

Virginia Research Facilities—Southwest Virginia—Washington County

The Historical Society of Washington County, Va.

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Open 10–4 p.m. Tuesday–Friday
Open 11–4 p.m. Saturday
Closed Sunday and Monday
No entrance fee



Historical Society of Washington County, Virginia
Photo by Mike Piery Jr.

Research Facility

The Historical Society of Washington County, Virginia is headquartered in the 1914 N&W Passenger Depot, located in downtown Abingdon, Virginia. Although we were established in 1936, it is just in the last few years that we have become “the place” in the region for genealogical and historical research, all due to our Media Center.

Be Prepared

When you find a reference that you want to copy, we have a copy machine and charge 30¢ per copy. We do have books and other items for sale. You may buy any image or document for personal use. Check out our website store page to see everything.

If you come to Abingdon to do research, you will find a group of volunteers more than willing to point you in the right direction—and don't forget to ask about the tombstones and cemeteries!

General Holdings and Collections

We have over 27,000 photographs that have been digitized and indexed by name; the index is posted on the website at http://hswcv.org/LIBRARY/family_files.pdf. The research library contains 6200 books. See the Library Book Index at http://hswcv.org/LIBRARY/library_books.pdf. Our in-house search engine is housed on our own server and allows viewing of pictures and documents, while records are referenced by call number. You may search and view at our Abingdon location only. The website indices (People, Places and Objects, and Documents) contain no images. We do not have microfilm.

The society has over 52,000 pages of documents that have been digitized and indexed by name with the index online at <http://hswcv.org/library.html> under Family File Index. These documents come from many sources including letters and ministers' returns, and everything in the courthouse is included here.

If you're in Abingdon during the Virginia Highlands Festival in August, come to our Living History Cemetery Tour, or attend the Christmas Cabins Tour in December and be sure to purchase our calendar full of yesteryear's pictures from our archives.

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