

9. HISTORIC RESOURCES

INTRODUCTION

Overview

The County of Culpeper has had a rich and diverse history, which has been well documented by numerous sources. In Eugene M. Scheel's book, Culpeper, a Virginia County's History Through 1920, published in 1982 by the Culpeper Historical Society, Mr. Scheel starts his narrative of the history of Culpeper with the last ice age, which occurred about 9000 years ago. That Wisconsin ice age was followed by the Archaic Period, characterized by hunting societies and the use of stone implements, and the Woodland Period, characterized by more permanent settlements, the cultivation of crops and the manufacturing of clay vessels. The Woodland Period lasted until the first contact with Europeans in 1500 A.D. Various sites have provided archaeological evidence of prehistoric settlement in the Culpeper County area. Specific information on these sites is on file with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources located in Richmond. In addition to the archaeological sites mentioned above, preserved dinosaur tracks were found at the Culpeper Stone Quarry located in the Stevensburg area of the County. These prints, which date back 201 million years, are relatively rare and are currently on display at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C.

The Sioux Indians were found to have settled in the area of present day Culpeper County by Captain John Smith. Captain Smith mapped the area in 1608, locating four Sioux Villages along and between the Rappahannock and the Rapidan Rivers. Captain Smith also met three other Indian tribes in the area, one of which, the Ontponeas, gave their name to Mount Pony. Legend has it that the Ontponeas are responsible for the carvings inscribed in rock overhangs near Mount Pony's 791-foot high summit.

In 1649, King Charles II granted 5.28 million acres of land to seven proprietors. One of these grants, 629,120 acres known as the Northern Neck Proprietary, contained what was to become Culpeper County. In 1735 Thomas, Sixth Lord Fairfax, became the first owner of the Northern Neck Proprietary to set foot on his property. In 1749, the Virginia General Assembly created Culpeper County. The name Culpeper, surname of Lord Fairfax's mother, was chosen because Fairfax County already existed.

At the beginning of the Revolutionary War, Culpeper County was still on the nation's frontier, considered backwoods by the residents of urban eastern Virginia. Culpeper's famed Minute Men were first formed in 1775. During the Revolutionary War, the Minute Men fought in several battles, including the Battle of Great Bridge, the first Revolutionary battle on Virginia soil.

Culpeper County continued to grow during the period following the Revolutionary War. Towns, among them Jeffersonton and Stevensburg, were created by the Virginia General Assembly. The County seat was officially known as Fairfax, but was commonly called Culpeper Court House. Tobacco, which had been the primary agricultural crop and which also served as the primary medium of exchange, was slowly replaced in the fields by corn and wheat.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Culpeper's citizens were solidly behind the cause of the South. Intense battles were fought in and around Culpeper. As the tide of the war shifted back and forth across

Virginia, several areas in Culpeper were occupied in force alternately by both the Northern and Southern armies. Major battles of note which occurred in the County were the Battle of Brandy Station and the Battle of Cedar Mountain. During the years of the war, County residents endured great hardships. Crops and animals were taken by soldiers foraging for food. Fences were taken down to build shelters and fuel fires. Those houses and churches which were not destroyed were commandeered to serve as officers' quarters or hospitals.

Reconstruction after the war progressed rapidly in Culpeper. Immediately after the war the County was described as a scene of utter desolation, but by 1867 the *Richmond Dispatch* reported that "the land now smiles with its pristine verdure and beauty." History has left its unique stamp on the physical development of Culpeper County. The County's agricultural roots are apparent from the current landscape and development patterns. The development of transportation networks, first rivers, then wagon trails, railroads, and finally highways, influenced where and how growth has occurred in the County.

Though many of Culpeper's rural areas and landscapes have managed to survive largely intact, increasing pressures in recent decades from population growth, new development, and economic fluctuations have begun impacting many of the area's cultural heritage resources. Signs of pervasive deterioration and neglect were noted in many of the areas of historic interest recently surveyed. The loss of this built heritage, in turn, impacts public memory and erodes the long-standing historic identities of many of Culpeper's communities.

Historic Inventory

In January of 2008, Dovetail Cultural Resource Group began a multi-phase reconnaissance-level investigation of architectural and archaeological resources located within 23 previously specified Areas of Historic Interest (AOHI) in Culpeper County, Virginia known as the Cultural Resource Survey of Culpeper County. The 23 AOHI were established using The Historic-Site Survey and Archaeological Reconnaissance of Culpeper County, Virginia, (hereafter Historic-Site Survey) by Eugene M. Scheel prepared for the County of Culpeper, November, 1992 - April, 1994. This 1994 survey consists of two parts: a set of United States Geological Survey Map Quadrangles on which all of the sites are located; and a separate write-up for each site. This document, as well as the 2008 Cultural Resource Survey are hereby incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan by reference, and shall be used to support the policies set forth in this chapter.

The 2008 Cultural Resource Survey was completed at the request of the Culpeper County Department of Planning in satisfaction of requirements outlined in the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) cost-share survey program contract. The multi-phase survey comprised a Phase I level investigation of all historic architectural properties over 50 years in age and a general evaluation of each area's potential archaeological value. Following the fieldwork, a comprehensive Data Sharing System packet was completed for each surveyed resource, including an architectural description, statement of significance, location maps, and sets of both black & white and color digital photographs. In addition, three of the areas of interest deemed potentially eligible for listing as historic districts on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) were subjected to more in-depth investigations and documented in a Preliminary Information Form (PIF) to be submitted to the DHR for its review. The 23 surveyed AOHI included: Brandy Station, Cedar Mountain Battlefield, Cunningham Farm, Fleetwood Hill, Griffinsburg, Hansborough Ridge, Hansborough Ridge Encampment, Hazel River, Jeffersonton, Jonas Run, Kelly's Ford,

LaGrange, Lignum, Mitchell's, Mount Pony, Mountain Run, Raccoon Ford, Rapidan, Richard's Ford, St. James Church, and Stevensburg. Two other areas, Beverly's Ford and the Rappahannock River Fortifications, were also among the original list of twenty-three AOHI, but were not studied further.

In total, Dovetail completed surveys of 274 new and previously-recorded historic properties in 21 of the 23 targeted areas of historic interest. The resultant pool of surveyed resources spans the entire spectrum of Culpeper County's cultural development, dating from early prehistoric periods through the current millennium. The temporal distribution of individually recorded sites is consistent with the pattern seen in many other areas of the state: a scattering of pre-Civil War era buildings intermixed with a preponderance of buildings dating to both the postbellum period and the years between the two World Wars.

In addition to these comprehensive studies, the National Register of Historic Places, the National Historic Landmark Program, Virginia's Landmarks Register and the work of local historians provide information on the significant historic places and archaeological sites located throughout the County.

Other existing resources include, but are not limited to, the following books:

- Culpeper: A Virginia County's History Through 1920 by Eugene M. Scheel, published by the Culpeper Historical Society, Inc., Culpeper, Virginia, 1982.
- An 18th Century Perspective: Culpeper County, Virginia compiled and edited by Mary Stevens Jones, published by the Culpeper Historical Society, Inc., Culpeper, Virginia, 1976.
- Historic Culpeper prepared and published by the Culpeper Historical Society, Inc., Culpeper, Virginia, 1974.
- We Were Always Free by T. O. Madden, Jr. and Ann L. Miller, published by Norton, 1992.
- Genealogical and Historical Notes on Culpeper County, Virginia compiled by Raleigh Travers Green, originally published in 1900, republished in 1971 by Regional Publishing Company.
- Seasons of War by Daniel E. Sutherland, published by The Free Press, 1995.
- Culpeper: A 20th Century History by Donnie Johnson, published by Maple Leaf Press, 2004.

Preservation

The question of why to preserve historically significant features is integral to community, national and social values. The question of how to protect them are policy decisions. Two important interests of the County are:

1. The preservation of areas of historic interest as open space contributing to the County's legacy viewshed;
2. Managing development to insure that historic resources are protected and, if possible, enhanced.

These two interests each present a wide variety of issues with which to deal. Preservation of sites as open space requires consideration of land purchase and maintenance, as well as property rights. Allowing development while attempting to preserve historic resources requires careful study and planning. It is recommended that legislative steps be taken to protect resources in the form of a historic overlay district which would provide for protection of our significant resources; as well as fair and uniform options for property owners. In many situations, neither total preservation forever nor complete openness for development is either practical or realistic. It is more effective for preservation groups, communities, and private individuals to unite in crafting solutions that take into account the unique aspects of each situation.

The Comprehensive Plan is not a regulatory document. It exists to set forth policies to provide a framework in making land use decisions. The policies included in this chapter can be implemented through the development process. The policies are set forth such that a framework will be in place to foster strong historic preservation efforts. The policies stress measures which will not only allow the County to be proactive in seeking to preserve historic sites, but also which will allow development proposals to become catalysts for major projects. Development and preservation may seem to be in direct conflict; but they often can co-exist, and even reinforce each other. In fact, through trade-offs, clustering, and advanced marketing in conjunction with the County, development can gain exposure from nearby historic sites; and benefit them by creating awareness, study, and public access.

POLICIES

General Policies for Historic Preservation

The primary purpose of this chapter is to encourage and facilitate the identification and protection of the County's significant historic resources. Its secondary intent is to enhance awareness of the history of the County and the importance of preserving properties which are significantly linked with that history. To further this purpose, the following policies are established:

- In making land use decisions, consider identification of Culpeper County's significant historical, archaeological, architectural, and other cultural resources for the benefit of the County's citizens and visitors. This is to be accomplished through surveys and studies, maintenance of the Cultural Resource Survey, The Historic-Site Survey and Archaeological Reconnaissance of Culpeper County, Virginia, and nominations of significant resources to the Virginia Landmark and National Registers. The resources identified under this policy specifically include sites that are significant to the County's and the nation's various cultural communities.

- In making land use decisions, consider the protection of cultural resources that are important in documenting the prehistory or history of the County. This is the broadest of the policies included in this chapter. This policy may be accomplished through any of the following strategies, or any combination thereof:
 - Require applicants for rezonings and special use permits to refer to and conduct surveys of historic resources.
 - Encourage the use of preservation easements.
 - Inform property owners of the potential for federal rehabilitation tax credits.
 - Encourage maintenance and protection of historic properties.
 - Utilize conditional zoning procedures which promote preservation.
 - Consider acquisition and management of the most significant historic resources.
- Enhance the awareness of Culpeper County's history and the importance of the County as it relates to the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States. This policy may be accomplished through public awareness efforts, including broad dissemination of the Cultural Resource Survey, The Historic-Site Survey, and the creation of brochures, slogans, and other promotions to increase tourism and to promote the protection of sites.
- Encourage preservation of the County's most significant historic properties by considering adoption of a local historic preservation ordinance. This could take the form of 'historic resource' designations, or an 'historic resource management' overlay zone.

Action Strategies

While the policies outlined above are general in nature, and could be applied county-wide to sites identified in the Cultural Resource Survey and The Historic-Site Survey, the strategies which follow are more specific, and the sites to which they apply are identified in this chapter.

- Consider mitigation measures for all new development within the Areas of Historic Interest.
 - Recognize the Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain Battlefield areas as delineated in this chapter.
 - Require a Conceptual Development Plan to be submitted for all rezoning, special use permits, and site plan applications which are in close proximity to historic sites.
 - Where warranted by authoritative survey and DHR criteria, require applicants to submit Phase I archaeological surveys as part of the rezoning and special use permit submission package. If necessary, require additional surveys as outlined in the Phase I report. Use these studies in the formulation of the Conceptual Development Plan.

- Encourage the retention of existing trees and vegetation. Employ significant vegetative buffering along roadways.
- Encourage the use of clustering and large open spaces for developments which are in close proximity to historic areas and sites.
- Encourage development proposals to include interpretive features such as historic markers, public access, and trail systems.
- Encourage development that is located, situated, and buffered so as to maintain a high degree of the existing physical and visual integrity while still recognizing the appropriate development as outlined in the Future Land Use Plan (see Chapter 11).
- Where construction is approved, encourage compatibility with historic buildings located in historically significant villages, convenience centers, cultural centers, and crossroads.
- Apply mitigation measures to all new development which is in close proximity to sites listed on the Virginia or National Registers, or sites identified in the Cultural Resource Survey and The Historic-Site Survey as potential National Register Sites. Additionally, seek to enhance these sites.
 - Where construction is approved, encourage compatibility with any historic building located in close proximity.
 - Require that National Register and potential National Register buildings are preserved on adequately sized lots.

POTENTIAL HISTORIC RESOURCE OVERLAY ZONES

Since the original adoption of this chapter in 1999 and its reaffirmation in 2005, the DHR has formally recognized its value; and has made clear that certain features and areas would benefit from additional regulatory protection. Overlay zones such as described by the Virginia Municipal League which provide enforcement of historic resource protection efforts are the recommended and fairest methods. The priority areas for implementation should be those areas which have significant and documented historic value, those which can be geographically defined, and those which are most in danger of being compromised by encroaching development. Current examples would include the Villages of Jeffersonton and Rapidan, and portions of the Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain battlefields.

BRANDY STATION AND CEDAR MOUNTAIN BATTLEFIELDS

The Brandy Station Battlefield

The Battle of Brandy Station took place on June 9, 1863. 20,500 troops were involved in the conflict, in which there were 1,400 casualties and missing. In terms of the number of troops involved, the battle ranks 72nd among all Civil War engagements; and in terms of casualties, it ranks 91st. Brandy Station was the largest cavalry battle of the war, and military historians cite it as the largest cavalry engagement in the Western Hemisphere. Strategically, it is considered the opening battle of the Gettysburg Campaign.

While the battle encompassed a large area, it can be divided into three sectors:

- 1) Kelly's Ford (Kelly's Ford area of historic interest).
- 2) Stevensburg (Stevensburg, Mountain Run and Hansbrough's Ridge areas of historic interest).
- 3) Brandy Station (Brandy Station, Fleetwood Hill, St. James Church, Cunningham Farm, and Beverly's Ford areas of historic interest).

Further details about the battle can be found in the [Cultural Resource Survey](#) and [The Historic-Site Survey](#). The areas of historic interest, and the components of those areas, are described briefly and mapped in this chapter. The areas of St. James Church and Fleetwood Hill are primarily west of Beverly's Ford Road. Development endeavors and efforts to improve the Culpeper Regional Airport to the east of Beverly's Ford Road will not adversely impact the historic areas, and will not be impeded by the policies of this Chapter.

The Cedar Mountain Battlefield

The Battle of Cedar Mountain took place on August 9, 1862. Also known as the Battle of Slaughter's Mountain or Cedar Run, the battle involved approximately 28,000 active troops, 20,000 of them Confederate, under command of Major General Thomas J. 'Stonewall' Jackson. Opposing this force was Major General John Pope's Army of Virginia, in its first action. The five-hour fight was intense, with Union casualties at thirty percent of the troops engaged: 2,400 killed, wounded, and missing. The Confederates lost six percent of their force totaling approximately 1,300. The importance of the battle is debated, but it has been described as a crucial preliminary battle in the Second Manassas campaign.

Further details about the battle can be found in the [Cultural Resource Survey](#) and [The Historic-Site Survey](#). This area of historic interest, unlike Brandy Station, is defined as a single, contiguous area.

AREAS OF HISTORIC INTEREST

The Historic-Site Survey identifies individual buildings, building sites, archaeological sites, and other historically significant places throughout the County. In some instances, a ‘place’ may consist of more than one parcel of land. These may be villages, battlefields, areas that may contain a high concentration of individual sites, or areas of similar characteristics. These areas have been identified as Areas of Historic Interest (AOHI). Twenty-three designated areas have been delineated since the 1999 Comprehensive Plan (map 9.1). Twenty-one of these areas were resurveyed in 2008 by Dovetail Cultural Resource Group under the direction of the county and DHR. Their report, the Cultural Resource Survey is incorporated in the area summaries as follows.

Brandy Station, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-1):

The Brandy Station area of community interest includes most of the older structures in the village of Brandy Station and is outlined on the area map. Most of the area identified is south of Route 15/29 and the Southern Railroad corridor. There are many late 19th and early 20th century structures, with the newer structures generally in keeping with the older. Any new construction should be encouraged to maintain that motif. The structures of local significance include Graffiti House, Blue Haven, Bailey’s Store, Stone-Compton House, Brandy Baptist Church, Christ Church Rectory, Christ Episcopal Church, Brandy Station Post Office, Fleetwood Methodist Church, Humphries House, and Stevens Masonic Lodge. A more intensive historic-site survey or archaeological reconnaissance is probably not needed when considering development in this area, although excavation should be performed with caution.



Graffiti House, Photo by Dovetail Cultural Resources Group

Cedar Mountain Battlefield, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-2):

The area delineated encompasses the main area of fighting, the area of five early 20th century memorials to the battle, and the area of the majority of fifty-five small markers.

The Historic-Site Survey delineates two additional boundaries. One is that of the U.S. Park Service (1987) and the other is that of the Virginia Historic Landmarks commission (1988). “An Assessment of the Cedar Mountain Battlefield in Culpeper County” indicates the basis for the area shown and details the battle.

Cunningham Farm, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-3):

The Cunningham Farm AOHI encompasses a 571-acre tract located north of Route 15/29 in north-central Culpeper County. Most of the land consists of open, agricultural fields that are recorded as part of the Brandy Station Battlefield. A small gravel parking area with interpretive signage is located within the southern section of this AOHI to cater to Brandy Station battlefield tourists. Only two resources were recorded within this AOHI, but both properties provide useful insights into the distinct agricultural history of this area.

Fleetwood Hill, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-4):

The Fleetwood Hill AOHI, located in central Culpeper County near Brandy Station, is the second-largest AOHI at 1,370 acres. Like most of this part of Culpeper County, the Fleetwood Hill area is primarily still used for agricultural purposes, and most of the land is under cultivation. The oldest resource is Farley. Located near the intersection of Routes 663 and 679, Farley was constructed in 1801 and has been fully restored.



Farley, Photo by Dovetail Cultural Resources Group

Griffinsburg, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-5):

This is the 'newest' of Culpeper County's historic areas and many of the buildings date from the 1920's, with the oldest structure being Yates Inn, ca. 1906. The remaining buildings are associated with persons of note.

Hansbrough's Ridge and Hansbrough's Ridge Winter Encampment Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-6):

Controversy exists regarding the location of both the main Union and Confederate positions in this area. It is this area, however, where the heaviest fighting in the Stevensburg sector of the Battle of Brandy Station occurred, fought June 9, 1863. All sources agree that the heaviest fighting took place north of present Routes 3 and 610 and west of present Route 739.

The designated area of historic interest includes the Winter encampment of the Army of the Potomac, 1863-1864. From November 26, 1863 to May 4, 1864, the Ridge lodged the 2nd Corps of the Army of the Potomac and the 20th Regiment of the Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. More than 10,000 men

resided here in a military city on the crest and slopes of what they called “Piney Ridge”. The site contains shallow depressions where the soldiers built huts, and many fallen chimney bases which retain the original fireboxes and hearths.

This site is designated on the Virginia Department of Historic Resources Inventory and is a potential National Register Site. There has been, however, a great deal of disruption and relic hunting in this area.

Salubria, a cavalry brigade headquarters and the oldest brick home in the County (built by one of Culpeper’s most famous Episcopal ministers), is also incorporated here. This area is bisected by a primary road, Route 3, which is planned for widening to four lanes. The area of historic interest focuses on Salubria to the south and the winter encampment to the north, neither of which will be adversely impacted by the road development.

Hazel River, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-7):

The Hazel River-Ryland Chapel area of historic interest extends from the crossroads of old Ryland Chapel east to Hurt’s Ford on the Hazel River. This area is scenic as well as historic. At the center, Ryland Chapel Road follows the ridge, and along its 2 miles are nine homes dating from the mid-to-late 19th century. The most important is NorthCliff, built in 1847, which is a potential National Register Site. In addition to NorthCliff, the homes of interest include Rock Springs, Spring Hill, Clover Hill, Edgewood, Haught Place, Homeland, and Coons Place. A very large number of interesting outbuildings accompany these homes. At least three of the outbuildings are log corn houses. It is recommended that future development in this area proceed with extreme care, especially regarding the building setbacks, since most of these homes are set a good distance from the road. The Hazel River itself provides significant eco-tourism potential, and it could be eligible for Tier III status.

Jeffersonton, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-8):

The Village of Jeffersonton has roots in two towns: Jefferson Town, the southern part, and Wealsborough, the northern part of the village. By the late 1820s, Jeffersonton (as the U.S. Post Office called it) had eclipsed Stevensburg as Culpeper’s leading town, owing to the intersection of two regional roads and the opening of Jeffersonton Academy. Significant structures in the Jeffersonton area of historic interest include the Jeffersonton Baptist Church, dated 1848 and a potential National Historic Site, the Jeffersonton Methodist Church, dated 1907, and many historic residences. Also of significance are the areas around the Baptist Church where a Civil War skirmish occurred, the Jeffersonton Academy archaeological site, and structural reminders of the very early Little Fork German Settlement.

Jeffersonton School, Photo by Dovetail Cultural Resources Group



Mountain Run and Jonas Run Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-9):

This area includes the final Confederate and Union positions of the significant Stevensburg sector during the June 9, 1863, Battle of Brandy Station. The Confederates were positioned north of the Run, and the Union forces south of the run centered at Thomas Norman's grist mill located just off the old Carolina Road (present Route 663). Casualties in this area were slight but significant: Colonel Matthew Calbraith Butler was severely wounded, and Jeb Stuart's chief scout, Will Farley, was killed. Farley was buried in Culpeper's Fairview Cemetery until returned to his South Carolina family in 2002. The Confederates held their line at Mountain Run, preventing a major northern force from joining the Fleetwood Hill action that was ongoing near Brandy Station at the same time. Colonel Butler later became a South Carolina Senator and Major General of Volunteers during the Spanish-American War of 1898. Any controls on this district should allow for a reasonable widening of Route 663, Stevensburg Road.

Kelly's Ford, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-10):

This area encompasses the first Union and Confederate positions of the March 17, 1863, Battle of Kelly's Ford - the area of heaviest fighting. This area also includes all of the November 7, 1863, action at the Ford which, resulted in more than 300 casualties; the archaeological sites of the village of Kellysville, the largest manufacturing complex in prewar Culpeper County (grain and lumber mills, barrel and shoe factories, slaughterhouse, butter, etc.); the village of Wheatleyville; and related mill dams, races, fords, and bridges.

LaGrange, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-11):

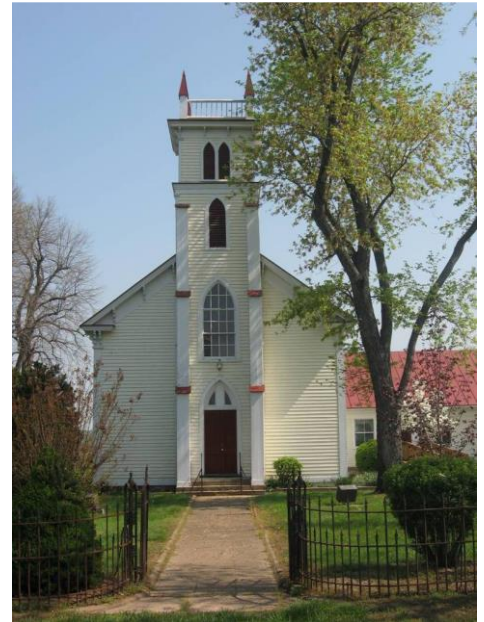
Significant structures in the LaGrange area of historic interest include the LaGrange Post Office, a second LaGrange Post Office, Luther Brown House, Brown's Shop, and the Herbert Brown House. These buildings all date from the turn of the 20th century.

Lignum, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-12):

Lignum, Latin for wood, started with the establishment of Absalom Graves Willis' steam powered sawmill which produced and assembled hardwood barrels after the Civil War. Village growth added numerous residences, stores, shops, and the first rural accredited high school in Culpeper. Both the Depression and the construction of Route 3 had negative impacts on Lignum. Historic structures located in the Lignum area of historic interest include the Lael Baptist Church, J. A. Brown's Store, Willis' Store, Hopewell Methodist Church, and several residences. Two archaeological sites also have been identified.

Mitchells, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-13):

This area began as Mitchell's Station, a stop on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad in 1854. It includes the Mitchell's Presbyterian Church, Mitchell's School, Foxleigh Farm, Mitchell's Store, Bethel Baptist Church, and the Carpenters Seed Cleaning Plant. Boundaries of this area enclose the listed structures in addition to an extra 300 feet around them. Three houses included in this area date from post 1950, but are in character with the older structures.



Mitchell's Presbyterian Church,
Photo by Dovetail Cultural Resources Group

Mount Pony, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-14):

This area has an extensive agricultural history. The intent is to conserve a particularly beautiful viewshed of original farmland in proximity to the Town of Culpeper. The western boundary is 300 feet west of the old Georgetown-to-Nalles Mill Road. The northern boundary is generally Mountain Run. The southern boundaries encompass Mount Pony.

Most of this area was part of Charles Carter's early 18th century 36,000 acre Mount Pony Tract. Within a distance of three miles along Route 3, there are several homes of historic interest. This area also includes the Georgetown-to-Nalles Mill Road trace, the Mount Pony Church marker, and the rock drawing atop Mount Pony. The height of this prominence above the Piedmont plain served for centuries as a communications point.

Raccoon Ford, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-15):

Raccoon Ford began with John Alcocke's mill about 1815, the Post, (probably a store and blacksmith shop) 1825, and by 1834, contained eight significant homes, the mill complex extending to both sides of the Rapidan, a shoe and boot factory, tailor, wagon-maker, and carriage-maker. After its near destruction during the Civil War, Gustavus Brown Wallace Nalles rebuilt the village; and sold lots through the 1880's to restore its vitality. Photographs of the village show three stores standing before 1913. Severe floods in 1937 and 1942 washed away the mill and the bridge, respectively, with the last store burning in 1949 and the post office closing in 1951.

Rapidan, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-16):

Previously known as Waugh's Ford, this area was renamed Rapidan when the railroad came through in the mid-1850s. The extended area includes land in both Culpeper and Orange Counties, and was designated the Rapidan Historic District in 1915 by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. Area boundaries enclose all significant structures with an additional 300-foot buffer. The river was named 'Rapid Anne' for the last Stuart monarch, for whom Germanna was named in the year she died; and the need for a chain-drawn ferry to negotiate the swift current.



Rapidan Passenger Depot,
Photo by Dovetail Cultural Resources Group

Richard's Ford-Hassininga, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-17):

This area includes the American Indian village of Hassininga, and the general area near Richard's Ford and Ferry, including the locks, dams, and associated structures of Powell's Canal of the Rappahannock Navigation enterprise. The area is one of the most important, nearly pristine regions of the County, with sites dating from prehistoric times through the mid-19th century.

St. James Church, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-18):

The St. James Church AOHI, located in central Culpeper County, includes 120-acres. Most of the land is in open, agricultural fields that are recorded as part of the Brandy Station Battlefield. The Culpeper Municipal Airport is within the AOHI, south of Beverly's Ford Road. All of the historic resources within the area are archaeological sites or architectural ruins.

Unfortunately, two sites are within the boundaries of the Culpeper Municipal Airport. It is probable that at least a portion of each site was destroyed during land alterations associated with airport construction. The St. James Episcopal Church site includes the ruins of both the ca. 1840 church and its associated cemetery. The church was destroyed during the Battle of Brandy Station, and the cemetery was left in ruin. Archaeological excavations of the church site were conducted in 1992 by a team from the Smithsonian, lead by Dr. Douglas Owsley. Artifacts from the church component consisted primarily of architectural items, while the cemetery artifacts included coffin hardware, burial clothing, and accessories. Today, the area is a park that contains a parking lot, interpretive trails, and wooden signage denoting the remains of the original church and the location of the cemetery. Several interpretive signs recounting the history of the church and the battle are located just off the parking area.

Stevensburg, Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-19):

This area contains the remains of the old village of Stevensburg, Culpeper County's first village of prominence. While there are only two homes in the village which retain their 19th century look, there are many structures which date from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The newer homes are in scale with the older homes. Much of the village is hidden from Route 3 by a barrier of cedar trees. This area also includes the Stevensburg Baptist Church and its cemetery. New buildings in this area should blend in with the old, especially with respect to scale.

HISTORIC VILLAGE AND CULTURAL CENTERS

The areas of historic interest listed below focus on certain County crossroads which became noted village or cultural centers. These areas generally centered on general stores, post offices or other commercial sites. They are historically significant in the context of the socio-economic development of the County. Most of these areas are further discussed and mapped in Chapter 12, Village Centers. They include:

Brandy Station	Lignum
Griffinsburg	Mitchells
Jeffersonton	Rapidan
LaGrange	Stevensburg

BRANDY STATION AREA OF HISTORIC INTEREST INVENTORY CHART

NUMBER	RESOURCE NAME	DATE
1	Fleetwood Church	1890
2	Graffiti House	1858
3	Highway Safety Supply	1940
4	House, 19465 Brandy Road	1890
5	Brandy Episcopal Church	1948
6	House, 19668 Church Road	1880
7	Brandy Baptist Church	1890
8	House, 19351 Carpenter's Branch Road	1910
9	House, 19373 Carpenter's Branch Road	1910
10	Steve's Car Store	1940
11	House, 19350 Carpenter's Branch Road	1900
12	House, 14671 Stevensburg Road	1890
13	House, 14647 Stevensburg Road	1920
14	George Stone House	1850
15	Warehouse, 19424 Brandy Road	Post-1850
16	Bailey's Store	1880
17	Masonic Lodge #169	1884
18	House, 19489 Bootsie Lane	1910
19	Myers House	1900
20	House, 19484 Bootsie Lane	1880
21	Loysen House	1890
22	Houses, 14685 & 14689 Carrico Mills Road	1900
23	House, 14699 Carrico Mills Road	1920
24	House, 14707 Carrico Mills Road	1900
25	House, 14739 Carrico Mills Road	1920
26	House, 14720 Carrico Mills Road	1920
27	House, 14694 Carrico Mills Road	1929
28	House, 14676 Carrico Mills Road	1939
29	House, 14666 Carrico Mills Road	1890
30	House, 14646 Carrico Mills Road	1880
31	House, 19726 Mt. Dumpling Road	1880
32	House, 19706 Mt. Dumpling Road	1850
33	House, 14720 Wanza Road	1930
34	House, 14713 Wanza Road	1870
35	House, 14727 Wanza Road	1920
36	House, Mt. Dumpling Road	1909
37	House, 19627 Church Road	1939
38	House, 14686 Stevensburg Road	1929
39	House, 14746 Carrico Mills Road	1929

The National Register of Historic Places

Created by the National Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register of Historic Places is a national list of buildings, sites, districts, structures, and objects which prominently define the nation's history and development. It is designed to create a permanent record of the nation's historic resources. The principal purpose of National Register designation is to focus attention on and increase public awareness of the nation's physical heritage.

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) administers two programs designed to recognize significant resources and to encourage their continued preservation: the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register.

The National Register of Historic Places, established in 1966 and managed by the National Park Service, is the official list of structures, sites, objects, and districts that embody the historical and cultural foundations of the nation. More than 80,000 historic resources of all kinds (including 700,000 contributing buildings in historic districts) are listed nationwide. The National Register of Historic Places already includes more than 2,000 properties in Virginia. The Virginia Landmarks Register, also established in 1966 and managed by the Department of Historic Resources, is the state's list of properties important to Virginia's history. The same criteria are used to evaluate resources for inclusion in each register.

Several properties in the County have been listed on the National Register. There are also a number of additional sites which have a strong potential to be listed. Designation of a property on the National Register requires the consent of the owner. However, National Register designation does not restrict the property owner's use of the property in any way. The owner may alter or demolish buildings, or subdivide land, as long as no federal funds are involved in the project. Any restrictions which are put on the use of historic properties must be enacted by the local governing body.

The following maps and tables list and locate each of these sites. Potential sites include primarily standing structures. Many canals, dams, fish traps, and other sites located along the Rappahannock and Rapidan Rivers have not been listed, but can be found in the [Cultural Resource Survey](#) and the [Historic-Sites Inventory](#).

CULPEPER COUNTY NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Culpeper Historic District
East Street (nomination pending)
Rapidan Historic District (see Rapidan Area of Historic Interest (Map 9.1-16))

CULPEPER COUNTY NATIONAL REGISTER SITES (Map 9.2)

STRUCTURES-TOWN OF CULPEPER	STRUCTURES-CULPEPER COUNTY
A.P. Hill Building	Croftburn Farm
Burgandine House	Eckington School
Culpeper National Cemetery	Elmwood
Greenwood	Farley
Hill Mansion	Graffiti House
Slaughter-Hill House	Clifton
Saint Stephen’s Episcopal Church	Auburn Farm
Pitts Theatre	Greenville
Fairview Cemetery	Hansborough Ridge
	Little Fork Episcopal Church
	Locust Grove
	Madden’s Tavern
	Maple Springs
	Mitchell’s Presbyterian Church
	Salubria
	Signal Hill / Mount Castle

POTENTIAL NATIONAL REGISTER SITES STRUCTURES (Map 9.3)

Afton	Mount Pleasant
Annandale	Mountain View
Beauregard	NorthCliff
Berry Hill	Presq’ Isle
Brookside	Rose Hill Farm
Clover Hill	Somerville
Horse Shoe	Stuart Field
Jeffersonton Baptist Church	Wheatdale
LaGrange	

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

General

GOAL: IDENTIFY, PRESERVE AND PROTECT SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CULPEPER COUNTY.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Preserve and enhance significant historical places and buildings in the County. Utilize the Culpeper County Historical Sites Inventory to identify historic resources.
2. Provide design incentives and land use controls for development in these identified historic resource areas.
3. Establish regulations and incentives which encourage the rehabilitation and maintenance of historical structures.
4. Support the nomination of historic buildings and specific sites to the Virginia Landmarks Register of Historic Places and National Historic Register of Historic Landmarks, as is reasonable and otherwise in accordance with the goals and Objectives of this Comprehensive Plan.
5. Encourage tourism in association with the County's historic buildings and sites.