

Grassroots Theater Research Assignment:

Choose one of the following reading assignments. You will be making notes on what you find related to the organizing themes that we have chosen in class. We are looking for "bullet" facts, quotes, and references to the people on our list of community participants. Your notes should be prepared on 5x7 cards. Write the theme in the top right corner and your name in the bottom right corner. If you find something related to a person on our list, write that person's name on the top left corner of the card. Every card must have a full citation of the source. Consult the Chicago Manual of Style if you have questions about citation format. Due Nov. 3.

Virginia Gazette. Available at Williamsburg Regional Public Library and Swem microfilm. You may use the bibliography from Paul Olson's article in our course packet to direct you to important articles on school integration in *Gazette* and *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.

1. *Virginia Gazette.* 1964/65
2. *Virginia Gazette.* 1966/67
3. *Virginia Gazette.* 1968/69.
4. *Virginia Gazette.* 1970/71/72.

Daily Press. Swem microfilm.

5. *Daily Press.* April/May 1968
6. *Daily Press.* March/April 1963
7. *Daily Press.* August/September 1968
8. *Daily Press.* August/September 1969

Flat Hat. Swem Rare Books Room. The index will be helpful for people working from 1969 forward. The listings for "Black Student Organization" and "Student Life" would be a good place to start.

9. *Flat Hat.* 1960-64
10. *Flat Hat.* 1965-69
11. *Flat Hat.* 1970-73

The College Observer. V.1, no. 1-4 and v. 2 no. 1 (1970-71)

A weekly supplement to the *Virginia Gazette* "for and about the College of William and Mary." Swem Rare Books Room.

12. Courthouse Records: Available are deeds, wills, marriage licenses, lawsuits, divorces, civil and chancery law cases, and old tax records. If there are school integration cases, they can be found in the civil law cases. The clerk of the court is Helene Ward. She knows what kinds of cases and records are available and can conduct basic tours and introductions to the material. Call for an appointment at 229-

2552. Hours are M-F, 8:30-4:30. Note: many typical courthouse records for Williamsburg have been moved to the State Archives at the State Library for storage space reasons.

13. Voter Registration Records: Records are stored in the Striker Building behind the Library on North Boundary. Some records from the '40s, still marked "colored" by designation. After that, records are marked by occupation. Ms. Joyce McKnight, the city registrar, can assemble information available with a day's notice. Call ahead at 220-6157. M-F, 8:30-4:30.

14. Ellis, Rex. *Presenting the Past: Education, Interpretation and the Teaching of Black History at Colonial Williamsburg*. Ph.D. Dissertation, College of William and Mary. 1989.

A comprehensive look at the inclusion and exclusion of African Americans as historical subjects and interpretive employees at Colonial Williamsburg.

Ellis, Rex. "Relationships between Blacks and Whites in Early Williamsburg." Jan. 18, 1989. Videotape available for viewing only at the CW Research library on N. Boundary St. VC 631 VHS

This should be viewed in combination with reading Ellis' dissertation on the subject. This video focuses on the experiences of African Americans in Colonial Williamsburg during the period 1946-66.

"Oral History Community Night: Teaching African American history in the Williamsburg Community, Pt 1 and 2" Videotape available for viewing only at the CW Research library on N. Boundary St. VC 827 VHS and VC 828 VHS.

A series of presentations, followed by commentary. This should be viewed in combination with reading Ellis' dissertation on the subject.

15. This assignment would be best for someone who hasn't been able to participate in many story circles or interviews.

Interview with Robert Walker, Mayor of Williamsburg. Audiotape available at Williamsburg Regional Library.

Interview with Fanny Epps, Williamsburg resident. Audiotape available at Williamsburg Regional Library.

"The Freedom Years: Williamsburg Remembers" Oral History Night 1991. Videotape available for viewing only at the CW Research library on N. Boundary St. VC 831 VHS

"The Depression Years: Williamsburg Remembers" Oral History Night 1991. Videotape available for viewing only at the CW Research library on N. Boundary St. VC 831 VHS

Nancy Smith Bradshaw, ed. *Tales from James City County, Virginia. Oral Histories.* The James City County Historical Commission, 1993.

Rex Ellis, transcripts of interviews with Maria Sheppard, Raymond Redcross, James C. Palmer, Sr.

Some of the interviews are on an IBM disc, so you will need to use the computer to get at them. Read with JCC press packet and Bradshaw's *Tales from JCC.*

16. Brooks, Richard. "Commission on Education Survey." 1976. A detail of the affirmative action policies enacted at W&M over the past decade (1965-1975).

Denenberg, Dennis. *Partisanship and Racial Attitudes: A Study concerning Williamsburg Residents.* Honor's thesis. 1969. Swem Rare Book Room. LD 6051 W5m Govt 1969 D44

Williamsburg Code of the City. A listing of City ordinances revised in a number of editions. The Codes were printed in 1949, 1959, 1976, and 1992. This could be a gold mine of legal info tracing the changes from segregation to integration. It certainly is worth a look.

17. This is a lighter assignment, appropriate for someone who is taking the course for fewer units. File Folder: Local newspaper clippings listed under "Williamsburg, VA Schools." A collection of files primarily dealing with the 1939-1940 construction of Bruton Heights "Colored" school. An interesting look into the paternalistic form of racism common to this part of Virginia. Other clippings cover the closing of Bruton Heights and the recent 50th reunion of the class of 1945. Available at Williamsburg Regional Public Library.

18. This is a lighter assignment, appropriate for someone who is taking the course for fewer units.

"Lions Club of Williamsburg Annual Minstrel Show." The

program books from 1951-1959 are in the Rare Books Room in Swem basement. Minstrelsy is a fascinating topic!

Gee, Madeline. "Grove Festival Bicentennial Event." A small pamphlet printed to celebrate the Williamsburg neighborhood known as "Grove." Grove is an African American community situated just below Busch Gardens. The pamphlet gives a brief history of the neighborhood and some of the leading citizens of the community.

Foster, Andrea Kim. "'They're turning the town all upside down: The Community Identity in Williamsburg Before and After Reconstruction." 1993. Ph.D. Dissertation from George Washington U. Swem Rare Book Room. F234 W7 F67 1993a. Focus on pp. 179-210.

Civil Rights Bibliography

Secondary Sources:

Bass, Jack. *Unlikely Heroes*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1981.

An account of the implementation of the Brown decision in the South by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, the legal arm of the Civil Rights Movement.

Bass, Jack and Thomas E. Terrill. *The American South Comes of Age*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1986.

A collection of selected essays and excerpts from leading figures in recent Southern political and social history. Deals particularly with race relations and the Civil Rights Movement. Very good introductory reader on race relations in the South.

Branch, Taylor. *Parting the Waters; America in the King Years, 1954-1963*. New York: Touchstone, 1988.

Pulitzer prize winner. An excellent source for MLK jr.'s early involvement in the civil rights movement. Covers only the South and stops at the march on Washington.

Braver, Carl M. *John F. Kennedy and the Second Reconstruction*. New York: Columbia press, 1977.

A good source for the politics of Camelot. Only covers the Kennedy administration and the political climate of the nation.

Campbell, Will D. *Forty Acres and a Goat*. Atlanta: Peachtree Publishers, Ltd., 1986.

A memoir by a leading white civil rights activist of the time. Especially good for a perspective on white "liberals."

Carson, Clayborne. *In Struggle*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard press, 1981.

A history of SNCC (Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee) From its origin at the Greensboro lunch counter sit-in (1 Feb. 1960) through the integrated John Lewis years and into Stokely Carmichael, H. Rap Brown, separatism, black nationalism, and the movement's eventual collapse.

Carson, Clayborne et. al., eds. *The Eyes On the Prize Civil Rights Reader*. New York: Penguin, 1991.

A mixture of primary documents, autobiography, and oral history surrounding the civil rights movement, 1954-1980. A literary companion to the "Eyes on the Prize" video series. The book fills in the details that the video misses.

Chafe, William H. *Civilities and Civil Rights*. New York: Oxford Press, 1980.

A local history of Greensboro, NC from the first student sit-ins through forced integration of the public schools through busing. An excellent source for social historians and a deeply moving study of the violent resistance by those opposed to integration.

Crawford, Vicki, et al. *Women in the Civil Rights Movement: Trailblazers and Torchbearers, 1941-1965*. (1990)
Essays on singularly important women.

Garrow, David J. *Bearing the Cross: Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference*. New York; Vintage Books, 1986.

Pulitzer-Prize winning definitive biography of Dr. King and the founding of SCLC.

Hampton, Henry and Steve Fayer, eds. *Voices of Freedom*. New York: Bantam, 1990.

Another companion book to the "Eyes on the Prize" PBS series. This book contains hundreds of interviews with those involved in the movement. Call it a collection of Civil Rights "Narratives."

Marable, Manning. *Race, Reform, and Rebellion; The Second Reconstruction in Black America, 1945-1990*. Jackson, MS: U Miss. Press, 1991.

A survey style history book that is good for "the big picture." A great source for background, as is John Hope Franklin's "From Slavery to Freedom" (6th or 7th editions).

Mills, Kay. *This Little Light of Mine; The Life of Fannie Lou Hamer*. New York: Plume, 1993.

Biography of Ms. Hamer, a Mississippi activist who was the epitome of grassroots political and social activism.

Moody, Anne. *Coming of Age in Mississippi*. New York: Laurel, 1968.
Autobiography/Narrative of another MS activist.

Sitkoff, Harvard. *The Struggle for Black Equality 1954-1992*. Revised Edition. New York: Hill and Wang, 1993.

Another survey history, but this one deals specifically with the Civil Rights movement. The book is too condensed, but it manages to string together the many threads of the era.

Smead, Howard. *Blood Justice*. New York: Oxford Press, 1986.

A probing study of the 1959 lynching of Mack Charles Parker in southwest MS. A good local history of a particular time and place. Smead contextualizes the event into the larger scheme of MLK and the Eisenhower administration.

Weisbrot, Robert. *Freedom Bound*. New York: Plume, 1990.

Yes, yet another survey history of America's Civil Rights movement. One cannot have enough of this background information. Weisbrot, Sitkoff, Marable, and Franklin each has a slightly different perspective on the era. Taken together, these books give a well rounded view of the times.

Wigginton, Eliot, ed. *Refuse to Stand Silently By: An Oral History of Grass Roots Activism in America, 1921-1964*. New York: Doubleday, 1991.

Provocative social history by some of the leading activists of the time.

Williamson, Joel. *A Rage for Order*. New York: Oxford Press, 1986.

An abridged version of Williamson's *The Crucible of Race*. This book is smaller and easier to read. The subject is race relations in the American south since emancipation. A big topic that is handled very well. At times sounds like a continuation of Winthrop Jordan's *White Over Black*. To get an understanding of the civil rights era one must be familiar with the many faces of racism. Williamson's book is the best source for getting at the root of race prejudice.

Wilson, Charles Reagan and William Ferris, eds. *Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1989.

Exhaustive study of the region with particularly good, brief summaries of major events and people and movements pertaining to race relations and the civil rights struggles of the South.

Eyes on the Prize. 6 part video series. Available at the Williamsburg Regional Library.

National history of Civil Rights Era.

Eyes on the Prize II. 8 part video series. Available at the Williamsburg Regional Library.

National history of Civil Rights Era.