BUCKLAND PRESERVATION SOCIETY Protecting a rare, intact antebellum town, landscape, and Civil War battlefield in Northern Virginia



Top: Alfred R. Waud, "Buckland from Mr. Hunton's House, scene of cavalry engagement with Stuart," 19 October 1863 (Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division: Washington, DC). Bottom: Same view, Buckland National Historic District, January 2004.

Located in Prince William County, Virginia, Buckland thrived as a small, inland commercial community from the late eighteenth century to the decades following the American Civil War. Archival research, archaeology, and architectural assessments have revealed that most of the town's historic structures, sites, and landscape remain intact and in their original context. Numerous influential and prominent people helped create and shape historic Buckland over a hundred-year period, and their activities have left behind a wealth of documentary and archaeological sources that are significantly adding to knowledge about the period between the American Revolution and Civil War. The themes of settlement, industry, commerce, transportation, invention, politics, agriculture, slavery, freedom, and war are all represented in the historic resources at Buckland. The Buckland Preservation Society, a registered non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, is devoted to making this resource a laboratory of learning for the Antebellum period of American history.



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HISTORIC SITE FILE: BUCKLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT PRINCE WILLIAM PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM RELIC/Bull Run Reg Lib Manassas. VA

THE IMPORTANCE OF BUCKLAND: STATEMENT

In my opinion, properly protected and researched, Buckland has the unique potential to teach generations to come much about American values, especially the role of free enterprise, in the development and growth of the United States during its founding years between the American Revolution and the Civil War Era. Too often, as at Jamestown, no architectural evidence and few documents survive to help tell significant pieces of the archaeological part of that story as it does at Buckland.

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- William M. Kelso, Ph.D. APVA Director of Archaeology, Jamestown Rediscovery

In my thirty-year career conducting field survey and documentation work, I have never encountered a small rural village with such a remarkable density of significant resources. The entire 48-lot town plan and town common remains largely intact and most of the streets are still visible in the modern landscape...how far would we have to look to find another twenty-acre village with connections to Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, the Marquis de Lafayette, Claudius Crozet, George Armstrong Custer, John Singer Sargent, various members of the Carter, Lee, and Washington families and, just for good measure, a Kentucky Derby winner?

- Orlando Ridout V, Ph.D. Senior Architectural Historian, Maryland Historical Trust

The wealth of surviving material could and should become the center for an important re-evaluation of how Virginia and how by extension, the new nation embraced and shaped a future made possible by republican government. I can think of no better topic to which I should direct history majors than researching this not very well known but significant story. There is no better laboratory and no better place at which they can make a truly significant addition to what we know about Virginia in the early national period than Buckland.

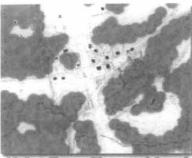
- Carter L. Hudgins, Ph.D. Hofer Distinguished Professor of American Culture and Historic Preservation, University of Mary Washington

Preserving the history and heritage of the village of Buckland will enhance the understanding and interpretation of early African Americans and their impact on the economic and social development of this village.

> - Karen Hughes White, President Afro-American Historical Association of Fauguier County

One of the most important things about Buckland is the landscape that is so fragmentary elsewhere. The fall line towns of the same period, Alexandria, Fredericksburg, Staunton, etc. wiped out the early part of their history. Their success caused them to grow beyond it. However, the survival rate of traditional building landscape at Buckland is much better than what we have at Williamsburg.

> - Willie Graham Architectural Curator, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation



48 Lot Town Plan and Landscape - by C. Allan Brown



Buckland Hall, built ca. 1774 by Samuel Love



near US Route 29 and adjacent to the first McAdam road in Virginia



Marquis de Lafayette



Gen. J.E.B. Stuart, C S.A.



Kinsley Mill, watercolor (artist and date unknown). The small mill village of Buckland, Virginia, settled on Broad Run near the Old Carolina Road and Susquehanna Plain Path, became a chartered town in 1798, upon a formal plan of 48 lots, containing stores, manufacturing businesses, taverns, and Converted from tobacco to wheat residences. production by Samuel and John Love, father and son, the town, with its large mills, thrived for several decades, necessitating the first paved McAdam turnpike road in Virginia. famous figures, such as George Washington, Lafayette, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and James Monroe, entrepreneurs, engineers, and inventors such as Oliver Evans, Claudius Crozet, and Ned Distiller, free man of color, and artists and writers such as John Singer Sargent and Anne Royall. In October, 1863, the Civil War came to Buckland when J.E.B. Stuart defeated George Broad Run Bridge abutment Custer and Hugh Kilpatrick in the dramatic Battle

of Buckland Mills. Following the war, as railroads replaced turnpikes in importance, the town of Buckland, now a national historic district, stopped growing and its landscape has remained virtually unchanged since.

The Buckland Preservation Society, comprised of concerned landowners, is devoted to conducting a state-of-the-art, interdisciplinary investigation of the archaeology, architecture, industrialization, transportation, and cultural landscape of the Town of Buckland as well as the earlier Manohoac Indian Settlement that was located on this site. Recognizing that Buckland is a rare survival of an authentic cultural landscape, the Society has engaged a wide become turnpike toll-keeper array of scholars, preservation organizations, and agencies in the efforts to preserve and document-Buckland. Never before in this country has such a coalition of notable historic preservation organizations gathered to support and participate in the preservation of one site. Supporters include:

Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources Prince William and Fauquier Counties

al War Preservation Trust ... and many



George Love's 1820 County Map of Northern Virginia



Buckland attracted Robinson Tavern, built 1815



Claudius Crozet



Emancipation Deed, 1811: Samuel King frees his wife Celia, who would later at Buckland



Gen. George A. Custer, U.S.A.

MORE STATEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Buckland and Manassas National Battlefield Park share a similar history. Both have remnants of Virginia's history from before the Civil War. Both places were battlefields during the war. And both locations have managed to survive the rapid development of the region. Manassas National Battlefield Park is protected. Buckland, on the other hand, is not a national park, and does not receive the same degree of protection. If future transportation projects are not carefully planned, it could easily be lost. There is the potential for the Manassas Battlefield bypass and a Buckland bypass to greatly enhance the historical importance of the area, while at the same time dramatically improving the traffic issues of the region. In other words, history and development would both win.

> - Robert K. Sutton, Ph.D. Superintendent, Manassas National Battlefield Park

"The force opposed to us upon this occasion [October 19, 1863] consisted of ten regiments of cavalry and six pieces of artillery, commanded by Brigadier-General Kilpatrick, and I am justified in declaring the rout of the enemy at Buckland the most single and complete that any cavalry has suffered during the war."

 Major General J.E.B. Stuart, C.S. Army, Commanding Cavalry Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, Report of February 13, 1864

The War of the Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, United States War Department (1880-1901), Government Printing Office: Washington D.C.

Series 1 - Volume XXIX/Chapter XLI (Part I), pp. 438-454. 1890.

"This is the only cavalry victory that the enemy can boast over my command." - General Hugh Judson Kilpatrick, U.S. Army, Commanding Cavalry Corps, Army of the Potomac As quoted in "Pell-Mell Cavalry Chase," by Brian Kowell, America's Civil War Vol. 5 No. 2

We are currently partnering with the Woodbridge Senior High School in the Prince William Public School System on a grant proposal for a joint teaching and library project titled Hands on History: Prince William County. The project will have students, in the context of an elective course at the high school level, researching and digitally recording buildings, building sites, and the family histories of prominent Buckland individuals. The digital images will be available for the public through the Prince William Public Library System's web site.

- Michael W. Andrews, Librarian, Grants & Special Projects, Prince William Public Library System

> Buckland has the potential of becoming a world-class historic site. - Elizabeth Kostelny, Executive Director Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities