

**Records Where You Least Expect to Find Them:
A List of Free Negroes
Rockingham County, Virginia, 1849^{*}**

transcribed by
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While extant Registers of Free Negroes provide chronological and sustained information on the Free Negro population of Virginia after 1793, when such registers were first required to be kept by the individual counties by act of the Virginia legislature, lists of Free Negroes in the various counties have not fared nearly as well. They often exist only for individual years and are generally scattered throughout the records housed within the Old Dominion's courthouses. Where full registers do exist, the related surviving lists should be regarded as important sources of supplemental information. Where county registers have not survived, the lists should be regarded as absolutely invaluable sources of information for all researchers.

Part One

Free Negroes and Mulattoes in the Northwestern districts of Rockingham County listed by Joseph Burkholder in said County for the Year 1849 with the exception of 59 in number charged with taxable property.¹

^{*} Harriet Lee Welch of Harrisonburg, Virginia, discovered this list at the Rockingham County Courthouse. It is inserted between pages 60 and 61 of the *Land Tax Book of Rockingham County for 1849*. It is located within the section entitled "List of Taxable Property Within the District of Joseph Burkholder, Commissioner of the Revenue in the County of Rockingham for the Year 1849." It is the only record of its kind within the series.

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¹ The fifty-nine who paid taxes in Rockingham County in 1849 are recorded on pages 59-60 of the above mentioned tax book. That list represents the second part of this transcription.

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A LIST OF FREE NEGROES, ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, 1849

329

Names	No	Residence
Sally Redman	1	Shenandoah River
W ^m and Benj: F. Redman	2	"
Catharine Bell	1	"
Edy Dyer	1	Isaac Riddles
David "	1	"
Lorenzo Furry	1	Bound to A. Harper
Edward Madden	1	P[leaked] Mountain
Francis "	1	"
Dan ^l "	1	"
Polly "	1	"
Elizabeth "	1	"
Abraham "	1	"
Josephine "	1	"
Regina "	1	"
Perlina " Mother	1	"
Sally Veney	1	Flint Hill
Jn ^o E. "	1	"
Jas: M. "	1	"
Robert T. "	1	"
Franky Going	1	C. Simmers
Francis Burk	1	Thornton Thomas
Lewis A. McCoy	1	R. Moore
John McCoy	1	"
Thos: Johnston	1	Sipes
Angeline "	1	"
Rachel Hackley	1	Athens
Eliz: "	1	"
Deana "	1	"
Mary "	1	"
Eliz: "	1	" Grand Children
Cath: "	1	" "
Jacob "	1	" "
Joseph "	1	Madison Moore "
Henrietta McGruder	1	Holsinger
Mary E.F. "	1	"
Deana Cook	1	Joseph Kline
Francis Cook	1	"
Mando	1	"
W ^m & Jn ^o	2	"
Henry & Geo:	<u>2</u>	"

[column two]

Names	No	Residence
Jacob Cook	1	Joseph Kline
Leanah "	1	"
Liza Tate Cook ^s wife	1	"
Tena & Jn ^o Moore	2	Smith Loffland
Sarah & Lucinda Moore	2	"
Juliatt & Yancy Veney	2	"
Mildred Ann		
& Sarah Cath: Veney	2	"
Virginia L. & Lucy Magrt "	2	"
Ellen M. & Franklin "	2	"
Martha E. & Magrt A. "	2	"
Harvey, Polly & Magrt Lewis	3	Edom
Hannah, Ellen & Hiram "	3	"
Erasmus Lewis	1	"
John Hurley	1	Bound to Silas Henton
Sally, Analing & Sarah Bryan	3	H[arrison]Burg
Milly, Jn ^o & Whitfield Maho	3	"
Robt., Preston		
& Jacob Maho	3	"
Littleton Maho	3 ²	"
Martha & Jas Bundy	2	Near "
Catharine Coffman	1	HBurg
Benj: & Rebecca Coffman	2	"
Geo: Washington Bundy	1	"
Jn ^o R., Harriet A.		
& W ^m "	3	"
Nancy Smith & Infant	2	"
Matilda & W ^m L. Amos	2	Mc[Gahey]Ville
Margaret Gipson	1	H[arrison]Burg
Patsy Adams	1	"
Francis & Algernon Maho	2	"
Mary J. Maho	1	"
Jane Strother	1	"
Vina & Mary Freeman	2	J. Rohr
Jn ^o , Sarah: & Ann Freeman	3	"
Evaline, Levi & Mary Brock	3	Dan ¹ Keller
Eily & Levina Harrison	2	H[arrison]Burg
Isaac T. Harrison	1	"

² This is likely an error.

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A LIST OF FREE NEGROES, ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, 1849

331

Mariah & Eveline Jones	2
Massena Jones	1
Pheby A. Harrison	1
St.G. & Henry J. "	2
Mary Taylor	<u>1</u>
	72

[second side]

Names	No	Residence
Mary Jackson	1	Dan ^l Kellers
John "	1	"
Mildred, Triplett's wife	1	"
Geo: & 1 infant Triplett	2	"
Jn ^o & Rhoda Peck	2	Jackson Horns
Diana & Malira Canada	2	H[arrison]Burg formerly from Staunton
James	1	A bound boy to Benj: Vanpelt
Fanny Peters & Sally - child	2	H[arrison]Burg
Harriet & Jas Peters Jr.	2	"
Elizabeth Bazzle	1	"
Geo & Jason Peters	2	"
Abraham Loudaberry	1	Bound to R. Coffman
Lucy Robinson	1	David Bowmans
Emily Spencer	1	Jacob Bears
Thornton Peck	1	W ^m Phillips
Susan Thompson	1	H[arrison]Burg
Jn ^o W ^m Kenney	1	"
Nancy Taylor	1	"
Eliz: & Genetta Hite	2	"
Adeline & Sam ^l Hite	2	"
Calvin & W ^m C. Hall	2	"
Caty C. & Mathuman Hall	2	"
Mary Hackley	1	Lewis Zirkle
Jas: & Jn ^o Sen Hackley	2	"
Cath: & Agnes "	2	"
Sarah J. & Martha J. "	2	"
Rachel A. "	1	"
James Moores wife	1	H[arrison]Burg
Marah T. Moore - child	1	"
Lusy Putney	<u>1</u>	"
	43	
	<u>72</u>	
Total	158	

See page 59 & 60
Whole amount

59
217 of Free Negroes & Mulattoes

[column two]³

Warm Spring & Harrisonburg Turnpike Road Company
E.H. Smith Presdt.
R.M. Kyle - Directors
Jno. A. Herring "
Peter Heneberger "
Sam¹ Blackburn &
W^m Guy "
M. Harvey Effinger Sectr^y & Treasurer

In consequence of the Company having to rebuild Several bridges of their road there has been no dividend declared for the last few Years. The condition of the road is pretty good at present, & they hope to be able to pay for their bridges during the present Year.

Part Two

List of Taxable Property within the District of Joseph Burkholder Commissioner of the Revenue in the County of Rockingham for the year 1849.⁴

[page 59]

Persons Charged With tax	White males above 16 years of age	Slaves above 16 years of age	Slaves above 12 years of age	Horses, mules &c.	[Residence]
Jessee Lewis	1				Sam ¹ Bowman
Joshua Redman	1				Shen River
1 Dan ¹ Veney	1				A. Funk
Reuben Madden	1			2 ⁵	R.N. Harrison
John Conley	1				C. Simmers
1 Nathan Colley ⁶	1				J.A. Hopkins
1 Geo: Colley	1				"
Sam ¹ Madden	2			2 ⁷	P[ea]ked] Mount[ain]
Harrison Burk ⁸	1				Thornton Thomas
Doirilus Hugh ⁹	1				R. Moore

³ While the material in column two is totally unrelated to the previous information, it is nevertheless of some interest. In a real sense, it is yet another example of "Records Where You Least Expect to Find Them."

⁴ The headings were not modified to reflect ethnicity.

⁵ He paid twenty cents in taxes.

⁶ He owned a watch that was not of gold or silver and was taxed twenty-five cents.

⁷ He paid twenty cents in taxes.

⁸ He owned a metallic clock and was taxed twenty-five cents.

⁹ He owned a watch that was not of gold or silver and was taxed twenty-five cents.

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333

Jacob Hackley	1			1 ¹⁰	Peter Zetty
Ashbury Harrison	1			1 ¹¹	J. Bowman
W ^m Bundy	1				J. Harrison
Morrison Jones	1				J. Sibert
John Hackley	1				Athens
Ch ^s Hackley	1				"
Gabriel Hackley	1				"
Geo: Poindexter	1				Near Sheets'
Dennis McGouder	1				Holsingers
George Gordon	1				S.M. Pennybacker
William Cook	1				J. Cline
John Hackley ¹²	1				Lewis Zirkle
Zacharias McCoy	1				R. Moore
Tho ^s Moore	1			1 ¹³	"
W ^m Bailey	1				"
Madison Thompson	$\frac{1}{27}$			$\frac{1}{7}$	Edom
[page 60]					
2 Dan ¹ Duff	1			1 ¹⁴	H.B. ¹⁵
2 Joshua Bryan	1				"
2 Madison Maho	1				"
2 Legran Sampson ¹⁶	1				"
2 Polly Bundy ¹⁷		1	1	3	Near H.B.
Ranson A. Williamson	1				A. Byrd
1 James Fox	1				A. Hopkins
Hetty Johnston ¹⁸					Near T.V. ¹⁹
David S. Johnston	1			1 ²⁰	"
2 Jerry Gipson	1				H.B.
2 StClair Gipson	1				"
2 Massellers	1				"
2 Moses Maho	1				"
1 George Brock	1				Dan ¹ Kellers

¹⁰ He paid 10 cents I taxes.

¹¹ He paid 10 cents in taxes.

¹² He owned a non-metallic clock and paid twelve and a half cents in taxes.

¹³ He paid 10 cents in taxes.

¹⁴ He paid 10 cents in taxes.

¹⁵ Harrisonburg.

¹⁶ He owned a watch that was not of gold or silver and was taxed twenty-five cents.

¹⁷ She paid a total of 62 cents in taxes.

¹⁸ She owned a non-metallic clock and paid twelve and a half cents in taxes.

¹⁹ Timberville.

²⁰ He paid 10 cents in taxes.

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334

MAGAZINE OF VIRGINIA GENEALOGY, Vol. 44, No. 4

1 Lawson Lewis	1				
2 Miller Harrison	1				H.B.
2 John Jones	1				"
2 John Triplett	1				"
2 W ^m Peters ²¹	2				"
2 James Peters	1				"
1 Thompson Robinson	1			1 ²²	D. Bowman
1 Elias Robinson	1			1 ²³	"
1 W ^m Gaines	1				Benj. Rolston
1 Anthony Rice ²⁴	1			1	Crawfords
1 Isaac Loudaberry ²⁵	1				C. Blains
1 Isaiah Welsh	1				D[ry] River
2 W ^m Moore	1				H[arrison]Burg
2 Jas: Holman	1				"
2 Joshua Peters	1				"
2 James Hite ²⁶	1	1	1		"
2 Isaac Loudaberry	1				"
2 Malinda Hall	1				"
Rosett Poindexter				1 ²⁷	"
Robert Johnston	$\frac{1}{32}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{9}$	"

²¹ He owned carryalls and harness valued at 50 cents, a gold watch, and a non-metallic clock. He paid two dollars in taxes.

²² He paid 10 cents in taxes.

²³ He paid 10 cents in taxes.

²⁴ He owned a watch that was not of gold or silver and paid a total tax of thirty-five cents.

²⁵ He owned a watch that was not of gold or silver and was taxed twenty-five cents.

²⁶ He paid a total of 32 cents in taxes.

²⁷ He paid 10 cents in taxes.