

To The Honorable,

The Speaker and House of Representatives of the State
of Virginia;

The petition of William Skinner of Prince William County
in said State. Humbly sheweth That your petitioner is seized in fee simple
of a Tract of Land in said County on which is Erected the building
commonly known by the name of the Red House, and Conceiving that much
advantage to the contiguous parts of his State, as well as benefit to the Public
may accrue from the Establishment of a Town at the said place, - he doth leave
to submit the matter to your Honor's consideration.

At this place two very public Roads cross; one from Alexandria
and Dumfries, to Winchester by the way of Abbey Gap, the other is
the great Road by which all who pass below the Mountains
Proceed to the Southward;

meagre to the Southward

11

~~The~~ Country, around is fertile and will
 feel a very sensible Spin to the Industry, from an improving Market
 at its door for every kind of Produce. The distance from any Town
 already established will mutually forbid its offering or Receiving any Injury
 from Daring Interests, ~~which it is perfectly~~ ~~the~~ ~~Country~~ ~~may~~ ~~perhaps~~
~~it is perfectly~~ ~~Point~~ ~~of~~ ~~view~~ ~~are~~ ~~disregard~~ ~~the~~ ~~situation~~ ~~for~~ ~~holding~~ ~~the~~ ~~Country~~

Now Petitioning Title to the said ^{land} is perfectly clear and unincumbered,
 and of no Injury, but much probable Good may arise from the
~~Establishment~~ ~~herein~~ ~~express~~ ~~that~~ ~~an~~ ~~Act~~ ~~of~~ ~~your~~ ~~Honorable~~ ~~House~~ ~~may~~ ~~pass~~
 for Establishing a Town at the said place, to be laid of agreeable to
 the plan annexed to be named Shenksville and appointing
 Messrs Henry Washington, Bernard Hoor, Edward Carter, William Cook,
 Edmond Norph, Richard Alexander, William Taylor, George Taylor, and
 Washington Washington, & Matthew Whiting, to be Trustees, any five of
 Whom to compose a legal Meeting for Carrying the same into
 effect and Transacting all future business, which may arise respecting

The said Towns, and that all Lots un sold or built on May, be
 set up at Public Sale by the Sheriff, on ~~the~~ ^{the} 1st of May. The purchaser
 or purchasers building on the purchase of ~~lot~~ ^{lot} a house at least sixteen
 feet square with a stone or brick Chimney within the term of five years
 from the time of date, October 1st 1798.

Wm Skinked
~~Washington~~ Washington
 Thomas Whiting
 Samuel Love Junr
 William Prooth
 Ely Pleckum
 Michl McElligan
 Isaac Thompson
 Robert Thrift
 Henry Webster

Miss Gordon
 Henry Washington
 Charles Tyler
 James McLean
 David Wilson Scott
 William Robinson
 Richard Widmors
 Thomas Curd
 John Burnet
 Benjamin King
 Wm. Mann

William Steatpe
 Matt Whiting
 Charles Barnett
 Nimrod Martin
 John Flowerance
 Charles Martin
 Bartlett Seach
 George Creel
 Francis Sinclair
 Nathens Sinclair
 Joseph O'Bannon

Isaac Thompson
Robert Threlk

John Durner
Benjamin King

Henry Webster
Preston George

Wm. [unclear]
Henry Hope
Osborne Smith Garner

Wm. Hunter
James Rose

Wm. Bell

Daniel Rose

Elijah Graham

Joseph Kendall

Jm. Graham

Elijah Legg

Jas. Graham

Thom Bell

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Notes

rearrange

reprinted

(bill drawn)