**Board of Historic Resources Quarterly Meeting**

**12 December 2024**

**New Markers**

**1.) Mahone’s Tavern**

**Sponsor:** Mahone’s Tavern & Museum, Inc.

**Locality:** Southampton County

**Proposed Location:** 22341 Main St., Courtland

**Sponsor Contact**: C. Earl Blythe, eblythe4@verizon.net

**Original text:**

**Mahone’s Tavern**

Built in 1796, across the street from the Southampton County Courthouse, Mahone’s Tavern is on the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register and was a social, political and transportation hub of Jerusalem, now Courtland. Also known as Kello’s Tavern and Howard’s Hotel, it served as a sanctuary for citizens during the 1831 insurrection and a Confederate hospital in 1863. The building was also the boyhood home of William Mahone who became a railroad magnate, Confederate Maj. General, mayor of Petersburg, U.S. Senator, leader of the Readjuster Party and founder of the Virginia Normal and Collegiate Institute, now Virginia State University. He also helped found the predecessor of today’s Central State Hospital.

**115 words/ 747 characters**

**Edited text:**

**Mahone’s Tavern**

Mahone's Tavern, built ca. 1796 across from the Southampton Co. courthouse, was a center of political and social activity for more than a century. Known as Kello's Tavern early in the 1800s, it served as a refuge for citizens and as an encampment for soldiers at the time of Nat Turner’s insurrection in 1831. Fielding J. Mahone operated the tavern from 1841 to 1855. His son, William Mahone, a railroad magnate, Confederate major general, leader of the biracial Readjuster Party, and U.S. senator, lived here as a youth. John J. Kindred, a five-term congressman from NY, lived here as a child in the 1860s. Also known as Howard’s Hotel, the building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

**120 words/ 705 characters**

**Sources:**

Mahone’s Tavern NRHP nomination (2008).

Southampton County Deed Books 8:697, 15:2, 25:2.

Southampton County Land Tax Records

David F. Allmendinger Jr., *Nat Turner and the Rising in Southampton County* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014).

Peter Luebke, “William Mahone (1826–1895),” 7 Dec. 2020, *Encyclopedia Virginia*. https://encyclopediavirginia.org/entries/mahone-william-1826-1895.

**2.) Riverhill Baptist Church**

**Sponsor:** Riverhill Baptist Church

**Locality:** Grayson County

**Proposed Location:** Intersection of US 58/US 221 and Beech Grove Lane (Rte. 623)

**Sponsor Contact**: Stephanie Richardson, stephaniedrichardson@gmail.com; Lee Houston, houston.lee2@yahoo.com

**Original text:**

**Riverhill Baptist Church**

Two and a half miles northwest is Riverhill Baptist Church, home to the oldest African American congregation in Grayson County. Dating back to Reconstruction, Riverhill was founded by formerly enslaved African Americans between 1868 and 1872, following local missionary efforts to organize African Americans into their own churches after the Civil War. Riverhill was one of the original churches to comprise the New Covenant Baptist Association, an organization of small, African American churches throughout northwestern North Carolina and southwestern Virginia, formed in 1873. The first known structure was erected in 1879. In 1944, the congregation, with help from members of the surrounding community, began work on a new sanctuary which was completed in 1949.

**114 words/ 765 characters**

**Edited text:**

**Riverhill Baptist Church**

Riverhill Baptist Church, 2.5 miles northwest, is among the region’s oldest African American congregations. Emancipated people founded Riverhill between 1868 and 1873, aided by the missionary efforts of local White Baptists who had supported the Union during the Civil War. In 1873 Riverhill became a charter member of the New Covenant Baptist Association, an organization of African American churches in northwestern NC and southwestern VA. The church’s first-known sanctuary, built ca. 1879, was replaced in 1949. A school and a branch of the Independent Order of St. Luke, a fraternal order that promoted Black economic independence, opened near Riverhill, creating a hub for the Black community.

**107 words/ 699 characters**

**Sources:**

Riverhill Baptist Church, 150th Church Anniversary Celebration pamphlet (2023).

Mark S. Sexton, *The Chalice and the Covenant: A History of the New Covenant Baptist Association, 1868-1975* (Winston-Salem, NC: Hunter Publishing Company, 1976).

Independent Order of St. Luke Grayson County Office, Archaeological Site Record, DHR (44GY0367).

Riverhill Baptist Church records.

Deed, A.A. Goins and Litha Goins to Council of the Independent Order of St. Luke, 7 March 1924.

Grayson County Virginia Heritage Foundation, Inc., New River Notes: <https://www.newrivernotes.com/grayson-county-virginia/>

*Galax Gazette*, 30 Aug. 1951, 3 Dec. 1953.

**3.) Danville Riot/Danville Massacre, 1883**

**Sponsor:** Danville Research Center for African American History and Culture

**Locality:** City of Danville

**Proposed Location:** 322-326 Main St.

**Sponsor Contact**: Jonathan Travis Hackworth, jthackworth2000@icloud.com

**Original text:**

**Danville Opera House—Race Riot of 1883**

In October 1883, a group of twenty-eight white merchants and businesses in Danville lent their

names to the Danville Circular, outlining the perceived injustice and humiliations that white

citizens were subjected to under the bi-racial Readjuster Party. On the evening of 2 Nov. 1883,

William E. Sims publicly denounced the Danville Circular to a large, open-air crowd of mostly

African Americans. On 3 Nov. 1883 local Democrats, led by Congressman George C. Cabell, were meeting at the Pace Building, in the Danville Opera House, preparing a written response to Sims's attack, when Charles D. Noel went to the Opera House and recruited two friends, George A. Lea and W. R. Taylor, to help him take revenge on Henderson "Hense" Lawson and Davis Lewellyn. The event known as the Race Riot of 1883 or the "Danville Massacre" unfolded just outside of the building. After several white men fired guns, at least five people, including four African Americans, were killed. Democrats would utilize the event to win large statewide majorities in the General Assembly over the bi-racial Readjuster Party, eradicating them from all statewide offices and solidifying Democrat control of the state until 1969. The events of 3 Nov. 1883 became national news and the subject of inquiry through the Committee of Forty and the U.S. Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections.

**220 words/ 1,361 characters**

**Edited text:**

**Danville Riot/Danville Massacre, 1883**

The biracial Readjuster Party gained control of the VA General Assembly in 1879 and of Danville’s city council in 1882. In Oct. 1883, White citizens distributed the Danville Circular denouncing African American political power. A local Readjuster official publicly condemned the circular on 2 Nov. The next day, an argument between a White man and two Black men escalated into a fight here, outside the Opera House. White men fired guns, and at least one White and four Black men were killed. Democrats, blaming the violence on African Americans, won control of the General Assembly days later, leading to the demise of the Readjuster Party and an end to Black political power in VA until the 1960s.

**117 words/ 699 characters**

**Sources:**

Brendan Wolfe, “Danville Riot (1883)” 7 Dec. 2020, *Encyclopedia Virginia* <https://encyclopediavirginia.org/entries/danville-riot-1883>.

Brent Tarter, “The Readjuster Party,” 7 Dec. 2020, *Encyclopedia Virginia* <https://encyclopediavirginia.org/entries/readjuster-party-the>.

Jane Dailey, *Before Jim Crow: The Politics of Race in Postemancipation Virginia* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2000.)

*Danville Times*, 9 Nov. 1883.

*New-York Tribune*, 5 Nov. 1883.

*Danville riot, Nov. 3, 1883, report of a committee of forty with sworn testimony of thirty-seven witnesses, etc.* (Richmond: Johns and Goolsby, 1883).

*Reports of Committees of the Senate of the United States for the First Session of the Forty Eighth Congress, 1883-1884*, Report no. 579. (<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.b3985975&seq=64>)

Downtown Danville Historic District NRHP nomination, 1993.

**4.) Colored Rosemont**

**Sponsor:** Office of Historic Alexandria

**Locality:** City of Alexandria

**Proposed Location:** 1312 Wythe St.

**Sponsor Contact**: Gretchen Bulova, Gretchen.Bulova@alexandriava.gov

**Original text:**

**Colored Rosemont**

The house here at 1312 Wythe Street is the remaining original of a once thriving, self-sufficient African American neighborhood known as Colored Rosemont, the combined vision of a white real estate entrepreneur named Virginia F.W. Thomas and aspiring Black middle-class homeowners. In 1926, Thomas acquired vacant land here and sold house lots to African American families. At a time when restrictive racial covenants prevented many African Americans from owning property, by the early 1930s Colored Rosemont spanned a four-block area on either side of Wythe Street between N. West St. and N. Fayette St. In the early 1960s, the city expropriated private property in Colored Rosemont for public use, something the neighborhood aggressively resisted.

**114 words/ 749 characters**

**Edited text:**

**Colored Rosemont**

The house here at 1312 Wythe St. is the only original dwelling from the once-thriving, predominantly African American neighborhood known as Colored Rosemont. Virginia F. W. Thomas, a White real estate entrepreneur, inherited and purchased land in this area early in the 20th century. She sold home lots without restrictive racial covenants, despite their common use then. By about 1950, many Black middle-class families lived between Madison, Pendleton, N. Fayette, and N. West Streets. In the 1960s, the City of Alexandria expropriated property in Colored Rosemont, compensated the owners, and constructed a public housing project, undeterred by a lawsuit and vigorous opposition from the neighborhood.

**105 words/ 703 characters**

**Sources:**

Alexandria deed books

*Washington Post*, 11 Jan. 1964.

*Old Town Crier*, 31 Jan., 2 June 2020, 1 Dec. 2023, 1 Aug. 2024.

Will of Harrie Fitzhugh Wheat, Alexandria Will Book 31 or 32: 126-127.

*Alexandria Gazette*, 4 March 1912.

Uptown/Parker-Gray Historic District, NRHP nomination (2010).

Rosemont Historic District, NRHP nomination (1992).

“Colored Rosemont,” *Alexandria Times*, 13 May 2021.

Krystyn R. Moon, “The African American Housing Crisis in Alexandria, Virginia, 1930s-1960s” *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, vol. 124, no. 1 (2016): 28-68.

**5.) Arthur Taubman (1901-1994)**

**Sponsor:** Nelson Harris

**Locality:** City of Roanoke

**Proposed Location:** 200 block of McClanahan Ave.

**Sponsor Contact**: Nelson Harris, nharris@heightschurch.info

**Original text:**

**Arthur Taubman (1901-1994)**

Arthur Taubman, born in Astoria, NY, moved to Roanoke in 1932 to acquire three Advance Stores, pawning his wife’s engagement ring and his Masonic ring for the down payment. Taubman was president of Advance Stores until his retirement in 1969 having grown the company to fifty-four stores. In 1948, he co-founded Cordovan Associates, a tire purchasing consortium. In 1951, Taubman helped establish with David Ben-Gurion the Alliance Tire and Rubber Company in Israel. During WWII, Taubman provided Affidavits of Support so hundreds of European Jews could enter the US, claiming each as his cousin. His residence was 0.7 miles south of here.

**102 words/ 639 characters**

**Edited text:**

**Arthur Taubman (1901-1994)**

Arthur Taubman, a self-made businessman, was born in Astoria, NY. He moved to Roanoke in 1932 to acquire three Advance Stores. When he retired as president of Advance in 1969, the company had grown to 54 stores. Later known as Advance Auto Parts, the chain expanded nationwide. Taubman was cofounder and chairman of Alliance Tire and Rubber Co., which opened in Israel in 1952 and became that country’s largest exporter. During the World War II era, he signed hundreds of affidavits of support for European Jews to enter the U.S., claiming each as his cousin. A civic leader in Roanoke, he worked for the desegregation of public facilities in the 1960s. His residence was 0.7 miles south of here.

**119 words/ 696 characters**

**Sources:**

*Roanoke Times & World News*, 17 March 1994.

*Roanoke Times*, 26 Sept. 1933, 25 Dec. 1960, 29 June 1963.

*Roanoke World News*, 28 Aug. 1963.

*New York Times*, 28 April 1952, 10 Jan. 1971, 22 March 1994.

Advance Auto Parts, Inc., History: <https://www.fundinguniverse.com/company-histories/advance-auto-parts-inc-history/>

**6.) Korean Americans in Northern Virginia**

**Sponsor:** Annandale Rotary Club

**Locality:** Fairfax County

**Proposed Location:** Little River Turnpike (Rte. 236) at intersection with Ravensworth Rd.

**Sponsor Contact**: Joe Nam Do, joenamdo@gmail.com

**Original text:**

**Korean Immigrants in Northern Virginia**

Prior to 1965, around 500 ethnic Koreans lived in the Greater Washington DC area, the majority consisting of university students. They studied, worked, started families, advocated for political justice in Korea, and cultivated a vibrant local community. After passing of the Immigration and Naturalization Act, Koreans moving to the United States significantly increased. In Virginia during the early 1970s, many Koreans lived in different apartment complexes in Arlington for relatively cheap rent and the convenient commute to jobs in D.C. During the late 1980s, Korean-Americans started setting up larger numbers of businesses in the Annandale area, creating a social and commercial hub for the community. Eventually hundreds of shops, restaurants, churches, professional services businesses, and community organizations would open.

**119 words/ 835 characters**

**Edited text:**

**Korean Americans in Northern Virginia**

The small community of Koreans in and around Washington, DC, began to grow after the embassy of the Republic of Korea opened in 1949 and the Korean War commenced in 1950. About 500 Koreans, primarily university students, lived in the region by the early 1960s. A wave of new arrivals followed the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965, which removed restrictions based on ethnicity. Many Korean Americans moved to the Virginia suburbs, and Annandale attracted entrepreneurs in the 1980s with its affordable real estate and access to highways. Featuring stores, restaurants, professional services, churches, and civic groups, Annandale became a social and commercial hub for the community.

**107 words/ 690 characters**

**Sources:**

*History of Korean-Americans in the Washington Metropolitan Area, 1883-1993* (Korean-American Foundation of Greater Washington, 2009). <https://kafgw.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/searchable-PDF_min.pdf>

“How Annandale Evolved into a Hub for Korean-American Culture,” PBS video: <https://www.pbs.org/video/annandale-history-tqqhy3/>

*Washington Post*, 15 May 1999, 20 Sept. 2000, 13 March 2005.

*Evening Star*, 5 July, 15 Aug. 1949.

**7.) Beulah Marshall Munford Wiley (1923-1987)**

**Sponsor:** Harry Marshall

**Locality:** Buckingham County

**Proposed Location:** 25892 N. James Madison Hwy

**Sponsor Contact**: Harry Marshall, marshallsrharry@gmail.com; Niya Bates, scuffletownllc@gmail.com

**Original text:**

**Beulah Marshall Mumford Wiley**

Beulah Marshall Mumford Wiley was an African American healthcare pioneer and 1941 Cumberland Training School graduate. In 1970, Beulah Marshall Mumford Wiley founded the first community health care facility in Virginia. Central Virginia Community Health Center brought high-quality, accessible healthcare to families throughout Cumberland, Buckingham, Fluvanna, and surrounding counties. Community healthcare initiatives arose out of the Civil Rights Movement and Wiley led an intensive campaign to bring free health care to poor and underserved communities. She received grant funding from the U.S. Department of Economic Opportunity, a Great Society program established in 1964, to hire one doctor and one nurse to provide medical services out of a mobile home. The Central Virginia Health Center remains a model for rural healthcare throughout the country.

**123 words/ 859 characters**

**Edited text:**

**Beulah Marshall Munford Wiley (1923-1987)**

Beulah M. Wiley, a 1941 Cumberland Training School graduate, was a Black healthcare pioneer. She led an intensive campaign to establish the Central Virginia Community Health Center (CVCHC), which opened here in 1970. This was the state’s first community health facility funded by the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity, created in 1964 as part of the War on Poverty. The drive for community healthcare emerged from the Civil Rights Movement. The CVCHC was a product of Wiley’s activism and brought high-quality care to underserved families in Buckingham, Cumberland, and Fluvanna Counties. It later expanded into a broad network of facilities serving tens of thousands of patients annually.

**107 words/ 691 characters**

**Sources:**

*Farmville Herald*, 17 March, 1967, 13 Aug. 1971, 3 June 1987, 12 Aug. 1994, 4 Aug. 2010, 21 Nov. 2012, 21 Aug. 2020.

*The Informant*, Aug. 2012.

Chronicles: The Community Health Center Story: <https://www.chcchronicles.org/stories/community-health-centers-chronicling-their-history-and-broader-meaning>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *The Health Center Program: Partnering with Communities to Build a Healthier Nation* (May 2024). <https://bphc.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/bphc/about/health-center-program-history-full-report.pdf>

Central Virginia Health Services: <https://www.cvhsinc.org/about/cvhs>

Bonnie Lefkowitz, *Community Health Centers: A Movement and the People who Made it Happen* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2007).

Thomas J. Ward Jr., *Out in the Rural: A Mississippi Health Center and its War on Poverty* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017).

**Replacement Markers**

**1). Alleghany County Z-78**

**Sponsor:** Alleghany County

**Locality:** Alleghany County

**Proposed Location:** Falling Spring Falls, US 220 near intersection with Rte. 640

**Original Text:**

**Alleghany County**

Formed in 1822 from Bath, Botetourt, and Monroe, and named for the Alleghany Mountains. At Fort Mann in this county a battle took place between settlers and Indians led by Cornstalk, 1763.

**32 words/ 188 characters**

**Edited Text:**

**Alleghany County**

The Virginia General Assembly formed Alleghany Co. in 1822 from parts of Bath, Botetourt, and Monroe. Within its boundaries are the Towns of Clifton Forge and Iron Gate and the City of Covington, the county seat. Public lands, including portions of the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests and Douthat State Park, make up about half of the county’s area. The Jackson River and the Cowpasture River, which combine to form the James River, flow through Alleghany. Agriculture, the railroad, the iron industry, paper production, and many small businesses have been central to the economy. Alleghany Co. is known for its beautiful mountain scenery, outdoor recreation, and strong arts community.

**110 words/ 703 characters**

**Sources:**

Alleghany Historical Society: <https://alleghanyhistorical.org/our-history/>

Emily J. Salmon and Edward D. C. Campbell, eds., *The Hornbook of Virginia History* (Richmond: The Library of Virginia, 1994).

**2). Bath County Z-78**

**Sponsor:** Preservation Bath

**Locality:** Alleghany County

**Proposed Location:** Falling Spring Falls, US 220 near intersection with Rte. 640

**Original Text:**

**Bath County**

Formed in 1790 from Augusta, Greenbrier, and Botetourt, and probably named for the town of Bath in England. The Warm Springs and Hot Springs are in this county.

**28 words/ 160 characters**

**Edited Text:**

**Bath County**

Bath County, formed by the Virginia General Assembly in 1790 from Augusta, Botetourt, and Greenbrier, is named after the spa city of Bath, England. Likely known to Native Americans, the area’s mineral springs began attracting visitors of European descent in the mid-18th century, and the first resorts were developed before the Revolutionary War. These establishments evolved into fashionable stops on the social circuit in the 19th century, when elite families came here to escape the summer heat and to seek the benefits of the waters’ perceived medicinal properties. Bath Alum, Healing Springs, Hot Springs, and Warm Springs (the county seat) were among the most popular destinations.

**106 words/ 687 characters**

**Sources:**

*The Bicentennial History of Bath County, Virginia* (Bath County Historical Society, 1991).

Warm Springs Bath Houses, NRHP update (2017). <https://wordpress-851339-3533967.cloudwaysapps.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/008-0007_WarmSpringsBathHouses_BI_2017_NRHP_FINAL.pdf>

Stan Cohen, *The Historic Springs of the Virginias: A Pictorial History* (Charleston, WV: Quarrier Press, 1981).

 William Burke, *The Mineral Springs of Western Virginia* (New York: Wiley and Putnam, 1846).

**3.) Fort William D-29**

**Sponsor:** VDOT

**Locality:** Botetourt County

**Proposed Location:** TBD

**Original Text:**

**Fort William**

Col. William Preston constructed Fort William nearby in 1755 during the French and Indian War (1754 – 1763) as one in a series of fortifications to protect Virginia’s frontier. A group of Indians paid a friendly visit in Oct. 1755, and Col. George Washington inspected the fort during his frontier tour in 1756. Indians attacked the fort in Oct. 1756 but were repulsed. In 1763, during Pontiac’s War (1763 – 1764), nearby settlers flocked to Fort William for protection.

**77 words/ 470 characters**

**Edited Text:**

**Fort William**

Capt. William Preston constructed Fort William nearby in 1755 during the French and Indian War (1754-1763), part of a broader imperial conflict between Great Britain and France known as the Seven Years’ War. This fort was one in a series of outposts built to protect Virginia’s frontier. A group of Cherokee, then allied with the British, visited in the fall of 1755, and Col. George Washington inspected the fort during his frontier tour in 1756. Indians attacked the fort in Oct. 1756, scattering nearby settlers. In 1763, during Pontiac’s War (1763–1766), settlers gathered at Fort William, or at a nearby successor fort built by Preston, for protection.

**108 words/ 657 characters**

**Sources:**

George Washington to Robert Dinwiddie, 4 Aug., 10 Oct., 9 Nov. 1756 in *The Official Records of Robert Dinwiddie, Lieutenant-governor of the Colony of Virginia, 1751-1758*, vol. 2 (Richmond: Virginia Historical Society, 1884).

George Washington, Proposal for Frontier Forts, 9 Nov. 1756. <https://founders.archives.gov/?q=%22Fort%20William%22&s=1111311111&sa=&r=7&sr>

Robert Douthat Stoner, *A Seed-Bed of the Republic: A Study of the Pioneers of the Upper (Southern) Valley of Virginia* (Roanoke Historical Society, 1962).

Richard Charles Osborn, “William Preston of Virginia, 1727-1783: The Making of a Frontier Elite,” Ph.D. diss., University of Maryland, 1990.

Frederick B. Kegley, *Kegley’s Virginia Frontier* (1938).

Patricia Givens Johnson, *William Preston and the Allegheny Patriots* (B.D. Smith & Bros., 1976).

**4.) Bishop William McKendree (1757-1835) UM-43**

**Sponsor:** DHR

**Locality:** City of Emporia

**Proposed Location:** South Main St. (US 301) at intersection with Greensville Ave.

**Original Text:**

**Bishop William McKendree**

William McKendree was born in King William County in 1757. He soon moved with his family to present-day Greensville County, and later served in the Revolutionary War. In 1786, the county licensed him to keep a tavern at his house (12 miles south). The next year, transformed by the Second Great Awakening, McKendree entered the Methodist ministry as a circuit rider. In 1790, Francis Asbury ordained him Deacon. McKendree became presiding elder in the Western Conference extending from western Virginia to Illinois in 1800. In 1808, he became the first native-born American elected Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal (now United Methodist) Church. He died on 5 March 1835.

**108 words/ 671 characters**

**Edited Text:**

**Bishop William McKendree** **(1757-1835)**

William McKendree was born in King William Co., moved as a youth to present-day Greensville Co., and later served in the Revolutionary War. In 1786, the county licensed him to keep a tavern at his house. The next year, transformed by the Second Great Awakening, McKendree entered the Methodist ministry as a circuit rider. In 1790, Bishop Francis Asbury ordained him as a deacon. McKendree became presiding elder in the Western Conference, extending from western Virginia to Illinois, in 1800. He played a leading role in the westward expansion of Methodism. In 1808, he became the first native-born American elected bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a precursor of the United Methodist Church.

**113 words/ 702 characters**

**Sources:**

Frederick A. Norwood, *The Story of American Methodism: A History of the United Methodists and Their Relations* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1974).

*Journal of Francis Asbury*, vol. 2.

Robert Paine, *Life and Times of William M’Kendree, Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church*, vol. 1 (Nashville: Southern Methodist Publishing House, 1869).

William Warren Sweet, *The Rise of Methodism in the West* (Nashville: Smith & Lamar, 1920).

**5.) Oakwood Cemetery, Confederate Section SA-64**

**Sponsor:** DHR

**Locality:** City of Richmond

**Proposed Location:** East Richmond Rd. at intersection with Oakwood Ave.

**Original Text:**

**Oakwood Cemetery, Confederate Section**

After the First Battle of Manassas, Richmond appropriated this approximately 7.5-acre lot on 12 Aug. 1861 for the burial of Confederate war dead. These soldiers from every Southern state either died in Richmond's military hospitals, such as Chimborazo, or were brought directly from local battlefields. Eventually they numbered about 17,200, including some 8,000 unknowns. The first recorded Memorial Day observance in Richmond occurred here on 10 May 1866, organized by the Ladies' Memorial Association for Confederate Dead in Oakwood Cemetery. Robert E. Lee, invited to speak, declined but wrote, “The graves of the Confederate dead will always be green in my memory, and their deeds be hallowed in my recollection.”

**110 words/ 718 characters**

**Edited Text:**

**Oakwood Cemetery, Confederate Section**

After the First Battle of Manassas, Richmond appropriated a lot here on 12 Aug. 1861 for the burial of Confederate war dead. Most of these soldiers died in Richmond’s military hospitals, such as Chimborazo, or were brought directly from local battlefields. Representing every Confederate state, they reportedly numbered 16,000 by 1866, including thousands of unknowns. The first recorded Memorial Day observance in Richmond occurred here on 10 May 1866, organized by the Ladies’ Memorial Association for Confederate Dead of Oakwood. Robert E. Lee, invited to speak, declined but wrote, “The graves of the Confederate dead will always be green in my memory, and their deeds be hallowed in my recollection.”

**110 words/ 705 characters**

**Sources:**

John S. Salmon, “Preliminary History of Confederate Section, Oakwood Cemetery,” (DHR, 1997).

John Redford Burial Register

Caroline E. Janney, *Burying the Dead But Not the Past: Ladies’ Memorial Associations and the Lost Cause* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2008).

Brandon Dorsey, “Restoring Oakwood Confederate Cemetery,” *Confederate Veteran*, vol. 67, no. 6 (November/December 2009).

*Richmond Daily Dispatch*, 6 Sept. 1861.

*Daily Morning Chronicle*, 12 May 1866.

Ladies’ Memorial Association for Confederate Dead of Oakwood Minutes.

*Richmond Whig*, 13 Aug. 1861.

**Applications Under Consideration for March Board Cycle**

Below are summaries (not the actual texts) of the 14 marker proposals that we received at the last application deadline. These summaries have not undergone the same rigorous fact checking that a marker text would.

**1. Garvey Movement in Newport News (City of Newport News)**

In 1918, shortly after founding the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA), Marcus Garvey came to Newport News to organize the group’s third local division. The UNIA, which advocated race consciousness, pride, and economic uplift, attracted much support in industrial Southern communities such as Newport News, where the local division became the second largest after New York.

**2. First Baptist Church Bermuda Hundred (Chesterfield County)**

A Baptist congregation consisting of White and Black members split when White members left to form Enon Baptist Church and gave the existing edifice to the Black members, who established First Baptist Church Bermuda Hundred in the mid-19th century. The church stands on lots that had previously formed the Bermuda Hundred marketplace, one of the region’s largest slave-market auction sites. Enslaved Africans disembarked transatlantic slave ships and were sold at the port of Bermuda Hundred before being transported into the interior.

**3. Mount Level Baptist Church (Dinwiddie County)**

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. spoke at Mount Level Baptist Church on 28 March 1962 during a People to People tour in Virginia. Rev. Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker, executive director of the Southern Christian Leadership Association, King’s chief of staff for several years, and former pastor of Mount Level, arranged the visit. King, speaking to a packed house, urged attendees to vote and highlighted the importance of equality and justice for all.

**4. Attucks Theatre (City of Norfolk)**

The Attucks Theatre, known as the “Apollo of the South,” was built in 1919 in Norfolk’s thriving Black business district. It was established, financed, and constructed by African Americans and was designed by Black architect Harvey Johnson. The theatre was a hub for entertainment during the segregation era and attracted performers of national renown.

**5. Brookvale High School (Lancaster County)**

Brookvale High School was established in Feb. 1959 to serve Black students. The Crusaders Political Club, which engaged in civil rights activism, met here. Principal Dr. Elton Smith Jr. later became the first Black Superintendent of Public Schools in Virginia. In 1969, Brookvale’s baseball team won the last state championship sponsored by the segregated Virginia Interscholastic Association. The county implemented a “freedom of choice” plan for school attendance in 1966, and the system was fully desegregated in 1969.

**6. Moore Street Missionary Baptist Church (City of Richmond)**

The Rev. William Troy, a free-born man of color from Virginia who moved to Canada and become a prominent abolitionist and writer associated with the Underground Railroad, founded Moore Street Baptist Church in 1875 and was its first pastor. The church established the Moore Street Industrial School to address the educational needs of African American children in the community. Virginia Estelle Randolph (1870-1958), a church member, was an educational innovator who was the first countywide Jeanes Supervising Industrial Teacher in the South.

**7. AKA Upsilon Omega (City of Richmond)**

On 24 Oct. 1925, Upsilon Omega Chapter became the Richmond area’s first graduate chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., the first Greek letter organization founded by Black women. The chapter’s work focused on community uplift, particularly in healthcare and education. Chapter president Zenobia Gilpin, MD, organized health clinics for Black residents. Member Janet Ballard became international president of AKA.

**8. Old Carolina Road (Loudoun County)**

The Carolina Road roughly followed present-day Lucketts Road to Noland’s Ferry on the Potomac River. The road was first a north-south route for Indigenous people, perhaps used as early as A.D. 1350-1450. Early European settlers, including Quakers, Swiss, Germans, Dutch, and Swedes used the road to move south from Pennsylvania. Troops also used it during the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, and Thomas Jefferson passed here in May 1776 on his way to sign the Declaration of Independence.

**9. TransAmerica Bicycle Trail (Botetourt County)**

Cycling became popular with young Americans in the 1960s. Four cycling enthusiasts planned Bikecentennial 76, in which thousands of people rode across the county to celebrate the country’s bicentennial in the summer of 1976. The route between Oregon and Virginia became the 4,250-mile TransAmerica Bicycle Trail, officially designated as U.S. Bicycle Route 76 in 1982. It passes through 23 counties and four cities in Virginia, with a terminus at Yorktown.

**10. Old Dawn (Caroline County)**

Indigenous people lived in this area for many years. Enslaved people from nearby plantations participated in Gabriel’s Rebellion. In 1781, George Washington and the Comte de Rochambeau passed through Dawn on the way to Yorktown. Some men from Dawn served in the USCT during the Civil War. Old Dawn School served African American children whose families settled here after Emancipation. Grooms from Dawn who worked at nearby Meadow Farm played an integral role in the birth, training, and development of Secretariat.

**11. The Rev. Robert Hunt (James City County)**

The Rev. Robert Hunt served the Jamestown colony as the first Anglican clergyman in Virginia. On 21 June 1607 he assembled the company for the first recorded English celebration of the Lord’s Supper in Virginia.

**12. Zion Baptist Church (City of Alexandria)**

African Americans escaping from slavery found refuge in Alexandria after Union soldiers occupied the city in 1861. In 1864, formerly enslaved people organized Zion Baptist Church near Zion Bottom. The First Ward Radical Republicans regularly met at the church starting in 1868, the same year African American men first voted and were nominated to political office in Virginia. The congregation’s Gothic Revival Sanctuary was completed in 1882.

**13. Shorter’s Chapel A.M.E. Church (Northampton County)**

The Rev. John Offer, who had served in the USCT during the Civil War, organized this congregation ca. 1870. The church, named for A.M.E. bishop James A. Shorter, moved into building that had been occupied by the Bridgetown School. Likely constructed before 1883, the church has received several additions.

**14. Spring Hill (New Kent County)**

Spring Hill, first known as Indian Fields, was constructed for Richard C. Graves in the 18th century. His son and daughter-in-law, Col. Richard and Virginia Valentine Graves, operated a racetrack, stables, and hotel on the property. The house reportedly served as a hospital during the Civil War.