

# Virginia Press Association

## Multimedia report

### Lee Enterprises

#### “Where the Monuments Remain”

In the three years since the murder of George Floyd, monuments associated with racial injustice and white supremacy across the U.S. have come tumbling down.

Virginia, the one-time capital of the Confederate States of America, led the nation in the number of such symbols dismantled or renamed.

But many remain.

This summer, a team of journalists from the Richmond Times-Dispatch, Charlottesville Daily Progress, Danville Register & Bee, Martinsville Bulletin, Lynchburg News and Advance, Roanoke Times and Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star fanned out to find the symbols that have endured in communities large and small.

Each tells a complicated and often painful story. Some, such as the Confederate Monument in Arlington National Cemetery, have been the topic of protracted legal challenges and national attention. Others have been largely overlooked.

Our three-part report published across 10 newspapers and online in October provided an in-depth look into the complicated history of these symbols and how they've touched the lives of Virginians.

Our package included the work of Times-Dispatch columnist Michael Paul Williams, whose poignant coverage of the monuments being removed in Richmond won the 2021 Pulitzer Prize for commentary. And we asked readers to share their own views of the monuments and the place in history.

Through videos, data visualizations and archival photos, our series showed how these pieces came to be — and what may come next.

Staff members on this project were Thad Green, Luca Powell, Michael Paul Williams, Kelli Lemon and Chris Coates (Richmond), Hawes Spencer and Reynolds Hutchins (Charlottesville), John Crane (Danville), Bill Wyatt (Martinsville), Bryson Gordon and Carrie Sidener (Lynchburg), Adele Uphaus (Fredericksburg) and Luke Weir and Brian Kelley (Roanoke).

## **SERIES**

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