

# Cemetery Research

Virginia Room, City of Fairfax Regional Library  
10360 North Street, Fairfax, Va 22030  
703-293-6227 x6 <va\_room@fairfaxcounty.gov>

1. Cemetery files are located by request at the information desk. Files may contain photos of grave stones, family trees, family histories, information about the family cemetery, etc. FXCO

2. Fairfax County Cemetery Survey

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/cemeteries/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/cemeteries/)

- The search can be limited by “Name” and “Cemetery”.
- Use the “Cemetery” option for general information on the cemetery and grave markers inscriptions.
- Perform searches for locale (Vienna, for example), street name, or church denomination, etc. using the “Cemetery” option.

Not every Fairfax County cemetery is included within the online survey. For additional cemeteries and gravestone information, search the volumes listed below.

3. On the shelves at the Virginia Room VREF 929.3755 FAIR

*Fairfax County, Virginia Gravestones*, by Fairfax Genealogical Society. (Volumes 1- 6)

*Cemeteries of Fairfax County, Virginia*, by Brian Conley

*1850 Census Fairfax County, Virginia*, by Dr. John F. Schunk

*Fairfax County in 1860: A collective biography*, by Edith Sprouse. (Volumes 1-7)

*Families of Pohick Church: Truro Parish, Fairfax County, Virginia*, by Chester A. Liddle , Jr.

*Abstracts of Claims for Civil War Losses, Fairfax County*, by Mitchell and Sprouse

*Tombstone Records of Pohick Church Fairfax County, Virginia*, by Edna May Stevens

*Annandale United Methodist Church Cemetery*, by Mildred Moore VRARE 929.3755 FAIR (ask librarian)

*Brothers and Cousins: Confederate soldiers and sailors of Fairfax County, Virginia*, by William Page Johnson II

*Registrations of free Negroes*, by Donald Sweig

Other topics found within the Call Number section VREF 929.3755 FAIR

Fairfax County Wills; Marriage Licenses; Death Registers and Deeds

Military Rosters and Unit information can be found on the shelves

For example:

*The Roster of Union Soldiers 1861-1865* (Volumes 1-31). VREF 973.741 R

*The Roster of Confederate Soldiers 1861-1865* (Volumes 1-16) VREF 973.742 R

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Newspaper stories

4. Historical Newspaper Index Instructions:

The Washington Post (historical) from 1877-1990 is available on line through FCPL website.

- ❖ Access the Fairfax County Public Library website
- ❖ Go to Online resources
- ❖ Select newspapers
- ❖ Select The Historical Washington Post
- ❖ Log On with your library card number
- ❖ Type in a specific search topic
- ❖ You can narrow your results by date or document type on the right side
- ❖ Collect any article or important information about the descendants from articles.
- ❖ Articles can be printed or emailed

Local historical newspapers: (*Alexandria Gazette, Fairfax Herald, etc*)

Full articles are on microfilm at the Virginia Room and can be printed for \$.25 a page.

- ❖ Access the Fairfax County Public Library
- ❖ Go to Online Resources
- ❖ Select Newspapers
- ❖ Select Historical Newspaper Index
- ❖ Log on
- ❖ Type in topic
- ❖ Check ALL newspaper sources
- ❖ Complete date range
- ❖ Check ALL newspaper types
- ❖ Results will list: Newspaper, date, page number, headline and can be sorted by column
- ❖ Search the microfilms in the Virginia Room for the specific newspapers
- ❖ Newspapers may be copied

HINTS: Be flexible with search topics.

EXAMPLE-There were no results with “Burke, Silas and Silas Burke” When searching by name, use the format LastName FirstName and “Search beginning of subject field ONLY.” Often, only first initials were used.

When “Burke” was tried, 188 search results were found of which six or seven dealt with the death of Silas Burke and/or the family cemetery. You can also combine search terms such as Burke AND cemetery, but remember to “Search entire subject field.”

Often times the *Fairfax Herald's* “headline” result is all you will find when you read the newspaper. Example: the headline located in Fairfax Herald database on the Fairfax County Public Library website reads “Burke Elementary gets library.” The microfilm copy from the newspaper had no article, only “Burke Elementary gets library.”

Other local newspapers are available on microfilm, but are not indexed. They may be searched chronologically.

5. For census or genealogical research on the Internet:

- Ancestry.com and Heritage Quest are available on line in the Virginia Room
- Also, with a Fairfax County Public Library card, one can access Heritage Quest from home, without a paid subscription.
- Go to the Fairfax County Public Library website
- Search under Genealogy within ONLINE RESOURCES

Find a Grave ([www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)) and Billion Graves ([billiongraves.com](http://billiongraves.com)) are available from any computer without paid subscriptions. Information and photos are contributed by visitors to the websites Fold3.com (some sections are free) and Familysearch.org (free) are additional websites which involve subscriptions.

Prepared by Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association in association with Virginia Room staff.

[www.honorfairfaxcemeteries.org](http://www.honorfairfaxcemeteries.org)



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A Fairfax County, Va.,  
publication

 Reasonable accommodations will be made upon request. Call 703-324-8380 or TTY 703- 324-8365.