

Virginia Research Facilities—Piedmont—Bedford, Virginia



Bedford Museum and Genealogical Library

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201 East Main Street
Bedford, VA 24523

Phone: 540-586-4520

Web: <http://www.bedfordvamuseum.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Bedford-Museum-Genealogical-Library/311951041346>

E-mail: bccm-info@BedfordVAMuseum.org

Open Monday–Friday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., (till 5:00 p.m. in December & January); closed Sunday and major holidays

Research Facility

The Bedford Museum and Genealogical Library has been preserving the history and genealogy of Bedford County, Virginia, since 1933. It has been in its current location since 1979. Two resources in one building; we are the Museum for the County of Bedford, Virginia, as well being an amazing genealogy library. E-mail is available for help, if needed. The goal is to have visitors leave with newfound knowledge.

Be Prepared

Free parking is available in the parking lot adjacent to the Museum; however, approximately half are paid reserved spots, but there are other free spaces available nearby. Copies are \$.50 a page for the first 10 pages and 25¢ per page afterwards. Researchers may use their scanners and cameras; however, a contribution is requested if the equipment is used. Wi-Fi is available, and the Bedford County Courthouse is located next door.

There is a researcher available for those who cannot come to Bedford, and she charges \$25 an hour for the first hour. The website features a members-only section that includes a copy of the marriage index from 1754-1899, and a copy of the 1,500-plus known cemeteries in the county.

Holdings

Thousands of books on family history and local history are available for in-house research. There is also a good selection of books on different wars, including 40-plus on the Korean War.

Collections

Family history is intertwined in local history, and the county museum displays artifacts that offer a different perspective of ancestors' lives.

Genealogy and History Forum

On the second Saturday of every month, except December & January at 1:30 p.m., the Museum hosts a genealogy and history forum. Guest speakers share their genealogy and their history research, and they offer tips for research. The Museum also offers a free beginning genealogy class every month.

Publications for sale

Genealogy books and local history books are stocked in the gift shop. Historical trinkets and local items are also available in the gift shop. Some of the books offered include the marriage index from 1754-1899 and the cemetery database for 1,500 known cemeteries in Bedford County. Other books discuss county mills, villages, and family history. DVDs of some of the guest speakers, as well as maps from different time periods, are available.