

1 Christiana Burdett Campbell (ca. 1723–1792)

WILLIAMSBURG
INNKEEPER

Christiana Campbell became one of Williamsburg's most prominent and successful tavern keepers during the Revolutionary era.

2 Orleana Hawks Puckett (d. 1939)

PATRICK AND CARROLL COUNTIES
MIDWIFE

Living in a rural mountain region with few doctors, Orleana Hawks Puckett became a midwife and successfully delivered more than 1,000 babies in her community.

NOMINATED BY: Larnette Snow, librarian of Blue Ridge and Meadows of Dan Elementary Schools, on behalf of Tammy Harrison's and Mary Slate's fifth-grade students, Blue Ridge Elementary School, Ararat

3 Susie May Ames (1888–1969)

ACCOMACK COUNTY
HISTORIAN

Susie M. Ames's writings made major contributions to understanding the social and cultural life of seventeenth-century Virginia.

4 Alice Jackson Stuart (1913–2001)

RICHMOND
PRINCIPAL IN A 1935 CIVIL RIGHTS
TURNING POINT

By applying to the University of Virginia to pursue graduate studies, Alice Jackson challenged Virginia's laws of segregation.



5 Elizabeth Peet McIntosh

WOODBIDGE
INTELLIGENCE AGENT

As an intelligence agent with the Office of Strategic Services, Elizabeth Peet worked in the Burmese, Chinese, and Indian theaters during World War II.

NOMINATED BY: Linda McCarthy, Markham

6 Betty Sams Christian (1922–2006)

RICHMOND
BUSINESS EXECUTIVE AND PHILANTHROPIST
RECIPIENT OF THE VABPW FOUNDATION
BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD

A president of Central Coca-Cola Bottling Company for more than twenty years, Betty Sams Christian enriched her community through philanthropy.

7 Judith Shatin

CHARLOTTESVILLE
COMPOSER

Judith Shatin champions music that blurs the line between acoustic and digital.

8 Monica Beltran

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY
BRONZE STAR MEDAL RECIPIENT

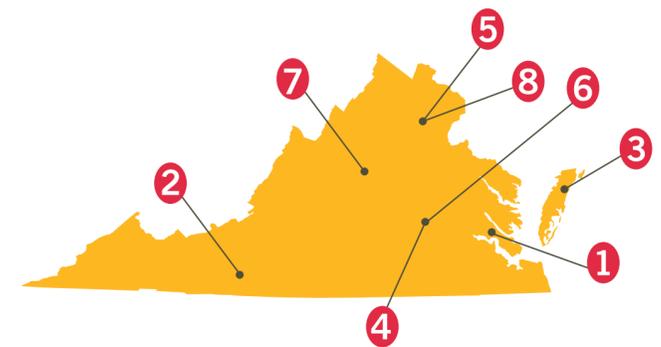
As a result of her heroic actions while under attack in Iraq, Monica Beltran became the first woman in the Virginia National Guard to receive a Bronze Star Medal for Valor.

NOMINATED BY: John W. Listman, Jr., Virginia National Guard Historical Collection, Fort Pickett, Blackstone

VIRGINIA WOMEN IN HISTORY 2012

Women have played an integral part in Virginia from its beginnings, yet their contributions have often been overlooked in the history books. Until well into the twentieth century, written histories tended to focus on the historically male-dominated fields of government and politics, the military, and large-scale property ownership to the virtual exclusion of all other venues of leadership or achievement. They ignored women's critical roles as educators, nurses, lay leaders and missionaries, farmers, artists, writers, reformers, pioneers, business leaders, laborers, civic activists, and community builders.

Today, we recognize and celebrate women's accomplishments in all walks of life, particularly in March, which Congress has designated as National Women's History Month. The Library of Virginia presents the 2012 Virginia Women in History project to honor eight women, past and present, who have made important contributions to Virginia, the nation, and the world. We encourage you to learn more about these extraordinary women who saw things differently from their contemporaries, developed new approaches to old problems, served their communities, advanced their professions, strove for excellence based on the courage of their convictions, and initiated changes in Virginia and the United States that continue to affect our lives today.



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Presented by:



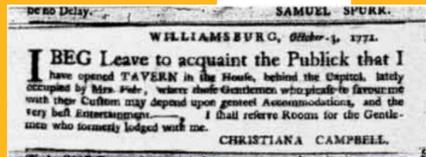
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Christiana Burdett Campbell

WILLIAMSBURG
INNKEEPER

Christiana Burdett Campbell (ca. 1723–March 25, 1792) was the daughter of a Williamsburg innkeeper and the wife of an apothecary who died in Blandford, near Petersburg, early in the 1750s. Returning to Williamsburg, she began operating an inn, or tavern, about 1755. One of the most prominent taverns in the capital, it provided rooms and food for those who had business to conduct with government officials or in the General Court or who attended the regular meetings of the colony’s chief merchants. When the General Assembly was in session, Campbell’s tavern was one of the principal places where members of the House of Burgesses lodged. Among the legislators who stayed in Campbell’s tavern were Thomas Jefferson and George Washington. Campbell advertised her tavern as providing “genteel Accommodations, and the very best Entertainment.”



Several women operated taverns in colonial Virginia, some of them continuing a business after their tavern-keeping husbands had died. Campbell, however, began her own business and conducted it with success for more than thirty years. She owned as many as a dozen enslaved laborers who probably worked in the tavern. She allowed them to attend a local school for African Americans and assisted them in being baptized at Bruton Parish Church. Campbell finally closed her tavern in 1787, after the state’s capital had moved to Richmond and all of the government offices had left Williamsburg. She retired to live with her daughter in Fredericksburg. Her Waller Street tavern burned about 1859, but in 1956 the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation opened a reconstructed Christiana Campbell’s Tavern as a working restaurant and thus preserved her name and reputation.

Orleana Hawks Puckett

PATRICK AND CARROLL COUNTIES
MIDWIFE

Born in North Carolina about 1844, **Orleana Hawks** (d. October 21, 1939) received little formal education before she married John Puckett at about age sixteen. They settled close to his family near Groundhog Mountain in Patrick County. Her first child was born in 1862 but died a few months later of diphtheria. Of her twenty-three subsequent pregnancies, none of the children born living survived more than a few days, possibly as a result of Rh hemolytic disease. Orleana Puckett and her husband moved in 1875 to a nearby farm

in Carroll County, where he built a two-story log house. She first served as a midwife in 1889, when no doctor or other midwife could be found for a neighbor. Puckett soon began traveling around the region, sometimes up to twenty miles distant, to deliver babies. She never charged for her services and became known throughout the area for her compassion and skill, having never lost a mother or baby during the more than 1,000 deliveries she attended. Forced to move from her home by the construction of the Blue Ridge Parkway in 1939, she died shortly afterward. A small cabin on her property was preserved by the National Park Service and incorrectly interpreted as Puckett’s house. Continuing her legacy of care, the Hawks Puckett Institute, in Asheville, North Carolina, works to promote and strengthen child, parent, and family development.

NOMINATED BY: Larnette Snow, librarian of Blue Ridge and Meadows of Dan Elementary Schools, on behalf of Tammy Harrison’s and Mary Slate’s fifth-grade students, Blue Ridge Elementary School, Ararat

Susie May Ames

ACCOMACK COUNTY
HISTORIAN

A native of Pungoteague, in Accomack County, **Susie May Ames** (January 10, 1888–July 30, 1969) became an influential historian. After graduating from Randolph-Macon Woman’s College in 1908 with a major in English and a minor in Latin, she taught in public schools in Virginia, Maryland, Indiana, and Kentucky until 1923, when she joined the Randolph-Macon Woman’s College faculty. Like many other professional women of her generation, she never married. Ames continued her education while she worked. She received a master’s degree from Columbia University in 1926 and a doctorate in history in 1940 with a published dissertation entitled *Studies of the Virginia Eastern Shore in the Seventeenth Century*.

One of only a small number of women with a doctorate in history at that time, Ames taught at Randolph-Macon-Woman’s College until she retired in 1955. She published one of the first scholarly studies of the Eastern Shore during the Civil War, but her work concentrated on Virginia’s early colonial period and its people. Ames edited and published two volumes of seventeenth-century Eastern Shore county court records, the first of them in 1954 in the prestigious American Legal Records series that the American Historical Association sponsored. Ames’s five books and her scholarly articles in professional journals made major contributions to understanding the social and cultural life of men, women, and children in seventeenth-century Virginia.

Ames was a founder of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Historical Society and in 1964 received a certificate of commendation from the American Association for State and Local History.

Alice Jackson Stuart

RICHMOND
PRINCIPAL IN A 1935 CIVIL RIGHTS TURNING POINT

In 1934 Richmonder **Alice Carlotta Jackson** (June 2, 1913–June 13, 2001) received a bachelor’s degree in English from Virginia Union University, where she was a charter member of Delta Sigma Theta sorority. She then attended Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts. In August 1935 Jackson became the first African American on record to apply to a Virginia graduate or professional school when she sought admission to the University of Virginia in order to pursue a master’s degree in French, a program not offered at any of the black colleges in the state. The University of Virginia’s board of visitors flatly rejected her application, citing Virginia law that required black and white students to attend separate schools and “for other good and sufficient reasons” that the board refused to explain. After the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People threatened legal action, the Virginia General Assembly established a tuition supplement fund to compensate Jackson and other qualified African American students for the difference in cost to attend an out-of-state school. Until Gregory Swanson finally broke the color barrier at the University of Virginia Law School in 1950, the fund enabled thousands of Virginia African American students to continue their professional and graduate education.

Jackson used her tuition supplement to study at Columbia University in New York City, where she received a graduate degree in English and comparative literature. She taught for about fifty

years at several black colleges, including Howard University, as well as in public schools. She retired in 1983 as a professor of English at Middlesex County College.



Elizabeth Peet McIntosh

WOODBIDGE
INTELLIGENCE AGENT

Born in Washington, D.C., and raised in Hawaii, **Elizabeth “Betty” Peet** (b. 1915) was working as a correspondent for the Scripps Howard news service near Pearl Harbor when the Japanese attacked the naval base on December 7, 1941. After the United States entered World War II, she returned to Washington, where she covered Eleanor Roosevelt and government activities. Fluent in Japanese, Peet was recruited in January 1943 to join the Office of Strategic Services, the country’s wartime intelligence agency whose ranks included actress Marlene Dietrich and chef Julia Child. Operating in Burma, China, and India, Peet was one of the few women assigned to Morale Operations, where she helped produce false news reports, postcards, documents, and radio messages designed to spread disinformation that would undermine Japanese morale.



After the war McIntosh wrote a memoir of her OSS experiences, published in 1947 as *Undercover Girl*. She also wrote two children’s books, *Inki* (1957) and *Palace under the Sea* (1959). McIntosh continued in public service and worked on assignments for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Voice of America, the State Department, and the United Nations. In 1958 she joined the Central Intelligence Agency, successor to the OSS, where she worked until her retirement in 1973. Her book *Sisterhood of Spies: The Women of the OSS* (1998) describes the adventures of the brave women who served in the Office of Strategic Services during World War II.

NOMINATED BY: Linda McCarthy, Markham

Betty Sams Christian

RICHMOND
BUSINESS EXECUTIVE AND PHILANTHROPIST
RECIPIENT OF THE VABPW FOUNDATION BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD

Born in Staunton, **Betty Lee Sams Christian** (February 19, 1922–April 8, 2006) received a bachelor’s degree in physics from Hollins College and a master’s degree in social work from Columbia University. After World War II, Christian’s husband joined her family’s Coca-Cola bottling operation, headquartered in Richmond. During the 1950s the Sams-Christian family operated thirteen plants in Virginia. Following her father’s death in 1965, Christian’s husband took over the business and in 1980 merged it with other bottling franchises in Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia to form the Central Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Incorporated. After her husband retired in 1982, Christian took over as president and chief executive officer. She worked during the next two decades to improve the company’s accounting, sales, and distribution methods. By the time she retired in 2003, Central Coca-Cola Bottling had become the ninth-largest independent Coke bottler in the country.

Active in civic organizations, Christian sat on the board of the Frontier Culture Museum, in Staunton, and the council of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, in Richmond. In 1991 she established the Burford Leimenstoll Foundation to support charitable causes, including the Massey Cancer Center, the Boy Scouts of America, the Virginia Home for Boys and Girls, and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. The Child Health Advocacy Program at the University of Virginia is named for Betty Sams Christian.



Judith Shatin

CHARLOTTESVILLE
COMPOSER

As founder and director of the Virginia Center for Computer Music, **Judith Shatin** (b. 1949) combines her musical training and her fascination with sounds, natural and built, to create works that expand the traditional definitions of music and composer. For Shatin, there is no distinction between acoustic and digital music. She uses combinations of instruments, electronic media,

and even wild animal sounds. In an interview, Shatin said that she is “interested in creating perceptible rhythmic frameworks and in developing musical structures that invite both physical and intellectual response.”

Shatin, a student of piano and flute, received degrees from Douglass College, The Juilliard School, and Princeton University. While at Princeton she studied under the composer Milton Babbitt, a pioneer in using computers to write music. In 1979 Shatin joined the faculty of the University of Virginia, where she is William R. Kenan, Jr., Professor of Music, and in 1987 she established the Center for Computer Music. In addition to her tenure as president of American Women Composers, Inc. (1989–1993), she has served on the boards of the International Alliance for Women in Music, the American Composers Alliance, and the League of Composers/ISCM. Shatin has received four fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as awards from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the Virginia Commission for the Arts. She is married to Michael Kubovy, a professor of psychology at the University of Virginia.



Monica Beltran

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY
BRONZE STAR MEDAL RECIPIENT

As a high school senior in Woodbridge, **Monica Beltran** (b. 1985) joined the Virginia National Guard as a way to help fund college tuition costs. She was assigned to the 1710th Transportation Company but in 2004 she was called up to complete the 1173d Transportation Company when it was deployed during Operation Iraqi Freedom. In Iraq she volunteered for gun turret duty, although she had been trained as a truck driver. She worked to overcome the unease that some platoon members voiced regarding her youth and gender.

On October 26, 2005, Specialist Beltran was serving as a gunner for a gun truck on a combat logistics patrol. Responsible for providing security for equipment and fifty-five soldiers and contractors being transported to Forward Operating Base Suse, she was on the convoy’s right flank. During an enemy attack, Beltran returned maximum suppressive fire while taking heavy fire from multiple rounds of small arms, heavy-caliber machine guns, and rocket-propelled grenades. Despite suffering a wound to her left hand, she continued returning fire to ensure that the rear element of the convoy could pass safely through the mile-long kill zone. For her heroic service in the line of duty under hostile fire and adverse conditions, Beltran was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Valor on December 30, 2005, the first woman in the Virginia National Guard to receive the honor.



Promoted to sergeant in 2006, Beltran remains a member of the Virginia National Guard.

NOMINATED BY: John W. Listman, Jr., Virginia National Guard Historical Collection, Fort Pickett, Blackstone

Research and text by Barbara C. Batson, John G. Deal, Marianne E. Julienne, and Brent Tarter, Library of Virginia

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Learn more about Virginia women in the *Dictionary of Virginia Biography* (Richmond: The Library of Virginia, 1998–) and on the Library’s Virginia Memory Web site at www.virginiamemory.com. Instructional materials and nomination forms for the 2013 project are available at www.lva.virginia.gov/vawomen.



VIRGINIA WOMEN IN HISTORY 2012

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