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The early history of Buckingham County

James Meade Anderson

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SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY
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CANDIDACY FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF ARTS

THE EARLY HISTORY OF BUCKINGHAM COUNTY

by

James Meade Anderson, Jr.

May 1, 1955

Graduate School of the University of Richmond

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DEDICATION

For five generations, since before the county was formed, Buckingham County, Virginia has been home to my family. Their customs, habits and way of life has progressed along with the growth of the county. It is to Buckingham County that we owe our heritage as well as our way of life for it has been our place to worship God as well as our home. It is with this thought in mind, that to my family, this paper is respectfully and fondly dedicated.

James Meade Anderson, junior

Andersonville, Virginia

May 1955

University of Richmond, Virginia

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FOREWORD

This paper is an attempt to bring together unrelated facts concerning the history of Buckingham County, Virginia. It is sincerely hoped that one may find the way of life of the early settlers and that this brief historical account (1700-1850), will relate the story of typical Americans in their struggle to establish a foundation that time has tested and found solid.

Buckingham County, in the heart of Virginia is one of the most fascinating counties of the Commonwealth. There are three different possibilities from which the county could have received its name. The most prominent idea is that it was named for Buckinghamshire England. Another possibility is that it received its name from a small stream which was once on the lands of Archibald Cary called Buck River. However, the most valid possibility is that the county of Buckingham received its name from the Duke of Buckingham. The latter possibility receives its weight of validity due to the fact that counties of Colonial Virginia were named for royalty.

Today in looking at a map of Virginia, if your eyes would fall upon the center of the State, you would find Buckingham County. Quickly we see that the county is bound on the north by the James and on the south by the

Appomattox Rivers. The county is approximately 32 miles from east to west, making it one of the most symmetrical counties in the State. As we stand there with our eyes gazing upon Buckingham County we begin to wonder about olden times. How did the county become settled? Who were its first settlers? What were the conditions of pioneer life in Buckingham County? To answer these questions we turn the pages of history back to Colonial Virginia.

Soon after the establishment of a colony at Jamestown, the white man sought new lands. Although at first his primary objective was to search out a water route to the Orient, he soon discovered the falls in the rivers and realized that his objective would not be attained in Virginia. Thus in the course of time the white man moved out from the colony at Jamestown. Along the rivers he travelled, staking his claims to the lands he desired. By 1634, Henrico was erected into a shire or county. It is interesting to note that the present day counties of Henrico, Goochland, Chesterfield, Cumberland, Buckingham, Nelson, Fluvanna, Albemarle, Amherst, and Campbell were parts of the original Henrico.¹ After the first of these

1. "Henrico County, Virginia: Beginnings of its Families," William and Mary Quarterly, Series I, Volume 24, p. 126.

counties were established, the waterways of Virginia principally the James, and the Rappahannock, carried the settler into the wild and savage frontier of Piedmont Virginia. Early travel into central and western Virginia was done primarily by means of the Rappahannock River. This was due to the fact that William Byrd had acquired the land along both banks of the James at Henrico. Therefore, it was quite natural that the unclaimed lands along the Rappahannock offered Governor Spotswood and the House of Burgesses a better prospect for establishing counties.

As to the exact date of settlement or the identity of the first settlers of this area, there is no evidence. However, the names and date, "R. Bolling, I. Bell, 1700," are carved in a rock ledge on Willis' Mountain. This is the earliest known date that any white man put foot on the soil of Buckingham County. It is an assured fact that there would have been trips into Buckingham before 1700. It is therefore logical that the pioneers made their way up the James and in settling their searches toward the west, eventually scaled the mountain for a better view of terrain. Since this lone mountain peak, which was later named Willis' Mountain, rises from a relatively flat plain to 1,159 ft., it may be seen

clearly for several miles. Nine years later W. Smith and P. Turpin made their way into a cave, later known as Woodson's Cave, on Willis' Mountain and carved their names along with the date 1709. These two carvings on the mountain are the only known records that have been discovered concerning early adventurers into Buckingham County.

One wonders what the early adventurers thought of Buckingham County. It is probable that they found an entire county of forest, since the land seems very well adapted to the growth of both coniferous and hardwood trees. It is known that there were Indian tribes in this area and that the Monacans of the Siouan linguistic group, were present in Buckingham County. This tribe, which was the enemy of Powhatan, was concentrated in the vicinity of what is now Columbia in Fluvanna County.² Concrete evidence of the presence of this Indian tribe was proven when ethnologists opened a grave and found clay pipes, a cache of arrow heads and numerous bone fragments.³

As for the actual settlement of Buckingham County, it is most difficult to ascertain the exact facts. It has been said that, "The history of the county can never

2. Julian Dwight Martin, "First Citizens," Today and Yesterday in the Heart of Virginia, published in book form by The Farmville Herald, March 29, 1935, p. 135.

3. Ibid., p. 136.

be adequately written."⁴ We do know that the James River was one of the most natural routes to the west, but it was not until the 1720's that settlements began to be made beyond the falls. In the 1720's, on the creek at Brems, the Cockes, William Mayo, John Thornton, Dr. George Nicholas and others laid claim to tracts of land in the area of Buckingham County.⁵ After these first settlements were made along the James, the door was opened to future settlement along the river as well as the tributaries which led to the interior of the county.

In the establishment of counties along the James River, Goochland was the first county to be organized west of the county of Henrico. In 1728, nearly a century after the organization of Henrico, in 1634, the county of Goochland was established. Buckingham County was included in that area, but little information concerning it is obtainable from Goochland records.⁶ Thus for 16 years (1728-1744), Buckingham was a part of Goochland County. In 1744, it was included in the section that was

4. H. R. McIlwaine, Address before the Buckingham Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, given at Buckingham Court House, Virginia, May 30, 1933, p. 4. (Original manuscript of speech in Virginia State Library.)

5. Thomas P. Abernethy, Three Virginia Frontiers. University, Louisiana: Louisiana State University Press, 1940, pp. 43, 44.

6. John H. Gwathmey, Twelve Virginia Counties. Richmond: The Dietz Press, 1937, p. 161.

established as Albemarle.⁷ This new county was named for William Anne Keppel, the second Earl of Albemarle, who was Governor General of Virginia at that time. The first patents of land in the new county were taken out in 1727.⁸

With the organization of the new county, the records concerning the lands of Buckingham were located in Albemarle County. However these records were destroyed when Tarleton and his cavalry made their raid on Governor Jefferson in Scottsville in 1781.⁹ However Buckingham began keeping its own records when it became a county in 1761 only to have them completely destroyed by the burning of the courthouse at midnight on February 26, 1869.¹⁰ This was one of the greatest calamities that has ever happened to the county. Although most of the historical facts were lost, it shall be the pattern of this paper to link together the basic facts into a way of life that typifies the people of Buckingham County.

It was resolved in March 1761 that "From the first

7. Ibid., pp. 309, 310.

8. Ibid.

9. "Shepard and other Buckingham Families," William and Mary Quarterly, Series II, Vol. 6, p. 148.

10. William Shepherd, "Buckingham County," Today and Yesterday in the Heart of Virginia, Farmville Herald, March 29, 1935, p. 199.

day of May in that year, the county of Albemarle would be divided into three distinct counties." These counties were to be Buckingham, Amherst, and Fluvanna. However only Buckingham and Amherst were established in 1761; Fluvanna received its honor in 1777. It was resolved that "the area of land on the south side of the Fluvanna River should be one distinct county known by the name of Buckingham." It was also stated that after the first of May, a court for the county of Buckingham was to be held by the justices on the second Monday of every month. The sheriff of Albemarle was not to be hindered in any way in his attempt to collect the unpaid debts and dues owed by the citizens of the new county prior to May 1, 1761.¹¹ Thus, Buckingham, the fifty-second county of the present State of Virginia came into being.

During the decade (1730-40), we find several accounts of the Scotch-Irish crossing the Blue Ridge Mountains and settling in the area east of these mountains. One of the localities they settled was the western section of what was then Albemarle County. Although in several localities they outnumbered the English

11. "An Act for dividing the counties of Albemarle and Louisa, and parish of St. Anne, and for other purposes therein mentioned," William Waller Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 7, pp. 419-423.

Tidewater migrants, the Scotch-Irish were never as influential.¹² There were traces of "squatters" in this region although they were very few and found in backward region and over a widely scattered area. Therefore it may be clearly seen that the type of settlers of Buckingham were: (1) the English migrant from the regions of Tidewater Virginia who in most instances were of second-rate influence in this Tidewater area. When they moved to Buckingham and surrounding area, they became a primary influence. (2) The Scotch-Irish who crossed the mountains and settled in the western area of the county in their quest for more space and virgin land, and (3) a combination of poor white trash and "squatters" who sought a livelihood in the extreme backward areas. These were few in numbers and of less importance in influence. Slaves were held primarily by the Tidewater migrant.¹³

The question should be settled at this point of the

12. This information was computed from: Land Tax Book of Buckingham County, 1782-1787; Personal Property Tax Book, Buckingham County, Virginia, 1782-1787; Tithables of 1773, 1774, Buckingham County, Virginia. These listings are found in the Virginia State Library. Traces of names, where they migrated from, and amounts of influence they displayed were computed in arriving at the facts concerning the early settlement of the county.

13. Ibid.

name of the James River. At the time of the settlement of Jamestown, the river and town were named after King James. However, during the reign of Queen Anne (1702-1714), the upper reaches of the river was given the name Fluvanna.¹⁴ Several other rivers in Virginia have some portion of their name commemorating Queen Anne.

The early settlers may be divided into seven ancestral categories:¹⁵

English	31.5%
Scots	30.7%
German	14.9%
Welsh	14.2%
Irish	5.5%
French	3.2%

The percentage of English names was 3.7 points below the median of Tidewater Counties. The Irish were also below by about 2 points. The Scots and Germans were about 3 points above and the Welsh were 1.1 points above while the French were about the median. Since these early settlements, the English and Germans have increased while the others have decreased according to the census during the early decades of the twentieth century.¹⁶

As for society in Buckingham County during the late

14. McIlwaine, loc. cit., p. 6.

15. R. Bennett Bean, The Peopling of Virginia. Boston: Chapman and Grimes, Inc., 1938, pp. 153, 154.

16. Ibid.

decades of the eighteenth Century, most of it concerned the church or politics. There is practically no mention of social get togethers even relating to the planting or harvesting of the crops. The only time in which the people were together were in religious functions or political meetings. Other than this, the customary practice called for hard labor in the fields so that food would be on the table during the cold weather.¹⁷

The parish for Buckingham had its beginning before the county was organized. Tillotson Parish was organized in 1758 in honor of Archbishop Tillotson, a great English clergyman. "Practically nothing is known of this parish."¹⁸ Tobacco was the chief manner of payment to the church as it was in payment of all debts in Buckingham County.¹⁹ There is little information concerning the very early religious life of the citizens of the county. A minister of 1786 states in his autobiography, "There was but little vital religion in our neighborhood or anywhere else in that region of the country..."

17. In all facts concerning the early history of Buckingham County, there is no record which pertains to any other than religious or political function.

18. McIlwaine, loc. cit., p. 7.

19. Tillotson Parish Papers, (papers are neither contiguous nor numbered). These original manuscripts are located in the Virginia State Library.

My parents had me baptized in the Episcopal faith... Honesty and truthfulness was the whole of religion that we were taught. The only profession in our neighborhood were Baptists and they were of the old Calvinistic stamp. The first two preachers I had recollection of were Baptists. One was a white man, the other an African...At that day Methodism was everywhere spoken against in that region."²⁰

The Methodist must have begun to flourish in the area shortly thereafter because John Early states: "Brother Walker went with me to William Staples on James River, Buckingham to a two day meeting. I preached on the poverty of Christ and the riches of the Christian. One shouted for joy. Several mourned. A new preaching place for the Methodist. I hope for good time at this place. The people of the house have joined the society. That night I tried again and God was with us."²¹

As in general, the center of religion was in the home, and that on special days in the hamlets there were camp ground meetings. This was the pattern in many instances in other areas of Virginia.

In the first session of the House of Burgesses held

20. "Autobiography of Rev. Robertson Gannaway," Virginia Magazine of History, Volume 37, pp. 316, 317.

21. "From Diary of John Early," Virginia Magazine of History, Volume 34, p. 131.

in November, 1761, the representatives of Buckingham County were Robert Bolling and Joseph Cabell. These representatives were allowed expenses for four days of travel to and from the capitol at Williamsburg.²² One of the first bills of this session stated that Albemarle County was to refund the money paid by the citizens of Buckingham and Amherst for the purchase of the county set of weights and measures before the counties had been divided.²³

Robert Bolling and Joseph Cabell served Buckingham County for the first three sessions of the House of Burgesses. In the third session Joseph Cabell was absent most of the time due to reasons of health.²⁴ It was in this session that the House of Burgesses passed an act empowering Carter Henry Harrison, who owned land on both sides of Willis' Creek to build a mill and dam on the stream to provide adequate water for the inhabitants

22. "An act for directing and better regulating the election of Burgesses, for settling their privileges, and for ascertaining their allowances," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 7, p. 527.

23. "An act to oblige the justices of the County of Albemarle to refund to the Counties of Amherst and Buckingham their just proportion of the money paid for weights and measures before the division of the said County of Albemarle," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 7, p. 625.

24. McIlwaine, loc. cit., p. 15.

of the surrounding area.²⁵

In the counties, there were court house rings in the same manner as in some places they still exist today. These court house rings were usually a local band of politicians who formulated the policies of the county. Also there were rings of politicians in the same fashion in the church. If the list of names of influential vestrymen were compared to the court house rings, they would be very similar. "However one might as well give up hope of finding out for certain the names of the vestrymen in Buckingham County. Also most of the court records of the early justices of peace are lost."²⁶

Since most of the legislation in the House of Burgesses during the time before the Revolution concerned ferries or other domestic issues, it is best to group all these issues as one. In 1764, a ferry was established across the Fluvanna River from Boman's Warehouse in Amherst to Buckingham County. The fee for a man was

25. "An act to oblige the justices of the County of Albemarle to refund to the Counties of Amherst and Buckingham their just proportion of the money paid for weights and measures before the division of the said County of Albemarle," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 7, p. 626.

26. McIlwaine, loc. cit., p. 9.

three pence, and for a horse was the same.²⁷ This ferry was the predecessor to the present Route 60 where it crosses the James River. In 1764, when the balance on the payment of tobacco was due for taxes, the sheriff was ordered to sell the tobacco on the market in the county or on court day of Henrico County at Richmond.²⁸ Another act passed during the same session of the House of Burgesses, was a reward offered for killing wolves. If the wolf was under 6 months the reward was 50 pounds of neat tobacco, however for every wolf over that age, 100 pounds of neat tobacco was to be rewarded.²⁹

In the House of Burgesses session from November 16, 1766 through March 31, 1768, the representatives from Buckingham were Joseph Cabell and Samuel Jordan.³⁰ Therefore Joseph Cabell probably recovered from the ill health that plagued him in the previous session. During this session, the act on killing wolves was repealed.³¹

27. "An act for appointing several new Ferries, and for other purposes therein mentioned," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 8, p. 44.

28. Ibid., p. 39.

29. Ibid., p. 148.

30. "House of Burgesses, 1766 to 1775," Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 4, p. 380.

31. "An act for continuing an act, intituled, An act for increasing the rewards for killing wolves within certain counties, to be paid by the counties wherein the services shall be performed," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 8, p. 200.

The people of the county elected Robert Bolling and Joseph Cabell as their representatives for the special assembly in 1768.³² This assembly at the Capitol actually concerned the prospect of special legislation, but did not specifically concern any locality. For the next session of the House of Burgesses, November 7, 1769-July 11, 1771, the citizens of Buckingham elected Joseph Cabell and Benjamin Howard as their representatives.³³ It was during this session that the time of travel to and from the capitol was raised from four to five days.³⁴ Another law that was passed concerned crows and squirrels in the county. Since they did such great damage, a law was passed whereby each citizen had to kill 5 crows or squirrels and present to the justice of the peace the 5 scalps or heads. The penalty for each lacking scalp or head was the payment of 1 pound of tobacco.³⁵ Also during this legislative session, a ferry was established across the Fluvanna River from the land of Benjamin Howard in Buckingham County to the land of Neil Campbell in Albe-

32. "Historical Notes and Queries," Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 3, p. 426.

33. Ibid., Vol. 4, p. 382.

34. "An act for regulating the election of Burgesses, for declaring their privileges and allowances, and for fixing the rights of elections," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 8, p. 315.

35. Ibid., pp. 389, 390.

marle.³⁶ It is interesting to note that the representative of the county had this ferry connecting his land with that across the river. During this session Rolfe Eldridge became the Clerk of Buckingham County. By his ability and the exactness of his records, it is well established that he was very efficient as well as being influential. Rolfe Eldridge held this position from 1770 until 1806.³⁷

Joseph Cabell, who was the son of Dr. William Cabell, was one of the most prominent persons in the county. Dr. Cabell had acquired a large body of land on both banks of the James around 1740.³⁸ Another prominent person was Robert Bolling who was the son of Colonel John Bolling. Colonel Bolling had owned the Chellowe Plantation in Buckingham County in 1748.³⁹ Another prominent family in the county was the Cannon family which settled on the James River. Probably the name of the

36. Ibid., p. 369.

37. "Genealogy," Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 23, p. 96, and "Eldridge Family," William and Mary Quarterly, Series I, Vol. 20, p. 206.

38. "Colonel William Cabell," Virginia Historical Register, Vol. 3, p. 107.

39. Joseph Barrye Wall, "Old Homes of Buckingham," Today and Yesterday in the Heart of Virginia, Farmville Herald, March 29, 1945, p. 283.

village of New Canton is derived from this early family.⁴⁰ Another prominent home of the county was built on the James River in 1724 by William Horsley. This plantation home, situated between Warminster and Manteo was named Travellers Rest.⁴¹

The most prominent men of the county in its early history were the vestrymen and the justices. As mentioned earlier, the vestrymen of Tillotson Parish are not available, but the list of justices for 1765 is available. This list contains 19 names: Samuel Jordan, David Patteson, John Cannon, Joseph Cabell, William Johns, Robert Bolling, Benjamin Howard, John Staples, John Fern, George Hooper, Jacob Lindsey, Francis Moseley, Jacob Cabell, Abraham Daniel, Jeremiah Whitney, Joseph Epperson, Charles Patterson, James Anderson, and Joseph Benning.⁴² This list, although four years after the county was first established, may be taken for the most part as the original list since reappointment was almost assured among these influential citizens. It was among this list that the early ideas and plans of the county were molded.

^{40.} "The Cocke Family of Virginia," Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 4, p. 438.

^{41.} Wall, loc. cit., p. 270.

^{42.} McIlwaine, loc. cit., p. 10.

Concerning the economic conditions, one thing that needs no explanation is the fact that much of the land of the county had been cleared by the pre-revolutionary time. Along with this, it should be mentioned that the local Indian tribes had disappeared. The citizens were concerned, nevertheless, with conflicts with the Indians in western Virginia.⁴³

The settlers established their foot-paths as their direct means of inland communication. The Slate River along with the larger creeks afforded inland transportation in the county while the James and the Appomattox were for perimeter travel.

The altitude of the county generally runs from 450 feet in the eastern portion to 600 feet on the western ridges.⁴⁴ The topography of the county is monotonous except for the rise by the solitary monadnock of Willis' Mountain to the height of 1,159 ft.⁴⁵ This mountain is principally made of cyanite bearing quartzite. The only

⁴³. In an original letter written by Walker Daniel at Buckingham to his uncle Thomas Coleman Martin in King and Queen County on April 22, 1778, he states that: "an Indian war with the Shawanese and Mingoos seems inevitable."

⁴⁴. Other sources state 300 to 700 feet.

⁴⁵. Stephen Taber, "Earthquakes in Buckingham County, Virginia," The Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America, p. 123.

other points over a thousand feet are found on Spear's Mountain in the western area of the county and Wood's Mountain in the southwest section.⁴⁶ This height is obtained when the mountains rise from surrounding ridges and do not seem as fascinating as the rise of Willis' Mountain from a flat plain area.

The soil of the entire county is of a red clay texture and the rocks are of an igneous nature. However the oldest rocks are "pre-Cambrian metamorphic rocks" which were chiefly sedimentary in origin.⁴⁷ After the deposit of these rocks, they were subjected to a powerful force acting in a northwest to southeast direction. "This resulted in a close folding and faulting and the development of a highly schistose texture."⁴⁸ The first earthquake of the county was recorded in Richmond on August 23, 1802. There have been many such tremors since this time and there is no reason to doubt they preceded it also. These were caused by slight displacements along one or more of the faults.⁴⁹ The Arvonian slate belt has been the location of repeated

46. "Buckingham County," Virginia Division of Planning and Economic Development, November 1953, p. ii.

47. Taber, loc. cit., p. 128.

48. Ibid.

49. Ibid.

disturbances. From the formation of the slate rocks, it may be expected that earthquakes may occur from time to time although of feeble intensity.

Dr. Ruffner, the first State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the first President of Longwood College once said that Buckingham could boast more kinds of minerals than any other county in the State.⁵⁰

The county, after its last division had an area of 576 sq. mi. and 368,640 acres with 6 sq. mi. of water area.⁵¹

The temperatures of the county range from an average of 37° in January to an average of 76° in July.⁵²

Tobacco was the chief crop although there were early signs of corn, wheat, and cotton. Most of the plantations were self-sufficient as were the small farms of the yeoman planter. Tobacco was the chief method of making money as well as the means of exchange. By 1766, it was reported that most of the land in Bucking-

50. Polly Jones, "Buckingham County, Virginia," Farmville Herald, August 23, 1929, p. 4, (published in pamphlet form).

51. The last division was the formation of Appomattox from Buckingham in 1845.

52. "Buckingham County," Virginia Division of Planning and Economic Development, November, 1953, p. ii.

ham County was broken.⁵³ The goods of the county were either transported by horseback overland to the rivers or by carriage. From this point the goods moved down the stream to the James River and onward to Richmond.

Buckingham County had been formed, settled, and was prospering when the young colonies were plunged into a war--a war for independence. This was a war brought on by pioneering colonists who asserted their rights for freedom and democratic ideals.

Very little legislation passed in the House of Burgesses in the two sessions between 1772 and 1775. The primary thought of the day concerned relations with England and the growing idea of the revolution. Nevertheless, Henry Bell and Charles May were the representatives in the February 10, 1772, March 4, 1773, May 5, 1774, and May 26, 1774 sessions of the House of Burgesses.⁵⁴ These were the first sessions in which the citizens of the county elected two representatives who had not been in office before. It was during these sessions

53. "Historical and Genealogical Notes and Queries," Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 19, p. 91.

54. "House of Burgesses, 1766 to 1775," Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 4, p. 384.

that the crow and squirrel act was repealed.⁵⁵

A list of tithables was made of Buckingham County in 1773. The actual list contained 1,817 names.⁵⁶ An interesting factor that is noteworthy in the listing of these tithables is the number found under each family head. There were 181 names with a listing of only one in that family while 26 names had 10 or more names following their heading. The average size of the family was four. The tithable, in proportion to the largest number of names, was that of John Nicholas which contained 38 names. In the listing of these names under the family head some caption was placed behind some names which would denote some unusual characteristic such as "crippled, blind," etc. It is interesting to note that only one mulatto was listed.⁵⁷

John Nicholas and Antony Winston were elected representatives from Buckingham to the August 11, 1774, and

55. "An act for continuing and amending the act, entitled An act for destroying crows and squirrels in certain counties therein," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 8, p. 597.

56. "Notes and Queries"--"List of tithables in Virginia taken 1773," Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 28, p. 81. (See Appendix B for listing of these names).

57. Tithables of 1773-1774, Buckingham Co., Virginia, passim. Found in Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia.

June 1, 1775, sessions of the House of Burgesses.⁵⁸ There was no legislation passed in these sessions concerning the county.

Two plantation estates of which there is current knowledge were established before the Revolutionary War. These were "Willow Lake," built by Robert Moseley and "Mohawk," built by John Word in 1770.⁵⁹ At the beginning of the Revolutionary War, Virginia was subdivided into 60 counties.⁶⁰ One of the most progressive of these counties was Buckingham.

The county had a very close connection with the Revolutionary War. This was especially true since one of the most colorful soldiers of the War resided in Buckingham County. "No one fills the picture of the American soldier more completely than Peter Francisco."⁶¹ He was brought to Virginia from Portugal by a sea captain who attempted to bind this child to a planter as an apprentice. He was left upon the dock at City Point, Virginia. Antony

58. "House of Burgesses, 1766 to 1775," Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 4, p. 386.

59. Joseph Barrye Wall, "Old Homes of Buckingham," Today and Yesterday in the Heart of Virginia. Reprinted in book form, Farmville Herald, March 29, 1935, p. 283.

60. "Virginia Soldiers in the Revolution," Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 22, p. 59.

61. "Peter Francisco, The American Soldier," no author listed, William and Mary Quarterly, Series I, Vol. 13, pp. 213-216.

Winston, an uncle of Patrick Henry who at the time lived on an estate called "Hunting Tower" in Buckingham, took charge of young Francisco. Widespread attention was attracted to young Francisco by his great physical strength. When the Revolutionary War broke out, Francisco was only 14 years of age. However in 1776, he joined the 10th Virginia Regiment of Continental troops. At the time, Francisco was 6 ft. 1 inch tall and weighed 260 lb. He was exceedingly muscular and active. The son of Peter Francisco states that his father at one time shouldered a cannon weighing 1,100 lb. Since an ordinary sword would seem almost as a pen-knife in battle, General Washington ordered a heavy 6 foot sword made for Francisco. He saw service in the battles at Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth and was wounded in battle several times.⁶²

One incident concerning Francisco and the British which bears relating happened at the home of Benjamin Ward in Amelia County. One day while Francisco was visiting there, the house was suddenly surrounded by 9 British troopers. At their demand for his silver knee buckles and his watch, Francisco killed one of the British soldiers and dashed away on one of the British horses. His

62. Ibid.

escape was especially daring; since some of Tarleton's cavalry of 400 men had dismounted, Francisco was not only able to scare many of the horses away, but was later able to sell these run-away horses at Prince Edward Courthouse. In memory of this skirmish, Francisco gave the name of Tarleton to his horse upon which he witnessed the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. After the war in addition to being sergeant-at-arms of the House of Delegates, Francisco also kept a tavern at New Store in Buckingham County.⁶³

Since Francisco was the most colorful citizen the County has provided, another amusing incident bears relating. One time a very strong man rode all the way from the pioneer section of Kentucky to challenge Francisco. The strong man named Pamphlet lifted Francisco and remarked about his weight. Francisco asked the visitor if he could be obliged by having the return favor of lifting him. When Pamphlet agreed, Francisco lifted him twice and on the third such lift, threw him over a four foot high panel fence into the dusty road. Being quite surprised at this dazzling exhibition of strength, Pamphlet told Francisco that he would be doing him a

63. Ibid.

great favor if he would likewise throw his horse over the fence. Upon this request, Francisco led the horse to the fence and with a lift put the horse over the fence as requested. Mr. Pamphlet then mounted and rode off to his native Kentucky.⁶⁴

Peter Francisco married three times. His first marriage was to Mary Anderson. Later he married Catherine Fauntleroy Brooke who bore him three children. His last marriage was to Mary B. West, who like his former wives, belonged to representative Virginia families. His three children were: 1) Susan Brooke Francisco who married Colonel Edward Pescud, 2) Catherine Brooke Francisco who married Dandridge Spotswood, the third son of Captain John Spotswood, 3) the son, Peter Francisco, Jr., who was a physician, never married.⁶⁵

Peter Francisco, a citizen of whom Buckingham County was duly proud, is buried at Shockhoe Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia where a monument has been erected as a memorial to him. Today the only thing honoring the memory of Francisco, other than the colorful stories, is that one of the six districts of Buckingham County bears his

64. Ibid.

65. Genealogy--The Brooke Family of Virginia, Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 13, p. 224.

name. In addition to the Francisco district, the other five are: Maysville, Curdsville, James River, Slate River, and Marshall.

At the beginning of the Revolutionary War, Virginia was divided into sixteen segments and the minute-men were to be recruited from the militia so that each section would be better protected. One of these sections included Buckingham, Amherst, Albemarle and Augusta Counties.⁶⁶ In July, 1775, two companies of soldiers were ordered from this district.⁶⁷ The training of the battalion of men from Buckingham in these companies was ordered to take place on the 15th day of May and the 26th day of October. Buckingham was made a part of the Southern district of defenses in the colony.⁶⁸ By December of 1775, a request for 100 officers went out from Fort Pitt. Each county in Virginia was to meet this request by appointing one captain, one first-lieutenant, and one second-lieutenant. In that same month, seventeen additional companies were ordered to be raised throughout Virginia. One of these, a rifle company, was to come from

66. "An ordinance for raising and embodying a sufficient force for the defense and protection of this colony," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 9, p. 16.

67. Ibid., p. 13.

68. Ibid., p. 21.

Buckingham County.⁶⁹ This made 3 companies of riflemen, in addition to the captain, first-lieutenant, and second-lieutenant, that were supplied by the county in the first year of the war.

One influence that Buckingham played in the Revolutionary War that did not involve man power was the use of an iron foundry located in the county. This foundry was owned by John Ballendine and was important in producing various iron supplies during the war.⁷⁰

Early in 1776, a survey of the number of men of military age in Buckingham County was found to be 650.⁷¹ The survey was taken but there was no mention of ages, names, or localities. On October 1, 1776, the county was ordered to supply a man capable of attaining the rank of captain and one to be ensign with the captain to enlist 20 men to accompany him and the ensign ten.⁷² These men were to be the county's quota in supplying

69. "An ordinance for raising an additional number of forces for the defense and protection of this colony, and for other purposes therein mentioned," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 9, p. 77, 78, 82.

70. "Original Records of the Phi Beta Kappa Society," William and Mary Quarterly, Series I, Vol. 4, p. 249.

71. "Virginia Legislative Papers"--The number of men of military age in Virginia in 1776, Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 18, p. 35.

72. "An act for raising six additional battalions of infantry on the continental establishment," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 9, pp. 180, 182.

the state with 6 ready battalions. This was the only man-power directive issued to the county in the year of 1776.

However, there were many domestic issues in that year. In May, the counties were organized into districts for the purpose of the election of state senators. One of these senatorial districts included the counties of Buckingham, Albemarle, and Amherst counties.⁷³ Another problem that was of consequence in the county was the fact that no person was qualified to be sheriff. The collection of taxes was delayed, and it was declared that these fees had to be paid on April 10th of the following year. These taxes covered land, poll, and wheel carriages for the year of 1776. There was another ferry established across the Fluvanna River. This crossing established by the House of Burgesses connected the lands of Joseph and William Cabell.⁷⁴ Another important request was granted

73. "An ordinance to arrange the counties in districts for electing Senators, and to ascertain their wages," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 9, p. 129.

74. "An act for establishing several new Ferries, and for other purposes therein mentioned," and "An act to direct the collection of the taxes in the counties of King George and Buckingham, for the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty-six, and of the publick levy in the county of Fauquier, for the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty-five," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 8, pp. 193, 201, 202.

in 1776. This was a petition by the people of the county concerning the Established Church. On October 22, 1776, the citizens of Buckingham, along with Albemarle and Amherst sent a petition to Williamsburg concerning the Established Church. This petition was followed by one on November 9, 1776 asking for the complete separation of Church and state.⁷⁵

Very many things took place in Buckingham between the time of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the defeat of Cornwallis at Yorktown in 1781. Most of the issues of this era, concerning the county, related to the raising of military forces for combat during the Revolutionary War. On October 2, 1777, an act was issued calling for the speedy recruiting of Virginia Regiments. Twenty-six single men were ordered to be drafted from Buckingham County.⁷⁶ No further request of troops from the county was made until May 4, 1780, when the servicemen of Virginia were ordered to the aid of South Carolina. This time, eighty-four men

⁷⁵. "Virginia Legislative Papers," Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 4, pp. 141, 255.

⁷⁶. "An act for speedily recruiting the Virginia Regiments on the continental establishment, and for raising additional troops of volunteers," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 9, p. 339.

were sent from Buckingham County.⁷⁷ This order was followed on October 5, 1777, by the additional request of men to be recruited from Buckingham.⁷⁸

Manpower was not all the citizens of Buckingham furnished in 1780. Thirty-eight suits of clothing for the army were ordered to be made. A suit consisted of: 2 shirts of linen or cotton, 1 pair of overalls, 2 pairs of stockings, 1 pair of shoes and 1 wool, fur or felt hat, or leather cap.⁷⁹ Another provision the county furnished was iron ore. The furnace in Buckingham had a fine stock of iron ore and coal in 1780, but needed only a hearth to put in its blast.⁸⁰

Colonel John Cabell, Buckingham County Lieutenant, certified in 1780, that all the men required from the county had been furnished except for the last draft.⁸¹

⁷⁷. "An act to embody militia for the relief of South Carolina, and for other purposes," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 10, p. 222.

⁷⁸. "An act for recruiting this state's quota of troops to serve in the continental army," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 9, p. 327.

⁷⁹. "An act for supplying the army with clothes, provisions, and waggons," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 9, p. 338.

⁸⁰. Calendar of Virginia State Papers, Vol. 1, p. 545. (Edited by Wm. P. Palmer under authority of the Legislature of Virginia--preserved in the capitol at Richmond).

⁸¹. This was a draft order for 38 men issued on October 5, 1777.

Colonel Cabell also states that he was forbidden by the Governor to carry this order out. Since that time he had received no further instructions concerning this order or additional orders for men.⁸²

During the next year, Thomas Anderson, who was in charge of supplies, wrote to the Governor. In a letter dated August 15, 1781, he states that his first duty was to collect stray cattle for beef, to be used in the different posts of the Army. In order for him to process this beef he had employed 16 men exempt from military duty to drive the cattle. He had rounded up 100 head of strays which he had branded, but Col. Cabell had ordered these 16 men to the field of battle, leaving him without help. Unless the government was to furnish him with additional money to hire other men, "the cattle would be dispersed over the country."⁸³ Then Thomas Anderson in concluding his letter to the Governor states that there was an abundance of wheat and grain in the county. This grain could be sold to the Commanding General if the Governor desired.⁸⁴

82. "Continental Soldiers," Tyler's Quarterly, Vol. 9, p. 232. Original manuscript found in Virginia State Library.

83. Wm. F. Palmer, Editor, Calendar of Virginia States Papers, Vol. 2, p. 333.

84. Ibid.

By 1781, there were 673 men in Buckingham County of military age. This age range was between 18 and 50 years. These facts were given to the Commanding General in a report by Daniel Smith.⁸⁵ Since the militia from the counties were ordered to duty on a rotating plan, the militia from Buckingham was not mobilized until January 2, 1781. When this order was dispatched, the men were to report individually rather than assembling in the county and reporting as a group.⁸⁶

In further developments concerning the military, we find where Thomas Anderson in a letter to Colonel Davis mentions "hiring" a negro. Apparently free Negroes were being used for the first time rather than slave help. In the same letter it is also learned that canoes were tied together for transporting goods across the various rivers. The heavy work was done by free negroes under the supervision of trained white men.⁸⁷ In a letter from Roland Lawson to Governor Nelson there is the suggestion that the wagons of various farmers in Amelia, Powhatan, Cumber-

85. Ibid., p. 690.

86. "Communication from Thomas Jefferson, esquire, governor of Virginia to the General Assembly," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 10, p. 573.

87. Palmer, Calendar of Virginia State Papers, Vol. 2, p. 362.

land, Prince Edward, and Buckingham Counties be used for hauling flour.⁸⁸ This was the last mention of any military operation of any type before the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

During the period of the Revolutionary War, there were several domestic issues which were passed by the House of Burgesses. The first of these was establishing another ferry across the Fluvanna River. This connected the lands of William Howard in Amherst and Albemarle County with the lands of Thomas Anderson in Buckingham.⁸⁹ This is where the village of Howardsville is presently located. Other than the streams of Virginia, one of the most important means of transportation during the Revolutionary era was the Buckingham Road. This road connected Tidewater Virginia with the western frontier. The road went through Powhatan County by Willis' Creek and Mountain and on westward to the frontier lands. One of the most important stop-overs was near the hamlet where Curdsville was later established.⁹⁰

The county line was also changed in 1778 by an act

88. Ibid., p. 506.

89. "An act to establish several new ferries, and for discontinuing others," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 9, p. 334.

90. "John H. Hawkins" by Dr. A. J. Morrison, Tyler's Quarterly, Vol. 3, p. 22.

of the General Assembly. This act provided that the parish of Tillotson be annexed to Cumberland County. This made the dividing line between the two counties run parallel with the road leading from Cannon's ferry to the Cumberland County line.⁹¹ Thus the division between the two counties was more clearly established making the boundary line in a more natural position.

It was also during the period of the Revolutionary War that a rich vein of slate was discovered in the county. Although it may have been known at an earlier date, the vein was worked in 1780 and has been worked continually since that time. The stone is durable and unfading, of a bluish-gray color, and it is reported to be the best roofing slate in the world.⁹² This was to become one of the most primary sources of income in the county.

Five important public officers were elected during the time of the Revolution. Among these was John Bates, elected Commissioner of Buckingham County on November 17,

91. "An act for adding part of the county of Buckingham to the county of Cumberland, and other purposes," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 9, p. 559.

92. Economic Data of Buckingham County, Virginia, Virginia Division of Planning and Economic Development, November, 1953.

1780.⁹³ John Bernard was elected sheriff and held this position from 1781 until 1787.⁹⁴ The citizens of Buckingham County chose Charles Patteson and Thomas Anderson as their representatives in the State Capitol.⁹⁵ The last official, Charles Cameron, was appointed Commissioner for the district that included Buckingham, Augusta and Rockbridge Counties.⁹⁶

Six hundred and two citizens paid taxes on the land they owned in 1782. The largest acreage listed was 7000 acres held by Col. Archibald Cary. The smallest acreage listed was 30 acres held by numerous citizens.⁹⁷ Most of the land of the county was claimed, but far from being settled. During the time of the Revolutionary War and the period immediately following, there was a great tendency toward the distribution of the larger tracts of land. Generally the number of landholders almost became doubled as the acreage for each citizen lessened. For example, by 1787, Col. Archibald Cary's estate now included 3582 acres which was only a little over half the

93. "Bernard Family," William and Mary Quarterly, Series I, Vol. 5, p. 184.

94. Ibid.

95. "Notes and Queries"--"House of Delegates," Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 5, p. 217.

96. Palmer, Calendar of Virginia State Papers, Vol. 2, p. 173.

97. Land Tax Book, Buckingham County, Virginia, 1782-1787, passim.

land he held five years previously.⁹⁸ This lessening of the acreage of land was due to several causes. One was that more people were moving into the area and were acquiring land from the owners of the larger estates. These owners usually found it necessary to sell portions of their land to meet pressing financial obligations. In that way they could maintain their own holdings.

By the end of the Revolutionary War the county was divided into smaller farms of the one hundred-three hundred acre variety. Occasional plantations were found here and there, usually along the James River. Most all farms contained a large portion of uncleared land. The wooded area of the county has always been larger than the cleared area.

Establishing five hundred acres as a dividing line, one is able to learn that by 1787, there were one hundred thirty-seven larger than this acreage while there were four hundred sixty-five smaller. Since many of these estates barely surpassed the five hundred acre dividing line, it can be reasonably stated that smaller farms predominated in the county. Whether the smaller farm is more typical of the aristocrat who migrated from the

98. Ibid.

tidewater area or the yeoman farmer is a question for debate. It is known that the county was evenly divided between the Scotch-Irish in the western and the English in the eastern section of the county. It is interesting also to note that most of the early leaders of the county were from the James River region. These men were influential in political as well as religious circles.

Further evidence showing how the small farm was typical of the county may be obtained from the personal property tax books of 1782-1787. In these tax books, were listed the proprietor, the number of free males over twenty one, the number of slaves, horses and cattle. In some instances, the names of the slaves were given.

In 1787, the largest number of slaves was fifty-eight owned by Thomas Anderson. These large numbers of slaves were very rare. The usual pattern was to have two or three slaves or one family of slaves to each land owner. Thirteen per cent of the property owners who paid their taxes owned more than ten slaves, and forty-nine percent had no slaves at all.⁹⁹ Thus slavery didn't seem a pressing problem since half the property owners

99. Personal Property Tax Book, passim.

had none. Each property owner had an average of ten to fifteen head of cattle and two or three horses. By 1782, there were only twenty-eight riding carriages in the whole county. One of the most interesting facts found in the tax books is the ratio between horses and slaves. On the farms that had few horses, there were seldomly any slaves, while on the larger estates there were usually a few more slaves than horses. However, disregarding these two extremes, it could be said there was one slave for every horse.

In 1788, two important elections were held at the courthouse. On March 10, 1788, the two representatives were elected to the Convention of Virginia to discuss the selection of the President of the United States. The final vote was:¹⁰⁰

Jos. Cabell	223
C. Patteson	288
D. Beel	243

Therefore C. Patteson and D. Beel were elected representatives.

On April 14, 1788, the people elected two representatives to the next session of the General Assembly. The

100. Original Manuscript of recording of voting found in Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia.

final outcome of this election was:¹⁰¹

John Cabell	3
Joseph Cabell	278
Hickerson Barksdale	140
Thomas Anderson	242

Thus, Joseph Cabell and Thomas Anderson were to be the county's representatives. Three hundred thirty-seven voted in this election. Presumably, the clerk would write the name of the voter and mark the "x" of selection also since they were all in the same style handwriting.

Concerning the acts of the General Assembly it is noted with interest that on May 6, 1782, an act was passed for the establishment of a town at the Courthouse in Buckingham. Ninety-six acres was designated to be "laid-off" into lots and streets. This tract of land was part of a large tract owned by John Cox. The General Assembly designated the trustees of this land to be: John Nicholas, Joseph Cabell, Thomas Miller, Charles Patteson, and Thomas Anderson. The land was designated to be laid out in lots of one-half acre each with convenient streets. The established town was to be known

101. Ibid.

as Greensville. The trustees were designated to sell the land for the highest price at a time and place that was to be designated in the Virginia Gazette. It was also stated that the purchaser of these lots of one-half acre must build a dwelling of sixteen feet square. This dwelling was to be finished for habitation within five years from the day of sale. Nine-tenths of the money procured from the sale of the lots was to be paid to John Cox and one-tenth for the repairs to the courthouse and for the building of a prison. Four lots in the center of town was to be reserved for public use.¹⁰²

Two other minor points of interest concerned the county during that session of the General Assembly. A reward was established for killing wolves. This reward was one hundred pounds of tobacco for each wolf killed under six mos. and two hundred pounds for each wolf over six mos. old.¹⁰³ The price of corn was established as being ten shillings per barrel at that time.¹⁰⁴

102. "An act to establish a town at the courthouse in the county of Buckingham," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 11, p. 29.

103. Ibid., p. 64.

104. Tyler's Quarterly, Vol. 3, p. 216.

The county had been divided in 1787 into two sections for the purposes of collecting taxes. This made the collection of revenue an easier task since the county covered a wide area and was so sparcely populated.¹⁰⁵

There is no information of significance from the time of the session of the General Assembly in 1782 until the session of 1788. The only information concerning Buckingham County during this time is found in the land and personal property tax book.

The General Assembly of the November-December, 1788, session asked Joseph Carrington, Mayo Carrington, William Cannon, Hardin Perkins, Henry Bell, David Bell and James Couch to examine the natural and artificial obstructions to the navigation of the Slate River in Buckingham County.¹⁰⁶

Also in this session, John Cabell, John Mosely, William Perkins, junior, Josias Jones, William Cannon, David Coupland, John Johns, David Bell and Joseph Cabell, junior were selected to be trustees of the town of Greenville in Buckingham County.¹⁰⁷

Also during this session, an act was passed for

105. Land and Personal Property Tax Records 1787.

106. "An act for appointing commissioners to examine Slate River," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 12, p. 657.

107. "An act for adding trustees to the town of Greenville in the county of Buckingham," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 12, p. 661.

appointment of twelve electors to choose a President on behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The counties of Albemarle, Amherst, Fluvanna, Spotsylvania, Orange, Culpeper, and Buckingham were established as composing of one district.¹⁰⁸

In respect to the election of representatives to Congress, the Commonwealth was divided into ten sections with one representative each. The counties of Campbell, Charlotte, Buckingham, Bedford, Prince Edward, Franklin, Henry, Pittsylvania, and Halifax were designated to compose one district.¹⁰⁹

The last act passed by the General Assembly during the 1788 session concerning the county was the discontinuing of an established ferry. This said ferry that was to be discontinued had connected the lands of Joseph Cabell in Buckingham with the lands of William Cabell across the Fluvanna River.¹¹⁰

108. "An act for the appointment of electors to choose a President pursuant to the Constitution of Government for the United States," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 12, p. 649.

109. "An act for the election of representatives pursuant to the Constitution of Government of the United States," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 12, p. 654.

110. "An act for establishing several new ferries and discontinuing one formerly established," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 12, p. 702.

During the next or the 1789 session, the General Assembly passed the act on killing wolves stating that there would be a three year extension to the present law.¹¹¹

The only other legislation during this session was an act establishing a ferry across the Fluvanna River. This ferry was to connect the lands of John Hardy in Buckingham with the lands of Wilson Cary Nicholas in Albemarle. The price on the ferry was three pence per person and for each horse was the same.¹¹²

During the year 1790, the first census of the United States was taken. G. Bernard compiled the listings of each family in Buckingham County. This first census showed the following facts:¹¹³

Free white males, 16 and over.....	1,274
Free white males, under 16.....	1,537
Total males	2,811
Free white females.....	2,685
All other free persons.....	115
Total free persons other than males	2,800

111. "An act to receive in part an act entitled 'an act to increase the reward for killing wolves in certain counties,'" Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 13, p. 33.

112. Ibid., p. 48.

113. First census of the United States, 1790, Department of Commerce and Labor, Washington, 1908, p. 9.

Total free persons.....5,611
Slaves.....4,168

Complete Population 9,779

An interesting note is the fact that the population of the county today is only approximately 12,000. This is clear evidence that the county has always remained rural and the population increased gradually. Since that time, there has been a gradual leveling off in population.

In the next session of the General Assembly, the act that established a town of Greensville at the court house in the county of Buckingham was repealed. This town did not materialize like they thought it would. From this time on, the small settlement around the court house which Thomas Jefferson had built has been referred to as Buckingham Court House or as just Buckingham, Virginia.¹¹⁴ There is a popular belief that the land surrounding the court house was owned by May from whence the name Maysville was given to the community. There is

¹¹⁴. "An act to establish several towns, and for other purposes," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 13, P. 299.

no historical reference of this fact even though one of the six districts bears this name.

From the very beginning, tobacco was a crop of primary importance to the citizens of Buckingham. It was the principal means of life to these farmers. In 1791, the General Assembly established certain places for the inspection of this tobacco. One of these inspection points was to be on the lands of William Horseley. This was to be known as Horseley's Warehouse at the mouth of Bent Creek in Buckingham County. The proprietors had to build these warehouses at their own expense.¹¹⁵

From the time of the Revolutionary War until the War of 1812, there was little activity in the county other than the usual customary pattern of life. The people plodded along in the everyday routine of life. They began clearing more land into farming areas and began creating a more progressive mode of life which typifies the Southland style.

Most of the news of historical nature during this period between the wars took place in the sessions of the General Assembly. The acts of 1789, 1790, and 1791

¹¹⁵. "An act for establishing several inspections of tobacco," Henning, Statutes at Large, Vol. 13, p. 273.

sessions have been related. During the session from October-December 1792, many issues were debated concerning life in Buckingham County. On October 10, 1792, an act was passed that established a ferry across the Fluvanna River from the lands of John Horseley in Buckingham to the land of the said Horseley across the river. The toll price for passage by a man was four cents and for a horse was the same.¹¹⁶

On the same date, an act was passed for appointing electors to choose a president and vice-president of the United States. The Commonwealth of Virginia was allotted twenty-one districts. Prince Edward, Buckingham, Cumberland and Lunenburg were designated to compose one district.¹¹⁷

Another function of state and county government that had to be organized was the dividing of the Commonwealth into Superior Court districts. On October 17, 1792, the General Assembly established Prince Edward, Buckingham, Charlotte, Halifax, and Cumberland as one district. The Superior Court was to be held at Prince Edward Court

116. "An act for establishing several new ferries," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 13, p. 565.

117. "An act for appointing electors to choose a President and vice-president of the United States," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 13, p. 536.

House on the first day of April and on the first day of September of each year.¹¹⁸

On November 10, 1792, the General Assembly passed another act establishing a town in Buckingham County. This act stated that ten acres on the property of John Horseley was to be laid off into lots of one-half acre each with convenient streets. This was to constitute a town named Dieugiudsville. The trustees of this town were designated to be David Bell, John Moseley, Charles Patteson, William Dieuguid, William Perkins, Philip Du Val, James Dillard, Charles Moseley, Josias Jones, Henry Flood, and David Kyle. This town was the predecessor to Bent Creek in Appomattox County and at a later time the plans for this town were dismissed also. This was the second town that an act had repealed in Buckingham; the other had been Greensville at the Court House.¹¹⁹

Also during this session, the act on killing wolves was to be extended until December 20, 1793, in Bucking-

118. "An act reducing into one, the several acts concerning the establishment, jurisdiction, and powers of district courts," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 13, p. 429.

119. "An act to establish a town in the county of Buckingham," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 13, p. 587.

ham County.¹²⁰

Plans were also made to establish a ready force or militia for fighting purposes throughout the state of Virginia. Arrangements were made for the militia to be divided into brigades and divisions. The counties of Chesterfield, Amelia, Nottoway, Powhatan, Cumberland, and Buckingham, were designated to furnish men to compose one brigade.¹²¹

In 1792, the Commonwealth of Virginia was divided into nineteen districts for the purpose of electing representatives to Congress. One of these districts was to be composed of the counties of Prince Edward, Charlotte, Buckingham, Cumberland, and Powhatan.¹²²

There was no further acts of the General Assembly concerning Buckingham county in the Eighteenth Century. However, toward the end of the century, a business was growing which was destined to become one of the principal resources of the county. This was the manufacturing of slate roofing. Actually it should not be termed

120. "An act to revive and amend in part an act for increasing the reward for killing wolves in certain counties," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 13, p. 561.

121. "An act for regulating the militia of this Commonwealth," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 13, p. 341.

122. "An act for arranging the counties of this commonwealth into districts to choose representatives to Congress," Hening, Statutes at Large, Vol. 13, p. 331.

"manufacture," but slate goes through several stages before it becomes roofing quality. Buckingham County has possessed one of the best slate veins in the world. In the northern section of the county along the James River region lies this slate bed. Its center is found in the New Canton or Arvon area. Usually the name Arvon suffices for the area which is sometimes called Arvon or Ore Bank, since there is no distinct boundary between these areas. These slate beds had been found in 1725.¹²³ The earliest known use of slate was for the roof of a chapel at Bradford-on-Avon in England in the Eighteenth Century.¹²⁴

The Slate River which runs into the James near this locality received its name in 1826 from these slate beds.¹²⁵ Slate has been mined in this area continually since its first discovery. In texture, density, and in its capacity for the resistance to atmospheric agents, it cannot be excelled by any similar agent in the world.¹²⁶

123. State Land Patents, Book 13, p. 236.

124. Oliver Bowles, The Technology of Slate, U. S. Government Printing Office, 1922, p. 20.

125. State Land Patents, Book 13, p. 14, 15.

126. Wm. B. Rogers, Reprint of Annual Report and Other Papers on the Genealogies of the Virginias, New York, 1884, p. 79.

A microscopic study of this slate shows a matrix of minute alternating beds chiefly of fine muscovite. These beds have a brilliant aggregate polarization. The coarser beds, chiefly of quartz, have a faint polarization.¹²⁷

The price of slate has not increased in any great proportion. For example, in 1796, the price of a square was \$15.00 and in 1948, \$27.00. However the worth of the slate mined has increased tremendously. In 1796, only \$1,125 worth was mined while today approximately \$500,000 is mined in slate. The county of Buckingham alone actually produces 3.8 per cent of the world's supply of roofing slate.¹²⁸

Other types of minerals have been found in the county. Copper ores have been prospected in the New Canton area also. This copper generally is a fine grained, dark green, eruptive rock which had been altered by pressure. Crystals of red garnet are not uncommon in these rocks. This ore is cupriferous pyrite with some chalcopyrite in the quartz masses. The ore usually

127. T. Gilbert Wood, "Agriculture," Today and Yesterday in the Heart of Virginia, p. 93.

128. Thomas Nelson Dale, Slate in the United States, pp. 194-200.

conforms, but sometimes may cut across the foliation of the enclosing eruptive rock.¹²⁹

In addition to the mining of slate, lumbering has been one of the principal sources of income for many of the citizens of the county. Shortly after the time of the Revolutionary War, the clearing of the land in the county was a principal task. Most of the citizens used this wood for heating and cooking purposes in addition to any that might have been used for building. At first the major problem was the clearing of the land for farming purposes but as time went past, the selling of this lumber became a principal interest to the owner. The county has always had a higher percentage of its area in woodland. When most of the virgin lumber was cut, the price of timber was raised due to the great number of years it takes to grow full size. However, this problem of not being able to find good lumber has not become acute until the present date. It was not many years after the Revolutionary War when the idea of clearing the woodlands for farming changed to clearing for the value of the lumber.

Most farms throughout the decades have their wood-

Wood, loc. cit., p. 93.

lands falling into four different characteristics. Those farms are: (1) containing timber of mature nature ready for the market; (2) area where all lumber has been cut leaving behind culls and cripples; (3) young trees which are growing, but require time before it becomes salable, and (4) waste land which includes bushes, eroded areas, and valueless trees.¹³⁰ Through the decades, the sale of a wagon load of lumber has been the bread for many families. This steady growth of the value of lumber has increased until it is probably the largest single resource in the county today.

Another major factor that played an important part in the survival of most of the citizens of the county was agriculture. Regardless of the type of work that any of the citizens did during the colonial or "antebellum" days, some type or feature of their work usually related to the industry of farming. Most of the farmers or those who tilled the soil, found it more profitable to develop a varied program of farming. Although from the beginning tobacco was the chief exponent for monetary exchange, the farmer did not entirely rely on the raising of this crop. Usually the farms raised enough to satis-

¹³⁰. Wilbur O'Byrne, "Forestry," Today and Yesterday in the Heart of Virginia, p. 90.

fy their own needs and some to sell on the market or trade for the vital supplies he needed.

Separating the larger farms from the smaller, it is noted that on the larger farms, the actual work of the farm was done by the slave or tenant helpers. These workers usually lived in a small house on the farm and worked the crops for the owner. From this scheme gradually grew the idea of "share cropping." This plan allowed the owner to farm by sharing the income with the tenant. This was a later idea that originated from the slave holding and the tenant farming plan. Still later came the renting of land for purposes of farming. There is no clear division of this plan of farming, but it can be seen clearly that slave helping began to subside shortly after the Revolutionary War when most of the slaves in the county were freed. Then the farmers, not being able to continue the upkeep of their farms, "hit upon" the idea of tenant farming. This continued until the tenant was awarded more freedom by the share system. Then gradually as time progressed the rental of farm land became prevalent.

During the era of slave farming, it is clearly understood that the owner of the farm would direct the planting and work of the slaves. In areas of Piedmont

Virginia, the owner and the male members of his family worked along with the slaves. This was due primarily to the small numbers of slaves that were possessed by each land owner. Then, also, the owner seemed to take more interest in his farm because not only did he have to struggle to attain the land, but there was the ever present fact of losing his farm if he did not plant the proper things. Since most of the farmers had no wealth with which to back these farms, they became conscious of better ideas and systems of management.

The owners of the larger farms usually had better equipment, and with the slaves helping them, they were able to plant a more diversified pattern of crops. Therefore when disaster came to any one crop, they were not as hard hit. The women usually managed the household activities being ably assisted by some of the women slaves. There were times also when they would "pitch in" and help with the outside chores when their assistance was needed. Even though the large farm owner had the advantages of good land, there was still the tendency to lose money in farming for a living, necessitating the sale of the more backward areas of the farm to provide money for the development of the actual farming area.

On the smaller farms, there was usually the absence of slaves which naturally caused the burden of the farm to fall on the owner. The usual custom in this case was to have a system of hired helpers or the tenant farmers. The smaller farm variety is one that is more typical throughout the history of Buckingham County. It was on these farms that the owner "tended" most of the crops and directed most of the activity on it. The income of the family depended on this activity so it was extremely important that the small farmer used sound judgment in his work.

Harvest time was always a social festival on the farm. Corn husking parties were the social highlights of the year. Tobacco tying was another means for social calling. Usually the farmers would do their visiting in the late fall due to the heavy work which fell in the spring and summer. The women found their social life surrounded by quilting parties and sewing get-togethers. These were usually held throughout the year. Not only was this idea of friendship culminated with work in a social manner, but whenever a crop needed harvesting or was wasting, then many farmers helped in a co-operative spirit. It was this spirit that made the farmer not only the backbone of Buckingham County,

Virginia, but throughout America.

In all farm way of life, there was one thing that was typical throughout the time. This was self subsistence. The farmers were able to survive almost entirely on their work. Their crops provided them with food; except seasonings which were purchased at the local trading center usually in exchange for some farm grown product. Money was little known to the farmer. His products were the chief means of trade. However, he worked steadily and earnestly toward a better means of living which by gradual growth he attained in the field of agriculture.¹³¹

In the present village of New Canton was established a post office on January 1, 1802 with Benjamin Pollard as postmaster. This name was derived from the name of the Cannon family and hence was on the land of William.¹³²

Most of the men who sought higher education had gone to the College of William and Mary until the establishment of Hampden-Sydney College in closer proximity

¹³¹. Facts on farming came from general knowledge in addition to facts procured from the tax records of the county.

¹³². "Genealogy," Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 10, p. 100.

to the people of the county. Due to this short distance, many young men turned to this newly established college for their education. One of the early trustees of Hampden-Sydney was a citizen of Buckingham County. He was the Honorable William H. Cabell of "Montevideo" of the class of 1789 who served as trustee from 1809 until 1830.¹³³

Other than these two items, there were no further acts or newsworthy notations concerning the county from the turn of the Nineteenth Century until the War of 1812.

As in most other areas, this war was unpopular in Buckingham County. It aroused very little enthusiasm and was termed needless and silly by many citizens. These people were much more interested in continuing their pattern of life and enjoying their short lived freedom of democracy. The French and Indian Wars had prepared officers for the Revolutionary War. But by the time of the War of 1812, these officers were too old and the men of the Revolution were too old for active combat. Many of the young men of Buckingham became soldiers via various means during the War of 1812. The majority of these, who marched without rations for three days,

¹³³. "Trustees of Hampden-Sidney College," Virginia Magazine of History, Vol. 6, p. 181.

left New Canton August 5, 1814. This list includes:¹³⁴

James West
John Napper
James Hacket
William Riow
John Nicholson
John Fours
William Hill
Edmund Baird
Ben Griffith
John K. Moss
Caleb Hines
William Wooldridge
Henry S. Burton
Nat Burton
Thomas Huddleston
Stephen Stinson
John Mason
Stephen Martin
Stephen Mattox
Charles Lesieur
Shadrich Kedd
Daniel Guerrant
John R. McElligott
Walt R. Gilbert

After the War of 1812, life resumed its normal course throughout the county. The village of Curds-ville is mentioned as early as 1810 inreference to the Episcopal Church which was located there. This vil-lage grew to a population of approximately three hun-dred people. Through here ran the old road connecting Richmond with Lynchburg, Roanoke, and the western areas of the state. This was the predecessor to the present

¹³⁴. "Some Buckingham Soldiers in the War of 1812," William and Mary Quarterly, Series II, Vol. 10, pp. 168, 169.

day Routes 60 and 460, roads which connect the eastern area with the western area of the State. An old road running east of the Blue Ridge Mountains intersected this road at Curdsville. Today this is Route 15. During "ante-bellum" era these country roads were very perilous. The following is an account of an attorney travelling over these roads near Curdsville:¹³⁵

"From Maysville¹³⁶ the road was as bad as I had ever seen it. The road was a puddle into which I reluctantly penetrated. Nine hours later, I was glad to disengage myself from my muddy vehicle and rest my horse and self. I will wait until tomorrow to continue my journey to Hampden-Sydney."

This distance of approximately only thirty miles is typical of the roads of the country area. These dreadful roads causing frequent stop-overs, made the small village of Curdsville very profitable. Here in this hamlet was located a Masonic Temple, a tobacco warehouse, several mechanics' shops, a small tavern, the Curdsville Mill and a tavern house.¹³⁷

¹³⁵. Shepherd, loc. cit., Today and Yesterday in the Heart of Virginia, p. 200.

¹³⁶. The name given to the Buckingham Court House community as cited before.

¹³⁷. Shepherd, loc. cit., p. 200.

The progress of Curdsville "fell by the boards" when the road was changed and progress allowed more speed in transportation. Thus Curdsville never materialized as had previous towns. The county has always remained rural with only one incorporated town today. This is the town of Dillwyn named for its first postmaster Dillwyn Smith. It received its position as a town in 1895 since it was named White Hall after the last name of two of its prominent citizens. Thus although there have been plans for towns, other than Dillwyn, none have materialized within the county.

One of the early private schools was found in 1820 in the Red Oak area near Whispering Creek on the property of Peter Stratton. However, this was not the only private school in this area. In 1831, a group of local men decided to establish a female school. These men were chiefly interested in the mental condition of the girls. They selected a site on the New Canton Road near Alpha. Funds were gathered by selling stock and a small contribution from the Methodist Church of Virginia. The name Buckingham Institute was given to the school. The school consisted of a brick structure one hundred eighty feet long and thirty-six feet wide and contained fifty-two rooms. A house for the presi-

dent was built on one side of the main building while one the other were erected smoke houses, stables and quarters for the slaves.¹³⁸ Leroy M. Lee was appointed master for the institute.¹³⁹ The school is said to have housed eighty students but local tradition calls for the largest enrollment to be a figure of two hundred fifty. Students came from all over Virginia as well as from out-of-state. By the end of the War between the States, all instruction at this institution had ceased.¹⁴⁰

Another interesting factor was the pressing need for education by the citizens of the county. Numerous libraries afforded reading matter for the farm citizens. The farmers displayed a wide knowledge of reading. This education is evident by many of their slaves having Roman names, such as Octavius, in the early days of the county.¹⁴¹

The county possessed a resort for leisure time. This was Buckingham Sulphur Spring where dancing, gambling, and other forms of amusement took place. This

^{138.} Ibid.

^{139.} Minutes, Virginia Methodist Conference, Feb. 2, 1838.

^{140.} Shepherd, loc. cit., pp. 200-202.

^{141.} Ibid., p. 202.

resort was considered a very fashionable place, and accounts of the dress of female participants received as much description as in metropolitan areas. An irritated Methodist minister, in 1850, commenting on the dancing at Buckingham Springs said:

"If as much energy were used in Buckingham in prayer as in dancing, it would be a citadel of saints. Whenever I went there were fiddles going and houses rocking and on the tables lay dusty Bibles."¹⁴²

The center of life in the county still revolved around life in the village at the court house.

Buckingham Court House was a village of importance, inasmuch as it was the county seat where Rolfe Eldridge, Jr., presided over the county archives, then housed in the old courthouse designed by Thomas Jefferson after the Erchtheum. Besides the county jail, it contained about 50 dwelling houses, a free church, a Presbyterian Church, a female academy under the direction of Mr. Fairchild, two elementary boys' schools, a high school under the direction of J. G. S. Boyd, principal, 4 mercantile stores, an apothecaries shop, three taverns, a tanner, a silversmith, a milliner and mantua maker, 2 wagon makers, 2 cabinet makers, and a miller. The three taverns had whiskies, wines and cider on tap. Cider and two grades of wine were made locally; apple and peach brandy were distilled in the county on a fairly large scale, and a low grade of beer was made on the plantations for private use as well as to supply the demand of Buckingham taverns for cheap alcoholic drinks."¹⁴³

^{142.} Ibid., p. 203.

^{143.} Ibid., p. 204.

Life was not entirely confined to the nail keg warm-ers in the towns, but was lived on the farms. The following is a letter written by an overseer of a Buckingham planter writing to the absent owner reporting the condition of his property. It reads:

"Merrey Oaks Dec 4 1829

Dear Sir, I now set down to rite you a full accot of the worke of the Farme since you left which I did not do until now as I could not get the time from my worke to tell you as Full as you wonted what had bin don. I had fall on the ice Pon laste weak which trobled my arm so I coul'n rite and you will plez to excuse any Erreors now as I am still stiff in the Arm and it is a burdene to rite kreckly. This is my reasin for any Errers. The fore colts is well and I am breakinge two of them to the wagon which they does very well as you coul' went. They're mothers do well and I bred them last weak to Mr. Patisons horeses. The sheep are well excep the shrop ran has a soar on his leg the leff which I am curing with bezwax and taller and he do well. The Parstur is good now until this late for which I am thankful as it heps keep down the eating in the Sheds. I sole fore cows to henerson six calves and certifyfied the Amt to yore Lady. The negeroes is all well and there is three new babies two boys thank god two of them said to be mine but I doan no as to that poynt. There is not been much sickenesse amonge the negeroes up until this time this weak wehn some coles started and I give our hoarhounde and rum and had it sean toe that thar cloes was in Propir Shape and no Teers. All the Fyerwood is under the Shids at laste it took a long time fore that this weak we are ready to Carrie off about ate thousan pound of Tobac-co which is all good well will hawl it to Cairy as soon as the roads is dry some. Yore Lady has riten you full about everythin as she tole me about all the Money took in as I seen no

reasin to repite hear what she has keped accot of as you wished to releve me of the trouble about Money. Yore Case in Cote has gone Agaynst you and you had to pay the Fyne of \$27.15 which I did you are well off of that as the Man wonted to make moar trouble although he is my own Blood i must say he akted like a Deyvle in this Cayse, and I have nothing good to say for him. And so now I have tole all I know there is some detayles too small to rite, but you will here them all when you you come back which I hope is soon. With high respects and love i am your servent.

The negroes all send love and say hurry back from Chattynooga."¹⁴⁴

During the Ninettenth Century many homes were built which became the ideal aristocratic homes of Piedmont Virginia. Some of these flourishing homes were: Wheatland, built by Arthur Mosely in 1790; Selma, built by Charles Irving in 1780, and Mt. Pleasant, built in 1799 by David Patteson. The name of the battle Saratoga in the Revolutionary War was given to the home of James T. Hubbard in 1805. Perry Hill was another famous name given to a home in Buckingham. This home was owned by Col. Thomas M. Bondurant and the name came from Admiral Perry's victory on Lake Erie in the War of 1812. New Store has been the home for many as well as the historical setting for many events. It was the home of Peter Francisco. Later it was the birthplace for Philip McKinney who was elected Governor of Virginia in 1892. He was the only Governor who came from Buck-

¹⁴⁴. Ibid.

ingham County. New Store, now a deserted village, was the scene for the last camp of General Robert E. Lee the night before Appomattox. Clifton, the old home near Shepherds was the place which housed General Grant the night before Appomattox. These two war weary armies were camped only five miles apart. Chellowee was a plantation home that was owned by Colonel John Bolling. The plantation was patented as early as 1748. This plantation commanded one of the best views of Willis' Mountain to be had in the county. These are a few of the old colonial and southern style homes, many of which are intact today.¹⁴⁵

Some of the oldest churches in Piedmont Virginia are in Buckingham County. It has been pointed out that Tillotson Parish was the Episcopal parish for Buckingham County. Little information of value is known about this parish. There were, according to Bishop Meade of the Episcopal Church, two churches in the Court House and the other was St. Peters near Curdsville which was consecrated July 22, 1832.¹⁴⁶

¹⁴⁵. Joseph Barrye Wall, "Old Homes of Buckingham," Today and Yesterday in the Heart of Virginia, pp. 272-285, reprinted in book form from the Farmville Herald.

¹⁴⁶. Mr. J. Luckin Bugg, "Episcopal Churches," Today and Yesterday in the Heart of Virginia, p. 305, reprinted in book form from the Farmville Herald.

There is little if any information available on the Presbyterian churches of Buckingham County. Although there were influential Presbyterians in the county, they never gained the prominence of the Baptists or Methodists. The Baptists played an important role in the carrying of religious ideals throughout the county. Little definite information can be attained concerning the individual churches. The Methodists at first did not play a large part in the religious scope, later developed with great revision. In 1801, Buckingham County reported 470 Methodist members in spite of violent antagonism. Bethel Church in Buckingham was founded in 1833 but before this time it was a camp ground for circuit riders including Bishop Francis Asbury. Rocky Mount church has had preaching appointments since 1788 when Joseph Dawson was appointed. Salem Church is also an old church.¹⁴⁷

Thus, we have seen our way of life begin, develop into the society of a plain everyday way of life that was typically Southern. These people uncovered their soil, cleared their fields, planted their crops and prayed for help from Almighty God that they would sur-

¹⁴⁷. Horace E. Cromer, "Methodist Churches," Today and Yesterday in the Heart of Virginia, p. 363, reprinted in book form from the Farmville Herald.

vive on that red clay soil of the county. The people worked hard, seldom enjoying pleasures, but were duly rewarded for their toil. For they established what was to them a truly important blessing--HOME, Buckingham County, Virginia.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A
LAND CLASS LEGEND

CLASS I--Land not in farms and usually not adapted or available for agricultural use--no building improvements and is held primarily for forest purposes.

CLASS II--Farms which do not and cannot normally provide a reasonable minimum living standard in their present state of development.

CLASS III--Farm properties in this class are considered to be normally capable of providing a reasonable minimum standard of living from farm earnings--about on the level of the state average--cleared and well operated for subsistence crops.

CLASS IV--The farms are larger, the buildings are better, and normal income available to owners is larger. They are good substantial, above average properties.

CLASS V--These properties typify successively higher income opportunity--better-than-average farms--larger and on the average probably better operated and building improvements are better too.

APPENDIX B

A list of the tithables taken by John Bernard for the year 1773. (listed in the order in which they were taken with the number in each household)

John Bernard.....10	Isaac Bryant..... 2
Richard Forde..... 1	John Scruggs..... 5
John Fleed..... 1	Nicholas Morris..... 5
Robert Burton..... 1	John Palmor..... 4
Thomas Mop..... 5	James Palmor..... 2
William Mop..... 2	John Palmor, Jr..... 1
James Mop..... 3	William Wilkerson..... 3
John Bernard, Jr..... 1	John Toney..... 4
Robert Bernard..... 1	Daniel Taylor..... 2
Samuel Southern..... 1	Major Wilkerson..... 1
Moses Kidd..... 1	John Snoddy..... 3
Samuel Kidd..... 1	John Hobson..... 5
John Qualls..... 1	John Bush.....21
James Kidd..... 1	Thomas Scruggs..... 2
Benjamin Kidd..... 1	Champney Davis..... 1
William Easley..... 2	Thomas McCormack Davis.... 1
Isaac Berryman..... 5	George Hardiwick..... 2
Peter Chastain..... 2	William Anderson..... 8
William Mannin..... 1	Henry Anderson..... 4

Nathaniel Anderson.....	3	Gregory Matthews.....	7
Joseph Jenkins.....	1	Henry Bell.....	1
John Jenkins.....	1	Mathias Ayres.....	5
Elias Jones.....	1	Joseph Adcock.....	4
Mathew Davis.....	1	George Adcock.....	3
Mrs. Ann Davis.....	2	Anderson Adcock.....	2
Martain Bynion.....	1	John Adcock.....	3
Francis Gilley.....	5	Joseph Adcock, Jr.....	1
Daniel Perron.....	6	Judith Bell.....	21
Charles Perron.....	7	Henry Bell.....	6
William Salley.....	8	John Carmer.....	1
Moses Salley.....	1	Archer Christain.....	1
Elmore Walker.....	1	Seth Cason.....	3
John Haris.....	3	Rane Chastain.....	4
William Mcglapon.....	3	Rane Chastain, Jr.....	2
Reubin Jordan.....	5	Isaac Chastain.....	2
Peter F. Trent.....	6	William Carner.....	2
Hugh McCormack.....	1	Joseph Carter.....	2
William Salley, Jr.....	1	Robert Cary.....	15
William Smith.....	3	William Durkin.....	1
Wm. Hunt Allen.....	9	Peter Dorie.....	3
George Hunt Allen.....	12	Peter Guarrant.....	3
Mrs. Elizabeth Allen....	3	John Gibson.....	2
Edward Gibson.....	5	John Jones.....	10

Samul Lesure.....	2	Wm. Farguson.....	1
William Meanley.....	1	Edward Farguson.....	1
Patrick Obrian.....	1	Charles Layn.....	2
Barnett Payne.....	1	Thomas Dop.....	1
John Reves.....	1	John Birks.....	2
James Sublet.....	1	Northey Gordon.....	1
Robert Thomson.....	1	William Williamson.....	4
John Wever.....	1	Mark Dop.....	3
Charles Wheler.....	2	James Dop.....	1
James Welsh.....	1	Edward Dop.....	1
Gorge Winfree.....	1	John Pretchard.....	1
Col. Archibald Cary.....	35	Randolph Wright.....	1
Col. Dolphin Dren.....	9	John Patteson.....	6
Francis Mosley.....	9	William Jennings.....	1
Rolfe Eldridge.....	2	James Matthews.....	4
Robert Huddleston.....	1	Bartholomew Zachary.....	4
Thomas Stephens.....	2	James Patteson.....	2
Thomas Mathews.....	2	Isaac Staples.....	1
Charles Patteson.....	6	Richard North.....	2
Wm. K. Weakland.....	5	Adrian Anglin.....	2
Thomas Patteson.....	5	Mace Freeland.....	5
Joel Farguson.....	1	Robert Freeland.....	4
John Farguson.....	1	Robert Kyle.....	5
Moses Farguson.....	1	Wm. Bradly.....	3

John Strange.....	2	John Hundby.....	1
Thos. Thurpin.....	4	John Patteson.....	8
John Brothers.....	2	Samuel Coleman.....	3
John Wright.....	2	Thomas Wright.....	1
Ben Witt.....	3	Joel Walkins.....	1
Thos. Still.....	1	Absolom Milton.....	1
Wm. Still.....	5	William Bumpap.....	1
Wm. Phelps.....	4	Wm. Hay.....	1
John Pendleton.....	1	Aleck Smith.....	2
David Tyre.....	1	Frank Amos.....	2
Peter Patteson.....	4	James Lax.....	1
Grasham Lee.....	2	Edward Harman.....	1
William Thornhill.....	1	Samuel Staples.....	9
George Abbot.....	1	Alexander Lon.....	1
John Brown.....	2	William Walker.....	1
Philip Anglin.....	1	Col. Joseph Cabell.....	17
Richard Tayler.....	3	Col. Hartwell Cockes.....	10
Wm. Duiguid.....	4	John Nicholas.....	38
Ann Duiguid.....	5	Antony Agee.....	2
John Chambers.....	4	Mathew Agee.....	1
Richard Williams.....	1	John Agee.....	1
Joseph Brady.....	1	Isaac Agee.....	1
Wm. Bradby.....	1	Antony Agee, Jr.....	1
James Hundby.....	1	John Hammon.....	3

John Shoemaker.....	1	John Kidd.....	1
William Burton.....	1	Edward Kersey.....	2
John Brammer.....	1	William Holt.....	1
John Brammer, Jr.....	2	James Scrugs.....	4
James Brammer.....	1	John Cabell.....	8
John Chastain.....	1	Richard James.....	11
Rane Chastain.....	1	David Patteson.....	9
Stephen Carter.....	1	Charles Patteson.....	4
Samuel Jordan.....	13	William Jones.....	6
Wm. Binion.....	6	James Pamplin.....	5
Benjamin Cottrel.....	8	Thomas Thornhill.....	5
Samuel Hamilton.....	4	George Burkes.....	5
Morris Hamilton.....	1	Thomas Wright.....	4
James Gop.....	6	Solomon Hancock.....	5
Benjamin Gop.....	1	David Burnet.....	2
Antony Murry.....	14	Henry Davis.....	1
John Douglas.....	7	James Donalds.....	1
James Douglas.....	2	Hugh Scotts.....	2
Maj. Benjamin Howard.....	23	John May.....	1
Randolph Jefferson.....	13	John White.....	1
Hardin Perkins.....	9	Ralph Flowers.....	1
Reubin Jordan.....	6	Andren Flowers.....	1
John Cobb.....	2	Thomas Hancock.....	1
Henry White.....	2	Robert Hughes.....	5

Mallory Johns.....	1	Valentine Mayo.....	2
William Statin.....	2	Wm. Chambers.....	7
Richard Bailey.....	1	Robert Blakey.....	2
Reubin Staton.....	1	James Burnett.....	2
John Staton.....	2	Francis W. Spencer.....	6
Thena Dameron.....	1	Francis Shelton.....	1
George Staton.....	1	James Howl.....	2
William Goff.....	2	John Hansford.....	1
William Fuqua.....	4	John Thomas William.....	4
Mary Robertson.....	1	John Terry.....	2
James Benning.....	6	Edward Jenkins.....	1
Archelus Hansard.....	1	Thomas Murrel.....	2
Leonard Ballou.....	1	Samuel Spencer.....	9
William Anglin.....	2	David Fryer.....	3
Isiah Burton.....	6	Anthony Dihel.....	5
Robert Evans.....	1	Thomas Garratt.....	1
Nathaniel Burton.....	6	David Bundurant.....	1
William Creasey.....	7	John Durham.....	1
William Perkins.....	4	Thomas Thomas.....	1
William Perkins, Jr.....	4	John Bundurant, Jr.....	1
James Smith.....	1	Richard Sharp.....	2
Buchanan Kitchen.....	1	Robert Jones.....	3
Daniel Weaver.....	1	Joseph Glover.....	1
Thomas Patteson.....	7	John Glover.....	8

William Bryant.....	1	James Agee, Sr.....	4
John Spears.....	7	James Ford.....	1
Samuel Ayers.....	2	James Ford, Jr.....	1
Wm. Hoy.....	10	Boaz Ford.....	1
John Booker Hoy.....	10	Nathan Ayers.....	4
Martin Webb.....	1	George Ingle.....	1
Chas. May.....	5	Samuel Webb.....	1
Stephen Rennos.....	2	John Benning.....	9
Richard West.....	3	John Vest.....	1
Richard Rippley.....	3	Nathaniel Maxey.....	1
Thomas Blaky.....	11	Darby Bundurant.....	1
Wm. Baber.....	3	Thomas Cobb.....	7
John Bundurant, Sr.....	1	Zachariah Ellet (constable).....	
Edward Maxey.....	2	William Gates.....	4
Thomas Bundurant.....	3	John Phelps.....	4
Selvanus Mape.....	1	Robert Smith.....	1
Sampson Maxey.....	1	James Couch.....	1
James Meredith.....	4	Capt. Joseph Benning.....	6
James Nonlin.....	3	Wm. Smith.....	1
Richard North Cutt.....	1	Edward Davison.....	1
Samuel Arrington.....	1	Jeremiah Whitney.....	11
William Caniday.....	1	Richard Bundurant.....	1
Simon Hudson.....	2	Edmund Davison.....	1
Benjamin Tindal.....	6	John Couch.....	5

David Rakes.....	1	Wm. Webb.....	4
William Rakes.....	1	Charles Toney.....	3
Stephen Garratt.....	3	Wm. Morris.....	1
Charles Gates.....	1	John Shoemaker.....	3
Mathias Obrian.....	1	Wm. Southern.....	2
Joseph Thomas Wilkison.....	5	John Fearn.....	8
Joshua Taylor.....	1	Henry Smith.....	2
John Bacock.....	1	Thomas Fearn.....	4
Henry Thomas.....	2	William Kidd.....	1
Henry Barker.....	3	John Bates.....	9
Archelus Austin.....	7	Samuel Taylor.....	6
Thesdrick Webb.....	11	Samuel Taylor, Jr.....	3
George Palmer.....	2	Shadrack Woodson.....	4
Charles Garratt.....	6	William Woodson.....	3
Charles Davison.....	1	James Cunningham.....	2
Farrel McFadeen.....	1	William Scruggs.....	6
Josiah Jones.....	5	James Brown.....	2
Thomas Sanders.....	8	Archer Renolds.....	2
John Glover, Jr.....	3	Melton Burford.....	1
Joel Bunderant.....	1	Morris Longhorn.....	9
John May.....	1	Thomas Burford.....	1
Wm. Rayley.....	1	Richard Blanks.....	5
James Thomas.....	4	Daniel Jones.....	5
Tucker Woodson.....	1	John Bostick.....	4

John Day.....	1	Wm. Toney.....	2
James Palmer.....	1	James Mop, Sr.....	4
Jape Johns.....	5	John Cannon.....	12
Nixon Palmer.....	1	William Cannon.....	17
Benjamin Hodges.....	1	Servis Day.....	1
William Johns, Jr.....	2	Joseph Stinson.....	1
John Routon.....	3	James Edens.....	1
Thomas Godsey.....	2	Nehemiah W. Shane.....	4
John Lee.....	1	Richard Mackashane.....	1
Young Lee.....	1	Richard Pasley.....	1
Richard Lee.....	1	Richard Taylor.....	5
Daniel Sanders.....	4	Richard Robertson.....	1
Sheerwood McCormack.....	1	Robert Pricket.....	1
David McCormack.....	1	Thomas Phelps.....	4
Caleb Hines.....	2	Evan Lee.....	2
John Jennings.....	1	Wm. Henslee.....	1
Peter Atkins.....	2	John Cumminger.....	1
John Hillard.....	1	Zachariah Hensloe.....	1
Richard Cornwell.....	1	Sarah Fryer.....	3
Abraham Daniel.....	7	James Southern.....	1
James Dial.....	1	Joseph Payne.....	1
John McCormack.....	1	William Martin, Sr.....	1
John Walker.....	1	John Gannaway, Jr.....	7
John Allen.....	2	Jacob Maddox.....	1

William Buxton.....	5	John Walker.....	5
Ayers Hodnett.....	3	Thomas Johns.....	3
John Peek, Jr.....	3	John Johns.....	3
William Woodall.....	1	Walter Crews.....	2
David Woodall.....	1	William Johns.....	2
Antony Winston.....	3 ⁴	Salley Johns.....	1
John Moseley.....	7	Thomas Redd.....	6
Charles Moseley.....	4	Gohn Gilliam.....	4
Samuel Glover.....	12	James Walker.....	6
William Watt.....	11	Robert Smith.....	1
Edward Pryer.....	3	Nathaniel Medlock.....	1
William Gregory.....	6	John Morron.....	5
Jeffery Peak.....	1	Thomas Boaz.....	2
William Roseberry.....	1	Archibald Boaz.....	1
William Maddox.....	5	Daniel Boaz.....	1
William Pryer.....	1	Josiah Johns.....	1
James Woodall.....	1	George Wrights.....	4
Anderson Jennings.....	1	John Hodnett.....	8
Nehemiah Evitt.....	1	John Beazley.....	5
Thomas Evitt.....	1	Littleberry Epperson.....	3
William Peak.....	1	John Johns.....	8
Thomas Wood.....	2	William Lumbath.....	3
Robert Sanders, Jr.....	2	John Walker.....	1
Daniel Sanders.....	1	Thomas Walker.....	1

Col. Robert Bolling.....	20	Joesph Epperson.....	5
Archibald Bolling.....	7	Thomas Evins.....	1
Jnl. Childrep.....	2	Henry Wooldridge.....	3
John Brown, Jr.....	1	John Ridgmay.....	2
John Hardyman.....	1	William Bailey.....	4
Rev. William Pensley.....	3	William Millom.....	2
Hardeman Baird.....	1	John Page.....	1
Henry Baird.....	4	Benjamin Arnold.....	8
Capt. Richard Chamberlane.....	29	James Malcom.....	1
James Briston.....	10	Robert Saunders.....	8
Charles Cotterel.....	1	George Chambers.....	4
Joseph Curd.....	9	John Mastin.....	3
John Akers.....	1	Stephen Saunders.....	14
William Akers, Jr.....	2	Samuel Saunders.....	6
Nathaniel Jefferies.....	5	Joseph Burnet.....	1
Thomas Harvey.....	2	Hickerson Barksdale.....	7
Daniel Johnson.....	6	William Barksdale.....	2
Wm. Akers.....	1	David Stinson.....	1
John Nucum.....	1	David Maloid.....	4
Wm. Truman.....	1	John Cox.....	10
James Axley.....	1	Matthew Cox.....	6
Thomas Truman.....	3	William Low.....	7
Wm. Warrin.....	1	Phebe Ridgeway.....	3
Wm. Curd.....	6	Richard Ridgeway.....	2

Archibald Bolling.....	7	Drury Mims.....	8
David Locket.....	5	John Stephens.....	2
John Tibbs.....	1	David Anderson.....	1
Thomas Irving.....	1	Micajah Anderson.....	1
() Spencer.....	1	William Hall.....	1
George Carter.....	2	Jacob Woodson.....	4
Thomas Godsey.....	2	Henry Peak.....	3
Robert Haincock.....	1	William Gibson.....	2
John Right.....	1	Jacob Salley.....	3
Augustin Right.....	1	H. John Hughes.....	1
Robert Glover.....	10	Alexander Stinson.....	10
Thomas Harvey.....	1	Alexander Stinson, Jr.....	3
Francis Childrep.....	2	John Smether.....	2
John Baird.....	1	William Childrep.....	1
George Hooper.....	7	John Stinson.....	9
Lambuth Blackburn.....	4	William Martin.....	2

These are the tithables of Buckingham County, Virginia of 1773. They are listed identically in the same order, although some are repeated or spelled wrong. They are found in the original handwritten manuscript in the Virginia State Library in Richmond. The name listed is the name of each family head with the number in that household following. These tithable lists were taken by Charles May, Charles Patteson, John Nicholls, William Cannon, John Johns, and Geo. Hooper. They were compiled into the complete list, given above, by John Bernard. The names of slaves were seldom given. Frequently some caption such as "ferryman," etc., appeared with the name. One of the most interesting incidents concerning the listing of the tithables was the fact that between the names of James Briston and Charles Cotterel appeared a distinct picture of an Indian head. It is not known to what this sketch referred. In the 1774 list, it appeared again beside the name of James Briston.

In 1774, another list of tithables was taken. This list differed very little with that of 1773. For specific names contained in each family head, the list of tithables is available to anyone seeking this information in the Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia.

APPENDIX C

Maps concerning the development and growth of
Buckingham County, Virginia

PROGRESSION OF THE PEOPLING OF PIEDMONT VIRGINIA

Map 2. Virginia in 1671. Practically all Tidewater was settled to the fall line.

Map 3. Virginia in 1702. Advancement of settlement is along the tributaries. These were thinly settled areas.

Map 4. Virginia in 1729. The Piedmont region was occupied but scarcely populated. By 1775, the complete state was occupied.*

Map 5. Location of Buckingham County among the counties of Virginia.

Map 6. Buckingham County and surrounding counties in their present form.

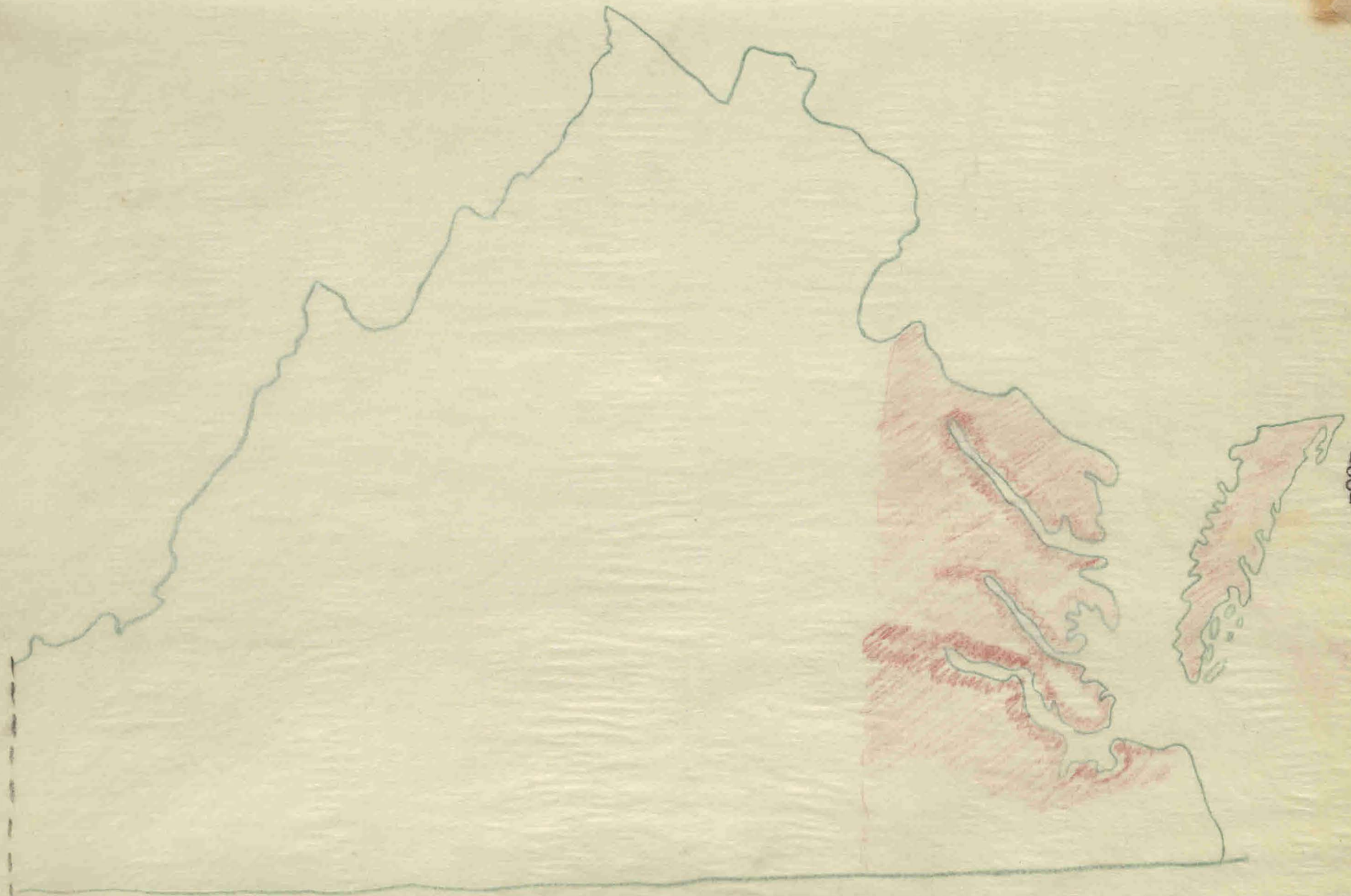
Map 7. Buckingham County as established May 1, 1761.

Map 8. Changes in area of Buckingham County.

Map 9. The slate industry of Buckingham County.

Map 10. The town plan of Curdsville, Virginia.

*"Virginia Counties," Bulletin of the Virginia State Library, Jan. 1916, plates 8-10.



VIRGINIA - 1671

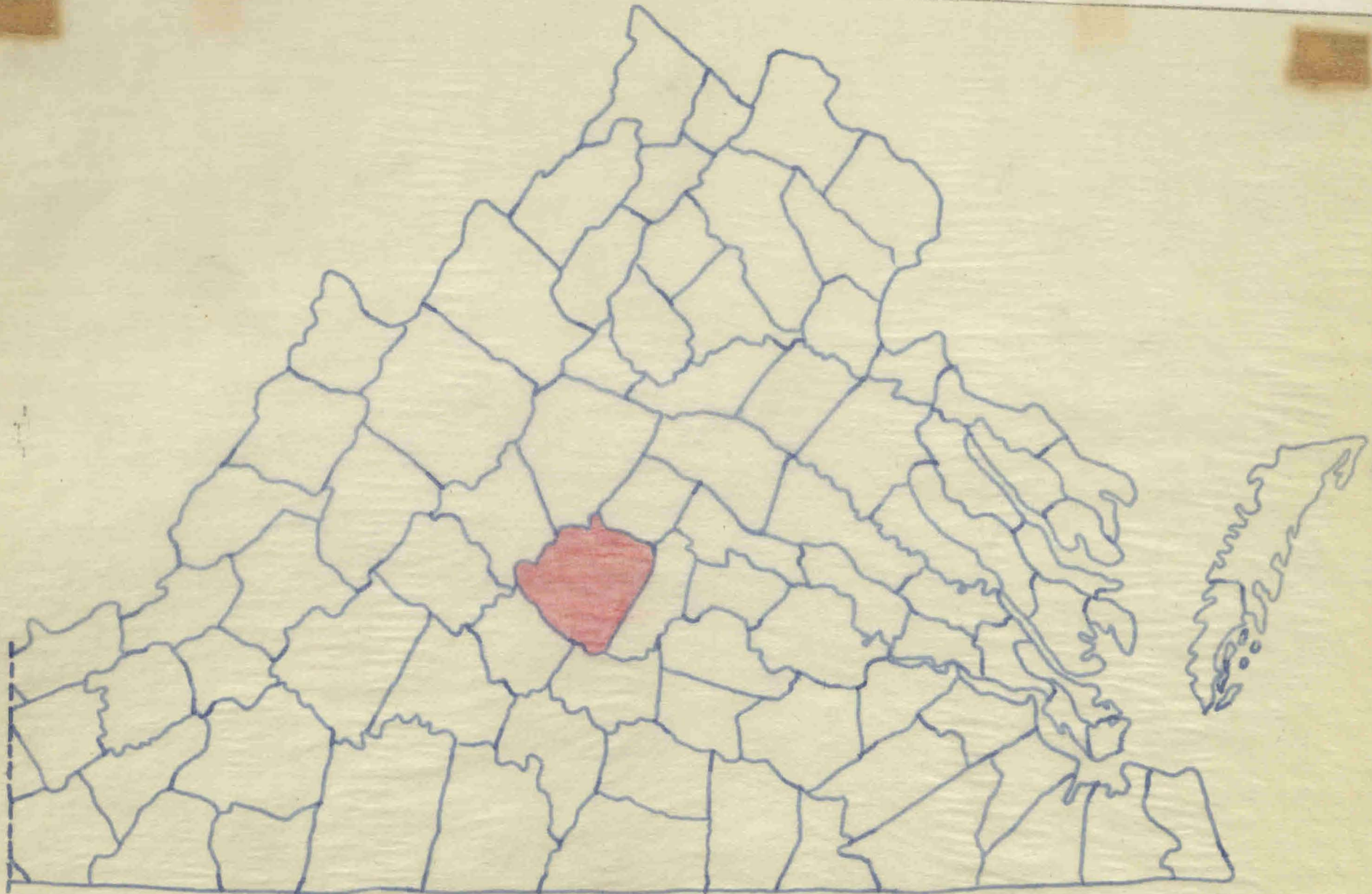


-87-

VIRGINIA - 1702

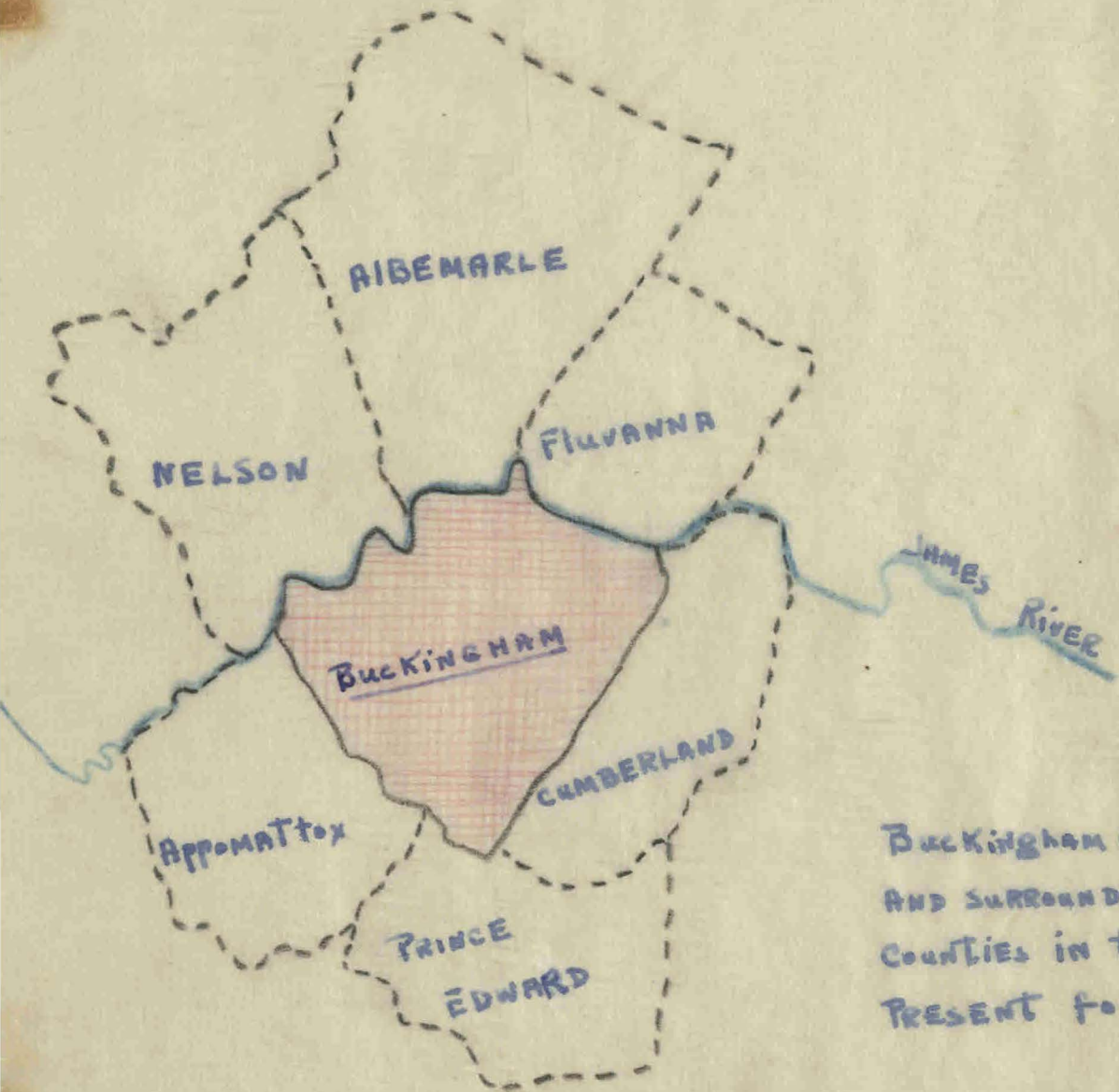


VIRGINIA - 1729



-89-

BUCKINGHAM County VIRGINIA





Buckingham County
AND SURROUNDING
COUNTIES IN THEIR
PRESENT FORM.

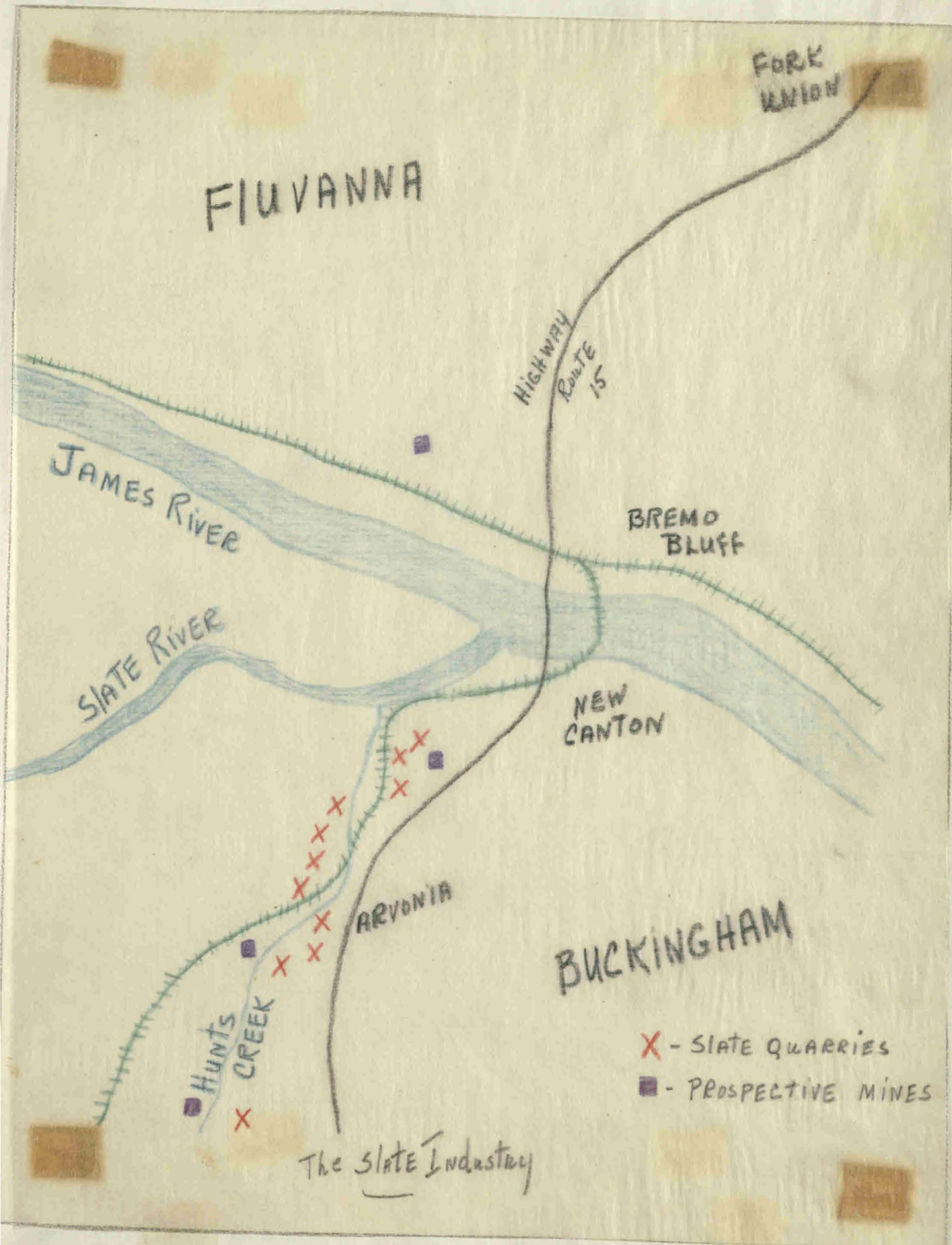


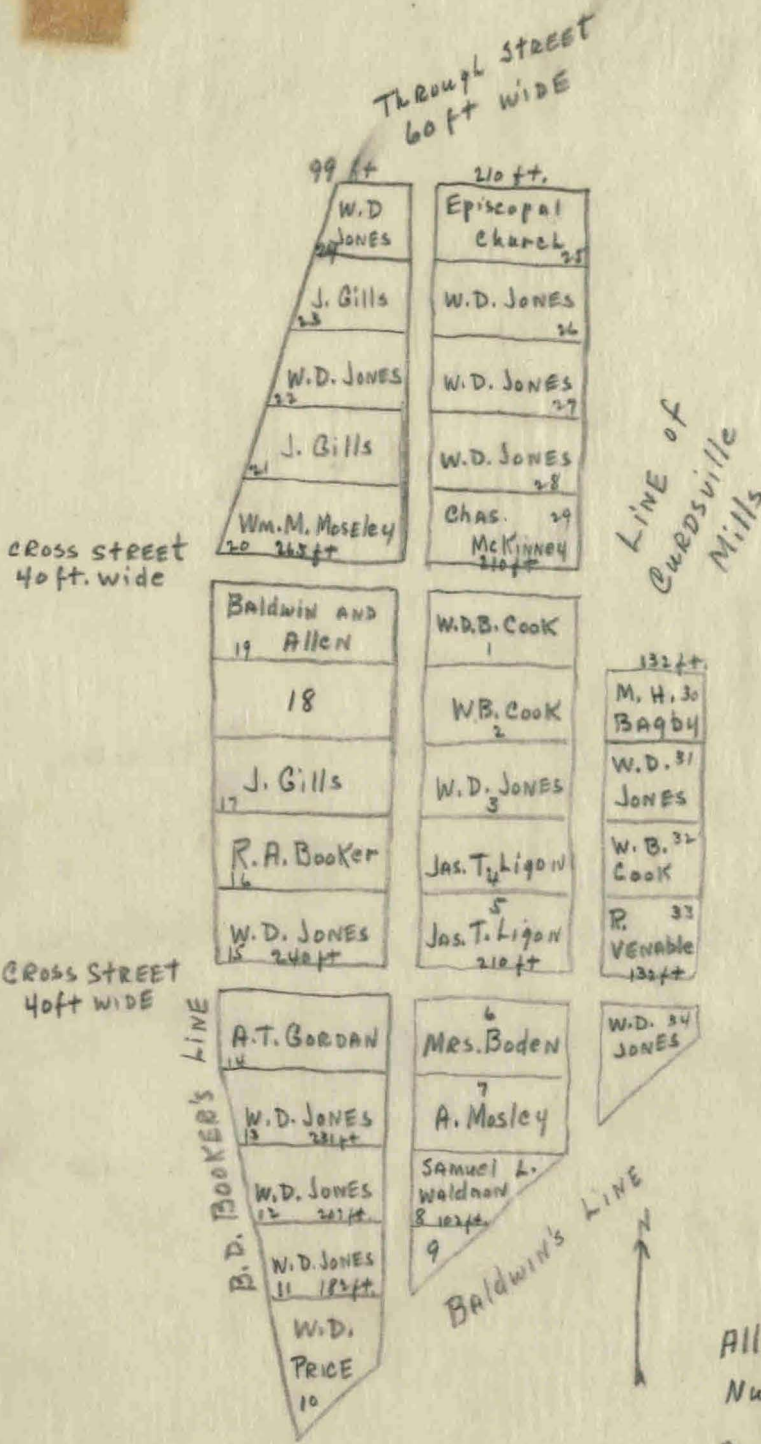
Buckingham County
AS ESTABLISHED
MAY 1, 1761



Changes in AREA
of BUCKINGHAM County

-  - Tilloson Parish AREA
AWARDED TO CUMBERLAND
County in 1778.
-  - Formation of Appomattox
County in 1845.





All lots were
Numbered -
OWNERS of lots
9 AND 10
UNKNOWN

CURDSVILLE

August 24, 1825
By Act of: GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Minutes of Virginia Methodist Conference, Richmond, Vir-
ginia, Feb. 2, 1838.

Personal Property Tax Book, Buckingham County, Virginia,
1782-1787.

Tillotson Parish Papers, (papers are neither contiguous
nor numbered. These original manuscripts,
in handwritings, are located in the Virginia
State Library.)

Tithables of 1773-1774, Buckingham County, Virginia.

(The above statistical tables and records--Land Tax,
Personal Property Tax and Tithables--are
found in the Virginia State Library in
Richmond, Virginia.)

VITA

On the 22nd day of July, 1932, James Meade Anderson, Junior was born in Andersonville, Buckingham County, Virginia. As a descendant of one of the first families of Buckingham County, he received his first five years of formal education at Andersonville Elementary School. The following two years were spent at Buckingham Elementary School. His high school education was received at the Buckingham Central High School where he graduated in 1949.

Desiring to pursue a higher education he entered the University of Richmond, Richmond, Virginia. While at the University he was a Dean's List student, president of the Forensic Council, president of the Future Teachers of America, as well as an avid follower of the University's athletic teams.

To better qualify him in the field of teaching, he returned to the University of Richmond, and began his graduate study in the field of history.

He is currently instructor of Latin at the University of Richmond while his former professor is on sabbatical leave of absence.