

Since 2014, volunteers have studied thousands of school records, artifacts, and photographs mostly from 1865 to 1968. Many were lost until found in an abandoned Black schoolhouse in Leesburg. They document great resolve by Black and White citizens for an education. Our effort was also recognized by Virginia House and Senate Resolution HJR 527.



“We had thought that a piece of our history had been lost, but thanks to the hard work and dedication of several officials and volunteers, the rich history and heritage of education in our area can now be preserved and protected.”

– Senator John J. Bell



Help us sort, catalog, study and preserve old records.



Visit our new research center at the Douglass High School building in Leesburg.

www.edwinwashingtonsociety.org

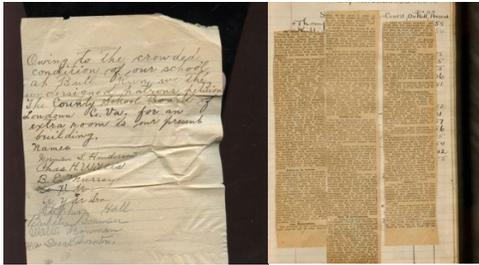


The Edwin Washington Society

Because Protecting History Matters



What's Needed?



Many records are historically significant, such as handwritten petitions for schools repairs, equal salaries, and quality health.



We study every topic, like transportation equity.



We travel to find lost records.



We are developing an on-line map to show where all of Loudoun's schools existed before 1968 and the transport routes. This is part of a national effort to track rural schools.



Old photos and records are scanned and posted on the web. We can also scan yours.



An online database will show who went to which school, who the instructors were and what was taught.

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About Us

The Edwin Washington Society is named after the first Black teenager whom we documented as having asked for an education while keeping his job, though we know there were many more. Our biggest efforts are (1) the Edwin Washington Project documenting the impact of segregated education and (2) The Bulletin of Loudoun County History, which has been around since the 1950's, and (3) the GIS and database efforts. More are planned. Come be a part.

We collaborate with Loudoun County schools and archives across the nation to better understand our subject matter. We are also a member of the Country-School Association of America (CSAA).

We need your help. Please volunteer at our new research center in the historic Douglass High School Building in Leesburg or send a tax-deductible donation to:

The Edwin Washington Society
26128 Talamore Drive
South Riding, VA 20152
or donate online.

We are a registered 501(c)(3), incorporated in the State of Virginia.