



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

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Find Your Story

Trace your Virginia roots with help from the Library of Virginia's Genealogy Workshop Series

March 25, 2019

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(Richmond, Virginia) – Genealogy is a hot topic that shows no signs of cooling off. DNA testing frequently makes headlines. TV turns family history into entertainment with shows like PBS's *Finding Your Roots* and *Genealogy Roadshow* and TLC's *Who Do You Think You Are?* Ancestry's family history websites have more than 3 million paying subscribers. Articles in *USA Today* and *Time* have proclaimed genealogy as the second-most popular hobby after gardening and the second-most visited website category after pornography. There's no denying that people today are fascinated with their family trees.

Here in commonwealth, the Library of Virginia has the content that family history researchers seek. Many users consider it Virginia's family history headquarters. A state agency that serves as the state library and archives, the Library is the most comprehensive resource in the world for the study of Virginia history, culture, and government. Researchers from across the globe use the Library's online resources, while visitors to the building find even more materials, as well as the expert guidance offered by the Library's professional staff. (That's why genealogy TV shows consistently send their researchers and celebrity subjects to visit the Library.) Those who are new to family history research or who want to delve deeper into the records can take advantage of the **Library of Virginia's Genealogy Workshop Series**.

This year's series includes beginner and intermediate workshops; workshops on African American, military, census, and immigration records; and a workshop on little-known records for family history research such as mental hospital and penitentiary records. Library staff members travel to Yorktown this year to offer two workshops at the American Revolution Museum. See the schedule below or visit www.lva.virginia.gov/public/genealogy_workshops.

All genealogy workshops run from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM on Fridays and cost \$25 (\$20 for Library members—the Semper Virginia Society). Preregistration is required. For more information about the workshops, contact Ashley Ramey at ashley.ramey@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3001.

The Library of Virginia's workshops are made possible with federal funding provided through the Library Services and Technology Act administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

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2019 Genealogy Workshop Series at the Library of Virginia

BEGINNER GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Finding Your Family History: An Introduction to Genealogical Research

Friday, April 5, 2019 | 9:30 AM–12:30 PM | Library of Virginia Conference Rooms
\$25 (\$20 for members) | Preregistration required: [findingyourfamhistory.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/finding-your-family-history-tickets-54444444444)

Are you interested in exploring your family tree, but don't know where to begin? Join Library staff members to learn about basic research strategies, useful websites, and helpful resources found at the Library. No experience necessary.

INTERMEDIATE GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

How to Trace Your Virginia Roots

Friday, May 10, 2019 | 9:30 AM–12:30 PM | Library of Virginia Conference Rooms
\$25 (\$20 for members) | Preregistration required: [howtotraceyourvaroots-may.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-to-trace-your-virginia-roots-tickets-54444444444)

Library of Virginia staff members introduce you to the types of records in the Library's collections and help you get started with your Virginia-based genealogical research.

INTERMEDIATE GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Out of the Shadows: Little-Known Records for Virginia Genealogy

Friday, June 7, 2019 | 9:30 AM–12:30 PM | Library of Virginia Conference Rooms
\$25 (\$20 for members) | Preregistration required: [littleknownrecs2019.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/out-of-the-shadows-little-known-records-for-virginia-genealogy-tickets-54444444444)

Library of Virginia staff members discuss a variety of records that are often overlooked when doing family history research, such as Virginia penitentiary records, Prohibition Commission records, state mental hospital records, court order books, business records, and militia commission records.

AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

African American Research at the Library of Virginia: Genealogy to 1870

Friday, July 12, 2019 | 9:30 AM–12:30 PM | Library of Virginia Conference Rooms
\$25 (\$20 for members) | Preregistration required: [africanamericangenealogy2019.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/african-american-genealogy-2019-tickets-54444444444)

Explore the methods and resources for African American genealogy prior to the end of the Civil War, including ways to determine whether an individual was enslaved or free and what types of records will be useful for further research. Learn about the Library's collections including cohabitation registers, free Negro registers, lists, wills, deeds, and tax records as well as selected federal records that can be accessed through databases.

LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA GENEALOGY WORKSHOP AT YORKTOWN

African American Research at the Library of Virginia: Genealogy to 1870

Friday, July 26, 2019 | 9:30 AM–12:30 PM
American Revolution Museum, Conference Rooms D & E, 200 Water Street, Yorktown
\$25 (\$20 for Library members & Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Annual Fund members)
Preregistration required: [africanamericangenealogyto1870.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/african-american-genealogy-to-1870-tickets-54444444444)

Explore the methods and resources for African American genealogy prior to the end of the Civil War, including ways to determine whether an individual was enslaved or free and what types of records will be useful for further research. Learn about the Library's collections including cohabitation registers, free Negro registers, lists, wills, deeds, and tax records as well as selected federal records that can be accessed through databases. Enjoy an optional free tour of the special exhibition *Forgotten Soldiers: African American Soldiers in the American Revolution*.

CENSUS RECORDS GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Historic Census Records at the Library of Virginia

Friday, August 9, 2019 | 9:30 AM–12:30 PM | Library of Virginia Conference Rooms
\$25 (\$20 for members) | Preregistration required: [historiccensusrecords.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/historic-census-records-tickets-54444444444)

United States Census records provide a framework for initial genealogical research as well as offering significant clues to comprehending a bigger picture of a person's life—his or her family relations, community, migrations, and livelihood. This workshop illuminates the particulars of each census, suggesting potential search strategies, tips for finding missing ancestors, and ways to mine the census for more information.

LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA GENEALOGY WORKSHOP AT YORKTOWN

To Common Defense: Military Records for Genealogical Research

Friday, August 16, 2019 | 9:30 AM–12:30 PM

American Revolution Museum, Conference Rooms D & E, 200 Water Street, Yorktown

\$25 (\$20 for Library members & Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Annual Fund members)

Preregistration required: tocommondefense.eventbrite.com

The Library of Virginia is the most important repository of military records of Virginians who served in various ways from Virginia's founding to the end of World War II. Library staff members present records unique to the Library, as well as records available on microfilm and in digital format from institutions such as the National Archives. Enjoy an optional free tour of the special exhibition *Forgotten Soldiers: African American Soldiers in the American Revolution*.

IMMIGRATION RECORDS GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Virginia Immigration Research, 1607–1952

Friday, September 6, 2019 | 9:30 AM–12:30 PM | Library of Virginia Conference Rooms

Cost: \$25 (\$20 for members) | Preregistration required: lvimmigrationresearch.eventbrite.com

This workshop focuses on records from 1607 to 1952 concerning the immigration of individuals who came to Virginia. Learn about passenger lists and naturalization records as well as strategies for identifying birthplaces through records that relate to immigration and naturalization, vital records, obituaries, cemetery records, the records of religious organizations, and records from an individual's country of origin.

INTERMEDIATE GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

How to Trace Your Virginia Roots

Friday, November 15, 2019 | 9:30 AM–12:30 PM | Library of Virginia Conference Rooms

\$25 (\$20 for members) | Preregistration required: howtotraceyourvaroots-nov.eventbrite.com

Library of Virginia staff members introduce you to the types of records in the Library's collections and help you get started with your Virginia-based genealogical research.

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