

# Fairfax County History Commission

## 2021 Annual Report



Preserving and Promoting our History

### **ABOUT US**

Following the Landmarks Preservation Committee of 1965, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors established the History Commission in 1969 with members appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The 21-member Commission helps to identify, document, record, and preserve the County's historic past. The purpose of the History Commission is to advise the County Government and to promote and encourage public interest in all matters bearing on the history of Fairfax County.

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
MAJOR INITIATIVES	2
AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY INVENTORY	2
Confederate Names Inventory	2
OUTREACH	3
EXPERTISE AND CONSULTATION	3
SECTION 106 CONSULTATION	
SUSTAINED EFFORTS	5
INVENTORY OF HISTORIC SITES	5
ETHNIC HISTORY	6
HISTORICAL ROADSIDE MARKERS	6
PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL CEMETERIES	7
THE 17TH ANNUAL FAIRFAX COUNTY HISTORY CONFERENCE	
Resident Curator Program	8
ADVOCACY	9
BUDGET	10
COMMISSION MEMBERS	11
BRADDOCK DISTRICT	11
DRANESVILLE DISTRICT	12
HUNTER MILL DISTRICT	13
LEE DISTRICT	14
MASON DISTRICT	15
MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT	15
PROVIDENCE DISTRICT	16
SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT	16
SULLY DISTRICT	18
	18
 Ат Large	19

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 environment, the History Commission made impressive gains in support of its mission. Additionally, we continue to experience unprecedented demand for our expertise in a range of efforts.

#### Achievements:

- In early 2021, we began the African American History Inventory (AAHI) initiative.
- We continued to disseminate and raise awareness of the Confederate Names Inventory Report.
- We served on the African American Historical Marker Project, the Fairfax County Semiquincentennial, the Confederate Names Task Force, and the Hollin Hills HOD and Holmes Run Acres HOD Work Groups.
- We participated in a community outreach session for Fort Belvoir, at the invitation from the Department of Defense.
- We provided commentary and support for the preservation of the Fairfax County Courthouse, the Lake Anne Village Center, and Wellington at River Farm.
- We are currently a consulting party on four federal Section 106 reviews.

Our sustained efforts included: two new additions to the Inventory of Historic Sites; five oral history interviews with former public leaders; the installation of a new historical roadside marker and replacement of another. In addition, the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual History Conference, *We Are Fairfax County - Part I,* featured early indigenous Native American and African American history of Fairfax County. Finally, the History Commission presented *Distinguished Service Awards* to Maura Keaney and Jeff Clark, from the Fairfax County School System (FCPS), to honor their contributions to promoting and preserving County history.

**Looking Ahead and Recommendations**: We expect the increased demand for our expertise to continue in 2022. In addition, we plan to publish the AAHI data as a web-based searchable database that we will continue to update and expand. Our oral history project will promote the use of the oral history methodology to document the stories of Fairfax County's diverse immigrant communities, a theme that will also be reflected in the annual History Conference as it continues to explore "We Are Fairfax - Part II."

To successfully continue our mission and meet increased demand for our expertise, the History Commission requests the Board of Supervisors' backing for our request for additional dedicated staff support.

**Our partners:** The Commission thanks the Department of Planning and Development, the Architectural Review Board (ARB), the Park Authority, the Virginia Room of the Fairfax County Public Library system, and Channel 16 for working with us toward shared goals of historic preservation and education. Toward these common ends, the Commission provides periodic financial support to the Department of Planning and Development's Heritage Resources Branch, the Virginia Room, and to the Park Authority's Archaeology and Collections activities.

The History Commission and its volunteer members are proud of their contributions to preserve and promote the history of Fairfax County. We thank the Board of Supervisors (BoS) for giving this opportunity and for their continued support.

Sincerely,

Cheryl-Ann Repetti Chairperson, History Commission

### **MAJOR INITIATIVES**

#### AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY INVENTORY

In October 2020, the Fairfax County History Commission (FCHC) approved a major new initiative to develop a research inventory, by Supervisory District, that provides information on the histories of African American communities in Fairfax County.



FCHC established the African American History Inventory (AAHI) Committee in January 2021 to address the mandate of the new initiative. The Commission appointed Phyllis Walker-Ford and Mary Lipsey as co-chairs to lead this effort. The African American History Inventory Committee has 15 members.

FCHC Commission members researched and collected information on an initial 150 historical assets<sup>1</sup> in 2021 and published the draft Fairfax County African American History Inventory Report, a General Resources Guide and suggested Research Topics on its website in early 2022. The Inventory was also shared with FCPS to assist with the development of materials for the BoS initiative, the History Marker Project, and the overall timeline for research and publication of the AAHI was adjusted to support the History Marker Project. County residents

are encouraged to contact their district's Commission members with additional information to expand the inventory.

#### CONFEDERATE NAMES INVENTORY

In June 2020, the BoS asked the History Commission to prepare an inventory of Confederate street names, monuments, and public places in Fairfax County. FCHC formed the Confederate Names Inventory Committee under the leadership of Barbara Naef. The seven-member committee completed its 500+-page report, The Confederate Names Inventory, in 2020 and presented it to the BoS in December 2020.

Members of the committee were requested in 2021 to make presentations and to provide information regarding the report. Using the report as a resource, some communities in the County are considering changing the names of roads and/or places, including the town of Vienna that created an ad hoc committee of citizens to reconsider the name of Wade Hampton Drive.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Including physical sites, collection of printed materials, digital resources, oral histories, church and school histories, historical roadside markers, and family/private records.

### **OUTREACH**

#### **EXPERTISE AND CONSULTATION**

**Semiquincentennial Work Group:** Gretchen Bulova and Mary Lipsey represented the Commission on the Fairfax County seven-member Semiquincentennial Work Group. The Work Group reported its recommendations to the Board in July 2021 which included adopting the term "commemoration" to describe the County activities surrounding the anniversary of the American Revolution, the Revolutionary War, and the Independence of the United States of America and transitioning to a more broadly inclusive 250th Commission that will function through 2027. Ms. Bulova, Carole Herrick, and Subhi Mehdi serve on the 250th Commission. Ms. Bulova also leads the FCHC Semiquincentennial Committee.

Hollin Hills and Holmes Run Acres Historic Overlay District Studies: Elise Ruff Murray attended meetings of the Hollin Hills Work Group. The Group began meeting in the spring of 2019 and aided County staff with defining the area's history, architecture, and boundaries for a proposed Hollin Hills Historic Overlay District. Sue Kovach Shuman participated in similar meetings for the potential Holmes Run Acres Historic Overlay District.

**Confederate Names Task Force:** In September 2021, Cheryl-Ann Repetti and Sue Kovach Shuman were appointed to the Confederate Names Task Force which was considering changing the names of Lee Highway and Lee Jackson Memorial Highway. In November, the FCHC, in the spirit of the Confederate Names Inventory and One Fairfax, voted unanimously that both Lee Highway and Lee Jackson Memorial Highway be renamed. The FCHC also unanimously recommended to the BoS that an appropriate consultant develop a public history project to document and share the history of these roadways.

African American Historical Marker Project: Mary Lipsey, Tammy Mannarino, and Cheryl-Ann Repetti represented the FCHC on two committees of the BoS- initiated Historical Marker Project. Ms. Lipsey shared detailed resource lists and the other FCHC members assisted in defining the project and determining logistics to communicate them to teachers, community leaders, and students across the County. They liaised between FCHC's AAHI program and the Historical Marker Project to ensure that the Inventory and other research materials are available to support the project.

**Fort Belvoir:** In September 2021, the FCHC was invited to participate as a stakeholder in a Fort Belvoir meeting with the Naming Commission tasked under the National Defense Authorization Act with renaming military assets that have names associated with the Confederate States of America. The FCHC decided to remain neutral on the issue of renaming but committed to participate in the process by raising awareness of the varied history of Fort Belvoir for use in the deliberations of the Naming Commission and the BoS. The Naming Commission Historian briefed the FCHC as a private citizen in November 2021, and Tammy Mannarino and Cheryl-Ann Repetti provided their research on the 1935 name change to the Naming Commission.

**Historic Courthouse:** In October 2021, in response to staff and community concerns for the integrity of the 1800 historic Fairfax County Courthouse building, the FCHC wrote to the BoS requesting that needed repairs be addressed in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

**Lake Anne:** ARB Chairman, Christopher Daniel, presented the status of the Lake Anne Village Center to the History Commission in December 2021. In response, the FCHC provided a letter to the BoS supporting the ARB's position that appropriate steps be taken to conduct a supplementary study of the Center to assist in maintaining and preserving the site in accordance with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's standards.

**Wellington at River Farm:** In January 2021, the FCHC voted unanimously to partner with the "Save River Farm" Campaign. The FCHC wrote to the American Horticultural Society (AHS) expressing its concern and requesting that AHS give priority to buyers who intend to maintain the historic nature of the property and are committed to providing access to the public. FCHC also supported the creation of the Wellington at River Farm Historic Overlay District. Tammy Mannarino supported County staff in preparing the history section of the staff report and provided significant photographs, blueprints, and research. Throughout the approval process, the FCHC and individual Commission members provided written, oral, and video testimony to the Planning Commission and the BoS in support of the District.

#### **SECTION 106 CONSULTATION**

Within the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Section 106 requires federal agencies to consider the effects of any changes they approve to historic properties. If a federal or federally-assisted project can potentially affect historic properties, a Section 106 review takes place. The History Commission periodically serves as a consulting party on these projects. In 2021, FCHC provided expertise on four such consultations:

**The Soapstone Connector** is a Federal Highway Administration funded project providing a connection between Sunset Hills Road and Sunrise Valley Drive in Reston. The Association Drive Historic District is a group of nine modern and postmodern office buildings, built between 1972 and 1991, that represent the initial concept, planning, and implementation of the Reston Plan–a significant mid-twentieth century, planned community in the suburbs of Washington, D.C. The District has been determined to be eligible for the National Register by the Secretary of the Interior. In 2021, FCHC participated in the consultation process designed to identify and agree upon measures that would mitigate the adverse effect of the Soapstone Connector on the Association Drive Historic District. Separately, Preservation Virginia, the largest historic preservation membership organization in Virginia, included the district in its 2021 Ten *Most Endangered Historic Properties*.

**The Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit Project** is an approved transit system that will include nine stations connecting employment centers, shopping centers, and residential communities along the Richmond Highway Corridor. Construction of two segments will entail significant widening of the roadway to provide lanes for bus traffic and pedestrian throughways. The Highway has a long history and, therefore, historic buildings and communities are found along this route that contain many assets, including the Penn Daw Fire station, Walsh Hall, a Catholic Chapel that was formerly a one-room schoolhouse, the antebellum African American Community of Gum Springs, the Original Mount Vernon High School, and a replica of Mount Vernon that was once a tourist home and now serves as a bank. The History Commission has been serving as a consulting party on this project since 2019, advocating for National Register recognition for these properties and voicing concern regarding negative effects on the historic buildings and impacts for the citizens of these historic areas .

**The Sky Chefs Building** at Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD) was determined by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources to be a contributing resource to the Dulles Airport Historic District, listed on

the National Register of Historic Places. The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, as owner and operator of IAD, is proposing demolition of the building due to structural and safety deficiencies. No new construction is currently proposed as part of the Proposed Action. In July 2021, the History Commission requested and received Consulting Party Status from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). In November, the Commission detailed its concerns and requested additional information on the undertaking, including the basis on which the FAA determined the building had to be demolished.

**The Capitol One Lounge** is also part of the Dulles Airport Historic District. It was originally the Dulles restaurant with a mid-twentieth century aesthetic, designed by Eero Saarien, and was included in his 1964 Master Plan. It is currently being updated to meet the needs of modern-day travelers while still maintaining connections to mid-century design. FCHC accepted the invitation to serve as a Consulting Party on the project in December 2021. While the Commission applauds some of the efforts made in the update, it has concerns that some of the modifications may adversely affect the historic integrity of the architect's vision for it.

### **SUSTAINED EFFORTS**

#### **INVENTORY OF HISTORIC SITES**

The Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites is one of the History Commission's longest standing responsibilities. It serves as a valuable planning reference guide when used in conjunction with Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan (CP). The County's CP includes these historic sites in the Heritage Resources section of each Planning District.

As of December 2021, the Inventory stood at approximately 350 listings, including the 2021 additions below:

Goldsmith, William H. House 2758 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna Parcel Number: 0481 01 0023 2021 Supervisory District: Providence

Pride of Fairfax County Lodge #298 7809 Fordson Road, Alexandria Parcel Number: 1021 01 0098 Supervisory District: Mount Vernon



Goldsmith House, Trulia.com

The current Inventory, along with its background, nomination forms, and

research guidelines is accessible to staff and the general public on the <u>History Commission website</u>. The Inventory of Historical Sites Committee is chaired by Elise Murray and has seven members.

#### **ETHNIC HISTORY**

FCHC formed the Ethnic Committee in 1997 in response to the increasing demographic diversity of Fairfax County's population. This diversity is evidenced by the fact that there are about 100 languages spoken in the county schools and it is estimated that in less than 50 years, the county's White population will drop below 50 percent. The goal of this Committee is to encourage ethnic populations to record their community and personal histories. In 2004, at the suggestion of then-Chairman Connolly, FCHC formed a subcommittee of the Ethnic Committee to create a program for recording and presenting oral history in Fairfax County.

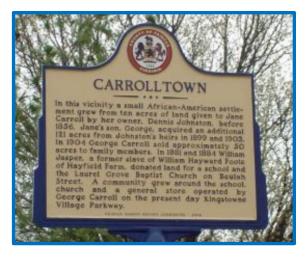
In partnership with the County's Channel 16, the Oral History Project interviewed eight former County leaders for a television program, of which five were completed in 2021. The Committee has also been developing materials to encourage ethnic populations to record their community and personal histories since arriving in Northern Virginia, in cooperation with the Virginia Room, which will serve as a repository for the oral history records. The Ethnic History Committee is chaired by Esther McCullough and has 10 members.

#### HISTORICAL ROADSIDE MARKERS

Fairfax County's Historical Roadside Marker Program began in January 1998 when the History Commission

approved the design and funding of a distinctive roadside marker. While this marker is modeled after Virginia's roadside markers, by state code it has its own distinctive appearance. With colors derived from George Washington's Fairfax Militia uniform, the buff and blue roadside marker, emblazoned with the Fairfax County seal, stands ten feet from ground level. Since the inception of the program, FCHC approved the installation of over 60 historical roadside markers (including six state markers). The Historical Marker Committee, chaired by Mary Lipsey, reviews all marker requests for historical accuracy and significance, before submitting to the entire FCHC for approval. The public may request that the History Commission fund approximately fifty percent of the roadside marker and installation.

In 2021, FCHC approved and supervised the installation of a



**Carrolltown Marker** 

marker for the James Lee Elementary School, and a replacement marker with updated text, for Carrolltown, a small 19<sup>th</sup> century African American settlement in the modern-day Alexandria section of Fairfax County. (Mary Lipsey, Tammy Mannarino, and Cheryl-Ann Repetti also represented the FCHC on two committees of the BoS-initiated Historical Marker Project as discussed in the preceding Outreach section of this report.)

#### **PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL CEMETERIES**

The Cemetery Committee is chaired by Mary Lipsey and has five members. Since the spring of 2020, the History Commission's Cemetery Committee, the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association (a private non-profit), and the County have been pursuing a formal partnership. In 2021, in response to a recommendation from the County Attorney's Office, the parties began drafting a Memorandum of Agreement which will be reviewed in 2022.

#### THE 17TH ANNUAL FAIRFAX COUNTY HISTORY CONFERENCE

Reflecting the spirit of Fairfax County's *One Fairfax* policy, the FCHC is chronologically examining the diverse peoples who lived here, in four consecutive annual history conferences. The 17th (2021) Annual History Commission Conference, *WE Are Fairfax County! – Part I* looked at the lesser-told stories of early indigenous Native Americans of the County -- the Pamunkey and the Tauxenent, and the African Americans, brought here as enslaved persons from across the Atlantic Ocean.

The conference was dedicated to the memory of John Rutherford, long-time Fairfax County Staff Archaeologist. Guest speakers included Jeff McKay, the Chairperson of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and Gerry Connolly, U.S. Congressman 11th District of Virginia. Representative Connolly provided an overview of the County's early days and presented Distinguished Service Awards to two County staff. The presentation of these awards is included in the Congressional Record of the United States.

At the launch of the conference, local citizen and Native American, Rose Powhatan (Pamunkey/Tauxenent, Native American Historian, and Lecturer) offered a *Land Acknowledgement* – honoring the people of the past, their



Conference hosts McCullough and Garvey-Hodge

gifts and talents, and gratitude for the Holy Creator. Other presenters included D. Brad Hatch, PhD, who spoke on *Eel Pots and Carp Pens: Contemporary Links to Patawomeck Indian Fishing Traditions* – a presentation that focused on the skills of his Pamunkey ancestors. Alisa Pettitt, PhD, Fairfax County Staff Archaeologist, spoke on *Exploring Early Virginia via Virtual Immersion*.

Fairfax County's African American historical stories were told by Judge Rohulamin Quander, now a Retired Senior Administrative Judge for the District of Columbia. Judge Quander, who traces his family history to the 1670s, spoke on *Seed and Blood: Slavery and the Violence of Cotton Capitalism*. Ron Chase, President of the Gum Springs Museum, presented on *Meet the Gum Springs Neighborhood of Alexandria, Virginia.* Gum Springs is a 178-year-old community formed by many of the emancipated slaves that had served Mount Vernon. Presenter Marion Ransell Cohen was born into the once beautiful and thriving African American community of *The Pines.* She is a well-known ethnographer, oral historian, public speaker, educator, and living history interpreter. She spoke on *Fairfax Virginia: A Seventh Generation, African American Story.* The finale of the day

was Linneall Naylor, local historian and descendant of numerous African American blood lines hailing from Clifton, Manassas, and other parts of Virginia. Ms. Naylor gave an inspiring lecture entitled, *Meet My People!* Fairfax County's Channel 16 produced the conference, expertly resolving the challenges of live-streaming, remote presenters, pre-taping, or presenting at the studios. All the conference session video are available at the <u>Fairfax County History Commission website</u>. Conference hosts Lynne Garvey-Hodge and Esther McCullough served as the morning and afternoon *masters of ceremonies*. The Annual History Conference Planning Committee is a 14-member body, chaired by Lynne Garvey-Hodge.

#### AWARDS

The Fairfax County History Commission executes awards programs to honor research and achievements in Fairfax County history and historic preservation. These programs are open to the public. At the 2021 Annual History Conference, *Distinguished Service Awards* were given to:

<u>Maura Keaney</u>, who proactively involved her students in the Juneteenth 2021 unveiling of the *Ona Judge Historical Marker* adjacent to the grounds of the Mount Vernon Estate. This marker is evidence of Ms. Keaney's passion for educating and including students in the study of the history of Fairfax County, our community, state, and nation. She encouraged her students "to hunt for the history all around us" and taught them to think critically and quantitatively, examining the people and events being commemorated and who and what might be left out of the public eye. Ms. Keaney was recognized for being a life-long promoter of the history and preservation of Fairfax County's vast and rich history in the United States of America.

<u>Jeff Clark</u>, for his prodigious portfolio of work completed in the past 21 years as the Video Producer/Director of Communication and Community Relations for the Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) system. Considered the "official historian" of the FCPS, Mr. Clark's body of work includes: over 200 videos describing the names and histories of the FCPS and Centers; a series describing the de-segregation of the FCPS in articles, papers and YouTube videos; presentations on the FCPS's first African American high school, the Luther Jackson High School; a website documenting the history of the FCPS and the district schools of the FCPS: Centreville, Dranesville, Falls Church, Lee, Mt. Vernon, Providence, the Schools of Burke, the Crouch School, the Laurel Grove School and the Navy School; and the presentations on Forgotten Fairfax: Lost Towns and Communities, The Forgotten "33" Fairfax County Schoolhouse Survivors, and Confederate Names of FCPS.

#### **RESIDENT CURATOR PROGRAM**

The Resident Curator Program (RCP) preserves publicly owned historic buildings within the County. It rehabilitates and maintains underutilized historic properties and provides periodic public access to appreciate the historical significance of the properties.

The RCP continues to oversee four curator-leased properties, with three of the properties currently under rehabilitation. The occupied properties include Stempson House in Lorton (2017), Turner Farmhouse in Great Falls (2018) and Hannah P. Clark Enyedi House (2019), while the fourth leased property is Ellmore Farmhouse (2021). The curator for Ellmore Farmhouse received Special Exception approval by the Board of Supervisors for its nonprofit use of the farmhouse and a final lease signing will occur Spring 2022 before work begins.

One application for the White Gardens property in Falls Church is under review by the RCP evaluation team, which includes a representative from the History Commission's RCP Committee. The RCP Committee is a fourperson body chaired by Robert Beach.

#### **ADVOCACY**

FCHC's Advocacy program enables the Commission to share its objectives and accomplishments with the Board of Supervisors and the community, and to encourage the development of effective historic preservation tools and programs within the County. The Advocacy Committee is chaired by Anne Stuntz and has seven members. In 2021, FCHC defined its advocacy mission as:

- Promoting and encouraging interest in history to the public (events, press releases).
- Advising and informing the BoS on matters of history (responding to queries, attending events, periodic check-ins, annual report).
- Advocating for the preservation of our County's past (researching possible incentives for historic property owners).

In 2021, FCHC also conducted an in-depth review and update of its website. A close examination of usage data revealed that the public spent the most time on the Historical Road Markers page in the last quarter of the year.



The Sankofa bird teaches us that we must look back to our roots to move forward.

The Akan People of Western Africa

### BUDGET

#### History Commission Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Report

	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Estimate	First Half FY 2022
Balance (July 1)	\$59,218.79	\$46,386.16	\$46,867.43*
Income:			
Fairfax County	\$21,013.00	\$21,013.00	\$21,013.00
Interest, Fees, etc.	\$1,657.19	\$1,500.00	\$515.75
Marker Contribution	\$1,350.00		\$2,700.00
Budget Adjustment	\$190.00		\$2,695.85
Total Income	\$24,210.19	\$22,513.00	\$26,924.60
Total Available	\$83,428.98	\$68,899.16	\$73,792.03
Operating Expenses	\$37,042.82	\$24,732.00	\$16,014.20
Ending Balance (June 30)	\$46,386.16		

\*Balance reported June 25, 2021

- The funds of the Fairfax County History Commission are maintained through FOCUS and administered by staff of the Department of Planning and Development and the Fairfax County Park Authority.
- The History Commission saw changes in our normal financial activity in FY2021 due to the transition of the History Conference from in-person to virtual for the second year in a row and significant support of equipment for the Archaeology and Collections Branch of FCPA (via the Park Foundation). Markers and minutes recording and transcription continue as a major routine annual expense.
- Unspent funds from previous years are committed to historical roadside marker maintenance, archaeology grants, publications, and preservation and oral history programs.

### **COMMISSION MEMBERS**

The History Commission, and its volunteer members, are proud of their contributions to preserving and promoting the history of Fairfax County. The members offer rich knowledge and expertise in local history and a very diverse background.

#### **BRADDOCK DISTRICT**

**Mary Lipsey**: Ms. Lipsey was raised in Fairfax County. She received a BA in History and Sociology from Mary Washington College and a Masters in Middle School Education from Virginia Tech. She retired after 30 years of teaching seventh grade American History for FCPS. She has been a volunteer docent for the American History Museum of the Smithsonian and for the National Archives. Her interest in local and women's history led her to author four books and lead programs for senior and community organizations concerning these areas of history. She is one of the directors of the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, Inc., whose goal is to preserve and protect family cemeteries in Fairfax County. She has supported over 50 preservation

projects in county cemeteries and has made many presentations about historic cemeteries and how to preserve them. As a member of the Commission, she serves on the Roadside Marker, AAHI, and Cemetery Committees.



**Gretchen M. Bulova**: Ms. Bulova brings a wealth of museum experience to the Commission. She is the Director for the Office of Historic Alexandria in Alexandria, Virginia, and has been active in the regional museum community for more than 30 years. She is the Past President of the Virginia Association of Museums, President of the Historic House Museums Consortium of Washington, D.C., and a Governor appointee to the American Revolution 250 Commission. Ms. Bulova is committed to the preservation of local history and inspiring the next generation to love museums and our nation's rich heritage. She chaired the FCHC from 2012-2014, as well as the Fairfax County 275th Commemoration Committee.

#### **DRANESVILLE DISTRICT**



**Carole Herrick:** As a nationally ranked tennis player, Ms. Herrick attended Los Angeles State College, where she received her BA in History. In 2012, she was inducted into the National Women's Intercollegiate Tennis Hall of Fame. She served 12 years on the Governing Board of the McLean Community Center, chaired the Fairfax County History Commission 2015-2017, and is currently president of the McLean Historical Society. Ms. Herrick received numerous accolades including *The Heartbeat of Rotary* and the *Friend in Deed* awards. In 2016, she was the honorary chair for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Women's Club of McLean. The following year, she received the *Mary Kingman – Pillar of McLean* award presented by McLean Chamber of Commerce. In 2018 was the

recipient of the *Jean Tibbetts History Award* and was *Lady Fairfax* representing the Dranesville District. Ms. Herrick is a highly regarded speaker and has written numerous articles for publication about the Northern Virginia area, along with authoring nine books.



**Subhi A. Mehdi**: Ms. Mehdi retired from the U.S. Senior Executive Service in 2015 with a 30-year public service career with the U.S. Departments of Veterans Affairs, Health and Human Services, and the Agency for International Development. She is a 40-year resident of Fairfax County, and actively volunteers in numerous national and local organizations. Ms. Mehdi is passionate about ancient history, especially the origins of the Abrahamic faiths and UNESCO World Heritage sites. At the History Commission, she volunteers in the Committees on Advocacy, Ethnic History, and African American History Inventory. She also represents Dranesville District at the American Revolution 250 Year Commission. Ms. Mehdi has a BA from Sweet Briar

College, an MA from American University, and an MPH from George Washington University. She attended executive leadership programs at the Federal Executive Institute, the Brookings Institute, Harvard University, the Center for Creative Leadership, and the Foreign Service Institute.

**Elise Ruff Murray**: Ms. Murray was born in Key West, Florida, grew up in Vienna, Virginia and resides in Vienna again. She earned a BA in History from the University of Virginia and is interested in archaeology, history, and preservation. After working for a year and a half on an archaeology project in Northeastern Mississippi, she worked as an economic consultant advising on anti-trust and commercial litigation matters for over 20 years. A member of the Fairfax County History Commission since 1983, Ms. Murray has served as the Commission's ex-officio member of the Architectural Review Board

since 1992. On the Commission, she served as chairman, treasurer, and vice chairman. She is the chair of the Inventory of Historic Sites Committee and serves on the Awards, Bylaws, Markers and Publications Committees. Ms. Murray serves on the boards of the Historical Society of Fairfax County and the Friends of the Virginia Room. In addition, she coordinates the Fairfax History area at Celebrate Fairfax.



**Barbara M. Naef:** A resident of Reston since 1968, Ms. Naef earned a BA in History from Duke University and a MA 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 became supervisor of the county archaeology program when it was transferred to the Park Authority in 1996. She continues to advocate for Park Authority historic site programs, support local history groups, including the Reston Museum & Historic Trust. The Archaeologist Representative on the Commission, she maintains close contact with Dr. Elizabeth Crowell, who heads the County Archaeology functions through the Park Authority. In 2021 she was honored by the Park Authority Board with the *Mayo Stuntz Cultural* 

*Stewardship Award* "in recognition of her dedication to the long-term preservation and stewardship of cultural and historic resources throughout Fairfax County". In 2021 she continued to serve on the Inventory of Historic Sites Committee, Budget Committee, the History Conference Committee, and the Resident Curator Program Committee. She also served on the African American History Inventory Committee that was established by the Commission in 2021.



Anne Stuntz: Ms. Stuntz grew up in Vienna, Virginia and comes from a family of historians and genealogists. She has a degree in art history from Princeton University and an MBA from Columbia University. After a career in finance on Wall Street and in the City of London, Anne returned to her historic family home in Vienna with her husband and three sons, and is devoted to preserving the history of the area. She is president of Historic Vienna, Inc., Secretary Treasurer of the Flint Hill Cemetery Association, and Secretary of the Friends of the Virginia Room at the Fairfax library. She is on the Sully Foundation and the board of the Historical Society of Fairfax County. She is a member of the Fitzhugh Families of Virginia and the NSDAR. She served as Vice Chairman of the History Commission from 2015-2017 and as Chairman in 2018-2020.

#### LEE DISTRICT



**Steven Sherman**: Sherman was born in Washington, D.C. and raised in Arlington, Virginia. He has lived in Northern Virginia for over 60 years and attended Morris Harvey College in Charleston, West Virginia and Northern Virginia Community College in Annandale, Virginia, where he majored in Accounting and History. He is President/Broker of Sherman Properties, Inc., located in Franconia and has been in the real estate business for the past 40 years. Since 1984, he has owned the historic "Five Oaks Estates" manor house built in 1910 located off Blake Lane in Fairfax County. Steve is the president of HMS Productions, which made a 90-minute documentary "Mosby's Combat Operations in Fairfax County." He is the former secretary of the Board of

Directors of Celebrate Fairfax, served on the Board of Directors of the Franconia Museum for 13 years and is a past president. Mr. Sherman served as the Commission's secretary in 2011, served as Vice Chairman from 2012 through 2014, and as the Commission's Secretary 2015-2017 and again 2020-2022.



**Phyllis Walker-Ford**: Ms. Walker-Ford was appointed to the commission February 2009, earned a BA in Business Administration from Bluefield State University, Bluefield, West Virginia, and an MBA from Trinity University, Washington, DC. She is President of Laurel Grove School Association, the governing body of Laurel Grove School Museum located in Franconia, Virginia. She serves as Vice President of Virginia Africana Associates, a network of museum, history, and preservation professionals. Ms. Walker-Ford is a current member of the History Commission Marker Committee and Conference Planning Committee. She, along with Mary Lipsey, co-chairs the African American History Inventory Committee.

#### **MASON DISTRICT**



**Barbara Peters:** Ms. Peters who joined the Commission in 2017, has been a Fairfax County resident for 40 years. She received her BA from Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan, and an MA in Library Science from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI. Before settling in Fairfax, she resided in Paraguay, Venezuela, and Thailand. She has been active in local civic activities for 30 years including service as an Election Officer. She retired in 2016 as the branch manager of the Thomas Jefferson Library in Fairfax County.

#### **MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT**

**Anne M. Barnes**: Ms. Barnes is a longtime Fairfax County resident who lives on Mason Neck, Virginia. She received a BS in Criminal Law from Savannah State College, and an MA in Government from Johns Hopkins University. She worked on an archeological project in South Carolina in the mid-1980s. She is a former Marine Corps Officer, U.S. Congressional staffer, American History teacher, and is currently the Resource Director for a federal and strategic training center. She served as Vice Chairman of the History Commission in 2006-2008 and as Treasurer in 2010-2012. She is currently the chairman of the Bylaws and Budget Committees.



**Sallie Lyons**: Born North Carolinian, she was raised in University Park, Maryland. She received a BA in Art History from Duke University. Ms. Lyons worked at the Library of Congress and held a teaching assistantship in anthropology at the University of Maryland. She was deeply influenced by urban archaeological excavation in Winchester, capital of Saxon England. She came to Mount Vernon District in 1970, living on Brick Yard Point in Wellington Villa, and moved to Colchester on Mason Neck in 1984. Living on two archaeological sites, Ms. Lyons became keenly aware of history and preservation in the Mount Vernon area. She has spent over 25 years supporting preservation and research in Colchester, Mason Neck, and Lorton. With her late

husband, Gerald Lyons, she founded Lyonshare Studios, LLC, a technical computer graphics, writing and editing company. She founded the Friends of Fairfax County Archaeology and Cultural Resources, and, with former FCHC member Glenn Fatzinger, founded the Mount Vernon Regional Historical Society, of which she is the vice president. Ms. Lyons is also an active member of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Archaeological Society of Virginia, the Lorton Heritage Society, and the Seeds of Independence Committee of Gunston Hall.



**Tammy Mannarino:** Ms. Mannarino enjoyed the nomadic childhood of a "Navy-brat" living in 8 different homes around the country before her family settled in Fairfax County more than 40 years ago. She graduated from James Madison University with a degree in English and Political Science and a minor in Russian Area Studies. She worked for the National Security Agency from 1987-2000, primarily in the field of Information Systems Security. Ms. Mannarino holds Master's Degrees in Telecommunications and Systems Engineering. She lives in the Mount Vernon area where she and her husband have raised 4 boys. Ms. Mannarino researches, writes,

and presents local history and manages her own website, <u>BackyardMountVernon.com</u>. In 2017, she worked with others to form the Mount Vernon Regional Historical Society where she holds the position of Secretary. She was appointed to the Fairfax County History Commission in January 2020 and serves on the Advocacy, Ethnic History, Inventory of Historic Sites and African American History Inventory committees.

#### **PROVIDENCE DISTRICT**



**Sue Kovach Shuman:** Ms. Shuman was appointed to the history commission in 2020. A journalist with newspapers in Pennsylvania, Minnesota, and the Washington metro area, she worked 20 years in news at The Washington Post, as well as for the American Embassy in Paris. She holds a B.A. in Journalism from Penn State, M.A. in Journalism with Urban Studies minor from the University of Maryland, a Public History and Historic Preservation certificate from Northern Virginia Community College, and a Virginia Association of Museums management certification. She is a research historian and author of the book *Mantua*. She completed 19 USDA Forest Service volunteer projects in historic preservation, archaeology, and paleontology. For

activities including conducting interviews for the Providence Perspectives oral history project, she was honored as a county Lady Fairfax.

#### SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT



**Lynne Garvey-Hodge**: Ms. Garvey-Hodge is a 37-year resident of Fairfax County, and a 20+ year resident of Clifton, Virginia. She is extremely active in preserving the historicity of Clifton and Fairfax County. Ms. Garvey-Hodge has a Bachelor of Fine Arts and a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Colorado, and a Master's in Theological Studies from Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC.

Ms. Garvey-Hodge's historic re-enactment activities include: a) progressive era suffragist, Mrs. Robert Walker, *Meet Suffragist Robert Walker*; b) Angelina Grimké, an early 19th century Abolitionist and Quaker women's rights activist from South

Carolina, *One Woman Against a Nation*; c) a historic character from America's Gilded Age and early days of our railroad industry, Antoinette "Nettie" Devereux, wife of Henry Devereux, a railroad magnate and the Civil War Railroad "General" for whom the town of Clifton was once named, in a performance called, *Railroads: Rough & Regal Times–Meet Mrs. John Henry Devereux; d*) a character named *Starshine,* Ms. Garvey-Hodge's most recently created, researched and performed character, that debuted at the Jewish Community Center in August, 2019. Starshine is a Woodstock hippie who tells the story of the year 1969. Ms. Garvey Hodge also presents on cemetery iconography and Victorian mourning customs. (See: www. suffragistmrsrobertwalker.org)

Ms. Garvey-Hodge published a book for Arcadia Publishers' Images of America Series, *Clifton*, 2009, and is in her seventh term on the History Commission. She served as Chair in 2004 and 2005. Ms. Garvey-Hodge spearheaded efforts to launch the First Annual Fairfax County History Conference in 2005 and has chaired the History Conference Committee since 2006. She led the Commission's second virtual conference which was filmed, recorded, and broadcast by Channel 16. She is also chair of the Awards Committee and sits on the Ethnic History and Advocacy Committees.

Ms. Garvey-Hodge is the co-founder and an officer of the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, Inc. and sits on the National Board of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. She is a member of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table, Historic Centreville Society, Clifton Community Woman's Club, the Burke Historical Society, and the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. Ms. Garvey-Hodge is President of her own Leadership Consulting practice, LGH, Inc. where for the past 33 years, she has provided leadership consulting and executive coaching to profit and non-profit organizations, government agencies, and the military service.



Jordan Tannenbaum: Mr. Tannenbaum grew up in Morristown, NJ but has lived in Fairfax County for the past 25 years. He earned a BA in History from Brandeis University in Waltham, MA, a JD from the Washington College of Law, and is a member of the DC Bar. Following a decade working for the U.S. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), he transitioned to the Development (fundraising) field working, for his undergraduate alma mater. He held senior positions at Georgetown University, the Wharton School, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Hillel Foundation, and is currently the Chief Development Officer for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial

Museum. Tannenbaum spent 27 years in the JAG Corps, U.S Army Reserve retiring as a lieutenant colonel. He has been a member of the ACHP since 2016, and in 2021 was appointed to the position of Vice Chairman. He currently serves on the following boards: The Army Historical Foundation, the Rosenwald NHP Initiative, and the ACHP Foundation. Mr. Tannenbaum is on the History Conference and the Awards Committees.

#### **SULLY DISTRICT**



**Esther W. McCullough:** Ms. McCullough grew up in Longview, Texas and received her Bachelor of Science in Clothing and Textiles from North Texas State University (now The University of North Texas). After moving to Fairfax County in 1996, she could not find information on the history of African Americans in the area, so she created a brochure, *African American Sites in Fairfax County before 1900*. She is the chair of the Ethnic Committee and sits on the Marker Committee and the History Conference Committee. She served as the Secretary of the Commission from 2004–2007. Esther has been a host at two history conferences and spoke at one. She has led sessions on oral history at

more than one History Conference. Scrapbooking memories, designing greeting cards, and preserving history are things that she values. She has led workshops for senior citizens in nursing homes using scrapbooking techniques and card classes. Esther volunteers throughout Fairfax County. She works tirelessly with history and the senior ministry at her church, the First Baptist Church of Vienna, planning and presenting programs for seniors.



**Cheryl-Ann Repetti**: Ms. Repetti joined the Commission in 2019 and has lived in Fairfax County since 1982 and in Centreville since 1990. She holds a PhD in Sociology from George Washington University and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from The Cooper Union in New York City. Ms. Repetti is the Historical Interpreter and Site Coordinator for Historic Huntley in Huntley Meadows Park and is a member of the board of directors of the Historic Centreville Society and the Friends of Historic Centreville. The latter group organizes Centreville Day each year, a community festival celebrating the area's rich and diverse heritage. The event is held in Historic Centreville Park in the

Centreville Historic Overlay District. She started her term as Chairperson of the History Commission in Jan 2021.

#### **CITY OF FAIRFAX**



**David L. Meyer**: Mr. Meyer is serving his third term as Mayor of the City of Fairfax. He served five terms on the City Council (2008-17) before being elected Mayor in 2017. A city resident since 1981, Mr. Meyer has maintained a lifelong interest in local history and historic preservation, and is a co-author of the book *Fairfax, Virginia: A City Traveling Through Time*. He also authored *Pilgrimages of Faith, Histories of Churches in Vienna, Virginia.* Mr. Meyer retired in 2016 from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, where he was a career member of the Senior Executive Service and was awarded the commission's Meritorious Service Award. He earned a B.A. in political science from Randolph-Macon College and an M.P.A. from American

University. Meyer also attended the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Va., and the Executive Education Program at the Kennedy School of Government in Boston.

#### **AT LARGE**



**Robert E. Beach:** Mr. Beach received a Bachelor of Architecture from Pratt Institute and practiced architecture in several notable New York City and Washington, DC area architecture firms before starting an architectural practice which provides design services for historic restorations at the Local, State and National levels. Mr. Beach serves as the Architect for the Commission, from 2000 to present. He was Vice Chair in 2004 and 2005, and Chair from 2006 to 2008. He is Chair of the Resident Curator Program Committee, serves on the Curator Evaluation Team and served multiple times as a Juror for the Fairfax County Exceptional Design Awards. As a member of the AIA and served as a director at the local and state levels. He is also a LEED, AP,

BD+C and a member of the USGBC. Mr. Beach received the Distinguished Achievement "Citizen Architect" Award from AIA Virginia and a Pratt Institute Alumni Achievement Award. He is the Architect for the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial.



**Riverbend Indian Festival, Fairfax County Park**