



Planning Office

Agenda

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 14, 2024

202 A & B

Development Services Building

5 County Complex Court

Prince William, VA 22192

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Moment of Silence
3. Roll Call
4. Procedural Matters – Approve Request to Participate Remotely Through Electronic Communication Means (If needed)
5. Approval of Agenda
6. Approval of April 9, 2024, Meeting Brief and Resolutions
7. Citizens’ Time (*3 min/5 min*)
8. Chairman’s Time (*3 min*) Green
9. Vice-Chairman’s Time (*3 min*) Brace
10. Election of Officers

Voting: Voting shall be by voice vote or by ballot or by such other method as the Commission may choose which will permit those present at the meeting to know the vote of each Commission member and which will permit the recording of each Commission member’s vote. If by ballot, ballots shall be opened and read aloud as part of the meeting. The names of the Commission members whose ballots are read shall be announced and recorded.
11. Members’ Time (*3 min each*)
12. Staff Time (*3 min each*)
 - Planning Office
 - Libraries
 - Office of Historic Preservation

13. Land Development Applications Review - (Please provide staff with completed form)
Tabled Cases

Revised Cases

REZ2018-00007, Gatherings at Occoquan Ridge 9 th Submission	Brace
PFR2023-00017, Reid Energy Center 2 nd Submission	Dobbins

New Cases

REZ2024-00034, Hawthorn at Kettle Run	Brown
PFR2024-00011, Daves Store Substation	Pearsall
SUP2024-00035, Iglesia Vida Church	Dobbins
REZ2024-00035, Alderwood at Kettle Run	Brown
PFR2024-00014, NOVEC Pegasus Substation	Dobbins
PFR2024-00012, Public Safety Training Facility	Brown

14. Committee Reports

Budget Committee	Porta
Publications Committee	Dodge
Cemeteries Committee (1)	Brown
Historic Roadways Committee (2)	Pearsall
County Registered Historic Sites Committee	De Pue
Legislative Committee	Brickley
Events Committee	Brace

15. Old Business

Gaskins Cemeteries Draft Letter	Brown
---------------------------------	-------

16. New Business

17. Announcements

18. Adjournment

NOTES: (1) Cemeteries Committee meets at 7:00 p.m.
(2) Historic Roadways Committee meets at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Brief and Resolutions

April 2024



Planning Office

B R I E F

**Development Services Building
Conference Room 202 A & B**

**April 9, 2024
Regular Meeting**

In Attendance

Chairman Green, Commissioners Brace, Brown arrived at 7:35 p.m., De Pue, Dobbins, Dodge, Ford, Kastens, Kulick, Pearsall, Porter arrived at 7:40 p.m.

Justin Patton – Staff Liaison; Toni Brzyski - Commission Secretary; Lauren Maloy & Rob Orrison - Office of Historic Preservation; Eric Griffiths – Heritage Resources Specialist; Emma Dietrich – Cemetery Preservation Coordinator (remote participation)

7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

Roll Call

Quorum present

Procedures

RES 24-019

Approve the request by Commissioner Earnie Porta to participate in the meeting through electronic communication means - APPROVED - MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion De Pue, Kastens; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays-None; Absent from vote Brown, Porta, Porter; Absent from meeting Brickley, Davis]

Note: Commissioner Porta did not attend the meeting.

Delegate Henson Presentation

Delegate Henson Presented the Historical Commission with the Virginia Assembly Resolutions honoring Bill Olson and Don Wilson including reading aloud some of the “WHEREAS” clauses.

RES 24-020

Approve the agenda for its April 9, 2024, meeting as presented - APPROVED - MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion Kastens, Pearsall; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays-None; Absent from vote Porter; Absent from meeting Brickley, Davis, Porta]

RES 24-021

Approve the March 12, 2024, Meeting Brief and Resolutions as presented - APPROVED - MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion Brace, Dodge; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays-None; Absent from vote Porter; Absent from meeting Brickley, Davis, Porta]

Citizens’ Time

None.

Chairman’s Time

No report.

Vice-Chairman’s Time

Vice-Chairman Brace distributed some documents including the March 24, 2024, edition of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table’s Preservation Corner.

Member’s Time

Commissioner Pearsall voiced concerns about adverse impacts to some cemeteries and distributed a handout about these issues. Please see the Cemeteries Committee report included after this brief and resolutions.

Staff Time Planning

Justin Patton reported that David McGettigan is the new Deputy Planning Director. Mr. Patton also noted that, along with other duties, he’s working on the Gaskin Slave Cemetery situation.

Staff Time Libraries

No report.

Staff Time – Office of Historic Preservation (OHP)

In addition to a handout of upcoming events, Lauren Maloy provided the following:

- June 6, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. - In coordination with the Prince William Resolves DAR, we’re hosting a dedication of the Historical Commission’s Prince William Resolves marker on the 250th anniversary of the Resolves. Email & print invitations will be sent to the Historical Commission.
- June 8, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. - Resolve & Revolution, our free program commemorating the 250th of the Prince William Resolves, will take place in Merchant Park in Dumfries.
- June 8, 2024, from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. - Tavern Night at Williams Ordinary – free event; food & drink available to purchase on site.
- Historical Commission intern has an official start date of Monday, June 3rd.

Review of Pending Development Applications

There are two resolutions regarding pending development applications as Commission Member, Yolanda Green, recused herself from commenting on PFR2024-00003, Devlin Substation.

RES 24-022

Land Development Recommendations – APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion Kastens, Dodge; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays-None; Absent from Vote None; Absent from meeting Brickley, Davis, Porta]

RES 24-023

Land Development Recommendations – APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion Kastens, Dodge; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays-None; Abstain from Vote Green; Absent from Vote None; Absent from meeting Brickley, Davis, Porta]

Committee Reports

Budget

No report.

Publications

Commissioner Dodge distributed the following report:

1. Approved Markers Awaiting Delivery/Installation:

Note: It is not known at this time if any of the below markers have actually been ordered.

Hoadly – Approved August 2020, Accepted by Board of County Supervisors April 2023 (funded by the late Bill Olson)

Prelude to First Manassas (Orchard Bridge/Blackburns Ford) – Approved August 2022 (Proffered)

Woodbridge School (Riverside Station) – Text approved January 2023 (Proffered)

2. Prince William Resolves Marker:

As reported in September, the “Prince William Resolves” marker has been delivered. An unveiling and dedication are now scheduled for June 6, in time for its 250th anniversary.

3. Replacement Marker Ready for Installation:

As reported in November, the “Early Land Patents” and “Events Along Neabsco Creek” replacement markers were received from Sewah Studios. Rob Orrison will determine a new site for the “Early Land Patents” marker as the old site is currently being developed. The “Events Along Neabsco Creek” marker has now been reinstalled near its previous location along U.S. Route 1.

4. Andrew Leitch Marker (Action Item):

The marker at Andrew Leitch Park fell victim to a fallen tree branch during a windstorm last year. The pole is salvageable, but a new marker must be fabricated. Since the county’s insurance policy does not cover acts of God, the commission will need to fund a replacement which will cost \$3,075 according to the quote recently received by Toni from Sewah Studios (installation costs being separate). If funds are available in this year’s budget to cover this cost, this marker should receive priority funding and a motion to fund this marker can be made at this meeting. There is a 6-month backlog at Sewah Studios, but it should be possible to get the marker back up in time for the 250th in 2026.

5. Brown’s Tavern Site Marker:

Rob Orrison reported in December that VDOT had removed the Brown’s Tavern marker on Brentsville Road due to construction work on the new

interchange with Dumfries Road. We need to coordinate with VDOT to have the marker returned as close as possible to the original site once construction work has been completed.

Justin Patton reported that when he was in the area recently, he noticed the Brown's Tavern Site historical marker had been installed.

6. Washington-Reid School Marker:

The Washington-Reid Elementary School on Dumfries Road (Route 234) which dates to 1950 is a stop on the county's African American History Trail and it has been suggested as a site for a new historical marker. At the January meeting the commission agreed this is a worthy project and draft text based on information from Lucy Phinney's book, *Yesterday's Schools*, is appended for commission review. Funding can be discussed once text is approved.

7. Historical Marker Guide Update:

Copies of the 6th edition (2017) Marker Guide are still available, but the supply is getting low. The website version was updated to include the 2017 marker additions but still follows the 5th edition (2013) themed format which can be awkward to navigate. The marker guide needs to be amended with 12 new markers and 4 revised markers. Several others are in the works (see above). Another website update will require the support of the county mapping department and website manager.

Cemeteries

Based on his remarks during Members' Time, Commissioner Pearsall suggested the Historical Commission send a letter to the Board of County Supervisors outlining its concerns about cemetery preservation.

Chairman Green said the committee should provide language for this letter at the next meeting.

Commissioner Pearsall also suggested a letter be sent to contractors regarding the care of cemeteries.

Historic Roadways

Commissioner Pearsall distributed a report, noted that Commissioner Dobbins has joined the committee, and said the committee will continue to work on its project. Please see the Historic Roadways Committee report included after this brief and resolutions.

County Registered
Historic Sites

No report.

Nominating

The committee suggested the nominations be closed.

- RES 24-024 **Close the nominations for the 2024 election of officers – APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED** [VOTING RECORD: Motion De Pue, Dobbins; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays-None; Absent from Vote None; Absent from meeting Brickley, Davis, Porta]
- Legislative Commissioner De Pue discussed the various types of committees outlined in the Commission’s bylaws.
- Events Commissioner Brace noted the Events Committee participated at the History Symposium which was a good opportunity for the committee. He suggested it might be time to update the backdrop display and that the committee should participate in more events.
- Old Business Proposed Bylaws Amendment – Commissioner De Pue referred to the language provided at last month’s first reading of the amendment.
- RES 24-025 **Amend Article V. Committees of the Prince William County Historical Commission Bylaws – APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED** [VOTING RECORD: Motion De Pue, Kastens; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays-None; Absent from Vote None; Absent from meeting Brickley, Davis, Porta]
- New Business** May as Historic Preservation Month – Yearly Recommendation
RES 24-026 **Recommend the Board of County Supervisors proclaim May 2024 Historic Preservation Month in Prince William County, Virginia – APPROVED - MOTION CARRIED** [VOTING RECORD: Motion Pearsall, Brown; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays-None; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Brickley, Davis, Porta]
Members requested staff advise the date the proclamation will go before the Board of County Supervisors.
- Announcements** None
- Adjournment** **9:05 p.m.**

MOTION: DE PUE

**April 9, 2024
Regular Meeting
Res. No. 24-019**

SECOND: KASTENS

RE: APPROVE THE REQUEST BY COMMISSIONER EARNIE PORTA TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY THROUGH ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION MEANS

ACTION: APPROVED

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission (Commission) adopted a policy in its bylaws pursuant to Section 2.2-3708.2, VA Code Ann., to allow for remote participation by Members of the Commission; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Commission's policy, Earnie Porta notified the Chair that the Member is requesting permission from the Commission to electronically participate at the Commission's April 9, 2024, meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Member certified that (*check A or B*):

A. the Member is unable to attend the meeting due to a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents the Member's physical attendance; OR

B. **X** the Member is unable to attend the meeting due to the following specifically identified personal matter: travel out of state;

AND the Member has not already participated electronically due to a personal reason for more than one meeting this calendar year, (*Section (B) shall be limited to two meetings each calendar year*); and

WHEREAS, the remote location from which the Member plans to electronically participate is San Antonio, Texas; and this remote location will/will not (*circle one*) be open to the public (*need not be open to the public*); and

WHEREAS, the Member verifies that the Member's participation in any closed session of the meeting shall remain confidential and not be disclosed to any unauthorized persons or entities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Commission's policy, a request for electronic participation from a remote location shall be approved unless participation violates the Commission's policy or any provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William County Historical Commission does hereby approve the request by Commissioner Earnie Porta to participate in the meeting through electronic communication means in accordance with the Commission's policy; a quorum of the Commission was physically assembled at one primary or central meeting location; and arrangements were made for the voice of the Member to be heard by all persons at the primary or central meeting location.

Votes:

Ayes: by acclamation

Nays: None

Absent from Vote: Brown, Porta, Porter

Absent from Meeting: Brickley, Davis

MOTION CARRIED

ATTEST: _____
Secretary to the Commission

HISTORICAL COMMISSION RESOLUTION

MOTION: KASTENS **April 9, 2024**
Regular Meeting
Res. No. 24-020
SECOND: PEARSALL
RE: APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 9, 2024, MEETING AS PRESENTED
ACTION: APPROVED

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission considered the agenda for its April 9, 2024, meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Historical Commission provided no changes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Prince William County Historical Commission does hereby approve the agenda for its April 9, 2024, meeting as presented.

Votes:

Ayes: by acclamation

Nays: None

Absent from Vote: Porter

Absent from Meeting: Brickley, Davis, Porta

MOTION CARRIED

ATTEST: _____
Secretary to the Commission

HISTORICAL COMMISSION RESOLUTION

MOTION: BRACE **April 9, 2024**
Regular Meeting
Res. No. 24-021
SECOND: DODGE
RE: APPROVAL OF MARCH 12, 2024, MEETING BRIEF AND RESOLUTIONS AS PRESENTED
ACTION: APPROVED

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission considered its March 12, 2024, meeting brief and resolutions; and

WHEREAS, the Historical Commission provided no corrections;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Prince William County Historical Commission does hereby approve its March 12, 2024, meeting brief and resolutions as presented.

Votes:

Ayes: by acclamation

Nays: None

Absent from Vote: Porter

Absent from Meeting: Brickley, Davis, Porta

MOTION CARRIED

ATTEST: _____
Secretary to the Commission

HISTORICAL COMMISSION RESOLUTION

MOTION: KASTENS

**April 9, 2024
Regular Meeting
Res. No. 24-022**

SECOND: DODGE

RE: LAND DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

ACTION: APPROVED

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission seeks to identify, preserve and protect historic sites and structures in Prince William County; and

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission’s review of pending land development applications assists in determining the necessity for cultural resource surveys and other research and evaluations; and

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission believes that the identification, preservation and protection of historic sites and structures throughout Prince William County is well served by this action;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Prince William County Historical Commission does hereby recommend to the Prince William County Planning Commission the action(s) noted for the following properties:

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
REZ2022-00035	Grayson Overlook - 3 rd Submission	No Further Work
REZ2024-00006	Mid-County Industrial Park Rezoning and Proffer Amendment 2 nd Submission	No Further Work
SUP2023-00025	Heathcote Market Place Pad A 3 rd Submission	No Further Work
REZ2024-00004	Gibson Crossing - 2 nd Submission	Confirm when the house is razed salvageable vintage material to be ceded to the Prince William County Office of Historic Preservation, not the Historical Commission, for restoration projects.
SUP2024-00031	Goodwill Somerset Crossing	No Further Work

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
REZ2024-00028	Moreland Meadows	No Further Work
REZ2024-00031	Lawson at Telegraph	No Further Work
REZ2024-00033	Destination Place	No Further Work
REZ2024-00032	Madison Square	No Further Work
SUP2024-00032	Adams Modular/Manufactured Unit	No Further Work
SUP2024-00033	Heathcote Marketplace Pad E (Restaurant)	Phase II evaluation and Phase III data recovery study. Artifacts to be donated to and curated with the County.
SUP2024-00034	Heathcote Marketplace Pad D (Motor Vehicle Fuel)	JTHG - Landscaping on Route 15 should be in accordance with The Journey Through Hallowed Ground landscaping guidelines. Phase II evaluation and Phase III data recovery study. Artifacts to be donated to and curated with the County.

Votes:

Ayes: by acclamation

Nays: None

Absent from Vote: None

Absent from Meeting: Brickley, Davis, Porta

MOTION CARRIED

ATTEST: _____
Secretary to the Commission

HISTORICAL COMMISSION RESOLUTION

MOTION: KASTENS

**April 9, 2024
Regular Meeting
Res. No. 24-023**

SECOND: DODGE

RE: LAND DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

ACTION: APPROVED

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission seeks to identify, preserve and protect historic sites and structures in Prince William County; and

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission’s review of pending land development applications assists in determining the necessity for cultural resource surveys and other research and evaluations; and

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission believes that the identification, preservation and protection of historic sites and structures throughout Prince William County is well served by this action;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Prince William County Historical Commission does hereby recommend to the Prince William County Planning Commission the action(s) noted for the following property:

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
PFR2024-00003	Devlin Substation 2 nd Submission	No Further Work

Votes:

Ayes: by acclamation

Nays: None

Abstain from Vote: Green

Absent from Vote: None

Absent from Meeting: Brickley, Davis, Porta

MOTION CARRIED

ATTEST: _____
Secretary to the Commission

HISTORICAL COMMISSION RESOLUTION

MOTION: DE PUE **April 9, 2024**
Regular Meeting
Res. No. 24-024
SECOND: DOBBINS
RE: CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2024 ELECTION OF OFFICERS
ACTION: APPROVED

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission seeks to identify, preserve, protect and promote the history of Prince William County; and

WHEREAS, the nominating committee, elected by the Prince William County Historical Commission, has provided a slate of candidates for the 2024 election of officers; and

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission believes that the identification, preservation, protection and promotion of the history of Prince William County is well served by this action;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Prince William County Historical Commission does hereby close the nominations for the 2024 election of officers.

Votes:

Ayes: by acclamation

Nays: none

Absent from Vote: none

Absent from Meeting: Brickley, Davis, Porta

MOTION CARRIED

ATTEST: _____
Secretary to the Commission

HISTORICAL COMMISSION RESOLUTION

MOTION: DE PUE **April 9, 2024**
Regular Meeting
Res. No. 24-025

SECOND: KASTENS

RE: **AMEND ARTICLE V. COMMITTEES OF THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION BYLAWS**

ACTION: **APPROVED**

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission seeks to identify, preserve, protect and promote the history of Prince William County; and

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission seeks to amend Article V. Committees of its bylaws in order to provide clarification; and

WHEREAS, language was provided in the agenda package, as the first reading of the suggested amendment, at the Commission's March 12, 2024, regular meeting; and

WHEREAS, the following language provided replaced Paragraphs C and D of Article V. Committees:

"C. Special Committees: In addition to the Standing Committees listed above, the Chairman or the Commission may create one or more *ad hoc* temporary Special Committees with the concurrence of a majority of the members. Such Special Committees shall provide advice and counsel to the Commission and respond to the research, study, and organizational needs of the Commission, including the nomination of officers, as they may, from time-to-time, arise. The Chairman, with the concurrence of a majority of the members, will specify a Special Committee's responsibilities, appoint the members of a Special Committee, and appoint a committee chair. The Chairman or the Commission may dissolve a Special Committee with the concurrence of a majority of members when the Special Committee's term has ended (if a time-limited committee), its purpose has been fulfilled, it is deemed inactive, or for such other reason as may be stated in a motion to dissolve the Special Committee. Special Committees may seek assistance and advice from individuals or organizations who are not members of the Commission, but only members of the Commission may serve on a Special Committee.

D. Meetings and Voting: The provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, as they apply to providing public notice of regular and special meetings and voting, shall apply to Standing, Operating and Advisory Committees of the

Commission to the same extent those provisions apply to the Commission
itself.”;
and

WHEREAS, the Prince William County Historical Commission believes that the
identification, preservation, protection and promotion of the history of Prince William
County is well served by this action;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Prince William County
Historical Commission does hereby amend Article V. Committees of the Prince William
County Historical Commission Bylaws.

Votes:

Ayes: by acclamation

Nays: None

Absent from Vote: None

Absent from Meeting: Brickley, Davis, Porta

MOTION CARRIED

ATTEST: _____

Secretary to the Commission

HISTORICAL COMMISSION RESOLUTION

MOTION: PEARSALL

April 9, 2024

SECOND: BROWN

Regular Meeting

Res. No. 24-026

RE: RECOMMEND THE BOARD OF COUNTY SUPERVISORS PROCLAIM MAY 2024 HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA

ACTION: APPROVED

WHEREAS, in recognition of Prince William County's rich historical heritage, the Board of County Supervisors established the Historical Commission to advise and assist in efforts to preserve and protect cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Historical Commission works tirelessly to spotlight and encourage local participation in the preservation of Prince William County's cultural resources including structures, buildings, archaeological sites, and cemeteries; and

WHEREAS, historic preservation is an effective tool for managing growth, revitalizing neighborhoods, fostering local pride, and maintaining community character while enhancing the community's quality of life; and

WHEREAS, historic preservation is relevant to communities across the nation, both urban and rural, and for Americans of all ages, all walks of life, and all ethnic groups; and

WHEREAS, it is important to celebrate the role of history in our lives and the contributions made by dedicated individuals in helping to safeguard the tangible aspects of heritage that have shaped us as a people and enhanced our lives; and

WHEREAS, the County Archaeologist and the Planning Office provide guidance on implementing historic preservation goals and strategies in the Cultural Resources Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan and help citizens preserve the County's history; and

WHEREAS, Prince William County is honoring its heritage by preserving and protecting its history through the restoration of numerous historic sites and through educational programming for the public to learn about local history; and

WHEREAS, Prince William County has a strong commitment to public acquisition and interpretation of significant historic properties for heritage tourism and community use; and

WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Division, now called the Office of Historic Preservation, was formed in 2005 and is responsible for the restoration and management of more than a dozen County owned historic sites and properties, including the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre, Rippon Lodge Historic Site, Ben Lomond Historic Site and Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park; and

WHEREAS, Prince William County plans to conduct activities in furtherance of the celebration of historic preservation at County owned historic sites during the month of May 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Prince William County Historical Commission hereby recommends the Board of County Supervisors proclaim May 2024 Historic Preservation Month in Prince William County, Virginia.

Votes:

Ayes: by acclamation

Nays: None

Absent from Vote: None

Absent from Meeting: Brickley, Davis, Porta

MOTION CARRIED

ATTEST: _____
Secretary to the Commission

Report

Cemeteries Committee

Prince William County Historical Commission: Cemeteries Update April 2024

Section 800 Buffer Areas, Landscaping, and Tree Cover Requirements (Adopted March 2,2021)

https://www.pwcva.gov/assets/2021-04/dcs800_0.pdf

801.02

J. Cemetery Preservation Area: A strip of undisturbed land surrounding a cemetery, beginning at the edge of the archaeologically defined limits of burials and graves and extending outward 25 feet.

802.11

2. Existing cemeteries within a developing property shall have a 25-foot wide perimeter cemetery preservation area. Where a cemetery abuts a property line a buffer as required in Table 8-1 or a 25-foot wide cemetery preservation area shall be provided, whichever is greater. The provisions of DCSM 802.12A.1-A.5, C and D shall not apply to cemetery preservation areas. Dead, diseased, or dying trees or shrubbery, noxious weeds, and non-native invasive species within this cemetery preservation area, in accordance with Section 802.33 of this Manual may be removed by hand (that is, without the use of heavy equipment). Removed plants shall be replaced with plantings of native or historical ground

Adopted: March 2, 2021

800 - 5

Gaskin-Slave-Sevinson

- Preservation area, not observed, was disturbed within 8ft of headstones August 2023
- County was notified March 2024 after citizen inquiry
- 1991, Phase II by VCU, cemetery meets criteria for National Register of Historic Places

Gaskins

- Tree clearing activity present in cemetery and buffer area occurring between 2021-2023
- Delineation, Phase II, and National Register of Historic Places eligible needs review

Issue: Current protective measures appear to be insufficient for cemetery preservation

- Pattern of preservation area and cemetery disturbances
- Communication gaps regarding county cemetery guidelines

Recommendations: Increase awareness of existing cemeteries and preservation efforts

- Delineate and fence cemeteries during rezonings and special use permits
- Identify cemeteries on adjacent properties and secure preservation areas
- Designate slave & historic eligible cemeteries as County Register Historic Sites
- Establish permitting protocol for cemetery review
- Encourage cemetery preservation

Actions:

Write letter to BOCS recommending further protective measures for cemeteries are needed

Write letter to contractors asking for continued protections and maintenance

Further work recommended for the developer REZ#PLN:2004-00105, with guidance from the county and Historical Commission, to establish an appropriate cemetery fence, historical marker, public access pathway to the site, work with VDHR/VDOT (neighboring property) to encompass historic cemetery preservation boundary and maintain ongoing cemetery preservation efforts of the Gaskin Slave Sevinson Cemetery.

Prepared by Commissioner Pearsall Gainesville District

Site Significance and Recommendations

Normally, the criteria for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places specifically excludes cemeteries unless they are associated with sites that are themselves eligible. To date, no domestic or other type of site which would have been associated with this family plot has been located. However, the fact that the cemetery contains the remains of African-Americans who were free prior to the Civil War, along with those of their descendants, indicates that this site may contain data which will contribute to current knowledge of health, foodways and lifestyle in this population. The site therefore meets criteria d. "That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history" (36CFR60.6 and 800.10).

Free African-Americans are underrepresented in the documentary record and few archaeological sites associated with this group have been identified and studied. Using DNA studies it is possible to determine genetic relationships between the individuals interred within the cemetery. Once this has been determined, it will be possible to examine the remains for pathological indicators of quality of nutrition, general health, type of lifestyle engaged in and evidence of inherited disease. This site offers a rare opportunity to conduct these studies among several generations of the same African-American family. When coupled with information which can be obtained from documentary records such as state and local taxes, censuses, wills and inventories, such a generational study will provide comparative material that can be used by scholars studying the effects of the changes wrought by the Civil War on those African-Americans who were free before the war. The importance of the data contained within this site cannot be overstated. Therefore, it is suggested that this site should be considered eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places for the reasons elaborated above. The proposed construction will directly impact the site resulting in an adverse effect to this resource. Therefore Phase 3 mitigation is recommended.

Gaskin-Slave-Sevinson



Gaskins



**Report
Historic Roadways
Committee**

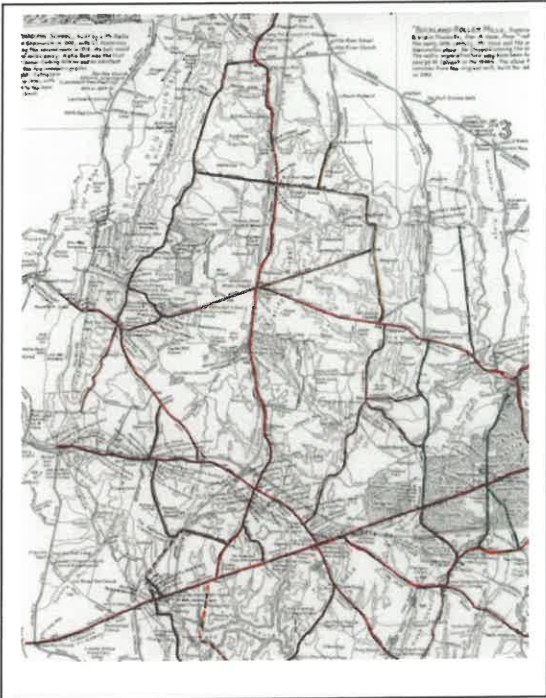
Prince William County Historical Commission: Historic Roadways April 2024

Gainesville District

- Initial draft of historic roads complete
- Identify roadway alterations pending

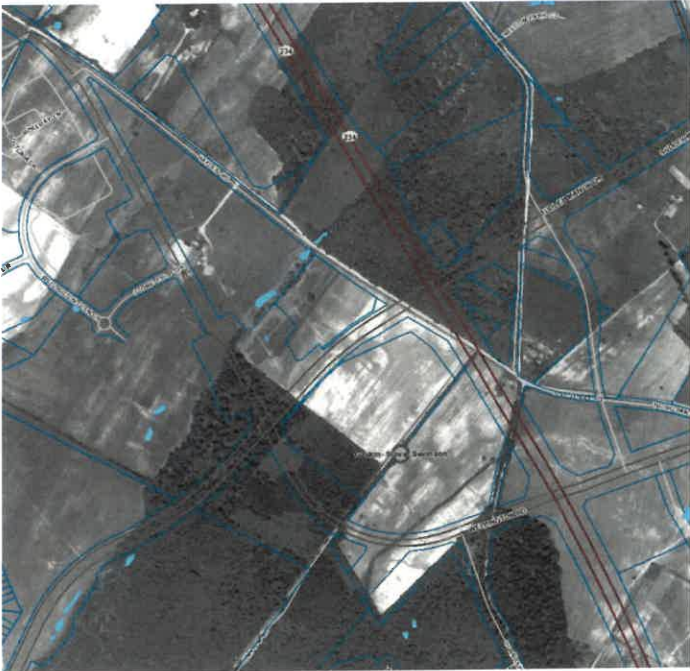
Brentsville District

- Needs draft



Wellington Road aka Manassas Road; Road to Manassas

Wellington and Bethlehem Road Intersection



Example: Road re-routed and original redeveloped

Prepared by Commissioner Pearsall Gainesville District

Cemeteries Committee

Draft Letter

May 14, 2024

Prince William Board of County Supervisors
1 County Complex Court
Prince William, VA 22192

Re: Impacts to County History, Gaskins Cemeteries GPIN 7596-64-9220; GPIN 7596-73-4488; GPIN 7696-40-9987; GPIN 7696-41-7113

Dear Chair Jefferson, Supervisor Gordy, and Members of the Board:

The Prince William County Historical Commission makes recommendations to you, from time to time, in support of the Board's responsibility to identify, preserve, protect and promote Prince William County's historical sites, artifacts, buildings and events, per County ordinance.

During a regular meeting on April 9, 2024, the Historical Commission was informed about two historic cemeteries, located within the Brentsville District, that have been adversely impacted by recent industrial construction activities. In one instance, a designated cemetery preservation area was not observed or noticed prior to development activities, which came within feet of multiple previously-delineated graves. County staff were notified as a result of a citizen inquiry 6 months after the initial ground disturbance. Another recent instance affecting a burial site within 2 miles of this site, sharing the same family name, also appears to have had preconstruction activities within and around the cemetery and cemetery preservation areas. Mitigation and restoration for the impacts to this additional site are still unknown. This case has also been brought, albeit delayed, to the attention of county staff.

A disturbing trend has developed indicating existing efforts to preserve and prevent adverse impacts to cemeteries and preservation areas within the county are not sufficient for the intended objectives to preserve in place as the priority. Heightened attention is necessary to prevent further occurrences of damage to historically sensitive cemeteries within Prince William County.

Furthermore, it is essential that the two cemeteries accurately represent their historical significance. Each location offers valuable perspectives on the lives of Free African Americans prior to emancipation in Prince William County, insights that were previously unrecognized.

Nellie Gaskin, a free woman of color believed to be interred at the cemetery GPIN 7596-64-9220, was born free in 1805. Her freedom was inherited at birth, as her mother, Kate, once

enslaved by Robert Carter III, was emancipated in 1792 through Carter's Deed of Gift. This deed liberated over 400 enslaved African Americans, guaranteeing that Kate's children would be born free. Regrettably, contemporary documents incorrectly refer to the site as the Gaskin's Slave Cemetery. Nonetheless, historical records clearly indicate that Nellie and her descendants were never enslaved.

Cemetery GPIN 7696-40-9987 represents the second Gaskin burial ground on land previously owned by Susan Gaskin, Nellie's daughter. A headstone in the area, marked with the name Frank Gaskin, is thought to belong to Susan's son.

The story of Kate's emancipation through the Deed of Gift, leading to land ownership by Nellie Gaskin and her children, is significant to the study and preservation of these two internment spaces. The cemeteries warrant protection for future study to ascertain the lifestyle that took root in a community of born free African Americans in Prince William County.

The Historical Commission encourages working with developers, Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, and appropriate utility company to address the instances above.

Recommendations for the impacted sites include:

- Full cemetery delineation
- Fenced preservation area 25ft of delineated cemetery with 15ft planted buffer
- Erect historical marker at each site reflecting the Born-Free status of Gaskin Family
- Establish permanent, designated parking and public access to each cemetery
- Maintenance of cemetery, in perpetuity

A further review of planning practices and supervision pertaining to cemeteries within and adjacent to parcels where commercial construction activities is advised.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact.... For further historical research information please reach out to

Sincerely,