

Death Clues in the Census



Anne Mitchell



When did my ancestors die?

Mortality Schedules are a definitive place to look.

Ancestry Card Catalog

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Title
mortality

Keyword(s)

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Census & Voter Lists	4
Birth, Marriage & Death	6
Stories, Memories & Histories	2
Reference, Dictionaries & Almanacs	1

Matches 1-7 of 7

Sort By **Popularity**

Title	Collection	Records	Activity
<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Federal Census Mortality Schedules, 1850-1885	Census & Voter Lists	1,576,480	UPDATED
<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Federal Census Mortality Schedules Index	Census & Voter Lists	492,925	
<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Census Mortality Schedules, New York, 1850-1880	Census & Voter Lists	263,880	
<input type="checkbox"/> Missouri Mortality Records, 1850 and 1860	Birth, Marriage & Death	2,060	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bill of mortality	Stories, Memories & Histories	115	
<input type="checkbox"/> Montgomery County, New York mortality schedules	Census & Voter Lists	62	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mortality in retail trade : a statistical analysis of entrances into and exits from the retail grocery, drug, hardware, and sho	Reference, Dictionaries & Almanacs	218	

1-7 of 7

When did my ancestors die?

ancestry.com National Archives and Records Administration U.S. Federal Census Mortality Schedules, 1850-1885 Record for L M Hoffer

Return to Record North Carolina > Cleveland > Township 2 > 1870 > 1

Image Only Print Order Options Share f t e

Zoom In Zoom Out Fit Width Magnify Rotate Mirror Image: 1 of 1

SCHEDULE 2.—Persons who Died during the Year ending 1st June, 1870, in *North Carolina*
County of *Cleveland*, **State of** *North Carolina*, enumerated by me, *John Hoffer, A.S.T.*, Ass't Marshal

1	2	DESCRIPTION.				7	PARENTAGE.		10	11	12		
		3	4	5	6		8	9					
Number of the Family, as given in the 5th column of Schedule 1.		Name of every person who died during the year ending June 1, 1870, whose place of abode at the time of death was in this family.		Age last birth day, months and fraction of a year.	Sex.	Color.	Married.	Place of Birth, naming the State or Territory of the U. S., or the country, if of foreign birth.	Father of foreign birth.	Mother of foreign birth.	The Month in which the person died.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade.	Disease or Cause of Death.
1	58	Martha Jane	7	m	W			Ill.			January	Old Steamer	Epidemic
2	62	Martha James	71	m	W	m					November	Hammer	Paralysis
3	68	Langgs J. Wm.	49	m	W	m					June		
4		Langgs James	42	f	W	W					June		
5	114	Henry Benjamin	87	m	W	m					June	Keeping House	
6	119	Martha Nelson	9	f	W			Ill.			September	Hammer	Consumption
7	128	Jolly Kishah	90	f	W	W		Ill.			January	Old Steamer	Epidemic
8	158	Hoffer L. Wm.	37	m	W	m		Ill.			August	Occupation	Dropsy
9	210	James James	25	f	W	m		Ill.			March	Hammer	Murdered
10	214	Martha S. D.	22	m	W	m					October	Keeping House	Well person
11											February	Hammer	Typhoid Fever

Make sure you check the causes of death.

- LM Hopper was murdered.
- Kishah Jolly died of dropsy. Dropsy?"

When did my ancestors die?

I found this on
Medicine.net

The screenshot shows the MedicineNet.com website. At the top, the logo reads "MedicineNet.com" with the tagline "We Bring Doctors' Knowledge to You". A search bar is on the right. Below the logo is a navigation menu with options: Home, Slideshow Pictures, Image Collection, Quizzes, Diseases & Conditions, Symptom Checker, Health & Living, and Medical. A breadcrumb trail indicates the path: home > medterms medical dictionary a-z list > dropsy definition.

On the left side, there are several sections:

- Featured on MedicineNet**: Includes links for Rheumatoid Arthritis Pictures, ADHD: Tips for Parenting, Yeast Infection Treatment, and Psoriasis Slideshow.
- Definition of Dropsy Related Articles**: Includes links for Congestive Heart Failure, Edema, and Sleep.
- MedicineNet Authored**: Promotes Webster's New World Medical Dictionary, featuring an image of the dictionary cover and the text "MedTerms Medical Word of the Day".
- Adult Skin Problems**: A partially visible section at the bottom.

The main content area is titled "Definition of Dropsy". It includes a small image of a child eating watermelon. To the right of the image are three links: "Take the Summer Food Safety Quiz IQ", "Food Frauds Slideshow Pictures", and "Take the Diet & Nutrition Quiz IQ".

The definition text reads: "Dropsy: An old term for the swelling of soft tissues due to the accumulation of excess water." Below this, it explains that in years gone by, a person might have been said to have dropsy, but today one would be more descriptive and specify the cause, such as "edema due to congestive heart failure".

Further down, it states: "Edema is often more prominent in the lower legs and feet toward the end of the day as a result of pooling of fluid from the upright position usually maintained during the day. Upon awakening from sleeping, people can have swelling around the eyes referred to as periorbital edema."

The final paragraph notes: "The Middle English dropsie came through the Old French hydropsie from the Greek hydrops which in turn came from the Greek hydor meaning water."

On the right side of the page, there are partial views of other content: "Psoriasis Symptoms, Ca", "Your G Sympt", and "Pinpoi".

Death Clues

For women of childbearing age in 1900 and 1910, look for the number of children born and the number of children living in those census years to see if there are any unaccounted for children.

NAME of each person whose place of abode on April 15, 1910, was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on April 15, 1910. Omit children born since April 15, 1910.	RELATION. Relationship of this person to the head of the family.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION.						
		Sex.	Color or race.	Age at last birth (dec.)	Whether single, married, widowed, or divorced.	Number of years of present marriage.	Number of children. Total born. Living.	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Head of family							
1. Hattie A	Wife	F	W	24	M	8	4	3
— Olive L	Daughter	7	W	6	8			
— Evelyn	Daughter	7	W	2	8			
— Ernest B	Son	1	M	12	8			

Foltz family, 1910 U.S. Census, Winston-Salem, Ward 3, Forsyth Co., N.C.

Death Clues

Look for gaps in the births of other children to try to narrow the search for the missing child.

NAME of each person whose place of abode on April 15, 1910, was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on April 15, 1910. Omit children born since April 15, 1910.	RELATION. Relationship of this person to the head of the family.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION.						
		Sex.	Color or race.	Age as last birth day.	Whether single, married, widowed, or divorced.	Number of years of present marriage.	Number of how many children. Number born. Number living.	
	Head of family	0	0	0	0	0	10	11
1. Hattie A	wife	7	W	24	M	8	4	3
— Olive L	Daughter	7	W	6	8			
— Evelyn	Daughter	7	W	2	8			
— Ernest B	Son	1	W	12	8			

Foltz family, 1910 U.S. Census, Winston-Salem, Ward 3, Forsyth Co., N.C.

Read the Census

Look for people who should be on the next census

90			Mr	11	M				
91	979	977	Jeremiah Gillespie	33	M	Farmer		317	58
92			Mary E	34	F				
93			Samuel P	10	F				
94			Jan B	9	M				
95			W. H.	7	M				
96			Sarah M	8	F				
97	980	978	...	30	M	...		15171	3571

Jeremiah Gillespie family, 1860 U.S. Census, Amherst Co., Virginia.

Where to look next.

State pages

ancestry.com

Home Family Trees Search DNA Collaborate Learning Center Publish Show

Search > USA > Virginia

Virginia

Welcome to our Virginia family history research page. Here you'll find record collections, history, and genealogy resources to help you trace your Virginia ancestors.

Data Collections

Collections History Resources

[Printer-friendly page](#)

Virginia Census & Voter Lists

Heads of families at the first census of the United States taken in the year 1790. : records of the state enumerations, 1782 to	192
Census records and Cherokee muster rolls	56
1810 census of Giles County, Virginia	7

[View other](#) Census & Voter Lists collections related to Virginia.


Virginia Birth, Marriage & Death

Web: Virginia, Find A Grave Index, 1607-2011 FREE	1,437,946
Virginia, Deaths and Burials Index, 1853-1917	757,683
Virginia, Marriages, 1740-1850	337,520
Web: Newport News, Virginia, Daily Press Obituary Index, 1898-1988 FREE	174,222
Virginia, Marriages, 1660-1800	88,130

[View all](#) Virginia Birth, Marriage & Death

Where to look next.

Virginia, Deaths and Burials Index helps us discover the fate of little Sarah.

 **You have attached this record to:**
[GILLESPIE, Sarah](#) in your tree "gilberts new tree" [Remove](#)

Virginia, Deaths and Burials Index, 1853-1917 [about Sarah Gilispie](#)

Name:	Sarah Gilispie
Birth Date:	abt 1858
Birth Place:	Amherst
Death Date:	Feb 1865
Death Place:	Amherst, Virginia
Death Age:	7
Race:	White
Gender:	Female
Father Name:	Jerry Gillispie
Mother Name:	Mary Gillispie
FHL Film Number:	2056972

Save This Record
Attach this record to a person in your tree as a source record, or save for later evaluation.

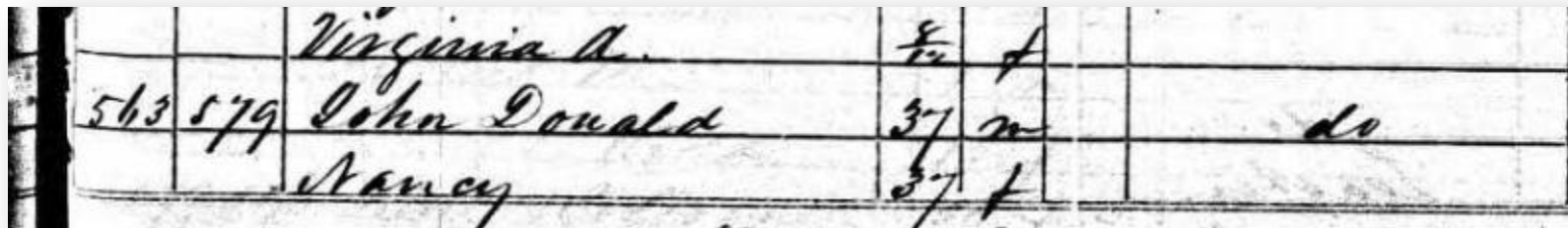
[Save](#) 

Source Information:
Ancestry.com. *Virginia, Deaths and Burials Index, 1853-1917* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.
Original data:
"Virginia Deaths and Burials, 1853-1912." Index. FamilySearch, Salt Lake City, Utah, 2010. Index entries derived from digital copies of original and compiled records.

Description:
This database is an index extracted from more than 750,000 death and burial records from Virginia. [Learn more...](#)

Look for changes in age and name.

James is married to Nancy in 1850. Both are 37.



A handwritten census record from 1850, showing the John Donald family. The record is written in cursive on a grid. The first row lists 'Virginia D.' with age '8' and sex 'f'. The second row lists 'John Donald' with age '37' and sex 'm', and a 'do' in the next column. The third row lists 'Nancy' with age '37' and sex 'f'.

		Virginia D.	8	f	
563	579	John Donald	37	m	do
		Nancy	37	f	

John Donald family, 1850 U.S. Census, Rockbridge Co., Virginia.

Look for changes in age and name.

		Virginia D.	8	f	
563	579	John Donald	37	m	do
		Nancy	37	f	

In 1860, Nancy is now 7 years younger.

There is also a large gap between the last two children.

1	1100	1100	John Donald	51	M	Farmer	✓
2			Nancy "	44	F		
3			Jamess "	25	M		
4			Kett A "	25	M		
5			Wilson S "	13	M		
6			Mary J "	12	F		
7			Sarah M "	10	F		
8			M. Lewis "	9	M		
9			Mary M "	2	F		
10							

John Donald family, 1860 U.S. Census, Rockbridge Co., Virginia.

Where to look next.

Nancy Donald does not show up in the death index for Virginia.

Deaths Index, 1853-1917 results for Nancy Donald

Matches 1-50 of 55 Sorted By Relevance

View Record	Name	Birth Date	Death Date	Death Place	Parents
<p>A little more information will give you better results. Try adding a state, province or country in "Lived In (Residence)" Try adding a birth or death date; even a guess might help.</p> <p>You can press 'r' to refine your search, or 'n' to start a new one. Check out Getting the most out of new search for more tips and tricks.</p>					
View Record ★★★★☆	Nancy E Donald	abt 1888	12 Aug 1888	Winchester, Virginia	William, J...Nie
View Record ★★★☆☆	John W Donald	abt 1839	20 Jul 1894	Buffalo, Rockbridge, Virginia	
View Record ★★★★☆	John Donald	abt 1845	Jan 1895	Rockbridge, Virginia	
View Record ★★★★☆	Donald	abt 1893	10 Feb 1893	Fancy Hill, Rockbridge, Virginia	M. L. Donald, M. S. Donald
View Record ★★★★☆	Milly Donald	abt 1790	Oct 1860	Bedford County, Virginia	
View Record ★★★★☆	Southey Donald	abt 1790	10 Nov 1855	Bedford County, Virginia	

Where to look next.

We do find that John remarries in 1857.

"Virginia, Marriages, 1785-1940," John Donald, 1857

[« Back to search results](#)

No image available

[Search collection](#)

[About this collection](#)

groom's name: **John Donald**
groom's birth date:
groom's birthplace:
groom's age:
bride's name: **Nancy Moses**
bride's birth date:
bride's birthplace:
bride's age:
marriage date: **22 Jan 1857**
marriage place: **Rockbridge County, Virginia**
groom's father's name:
groom's mother's name:
bride's father's name: **John Moses**
bride's mother's name:
groom's race:
groom's marital status:
groom's previous wife's name:
bride's race:
bride's marital status:
bride's previous husband's name:
indexing project (batch) number: **M86866-1**
system origin: **Virginia-EASy**
source film number: **33797**
reference number:

"Virginia, Marriages, 1785-1940," index, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/XR41-YD7> : accessed 30 Oct 2012), John Donald and Nancy Moses, 22 Jan 1857; citing reference , FHL microfilm 33797.

Where to look next.

Charlton Wallace disappears from the census records after 1900.

34			Ellis	Wife	W	7	Jan 1860	48	7	10	4	3	Virginia	Virginia	Virginia
35			Clary	Son	W	7	Apr 1891	9	8				Virginia	Virginia	Virginia
36			Willie	Son	W	7	May 1891	5	8				Virginia	Virginia	Virginia
37			Walter	Son	W	7	Feb 1892	2	8				Virginia	Virginia	Virginia
38	132	133	Wallace	Head	W	7	Feb 1828	75	7	10	5		Virginia	Virginia	Virginia
39			Martha	Wife	W	7	Jan 1826	74	7	10	6	6	Virginia	Virginia	Virginia
40	133	134	Mr. Daniel Samuels	Head	W	7	Mar 1856	44	7	16			Virginia	Virginia	Virginia
41			Sarah	Wife	W	7	Apr 1860	40	7	16	0	0	Virginia	Virginia	Virginia
42													Virginia	Virginia	Virginia

Charlton Wallace family, 1900 U.S. Census, Rockbridge Co., Virginia.

55			Lawson Jr.	Son	M	W	18	5					Virginia		
			Gracie	Daughter	F	W	11	5					Virginia		
56	156	156	Donald	Head	F	W	66	17D		4	4		Virginia		
57			John	Son	M	W	35	5					Virginia		
58			Wallace Martha	Mother	F	W	35	17D		5	5		Virginia		
59	157	157	Lithlitz, Samuel I.	Head	M	W	37	M	16				Virginia		

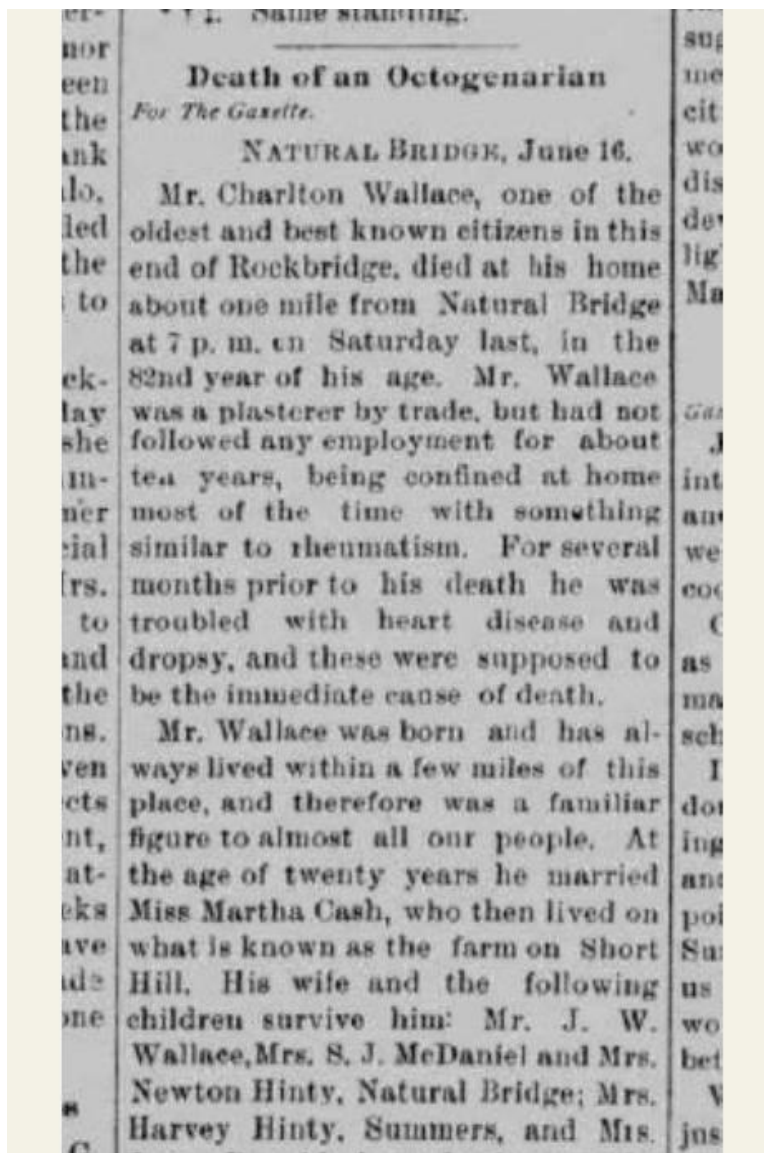
Donald and Wallace family, 1910 U.S. Census, Rockbridge Co., Virginia.

Where to look next.

We find his obituary in the Lexington paper in 1903 on Chronicling America.

“Death of an Octogenarian,” Lexington Gazette (Rockbridge, Virginia), 17 Jun 1903, online archives

(<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/> : accessed 26 Aug 2012), page 3, col. 3.



Where you can find this in PDF form:

<http://finding-forgotten-stories.com/resources/how-to-videos/>