

Virginia records from 1879 to 1897

The Wakefield Division of the National Weather Service inherited a logbook with only mean temperatures without knowledge of their source of the daily temperatures. I discovered the daily observations were from the *Richmond Times* newspaper. It was also discovered that these observations could be obtained from the Library of Congress Archives of the *Richmond Times*. See the link below.

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84024738/1880-09-01/ed-1/seq-1/>

I copied the daily observations into spread sheets to make the observations clearer and that is when I discovered the math errors. To my surprise some were large like February 1887 which was off 4.2°F. See February 1887 for yourself in the link below.

<https://glenallenweather.com/upload/richmondclimate/richwebsite/oldrec/00-1880-98.htm>

If the NCEI has these records for the Richmond newspaper they have not been corrected for the math errors. I located all of the monthly reports in the paper except February 1896 and ran them through Photoshop to make them clearer then used Adobe Acrobat X to join separated column tables in the paper into one then convert them into PDFs. Then all the daily observations were entered into Excel spread sheets, checked against the means Wakefield is using and then placed the data on my website. I really doubt anyone will take the time to ever do this again. Link to the records that have been corrected shows the amount of the errors for each month.

<https://glenallenweather.com/upload/richmondclimate/richwebsite/oldrec/meantemps1.htm>

The original records for Richmond from 1897 to 1929 were found in the Virginia State Library. The NCEI only has copies of the records. I have photographed and placed the original records on the Glen Allen Website; see the link below- This data was checked against the data Wakefield had and many corrections were made with the help of the former Wakefield employee Lyle Alexander.

<https://glenallenweather.com/upload/richmondclimate/original.htm>

I really believe this is a contribution that will improve the Richmond area climate data base.

For a complete history of the Richmond Observations go to the following link.

<https://glenallenweather.com/upload/richmondclimate/richwebsite/oldrec/Intro1.pdf>