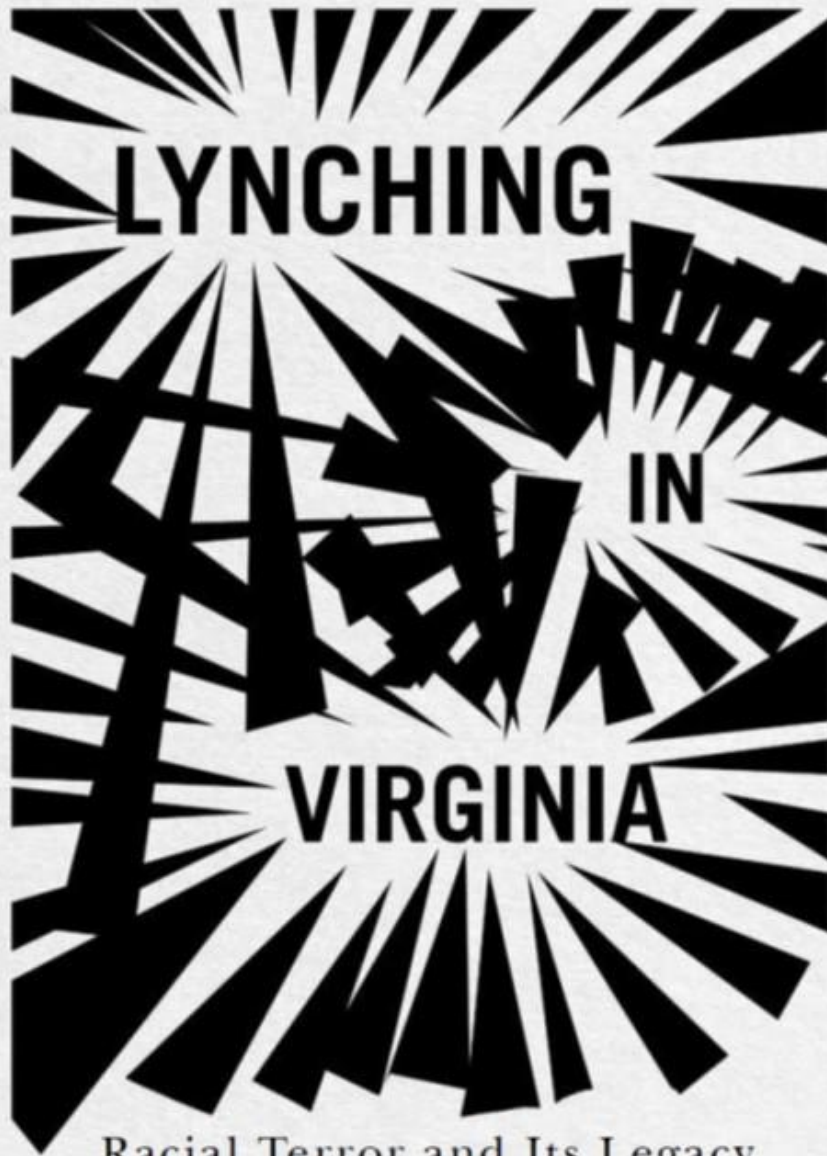


Lynching in Virginia: Racial Terror and its Legacy (UVA Press)

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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Commission
Richmond, VA, August 21st, 2024



Racial Terror and Its Legacy

EDITED BY GIANLUCA DE FAZIO

Afterword by W. Fitzhugh Brundage

Lynching in the US and Virginia

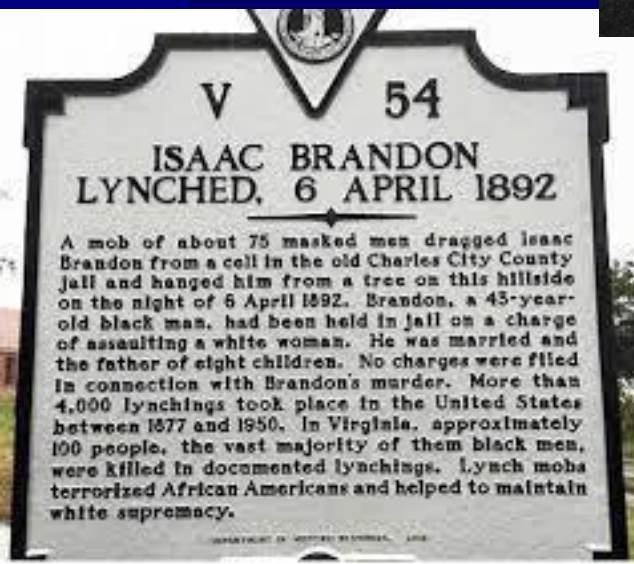
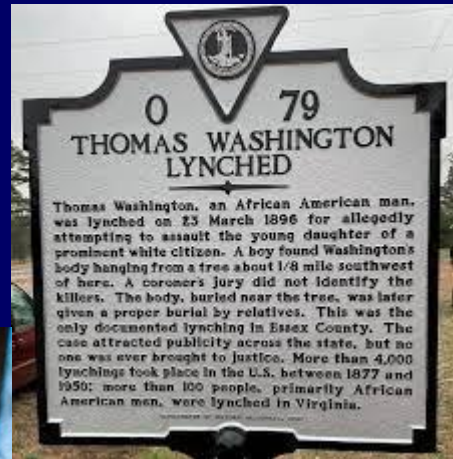
- About 4,700 persons were lynched in the US between the early 1880s and WWII, mostly African American men
- In Virginia, at least 115 people were lynched between 1866 and 1932, across 57 Counties
- Lynching was an instrument of *state-sanctioned terrorism*

Four Sections

- Newspapers and Lynching
- Lynching in SW Virginia
- State Response to Lynching
- Collective Memory and Memorialization

What Can We Do About It?

- *Remember and Educate*
- Lynching is, for the first time, explicitly included in the 2023 Virginia SOL for History and Social Science → VUS.10 and USII.5
- In February 2019, VA General Assembly passed a joint resolution to express regret about lynching (the first of its kind)
 - The resolution also committed the Commonwealth to record each documented lynching, work with local communities to raise awareness and build historical markers



Historical Markers related to Lynching

- New project compiling a database of all the historical markers related to lynching in the United States
 - As of August 2024, 186 markers identified, the oldest one erected in 1981; most markers erected after 2016
- Alabama has the highest number of markers with 16, then Virginia with 15
- Map of Historical Markers