

# A Guide to the Brunswick County (Va.) Business Records, 1795-1938

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A Collection in the Library of Virginia  
Library of Virginia  
2024

## History

**Processed by:** Catherine Obrion, Greg Crawford

## Title Statement

A Guide to the Brunswick County (Va.) Business Records, 1795-1938

**Subtitle:** Brunswick County (Va.) Business Records

**Author:** Callie Lou Freed

## Publication Statement

**Date:** © 2024 By The Library of Virginia. All Rights Reserved.

**Publisher:** Library of Virginia

## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid derived from Database, created by Callie Lou Freed, 09 August 2024

**Language Usage:** Description is in English

## Descriptive Summary

### Language

English

### Creator

Brunswick County (Va.) Circuit Court

### Physical Characteristics

15 volumes, 1 microfilm reel and 1 box (.45 cu. ft.)

### Location

State Records Center; Library of Virginia

### Repository

Library of Virginia

## Administrative Information

### Access Restrictions

Many of the business volumes are fragile and should not be handled, **please check alternative formats for volumes that have been microfilmed. Please use microfilm if available.**

### Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

## Acquisition Information

These records came to the Library of Virginia in transfers of court papers from Brunswick County in an undated accession.

## Processing Information

Prior to 2024, the various business records in this collection were originally described as individual records, but they have been consolidated into one large business record for the locality.

Efforts have been taken to identify chancery causes related to these business records as some of these records were used as evidence in court proceedings.

Encoded by C. Freed, August 2024

## Preferred Citation

Brunswick County (Va.) Business Records, 1795-1938. Local government records collection, Brunswick County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va. 23219.

## Alternative Form Available

Please see [Brunswick County Microfilm](#) index in the [Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm available on the Library of Virginia website for full listing](#).

Unidentified Blacksmith and Drummondsburg Plantation Account Book, 1850-1870 is available as microfilm Brunswick County (Va.) Reel 137.

## Adjunct Descriptive Data

## Related Material

See also: [A Guide to the Brunswick County \(Va.\) Chancery Causes, 1781-1942 \(bulk 1840-1916\)](#)

Additional Brunswick County (Va.) records can be found on microfilm at the Library of Virginia. Consult "[A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm](#)."

Brunswick County is one of Virginia's Lost Records Localities. Additional Brunswick County records may be found in the Virginia Lost Records Localities Digital Collection at the Library of Virginia. Search the [Lost Records Localities Digital Collection](#) available at Virginia Memory.

For additional information, Consult Tri-State Growers Association Records, 1921-1927. Southern Historical Records Collection at the Louis Round Wilson Special Collections Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

## Historical Information

**Context for Record Type:** Business Records, both volumes and loose records, are in some cases transferred to the Library of Virginia as components of court record transfers. These business records in some cases were simply stored in the local court building for safe keeping by business owners. In other cases, business records (particularly ledgers, account books, etc.) may have been filed in a court case as an exhibit. These business record exhibits appeared both in chancery causes and in judgments, these records serving as exhibits for business dissolution cases, debt suits, and contract disputes.

**Locality History:** Brunswick County was named for the duchy of Brunswick-Luneburg, one of the German possessions of King George I. It was formed by statute in 1720 from Prince George County and on 31 October 1723 the boundaries of the county were ordered to be laid out, but, because of the sparse population, the county court first met in June 1732. Brunswick County was enlarged by the addition of parts of Surry and Isle of Wight Counties in 1733. The county seat is Lawrenceville. Area: 566.1 square miles. Population: 18,419 (2000), 18,400 (2005 estimate.)

**Lost Records Locality:** Brunswick County is one of Virginia's Lost Records Localities. Created in 1720 (county government established in June 1732). Most loose records prior to 1781 are missing. Pre-1781 volumes that record deeds, court orders, and wills exist.

## Scope and Content

Brunswick County (Va.) Business Records, 1795-1938, are comprised of various records created by individuals and companies in pursuit of documenting business activities in and around Brunswick County (Va.) Represented records consist of bound volumes such as a contract book, account books, ledgers, a

scratcher, registers, a cashbook and loose records.

## Arrangement

This collection is arranged into nine series:

- Series I: Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association Contract Book, 1921-1924
- Series II: Unidentified Blacksmith and Drummondsburg Plantation Account Book, 1850-1870
- Series III: Business Records of Thomas C. Proctor, 1862-1879
- Series IV: Bank of Lawrenceville Records, 1892-1927
- Series V: Brunswick Bank and Trust Company Records, 1931-1938
- Series VI: Brunswick County State Bank Certificate of Deposit Register, 1923-1930
- Series VII: Unidentified Blacksmith Shop Account Book, 1813-1815
- Series VIII: Unidentified Blacksmith Shop Ledger, 1842-1846
- Series IX: Brunswick County Business Records, 1795-1902

## Contents List

### Series I: Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association Contract Book, 1921-1924

#### Extent

1 volume

**Physical Location** State Records Center

#### Scope and Content

**Historical Information:**The Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association was a non-profit association of tobacco farmers organized in North Carolina in 1921 and administered by a board of twenty-five directors in Raleigh. It was organized "for the purpose of promoting, fostering, and encouraging the business of marketing tobacco cooperatively: for reducing speculation; for stabilizing the local tobacco markets; for cooperatively and collectively handling the problems of tobacco growers, and for other pertinent purposes."

**Scope and Content:**Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association Contract Book, 1921-1924. The contract book contains the names of farmers who signed contracts, their address (name of community), the date of the contract, the number of pounds and type of tobacco (dark or bright) they pledged to produce each year, and the amount of acreage they planned to use to produce it. Index included. The book also contains the printed terms of marketing agreement made between tobacco growers and the Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association, recorded at the county court 1924 July 1.

**Barcode number 1103219: Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association Contract Book 1921-1924**

### Series II: Unidentified Blacksmith and Drummondsburg Plantation Account Book, 1850-1870

#### Extent

1 volume

**Physical Location** Library of Virginia

#### Scope and Content

**Historical Information:**Unidentified Blacksmith and Drummondsburg Plantation Account Book, 1850-1870, records financial transactions of an unidentified blacksmith shop and a farm called Drummondsburg Plantation.

**Scope and Content:**Unidentified Blacksmith Accounts, 1850-1854, record the accounts of individual customers. Each account lists transactions in chronological order. Information found includes date of transaction, services rendered or items sold, form of payment, and amount owed or paid. Services rendered include shoeing horses, setting axles, sharpening farm implements, and repairing tools and wagons. Includes index.

Drummondsburg Plantation Accounts, 1863-1870, record the accounts of individuals who purchased goods from the plantation and individuals who worked on the farm. Each account lists transactions in chronological order. Information found includes date of transaction, goods purchased, form of payment,

amount owed or paid, wages paid to laborers, number of days missed, and reasons for loss labor. Several laborers on farm were former enslaved individuals. Forms of payment include cash, credit, and barter.

## **Barcode number 1103214: Unidentified Blacksmith and Drummondsburg Plantation Account Book 1850-1870**

### **Series III: Business Records of Thomas C. Proctor, 1862-1879**

#### **Extent**

2 volumes

**Physical Location** Library of Virginia

#### **Scope and Content**

**Historical Information:** Thomas C. Proctor was a saddler who did business in and around Brunswick County in the mid-nineteenth century. He owned a tannery business.

**Scope and Content:** The business records of Thomas C. Proctor, 1862-1879, consist of a ledger and an account book.

See also: [Brunswick County \(Va.\) Chancery Cause 1884-025: William E. Proctor etc. vs. Admr. of Thomas C. Proctor etc.](#)

#### **Scope and Content**

Thomas C. Proctor's tannery ledger, 1870-1879, records the accounts of individual customers. Each account lists in chronological order merchandise purchased and services rendered and the amount owed and paid. Payments were made in cash and bartered services such as hauling timber or leather. Merchandise sold include French calf skin, mule harnesses, saddles, buggy whips, and other leather goods. The volume also includes numerous loose materials such as personal letters and account records.

#### **Scope and Content**

The account book, 1862-1877, of Thomas C. Proctor is a business ledger, likely related to Proctor's tannery business. Information included in the book records the amount of stock on hand, number of sales for each year, and individual customer transactions. The volume includes a few loose documents, including two letters to Proctor. The inside cover of the book has "Lawrenceville Division of Sons of Temperance No. 453 May 22nd 1851" written on it, but this appears to be unrelated to the rest of the account book.

## **Barcode Number 1103226: Thomas C. Proctor's Tannery Ledger 1870-1879**

## **Barcode Number 1103241: Account Book of Thomas C. Proctor 1862-1877**

### **Series IV: Bank of Lawrenceville Records, 1892-1927**

#### **Extent**

6 volumes

**Physical Location** State Records Center

#### **Scope and Content**

**Historical Information:** The Bank of Lawrenceville operated in Brunswick County in the late nineteenth and early 20th centuries.

**Scope and Content:** The Bank of Lawrenceville Records, 1892-1927, consist of an individual scratcher, 2 general ledgers, 2 individual ledgers and a liability ledger.

Bank of Lawrenceville Individual Scratcher B, 1892-1894. The purpose of the ledger is unknown. Each page in the ledger is divided into two columns with individual names listed in each column and a cash amount by each name. A total cash amount is listed at the bottom of each column. The ledger was updated on a daily basis.

Bank of Lawrenceville General Ledger 3, 1899-1903, records on a daily basis the bank's controlling accounts such as assets (individual deposits, capital stock, etc.) and liabilities (loans and discounts, taxes, expenses, etc.)

Bank of Lawrenceville Individual Ledger G, 1901-1902, records the individual checking accounts of the bank's customers. Each entry records on a daily basis withdrawals and deposits.

Bank of Lawrenceville Individual Ledger K, 1907-1909, records the individual checking accounts of the bank's customers. Each entry records on a daily basis withdrawals and deposits.

Bank of Lawrenceville General Ledger 6, 1913-1918, records on a daily basis the bank's controlling accounts such as assets (individual deposits, capital stock, etc.,) and liabilities (loans and discounts, taxes, expenses, etc.)

Bank of Lawrenceville Liability Ledger, 1918-1927, records outstanding loans of bank's customers. Entries are entered in alphabetical order by customer's surname. Each entry lists date of loan, payer of loan (maker or endorser), date due, and date paid by maker of loan or by endorser of loan.

**Barcode Number 1102951: Bank of Lawrenceville Individual Scratcher B 1892-1894**

**Barcode Number 1103283: Bank of Lawrenceville General Ledger 3 1899-1903**

**Barcode Number 1102942: Bank of Lawrenceville Individual Ledger G 1901-1902**

**Barcode Number 1102944: Bank of Lawrenceville Individual Ledger K 1907-1909**

**Barcode Number 1102947: Bank of Lawrenceville General Ledger 6 1913-1918**

**Barcode Number 1102950: Bank of Lawrenceville Liability Ledger 1918-1927**

## **Series V: Brunswick Bank and Trust Company Records, 1931-1938**

### **Extent**

2 volumes

**Physical Location** State Records Center

### **Scope and Content**

**Historical Information:**The Brunswick Bank and Trust Company was built in 1924 and operated at 219 North Main Street in Lawrenceville, Virginia during the early 20th century.

**Scope and Content:**Brunswick Bank and Trust Company Records, 1931-1938, consist of a general ledger and a receivership register and cashbook.

Brunswick Bank and Trust Company General Ledger 2, 1931-1934, records on a daily basis the bank's controlling accounts both resources and liabilities.

Brunswick Bank and Trust Company Receivership Register and Cashbook, 1934-1938, records a failed institution's complete details. When a bank is placed in receivership, it is deemed to have failed and is legally closed by the state banking authority. An independent third party, known as a receiver is appointed by the court to manage the bank's assets and distribute them to its creditors. The register notes the bank's assets, liabilities and ongoing liquidation or resolution activities.

The cashbook records the payments received from individual customers for purchases of merchandise and payments of the company's expenses

**Barcode number 1102945: Brunswick Bank and Trust Company General Ledger 2 1931-1934**

**Barcode number 1102948: Brunswick Bank and Trust Company Receivership Register and Cashbook 1934-1938**

## **Series VI: Brunswick County State Bank Certificate of Deposit Register, 1923-1930**

### **Extent**

1 volume

**Physical Location** State Records Center

### **Scope and Content**

**Historical Information:**The Brunswick County State Bank was built in 1922 and operated at 132 West Hicks Street in Lawrenceville, Virginia in the early 20th century.

**Scope and Content:**Brunswick County State Bank Certificate of Deposit Register, 1923-1930, records certificates of deposit issued to individual customers. Each entry lists the number and cash amount of the certificate of deposit, date issued, and the date of maturity.

**Barcode number 1102949: Brunswick County State Bank Certificate of Deposit Register 1923-1930**

## **Series VII: Unidentified Blacksmith Shop Account Book, 1813-1815**

### **Extent**

1 volume

**Physical Location** Library of Virginia

### **Scope and Content**

**Historical Information:**The unidentified Blacksmith shop operated in Brunswick County in the early 19th century.

**Scope and Content:**Unidentified Blacksmith Shop Account Book, 1813-1815, records the accounts of individual customers. Each account lists in chronological order services rendered and the amount owed and paid by the customer. Services performed by the blacksmith shop include shoeing horses, mending scythe blades, making hooks, and pointing plows, axes, and hoes. The volume is in poor condition.

**Barcode number 1145041: Unidentified Blacksmith Shop Account Book 1813-1815**

## **Series VIII: Unidentified Blacksmith Shop Ledger, 1842-1846**

### **Extent**

1 volume

**Physical Location** State Records Center

### **Scope and Content**

**Historical Information:**The unidentified Blacksmith shop operated perhaps by the Turnbull family in the town of Lawrenceville in Brunswick County in the mid-19th century.

**Scope and Content:**Unidentified Blacksmith Shop Ledger, 1842-1846, records the accounts of individual customers. Each account lists in chronological order services rendered and the amount owed by the customer. Ledger also records expenses paid by blacksmith shop including purchase of coal and payment of wages. Services performed by the blacksmith shop include shoeing horses, repairing carriage wheels, making nails and keys, and pointing plows and hoes.

**Barcode number 1103228: Unidentified Blacksmith Shop Ledger 1842-1846**

## **Series IX: Brunswick County Business Records, 1795-1902**

### **Extent**

1 box (.45 cu. ft.)

**Physical Location** Library of Virginia

### **Scope and Content**

**Historical Information:**The various businesses found within the box files operated in Brunswick County

**Historical Information:** The various businesses found within the box files operated in Brunswick County from the late 18th century to the early 20th century.

**Scope and Content:** The Brunswick County Business Records, 1795-1902, are comprised of seven folders, reflecting the loose records of eight businesses, found within a single Hollinger box. The following series are:

Blick and Morgan, 1812, a retail business with records found in one folder. Comprised of individual customer receipts and accounts listed by month and date. Accounts indicate items purchased such as plates, nails, chairs, brandy, playing cards, tea, pins, shoes, glass and different fabric types. Accounts also include amount of items purchased and pricing with reference to amounts owed and payments made.

Lawrenceville Wood Working Company, 1902, with records found in one folder. Describes the charter for a joint stock company. Company operates saw mills and a lumber planing business focused on cutting, selling and manufacturing wood and lumber of all kinds.

Pope and Thomas, Peebles, Plummer and Company, Peebles and White, 1851-1874, 1860-1874, retail businesses with records found in two folders.

Ben E. Pope and Willie F. Thomas were merchants from Southampton County, Virginia. Included are a list of various receipts and a list of bonds due (1859-1867) from claims against individuals owing money.

Peebles and White and Peebles, Plummer and Company include receipts for items purchased, claims due, a list of bonds involving suing individuals for money owed, correspondence with their attorney and papers related to a business settlement.

David Robertson and Peter Pride Jr., 1798-1820, merchants with records found in one folder. Included are various accounts and receipts regarding the operation of Robertson's plantation. Peter Pride Jr was his overseer. Accounts mention the employment of enslaved individuals.

James Ruffin Seward, 1845-1867, operated a retail business with records found in one folder. Records include a list of debts due, itemized accounts from individuals--noting items bought such as coffee, bacon, sugar, shoes, candy, buttons and thread and balance due and receipts.

Trotter and Quarles, 1795-1815, merchants with records found in one folder. Included are itemized accounts from individuals--items bought and balance due, receipts, correspondence and accounts with individuals using enslaved labor.

**Barcode number 1140945: Brunswick County Business Records 1795-1902**