

# A Guide to the Research notes of the State Archivist, Library of Virginia, 1960-1965.

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A Collection in the Library of Virginia 37250, 37281

Library of Virginia

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## History

**Processed by:** Staff.

## Title Statement

A Guide to the Research notes of the State Archivist, Library of Virginia, 1960-1965.

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid, 2020

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## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

37250, 37281

### Unit Date

1960-1965.

### Creator

Library of Virginia. Office of the State Archivist

### Extent

.9 cu. ft. (2 boxes)

### Repository

The Library of Virginia

## Administrative Information

### Access Restrictions

There are no access restrictions.

### Acquisition Information

Accession 37250 was transferred by the Office of the State Archivist, March 28, 2000.

Accession 37281 was transferred by the Office of the State Archivist, May 1, 2000.

## Processing Information

This collection has been processed using minimal processing standards. The original arrangement has been maintained, the container list is brief and simple, and the records have not been refoldered and fasteners have not been removed.

## Preferred Citation

Research notes of the State Archivist, Library of Virginia, [please note specific dates and accessions used], State government records collection, The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.

## Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically.

## Historical Information

For many years, The Library of Virginia had no definitive home. Valuable early records were kept at Jamestown as early as 1676 and were then moved to the College of William and Mary for a brief period at the century's end. By 1780, extant records were moved to the Capitol in Richmond. Coincidentally, in 1779, the Virginia General Assembly was presented among its legislation, "A Bill for Establishing a Public Library" drawn up by Thomas Jefferson. The bill provided for 2000 pounds yearly to be expended to maintain a State Library in Richmond. The facility was to be a reference library only without books being lent for home use. Perhaps ahead of its time, the bill failed to pass.

The Virginia State Library was created by an act passed by the General Assembly on January 23, 1823, to establish a public library with funds derived from the sale of William W. Hening's *THE STATUTES AT LARGE*. From 1823 to 1828, the Library was under the control of the governor and council. In 1828, the General Assembly created a joint committee on the library (located in a room in the southeastern corner of the Capitol) to oversee its administration. Use of the State Library was restricted to members of the state government in a policy that continued until at least 1856. The Secretary of the Commonwealth served ex officio as state librarian from 1832 to 1903.

The growth of the State Library was somewhat erratic. Book holdings increased from 1,313 in 1828 to 17,480 in 1856. Lack of funds and politics frequently intermingled to slow library development. General W.H. Richardson, State Librarian in 1852, became embroiled in an effort to remove him "to make way for some politician of democratic principles." At the close of Reconstruction, Dr. George William Bagby, then State Librarian, was terminated and his position abolished at the hands of Readjusters.

Eventually, on May 15, 1903, the General Assembly passed an act that created a library board to administer the library, authorized the deposit of public records in the library, provided for the publication of historical records by the library, and established a library fund for the purchase of books and private papers. The Library Board, which was responsible for naming the State Librarian, was itself appointed by the Board of Education. The General Assembly passed an act on March 29, 1944, transferring the power to appoint the Library Board to the governor.

While many public records somehow survived the Commonwealth's early years, many losses occurred due to fires, the ravages of war and negligence. When the library was moved, for example, in 1895 to a building separate from the Capitol, "chutes were constructed from the upper story of the Capitol to facilitate the delivery of books to the wagons of the junk dealer who had bought them." The move was poorly planned and the library's contents suffered great loss at the hands of those very authorities assigned to protect them.

The new facility quickly was found to be inadequate and efforts were made both in 1910 and 1920 to construct a proper building for the State Library and its collections. Ground was broken for this facility on December 7, 1938. At last, on December 23, 1940, the newly completed Virginia State Library was opened to the public.

The Virginia State Library adopted the name, the Virginia State Library and Archives, in early 1987 to more adequately reflect its mission and purpose today. In July 1, 1994 the name was changed to The Library of Virginia.

## Scope and Content

Research notes of the State Archivist document the investigation into various topics related to collections at the Library of Virginia. These records may include articles, brochures, correspondence, legislation, lists, notes, photocopies of original materials in the archives, and reports. Topics may include, but are not limited to Capitol Square, Civil War Centennial, and the Executive Mansion. These materials were collected, 1960-1965, though items on the photocopied material pre-date the collection date. These dates are indicated in the folder title.

# Arrangement

This collection is arranged in original order.

## Contents List

### **Research notes (Accession 37250), 1960-1961.**

**Boxes** 1 (box)

**Extent**

Extent: .45 cubic feet (1 box).

#### **Scope and Content**

Includes research notes related to Capitol Square and the Executive Mansion, among others.

#### **Correspondence, 1960-1961.**

**Box** 1

#### **Notes (rough chronology), 1960-1961.**

**Box** 1

#### **Photocopies of research materials - miscellaneous (primary and secondary), 1960-1961.**

**Box** 1

#### **Richmond tourism, 1960-1961.**

**Box** 1

#### **Brochures - State Capitol, 1960-1961.**

**Box** 1

#### **Legislation, 1960-1961.**

**Box** 1

#### **City lots, 1960-1961.**

**Box** 1

#### **Lots obtained by the directors of public buildings for Capitol Square, 1960-1961.**

**Box** 1

#### **Public buildings - Sale of property (1811), 1960-1961.**

**Box** 1

#### **Public buildings - Sales made by Moncure, Robinson and Pleasants (1811), 1960-1961.**

**Box** 1

#### **Executive Mansion (1810-1813), 1960-1961.**

**Box** 1

#### **Executive Mansion (1914), 1960-1961.**

**Box** 1

#### **Executive Mansion - Acts of Assembly (1811), 1960-1961.**

**Box 1**

**Executive Mansion - Acts of Assembly (1813), 1960-1961.**

**Box 1**

**Executive Mansion - Brochures, 1960-1961.**

**Box 1**

**Executive Mansion - David Bullock, 1960-1961.**

**Box 1**

**Executive Mansion - Gov. James Barbour, 1960-1961.**

**Box 1**

**Executive Mansion - Floor plans, 1960-1961.**

**Box 1**

**Executive Mansion - Furniture inventory in the Government House (1811), 1960-1961.**

**Box 1**

**Executive Mansion - Journal of the House of Delegates - Committee Report of the Governor (1811 Apr 2), 1960-1961.**

**Box 1**

**Executive Mansion - Journal of the House of Delegates - Gov. Tyler's address to the Speaker (1811 Dec 4), 1960-1961.**

**Box 1**

**Executive Mansion - Journal of the House of Delegates - Committee Report re: furniture in the Governor's House (1813 Jan 19), 1960-1961.**

**Box 1**

**Executive Mansion - Journal of the House of Delegates - Commissioners Report on the Governor's House valuation (1813 Feb 17), 1960-1961.**

**Box 1**

**Executive Mansion - Legislation (1812-1813), 1960-1961.**

**Box 1**

**Executive Mansion - Various vouchers to Commissioners for building the Governor's House (1811 Apr-Dec), 1960-1961.**

**Box 1**

**Research notes (Accession 37281), 1960-1965.**

**Boxes 1 (box)**

**Extent**

Extent: .45 cubic feet (1 box).

**Scope and Content**

Includes research notes related to Arthur Campbell's captivity by Indians, populating the Virginia Frontier, and the Civil War Centennial, among others.

**Arthur Campbell's captivity by Indians, 1960-1965.**

**Box 1**

**Arthur Campbell's captivity by Indians - List of letters and other notes, 1960-1965.**

**Box 1**

**Documentary history notes, 1960-1965.**

**Box 1**

**General, 1960-1965.**

**Box 1**

**Labor and Trade, 1960-1965.**

**Box 1**

**Populating Virgini and the Frontier, 1960-1965.**

**Box 1**

**U.S. Senate - Iowa, 1960-1965.**

**Box 1**

**Virginia History, 1960-1965.**

**Box 1**

**Virginia History - Correspondence of notable figures, 1960-1965.**

**Box 1**

**Virginia State Library leaflets, 1960-1965.**

**Box 1**

**Virginia Civil War Centennial, 1960-1965.**

**Box 1**