

Graysons Hill
file w/ Grayson's
Tomb,

Prince Wm

R.C. Wight

April 15th

5495-164

Haymarket

7

Grayson's Hill

this site is known by bothe Grayson's Hill and Battery Hill,
but probably the former name is the correct one.

to the north of Route 1. , 1/3 mile from Dumfries Post Office,
while this can be reached by what on the plat of Dumfries is know

(Graham St the most direct way is to take the private road next to the Ho
which was once Oronoka St) going past the Mundy House, and keeping direct

north, about 500 ft from the Highway.

3 see number 4.

4. Benjamin Grayson had a patent from the Proprietors Office in in 1733, a part of which he later sold to John Mercer, but the first direct mention of this particular spot is in Henning, no. 3, folio 102.

Whereas it has been represented to this present General Assembly, that Wm. Grayson, Gent. (son of Benj Grayson) is seized of 12 lots in the Town of Dumfries, and County of Prince Wm, which for their mountainous situation are no way beneficial to the said Town, and it would be to the advantage of the said Wm Grayson, were the said lots severed therefrom. Be it therefore enacted by the said Assembly that the said 12 lots of land numbered from 92 to 103 together with such parts of Cronoka street, Hedgeman street and back street as run through or on the back of same, shall be severed from the Town of Dumfries, but the said lots and parts of streets above described, shall ~~there~~ henceforth be absolutely vested in the said Wm Grayson, and his heirs forever, and that so much of an Act entitled an Act for enlarging the Towns of Fredericksburg, Winchester and the City of Williamsburg, and the Town of Dumfries as comes within the provisions of this Act, is hereby repealed. 17

The next record that I can find at the Court House at Manassas is in Deed 22, folio 77, when it was sold by Merchant to Mundy in 1843, but when it came into possession of the Merchants I do not know, for at one time it was, least a part of it belonged to Tebbs, at the present time it belongs to C.F. of Quantico, Va.

5. This is a tract of 57 acres, mostly wooded, having some very lovely bee amongst it. The present owner has cleared some of the old roads through it, and cut some of the underbrush that the line of entrenchments can be better seen. After reaching the top of the hill and taking a path directly back of the dy house site, and going east the trenches are very clearly defined, and perhaps three hundred yards east from the beginning of the wood is a large ditch that was once the "galley" when the Army made their winter quarters. There are several fruit trees grown up at this place that apparently can

6. In the past few years the trees have grown up hereso that there is not the clear view of the river that there once was, but in 1814 the ships on the river could be clearly seen.

On August 22, 1814, the Bristish ships were anchored at Quantico, 6 miles from Grayson's Hill in Dumfries, and it was fully expected that they would attack Dumfries that night. The 36th Regt. of Militia was collecting, and the van of the 89th Cavalry Co. arrived about noon, but before the arrival of the Militia, the boys of the Town had p̄pared to come to the defence, they had formed what they termed a Company of "Vigilents" and from this hill they had kept watch of the Bristish ships for hours, and perhaps were a little disappointed that they did not have a chance to prove their prowess in the matter of defence. I have talked with two people whose Grandfathers were among those boys, and heard from their own lips the story of that eventful day, for in the after noon the town was struck with a terrific gale, that is even now spoken of as the 'Bristish gale' It did considerable damage to the town and frightened the people, but the Bristish fleet departed that night

7. there will be photos of this site to follow.

8. the same people who gave me ifformation with the Mundy Hoise are to be credited with this , these two sites are so closelt associated that they are almost one.