

# Road to Revolution

## THE MARCH OF THE MINUTEMEN

*A Look at 18th Century People &  
Places in Culpeper, Virginia*



# DOWNTOWN CULPEPER

**CWT** Civil War Trails Marker

 Historical Marker

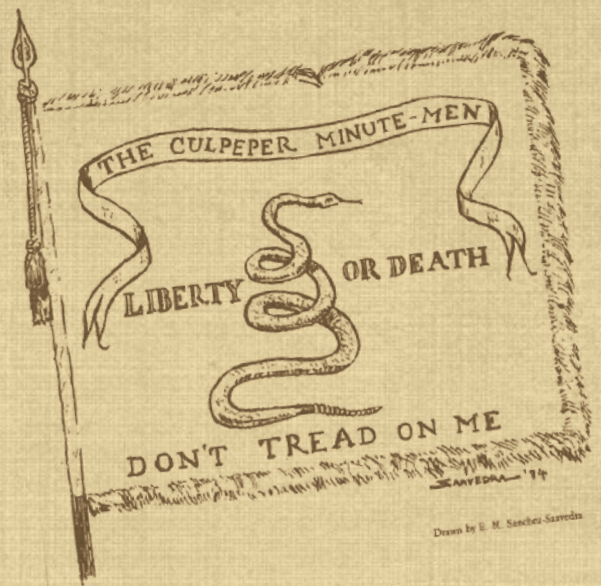
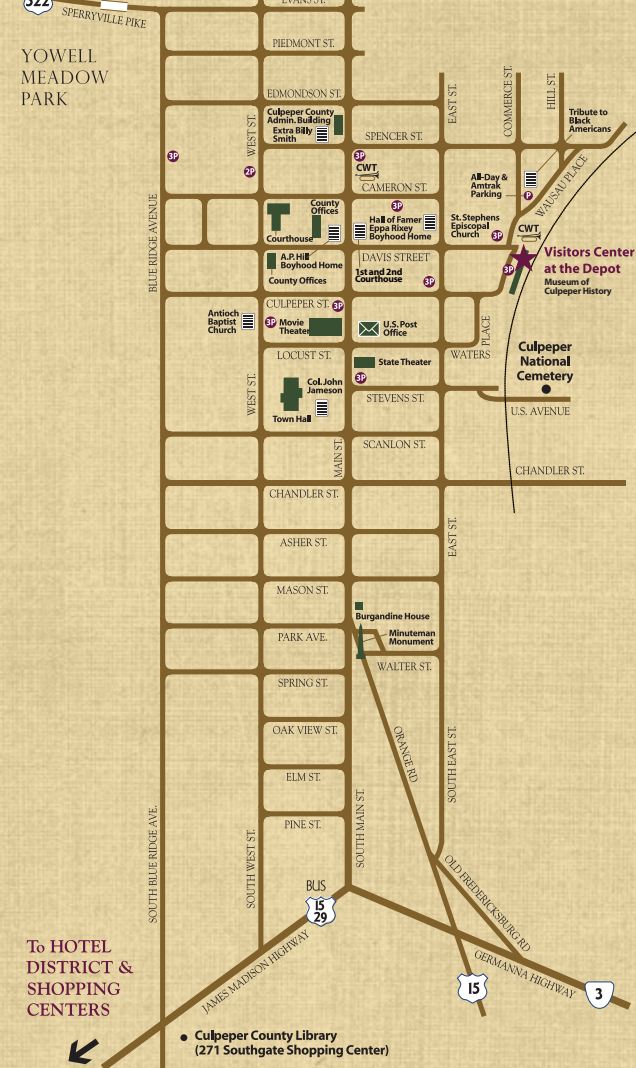
**P** Parking

**2P** Two-Hour Parking

**3P** Three-Hour Parking

Fairview Cemetery  
Veteran's Memorial Bridge

YOWELL MEADOW PARK



## THE MARCH OF THE MINUTEMEN

### *A Look at 18th Century People & Places in Culpeper, Virginia*

In September 1775, Colonel Patrick Henry ordered the famed Culpeper Minute Men Battalion to march from Culpeper to Williamsburg. Although the battalion existed as a unit for only some nine months, it contributed to driving the royal governor, Lord Dunmore, from Virginia soil and set in motion the events that eventually led to the capitulation of the British at Yorktown in October 1781.

This publication guides you on a tour of people, places and things that are a part of Culpeper's legacy of the war for independence. It is suggested that you begin your tour by visiting the Museum of Culpeper History at 113 Commerce Street and the Burgandine House at 803 S. Main Street for an overview of Culpeper's history from pre-historic times through the present day.

Many Culpeper residents contributed greatly to the success of American independence. Included are General Edward Stevens, Colonel Abraham Buford, Colonels John and David Jameson, Captain Gabriel Jones, Colonel John Green, Colonel James Pendleton, Captain Philip Slaughter, Captain William McClanahan, Captain James Williams (later a major general in the War of 1812), Lewis Yancey, Philip Clayton, James Gaines, and several hundred more who served the patriot cause.

# The Culpeper Minute Men Battalion



The Culpeper Minute Men Battalion was formed in 1775 as a result of the call by the Virginia Committee of Safety to form units for the protection of the Colony. Virginia was divided into 16 districts and each district was instructed to raise and discipline a battalion of men “to march at a minute’s notice,” hence the name Minute Men. Culpeper, Fauquier and Orange counties, forming one district, raised a cadre of 350 men: 150 men from Culpeper, 100 from Orange and 100 from Fauquier. Called the Culpeper Minute Men, they organized July 17, 1775 under a large oak tree in “Clayton’s old field”, later known as Catalpa Farm, south of present day Yowell Meadow Park.

The Committee of Safety commissioned Lawrence Taliaferro of Orange as Colonel; Edward Stevens of Culpeper as Lieutenant Colonel; and Thomas Marshall of Fauquier as Major of this Battalion. They also commissioned ten Captains for the Companies which were to make up the Battalion. Among them were John Jameson, then Clerk of Culpeper County and a member of the Committee of Safety; Philip Clayton; James Slaughter; George Slaughter; and William McClanahan, a Baptist minister who regularly preached to his troops. (It was the custom then to put all of the Baptists in one Company, for they were among the most strenuous supporters of liberty, and the Methodists, later adherents to the cause, went into another. The Committee of Safety had recommended that the different religious denominations each organize companies of their own kind.)

The Battalion’s assembly and training in the late summer-early fall of 1775 was described by Philip Slaughter in his diary:

*“We encamped in Clayton’s old field. Some had tents, and others huts of plank. The whole regiment appeared according to orders in hunting shirts made of strong, brown linen, dyed the color of the leaves of the trees, and on the breast of each hunting shirt was worked in large white letters the words, ‘Liberty or Death!’ and all that could procure for love or money bucks’ tails, wore them in their hats. Each man had a leather belt around his shoulders, with a tomahawk and scalping-knife.”* (Culpeper: A Virginia County’s History Through 1920 – Eugene M. Scheel)

## PLACES TO SEE

There are several historical markers and monuments in the Town of Culpeper honoring the Culpeper Minute Men.

### **VDOT Marker**

The Culpeper Minute Men Historical Marker identifies the nearby location of Clayton’s Field to the south, the mustering site of the Culpeper Minute Men Battalion in 1775.

Marker Type: Virginia Department of Transportation

Directions: Located on left side of Route 522 going toward Sperryville.

Public or Private: Public

### **DAR Monument at Yowell Meadow Park**

This stone marker marks the nearby site of “The Liberty Tree” on Catalpa Farm originally owned by Major Phillip Clayton. It marks the spot where the Culpeper Minutemen organized to fight the British before marching to the Battle of Great Bridge in Chesapeake in 1775. It was erected in 1971 by the local Daughters of the American Revolution.

Note: Along the park pathway to the trail entrance, you will see interpretive panels that relate to the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and the Mountain Run Watershed.

Marker Type: Daughters of the American Revolution

Directions: Trail entrance is located at the south end of Yowell Meadow Park. The Park is located at the intersection of Blue Ridge Avenue and Rt. 522 Sperryville Pike. The monument is most easily accessed from Virginia Avenue, to Prosperity, to Woodcrest, to Monument Lane.

Public or Private: Public

### **Culpeper Minute Men Obelisk**

This monument was erected by the Culpeper Minute Men Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1933. An annual remembrance is held here on each Saturday nearest June 14th Flag Day by the Culpeper Minute Men Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Marker Type: Daughters of the American Revolution

Directions: Located on South Main Street at the “Y” split of Routes 29 and 15.



### ***The Culpeper Minute Men Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution***

The Culpeper Minute Men Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution honors the memory of those brave men and strives to preserve and interpret their history. The organization works to perpetuate the memory of individuals who, by their services or sacrifices during the war of the American Revolution, secured the independence of the American people. The Culpeper Minute Men Chapter was organized on September 16, 1974 and was chartered on September 20, 1974. Their activities include marking the graves of Revolutionary War soldiers and patriots, recognizing outstanding achievements of local Boy Scouts, policemen, firemen, rescue personnel, and citizens, and visiting veterans in nursing homes and hospitals. The Culpeper Minute Men Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution website, [www.culpeperminutemen.org](http://www.culpeperminutemen.org), is an excellent resource for additional history, and the names of the members of the original battalion are listed there.

### ***Museum of Culpeper History***

Begin your exploration of Culpeper's colorful history at one of Virginia's finest smalltown museums. Walk through galleries from the Triassic period through modern times and view a set of 215 million year old dinosaur tracks found in a local quarry, Native American artifacts, the Colonial gallery, a Civil War gallery with an interactive map, and more. The Museum Gift Shop offers a great selection of books and unique merchandise.

Location: 113 S. Commerce St  
Contact: (540) 829-1749  
Website: [www.culpepermuseum.com](http://www.culpepermuseum.com)

### ***Culpeper County Library***

The local history room at the Culpeper County Library is a wonderful resource for family genealogy research, with Culpeper County court records and newspapers on microfilm, and online resources like Ancestry.com.

Location: 271 Southgate Shopping Center  
Contact: (540) 825-8691  
Website: [www.cclva.org](http://www.cclva.org)

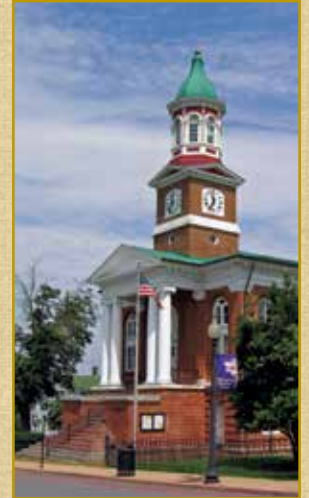
### ***Culpeper County Court House***

The first Culpeper Courthouse was built in 1750 on the northeast corner of Main (then Coleman) & Davis Streets. Declared unsafe in 1808, it was rebuilt on the same site. When that building was torn down in 1871, the present courthouse was constructed between 1870-74 at Davis and West Streets. During business hours, visitors can access the records at the Circuit Court Office on the 2nd floor to conduct genealogical research.

Location: Northeast corner of Davis Street & West Street; entrance is on Cameron Street.

Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Contact: Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court (540) 727-3438



### ***PLACES TO SEE***

#### **Culpeper's 1st and 2nd Courthouse Site**

This is the site of the first (1750-1808) and second (1809-1870) courthouses of Culpeper County, thought to be laid out by Culpeper County's first surveyor, George Washington, in 1749.

Directions: Located at 105 North Main Street

# Towns & Villages

## *Town of Culpeper*

The English settlement of the Culpeper area began about 1700 and Culpeper County, which was split from Orange, was established in 1749. The Town of Culpeper was created by an act of the Virginia General Assembly on February 22, 1759. Ironically, that was the 27th birthday of George Washington, who had surveyed Culpeper County and laid out the courthouse square a decade earlier.



Originally, the town was called Fairfax, named for Thomas Fairfax, 6th Lord Fairfax of Cameron (son of the 5th Lord Fairfax who married Catherine, daughter and sole heir of Thomas 2nd Baron Culpeper of Thoresway). It was the 6th Lord Fairfax who hired the 17-year-old George Washington to help survey his vast holdings west to the Blue Ridge Mountains and who asked the General Assembly to name the new county 'Culpeper' to honor his mother's family name. Although the town's official early name was Fairfax, it was commonly known as Culpeper Court House and was noted as such during the many references made during the Civil War. But with another Fairfax 50 miles to the north, the name was confusing and the General Assembly, at the request of local citizens, changed it to simply "Culpeper" on June 8, 1870.

The original town was laid out on 27 acres owned by Robert Coleman and the original trustees were Thomas Slaughter, William Green, William Williams, Philip Clayton and Nathaniel Pendleton. The town charter was signed on April 14, 1759 by Colonial Lieutenant-Governor Francis Fauquier, who was acting governor at the time. The trustees' plan was submitted to the county court on June 21, 1759 and recorded by County Clerk Roger Dixon, whose home still stands on West Street.

The town was made up of 40 one-half acre lots on 10 blocks extending north to south from Spencer to Stevens Streets, and west to east from West Street (then called Madison Road) to East Street (then called Back Street). The block bordered by East, Coleman, Cameron and Davis streets was the public square and contained the court house, the clerk's office, the jail, whipping posts and stocks. Main Street was called Coleman Street in honor of Robert Coleman and Davis Street was named for Benjamin Davis, who was leasing Coleman's land at the time the town was created. Other original streets included Spencer, Cameron, Fairfax (now Culpeper) and Locust. It is not clear for whom Spencer Street was named, but Fairfax and Cameron streets both honored Lord Fairfax, Baron of Cameron. Stevens Street was named for Revolutionary War officer General Edward Stevens (who is buried in the Masonic Cemetery), and Locust Street was named for the thorny trees that were prolific in the area.

[Text from the Town of Culpeper 250th Anniversary Commemorative Program booklet, 2009]

## *Stevensburg*

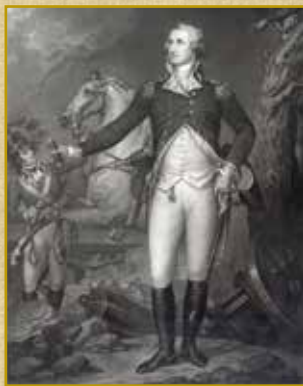
Originally called York, the village of Stevensburg was officially incorporated by an act of the Virginia Legislature in May 1782, and was named for local revolutionary General Edward Stevens of the American Revolution. The town was established on a 50-acre tract owned by William Bradley, and trustees were given power to sell lots of half an acre each. However, the area is believed to have been settled prior to 1750. It is said to have been settled first by Quakers who "reportedly left because the town became too wicked." [*Historic Culpeper*, pg. 135] There was horse racing, cock fighting, and gambling, and a nearby field became known as "Wicked Bottom." Other early settlers included Germans who had come to Virginia to work Governor Alexander Spotswood's iron mines at what is now known as Germanna Ford.

Stevensburg grew to rival the Town of Culpeper because it was the intersection of the north-south Old Carolina Road and the Kirtley Trail, the direct route from Fredericksburg to the mountains. On the Trail, the village marked the end of a day's journey from the port. Because of its beautiful view and high elevation, associated commerce trades, ordinaries, taverns, inns, churches, and schools flourished. From 1830 until the establishment of the railroad in 1850, stages and freight wagons met the Rappahannock canal boats at Richard's Ferry (Richardsville) and brought their passengers and cargo to Culpeper and points west by way of Madden's Tavern in Maddensville, and Wale's and Zimmerman's Cross Keys taverns in Stevensburg.

During the Civil War, both Union and Confederate troops camped in or near the village, and a number of skirmishes occurred. Union armies passed through on their way to the Battle of Brandy Station. Nearby Rose Hill Farm was used by Union cavalry Brigadier General H. Judson Kilpatrick as his headquarters. It is said that on one occasion, he rode his horse through the front door and down the hallway, turned and rode back out again to demonstrate what his horse could do for him. Late in the war, the Union Army shelled the house, and holes are visible today in the attic floor.

## ***Raccoon Ford***

In the closing days of the Revolution, General Washington sent General Lafayette south from Pennsylvania to keep an eye on the British incursion into Virginia. The traitor Benedict Arnold had arrived at Hampton Roads with 1,200 British troops on December 30, 1780, taking the area by surprise. General Lafayette arrived in Virginia with about 1,200 troops to reinforce the relatively green troops located there. However, the British sent additional troops into Virginia and they arrived before Lafayette and his men made the trip from the north. To compound the problems, General Cornwallis marched north from the Carolinas and arrived in Petersburg on May 20th. Lafayette wrote to General Washington that were he to take on the British at this point, he would be "cut to pieces". He had to keep his small army out of harm's way until more Continental troops could arrive. Thus, he retreated from just north of Richmond to cross the Rapidan River at Ely's Ford. He then moved upstream to Raccoon Ford where he could safely encamp and await reinforcements in the form of General Anthony Wayne and his army. Wayne arrived on June 7th and although Lafayette did not believe he could engage the British in a general battle, he set about on June 8th to begin harassing them. General Cornwallis, upon learning of the arrival of Wayne, decided to withdraw to the east. He ended up at Yorktown and was then virtually trapped. General Greene and his Continentals were to his south, Generals Lafayette and Wayne were to his west, General Washington and Count Rochambeau with his French Army were coming from the north, and the French Fleet controlled the seas to his east. The tide had turned and the end was in sight. Raccoon Ford had provided security at a pivotal juncture.



**General George Washington**



## **Culpeper Minute Men & Patriots**

### ***Captain Gabriel Jones***

Captain Gabriel Jones raised a Marine Company in the Virginia State Marine Corps and served as captain of a ship at Fredericksburg. After it was disbanded, he served as Captain of the 8th Company, 1st Regiment, Virginia State Line. He was wounded in service, never recovered his health, and died in 1777. He was married twice. His first wife was Mary Waller of Spotsylvania with whom he had a daughter. His second marriage was to Martha Slaughter with whom he had three sons and a daughter. He is buried on the grounds of The Grange in the Slaughter-Jones cemetery.

### ***General Edward Stevens***

General Edward Stevens was a Lt. Colonel in the original Culpeper Minute Men Battalion and served with distinction at the Battle of Great Bridge, 1775. Ultimately promoted to Brigadier General, he continued in service throughout the war and served at the battles of Brandywine, Germantown, Camden, Guilford Courthouse and Yorktown among others. The village of Stevensburg to the east of Culpeper is named for General Stevens. He donated land in the town for the Masonic Lodge, and land to the Episcopalians and Presbyterians for their church locations. He also donated land for the Masonic Cemetery where he, his wife, two sons and a daughter are buried. A historical marker honoring General Stevens is located at the entrance to the Masonic Cemetery.



## **Colonel John Jameson**

Colonel John Jameson was born in 1751 and was a Captain of one of the companies of the original Culpeper Minute Men Battalion which was formed in the summer of 1775 in Culpeper at Clayton's field. The militia Battalion marched to Great Bridge, Virginia (near Norfolk) and there they defeated the British who had been ordered to attack by the British governor, Lord Dunmore. This defeat broke the British rule in Virginia. The Battalion was disbanded in the spring of 1776 and Captain Jameson (then promoted to Major) joined the Virginia Continental Line. He served with General Washington at Valley Forge and was promoted to Lt. Colonel in August of 1779. In 1780, General Washington placed key commanders at strategic points around West Point, NY. Colonel Jameson was assigned to Tarrytown under the supervision of General Benedict Arnold. While at this station his men intercepted a traveler with documents leading them to believe he was a spy. Colonel Jameson notified General Washington, and the plot by General Benedict Arnold to turn the fort at West Point over to the British was uncovered.



## **Reverend James Waddell**

Reverend James Waddell was born in Ulster, Ireland of parents who were staunch Scottish Presbyterians. They immigrated to the colonies in 1739. Reverend Waddell was ordained a Presbyterian minister in 1761, and after serving in Pennsylvania, he relocated to Virginia and continued his ministry. He was a close friend of Patrick Henry and James Madison. In 1781, he joined the Virginia citizens' army to defend the Shenandoah Valley from British attack. He lost his sight due to cataracts in 1791 but continued his work and became known as the "blind preacher". He died in 1806 and is buried immediately behind the Waddell Memorial Church in Rapidan.

## **Martin Fishback, Patriot**

Martin Fishback was born in 1762 in the home known as 'Fleetwood' in Jeffersonton in northern Culpeper County. Among the battles in which he served was Yorktown which was the culmination of the Revolution and resulted in America's independence from the British. After the Revolution he returned home and married Lucy Amis and they lived out their lives at Fleetwood. Martin Fishback died in 1842 in the same room in which he was born. He is buried in the family cemetery at Fleetwood along with John Spilman (1750-1815), another Revolutionary War patriot. Constructed as part of the German Little Fork Colony, Fleetwood remains as a private residence. The first section was constructed c. 1750 by John Frederick Fischbach. Fischbach was the progenitor of five state governors, including James Kemper of Virginia and four who became governors of Arkansas.

## **Captain Francis Hume**

Captain Hume served originally in the war against the French and Indians and then with the Virginia Continental forces during the Revolution. His grave is located on the left side of Business Route 29 before crossing the Rappahannock River into Remington and was marked by the Sons of the American Revolution in 2005.

## **PLACES TO SEE**

There are two markers in the Town of Culpeper honoring Lt. Col. John Jameson.

### **Jameson Historical Marker (VDOT)**

Located near the intersection of Blue Ridge Avenue and Oaklawn Boulevard. Marks the Jameson family orchard which became a Civil War cemetery. Lt. Col John Jameson and his brother Lt. David Jameson served in the Revolutionary War.

### **John Jameson Marker (Town of Culpeper marker)**

Located at Town Hall, 400 S. Main Street. Marks the approximate location of Jameson's home.

### **Masonic Cemetery**

Rt. 229 N. near the intersection of Radio Lane in the Town of Culpeper. The burial site of Edward Stevens, and other patriots. Cenotaph markers have been placed for John Jameson, and David Jameson. Many prominent Culpeper families, including Button, Waite, Kyle, Reams, Guinn, Hudson and many others are interred here.

## ***Colonel Lawrence Taliaferro***

Colonel Taliaferro was the first Colonel of the Culpeper Minute Men Battalion which fought at Great Bridge December 9, 1775. In the spring after the Battle of Great Bridge, approximately one half of the Battalion was discharged from service and Colonel Taliaferro brought the men home. Ill health precluded ongoing active service but he continued local support of the cause of liberty. He is buried in a private cemetery at Rose Hill just west of Rapidan.

## ***John Strode, Patriot***

John Strode was instrumental in making arms for the Patriot cause at the Rappahannock Forge in Fredericksburg. He lived at 'Fleetwood' near Brandy Station and is buried at Fairview Cemetery.

## ***PLACES TO SEE***

### **Fairview Cemetery**

Rt. 522 West of the Town of Culpeper

Beautiful Fairview Cemetery dates to the mid-1800's and was known as Citizen's Cemetery until the turn of the 20th century. For more information, contact the Culpeper Town Clerk's office at (540)829-8240.

### **Betty Washington Historical Marker**

Betty Washington (Lewis) was the sister of General George Washington and the wife of Colonel Fielding Lewis. She died and was buried at the home of her daughter, Betty Lewis Carter. Tradition says that the house was torn down at the time of the Battle of Brandy Station in 1863, but the Culpeper Minute Men DAR chapter erected a monument at her grave in 1927.

Directions: Located on business route 29 North near the intersection of Inlet Road.

Public or Private: Marker is public. Betty Washington's grave is 2 miles south of the marker on private property.

Marker: VDOT

## **18th Century Structures**

### ***Revolutionary War Era Places***

Culpeper is fortunate to have retained a number of 18th century historic structures. Structures may be open to the public or only visible from the public right-of-way, or there may be a historic marker to view. However, many are private residences that are not open to the public. Please respect the privacy of the owners of these historic properties. General locations for each structure have been indicated as a point of reference and are not intended as driving directions.



**Greenwood**

### ***Greenwood***

This home was constructed circa 1760 and was the home of Judge John Williams Green. Judge Green served as a Justice and Chancellor of the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, 1822–1834. In 1825, Greenwood was the site of a reception for the Marquis de Lafayette and former President James Monroe.

Private residence. Please respect the owner's privacy.

Marker: VDOT Historical Marker

Designations: Virginia Landmarks Register, National Register of Historic Places, Journey Through Hallowed Ground



## ***Redwood***

Even though this home was not constructed until circa 1830, the land on which it was built was owned by the Pendleton family. Nathaniel Pendleton was a Captain in the First Virginia Regiment during the Revolutionary War.



**Burgandine House**

## ***Burgandine House***

The Burgandine House is a Main Street landmark and is one of the few remaining examples of a working-class home in Virginia. The lot on which it stands was part of the Spotswood tract which was sold in 1754 to Robert Coleman, then to General Edward Stevens. Of log construction, many of the house's original features have been maintained. Although it was long believed to date from the County's founding (1749), more recent research indicates that it was likely constructed circa 1800.

Directions: 803 S. Main Street

Phone: (540) 729-5218

Designations: National Register of Historic Places; Virginia Landmarks Register; Journey Through Hallowed Ground

## ***A. P. Hill Boyhood Home***

This property, saved from destruction by local citizens, was a part of the original Spotswood grant. The heirs of Spotswood sold it to Robert Coleman and it subsequently passed to Richard Dixon, then Edward Stevens, and to Thomas Hill in 1832. Stevens was a Culpeper Minute Men company commander and subsequently a general in the Revolutionary War. Hill raised his son, A. P. Hill, here until he entered West Point in 1842. He entered the Confederate Army as a Colonel, but in May 1862, at age 36, became the army's youngest Major General. On August 9 of that year, his troops led the charge that clinched a Confederate victory at the Battle of Cedar Mountain. Hill was killed on April 2, 1865 as Petersburg fell. (For more information on Hill and the Civil War, see *A Driving Tour of Civil War Culpeper*, available from the Culpeper Department of Tourism.)

Directions: Located at the northwest corner of Main and Davis Streets

Designations: National Register of Historic Places; Virginia Landmarks Register; Journey Through Hallowed Ground

## ***Maplewood***

Maplewood was constructed in 1760 by Charles Yancey on part of the 40,000-acre Kavanaugh grant of 1710. A Yancey cemetery is located here, including the graves of patriots Lewis Davis Yancey, his son Charles Yancey, and other Yancey family members who served in the War of 1812 and the Civil War.

Private residence. Please respect the owner's privacy.

Directions: Located on Route 685 about 1 mile east of Catalpa (north on Route 229).



**Salubria**

### ***Salubria***

Salubria was built circa 1756 by Reverend John Thompson, rector of St. Mark's Parish, for his bride, Lady Anne, the widow of Governor Alexander Spotswood. It is believed to be the oldest brick house in Culpeper County and one of the finest examples of Georgian architecture in America. The house remains largely in its original condition. Owners have included Barbours, Hansbroughs, and Graysons. Admiral Cary T. Grayson, born at Salubria, was personal physician to President Woodrow Wilson. In October 2000, Laura N. Grayson, widow of J. Gordon Grayson, donated Salubria to the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia.

Visitors welcome by appointment only. Owned by The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies.

Directions: Located 8 miles east of Culpeper on Route 3

Phone: (540) 423-1700

Marker: VDOT Marker at entrance

Designation: Virginia Landmarks Register; National Register of Historic Places



**Little Fork Episcopal Church**

### ***Little Fork Episcopal Church***

Little Fork was the second church to be established (1730) in St. Mark's Parish, and was named for its location within the Little Fork between the Rappahannock and Hazel Rivers. Earlier frame structures burned in 1750 and 1773 and have been replaced by the present brick structure constructed in 1776. The Reverend John Thompson, rector of St. Mark's Parish, built Salubria. During the Civil War, Little Fork Church was used as a stable by Union cavalry and all of the church's wooden furnishings were used for firewood. However, the three-piece Queen Anne silver communion service, probably hidden during the occupation, survived and is used today. The church has been painstakingly restored with box pews and holds regular services.

Visitors welcome during worship services or by appointment at other times.

Directions: 16461 Oak Shade Rd., Rixeyville.

Phone: (540) 937-4306

E-mail: [administrator@littleforkchurch.org](mailto:administrator@littleforkchurch.org)

Website: [www.littleforkchurch.org](http://www.littleforkchurch.org)

Marker: VDOT marker located on Rt. 229 near Rt. 624 north of Culpeper.

Designation: Virginia Landmarks Register; National Register of Historic Places

## *The Grange*

The Grange, constructed circa 1765, was owned by the Slaughter family for more than 200 years. According to tradition and early reports, it was near a grant made in 1724 to Robert Slaughter, vestryman and first warden of St. Mark's parish. Either Slaughter's son and subsequent owner, then a Continental officer, or Lafayette, whose Revolutionary troops were quartered here, named the place for his home LaGrange (French for "the barn") in Auvergne, France. The old wing of the house was known as the Lafayette wing, having reportedly been used by the Marquis as his army headquarters. Located southeast of Brandy Station, The Grange today is a private residence.



**General Lafayette**

**Privately owned. No access for general public.**

# Thank you

## Credits

The Culpeper Department of Tourism gratefully acknowledges the following for their assistance on this project:

- Mr. Jim Bayne, whose research and dedication made this project possible
- The Culpeper Minute Men Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution
- Society for the Preservation of Culpeper History
- Mary Jo Browning
- O. H. Perry Cabot
- Theresa Knight for her original contributions to this publication

## Additional Reading & Resources

### *Books*

- Historic Culpeper.* Culpeper Historical Society, Inc. (1974)  
*An 18th Century Perspective: Culpeper County.* Culpeper Historical Society, Inc. (1976)  
*Culpeper: A Virginia County's History Through 1920* by Eugene M. Scheel. Culpeper Historical Society (1982)  
*Early Churches of Culpeper County Virginia: Colonial and Antebellum Congregations.* Culpeper Historical Society (1987)

### *Websites & Organizations*

#### **Historic Germanna**

MAILING: P.O. Box 279  
LOCATION: 2062 Germanna Highway  
Locust Grove, VA 22508-0279  
Phone: 540-423-1700  
[www.germanna.org](http://www.germanna.org)

#### **Society for the Preservation of Culpeper History**

PO Box 1861, Culpeper, Virginia 22701

#### **Journey Through Hallowed Ground**

[www.hallowedground.org](http://www.hallowedground.org)

#### **The Historical Marker Database**

[www.hmdb.org](http://www.hmdb.org)

#### **Virginia Department of Historic Resources**

(804) 367-2323  
[www.dhr.virginia.gov](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov)

### *Research Studies*

Historic Site Survey and Archaeological Reconnaissance of Culpeper County, Virginia – prepared for the County of Culpeper by Eugene M. Scheel (1994)

Cost-Share Cultural Resource Survey of 23 Areas of Historic Interest Within Culpeper County, Virginia – prepared for Virginia Department of Historic Resources and Culpeper County by Dovetail Cultural Resources Group (2009)

"Salubria – A Dendrochronological Study" – commissioned by the Germanna Foundation, 2010

## Still Making History

Welcome to Culpeper, where you'll see that we are Still Making History! Culpeper, Virginia is unique in all the world: there is no other town with the name Culpeper. Located an easy 70 miles southwest of Washington, DC and in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, a visit to the town of Culpeper is like stepping back into a simpler time. A stellar example of the Virginia Main Street program, Culpeper has revitalized its downtown with world-class restaurants, art galleries, antique stores, and unique gift shops.



In addition to our Revolutionary War history, over 160 battles and skirmishes were fought in Culpeper County during the Civil War with battles at Cedar Mountain, Kelly's Ford, and Brandy Station. Today, the preserved battlefields offer peace and natural beauty. The Western Hemisphere's largest cavalry engagement occurred at Brandy Station, and the Graffiti House was used as a hospital during the war. Nearly demolished several years ago, writings and drawings on the wall were discovered and the house has been preserved. It offers a rare glimpse at the life of both Union and Confederate soldiers. The Museum of Culpeper History offers an exceptional look at our history, with an entire gallery dedicated to the Civil War. Colonial and twentieth century history are beautifully showcased as well as a set of 215-million-year-old dinosaur tracks.



Culpeper is also the home of history of another kind at the Library of Congress National Audio-Visual Conservation Center. In addition to collecting, preserving and restoring all of America's film & audio history, the NAVCC makes that history accessible by offering free screenings of classics like *Casablanca*, *Gone With the Wind*, and *The Wizard of Oz*, along with silent films with live music. A unique chance to see these great films on the big screen—as they were meant to be seen!

Culpeper has the only legal moonshine distillery in the state – Stillhouse at Belmont Farm! Chuck and Jeannette Miller welcome visitors to tour the distillery and hear stories of Chuck's grandfather, whose secret family recipe is still used today. There are a number of award-winning wineries in the area as well.

Hiking, backpacking, canoeing, fishing, and horseback riding are just a few of the many outdoor activities available in and around Culpeper. See Civil War era battlefields and canals as you pass by in your canoe or view the Blue Ridge from the back of a horse.

And be sure to enjoy Downtown Culpeper, where people from all walks of life, residents and visitors alike, gather throughout the year to enjoy an escape from a hectic, generic, big box world into the one-of-a-kind specialty shops and restaurants. Throughout the year, there are great events like the Culpeper Farmers Market, the Culpeper Renaissance 3rd Thursday Concert Series at the Depot, the 4th of July Celebration and Car & Bike Show, Harvest Days Farm Tour, Air Fest, and more.



Visit us soon, and make some history of your own. For all there is to see, do, and enjoy go to the tourism website.

[visitculpeperva.com](http://visitculpeperva.com)



**CULPEPER**  
**VIRGINIA**  

---

**RICH**   
**HISTORY**  
 **MODERN**  
**CHARM**

**VIRGINIA IS FOR LO♥ERS**

**540-727-0611**