

Register of White Voters at Purcellville Precinct, Mt. Gilead District, Loudoun County, Virginia, 1902-1921

Register of White Voters at Purcellville Precinct, Mt. Gilead District, Loudoun County, Virginia

A Collection in Thomas Balch Library OM 31

Thomas Balch Library

2016

1902-1921

History

Processed by: Caroline Kessler

Title Statement

Register of White Voters at Purcellville Precinct, Mt. Gilead District, Loudoun County, Virginia, 1902-1921

Subtitle: Register of White Voters at Purcellville Precinct, Mt. Gilead District, Loudoun County, Virginia

Collection: OM 31

Author: Caroline Kessler

Publication Statement

Date: © 2016 By Thomas Balch Library. All rights reserved.

Publisher: Thomas Balch Library

Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MARC record, created by Laura Christiansen, 5 November 2017

Language Usage: Description is in English

Descriptive Summary

Collection number

OM 31

Language

English

Abstract

The collection consists of a ledger from the Purcellville Precinct in the Mt. Gilead Magisterial District, containing the names of white voters who registered from 1902 to 1921. Names of both men and women are included. The list provides date of registration, voter's name, date of birth, age, occupation, place and length of residence, poll tax exemption status, and whether the voter was transferred to or from another district.

Creator

Paul McCray, Purcellville, VA

Physical Characteristics

1 item, less than .33 cubic ft.

Repository

Thomas Balch Library

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Open for research.

Use Restrictions

Physical characteristics and conditions affect use of this material. Photocopying not permitted.

Acquisition Information

Paul McCray, Purcellville, VA

Processing Information

Processed by Caroline Kessler, 2016

Preferred Citation

Register of White Voters at Purcellville Precinct, Mt. Gilead District, Loudoun County, Virginia, 1902-1921 (OM 31), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA

Accruals

2016.0084

Alternative Form Available

None

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Register of White Voters at Purcellville Precinct, Jefferson District, Loudoun County, Virginia Collection, 1888-1962 (SC 0107); Register of Colored Voters at Purcellville Precinct, Jefferson District, Loudoun County, Virginia, 1888-1901 (OM 006); Poll Book, Guilford Precinct, Broad Run Magisterial District of Loudoun County, VA, 1877 (SC 0078).

Bibliography

Encyclopedia Virginia,

Register of White Voters at Purcellville Precinct, Jefferson District, Loudoun County, Virginia Collection, 1888-1962 (SC 0107), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

Register of Colored Voters at Purcellville Precinct, Jefferson District, Loudoun County, Virginia, 1888-1901 (OM 006), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

Encyclopedia Virginia,

Encyclopedia Virginia,

Encyclopedia Virginia,

Other Finding Aid

None

Technical Requirements

None

Historical Information

Following the abolishment of slavery, the Fourteenth Amendment (1866) extended citizenship to all native-born men and women and promised them equal protection under the law. However, the Fifteenth

Amendment (1870) was needed in order to guarantee that no state could deny its qualifying citizens-that is, males over the age of 21- the right to vote on principle of race, color, or previous enslavement. In retaliation, many states established a poll tax with the intention of preventing poorer and newly enfranchised citizens from participating in elections. Virginia's Conservative Party amended the state constitution in 1876 to add the first state poll tax, but this provision was removed when the constitution was again amended in 1882.

In 1902, more changes to the Virginia Constitution prevented most of the state's African American men and about half of the state's white men who had voted in previous elections from exercising their rights. Beginning in 1904, new voting applicants were required to pay \$1.50 in poll tax for the three years preceding an election in order to participate. All poll taxes were finally abolished in 1964, when the Twenty-Fourth Amendment made the institution illegal.

The practice of keeping separate registers for Black and White voters became a requirement in 1884 by the Virginia election boards. However, in 1920, women over the age of 21 were allowed to be added to these books-though still divided by race-when they received the right to vote through the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment. In Richmond, some 13,000 women were registering by October of the same year, but Virginia itself did not ratify the amendment until 1952.

Scope and Content

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Contents List

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Box 1

Folder 1: Register of White Voters at Purcellville Precinct, Mt. Gilead District, Loudoun County, Virginia 1902-1921

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