

## Virginia Research Facilities—Tidewater Region—Norfolk County

**Norfolk County Historical Society**  
**Wallace Memorial History Room**  
**Chesapeake Central Library**  
298 Cedar Rd.  
Chesapeake VA 23322

Open Monday through  
Thursday, 10:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.;  
Friday, 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.;  
Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.;  
Sunday, 1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

757-410-7100



Wallace Memorial History Room  
Norfolk County Historical Society

Web: <http://www.norfolkcountyvahistory.org/>  
Library web: <http://www.infopeake.org/site-page/norfolk-county-historical-society>  
E-mail: [nchs.wallaceroom@gmail.com](mailto:nchs.wallaceroom@gmail.com)

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The Norfolk County Historical Society of Chesapeake, Virginia, was organized on October 10, 1963, the same year that the City of Chesapeake was formed through the merger of Norfolk County and the City of South Norfolk. The Society is committed to the preservation and dissemination of the history of the City of Chesapeake and surrounding areas. It is a tax-exempt corporation chartered by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

### **Research Facility**

The Norfolk County Historical Society collection resides in the Wallace Memorial History Room, located in the Chesapeake Central Library at 298 Cedar Road, Chesapeake, Virginia. The collection consists of historical and genealogical material with an emphasis on the City of Chesapeake and the surrounding areas of Southeastern Virginia and Northeastern North Carolina. The library and the Norfolk County Historical Society contribute to the continuing development of the collection.

The Wallace Room also houses a collection of over 100 family histories along with other genealogical information for use by patrons. An index is available and volunteers can assist in the research.

Local items of interest are on exhibit in the room including Indian artifacts, Revolutionary and Civil War items, and a large-scale map of Norfolk County (predecessor of the City of

Chesapeake) dated 1887. The oldest item available in the Wallace Memorial History Room is a land grant from 1701.

### **Be Prepared**

All materials in the Wallace Room are for reference use only, and therefore may not be checked out. Photocopiers are available for patrons using Wallace Room materials. The price is 20 cents per page. Library patrons are responsible for observing posted copyright laws.

Reference requests can be sent to the above-stated address via USPS. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your request.

Volunteer staff will research questions using Wallace Room materials as time permits, but nothing extensive.

### **Holdings**

On microfilm, a collection of magazines of historical and genealogical interest is maintained along with older newspapers from the area. A microfilm reader/printer is available.

### **Additional Collections**

With the opening of the new Wallace Memorial History Room in November 2013, the Library proudly introduced the Virginia Regional History (VRH) Collection, a newly developed collection of materials provided by the Library. The Virginia Regional History Collection covers all aspects of Virginia's history and includes items of interest in the Atlantic coastal region, centered on Virginia. A large variety of books have been assembled over the last year to launch this collection, including a number of rare books that are on display immediately outside of the Wallace Room.

They have some great information in the scrolling banner ad on their web page including photos: <http://www.norfolkcountyvahistory.org/>.

"The volunteers at NCHS are constantly reviewing donated materials and adding to the information available. I think we have a real gold mine for anyone researching early settlers of Norfolk County."

Phyllis A. Schirle  
Special Programs & Public Relations  
Chesapeake Public Library

Updated: 20 June 2014