Fairfax County
History Commission
Annual Report

2007
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May 19, 2008
CHAIRMAN’S SUMMARY

It has been my honor and extreme pleasure to have served as the leader of the Fairfax County History Commission for a second term in 2007. We continue to enjoy the support of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, County Staff, Virginia Room staff and especially the Fairfax County Park Authority. Some noted events of the past year include:

* Extremely successful 3rd Annual History Conference.
* Continuation of work on the Oral History Committee.
* Support of the Lorton/Laurel Hill National Register Nomination.
* Ongoing work with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.
* Approval for two Fairfax County Historical Markers.
* Addition of one new Commissioner: Debbie Robison of Sully District.
* Collaborations with the Fairfax County Park Authority, Architectural Review Board and Fairfax Museum & Visitors Center.
* I continue to represent the Commission in the Section 106 Review of the Route 1-Telegraph Road Connector and am actively participating in the BRAC process at Fort Belvoir.
* Other events are detailed later in this report.

I have greatly appreciated the opportunity to serve the county this past year and look forward to serving this year as an advocate for the preservation of the vast and diverse historical resources located within this county. On behalf of the Fairfax County History Commission, I thank you for your generous support in the work we do.

Robert Beach,
Chairman, Fairfax County History Commission
Fairfax County played host to its Third Annual History Conference, Saturday, Oct. 27 at the Annandale campus of the Northern Virginia Community College. "The Fairfax Four Hundred: 400 Years of Fairfax County History" was the theme of the event, referencing the Jamestown 400 celebration in May that marked 400 years of the Commonwealth of Virginia History. Dr. Doug Owsley, who provided much of the Jamestown 2007 anthropological and archaeological work, was the keynote speaker at the Oct. 27 conference. Dr. Owsley spoke passionately on the work and research he has done in exhuming bodies from numerous sites in Jamestown. His work has provided historians with rich data, such as living conditions, disease causes, correlation with recorded diaries and social status of those who founded the earliest-known European-inhabited sites, which are now considered the beginnings of America. Dr. Owsley explained how body placement, implements placed with the body, bones and remaining artifacts reveal deep and intricate story. He used visuals to explain how researchers could determine diseases, what diets consisted of and even what occupation the person had while alive.

Mr. Don McAndrew, a re-enactor who portrays George Mason, kicked off the morning with a statement of Mason's hesitancy to sign the Declaration of Independence. Mason's act reflected a statesman who wished only the good for this new land rather than a repetition of a dogmatic government.
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chair Gerry Connolly (D-At-large) opened the 3rd Annual FCHC conference and presented Two Lifetime Achievement Awards: one posthumously to Mr. Malcolm Richardson and the other to Mrs. Carol Drake Friedman.

Mr. Richardson conducted extensive archaeological research with Dr. Owsley and, among his many other accomplishments, indexed the Fairfax Herald newspaper from 1886-1936 and indexed seven other newspapers from 1785 to 1943. His work represents the single largest resource for research in Fairfax County for the time period that newsprint exists. This work comprised some 9,000 volunteer hours. Richardson’s wife Margaret, son Jonathon and daughter Amy accepted the award on his behalf.

Mr. Lewis Leigh of Leesburg accepted the award on behalf of Mrs. Carol Drake Friedman, who founded the Historic Centreville Society, Ltd. in 1987. The society located and conducted interviews with life-time inhabitants of the Centreville area, researching both public and private records and published her findings in "Millrace," which she continues to publish quarterly. She also organized the Centreville Bicentennial Celebration in 1992 and preserved the Lanes Mill Ruins, an original mill run by freed slaves.

The conference began at 8:30 a.m. with a breakfast sponsored by the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, which also provided a presentation later on in the day by Center historian, Dr. Chris Martin, on the growth of suburbs in Fairfax County after World War II.
The crowd cheered long-time Fairfax County Historian Mayo Stuntz on his recent 92nd birthday. Local elected officials in attendance included Del. Jim Scott (D-53), Supervisors Penny Gross (D-Mason), Sharon Bulova (D-Braddock) and Catherine Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill).

Other workshops throughout the day included:

Mrs. Marion Dobbins, who provided a 19th century re-enactment, reflecting the seven generations of her family and ancestry to the Lees and Collins of Fairfax.

Mr. Mike Johnson from the Fairfax County Park Authority spoke on the presence of the Native American Indian, reflecting a period of over 16,000 years.

Fairfax County History Commissioner, Sallie Lyons spoke on the founding of Colchester. Ms. Lyons’ archaeological work revealed a community nearly identical in research potential for the study of a middle class community to one she had excavated in Winchester, England.
Mr. John McAnaw, a local Civil War expert, provided an overview of the Bull Run to Occoquan area during the Civil War era.

Mr. Edwin Henderson discussed his grandfather’s founding of the first NAACP chapter in Falls Church.

Fairfax County History Commissioner Anne Barnes, a member of the Historic Laurel Grove School in Franconia, and Page Johnson of the City of Fairfax provided an overview of African American Schools in the county.
Dr. David S’ada spoke of the Quaker Influence in the county.

Mr. Joe Marinucci gave a humorous and passionate presentation on "Streets, Streams and Settlements.”

The conference Chair was Fairfax County History Commissioner Lynne Garvey Hodge, supported by the Conference Committee and Michael Rerson, Elizabeth Crowell, Fairfax County Park Authority, Susan Gray, Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, Commissioners: Anne Barnes, Irma Clifton, Carole Herrick, Mary Lipsey, Sallie Lyons, Esther McCullough, Gretchen Bulova, Mike Irwin, Barbara Naef and Naomi Zeavin, and other commissioners on the Fairfax County History Commission.

The 2008 Conference theme will be “Our 20th Century.”

(Photographs courtesy of Jack Lewis Hiller.)
BUDGET

Fairfax County History Commission
Income and Expenses

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Note: Detail may not add to total due to rounding.

Major expenditures in FY 2007 included minutes, the archaeology grant and the Second Annual History Conference. The major expenditures in the first half of FY 2008 were the Third Annual History Conference and a grant to Madeleine McCoy to prepare a written genealogical database of enslaved and free black individuals in Fairfax County prior to 1865.

ETHNIC COMMITTEE

This committee was formed in the fall of 1997 in response to the increasing demographic diversity of Fairfax County's population. The one hundred languages spoken within schools show the diversity of the population. It has been estimated that in less than fifty years the County's white population will drop below 50 percent. The committee set as a goal to explore
the ways in which more ethnic segments might be encouraged to record their experiences and community history since their arrival in Northern Virginia.

The members of the Ethnic committee are Naomi Zeavin, Anne Barnes, Sallie Lyons, Lynne Garvey Hodge, and Chairperson, Esther McCullough.

**ORAL HISTORY**

At the suggestion of Chairman Connolly, the Commission formed a subcommittee of the Ethnic Committee to seek a project for recording and presenting oral history in Fairfax County. The subcommittee is researching ways to present oral history that convey to the county and the youth that the history of all people is important. Also that history is not just the past, but is being made each day.

A plan has been formed to interview persons that can give history on (1) World War II; (2) African-Americans who grew up in the county; and (3) the many ethnic groups in the county. These will be conducted over a two year span.

Naomi Zeavin led the first Oral History project at the Clark House in 2005 highlighting the history of two African-American families. Completed in 2006, the video and transcribed interviews are available for research in the Virginia Room.

Led by Esther McCullough, the committee includes Naomi Zeavin, Anne Barnes, Sallie Lyons, and Lynn Garvey Hodge.

**PUBLICATIONS**

During the year 2007, the Fairfax County History Commission's Publications Committee focused primarily on the reprinting of out-of-stock books and their maps (*Beginning at a White Oak: Patents and Northern Neck Grants of Fairfax County, Virginia; Fairfax County, Virginia in 1760; Legato School: A Centennial Souvenir; and Mount Air, Fairfax, Virginia*) which entails converting these documents into an electronic format; continued design discussions regarding the “Fairfax County in 1860” manuscript and map; took the preliminary steps towards reprinting the Hopkins Maps (1878), and discussed assisting map author Guinevere Jones with content additions and the reprinting of “African American Landowners, Churches, Schools and Businesses : Fairfax County Virginia (1860-1900)” which is out of print.

Members of the Publications Committee were Mary Lipsey (Chair), Mayo Stuntz, Elise Ruff Murray, Barbara Naef, Lynne Garvey Hodge and Anne Barnes.
AWARDS PROGRAMS

The Fairfax County History Commission has established several awards programs to honor achievements in Fairfax County history and historic preservation. These programs include the Distinguished Service Awards, which are typically awarded during Historic Preservation Week in May of each year to individuals, developers, corporations, or groups that have contributed to preserving history in Fairfax County.

The Fairfax Heritage Awards are designed to encourage and reward original research in Fairfax County history. The highest award is the Nan Netherton Award, which includes a $1,000 prize. The Mary Fahringer Memorial Award is a very special award recognizing outstanding achievement in education, concentrating in areas of history and architecture. The award in the amount of $1,000 is not an annual one, but is reserved for truly unique and meritorious contributions.

The members of the Awards Committee are Lynne Garvey Hodge, Chair, Jack Hiller and Bob Beach.

HISTORICAL MARKERS

Fairfax County’s Historical Marker Program began in January 1998 when the History Commission approved a design and agreed to fund a distinctive marker for Fairfax County. While this marker was generally modeled after Virginia’s roadside markers, by state code it had to have a distinctive appearance. With colors derived from George Washington’s Fairfax Militia uniform, these buff and blue roadside markers emblazoned with the Fairfax County seal, stand ten feet from ground level. To date twenty four Fairfax County markers and four state markers have been funded under this program. Many of the requests for historical markers are initiated by the public or by proffers from developers. These sources have provided about half of the funds supporting the program to date. All requests are reviewed by a committee for historical accuracy and editorial continuity before being submitted to the entire Commission for approval.

In 2007 two new markers were approved for installation in 2008. A county marker dedicated on April 5, 2008, in Lake Accotink Park on the 75th anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps marks a fire trail hacked out of the forest by the CCC in the 1930s. A state marker, partially funded by the History Commission, recognizing the conservation work of naturalist and Fairfax County resident Ira Noel Gabrielson was dedicated on April 26 in front of the Oakton Library.

Serving on the Historical Marker Committee are: Joe Balicki, Jim Cox, Don Hakenson, Mary Lipsey, Esther McCullough and Chairman Jack L. Hiller.
IVAKOTA Farm marker Dedication, May 12, 2007, Fairfax County History Commissioner Lynne Garvey Hodge, Clifton, VA with members of the Kate Waller Barrett Alexandria DAR Chapter
INVENTORY OF HISTORIC SITES

The Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites is one of the History Commission’s longest standing responsibilities. It serves as both an honorific and a planning tool. The Comprehensive Plan includes the inventory sites in the Heritage Resources section of each Planning District. Since July 2005, Susan Hellman has almost single handedly updated the inventory for the first time since 1994, reviewing and photographing each site. In October 2007, the History Commission wrote a letter to Chairman Connolly requesting that the Board of Supervisors authorize an Out of Turn Plan Amendment, which was granted on November 19, 2007. The purpose of the Countywide Heritage Resources Comprehensive Plan Amendment is to:

- Update the Inventory of Historic Sites tables that appear in the district-wide recommendation section of each planning district;
- Update the language in the Overview and Heritage Resources sections of the district-wide recommendation section of each planning district to reflect changes that have taken place;
- Consider editorial changes to reflect changes to site names;
- Modify the Plan Glossary definition for Heritage Resources; and
- Update the language in the Heritage Resources section of each planning sector to reflect changes that have taken place and revise text where more accurate information has been discovered through additional research.

At its January 2008 meeting, the Commission voted to approve the revised inventory list. In addition to housekeeping changes, each demolished building was identified and reviewed for archaeological or cultural significance. Of the 86 demolished buildings identified, 53 were determined to retain significance and will remain on the inventory list, marked as demolished. The remaining 23 buildings were deemed to retain no archaeological or cultural significance and were removed from the Inventory; however, records of these properties will be retained. The current inventory list along with its background, nomination forms and research guidelines are accessible to staff and the general public on the County website. (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/historic/ihs).

Three community meetings were held in March 2008 at sites throughout the County to provide information to the public on the proposed plan amendment and to solicit citizen’s comments. The next step is the Planning Commission.
The Inventory now stands at 344 sites including six added in 2007.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date Added</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tauxemont Historic District*</td>
<td>January 3, 2007</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
<td>Alexandria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Washington Memorial Pkwy*</td>
<td>January 3, 2007</td>
<td>Dranesville</td>
<td>Arlington, Langley,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>McLean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy*</td>
<td>January 3, 2007</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
<td>Alexandria, Arlington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayliss house</td>
<td>January 3, 2007</td>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>Alexandria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beacon Field Airport at City View</td>
<td>July 11, 2007</td>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>Alexandria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spindle Sears</td>
<td>December 5, 2007</td>
<td>Sully</td>
<td>Centreville</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* National or State Registers of Historic Places

We are very grateful to Board of Supervisors for funding the Historian I position for FY 2008 and hope to see it continued in the future. The Department of Planning and Zoning continues to be very supportive. At the direction of Fred Selden, Planning Division Director, planning district maps identifying all inventory sites will be added to the Comprehensive Plan. DPZ Planning Division staff, Indrani Sistla, Senior Planner, and Harry Rado, Graphics Supervisor, contributed to the Out of Turn Plan Amendment by, respectively, developing the GIS program for the Inventory and producing the planning district maps showing the Inventory sites. Planners Dawn Dhavale, Jayjeev Hada, Mubarka Shah and Mary Ann Welton provided invaluable technical assistance at the community meetings.

We continue to work with County Staff to establish procedures for notice of impending demolition of inventory sites, which might require a change in the Zoning Ordinance.

Sallie Lyons, Elise Ruff Murray and Barbara Naef serve on the Inventory Committee, in cooperation with Susan Hellman and Linda Cornish Blank, the County’s very able Preservation Planner. After seeing the Commission through the public meetings, Susan Hellman left DPZ and joined the Virginia Room staff.

ARCHAEOLOGY GRANTS

Since 2000, Vicki Monken has put in over 2,000 hours entering Archaeological data into the computer. In addition to current data entry, she is working her way through from the reams of forms filled out by the County Archaeology Program in the course of its operations since 1978. The Commission provides her a modest grant to do this invaluable work.
WEB SITE

The History Commission's Web page includes recent marker dedications, publications information, member contact information and Commission accomplishments. It serves as an easy, up to date, and readily available tool for anyone interested in our county's history. Mike Irwin is Chair of the Committee. (http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/visitors/history/histcomm)

SPEAKER’S BUREAU

In January 2004 the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors requested that the History Commission compile a list of people willing and interested in speaking on topics related to Fairfax County history. This 10-page document, published and distributed in November 2004, summarizes a variety of countywide history topics with related speakers and contact information, including name, email address and phone number. Numerous members of the Commission are included. It is a continuous work in progress and will be customized and updated as necessary.

Members of the Fairfax County History Commission continue to be active in speaking before various civic, community and historic groups.

Lynne Garvey Hodge has given presentations using music, photo boards and games on the History of Clifton to local groups including the Herndon Historic Society.

Naomi Zeavin speaks at the Rotary and schools, etc. on Historic Mason District.

Don Hakenson is a well sought out speaker and has given various history presentations to countless civil war, historical and civic organizations around the entire State of Virginia and has provided special Civil War tours and information to prominent writers and other out of state historians. He also conducts presentations and book signings on his book, This Forgotten Land: a Tour of Civil War Sites and Other Historical Landmarks South of Alexandria, Virginia and on two books co-authored with Gregg Dudding about Colonel John S. Mosby and his men.

Jack Lewis Hiller spoke to twelve different groups in 2007 in addition to at least two tours per month from September through June at Gunston Hall. Typically he is asked to speak in public schools, to civic associations, historical groups, senior citizens or to private groups. Many of Hiller’s lectures are given with slides and focus on Springfield. Titles of his lectures include: “Murder at the Mill: My Search for William H. Keene,” “Henry Daingerfield and Origins of Springfield,” “Oakgrove: The Home that John H. Broders Built,” “The Hidden History of Hidden Pond Park,” “Here Lies Fairfax County,” and “An Introduction to Fairfax Archaeology.”

Mary Lipsey continues to provide presentation on a variety of topics related to the “Braddocks True Gold” project.
OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Fairfax County History Commission Members continue to be active in a variety of ways in the local community. This is not meant as a comprehensive list but merely a means to highlight the wide variety of activities of commission members.

Irma Clifton, Carole Herrick, Bud Mayo, Esther McCullough and Mayo Stuntz serve on the Fairfax County 2007 Community Citizen Planning Committee established to plan and implement a countywide program to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. A Legacy Book Subcommittee published *Fairfax County Stories, 1607-2006*, a historical anthology that reflects events that took place in the County. Led by Irma Clifton, the subcommittee includes members of the History Commission Esther McCullough and Mayo Stuntz.

Anne Barnes continues to serve on the very successful Annual Fairfax County History Conference Committee since its inception in 2005. Commissioner Barnes has presented talks on the early historical Fairfax County “Colored” schools at the annual Fairfax County History Conference, Gunston Hall and historic one room Laurel Grove School located in Franconia, Virginia. She is a member of the board of directors at the Laurel Grove School Association.

Irma Clifton is the President of Lorton Heritage Society, Inc. and is historian and collections manager for the Lorton Arts Foundation, a non-profit working to develop an arts and cultural center at the prison Workhouse site.

Don Hakenson conducts Mosby bus tours with Gregg Dudding for the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society and for other historical organizations, and is the past President for the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society and is on the board of directors for the Franconia Museum.

Carole Herrick is the Chair of the McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia 1607-2007. David Olin was also appointed.

Sallie Lyons promotes preservation and archeological and historical research in the old town of Colchester, Colchester Park and Preserve and Mason Neck, speaking frequently to groups and at the History Conference. For the Gunston Hall Seeds of Independence program she chairs the Logtown committee, researching lost slave quarters. As Lyonshare Studios, LLC, she is providing pro bono design of a W3R wayside informational kiosk under a TEA-21 grant, for the Washington Rochambeau Army passage and encampment at Colchester.

Esther McCullough participated in the research of materials in preparation for Supervisor Cathy Hudgins’ show on Historical African-American Churches in Hunter Mill District of Fairfax County. The culmination of the research was a video taping of five churches established in the 1800s that were important part of life for African-Americans. The churches still exist today and include many descendants of the founders as members. Many of them were also schools for African-Americans when established. A taped interview session led by Supervisor Hudgins included her and Mayo Stuntz. The tape will be shown on channel 16 as a part of a Black History Month Celebration for Fairfax County. She has spoken to groups that are beginning oral history projects.
Elise Murray is the President of the Historical Society of Fairfax County and Mayo Stuntz serves on the Board of Directors.

Elise Murray attended the Virginia State Preservation Conference in Staunton in September.

Barbara Naef continued to meet regularly with the Park Authority Cultural Resource Management and Protection (CRMP) Section Manager, to keep advised and updated on the various activities and projects involving the countywide archaeology programs that are managed through CRMP.

Working in the offices of Park Authority Collections, she continued a multi-year project of inventorying and cataloging documents that relate to the Lahey collection of furnishings and decorative arts that were bequeathed to the Park Authority by Richard Lahey’s widow, Carolotta, along with the Lost Valley Park house and property. Her primary focus has moved to establishing provenance, through purchase records, for as many objects in the Lahey collection of several hundred as possible.

In 2007 Commissioner Naef began working with the Friends of Colvin Run Mill (Historic Site) on various research and long-term projects including planning for the Mill’s bicentennial anniversary in 2011.

As a volunteer at the Reston Museum, Commissioner Naef has been participating in planning associated with the anticipated renovation of the facility and the installation of new interpretive exhibits.

On the Commission she continues to serve on the Publications Committee, the Historic Sites Inventory Committee, the Budget Committee and the annual History Conference Planning Committee.

Mayo Stuntz is Chairman of Sully Foundation, which was established in the 1970s to support the Fairfax County Park Authority to assist in the operations and provide financial support for purchasing Lee Family articles for Sully Historic Site; serves as the unofficial Town Historian for Vienna, in addition to his responsibilities as president of Flint Hill Cemetery in Oakton since 1958; and also serves on both the Fairfax County and Vienna 2007 Jamestown Committees.

Mayo Stuntz obtained a copy of President Teddy Roosevelt’s opening speech from April 1906 at the Jamestown Celebration, which he gave to the County library. He also obtained a list of the files from the Jamestown 1907 Celebration from the Alderman in Charlottesville (UVA) which he gave to the County library. Mr. Stuntz who with his wife, Connie, published four books on local history in Fairfax County, is serving on the Publications Committee. Also Mr. Stuntz who has served with the History Commission and its predecessor unit, Landmarks Preservation Committee since 1965 is known for his institutional memory.

Lynne Garvey Hodge co-chairs the Annual Historic Candlelight Tour of the Town, held on the first Saturday of December. The revenues generated from this event in 2007 totaled over $5,000.
In 2005, Lynne Garvey Hodge was appointed chairperson of the Clifton History Commission by the Clifton Town Council and serves as co-chair of the Clifton History Oral Committee.

Lynne Garvey Hodge served on the annual Fairfax County Exceptional Design Awards Jury in 2007.

Naomi Zeavin’s video “Historic Mason District” has been completed and is now in all the Fairfax Schools and Libraries.

Naomi Zeavin led the first Oral History project at the Clark House in 2005 highlighting the history of two African-American families. Completed in 2006, the video and transcribed interviews are available for research in the Virginia Room.

Naomi Zeavin is the guest curator at the Clark House for the Fairfax County Park Authority. She has put on two exhibits, one on the Bailey family and currently one on the Munson family. In addition she showed her video Historic Mason District there.

Naomi Zeavin serves on its board of directors of the Capitol Hill Civil War Roundtable.

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES**

A brief examination of the background of the Fairfax County History Commission reveals a wide variety and diverse background which members bring to their work.

**Joseph Balicki**—Senior Associate/Principal Archeologist with John Milner Associates, Inc., Alexandria, Virginia is a Registered Professional Archeologist (RPA), with over 28 years of archeological experience. Mr. Balicki has directed or participated in numerous archeological projects in Virginia covering prehistoric and historic sites. He has extensive knowledge of the Civil War period in Northern Virginia, and is an expert in the field of military encampment archeology. Mr. Balicki has presented seven papers at professional conferences covering military camp layout and Civil War sites archeology, and contributed a chapter (Defending the Capital: The Civil War Garrison at Fort C.F. Smith) to *Archaeological Perspectives on the American Civil War* (Geier and Potter 2000); *Huts and History* (Geier, Orr, and Reeves 2006), and *Fields of Conflict* (Scott, Babits, and Hacker 2006). At present, Mr. Balicki has one article in press on methodological and theoretical approaches to the investigation of Civil War encampments. Recently, Mr. Balicki successfully directed archeological surveys at sites containing civil war camps at Valley Forge National Historical Park, Pennsylvania; Marine Base Quantico; and Blenheim house in Fairfax City, Virginia. With other JMA archeologists he is investigating the site of the Newgate (Eagle) Tavern in Centreville, Virginia.
Anne M. Barnes—originally from Georgia, is a longtime Virginia Fairfax County resident of Mason Neck who became vice Chairman of the History Commission in 2006. She received a B.S. in Criminal Law from Savannah State College, Savannah, Georgia; a M.A. in Government from Johns Hopkins University. She worked on an archaeological project in South Carolina in the mid 1980s which led to the recognition of an early Spanish colony on one of the coastal islands. She is a former Marine Corps Officer, U.S. Congressional staffer, American History teacher and is currently the Resource Manager for a Department of Defense strategic training center. Anne served as a co-chair for the First Annual Fairfax County History Conference in November 2005 and has continued to serve on each annual planning committee since its inception.

Robert E. Beach—after receiving his Bachelor of Architecture from The Pratt Institute, New York in 1982, he practiced architecture in the firm of SITE, Inc. completing the HIGHRISE OF HOMES Project, now a permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art. Upon relocating, Bob worked in several notable Washington area architecture firms completing several hospital projects with Henningson, Durham and Richardson of Alexandria, Virginia prior to starting his own practice in Falls Church, Virginia in 1989. In 2003 his firm, Robert E. Beach Architects, which does historic architectural restoration on local, state and national levels won an Arlington County Historic Affairs and Landmark Review Board Award for one of its projects. He has served on the Fairfax County History Commission for the last seven years, has represented the Commission for several years as a jury member during the Fairfax County Exceptional Design Awards, and is currently the Commission’s Chairman. He also is a Director on the American Institute of Architects Northern Virginia Chapter Board. In addition, he is a Boy Scouts of America Architecture and Aviation Merit Badge Counselor and is a licensed instrument rated private pilot who volunteers flight time for Angel Flights several times a year. He lives in Fairfax, Virginia.

Gretchen Bulova—appointed to the History Commission in fall 2006, brings a wealth of museum experience to the commission. She holds a BA in Anthropology and a BA in Classical Studies from the College of Williams and Mary and an MA in Museum Studies from The George Washington University. Ms. Bulova has served as the Director of Gadsby’s Tavern Museum in Alexandria, Virginia since 1996. She specializes in the interpretation of late 18th century material culture and lectures widely on a variety of topics related to Alexandria and Gadsby’s Tavern. She is active in the local museum community, serving as a Peer Reviewer for the American Association of Museum, the Treasurer for the Historic House Museum Consortium of Washington, DC, and a panelist and conference planning committee member for the Virginia Association of Museums. Ms. Bulova is committed to the preservation of local history and inspiring the next generation to love museums and our nation’s rich heritage.
Irma A. Clifton—was born and raised in Lorton and presently resides in a 90 year old farmhouse purchased by her parents in 1945. She has long been an advocate for preservation and adaptive reuse issues. From 1967-1993, she held a variety of positions related to management and security at the D.C. Department of Corrections correctional institution in Lorton, Virginia. In addition to her regular assigned duties she assembled and maintained a museum containing documents and items associated with the Department of Corrections and acted as Corrections historian regularly lecturing on this topic for new employee orientation. She studied historic preservation at Mary Washington College. After retiring in 1993, she volunteered for numerous charity and civic activities. She is the President of Lorton Heritage Society, Inc. and a Life Member, Past President and Past Secretary of Historic Stafford, Inc. She is Chairman of the Historic Falmouth Renaissance Commission having been appointed by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors. She also owns a home in the Falmouth Historic District that was constructed in 1780. She has served on numerous committees and task forces over the years to help develop a plan for use of the D.C. Prison at Lorton after it was closed. She is historian and collections manager for the Lorton Arts Foundation, which is a non-profit working to develop an arts and cultural center at the prison Workhouse site.

Jim Cox—appointed in December 2006, was born at Ft. Belvoir, in Fairfax County, and has lived most his life in Lee District. He attended Fairfax County schools graduating from Edison High School. He also attended Northern Virginia Community College for two years and graduated from George Mason University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education. For the past 26 years he has worked for the Department of Defense, and his current job is located at Ft. Belvoir. During his government career he has researched the Vietnam, Korean and World War II records collections, and written technical manuals, conference presentations, and Congressional testimony. He has always been interested in local and Virginia history. Over the past decade he has researched his family history, and one of his favorite activities is to spend the day researching information and old records at the Virginia Room. Five years ago he joined the Board of Directors of the Franconia Museum and has filled many different roles in the development of the organization. He served on the Historical Marker and History Commission’s Nomination Committees this past year.

Paula Elsey—stepped down in 2007, is a resident of Centreville. She has a B.S., Social Sciences (Ethnic Studies) from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California. She does freelance editing and writing on Virginia history and archaeology topics. The Historical Society of Fairfax County, Inc., Bull Run Civil War Round Table, and Archeological Society of Virginia are among the local associations she is active in. Since being appointed to the History Commission in April 2004, she has assumed the position of chair for the Publications Committee, is a member of the Marker Committee, and is supervising the research for Sully District’s proposed expanded Centreville Historic Overlay District.

Donald C. Hakenson—was born in Washington D.C., but has lived practically his entire life in Franconia. He is a Vietnam era veteran and has been a Department of the Army employee for over 35 years. Since 1989 he has been the Director for the Joint Services Research Center. Outside of the Army, he has spent countless years tracking and researching obscure Civil War and Revolutionary War incidents and sites in Fairfax County, especially regarding the Confederate guerilla chieftain Colonel John S. Mosby and his rangers. He gives various talks and bus tours on Mosby and the Civil War history of Franconia, Fairfax County, Virginia and Maryland. He has published *This Forgotten Land: A Tour of Civil War Sites and Other Historical Landmarks South of Alexandria*, Virginia and co-authored two books about Colonel John S. Mosby and his men. His articles have been published in local newspapers and other historical publications on Mosby, the Civil War and Fairfax County history.

Carole Herrick—lives in McLean. As a nationally ranked tennis player, she attended Los Angeles State College, where she received her BA in history. She is active in numerous organizations throughout Fairfax County. As a former President of the McLean Historical Society, she has written numerous articles for publication about McLean and the Northern Virginia area. Currently, she Chairs McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia 1607-2007 and serves on the board of Fairfax 2007, two organizations celebrating the quadricentennial anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. She served for nine years on the Governing Board of the McLean Community Center and following that held the position of president of Friends of the McLean Community Center for four years. Ms. Herrick is the immediate past President of McLean Chapter AARP 839 and served three years on AARP's Virginia's State Legislative Committee. In 2001 she received “The Heartbeat of Rotary Award” from the McLean Rotary Club. Ms. Herrick authored *A Chronological History of McLean, Virginia* in 2001, *August 24, 1814 - Washington in Flames* (an account of the British burning of Washington, the sacking of Alexandria and the escapes of both Dolley and James Madison, plus other government officials, to Northern Virginia), and recently *Yesterday - 100 Recollections of McLean & Great Falls, Virginia*.

Jack Lewis Hiller—lives in West Springfield and has been a member of the Fairfax County History Commission since 1981. Mr. Hiller holds a bachelor’s degree in history from the College of William and Mary (‘53), a master’s degree in education from the University of Virginia (‘66) and a master’s degree in history from Carnegie-Mellon University (‘69). He taught history for 30 years at Groveton High School and West Potomac High School. He also taught history at Northern Virginia Community College. He was co-founder of the Fairfax County Public School’s Summer Archaeology Program that operated between 1973 and 1988. He retired from teaching in 1988. He Chaired the Commission in 1994-1995. He writes and speaks on topics about the Springfield area. He is also a volunteer docent at Gunston Hall, the home of George Mason. He occasionally freelances as a photographer. Hiller Chairs the History Commission’s Historical Marker Committee.

Lynne Garvey Hodge—served as Immediate Past Chairperson of the Fairfax County History Commission in 2007. She has been a resident of Fairfax County for 20 years and has been a resident of Clifton, Virginia for seven years, where she is extremely active in preserving the historicity of Clifton. She has served as an officer in the Clifton Betterment Association and is where she Chairs the Clifton Oral History Project, which is currently aggressively preserving the history and memories of citizens in the area. She was also the Founding Chairperson of the
Clifton History Commission. She is currently writing a book—a pictorial essay on the history of Clifton. Ms. Garvey Hodge also researched and coordinated a dedication ceremony for Fairfax County’s 24th Historic Marker, Ivakota Farm. The marker was dedicated with a special celebration on May 12, 2007. In attendance were Gerry Connolly, Chairperson, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Elaine McConnell, Springfield District Supervisor, Tim Hugo, Delegate, 40th District, Commonwealth of Virginia, Tom Peterson, Mayor of Clifton, members of the family of Dr. Kate Waller Barrett, representatives from the Kate Waller Barrett chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Alexandria, Virginia, representatives from the Clifton Community Women’s Club, many neighbors within the area, Balmoral Greens Historian, Andy Morse and representatives from the Fairfax County History Commission. The marker indicates the land where Dr. Barrett’s most famous National Florence Crittenton Mission (NFCM) Home once stood, named for the farm land once owned by Ella Shaw who had lived in Iowa, Virginia & North Dakota (hence, Ivakota). Ms. Garvey Hodge has also co-Chaired for six years in a row the Annual Historic Candlelight Tour of Clifton—held on the first Saturday of December. She also Chaired Clifton’s 100th Anniversary celebration in 2002. Ms. Garvey Hodge has given presentations using music, photo boards & games on the History of Clifton to local groups including the Herndon Historic Society, Union Mill Elementary School and the Northern Virginia Association of History. Ms. Garvey Hodge has a BFA from the University of Colorado, majoring in art history, an MPA (Masters in Public Administration) with a major in Human Resources also from the University of Colorado and a MTS (Masters in Theological Studies) from Wesley Theological Seminary—where she completed her theses on “Corporate Ethics in the Workplace” in 2003. She researched, gathered and organized the information used in the Commission’s “Speaker’s Bureau” document, which was presented to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in November, 2004. She currently sits on the Publications, Awards & Ethnic committees of the Commission. Lynne Chaired the Second and Third Annual Fairfax County History Conferences. The Second Annual Fairfax County History Conference was titled, “Preserving and Documenting Our History” in 2006. She spear-headed efforts to launch the First Annual Fairfax County History Conference in 2005, “People, Places and Preservation.” Chairing the Third Fairfax County Annual History conference in 2007, “The Fairfax 400—Four Hundred Years of Fairfax County History”, she continues as Chair for the fourth Annual History Conference which will be held November 15, 2008, “Our 20th Century”.

Michael R. Irwin—is a 14-year resident of Fairfax County. Born in Pennsylvania, he grew up with a deep interest in American History. In high school he was a volunteer with the Pennsylvania State Museum and Historical Commission working in the registrar’s office at the William Penn Memorial Museum in Harrisburg. He graduated from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa., with a B.A. in History (concentration in American History), a minor in Fine Arts History, and was installed as a member of the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society. Since moving to Virginia, he can often be found at the Smithsonian Institution or one of the other historic venues in the greater Washington area. His main interests are the World War II period, especially the war’s impact on social structures on the home front, and early American industrial history.
Mary Lipsey—was born in Atlanta and raised in Fairfax County. She received a B.A in History and Sociology from Mary Washington College (1972) and a Masters in Middle School Education from Virginia Tech (1989). She retired after 30 years of teaching seventh grade American History in the Fairfax County Public Schools. She has been a volunteer docent for the American History Museum of the Smithsonian since 1980 and for the National Archives since 2004. Her interest in local history has found outlets through co-authoring Braddock’s True Gold, contributing articles on Black history and women’s history to a local newspaper, and speaking to senior citizens groups about women in history, etc. As a History Commissioner, she participates in the Markers, Publication, and History Conference Committees. Mary is also active with her community and a local park.

Sallie Lyons—was born a North Carolinian and raised in University Park, Maryland, while her dad was a professor at U. of M. She received a degree in art history from Duke University, worked at the Library of Congress and did graduate work in anthropology at the University of Maryland. She did archaeological excavations in Winchester, the old capital of Saxon England, focusing on Tudor, medieval and Saxon urban sites. She came to northern Virginia in 1970 and lived on Brick Yard Point in Wellington Villa until moving to the old town of Colchester on Mason Neck in 1984. Living on two historic archaeological sites made her keenly aware of history and preservation in the Mount Vernon area. The town of Colchester replicates the amazing state of urban preservation that she encountered in England, and demonstrates enormous potential for recovery of economic, technical and social data in a colonial town. She has spent 20 years supporting preservation and research in Colchester, Mason Neck and Lorton. Partnered with her husband, Gerald Lyons, she is owner of Lyonshare Studios, LLC, a technical computer graphics company that provides illustrative support for transportation, planning and architecture. She is also a sponsor for Shakespeare Troupe at Thomas Jefferson HSST, and lately the family genealogist tracking down Jamestown ancestors and exploring through them the experience of first settlement.

Esther W. McCullough—grew up in Longview, Texas and received her Bachelor of Science in Clothing and Textiles from North Texas State University (presently The University of North Texas). After moving here in 1996, she could not find information on the history of African-Americans of the county. This led to the history research, design and the publishing of a brochure. The Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (she is a member) and the Fairfax County Economic Authority Association provided the funding. The brochure, "African-American Sites in Fairfax County Before 1900" was placed in 60 hotels and two visitor's centers in the county. It was distributed to schools and communities throughout the county. Esther presently serves as FCHC chairperson of the Ethnic Committee, a member of the Marker Committee, chaired by Commissioner Jack Hiller. She also serves on the Fairfax County History Day Committee which has sponsored an annual event for the county since November 2005. Scrapbooking memories and preserving history are two things that she treasures. Esther has led workshops for senior citizens in nursing homes using scrapbooking techniques. Esther works part time as an administrative/Executive Assistant and volunteers throughout Fairfax County.
Elise Ruff Murray—grew up in Vienna, Virginia and now resides in Reston. She has been a member of the Commission since 1983. She earned a BA in history from the University of Virginia and is interested in archeology, history and preservation. Her interests have led her to serve on many Fairfax County Exceptional Design Awards Juries since 1991 and as the Commission’s liaison with the Architectural Review Board since 1992. She worked as an economic consultant working on anti-trust and commercial litigation matters for over 20 years. She served as Chairman of the Commission in 1988-1989, has worked on the Commission’s finances and budget submissions since 1986 and served as Treasurer from 1990-2005. Ms. Murray and her husband, Kent, operate Sunspot Production which is a three-year-old concert series in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia focusing on traditional Irish, Scottish, Americana and Old-Time music.

Barbara M. Naef—has been a resident of Reston since 1968. She earned a B.A. in History, Phi Beta Kappa from Duke University and a M.A. in American History from the University of Delaware. She retired in 2002 after 23 years working to preserve and interpret our county history at the Fairfax County Park Authority. She continues to work as a volunteer for the Park Authority. As the Archaeologist Representative on the Commission, she meets periodically with county staff to keep abreast of the various archaeological projects and activities taking place throughout the county.

Debbie Robison—lives in Centreville and is a long-time resident of Fairfax County. She manages the historic preservation/restoration program for a local architectural and engineering firm. Ms. Robison holds a Bachelor of Science degree from VA Tech and a Historic Preservation Certificate from NOVA. She is a member of the Historic Centreville Society Board and serves on the Centreville Joint Committee reviewing proposed developments in the Centreville Historic District. Ms. Robison is currently serving on the Historic Centreville Park master planning team. Her interest in researching local history has resulted in her authoring numerous articles about general aspects of northern Virginia’s past and the history of specific sites. To promote preservation and facilitate local history education, Ms. Robison hosts a website, www.novahistory.org

Gary A. Simanson—is Managing Director of First Capital Group, L.L.C., an investment banking advisory firm specializing in bank mergers and acquisitions. He holds a B.A. Degree in Economics from George Washington University; an MBA in Finance from George Washington University; and a Juris doctorate from Vanderbilt University. Mr. Simanson, along with his family resides at Four Stairs Farm, a 270 year old historic farm and residence located in Great Falls, Virginia listed on the National Historic Register of Historic Places and with the Virginia Department of Historical Resources. He has restored six historic properties and had various experiences with land development, both old and new construction, the designation of historic properties and conservation easements and also serves as Managing Director of Private Preservation Group, LLC, a company contracting in acquiring and preserving historic properties. His main interest is in historic preservation.
Mayo S. Stuntz—was born in Vienna, Virginia and has been on the History Commission since 1969. He assisted in establishing the predecessor, the Landmarks Preservation Committee in 1965. He attended Cornell University and served in the U.S. Army for seven years retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. He has taught local history in the area high school adult education program and at George Mason University. He and his wife have published four local history books: This Was Vienna (1988); This Was Tysons Corner (1990); This Was Virginia (1998); and A View of Falls Church, Virginia (2005).

Naomi Zeavin—is a resident of Falls Church. She was born in New Britain, Connecticut and majored in speech and drama at Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts. Formerly serving as an appointee of the Advisory Committee to the United States Civil Rights Commission for Virginia. She has served as a former presidential advisor on the arts during the administration of President Ronald Reagan. She is a Board member of the Capitol Hill Civil War Roundtable and directed and has produced videos on the history of Fairfax County. She is president of U-R-Unique, a company of video productions. Ms. Zeavin was appointed by Governor John Dalton to the Board of Visitors for the Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, by Governor George Allen to the Board of People with Disabilities, by Tom Davis to the Fairfax County Advisory Board of Social Service and by President Reagan to the Advisory on the Arts to the John F. Kennedy Center of Performing arts. Her awards include President Richard Nixon Service to the Nation Award, Dean Academy and College Alumni Distinguished Service Award, Fairfax County History Conference Life Time Achievement Award, Humanity award from National United Cerebral Palsy, Heart Association Service Award (Northern Virginia) and Telly award for videos. Zeavin restored a Jewish cemetery in her father’s birthplace in Poland.