Historical Virginia Public Records in Microforms

Microforms Guide #26

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

This guide does not include Civil War records, which are described in other microforms user guides.

American Colonial Records – Virginia [Virginia Colonial Abstracts]

Microfilm F221 V5

Reproduces Beverly Fleet’s typewritten transcriptions of colonial county record books for Lancaster, Essex, and King and Queen Counties. Includes a reel on documents relating to Virginia genealogy at the Huntington Library in California, with chatty observations about that institution.

Virginia, 1606-1781 [Colonial Office … Original Correspondence].

Microfilm F229 G87 1975

Reproduces original, handwritten documents arising from the administration of affairs in the colony, primarily correspondence of Alexander Spotswood, Sir William Gooch, Robert Dinwiddie, and the Earl of Dunmore. The records include comments on the political and economic life of the colony as well as a description of Virginia's westward expansion to the Ohio River.

Records of the States of the United States of America [Early State Records]

- [Virginia, 1612-1803 : B.1 Codes and Compilations] Microfilm KFV2430 1612 R42 1949
  Compiled and codified law of the colony and early Commonwealth, upon which the rest of the Virginia legal system built, Includes abstracts, abridgments, collections of law in special fields, revisions, and digests.
- [Virginia, 1660-1834 : B.2 Session Laws] Microfilm KFV2425.2 1660 R42 1949
  Statutes in the form as they were enacted, including basic information not necessarily carried over into systematized, codified law.
  The fundamental laws of the Commonwealth: royal charters, state constitutions, records and journals of constitutional conventions.
  Governor’s messages and annual reports. Part of a nationwide effort to microfilm the histories of every US state and territory as embodied in their public records, the Early State Records microfilms in the Virginia Tech library are but a fraction of a much larger collection. Arranged chronologically. Finding aid volume is arranged into several topical classes, identified alphabetically, and subdivided alphabetically by state. It also identifies content of each reel and provides bibliographical and repository information on the materials reproduced.


Virginia Gazette

- The Virginia Gazette [1782-1795] Microfilm AN V59 (1782-1786) AN V587 (1787-1795)
  Finding aid: Virginia Gazette Index, 1736-1780. Ref room Al21 V5
- Daybooks, 1750-1752 & 1764-1766 Microfilm Z232 V8 V5

The Virginia Gazette was the first newspaper published in Virginia. In addition to the newspaper, the publisher printed the acts of the Virginia Assembly, almanacs, books, broadsides, tracts and pamphlets (available in the Early American Imprints collection shelved in the microcard area). The Daybooks contain daily transactions of the printing office.
**Virginia Half Pay and Other Related Revolutionary War Pension Application Files**  
Microfilm E263 V8 U56 1972  
Collection reproduces 279 pension application of Virginia soldiers and sailors who served during the Revolutionary War. Applications were generally filed 1830-75, though some are much earlier. Application files typically contain roughly 50 documents, including copies of military orders, payrolls, or muster tools; applications; sworn statements of service; documentation of heirship and estates; vouchers showing payment of claim; certificates; and correspondence. Most soldiers’ files include summary genealogical information in the records. Arranged by service (land or naval), then alphabetically by last name of soldier or sailor.

**Finding aid:** *Virginia Half Pay and Other Related Revolutionary War Pension Application Files*. Ref room E263 V8 U56 1972 Guide. (also reproduced at the beginning of each microfilm reel).

**Blacksburg City, Minute Book, Town Council [1871-1979]**  
Microfilm JS13 B42  
Includes minutes of the town council’s regular, special and adjourned meetings and budget work sessions, 1871-1957, 1962-69, 1973-79.

---

**Related materials**  
This is a selective guide to microform resources at Virginia Tech. To view the wider range of related materials, begin by searching Addison for the following subjects:  
- Virginia - History - Indexes.  
- Virginia - History, Local  
- Virginia - History - Sources  
- Virginia - General Assembly  
- Virginia - Governor  
- Virginia - Maps  
- Cities and towns – Virginia  
- Court records – Virginia

See also these resources:  
- *A Key to Survey Reports and Microfilm of the Virginia Colonial Records Project*. F229 K49 1990  