

Shenandoah Valley Archives at Work



Presenters

- Stephanie Gardner, *Special Collections Librarian, Bridgewater College*
- Taylor Baugher, *Learning Services Librarian, Bridgewater College*
- Penny Imerson, *Director, Rocktown History*
- Tyler Brinkerhoff, *JMU History MA 2022 & Museum Assistant, Rocktown History*
- Zachary Hottel, *Archivist, Shenandoah County Library*
- Eryn Kawecki, *Archival Intern & Circulation Assistant, Shenandoah County Library*

State of Change:

Engaging Our Community to
Celebrate Virginia Civil Rights

Stephanie Gardner and Taylor Baugher

Bridgewater College

March 2022

Who are we?

- **Stephanie Gardner,**
Special Collections Librarian
- **Taylor Baugher,**
Learning Services Librarian



Bridgewater College Special Collections

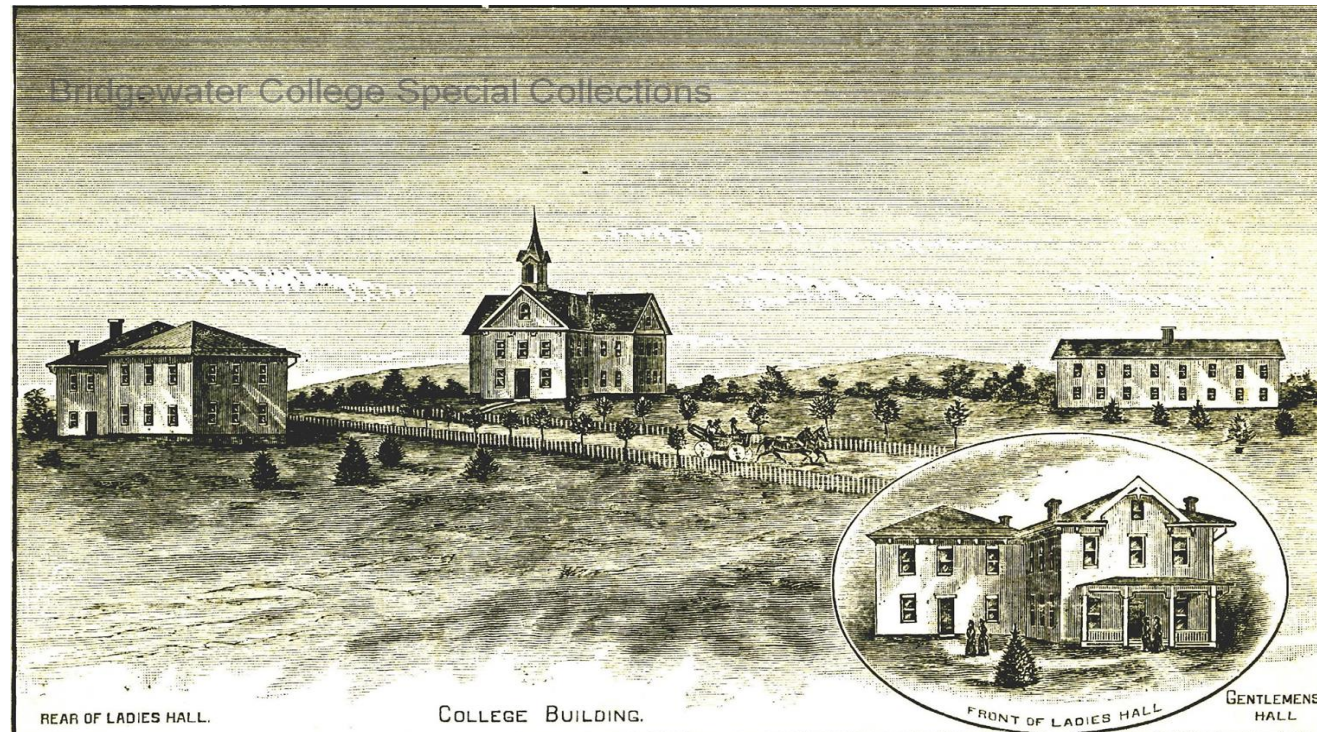
[About the College](#)

[About the Forrer Learning Commons](#)

[About the Archives](#)

[About the Primary Sources](#)

Bridgewater College was founded in 1880 as the Spring Creek Normal School.



Print of the Bridgewater College campus, 1890

First class with four-year collegiate degrees graduated in 1886.



1886 graduates

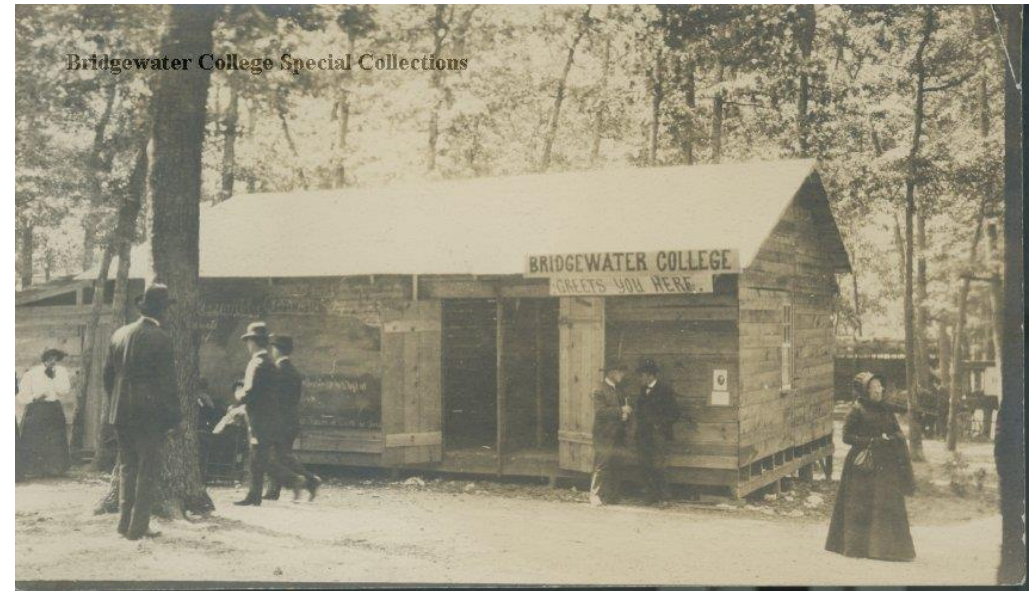


1907 graduates

Founded by the German Baptist Brethren (Dunkers)



Students in chapel



Bridgewater College cabin at the
1909 Brethren Annual Meeting,
Harrisonburg, Va.

Forrer Learning Commons:

Expansion and renovation of the Alexander Mack Memorial Library



Alexander Mack Library, circa
1960



Forrer Learning Commons, 2020

Newlen-Bradford Special Collections!

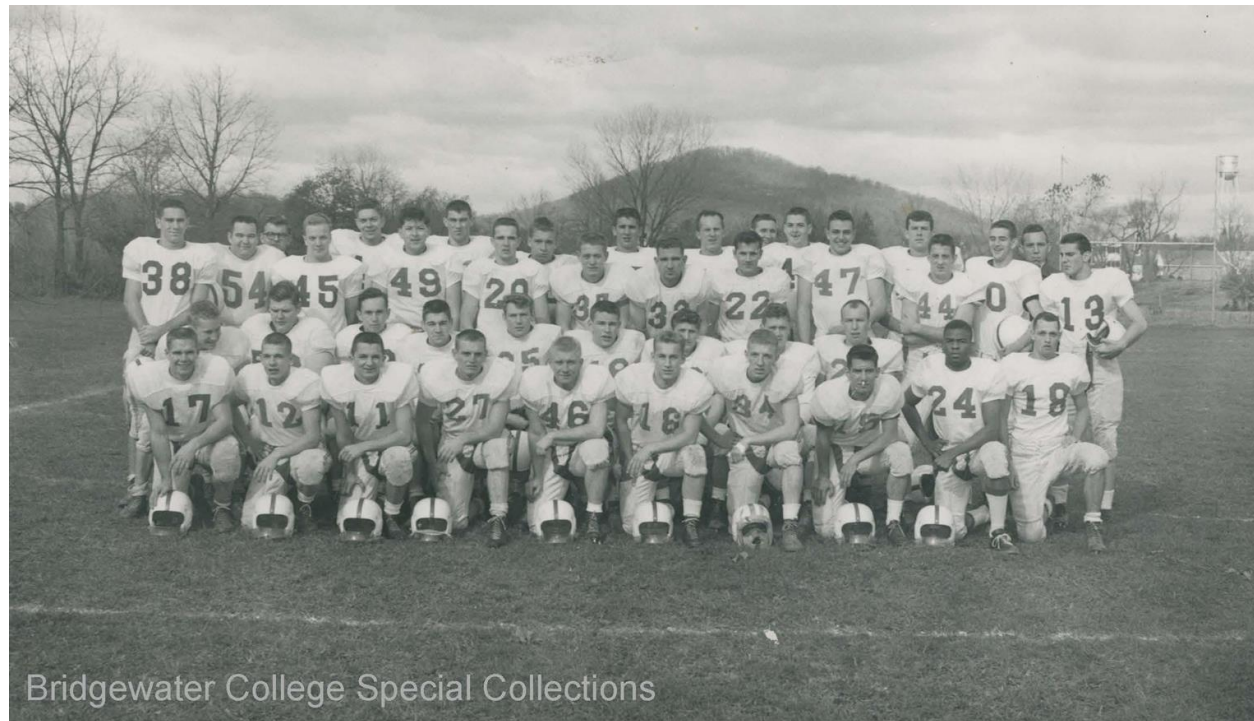


We were excited to showcase Black history.

Past exhibits



Diverse primary sources, though much of College history was not diverse.



Bridgewater College Special Collections

Bridgewater College football team portrait, 1956-1957

Focus on Underrepresented Communities

To be used for the transfer of a voter registered on the permanent rolls (i. e. registered prior to January 1st, 1904, under ordinance of the Constitutional Convention.)
Voters registered on permanent rolls must be transferred to permanent rolls.

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION.

VIRGINIA: COUNTY OF Rockingham,
The undersigned Registrar for McChesneysville, Precinct,
in Stonewall, Magisterial District, in the said County,
hereby certifies that the person herein named is duly registered on THE PERMANENT ROLL OF VOTERS in said
precinct, in said Magisterial District, under the Constitution of Virginia, as follows, viz: Date of Registration
September 17, 1902, Color black, No. 1 Name Saml. E. Ray,
Date of Birth March 16, 1872 Age 30 years, Occupation Teacher,
Place of Residence McChesneysville, Length of Residence in State _____ years,
County 30 Precinct 30; if naturalized, Date of Papers

Issued by _____ Court of _____, and is
enrolled as not exempt from payment of poll tax as a prerequisite to the right to vote. This certificate is given
to enable the person named to change his place of voting to East Harrisonburg, Precinct, in
Central, Ward, District, of the City of Rockingham,
and to entitle him to register in the said precinct on the PERMANENT ROLL OF VOTERS.
This transfer has been noted on the roll in my possession.
Dated this 5 of Oct., 1902,
C. F. Armentrout,
Registrar.

*Note.—If NOT exempt, insert the word "not" in this blank.

Samuel E. Ray voter registration certificate, Rockingham County, Virginia, 1905

Working with Underrepresented Content

14 [Doc. No. 7.]
(IV.)
A TABLE,
Shewing the number of persons remaining in the Penitentiary of Virginia on the 30th September, 1833; the number received, pardoned, died and discharged from that day until the 30th of September, 1834, with the number remaining on the latter day.

On the first day of October, 1833, there were in prison,					
White men,	-	-	-	85*	
Colored men,	-	-	31		
Colored women,	-	-	9		
			40		125
Received from the 1st October, 1833, to 30th September, 1834:					
White men,	-	-	33		
White women,	-	-	1		
Colored men,	-	-	10	34	
Colored women,	-	-	1		
			11		45
Pardoned, died and discharged, from 1st October, 1833, to 30th September, 1834:					
White men pardoned,	-	-	10		
Colored men,	-	-	2		
White men died,	-	-	12		
Colored men died,	-	-	4		
Colored women died,	-	-	2		
White men discharged,	-	-	1	7	
Colored men discharged,	-	-	17		
Colored woman released on a habeas corpus,	-	-	2		
Colored woman discharged,	-	-	1		
			21		40
Increase,	-	-	-		5
Number of persons remaining in prison on 30th September, 1834,					130
White men,	-	-	-	87	
White women,	-	-	-	1	
Colored men,	-	-	35		
Colored women,	-	-	7		
			42		130

* In the printed table of last year, eighty-four was given instead of eighty-five.

Penitentiary Report. Superintendent's Report. Penitentiary of Virginia. 28 Nov, 1834.
Bridgewater College Special Collections

Working with Underrepresented Content

Thos Sterling Sen Dr.

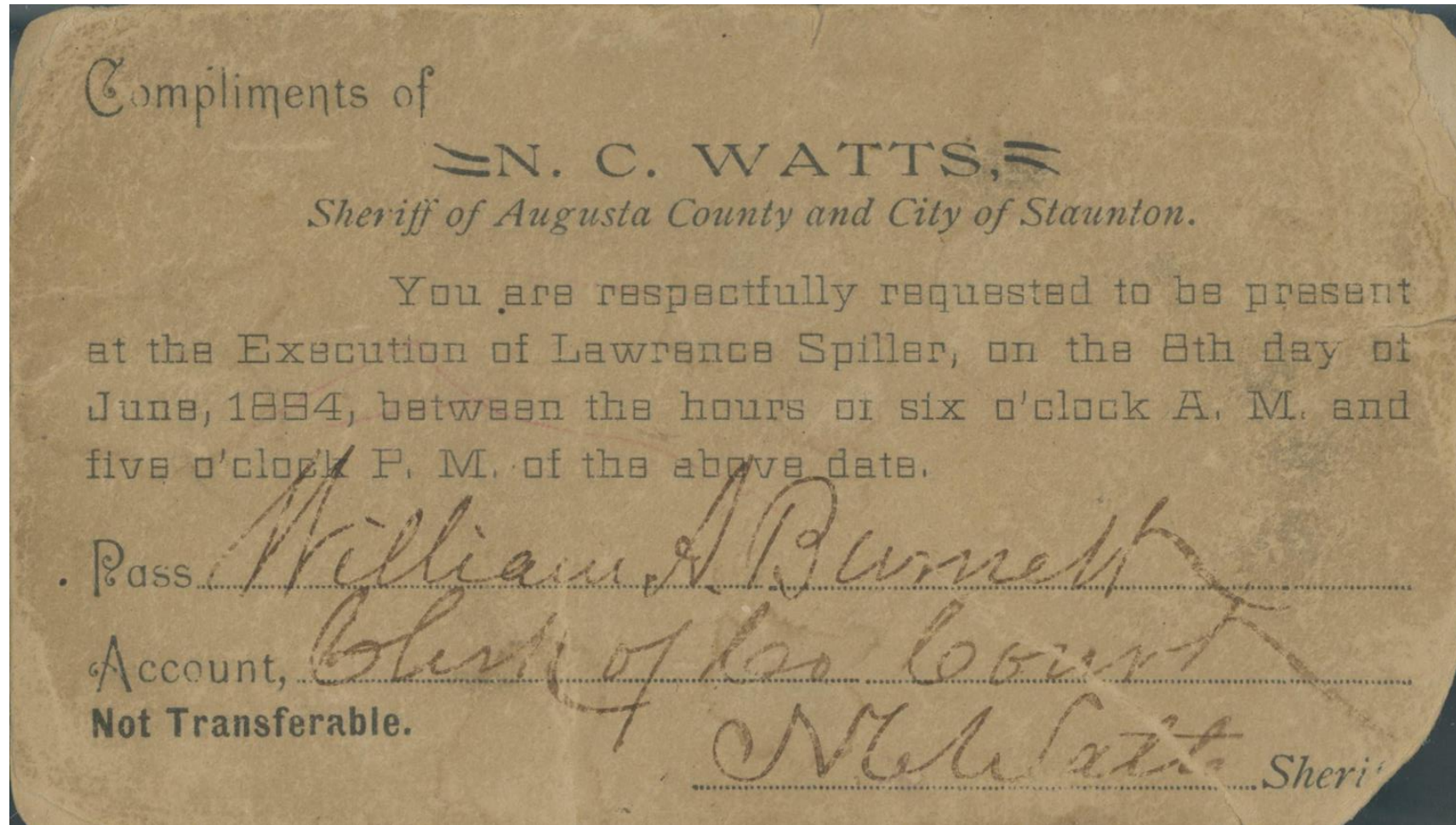
TO CORPORATION OF HARRISONBURG. TO TAXES FOR 1859.

To Real Estate valued at		} at 14 cts. per \$100 in value,	
To Personal Property, <i>50</i>			\$
To <i>1</i> Male Tithable at \$1 00	-	-	-
To Female Slave Tithable at 75 cts.	-	-	-
To Dog at \$1 00,	-	-	-
To Watch at 20 cents,	-	-	-
To Clock at 15 cents,	-	-	-
To Horse at 15 cents,	-	-	-
			<i>100</i>
			<i>107</i>

Rec'd pay. *J. B. Braithwaite* Sergeant C. H.

Harrisonburg, Va. tax slip

Working with Underrepresented Content



Lawrence Spiller execution ticket, 1894

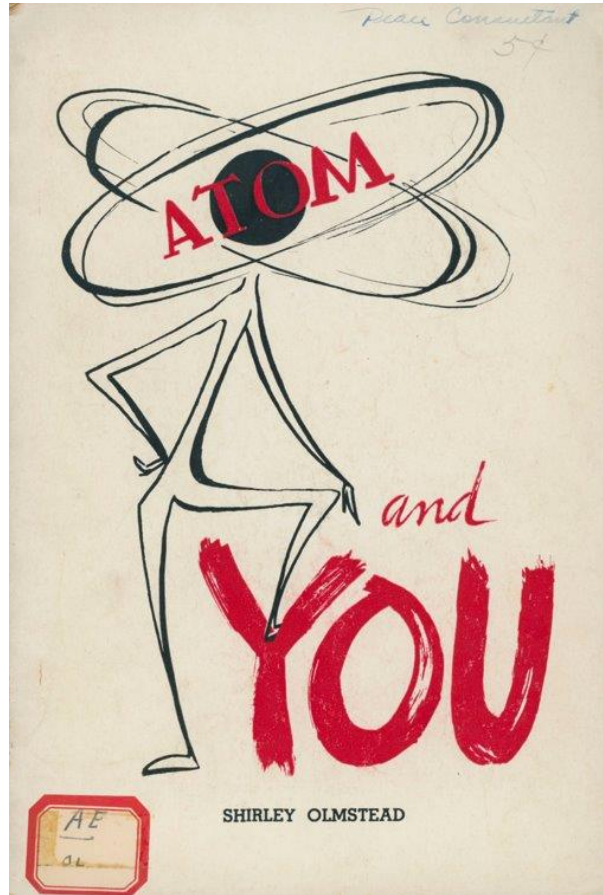
Process of Exhibit Creation



Lost Cause seals

Interpreted by intern Decklan Wilkerson

Process of Exhibit Creation



Church of the Brethren Cold War pamphlet

Interpreted by intern Nate Bademian

Building Community around the Exhibit Creation

Academic community—exhibit creators and their content

Larger community—expanding the exhibit's reach to the general public

Building a Community through Exhibit Creation

Special Collections:

- Stephanie Gardner, Librarian
- Two student interns

Public Services:

- Taylor Baugher, Librarian
- Vickie Montigaud-Green, Librarian

Marketing and Design:

- Digital Scholarship Gurus
- Office of Marketing and Communications

Historians:

- Stephen Longenecker, Emeritus Faculty

Vickie and our reading list

Themed displays and book lists related to different eras of Virginia history and the constitution.

Concluded with "There's Work Left to be Done."

Panel Content by Dr. Steve Longenecker

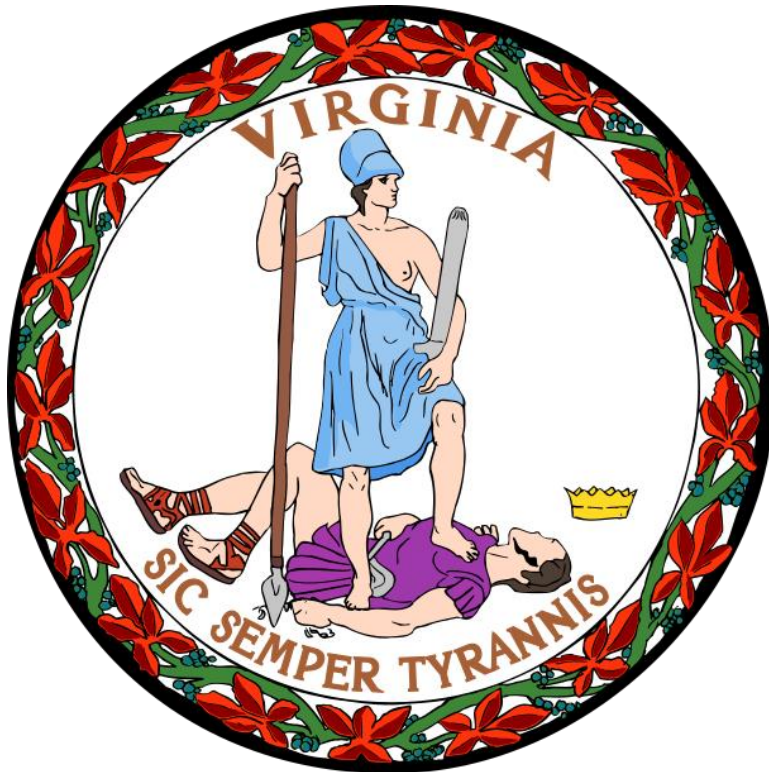
In order to ensure that we provided expert background information on Virginia pre-Civil War era, we consulted history professor, Dr. Stephen L. Longenecker.



Marketing with OMC and Gurus

- Office of Marketing and Communications (OMC)
 - Traditionally work with OMC for the graphical content of exhibits
 - Continued to work with them for the marketing of the exhibit opening
- Digital Scholarship Gurus
 - IT student workers who assist in the creation of digital media projects
 - Worked closely with guru to create the exhibit logo and panels

Logo Design



Panel Design

Wanted to maintain a cohesive look with the design of the logo



STATE OF CHANGE: CIVIL RIGHTS AND THE VIRGINIA CONSTITUTION

THE DANVILLE PROTESTS:

In the summer of 1963, the city of Danville, Virginia, erupted in protests with growing calls by African Americans for equal opportunity. One among several catalysts for increased civil rights action occurred on June 5th. Two clergymen and leaders of the Danville Christian Progressive Association (DCPA), the Rev. Lawrence Campbell and the Rev. A.I. Dunlap, had been walking to city hall almost every day since May 31st to demand equality in the hiring of municipal employees. On June 5th, after arriving with visiting students from the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and fellow DCPA leader Julian E. Adams Sr. and being denied a meeting with the mayor, they simply stated that they would wait for him. They patiently sat on the floor of city hall. According to a SNCC booklet on the protest, "police rushed them, pushed Dunlap down a flight of stairs, and choked a young Negro girl, who, not properly schooled in non-violence, responded abruptly and swung at a policeman with her pocketbook. She and the two ministers were jailed."

The clergymen and Adams were charged under an obscure old law for inciting [instigating African Americans] to riot and for encouraging a minor to commit a misdemeanor." Their bails were set at \$5,500 according to the SNCC booklet,

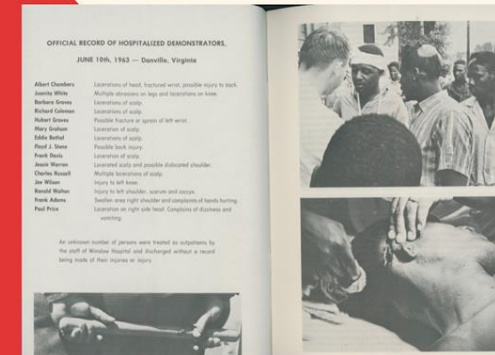
which adjusted for inflation today (750%) would come out to be above \$40,000. African Americans from Danville and visiting civil rights organizations continued to demonstrate at an increasing rate.

On June 10th Danville police arrested thirty-eight of the civil rights protestors. During a prayer vigil outside the jail that evening, police and deputized garbage collectors attacked vigil-goers with fire hoses and as a memo by Jim Dombrowski of the Southern Conference Education Fund states, "specially made clubs which split open people's heads and faces and broke their bones." Sixty-five African American protestors including forty-seven prayer vigil attendees, were treated at local hospitals on this Bloody Monday. The demonstrations continued through the summer.



Spread from booklet on Danville by Dorothy Miller and Danny Lyon. Published by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Atlanta: August 1963.

Bridgewater College Special Collections.



Photograph of nonresistance protest training from booklet on Danville by Dorothy Miller and Danny Lyon. Published by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Atlanta: August 1963.

Bridgewater College Special Collections.

The Dilemma of the COVID pandemic

- How do we reach the general public?
 - Provide a digital version of the exhibit in the form of a website
 - Exhibit opening presented virtually

Creation of the Digital Exhibit

- Where to host the website?
 - Use WordPress, or
 - LibGuides

Creation of the Digital Exhibit

- Where to host the website?
 - Use WordPress, or
 - **LibGuides**


Creation of the Digital Exhibit

- Where to host the website?
 - Use WordPress, or
 - **LibGuides**
 - Wanted to ensure that the Special Collections web content was all in one place








Design Decisions


We again wanted to maintain the cohesive look between the logo, panel, and now web design.



 **BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE**

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INTRODUCTION TO THE VIRGINIA CONSTITUTION (1776)

Virginia Constitution Exhibit Homepage

1776


Introduction to the Virginia Constitution


1777-1859

Pre-Civil War Era

1866-1949

Virginia has had a state constitution since 1776 when the Declaration of Independence was signed. George Mason and James Madison were two of the main writers for the Virginia Constitution, both of whom would later go to Philadelphia to help write the United States Constitution, and would bring their ideas from the Virginia Constitution to help draft the highest document in our nation's history. Since being drafted in 1776 there have been five major draft changes to the Virginia Constitution: 1830, 1851, 1864, 1870, and 1902. In 1969 there was a special assembly in Richmond which amended the Virginia Constitution that was ratified in 1971 and serves as our current constitution.





STATE CONVENTION AT RICHMOND, VA

Engraving, The State Convention at Richmond, VA., In Session. From *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*. 15 February 1868, p. 345.

Online Exhibitions, accessed March 29, 2021, <https://www.virginiamemory.com/online-exhibitions/items/show/602>

There are currently twenty-two articles in the Virginia state constitution. The first Article contains the Bill of Rights. The second article details franchise and

Design Decisions

Created a navigational structure in the form of a timeline to reflect the content presented—only design that was purely web-based

1776

29 JUNE

Introduction to the Virginia Constitution


Virginia has had a state constitution since 1776 when the Declaration of Independence was signed. Since being drafted in 1776 there have been five major draft changes to the Virginia Constitution: 1830, 1851, 1864, 1870, and 1902. In 1969 there was a special assembly in Richmond which amended the Virginia Constitution that was ratified in 1971 and serves as our current constitution.

1777-1859

Pre-Civil War Era


Life as a slave in the Valley was difficult, as it was everywhere. Physical punishment was part of the system. Hiring, often considered an especially severe form of slavery, was prevalent in the Valley. Under this system, masters, often from slave-rich eastern Virginia, sent their surplus bondpersons elsewhere to labor for a fee. The term of service typically was one year, and it removed slaves from their homes and families, instead saddling them with year-to-year instability.

Making Content Accessible in a Digital Format

 **BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE**

Forrer Learning Commons
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INTRODUCTION TO THE VIRGINIA CONSTITUTION

[1776]

Virginia Constitution Exhibit Homepage

- 1776
 - Introduction to the Virginia Constitution
- 1777-1859
 - Pre-Civil War Era
- 1865-1949
 - Post-Civil War Era
- 1950-1970
 - "The Times They Are a-


Virginia has had a state constitution since 1776 when the Declaration of Independence was signed. George Mason and James Madison were two of the main writers for the Virginia Constitution, both of whom would later go to Philadelphia to help write the United States Constitution, and would bring their ideas from the Virginia Constitution to help draft the highest document in our nation's history. Since being drafted in 1776 there have been five major draft changes to the Virginia Constitution: 1830, 1851, 1864, 1870, and 1902. In 1969 there was a special assembly in Richmond which amended the Virginia Constitution that was ratified in 1971 and serves as our current constitution.



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CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Reprints, Virginia Constitutional Convention

There are currently twenty-two articles in the Virginia state constitution. The first Article contains the Bill of Rights. The second article details franchise and officers, which are voting rights and privileges, qualifications to hold public office, and districting. Articles three through six detail separation of powers and the creation of three branches of government: legislative, executive, and judiciary. Article seven details the local governments. Articles eight and nine detail education and corporations respectively. Article ten details taxes

Final part of the exhibit creation: Video

Worked with intern, Nate, to create a video using iMovie to introduce the exhibit:

<https://youtu.be/Ar1fnVb2aF8>

Conclusions

Exhibit firsts

Lessons learned

Firsts!

- First exhibit in the new space
- First digital exhibit
- First webinar
- First exhibit with such a large group of people working together
 - First time working with a non-archivist
- First exhibit not dealing entirely with Bridgewater College or Church of the Brethren history

Lessons Learned

Include a Person of Color at the beginning of the process

Managing student workers

Determining division of labor sooner

Stephanie's digital struggles



Shaping the Future of Small and Academic Community Archives

Tyler Brinkerhoff and Penny Imeson

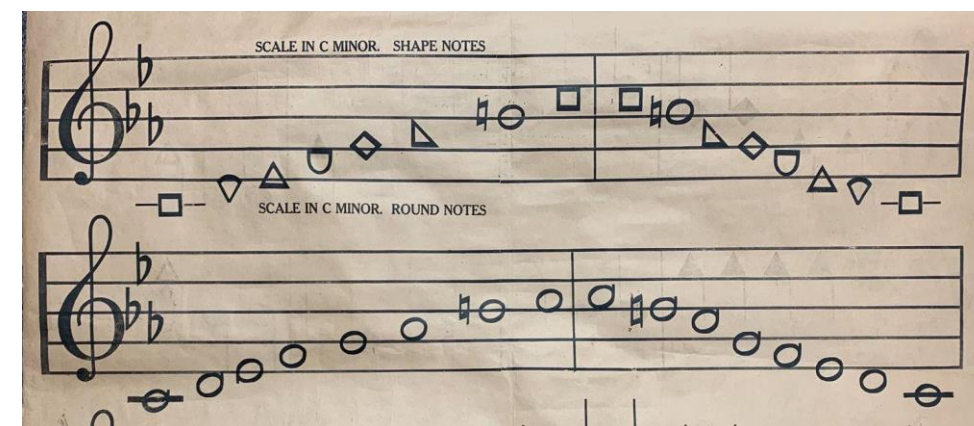
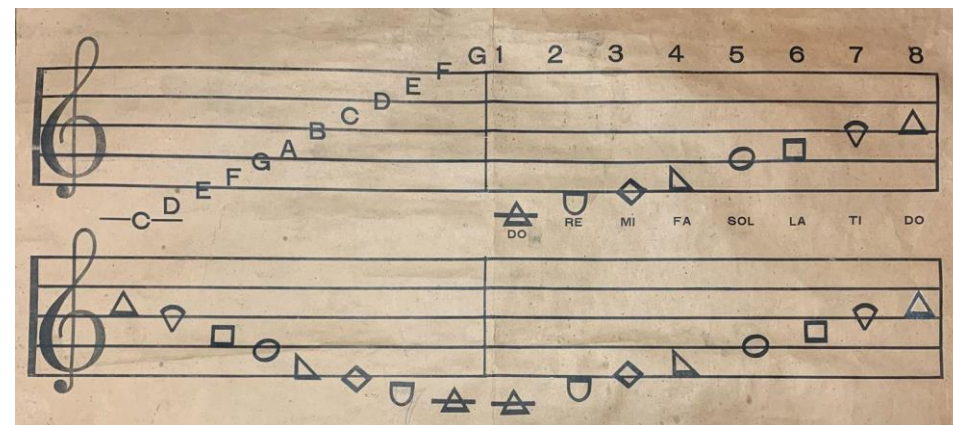


What shape is your community archive in right now?

- What is your vision for the archive?
- Do you have records in your archive which are a collection of untapped resources? Is your archive accessible?
- Is your archive in a silo? Would it benefit from collaboration?
- What makes a community?

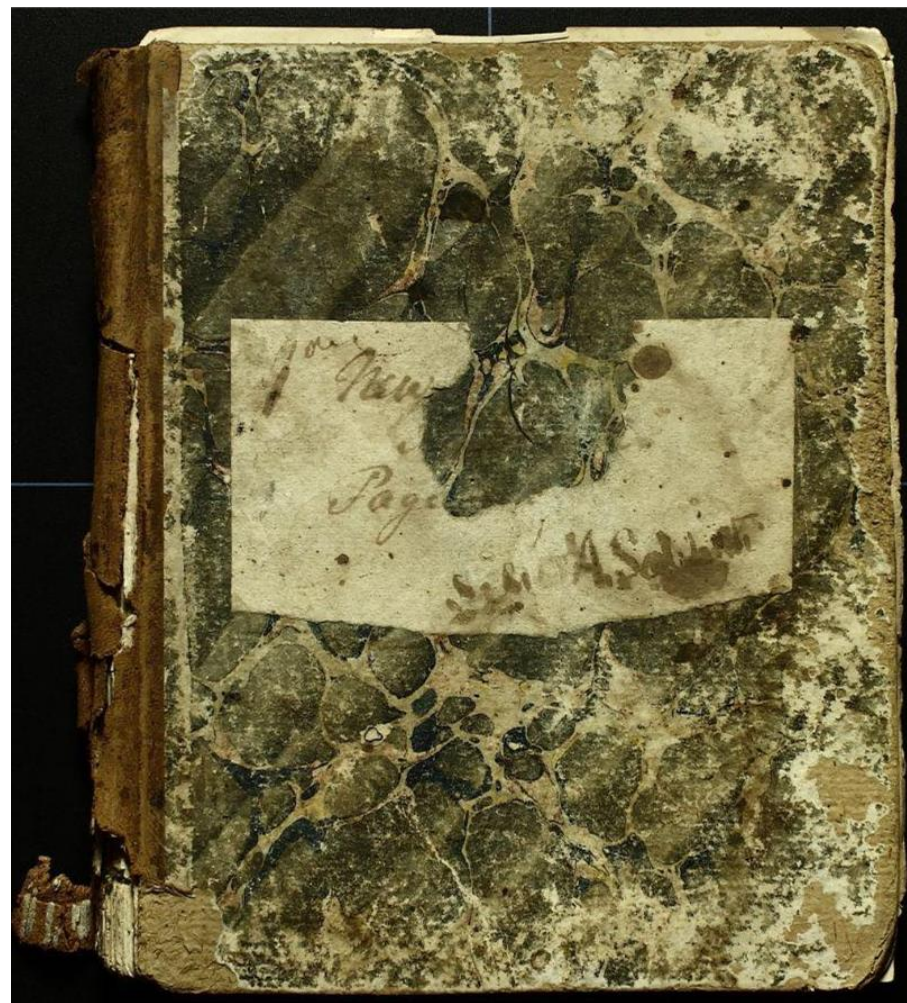
What are Shape-Notes?

- They are part of the cultural traditions of the early Euro-American settlers of the Shenandoah Valley.
- Joseph Funk and Sons and the Ruebush-Kieffer Company.
- *The Southern Musical Advocate and Singer's Friend*, later called the *Musical Million*.



Scanning Musical Million ledger books

- How do you go from turning a ledger book into a spreadsheet in order to glean statistical analysis to use for exhibits or other purposes?



Transfer raw data from original into a spreadsheet



Original Data 1859-1860 ledger for Southern Musical Advocate and Singer's Friend



File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Extensions Help Last edit was on December 14, 2021



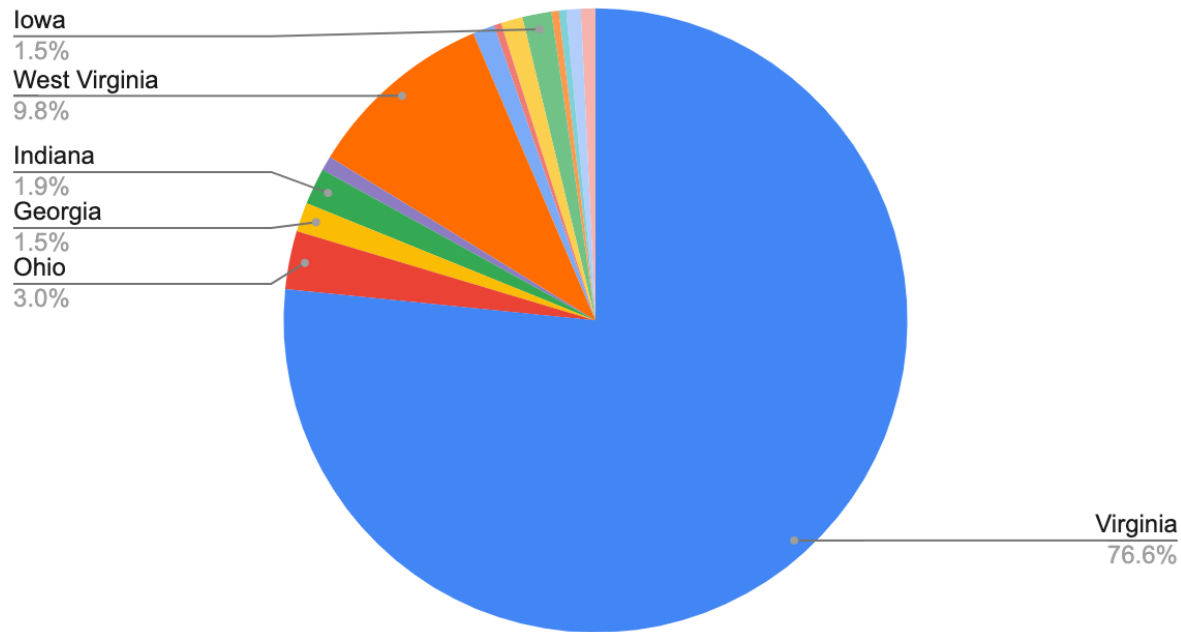
A1 fx Page

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Page	Town or City	Underlined (how	County	State	Page Number	Title (if given)	Frist Name	Middle Name	Last Name
272										
273	16	Harrisonburg	2 P.O.	Va.						
274						16	Rev.	T.	D.	Bell
275						16	Rev.			Davis
276						16	"Register"			
277						16	"Citizen"			
278						16		Shem		Bowman
279						16		Immanuel		Soutre
280						16		M.	Harvey	Effinger
281						16	Prof.	J.		Salyards
282						16		E.	T. H.	Warren
283						16	Miss	Sallie	N.	Mauck

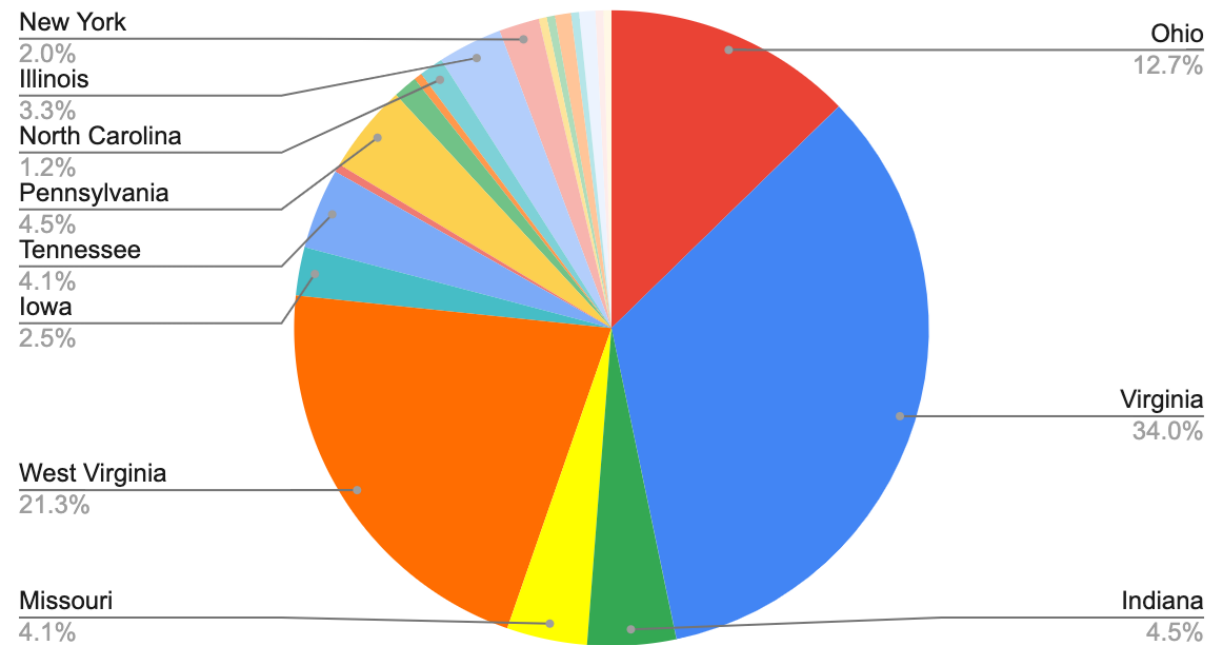
16
Harrisonburg P. O.
Rev. J. D. Bell (Gratis)
~~Rev. Davis~~ "
"Register" "
"Citizen." "
x Shem Bowman
x Immanuel Soutre
x M. Harvey Effinger
Prof. J. Salyards
x E. J. H. Warren.
x Miss Sallie N. Mauck.

Use the spreadsheet functions to create a pie chart

Subscribers by State 1859 (West Virginia created in 1863)



Subscribers by state in 1867



These numbers represent people in communities spread throughout the Northern and Southern states who sang shape-note music.

Why this information matters

- Genealogy research
- Education opportunities
- Shows role of social, religious, cultural, economic, academic, political or other activities in a community.

WorldCat, PastPerfect, and Private Collections

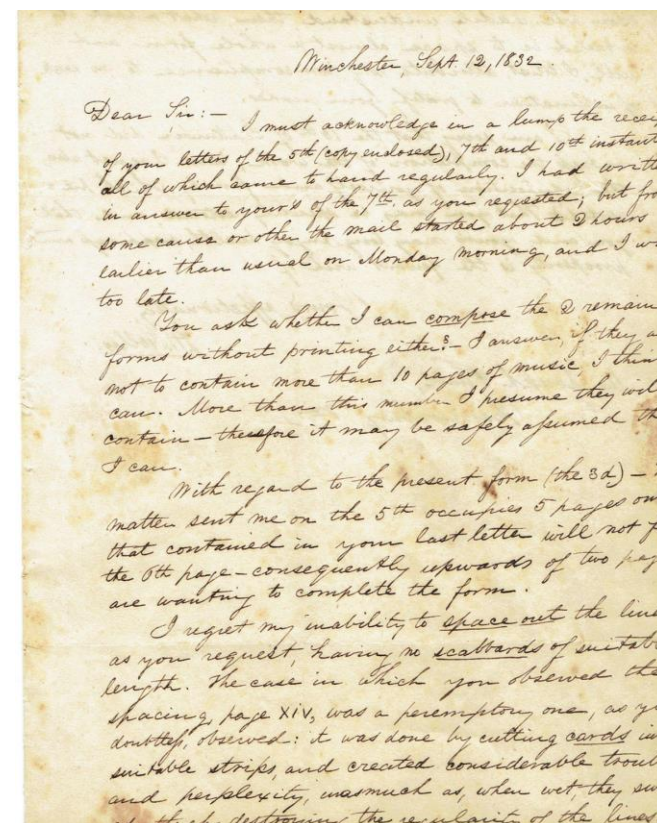
- Various methods of organization and storage
- WorldCat is not comprehensive
- PastPerfect used for object inventory
- Increasing archive accessibility

Combining scattered collections example

Joseph Funk and Sons correspondence and business records.

The letters from J.W. Hollis to Joseph Funk located at JMU, UVA, private collector, and Rocktown History.

Letters from Funk to Curry at Rocktown History, UVA, Duke, and Virginia Tech.



Using Omeka for an online archive

- Histories Along the Blue Ridge
- Brings collections back together in one place online
- Allows for expansion

Benefits of collaboration

- Larger university special collections have more time, resources, and capabilities than smaller institutions
- Scattered records from multiple archives can be compiled into one digital archive
- Wider audience equals more opportunities for community

Shenandoah County Library Truban Archives

Zachary Hottel

Archivist

Our Mission

*Collect, preserve, and
share the history of
Shenandoah County
Virginia*



Shenandoah County
Library
TRUBAN ARCHIVES

Our Community

- 466 Researchers
- 279 Program Attendees
- Visitors from:
 - 9 Shenandoah County Zip Codes
 - 12 Communities in Virginia
 - 6 Other States
 - 2 Foreign Countries



Facilities



Our Collection

- 6500 printed volumes
- Microfilm 9 local newspapers
- 500 linear feet of material



Outreach

- Shenandoah Stories
- School Programs
- Community Events
- Social Media
- Digital Platform



Bondage Biographies

Highlighting Enslaved Persons in Shenandoah County

Eryn Kawecki

Circulation Assistant

Archival Intern

Shenandoah County Library

Goals

- Highlight the impact of slavery
- Agency to the Enslaved



Fannie Tolliver Butler, 1912

Implementation

- Data
- Resources
- Going Digital
 - Excel Sheet
 - Platform



Hilltop Lodge, Knight Pythias, Strasburg, VA, April 11 1908

Challenges

- Inaccurate recording
- Formatting
- Search Function
- Duplicates
- Silo Records
- COVID
- Omeka



Unidentified Woman, Undated Photographs

Results

- 565 Identified Enslaved Individuals
- 9451 Unidentified Entries
- 620 Identified Enslavers
- 1772-1924
- 31 voluntary emancipations



Unidentified Men Playing Marbles, Undated

Maria & Elenora Bullett

1824: Maria Born

?: Maria marries David
Bullett

1851: Elenora Missouri
Bullett Born

1862: Elenora sold in
Richmond, VA

1870: Maria lives in Lee
District of Shenandoah
County

1880: Maria lives in New
Market, VA

Before 1887: Elenora
marries William Moore

1887: Family Reunion

1904: Maria Dies

Thank You!

Bridgewater College

<https://bridgewater.edu/specialcollections>

<https://bridgewater.edu/library>

sgardner@bridgewater.edu

tbaugher@bridgewater.edu

Shenandoah County Library

<https://countylib.org/local-history>

<https://archives.countylib.org>

zhottel@countylib.org

ekawecki@countylib.org

Rocktown History

<https://www.rocktownhistory.org/>

<https://sites.lib.jmu.edu/shenandoahshapenote/>

director@rocktownhistory.org

brinketb@dukes.jmu.edu