

Bibliography: African American Religion, Religious Practices, Cemeteries, Funerary Practices, and Freedmen's Communities of Reconstruction Era Virginia, 1865-1896.

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Introduction

This bibliography is a compilation of sources that cover a range of African American historic topics in the Reconstruction Era, which is defined as the period between 1865 and 1896. The topics covered in this bibliography include but are not limited to African American religion, religious practices, cemeteries, funerary practices, and freedmen's communities. A large amount of the listed scholarship contains a Virginia focus, while the rest has a national focus to provide a greater context. Some deal with political or Black history in general, both in Virginia and national contexts, to provide a contextual framework within which to place other scholarship and historic knowledge.

This bibliography has been compiled through three months of painstaking research during the Coronavirus-19 Pandemic. The methodology used began with locating highly useful, preferably Virginia centric works in each area of research. After determining their suitability through reading their introductions and conclusions, the researcher mined their bibliographies for all relevant sources. This cycle continued through other bibliographies within this train of research until time constraints forced the researcher to move on. When online, full text, versions of books were unavailable, the researcher instead substituted multiple book reviews for the introduction and conclusion.

This bibliography is a work in progress and new scholarship and historic works can be added as they are written or become available. Please report any broken links to lena.mcdonald@dhr.virginia.gov.

Articles and Books

Adam, Nicolas. "Churches on Fire." *Journal of The Society of Architectural Historians* 55, no. 3 (Sep. 1996): 236-237+363.

Anderson, Adrian D. *The African American Heritage Park, Alexandria, Virginia*. Minneapolis, MN: Tellus Consultants, 199. Accessed July 8th, 2020, [https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/historic/info/archaeology/SiteReportAnders on1992AfricanAmericanHeritagePark.pdf](https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/historic/info/archaeology/SiteReportAnders%20on1992AfricanAmericanHeritagePark.pdf).

Angell, Stephen War. *Bishop Henry McNeal Turner and African American Religion in the South*. Knoxville, TN: University of Tennessee Press, 1992.

This book is a biography of one of the major figures in the African Methodist Church in the Reconstruction Era. It is emblematic of several other works on this list that profile prominent leaders in the African American churches of the day.

Ayers, Edward L. *The Promise of The New South: Life After Reconstruction*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1992.

Ayers' book is an analysis of life for all in the South, and the economic, social, and political conditions faced by all. Though slightly older, it remains a strong, overall Southern history of the Reconstruction period.

Bailey, Julius H. *Around the Family Altar: Domesticity in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, 1865 – 1900*. Gainesville, University Press of Florida, 2005.

Becker, William H. "The Black Church: Manhood and Mission." *Journal of American Academy of Religion* 40, no. 3 (Sep. 1972): 316-333.

Bestebreurtje, Lindsey. "Beyond the Plantation: Freeman, Social Experimentation, and African American Community Development in Freedman's Village, 1863 – 1900." *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* 126, NO. 3 (2018), 334-365.

This article is a Virginia centric analysis of the Freedmen's communities in the closing stages of the Civil War and its immediate aftermath.

Blassingame, John W. *The Slave Community: Plantation Life in the Antebellum South*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1972.

Bogger, Tommy L. "The Slave and Free Black Community in Norfolk 1775 – 1865." PhD Dissertation, University of Virginia, 1975. Available via ProQuest Dissertations Publishing. Accessed, July 31st, 2020, <https://search-proquest-com.proxy.library.vcu.edu/docview/302818063/?pq-origsite=primo>.

This dissertation is a Norfolk centric analysis of the Freedmen's community within Norfolk. This is especially important because Fort Monroe across the Chesapeake was the first place to which formerly enslaved people fled to escape enslavement and were protected by Federal forces under the command of General Benjamin Butler.

Bogger, Tommy L. *Free Blacks in Norfolk, 1790 – 1860*. Charlottesville, VA: University Press of Virginia, 1997.

Boles, John B., ed. *Masters and Slaves in the House of the Lord: Race and Religion in the American South, 1740 – 1870*. Lexington, KY: University Press Of Kentucky, 1988.

Bolton, H. Carrington. "Decoration of Graves of Negroes in South Carolina." *The Journal of American Folklore* 4, no. 14 (Jul – Sep 1891): 214.

Bond, Edward L, and Joan R. Gunderson. "The Episcopal Church in Virginia." *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*. 115, no. 2 (2007): 163 – 344.

This article is an analysis of one of the major Protestant denominations in Virginia. Though its teleological focus is longer than this bibliography, it does compare the progression of the faith among whites and blacks.

Bragg, George F. *History of the Afro-American Group of the Episcopal Church*. Baltimore MD: Church Advocate Press, 1922.

Brooks, Christina. "Enclosing Their Immortal Souls: A Survey of Two African American Cemeteries in Georgetown, South Carolina." *Southeastern Archaeology* 30, No. 1 (Summer 2011): 176 – 186.

Brown, Elsa B and Gregg D. Kimball. "Mapping The Terrain Of Black Richmond." *Journal Of Urban History*. 21, no. 3 (March 1995): 296-346.

This article is a geographic and historic analysis of the patters of settlement and movement for African Americans within Richmond since the Civil War.

Brownlee, Henry T. "Keeping Their Memory Green: The Pleasant Green Baptist Church in St. Louis Missouri, 1866-1950." Phd Dissertation., St. Louis University, 2008. Accessed June 1st, 2020, <https://search-proquest-com.proxy.library.vcu.edu/docview/304456858?pq-origsite=primo>.

Though this dissertation covers a cemetery in St. Louis, Missouri, it is relevant to this bibliography for two reasons. Firstly, the cemetery it discusses is African American. Secondly, it is an analysis and history of a cemetery that could serve as an example to anyone researching an African American cemetery in Virginia.

Butler, Anthea. *Women in the Church of God in Christ: Making a Sanctified World*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2007.

This work discusses the gender roles and the role of women in African American churches, some in Reconstruction, some in the early 20th Century

Case, Jay R. "The African American great Awakening and modernity, 1866–1900." In *American Evangelicalism: George Marsden and the State of American Religious History*, edited by Darren Dochuk, Thomas S. Kidd, and Kurt W. Peterson, 110-138. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 2014.

Chesson, Michael. *Richmond After the War: 1865-1890*. Richmond, VA: Virginia State Library, 1981.

This book discusses the Reconstruction history of Richmond, mostly discussing the city in economic and social terms, with the latter discussing race relations, black history, and the readjuster movement.

Clark, Kathleen Ann. *Defining Moments: African American Commemoration & Political Culture in the South: 1863 – 1913*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2005.

Collier-Thomas, Bettye. *Jesus, Jobs, and Justice: African American Women and Religion*. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 2010.

This book is another discussion of the roles that women filled, some given, some created, in African American churches.

Dailey, Jane E. *Before Jim Crow: The Politics of Race in Postemancipation Virginia*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2000.

This work provides an insightful discussion of racial politics and the politics of race in Virginia between the end of the Civil War and the beginning of Jim Crow and segregation, especially concerning the readjusters.

Davis, Veronica A. *Here I Lay My Burdens Down: A History of the Black Cemeteries of Richmond Virginia*. Richmond, VA: Dietz Press, 2003.

This is a local history of the African American cemeteries of Richmond.

Dodson, Jaulynne E. *Engendering Church: Women, Power, and the AME Church*. Lanham MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2002.

Another history of the roles women played within the African Methodist Church.

Du Bois, W. E. B. *The Negro Church: Report of a Social Study Made under the Direction of Atlanta University; Together with the Proceedings of the Eighth Conference for the Study of Negro Problems, Held at Atlanta University, May 26th, 1903*. Atlanta, GA: The Atlanta University Press, 1903.

W. E. B. Du Bois is considered the preeminent African American scholar of the Late Reconstruction and early Jim Crow eras. This is his prime treatise on African American Religion.

Du Bois, W. E. B. *The Souls Of Black Folk*. 1903. Reprint, Milwood, NY: Kraus-Thomson Organization Ltd, 1973.

Another of Du Bois's preeminent works on African American Religion.

Dvorak, Katharine. *An African American Exodus: The Segregation of the Southern Churches*. Brooklyn, NY: Carlson Publishing, 1991.

This work concerns the relations between the black and white wings of various religious denominations in the south, including the Methodists, Southern Baptists, and Episcopalians and how these faiths developed separately and how racial divides appeared and worked out.

Engs, Robert F. *Freedom's First Generation: Black Hampton, Virginia, 1861 – 1890*. Philadelphia, PA: University of Philadelphia Press, 1979.

Evans, Curtis. *The Burden of Black Religion*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2008.

Forsythe, Harold S. "“But My Friends Are Poor”: Ross Hamilton and Freedpeople's Politics in Mecklenburg County Virginia, 1869 – 1901." *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* 105, no. 4 (Autumn 1997), 409-438.

Foster, Gary S. and Craig M. Eckert. "Up from The Grave: A Sociohistorical Reconstruction of an African American Community from Cemetery Data in the Rural Midwest." *Journal of Black Studies* 33, No. 4 (March 2003): 468 – 489.

Article discusses a non-Virginia cemetery, but is another example of how to take cemetery data and create a vibrant local history from it.

Fountain, Daniel L. *Slavery, Civil War, and Salvation: African American Slaves and Christianity, 1830-1870*. Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana State University Press, 2010.

Garman, James C. "Viewing the Color Line Through the Material Culture of Death." *Historical Archaeology* 20, no. 3 (1994), 74 – 93.

This archeological article discusses the differences in death practices between Blacks and Whites.

Genovese, Eugene D. *Roll, Jordan, Roll: The World the Slaves Made*. New York, NY: Vintage Books, 1974.

This is one of the premier modern scholarly books on slavery and it remains such within American historical scholarship.

Gilkes, Cheryl. *If It Wasn't for the Women: Black Women's Experience and Womanist Culture in Church and Community*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2001.

Goldfield, David R. "Communities and Regions: The Diverse Cultures of Virginia." *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* 95, no. 4 (Oct. 1987), 429 – 452.

Gutman, Herbert G. *The Black Family in Slavery and Freedom, 1750 - 1925*. New York, NY: Pantheon Books, 1976.

Hansen, Scott B. "Education for All: The Freedmen's Bureau Schools in Richmond and Petersburg, 1865 – 1870." MA Thesis, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2008. Accessible via VCU Scholar's Compass: Theses and Dissertations. Accessed June 1st, 2020, <https://scholarscompass.vcu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2399&context=etd>.

- Harper, Matthew. *The End Of Days: African American Religion and Politics In The Age Of Emancipation*. Chapel Hill, NC: University Of North Carolina Press, 2017.
- Harvey, Paul. *Freedom's Coming: Religious Culture and the Shaping of the South from the Civil War to the Civil Rights Era*. Chapel Hill, NC: University Of North Carolina Press, 2005.
- Harvey, Paul. *Redeeming the South: Religious Cultures and Racial Identities Among Southern Baptists, 1865-1925*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1997.
- Hayden, J. Carleton. "After the War: The Mission and Growth of the Episcopal Church Among Blacks in the South, 1865-1877." *Historical Magazine of the Protestant Episcopal Church* 42, no. 4 (Dec. 1973), 403-427.
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- Howard, Oliver O. *Autobiography of Oliver Otis Howard*. New York, NY: Baker & Taylor Co., 1907.
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- Johnson, Deanda Marie. "Seeking the Living Among the Dead: African American Burial Practices in Surry County, Virginia." MA Thesis, College of William and Mary in Virginia, 2004. Available via ProQuest Dissertations Publishing. Accessed, July 16th, 2020, <https://search-proquest-com.proxy.library.vcu.edu/docview/1957944715?pq-origsite=primo>.
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- Kruger-Kahloula, Angelika. "On the Wrong Side of the Fence: Racial Segregation in American Cemeteries." In *History and Memory in African-American Culture*, edited by Genevieve Fabre and Robert G O'Meally, 130 – 149. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1994.

- Leib, Jonathan I. "A Tale of Two Civil War Statues: Teaching the Geographies of Memory and Heritage in Norfolk, Virginia." *Southeastern Geographer* 52, no. 4 (Winter 2012): 398 – 412.
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