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FAIRFAX COUNTY

VIRGINIA

Found in the Archives no. 95 Circuit Court Clerk's Office Historic Records Center

Library of Virginia's Circuit Court Records Preservation Program



Happy Spring, and welcome to Found in the Archives, a publication of The Clerk of the Fairfax Circuit Court, 19th Judicial Circuit, who proudly serves The City of Fairfax & Fairfax County. In this Month's Edition of Found in the Archives, we will discuss a grant recently received by the Historic Records Center, and the Library of Virginia's Circuit Court Records Preservation Program that makes this grant possible.

Fairfax County Circuit Court Clerk Christopher J. Falcon was recently awarded \$21,269.50 for the preservation of six different historic records currently housed at the Historic Records Center, *Fairfax Land Tax Books 1891; Land Tax Book 1896;*

Marriage License Book 1867-1895; Marriage License Book 1896-1928; Federal Census Book, 1880; and Deed Book Liber O-6 1904. This grant comes from the Library of Virginia's Circuit Court Records Preservation Program (CCRP).

According to the Library of Virginia, "The Circuit Court Records Preservation Program (CCRP) is a part of the Library of Virginia's Local Records Services Branch. Funded through a \$3.50 of the clerk's recordation fee, the CCRP provides resources to help preserve and make accessible permanent circuit court records.

The program awards grants to the commonwealth's circuit court clerks to help them address the needs of the records housed in their localities." This program was first started in 1990 by the Virginia General Assembly. Originally, \$1 of all recording fees in the commonwealth went towards the CCRP. Today, Fairfax County has the most land recordings of any county in the commonwealth, making it the biggest overall contributor to the fund, from which all counties are able to benefit.

Since its beginning, the CCRP has awarded over 2,000 grants totaling more than \$35,000,000. Since 2008, Fairfax has received over \$145,000 from those grants which has helped conserve and digitize some of our most precious records, including our earliest Deed Books and Will Books.



Fairfax County Deed Books

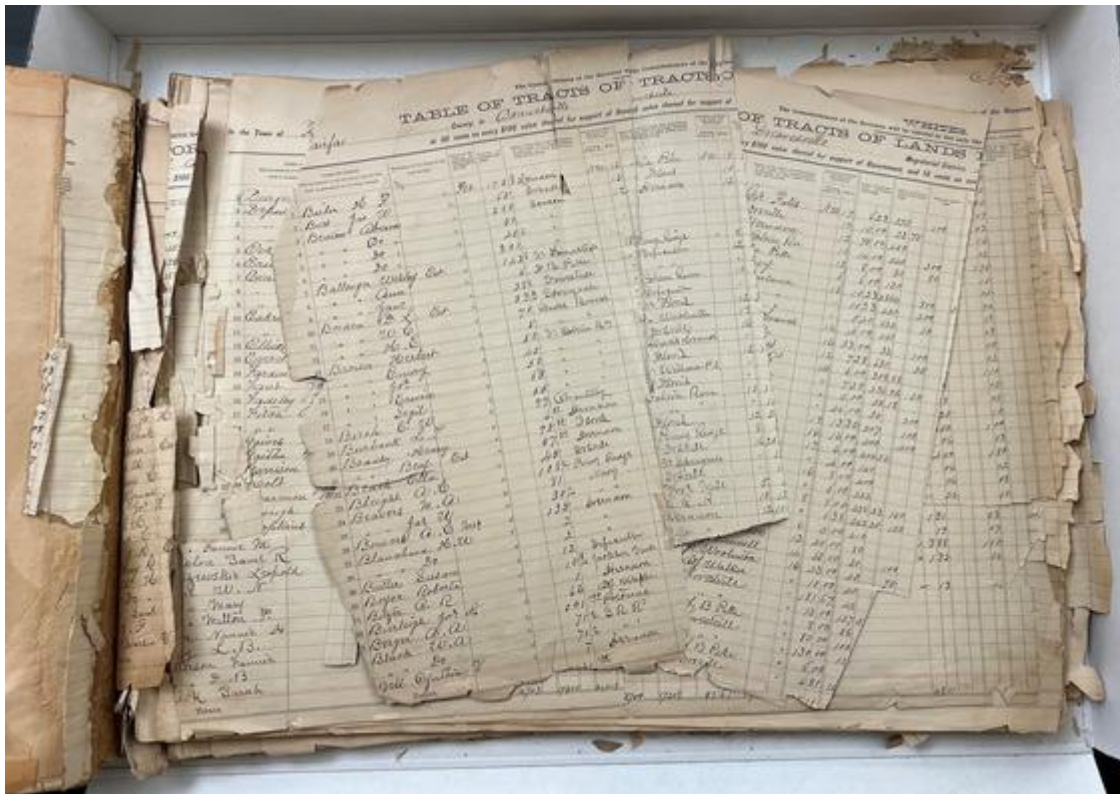
1.
George Washington's Will

In the name of God, Amen. I George Washington of the County of Fairfax 1.
-a citizen of the United States, and lately President of the same, do make, ratify and de-
-clare this Instrument, which is written with my own hand, and every page thereof sub-
-scribed with my Name, to be my last Will & Testament, revoking all others. -
-Impairments. - All my debts, of which there are but few, and none of magnitude, are to be
-punctually and speedily paid - and the legacies hereinafter bequeathed, are to be dis-
-charged as soon as circumstances will permit, and in the manner directed. -
-Item. To my dearly beloved wife Martha Washington, I give and bequeath the
-use, profit and benefit of my whole Estate, real and personal, for the term of her natu-
--ral life - except such parts thereof as are specifically disposed of hereafter. My im-
-proved lot in the Town of Alexandria, situated on Pitt & Cameron Streets, I give to her
-& her heirs forever, as also do my household & kitchen furniture of every sort & kind, with
-the liquors and groceries which may be on hand at the time of my decease, to be
-used & disposed of as she may think proper.

Item Upon the decease of my wife, it is my Will & desire that all the slaves in
-which I hold in my own right, shall receive their freedom. - To manumit
-them during her life, would tho' earnestly wished by me, be attended with such
-insurmountable difficulties on account of their intermixture by marriage with
-the Down Negroes, as to excite the most painful sensations, if not disagreea-
-ble consequences from the latter, while both descriptions are in the occupancy
-of the same proprietor, it not being in my power, under the tenor by which the Down
-Negroes are held, to manumit them. - And whereas among those who will re-
-ceive a freedom according to this devise, there may be some, who from old age, bod-
-ily infirmities, and others who on account of their infancy, that will be unable to
-sustain themselves; it is my will and desire that all

Fairfax County Will Book H-1 page 1, Clerk's copy of George Washington's Will, conserved in 2018 through CCRP grant.

Many of these records were treated for cellulose acetate lamination, which was a common preservation practice in the mid 20th century. Archivists now know that this method of conservation actually contributes to faster degradation of documents, but removing it from previously treated documents is time-consuming and requires specialized skills. Thanks to funds from the CCRP, our Fairfax records with cellulose acetate lamination can be treated with modern conservation methods that will protect the records for decades to come.



Fairfax County Land Tax Book 1896, in need of treatment and repair

TABLE OF TRACTS OF LAND FOR THE YEAR 1875.
Amount assessed with Taxes thereon at 50 Cents on every \$100 value thereof

| No. | County, within | Township. | Section of the tract and description of the same. | Acres. | Value. | Taxes. | Assessed value. | Assessed value. | Assessed value. | Assessed value. |
|-----|----------------|-----------|---|--------|--------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Stafford | Stafford | 577 1/2 The Green Road 200 | 12 | 5 | 42 | 472 | 539 | 36 | 24 |
| 2 | Stafford | Stafford | 100 1/2 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 48 | 36 | 24 |
| 3 | Stafford | Stafford | 10 Buff Mill | 12 | 12 | 144 | 168 | 192 | 144 | 108 |
| 4 | Stafford | Stafford | 100 Spring Run 50 | 9 | 9 | 108 | 126 | 150 | 108 | 81 |
| 5 | Stafford | Stafford | 314 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 6 | Stafford | Stafford | 314 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 7 | Stafford | Stafford | 100 1/2 Buff Mill 200 | 12 | 12 | 144 | 168 | 200 | 144 | 108 |
| 8 | Stafford | Stafford | 32 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 9 | Stafford | Stafford | 100 1/2 Buff Mill 200 | 12 | 12 | 144 | 168 | 200 | 144 | 108 |
| 10 | Stafford | Stafford | 32 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 11 | Stafford | Stafford | 200 1/2 Buff Mill | 12 | 12 | 144 | 168 | 200 | 144 | 108 |
| 12 | Stafford | Stafford | 11 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 13 | Stafford | Stafford | 11 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 14 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 15 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 16 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 17 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 18 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 19 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 20 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 21 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 22 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 23 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 24 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 25 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 26 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 27 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 28 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 29 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 30 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 31 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 32 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 33 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 34 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 35 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 36 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 37 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 38 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 39 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 40 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 41 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 42 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 43 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 44 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 45 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 46 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 47 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 48 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 49 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |
| 50 | Stafford | Stafford | 1 Buff Mill | 3 | 3 | 36 | 42 | 50 | 36 | 27 |

Fairfax County Land Tax Book 1895, conserved

One of the ways the Historic Records Center has greatly benefited from the CCRP fund is the Chancery Records project completed by the Library of Virginia. This project allocated funding for Library of Virginia staff to process and digitize all Circuit Court Chancery cases prior to 1913, including Fairfax's cases. These records are now available online for free, making them accessible to researchers who may have previously been unable to view them in person. (link to chancery website) Historic Records Staff were also able to use this project as a model for other collections we have processed, including our Term Papers collection. To view these chancery records, please continue to the Library of Virginia Website by clicking [here](#).

With thousands of historic records in our holdings, the Historic Records Center benefits greatly from the CCRP Fund. We are endlessly thankful for the ways in which these grants have allowed us to conserve and protect our records so that they can be used by researchers without fear of further degradation or damage.

Please click below if you would like to read more about these grants.

[Fairfax Circuit Court gets state grant to preserve records](#)

[Fairfax County Court gets grant to preserve and digitize historical records](#)

For more information on these and other records held at the Fairfax Circuit Court Historic Records Center, please call 703-246-4168 or email CCRHistoricRecords@fairfaxcounty.gov

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