

Dickenson, Richard B. Papers

Richard B. Dickenson Papers,
1931-2004



Title Statement

Dickenson, Richard B. Papers Richard B. Dickenson Papers, 1931-2004 Ms.2011.043

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Author: Kimberly Staub

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2011.043

Unit Date

1931-2004

Unit Date

1964-2000

Language

English .

Abstract

The collection is composed of materials related to Dickenson's research on Southwest Virginia African Americans from the Civil War until the present.

Creator

Dickenson, Richard B., 1930-2006

Extent

4 Cubic Feet 11 Boxes

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

Permission to publish material from Richard B. Dickenson Papers must be obtained from Special Collections, Virginia Tech.

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated to Special Collections in 2006.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Richard B. Dickenson Papers was completed in September 2011.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Richard B. Dickenson Papers, Ms2011-043, Special Collections, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Richard B. Dickenson, community activist and historian, was born in Jersey City, New Jersey in 1930. From 1951-1953 he served with the US Army in Korea. Dickenson then received a B.A. in geography from Michigan State University in 1957 and a M.Ed. from Springfield College in Massachusetts in 1971. He taught at a variety of colleges and universities throughout his career, including Virginia Tech where he researched local African American history and genealogy. After moving back to New York, Dickenson was appointed Borough Historian of Staten Island, which he held until his death from cancer in 2006.

Dickenson is the author of two published works: *Entitled! Free Papers in Appalachia Concerning Antebellum Freeborn Negroes and Emancipated Blacks of Montgomery County, Virginia.* and *Holden's Staten Island: The History of Richmond County.*

Scope and Content Note

The collection is composed of materials related to Dickenson's research on Southwest Virginia African Americans from the Civil War until the present. Included are photocopies and excerpts of books and archival materials, correspondence with coworkers and friends largely dealing with the Christiansburg Institute, and professional material related to his work in with the Christiansburg Community Center and local history associations.

Separated Materials

The following books have been removed from the collection and are available in Special Collections:

The Black Oklahomans, A History: 1541-1972, 1972 *Black History in Oklahoma: A Resource Book*, 1971 *Christiansburg Institute: A Proud Heritage*, 1991 *Entitled:Free Papers in Appalachia*, 1980 *Highlights in the Early History of Montgomery County, VA*, 1975 *The Montgomery County Story*, 2000 *Montgomery County, Virginia: Circa 1790*, 1972 *Montgomery County Virginia: The First Hundred Years*, 1994 *Price Genealogy*, 1948 *The United States Army Invades the New River Valley May 1864*, 1986 *Virginia Landmarks of Black History*, 1995

Keywords

Virginia -- History
Virginia, Southwest
Local/Regional History and Appalachian South
Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877)
Civil War
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

Arrangement

The Richard B. Dickenson Papers are arranged into five series: subject files, correspondence, publications, research, and media. Materials within series are arranged alphabetically.

Series I contains subject files created by Dickenson. This series includes materials related to Christiansburg Institute and his work with the Christiansburg Community Center.

Series II contains correspondence with friends and coworkers. Letters are arranged by author in alphabetical order.

Series III contains various publications and photocopies of publications kept by Dickenson during his career. Individual publications are arranged in their own folder, excerpts are grouped in folders by alphabetical order.

Series IV contains research materials compiled by Dickenson. Most of these items are photocopies of archival material. Research materials with no apparent titles are grouped in the Ephemera Research folder.

Series V contains cassette tapes, microfilm, and CD-ROMS arranged by material type.

Description of Subordinate Components

Series I: Subject Files,

Unit Date 1972-2000

AAHGS Conference Presentation,

Unit Date 1998

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

AAHGS New Jersey Chapter,

Unit Date 1992-1993

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Appalachian Blacks,

Unit Date 1977

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Appalachian Blacks,

Unit Date 1996-1997

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Appalachian Black Preservation Council Program,

Unit Date 1978

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Artists in Schools Program,

Unit Date 1978-1979

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Augustan Society Catalog,

Unit Date 1977

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Charter of Christiansburg Community Center.

Unit Date 1973-1978

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Christiansburg Community Center,

Unit Date 1978

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Christiansburg Community Center - Employment & CETA,

Unit Date 1978

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Christiansburg Community Center Fundraising,

Unit Date 1978

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Christiansburg Community Center National Register,

Unit Date 1978

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Christiansburg Institute Reunion,

Unit Date 1977

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Christiansburg Institute Ephemera,

Unit Date 1977-1992

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Community Development Block Grant,

Unit Date 1977-1978

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Dedication Service for Bust of Captain Schaeffer,

Unit Date 1997

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

Drafts on Appalachian African Americans,

Unit Date 1976-1977

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

EEO / AAA Letters,
Unit Date 1977-1978
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 2 (folder)

Employee Insurance Policy,
Unit Date 1972-1976
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 3 (folder)

Ephemera - General,
Unit Date 1976-1978
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 4 (folder)

Funding Proposals,
Unit Date 1977
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 5 (folder)

Grants and Award Letters,
Unit Date 1978
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 6 (folder)

Grant Information,
Unit Date 1978
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 7 (folder)

Montgomery County Voluntary Action Center,
Unit Date 1972-1977
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 8 (folder)

Preserving Black Appalachia Workshop,
Unit Date 1978
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 9 (folder)

Religious Materials,
Unit Date 1975-2000
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 10 (folder)

Schaeffer Memorial Landmark,
Unit Date 1978
box-folder 2 (box)
Container 11 (folder)

US Department of the Interior Copy of Christiansburg Institute's Register of Historic Places,

Unit Date 1980

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Virginia Foundation for the Humanities Grant Application (Blank),

Unit Date 1988

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Virginia Genealogical Seminar,

Unit Date 1978

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Series II: Correspondence,

Unit Date 1977-2004

Amanda E. DeHart Correspondence,

Unit Date 1977-1987

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Amanda E. DeHart Correspondence,

Unit Date 1988-1998

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Gibson Vance Correspondence,

Unit Date 1977

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Correspondence,

Unit Date 1977-2004

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Series III: Publications,

Unit Date 1931-1997

Unit Date 1964-1997

A Consecrated Life, (photocopy)

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

A Valley and Its People (photocopy)

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

"AAHGS Surname Index",

Unit Date 1997

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

A Social Study of the Blacksburg Community (photocopy),

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Annals of Southwest Virginia (photocopy),

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Charles Hamilton Houston and the Struggle for Civil Rights, Chapter 1 (photocopy),

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

"Christiansburg Institute" Master's Thesis,

Unit Date 1975

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Dickenson Families of England and America,

Unit Date 1972

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

"Economic and Social Survey of Russel County, VA" (photocopy),

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

"Entitled" Drafts,

Unit Date 1979-1980

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Entitled: Free Papers in Appalachia,

Unit Date 1980

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

"Free Negro in Montgomery County, VA,"

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Free Negro in Virginia (photocopy),

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Freedmen's School of Montgomery County, VA, (handwritten draft),

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

"Genesis of Christiansburg Institute Alumni Association,"

Unit Date 1977

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Historical Sketches of Southwest Virginia,

Unit Date 1968-1977

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Bibliography

Kilgore Forthouse, 1786, 1975 The Great Stone Face,, 1976 Historical Sketches of Southwest Virginia, 1977 Frontier Forts, 1968

"Identities and Heritage" Discussion Draft,

Unit Date 1977

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

"Making Their Mark: Black Families of New River Depot, 1870-1940,"

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

McGavock Family (photocopy),

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Negroes and Their Treatment in Virginia from 1865-1867 (photocopy),

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Negroes in Oklahoma (Docent Manual),

Unit Date 1972

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Negro in Virginia (photocopy),

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Negro in Virginia Politics, 1865-1902 (photocopy)

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

"The Seventh Population Census of the US for Russell County, VA 1850,"

Unit Date 1964

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Unleased at Long Last (photocopy)

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Virginia Conservatives, 1867-1879 (photocopy),

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Publications by Leland Tate,

Unit Date 1931-1944

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Bibliography

An Economic and Social Survey of Russell County Virginia, 1931 *Lebanon: A Virginia Community*, 1943 *Comments on the Lebanon Community Study*, 1944

The Andersons of Montgomery County,

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Publications and Excerpts A-B

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

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"An Address on the Occasion of the Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Hanging Rock," n.d. *Against the Tide* excerpt (photocopy), n.d. *Belah Perry* excerpt (photocopy), n.d. *Biographical Directory of the American Congress 1774-1927* (photocopy), n.d. "Black Genealogical Research in Montgomery County," 1978 "Black Student Directory 1978", 1978 "Blacks in Appalachia" excerpt (photocopy), n.d. "Booker T. Washington" (pamphlet), n.d. *The Bowyers of Old West Virginia* excerpt (photocopy), n.d.

Publications and Excerpts E-L,

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 7 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

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"Early Development of Negro Extension Work in Virginia," n.d. *Fincastle and Botetourt County Tour*, 1977 "Freedmen Identities" draft, 1998 "The Freedmen's Bureau in Appalachia," 1977 *Haven Boyd Howe* excerpt (photocopy), n.d. *Historic Fincastle* pamphlet, n.d. *A Funeral Discourse on the Death of Robert Craig, Esq.* excerpt (photocopy), n.d. *Local History and Genealogical Research in the University Libraries*, 1990

Publications and Excerpts M-P

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 7 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Bibliography

Bibliography

"Montgomery County Historic Sites Survey Volume 1" (photocopy), n.d. "Name Changing Since the Civil War" presentation, 1998 *Negro Baptist History USA* excerpt (photocopy), n.d. *The Negro in the Reconstruction of Virginia* excerpt (photocopy), n.d. *Negro Life in Rural Virginia* (photocopy), n.d. *Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands*, 1973 *Planters and Pioneers* (photocopy), n.d. "Projections and Economic Base Analysis of Russell County", 1966 *Political History of Appalachian Virginia* excerpt (photocopy), n.d. "Pulaski County: A Collection of Articles" excerpts, n.d. *Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the United States Continental Commands* excerpt (photocopy), n.d.

Excerpts and Publications R-T

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 7 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Bibliography

Bibliography

"Race Relations in Montgomery County, Virginia 1870-1990" (photocopy), n.d. *The Readjuster Movement in Virginia* excerpt (photocopy), n.d. *Resources of Southwest Virginia* excerpt (photocopy), n.d. *Rural Land Ownership Among the Negroes of Virginia* excerpt (photocopy), n.d. "Some Freedmen Identities," 1978 *Southwest Virginia and Shenandoah Valley* excerpt (photocopy), n.d. *State Historical Markers of Virginia* excerpt (photocopy), n.d. Syllabus for "Appalachian Black Surnames During Reconstruction" presentation, 1994 *Towns and Villages of Montgomery County, Virginia as given on Maps and in Virginia Directories* excerpt (photocopy), n.d. "Tracing Your Black Virginia Ancestors" n.d.

Publications and Excerpts V-W,

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 7 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

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"Virginia Appalachian Notes," 1979 *Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 1979 "Volunteers Help Maryland Group Serve Clients," 1977 Welcome to Russell County, VA, n.d.

Untitled Publications, Excerpts, and Drafts,

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 7 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Series VI: Research,

Unit Date 1976-1993

1850 US Census Annotated Abstracts of Slaveholding, Free Black, and Dickenson Families of Russell County, Va,

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 7 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Appalachian Black Surnames During Reconstruction in Montgomery County, VA 1865-1870

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 7 (box)

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Appalachian States Data File,

Unit Date 1977

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Container 8 (folder)

Captain Shaeffer Research,

Unit Date 1978-1980

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Container 9 (folder)

Christiansburg Institute Microfilm Printouts,

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 10 (folder)

Colored Population - Montgomery County, VA 1865-1870

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 1 (folder)

Commission of Claims Reports (photocopies),

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 2 (folder)

Court Order Book Extracts,

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 3 (folder)

Ephemera Research,

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 4 (folder)

Federal Population Censuses 1790-1890 (photocopy),

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 5 (folder)

Freedmen's Bureau Records,

Unit Date 1977

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Container 6 (folder)

General Schaeffer State and Local Records,

Unit Date n.d.

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George Sherwood Research,

Unit Date n.d.

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Jeremiah Kyle and Rice Daniel Montague Research,

Unit Date 1993

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Kentucky Freedmen Bureau Records,

Unit Date 1976

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Container 10 (folder)

Logan County, Oklahoma Research,

Unit Date 1976-1980

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Container 11 (folder)

Montgomery County Freedmen Bureau Records,

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 1 (folder)

Montgomery County Maps,

Unit Date 1992-1993

box-folder 9 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Montgomery County Production of Agriculture 1960 (photocopy),

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 3 (folder)

Morgan Family, Montgomery County, Va,

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 4 (folder)

Population Schedules from 1850 Census Russell and Scott Counties, VA,

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 5 (folder)

Register of Colored Persons Montgomery County, Va 1867 (photocopy),

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 6 (folder)

Register of Free Negroes and Mulattos,

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 7 (folder)

Register of the General Assembly of Virginia,

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 8 (folder)

Research Requests to Virginia Libraries on Freedmen's Bureau,

Unit Date 1977

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Russell County Virginia Research,

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 11 (folder)

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Container 10 (folder)

Samuel Clark et al v. New Railway Company,

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 12 (folder)

Samuel H. Clark Research,

Unit Date 1979-1988

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Container 13 (folder)

Samuel Clark Research - Genealogical Transparencies,

Unit Date n.d.

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Schedule of Agriculture Production 1860 (photocopy)

Unit Date n.d.

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Container 1 (folder)

Slave Inhabitants in Christiansburg, VA 1860 (photocopy),

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 10 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Southwest Virginia Genealogical Society Research and Notes,

Unit Date 1986

box-folder 10 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Unidentified Genealogical Records,

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 10 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Wythe County,

Unit Date 1977

box-folder 10 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Series V: Media,

Unit Date 1977

Cassette Tapes

Unit Date 1977

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"Interview with Mrs. Addie Jones"

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