

A Guide to the Petersburg (Va.) Organization Records, circa 1805-1957

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A Collection in the Library of Virginia
Library of Virginia
2025

History

Processed by:

Title Statement

A Guide to the Petersburg (Va.) Organization Records, circa 1805-1957

Subtitle: Petersburg (Va.) Organization Records, circa 1805-1957

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Publication Statement

Date: © 2025 By The Library of Virginia. All Rights Reserved.

Publisher: Library of Virginia

Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word by Jennifer Taylor, 05 August 2025

Language Usage: Description is in English

Descriptive Summary

Language

English

Collector

Petersburg (Va.) Circuit Court

Physical Characteristics

3 volumes; 0.45 cubic feet (1 box)

Location

Library of Virginia

Repository

The Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

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

Processing Information

Prior to 2025, the various organization records in this collection were originally described as individual records, but they have been consolidated into one large organization record for the locality. Since 2025, these records additionally include identified but not processed records.

Encoded by J. Taylor: August 2025.

Preferred Citation

Petersburg (Va.) Organization Records, circa 1805-1957, [series or volume title]. Local government records collection, Petersburg Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va. 23219.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

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

Historical Information

Context for Record Type: Organization Records, both volumes and loose records, are in some cases transferred to the Library of Virginia as components of court record transfers. These organization records in some cases were simply stored in the local court building for safe keeping by business owners. In other cases, organization records (particularly ledgers, account books, etc.) may have been filed in a court case as an exhibit. These organization 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: Petersburg was formed from parts of Dinwiddie, Prince George, and Chesterfield Counties. A garrison and fur-trading post called Fort Henry was established there in 1645 on the site of the Indian village Appamattuck. The present name, suggested in 1733 by William Byrd II, honors Peter Jones, Byrd's companion on expeditions into the Virginia backcountry. Petersburg was established in 1748 and incorporated as a town in 1784. It was incorporated as a city in 1850. Petersburg was enlarged by annexation from both Prince George and Dinwiddie Counties in 1972.

Scope and Content

Petersburg (Va.) Organization Records, circa 1805-1957, is comprised of various records created by groups in Petersburg. These records consist of a membership directory and register, minute books, and other loose re

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into three series:

- Series I: First Baptist Church Records, 1908-1914
- Series II: Petersburg Bar Association, 1953-1957
- Series III: Petersburg (Va.) Organization Records, circa 1805-1903 [UNPROCESSED]

Contents List

Series I: First Baptist Church Records, 1908-1914

Extent

2 volumes

Physical Location Library of Virginia

Scope and Content

Scope and Content: The records of the First Baptist Church consist of a baptism register and membership

directory, as well as a minute book.

Historical Information: First Baptist Church (Petersburg, Va.) was founded in 1756 in Prince George County and organized in 1774 as First African Baptist Church. Later, the organization moved to Petersburg and a house of worship was built on Harrison Street.

For additional information see [Petersburg City \(Va.\) Chancery Causes, 1914-001: Pleasant Webb, etc. vs. William H. Major etc.](#) and [Petersburg City \(Va.\) Chancery Cause, 1915-002: James Blackwell etc. vs. William H. Major etc.](#)

Barcode Number 1125835: First Baptist Church Baptism Register and Membership Directory, 1908-1911

Scope and Content

The volume contains a list of individuals who were baptized and received into the church from 1908 to 1911. Each entry contains name, age, and street address. The list of baptisms (3 pages) is followed by an alphabetical list of names and addresses that appears to be a membership directory.

Barcode Number 1125858: First Baptist Church Minute Book, 1914

Scope and Content

The volume contains minutes of regular monthly meetings from 1914 April 27 to 1914 December 7. Minutes note scripture lessons read, hymns sung, names of persons attending, and church business, such as reception and dismissal of members, committee reports and other business, and plans to repair the church building and parsonage.

Series II: Petersburg Bar Association, 1953-1957

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location State Records Center

Scope and Content

Scope and Content: The records of the Petersburg Bar Association consist of a minute book.

Historical Information: The Petersburg Bar Association is a local coalition of attorneys from Petersburg and the surrounding area.

Barcode Number 1125809: Petersburg Bar Association Minute Book, 1953-1957

Series III: Petersburg (Va.) Organization Records, circa 1805-1903[UNPROCESSED]

Extent

1 volume

Scope and Content

Scope and Content: Petersburg (Va.) Organization Records, circa 1805-1903, typically consist of appointments of trustees, minutes, and miscellaneous records of religious organizations, fraternal organizations, independent associations, and cooperatives.

Includes boxes containing material identified as organization records. These records may be flat filed or foldered but not fully processed.

Barcode Number 1152191: Marriage Records, Military and Pension Records, Miscellaneous Records, City Administrative Records, Organization Records, Road and Bridge Records, School Records, 1805-1903, undated