

**Board of Historic Resources Quarterly Meeting
21 June 2018**

Sponsor Markers - Diversity

1.) School for Black Children

Sponsor: College of William & Mary

Locality: Williamsburg

Proposed Location: 107 North Boundary St. on the campus of William & Mary

Sponsor Contact: Susan Kern, sakern@wm.edu; Michael J. Fox, mjfox1@wm.edu

Original text:

School for Black Children

A school for enslaved and free black children was founded here in 1760 by the Associates of Dr. Bray, a London charity. At Benjamin Franklin's urging, the school was affiliated with the College of William & Mary. In a culture hostile to educating blacks, boys and girls were taught Christianity and "some useful Things besides Reading" and, possibly, writing. Ann Wager tutored over 400 children during her 14 years as teacher. The school moved to other locations after 1765 and closed in 1774. The teachings at the school reinforced ideologies supporting slavery, but also spread literacy within the black community.

100 words/ 617 characters

Edited text:

School for Black Children

The Associates of Dr. Bray, a London-based charity, founded a school for enslaved and free black children here in 1760. Located in Williamsburg at the suggestion of Benjamin Franklin, a member of the Associates, the school received support from the College of William & Mary. Anne Wager instructed as many as 400 boys and girls during her 14 years as teacher. In a culture hostile to educating African Americans, Wager taught the students principles of Christianity, deportment, reading, and, possibly, writing. The curriculum reinforced proslavery ideology but also spread literacy within the black community. The school moved from this site by 1765 and closed in 1774.

106 words/ 670 characters

Sources:

John C. Van Horne, ed., *Religious Philanthropy and Colonial Slavery: The American Correspondence of the Associates of Dr. Bray, 1717-1777* (Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1985).

Terry L. Meyers, "Benjamin Franklin, The College of William and Mary, and the Williamsburg Bray School," *Anglican and Episcopal History*, vol. 79, no. 4 (Dec. 2010): 368-393.

Jennifer Bridges Oast, "Educating Eighteenth-Century Black Children: The Bray Schools," M.A. Thesis, College of William and Mary, 2000.

Antonio T. Bly, "In Pursuit of Letters: A History of the Bray Schools for Enslaved Children in Colonial Virginia," *History of Education Quarterly*, vol. 51, no. 4 (Nov. 2011): 429-459.

"Bray School Excavation," Colonial Williamsburg: <http://research.history.org/projects/bray/>

"Search for 1760 Bray School Turns up Something Even Older," <https://www.wm.edu/news/stories/2013/bray-school-search-finds-something-even-older-123.php>

Brendan Wolfe, "The Associates of Dr. Bray," *Encyclopedia Virginia*, https://www.encyclopediavirginia.org/Associates_of_Dr_Bray

Valerie Scura Trovato, "Slate Pencils?: Education of Free and Enslaved African American Children at the Bray School, Williamsburg, Virginia, 1760-1774," M.A. Thesis, College of William and Mary, 2016.

2.) Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery

Sponsor: Mr. Norman Schools

Locality: Stafford County

Proposed Location: 135 Chapel Green Road

Sponsor Contact: Frank White, fmwhit@cox.net; Norman Schools, small47@aol.com

Original text:

Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery

Is an African American cemetery started shortly after the Civil War by Rev. York Johnson, an ex-slave, who with 27 others assisted by the Freedmen Bureau established a benevolent organization "The Union Branch of the True Vine." An earlier 1870 church was replaced by the present 1951 church associated with the 1960s Civil Rights Movement. The Cemetery relates to the desire of newly freed slaves and free blacks to embrace their own ethnic and racial identity in funerary aspects. It represents a turning point in social history whereby African Americans could now be buried in their own cemetery with funerals officiated by their own pastor, and not by a white pastor as law had dictated prior to the Civil War.

120 words/ 714 characters

Edited text:

Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery

This church originated in 1868 when 27 African Americans withdrew from nearby White Oak Church and selected the Rev. York Johnson, a former slave, as their pastor. Johnson founded the Union Branch of the True Vine, a mutual aid society, reportedly with the assistance of the Freedmen's Bureau. The church established a cemetery, enabling African Americans to exercise newfound autonomy over burial practices and funerals. Buried here are veterans of World Wars I and II and Korea. The church's sanctuary, built in 1870, was replaced in 1951. Here the Stafford County branch of the NAACP was founded, and community members met to plan strategies for the desegregation of local public schools.

111 words/ 691 characters

Sources:

Norman Schools, *Virginia Shade: An African American History of Falmouth, Virginia* (Bloomington, IN: iUniverse, 2012).

Norman Schools and Frank White, Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church and Cemetery Historic District nomination form (2018), DHR ID 089-0360.

J.R. Kosch, "History of White Oak Primitive Baptist Church, 1789-1989" (1989).

White Oak Primitive Baptist Church minutes, 1868.

Fredericksburg Star, 29 April 1885.

Gordon White, "Civil War to Civil Rights thru the Eyes of Gordon White"

Ruth Coder Fitzgerald, *A Different Story: A Black History of Fredericksburg, Stafford, and Spotsylvania, Virginia* (Morris Plains, NJ: Union Publishing House, 1979).

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, RG 393, National Archives.

John White, "A Brief History of the Union Branch of the True Vine," Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church archives.

3.) First State Bank

Sponsor: Movement Mortgage
Locality: Danville
Proposed Location: 201 N. Union St.
Sponsor Contact: Renee Burton, burtotr@danvilleva.gov

Original text:

First State Bank

Opened September 8, 1919 as the Savings Bank of Danville, being one of few Black owned banks in the state. The community's vitality depended on the Bank's lending services during Jim Crow segregation. After the 1933 emergency bank holiday, it was among the earliest in the nation and first in Danville to reopen. During the Civil Rights movement, some homes financed by the Bank were posted as bond for jailed protesters. Maceo Conrad Martin, the Bank's longest serving president, 1951-1970, protested the arraignment of demonstrators while serving on a special grand jury called to indict them.

96 words/ 595 characters

Edited text:

First State Bank

First State Bank, one of the few banks in Virginia owned by African Americans, opened on 8 Sept. 1919 as the Savings Bank of Danville. By issuing loans to individuals, businesses, and churches, the bank fostered the black community's vitality during the era of segregation. Maceo Conrad Martin (1897-1981), an officer of the bank from 1919 to 1970, became its president in 1951 and was later president of the National Bankers Association. The only black member of a special seven-man grand jury called during Danville's civil rights demonstrations of 1963, Martin issued a lone dissent against the indictments of protesters. First State Bank posted bond for nearly 20 jailed demonstrators.

110 words/ 689 characters

Sources:

Records of First State Bank of Danville, 1919-2000, University of Virginia Library.

"Mapping Local Knowledge: Danville, Virginia, 1945-75," (Carter G. Woodson Institute for African-American and African Studies, University of Virginia).

Emma E. Edmunds, "Danville Civil Rights Demonstrations of 1963," *Encyclopedia Virginia*.

Danville Bee, 13, 28 March 1933, 8 June 1963.

Richmond Times-Dispatch, 1 May 1919.

Norfolk Journal and Guide, 5 May 1923, 14 July 1923, 15 May 1926, 17 July 1926, 8 Jan. 1927, 4 July 1936, 29 Jan. 1938, 9 Mar. 1940, 3 Mar. 1951, 26 Jan. 1952, 10 Sept. 1955, 11 Jan. 1958, 31 Jan. 1970.

Washington Post, 10 June 1963.

Danville Register, 9 April 1967.

Maceo Conrad Martin death certificate.

4.) McDowell Delaney (1844-1926)

Sponsor: Emanuel's Production

Locality: Amelia County

Proposed Location: 12535 Fowlkes Bridge Road

Sponsor Contact: Emanuel Hyde, scoop3132@gmail.com

Original text:

McDowell Delaney

McDowell Delaney was born in Amelia County, Virginia in 1844 and was educated in a local freedmen school taught by his father. He served as a cook for the 14th Virginia Infantry Regiment and as a cook and teamster. After the Civil War, Delaney managed property at the Freedmen's Bureau Hospital in Farmville, VA. In 1871 he served in the House of Delegates representing Amelia, VA. Delaney also served as the justice of peace, teacher, coroner and constable for Amelia County. Delaney was an ordained preacher and pastored several churches, namely, Chester Grove Baptist Church. Delaney was accredited for forming the Baptist Association in Amelia, VA. He died on May 30, 1926 and is buried here in the Chester Grove Baptist Church cemetery.

123 words/ 740 characters

Edited text:

McDowell Delaney (1844-1926)

McDowell Delaney was born to free African American parents in Amelia County. During the Civil War he worked as a cook and teamster for the 14th Virginia Infantry Regiment. He later attended a school taught by his father and managed property at the Freedmen's Bureau Hospital

in Farmville. Delaney represented Amelia in the Virginia House of Delegates from 1871 to 1873 and participated in a state convention of African Americans in 1875. He served the county as a justice of the peace, constable, and coroner. Delaney, an ordained minister, was pastor of Chester Grove Baptist Church for 35 years.

99 words/ 597 characters

Sources:

Donald Gunter, “McDowell Delaney (ca. 1844-after 1924),” *Encyclopedia Virginia*.

McDowell Delaney death certificate, 1926.

McDowell Delaney, Confederate Pension Application, 1924 (Confederate Pensions, Act of 1902, Servants), Library of Virginia.

Richmond Whig, 27 Oct. 1871.

Kathleen Halverson Hadfield, *Historical Notes on Amelia County, Virginia* (Amelia County Historical Committee), 1982.

U.S. Census, 1850, 1860.

5.) Mt. Zion Methodist Church

Sponsor: Mt. Zion Methodist Church

Locality: Town of Woodstock

Proposed Location: 158 N. Church St.

Sponsor Contact: Zachary Hottel, zhottel@countylib.org

Original text:

Mt. Zion Methodist Church

Inspired by a visit from the prominent African American orator Dr. William Wells Brown, Woodstock’s African American population organized what would become Mt. Zion Methodist Church in 1867. Two years later, the congregation constructed a frame church building on this site. In a town segregated by race, this historically black church was the center of the local African American neighborhood. Religious, educational, political, and community events were held inside. Woodstock’s first African American public school was on the rear of this lot 1880. The current church was erected in 1921 under the leadership of Rev. W.H. Polk.

97 words/ 630 characters

Edited text:

Mt. Zion Methodist Church

Inspired by visits from traveling preachers, African Americans in Woodstock organized what would become Mt. Zion United Methodist Church ca. 1867. The congregation acquired the framework of a former German Reformed church in 1869, moved it to this site, and used it to construct a sanctuary. In a town segregated by race, this church was the center of the African American neighborhood and hosted religious, educational, political, and social events. After black residents campaigned for a school building, Woodstock's first African American public school was built on the church lot in 1882. The congregation constructed a new sanctuary here in 1921 under the leadership of the Rev. W. H. Polk.

110 words/ 695 characters

Sources:

Woodstock Times and Edinburg Sentinel, 8 Sept. 1921.

Shenandoah Herald, 4 July 1867, 25 Feb. 1869, 29 March, 20 Sept. 1882, 15, 29 Aug. 1890, 20 March 1891, 30 April 1897, 30 March 1900.

Norfolk Journal and Guide, 14 Oct. 1933, 3, 24 March 1934.

Minutes of the Fourth Session of the Washington Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church (1867).

Gwendolyn Tolliver Nickens oral history interview, 5 Feb. 2016, interviewed by Zachary Hottel, Shenandoah County Library: <http://archives.countylib.org/items/show/11506>.

“Mt. Zion Methodist Church,” Shenandoah Stories, <http://archives.countylib.org/tour/items/show/299>

John W. Wayland, *A History of Shenandoah County* (Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1927).

Michael J. L. Greene, *Valley Churches: Churches in Shenandoah County and Adjacent Locales in the Valley of Virginia* (Shenandoah County Library, 1997).

“Reflections: Early Schools of Shenandoah County, Virginia” (Shenandoah County Historical Society, 1995).

Joseph B. Clower Jr., *Early Woodstock: Facts and Photographs* (The Woodstock Museum, 1996).

John H. Adamson, *A Pictorial History of Shenandoah County* (Shenandoah County Historical Society, 2007).

D. J. Lake, *An Atlas of Shenandoah and Page Counties, Virginia* (Strasburg, VA: GP Hammond Publishing, 1991).

Sponsor Markers

1.) Shoeless Wonders Football Team

Sponsor: HumanKind—Presbyterian Homes Campus

Locality: Lynchburg

Proposed Location: intersection of Linden Avenue and Peakland Place

Sponsor Contact: Bob Dendy, bdendy@humankind.org; Jane Baber White, janebaberwhite@gmail.com

Original text:

Shoeless Wonders Football Team

The Shoeless Wonders were football teams composed of boys, ages 8-18, who were all residents of the Presbyterian Orphans' Home (now Humankind) located nearby. The boys had limited coaching, wore cast-off borrowed uniforms and no shoes, except one boot used only for kickoffs. In the 1920s they were undefeated for eight years and un-scored upon for six years. Later they always had winning seasons against much older and heavier opponents both locally and around the state of Virginia. Their success brought national news coverage in newsreels, the press, and recognition in Ripley's Believe It or Not.

96 words/ 602 characters

Edited text:

Shoeless Wonders Football Team

The nearby Presbyterian Orphans' Home (later HumanKind) fielded its first football team by 1922. The players, boys under the age of 18, received minimal coaching, wore second-hand uniforms, and soon began competing without shoes, except for a boot used during kickoffs. In 1926, news reports about the "Shoeless Wonders" propelled the team to national fame. The *New York Times*, Universal Pictures newsreels, and a Ripley's *Believe it or Not* cartoon featured the squad, which was undefeated for at least six straight seasons before 1931 and held opponents scoreless for at least five of those years. Later teams won consistently in the city league and against opponents from other Virginia localities.

110 words/ 700 characters

Sources:

Lynchburg News, 1, 9, 10, 31 Dec. 1926, 1 Jan. 1927.

Miami News-Record, 18 Nov. 1926.

New York Evening Post, 27 Jan. 1927.

New York Times, 5 Dec. 1926.

Richmond Times-Dispatch, 1 May 1922, 11 Dec. 1926, 1 Jan. 1927, 28 Nov. 1929, 1, 8, 26 Nov. 1931, 21 Nov. 1948, 26 Aug. 1951.

Ripley's *Believe It or Not*, 28 Oct. 1929.

Washington Evening Star, 5 Dec. 1926, 1 Jan. 1927.

Washington Post, 13 Dec. 1925, 14, 23 Oct., 3 Nov. 1927, 2 Sept. 1928.

<https://ahcuah.wordpress.com/2014/03/17/colorful-characters-the-shoeless-wonders/>

Joseph E. Blackburn, "The Shoeless Wonders" (date unknown).

Bernard E. Bain with Dale Kramer, *My One Hundred Children* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1954).

Mary Jo Shannon, *Feed My Lambs: A History of Presbyterian Homes & Family Services, Inc., 1903-2003* (2003).

2.) Camp Ashby

Sponsor: Ms. Julie Spivey

Locality: Virginia Beach

Proposed Location: north side of 4200 block of Virginia Beach Boulevard

Sponsor Contact: Julie Spivey, jspivey06@gmail.com

Original text:

Camp Ashby POW Camp

Camp Ashby, Prisoner of War-Side Camp 1326, occupied a 21.49 acre site here from 1944 to 1946. The camp headquarters was built in 1937 as the Tidewater Victory Memorial Hospital, a

tuberculosis sanatorium. It was taken over by the National Guard in 1942 by the Department of the Army and named Camp Thalia. It was later converted into a POW Camp and renamed Camp Ashby in 1944. Camp Ashby housed troops from Erwin Rommel's *Afrika Korps*. Due to labor shortages, caused by the war, prisoners were used as agricultural and factory labor force for the surrounding area. The Camp provided prisoners with wages for work, food, medical care, Protestant and Catholic Church services, movies and contained a library with over 400 books. Camp Ashby housed over 6,000 men during its operation as a POW camp.

135 words/ 796 characters

Edited text:

Camp Ashby

Camp Ashby, a World War II prisoner of war camp for German soldiers, occupied more than 200 acres just north of here. Its headquarters was the main building of the former Tidewater Memorial Hospital, a tuberculosis sanatorium that had opened on this site in 1937. Among the more than 6,000 men housed in the camp between Mar. 1944 and Apr. 1946 were troops from Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's *Afrikakorps* and many soldiers captured on or shortly after D-Day. Because of acute labor shortages in the region, prisoners were deployed as agricultural and industrial workers. They earned wages, and the camp provided them with food, medical care, academic classes, church services, a library, and a theater.

115 words/ 700 characters

Sources:

United States, National Archives, Military Archives Division, Records of the Office of the Provost Marshal Generals Office, RG 389.

Washington Post, 25 March, 5 April, 20 Sept. 1944, 30, 31 Jan., 23, 24 Feb. 1945.

Norfolk Journal and Guide, 25 Dec. 1937, 12 Feb. 1938, 25 April 1942.

Fielding Tyler, "Camp Ashby, Virginia: WWII Nazi POW Camp at Thalia," unpublished typescript.

Fielding Tyler, "Camp Ashby, Virginia: An Army Installation serving American mobile defense forces and German Prisoners of War, 1942-1946."

3.) Virginia Blue Ridge Railway

Sponsor: Massies Mill Ruritan Club

Locality: Nelson County

Proposed Location: 3136 Patrick Henry Highway, Piney River

Sponsor Contact: David Hight, dhuminc@gmail.com

Original text:

Virginia Blue Ridge Railway

This is Piney River Station for the Virginia Blue Ridge Railway that operated for 65 years. The railroad was originally constructed in 1915 to remove lumber from sawmills at Woodson & Massies mill. From 1940 through 1980, service was to industrial plants producing titanium dioxide and feldspar.

47 words/ 295 characters

Edited text:

Virginia Blue Ridge Railway

This is the Piney River Depot of the Virginia Blue Ridge Railway, a short-line railroad built in 1915-1916 to transport lumber from industrial sawmills at Woodson and Massies Mill. Steam engines were used until 1963, when the railroad converted to diesel power. The railroad connected with the Southern Railway at Tye River, providing access to national markets. Economic conditions and the chestnut blight caused the two sawmills to shut down by 1924. The establishment of several mineral-processing plants nearby beginning in the 1930s created prosperity for the railroad until these plants closed by 1980. The tracks were removed in the 1980s.

101 words/ 646 characters

Sources:

Carl M. Lathrop, *Sentimental Journey* (Madison, NJ), 1979.

“Virginia Blue Ridge Railway,” Whippany Railroad Museum website,
www.whippanyrailwaymuseum.net

Alexandria Gazette, 30 April 1914, 28 June 1915.

Richmond Times-Dispatch, 1 Feb. 1915, 31 Jan. 1971, 22 Nov. 1981, 21 Jan. 1985.

A Guide to the Business Archives of the Virginia Blue Ridge Railway, 1904-1979 (Special Collections, University of Virginia Library).

4.) Meeting of Three Commanders

Sponsor: Ms. Jorja Jean

Locality: Virginia Beach

Proposed Location: 3125 Shore Drive

Sponsor Contact: Jorja Jean, Jorja.jean1954@gmail.com

Original text:

Meeting of Three Commanders

Near here on September 18, 1781, George Washington, commander-in-chief of the combined American and French forces and the Comte de Rochambeau, commander-in-chief of the French Expeditionary Army met with Admiral de Grasse, commander-in chief of the French fleet on board his flagship. The three commanders strategically planned to entrap and defeat the British at Yorktown. As Washington and Rochambeau departed they were honored by a spectacular salute: sailors balanced on the masts of the 32 French ships with muskets they successively shot in a running fire known as a *feu de joie* while below them the flagship fired its cannons.

100 words/ 633 characters

Edited text:

Meeting of Three Commanders

Admiral de Grasse, commander of a large French fleet, gained control of the Chesapeake Bay after defeating a British fleet off the Virginia Capes on 5 Sept. 1781. Gen. George Washington, commander in chief of the combined American and French armies, and the Comte de Rochambeau, commander of the French expeditionary army, met with de Grasse aboard his flagship near here on 18 Sept. The officers planned to entrap the British army at Yorktown. As Washington and Rochambeau left, sailors atop the masts of the French ships saluted them with running musket fire known as a *feu de joie* while the flagship fired its cannons. The siege of Yorktown began on 28 Sept. The British surrendered on 19 Oct.

117 words/ 695 characters

Sources:

“The Diaries of George Washington,” Founders Online,
<https://founders.archives.gov/series/Washington/01>

The Operations of the French Fleet under the Count de Grasse in 1781-82 as Described in Two Contemporaneous Journals (New York, 1864; reprint 1972).

“Minutes of Occurrences respecting the Seige and Capture of York in Virginia, extracted from the Journal of Colonel Jonathan Trumbull, Secretary to the General, 1781,” *Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society* (Boston, 1876), 331-338.

Ron Chernow, *Washington: A Life* (New York: The Penguin Press, 2010).

Thomas J. Fleming, *Beat the Last Drum: The Siege of Yorktown, 1781* (New York: St. Martin’s Press, 1963).

Charles Lee Lewis, *Admiral de Grasse and American Independence* (United States Naval Institute, 1945).

“Battle of the Capes,” Colonial National Historical Park,
<https://www.nps.gov/york/learn/historyculture/battle-of-the-capess.htm>

James Thomas Flexner, *George Washington in the American Revolution (1775-1783)* (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1967).

Robert Middlekauff, *Washington’s Revolution: The Making of America’s First Leader* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2015).

Richard M. Ketchum, *Victory at Yorktown: The Campaign that Won the Revolution* (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2004).

5.) ChildSavers’ WRVA Building

Sponsor: ChildSavers—Memorial Child Guidance Clinic

Locality: City of Richmond

Proposed Location: 200 North 22nd St.

Sponsor Contact: Amy Garmon, agarmon@childsavers.org

Original text:

ChildSavers’ WRVA Building

The WRVA Building, designed as a radio station by American architect Philip Johnson, was dedicated on Patrick Henry’s 232nd birthdate, 29 May 1968. The poured in-place concrete demonstrates a modern identity, and the scattered rounded glass windows simulate punches made by a machine, the pinnacle of technology during mid-century. The accompanying 75-foot square tower is designed with the same concrete and skip-stop holes and rises to the top of the Church Hill cityscape with the steeple of nearby St. John’s Church. In 2003, ChildSavers, a local nonprofit providing care to Richmond’s children since 1924, accepted the building as a generous

gift. ChildSavers committed to the adaptive reuse of the building for delivering mental health and child development services.

118 words/ 773 characters

Edited text:

ChildSavers' WRVA Building

Philip Johnson, one of the foremost architects of the 20th century, designed this building and its accompanying tower as a new headquarters for WRVA Radio. Dedicated in 1968, the structures were composed of poured concrete, and the windows simulated punches made by a machine. WRVA, founded by a local tobacco company in 1925, broadcast with a powerful signal and was known as the "Voice of Virginia." ChildSavers, a nonprofit provider of mental health and child development services, acquired the WRVA Building in 2003. ChildSavers originated in 1924 when social reformer Martha Pattenon Bowie Branch established the Children's Memorial Clinic in Richmond.

101 words/ 657 characters

Sources:

A Guide to the WRVA Radio Collection, 1925-2000 (Library of Virginia).

WRVA Radio Building Dedication, May 1968.

Washington Post, 31 Oct. 1926, 3 Sept. 1929, 12 Oct. 1968.

Radio in Virginia, online exhibit, Library of Virginia

(www.lva.virginia.gov/exhibits/radio/voice.htm)

Caroline C. Morris, "The 'Voice of Virginia': WRVA and Conversations of a Modern South" (Ph.D. diss., College of William and Mary, 2012).

Richmond Times-Dispatch, 29 June 1966, 13 April 1969, 11 Nov. 2003, 2 May 2008.

Ninth Annual Report, Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court (Richmond, VA, 1925).

John G. Zehmer, *The Church Hill Old and Historic Districts* (Historic Richmond Foundation, 2011).

Philip Johnson, "Thoughts on Designing a Radio Station for WRVA-Radio"

<https://childsavers.org/>

Replacement Markers (VDOT project)

For each of the 11 markers, I have included the VDOT district, county, original text, proposed replacement text, and word/character count.

1.) Culpeper VDOT District; Fauquier County

Mosby's Rangers B-25

Here at Atoka (Rector's Crossroads), on June 10, 1863, Company "A," 43rd Battalion of Partisan Rangers, known as "Mosby's Rangers," was formally organized. James William Foster was elected captain; Thomas Turner, first lieutenant; W. L. Hunter, second lieutenant; and G. H. Whitescarver, third lieutenant. Shortly after, Brawner's company of Prince William cavalry joined the command.

Mosby's Rangers B-25

In Dec. 1862, Confederate Lt. John S. Mosby received permission from Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart to form a cavalry detachment and raid Union outposts and supply lines in northern Virginia. Mosby's success early in 1863 attracted recruits to his unit and won him promotions to captain and major. In March, Gen. Robert E. Lee authorized him to muster a company of partisan rangers. Here at Atoka (Rector's Cross Roads), on 10 June 1863, Mosby formally organized Co. A of what became the 43d Battalion Virginia Cavalry. He selected four officers and presented them to the men for election. The command then left for a raid on Seneca Mills, Maryland. This area is at the heart of Mosby's Confederacy.

120/694

2.) Culpeper VDOT District; Fluvanna County

Fluvanna County Courthouse F-49

The Fluvanna County Courthouse is one of the few in the state to retain its original configuration. Fluvanna County was formed from part of Albemarle County in 1777 with the county seat located on the southeast side of the Rivanna River. In 1828 Palmyra was selected as the new county seat, and the present courthouse was erected in 1830 by the Reverend Walker Timberlake and John Hartwell Cocke of nearby Brems. Cocke also prepared the plans for the stone jail, built in 1828, which now houses the Fluvanna County Historical Society's museum.

Fluvanna County Courthouse F-49

Fluvanna County was formed from part of Albemarle County in 1777. The county seat was established about a mile south of here, on the opposite side of the Rivanna River, in 1778. Voters elected to move the seat to Palmyra in 1828. John Hartwell Cocke, of Breemo in southern Fluvanna County, is credited with designing the Greek Revival courthouse here, which was completed in 1831. The Rev. Walker Timberlake, a Methodist minister, oversaw construction. Cocke also prepared the plans for the stone jail, built in 1828. A busy village emerged around the public buildings in the mid-19th century. A new courthouse opened in 2001.

104/625

3). *Culpeper VDOT District; Fluvanna County*

Point of Fork GA-32

Here was an important supply depot and arsenal of the Virginia government in 1781, and here Baron von Steuben, commanding the American forces, trained recruits for Greene's army in the South. Threatened by Cornwallis's approach, Steuben moved stores across James River. On June 4, 1781, Colonel Simcoe, with his cavalry, made Steuben believe that the whole British army was at hand. Steuben retreated, leaving stores to be destroyed.

Point of Fork GA-32

Virginia began constructing a supply depot and arsenal just west of here early in 1781. Maj. Gen. Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, commanding nearly 500 Continental army recruits, made this depot his temporary base late in May. British Lt. Col. John G. Simcoe approached on 5 June to raid the military stores, but Steuben had moved the supplies across the James River for safekeeping. Simcoe's maneuvers made his force appear larger than it was, prompting Steuben to withdraw to the south and abandon some supplies to the British. Point of Fork later became Virginia's primary arsenal. Laborers there included enslaved African Americans owned by the state. The facility closed in 1801.

110/683

4.) *Culpeper VDOT District; Orange County*

Mine Run Campaign JJ-10

Meade, advancing south from the Rapidan River to attack Lee, found him in an entrenched position here on November 28, 1863. Heavy skirmishing went on until December 1. Then Meade, thinking Lee's lines too strong to assault, retired across the Rapidan in time to avoid a counterattack by the Confederates.

Mine Run Campaign JJ-10

In Nov. 1863, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee positioned the Army of Northern Virginia in a defensive line south of the Rapidan River. Union Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, under political pressure to attack Lee before winter, planned to cross the Rapidan and overwhelm Lee's right flank, near here. Delayed by heavy rain, the Union advance began on 26 Nov. The next day, fighting occurred here and at New Hope Church, three miles south. A sharp battle erupted at Payne's Farm, 2.5 miles north. Lee then fortified his line, and Meade withdrew on 1-2 Dec. rather than launch a hopeless assault. After this campaign, which cost about 1,900 total casualties, the armies went into camp for the winter.

118/691

5). *Fredericksburg VDOT District (Central Region); Mathews County*

John Clayton, Botanist NN-3

One and a half miles north is the site of his home "Windsor" where he developed an excellent botanical garden. He was first president, Virginia Society for the Promotion of Useful Knowledge, and clerk of Gloucester County from 1722 until his death in 1773. His herbarium specimens, some still preserved in the British Museum, were the basis of "Flora Virginica," compiled by Gronovius with the collaboration of Linnaeus and originally published at Leyden in 1739.

John Clayton, Botanist (1695-1773) NN-3

John Clayton was born in England and arrived in Virginia by 1720. He collected seeds and plants, compiled a catalog, and sent specimens to the Dutch botanist John Frederick Gronovius, who published Clayton's work as *Flora Virginica* in two volumes (1739 and 1743). Swedish scientist Carolus Linnaeus, developer of modern taxonomy, named a genus of wildflowers for Clayton. Near here were Clayton's acclaimed garden and his 450-acre tobacco plantation, on which about 40 enslaved African Americans labored by 1773. Clayton was clerk of Gloucester County for more than 50 years. Hundreds of his plant specimens are preserved at the Natural History Museum in London.

104/662

6). *Fredericksburg VDOT District (Northern Region); Spotsylvania County*

Gaspar Tochman JJ-25

A mile south is the unmarked grave of Gaspar Tochman (1797-1880), a major in the Polish army who participated in the failed 1830 revolt against Russia. Exiled, in 1837 he immigrated to the United States, where he practiced law, wrote, and lectured. During the Civil War he recruited the Polish Brigade (14th and 15th Louisiana regiments) of Jackson's Corps. A colonel in the Confederate army, he sought unsuccessfully the rank of brigadier general. Tochman settled here in 1866 and served as the European agent for the Virginia Board of Immigration.

Gaspard Tochman (ca. 1797-1880) JJ-25

A mile south is the unmarked grave of Gaspard Tochman, an officer in the Polish army who participated in the failed 1830-1831 revolt against Russia. He immigrated to the United States in 1837, practiced law, and lectured to foster American support for Polish independence. Early in the Civil War, Tochman recruited the short-lived "Polish Brigade," two Confederate regiments composed largely of immigrants. He unsuccessfully sought command and the rank of brigadier general. The regiments, eventually designated the 14th and 15th Louisiana Vols., fought in the Eastern Theater. Tochman was later the European agent for the Virginia Board of Immigration. He retired here in 1871.

104/678

7.) *Hampton Roads VDOT District; Northampton County*

Arlington WY-5

Two miles west stood Arlington, original home of the Custis Family, built by John Custis. The family tombs are still preserved there. Governor Wm. Berkeley made his headquarters there during Bacon's Rebellion in 1676. Arlington on the Potomac was named for this Arlington.

Arlington WY-5

Two miles west stood Arlington, one of the finest houses in 17th-century Virginia. The site, first occupied by Native Americans and then by Virginia Company settlers, was acquired in the 1650s

by John Custis II, who built the three-story brick house early in the 1670s. Indentured servants and enslaved African Americans labored on the property. Royal governor William Berkeley fled Jamestown and took refuge at Arlington during Bacon's Rebellion in 1676. The tombs of John Custis II and John Custis IV are preserved here. Descendant George Washington Parke Custis, step-grandson of George Washington, named his mansion near Washington, D.C., after this Arlington.

102/664

8). *Lynchburg VDOT District; Charlotte County*

Red House FR-3

This old tavern was built by Martin Hancock about 1813 on the site of his earlier cabin. It was a noted stopping place and trade center on the old south road to the West.

Red House FR-3

Martin Hancock, who owned thousands of acres in this area, built a tavern known as "The Red House" here ca. 1813. The tavern accommodated travelers along a major east-west road connecting this region to the tobacco markets in Lynchburg. The community of Red House emerged here in the first half of the 19th century and over the years featured a post office, stores, and churches. The Madison Academy, a school for boys built in the Greek Revival style, opened nearby ca. 1838.

82/476

9). *Northern Virginia VDOT District; Fairfax County*

Lincoln Reviews Troops at Bailey's Crossroads T-40

After the Union defeat on 21 July 1861 at the First Battle of Manassas, Lincoln appointed Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan as commander of the demoralized army. A superb organizer, McClellan rebuilt the army and on 20 November 1861 staged a formal military review here, between Munson's Hill and Bailey's Crossroads. Lincoln and his entire cabinet attended. Occupying nearly 200 acres, some 50,000 troops, "including seven divisions--seven regiments of cavalry, ninety regiments of infantry, [and] twenty batteries of artillery," took part in the review, at that time the largest ever held in America.

Lincoln Reviews Troops at Bailey's Cross Roads T-40

After the Union defeat on 21 July 1861 at the First Battle of Manassas, Pres. Abraham Lincoln appointed Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan as commander of the demoralized army. McClellan organized, trained, and equipped the troops, building a force known after August as the Army of the Potomac. On 20 Nov. 1861, McClellan staged a formal military review here, between Munson's Hill and Bailey's Cross Roads. Lincoln and members of his cabinet attended. Occupying about 200 acres, some 65,000 troops—including artillery, cavalry, and infantry units organized into seven divisions—took part in the review, at that time the largest ever held in America.

104/646

10.) *Richmond VDOT District; Mecklenburg County*

Prestwould Plantation F-95

The second William Byrd obtained land here about 1730 and named the place "Blue Stone Castle." The estate extended ten miles along Roanoke River. Before the Revolution Sir Peyton Skipwith came into possession and built the present house, which he named Prestwould.

Prestwould Plantation F-95

Sir Peyton Skipwith (1740-1805), a Virginia-born tobacco planter who inherited the English title of baronet, began acquiring land in this area in 1765 and named his plantation Prestwould. The Georgian-style mansion here was completed in 1795 for Skipwith and his second wife, Lady Jean Skipwith (1748-1826), who won renown for her extensive formal garden and amassed one of the largest libraries held by an American woman of her time. Prestwould, a National Historic Landmark, was among the most substantial plantation complexes built in post-Revolutionary Virginia. More than 100 enslaved African Americans, including agricultural workers and skilled artisans, labored here by 1805.

101/683

11). *Salem VDOT District; Botetourt County*

Old Carolina Road AK-81

This is the old road from Pennsylvania to the Yadkin Valley, over which in early times settlers passed going south. On it were the Black Horse Tavern and the Tinker Creek Presbyterian Church.

Old Carolina Road AK-81

The Carolina Road passed here on its route from Pennsylvania through the Valley of Virginia to the Carolina backcountry and beyond. Originally developed by Iroquois warriors, the road became a conduit for settlers of European descent, including many Germans and Scots-Irish, by the 1740s. North of here, U.S. Route 11 generally follows the historic road. South of here, the Carolina Road crossed the Blue Ridge Mountains near present-day Roanoke and continued through modern Franklin and Henry Counties. A busy trade route, the road gave rise to enterprises that served the needs of travelers, including the Black Horse Tavern (ca. 1782), about two miles south of here.

106/669