A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AUGUSTA COUNTY HISTORY SOURCES

The following resources are useful for research in Augusta County, Staunton, and Waynesboro history, though they are by no means the only sources for our area’s history. These references will help anyone getting started in local history or genealogy. The citations marked with an asterisk are probably the first references to consult in your hunt. This bibliography includes and supplements an earlier bibliography, the “Trial List of Augusta County Books,” prepared by Richard Hamrick and published in the Augusta Historical Bulletin.

The library and archives of the Augusta County Historical Society are closed as we prepare to move into a new headquarters. There are, however, excellent local history research collections at the Staunton Public Library, the Augusta County Library in Fishersville, and the Waynesboro Public Library. The Mary Baldwin College Archives, the Augusta Military Academy Museum, the Fishburne Military School, and the Staunton Military Academy Archives may also have materials of use. The local historical societies of Rockbridge County (Washington and Lee University) in Lexington and Harrisonburg-Rockingham County in Dayton, Virginia, the Virginia Historical Society, and the Library of Virginia in Richmond have fine genealogical collections. Also be sure to check the issues of the *Augusta Historical Bulletin, the journal of the Augusta County Historical Society, and Augusta Annals, its newsletter. Partial card indexes going up to about 1986 for the ACHS Bulletin have been deposited in the Waynesboro Public Library and the periodicals room of the Mary Baldwin College library. Microfilmed local newspapers can be found at the Staunton Public Library, Augusta County Library, University of Virginia microforms room, and Mary Baldwin College library. Microfilmed court records are available at the Library of Virginia.

Consult also the websites (see “links” on this website) for the Augusta County Historical Society and the Valley of the Shadow project, an innovative comparison of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, and Staunton, Virginia, from the 1850s to 1870s developed by Professor Edward Ayers of the University of
Virginia. For information on original local records going back to 1738, contact the Clerk of Courts of Augusta County at the courthouse in Staunton (Johnson Street). Also the Staunton Courthouse on Beverley Street has records back to the early nineteenth century.

--Dr. Kenneth W. Keller, President, Augusta County Historical Society       July 23, 2005

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