

# Fairfax County Resources

## Potentially Bearing Confederate Names

The History Commission thanks you for your time in this effort. We expect that this form should not take more than one hour to complete.

**Name of Resource:** Cooper Road

### Location and Existing Information:

**Resource Type: Street, Monument, Building, Marker, Other:**

**Tax Map Numbers and/or Street Address, if known/if applicable:** 109-2, 110-1, Intersects 8700 block of Richmond Hwy

**Ownership type: Public/Private:** Public

**Owners, if known:** Fairfax County

**Supervisory District:** Mount Vernon

### Confederate Connection:

**Full name of Individual for whom it is named or Confederate association:** purported to be named for General Samuel Cooper

**Position under the Confederate States of America and dates held:** Adjutant General and Inspector General of the Confederate Army (1861-1865)

**Individual's or Confederate association to the property/location, if any:** None Found

### History of Asset:

**Date Constructed:** The road is present on a 1952 plat. No traces are visible in aerial photos from 1937.

**Confirmation of Intentional Confederate Naming, if known:** Disproved

**Original Name(s), if different:** Cedar Street and Russell Rd.

**Date Renamed, if applicable:** Officially, April 17, 1963. Some references as early as 1958

**Responsible party for name:** Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

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**Background/notes:** The "Fairfax County in 1860: Property Owners" maps, prepared by Beth Mitchell show that the property where Cooper Rd sits was owned by John Mason. This is not John Mason Samuel Cooper's Father-In-Law (descendant of George Mason), but rather John Mason, who owned Woodlawn. John Mason divided the property between sons Otis and Eben Mason. It eventually was owned by the Fannon family who sold the land in the 1950's and 60's to new owners as part of two developments: Woodlawn Heights and Keys & Russell. Over the years, a variety of businesses have resided at the intersection of Cooper Rd. and Richmond Highway including tourist cabins, restaurants and now shopping centers. The intersection was called out in the September 4, 1968, Board of Supervisors minutes because of an increase in accidents due to recent growth and lack of traffic control. County records show Frederick Cooper owned tourist cabins in Engleside one mile north and on the other side of Richmond Highway. Confirmation that the namesake of the road is Oliver Jacob Cooper confirmed in a 2019 obituary of his Granddaughter. Additionally, Frederick Cleveland Cooper is confirmed in the same article as the namesake of nearby Cooper Street.

### Sources:

Davis and Ruffner plats for Woodlawn Heights and Keys & Russell subdivisions

Deed Book V-3 p. 328 1855.

"Fairfax County in 1860: Property Owners Map" by Beth Mitchell, 109-2, 110-1

"Fairfax County in 1860: A Collective Biography" by Edith Moore Sprouse

"Obituary: Virginia Marie Cooper" Mount Vernon Gazette, October 17-23, 2019. P. 16

A Short Sketch of Samuel Cooper's Life <http://www.generalcooper.com/eysr.htm> accessed on July 7, 2020