

A Guide to the Buena Vista (Va.) Judgments, 1892-1985

Buena Vista (Va.) Judgments, 1892-1985
1892-1985

A Collection in the Library of Virginia
Library of Virginia
2026

History

Processed by: LVA Staff

Title Statement

A Guide to the Buena Vista (Va.) Judgments, 1892-1985

Subtitle: Buena Vista (Va.) Judgments, 1892-1985

Author: J. Taylor

Publication Statement

Date: © 2026 By The Library of Virginia. All Rights Reserved.

Publisher: Library of Virginia

Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word, created by J. Taylor, 30 April 2026

Language Usage: Description is in English

Descriptive Summary

Language

English

Collector

Buena Vista (Va.) Circuit Court

Extent

Microfilm Reels.

Location

Library of Virginia

Repository

Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open to research.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

Microfilm reels were generated by the Buena Vista Circuit Court and transferred to the Library of Virginia in 2013. The original records are retained in the locality.

Processing Information

Prior to 2026, the judgement descriptive records were not standardized in their inclusion of contextual information or content lists. Local Records staff reviewed this record and have updated to current standards as of 2026.

Encoded by J. Taylor: May 2026

Preferred Citation

Buena Vista (Va.) Judgments, 1892-1985 [insert series or volume title]. Local government records collection, Buena Vista Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

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

Location of Originals

Original Buena Vista records are retained in the locality. Contact the circuit court clerk for access.

Historical Information

Context for Record Type: Judgments are identified as civil suits, often involving debt, heard by a jury on the "law" side of the court as opposed to the "chancery" (or equity) side. Should the defendant not have funds to repay the debt, the court ordered their property (including enslaved people) to be seized and sold to repay the debt owed to the plaintiff. Judgments also contain suits brought by enslaved people seeking to gain their freedom.

In judgments, an assumpsit or declaration (sometimes referred to as a narratio) lays out the plaintiff's grievance as a petition acted as a formal application to the court requesting judicial action. Judgment suits also generally included record types like subpoenas, summons, and exhibit. Judgments may also include additional documentations such as executions, bonds, and various kinds of writs.

Judgment suits make up a large quantity of a locality's records; consequently, they provide a great deal of information concerning the activities and interests of the people who lived in the locality. Since the vast majority of judgment suits relate to financial matters, they are a valuable resource in studying the economic and social history of Virginia localities and are the impotence for many chancery suits.

Locality History: Buena Vista, in Rockbridge County, was built on the site of the abandoned Buena Vista iron furnace. This furnace, which was in operation as late as 1855, was named probably for the Mexican village near which General Zachary Taylor won an important battle in the Mexican War in 1847. Buena Vista was laid out in 1889 and incorporated as a town in 1890. It was incorporated as a city in 1892.

Scope and Content

Buena Vista (Va.) Judgments, 1892-1985 contains civil cases in which justice was administered on the strictly formulated rules of common law. The majority of these cases in this record series relate to matters of debt. The records consist of several microfilm reels of judgment volumes.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into one series:

- Series I: Judgment Volumes, 1892-1985

Contents List

Series I: Judgment Volumes 1892-1985

Extent

Microfilm

Scope and Content

This series consist of microfilm copies of original records; the original records are retained in the locality.

Barcode number 0007416410: General Index to Judgment Lien Docket Books 1892-1985

Barcode number 0007416411: General Index to Judgment Lien Docket Books 1892-1985

Barcode number 0007416413: General Index to Judgment Lien Docket Books 1892-1985

Barcode number 0007416620: General Index to Judgment Lien Docket Books 1892-1985

Barcode number 0007416627: General Index to Judgment Lien Docket Books 1892-1985

Barcode number 0007416640: General Index to Judgment Lien Docket Books 1892-1985

Barcode number 0007416414: Judgment Lien Docket Book 1958-1970

Barcode number 0007416643: Judgment Lien Docket Book 1958-1970

Barcode number 0007416415: Judgment Lien Docket Book 1970-1974

Barcode number 0007416644: Judgment Lien Docket Book 1970-1974