

Rec'd 3/27/2003

by David Blake

He recommended seeing 3 engravings
by Alfred Waud depicting Buckland

- Crossing Broad Run
 - Custer's Advance on Buckland
 - Hunton's House Cavalry engagement with Stuart
- on Library of Congress website

[http:// image.harpweek.com/1863m/111463/0725m.jpg](http://image.harpweek.com/1863m/111463/0725m.jpg)
(Nov. 14th, 1863 Harper's Weekly)

Harry" Lee and first cousin to General Robert E. Lee. He obtained the rank of Major in the United States Army and upon the outbreak of the War Between the States, resigned that position and was appointed the same in the C.S.A.. R. B. Lee II and his descendents lived at Buckland Hall until 1935. I am truly grateful to his great grandson, Mr. Bland Lee, for having explained many interesting facts about the history of the farm and town I might never have known otherwise. His grandmother's first cousin was the famous portrait painter, John Singer Sargent, who often spent summers at Buckland during the late 19th century. While visiting, he painted Buckland Hall (1887) and three large oil landscapes of various views of the farm. In 1935, the property was sold to Mitchell Harrison and was carefully restored by noted architect, Irving Fleming.

Thereafter, the property was sold to Thomas Mellon Evans, noted Wall Street financier, philanthropist and horseman. At Buckland, he bred champion Thoroughbred horses over four decades, including Pleasant Colony, winner of the 1981 Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes and who narrowly missed the Triple Crown by placing in the Belmont Stakes. Mr. Evans was active in numerous charities and art organizations including the National Gallery of Art, the National Portrait Gallery and Carnegie-Mellon University.

Pleasant Colony died New Year's Eve, 2002. He was buried New Year's Day at Buckland within site of the barn in which he was foaled, in the center of the new Casanova Hunt Race Course.

The history of Buckland has many layers, and I have just begun to understand its significance. I believe it to be an important part of Virginia's splendid past, as well as, the heritage of this nation. While new roads and homes are necessary with the modern impetus of progress, those few places remaining that have such a high concentration of historical significance, should, somehow, be preserved. The efforts necessary to preserve the town of Buckland will require more than my family, neighbors, and citizens of the old town here can muster. I urge all who may share my interests and concerns to please support changes to the current plans of the Federal and State Highway Administrations that will make possible the preservation of Buckland. It is my hope that we may all better appreciate its simple beauty and enjoy it together.

DAVID WILLIAM BLAKE

Further information concerning the history and preservation of the Town of Buckland is available by calling 703-754-8406 in Prince William County or 540-347-5821 in Fauquier County. We are in the process of founding a non-profit foundation for this purpose.

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