ROOTS IN PRINCE WILLIAM
A GUIDE TO GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH
IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Unless otherwise stated, all items listed below are part of the collections of the
Ruth E. Lloyd Information Center [RELIC]
Bull Run Regional Library, 8051 Ashton Avenue, Manassas, Virginia 20109
Phone (703) 792-4540    TTY (703) 792-4524    Email: relic2@pwcgov.org

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Prince William County Through History

Prince William County Boundaries

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Rappahannock watershed:

| 1651-1656 | Lancaster County |
| 1656-1692 | (Old) Rappahannock County |
| 1692-1721 | Richmond County |
| 1721-1731 | King George County |

Potomac watershed:

| 1651-1653 | Northumberland County |
| 1653-1664 | Westmoreland County |
| 1664-1731 | Stafford County |

1731 | Prince William County organized from Stafford and King George |
1742 | Fairfax County cut off (with Loudoun, Arlington, Alexandria) |
1759 | Fauquier County cut off |
The following organizations have collections or information of value for our local history. Please include a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope (SASE) when requesting information, and try to keep your questions brief.

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<th>Code</th>
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<td>HD</td>
<td>Historic Dumfries / Weems-Botts Museum, 300 Duke St, Dumfries, VA 22026 (mailing address P.O. Box 26, Dumfries, VA 22026). <a href="http://www.historicdumfries.com">www.historicdumfries.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HPW</td>
<td>Historic Prince William, P.O. Box 1731, Prince William, VA 22195-1731. <a href="http://www.historicprincewilliam.org">www.historicprincewilliam.org</a>. Promotes the study of Prince William history. Has no library or museum.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MM</td>
<td>Manassas Historic Resources Board / Manassas Museum, 9101 Prince William St., Manassas, VA 20110-5615 (mailing address Manassas Museum, P.O. Box 560, Manassas, VA 20108). A museum for Prince William County and the piedmont region of northern Virginia. Has a research library open by appointment. <a href="http://www.manassasmuseum.org">www.manassasmuseum.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>OHS</td>
<td>Occoquan Historical Society (formerly Historic Occoquan Inc.) / Mill House Museum, 413 Mill St, Occoquan, VA 22125. <a href="http://www.occoquanhistoricalsociety.org">www.occoquanhistoricalsociety.org</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PWHP</td>
<td>Prince William County Dept. of Public Works, Historic Preservation Division, 17674 Main Street, Dumfries, VA 2026. <a href="mailto:historicpreservation@pwcgov.org">historicpreservation@pwcgov.org</a>. Custodians of Prince William County’s public-owned historic resources, including Ben Lomond, Brentsville Historic Centre, Bristoe Station Battlefield, Lucasville School, Manassas Courthouse, Rippon Lodge, and Williams’ Ordinary. <a href="http://www.pwcgov.org/HistoricPreservation">www.pwcgov.org/HistoricPreservation</a>. The Prince William Historic Preservation Foundation, a support group, is at <a href="http://www.pwhpf.org">www.pwhpf.org</a>.</td>
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Guides to Prince William County Records


Harrison, Fairfax.  “The Manuscript Source Records,” in *Landmarks of Old Prince William* (1924), pp. 677-696.  A few of the records reported missing have since been returned.  [PWHC]


African American Records

See also records in all other categories.

- 1724 Tobacco tenders lists for Overwharton Parish (Stafford County).  [LVA]  Copy in RELIC.  Includes slave names.
- U. S. Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands.  *Records ... Virginia, 1865-1870* [microfilm].  Partial index:  

Archaeological Reports

RELIC maintains copies of archaeological reports prepared for Prince William County.  [PWHC and VDHR]  
To locate particular titles, search the PWPLS catalog at [http://librarycatalog.pwcgov.org](http://librarycatalog.pwcgov.org).  Use subject keywords  
ARCHAEOLOGY and PRINCE WILLIAM, plus any particular name or keyword that might appear in the record.

Bibles

Some copies of family bibles have been given to RELIC.  Copies are placed in family file folders.  Some have been published.  See also LVA for their online copy of bible entries.  [http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public-guides/bible.htm](http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public-guides/bible.htm)

### Business Records


Smith, Huie and Alexander [Company] *Dumfries Daybook 1791-1794*. Microfilm at RELIC.


Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce. *The Region’s Chamber*, 1998-.

*Contacts Influential, Northern Virginia* (1983-84, 1990/91). Directories of businesses indexed by company name, SIC; address, key personnel, phone numbers.


### Cemetery Records

PWHC, PWGS and RELIC are collecting data on Prince William County cemeteries.

**General works:**


*Cemeteries Found in and about Prince William Forest Park* (1973), unpublished typescript.


**Particular cemeteries:**

Johnson, Alice W. *Clover Hill Farm Cemetery: Grace United Methodist Church, 10201 Hendley Road, Manassas, Virginia* (1996).


**Funeral home records:**


### Censuses and Substitutes

Census population schedules, covering the entire United States, 1790-1930, are available through online subscriptions to Ancestry Library Edition and HeritageQuest Online. Each has features, including indexes, not available in the other. Ancestry is accessible at branch libraries. HeritageQuest is accessible at branch libraries and remotely with a valid Prince William Public Library card. FamilySearch ([www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)) now has indexes and/or images of U.S. census schedules, 1850-1930, free access.

RELIC has microfilm of all surviving Virginia population and supplementary schedules (free and slave) through 1930. The 1790 and 1800 censuses are lost; the 1890 census was destroyed except for a list of Union veterans. RELIC has indexes for each available census, in book, microfiche, microfilm, and CD-ROM format.

Also on microfilm are the census descriptions of geographic subdivisions and enumeration districts for Virginia, 1830-1920. Records of the 1820 census of manufactures for Virginia; mortality, agricultural and industrial schedules for 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880; social statistics for 1850, 1860, 1870; and defective, dependent and delinquent classes for 1880 are also available.

Following are lists that can be used as substitute censuses for Prince William County:

**Rent rolls** or **land tax lists** give information about land owners.

**Tithables lists** or **personal property tax lists** record every head of household.

Colonial lists marked * have been compiled by RELIC staff into a notebook.


1735-1777 Rent rolls contained in *Prince William County, Virginia, Manuscripts in the Huntington Library* [microfilm]. Indexed in *Early Virginia*, v. 1, by Ronald Jackson (AIS, 1980). Following years are included: n.d. [1735/6, Hamilton Parish], 1738/9 [Hamilton Parish], 1751/2, 1753, 1754, 1758 (incomplete), 1760, 1762, 1767, 1773, 1777.


1737 Residents of Brent Town tract (western Prince William County) named in *Newsletter of PWGS*, Dec. 1983.*

1738/9 Rent roll of Hamilton Parish at Huntington Library (from a photocopy).*


1746 Non-resident landowners list on Huntington Library microfilm.*


1751 Tax list for Hamilton Parish (now Fauquier County), published in *Newsletter of PWGS*, Dec. 1991.*

1751/2 Rent roll on Huntington Library microfilm.*


1754 Rent roll on Huntington Library microfilm.*

1758 Incomplete rent roll on Huntington Library microfilm.*

1760 Rent at Huntington Library (from a photocopy).*
1761 Rent roll at Huntington Library (from a photocopy).*
1762 Rent roll on Huntington Library microfilm.*
1765 Tithables list [and rent roll] for PWC. *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy*, May-Aug. 1992.* Includes slave names. Original at LVA, photocopy at RELIC.
1767 Rent roll on Huntington Library microfilm (2 lists).*
1773 Rent roll on Huntington Library microfilm.*
1777 Rent roll on Huntington Library microfilm.*
1782-1900 *Land tax lists* available on microfilm from Library of Virginia, Richmond. [LVA] Not taken for Va. in 1808, not taken for PWC in 1862-64. [LVA]
1782-1807, 1809-1861, 1865-1892 Annual land tax lists (microfilm, RELIC).
1782-1807, 1809-1861, 1865-1870 Annual personal property tax lists (microfilm, RELIC).
1782-1807, 1809-1810 *Prince William County Personal Property Tax Lists* (Binns Genealogy, 2007). CDR-000434. (CDROM, RELIC)
1782 Fothergill, Augusta B. *Virginia Tax Payers, 1782-87* (1940, repr. GPC, 1999). Index to names, no. of polls and slaves from 1782 personal property tax list.
1800 “1800 Personal Property Tax List, Prince William County.” *Northern Virginia Genealogy*, v. 4, no. 2-3 (Spring-Summer 1999).
1865+ Annual land tax books available at Prince William County Court House archives, Manassas. [PWCC]
1923 “List of Women in Prince William County, Virginia, who have paid six months prior to November 6, 1923, the state poll taxes required by the constitution of the State of Virginia” by Ronald R. Turner. *Prince William Reliquary* (Oct. 2004) List of the first women who voted in a federal election in the county.
The following databases track ownership and value of town lots.

**Brentsville**

**Buckland.**

**Haymarket**

**Manassas**

See also Telephone Directories / City Directories.

**Published census abstracts:**
- 1810 1810 census, Prince William County, Virginia (comp. by Mrs. Owen Crickard, n.d.).
- 1900 Turner, Ron. Prince William County, Virginia, 1900 census, alphabetically arranged (author, 1995).

**Church Records**

**Episcopal** (Church of England). Until 1785 all Virginians were required to support and attend the Church of England. **Hamilton Parish** was established in 1730 from Overwharton Parish (Stafford County) and Hanover Parish (King George County). It covered the whole area that became Prince William County in 1731. **Truro Parish**, north of Occoquan River, was cut off in 1732 (the area that became Fairfax County in 1742). **Dettingen Parish**, the eastern region, was cut off in 1745. After 1759, when Fauquier County was created, only a small portion of Hamilton Parish remained in western Prince William. In 1769, the northern part of Hamilton Parish was cut off to make **Leeds Parish**. Of these parishes, only Overwharton has a colonial register of births, marriages and deaths (1723-1758). The few entries with dates back to 1723 (births only) appear to have been recorded after 1738, when Prince William’s territory was no longer part of the parish.

Pohick Church. Minutes of the Vestry, Truro Parish Virginia, 1732-1785 (1974). Truro Parish was within Prince William County until 1742. It is now within Fairfax County. No register survives.

Library of Virginia has the Dumfries Church register 1815-1824 (Dettingen Parish). Its marriages were published in *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy*, v.24 (Feb. 1986); membership and baptisms in *Virginia Genealogist*, v.30 (Apr.-June 1986).


**Baptist.** Library of Virginia has records of the four earliest Prince William churches (Broad Run, Chappawamsic, Frying Pan and Occoquan).


Frying Pan Church, 1791-1879 (served northern Prince William, along with eastern Loudoun, western Fairfax). RELIC has microfilm.


**Brethren.**


**Catholic.**


**Lutheran.**


**Methodist.**

*“ByGrace We Are Saved”: the History and People of Grace United Methodist Church, Manassas, Virginia, 1867-1997* (1998).


Johnson, Alice W. *Clover Hill Farm Cemetery: Grace United Methodist Church, 10201 Hendley Road, Manassas, Virginia* (1996).

Johnson, Elizabeth et al. *History in a Horseshoe Curve* (1982) describes the early church, especially the Sudley congregation (RELIC also has microfilm of Sudley records 1818-1948).

Payne, Dorothea I. *History of the Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church, Manassas, Virginia* [1964].


**Presbyterian.**


Gilliss, Charles J. *A History of the Greenwich Presbyterian Church, Prince William County, Virginia, 1810-1953* (1953?).


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**Civil War and Reconstruction**

Also see below under *Military Records*, and RELIC’s pathfinder *Chasing the Civil War, online at* www.pwcgov.org/library/relic/PDF/ChasingTheCivilWar2008.pdf


*Case papers of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia relating to the confiscation of property, 1863-65.* Microfilm at RELIC.

Hanson, Joseph M. *Bull Run Remembers: The History, Traditions and Landmarks of the Manassas (Bull Run) Campaign Before Washington, 1861-1862* (1953, repr. by PWHC).

*Internal Revenue Assessment Lists for Virginia, 1862-1866.* Microfilm at RELIC.

*Records of the Assistant Commissioner for the State of Virginia, Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, 1865-1869.* Microfilm at RELIC.

*Records of the Superintendent of Education for the State of Virginia, Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, 1865-1870.* Microfilm at RELIC.


Wilson, Don. “Civil War Claims from Prince William County,” in *Newsletter of PWGS*, v. 6 (Dec. 1987).

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**Genealogical Exchange File**

RELIC maintains a public card file of ancestors that patrons and correspondents are researching. You are invited to contribute to the file. We are most interested in receiving information about families that lived in Prince William County. If you would like a report on other persons researching a particular family name, please send your request to RELIC. An electronic form for submitting data is available at www.pwcgov.org/library/relic/forms/genex.htm.

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**Historical Works**

Here are a few basic titles important for an understanding of Prince William local history. They may have some usefulness for genealogical research. See also *Prince William Reliquary* www.pwcgov.org/library/relic/reliquary.htm.

Brown, George B. *A History of Prince William County* (HPW, 1994).


Ratlcliffe, R. Jackson. *This Was Prince William* (1978). [MM]


Virginia Historical Inventory (1935-39), 29 microfilm reels. Reel 22 includes Prince William County cemeteries and historic sites. [LVA] Available in RELIC. Also available online at www.virginiamemory.com/collections/online_photo_collections, Virginia Historical Inventory.

WPA records of Prince William County, Virginia (Miscellaneous), indexed by Darlene L. Hunter (RELIC, 2004). Unpublished, photocopies of original reports at PWHC.

RELIC also maintains an **Historic Sites File** containing reports submitted to VDHR, photos, newspaper clippings and miscellaneous notes. Is being scanned for online access http://www.pwegov.org/library/digitalLibrary/index.htm.

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**Land Records**

Many Prince William County land records filed in the Clerk’s office prior to 1865 are lost. An index 1731-1827 (surnames M-W only) helps supply clues: the original is at the courthouse, a photocopy at RELIC. Rent rolls, land tax lists, and court minutes supply many details from lost deeds. For rent rolls and tax lists see under **Censuses and Substitutes**. For court minutes, see under **Probate Records and Court Minutes**. RELIC has microfilm of surviving Prince William County land records through 1918, as well as microfilm records of the parent county, Stafford. Deeds from 1918 are available online, by subscription, from PWCC. For a list of what records survived the Civil War see Prince William Reliquary, July 2005, p. 56 “Report of Committee appointed to examine County Clerks Office June 7th, 1870 ordered to be filed,” transcribed by Ronald R. Turner.

**Original land entries:**

Images of Virginia and Northern Neck land grants are available at

[LVA] Indexes grantees and place names. Does not index names of headrights or adjoiners.

Nugent, Nell. **Cavaliers and Pioneers** (1934-1980). Volumes 1, 2 and supplement contain Prince William County land grants before 1694. Indexes grantees, adjoiners, headrights, and place names.

Northern Neck Land Grants and Surveys 1690-1859. Microfilm at RELIC. For indexes see Grey, Nugent and Images.


**Deeds and plats:** Originals at PWCC. Abstracts by Johnson and Sparacio include extensive indexes.

General Index to Deeds, 1732-1799 and 1799-1887, reel 17 of PWC Court Records. Microfilm at RELIC.

Cain, Charlotte. Index of Deeds, Prince William County, Va. 1731-1827. (RELIC, 2002). Unpublished database taken from the incomplete 1827 manuscript index (surnames M-W), rearranged to show every name listed. Cites perhaps three quarters of the deeds of this period.

Johnson, June. Prince William County Deed Books ... 1731-1740, 2 volumes (author, 1982-84).

Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. Deed Abstracts of Prince William County, 1740-1799, 14 volumes (authors, 1989-93).

Sparacio, Ruth and Sam. Land Causes of Prince William County, 1789-1793 (authors, 1992). Lawsuits filed at the District Court. Additional volumes remain to be abstracted.


**Other:** See also Maps.

### Manuscripts

For a list of manuscripts pertinent to local research, see library catalog under subject: MANUSCRIPTS - VIRGINIA - PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY.

### Maps

The following maps show significant detail for Prince William county or portions thereof.


1745 Dettingen Parish – Hamilton Parish boundary, surveyed by George Byrn. Photocopy in RELIC map case. From 1820 copy by William Cundiff at PWCC. No buildings shown.


1834 *Sperryville and Rappahannock Turnpike*. Original at LVA, available online at [www.lva.lib.va.us](http://www.lva.lib.va.us), map no. 634, parts 1 and 2. Photocopy in RELIC map case. Traces the proposed route from Warrenton to Brentsville to Occoquan. Shows roads, buildings, owners. Road as planned was not built. Link and index at [www.pwcgov.org/library/digitalLibrary/index.htm](http://www.pwcgov.org/library/digitalLibrary/index.htm), Maps.


1861-65 Numerous other Civil War-era maps of Manassas and Prince William County are online at [www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov), click on American Memory, Maps, then Civil War.


1887-1957 *USGS complete topo file, Virginia*. Microfilm at RELIC. Most current maps for the state are in RELIC map case. Maps updated about every 20 years.


1971-1981 Aerial photos and land ownership maps published by REDI real estate directory service. At RELIC.

PWC Internet includes current GIS maps and ownership information at http://gismapper.pwcgov.org/CountyMapper. The data for each parcel links to tax assessment information since 1996, and transfer data since the 1980s, which can also be accessed at http://www04a.pwcgov.org/realestate/LandRover.asp.

Detailed maps for Manassas:
1862  Manassas Junction and Vicinity, by U.S. Coast Survey. Framed print in RELIC. Shows buildings, camps, fortifications.
1895  Ratcliffé, R. J. “Manassas – 1895”, in This Was Manassas (author, 1973, repr. 2000). A 1946 reconstruction of streets and buildings based on interviews with early residents. [MM]
1907, 1912, 1924, 1934  Sanborn fire insurance maps. RELIC has on microfilm as well as a photocopy for 1907, 1912 and 1924.

No map has yet been drawn which shows all original land grants in Prince William County. We have a volunteer who is plotting the land grants for us. It is a work in progress. Contact RELIC to see if the name or area you are interested in has been done. Maps showing historic sites include the following:

Harrison, Fairfax. Landmarks of Old Prince William (1924). Accompanying color map of “Old Prince William” shows major landmarks and boundaries of counties and parishes. [PWHC]


Military Records

All wars
Reflections of Heroes (Potomac News/Manassas Journal Messenger, 2004). Compilation of photos and memories of troops who served from Prince William County, from the Civil War to the present.


Colonial Wars


Revolutionary War. Of the many titles available, these are especially important for Prince William research:
Dorman, John Frederick. Virginia Revolutionary Pension Applications (1958+, in progress). Index, volumes 1-50 (1996), includes place name index.

Gwathmey, John H. Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution (1938). Most comprehensive index to state and federal rosters.

Orderly Book of Adjutant John Piper of the First Regiment of Prince William and Fairfax Militia (1781). [microfilm in RELIC]

Peters, Joan W. The Third Virginia Regiment of Foot, 1776-1778 (Heritage Books, 2008), 2 v. Many members of this regiment were residents of PWC.


War of 1812

White, Virgil D. Index to War of 1812 Pension Files (1992).

Mexican War

Civil War: For civilian records see above under Civil War and Reconstruction. See also Chasing the Civil War: a Pathfinder, available at www.pwcv.org/library/relic/PDF/ChasingTheCivilWar2008.pdf
Rosters of PWC troops in the Confederate Army in Prince William: the Story of its People and its Places (Bethlehem Club, 1941; expanded edition, 1988), appendix B.

World Wars, Korea and Vietnam
U.S. World War I draft registrations are online at Ancestry Library Edition.

Veterans
Veness, Beverly R. Virginia Pensioners Paid 1908-09 [index to PWC residents], in Prince William Reliquary (July 2002).

Marine Corps (Quantico)

Naturalization Records
Naturalization records are filed in county, state and federal courts. There is no general index to naturalizations in the local courts. See microfilm reels 25-32a of Prince William County Court Records for minute and order books 1752-1870 (many gaps). Later records at PWCC. See also:

Newspapers
Before the late 19th century, Prince William County residents depended on newspapers published in Alexandria, Fredericksburg, and Warrenton. RELIC has the following surviving newspapers, published in Prince William County, on microfilm:
Virginia Gazette and Agricultural Repository, Dumfries, Virginia, 1791-1793.
Republican Journal and Dumfries Advertiser, Dumfries, Virginia, 1795-1796.
Manassas Gazette, 1869-1896 (few issues extant).
Manassas Democrat, 1909-1921 (gaps).
Manassas Messenger, 1945-1951.
Local Newspaper Index. Library’s website has an index to local newspaper obituaries from 1970 and news articles from 1993 to present (a work in progress). See www.pwcgov.org/eservices/newspaperindex/

The following regional sources contain Prince William coverage:

- **Virginia Gazette, Williamsburg, 1736-1780.** [Microfilm at RELIC]
  - Index and linked images now available at http://research.history.org/DigitalLibrary/BrowseVG.cfm
- **Alexandria Gazette, 1784-1909.** [Microfilm at RELIC]
- **Fairfax Herald, 1886-1937.** [Microfilm at RELIC]
- **Warrenton newspapers, 1820-1904** (gaps). [Microfilm and book indexes at RELIC]
  - Genealogical index to Fauquier Times-Democrat (Warrenton), 1905-1956 (plus some years to 1983) at www.fauquiercounty.gov/government/departments/library/index.cfm?action=FDIIndex
  - Indexes to Fredericksburg newspapers, 1792-1889 (gaps). [Microfilm and book indexes at RELIC]

Periodicals

The following serials specialize in genealogical and/or historical materials for Prince William County.

- **Brentsville Friends** (Friends of Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, 1998-2006). Some issues (as *The Bell Ringer*) online at www.brentsville.org/pubs/pubs.htm
- **The Mill Racer** (Occoquan Historical Society, 2003+). Selected past issues online at www.oceoquannahistoricalsociety.org/Newsletter.html
- **Newsletter of the Prince William County Genealogical Society** (PWGS, 1982+). Since 1992 called *Kindred Spirits*.

Photo Collection

RELIC maintains a photograph collection and indexes photos from its books. Some photos and postcards have been published in *Prince William Reliquary*. See www.pwcgov.org/library/digitalLibrary/index.htm, Photos and Images, for a comprehensive index.
Probate Records and Court Minutes

Will Books “A-B” (1731-34) and Will Books D-F (1744-78) are lost. Some will books are mutilated. Gaps include 1805-06, 1817, 1827-30, 1842-44, and 1847. RELIC has microfilm of the surviving will books through 1951. Also film of court minutes to ca. 1870, with indexes to ca. 1960. Originals and/or microfilm available at PWCC and LVA. For a list of microfilmed records available for interlibrary loan see www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwehave/local/local_rec/county_city/prince_william.htm. The following are published abstracts and finding aids:

Probate Matters

Indexes
Peters, Joan W. Prince William County, Virginia, General Index to Wills, 1734-1951 (Willow Bend, 2001). An alphabetic transcript of the courthouse index.
Pippenger, Wesley E. Index to Virginia Estates, 1800-1865, v. 1 (VGS, 2001) includes Prince William County. The most comprehensive published index for this period. Includes references to bonds, estates mentioned in court minutes.

Wills and Bonds
County Court Note-Book (1921-1931) abstracts PWC executors’ bonds 1753-86 and references to estates from court order books 1752-69 (reprinted by Genealogical Publishing Co., 1972).

Court Proceedings
“Prince William County court order book 1778-1785 [i.e. 1784]” in Northern Virginia Genealogy (2000-2004). Abstracted through 1782 only.
The following are useful sources for school history.

- Kline, Mary Senseney. *Cannon Branch School, 1889-1927* (1989?).
- *Manassas: The Times They Were a Changin’*, by members of Osbourn Senior High School Class of ’69 (2010).

### School Yearbooks:

RELIC collects yearbooks of local public schools. The following yearbooks have been received (some are photocopies of originals that have been loaned to us). We welcome donations and loans of local yearbooks not on this list.

#### High Schools
- Battlefield High School (Haymarket), 2005-current.
- Forest Park Senior High School (Woodbridge), 2001-current.
- Freedom High School (Woodbridge), 2005-current.
- Hylton Senior High School (Dale City), 1992-current.
- Occoquan High School (Occoquan), 1941, 1947-51, 1953. [Succeeded by Gar-Field]
- Potomac Senior High School (Woodbridge), 1980-82, 1984-current.
- Woodbridge Senior High School (Woodbridge), 1976, 1980-current.

#### Middle and Elementary Schools  (most in off-site storage, please call ahead to see them)

- Louise A. Benton Middle School (Manassas), 2002-current.
Brentsville District Middle School (Nokesville), 1999-2000.
Bull Run Middle School (Manassas), 2003-current.
Jennie Dean Middle School (Manassas City), 1986-1990. [Now an elementary school; succeeded by Grace E. Metz]
Gainesville Middle School (Gainesville), 2008-current.
Manassas Park Middle School (Manassas Park), 2005-current.
Marsteller Middle School (Manassas), 1975/76-1977/78, 1983/84-current.
Grace E. Metz Middle School (Manassas City); 1992-current. [Succeeding Jennie Dean]
Parkside Middle School (Manassas), 1976, 1983/84-current.
Philip Michael Pennington School (K-8, Manassas), 2005-current.
Potomac Middle School (Dumfries), 2007-current.
Saunders Middle School (Manassas), 1990-93, 1995-current.
Sinclair Elementary School (Manassas), 1993/94.
Woodbridge Middle School (Woodbridge), 1989-91, 1994-current.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Telephone Directories/City Directories</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RELIC has telephone directories for:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941  Manassas and Triangle, Va.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951  Manassas, Va. and Environs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965-66  Marine Corps Schools, Quantico, Va.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966-1971  Prince William County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973  Prince William County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975  Prince William County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977-1978  Prince William County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980-current  Prince William County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELIC has city directories for:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963-1980  Quantico, Dumfries, Triangle, Marumsco, Woodbridge &amp; Occoquan areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See also Business Records

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vendors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Some vendors of local publications (contact for current prices)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See also Directory of Historical Agencies and Organizations, above.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

John Frederick Dorman, The Virginia Genealogist, Box 5860, Falmouth, VA 22403-5860.
Marty Hiatt, CG, 39475 Tollhouse Road, Lovettsville, VA 20180. martyhiatt@starpower.net.
June W. Johnson, 4134 Minton Dr., Fairfax, VA 22032.
Joan W. Peters, CG, 635 Skymeadow Drive, Coupeville, WA 98239-3108.
Virginia began keeping official marriage registers in 1780, birth and death registers in 1853. (Some Virginia counties have surviving marriage bonds or other evidence of marriages prior to 1780.) Many of Prince William’s records were vandalized and lost during the Civil War. We have an eyewitness account from 1863 of the shambles in the Clerk’s Office. There are no official marriages remaining for the period prior to 1854. **No official records of births or deaths were maintained during the period 1896-1912.**

**County copy:** Originals at office of Clerk of the Circuit Court (PWCC), Court House, Manassas:
Births and Deaths 1864-1870 (Prince William County court records, microfilm Reel 33, available at RELIC). No register maintained for later records but Clerk’s archive record room has unbound register sheets for later births and deaths, which have been abstracted by Ron Turner (see below).

**State copy:** Beginning in 1853, Virginia County Clerks were required to send annual lists of births, marriages and deaths to the State Auditor’s Office. Originals for all counties are now maintained by the Division of Vital Records, formerly Bureau of Vital Statistics (BVS), with microfilm available at the Library of Virginia (LVA).

*www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/BMDregisters/*
Births 1853-1896 (BVS reels 32-33), Deaths 1853-1896 (BVS reel 24), Marriages 1854-1935 (BVS reel 41). Microfilm at RELIC.
Births and deaths since June 1912 are available from Virginia Dept. of Health, Division of Vital Records, P.O. Box 1000, Richmond, VA 23208-1000. Birth records are confidential for 100 years, death records for 50 years.

**Statewide indexes:**
U.S. Works Progress Administration of Virginia. *Old Birth Index* [1853-1896], and *Index to Marriage Records of Virginia* [1853-1940]. Microfilm at RELIC and LVA.

*Death Index of Virginia (DIVA).* Online index for Virginia deaths, 1853-1896, in progress. Sponsored by VGS and LVA and available at *www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/opac/dripabout.htm#Counties* Prince William is among the 34 cities and counties included as of September 2011.

*Index to Death Certificates, 1912-1961* [Va. Dept. of Health]. Microfilm at RELIC and LVA.
Indexes to Virginia Births and Christenings (1853-1917), Marriages (1785-1940), Deaths and Burials (1853-1912).
*www.familysearch.org/* Not comprehensive, but may have data not available elsewhere.

**Compiled vital records:**

**Births:**


**Deaths:** (see also **Cemetery Records, Newspapers, Probate Records**)


Veness, Beverly. *Index to Transportation Deaths for Prince William County Prior to 1912* (names of those people who died in Prince William County but are buried in a jurisdiction different from their place of death.) in *Prince William Reliquary* (Jan. 2002).

Library’s website has an index to local newspaper obituaries 1970-present (work in progress). See www.pwcgov.org/eservices/newspaperindex/

**Marriages:** (see also Church Records, Newspapers)


Turner, Ronald R. *Prince William County, Virginia Residents: Marriages from Sources Outside the County* (1993). Marriage records of the following counties that mention Prince William residents or natives: Fauquier, Loudoun, Stafford, Culpeper, Fairfax, and cities of Alexandria and Washington, D.C. Dates are ca. 1850-1910.

**Other suggested sources:**

Ages and dates of birth, marriage, or death may be gotten from Church records, indentures (see Dettingen Parish vestry book), court minutes, voter registration lists (beginning ca. 1900), funeral home and Cemetery records.

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Revised Sept. 2011, DLW