

broadSIDE



the magazine of the **LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA**

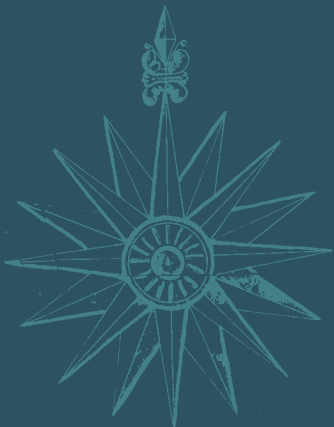
2024 | NO. 3

MAPPING THE COMMONWEALTH

1816–1826

AN EXHIBITION

**10 YEARS
5 GOVERNORS
2 SURVEYORS
1 ENGRAVER**



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LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

2024 | NO. 3

LIBRARIAN OF VIRGINIA

Dennis T. Clark

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LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA 804.692.3500

THE INSIDE STORY

From the Librarian of Virginia

With fall in full swing — a new exhibition centering on county maps and the Virginia Literary Awards — I can assure you that the Library of Virginia remains as busy as ever.

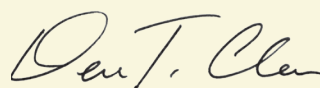
I'd like to mention a new, strategic hire we made this summer. Dominique Luster joined us in July to work on the Virginia Untold: The African American Narrative project. She'll assess records in our collections that are rich in Black history and genealogy for inclusion as online resources. She most recently was a staff member for the General Assembly's Commission to Study Slavery and Subsequent De Jure and De Facto Racial and Economic Discrimination Against African Americans, which concluded its work at the end of June. Luster earned a Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of Pittsburgh and previously worked at the Carnegie Museum of Art in the same city.

We are moving ahead on two capital building projects in their various stages right now. The first is the long-planned expansion of the State Records Center in Henrico County — a \$35 million project that should allow for nearly 25 years of growth. The second — only beginning the planning process — is a renovation of our current home at 800 East Broad Street.

The Commonwealth has allocated funds for planning, and we are working with our colleagues across state government to begin the design process to help the Library of Virginia connect even more closely with the communities we serve.

I enjoyed seeing many of you at the Virginia Literary Awards on Sept. 21. Congratulations to the winners and all the finalists celebrated during our glittering gala honoring them. In addition, the Library Board presented its honorary Patron of Letters degree to Reginald Dwayne Betts, founder and CEO of Freedom Reads, and to author and filmmaker Adriana Trigiani, who has graciously hosted our awards celebration since 2009. This gala is the biggest night of the year at the Library — and a major fundraising event for the Library of Virginia Foundation — and I was thrilled to be able to host my first one.

Sincerely,



Dennis T. Clark



I enjoyed seeing many of you at the Virginia Literary Awards on Sept. 21. Congratulations to the winners and all the finalists celebrated during our glittering gala honoring them.

START
HERE



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

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PLAN YOUR VISIT

Welcome to the Library of Virginia, the state's oldest institution dedicated to the preservation of Virginia's history and culture. Our resources, exhibitions and events attract nearly 100,000 visitors each year. Our collections, containing more than 130 million items, document and illustrate the lives of both famous Virginians and ordinary citizens.

INFORMATION

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ADMISSION IS FREE

Some special programs may have fees.
Check calendar listings for details.

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EXHIBITIONS

Mapping the Commonwealth, 1816–1826

Through June 7, 2025

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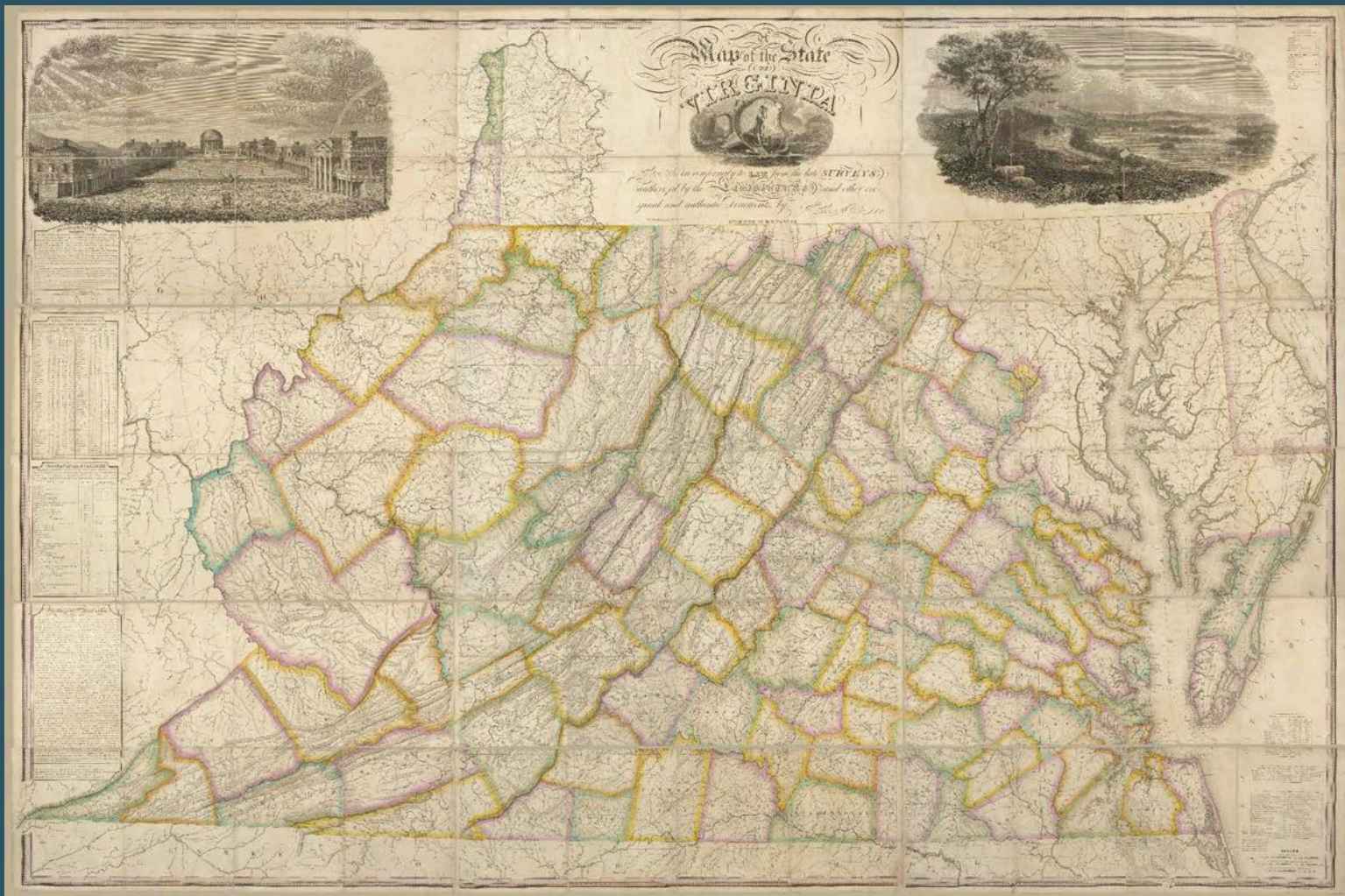
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MAPPING THE COMMONWEALTH 1816–1826

EXPLORE THE CREATION OF A VITAL VIRGINIA GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT

The story of 10 years, five governors, two principal surveyors and one lead engraver — the time frame and team needed to create one of the first official state maps in the nation — is told in “Mapping the Commonwealth, 1816–1826,” an exhibition on view at the Library of Virginia through June 7, 2025.

The Commonwealth’s state map project required the creation of manuscript maps of each county. These large and detailed maps, many of which have rarely been seen by the public, attest to the skill and stamina of surveying teams who worked without the benefit of GPS and today’s technology.

“Our visitors love to see older manuscript maps that were drawn with pencil, pen and ink, and watercolor,” said Cassandra Farrell, the Library of Virginia’s senior map archivist and the exhibition’s curator. “They appeal to both history and art lovers.”

AN EXHIBITION

Through June 7, 2025

Exhibition Gallery & Lobby

After the War of 1812 highlighted the nation’s woeful state of transportation, the states initiated internal improvement projects such as building canals, roads and turnpikes to promote and connect American markets, and to improve the flow of technology and information between urban and rural areas. In 1816 Virginia’s General Assembly created the Board of Public Works to oversee the construction of

THE FIRST OFFICIAL STATE MAP

OPPOSITE PAGE: "A map of the state of Virginia, constructed in conformity to law, from the late surveys authorized by the legislature and other original and authentic documents" was published in 1826 by Henry S. Tanner in Philadelphia. Board of Public Works Map Collection.

the Commonwealth's internal improvements — work that required an accurate map of the state.

Mapping the Commonwealth required surveyors. The General Assembly enacted legislation requiring counties to contract with a surveyor to make "an accurate chart of their respective county," and Governor Wilson Cary Nicholas employed Andrew Alexander, William H. Meriwether, John Wood and George Wyche to survey and map Virginia's main rivers and roads.

In 1817 the legislature revised the act, transferring power to contract with county surveyors to the governor. Surveyors were to make two maps, one for the county and the other for the governor. These became the foundation for a general map of Virginia. A sum of \$50,000 was set aside for the project, which provided for the map's engraving but not its printing. Governor James Preston contracted with John Wood, originally from Scotland, to supervise the county-mapping project in April 1819.

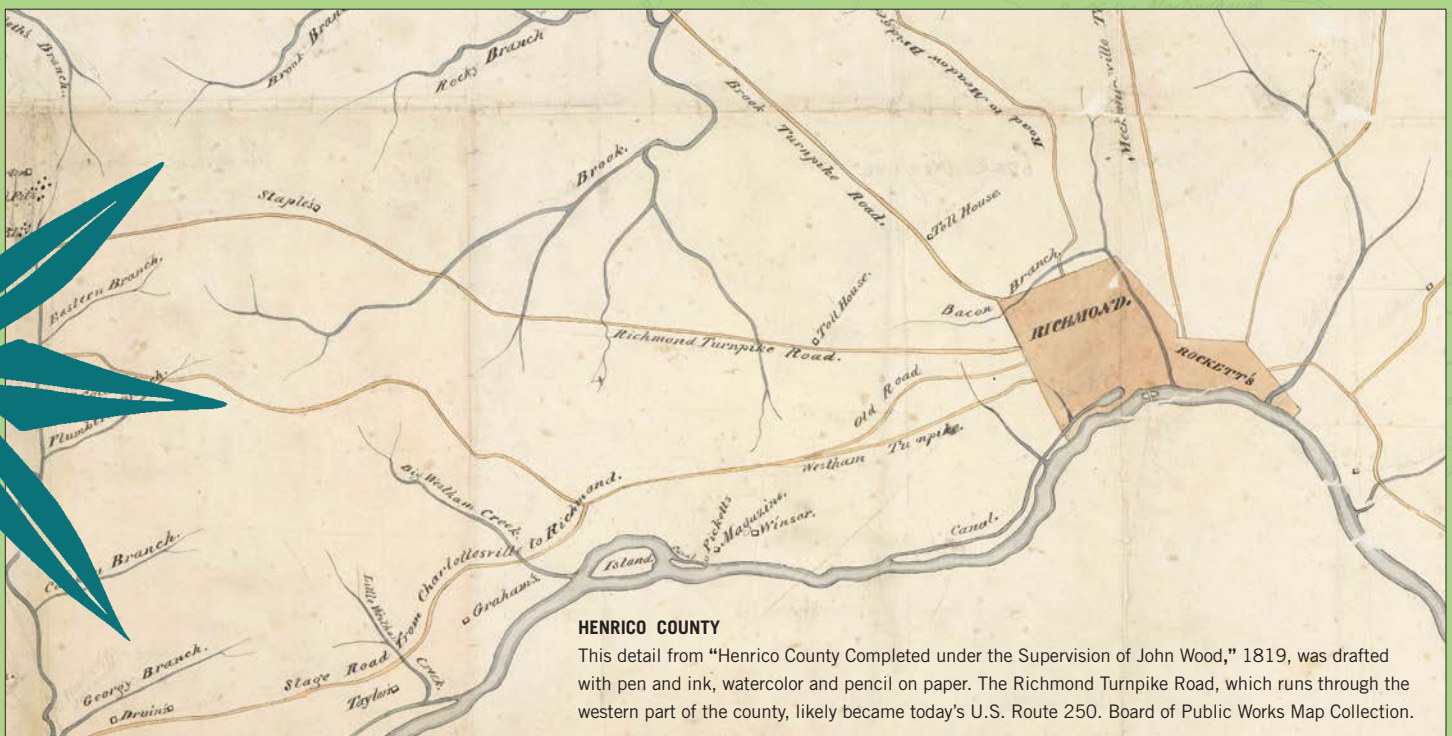
Wood supervised the completion of 96 county maps, overseeing surveyors throughout the Commonwealth who drafted surveys that

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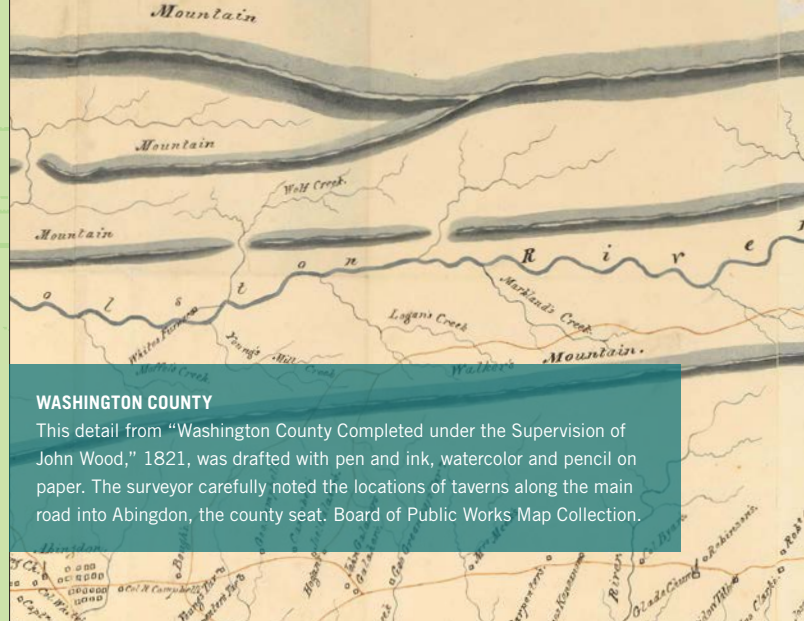
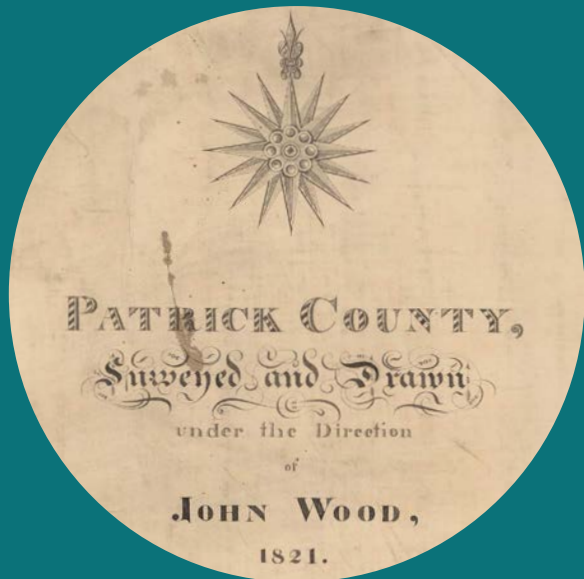
STAFFORD COUNTY

This detail from "Stafford County Surveyed and Drawn under the Direction of John Wood," 1820, was drafted with pen and ink, watercolor and pencil on paper. Board of Public Works Map Collection.



HENRICO COUNTY

This detail from "Henrico County Completed under the Supervision of John Wood," 1819, was drafted with pen and ink, watercolor and pencil on paper. The Richmond Turnpike Road, which runs through the western part of the county, likely became today's U.S. Route 250. Board of Public Works Map Collection.



WASHINGTON COUNTY

This detail from "Washington County Completed under the Supervision of John Wood," 1821, was drafted with pen and ink, watercolor and pencil on paper. The surveyor carefully noted the locations of taverns along the main road into Abingdon, the county seat. Board of Public Works Map Collection.

SURVEYOR STORY

WHO WAS JOHN WOOD?

Born in Scotland, John Wood (1775–1822) studied mathematics before moving to Switzerland. He returned to Scotland in 1799 and became the master of the academy at Edinburgh for the improvement of the arts in Scotland. About 1800, Wood immigrated to the United States, where he published political pamphlets, was employed as a newspaper editor in Kentucky and the District of Columbia and authored a book-length attack on President John Adams and his administration. Wood taught at several academies before founding the Petersburg Academy and then worked as an instructor of mathematics at the College of William and Mary. Wood briefly served as the surveyor for the City of Richmond in 1805. Between 1819 and 1822 he completed maps for 96 counties and was preparing drafts for six others when he died in May 1822. Wood is buried in Richmond's Shockoe Cemetery.



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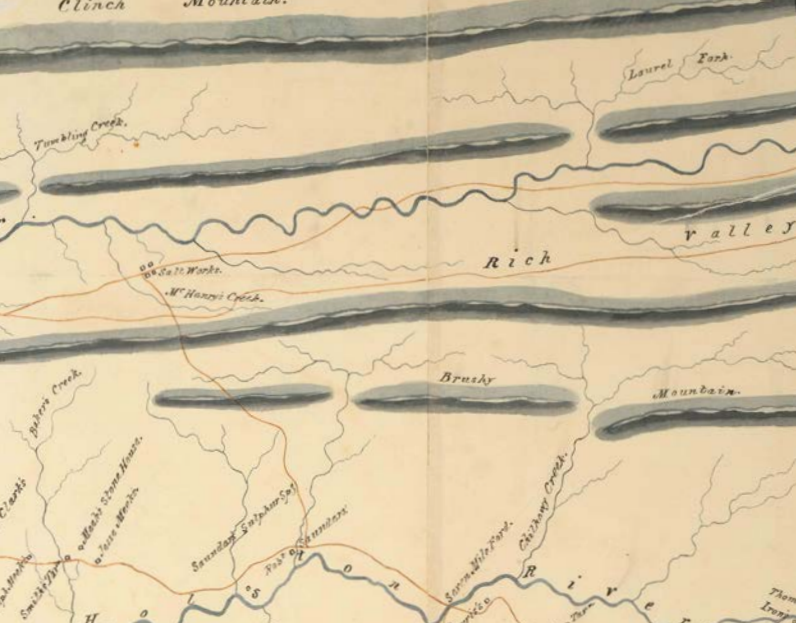
included important information for Virginians: roads, waterways, mills, churches, taverns, distilleries, county boundaries, bridges, ferry crossings, towns, cities, stage (postal) roads, general stores, courthouses, ironworks, tanneries, post offices, landowner names and place-names, as well as the locations of swamps, islands and deposits of iron ore and saltpeter. Wood kept the governor and his Council apprised of his work and frequently posted updates in the Richmond Enquirer newspaper. His correspondence with Governor Thomas Mann Randolph shows that he planned to complete a manuscript draft map of Virginia by August 1822. His death in May of that year briefly suspended the Commonwealth's mapping project as the governor sought Wood's replacement.

Herman Böye worked as principal assistant to John Wood. Following Wood's death, Böye applied to the governor for the vacant position and was awarded the contract on Nov. 22, 1822. Between that date and April 1825 Böye continued to research and draft the map of Virginia. He reduced and updated the county maps and copied all surveys that had been made by Board of Public Works engineers, which he noted were "taken with greater accuracy than those from which the County Maps were made out and from this source I have obtained considerable information in relation to the western section of the State." He consulted plans in the executive department that Wood had not reviewed and reached out to Col. Charles Gratiot of the U.S. Topographical Corps for copies of maps and charts, including "a very accurate chart of the Chesapeake Bay, a topographical map of the eastern section of the State, and some others of minor importance."

"Böye's completed draft manuscript map measured 99 by 64 inches — that's 44 square feet!" said Farrell. "The opportunity to engrave and print the map of Virginia, then one of the largest and one of the most populous states, enticed several of the nation's finest engravers and publishers to apply for the contract."

Henry Tanner, of Philadelphia, contracted with the Commonwealth on June 3, 1825, agreeing to engrave nine copperplates with two vignettes and a title. With additional legislative appropriation, Böye

"This edition was highly sought after by both the Union and Confederate armies during the American Civil War."



SURVEYOR STORY

WHO WAS HERMAN BÖYE?

A surveyor, cartographer and engineer, Herman Bøye (1792–1830), was a native of Denmark. By 1818 he had moved to Virginia, where he worked for about four years as a clerk for the House of Delegates. Bøye later served as principal assistant to John Wood and, at Wood's death, was well-placed to take advantage when opportunity came his way. Bøye applied for Wood's position and in 1822 was awarded the contract to complete the map. While in Philadelphia overseeing the printing of the Virginia map, Bøye declared his intention on June 18, 1825, to become a naturalized American citizen. After the completion of the Virginia maps, Bøye worked on construction of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal as resident engineer at the site where an aqueduct was being built at the confluence of the Monocacy and Potomac rivers. Working conditions were harsh, and during the latter part of 1829, Bøye was often ill. He wrote his will on March 1, 1830, naming two Richmond friends as executors and identifying which of his friends were to receive his drafting implements, prints, papers, musical instruments, clothing and jewelry. Bøye died on March 20, 1830, probably in the Georgetown section of Washington, D.C. The next day an undertaker billed his estate \$57.75 for supplying a lined mahogany coffin, making funeral arrangements and digging a grave at an undisclosed location.

oversaw the printing and distribution of this large nine-sheet map. Four hundred copies of the nine-sheet map were printed. Bøye convinced Virginia's legislature to finance the preparation of a smaller four-sheet map from which 800 copies were to be struck. The smaller maps, Bøye reasoned, would appeal to buyers who lacked wall space to hang the nine-sheet map.

Titled "A Map of the State of Virginia Constructed in conformity to Law, from the late Surveys authorized by the Legislature and other original and authentic Documents," the final product was a modern map from which Virginia's Board of Public Works could plan and direct Virginia's internal improvements.

"It's an excellent example of a 19th-century state-supported map that visually documents the Commonwealth of Virginia," said Farrell. "The state revised the maps in 1859, and this edition was highly sought after by both the Union and Confederate armies during the Civil War."

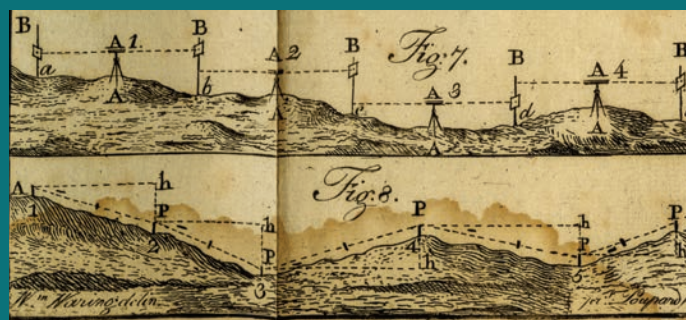
"Mapping the Commonwealth, 1816–1826" features examples from the 40 manuscript maps completed under Wood and Bøye's supervision from the Library's collection. Correspondence and other documents related to the publication of Virginia's first official state map, as well as copperplates — printing plates used for engraving — from the nine-sheet and four-sheet state maps are also displayed in the exhibition. A series of events and programs related to the exhibition will be announced soon. ■

Help Us Share Virginia's Story

Your support helps the Library share the story of Virginia with the public through dynamic exhibitions, thought-provoking lectures and collections-based workshops. Support our work by making a gift at lva.virginia.gov/donate.

THE CARTOGRAPHER'S CRAFT

OPPOSITE PAGE, UPPER LEFT AND THIS PAGE UPPER RIGHT: Compass roses, figures on maps that show cardinal directions, used by surveyors John Wood and Herman Bøye are shown from details of their maps of Patrick and Pocahontas counties. OPPOSITE PAGE, LOWER LEFT AND THIS PAGE LOWER RIGHT: The illustrations pictured here are details from Plate 13 of Robert Gibson's 1808 work "A Treatise of Practical Surveying: Which is Demonstrated from its First Principles," which offered a definitive guide to surveying property accurately.





EMERSON KNAPP MAP COLLECTION

A collector's gift expands the Library's cartographic holdings

In December 2023, Alison Anderson donated 190 maps to the Library of Virginia from the collection of her late father, Emerson Knapp. His collection represents places where he lived as well as his research interests — British North America, Virginia, and the French and Indian War (1754–1763) — and illustrates the growing awareness of continental colonial North America by surveyors and explorers of the time. Thanks to this gift, the Library's map collection now includes John Senex's 1710 map of North America, Herman Moll's 1729 map of North Carolina and Jacques Nicolas Bellin's 1764 plan of New Orleans. The collection is currently being processed. After the maps have been cataloged they will be available for researchers under the call number Map Accession 6103.

Emerson Knapp was born in Pulaski, Virginia, on July 22, 1928, the youngest of six children. He graduated from Pulaski High School and attended Roanoke College, where he earned a bachelor's degree in general science. From 1950 to 1954, he served in the U.S. Air Force as a technical sergeant in the 705th Air Intelligence Service Wing, based in Wiesbaden, Germany. After receiving a master's degree in chemical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute (now Virginia Tech) in 1956, he was hired by the Esso Research and Engineering Company.

In 1959, Knapp was sent to southern England to work at the Esso plant in Southampton. While there, he met and married his wife, (Evelyn) Barbara Remnant, and discovered his love of antique maps. He bought his first, John Speed's 1676 map titled "A New Description of Carolina," that year.

Esso continued to send Knapp on long-term assignments, and during his time in London in the late 1970s, he haunted the antiquarian map sellers then centered around Russell Square and significantly expanded his collection. During his retirement he became interested in the exploration of the New River, culminating in his article "The Kanawha/New River on Mid Eighteenth-Century Maps" published posthumously in *The Portolan*, the journal of the Washington Map Society, in 2000. Knapp died at his home on Aug. 11, 2000. Shortly before his death, he expressed his wish for his maps to be donated to the Library of Virginia. Learn more about the Library's map collection at www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/map. ■

FROM THE KNAPP COLLECTION

OPPOSITE PAGE: Johann Baptist Homann's 1730 map titled "Amplissimae Regionis Mississippi, seu Province Ludoviciana..." shows a large portion of North America surrounding the Mississippi River basin. RIGHT: John Senex's 1710 map titled "North America Corrected from the Observations Communicated to the Royal Society at London and the Royal Academy at Paris" represents the first significant British attempt to consolidate new information about North America. BELOW: Guests view a presentation about the Emerson Knapp Map Collection at a Collections Up Close event in May 2024.



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA AFFINITY GROUPS: *The Fry-Jefferson Map Society*

Are you interested in taking a deeper dive into Virginia's history? An affinity group for donors to the Library of Virginia Foundation, the Fry-Jefferson Map Society is for individuals interested in developing, building and promoting the cartographic collections of the Library of Virginia. With your \$100 donation, you can join the Fry-Jefferson Map Society and receive invitations to special events and curated communications. To learn more about other ways to support the Library, visit www.lvafoundation.org or call 804.692.3592.

What Current Donors and Map Enthusiasts Are Saying About the Library's World-Class Collection:

"Maps are a superlative resource for teaching and learning history. They provide facts and tell stories about the areas, times and events portrayed, and provide insights into those who drew and used them. I had the honor of seeing the Emerson Knapp Map Collection when it was newly donated to the Library. The collection will add tremendous value and historical insight to the Library's already world-class map collection."

—Wilson D. Blythe, Donor, Richmond

"Time and time again, the Library has been an invaluable resource in my study of the earliest exploration and settlements along the upper reaches of the North Branch of the Potomac River in what is now West Virginia. Seeing Mr. Guy Broadwater's 1749 original sketch of the very first map of the New Creek Valley and his handwritten notes at the Library was an unforgettable experience."

—Dr. Carl Avers,

Semper Virginia Society Member, Charlottesville

"The Library of Virginia's cartographic holdings are doubly blessed and doubly useful because (1) for over 200 years the Library has been the official repository of maps in the hands of the Commonwealth, such as the unique Board of Public Works Collection, and (2) because it has also been the recipient of outstanding private collections such as those of Alan M. Voorhees and now Emerson Knapp."

—William C. Wooldridge Jr.,

former Library Foundation Board Member, Norfolk



WHAT A NIGHT!

The Virginia Literary Awards dazzle and raise support for the Library

On Sept. 21, the Library hosted its Virginia Literary Awards celebration to a sold-out crowd. More than 250 people, representing authors, business executives and community leaders, filled the Library's beautiful lobby to honor the best in Virginia literature while raising critical support for the Library's conservation, education and community outreach initiatives. Bestselling author and award-winning filmmaker Adriana Trigiani delighted the crowd as host of the festivities again this year.

"For nearly three decades, the Virginia Literary Awards has been a beloved cultural tradition that uplifts the incredible work and contributions of Virginia authors and Virginia stories," said Pia Trigiani, president of the Library of Virginia Foundation. "As a Library signature event, the Literary Awards also raises critical support for the Library. It cannot be understated how grateful we are to our lead sponsors, Dominion Energy and Carole and Marcus Weinstein, and all our contributors who help the Library remain a trusted resource for preserving and sharing Virginia's history."

More than 200 books were nominated, read and adjudicated for the awards. Each winner received a crystal book award and a monetary prize. "Longstreet: The Confederate General Who Defied the South" by **Elizabeth R. Varon** won the Nonfiction Award, "Happiness Falls" by **Angie Kim** won the Fiction Award, and "Decade of the Brain: Poems" by **Janine Joseph** won the Poetry Award. "Walk Through Fire" by **Sheila Johnson** won the People's Choice Award for Nonfiction, and "The Plinko Bounce" by **Martin Clark** won the People's Choice Award for Fiction. Art In Literature: The Mary Lynn Kotz Award went to **Katy Hessel** for "The Story of Art Without Men." New this year was the Children's Virginia Literary Award, which went to **Kwame Alexander** for "An American Story."

The Library Board bestowed honorary Patron of Letters degrees on two Virginians in gratitude for their contributions to the fields of history, library science or archival science. The honor was presented to poet, lawyer and Freedom Reads founder **Reginald Dwayne Betts** and — to her surprise — also to bestselling author, award-winning filmmaker and longtime Virginia Literary Awards host **Adriana Trigiani**.

"The evening was thoroughly enriched by the reflections that both Dwayne Betts and Adriana Trigiani delivered on the power of reading and literature to transform lives," said C. Paul Brockwell Jr., chair of the Library Board. "The Board is so grateful for their contributions to libraries, readers, literacy and the community, and it was especially meaningful to present these honors on the night when we celebrate Virginia's rich literary traditions with so many fellow lovers of the written word and of libraries."

You can watch the awards ceremony by visiting our YouTube page ([Youtube.com/LibraryofVA](https://www.youtube.com/LibraryofVA)).

CELEBRATING AUTHORS

Bestselling author and award-winning filmmaker **Adriana Trigiani** addresses the crowd. She returned for her 17th year as host of the Virginia Literary Awards ceremony.

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List of sponsors continues on page 10



VIRGINIA'S BEST

1. **Reginald Dwayne Betts** accepts the honorary Patron of Letters degree. 2. **Angie Kim** accepts the Fiction Award for "Happiness Falls." 3. **Elizabeth R. Varon** accepts the Nonfiction Award for "Longstreet." 4. **Janine Joseph** accepts the Poetry Award for "Decade of the Brain." 5. **Martin Clark** accepts the People's Choice Award for Fiction for "The Plinko Bounce." 6. **Kwame Alexander** accepts the Children's Literature Award for "An American Story." 7. **Sheila Johnson** accepts the People's Choice Award for Fiction for "Walk Through Fire."

2024 VIRGINIA LITERARY AWARDS FINALISTS & WINNERS

FICTION

ANGIE KIM | Happiness Falls **WINNER**

RACHEL BEANLAND | The House Is On Fire

SADEQA JOHNSON | The House of Eve

NONFICTION

ELIZABETH R. VARON | Longstreet: The Confederate General Who Defied the South **WINNER**

EDWARD L. AYERS | American Visions: The United States, 1800–1860

ASHLEY SHEW | Against Technoableism: Rethinking Who Needs Improvement

POETRY

JANINE JOSEPH | Decade of the Brain: Poems **WINNER**

ARIANA BENSON | Black Pastoral: Poems

BOB HICOK | Water Look Away

CHILDREN'S VIRGINIA LITERARY AWARD

KWAME ALEXANDER | An American Story **WINNER**

ANDREA BEATRIZ ARANGO | Something Like Home

VASHTI HARRISON | Big

PEOPLE'S CHOICE: FICTION

MARTIN CLARK | The Plinko Bounce **WINNER**

DAVID BALDACCI | Simply Lies

RACHEL BEANLAND | The House Is On Fire

ALIX HARROW | Starling House

SADEQA JOHNSON | The House of Eve

ANGIE KIM | Happiness Falls

PEOPLE'S CHOICE: NONFICTION

SHEILA JOHNSON | Walk Through Fire: A Memoir of Love, Loss, and Triumph **WINNER**

MAJOR GENERAL MARI K. EDER | The Girls Who Fought Crime: The Untold True Story of the Country's First Female Investigator and Her Crime Fighting Squad

DREW GILPIN FAUST | Necessary Trouble: Growing Up at Midcentury

RUSS FORD | Crossing the River Styx: The Memoir of a Death Row Chaplain

CASSANDRA GOOD | First Family: George Washington's Heirs and the Making of America

DEAN KING | Guardians of the Valley: John Muir and the Friendship that Saved Yosemite

RACHEL JAMISON WEBSTER | Benjamin Banneker and Us: Eleven Generations of an American Family

ART IN LITERATURE: THE MARY LYNN KOTZ AWARD

KATY HESSEL | The Story of Art Without Men

Honorary Patron of Letters Degrees Awarded to Reginald Dwayne Betts and Adriana Trigiani

The Library of Virginia's Patron of Letters degree is the agency's highest honor. The ability to grant this honorary degree is given by the Commonwealth of Virginia to the Library Board in order to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions in the realms of history, library science or archival science.

Poet and lawyer Reginald Dwayne Betts, founder and CEO of Freedom Reads, and Adriana Trigiani, bestselling author, filmmaker and co-founder of The Origin Project, were each awarded the Library's honorary Patron of Letters degree during the 27th Annual Virginia Literary Awards Celebration on Sept. 21. Both recipients have distinguished themselves through their efforts to promote libraries and literacy.

Reginald Dwayne Betts has served as a powerful example of how literature and access to libraries can transform lives. He was sentenced as an adult in Virginia to nine years in prison at age 16. A Yale Law School graduate and 2021 MacArthur Fellow, he founded the nonprofit Freedom Reads to empower people in prison through literature to imagine new possibilities for their lives. Freedom Reads has transformed prisoners' access to literature by opening more than 300 Freedom Libraries in prisons nationwide, including 56 in Virginia prisons. Betts has also authored numerous works exploring the world of prison and the effects of violence and incarceration on American society. His books include his latest work, "Redaction," a collaboration with Titus Kaphar; three works of poetry; and his memoir, "A Question of Freedom." In 2019, Betts won the National Magazine Award in the Essays and Criticism category for "Getting Out," his New York Times Magazine essay that chronicles his journey from prison to becoming a licensed attorney.



PATRON OF LETTERS DEGREE RECIPIENTS HONORED

Library of Virginia Board chair **C. Paul Brockwell** (FAR LEFT) and Librarian of Virginia **Dennis T. Clark** (FAR RIGHT) present honorary Patron of Letters degrees to **Adriana Trigiani** (LEFT) and **Reginald Dwayne Betts** (RIGHT).

Adriana Trigiani creates opportunities for literary exploration and learning, and has given selflessly of her time and talent in service of the Library of Virginia as longtime host of the Virginia Literary Awards, among other efforts. She is a New York Times bestselling author of 20 books of fiction and nonfiction published in 38 languages. Her novels include "The Shoemaker's Wife," "The Good Left Undone," "Don't Sing at the Table" and "Lucia, Lucia." She is host of the hit podcast "You Are What You Read." She is an award-winning playwright, television writer/producer and filmmaker. Trigiani wrote and directed the major motion picture adaptation of her debut novel, "Big Stone Gap," adapted her novel "Very Valentine" for television, and directed "Then Came You." She wrote and directed the documentary film "Queens of the Big Time," winner of the Audience Awards at the Hamptons International Film Festival and the Palm Springs International Film Festival. Trigiani grew up in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia where she co-founded The Origin Project, an in-school writing program serving over 2,700 students in Appalachia. ■

continued from page 8

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WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN — AND WE'RE NOT DONE YET!

Thank you for your support and passion for the Library of Virginia's work. This year marked the start of our third century. For more than 200 years, we have told the story of Virginia, and the story of America, directly from the source — through the stories of its people. At the Library, you don't have to guess what the Founding Fathers thought — we can tell you using their own words.

Your support helped the Library connect millions of people to Virginia's past and empower our promising future through:

CONSERVING important Revolutionary-era manuscripts like Governor Thomas Nelson's executive papers, which document in detail the Siege of Yorktown in 1781, and launching the new State Art Collection Endowment, which will provide sustainable support to acquire, conserve and commission works of art

DIGITIZING items such as Virginia newspapers from every locality including West Virginia and continuing our major World War II Separation Notices Collection digitization and transcription project

PRESENTING thought-provoking exhibitions like "Indigenous Perspectives," which placed the voices of Virginia's Indigenous peoples at the center of an active examination of the Library's collections

NURTURING the next generation of cultural heritage champions through programs like our Transforming the Future of Libraries and Archives Internship, which provides paid internships for undergraduate students to learn and work side-by-side with the amazing Library staff and dream about future careers in libraries, archives and museums

ENGAGING with local communities through public programming like the Carole Weinstein Author Series and community outreach efforts like our LVA On the Go van, which has traveled over 4,000 miles since 2023 to Virginia communities to bring greater access to the Library's collections

While we're proud of all we've accomplished, we're not done yet!

We need your help to ensure that our treasures and collections are accessible to all — in person and online — and that everyone, regardless of location, has access to the Library's resources and is encouraged to regularly seek us out.

Please consider making an end-of-year gift to support the Library's conservation, education and community outreach efforts.

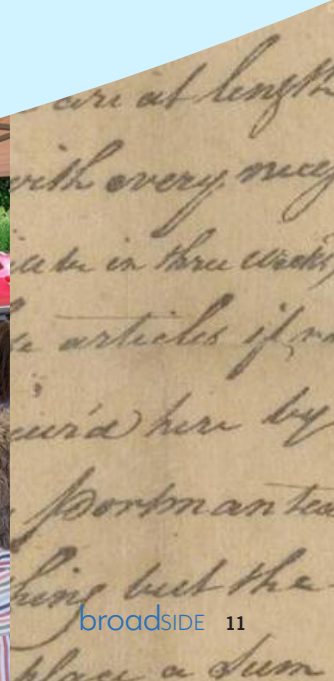
THREE EASY WAYS TO MAKE A GIFT:

1. Mail a check (payable to the Library of Virginia Foundation) using the envelope in this issue of the magazine
2. Visit us online at www.lva.virginia.gov/donate
3. Call the Library Foundation at 804.692.3813

Thank you for your continued support!

Deepen Your Support with Monthly Gifts

Your recurring gift is a powerful tool that will help the Library establish a sustainable source of funding while providing you a convenient and budget-friendly way to support the Library. For as little as \$10 a month, you can join a community of like-minded individuals who recognize the importance of monthly giving. Visit www.lva.virginia.gov/donate to select your recurring-gift journey.



TRANSFORMING THE FUTURE OF LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES

Summer interns assisted with projects and explored careers at the Library

This summer, the Library of Virginia welcomed the 2024 cohort of interns in the Transforming the Future of Libraries and Archives program. Six college-level paid interns joined us to work alongside staff members on projects throughout the Library. We hope that their experiences inspired serious consideration of careers in libraries, archives or museums.

The internship program is supported by EBSCO, the Universal Leaf Foundation, the Michelle and David Baldacci Vision Fund, the Lynn Rainville and Baron Schwartz Transformation Fund and generous donations from individuals made to the Library of Virginia Foundation. If you would like to support this educational program or others like it, please contact Elaine McFadden at elaine.mcfadden@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3592.

OUR 2024 INTERNS



NORA BIRCHETT | William & Mary | Public History, Programming & Exhibitions Intern

“I enjoyed getting a glimpse into a family’s history and connecting how their lives were influenced and changed through historical events. It’s interesting to wonder who they were, what their lives were like and what happened to them and their families. During my work I learned that census data, vital statistics and local records can be biased representations of history. These records were recorded by real people with their own agendas and capability of human error. This makes interpreting records difficult and inexact.”

KADE MCGRAIL | Virginia Commonwealth University | Virginia Untold: The African American Narrative Project Intern

“Being able to directly handle primary sources up close was my favorite aspect of the internship. My experience with primary sources prior to this summer has been through virtual scanned uploads or transcriptions. Getting to see the documents in person really helps me to connect with the material and begin to understand how an archivist has to approach primary sources.”



MAITRI PATHAK | Virginia Tech | Digital Initiatives & Web Presence Intern

“It’s been rewarding to see how technology can enhance our understanding of history and make it more accessible to everyone. I was surprised by the level of collaboration and community involvement in the Library’s projects. The crowdsourcing events are a great example of how the Library engages with the public to preserve and understand our history. It’s inspiring to see so many people passionate about contributing to historical preservation.”





BROOKE PATTEN | Christopher Newport University | Visual Studies Collection Intern

“The Library’s collection of material is more expansive than I can wrap my head around. It seems a little daunting at times, but its large size can provide opportunities for education and appreciation. I look forward to pursuing a career in a library, archive or museum, as I believe there is great value in the maintenance of cultural material, and in the process of connecting the public with previously unknown histories.”

JOSIE SAUNDERS | Virginia Tech | Information Security Intern

“I appreciated the opportunity to talk with an industry expert who generously shared invaluable career and industry insights. Working with real policies has allowed me to grasp the nuances of a particular security environment, and being surrounded by various perspectives and areas of expertise has broadened my horizons beyond my initial focus.”



SHAWN WILLIAMS | Virginia Commonwealth University | Private Papers Collection Intern

“It has been satisfying to turn two boxes of documents into an easy-to-find collection. Alongside archival work, I’d love to learn more about community engagement and possibly children’s librarianship to hopefully manage a branch someday.”



PIONEER AMERICA SOCIETY IMAGES COLLECTION

Summer intern assists with Visual Studies Collection project

Images from the Library of Virginia’s Pioneer America Society Records Collection have now been processed and assembled into the Pioneer America Society Images Collection, thanks to help from Visual Studies Collection intern Brooke Patten this past summer.

The Pioneer America Society was a nonprofit organization founded in 1967 that sought to document, preserve and analyze rural America’s cultural landscape. The organization used photographs, written documents and internal newsletters to accumulate educational information on the history of America. The Pioneer America Society Images Collection, 1938–1984, contains prints, negatives, slides and cassettes organized by location.

Patten worked with the Society’s collection of negatives that the Library had received in mailing envelopes and shoeboxes. She grouped them by location, rehoused them in archival sleeves and boxes, and created a numbering system and a spreadsheet for clearer organization. Patten also wrote a blog entry about the collection for the Library’s “catablog” of the Visual Studies Collection, Multiple Exposure (multipleexposure.virginiamemory.com).

The images depict farm buildings and the exteriors of homes, as well as schools, churches, railroad stations and streets from 16 different states, with Virginia as the largest subject. The Society represented 32 of Virginia’s counties, focusing on the northern and valley regions in places like Fauquier, Highland and Shenandoah counties. Central Virginia has fewer images, with many located in Nelson County. The collection would be useful to those researching the history of rural Virginia or of a specific county.

Patten, who was part of the group of Transforming the Future of Libraries and Archives interns, attended Christopher Newport University and plans to pursue a Master of Library and Information Science degree at Kent State University.



RURAL VIRGINIA RECORDS
CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT:
Manassas Gap steam trip,
Oct. 3, 1971; Sperryville
Post Office, July 31,
1982; Rosenberg
House, E. Market Street,
Harrisonburg.

LOST & FOUND

The Lost Records Localities Digital Collection recovers hidden history

Over the last four centuries, many Virginia localities have suffered significant records loss because of intense military activity, fires, theft, vandalism, water and pest damage, and natural disasters. Although calamity has affected the counties and cities in the Tidewater and Piedmont regions in particular, no area of the Commonwealth has been immune to the ravages of time, nature or humankind. Fortunately, the state's archivists have worked to mitigate this loss and recover some of Virginia's hidden history.

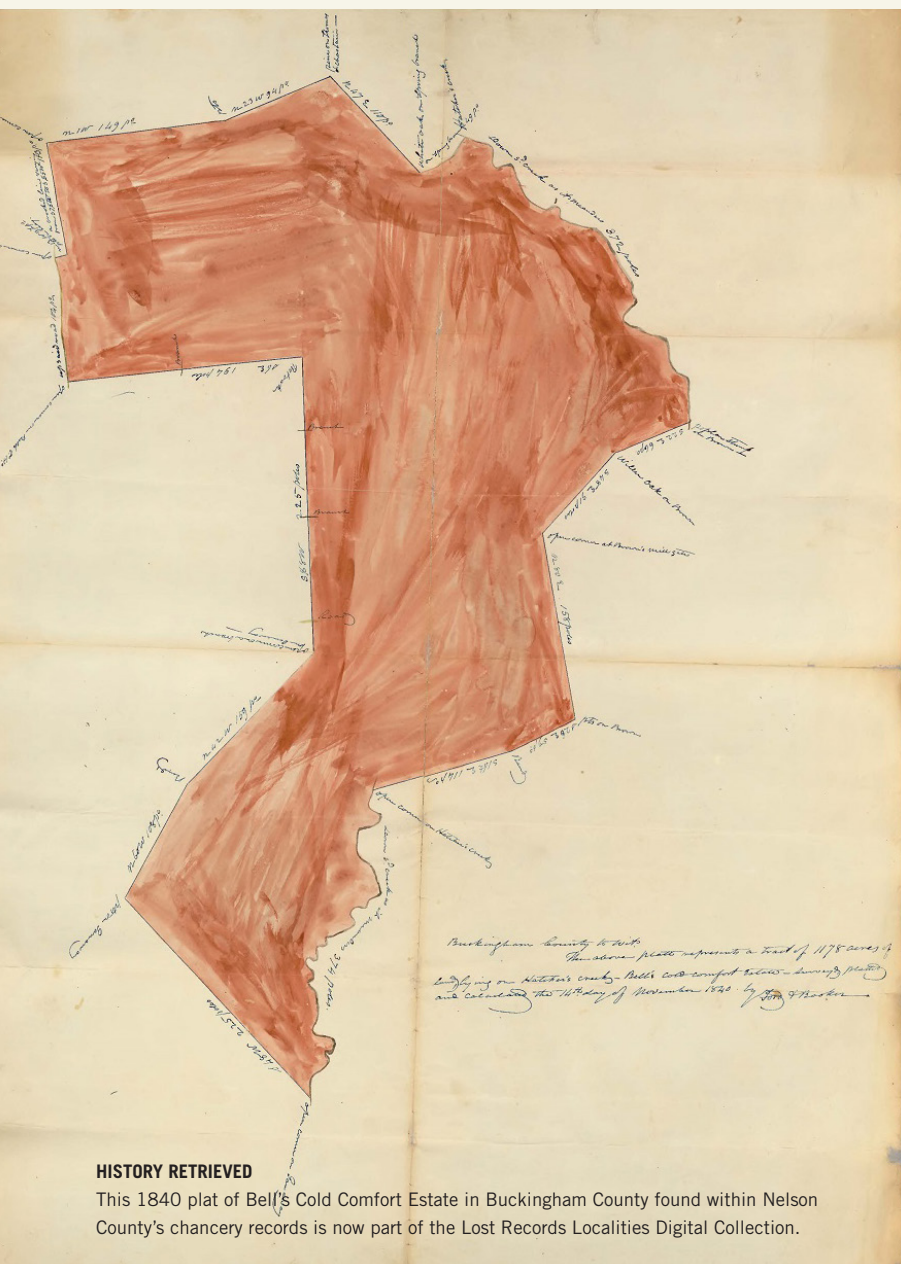
Beginning about 1915, under the first Virginia State Archivist, Morgan P. Robinson, Virginia's circuit court clerks received letters inquiring about the extent and condition of the records in their courthouses. Many officials responded with tales of all-consuming courthouse fires, neglect by previous caretakers, or wanton pillaging by soldiers during the American Revolution or the Civil War. Regarding the latter, many clerks recounted the loss of their circuit court records on April 3–4, 1865, during the Richmond Evacuation Fire. Among countless other structures, the state courthouse on Capitol Square, designated during the war as a safe repository for state court records and those from surrounding localities, burned along with all of its contents.

“Unbeknownst to those early officials, within other localities’ surviving records hid a little glimmer of documentary hope that needed only an intrepid archivist to reveal it,” said Vince Brooks, the Library of Virginia’s Local Records program manager.

With the creation of Virginia’s Circuit Court Records Preservation program in the 1990s — which was prompted by disastrous courthouse fires in Botetourt and Greene counties in the 1970s — the Library hired archival staff members to begin processing local court records. Most were from chancery causes, cases where a judge, rather than a jury, determined the outcome. While processing these records, archivists began to note copies of original documents from localities that had suffered records loss. For instance, a copy of the 1731 will of Matthew Koon, originally recorded in Stafford County, was used as an exhibit in a Fauquier County chancery cause.

“Unbeknownst to those early officials, within other localities’ surviving records hid a little glimmer of documentary hope that needed only an intrepid archivist to reveal it.”

From those discoveries grew an analog artificial collection, first known as “Burned Records,” consisting of photocopies indexed by the parties and locality of origin. With the advent of digitization, the growing collection went online and acquired a more accurate name, the Lost Records Localities Digital Collection. Archivists still identify the “lost”



HISTORY RETRIEVED

This 1840 plat of Bell's Cold Comfort Estate in Buckingham County found within Nelson County's chancery records is now part of the Lost Records Localities Digital Collection.

documents during processing, but now they are scanned, indexed and added to the online collection.

Recent enhancements to the collection include a LibGuide (lva-virginia.libguides.com/lost-records), an online research guide to help orient new users and provide context for the materials found in the collection. The guide contains a search function for exploring the collection directly. The collection is also discoverable through the Library's catalog along with other resources.

Another improvement is a greater connection between the Lost Records Localities Digital Collection and the Chancery Records Index. When a lost record comes from a chancery cause, the indexed information in the catalog now contains a link to the entire chancery cause in the Chancery Records Index so that users have the option to read the entire case.

The Lost Records Localities Digital Collection currently has over 1,500 records, and archivists are discovering new documents daily. "This is an ongoing project, so we regularly add new discoveries and announce the updates through our social media channels," said Brooks. ■

DIGITAL RESOURCES

2



1

APPENDIX

VIRGINIA LOCAL PUBLIC RECORDS: HOUSING CONDITIONS IN THE OFFICES OF THE CLERKS OF COUNTY AND CITY COURTS OF RECORD, 1929*

These data were furnished by the clerks of the 140 Virginia courts of record in replies to the Association's questionnaire of April 1, 1929.

The following abbreviations are used:

C. H. court-house.	O oil lamp, or lamps.
Coal coal stove, stove, or heater.	S safe.
E electricity.	Semi semi-fireproof.
F fireproof.	Stove stove, or stove, kind not stated.
H hot air, or hot water.	V vault, or vaults.
L lamp, or lamps, kind not stated.	Wood woodstove.

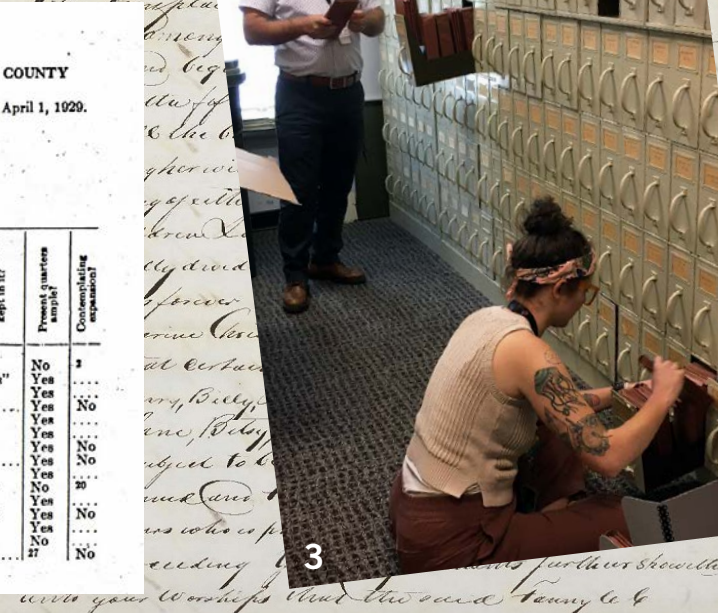
The numerals refer to serial notes following the tabulated data.

COUNTIES: Circuit Courts of	Office in a detached building?	Fireproof, or well-ventilated?	When erected?	How heated?	How lighted?	Office has metal furniture?	Metal shelving?	Metal filing?	Office was burned, if so, when?	If burned, what records lost?	What loss from other causes, as war, or theft?	Office contains safe, or vault?	If so, what records kept in it?	Present quarters ample?	Contemplating expansion?
Accomack.....	Yes	No	1887	Steam	E	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	None	S	1 "Yes"	No	1
Albemarle.....	Yes	3	1891	Vapor	E	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	None	None	1A	All	Yes	...
Alleghany.....	No	F	1911	Steam	E	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	None	None	V	All	Yes	...
Amelia.....	Yes	Semi	1908	Coal	E	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	None	None	6	All	Yes	...
Amherst.....	No	F	1899	Stove	E	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	None	None	12	Both	Yes	...
Appomattox.....	Yes	F	1892	Coal	E	Yes	Yes	Yes	1892	All	None	12	All	Yes	...
Arlington.....	Yes	F	1929	Steam	E	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	None	None	12	All	Yes	...
Augusta.....	No	Semi	1900	Steam	E	No	Yes	Yes	No	None	None	12	All	Yes	...
Barth.....	No	F	1912	Steam	E	Yes	Yes	Yes	1912	14	None	12	All	Yes	...
Bedford.....	No	16	1830	H	E	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	None	None	12	All	Yes	...
Bland.....	No	No	1892	Coal	E	No	Yes	Yes	1888	21	None	12	All	Yes	...
Bonnetcourt.....	No	No	1848	H	E	No	No	No	No	None	None	22	All	Yes	...
Brunswick.....	Yes	F	1892	Steam	E	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	None	None	24A	All	Yes	...
Buchanan.....	No	F	1905	Steam	E	No	Yes	Yes	1915	None	None	V	All	Yes	...
Buckingham.....	Yes	F	1877	Wood	O	Yes	Yes	Yes	1869	All	None	No	27	No	...

ARCHIVAL CARE

1. Virginia's first state archivist, Morgan P. Robinson, collected this information about the housing conditions of the state's city and county court records in 1929.
2. This bill of complaint, Etheline Christian v. Fanny C. C. Christian, heard in King & Queen County Court in 1855 found in Middlesex County's chancery records is

now part of the Lost Records Localities Digital Collection. 3. Local Records program manager Vince Brooks and senior local records archivist Mary Ann Mason examine records at the Mathews County Courthouse in 2024. The county is one of many that lost its pre-1865 records in the Richmond Evacuation Fire during the Civil War.



A Save America's Treasures grant will support conservation and digitization of legislative petitions from lost records localities

The Library of Virginia Foundation has been awarded a \$172,828 Save America's Treasures grant in support of a Library of Virginia project to conserve and digitize historic legislative petitions from Virginia's "burned records counties," also known as lost records localities. These areas that experienced significant loss of their local court records because of wars or courthouse fires include Dinwiddie, Elizabeth City, Hanover, King William and Washington counties.

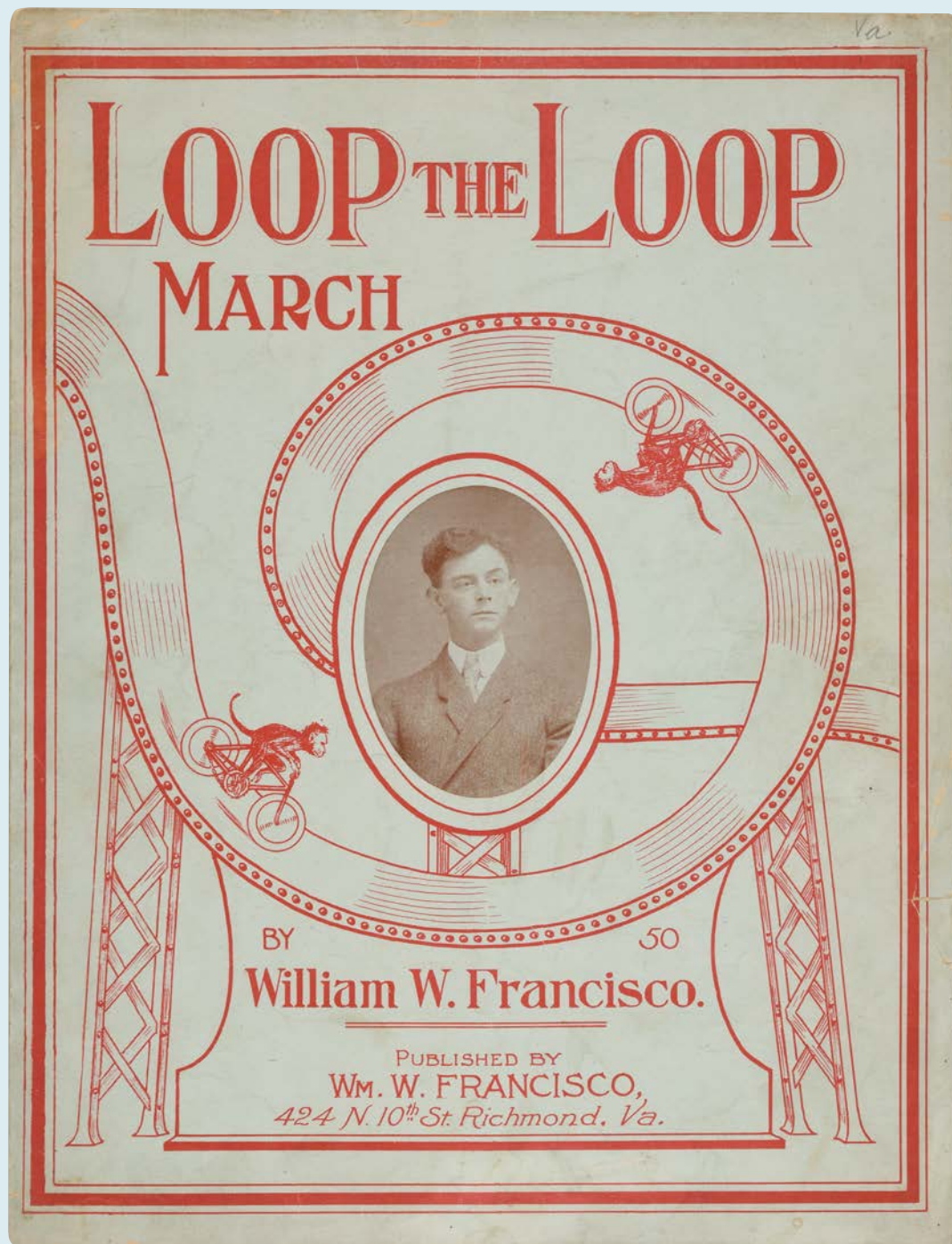
The award, funded by the National Park Service, was announced as part of \$25.7 million in Save America's Treasures grants to fund

59 projects that will preserve nationally significant sites and historic collections in 26 states and the District of Columbia.

The funds will be used to conserve and digitize 699 Virginia legislative petitions dating from 1776 to 1850. The petitions document popular opinions of the time on public and private issues and are consulted by historians, genealogists and other researchers. Deacidification and rehousing in archival folders will preserve the original documents, and digitization will allow researchers to access the material without further damage to the petitions.

“Loop the Loop March”

By William W.
Francisco



MONKEYING AROUND

This whimsical song published in Richmond in 1908 was likely composed by a Virginia piano teacher.

A CLOSER LOOK

SHEET MUSIC COLLECTION

The Library of Virginia's Sheet Music Collection includes loose sheet music, bound volumes of loose sheet music titles, hymn books, shape-note volumes, song sheets and printed and manuscript music titles ranging from 1825 through the 1950s.

The loose sheet music collection, which includes about 5,000 titles, is individually cataloged and focuses on Virginia composers, themes and locations. The music titles are

typically four to eight pages long and 14 inches tall by 10 inches wide. The early printed works are part of the Library's Rare Book Collection. The Library received over 800 sheet music titles in 2007 as a gift from the Richmond Public Library, which we are in the process of cataloging, conserving and digitizing for increased public access.

Artwork on a sheet music title's cover page often used a celebratory, humorous,

patriotic, religious or educational theme to illustrate its tune and entice buyers to purchase music such as a two-step, college fight song, march or schottische (music for a partnered country dance).

“Loop the Loop March,” pictured above, was published in 1908 by William W. Francisco. Illustrated with bicycle-riding monkeys on a looping track, this song was published at the tail-end of the “bicycle

craze” that peaked in the 1890s, a period of heightened popularity for cycling, particularly among women. The song’s author may be William Waddy Francisco, 1884–1956, a piano teacher who was born in Virginia and

Illustrated with bicycle-riding monkeys on a looping track, this song was published at the tail-end of the “bicycle craze” that peaked in the 1890s.

later moved to Louisville, Kentucky. The address listed for the title’s publication, 424 N. 10th Street in Richmond, is only a

few blocks away from the current Library of Virginia building.

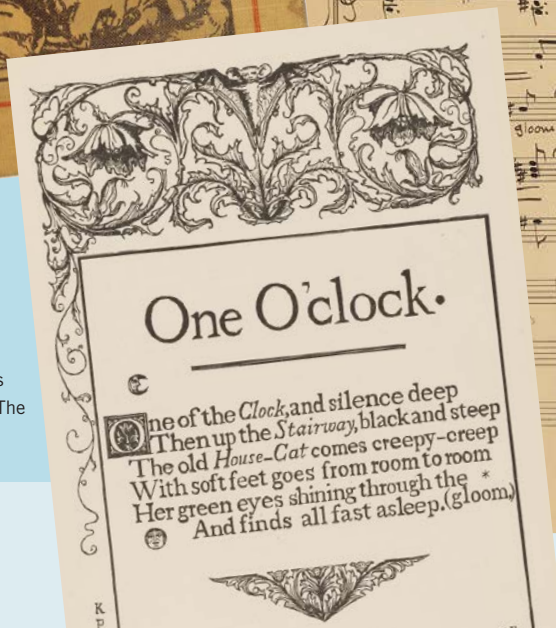
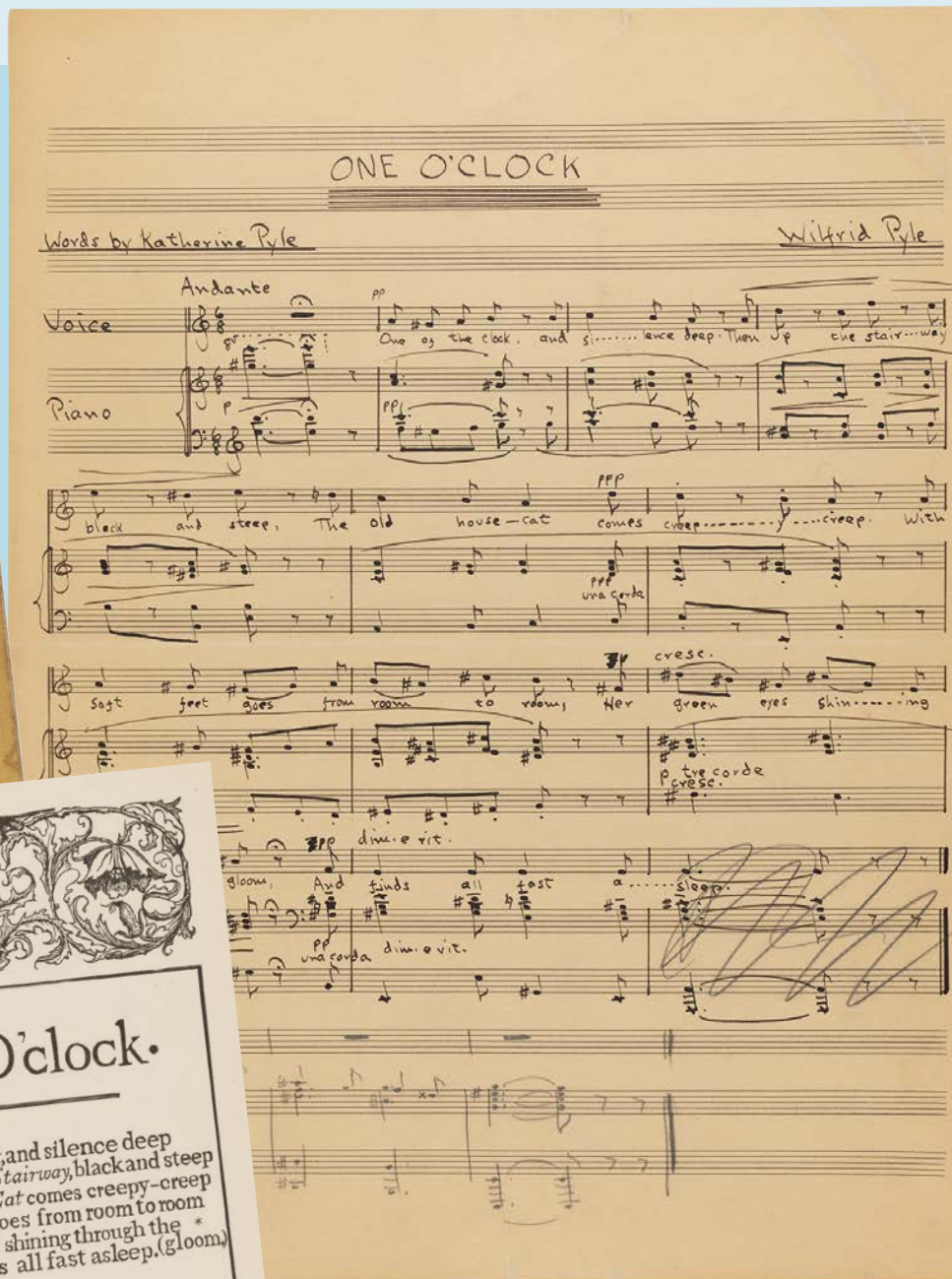
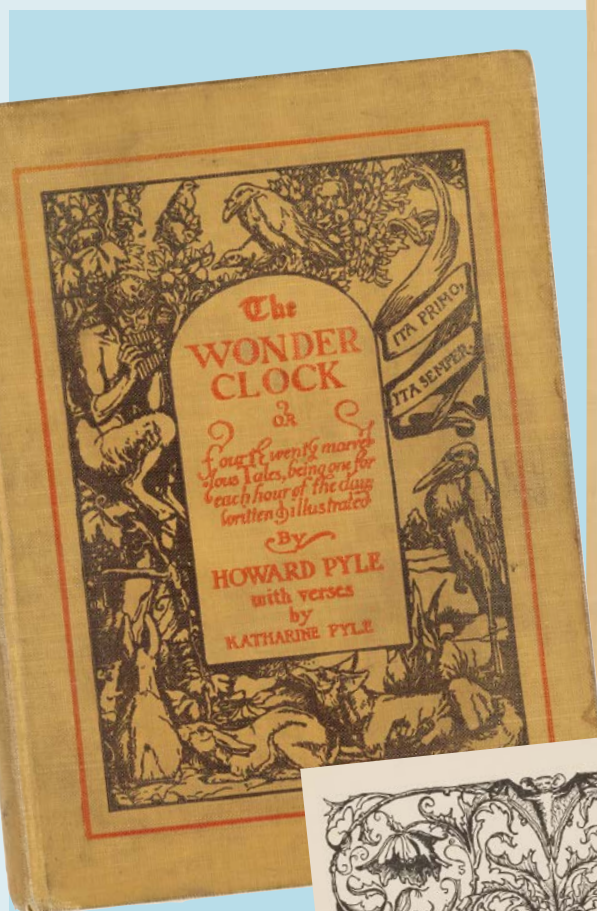
The ca. 1930s manuscript sheet music pictured below, “One O’Clock,” is a private printing of a score composed by Wilfrid Pyle with lyrics by Katharine Pyle, who were the son and sister of the painter, illustrator and author Howard Pyle. Wilfrid Pyle was a musician and a longtime resident of Richmond. There are no other extant copies of this title.

This composition is meant to be played quietly at a slow tempo, with the music mimicking the movements of a cat creeping through a house at the titular early morning hour. The music vacillates between short, light notes and long, gradual chains of notes that help the listener envision the quick

small steps or slow, sneaky movements a cat might make when exploring a house while its residents are asleep.

Katharine Pyle and Howard Pyle had previously written and illustrated a book titled “The Wonder Clock,” first published in 1887, that served as the lyrical basis for “One O’Clock.”

—Audrey McElhinney,
Senior Manuscript, Map &
Rare Book Librarian



LITERARY-INSPIRED LYRICS

The lyrics to this ca. 1930s manuscript sheet music title, “One O’Clock” (FAR RIGHT), were inspired by language from an 1887 book written by the song’s lyricist and her brother called “The Wonder Clock” (ABOVE AND RIGHT).

calendar

FALL EVENTS

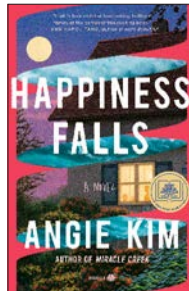
For the latest information, please follow us on social media and visit our Calendar of Events at www.lva.virginia.gov/lvaevents.

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Wednesday, Nov. 13
6:00–7:30 p.m.

BOOK CLUB Literary Virginia Book Group

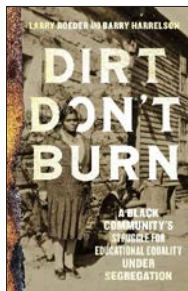
Place: Online
Registration required:
lva.virginia.gov/public/literary_virginia_book_group



Read and discuss the best of today's Virginia literature. On the second Wednesday of each month, join a virtual book group discussion. November's book is "Happiness Falls" by Angie Kim (the 2024 Virginia Literary Award for Fiction winner). For more information, contact Nan Carmack at nan.carmack@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3792.

Thursday, Nov. 14
6:00–7:30 p.m.
WEINSTEIN AUTHOR SERIES:
LARRY ROEDER
Dirt Don't Burn

Place: Lecture Hall
Registration required:
lva.virginia.gov/public/weinstein



Join us for a talk by author Larry Roeder on his new book, "Dirt Don't Burn: A Black Community's Struggle for Educational Equality Under Segregation." In this narrative of an extraordinary community that overcame the cultural and legal hurdles of systematic racism, the authors describe how Loudoun County, Virginia, which once denied educational opportunity to Black Americans, gradually increased the equality of education for all children in the area. For more information, contact Anne McCreary at anne.mccreary@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3568.



Tuesday, Nov. 19 | 6:00–7:30 p.m.
BOOK CLUB

Common Ground Virginia History Book Group

Place: Online
Registration required: lva.virginia.gov/public/virginia_history_book_group

Join a virtual book group discussion on compelling nonfiction books handpicked by Library staff members. November's book is "A Place Called Ilda: Race and Resilience at a Northern Virginia Crossroads" by Tom Shoop. For more information, contact Jessi Bennett at jessica.bennett@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3793.



Saturday, Nov. 23 | 12:00–2:00 p.m.
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Making History with LVA

Place: Computer Classroom
Registration required:
bit.ly/makinghistory-inperson

Volunteers will transcribe handwritten pages and historical newspapers by reading text and typing it into digital form. Join us for an in-person session to learn how you can help make historical documents more searchable and usable for researchers. Contact Sonya Coleman for more information at makinghistory@virginiamemory.com or call HandsOn Greater Richmond at 804.330.7400.

Wednesday, Dec. 11 | 5:30–7:30 p.m.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY Making History

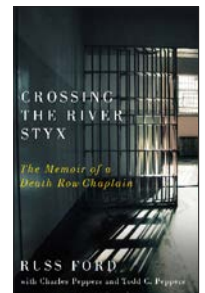
Place: Online
Registration required:
bit.ly/LVAvirtualvolunteer

Volunteers will transcribe handwritten pages and historical newspapers by reading text and typing it into digital form. Join us for a virtual session to learn how you can help make historical documents more searchable and usable for researchers. Contact Sonya Coleman for more information at makinghistory@virginiamemory.com or call HandsOn Greater Richmond at 804.330.7400.

Wednesday, Dec. 11
6:00–7:30 p.m.

BOOK CLUB Literary Virginia Book Group

Place: Online
Registration required:
lva.virginia.gov/public/literary_virginia_book_group

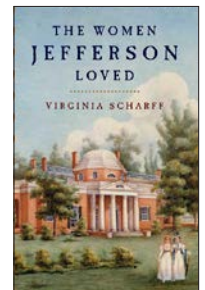


Read and discuss the best of today's Virginia literature. On the second Wednesday of each month, join a virtual book group discussion. December's book is "Crossing the River Styx: The Memoir of a Death Row Chaplain" by Russ Ford (a 2024 People's Choice Award for Nonfiction finalist). For more information, contact Nan Carmack at nan.carmack@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3792.

Tuesday, Dec. 17
6:00–7:30 p.m.

BOOK CLUB Common Ground Virginia History Book Group

Place: Online
Registration required:
lva.virginia.gov/public/virginia_history_book_group



Join a virtual book group discussion on compelling nonfiction books handpicked by Library staff members. December's book is "The Women Jefferson Loved" by Virginia Scharff. For more information, contact Jessi Bennett at jessica.bennett@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3793.

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MAPPING THE COMMONWEALTH

1816–1826

Through June 7, 2025

Monday–Saturday, 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Exhibition Gallery & Lobby | Free

See page 2 for details.

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www.bonfire.com/store/friends-of-the-virginia-state-archives

in circulation

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE LIBRARY



1. After a film screening and panel discussion titled “Danville 1963: Legacy of a Movement” in June, the filmmaker, his daughter and the panel moderator posed with Danville Civil Rights protest participants who were featured in the documentary film. Shown here are (BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT) filmmaker **Jonathan Parker**; his daughter, **Anna Parker**; **Brenda Fitz**; and (FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT) panel moderator **Karice Luck-Brimmer**, a historical content producer on the film; **Dorothy Moore-Batson**; **John Pinchback**; **Rose Cain**; **Carolyn Wilson**; and **Sherman Saunders**.

2. The Library’s “Indigenous Perspectives” exhibition closing celebration in August featured performances and displays from tribal representatives, including dancing, a drumming circle and demonstrations of traditional crafts.

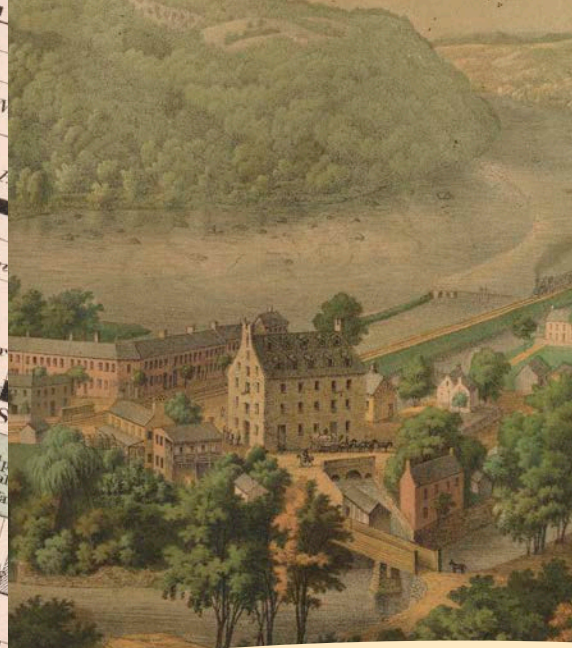
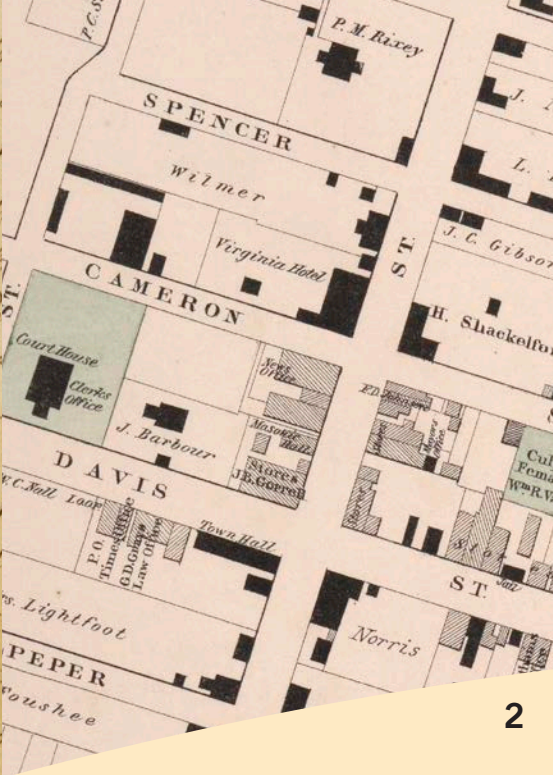
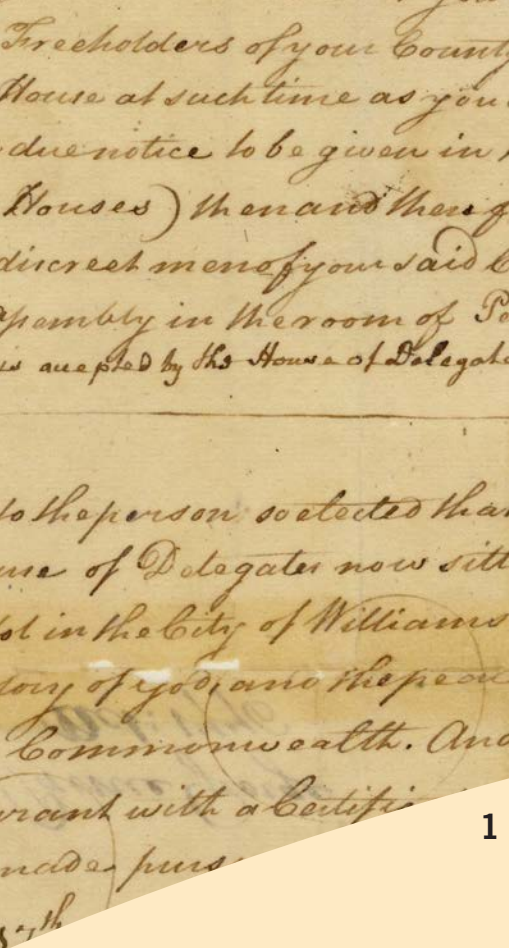
3. To celebrate the publication of a new book in June from Library of Virginia historians and editors **John G. Deal**, **Marianne E. Julienne** and **Brent Tarter**, “Justice for

Ourselves: Black Virginians Claim Their Freedom After Slavery,” the Library presented a conversation with the authors and Congresswoman **Jennifer McClellan** and National Park Service supervisory park ranger **Ajena Cason Rogers**, who wrote the foreword and afterword, respectively. Shown here are (LEFT TO RIGHT) Tarter, McClellan, Rogers, Julienne and Deal.

4. At the Library’s quarterly First Fridays event in September, visitors viewed a display from Virginia artists on the theme Underground Art.

5. During the 60th Anniversary Commemoration of the Desegregation of Brunswick High School panel discussion in September, six members of the group now known as the Brunswick 15 shared powerful stories about their trailblazing experiences in 1964. Shown (LEFT TO RIGHT) are **Queen Marks Birchette**, **Carolyn Burwell-Tolbert**, **Elvertha Cox Gillis**, **Sandra Goldman Jackson**, **Marvin Jones Sr.** and **Florence Stith-Jackson**.

6. Author and Southern studies professor **Elizabeth S.D. Engelhardt** signed copies of her book “Boardinghouse Women: How Southern Keepers, Cooks, Nurses, Widows, and Runaways Shaped Modern America” after her Carole Weinstein Author Series talk in September.



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Below is a selection of what is available for adoption at www.lvafoundation.org/Adopt:

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MAP COLLECTION

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3. *View of the Island of Virginus, Harper's Ferry, 1850s* | \$1,000

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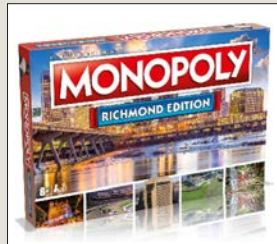
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