

DEATH RECORDS IN VIRGINIA

Civil death registrations and certificates can reveal a remarkable amount of information about a person’s life and help researchers discover or confirm details such as:

- Name
- Race
- Sex
- Name of enslaver, if enslaved
- Date of birth and/or age at death (years, months and days)
- Place of birth
- Marital status
- Occupation
- Date and place of death
- Cause of death
- Burial location
- Parental information for the deceased (name and place of birth)

GOVERNMENT RECORDS

- Collections to consider:*
- Civil records such as **Coroner’s Inquests** and **Mortality Schedules**
 - Court records such as **Commonwealth/Criminal Causes** and **Chancery Causes**
 - Public welfare records such as the **Board of Overseers of the Poor**
 - State prison records such as the **Virginia Penitentiary**
 - Records from state facilities for mental health and developmental disabilities such as **Eastern State Hospital** or **Central State Hospital**
 - Legislative records such as the **House & Senate Journals** for commemorative resolutions or appropriations for public memorials
 - State commissions focused on commemoration such as the **Virginia War Commission** and the **State-sponsored programs** focused on documenting historic landscapes, including burial grounds and community or family cemeteries, such as the **Virginia History Inventory**

COMMUNITY INSTITUTION RECORDS

Organizations, societies or clubs founded for religious, social, educational or charitable purposes often maintained records that may include information on funeral services or other commemorative activities and any financial support provided to surviving relatives or other beneficiaries.

- Collections to consider:*
- Mutual Aid Societies**
 - Fraternal Organizations**
 - Civic and Social Clubs**
 - Labor Unions and Workers’ Organizations**
 - Private Cemetery Foundations**
 - Religious Institutions (Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples)**

BUSINESS RECORDS

These records can be especially useful as they document the practical arrangements and financial transactions that frequently followed a person’s passing. They may also provide additional details on kinship, ethnicity or religious affiliations.

- Collections to consider:*
- Undertakers and Funeral Homes**
 - Monument Companies**
 - Life or Burial Insurance Companies**
 - Casket suppliers** such as **Cabinetmakers** and **Furniture Dealers**

MILITARY RECORDS

In addition to verifying military service and funeral honors for individuals, these records can be helpful in documenting last place of residence, interment details and financial disbursements as well as additional information such as commendations, deployments or injuries that may be absent from civilian sources.

- Collections to consider:*
- Service and Personnel Records**
 - Casualty Reports**
 - Pension Files and Benefit Applications**
 - Unit Records and Histories**
 - Memorial Rolls and Honor Lists**



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NOTICE!

Positively no Graves opened or Tombstones set in St. John's Cemetery except by order of Superintendent or one of the Trustees.

HARRY SPITLER,
Superintendent.

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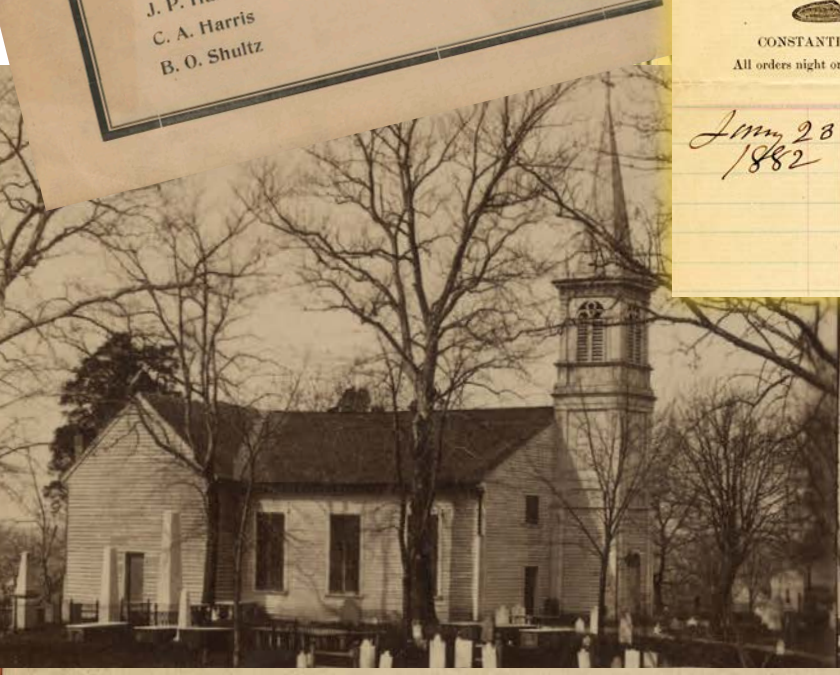
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GENERAL FURNISHING UNDERTAKER,
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July 28 1882 One Coffin #7307 \$30.00
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