a great way to earn a Girl Scout Gold Award (equivalent to a Boy Scout Eagle rank-

ing). She was able to secure books (many from the Jefferson Madison Regional Library Friends organization), storage space and volunteers from the University of Notre Dame.



Caitlyn Day

Yelich then asked Robert Pillow, Jay Day, Patty Day, Caitlyn Day and any other guests from Craig County to stand and be recognized as "founding patrons" of the Craig County Public Library.

The origins of the Library Development and Networking Division can be traced to action by the Virginia General Assembly on March 8, 1904, when the state library was ordered to "purchase and procure books and other necessary equipment for the establishment of libraries." This led to the start of the Traveling Library Division. The traveling libraries were sturdy wooden boxes filled with 50 volumes of carefully selected titles covering history, biography, science, poetry, literature, drama, agriculture and medicine. These boxes were transported free by railroads, trucks and barges and then taken to general stores, gas stations and public buildings. The traveling libraries were phased out in the 1950s as ...see [Libraries](#), pg. 7

Upcoming Spring Talks At the Library of Virginia

The Library of Virginia will offer the following talks at noon in the conference rooms. Admission is free and open to the public. For a complete listing of exhibitions, programs and talks, see the Calendar of Events on our web site at <www.lva.lib.va.us>.

Thursday, April 29, 2004

In the Presence of Mine Enemies: War in the Heart of America, 1859–1863

Edward L. Ayers, Hugh Kelly Professor of History and dean at the University of Virginia, gives a different view of the Civil War, built on an intimate scale. He will chart the descent into war of two communities in the Shenandoah Valley spanning Pennsylvania and Virginia. Connected by strong ties of every kind, including slavery, the people of this borderland sought alternatives to secession and war. When none remained, they took up the war with a startling intensity. Ayers's Civil War emerges from the lives of everyday people as well as well known figures—John Brown and Frederick Douglass, Lincoln, Jackson and Lee. A book signing will follow the talk.

Friday, April 30, 2004

Harriet Tubman: The Road To Freedom

Catherine Clinton, Visiting Professor of History at Wesleyan College, is the author of more than a dozen historical works for children and adults. She has taught African American Studies at Brandeis University, Brown University and at Harvard University. In *Harriet Tubman*, "the first full-scale biography" of Tubman (1825-1913) Clinton, presents a portrait of a complicated woman with deep religious convictions, incredible courage and a passion for freedom. Clinton brings life to the legendary woman known as "Moses" for her work as a conductor on the

Underground Railroad, spiriting slaves to freedom. A book signing will follow the talk.

Tuesday, May 18, 2004

With All Deliberate Speed?: Documenting Virginia's Response to *Brown v. Board* in Records at the Library of Virginia

Research archivist Derek Gray will discuss what the Library of Virginia's records reveal about the commonwealth's response to the unanimous U.S Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* on May 17, 1954 that ruled de jure school desegregation was unconstitutional and paved the way for desegregation of educational institutions. Virginia reactions to the *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling ranged from enthusiastic approval to bitter opposition. The General Assembly adopted a policy of "Massive Resistance," a deliberate campaign of delay and obfuscation, intended to slow to a crawl attempts to integrate Virginia's schools generally and to minimize the effects of integration where it did occur. Ultimately, the failure of Massive Resistance resulted from a series of judicial rulings between November 1958 and April 1959 that supported *Brown* and from pressure from Virginians to preserve that state's public school system.

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Rights for a Season: The Politics of Race, Class, and Gender in Richmond, Virginia

Author Lewis A. Randolph will explore the many facets and stages of black political mobilization in Richmond, tracing the rise and decline of black political power in the city. He will demonstrate the centrality of race, class and gender dynamics as determining factors in the evolution of Richmond's political landscape. He will

chart the transformation in the black community's response as it moved from resistance to mobilization and from protest politics to electoral politics. At the heart of the book is the story of the historic election of a black-majority city council in 1977 and its subsequent collapse in 1982.

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

A Copperplate Special: Making 19th Century Maps in the 21st Century

Using slides, Marianne McKee, map specialist at the Library of Virginia, will talk about the history of the 19th century map copperplates in the Library's collection and the two times the Library has printed them — in 1999 and in 2004 — as well as the actual process of printing the copperplates. The printing was done in collaboration with VCU's School of the Arts using centuries old techniques to pull contemporary prints of state maps from early plates created with a combination of etching and engraving.

Thursday, June 17, 2004

Book Talk With Carrie Brown

Award-winning Virginia author Carrie Brown will discuss and sign her new novel *Confinement*, the story of refuge Arthur Henning who arrives at the Duvall family's country estate in the winter of 1946 with his young son, after losing his wife and infant daughter in the London blitz. Reminiscent of the fiction of William Trevor, Anne Tyler and Kazuo Ishiguro, Carrie Brown's brilliant fourth novel masterfully presents the interplay between love and loss in a poignant and moving story about the small miracles and large revelations of love.

Adopt... Jefferson and James Madison. In 1823, the General Assembly successfully appropriated funds for the "procurement of a small but well selected library on criminal Law at publick expense, for the public use." Then in December 1827, newly-elected Governor William Branch Giles requested "clarification on access to the book collection" at the state library. Finally, in 1828, the General Assembly passed the first legislation that provided for the library's administration. The Library of Virginia Foundation was established in 1984 to promote and coordinate public and private support for the Library of Virginia. It is a nonprofit, charitable organization receiving grants, bequests and the donations of individuals, businesses and others in support of the Library. The Foundation helps the Library preserve and

sustain its collection of treasures. One of the ways it does this is through the "Adopt-A-Book, Etc." program.

Today, the Library of Virginia Foundation is seeking to restore the historic collection of books and manuscripts that formed the nucleus of the state library. Approximately half of the pieces the Library currently has that were part of the 1828 Library have been conserved and the Foundation is hopeful that it will be able to restore the remaining pieces through donations to the Foundation's "Adopt-A-Book" campaign. This will safeguard these treasures for generations to come.

For information on how you can be a part of this exciting project, please contact Heather Krajewski at 804-692-3591.

RECORDS OF PIONEERING ARCHITECT DONATED TO LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

Through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. J. Livingston Furman, the Library of Virginia has recently acquired the surviving records of Ethel Madison Bailey Furman (1893–1976). Based on the earliest reference to her profession in the January 23, 1937 issue of the *Pittsburgh Courier*, Ms. Furman is the first practicing female African–American architect in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The collection of nearly 100 architectural drawings, sundry photographs and ephemera will be cataloged and made available to the public.

A native of Richmond, Ms. Furman practiced from her home at 3025 Q Street. Built by her father, contractor Madison J. Bailey, who also used it as a home and office, the Q Street house served as a center for family and neighborhood activities during Ms. Furman’s life. Affectionately known by relatives and friends as “Peachie” or “Mrs. P,” Ms. Furman took an active role in her church and community, often acting as a counselor and role model for those around her.

After Ms. Furman attended Armstrong High School in Richmond, her family moved north of Philadelphia, where she graduated from Germantown High School in 1910. She received her earliest architectural training from a private tutor in New York, a still–accepted mode of training for the architectural field. For Ethel Bailey Furman, however, it was a necessity given the restricted opportunities afforded women and minorities at the time. This lack of acceptance continued through much of her career, illustrated by the fact that the majority of her surviving drawings are unsigned. In most instances, male contractors working with Furman would submit the architectural drawings to local agencies for approval because local administrators refused to accept Furman’s status as an architect.

Following a return to Richmond, Ms. Furman became more active in her father’s company, her secondary source of training, and the African–American building community in general. Illustrative of her acceptance in the field, Ms. Furman attended the 1927 “Negro Contractors’ Conference” at Hampton Institute. Through her experience and knowledge of the building trades, she sought to provide clients with affordable, attractive homes built from quality materials. Patrons from both the public and private sectors sought Ms. Furman’s designs, and she is estimated to have executed nearly 200 residences and churches, including two churches in Liberia. Her earliest work in Richmond, 933 N. 28th Street for Robert J. Wilder, was the birthplace and home of future Governor L. Douglas Wilder.

Ethel Bailey Furman completed her formal architectural training at the Chicago Technical College between 1944 and 1946. Her architectural practice flourished through word–of–mouth and recommendations from clients and friends. In addition to her work in the architectural field, Ms. Furman actively participated in community and civic organizations such as the March of Dimes, the Heart Fund and voter registration drives. She was awarded the “Walter Manning Citizenship Award” and named to the *Richmond Afro-American* “Community Honor Roll,” in 1954 and 1959, respectively.

Unfortunately, a significant number of Ms. Furman’s early commissions have been demolished, and many of the papers related to her practice do not survive. However, due to the kindness of her family, the remaining materials, including drawings for several residential and public structures from the latter portion of her career, will be accessible to Library of Virginia patrons.

The Library of Virginia encourages other individuals holding collections of pioneering Virginians like Ethel Bailey Furman to contact or visit the Library to discuss donation. Donors may be eligible for a tax deduction, but more importantly,

the remarkable stories of trailblazers such as Ms. Furman will be available to students, historians and the general public for research. Thank you, Mr. and Mrs. Furman.

—submitted by Vincent Brooks,
Collection Management Services



above:
The 1927 “Negro
Contractors’
Conference” at
Hampton Institute

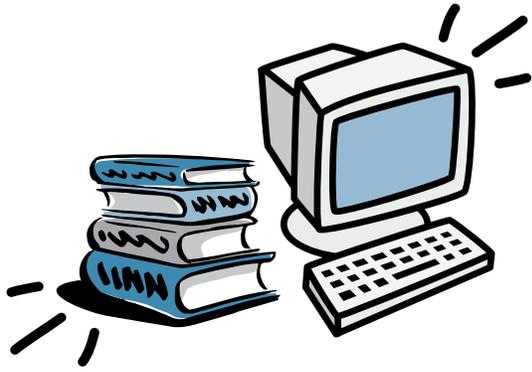


left:
Mr. and Mrs. J.
Livingston Furman

Atlases... at the same time, often scattering caustic remarks about other mapmakers on the watered parts of the maps. One of the most popular maps, *A New and Exact Map of the Dominions of the King of Great Britain*, often referred to as the “Beaver Map” is included in the Library’s atlas.

Although only two of the more than 50 maps and atlases featured in the exhibition *Maps, Charts & Atlases: The Alan M. Voorhees Collection at the Library of Virginia*, the Ptolemy and Moll atlases are unusual and valuable additions to the Library’s already rich collection and contribute to the Library’s reputation as one of the world’s leading map repositories.

—submitted by Tom Camden,
Collection Management Services



Did you know...?

Census users familiar with the microfilm soundex indexes to the census schedules from 1880 to 1930 will be excited to learn of a new hard copy index to the 1910 Virginia census that is now available in the West Reading Room.

Prepared by Heritage Quest directly from the census schedules, this index includes the name of each head-of-household as well as any person in a household with a different surname than the head. In addition, all individuals living in an institution, such as an orphanage, hospital, or poorhouse are included. An interesting indexing detail is that not only are nuns and monks indexed under Sister and Brother respectively, but people who declared their race as Indian are indexed under the term Indian alphabetically by their surnames.

JSTOR—Journal Storage Archive

Even if older journals are presently available on shelves in the library itself, it is not easy to find a particular article or reference, especially if the item in question was published some time ago. Older journal articles, for example, may not be indexed in the electronic databases that have become so popular. Furthermore, even if the specific citation is known, the item may be checked out, or worse, may be missing from the collection for one reason or another.

The Library of Virginia subscribes to JSTOR, an electronic journal archive, whose mission is to preserve scholarly literature in electronic form and to ensure that this literature will remain accessible to future scholars, researchers and students.

JSTOR's goals include the following:

- To build a reliable and comprehensive archive of important scholarly journal literature
- To improve access to these journals
- To help fill gaps in existing library collections of journal backfiles
- To address preservation issues such as mutilated pages and long-term deterioration of paper copy

The Arts & Sciences I Collection includes the complete back runs of 117 titles in 15 disciplines. This collection includes many of the core research journals in economics, history, political science and sociology, as well as in other key fields in the humanities

and social sciences. It also includes a selection of titles in the more science-oriented fields of ecology, mathematics and statistics. Journals frequently used by Library of Virginia patrons include the *William and Mary Quarterly*, 1892–2000; *Journal of Negro History*, 1916–2000; *Journal of American History*, 1964–1999; *Eighteenth-Century Studies*, 1967–1995; *Journal of Economic History*, 1941–1998; *Journal of Military History*, 1989–2000; and *Journal of Southern History*, 1935–1998.

Library patrons can find this database on the public access computers in the reading rooms.

Recent Acquisitions

Adventurers of Purse and Person: Virginia 1607–1624/5, Fourth Edition, Volume One, Families A–F, compiled and edited by John Frederick Dorman.

The Virginia Company of London, according to the third edition of the *Dictionary of American History*, “was a commercial enterprise established on 10 April 1606 that governed the colony of Virginia from 1609 to 1624,” when a series of political and economic misfortunes led to its dissolution. While it lasted, the Virginia Company was instrumental in the early English settlement of Virginia. Initially, it was composed of “adventurers” or stockholders who, through monetary investment, furthered the settlement, with some of these “adventurers of purse” actually going to Virginia. The “adventurers of person,” another critical component of the Virginia Company, were immigrants to the colony, many of whom were indentured servants.

Adventurers of Purse and Person Virginia 1607–1624, while not a formal history of the Virginia Company, is an eminently valuable tool to genealogists. Rather than a conventional narrative, it is a collection of the names and lineages of individuals who are descended from the early English settlers of Virginia. The first edition, published in 1956 by the Order of the First Families of Virginia, documented the descendants of 109 individuals grouped into two categories, “adventurers of purse,” and “adventurers of person.” This fourth edition is listed as being “published to commemorate the four hundredth anniversary of the first settlement at Jamestown, 1607.” In volume one of a projected three-volume work, John Frederick Dorman has painstakingly referenced the descendants of 52 families, from Andrews to Freeman. The fourth edition extends the lines of descent to six generations, and includes a precise surname index, explanatory notes, a key to abbreviations, and more than 10,000 footnotes.

The publication identifies those who could be eligible to enter the highly selective Order of First Families of Virginia. According to the eighth edition of the *Hereditary Society Blue Book*, membership “is limited to lineal descendants of an ancestor who aided in the establishment of the first permanent English Colony, Virginia 1607–1624,” and is “strictly by invitation only.” Beyond those interested in this membership, *Adventurers of Purse and Person Virginia, 1607–1624/5* contains valuable documentation about the early English settlers of Virginia. For those intrigued by the lineage of the early Virginia settlers, this new edition is a necessary acquisition.



Craig County Public Library

Librarians... counties and cities formed modern public libraries with assistance from the state library and at the urging of citizens.

The first state law for the establishment of county libraries was adopted in 1924 and in 1926 the first county library, the Charles H. Taylor Library, opened in Elizabeth City County—now Hampton. The next period of growth for public libraries was the result of the generosity of David K.E. Bruce who anonymously donated libraries complete with books, furnishing and equipment to 11 counties in rural Virginia. Bruce, who served in both the Maryland legislature and the Virginia General Assembly, was a well-known diplomat serving as ambassador to Great Britain, France, West Germany and China.

In 1942 William A. Wright of Tappahannock was patron of the first state law appropriating state aid to public libraries. That first state aid appropriation was \$50,000. Over the next two decades the state library continued to encourage libraries through incentives including Works Progress Administration grants, state aid grants, demonstration libraries, establishment grants and a variety of federal funding opportunities. Library staff continued to travel around the state meeting with citizens, local organizations, city councils and boards of supervisors to promote the benefits of libraries.

At the March 8 anniversary celebration, Ida Patton, who worked in the Library Development and Networking Division from 1959 to 1995, shared reminiscences about the development of local libraries. Patton participated in the establishment of more than one-half of Virginia's current public library systems. She joined the state library as work was starting on the establishment of demonstration libraries in localities.

Patton described the excitement of communities when they received a bookmobile as part of the demonstration libraries, a program funded through the Library Services Act. She also allowed that some citizens who had never had access to a library before confused bookmobiles with bloodmobiles. State library staff used federal grants to buy the books, shelving and materials for demonstration libraries. Willing localities in essence got an entire functioning

library through the demonstration library program. Another federal program provided establishment grants to existing libraries. Through this program libraries received materials and assistance to improve their collections and services.

The federal government played a major role in the development of the state's public library system. The federal Library Services Act of 1956 offered funding to extend library service to largely rural areas of the state. In 1964 the Library Services and Construction Act was adopted by Congress to improve library service and promote the construction of public libraries. Today the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), the successor to the Library Services and Construction Act, provides funds for collaborative library projects.

Ida Patton has seen public library service spread to localities across the commonwealth. She was a key exponent in this growth. Patton's enthusiasm and love of libraries is apparent. Today, nine years after she retired from the Library of Virginia, she continues to work as an adult services librarian for the Washington County Public Library. She is often called upon to answer questions about the history of libraries in the state.

The next speaker also was a Library of Virginia alumnus. Peggy Rudd served as Assistant Director for Planning, Evaluation, and Research in the Library Development and Networking Division at the Library of Virginia from 1988 until 1994. She then served as director of the Bureau of Library Development with the State Library of Florida. Since October 1999 she has been Director and Librarian of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. She shared with participants in the 100th anniversary celebration her perspective on library development based on her experiences in three states. Rudd spoke about a recent study of the public libraries in Texas by Himmel & Wilson and the resulting recommendations. These recommenda-



Ida Patton

tions will be used to help guide development of Texas libraries. She urged the audience to review the survey results for recommendations applicable to Virginia. (The Himmel & Wilson study can be found at <<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/tpl/>>).

Rudd congratulated Virginia on its 100 percent coverage of county library service and noted that Texas is far from meeting that goal.

Following the keynote speakers a panel discussion focused on the future of Virginia's public libraries. Sam Clay, Director, Fairfax County Public Library; Tom Emory, Director, Southside Regional Library; Fran Freimarck, Director, Pamunkey Regional Library and John Moorman, Director, Williamsburg Regional Library offered their perspectives on priorities and possibilities for Virginia. Peggy Rudd moderated the lively discussion. Among the topics presented was the need for the Library of Virginia to continue to provide the services currently offered. The importance of Library Development, its statewide leadership role, continuing education, and long range planning was emphasized.

—submitted by Elizabeth Lewis,
Public Library Development & Networking

Library of Virginia to Present *Working Out Her Destiny* Beginning August 2, 2004

The Library of Virginia is pleased to announce that it will present *Working Out Her Destiny: Women's History in Virginia, 1600–2004*, opening August 2, 2004, and running through March 26, 2005. The exhibition marks the 20th anniversary of the Virginia Women's Cultural History Project's *A Share of Honour*, a seminal event in Virginia women's history. "*A Share of Honour: Virginia Women, 1600–1945* began as an exhibition at the Virginia Museum and Fine Arts (Nov. 10, 1984–Jan. 6, 1985) accompanied by a catalog. The text of that catalog, written by Bancroft Prize-winning historian Suzanne Lebsock, was republished in book form by the Library of Virginia in 1987 due to popular demand.

Working Out Her Destiny springs from the 1984 exhibition and explores the insights offered by scholars during the ensuing 20 years. The exhibition will feature Virginia women whose lives represent various aspects of women's history, present examples of how we learn about women's history, particularly

in periods where there is little written record, and highlight lesser known 20th century figures and themes.

Before the *Share of Honour* traveling exhibition and companion book by Suzanne Lebsock, the story of Virginia women was largely relegated to the footnotes of the state's history. Today the accomplishments and contributions of Virginia women are part of the mainstream of Virginia history. *Working Out Her Destiny* will explore new finds in the history of Virginia women and trace how our understanding of the role of women has changed over the last 20 years.

The *Working Out Her Destiny* project will include the exhibition, a series of noon lectures and talks on Virginia women and history, teachers workshops and a two-day symposium in March 2005.

WORKING OUT
Her DESTINY WOMEN'S
HISTORY
in VIRGINIA

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY,
DR. SEUSS!



March 2, 2004 was the 100th anniversary of the birthday of Ted Geisel, aka Dr. Seuss. In honor of Dr. Seuss, reading and the importance of libraries, the Library of Virginia took the Cat in the Hat to visit the General Assembly Building, home to the offices of Virginia's legislators. Delegate Benny Keister of Dublin was one of several legislators who visited with the Cat in the Hat.



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