

# HISTORY

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remained a small town for most of the 20th century.

It became a city in 1975. Known for Civil War history, Manassas also has a wonderful museum system and charming Old Town historic district.

### Manassas Park

Located to the northeast of Manassas, Manassas Park began in 1955 as a county subdivision. In 1975, Manassas Park incorporated as an independent city. It was the last town in Virginia to become a city before the legislature placed a moratorium on such actions. This small town has an 18-hole golf course and water park. Route 28, the "Antique Corridor," also runs through the city.

### Nokesville

The center of a farming community with cattle and dairy farms, Nokesville became a town and intermediate stop on the Orange & Alexandria Railway in 1865. In the late 1800s to early 1900s, Nokesville was the location of a religious movement called the German Baptist Brethren, which became known as the Church of the Brethren. In the 1950s, it was cut off from passenger trains and remains a rural community today.

### Occoquan

Occoquan is derived from a Dogue Indian word meaning "at the end of the water." Located on the river, Occoquan was a natural site for water-

borne commerce. It was established as an industrial town with grist mills and tanneries. The Merchant's automated grist mill operated for 175 years before being destroyed by fire.

During the Civil War, the office passed let between North and South. The fire and river hardships for Occoquan, the town has survived and thrived. Today, it is a charming restored artist's community with shops, outdoor dining, ghost walks and more.

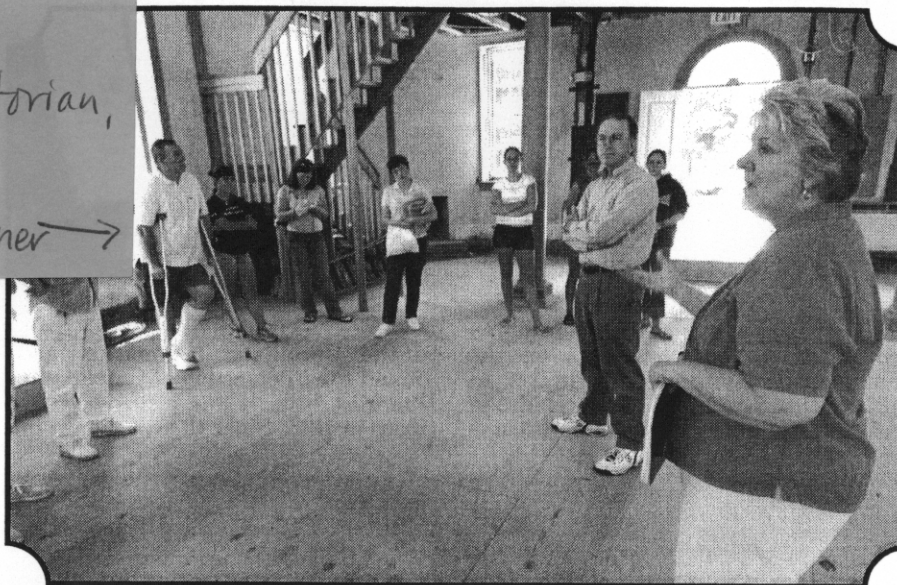
### Quantico

Rich in military history, Quantico is the only town in the U.S. that is completely surrounded by a Marine Corps base. Quantico's military tradition dates back to the Revolutionary and Civil wars, when the area was used by Virginia naval elements. The area also spent time as a resort community called "Potomac."

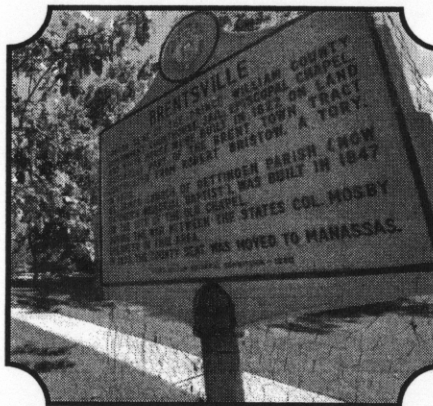
The town itself was incorporated in 1872, taking its name from a Dogue Indian word meaning by the large stream. Today it is home to a notable Marine Corps base, established in 1917, and the Marine Corps Air-Ground Museum.

This history of Prince William County was written by the Prince William/Manassas Convention & Visitors Bureau Inc. The bureau is at 8609 Sudley Road, Suite 105. For more information, call 703-396-7130, e-mail [info@visitpwc.com](mailto:info@visitpwc.com) or visit [www.visitpwc.com](http://www.visitpwc.com).

Local historian, author  
Ron R. Turner →



**HISTORIC SITE:** Above, at far right, Pamela Sackett, chairman of the Brentsville Historic District, leads a tour of the Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre.



**COUNTY SEAT:** Left, Brentsville was the county seat from 1822 until 1892.

Times Photos/Shannon Ayres

Birthday Parties — Scouts — Bridal & Baby Showers — Ladies' Night Out

anks — Kitchen & Bath



## Claytime Café

A paint-your-own pottery studio and coffee shop

Paint some pottery and sip your favorite coffee drink...

Smoothies —

## Your Neighborhood Family Eye Doctor



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- Contact Lenses - All Types