

## Major compilation of Black historical records now available online

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(Taylor Media Services) The historic Virginia Freeman's Bureau records are now available online for historians and African Americans desiring to research their family histories and possibly discover ancestors from slavery. The Virginia records are generally considered the earliest compilation of historical data on Blacks. The records include names, marriages, educational skills, work contacts, health care and other data.

Governor Timothy Kaine made the announcement last week while praising the volunteers who digitized the records under the direction of the state's Black History Museum and the Cultural Center of Virginia. Those who feel they might be able to trace family members and slave ancestors to Virginia can view the records online at the Family Search website: <http://pilot.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.html>