History of Lynching in Virginia Work Group:

Overview of Major Lynching Inventories

Each of the sources below have attempted to document every lynching in Virginia, as far as existing records allow. The earliest lynching in Virginia that any of the sources below document is in 1877, also the year that marks the end of Reconstruction, and the latest is in 1932. Most of the sources base their timeframe on available data (if a data set has the earliest documented lynching in 1880 and the latest in 1930, that's the time frame it uses). Since most sources document lynchings throughout the South and not just in Virginia, several timeframes extend beyond 1932.

Brundage: *In Lynching in the New South: Georgia and Virginia* (1994), W. Fitzhugh Brundage documented lynchings between 1880 and 1930. He documented 85 lynchings in Virginia in this period. More information: https://books.google.com/books?id=dSWBeZ2mawAC&printsec=frontcover

Equal Justice Initiative: EJI's Lynching in America project documents 4,084 lynchings in the South between 1877 and 1950. The project documents 84 lynchings in Virginia. EJI cites Beck & Tolnay and Tuskeegee University as data sources, and EJI also conducted its own supplemental research using newspaper archives, court records, and interviews. Lynching data isn't available online, but the report is available at: https://lynchinginamerica.eji.org/report/

Tolnay, Bailey, and Beck: This database (1877-1950) is online and updates earlier work from Tolnay and Beck, which they published in *A Festival of Violence* (1995). They document 109 lynchings in Virginia. The **JMU Racial Terror** project (http://sites.jmu.edu/valynchings/) uses this database as the basis for its work. Information here: http://lynching.csde.washington.edu/#/home

Tuskeegee University: Records at Tuskeegee Institute were first compiled between 1900 and 1938 by Monroe Work, Director of Records and Research at the Institute (more here: http://www.monroeworktoday.org/index.html). In 2017, RJ Ramsey created a compilation of the Monroe records and other records (including Brundage and Tolnay & Beck). The Tuskeegee University Archives documented 100 lynchings in Virginia. Ramsey's work compiling this data and other records brings the number to 120 in Virginia. Records from Virginia span 1880-1932. Records for the entire U.S. in this data set go to 1968. A pdf of this compilation, which includes every state, is available here: http://192.203.127.197/archive/handle/123456789/984

The following spreadsheet shows data from each of these inventories except for EJI. Using a spreadsheet generated from the JMU Racial Terror project (data from Tolnay, Bailey, and Beck) as the basis, the spreadsheet shows where this database and the lists from Brundage and the Tuskeegee University Archives (TUA) overlap or conflict.

Following the spreadsheet, the number of lynchings by locality are listed. Tazewell, with 10 lynchings recorded, has the most lynchings of any locality.