

Researching 1850s History and Personalities in Rockingham County

Rockingham County Historical Society

Address: 382 High Street, Dayton, VA
Hours: Monday through Saturday, 10am - 4pm

<http://www.heritagecenter.com/>

What's Available:

They have a very good genealogy library. There are many family history books, marriage bonds and licenses, birth & death records, obituaries, cemetery records, Bible records, etc. They also have individual family files with information that researchers have contributed. Local history books are also available.

There are normally volunteers available to assist you.
For non-members there is a \$5 fee to use the library.

Massanutten Regional Library

Address: 174 South Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA
Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9:30am-8:30pm
Friday: 9:30am-6pm
Saturday: 9:30am-5pm
Sunday: 12pm-4pm*
*September-May

<http://www.mrlib.org/>

What's Available:

Description from their website:

The Massanutten Regional Library makes available genealogical resources that relate to regional and family histories of the Shenandoah Valley.

This special collection includes information about the German migration, the founding of Harrisonburg, genealogy records of the Harrison family and much more.

It is an excellent place to begin research into your Valley roots.

Menno Simons Historical Library – EMU

Address: EMU Campus
Hours: Monday thru Friday 1 - 5 pm

<http://www.emu.edu/library/histlib.html>

What's Available:

Census records, area and Anabaptist and Mennonite histories, family genealogies

Carrier Library at JMU and the Alexander Mack Library at Bridgewater College also have historical collections. JMU's Special Collections contain many manuscripts – including some diaries and day books for local people. You can access the catalog on line at:
<http://www.lib.jmu.edu/special/manuscripts/manuscripts.aspx>

Internet Resources

Rockingham County VAGenWeb Local cemetery records, death records, full text of John Wayland's "History of Rockingham County", etc.	http://www.rootsweb.com/~varockin/index.htm
Gordon Miller's Research Guide – Carrier Library Website	http://www.lib.jmu.edu/genealogy/genealogy.aspx
Rootsweb	http://www.rootsweb.com/
Websites at Rootsweb – Rockingham VA	http://resources.rootsweb.com/USA/VA/Rockingham/
Cyndie's List of Genealogical Sites on the Internet	http://www.cyndislist.com/
Library of Virginia (some online databases including digital images of Bible records)	http://www.lva.lib.va.us/
Heritage Quest Online Available through the Massanutten Regional Library Website and accessible from your home computer Must have a valid library card. Contact the library to obtain password information Census, Revolutionary War Pensions, Books online	http://www.mrlib.org/online_resources__in.htm
Ancestry This is a pay site, but they do have some databases that are free	http://www.ancestry.com
American Memory – Library of Congress Photos, broadsides, manuscripts from U.S. history.	http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/
Dictionary of Americanisms a record of 19 th century "colloquial language of the United States"	http://www.merrycoz.org/voices/bartlett/AMER01.HTM#intro
19 th Century Slang Dictionary	http://www.campchase.com/Slang/Slang-A-F.htm