

Virginia Research Facilities—Tidewater—Williamsburg

Swem Library at the College of William & Mary

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Swem Library at the College of William and Mary Williamsburg, Virginia

Open Mon.-Thurs., 8 a.m.–2 a.m.
Fri., 8 a.m.–8 p.m.
Sat., 10 a.m.–8 p.m.
Sun., 10 a.m.–2 a.m.

Repository

The College of William and Mary's Earl Gregg Swem Library in Williamsburg, Virginia, offers a significant collection of genealogical materials and helpful librarians! As part of a public university, Swem Library is open to all, free of charge. We'd love for you to visit our beautiful facility, located at 400 Landrum Drive in Williamsburg.

Be Prepared

Several public computers are available for searching our catalog and databases. And if you want to capture information, there are options to photocopy, scan, photograph (no flash, please), and save to your laptop or your flash drive.

Holdings

At Swem Library, you'll find standard genealogy reference sources, located in our Virginia Genealogy Resource Center, plus hundreds of published state and local sources, family papers, church records, and more.

The collection is particularly strong in Virginia and Southern sources, but is also broad in scope. Our resources include genealogy collections such as Boddie's Historical Southern Families and Pecquet du Bellet's Some Prominent Virginia Families, as well as military records including the *Roster of Confederate Soldiers 1861-1865* and *Index to Revolutionary War Service Records*.

Collections

For an overview of Swem's genealogy resources, visit <http://guides.swem.wm.edu/genealogy>. We also have a helpful online guide to genealogy resources located in our Special Collections Research Center. For example, see the Tyree Collection, which includes more than 600 notebooks of research compiled by Young Tyree based largely on Virginia county records. You can access the guide at <http://guides.swem.wm.edu/scrcgenandlocal>.

Swem Library is open Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m.–2:00 a.m.; Friday, 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. and Sunday, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 a.m. Hours vary during semester breaks and in the summer. Please visit <http://www.swem.wm.edu> for full hours, directions, and parking information or contact us at swem@wm.edu.

Dr. Earl Gregg Swem

By the way, the library is named for Dr. Earl Gregg Swem, William & Mary's college librarian in the 1920s–1940s and editor of the Virginia Historical Index, a source familiar to many genealogists. Dr. Earl Gregg Swem was inducted into the National Genealogical Society Hall of Fame in 2013. A bio of Dr. Swem can be found on the NGS Hall of Fame at http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/halloffame_winners. Scroll down to the 2013 winner.

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Earl Gregg Swem Library

Updated: 1 October 2014