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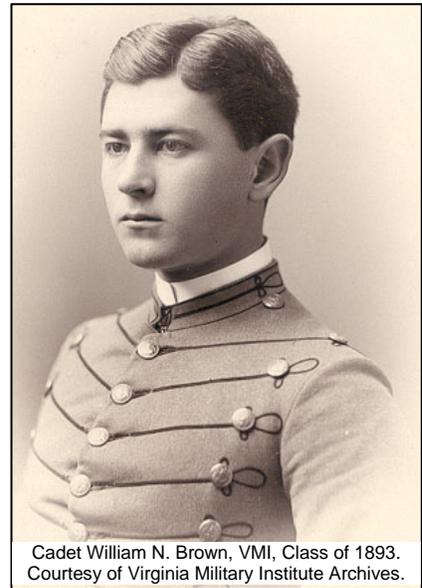
REL-I-QUAR-Y: (*noun*) A receptacle for keeping or displaying relics.

THE 1901 MAP OF PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA AND ITS MAKERS: WILLIAM H. BROWN AND WILLIAM N. BROWN

By the RELIC Staff

The Brown Map of 1901 is very important for Prince William County historical research. It was the first detailed map of the area produced since the Civil War. It shows the home locations and names of people who were living in rural areas of the county and also identifies roads, streams, schools, mills and churches. It has two inset maps of the battlefields of Manassas and the dividing line between Hamilton and Dettingen parishes. There are also tables of property valuations and population.

This map, printed in several colors, states it was made by William H. Brown, of Gainesville, Virginia. RELIC owns a monochromatic version of the map, which may be the original master. It is currently being conserved thanks to a donation from the Prince William County Historical Commission. A copy of the published map can be seen at The Library of Congress website.¹ RELIC also has a black and white reproduction of the map printed and sold by the County's Mapping Office.



Cadet William N. Brown, VMI, Class of 1893.
Courtesy of Virginia Military Institute Archives.

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A question was recently presented to RELIC -- who was William H. Brown, the mapmaker? In 1900 there were at least three men living in Prince William County named "William H. Brown," two of whom lived in Gainesville District.

(1) William Hill Brown (often called W. Hill Brown), white, born 16 November 1856 in Culpeper County (the 1900 census says he was born November 1859); was living in Manassas District in 1900.² He died 20 August 1932 in Manassas and is buried in the Manassas City Cemetery. He was a partner in the Brown and Hooff lumber company and was Mayor of Manassas in 1911.

¹ Map of Prince William County, Virginia: compiled from U.S. Geological Survey and other data and corrected with the assistance of reliable residents of the county, by Wm H. Brown, Gainesville, Va. (Washington: A. B. Graham Photo. Lith., 1901) 88 x 80 cm. Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division, available online at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3883p.ct001422>, accessed 16 May 2008.

² 1900 U.S. census, Prince William County, Virginia, Town of Manassas, enumeration district 81, p. 1A, dwelling 6, family 7, William Brown, digital image, *Ancestry Library Edition* (www.ancestrylibrary.com : accessed 16 May 2008); citing NARA microfilm publication T623, roll 1724.

(2) William H. Brown, white, born Apr. 1835 (other sources suggest 1833), in Virginia, was living in Gainesville District in 1900. He was married ca. 1871 to Mary E., and had one child: William N. Brown, born August 1873. The 1900 census says he is a farmer and owns his farm. Mary E. was born in the District of Columbia.³

(3) William H. Brown, black, born June 1851 in Virginia, was living in Gainesville District in 1900. He was widowed, with two children, Mary P. and Rosa M. They were living in the household of his father Nathaniel Brown (born 1824). Nathaniel and William were identified as farmers who owned their farms.⁴

We were able to pick which William H. Brown was the cartographer by a clue in the census. Living with William H. Brown (choice 2 above) in 1900 was his son William N. Brown. The son lists his occupation as "Emp[loyed] U.S. Geol[ogical] Surv[vey]." The 1901 map indicates that it is based on the U.S. Geological Survey. As we shall see, William N. Brown was to have a long association with local mapping.

In 1870 William H. Brown, age 30, is found in the second ward of Alexandria, Virginia. He was born in Virginia, owned \$4000 in real estate, and his occupation was called "Stock Grazing." He was living in the household of W. N. Brown, apparently his father, 63 years old, born in Virginia, a retired



Home of William H. Brown in Gainesville, VA
Courtesy of Ronald Ray Turner

saddler, with \$18,000 in real estate and \$2000 in personal property. Also there was Ann Brown, apparently his mother, 62 years old, born in the District of Columbia, as well as several other persons who are probably related.⁵ Although he is not found with his wife, he is the only person found who fits the profile. It seems he named his son after his own father. It appears they moved to Prince William County about 1873, based on the birth here of their son that year. The family is found in Prince William in the 1880, 1900 and 1910 censuses. The family home, now abandoned and in poor condition, is located on Route 29 near Pageland Lane, between the Manassas National Battlefield and Gainesville, directly

across from the old Parkview restaurant and gas station.⁶ Prior to 1918, William H. and his wife moved to Washington, D.C.

The 1920 census shows Wm. H. Brown living at 2930 Macomb Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. He was 86 years old, born in Va., father born in Va., mother born in D.C. He was a retired farmer. His wife, Mary E., was 66 years old, born in D.C.; her father was born in D.C., her mother was born in Tenn.⁷

³ 1900 U.S. census, Prince William County, Virginia, Gainesville District, e.d. 80, p. 11B, dwelling 195, family 195, William H. Brown.

⁴ 1900 U.S. census, Prince William County, Virginia, Gainesville District, e.d. 79, p. 5A, dwelling 76, family 76, William Brown.

⁵ 1870 U.S. census, Alexandria County, Virginia, Alexandria City, Ward 2, p. 45, dwelling 50, family 53, W. N. Brown household.

⁶ Ronald Ray Turner, Gainesville, Va., to RELIC, e-mail, 11 Dec 2007.

⁷ 1920 U.S. census, Washington, D.C., precinct 7, e.d. 57, p. 7B, dwelling 112, family 117, Wm. H. Brown.

The death of William Henry Brown is verified by several notices in the *Washington Post*: Mr. Brown apparently died near the end of September 1924.⁸ A month later the following notice appeared: "PROBATE COURT ... Estate of Wm. Henry Brown; will and codicil admitted to probate and letters testamentary granted to Mary Elliot Brown and William Nelson Brown; bond, \$2,500. Atty. R. H. Wilmer."⁹ Each of the couple left a will in the District of Columbia. William Henry Brown's will was probated in 1924 (Box 783), and Mary Elliot Brown's in 1925 (Box 820).¹⁰

"5 Nov. 1924. Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, holding Probate Court. No. 32394. Administration. This is to give notice that the subscribers, of D.C. have obtained from the Probate Court of D.C. letters testamentary on the estate of William Henry Brown, late of the District of Columbia, deceased. All persons having claims are warned to exhibit the same on or before 5 Nov. 1925. Signed: Mary Elliot Brown, 3420 Newark St.; W. N. Brown, 3420 Newark St."¹¹

About a year later, Mary also died.

"17 Nov. 1925. SUPREME COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, holding Probate Court. No. 33740. Administration. This is to give notice ... letters testamentary on the estate of Mary Elliot Brown, late of the District of Columbia, deceased. All persons having claims ... exhibit the same ... on or before 17 Nov. 1926. Signed William Nelson Brown, 3420 Newark street."¹²

The couple is buried in St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery, Alexandria, in the Brown family lots: Wm. H. Brown, 1833-1924; his wife, Mary Love Elliot, 1851-1925; along with William's parents, Wm. Nelson Brown, 1807-1890, and Ann Venable, 1808-1880, and several other relatives.¹³

In 1908, their son William N. Brown had moved to D.C. He was living in 1920 at 3420 Newark Street. He was 45 years old, employed as a Civil Engineer, own firm; his wife was Caroline T., age 36, born in Maryland; their children were William T., age 16, born Maryland, and Caroline, 5, born D.C.¹⁴

William Nelson Brown died 12 Jan. 1959 in Washington, D.C., at age 85. He still lived at 3420 Newark Street, NW. He was survived by his wife, the former Caroline Taylor; a son William T. of Berkeley, California; a daughter, Mrs. Richard M. Schauffler of Sandy Springs, Maryland, and five grandchildren. His obituary says that William N. Brown was a pioneer in the use of aerial photography for mapping. The topographical engineer persuaded the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in the late 1930s to use aerial photography to determine a farmer's compliance with soil programs. He also mapped the Mississippi River from St. Louis to St. Paul in 1929 for flood control projects by the Army Engineers. Born in Gainesville, Virginia, he was graduated from the Virginia Military Institute in 1893. In 1908 he established his own firm [in D.C.], then retired from it soon after the end of World War II and was with the State of Virginia on a project in Marion, Va. His funeral service was at St. Alban's Church, but the burial location not given.¹⁵ "Mr. Brown served the government in both World Wars in surveying and mapping. He came by his gift for topography by inheritance, being the great-grandson of Jonathan Elliott, who had worked on the staff of Pierre L'Enfant during the laying out of the city of Washington. Mr. Brown was a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute. He took up the profession of topography soon after his graduation in 1893."¹⁶

⁸ "Deaths Reported," *Washington Post*, 1 October 1924, p. 10. "William Henry Brown, 91 yrs., 2930 Macomb st., nw." No other obituary has been found.

⁹ *Washington Post*, 30 October 1924, p. 13. See also: Dorothy S. Provine, *Index to District of Columbia Wills, 1921-1950* (Lovettsville, Va.: Willow Bend Books, 1996), 37. William Henry Brown, 1924, Box 783.

¹⁰ Dorothy S. Provine, *Index to District of Columbia Wills, 1921-1950* (Lovettsville, Va.: Willow Bend, 1996), 37.

¹¹ *Washington Post*, 29 November 1924, p. 15.

¹² *Washington Post*, 28 November 1925, p. 19.

¹³ Wesley E. Pippenger, *Tombstone Inscriptions of Alexandria, Virginia*, vol. 5 (Arlington, Va.: W. Pippenger, 2005), 342. Lots 193-194.

¹⁴ 1920 U.S. census, Washington, D.C., Precinct 7, e.d. 166, p. 5B, dwelling 79, family 81, William N. Brown.

¹⁵ *Washington Post*, 13 January 1959, p. B2.

¹⁶ *Journal Messenger* (Manassas), 15 January 1959, p. A-4.

The obituary of William N.'s wife, Caroline Taylor Brown, said she was a resident of Cleveland Park (D.C.) for more than a half-century, and died Wednesday (1 July 1970) at the Sandy Spring Nursing Home after a long illness. She was 90. Mrs. Brown was a native of Harford County, Maryland. She and her late husband William lived in Mexico for a short time before moving to 3420 Newark St. in Cleveland Park in 1914. Mr. Brown was a pioneer in the use of aerial photography for mapping. Mrs. Brown is survived by a son, William T., of Berkeley, California, a daughter, Mrs. Richard Schaffler, of Brookeville, Maryland, and five grandchildren.¹⁷

Their son, William T. Brown, was born 19 June 1903, died 3 May 1988, and lived at Berkeley, Alameda County, California.¹⁸ His obituary stated: "A memorial service will be held in Berkeley on May 29 for William T. (Zack) Brown, former manager of the Berkeley Co-Op Credit Union and longtime Democratic Party advocate. He died on May 3 at age 84 in his Berkeley home. A native of Baltimore, Mr. Brown graduated from Cornell University in 1926 and was active in helping the homeless and unemployed during the Depression. He organized the first consumer cooperative in Washington, D.C. and when he came to California in 1945, he remained active in the cooperative movement. He was a member of the Berkeley Co-Op Shattuck Avenue Center Council, a longtime president of the Berkeley Democratic Club and president of the Berkeley chapter of Americans for Democratic Action. He is survived by his wife, Joy, of Berkeley; a daughter, Cindy Rawlinson of Petaluma; a son, Jefferson, of Chico; a sister, Catherine [sic], of Sandy Spring, Md.; and two granddaughters. . ." ¹⁹

Caroline B. Schaffler, his sister, was born 5 Nov. 1914 and died 1 Mar. 2004; she lived at Brookeville, Montgomery County, Maryland.²⁰ Her obituary²¹ described her as a community activist and teacher. "She was a native Washingtonian, born at home in Cleveland Park, and graduated from Western High School in 1932. She studied early childhood education at Johns Hopkins University and taught preschool at the Holton-Arms School. In 1943, she joined the Red Cross, serving as director of several enlisted men's clubs with the U.S. 8th Air Force in England during the Battle of Britain. . . . After World War II, she helped ferry war brides and their children to the United States from Australia." She and her husband moved to the Sandy Spring area in 1958. She was a founding member of Sandy Spring Civic Association and the Sandy Springs Friends Meeting. She helped begin the first Head Start Program in the community, and served as a board trustee and girls' lacrosse coach with Sandy Spring Friends School. "She was known for raising goats and chickens at her home in Brookeville. Her husband of 41 years, Richard M. Schaffler, died in 1990. Survivors include two sons, Peter Brown Schaffler of East Swanzey, N.H., and Bim Schaffler of Brookeville [in his father's obituary he was called William Bennett Schaffler, a Peace Corps volunteer serving in Pakistan²²]; a daughter, Molly Schaffler of Northport, Maine, five grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

We have no doubt that William Henry Brown (1833-1924) is the mapmaker of 1901 along with his son, William Nelson Brown (1873-1959) whose obituary lists him as a topographer and a pioneer in the use of aerial photography for mapping. William N. was an employee with the U.S. Geological Survey and apparently obtained for his father the maps that were used to prepare the Prince William County map. We can speculate that William H. Brown's primary contribution was to identify and locate the farmhouses and other landmarks, and that his son William N. helped him insert the data on a tracing of federal maps. We are grateful to William Henry Brown and William Nelson Brown for their lasting contribution to the history of Prince William County.



¹⁷ *Washington Post*, 3 July 1970, p. B8.

¹⁸ "Social Security Death Index," database, *Ancestry Library Edition*.

¹⁹ *San Francisco Chronicle*, 14 May 1988, p. C10.

²⁰ "Social Security Death Index."

²¹ *Washington Post*, 2 April 2004, p. B9.

²² *Washington Post*, 25 April 1990, p. D5.

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY IN THE REVOLUTION: IDENTIFYING REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS

By Joan W. Peters, CG

(Continued from Vol. 5, No. 4, October 2006)

Prince William Soldiers in the Prince William County Court Minutes 1778-1784

In April 1781, **William Farrow** was appointed a captain for the company lately commanded by James Triplett who had resigned. In the same month, the court ordered the churchwardens of Dettingen Parish to bind out **William Gunyon**, orphan of **John Gunyon deceased**. John Gunyon had died in February 1779, while in Continental service.¹

At least three Revolutionary War veterans served the Prince William County Court in furnishing clothes and beef for county soldiers. In July 1781, **David Blackwell**, a veteran in the Culpeper minute service in 1775, who saw service in the commissary and in Lee's Legion in 1777, and in Captain John Brett's company of militia in 1780,² returned receipts for clothes and beef for his class, class number two. He was allowed eight days at ten pounds per day.

Matthew Whiting, a former 2nd lieutenant in the 3rd Virginia, was commissioned in March 1776. He resigned in March 1777.³ He was responsible for clothes and beef for class number eleven. He also returned receipts for these items at the July 1781 court.

Isaac Wickliffe, who served as a captain in the Prince William County Militia in March 1779,⁴ presented receipts to the court for clothes and beef for class number thirty-eight. In July 1781, he was allowed six days at ten pounds per day.⁵

March 1782 was a busy month for the county court. While several appointments to the county militia were made, the bulk of the justices' work during this month was the handling of a plethora of public service claims.

Two appointments were made to the county militia. **Benjamin Tennell** was appointed a 2nd lieutenant in Captain William Brown's county militia company in March 1782. He also put in a public service claim during this month for two beeves weighing 675 lbs at 4d per pound.⁶ **Alexander Lithgow** was appointed a captain of another county militia company. He replaced Reginald Graham, who had died.⁷

Colonel William Grayson had returned home after an illustrious career in the Continental Army. He served as an assistant secretary and aide-de-camp to General Washington and was promoted to the colonelcy of one of the sixteen additional infantry regiments authorized by Congress in December 1776. His regiment was raised at large from Virginia and Maryland and was attached to the 2nd Virginia Brigade, commanded by Brigadier General Charles Scott. His command was heavily involved in the Battle of Monmouth Courthouse in late June 1778. By April 1779, his regiment, having been ravaged by smallpox, was merged with Nathaniel Gist's additional regiment. William Grayson was then placed in

¹ PWCOB, 123, 124. For John Gunyon's death, see PWCOB, February 1779, 29.

² John Gott and Triplett Russell, *Fauquier County in the Revolution* (Warrenton: Warrenton Publishing, 1977), 451. Hereafter, Gott and Russell.

³ Francis B. Heitman, *Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army* (Washington: 1914; repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1978), 589.

⁴ PWCOB, 30.

⁵ Receipts for clothes and beef for the various classes, as required by Virginia law, were found in PWCOB, July 1781 Court, 127-131.

⁶ PWCOB, March 1782 Court, 137.

⁷ PWCOB, 144.

charge of the Continental War Office.⁸ Colonel Grayson presented a certificate to the Court for 100 lbs of impressed beef. The Court allowed him four pence per pound. At the same Court session, Colonel Grayson brought a complaint before the court against Benjamin Scanland for impressing more beeves from his estate than allowed by law. The court summoned Scanland to appear at the next court.⁹

During this March session of the county court, **Matthew Whiting** also presented a certificate for four beeves and was allowed four pence per pound. Francis Floyd had a horse impressed by Nemenus Bullitt who acted under the direction of **Francis Triplett**.¹⁰ Triplett was under orders to take horses for General Morgan's corps by order of General Nelson. The Court found that the horse was taken for the use of the state and appraised the Floyd's horse at £30.

Captain Lynaugh Helm, a former captain in George Roger Clark's Illinois Regiment, was captured by the British at Vincennes¹¹ in December 1778.¹² He returned home after his captivity and presented the Prince William Court with a certificate for seven beeves in the March 1782 court.¹³ During this same court, **Captain William Tebbs** presented a certificate for one beef; **John Sidebottom** was allowed four pence for forage.

John Hedges, another Prince William Militia captain, presented certificates at the March 1782 court for 19,776 lbs of timothy hay; and pasturage for the following: for nine horses for two nights and a day; seventy-five oxen and horses, two days and a night; nineteen horses and 340 oxen for a night; three horses and twenty-two oxen for twenty-four hours; 222 cattle and a horse; five horses for two nights and a day; and finally, pasturage for six horses for a full day and night.

The Nathaniel Burwell who presented a certificate for three beeves at the March 1782 court may have been the same man who served as an ensign in the 1st Virginia Regiment, commissioned on September 18, 1775. He was promoted to a captaincy in the 1st Continental Artillery in November 1776 and became a major and aide-de-camp to General Howe in May 1779. Major Burwell retired in January 1783.¹⁴

George Purcell was another Revolutionary War veteran who served in Colonel Henry Lee's Light Horse and was an ensign in the 13th Virginia, in Captain George McCarmick's company from December 1776 until August 1778. The compiled service records showed that his name was also spelled *Pursley*.¹⁵

John Brett, another Prince William officer, was a captain in the Virginia Militia.¹⁶ He also presented a certificate for beef, in March 1782, one weighing 350 lbs; He was allowed four pence per pound by the court.¹⁷ William Carter presented a certificate for paper while William Carr, John Holliday, and John Earls all gave certificates to the court for bacon furnished the Prince William Militia.¹⁸

⁸ Sanchez-Saavedra, 74. For events at Monmouth, see Mark Boatner, *Encyclopedia of the American Revolution* (Mechanicsburg: Stackpole Books, 1994), 716–725.

⁹ PWCOB, March 1782 Court, 145.

¹⁰ Gott and Russell, 476. Francis Triplett was the adjutant for the Fauquier County Militia in 1777. In March 1778, he was appointed a captain in the Fauquier Militia. By December 1780, he was a major and saw action at Cowpens. He was promoted to a colonelcy in Morgan's Virginia State Troops and served until the close of the war.

¹¹ Gott and Russell, 460.

¹² Boatner, 1148.

¹³ PWCOB, March 1782 Court, 149.

¹⁴ Heitman, 136.

¹⁵ See NARA, *George Purcell's Pension File W 6661, M 804 MR 1985*, [http://footnote.com, www.footnote.com/image/27891755 to 27891773](http://footnote.com, www.footnote.com/image/27891755%20to%2027891773); for his service record, see NARA, *George Purcell's compiled service record, 13th Virginia, M 881 MR 1079*, [http://footnote.com, www.footnote.com/image/23976771 to 23957812](http://footnote.com, www.footnote.com/image/23976771%20to%2023957812).

¹⁶ Heitman, 119.

¹⁷ PWCOB, March 1782 Court, 151.

¹⁸ PWCOB, 156.

In May 1782 court, the administration of the estate of **Valentine Peyton deceased** was granted to Timothy Peyton. Valentine Peyton had been a captain in the 3rd Virginia Regiment who was killed in May 1780 at Charleston, North Carolina during the siege of that city by the British.¹⁹

In September 1782, another 3rd Virginia soldier, a sergeant in Captain John Peyton's company, **Reuben Calvert**, who had died in January 1777,²⁰ was part of that month's court record. The Court ordered John Thorn and Samuel Byrne to "divide the estate of Rhubin Calvert decd between the orphans and the widow and set apart the widow's dower."²¹ The Prince William County Court had already ordered the churchwardens of Dettingen Parish in July 1779 to bind out Tommy Calvert, Reuben's son, to George Newman Brown to be a carpenter or joiner.²²

In the same month, the Prince William Court ordered **Alexander Lithgow** (the captain in the county militia who had replaced Captain Reginald Graham, deceased, in March 1782²³), Thomas Chapman, and Evan Williams to set apart the dower of Mrs. Mary Graham in the personal estate of Reginald Graham decd.²⁴

In December 1782, the Court certified that Philip Dawe, was the assignee of **Philip Connor, a sergeant in the 3rd Virginia for three years**. The Court certified that Philip Connor served his time of enlistment and was entitled to land for his service.²⁵

In March 1783, Alexander Lithgow, formerly a captain in the county militia, took the oath as a justice for Prince William.²⁶ In May 1783, Moses Davis and Benjamin Jones both presented public service claims for guns impressed by the Militia.²⁷

In May 1783, **John King, a 3rd Virginia veteran**, appeared in Court. He had lost both arms. The Court ordered this to be certified.²⁸ He had enlisted as a private in Captain John Ashby's company in August 1777. He reenlisted in September 1777 for the war. He continued to serve under Captain Ashby and Captain Val Peyton, who took over the company upon Captain Ashby's retirement in October 1778.

He was transferred into Captain John Peyton's company in June 1778 and back into Captain Val Peyton's company in October of that year.²⁹ His pension file disclosed the facts surrounding his loss of his arms. He was bayoneted at Buford's defeat by Tarleton's forces and General Smallwood issued a military pass for him and his father Samuel, along with a request for horses and ferries to ferry them on their return to Virginia. In April 1783, Major Charles West, gave a sworn deposition that John King had lost both arms. In March 1788 in Richmond, Samuel King swore that he had received his son in August 1780 at Salisbury from General Smallwood and Dr. Clements, who had informed him that his son had lost both arms at Buford's defeat. A certificate authorizing a pension was approved by the governor in March 1788.³⁰

In the same month, **Alexander Jones, formerly a soldier in the American army**, being wounded in the knee, appeared in court. The court ordered that his appearance and wound be certified.³¹

In May 1783, **Evan Williams**, the bursar of the militia of Prince William County, obtained a judgment against the Estate of **Henry Peyton** for £1466 15s which was agreeable to the scale of depreciation in November 1780 and £19 16s 5d specie for fines imposed by the court martial in Prince

¹⁹ See NARA, *James Alverson's pension file*, W 8236, M 804 MR 48, and *Valentine Peyton's compiled service records*, 3rd and 4th Virginia, M 881 MR 966.

²⁰ NARA, *Reuben Calvert's compiled service records*, 3rd Virginia.

²¹ PWCOCB, September 1782 Court, 177.

²² PWCOCB, July 1779, 45.

²³ PWCOCB, March 1782 Court, 144.

²⁴ PWCOCB., September 1782 Court, 177.

²⁵ PWCOCB., December 1782 Court, 199.

²⁶ PWCOCB, March 1783 Court, 203.

²⁷ PWCOCB, May 1783 Court, 207.

²⁸ PWCOCB, May 1783 Court, 209.

²⁹ See NARA, *John King's compiled service records*, 3rd Virginia.

³⁰ For details surrounding the loss of his arms, see Virginia Genealogical Society, *Virginia Revolutionary War State Pensions*, File 233, 66-67.

³¹ PWCOCB, May 1783 Court, 209.

William, held at different periods and put into Peyton's hands for collection.³² Henry Peyton had been a Major in Lee's battalion of light dragoons and was killed at Charleston in May 1780.³³

In the same month, **Charles Lenox**, formerly a soldier in the Continental Army, appeared in court to show the Justices his wound in his knee. The justices certified this.³⁴ Lenox was a 3rd Virginia veteran, wounded at Brandywine in September 1777. He had served as a private in Captain John Peyton's company.³⁵

In June 1783, **Robert Overall** was recommended to the governor as a captain in the militia, to replace William Brent, who had resigned.³⁶

In August 1783, Valentine Peyton proved to the Court that he was the heir-at-law to **George Peyton, decd, formerly an ensign in the 3rd Virginia regiment**. Val Peyton came into court to claim his right to the lands promised by the Act of Assembly to officers and soldiers of the Virginia Line. It appeared to the court that George Peyton had died in 1777 and was in Continental service at his death.

At the same time, the court was also satisfied that Valentine Peyton was the heir-at-large of **Robert Peyton, formerly a lieutenant in the 3rd Virginia regiment**. It appeared to the court that Robert Peyton was killed at the Battle of Brandywine and was in Continental service at the time of his death. The justices ordered all of this to be certified.³⁷

William Payne appeared in the December 1783 Court with a certificate granted to **Colonel George Mason** for paper money worth £2655 and dated 12 August 1780. The court ordered this certified.³⁸

In March 1784, the court ordered it certified that **W. Davis** was "entitled to the Bounty in Lands which would have been due to **John Davis, his brother,**" that William Davis was his heir-at-law, since John had **enlisted in the Virginia Continental Line for three years and died in service.**³⁹

In the same month, the court certified that **Joseph Blanchett** was entitled to the bounty lands which would have been due to his brother **William Blanchett**. William Blanchett had enlisted in the Virginia Continental Line for three years and died in service. His brother Joseph was certified as the heir-at-law.⁴⁰

In March 1784, **Hugh Davis's service as a sergeant in the Continental Line** was certified by the county court. Davis had lost his discharge; however, he was able to prove his service by the testimony of **George Pearl**, the officer who enlisted him.⁴¹

In May 1784, the Court certified that **John Posey Newman** was the heir-at-law of **George Newman who enlisted for the war in Lieutenant Colonel Lee's Legion in the Continental service**. He died in service.⁴²

The final entry in this court minute book, relating to a Prince William soldier was made in November 1784. It appeared to the Court that **Thomas Bristow** was the heir-at-law to "**John Bristoe, who died as a soldier in the Continental Army, under Colonel Henry Lee, late of the Light Horse.**" The court ordered this certified.⁴³

³² PWCOB, 209.

³³ Heitman, 438.

³⁴ PWCOB, May 1783 Court, 210.

³⁵ NARA, *Charles Lenox's compiled service records*, 3rd Virginia.

³⁶ PWCOB, June 1783 Court, 218.

³⁷ PWCOB, August 1783 Court, 241.

³⁸ PWCOB, December 1783 Court, 282.

³⁹ PWCOB, March 1784 Court, 288.

⁴⁰ PWCOB, 290.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² PWCOB, 301.

⁴³ PWCOB, 402.

Conclusions

When researching Revolutionary War soldiers from a particular county, it is a good idea to begin with the county court minute books or order books if they are extant. These minute and order books often give insight into the ordinary lives of soldiers that you would not find elsewhere. The records in these books often point the way to other Revolutionary War resources. If these books have not survived, then the more traditional approach may be taken in looking for soldiers and officers.

A researcher can now look at all the Revolutionary War records in the microfilm collection at the National Archives on footnote.com, a wonderful resource for Revolutionary War soldiers and officers. Footnote.com has scanned the images of these Revolutionary War records, including the Revolutionary War rolls on M 246, the compiled service records on M 881, and the pensions, on M 804. They are available to those with internet access at a nominal yearly fee.

Other sources should also be examined. Virginia state pensions, rejected bounty land, and approved bounty land warrants are available for online use at the Library of Virginia website. Every researcher should have access to Virgil White's *Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files*. This four volume set may be found in larger regional libraries. Two other invaluable derivative sources are Lloyd Bockstruck's *Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments*, and Gaius Brumbaugh's *Revolutionary War Records: Virginia*. For those looking for Virginia Revolutionary War service, E. M. Sanchez-Saavedra's *Guide to Virginia Military Organizations in the American Revolution 1774–1787* is another important resource, especially for background, officers and unit history.

Abbreviations used in Source Citations

NARA	National Archives and Records Administration
PWCOB	Prince William County Order Book

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**CAMP RECOVERY
CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS, CCC CAMP P-71,
CO. 299 AND CO. 1337
AT CANOVA, INDEPENDENT HILL AREA,
MANASSAS, PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA**

By Beverly R. Veness

Continued from v. 7, no.1 (January 2008)

Camp Report Comparison and Report on Daily Camp Life.

There are only two Camp Reports in the files at the National Archives at College Park (Maryland) for P-71. One is from Co. 299 and the other is from Co. 1337, the Junior Negro company.¹

	CCC Camp P-71, Co. 299 Week Ending Feb. 24, 1934	CCC Camp P-71, Co. 1337 Week Ending Nov. 28, 1934
Size of Work Project	Prince William and Fairfax Counties	158.8 Miles of Prince William, Fairfax, Fauquier and Stafford Counties.
Colored or White Camp	White	Colored
Camp Commander	M. I. Fass, Captain, F.A. Reserve	Michael Darmopray
Work Project Supervisor	J. M. Russell	J. M. Russell
# of Commissioned Officers at Camp	4 (includes medical officer)	3
# of Regular Army men assigned to Camp	0	0
# of men actually on forest work	165 (normal average now)	160
# of men permanently detailed to camp work	29	24
# of men enrolled locally in vicinity of Camp	16	16
# employed in Forestry Supervision (not enrolled men)	9	10
Type of Camp	Private land.	Private land.
Nature of work being done	Construction truck trails, building fire towers, eradication of Southern Pine Beetle, 5000 acres of forest improvement.	Building truck trails, fire lanes, insect control and road side clearing.
# of men in camp when first established	70 Remainder of Company G.M.P. Camp 5 (Montana) brought up to strength none [established] to 190.	May 22, 1934 - 176. White Company moved from Fork Union, Va., reconstituted to colored company, Sept. 1, 1934.
# of men in camp week ending	193	202
# of elopements	5	8
# dishonorably discharged	4 for misconduct	3
# honorably discharged	3 to accept employment	47 E.T.S. [End Tour of Service] 11; disapproved for enrollment 16; other causes 20)

¹ National Archives II, RG 35, C.C.C. Division of Investigations, Camp Inspection Reports 1933-42, P-55 to P-90, Box 224, E-115.

	CCC Camp P-71, Co. 299 Week Ending Feb. 24, 1934	CCC Camp P-71, Co. 1337 Week Ending Nov. 28, 1934
State enrolled from	New York and Virginia.	Maryland, District of Columbia and Virginia.
Administrative discharges	[line not on form.]	3
Date this camp was occupied	October 15, 1933	September 1, 1934
Brief description of camp sanitation	Water secured from drilled well, tested and approved by Walter Reed Hospital. Pit latrines located properly and treated with crude oil daily also scrubbed daily. Garbage collected daily, cans burned and hauled away. Kitchen wash wast[e] filtered through traps in closed trench into stream.	Water secured from bored well, adequate for all purposes, tested monthly by state health department, chlorination, unnecessary. Latrine pit type properly located and maintained. Kitchen, wash house and showers filtered through type, overflow into soil. Garbage collected daily, refuse burned.
Name and rank of doctor assigned to camp	M. R. Mitchell, Captain Med. C.R.	Stewart McByrde [McBryde], Contract Surgeon
# of camps he looks after	1	1
How often does he visit this camp?	Located in camp, daily routine.	Daily, and 7:30 sick call in company.
Are men periodically examined for venereal disease?	Monthly.	Twice monthly.
Condition of clothing, shoes, etc. of men?	Adequate. Sizes not entirely satisfactory. <u>Overhauls</u> wearing rapidly due to character of work, <u>extra issue needed.</u>	Adequate and satisfactory.
Is there a Post Exchange at camp where men can purchase cigarettes, toilet articles, etc.?	Yes.	Yes, operation satisfactory.
Are food supplies purchased locally, or from where?	Fort Myer and local.	Fort George G. Meade and local.
What motor equipment is located at this camp for Army use?	2 trucks: 2 Chevrolet 1 ½ ton trucks Cargo Model.	Two trucks.
What motor equipment is located at this camp for Forest Service use?	9 trucks, 6 Dodge 1 ½ ton Stake Body trucks; 1 Ford 1 ½ ton Stake; 1 Chevrolet 1½ ton truck; 1 Dodge ½ ton pick-up truck.	9 trucks: 8 Stake body trucks, 1½ [ton] Chevrolet, 1 Dodge ½ ton pick-up truck.
# of enrolled men receiving \$36 per month on forest work	5	11
# of enrolled men receiving \$45 per month on forest work	7	4
# of enrolled men receiving \$36 per month assigned to camp duties	11	3
# of enrolled men receiving \$45 per month assigned to camp duties	3	5
Are women visitors allowed in camp?	Yes, under regulation.	Yes, under regulations.
Is there a reception tent, or are women allowed to visit through the camp?	Recreation hall used for such purpose.	Recreation Hall used for such purposes.

	CCC Camp P-71, Co. 299 Week Ending Feb. 24, 1934	CCC Camp P-71, Co. 1337 Week Ending Nov. 28, 1934
Has there been any trouble of any nature since camp was installed?	Two men arrested.	Member of Company killed November 15, 1934 by use of knife as weapon. (See special report)
What is the general spirit and feeling of enrolled men?	Excellent.	Very good.
What is the opinion of citizens in surrounding territory of the camps in their vicinity and the conduct of the men?	Excellent.	Good.
Give # of illiterate men in camp, if any.	0	3
Report made by [Charles H. Kenlan worked for the Office of the Director for Emergency Conservation Work.]	Charles H. Kenlan, 1003 So. Orange Ave., Newark, N.J.	Charles H. Kenlan, Special Investigator

Supplemental Reports by Charles H. Kenlan, Special Investigator	CCC Camp P-71, Co. 299 [not dated; probably around Feb. 24, 1934]	CCC Camp P-71, Co. 1337 dated Nov. 30, 1934
Athletic and recreation activities:	Equipment received from original camp GNP 5, Montana, needs replacements. Winter equipment received. Extensive athletic program in progress. Basketball, boxing and other sports engaged in by specific schedule.	Athletic activities are carried on at all times. During the summer months, baseball playground ball, volley ball and horse shoe pitching were participated in by practically every man of the Company. At present, football, soccer, basketball, boxing, tap dancing, ping pong, male quartets and community singing are being participated in. The permanent and traveling libraries are actively used.
Religious services:	Service conducted in camp every Saturday. Sunday service in camp now in process of development.	Arrangement has been made with the clergyman of existing denominations at Manassas, Virginia, for one service at Camp each week. Every Sunday morning men are taken to various churches in Manassas, Va. In addition the Sub-District Chaplain makes his regular visits to Camp.
Educational:	Permanent and traveling libraries in camp. Full issue of newspapers and magazines received. Men in camp manifest considerable interest in reading matter. State Forestry division conducts illustrated lectures periodically. Camp Forest personnel conducts vocational training in conjunction with work projects. Instruction in basic, advanced and commercial subjects now in progress and showing very good results.	Mr. E. S. Wranck, the Educational Adviser, has been conducting regularly scheduled classes. Forestry is not included on regular schedule but the Superintendent and his foreman deliver lectures on Forestry from time to time. [Report attached, see below.]
Lighting system:	Electric Generator lighting unit in camp, all buildings adequately lighted.	The lightning system in this camp is inadequate, request has been made for replacement of the generating set. There is an ample supply of lanterns on hand for emergency purposes.

Supplemental Reports by Charles H. Kenlan, Special Investigator	CCC Camp P-71, Co. 299 [not dated; probably around Feb. 24, 1934]	CCC Camp P-71, Co. 1337 dated Nov. 30, 1934
Toilet kits:	Quartermaster issue of CCC Kits supplied to all men in camp.	The sixteen local Enrollees, have not as yet received toilet kits. Requisition has been submitted and approved with the information that these kits will be delivered when available at the Quartermaster Depot.
Remarks:	Physical condition of enrolled men excellent, evident improvement since camp occupation. Average gain in weight twenty pounds. Efficiency and conduct of enrolled men also much improved. Camp construction and lay out is deserving of high rating. Camp is operated under competent management and in general presents satisfactory. Appearance sanitary control excellent.	Health, conduct, efficiency and morale of this organization is in excellent condition. There are sixteen local Enrollees at this camp of which six are white and ten colored. Supplemental page: Standing of mess as of Oct. 31, 1934, cash on hand \$599.09-Stock on hand \$519.86-Total \$1118.85. At this camp there are twenty-nine cots on hand, some of them are not in a serviceable condition. I & I report has been made on all unserviceable cots and replacement is pending.

The men must have flourished under these conditions. As reported by Charles H. Kenlan, special investigator, the physical condition of the enrolled men was excellent with obvious improvement since their arrival. The average weight gain was twenty pounds.

Meal menus for Camp P-71, 299th Company [submitted with 24 February 1934 report]:

Day	Breakfast	Dinner	Supper
Sunday	Fried eggs Fried potatoes Oatmeal Fresh milk Tangerines Bread, butter Coffee, sugar	Roast pork loin Mashed potatoes Brown gravy Creamed corn Stuffed olives, celery Chocolate pie Bread, butter Coffee, milk, sugar	Assorted cold meats Cheese Potato salad Fruit (Preserved) Cocoa Bread, jam
Monday	Ham omelette Boiled rice Fresh milk Fresh apples Bread, butter Coffee, sugar	Macaroni (Italian style) Potato salad Parkerhouse rolls Bread, butter Coffee, milk, sugar	Tomato soup Boiled beef Boiled potatoes Boiled cabbage Chocolate pie Bread, butter Coffee, milk, sugar
Tuesday	Boiled eggs Fried potatoes Cornmeal mush Fresh milk Bread, butter Coffee, sugar	Beef stew Lima beans Cole slaw Plain cake Bread, butter Coffee, milk, sugar	Fried liver Boiled potatoes Brown gravy Boiled string beans Rice pudding Bread, jam Coffee, milk, sugar
Wednesday	Creamed beef Toasted bread Bran flakes Fresh milk Butter Coffee, sugar	Beef hash Kidney beans Lettuce & Mayonnaise Doughnuts Bread, butter Coffee, milk, sugar	Noodle soup, Baked ham Mashed potatoes, Brown gravy, Spinach Bread pudding Bread, apple butter Coffee, milk, sugar

Day	Breakfast	Dinner	Supper
Thursday	Bologna omelette Oatmeal Fresh milk Oranges Bread, butter Coffee, milk, sugar	Braised beef Boiled potatoes String beans Lemon pie Bread, butter Coffee, milk, sugar	Boiled ham Boiled sauerkraut Boiled potatoes Celery Chocolate pudding Bread, butter Coffee, milk, sugar
Friday	French toast, syrup Boiled hominy Fresh apples Fresh milk Coffee, sugar	Chili con carne Fried potatoes Cabbage salad Coffee cake Bread, butter Coffee, milk, sugar	Vegetable soup Baked beans Onion salad Sour pickles Apple pie Bread, jam Coffee, milk, sugar
Saturday	Fried sausage Fried potatoes Corn flakes Fresh milk Bread, butter Coffee, milk, sugar	Fried ham Boiled potatoes Boiled string beans Raisin pie Bread, butter Coffee, milk, sugar	Beef hash Lima beans Chocolate pudding Bread, jam Coffee, milk, sugar

Meal menus prepared by Robert L. Taylor, Mess Steward and John G. Hritz, 1st Lt. F. A. Res., Mess Officer for Camp P-71, 1337th Company for the week of 19 November 1934:

Day	Breakfast	Dinner	Supper
Monday	Oatmeal, Fresh milk Scrambled eggs Coffee & Bread Fried potatoes	Four (4) kinds of sandwiches Fruit Coffee	Baked Beans Pickles, Catsup Stewed tomatoes Coffee & Bread
Tuesday	Frankfurters Fried potatoes Farina Fresh milk Coffee & Bread	Four (4) kinds of sandwiches Fruit Coffee	Liver & Onions Mashed Potatoes Brown Gravy, String beans Coffee & Bread Canned pears
Wednesday	Sausage Fried potatoes Stewed prunes Cocoa Bread & Butter Fresh Milk	Four (4) kinds of sandwiches Fruit Coffee	Veal Stew Stewed corn Boiled potatoes Bread & butter Coffee Cream Dessert
Thursday	Scrambled eggs Creamed potatoes Oatmeal Fresh milk Coffee & Bread	Four (4) kinds of sandwiches Fruit Coffee	Meat Loaf Sweet potatoes Brown Gravy Brown Betty Coffee & Bread
Friday	Farina Fresh milk Cheese omelet Fried potatoes Coffee & Bread	Four (4) kinds of sandwiches Fruit Coffee	Oyster Stew French fried potatoes Cold slaw Cherry pie Coffee & Bread
Saturday	Sausage potatoes Hashed Browns Fried Apples Coffee & Bread Fresh milk	Beef Hash Stewed onions Baked potatoes Coffee Bread & jam	Frankfurters, Sauer Kraut Boiled potatoes String beans Coffee & Bread Gelatin dessert
Sunday	Sliced bananas Fresh milk Fried scrapple Coffee Bread & butter	Stewed chicken Mashed potatoes Giblet gravy String beans Cake, Ice Cream Coffee & Bread	Chili Con-Carne Baked sweet potatoes Pickles Apple pie Coffee & Bread

Classes for Co. 1337 (Colored) taught in November/December 1934 were:

Arithmetic, English, Geography, History by Edward S. Wranek, Educational Adviser.
 Reading, Spelling and Writing by Maurice Burke, Assistant to Educational Adviser.
 Bible was taught by A. E. Watts, Enrollee.
 First Aid was taught by 2nd Lt. E. A. Powers, Police Officer.
 Piano was taught by Samuel White, Enrollee
 Singing was taught by Clarence Martin, Enrollee
 Tap Dancing was taught by Henry Crippen, Enrollee
 Barbering was taught by Thomas Crawford, Enrollee
 Carpentry was taught by Henry Woodland, Enrollee
 Cooking was taught by Earl Taylor, Enrollee, 1st Cook
 Shoe Repairing was taught by Henry Woodland, Enrollee

During the summer, the educational programs were not as rigorous. Contests in “horse[shoe] pitching,” volley and playground ball took place instead of classes. Moving pictures were shown on Tuesday nights after eight p.m. so not to interfere with class schedules. Occupational talks were given on Wednesday evenings.²

Community interaction.

The community was welcomed to visit the camp from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays and from 12:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sunday and holidays.³

Carl Oleyar was about 11 years-old when he befriended three CCC boys from Co. 299 originally from Buffalo, New York. Carl’s home was about 2 1/2 miles south from the camp. Carl remembers being invited for dinner on Sundays. He would ride his bicycle to the camp. Carl sat at long, wooden tables and vividly remembers being fed ice cream which was a special treat, especially during these hard times. He enjoyed sled riding with the three fellows and said that the Buffalo boys kept writing to his parents long after their departure from Virginia.⁴

With hard work comes play. The boys of the CCC Camp engaged with the local high schools to play basketball. It was commented that the CCC boys had good sportsmanship and good action. By the scores, it seems like these older “boys” had advantages over the younger local high school boys.

From Co. 299 - 42 points scored. From Occoquan High School - 15 points scored:

J. Gunn	Reynolds
G. Evarts	Lloyd
W. Donoghue	Piercy
S. Garten	Armstead
F. Syrek	Joyce
S. Egnaczak	Purvis
W. Janik	Purvis
R. Hart	Pettale
L. Gleed	
L. Germanovich	

² *The Manassas Journal*, 14 June 1934, p. 4.

³ *The Manassas Journal*, 25 January 1934, p. 1.

⁴ Carl Oleyar phone conversation, 16 November 2007.

From Co. 299 - 29 points scored. From Nokesville High School - 23 points scored:

J. Gunn	Reading
W. Donoghue	Allen
S. Garten	King
F. Syrek	Gorman
L. Gleed	Wood
W. Janik	Hively
L. Germanovich	Cook
R. Hart	
S. Egnaczak	

It was noted that up until this time, Nokesville High School team had been undefeated.⁵

They also competed against other CCC Camps.

From Co. 299 – 23 points	From Co. 362 of Spotsylvania – 22 points
Donoghue	Daniels
Hart	Norfleet
Germanovich	Lee
Syrek	Cox
Gleed	Stone
Janik	Carwile
	Farrow
	Hollowell

Company 299 was also scheduled to play with the 287th Company of Baynesville.⁶

The CCC Camp also gave a dance in which they invited the young ladies of Manassas. The invitation given in the newspaper says that the Camp will be giving a dance on Saturday, March 10 and that there will be competent chaperones in attendance. Transportation would be provided from Prince William Hotel between 8 and 8:30 p.m. and returning the guests there after the dance. Refreshments would be provided.⁷

A swimming place complete with platform, a high and low diving board and a bathhouse was completed on the upper part of Lake Jackson by Company 1337.⁸

The locals supported the camp. Ads were placed in the local newspaper to collect books, magazines, etc. for the men. A “Word of Thanks” from the camp was published in the *Manassas Journal* on 21 June 1934 thanking the community for their generosity with their donations.

Mayor Harry P. Davis of Manassas, the evening’s master of ceremonies, invited about 100 area businessmen to a “good-will” dinner at Camp Recovery on 15 August 1934 where they would inspect the camp and learn about the working conditions of the camp and the men stationed there. A good time was had by all. The meal was voted as “one of the best they had ever tasted.” There was clog dancing by the enrollees along with good instrumental music. Mr. R. S. [Dick] Hynson got up and demonstrated his own rhythm. Captain Darmopray introduced the military guests which included Captain Harry Henry, Lieut. Hritz, Captain Esias, Lieut. Smith, Lieut. Powers and Lieut. Rich. Honorable C. A. Sinclair introduced the civilian guests which included: Hon. Howard Worth Smith, Hon. Melvin C. Hazen, Hon. George Herring, Hon. James Ashby, Hon. Frank P. Moncure, James U. Kincheloe, H. E. Dameron, Calvin Haley, L. L. Triplett, Hawes Davies, Hon. Thomas Lion, O.D. Waters and Mr. Deering. Captain Darmopray gave the tour of the camp buildings and explained the workings of the camp. It was noted how proud he

⁵ *The Manassas Journal*, 8 February 1934, p. 1.

⁶ *The Manassas Journal*, 15 February 1934, p. 1.

⁷ *The Manassas Journal*, 8 March 1934, p. 1.

⁸ National Archives II, RG 35, C.C.C. Division of Investigations, Camp Inspection Reports 1933-42, P-55 to P-90, Box 224, E-115. Newspaper clipping in file, source not given, dated 23 June 1934. *The Manassas Journal* 14 June 1934, p. 4 indicates that the swimming place is being built.



Typical structure of a fire tower. This one is on Carter Mountain in Albemarle County, Va.
Courtesy of Virginia Department of Forestry

was of his camp and the men's discipline. He stated that "92 percent of the personal [personnel] was native to Virginia."⁹

Fire Suppression in Prince William County with the help of Camp P-71

The Virginia Forest Service was responsible for working with counties in helping with fires. In 1933, Prince William County only had one fire department, the Manassas Fire Department formed in 1892.¹⁰ There was approximately 147,144 acres of forest in Prince William County.¹¹ Having the CCC Camp located in the southern portion of the county would have addressed a need at that end of the county. The Virginia Forest Service submitted a yearly report sent to the Board of County Supervisors. On 20 January 1933 a report was submitted that summed up what they did for the county in 1932:

No. of fires: 6. Acreage burned: 59 ¼.

Estimated damage: \$106.

Causes: Lightning – 1; Smokers – 1; Brush-burning – 2; Incendiary – 2. Total expenditures: \$130.64:

\$108.90 paid out of State and Federal funds.

\$21.74 charged to County.

It was noted that the 1932 fire season was about normal. Signed by Joseph B. Pike, Jr., District Forester.¹²

However, the report submitted to the Board of Supervisors on 13 March 1934, stated there were nine forest fires burning 191 ¼ acres of forest land during 1933, an average of 21.1 acres which was still below the average for the state, 32.1 acres.

No. of fires: 9 (all in November). Acreage burned: 191 ¼.

Causes: Smokers – 2; Incendiary – 1; Miscellaneous – 2; Unknown – 4.

Total expenditures: \$107.77. \$74.07 Charges to State. Charges to County reduced to \$32.10 (by a party giving \$1.60 who was responsible for starting a forest fire).

Spring that year had ample rains but the fall, especially the month of November, was dry and had unusually high winds. The report gives credit to the efforts of the CCC men. "In spite of [the unfavorable weather] ... the control of 9 fires only cost the county \$32.10, which may be partially accounted for by reason of the fact that considerable forest fire suppression work was done by crews of men from Camp P-71 between Manassas and Dumfries. This fact also tended to reduce the average area burned by the fires because the number of men available for fire fighting from this camp was almost unlimited. They being already mobilized at the camp with high class truck transportation they were able to get off to a quick

⁹ *The Manassas Journal*, 9 August 1934, p. 1, and 23 August 1934, p. 1.

¹⁰ *Journal Messenger*, 23 June 1992, p. 1.

¹¹ Board of Supervisors Jan. 1935-May 1935, Box 37, Envelope: 7 March 1935 Misc. papers, Report from Berlin Eye, District Forester to Members of the PWC Board of Supervisors dated 16 February 1935 at Prince William County Courthouse Archives.

¹² Board of Supervisors Jan. 1933-June 1933, Box 33, Envelope: 24 January 1933 Dredging Occoquan Creek, etc. at Prince William County Courthouse Archives.

start and reach the fires while they were yet small.” The report was signed by J. P. Andrews, District Forester.¹³

Further praise for the CCC Camp was given in the report for 1934. District Forester’s report by Berlin Eye to the Prince William County’s Board of Supervisors, says “In commenting on the work in the county during 1934, it might not be out of place to say that compared with the work of former years the results have been highly satisfactory. We have been very materially aided in the work, however, (both as a means of reducing annual burned over area and in reduction of suppression costs) by the Emergency Conservation Work [CCC Camp P-71’s efforts] that has been done in the county during the past two years. This has been of great assistance, not only as a means of immediate fire suppression relief but also as a means of providing us with fire protective facilities there by affording us potential means of reducing our fire suppression costs in the future. It is scarcely possible in this letter to give a list of protective improvement facilities constructed within the county during the past two years through this Emergency Conservation Work.” This glowing report is backed up with statistics.

Causes: Brush-burning – 2; Miscellaneous – 2; Unknown – 1. No. of fires: 5. Acreage burned: 41 ½. Estimated damage \$113.00. Average size of the 5 fires was 8.3 acres, suppressed at an average cost of 8 cents/acre. Total expenditures: \$37.25. \$17.25 Charges to State & Federal funds. \$20.00 Charges to County (this represents the cost of fire suppression services, provisions and travel employed by the chief and local forest wardens of the county in the suppression of fires during the year).

A copy of this report¹⁴ was submitted to Chief Warden James M. Russell who was in charge of forestry for the camp.

The cost of fire suppression for the county had dropped starting when Camp P-71 came into existence in 1933 yet the cost increased in 1935. Camp P-71 ceased to be 31 October 1935, yet in May, July and August 1935, three new CCC camps were established in what is now Prince William Forest Park, a National Park. These new CCC camps were not established for forestry purposes but for building a recreational park. The yearly report for that year:

Causes: Railroads – 6; Incendiary – 1; Miscellaneous – 1; Unknown – 1. No. of fires: 9. Acreage burned: 142 ¾. Average size of the 9 fires was 15.9 acres. Total expenditures: \$70.55. \$53.39 Charges to State & Federal funds. \$14.26 Charges to County (\$2.90 was collected from parties found to be responsible for starting fires. Original charge was \$17.16).

Report states there will be group warden meetings throughout the district where among other topics we will discuss “the accomplishments during the past three years by Civilian Conservation Corps organizations.”¹⁵

¹³ Board of Supervisors Jan. 1934-June 1934, Box 35, Envelope: 27 March 1934 Miscellaneous papers, etc. at Prince William County Courthouse Archives.

¹⁴ Board of Supervisors Jan. 1935-May 1935, Box 37, Envelope: 7 March 7 1935 Misc. papers, Report from Berlin Eye, District Forester to Members of the PWC Board of Supervisors dated 16 February 1935 at Prince William County Courthouse Archives.

¹⁵ Board of Supervisors Apr. 1936-Sept. 1936, Box 51, Envelope: April 9, 1936 Misc. papers, Report from Berlin Eye, District Forester to Members of the PWC Board of Supervisors dated 15 February 1936 at Prince William County Courthouse Archives.

An "Important Notice" was posted on the front page of *The Manassas Journal* explaining the serious situation regarding fire protection on 21 February 1935. It read:

Chief Howard of the Manassas Vol. Fire Dept. wishes to call attention to parties calling the Fire Department outside of Manassas to say when the call is put in if they have a hand dug well, cistern, pond or branch in convenient distance to the fire. We can not draft water from a drilled well.

Owing to the present condition of our dirt roads it will be impossible to answer out-of-town calls other than those reached by hard-surfaced roads until the condition of the dirt roads improve considerably.

He also wishes to state, Firemen will be on duty at all indoor public gatherings and at all shows held in the Dixie Theater.

Unfortunately, Camp P-71 was no longer active in 1936 because it was a bad fire year.

Causes: Railroads – 9; Smokers –5; Brush-burning – 6; Incendiary – 1; Miscellaneous – 1; Unknown –1. No. of fires: 23. Acreage burned: 784 $\frac{3}{4}$.
Estimated Damage: \$2,129.00. Total expenditures: \$597.60.
\$500.25 Charges to State & Federal funds (\$14.47 was recovered from parties found responsible for setting fires). \$82.88 Charges to County¹⁶

Murder incident in camp.

An altercation between two CCC camp members from Co. 1337 ended up with one dead. Enrollee John Butler died 15 November 1934, at 7:45 p.m. as a result of a stab wound to the neck incurred about 5:45 p.m. that evening received from enrollee Benjamin Spires. Dr. Stewart McBryde was summoned to aid the victim.¹⁷ The deceased was twenty years old and enlisted in the Civilian Conservation Corps on 23 July 1934, at Camp Holabird, Baltimore, Maryland and transferred to Camp Recovery on 1 September 1934. John Butler's home was in Baltimore. It was noted that he never gave any trouble while a member of Camp P-71.

Benjamin Spires enrolled at Camp Holabird on 27 July 1934 at age 23 and was transferred to Camp P-71 on 1 September 1934. His home was in Stemmers Run, Maryland. An investigation of Spires was conducted and it was stated that Spires came from a law-abiding, respectable family and had no criminal record known to the people interviewed. The newspaper account states that Spires claimed self defense. Spires was held at the Prince William County jail at Manassas pending indictment. Benjamin Spires pleaded not guilty and summoned to testify as witnesses for the Commonwealth were James Stanley, Norman Smith, David (or Daniel) Scott, Mack Ellis, Edward Thompson, Howard Dixon, Fred Mixie (all identified as non-residents of Virginia), Lewis Brown, and Wallace Moore.¹⁸ One would assume that these witnesses were members of Camp Recovery and present when this incident occurred. On 18 February 1935, Benjamin's jury consisted of C. C. Fisher, W. S. Brawner, Geo. H. Michael, Norvell Larkin, Sr., James E. Nelson, E. M. Roof, N. S. Lambert, C. V. Crouch, T. N. Berryman, C. F. Sinclair and L. E. Beachley who gave the verdict "guilty of murder in the second degree." Benjamin Spires was to be confined in the state penitentiary for ten years minus the 95 days which he spent in jail awaiting trial.¹⁹

¹⁶ Board of Supervisors Feb. 1937-June 1937, Box 53, Envelope: March 4, 1937 Misc. papers, Report from Berlin Eye, District Forester to Members of the PWC Board of Supervisors dated 23 February 1937 at Prince William County Courthouse Archives.

¹⁷ "Fatal Stabbing At CCC Camp", *Manassas Journal*, Thurs., 15 November 1934, p. 1.

¹⁸ Prince William County, Va., Common Law Order Book 11 (1933-37): 180 and 183.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*: 210-211. Benjamin Spires name was also spelled Spines.

This investigation also led to another matter that some of the CCC men were receiving checks and money orders from home which means that their allotment or part of it was being sent back to them. The Postmaster at Manassas informed the Commanding Officer, Captain M. Darmopray, that a considerable number of registered letters and money orders have been received by enrollees.²⁰

Last days for CCC Camp P-71.

The camp was abandoned on 31 October 1935 and responsibility for the buildings turned over to the Army.²¹ The camp had a reoccupancy for a short while in 1937 by Company 1372²² while the enrollees were waiting the construction of another camp. A lease between Jane Shields Herrell and the United States of America was made 11 January 1937 for the 10 acres to begin 1 April 1937 and end 30 June 1939 for the fee of \$3.00 a month, payable yearly. The camp, itself, was salvaged by the Army on 11 February 1938 for use by another CCC Camp.²³

On 4 April 1938, Miss Herrell wrote to Mr. F. C. Pederson about a few concerns of the removal of buildings, evergreens and shrubbery from the camp. Miss Herrell states that the Administration Building has "a very splendid chimney and fireplace" constructed from nearby stone and the brick that was in the dwelling which was razed. She asked if the chimney would be destroyed and taken away. Miss Herrell noted that the best evergreens had been carried away by the Army trucks as well as large shrubs she planted many years before the Camp was built. Without her knowledge much timber was cut from the property to make piles and walks and an especially fine flag pole and she wanted someone to appraise this timber. She wanted to make sure the pump will be left with a proper platform as before.

With another letter dated 22 April 1938 sent to the Commanding Officer at Headquarters, Central District, CCC in Towson, Maryland she asked for the following considerations:

- A platform be built around the well.
- The chimney and fire place, incinerator, fish pond, foundation of the bathhouse, foundation of the water tower, and concrete foundation around the base of the Army well, be left intact.
- The opening to the Army well, be covered with a wooden platform.
- All waste material, posts and piling that has no salvage value, be placed in a neat pile and left at the camp site.

On 2 January 1942 a letter was sent to the War Department Representative Advisory Council, CCC, in Washington D.C. saying that a complaint by Miss Jane Shields Herrell, had been received that a "well built six room house was razed with no compensation. The building was demolished for the purpose of erecting camp structures, the owner apparently agreeing to replacement with no thought of the fact that all buildings would be destroyed when the camp was moved." It was noted that no complaint had been received previously by her. The matter was vindicated by the government by their letter on 7 April 1943 to Mrs. W. A. Newman (sister of Jane Shields Herrell). Mr. M. A. Stephens, Executive Assistant to the Director says that the agreement signed 11 December 1933, at Manassas by J. S. Herrell, indicates that "an agreement was reached and placed in writing with reference to the demolition of the two story six room house on the premises occupied by the camp. It clearly indicates that demolition was undertaken with permission and the demolition did not constitute a claim against the government." It was noted by Stephens that a letter by Jane Herrell on 22 December 1938, regarding restoration of the site did not mention her concern regarding the "cottage" that was demolished. Her claim did not have a leg to stand on and was dropped.

²⁰ National Archives II, RG 35, C.C.C. Division of Investigations, Camp Inspection Reports 1933-42, P-55 to P-90, Box 224, E-115. Letter dated 28 November 1934 to Mr. J. J. McEntee, Assistant to Director Emergency Conservation Work, Washington, D.C. from Charles H. Kenlan, Special Investigator.

²¹ Letter dated 21 December 1942 to Mrs. W. A. Newman of Manassas from J. J. McEntee, Director.

²² <http://www.cccalumni.org/states/index.html>, accessed 10/26/07. States company was there as of 5 May 1937.

²³ Letter 2 January 1942 to War Department Representative Advisory Council, CCC, Washington, D.C. from M.A. Stephens, Executive Assistant to the Director.

Currently on the CCC Camp P-71 site location.

The fire tower that CCC Camp P-71 constructed continued to be of service up until 1988. On 4 December 1950, permission to build a structure to house a fire truck and other equipment needed for fire fighting was granted by land owner, Miss Jane S. Herrell of Manassas. The Independent Hill Volunteer Fire Department of Coles District was chartered on 18 September 1950 and needed a proper structure for their fire fighting equipment. Miss Herrell entered into an agreement with Geo. [George] W. Dean representing the Virginia Forest Service Bureau and George W. Crum, President and Andrew Samsky, Secretary of the Independent Hill Volunteer Fire Company of Coles District “to build a proper structure to house a fire truck and any other necessary equipment needed to assist in putting out fires and in protecting the property of the citizens of Coles, District, Prince William County, and nearby areas, from fire.”²⁴ A general warranty of title was given to the fire department by Miss Herrell on 14 February 1952.²⁵ Coles District Volunteer Fire and Rescue is still in operation at the same location. Camp P-71, “Camp Recovery,” was the first CCC camp in Prince William County. Its name may well have faded with time but the purpose it was created for still continues.

If you have any further information about Camp Recovery, P-71, please contact Beverly Veness at RELIC at Bull Run Regional Library.



Original Camp P-71 fire tower foundation block. Block is in flower bed in front of Coles District Volunteer Fire & Rescue Station, 13712 Dumfries Road, Manassas, Virginia.

Photo by Mike Veness, 2008

Inscribed:

___ LTER (looks like it was done at a different time)

“Steve” Egnac[zak]*
Prevent Forest Fires
Co. 299 C.C.C. Ca[mp]
1934

*Steve Egnaczak (23 Aug 1914 - 22 Sept 2003). He is listed as a “Leader” for Camp P-71. His obituary, published in *The Daily Star* (Otsego County, N.Y.), 16 Oct. 2003, states he was active in the CCC for many years.

²⁴ Prince William County, Va., Deed Book 149: 155.

²⁵ Prince William County, Va., Deed Book 158: 392.

**DUMFRIES DISTRICT COURT
LAND CAUSES, 1793-1811**

*Transcribed by William M. Balderson, Jr.
Edited by Charlotte Cain and Bev Veness*

(Continued from vol. 7, no. 1)

[Page 172] [*Marginalia*] HOOMES vs. RENOE [continued]

Papers refered to in the foregoing Bill --

[*Simple plat with names of surrounding land as belonging to: W^m HALLEY, Henry HALLEY J^r, Luke KANNIAN [CANNON] and W^m RIDLEY.*]

By Virtue of a warrant from the Proprietors Office granted unto James FRENCH of the County of Prince W^m. Surveyed one Certain piece or parcel of Land situate in the Said County lying on and between the Lines of W^m HALLEY, Leonard BARKER, Bur Colbert HARRISON[,] W^m RIDLEY, John ASHMORE, Philemon WATERS Jun^r & Henry HALLEY now the said FRENCH's & HORNBY bounded Viz^t Beginning at (A) a black Oak near a white Oak Corn^r to the land taken up by W^m HALLEY dec^d & in the line of the land surveyed for Luke CANNON, Extending thence with or near the said HALLEYs line N^o 55½ E^t 248 po. to (B) the Line of Henry HALLEY Jun^r thence with his line S^o40 E^t36 po. to 2 white Oaks by a branch his Corner Thence the said Course Continued 88 po to (C) a box Oak in or near the line of W^m RIDLEY thence with his line S^o44½ W32 po. to (D) a Red oak Corner to the said RIDLEY thence with another of his lines S^o10 W22 po. to (E) the line of Luke CANNON Thence West 254 to the Beginning Containing

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one hundred Twenty Eight Acres.

The above Courses were Run by M^r Geo. BYRN for me Jn^o WARNER Surv^r
Dec y^c 22 1741

William MORE JD }
John MORE } Chainmen

A Copy of a Forfeited Plat.

Endorsed on the back. --

"James FRENCH's Plot 128 acres Ex^d B. MARTIN
Desired to be made out in Tho^s RENOE's Name.

M^r BAYLIS to pay
To be Drawn ----
Copies
Ex^d B MARTIN."

[*Marginalia*] Thomas HOOMES Jun^r Patent for 128 acres

James WOOD esquire, Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, To all To whom these Presents shall come, Greeting: Know ye, that by virtue of Warrant issued from the late proprietors Office in Northern Neck and in Consideration of the Ancient Composition of fifteen Shillings Sterling paid by Thomas HOOMES Jun^r into the Treasury of this Commonwealth there is Granted by the said Commonwealth unto the said Thomas HOMES Jun^r assignee of Stephen FRENCH heir at law of James FRENCH dec^d who was heir at law of William FRENCH deceased a certain tract or Parcel of land Containing one hundred and Twenty eight Acres by Survey bearing date the Twenty Second day of

December One thousand seven hundred and forty one lying and being in the County of Prince William on and between the lines of William HALLEY, Leonard BARKER, Bur Colbert HARRISON William RIDLEY, John ASHMORE, Philemon WATERS J^r Henry HALLEY now the said FRENCH's and HORNBY and bounded as followeth to Wit Beginning at a black Oak near a White Oak corner to the Land taken up by William HALLEY dec^d and in the line

[Page 174] line [sic] of the land Surveyed for Luke CANNON extending thence with or near the said HALLEYs line N^o55½ E248 poles to the line of Henry HALLEY Jun^r thence with his line S40 E36 poles to 2 White Oaks by a branch his corner thence the said Course Continued 88 poles to a box oak in or near the line of William RIDLEY thence with his line S44½ W32 poles to a Red oak Corner to the said RIDLEY thence with another of his lines S10 W22 poles to the line of Luke CANNON thence W254 poles to the beginning With its appurtenances. To have and to hold the said Tract or parcel of Land with its appurtenances to the said Thomas HOMES J^r and his heirs forever. In Witness Whereof the said James WOOD Esquire Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, hath hereunto set his hand and caused the lesser seal of the said Commonwealth to be affixed at Richmond on the Twenty Sixth Day of May in the Year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven hundred and Ninety four, and of the Commonwealth the Eighteenth

{L.S.} James WOOD

=====

Endorsed on the back

“Thomas HOMES J^r is entitled to the within mentioned Tract of Land.
Charles LEWIS Re L Off.[”]

=====

In Court March 1796 On Motion of the Def^t Defendant Dedimus is Granted him to take the Deposition of John MOFFITT de bene esse (affidavit filed).

=====

At Rules held March & April 1796 Cont^d for ans^r

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At Rules held May 1796	Attachment for Answer
June “	Answer filed and time for Replication

=====

The Answer is in the the [sic] Words & figures following Viz^t

[*Marginalia*] Enoch RENOE's answer

The Plea & Answer of Enoch RENOE to the bill of Complaint exhibited against him in the County Court of Prince William by Thomas HOOMES Jr. This defd^t now and at all times Saving and reserving to himself all manner of benefit and advantage of Exception to the manifold errors imperfections and untruths in the Complainants bill of Complaint for plea saith that if the Complainant hath a title to the land in his bill mentioned under the Entry and Survey made for James FRENCH he hath a plain and adequate Remedy at Common law by Ejectment to recover the possession thereof Wherefore he prays Jud^t whether the said Complainant ought to sustain his bill aforesaid in this Court but should this Worshipful Court be of Opinion that the Complainants bill ought to be Sustained in this Court This defendant for Answer thereunto or to So much thereof as he is advised is material and Necessary for him to make Answer unto answereth and saith that he admits that it appears by a Copy of the Survey signed by Thomas Bryan MARTIN and refered to in the Complainants bill that the land in the bill mentioned was surveyed by Virtue of a Warrant from the proprietors office for James FRENCH the 22nd December

1741 but this defendant further says that it appears by said Copy that the said Survey was afterwards forfeited. This defendant further answering saith that he doth not know

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know [sic] that the said James FRENCH gave or sold his Right to said Survey to Thomas RENOE or that John BAYLIS undertook to pay the Composition money but be that as it may It doth not appear that the Composition money was ever paid to the proprietor and for that cause this Defendant presumes the Survey became forfeited agreeable to the Rules established in the proprietors office. This defendant Says that he doth not know or believe that the said Thomas RENOE ever moved on the land and built houses thereon and made other improvements or ever resided thereon on the Contrary this defendant has understood from Ancient Neighbours that the said Thomas RENOE never did move or reside on said lands This Defendant admits it may be true that the said Thomas RENOE at the time of his death left the Children mentioned in the Complainants bill and that Lewis and Thomas afterwards departed this life without Issue but this defendant doth not know or admit that the Complainant purchased the Claims of Catharine CARGYLE Margaret LEE and Mary HOOMES to Said land or that they ever had any Claim to it. This defendant doth not know or admit that Stephen FRENCH from whom the Complainant pretends to have purchased was the heir of the aforesaid James FRENCH for whom the aforesaid Survey was made but on the Contrary has always understood that James FRENCH son of William FRENCH was the heir of the said James FRENCH. And if the fact is so as this defendant Verily believes it is the Complainant must have Obtained his patent by fraud and Misrepresentation And this

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Defendant is advised that the Patent under which the Complainant Claims can give him no right or title to the land Surveyed for James FRENCH in 1741 because it is Granted to him as assignee of Stephen FRENCH heir at law of James FRENCH deceased who was heir at law of William FRENCH deceased and it doth not appear that William FRENCH ever had any right to said land or that James FRENCH for whom the Survey was made, claimed as heir at Law of William FRENCH, but on the Contrary that he Claimed by Virtue of a Warrant granted to himself, and therefore this defendant humbly Conceives that the patent under which the Complainants claims give him no right or Title to the lands which had been before regularly granted to this defendant. This defend^t further says that he denies that he knew of any existing Claim or Title to said Land at the time he located and Surveyed and obtained a patent for the same but admits that he had often heard it mentioned in the neighbourhood that Old James FRENCH many years ago had made an entry of said Land and afterwards gave it up and that the entry was out of Date and forfeited which Report was Generally believed in the neighborhood. This Defendant denies that he used any art deceit or fraud in Obtaining a patent for said land, this defendant says that it was generally known in the neighbourhood that he had located Said land and the Survey thereof was publickly made and must have been known to the Complainant and Stephen FRENCH as well as the other neighbours and if either the Complainant or Stephen FRENCH had at that time any right or title to the land they ought to have entered a Caveat against a patents

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patents [sic] issuing for it to the defendant[.] This defendant says he believes and thinks he can prove that we [sic, the] Complainant well knew that the defendant had obtained a patent for said Land before he pretended to purchase Stephen FRENCH's right to said Land and that he did not Give more than three or four Dollars for it the said Stephen FRENCH well knowing and believing that he had no right to the Land. Which purchase this defendant is advised is contrary to Law and Cannot convey any right to the Complainant the said Stephen being then out of possession of said Land and this defendant in possession thereof, and this defendant hopes and believes that this Worshipful Court will not give their aid to establish a claim which has laid dormant more than fifty years and appears by the papers produced by the Compl^t to have been forfeited and attempted to be revived by the Complainant in an Illegal manner after this defendant had Obtained a Patent for said land. This defendant denies all Combination and fraud and

prays to be hence dismissed with his Reasonable Costs by him in this behalf expended.

Enoch RENNOE

Prince W^m to Wit

Enoch RENNOE personally appeared before me and made oath on the Holy Evangelists of that the several matters set forth in the foregoing Answer as of his own knowledge true and that all other matters therein set forth he believes to be true Given under my hand this 7th day of June 1796

Alexander LITHGOW

=====

At Rules July 1796 Cont^d for Replication
 === August Sept, Oct, Nov. & Dec^r D^o

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At Rules held January 1797. Cont^d for replication
 February “ D^o
 March April, & May - D^o
 June & July - - - D^o
 Aug^t & Sept^f - - D^o
 October & Nov^r - - - D^o
 Dec^r - 1797 Gen^l Replⁿ & Gen^l Dedimus
 Jany & Feby 1798 Cont^d for Depositions
 March April & May - - D^o
 June, Set for hearing on bill answer depositions and Exhibits

[*Marginalia*] James FRENCH's Will

The following are Copies of the Exhibits [*inserted words*] not particularly referred to [*end of insertion*] and of Depositions [*inserted word*] filed. Viz^t

===

In the Name of God Amen I James FRENCH of Prince W^m County in Virginia being sick and weak in body but in perfect Sence and Memory praised be to God for the same but Calling to mind the Mortality of my body that all flesh is born to die, I do make ordain and appoint this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following. Viz^t. First I bequeath my Soul into the hands of Almighty God my maker hoping through the Meritorious death and passion of Jesus Christ my Saviour and Redeemer to Receive free pardon and forgiveness for all my Sins and Offences and me body I Commit to the earth from Whence it was taken to be decently interred in Christian manner at the discretion of my Executors hereafter mentioned and for What Worldly Goods it hath pleased God to bestow upon me, that no Strife may arise thereabout hereafter I dispose of as followeth.

Imprimis ~ First I bequeath to my Son William FRENCH my Riding horse bridle and Saddle and the best feather bed and boulder and Rug and pair of blanketts and pair of Sheets, belonging to me at this Time and all my wearing clothes & Two cows & Calves and my two hunting Guns and the Chest and lock and Key which is called mine and one large trunk and lock and key and three Gallon pewter bason and two large pewter dishes and six pewter plates and one pewter tankard one large Iron pot and one Small One two Sows and piggs and all my Carpenters and Coopers tools and one frying pan

[Page 180] pan [sic] and one Iron Candlestick and a new pair of Sheets and three leather bottom'd chairs and high Standing bedstead and one Chafing dish and all my Shoemakers tools.

Item. I likewise give and bequeath to my Son William FRENCH my now dwelling plantation and all the Land thereunto belonging to him and his heirs lawfully begotton and in Case he dies without such heirs, then all that is bequeathed to him to be sold to the highest bidder and the purchase thereof be Equally divided between my wife and all my Children, that shall be then living.

Item I give and bequeath to my loving wife Elisabeth to live upon the plantation without Mallestation [during?] her Widdowhood.

Item All the Residue of my personal Estate after my debts legacys and funeral charges are all paid

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Don Wilson, Tish Como, Beverly Veness

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I give to be Equally divided between my loving wife Elisabeth and my daughter Mary Ann FRENCH. Further my desire is that none of my Estate be appraised nor Sold, and I do appoint Leonard HORNSBY & John METCALF to be Executors of this my last will will [sic] and Testament utterly revoaking and disannulling all former Wills by me made allowing and Confirming this and no other to be my last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and affixt my seal this 2nd day of November one Thousand Seven hundred and Forty one.

John his **I** mark FRENCH {seal}¹

[Witnesses]

James HAGGARD

John his **J** mark MOORE

Margaret her **M** mark HAGGARD

At a Court held for the County of Prince William the Twenty Third day of May 1743.

This will was presented in Court and proved by the Oaths of James HAGGARD and Margaret HAGGARD two of the Witnesses (who also made Oath that they saw John MOORE the other Witness Subscribe his name as an Evidence thereto) it was admitted to Record Leonard HORNSBY and John METCALF Executors

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Therein named refused the burthen of the Executorship on the of William FRENCH and Jarvis DOGGARTY and their giving Security for their Just and faithful administration of the Testators Estate Certificate was Granted them for obtaining letters of Administration with the Will annexed in due form.

Test

P. WAGENER Cl cur

A copy Teste John WILLIAMS Cl cur

[To be continued.]

¹ Signature copied in error. Recorded will is extant, correctly signed as James (his mark: I) French. See Prince William County Will Book C: 421-423. See also John Frederick Dorman, *Prince William County, Virginia, Will Book C, 1734-1744* (Washington, D.C.: J.F. Dorman, 1956), 99-100.

PRESIDENT ANDREW JACKSON AT BUCKLAND TAVERN

An article in the *Phenix Gazette / Alexandria Gazette* brings to light evidence that Buckland Tavern was visited several times by President Andrew Jackson. Thanks to David Blake, President of the Buckland Preservation Society, for bringing this article to RELIC's attention.

Alexandria Gazette [Monday] 6 August 1832 [p.3, col.1]

Extract of a letter to the Editor of the Alexandria Gazette, dated

BUCKLAND, (VA.) AUGUST 1, 1832.

DEAR SIR – I must steal a few moments from the hours of happiness I am enjoying in this delightful neighborhood, among some of the most excellent and agreeable friends I ever met with, to give you a brief account of some of the sayings and doings of “The Greatest and Best,” alias “The Born to Command.” [President Andrew Jackson] He passed through this place, last Tuesday, in great state, stopping to take breakfast. While here, some of his friends called on him and had some conversation with him in the tavern porch—(the tavern porch, by the bye, was once, we are informed, a favorite haunt of his, and the theatre of many of his exploits,)—on which occasion he held forth most luminously, among other matters relating to his Administration, upon the Bank of the United States. He said, that, if it had not been vetoed, the liberty of our country would not be worth a copper: that he had no doubt it would be discovered, if sufficient investigation were made, that many of its prominent advocates in Congress were bribed for their support: that it had lent Mr. Webster \$10,000 a short time since (implying a charge of bribery, otherwise the fact was not worth mentioning): that it had accepted him as Gales & Seaton's endorser for the same amount, though he was worth nothing; and that it had, in one county, (in Tennessee, I think,) taken mortgages, as securities, to the number of hundreds in one day: I forget the precise number. He spoke, also, of the bribes it administers in the shape of fat fees to counsel. Mr. Clay, too, came in for his share of the denunciation and abuse of the Hero. The fees he once received from the Bank, as counsel, were remembered and brought forth in most magnanimous in[n]juendos.

You will, no doubt, agree with me that such conduct is exceedingly candid and high-minded. Thus publicly to charge honorable and eminent men, acting under a solemn oath, upon mere suspicion, in the form of supposition, with being influenced by bribes in the discharge of their official duties, is a stretch of magnanimity far beyond the conception of ordinary folks, and peculiarly becoming in our Chief Magistrate.

Yours, truly.

[No name given]

We wish to thank the following individuals for their contributions to this issue:
**William Balderson, Joan Peters, Bill Sheads, David Blake, Charlotte Cain and
RELIC Staff: Donald L. Wilson, Beverly R. Veness and Tish Como.**