



# NEWS AND NOTES

from

## *The Fauquier Historical Society*

Vol. 7, No. 3

WARRENTON, VIRGINIA

Summer 1985



Photo by Lee Moffett

A painting by local artist Lee Moffett, portrays some of the changes in Warrenton's Court House Square since it was laid out August 23, 1759.

### *The Many Faces of Courthouse Square*

1819. The wooden pump in front of the Courthouse was over a well that could have been dug by Brad-dock's Troops.

This Courthouse was completed August 23, 1819, and burned May 1852. Norris' Tavern (now the Warren Green) was begun July 26, 1819. The Jail, begun October 23, 1808, had an addition added to it in 1821.

On the corner of South 7th Street (now Ashby) and Jail Street (now Waterloo), in 1819, was the print shop of James Caldwell. It became the Farm-

ers Hotel (1834) housed the first library in Warrenton (1907) and the site of the Warrenton Supply Filling Station (1927).

Across Jail Street from the print shop was Waters' Tavern which would become dilapidated and torn down in 1852.

1860. Clouds were gathering over the new Courthouse built in 1854 (destined to burn in 1889). It had the first Town Clock in 1855. In 1873, the fence around it was taken down so fire

equipment could be kept under the front portico and doors replaced the gates in the archway.

The Clerk's Office, sitting flush with the sidewalk, was probably built in 1826 or earlier. The well had been covered over, as it is not in any of the Civil War pictures.

1862. Storm clouds hang over Warrenton as the Union Soldiers occupy the town with their saloon wagons parked about the corner of

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## Court House Square

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Alexandria Road and Main Street, that being a vacant lot until 1889.

Along Main Street was Elkon Lyon's General Store built 1854, later R. E. Foley's Bar Room, 1885-1890; Ben F. Martyn's Tin Shop, 1890. Joseph A. Jeffries bought and built a store (1893) which became known as Graysons, Lerner's, and The Stable Door.

Next was S. M. Voss' home and the store of Beckham and Voss, built in 1854. It was later Kloman's Drug Store (1875), Jeffries' home and Drug Store (1877) and Gardiner's Drug Store (1949).

1909. Naptha Lamps were installed in town (1875), and a lamp-lighter was employed. A store building was built in 1871 at the corner of Main and Culpeper Streets. Several people occupied it, including Mr. Nusbaum who bought it in 1897 when it became Nusbaum & Anderson, later to house the A&P (1930), The Signal Corps Grill (WWII), The Sportsman's Grill, Montgomery Wards and presently, Wheat, First Securities.

The Clerk's Office continued the same, but the present "Old Courthouse," built in 1889. Part of the fire equipment was kept under the courthouse portico until the Municipal Building was built on Main Street in 1894. It had the Fire Department on

the ground floor, and Council Rooms above. It stood approximately on the site of the "Waters' Tavern." A cistern had been built on the lot January 16, 1880.

Between the Municipal Building and William Morgan's Eating Place and home was a vacant lot where horses were auctioned on March Court Days.

Yates (the Five Points Store) was mentioned as early as 1853. The first Telephone Exchange in Warrenton (1886) was located in it. Next to that was Pattie's General Merchandise Store, perhaps as early as 1869.

Continuing along Winchester Street was T. R. Lunceford's house and T. B. Fink's house, both on an 1878 map.

1909. Fire on the night of November 22, 1909 destroyed at least 26 buildings. Five houses were along Winchester Street, including J. Blackwell's, Jim Joran's (and his store), and the present Carter Hall built by Inman Horner in 1854 which Dr. C. S. Carter had bought in 1898. Mr. Shirely and Mr. Burke stand by the cistern.

1910. The trees are protected from "bumping," the cistern of 1880 is still there, and the Courthouse has a fence around it again. Brick sidewalks are replacing plank ones.

The building at the corner of Alexandria Turnpike and Main was built in 1889 to house the Post Office, and had the entry on the Main Street

side. A horse mounting block was at the corner beside the utility pole. Electricity came around 1902, but the town Council did not plan to have the town lighted by electricity until 1907.

1920. 1916 was the first mention found of the Opera House for movies and offices. A Greek restaurant was in the building next to it on the corner of Winchester Street and Court House Square.

In March 1927, J. A. Frazier bought "The Shenandoah" on the corner of Winchester and reopened it again as a restaurant.

1925. The Town Clock was lighted in 1911. The street lights were lit during December, January, February and March from dark till 1 a.m. and from 5:30-6:30 a.m., and the rest of the months from dark until 2 a.m., "except on such nights or part of the nights when the moon was shining with sufficient clearness to light the street," which were slowly beginning to be macadamized.

On June 4, 1913 a fountain was donated by the family of Major John Barry, in his memory. It had a bench, a horse watering basin and shrubbery around it. More and more sidewalks were being made of concrete. It should be noticed that a small side window shown in the painting is no longer there.

On June 12, 1920, the Mosby Monument was unveiled between the Jail and Courthouse.

1930. The Fountain was removed, probably in 1929, when Alexandria Pike and Court House Square were improved. November 16, 1929, the Council discussed the question of a traffic light or signs at the intersection with Court House Square. The "Dummy Policeman" was put in with over a dozen road signs attached.

The building housing the Warrenton Cafe had been remodeled to have the entry at the small angle of the building. Was the side window removed then?

1946. May 20, 1924 was the formal opening of the Warrenton Library. In January 1931 the moving picture theatre went from Dr. M. B. Hiden's Building to the Fauquier Theatre. In May 1931, the Hiden Building was damaged by fire. It was remodeled for offices upstairs with stores and a skating rink below.

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# Who Burned the Hotels?

My earliest memory of the Fauquier White Sulphur Springs was in the late 1890s, though I must confess I do not know of any place other than Bethel I heard more of from my mother, who enjoyed it in its hey-day, as well as from my father, who also knew it from his father who came by stage from Fayetteville, N. C., to enjoy the Springs before the Civil War.

When we came here for the summer months from North Carolina, we drove out to The Springs for lunch, and to visit friends and relatives who had cottages there.

I recall clearly now the last hotel, the large ball room and dining room, delightful food and the many charming guests. I also recall the lovely shaded walk from the hotel, down a series of terraces to the Spring proper, where as children we were able, by holding our noses, to drink the water, always very cold.

I also recall the grove of stately trees and the old walk of brick which led up the hill to the ruins of an old fountain, on the opposite side to the spring, and being told that near there was the site of the original hotel.

Before me now, I have a copy of *The Solid South* dated Warrenton, Va., October 25, 1877, James V. Chilton, Editor, and in it is a long article from the Washington Capital, calling attention to the advertisement of the Fauquier Springs. It goes on to say "The two grand hotels were burned in 1862 during the disagreement between the States, and whether the fire was kindled by Jackson shooting at Pope or the hero of the saddle firing at the great Stonewall, is a question that never will be solved."

"To build the grand hotels the company has been formed. All the cottages, houses, trees, walks, springs, etc., are intact and it only needs repair to them and the completion of the hotels and sanitarium to make the Fauquier White what it was before the war—the foremost watering place in Virginia."

The article goes on to say, "The amount of stock required in Warrenton—fifteen thousand dollars—was promptly subscribed...With such careful businessmen as Hon. Eppa Hunton, Judge James Keith, Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, Col. Charles Marshall of Baltimore, William H. Turner of

Norfolk, and others, distinguished in every profession, as stockholders and active promoters, success is assured."

From my mother I think the popular manager of her day was a man named Tenny who saw to it that the Warrenton people were made to enjoy themselves. I recall her accounts of tournaments, with Knights tilting, and later crowning their "queen of love and beauty."

I also recall her accounts of the balls, especially those given in honor of the famous Richmond Blues who used to camp there at The Springs in the summer time.

In my day it was a flourishing summer resort with always a distinguished list of guests from all over the country. Guests drove out from the Warrenton station.

My sister spent the summer of 1898 at The Springs with a cousin, Nan Jeffries (now Mrs. Louis Anton-santi, of Ponce, Puerto Rico), whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Payne Jeffries, had the cottage next to the Hotel (once the Capt. James North cottage).

The Henry L. Smiths' cottage was just across the road. Mr. Smith later became owner of The Springs property, his heirs selling to Robert C. Winnill. The Smith cottage had been owned by Capt. H. R. Garden, one of the promoters of The Springs Company.

Another cottage was owned by Miss Mary Amelia Smith,<sup>2</sup> and there were the Anderson Smith cottage and the Lewis cottage, where many Confederate dinners were held. The Weber family had a cottage, and there was a Katz family of Washington owning a cottage, also a family of Greens from the far South.

At one time the famous Bethel Military Academy was moved to The Springs and operated from there for several years.

The last hotel, a really imposing building for its time, was burned after the close of the season in 1901, though many of the surrounding buildings were saved.

The present Springs Field Club was made from the old stable.

I recall the Confederate Reunions on The Springs grounds where breastworks are still in evidence.

I also recall when hay rides were



MISS M. LOUISE EVANS<sup>3</sup>  
Photo taken in 1905

great fun for the young crowd of Warrenton, and The Springs was most often our destination. We had our picnic supper on the bridge near the spring, and right now, if one were to look hard, there might be found initials carved on the old trees, with hearts beneath them, belonging to some members of that hay-riding crowd.

Even though for many years there was little to attract anyone to The Springs, unless they wished the water, many drove out for that purpose, and others boarded nearby in order to drink the water.

I recall one summer when both my mother and I had been ill and needed a boost, kind friends at The Springs took us in for a week as "paying guests." I had to learn all over again with the nose-holding process to drink the water, but learn I did, and put on a pound a day during the week we were there.

The Warrenton House has been restored, and is enjoyed as a delightful place to dine, while the Springs Club as a place of entertainment offers much in its particular line and is the scene of many delightful dances and parties, including the ever popular Hunt Breakfasts given each fall at the opening of the hunting season.

—M. Louise Evans

Reprinted from *Glamorous History of Fauquier Springs Recalled*. The Fauquier Democrat, September 23, 1948.

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# Museum Committee

The restored kitchen of the Old Gaol Museum was dedicated November 7, 1984, as a memorial to the Reverend William W. Parkinson.<sup>1</sup> The Society followed his plans for its renovation in completing the work he had begun.

Among those present at the dedication were Mrs. Parkinson, Warrenton; Mr. and Mrs. Alan Potts (sister) from Florida; Mrs. Emily P. Maxworthy (daughter), Washington, D.C.; and Mrs. William Sadler (cousin), Warrenton. Refreshments were served following the program.

The Museum Committee is composed of three Board and five Society members. Their duties are many and varied and it would be impossible to open the Museum to the public without their dedication and hard work.

Docents are trained and supervised by the committee. Copies of the History of the Old Gaol and procedures for opening and closing the Museum are available for all persons interested in working as docents.

The Acquisition Book and donor file cards are being cross-checked and updated. Items for display are being re-tagged and better identified, with current location recorded.

Cleaning and clearing of the entire Museum is under way. Volunteers are needed for this project. Bring a friend who is nimble-kneed! We have to remove small items from the upper cell storage room.

Come any Wednesday or Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m.

The committee is constantly mounting special exhibits throughout the season. These exhibits give us an opportunity to "show-off" items in our own collection of memorabilia.

In 1984 our special exhibits were "Dolly Varden" - a Dresden doll and her elaborate wardrobe; dolls, doll furniture and toys, and examples of old glass.

Some of the items in these exhibits were on a six weeks loan from members and friends of the Society.

## Exhibits

On opening day last year, we had a special exhibit centered around *A Lass of Mosby's Confederacy*.<sup>2</sup> Anything to do with the Confederacy generates a great deal of interest.

Planned exhibits for 1985-86: Boxes (snuff, stamp, letter and dis-

patch); flat-irons and kitchenware; ink-wells, quill, pens and seals; "Extra Billy" Smith; photos of Old Town Warrenton.

If you have any item you would care to loan for any of these exhibits please contact us.

Acquisitions have been received from Mrs. Byron Banks, Dr. and Mrs. Byrnal Haley, Miss Elizabeth Hutton, Mrs. Edward Jones, Mr. Chilton McDonnell, Mrs. C. B. O'Shaughnessy, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Nelson, Mrs. Morris Parris and the Rector descendants.

Monies from donations and memorials will be used for restoring iron-ware in the kitchen and to mount the old quilt donated by the Rector family.

## Painting

At its August 7th meeting the board of directors voted to have the interior of the 1808 building painted. The work will be done some time in September, at which time the museum will be closed.

We regret this inconvenience and hope our members and friends will bear with us.

## Needs

Some museum needs are:

1. Hall-trees, single post, or dress-maker forms on stands, to be used for displaying old clothes.

2. Typewriter

3. Volunteers to scrape paint, move furniture, to clear out the second story cell-block storage room and to help catalog and index papers of all sorts.

Future plans, hopefully, before 1986:

1. Convert a room in 1808 building into a bedroom.

2. To clear out two cells in 1823 building of miscellaneous items.

We will arrange special tours for members and groups on days the museum is closed. Call 347-5525 on Wednesday or Saturday afternoons when the museum is open.

We will give you a grand tour! Many groups had special tours this year. More than 1368 visitors were received at the museum during the past year.

—Lucy B. Jones

1. Vol. 6, No. 1.

2. Vol. 5, No. 3.

**REMINDER!!!**

**Dues Are Due!**

# Court House Square

(Continued from Page 2)



LEE MOFFETT

The large "Dummy Policeman" was replaced with a smaller one, saying "Keep Right." Parking meters were installed in March 1946.

1950. The A&P is now in the building on the corner of Winchester Street and Court House Square. Later, Sears would be there. The garage on the opposite corner was advertised in 1948 as Court House Square Garage. The restaurant at Alexandria Pike and Main Streets now bears the name, New Warrenton Restaurant.

1960. The new County Building was opened in January 1926 and the old Clerk's Office was torn down. On July 3, 1947, a monument was erected in its yard, "In Honor Of Those From Fauquier County Who Made The Full Sacrifice in WWII."

The Statue of Chief Justice Marshall was unveiled in front of the building, May 1, 1959.

1985: All buildings at the intersection of Winchester Street and Court House Square were removed except the Library building. The Fauquier National Bank of Warrenton moved to its site August 5, 1971, relocating the curb line of the road and creating a plaza between the two buildings. Only a small sign is placed in the center of the road.

Sometime, perhaps in the 1940s, the Old Cistern was filled in, but its depression can still be seen at the base of the Pin Oak planted in front of the old Library Building.

The Warrenton Library became the Fauquier County Public Library

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# Southern Reflections

The Fauquier Library, one of the co-sponsors of the two-year literary series *Southern Reflections*, will begin the second series *Virginia Born and Read*, at the John Barton Payne Building on Court House Square on September 16th.

*Southern Reflections* is comprised of three topics. The first, entitled *Growing Up In The South*, began in February 1985; the third and final discussion *The Southern Literary Renaissance*, will be held in the Spring of 1986.

The book discussion series, funded by a grant of \$195,806 from the National Endowment for the Humanities, is designed by Pat Downey, director of the Fauquier County Public Library, and Sam Clay, director of the Fairfax County Public Library.

Each program is comprised of five 1½ to 2-hour sessions every other week. Focusing on five pre-selected books relevant to the discussion topic, the first 45 minutes of each session is a lecture by one of many Virginia humanities scholars participating in the series. The remaining 45 minutes is for questions and answers and general discussion between the audience and the scholar.

The Fauquier sessions are as follows:

September 16: *Growing Up* by Russell Baker; Dr. Edgar MacDonald, Randolph-Macon College.

September 30: *The Sheltered Life* by Ellen Glasgow; Dr. Mary Edwards Kitterman, Randolph-Macon College.

October 7: *Up From Slavery* by Booker T. Washington; Dr. Lorraine Mayfield, Old Dominion University.

October 21: *Oral History* by Lee Smith; Dr. Carol Manning, Mary Washington College.

November 4: *Lie Down in Darkness* by William Styron; Dr. M. Thomas Inge, Randolph-Macon College.

The *Southern Reflection* series is directed by Bridget A. Bradley out of offices in Warrenton. She is assisted

by Sally Patton Baffa. Anyone wishing information can write in care of Southern Reflections, The John Barton Payne Building, 2 Court House Square, Warrenton, Va. 22186 or call (703) 349-1611.

Books under discussion are available for purchase or can be borrowed from participating libraries.

Other libraries participating in the project are:

Fairfax, Orange and Fluvanna County Public Libraries, the Danville, Lynchburg, Rockingham and Culpeper (town and county) Libraries, the Pamunkey (Hanover), Williamsburg and Jefferson-Madison (Charlottesville) Regional Libraries, Prince William Library in Manassas, and the Alexandria Library and the L. E. Smoot Memorial Library in King George County.

## Fauquier Springs

(Continued from Page 4)

1. Regarding this incident, Colonel J. Beardsley, Ninth New York Cavalry, Commanding Cavalry Brigade, states:

"On the afternoon of August 25, 1862, while in the vicinity of Waterloo Bridge, I received orders to occupy Warrenton Springs with such of my command as I had at my disposal. I sent a company forward to carefully reconnoiter the place, and no sooner had its advance approached the springs than it was fired upon from the houses and adjoining fields, and it was reported to me that the enemy was there in force. I reported the fact, and received orders to shell the place, which I did, after examining the woods to my right and left.

"The enemy being seen to cross on the burning timbers of the bridge, which had been fired by our troops in the morning, and others wading, I ceased firing, and sent a small party first and then a squadron of cavalry to examine the place and found it vacated.

"About this time the enemy opened with a battery from the opposite side of the river, and obtained our range. Their battery being of heavier caliber than our own, I drew back a short distance, and left pickets near the Warrenton House. Then the enemy commenced shelling the place, and a shell struck the Warrenton House. The building

was soon in flames, whether from our own shell or those of the enemy I am unable to say.

"That night at 12 o'clock we withdrew to Warrenton Village."

2. News and Notes, Vol. 5, No. 3.
3. News and Notes, Vol. 2, No. 3.

## Annual Meeting

A capacity crowd of members and guests attended the Society's annual meeting at Airlie on Thursday, June 20th.

After an excellent dinner a short business meeting was called to order by President J. Willard Lineweaver.

Nominating committee chairman Mrs. Herbert Heston presented the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors.

The new members elected to the board for a three-year term are: Mrs. Warren S. Neily, Judge William W. Carson, Robert Jacobs and Chilton McDonnell.

Mrs. Edward L. Jones was re-elected for a second term.

Mrs. Norman G. Jones and David C. Gerrish, Sr., were elected to one-year terms to fill the vacancies left by the resignation of Mrs. Barbara Stinson and Mrs. J. Byron Banks.

Retiring from the board are Dr. A. R. Anderson, Jr., Mrs. Eastham Carter, H. P. Monroe and John Cheatwood.

The meeting was then turned over to Bill Sudduth, program chairman, who introduced the speaker, Dr. Evelyn Pugh, Professor of History at George Mason University. Dr. Pugh spoke on the life and work of the celebrated Mrs. Kate McCaulay, author of an eight-volume *History of England*, and her American contemporaries.

Please Return To:  
The Fauquier Historical Society, Inc.  
P. O. Box 675  
Warrenton, Virginia 22186

Number in family membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Check appropriate membership category: ( ) - Sustaining - \$25 and over  
( ) - Individual or family - \$10  
( ) - Contributing - \$15 ( ) - Student - \$3  
( ) - Business - \$25

How would you be willing to help the Society this year?

## Can You Help?

*News and Notes will contain in each issue a list of as many persons as possible who are conducting genealogical or historical research on persons or places related to Fauquier County. To be included in his column write The Fauquier Historical Society, P.O. Box 675, Warrenton, VA 22186. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope.*

**CAIN.** Mrs. Eleanor Mathews, P.O. Box 88, Arbuckle, CA 95912 seeks info on Robert Cain, b. Fauquier Co. 5 Apr 1791. Father: Bailey Cain; mother; Catherine Rogers/Rodgers, m. Fauquier ca. 1789 or 1790. Needs death, birth and marriage records.

**CUMMINGS.** Mrs. Judy L. Henrick, 181 Maple St., East Longmeadow, MA 01028 needs info on Malachi Cummings, b. ca. 1744, who immigrated into Fauquier with brothers Simon and John from Glasgow, Scotland, ca. 1760, m. Verlinda Taylor. Ran a plantation in Fauquier with brothers. Later moved to White Co. TN.

**DANDRIDGE, GARNETT.** John C. Burns, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service, Fort Laramie Nat. Historic Site, Fort Laramie, WY 82212-0001 is trying to determine relationship between B. Gen. Richard Garnett and Mrs. Dandridge of Winchester. Why was the general

corresponding with the daughter of former President Zachary Taylor? Was she widowed by the war? Info on her husband? Who was the Bliss of Mary Taylor Bliss Dandridge?

**KENNEY.** Mrs. Rebecca Hilburn, 3241 Winlow St., San Diego, CA 92105 is researching Andrew Kenney, m. Nancy Horton Dec 1789. Disappears from Fauquier 1810-1820. Son: Sylvanus was in Fauquier until 1830. Is Andrew buried in Fauquier?

**ROBERTS.** Society Member Mrs. Emma Bryte Pollock, 211 King Edward Apts., 4609 Bayard St., Pittsburg, PA 15213 needs parents and ancestors of Richard Roberts, b. 1755 vicinity of Kellys Ford Culpeper Co. Father may have been Joseph Roberts.

**SMITH.** Albert Belanger, Little River Farm RFD 1, Brentwood, NH 03833 seeks additional info on William Smith, of Deep Run area, bonded in marriage (1) Elizabeth McQueen 29 Jul 1789 (2) Mary Bentley 22 Apr 1801. Children: Mary Ann m. Hiram Hickerson 26 Jan 1818; Lucinda m. Wm Ellington 18 Oct 1819; John; Elizabeth m. Wm R. Fox of Stafford Co., 1823; William A. m. Julia A. Eskridge 1854; James m. Elanor Ensor 1820.

Children of James and Elanor: Eleanor m. Richard Helm 1843; Stephen; Francis; Lucy E.; George W. m. Mary Elizabeth Mehly in Madison Co. 2 Oct 1850; John J. (died in Civil War); Emily; Thomas.

**TURNER.** Society member Mrs.

Stephen L. McDonald, 4002 Sierra Drive, Austin, TX 78731 would like to correspond with descendants of Andrew Turner, d. Fauquier 12 Jul 1843. Was uncle of Henry Turner who m. Ann K. "Nancy" Hampton in 1818? Who were Thomas and Graves Turner, merchants, b. VA, enumerated with members of Henry Turner's family in 1860, Howard Co. Mo.?

## Court House Square

(Continued from Page 4)

in 1969. On April 24, 1982, it moved to 11 Winchester Street on the corner of Alexandria Pike, into the remodeled building then called the Bekins Building. A sculpture, *A Young Girl Reading At The Fountain*, by artist Earline Heath King of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, graces the grounds.

The old Library Building officially became The John Barton Payne Building, February 10, 1983.

The New Warrenton Restaurant became the Stable Door, which moved to the Grayson Building in 1984. Cub Run Country Antiques then moved into the corner building, which, sometime along the years, was painted yellow over its bricks.

Warrenton Supply Service Station is now called Poe's Olde Towne Texaco.

Sometime in the future, Court House Square will see more changes. What will they be?

—Lee Moffett

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## The Fauquier Historical Society

P. O. Box 675, Warrenton, VA. 22186

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