VIRGINIA

The Birthplace of a Nation

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Virginia Discovered

The history of Virginia begins long before the Englishmen set foot in the New World. The land had been inhabited by Native Americans for several thousand years. The Algonquian, Iroquoian, Siouan all resided along the Central Atlantic coast.

After the discovery of the New World, England, the Dutch Republic, France, Portugal, and Spain all attempted to establish New World colonies.

A Spanish exploration party had come to the lower Chesapeake Bay region of Virginia about 1560 and met the Native Americans living on the Virginia Peninsula.

The first English settlers arrived at Jamestown in 1607.

Jamestown Exposition Issue
Founding of Jamestown, 1607
1907 • Scott 329

Jamestown was founded in 1607 by a group of 104 English "gentlemen" who were sent by King James I to search for gold and a water route to the Orient. Disease, famine, and attacks from the Algonquians, took a toll on the initial population. However, with the determination of John Smith and the trading with Powhatan (chief of the Algonquian Indians), the settlement grew, becoming the first permanent English colony in the New World.

Jamestown Exposition Issue
Captain John Smith
1580–1631
1907 • Scott 328

John Smith is remembered as the leader of the first English settlement in Virginia. Having endured the four month journey (from December 1606 to April 1607) to the New World, the colonists only survived because of Smith’s "He who does not work, will not eat" policy. Smith returned to England in 1609 for treatment of a gunpowder burn, and never returned to Virginia.

Jamestown Exposition Issue
Pocahontas
~1595–1617
1907 • Scott 330

Pocahontas was the daughter of the chief of the Algonquian Indians. She is credited with the survival of the Jamestown colonists as she brought them food and furs helping them survive that first winter in the New World. In 1614, Pocahontas married a successful tobacco planter named John Rolfe, bringing a general peace between the colonists and Indians.

Settlement of Jamestown
400th Anniversary
2007 • Scott 4136

Almost immediately after landing in the New World, the 104 English "gentlemen" who were sent to America began to build a wooden fort. The wooden, palisaded walls formed a triangle around the homes, a church, and a storehouse. Although only 60 settlers survived the winter of 1609, with supplies from England, the settlement was able to become somewhat stable, and in 2009 Virginia was able to celebrate the 400th Anniversary of Jamestown.

International Naval Review Issue
Jamestown Festival
1957 • Scott 1091

In 1957 the International Naval Review was held in Jamestown, as the town celebrated the 350th anniversary of its founding. One hundred thirteen naval vessels from seventeen different nations paraded in front of President Dwight Eisenhower and other dignitaries while giving military demonstrations and displays.
Virginia Discovered

- **Jamestown Exposition Issues**
  - Founding of Jamestown, 1607
  - 1907 • Scott 329

- **Jamestown Exposition Issue**
  - Captain John Smith
  - 1907 • Scott 328

- **Jamestown Exposition Issues**
  - Pocahontas
  - 1907 • Scott 330

- **Settlement of Jamestown**
  - 400th Anniversary
  - 2007 • Scott 4136

- **International Naval Review Issue**
  - Jamestown Festival
  - 1957 • Scott 1091
Virginia in the American Revolution

Presidential Series
George Washington
1732–1799
1938 • Scott 804

Prior to becoming the first President of the United States, George Washington served as a Senior Officer in the U.S. Army and Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. Because of his role in the formation of the U.S., he is often referred to as “Father of His Country,” and is often ranked as one of the greatest U.S. presidents by historical scholars.

George Rogers Clark Issue
Surrender of Fort Sackville
1752–1818
1929 • Scott 651

George Rogers Clark was the highest ranking military officer in the northwestern frontier during the American Revolutionary War. He is known for weakening the British control when his troops moved into Vincennes. Clark was born in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Army Issues
Mount Vernon
1936 • Scott 785

Two of the most trusted generals of the Revolutionary Army were George Washington and Nathanael Greene. They are featured on this stamp which honors the U.S. Army. Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington for more than 45 years, is shown on the background.

American Bicentennial Issue
Battle of Yorktown
1981 • Scott 1937

In 1781, with the American Revolutionary War was raging, Yorktown, Virginia, was a busy exporting town. When George Washington heard of England's Lord Cornwallis' encampment near Yorktown, he rushed his troops south from New York. Meanwhile, the French fleet had effectively blocked all travel by ship in and out of the port. On October 19, 1781, Cornwallis surrendered, effectively ending the War.

Army Issues
Mount Vernon
1931 • Scott 703

This stamp commemorates the 150 anniversary of the victory at Yorktown. On October 19, 1781, General George Washington, aided on land by France's Jean-Baptiste Donatien de Vimeur, Comte de Rochambeau and on sea by François-Joseph Paul, Marquis de Grasse Tilly, Comte de Grasse, forced the surrender of the British army stationed at Yorktown. This battle forced the British to negotiate peace and recognize the independence of the United States.

American Bicentennial Issue
Battle of the Virginia Capes
1981 • Scott 1938

The Battle of the Virginia Capes, also known as the Battle of the Chesapeake, was significant to the Battle of Yorktown. The French fleet was strategically set up near the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, preventing the Royal Navy from bringing supplies to their encampment near Yorktown. Although the battle was tactically inconclusive, it was a major defeat for the British, leading to the independence of the United States of America.

Ratification of the Constitution
Virginia
1988 • Scott 2345

The English first explored the region of America now known as Virginia as early as 1584. The first permanent English settlement, Jamestown, was founded in 1607. In 1776 Virginia declared its independence from the British Empire, and on June 25, 1788 they ratified the Constitution to become the 10th state of the United States of America.
Virginia in the American Revolution

Presidential Series
George Washington
1938 • Scott 804

George Rogers Clark Issue
Surrender of Fort Sackville
1929 • Scott 651

Army Issues
Mount Vernon
1936 • Scott 785

Liberty Issue
Mount Vernon
1956 • Scott 1032

American Bicentennial Issue
Battle of Yorktown
1981 • Scott 1937

American Bicentennial Issue
Battle of the Virginia Capes
1981 • Scott 1938

Yorktown
1931 • Scott 703

Ratification of the Constitution
Virginia
1988 • Scott 2345
Virginia in the Westward Movement

Lewis & Clark Expedition Bicentennial
William Clark
1770–1838
2004 • Scott 3856

William Clark, shown on this stamp of the Expedition Bicentennial Series, was chosen as a co-commander of Thomas Jefferson's expedition to explore the Missouri River and beyond. Later he was appointed principal Indian agent for the Louisiana Territory and brigadier general of its militia. Clark was born in Caroline County, VA.

Lewis & Clark Expedition Bicentennial
Meriwether Lewis
1774–1809
2004 • Scott 3855

Meriwether Lewis, a boyhood friend of Thomas Jefferson, was born in Albemarle County, in the present-day town of Ivy, Virginia. He was commissioned by the President to be the leader of the Corps of Discovery. Upon the return of the Corps, Lewis was appointed by Jefferson to be the Governor of the Louisiana Territory.

Legends of the West
Jim Bridger
1804–1881
1994 • Scott 2869c

Born in Richmond, Jim "Old Gabe" Bridger was one of the last surviving mountain men. He began his career at the age of 17, traveling the Rocky Mountains to become an outstanding trapper, trader, guide, merchant, Indian interpreter, and Army officer. He was the first white man to see The Great Salt Lake, but is probably best known for his discovery of "Bridger's Pass" – the route for the first Overland Mail, The Union Pacific Railroad line, and the currently route of Interstate 80.

Tennessee Statehood
John Sevier
1745–1815
1946 • Scott 941

Born in New Market, Virginia, John Sevier served as the commander of the Overmountain Men (Washington County, Tennessee), earning hero status as an Indian fighter. He was the only governor of the State of Franklin, a governor of Tennessee, and a U.S. Representative. He is shown on this stamp, which celebrates the 150th anniversary of Tennessee's statehood, along with Andrew Jackson.

Texas Centennial
Stephen Austin
1793–1836
1936 • Scott 776

Born near the current site of Austinville, VA, at an early age Stephen Austin moved with his family to Missouri. When his father died, he inherited a grant of land in Texas for the purpose of bringing 300 U.S. families to colonize in the soon-to-be Mexican territory. Austin is remembered for his firm voice that brought words of encouragement and hope to his struggling countrymen. He and Samuel Houston are shown on this stamp commemorating the Texas Centennial.

Sam Houston
1793–1863
1964 • Scott 1242

Sam Houston was born in the Shenandoah Valley, near Lexington, Virginia. Prior to his move to Texas, he was elected to the House of Representatives for Tennessee and became Governor of Tennessee. During the Texas Revolution, he was the Commander of the Revolutionary Army. Houston was a President of the Republic of Texas, U.S. Senator from Texas, and finally, was elected as the Governor of the State of Texas.
Virginia in the Westward Movement

Lewis & Clark Expedition Bicentennial
William Clark
2004 • Scott 3856

Lewis & Clark Expedition Bicentennial
Meriwether Lewis
2004 • Scott 3855

Legends of the West
Jim Bridger
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Tennessee Statehood Issue
John Sevier
1946 • Scott 941

Texas Centennial
Stephen Austin
1936 • Scott 776

Sam Houston
1964 • Scott 1242
Virginia in the American Civil War

Army Issue
Stratford Hall
1937 • Scott 788

The Stratford Hall Plantation overlooks the Potomac River in northern Virginia. This ancestral home of Robert E. Lee continues to be a working plantation. This stamp depicts Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson and Lee alongside Stratford Hall.

Civil War Issue
General “Stonewall” Jackson
1824–1863
1995 • Scott 2975s

Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson was born in Clarksburg, Virginia (now part of West Virginia). As a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, Jackson held a combination of appointments in five different military organizations. However, he is probably best known for leading his brigade that “always stood as a stonewall” in the American Civil War.

Civil War Centennial Issue
Battle of the Wilderness
1964 • Scott 1181

The Battle of the Wilderness was fought May 5–7, 1864 on an expanse of rough terrain covered with scrub brush and short, tangled trees, located in Spotsylvania and Orange Counties, Virginia. Both Gen. Ulysses S. Grant’s and Gen. Robert E. Lee’s armies suffered heavy casualties in this battle, but neither the North nor the South was said to have “won” the battle. The battlefield now belongs to the National Park Service.

Civil War Issue
Joseph E. Johnston
1807–1891
1995 • Scott 2975m

Joseph Johnston, born in Farmville, Virginia, graduated from West Point, and became Brigadier General and Quartermaster General of the U.S. Army. When Virginia seceded from the Union, Johnston resigned from the U.S. Army in favor of joining the Confederate Army where he was again appointed a Brigadier General. After the end of the Civil War, Johnston served as a Congressman from Virginia, and later was appointed a Federal Commissioner of Railroads.

Civil War Issue
Robert E. Lee
1807–1872
1955 • Scott 1049

Robert E. Lee was born at the Stratford Hall Plantation in Westmoreland County, Virginia. Following graduation from the U.S. Military Academy, Lee rose to become the general-in-chief of the Confederate forces during the American Civil War. Lee’s forces were victorious in many of their campaigns; however, Lee eventually surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant, effectively ending the Civil War.

Civil War Centennial Issue
Appomattox Court House
1965 • Scott 1182

In April 1865, Generals Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant met in the McLean House in the village of Appomattox Court House. It was here, in central Virginia, that Lee’s surrender marked the end of the Civil War. Today the Appomattox Court House is a National Historical Park.

United Confederate Veterans Final Reunion
1951 • Scott 998

In 1889 former Confederate soldiers of the American Civil War joined together to form the United Confederate Veterans. This organization had as its primary goal to provide for widows and orphans of former Confederate soldiers; care for disabled former soldiers; preserve relics, moments, and a record of the service of its members; and to organize fraternal reunions. The UCV held its final reunion in Norfolk, Virginia in 1951.
Virginia in the American Civil War

General "Stonewall" Jackson
1995 • Scott 2975s

Army Issues
Stratford Hall
1937 • Scott 788

Civil War Issue
Robert E. Lee
1955 • Scott 1049

Civil War Centennial Issue
Battle of the Wilderness
1964 • Scott 1181

Civil War Centennial Issue
Appomattox Court House
1965 • Scott 1182

Civil War issues
Joseph Johnston
1995 • Scott 2975m

United Confederate Veterans
Final Reunion
1951 • Scott 998
Virginia Presidents

In addition to George Washington, the first President of the United States, seven Virginians were elected to the position of President.

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Thomas Jefferson began his political career when he was elected to the House of Burgesses in 1769. He later was a delegate to the Second Continental Congress, Governor of Virginia, delegate to the Congress of the Confederation, U.S. Ambassador to France, U.S. Secretary of State, and Vice President of the U.S. In 1801 Jefferson became the third President of the United States. Jefferson's home is located in Charlottesville, Virginia.

James Madison, and American political philosopher, was the principal author of the U.S. Constitution. Prior to becoming the fourth President of the United States, he served as a delegate from Virginia to the U.S. House of Representatives and as the U.S. Secretary of State. His plantation home, Montpelier, is located in Virginia.

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John Tyler became the tenth President of the United States, and the first to become President following the death of a predecessor. Born in Charles City County, Virginia, Tyler became a lawyer at the age of nineteen and became a member of the Virginia House of Delegates just two years later. He was a member of the House of Representatives and a U.S. Senator from Virginia, before becoming Vice-President to William Henry Harrison.

William Henry Harrison was born in Berkeley, Virginia. Following a political career as Secretary (and later Congressional Delegate) of the Northwest Territory, Governor of the Indiana Territory, member of U.S. House of Representatives, and U.S. Senator, in 1841 he became the ninth President of the United States. Just one month later Harrison became the first U.S. President to die while in office.

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Zachary Taylor was born in Orange County, Virginia. He joined the U.S. Army, where he achieved the rank of Major General. In 1848 he won the presidential election, becoming the first president to have never held any previously elected office. Taylor died just sixteen months into his presidency from acute gastroenteritis.

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Born in Staunton, Virginia, Woodrow Wilson became the 28th President of the United States. His main focus as president was diplomacy and financial considerations. He is the only president buried in Washington, D.C.
Virginia Presidents

Great Americans
Thomas Jefferson
1993 • Scott 2185

Presidential Series
James Madison
1938 • Scott 808

James Monroe
1958 • Scott 1105

Presidential Series
William Henry Harrison
1938 • Scott 814

Presidential Series
John Tyler
1938 • Scott 815

Presidential Series
Zachary Taylor
1938 • Scott 817

Presidential Series
Woodrow Wilson
1956 • Scott 832
Symbols of Virginia

**American Bicentennial State Flags**

*Virginia*

1976 • Scott 1642

This stamp shows the flag of Virginia, which was adopted in 1776. The state seal is centered in a field of dark blue. The Latin motto “Sic Semper Tyrannis” (Thus Always to Tyrants) is written across the bottom of the seal. Two figures dressed as warriors are in the center. The woman, Virtue, represents Virginia, while the man who is holding a scourge and chain shows that he is a tyrant.

**Greetings from America**

*Virginia*

2002 • Scott 3606

The Greetings from America stamp series features retro tourist postcards of the 1930s and 40’s. The Virginia stamp features the Oatlands Plantation, a National Trust for Historic Preservation property near Leesburg, Virginia. A cannon on display in the state capital, Richmond is shown in front of the Plantation. The cannon is shown with a rail fence, like those often seen in the Virginia countryside.

**State Birds & Flowers Issues**

*Virginia: Cardinal & Flowering Dogwood*

1982 • Scott 1998

In 1918 the American Dogwood (also known as the Flowering Dogwood) was chosen as the State Flower of Virginia. The dogwood blooms, which appear between March and June, may be either white or pink. After blooming, a bright green berries appear, that will turn red as they ripen. The Northern Cardinal was chosen as the State Bird of Virginia because of its cheerful song and colorful plumage. This crested bird was named after Catholic cardinals who dress in bright red robes. The Northern Cardinal is the state bird for six other states.

**Wildlife Conservation Issue**

*Cardinal*

1972 • Scott 1465

The cardinal, known for its bright plumage and cheerful song, is most noticeable during the winter when it is the only red bird present. The male is red all over, except for the area of its throat and around its beak; the female is duller in color, but has red on its crest, wings, and tail. In 1950 the Virginia General Assembly designated the northern cardinal as it’s official state bird.

**North American Wildlife**

*Tiger Swallowtail*

1987 • Scott 2300

The tiger swallowtail is one of the most common swallowtail butterflies in the eastern U.S. In 1991 the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. submitted a proposal that it be adopted as the state insect because it is harmless, colorful, graceful, pollinates flowers, and symbolizes the fragile environment. Later that year, Virginia became the fourth state to adopt the tiger swallowtail as the state's insect.

**Wildflowers Issues**

*Virginia Bluebells*

1992 • Scott 2668

The Virginia Bluebell is one of more than 2,000 species belonging to the Forget-me-not family. This particular plant, with its bell-shaped flowers, was named after the colony of Virginia. The Virginia Bluebell is native to almost one half of the U.S. states, from Georgia to Maine, and from Virginia to Kansas.

**Chesapeake Bay Retriever**

1984 • Scott 2099

The Chesapeake Bay retriever is a truly American sporting dog. It is a strong, tough retriever, originally bred along the Chesapeake Bay to hunt waterfowl under the most adverse water conditions. The Chesapeake has a happy disposition, quiet good sense, and affectionately protective nature.
Symbols of Virginia

American Bicentennial State Flags
Virginia
1976 • Scott 1642

Greetings from America
Virginia
2002 • Scott 3606

State Birds & Flowers Issues
Virginia: Cardinal & Flowering Dogwood
1982 • Scott 1998

Wildlife Conservation Issue
Cardinal
1972 • Scott 1465

North American Wildlife
Tiger Swallowtail
1987 • Scott 2300

Wildflowers Issues
Virginia Bluebells
1992 • Scott 2668

Chesapeake Bay Retriever
1984 • Scott 2099
Visiting Virginia

Wonders of America
Chesapeake Bay
Largest Estuary
2006 • Scott 4038

The Chesapeake Bay is almost 200 miles long and up to 30 miles wide, stretching through Maryland and Virginia and into the Atlantic Ocean. More than 150 rivers and streams drain into the Chesapeake, making it the largest estuary in the U.S.

Wonders of America
Appalachians
Oldest Mountains
2006 • 4045

The Appalachian Mountains are the oldest mountain chain in the United States. The Blue Ridge mountains, part of the Appalachians, extend from Georgia to Pennsylvania, through western Virginia. The Blue Ridge Skyline Parkway Drive starts in Front Royal and runs across the top of the mountains south into North Carolina. The Appalachian Natural Scenic Trail, the longest foot path on the eastern coast also runs through the mountains of Virginia.

National Parks Centennial Issue
Performance at Wolf Trap Farm
Shouse Pavilion
1972 • Scott 1452

The Filene Center which is part of the Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, was named for Catherine Filene Shouse. Mrs. Shouse donated her farm, which, in addition to the buildings, contained over 100 acres of land, to become a National Park. This was the first national park for the performing arts.

Wolf Trap Farm Park
1982 • Scott 2018

As early as 1739 a stream running through Fairfax County became known as Wolf Trap Creek, so named because of the trapping of the wolves in the area. In 1966 the Wolf Trap Farm was donated to the American people as a National Park. Located near Vienna, Virginia, the Farm offers a wealth of cultural and natural resources to the nation.

Civilian Conservation Corps
1983 • Scott 2037

In 1933, with more than 13 million people unemployed in the United States, President Roosevelt created the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC.) In its nine years, the CCC built more than 40,000 bridges, planted billions of trees, restored nearly 4,000 historic sites, created 800 state parks (including six in Virginia), and improved thousands of beaches, shorelines, and roads. A Civilian Conservation Corps Museum is located in Pocahontas State Park, Chesterfield, Virginia.

Viking Missions to Mars
1978 • Scott 1759

NASA's Viking Mission to Mars had as its primary objective to obtain high resolution images of the Martian surface, characterize the structure and composition of the surface, and to search for evidence of life. From its inception in 1968 until 1978 the Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia, was responsible for the management of the Viking Mission project.
Visiting Virginia

Wonders of America
Chesapeake Bay
Largest Estuary
2006 • Scott 4038

Wonders of America
Appalachians
Oldest Mountains
2006 • Scott 4045

National Parks Centennial Issue
Performance at Wolf Trap Farm
Shouse Pavilion
1972 • Scott 1452

Wolf Trap Farm Park
1982 • Scott 2018

Civilian Conservation Corps
1983 • Scott 2037

Viking Missions to Mars
1978 • Scott 1759
Virginia Landmarks

Pilgrim Tercentenary Issue
Arlington Amphitheater
1922 • Scott 570

The Arlington Memorial Amphitheater, built in 1915, is located in the Arlington National Cemetery. A colonnade of arched openings with Doric columns completely encloses the amphitheater. It is the home of the Tomb of the Unknowns, where President Warren G. Harding presided as the first Unknown Soldier (from World War I) was laid to rest six years later.

Booker T. Washington Home
1956 • Scott 1074

This stamp was issued to honor the 100th anniversary of the birth of Booker T. Washington. It depicts a log cabin, similar to the one where he was born near Hale's Ford, Virginia. Washington went on to become an inspiration for the African-American community.

Gunston Hall
1958 • Scott 1108

Gunston Hall is an 18th-century Georgian mansion located in Fairfax County, Virginia. This national shrine was the home of George Mason, one of Virginia's Revolutionary War heroes. The interior of Gunston Hall is filled with ornate woodwork and carvings. It is the only house known to have had chinoiserie decoration in colonial America.

Liberty Issue
Monticello
1956 • Scott 1047

Monticello was the estate of Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the United States. The estate is located near Charlottesville, Virginia, on a mountaintop overlooking the rolling hills of the Southwest Mountains. Jefferson took more than 40 years to design and build the Doric structure.

American Architecture Series
Virginia Rotunda
1979 • Scott 1779

The Virginia Rotunda is located on the grounds of the University of Virginia, located in Charlottesville. It was designed by Thomas Jefferson, following the design of the Pantheon in Rome. When Jefferson's three floor rotunda burned in 1895, it was replaced with a two-story building and the wooden dome was replaced with a larger fireproof tile dome. In 1976 the Virginia Rotunda was restored to its original design.

American Architecture Series
Dulles Airport by Eero Saarinen
1982 • Scott 2022

The main terminus at Dulles Airport, located in Loudoun and Fairfax Counties, Virginia, is a unique structure. The building is tall, with colonnades of tipped and tapered columns on its two facades. The roof hangs gracefully between the facades, and a pagoda-shaped control tower sets nearby. Dulles is just 25 miles west of the Washington D.C. business district.

Windmills Issue
Robertson Windmill, Williamsburg
1980 • Scott 1738

In 1720, Williamsburg's William Robertson operated a serviceable windmill. The breeze would spin the windmill's blades, causing a shaft and gear arrangement to turn a millstone which would grind corn into meal or wheat to flour. This windmill has been reconstructed in Colonial Williamsburg.
Virginia Landmarks

Pilgrim Tercentenary Issue
Arlington Amphitheater
1922 • Scott 570

Booker T. Washington Home
1956 • Scott 1074

Gunston Hall
1958 • Scott 1108

Liberty Issue
Monticello
1956 • Scott 1047

American Architecture Series
Virginia Rotunda
1979 • Scott 1779

American Architecture Series
Dulles Airport by Eero Saarinen
1982 • Scott 2022

Windmills Issue
Robertson Windmill, Williamsburg
1980 • Scott 1738
Famous Virginians

**Presidential Issue**
Martha Washington
1731–1802
1939 • Scott 849

Martha Dandridge Custis Washington was born in New Kent County, Virginia. Two years after the death of her first husband, Martha married George Washington in 1759. Although she preferred to spend her time at Mt. Vernon, Martha followed Washington into the battlefield. She opposed his election as President, and even refused to attend his inauguration. Martha is considered to be the first “First Lady” of the United States.

**Liberty Issue**
Patrick Henry
1736–1799
1958 • Scott 1052

Born in Studley, Virginia, Patrick Henry became the first and later the sixth Governor of Virginia. He had served on the Virginia House of Burgesses where he was a prominent figure in the American Revolution. Henry is probably best known for a speech he made in favor of military action against the British invasion of the U.S. — “Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!”

**Constitution Bicenntennial Issue**
John Marshall
1755–1835
1990 • Scott 2415

John Marshall's political career began in 1782 when he won a seat in the Virginia House of Delegates. He was a delegate to the Virginia convention, responsible for ratifying the U.S. Constitution. He went on to become Virginia’s representative to the U.S. House of Representatives, and then the U.S. Secretary of State. Marshall was Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court when he died in 1835. He is still holds the honor of being the longest serving U.S. Chief Justice.

**Great Americans**
George Mason
1725–1792
1981 • Scott 1858

George Mason was a delegate to the U.S. Constitutional Convention. He refused to sign the Constitution because it did not have a “declaration of rights.” In 1791 the U.S. Bill of Rights was ratified, declaring U.S. citizens had certain rights. Mason lived in Fairfax County, Virginia.

**Great Americans**
Henry Clay
1777–1852
1983 • Scott 1846

Henry Clay was born in Hanover County, VA, but at an early age moved to Richmond where he worked with the Virginia Attorney General. He later moved to Kentucky where he became a member of the House of Representatives and then a U.S. Senator. In 1957 a Senate committee named him as one of the five greatest senators in U.S. history.

**Famous Americans**
Educators
Booker T. Washington
1856–1915
1940 • Scott 873

Booker T. Washington was born into slavery in rural Hale’s Ford, Virginia. At the age of sixteen, he enrolled at the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute in Hampton, Virginia, where he was able to work to pay his way through school. Washington went on to become a political leader, educator, orator, and author. In 1901 he was the first African-American ever invited to the White House. This stamp, issued in 1940, shows Booker T. Washington, the first African-American to be depicted on a U.S. postage stamp.
Famous Virginians

Presidential Issue
Martha Washington
1939 • Scott 849

Liberty Issue
Patrick Henry
1958 • Scott 1052

Constitution Bicentennial Issue
John Marshall
1990 • Scott 2415

Great Americans
George Mason
1981 • Scott 1858

Famous Americans
Educators
Booker T. Washington
1940 • Scott 873

Great Americans
Henry Clay
1983 • Scott 1846
More Famous Virginians

Famous Americans
Scientists
Dr. Walter Reed
1851–1902
1940 • Scott 877

At the age of eighteen, Walter Reed received his M.D. at the University of Virginia. He joined the U.S. Army Medical Corps because it would provide financial security for he and his family. During Reed's tenure with the U.S. Army Yellow Fever Commission, the board confirmed that yellow fever was transmitted by mosquitoes, and not by clothing. Reed was born in Belroi, Virginia.

Prominent Americans
George C. Marshall
1880–1959
1967 • Scott 1289

George C. Marshall was a General in the U.S. Army who became Chief of Staff of the Army, Secretary of State, and later the third Secretary of Defense. In 1953 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his post-World War II efforts in building a stronger economic foundation for the Western European countries. Marshall maintained a home in Leesburg, Virginia.

Distinguished Marines
Lt. Gen. Lewis B. Puller
1898–1971
2005 • Scott 3962

Lieutenant General Lewis “Chesty” Puller was a Marine veteran of the Korean War and World War II, and served in China, Nicaragua, and Haiti. He won a total of 14 personal decorations in combat, plus many campaign medals, unit citation ribbons, and other awards. He is the only Marine to receive five Navy Crosses for heroism and gallantry in combat. Puller was born in West Point, Virginia.

Antarctic Explorers
Richard E Byrd
1888–1957
1988 • Scott 2388

Rear Admiral Richard Byrd was born in Winchester, the descendant of John Rolfe and Pocahontas. In 1926, Byrd claimed to have flown over the North Pole, a feat that enabled him to secure funding for the exploration of Antarctica. In 1929, he became the first to reach the South Pole. Among his many citations and special commendations, he earned the Medal of Honor, the Congressional Life Saving Medal, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Flying Cross, and the Navy Cross.

Famous Americans Issue
Inventors
Cyrus H. McCormick
1809–1884
1940 • Scott 891

Cyrus McCormick was born in Walnut Grove, Virginia. He is known for his invention of the “reaper” — a machine that would harvest wheat and other small-grain crops. McCormick was the founder of the McCormick Harvesting Machine Company.
More Famous Virginians

Famous Americans
Scientists
Dr. Walter Reed
1940 • Scott 877

Dr. Ephraim McDowell
1959 • Scott 1138

Army Issue
Winfield Scott
1937 • Scott 786

Prominent Americans
George C. Marshall
1967 • Scott 1289

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Antarctic Explorers
Richard E Byrd
1988 • Scott 2388

Famous Americans
Inventors
Cyrus H. McCormick
1940 • Scott 891
Black Heritage Series
Carter Woodson
1875–1950
1984 • Scott 2073

The “Father of Black History,” Carter G. Woodson realized the importance of the public having the knowledge of the black people's contributions to humanity. To accomplish this goal, he created the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History as a means of spreading the awareness of black history and culture. In 1926 he started the observance of “Negro History Week,” which has since grown into “Black History Month.” Carter was born in New Canton, Virginia.

Four Centuries of American Art Issues
George Caleb Bingham
1811–1879
1998 • Scott 3236f

Born in Augusta County, Virginia, George Bingham became an American realist artist, known as “The Missouri Artist.” Many of his paintings relate to life along the Mississippi and Missouri rivers: fur traders, river boatmen, frontier life, politics, events in U.S. history, and more. His painting “Boatmen on the Missouri” is depicted on this stamp.

Edgar Allan Poe
1809–1849
1949 • Scott 986

American writer, Edgar Allan Poe, is best known for his tales of mystery and the macabre. His poetry and short stories of detective-fiction and science fiction include “The Raven,” Tales of the Grotesque and Arabesque, and “The Tell-Tale Heart.” Following the death of his mother, Poe was raised in Richmond, Virginia.

Arthur Ashe
1943–1993
2005 • Scott 3936

Arthur Ashe was born and raised in Richmond. In 1963 he became the first black tennis player to be selected to a U.S. Davis Cup team. Among his accomplishments are the National Collegiate Athletic Association singles title, the U.S. Amateur Championships, the U.S. Open, Australian Open, and Wimbledon.

Civil Rights Pioneers
Ella Baker
1903–1986
2009 • Scott 4384f

Ella Baker was born in Norfolk, Virginia. In 1938 she joined the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and soon became the highest ranking woman in the organization. She traveled widely recruiting members and raising money, while stressing the importance of young people and women in the NAACP.

American Arts Issues
Willa Cather
1873–1947
1973 • Scott 1487

Willa Cather was born near Winchester, Virginia. Cather began her writing career while attending the University of Nebraska where she became a regular contributor to the Nebraska State Journal. After graduation her first novel, Alexander’s Bridge, was serialized in McClure’s Magazine. Known for her plainspoken style, in 1922 Willa Cather received the Pulitzer Prize for One of Ours, a work inspired by her cousin's wartime letters to his mother.

Celebrate the Century 1900s
The Gibson Girl
1998 • Scott 3182m

The drawings of Charles Gibson, known as “the Gibson Girl,” represented the ideal woman of the early 1900s. For nearly twenty years, this fictional image was shown on merchandise — from ashtrays and souvenir spoons to pillow covers and umbrella stands. The first “Gibson Girl” model was Irene Langhorne Gibson who was born in Danville, Virginia.
More Famous Virginians

Black Heritage Series
Carter Woodson
1984 • Scott 2073

Civil Rights Pioneers
Ella Baker
2009 • Scott 4384f

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1998 • Scott 3236f

American Arts Issues
Willa Cather
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Edgar Allan Poe
1949 • Scott 986

Arthur Ashe
2005 • Scott 3936

Celebrate the Century 1900s
The Gibson Girl
1998 • Scott 3182m
Legends of American Music Series
Country & Western Issues
Patsy Cline
1932–1963
1993 • Scott 2772

Patsy Cline, born Virginia Patterson Hensley, was one of the first country singers to have a crossover pop hit. In 1973 she was elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, in 1999 one of The 100 Greatest Women in Rock and Roll, and in 2002 named one of The 40 Greatest Women of Country Music. Born in Winchester, Virginia, this star's life was tragically cut short when she, her manager, and two other Country Western singers were killed in a plane crash.

Legends of American Music Series
Country & Western Issues
Kate Smith
1907–1986
2010 • Scott TBD

Kathryn “Kate” Smith is often remembered for her rendition of Irving Berlin's “God Bless America.” Her radio, TV, and recording career spanned more than fifty years. In her later career, some Philadelphia Flyers hockey fans lovingly said about her performances before games, “it ain't BEGUN 'til the fat lady sings!” In 1999, Smith, who was born in Greenville, Virginia, was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame.

Legends of American Music Series
Country & Western Issues
Carter family
1993 • Scott 2773

The original Carter Family – Alvin Pleasant “AP” Delaney Carter (1891-1960), his wife Sara Dougherty Carter (1898-1979), and his sister-in-law Maybelle Addington Carter (1909-1978) were from Maces Spring, Virginia. This country music group recorded from 1927 to 1956, with an impact on country, folk, bluegrass, and gospel singing. The Carter Family was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame, the Grammy Hall of Fame, the Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame, and in 2005 received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.

Legends of American Music Series
Country & Western Issues
Ella Fitzgerald
1917–1996
2007 • Scott 4120

With her gift for pitch and rhythm, and more than half a century of singing, Ella Fitzgerald became well known as “The First Lady of Song.” Fitzgerald won thirteen Grammy Awards, the National Medal of Arts, Kennedy Center Honors, and was inducted into the Lincoln Center Nesuhi Ertegun Jazz Hall of Fame. The Society of Singers created an award for lifetime achievement, making her the first recipient of the “Ella” award. Ella Fitzgerald was born in Newport News, Virginia.

Legends of American Music Series
Country & Western Issues
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Musical Virginians
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Black Heritage Series
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Richmond
August 12–15, 2010

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