

2011
African American
TRAILBLAZERS
in Virginia History



PRESENTED BY



MEDIA SPONSOR



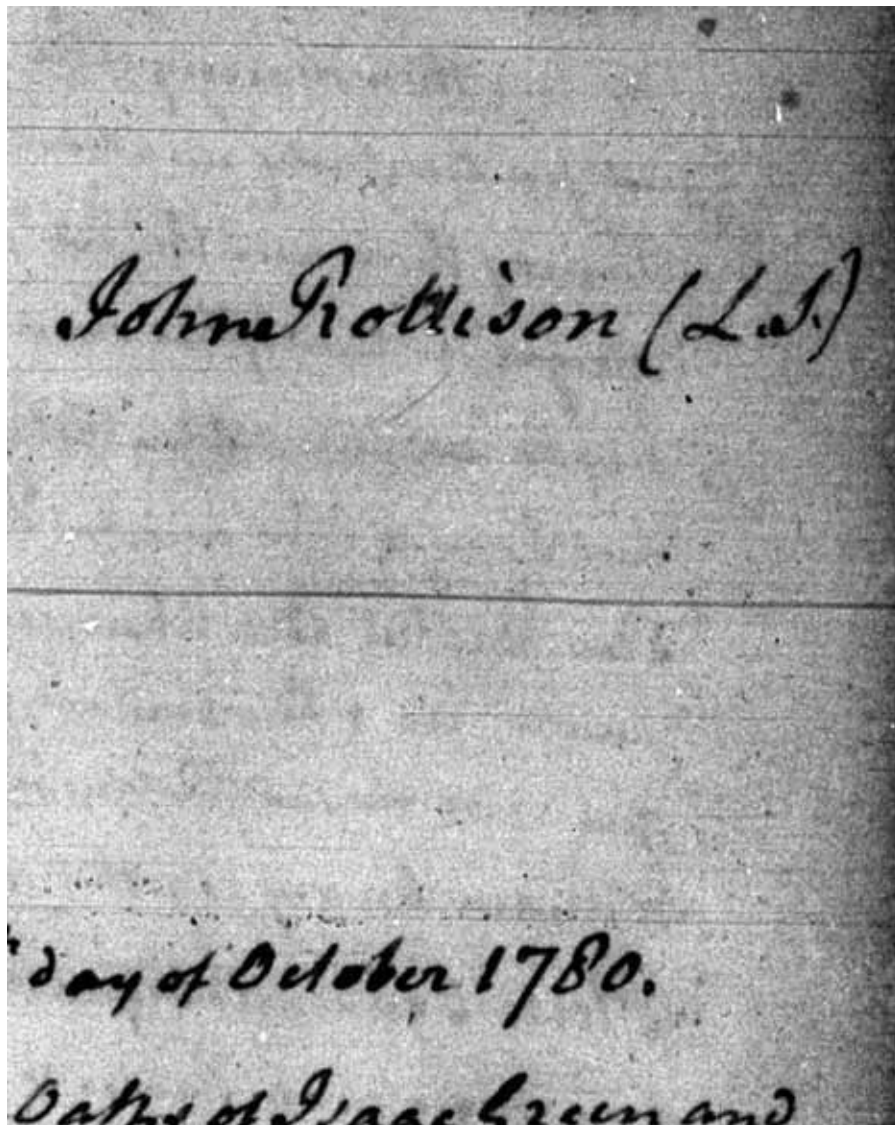


Image courtesy of the Library of Virginia.

John Rollison (d. 1780), York County

ENTREPRENEUR AND LANDOWNER

John Rollison negotiated the legal and social restrictions of men of color in colonial Virginia to become a well-respected, wealthy man in York County.

Nominated by James Cameron, Jr., Williamsburg



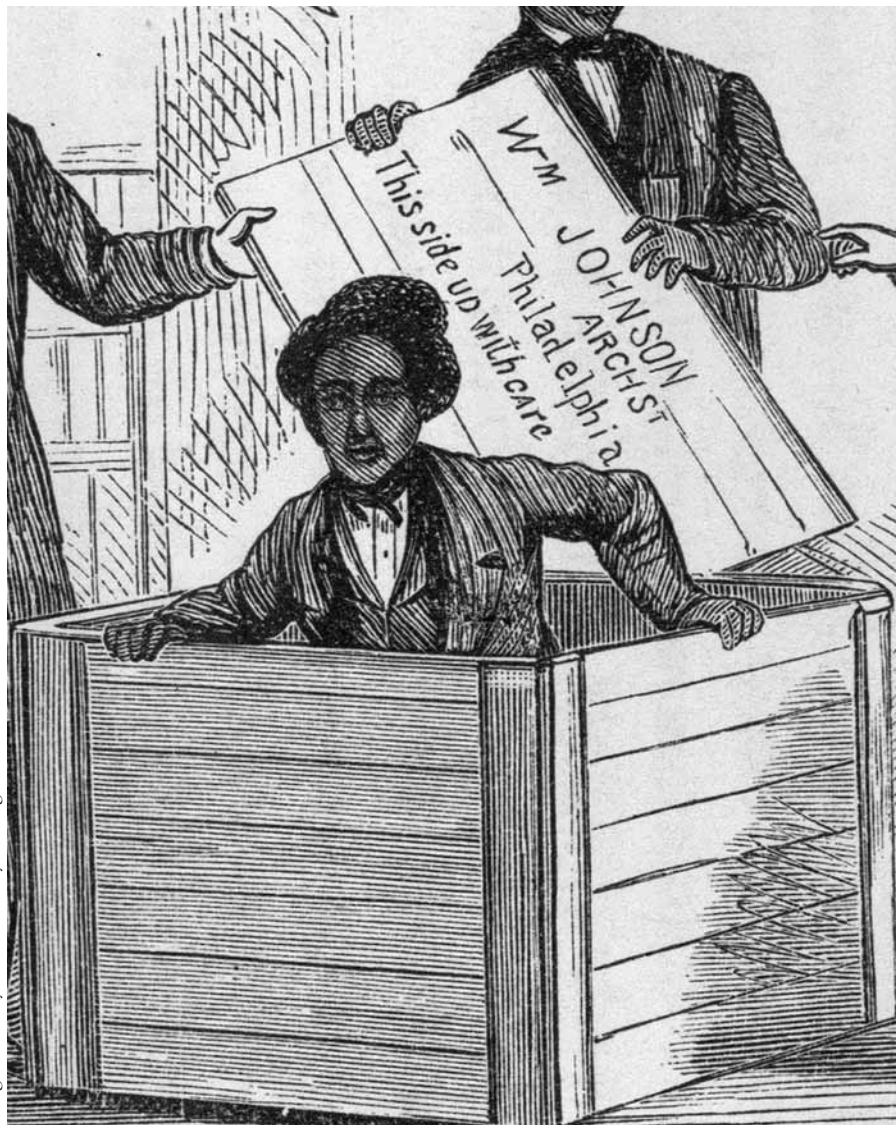


Image courtesy of the Library of Virginia.

Henry Box Brown

(1815 or 1816–after February 26, 1889), Richmond
ABOLITIONIST AND PERFORMER

After his family was suddenly sold out of the state in 1848, he shipped himself in a wooden crate to freedom in 1849.

*Nominated by Brynn Sprinkle and Maya Wimer,
Mary Johnston's first-grade class (2009–2010),
Clark Elementary School, Charlottesville*



Image courtesy of the Library of Virginia.



Lucy Francis Simms
(d. 1934), Harrisonburg

EDUCATOR

Born into slavery, Lucy Francis Simms was a highly respected elementary school teacher in Harrisonburg for more than fifty years.

*Nominated by Deniece Frye (2009–2010),
Skyline Middle School, Harrisonburg*



Image courtesy of Robert W. Johnson III.



Robert Walter Johnson
(1899–1971), Lynchburg

PHYSICIAN AND TENNIS COACH

Robert Walter Johnson was a driving force behind the integration of the sport of tennis.

Nominated by Leo Goldman IV, in Susan Bayne's kindergarten class (2009–2010), J. G. Hening Elementary School, Richmond



Image courtesy of the Lacks family and reprinted from *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot (New York: The Crown Publishing Group, a division of Random House, Inc., 2010).



Henrietta Lacks (1920–1951), Clover

PRINCIPAL IN A MEDICAL CAUSE CÉLÈBRE

Henrietta Lacks's cells, known in the medical world as HeLa cells, were the first human cells to be grown successfully outside the body for more than a short time. They have proved instrumental in significant medical breakthroughs and ongoing medical research.

Nominated by Virginia Rose Cherry, Richard Bland College



Image courtesy of Steerforth Press and reprinted from *Hand Driving: The Wendell Scott Story* by Brian Donovan.



Wendell Scott
(1921–1990), Danville
STOCKCAR RACER

Wendell Oliver Scott was the first African American to drive in the highest level of stockcar racing and remains to date the only African American to have won a major NASCAR race.



Image courtesy of Annie Belle Daniels.



Annie Belle Daniels

Newport News

ENTREPRENEUR

Annie Belle Daniels, the founder of the Madam Daniels School of Beauty Culture, is an influential civil rights and political activist in Newport News.

Nominated by Fredrika Conyers-Glover's African American Studies class (2009–2010), Phoebus High School, Hampton





Image courtesy of John A. Stokes.

John Arthur Stokes
Prince Edward County
CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST

As a student at Robert Russa Moton High School, John Stokes helped lead a strike by pupils to gain better education facilities, an act of defiance that contributed to the integration of public schools in the United States.

*Nominated by Sally Miller's fourth-grade class (2009–2010),
William Fox Elementary School, Richmond*

