

Appomattox County Historical Society

P.O. Box 253

Appomattox, Virginia 24522

www.appomattoxhistoricalsociety.org



February, 2013

Membership Meeting - Thursday February 21, 2013, 6:00 p.m. at the Museum of the Confederacy - Appomattox Board of Directors Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

President's Letter from Jeff Smith

I suppose we made a good call in cancelling the January meeting. It was a very last minute decision as the snow began to fall rapidly about an hour before the scheduled start of our meeting.

We are making good progress on our renovation work. The framing is finished in the new library room and is ready for electrical wiring and insulation, and that might be finished by the time you read this. We are still targeting completion by our April 1 season opening. A huge thank you to all of the volunteers who have put in many hours on this project. So far we have not hired contractors to do any of the work.



Library Room (old UDC room)

We have another list of projects that needs to be completed before our April 1 opening and the April 5-7 Fall of Richmond event at Clover Hill Village. If you would like to help, please call Carolyn Davis or Buddy Conner. The group that has been working

on the museum is getting pretty tired and could use some relief.

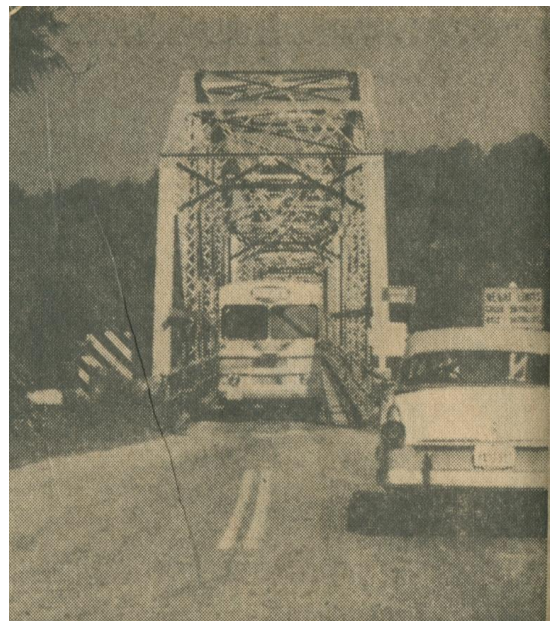
We have signed on to be the non-profit food vendor at one of the Friday Cheerz events again this year. The Chamber of Commerce has determined the band lineup subject to some confirmations and we will know soon which of the events we will staff.

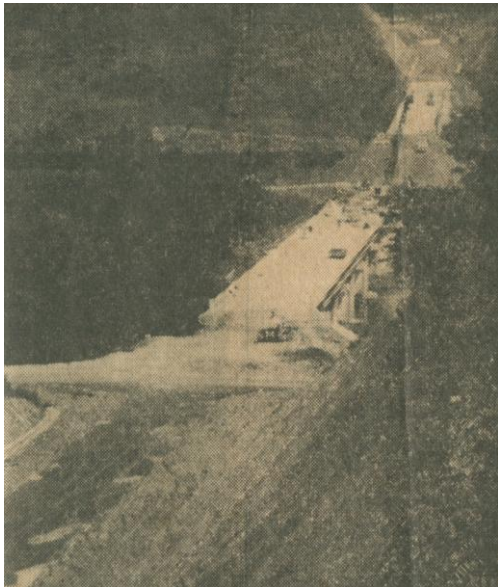
I would like to welcome our newest members who are already getting active and helping with our projects:

Elizabeth Shuler

Rick and Ramona Whitehurst

Move Started To Retain Old Stone Bridge Piers September 22, 1965 newspaper article (unknown publication)





LOVINGSTON - A move is now underway in Nelson and Appomattox Counties to retain the old "slave built" stone piers which have supported bridges across the James River at Bent Creek near Gladstone since before the Civil War.

Meanwhile, a new \$1 million bridge which will replace the latest one-lane bridge built on three old pillars in 1922, will be dedicated Thursday at 10:30 a.m.

Channing H. Moon of the Nelson County Chamber of Commerce will give the history of the bridge that is being torn down and also tell about the new bridge.

Moon said that the old bridge piers were built by slave labor about 150 years ago, and a wooden, covered bridge was constructed on them at that time.

He said the piers are made of "handcut limestone rocks," which were placed together without mortar.

During the latter part of the Civil War, the Confederates burned the old covered bridge to keep the Yankees from crossing the river, Moon said.

From the time the bridge was burned, until 1922, there was no way to cross the river at that point other than by ferry. In that year, the C&O Railroad built a bridge across the river on the same pillars. A number of "local people" donated money for the bridge, Moon said.

D. E. Keith, resident engineer for the highway department for Amherst and Nelson counties, said today that he thinks chances are pretty good that the old bridge pillars will be left standing.

So where did Bent Creek come from? It started as Diuguidville.

The following is from the Appomattox Heritage book:

An act to establish a town in the county of Buckingham (Passed November 10, 1792).

Sect. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly that ten acres of land, the property of John Horsley, in the county of Buckingham, shall be, and they are hereby vested in David Bell, John Moseley, Charles Patterson, William Diuguid, William Perkins, Jr., Philip DuVal, James Dillard, Charles Moseley, Josias Jones, Henry Flood, and David Kyle, gentlemen, trustees, to be by them, or a majority of them, laid off into lots half an acre each, with convenient streets, and together with the lots already laid off adjoining thereto by the said Horsley, established a town by the name of Diuguidville.

Sect. 2. So soon as the said ten acres of land shall be laid off into lots, the trustees, or a majority of them, shall proceed to sell the same at public auction, for the best price that can be had, the time and place of sale being previously advertised for two months successively in the Virginia Gazette, and to convey the said lots to the purchasers thereof in fee, and pay the money arising from the sale of the said lots to the said John Horsley, or his legal representatives.

Sect. 3. The trustees of the said town, or a majority of them, are hereby authorized to make such rules and orders for the regular building of houses therein, as to them shall seem proper, and to settle and determine all disputes concerning the bounds of the said lots.

Sect. 4. In case of the death, resignation, or removal out of the county, of any of the said trustees, the vacancy thereby occasioned shall be supplied by the remaining trustees, or a majority of them, and the person so elected, shall have the same power and authority as if he had been particularly named in this act.

Sect. 5. This act shall commence and be in force from and after the passing hereof.

The Marin's Gazette for 1835 had this about Diuguidsville: Diuguidsville on Bent Creek, a post village 196 miles S. W. of Washington, and 112 miles from Richmond, at the mouth of Bent Creek on James River. It contains 16 dwelling houses, 3 general stores, 2 grocery stores, a tavern, a house of private entertainment, and a tobacco warehouse, 2 extensive manufacturing mills, a gristmill and a sawmill. A horse mail arrives thrice a week, population 132, one of whom is a physician.

Diuguidsville map of town lots at right is from the book:
Genesis of Appomattox County, Virginia by Cecil C. Harvey

- No. 1 - George Duiguid, £ 10
- No. 2 - Thos. Wilson, £ 10.5
- No. 3 - David Pattison & Campbell, £ 17.10
- No. 4 - Wm. Jones, £ 17.58 paid
- No. 5 - Nicholas Pamplin, £ 22.1
- No. 6 - Robert Rives, £ 20.1 paid
- No. 7 - Jacob Laller, £ 11.1 paid
- No. 8 -
- No. 9 - Wm. Horsley, £ 17.1 paid (John Worsham)
- No. 10 - Joseph Cabell, £ 8 (Saml. Courtney)
- No. 11 - Joseph Cabell, Jr., £ (Littleberry Patteson)
- No. 12 - Warehouse, Wm. Duiguid, £ 17
- No. 13 - Henry Flood, £ 22 paid
- No. 14 - Wm. Chick, £ 16.15

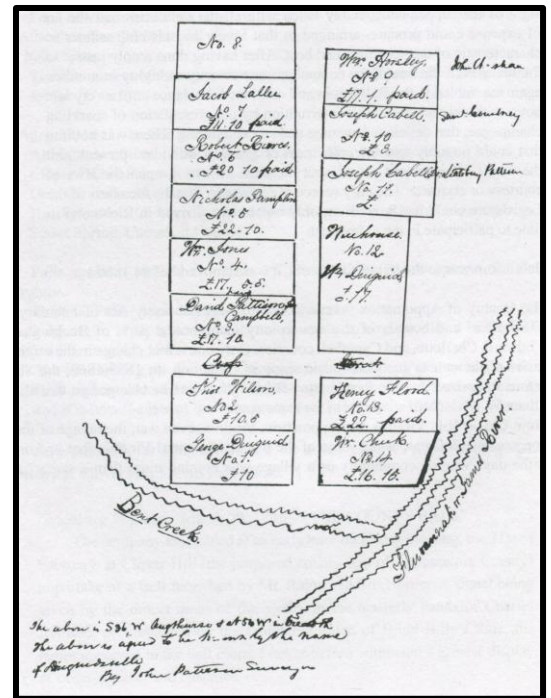


Table below is from the book:
Appomattox County, Virginia 1845 Tax Lists by Harriett A. Chilton

List of taxable town lots in Diuguidsville (now Bent Creek) within the Appomattox part of the district of G. Moseley, Commissioner of the Revenue, District No. 2, Buckingham, for the year 1845.

Name	Lot No.	Value of Improvements	Total Value	Tax
Walton & Govan	12	\$ 250	\$ 300	\$.72
James C. Stephens	8	\$ 300	\$ 400	1.20
James Fariss (non-resident)	9	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,200	1.80
James Govan's heirs	7	\$ 200	\$ 300	.96
John F. Hix (from James Phelps)	1 & 14	\$ 300	\$ 500	1.20
James C. Walton	10	\$ 200	\$ 300	1.20
Henry S. Beazley	11	\$ 150	\$ 250	.72
William P. Johnson estate	2 & 3	\$ 100	\$ 200	.48
Robert Rives estate (residence Nelson Co)	6	\$ 800	\$ 1,000	1.44
Wilson Hix	13	\$ 300	\$ 400	1.20
William Smith estate	3	\$ 75	\$ 125	.36
David C. Jones	7	\$ 900	\$ 1,000	1.44
Catharine Williams estate	3		\$ 50	.05
John Patteson's estate	4		\$ 50	.05
				\$ 12.82

This Month in Appomattox County History

03 Feb 1858	<i>Lynchburg Virginian</i> - "Stolen Horse" Horse stolen from the stable of the subscriber living near Appomattox C. H., on the night of the 29th. ult., -- I will give liberal reward to any one person delivering the above described horse to me at Appomattox C. H. W. INGE
08 Feb 1845	The Virginia General Assembly passed an Act creating Appomattox County. A Bill had been passed by the House of Delegates on February 6 and a similar Bill was passed by the Senate on February 8. The full text of the Act is on our website under the "Research" tab.
10 Feb 1858	<i>Lynchburg Virginian</i> - Post Office Affairs. Thomas A. Hancock, Postmaster at Spring Mills, Appomattox County, Virginia vice John H. Franklin, resigned.
15 Feb 1861	Election of Delegates to the State Convention in Richmond - Lewis D. Isbell for Appomattox, no opposition.
17 Feb 1927	Corporate Charter for Appomattox Motor Company, Inc. was recorded in the Clerk's office, Charter Book No. 1, Page 93.
20 Feb 1856	<i>Lynchburg Virginian</i> - "The Late Sampson Diuguid" The funeral service of this lamented gentleman took place Sunday and was well attended at the 4th. Street Methodist Church. He was carried to his final resting place in Appomattox County.
24 Feb 1855	Died at her home in Appomattox County, Mrs. Frances Wooldridge, wife of Richard D. Wooldridge, in the 60th year of her age. She was a member of the Baptist Church.
25 Feb 1853	<i>Lynchburg Virginian</i> - Married on Tuesday 22nd. February, by the Rev. Andrew Hart, Dr. Davis S. Evans and Miss Sarah E. Hunter, 2nd. daughter of Washington Hunter, Esq., all of Appomattox County.
26 Feb 1906	Deed recorded in the Clerk's office, Deed Book No. 8, Pages 349-351 - M. C. Smith (great grandfather of Society President Jeff Smith) purchased 261 acres from Nannie A. Fuqua and moved his family to Appomattox from Washington County, Maryland. This was the old Inge family property known as Mammouth Oak Farm on what is now Oakleigh Avenue.

Upcoming Events

February 21 - Membership meeting, 6:00 at the MOC

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March 21 - Membership meeting, 6:00 at the Clover Hill Village General Store

April 1 - Museum (with new library) and Clover Hill Village open for the season

April 5-7 - The Long Road Home - Fall of Richmond at Clover Hill Village

2013 Officers

President Jeff Smith (434) 610-6388 4Xfarmer@gmail.com	Vice President Buddy Conner (434) 665-6186 buddy.conner@jetbroadband.com
Secretary Carolyn Davis (434) 352-8294 Casonclee@aol.com	Treasurer Jeff Smith

Committees and Chairmen

Finance - Jeff Smith
 Membership - Carolyn Davis
 Fundraising - Buddy Conner
 Museum - Wayne Phelps
 Clover Hill Village - Buddy Conner
 Programs - Buddy Conner
 Public Relations - Carolyn Davis
 Research and Publications - Carolyn Davis