

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun County

Volume One: Basic Story

BY

LARRY ROEDER, MS

Comments and corrections are welcome. Email Larry Roeder at admin@artbyroeder.com

Note: very likely more information will emerge over time, even after the volume is printed. Our intent is to add the additional information to the on-line version.

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On-line versions of each volume are available in PDF format at the Conklin Village Project, <http://conklinproject.wordpress.com/>. Printed copies will be sold on amazon.com.

Table of Contents

I 1.1 Thanks	4
I 1.2 Introduction to the Series.....	5
I 1.3 Language Related to Race	7
I 2.1 A short history of Conklin	8
I 2.2 Village Boundaries.	14
I.2.3 North Conklin.....	15
1.2.3.1 Prosperity Baptist Church (NW Conklin).....	17
1.2.3.2 Settle-Dean Cabin NW Conklin.....	19
1.2.4 West Conklin	27
1.2.4.1 Conklin Colored School SW Conklin.....	31
1.2.4.2 Cedar Hunt Property	37
I 2.5 East Conklin	42
I 2.6 South Conklin.....	56
I 2.6.1 Conklin Post office and First Store: (South Conklin)	59
I 3. The Dean Initiative	64
I 4 Conklin Grave Sites.....	65
I 4.1 The Hampton Brewer Cemetery (SW Conklin)	65
I 5. Conklin in the 1970's and 80's.....	68
I 6. A story of Freedom.....	69
I 7 Biographies.....	75
I 7.1 Hampton R. Brewer.....	75
I 7.2 Biographies of the Allen Family and other Free African-Americans	84
I 7.2.1 Betsy Allen, her Siblings and Parents	85
I 7.2.2 Charlotte, Amanda and Alexander Allen	88
I 7.2.3 William Allen and Rachel	92
I 7.2.4 James Gaskins.....	95
I 8 Linking African-American families	96
I 9. Prince William County Connection (1802 – Around 1848).....	97
I 10. Fairfax County Connection and 1850 Slave Schedule	98
I 11 Loudoun County Connection.....	99
I 11.1 Loudoun Property	99

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

I 11.2 Loudoun Census Records	105
Annex 1. Personal Property for Brewer and African-Americans	113
Annex 2: Tax Receipts for Hampton R. Brewer in Broad Run	116
Annex 3: 1854 & 1857 Freedom Files for African Americans.	125
Annex 5: The Soldiers	134
Annex 5.1 Civil War	134
Annex 5.2 World War One (The Great War)	135
Annex 5.3 World War Two	138
Annex 6: Fairfax County Law Suit of 1841.....	139
Indenture of February 4, 1841	140
Allegations by Hampton R. Brewer 19 July, 1841	141
Uncertain Date 1841 Others Join Brewer in Law Suit	141
Summons in Support of Hampton Brewer, 22 July 1841	142
Summons to Answer Hampton R. Brewer’s Charges 8 Sept 1841.....	142
Order by Superior Court of 24 March 1842 Selling Land	142
Report of Sale October 27, 1842.....	143
Decree Oct, 1842 in Matter of Hampton R. Brewer vs Triplett	143
Hard to Read Mystery Law Suit	143
Hard to Read Articles of Agreement between Brewer and Triplett.....	144
Annex 7: List of Illustrations	146
Annex 8 Works Cited.....	148

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A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

Special thanks must be given to Justice Asa Rogers, in 1861 the Presiding Judge of the Loudoun Circuit Court. With the Civil War about to go into full swing, it was clear to Rogers and others that Federal troops would march through Loudoun and therefore the potential for violence was a significant risk to county records. Unlike in other neighboring counties like Prince William, which would lose many records to the fire of war, Rogers ordered county clerk George K. Fox, Jr. to remove the records to a place of safety. They were then placed in a large wagon and removed to Campbell County, about 175 miles south along present day Route 29 just SW of Appomattox. During the war Fox moved about to preserve the record's safety until 1865 when he brought them back to Loudoun intact (Williams, 1938, p. 200). Clearly, Fox is also owed a great debt by all historians.

I 1.2 Introduction to the Series

This book is Volume One of a series called the **Conklin Village Project**, a history developed by Larry Roeder at the request of the Prosperity Baptist Church in Conklin Village, Loudoun County, and in cooperation with the Black History Committee of the Balch Library, Leesburg, Virginia. The history is intended to honor the pioneers of the Conklin area of Loudoun County, their descendants and the many generations of members of Prosperity, especially African-Americans. The six volume set is available in pdf format on <http://conklinproject.wordpress.com/> and in the fall of 2014 will also be available in printed format on Amazon.com.

The volumes also represent a collaborative effort involving interviews of people born in Conklin, historians, geographers, archivists, etc. In other words, they are not the effort of one person; but a team. With that in mind, corrections and suggestions are invited for the second edition. Send them to admin@artbyroeder.com, or write to the Conklin Historical Project, c/o 26128 Talamore Drive, South Riding, Va., 20152.

Many original documents were used, especially in the archives of the Prosperity Baptist Church in Conklin, the Loudoun County Circuit Court Archives in Leesburg and the archives of the Loudoun County School system in Sterling, Virginia. My own original

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

photographs were also used. Digital copies are retained in a digital archive at the Prosperity Baptist Church and the Balch Library.

As of January 2014, the series includes the following volumes:

- Volume One: A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia.
- Volume Two: Historical Documents
- Volume Three: Christine Allen At Armstrong Technical High School
- Volume Four: Cardinal Ridge Property
- Volume Five: Schools and Teachers
- Volume Six: Name Index

Some photographs come from personal files of Conklin residents or the Balch Library. A complete set of copies of photos and documents, including images not used in the study, have been deposited with the Prosperity Baptist Church Archives, since the church is in the center of Conklin. A set of digital images has also been deposited at the Balch Library in Leesburg.

Larry Roeder, Editor and Author.

1/3/2014

I 1.3 Language Related to Race

Anyone who has worked in diplomatic or anthropological circles knows that racial terminology is a very sensitive topic. As an example, when I worked with native-Americans, I came to realize that some tribal members called themselves: Indians, Native-Americans or by their tribe, e.g. Navajo or Diné. I also worked extensively with the Bedouins in Egypt (with whom I maintain contact) and they prefer to be called Bedouin or **al-'Arab**, not Egyptian. Racial terms like African-American, Black, Negro, Colored, Mulatto, etc. are used in the volumes in this series and will offend some people; but they should be seen in the context of the source document or interviewee. After a discussion with Pastor Lawson of Prosperity Baptist Church, it was agreed that I would use the term African-American when speaking in my own voice of people descendant from African immigrants (whether those who were or were not in bondage); however, census and county records often referred to people as colored, Negro or mulatto. Contemporary interviewees might say Black or colored. In those instances, I use the term proposed by the source. A good example would be “colored school,” which was the standard term for segregated schools that serviced African-Americans. Segregated units in the US Army were also known as Colored. No term is universally used by the world, so readers are asked to understand that my effort is intended to honor people and never offend, while being historically correct.

I 2.1 A short history of Conklin

The village was settled around 1810 by Reuben Settle, Jr. who with other white farmers cut the hamlet out of trees well before it had any official name. Settle purchased 142 acres along today's Braddock Road, known in historical times as Colchester Road. The rural community is thought to have stretched from a point between Elk Lick Road (its main street) and Gum Spring Road on the west side (Route 659) to a few blocks south on Bull Run Post Office Road (Route 621), then east to accommodate land owned by the African-American Allen family. It ran north along the Elf Lick road to the Elk Lick Bridge over present day South Riding golf course.



Figure 1 Ronnie Arnold at Cardinal Ridge property, 2013.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

By 1853, Thomas and Nelson Settle, likely Reuben's heirs, lived in a house on the north side of Braddock, just west of its intersection with Elk Lick Road. Other local white landowners at that time included the Hutchison, Jones and Saffer families (History Matters, 2002). Both white and African-American descendants still live in Loudoun, Fairfax and Prince-William Counties like the Settle, Jett, Dean and Allen families. What we now know as Conklin is mainly known for its African-American community and evolved into an unincorporated village like Willisville, at the crossroads of Willisville, Millville, and Welbourne Roads. Unlike Willisville however, the advent of massive housing growth in Loudoun has caused Conklin to largely disappear from view. By way of contrast, Willisville is a tightknit, traditionally African-American community and one of the last in Virginia that has kept to well water and outhouses, rather than modern water piping. Conklin was of course quite similar to Willisville and many other rural communities with well water and few modern resources. Instead of electricity, residents in the early part of the 20th century used coal oil lamps. There were also few phones; but Nellie Dean remembered a "hoot and holler phone" used by the community. For medical care, she also remembered fondly Dr. Fred Hudson, MD., a white doctor from Bull Run who took care of people in Conklin, making regular house calls by horse and buggy. (Dean N. , 2014).

Impressions from a 1993 study by the Washington Post and subsequent interviews indicate that by then the sewage system in Conklin had deteriorated severely, though not by choice of the residents. According to Preston Poland who was interviewed by the Post, there has been repeated requests to the county for sewer services, all refused. Indeed, requests dated back twenty years. Former Democratic county Supervisor Ann B Kavanagh¹ led unsuccessful efforts, stymied because other Supervisors weren't anxious open up another development frontier (Pae, 1993). One of the arguments against allowing septic tanks, which was a frequent request, was that the ground was very poor, known as jack soil, a point confirmed by Charles Preston Poland II, whose father was on the Planning Commission and was concerned about the community (Poland C. P., 2014). He remembered Kavanagh's vigorous efforts; but the

¹ Democrat Ann B. Kavanagh became the uncontested winner of the Dulles District seat on the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors Dec 15, 1987 after a dispute with Republicans over alleged irregularities the election were resolved in Loudoun Circuit Court.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

local government had a reputation of not investing much in the county anyway, and Conklin was at the bottom of political priorities. According to Poland, even security was largely ignored. "You never saw a Sheriff's Deputy in those days." Therefore, already



Figure 2 Nelli Thornton didn't want to leave. (Pae, 1993)

not being disposed to investments, and lacking interest in the Conklin community, because the ground didn't drain well, the county refused requests for more septic tanks, and thus the residents began to rely on portable toilet facilities, often dumping the material nearby. Wynne Saffer also remembered this well from his early days going through Conklin to tend to the Hampton Brewer and Conklin cemeteries (Saffer, Loudoun County Historian, 2014). This problem might have all been prevented if the county had invested in sewage systems; but it didn't want to, except in conjunction with upcoming developments of wealthier HOAs (home owner associations). Without proper water access and sanitation, the death of Conklin as a sustainable community was inevitable. As an example, in 1993, Beatrice Jackson, a life-long resident, had to walk a mile to fetch water for drinking and bathing. Her one-room home had no toilet, only an outhouse. In the end, though some resisted strongly like Nelli Thornton, many of the residents were willing to leave on the promise of a better life; however, it is a shame they were put in that position. Nelli Thornton, 77 in 1993, was born in a house just up the street from the rickety home her husband built 56 years earlier.. Said Thornton: "As long as I can live in this house, I'm staying. (Pae, 1993)" On the other hand Esther Dean had a different perspective in 2000. "Theodore and Arthur Dean--brothers who are descendants of Jennie Dean, one of the most famous ex-slaves in Northern Virginia--owned 26 acres between them. They sold the land, proud to move on. "It's an accomplishment to be living here in South Riding," said Theodore's wife, Esther, 56, as she sat in the living

not being disposed to investments, and lacking interest in the Conklin community, because the ground didn't drain well, the county refused requests for more septic tanks, and thus the residents began to rely on portable toilet facilities, often dumping the material nearby. Wynne Saffer also remembered this well from his early days going through Conklin to tend to the Hampton Brewer and Conklin cemeteries (Saffer, Loudoun County Historian, 2014). This problem might have all been prevented if the county had invested in sewage

systems; but it didn't want to, except in conjunction with upcoming developments of

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

room of her new town house. "It's not very far from where we lived, but it's like a different world (Lenhart, 2000)."

The result of the sewer problem and rising property taxes, an effect of high developments like South Riding, is that unlike Willisville, Conklin has mostly been replaced by modern school houses and developments called HOA's (home owner associations); but it has still has a very interesting history worth preserving. Most people I've met in Loudoun who are aware of the hamlet understand it as an African-American community, but have no or little appreciation of its roots. Indeed, I've met people living one street away from the Prosperity Baptist Church who never heard of Conklin. In its later stages, Conklin was largely African-American; but all though its history, including to the present day, whites have lived along-side African-Americans (Dean N. , 2014), people like Ronnie Arnold who lives on the west side of Prosperity Baptist Church, a largely African-American church. He is an auto-mechanic and trucker and took the time to escort me on a tour of the soon-to-be leveled forest on the south-side of Braddock, land once in the Allen family. The forest became the grounds for the Cardinal Ridge school, shortly after. Ronnie may also be one of the last people who could say he hunted deer in the back woods of Conklin, though Jimmy Dean also remembered that other residents hunted deer, rabbit and turkey, which were generally cooked outdoors, unless the weather was bad (Dean J. C., 2014). Those hunting grounds are now largely school buildings for Lundsford Middle School and the soon to be constructed Cardinal Ridge Elementary school. Before the start of the HOA's, Conklin residents also hunted squirrel and rabbit, which was butchered and treated on site, along with traditional livestock like chicken and hogs (Dean N. , 2014).

By 1890 about 100 people or families were served by a store and local post office, though by 1908, the village, described as 10 miles from Sterling, may have had only 10 people or families, according to Head (debatable – did he include African-Americans?) (Head, 1908, p. 77). James Dean remembered the size being about 50 or so people (Dean J. C., 2014). When South Riding came in, the population of African-Americans was about 25 families, according to local sources, mostly living in modest structures on Braddock and along Elk Lick Road between the Elk Lick Bridge and

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

Braddock, many constructed in the 1940s. In 1993, the population was estimated to be about 45 (Pae, 1993).

The main remaining structures today include the Prosperity Baptist Church and a cinder block house to its immediate west at 42930 Braddock where Ronnie Arnold lives. Before Ronnie lived there, it was the home of Archie Newman, then a family from Africa who returned after selling the structure to Ronnie. (Dean N. , 2014) There is also the Settle-Dean Cabin, which sits directly across the Loudoun County Parkway on the SW corner from its former location when it rested on the property of Esther Dean. A farm complex on the SE corner of Gum Spring and Braddock is considered part of Conklin by some, though the current owners, who have lived there since the 1950's had little commerce with the African-American community. There is also a house on the south side of Braddock in which Nellie Dean lived, and a house that owned by a local doctor, on the south side of Braddock between Gum Spring and the Church. There was also of course the Conklin School for African-American children on Ticonderoga and a post office and store at various times.

Throughout the 19th century and up to when South Riding began, income came mostly from odd jobs, working on road construction and farming for wheat and corn, which was milled into flour. Agriculture fueled Conklin's economy. Chickens and some other livestock were also grown; but like the grains, mostly for subsistence, not sale. However, we know from hand written notes from the 1920's that bartering in butter, chicken and eggs also happened. Some like Christine Allen became educators and LeRoy Allen became a bus driver for the Loudoun County School system (Dean E. , Discussion on Conklin, 2013). Some were house maids like Corinne Harris or church Deacons like Herbert Harris. Theodore Dean went into landscaping and Arthur Dean retired as the custodian at what is now the Fairfax Government Center (Dean N. , 2014).

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

Conklin was a mixed community; much like Willard, the later which was destroyed by the Dulles Airport²; but both are better known for their African-American residents such as Phoebe Brooks, a midwife once enslaved at Oatlands, who delivered many of the babies born in the area, regardless of race³. "Most African Americans here were subsistence farmers who raised chickens, turkeys, hogs, and occasionally, beef cattle. Some of the cluster of African-Americans studied in this report traded in butter, grain and chickens. Thomas Settle, a white landowner with a few slaves, willed his land and home to Charles Dean, once held in slavery by Settle's family in nearby Prince William County. The cabin has been preserved and moved across Loudoun County Parkway. Dean donated land for the Prosperity Baptist Church, built in 1899. His sister, the famous evangelist and educator Jennie Dean, then raised money for construction, much of it from northern philanthropists, starting Prosperity in Conklin and two more churches in Prince William County. She is most known, however, as founder of the Manassas Industrial School in 1894, which enabled a number of African-Americans in Loudoun, Fauquier, Fairfax, and Prince William counties to obtain a secondary education. The church is still active, but little else remains (Friends of the Balch Library, 2002) (Scheel E. M., 1976)."

One mission of this research is to bring Conklin's history back into contemporary focus, such as understanding how the community lived and what is happening today. According to current and former residents, just before the South Riding proprietary was developed, the village was essentially a quiet, uneventful and rustic community, though hot air balloon watching was popular on weekends. People helped each other, no

² Willard, also known as Willard Crossroads, was an unincorporated village that ended up being absorbed by the construction of Washington Dulles International Airport in 1958. The exact location was the intersection of Willard Road (now Stonecroft Boulevard) and Sterling Road (now called Horsepen Road). It was named after Joseph Edward Willard, a Virginia Delegate for Fairfax county from 1893-1901. Willard's father Joseph Clapp Willard was also owner of the Willard Hotel in Washington, DC. Most of the buildings were destroyed, excepting a few homes at the edges and buildings between Runways 1C/19C and 1R/19L.

³ Loudoun has had many traditionally African-American communities, the largest being Saint Louis, which in 1900 had one hundred residents.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

matter the race. The Church also played an important role, supporting people in need, as we have seen through archival records.

For entertainment in the seventies, there was a nearby McDonalds, then the only restaurant and children played on swings in a meadow that is now Lundsford Middle School (Dean E. , Discussion on Conklin, 2013). Entertainment could be riding a horse drawn buggy or a Model-T. Nellie Dean remembered that though she walked to school, she rode a buggy to Church, which was a lot of fun. There were also the occasional pet, like Nellie's dog. (Dean N. , 2014). James Dean remembered having two pet horses, one which was named Mae. He also remembered playing coed baseball, with girls joining in on a regular basis. Jimmy also remembered much singing and parties, which were on weekends, whenever someone decided. (Dean J. C., 2014).

Before the seventies, there were no restaurants and in the twenties and thirties, only a small Burns Store on Gum Spring where one could buy groceries and dry goods, which were weighed and placed in paper bags (Dean E. , Discussion on Conklin, 2013); but Jimmy also remembered a small general purpose store about a half mile from the Church on Braddock Road in the west side (Dean J. C., 2014). Poland also remembered the "meager store, which was one of many such tiny stores serving the rural community (Poland C. P., 2014)."

Historically, the income of residents was quite modest, partly because the ground was poor for farming and homes had no running water. In fact, the difference in quality of farm land between what is now the Dulles District in Loudoun and the west led to farm owners selling their property to developers and by 2013, Loudoun was considered the wealthiest county in the United States, due to a massive influx of middle class migrants. Whereas the population of Conklin may have once numbered in the hundreds, South Riding in 2010 had a population of over 24,000. It was also the fastest growing and wealthiest part of the county.

I 2.2 Village Boundaries.

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A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

Conklin is an unincorporated village, so it doesn't have specific boundaries or a legal personality such as Middleburg or Leesburg. Unfortunately, as Eugene Scheel noted in his article on August 28, 1991 in the Loudoun Times Mirror, there are also no signs marking historic Conklin contours. One purpose of this study will be to gain agreement to mark the North, South, East and West lines of Conklin, as well as erect signs marking its Church and the locations of the former Conklin Colored School and Post office. Suggestions on other locations are invited. Just write to roederaway@yahoo.com. Signs already mark the Settle-Dean Cabin and will be a model for what is proposed.

Certainly the town was rural and rustic. "It wasn't until 1956 that the county paved Elk Lick (Conklin Road) south from Route 50 into Conklin. The road had been known as Rector's Road, as that family lived on the route's upper reaches in the 1920's. Before that, it was called New Cut Road, one of several New Cuts in the county, for it was first cut through about 1885 (Scheel E. , 8/28/1991)." As of 2014, Elk Lick now turns into Donovan and then First Frost before intersecting Braddock.

I.2.3 North Conklin

For research purposes and based on Conklin resident interviews, the North Boundary is designated as the Elk Lick Road Bridge, which is three blocks south of Center Street in South Riding on Elk Lick Road. A sign should be placed there to mark its significance. (Dean E. , Discussion of the Church Burning, 2013), though today's bridge bears no resemblance to the wooden bridge I walked when I first moved to the area.



Figure 3 Elk Lick Road Bridge 12/1/2013

Below the bridge is the South Riding Golf Course. At one time, the bridge was wooden and when people walked over it, it creaked. One goal will be find photos of the old bridge.

1.2.3.1 Prosperity Baptist Church (NW Conklin)

Though a combined store and post office was certainly the heart of the community at one time, at least until it burned down, the soul of the community would become the Conklin Colored School and the Prosperity Baptist Church, started by famed former slave Jennie Dean. Dean was Jimmy Dean's father's aunt, and his father, a carpenter by trade, helped build the church (Dean J. C., 2014). This study is mainly designed to honor a cluster of African-Americans (and their descendants) who moved into Loudoun around 1850-1854 with a white farmer named Hampton Brewer. His property primarily lay at the south line of present-day Lundsford Middle School.

Some of those descendants also helped start and maintain the Prosperity Baptist church, which was destroyed by a fire of unknown origin in 1951. It was then sitting on the south side of Braddock on the current location of Cardinal Ridge Elementary School. Following the fire, it was moved across the road to its current location, in the NW quadrant, if Elk Lick is considered the N/S axis and Braddock as the W/E axis. According to James Dean (1935 -), who was an eye witness, the fire began shortly before midnight and erupted into a massive flame. While waiting for the Fire Department, which arrived quickly, neighbors, men, women and children, including Dean, tried to put it out by beating the flames with pine tree branches; but the entire structure burned to the ground (Dean J. C., 2014).

Some of the descendants of the original group of African Americans were also buried in the Prosperity cemetery. Prosperity is also where Pastor Lawson and I discovered property tax records belonging to Brewer, though he died in December, 1884, eleven years before Prosperity was established. Where did Brewer and his African-Americans attend church between their arrival in 1854 and 1861, the start of the Civil War, then until 1865 when the war ended? How about between the end of the war and 1899? If that church(s) can be found, perhaps more records on Brewer, the Allen's and other Conklin pioneers can also be located.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

Before emancipation, some African-Americans were members of denominational churches, but white prejudice relegated them to the balconies and barred them from



Figure 4 Prosperity Baptist Church

official leadership positions. Laws also banned them from meeting for worship on their own, though many gathered in secret for prayer and praise. After emancipation, African-Americans vigorously established their own institutions;

thirty-one in Loudoun prior to 1900. These churches were centers of community life, linked in a network that encompassed Loudoun and surrounding counties, and even the nation. Often two or three churches formed a "circuit" or "charge;" the minister and some congregation members would alternate Sundays. The church nurtured personal and spiritual growth as well as social life. It usually sponsored choirs, quartets, youth groups, clubs, and community service. Ministers were important leaders and mentors (Friends of the Balch Library)."

Prosperity opened in 1899.

Because Brewer's property records were kept in the Church by its Secretary, a relationship is assumed; but its details have yet to be determined, though it clearly went through the Allen family.

Allen's listed in the burials are (Find A Grave):

- **Lucian Allen:** 1864 - 1939. Son of William and Caroline Allen according to

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

the 1870 Federal Census he was living in Broad Run, Loudoun, Virginia. Husband of Mary E Dean. Both living in Broad Run in 1930 (Gutermuth C. , Grave Memorial# 48157124, 2010).

- **Mary Ellen Dean Allen**, 1878-1960. Wife of Lucien Allen. (Gutermuth C. , 2010)
- **William Allen, Jr.**, 1871-1939. Son of William and Caroline Allen. (Gutermuth C. , William Allen, Jr., 2010)
- **Annolia Allen Ashton 1912-1982** (Washington, DC). Wife of Ernest Ashton. Daughter of Lucian and Mary Ellen Dean Allen. (Unknown, 2011).

Note on Jennie Dean: Jennie Dean was born in 1852 a slave in what is now known as the Manassas Battlefield. It was Dean that raised the money for the Prosperity Baptist Church, mostly from Mrs. Wilcox, 15 Holyoke Street, Boston (Scheel E. , 8/28/1991). The original church was across the street on today's Lundsford Middle School property, then moved to the current location. Unfortunately, in 1951 on a Sunday, an accidental fire burned the structure down. All that remained was the basement, which was used until the present structure was completed in 1972. For several years, services were held in the Conklin Colored School, though it had been abandoned by the Loudoun County School system. Each Sunday the husband of Esther Dean went to the school before services to light the stove so that parishioners would be warm and dry (Dean E. , Discussion of the Church Burning, 2013).

During research of archival records in the Church, many interesting documents emerged, some of which have shown links to the group of African-Americans associated with Brewer, and others to notable African-Americans elsewhere such as the Nickens family. As an example, there is a 1928 list of families buried in Prosperity Baptist Church: Allen, Brown, Buchannan (Buchann), Dean Douglass, Griffin, Harrod, Harris, Nickens, and Page. Some of these documents also describe daily life in Conklin and are in digital form at the Prosperity Baptist Church archives and in some instances in the Balch library.

1.2.3.2 Settle-Dean Cabin NW Conklin

The Settle-Dean Cabin, purchased in 2001 by Toll Brothers, is one of only a few remaining structures from Conklin, as well as being its oldest, in the NW quadrant. It was first in the NE quadrant across from Loudoun County Parkway. Originally, the cabin

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

was north of Braddock (State Route 620) on the 25 acre former Dean farm, later encompassed by the South Riding development in Loudoun County. As the extension of Rt. 606 from Route 50 to Braddock threatened to destroy a significant portion, it was moved, especially as it was considered to be approximately 200 years old (Architectural Site 053-5064).

A discussion of the surveys and legal proceedings related to the cabin can be found in country records; but also in two reports made available to this study by Toll Brothers. Both are recommended reading.

1. **Life in Loudoun Log Cabin: Archaeology at the Settle-Dean Farmstead Site** (44LD773) CA 1810-1970. VDHR File Number 2001-1213. Prepared for Toll Brothers by James River Institute for Archeology, IN of Williamsburg, Virginia (Fesler, Laird, & O'Donnell, 2004, July).
2. **Toll Brothers, Inc. South Riding, LP,** Dean Property ZMAP 2000-0008, Final Approval Documents, July 21, 2003. This is a folder of documents, each of which has its own bibliographical notion in the chapter.

Also recommended for reading are the following websites:

- **Historic Wanderings Website:** Page on the Dean/Settle Cabin.
<http://historicwanderings.blogspot.com/2011/11/settle-dean-cabin-conklin-va.html>

"This is the only (cabin) I know of still intact in the east," said Kathryn Miller, chairperson of the Planning Commission. She said the cabin and materials found at the site represent nearly every time period of Virginia history, including Native Americans, the early settlers and the Ante-bellum and Reconstruction eras. "It is one of the few resources that has contiguous history (Eastern Loudoun Cabin Logged Down in History, 2002)." The Dean family worked hard to gain County recognition of the historic significance of the structure, which otherwise might have been destroyed, as it was already in a deteriorated state. THE SETTLES, a white family, originally owned the building before willing it in the late 1880s to the Deans, an African-American

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

family formerly enslaved by the Settles. "This cabin is a structure they lived in as slaves and continued to live in as free blacks," said Arlean Hill, a family historian from Chaptico, Md. who is related to the Deans and provided information on both families. "Just for Loudoun County alone, between 1800 and 1860, the African-American free and slave population was 25 to 33 percent. ... These people were not only enslaved there, they chose to stay." "Preserving the cabin is important to show that slaves once lived in Loudoun, Hill said. "The plantations have been preserved, but the evidence of the enslaved population has been lost. You can't find it."

My impression is that the James River people went into the documentation of the cabin with enthusiasm, but departed disappointed because the structure wasn't as "historic" as they deemed appropriate in order to justify the expense of preservation. If true, they missed the point, though to their credit, they agree that the evidence points to a suite of interpretations. Regardless, Conklin was indeed fortunate to have a strong advocate like Hill advocating for the Settle-Dean cabin as well as preservation of slave history. Hill was and remains a determined and articulate historian, and a real credit to the community, a heroine to those of us who believe in preserving history, even when objects don't rise to national or state standards for preservation. What about local interests? Those are often forgotten, especially as the plows of development move forward. Without Hill, the developers would not simply have changed the topography of the Conklin area from rolling hills to flat land (needed for the new homes); they would have bladed the cabin and people today in South Riding would not know what the name Conklin meant. There were even attempts to buy the Prosperity Baptist church and the residence next door, which would have diminished the visual legacy of Jennie Dean, one of our region's most significant African-Americans (see section on the Dean Initiative). Hill's efforts are a symbol of what we all need to do in small communities, fight for our history and defend the past so that we can learn from it.

I've studied archeological sites around the world, especially in the Middle East, Africa and Europe. It's rare to move them, in part due to the costs and on the theory that this displaces context and thus may diminish structural importance, but it had to happen at times. Many Egyptian monuments had to be moved when the Aswan Dam was built, so too the cabin had to be moved because of the need to construct the

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

Loudoun County Parkway through what is present-day South Riding. James River examined the structure very closely and recorded it for posterity, then dismantled it and excavated the footprint in order to illuminate early history, perhaps going back to the times of Native-Americans. It's something I've proposed doing in the Oak Hill project at Gilbert's Corner (Roeder L. W., 2013). As pointed out by James River, this painstaking research refines documentary information, fills in gaps of understanding from the architecture, and therefore can change the perspective on the overall history of a structure and its venue.

My recommendation is that readers obtain a copy of the full James River report because it goes into detail on the methods employed to understand the cabin, methods that can be used elsewhere. This included an examination of artifacts in the cabin and the midden, in other words the accumulation of debris around the cabin. They also prodded down to a pre-habitation plow field. People like Ester Dean had lived in the cabin until the 1970's when it became a storage area. "The cabin had been used as a trash dump, and during the process of dismantling it an enormous amount of modern trash was removed (Fesler, Laird, & O'Donnell, 2004, July)." Artifacts were found, cleaned, cataloged and bagged in a normal method. This effort yielded artifacts from early 19th century and up corresponding to the periods of habitation.

The structure was determined to be originally an antebellum log dwelling, built during or just before the Civil War, with later additions and alteration. Cultural Resources, Inc did not recommend standing on the National Register, due to its condition, lack of structural integrity, and not having been associated with significant historical events. They did agree that the site was occupied by the Settle family from at least 1820, though their predecessors that Lynes must have lived there previously. That initial occupation ended about 1840. Then by about 1850 the brothers Thomas and Nelson Settle built the cabin. They were modest farmers and at their death willed the property to their former slave Charles W. Dean, whose family retained ownership until January 2001, living in the cabin until the 1970s. As pointed out by James River, the Dean family would then play an important role in the economic and social life of Conklin, the village

becoming a focal point for African-Americans into the 20th century. Because the site (44LD773) "offered the potential to explore this significant yet underrepresented period of transition through the archaeological record, CRI recommended that the resource was eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion D.

Due to confusion in the court records, there is also some confusion over exactly when the cabin was built, perhaps as early as 1810 or even earlier by the Lyne family or someone before them. There is no record of who lived on site between Reuben Settle's death about 1815 and 1857. Between 1820-1840, the buildings on the 142 acre tract were valued at \$140, which was the value in 1820. No record of structures existed by 1841, nor were there assessments for a decade. In 1851, buildings on the site were valued at \$200. Were the original structures overlooked, perhaps burned down and new structures made. This isn't clear. James River is of the belief that the gaps in the record point to the cabin being built around 1850. The James River study provided an interesting examination of the evolution of the family on site, leading up to transfer of the property to Charles Dean as a reward in 1889. (Land Tax Books, 1865-75; Will Book I: 466, 478). The brother died in 1890 and the land passed to Charles.

There is a dispute between local historian Eugene Scheel and James River over the relationship of the Deans to Jenny Dean. Scheel asserted Charles was a brother to Jennie Dean, whereas James River disputes that notion. However, both agree there was a closeness. For example, when Jennie Dean established the Manassas Industrial School in 1891-82, Conklin's fundraising committee was led by Fanny Douglas, Charles W. Dean's sister and former Settle servant. In 1897 Charles deeded an acre of his land at the intersection of Braddock and Elf Lick to the trustees of the Prosperity Baptist Church and with the help of Jennie Dean, the church was established in 1899 (Deed Book 7S: 285) (Lewis, 1994 (reprint), p. 27 & 31).

The Dean family continued to occupy the property for 70 years. After Charles W. Dean died, it was then occupied by another Charles Dean until divided in December, 1944. The 25-acre home tract (including site 44LD773) then went to Arthur H. Dean, his wife Mary Dean, Mary Sudan Dean and Theodore V. Dean and his wife Esther Dean.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

The family then continued to live in the cabin until the 1970's when they built a cinder block home along Braddock Road to the east. Arthur and Mary Dean obtained full title from the other heirs in a 1985 deed of gift. Mary Dean then died intestate in January, 1988, leaving the parcel to her husband Arthur Dean and son William B. Dean. On January, 11, 2001, Arthur H. Dean, William B. Dean, Theodore V. Dean and Esther Dean sold the 25 acre property to South Riding LP (Land Books, 1900-40; Deed Books 883:71, 1860: 17).

As former Conklin resident pointed out to me, the cabin would have been torn down rather quietly and quickly by Toll Brothers had it not been for the intervention by Hill and others. In the view of some experts (this is detailed by James River), the cabin wasn't particularly unique, was in deteriorated condition and had been substantially altered over the generations. But fortunate intervention of local citizens meant that as a part of the zoning process, the developers agreed to "study, dismantle, remove and later rebuild the standing cabin, hiring Historic Restoration Specialists, Inc (HRS) to do the work (Fesler, Laird, & O'Donnell, 2004, July)." Based on field work, HRS felt strongly that the cabin must have been built prior to 1800. As seen in James River study, they disagreed, feeling that the "analysis conducted by HRS is tautological, built on a false premise (Fesler, Laird, & O'Donnell, 2004, July).⁴ It's an interesting argument, this I recommend readers study."

⁴ In rhetoric, a tautology is a series of statements that form an argument, whereby the statements are constructed in such a way that the truth of the proposition is guaranteed or that, by defining a dissimilar or synonymous term in terms of another, the truth of the proposition or explanation cannot be disputed

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

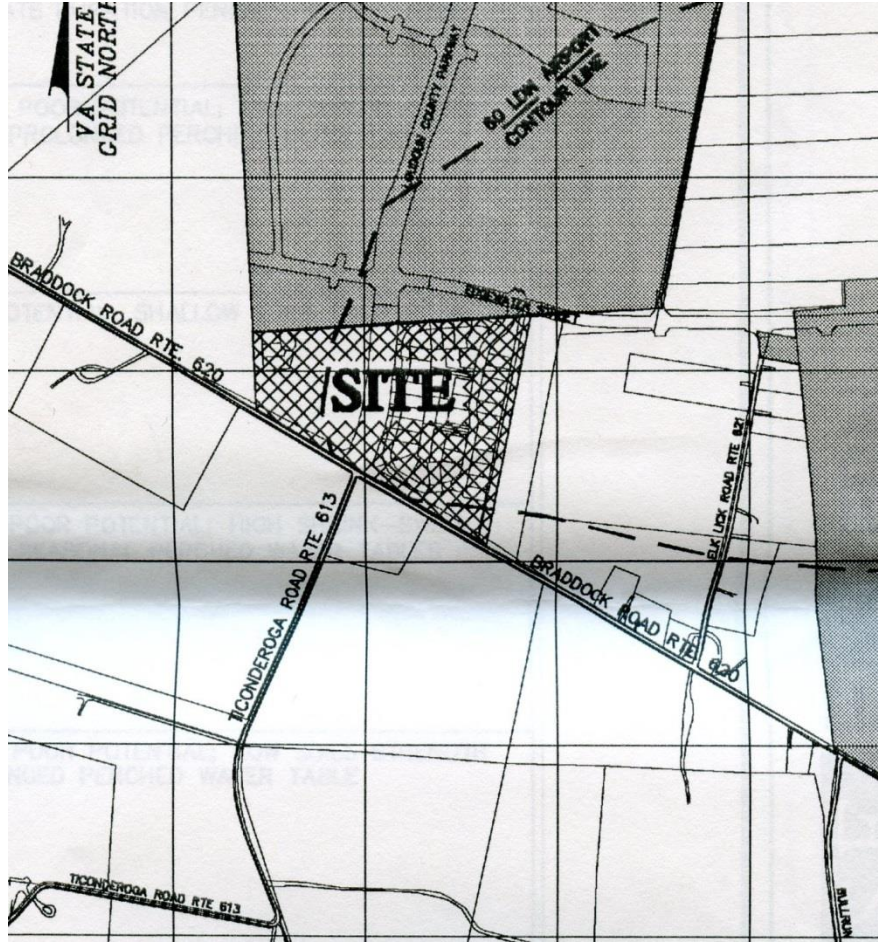


Figure 5 Concept Development Plan Map (Eastern States Engineering Staff, 2003, March 30)

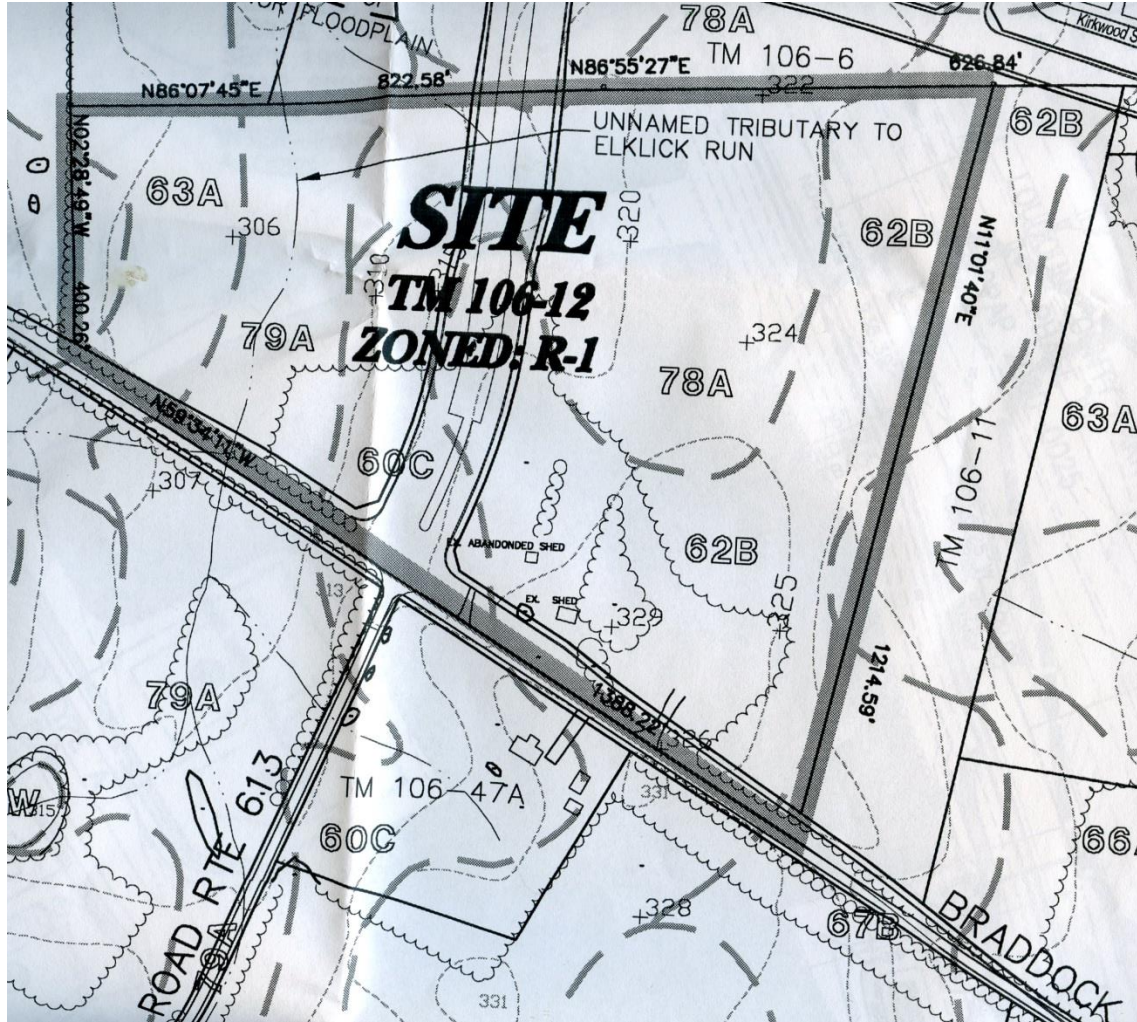


Figure 6 Existing Conditions Rezoning Plat (Eastern States Engineering Staff, 2003, March 30)

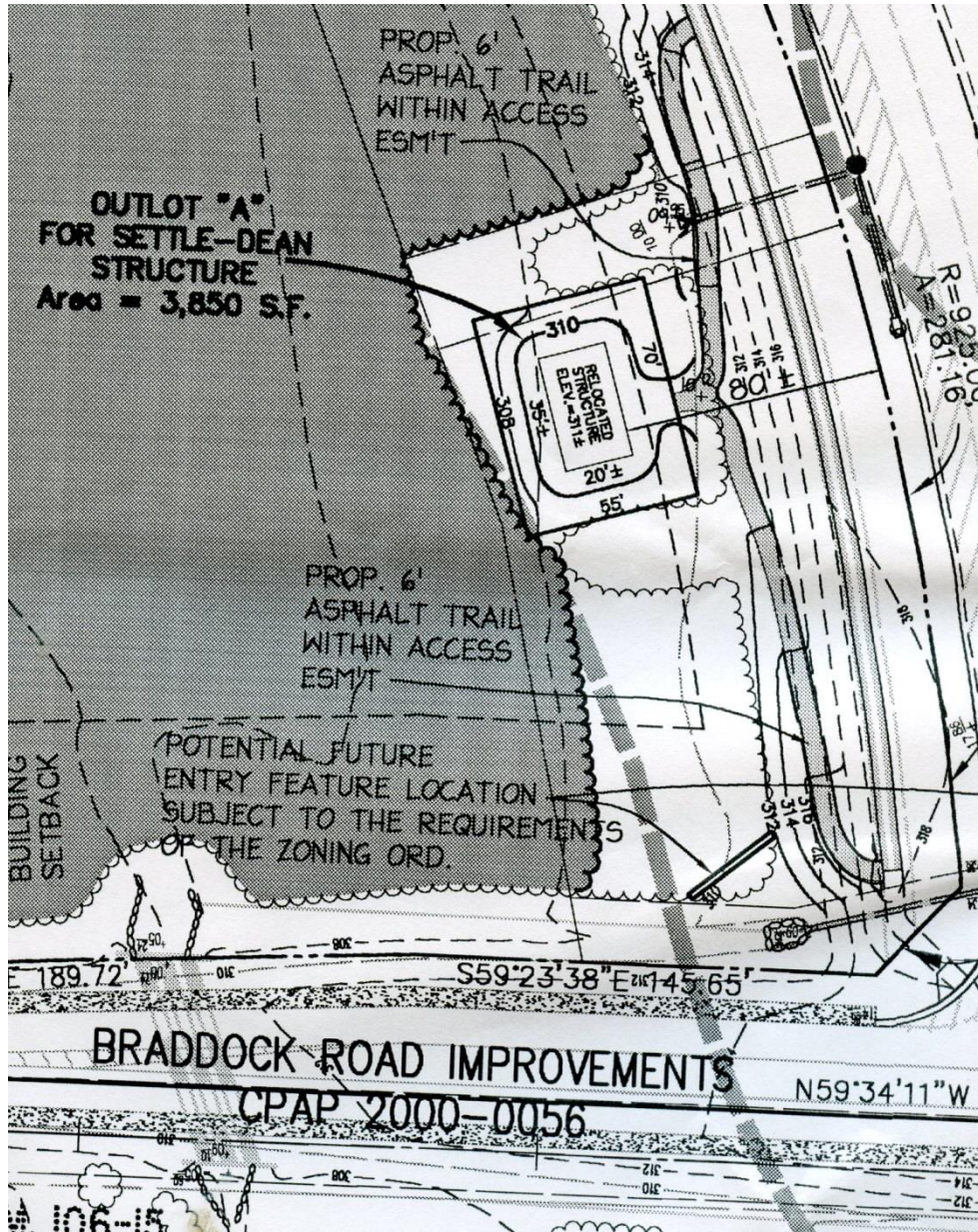


Figure 7 New Location of Settle Dean Cabin (Eastern States Engineering Staff, 2003, 3/30)

1.2.4 West Conklin

We originally thought that the town's western border was the corner of Gum Spring Road and Braddock as well as further south at the intersection of Ticonderoga and Gum Spring. From the junction of Braddock and Gum Spring, the west portion of Conklin then stretched east to the junction with the old Elk Lick Road. There was a store used by Conklin residents at one time in between the junctions; so this might be a reasonable

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

proposal if we were connecting the points of regular commercial use; but when it comes to the residences, a more practical western limit is probably the 247 acre property on the north side of Braddock, formerly known as Cedar Hunt (described below). This property, west of Elk Lick, also contains the Conklin Cemetery where the namesake of the village was buried, as well as members of the Saffer family and some former African-American residents.

The first church in Conklin was for whites and was Fairview Methodist Episcopal Church, built on a lot intersecting today's Ticonderoga and Gum Spring Roads. According to local experts, the farm complex on the SE corner of Gum Spring Braddock is also associated with Conklin⁵, though the owners refuted that contention. The building, as of 2013, appeared abandoned as a functional residence, and the property appear to be waiting for a nice development proffer. Still an historical sign on the corner would be a draw for tourists to find Conklin. If it can be confirmed that the farm was indeed considered part of Conklin, I recommend that the County Heritage Commission provide preservation protection to the structure. This will have to happen soon, as weather is already pushing down elements of the roof and water is dripping through parts. I do know that as of the 1950's, when the current owners took over, they didn't consider themselves part of Conklin. A member of the family whom I interviewed in January 2014, didn't know about the prior owners; but she was able to confirm that another farm house had been on the same side of the road, further west, as well as a store that attracted much commerce from Conklin and the district (Haas, 2014).

⁵ The building is abandoned as a residence, though the lands are mowed. I am currently trying to reach the owners (the Whitman family) to determine its history and relationship to Conklin.



Figure 8 Farm SE Corner of Braddock and Gum Spring 12/1/2013



Figure 9 Conklin Park

(Hill, African-American History Expert, 2013).

A community park named Conklin Park also sits in the NW area of Conklin within present-day South Riding on both sides of 25701 Donegal Dr. This is a thirty acre field with basketball courts, three tennis courts, a sand volleyball court, two soccer fields, a pond, and parking facilities. It needs

to be said however, that this particular plot was never part of the Conklin Community

1.2.4.1 Conklin Colored School SW Conklin



Figure 10 Conklin School, 1940

The Conklin Colored School was in the SW quadrant of the village, using Elk Lick as the N/S axis and Braddock as the W/E axis. It was a “colored school” of one story, “detached, frame building with metal roof, on stone foundation, containing only one room. This building was heated by a stove, the flue of which was of standard construction. It was also approximately 18’x28’ and is in good condition. Estimated 100% insurable value was \$500 in 1940, when the picture above was taken as part of an inspection and survey report done by the Garrett Insurance Agency, Inc. and the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company. Unfortunately, Fireman’s has not retained their inspection notes, as that might have revealed the function of the rear structure? An extended history of the School, its teachers and students and academic record is covered in Volume Six of the series.

According to Nellie Dean, who attended from 1928-1930, there were two outhouses, one for girls on the left and for boys on the right. There was also a step up for kids to enter the building. In her day, children walked to school and brought their

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

meals as well (Dean N. , 2014). The back end was for stowing fuel for the stove. I also wanted to know if the school had a bell; but according to Esther Dean, the only bell was a hand bell used by the teacher (Dean E. , Discussion on Conklin, 2013).

There are two stories I have heard about the school's origins. One is that it was the original Prosperity Baptist Church; but that's false, probably based on the fact that after the Church burned down at its current location, before being rebuilt, the school was used for services. Esther Dean's husband used to light the furnace before services to make sure everyone was dry and warm. The other story, reported in Loudoun Times Mirror, September 23, 1976, is that it was the village of Conklin's first public structure, built in 1872 and described in its 1871 deed from Horace Adee, who sold the parcel for one dollar to the school district of Broad Run "forever as a situation for a school house for colored children." Known after 1890 as the Conklin school, the frame one-roomer on stone foundation" was still standing in 1976 on a lane off Fairview Church Road, looking as it did a century ago, the oldest schoolhouse in Eastern Loudoun (Scheel E. M., 1976)." That lane is now Ticonderoga⁶. A copy of the Adee deed is on the paper file associated with this report.

By the 1940/41 season, the School Board decided to combine operations with another Colored School named Rock Hill; but they kept the property for another decade, not deciding until 1953 to sell the school. Then according to the minutes of the School Board of June 15, 1953 a resolution rescinded the prior authorization for the sale of the Conklin because "the board does not hold a clear title (Kroiz, Conklin School, 2013)". A final reversal happened at the School Board, meeting in Leesburg, July 12, 1955 when it was resolved in action number 7 to accept an offer by Ralph A. Styer to pay \$450 for the interests of the School Board in Conklin. Stirling Harrison was appointed to prepare the deed (LCPS, 1955, July 12).

⁶ Fairview Church Rd is found on Eugene Scheel's "Loudoun County, Commonwealth of Virginia" map drawn in 1972 for the Loudoun Association of Realtors, Inc. Multiple Listing Service Committee. This is one of the maps showcased in the Margaret Mercer Room of the Library. On the map Fairview Church Rd is listed as Route 613 which is now Ticonderoga Rd.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

The deed between the School Board of Loudoun County of the first part and Ralph A. Styer and Mary A. Styer of the second part was done on 17 August, 1954, transferring about half an acre known as "the Conklin School Property" and being the "same conveyed to the School Board of Broad Run Township by the deed of Horace Adee, dated Dec 22, 1871 (Commissioner of the Revenue, 1954)." On 30 April, 1955 Ralph A. and Mary Styer of the first part sold the land to Delight M. Sigilman of the second part, "containing one-half acre, more or less, known as the Conklin School (Commissioner of the Revenue, 1955)." Delight M. Sigilman then sold this land to Peter John Knop II on November 10, 1956. This deed also notes that the land includes an abandoned road (Commission of the Revenue, 1956).

It was quite a struggle to determine the exact location. The Haas family on Ticonderoga informed me in November, 2013 that the school was converted into a home, then it burned down 15-20 years prior, a story confirmed by Esther Dean. A trailer is now sitting on the site. On a visit to Ticonderoga Farms in November, 2013, with a plat of the school property in hand, I was informed that the building had been located on the NW side of what is known as "dangerous curve" on Ticonderoga Road. Just past the curve, running west is the Ticonderoga green house, on the N side. In between, there is nothing. However, further research has determined that the school was actually across the road. Driving south from Braddock, instead of turning west at "Difficult Corner," move straight south into a drive way. That proceeds to a circle and a trailer and shed. **Research Point:** Given the historical significance of the Conklin School, this would also be a good location for Conklin Historical Marker, a large metal sheet sign with the insurance photo on it and a description of the school, as well as a description of the difficulties children had in gaining an education. The plan is to coordinate this with the Black History Committee, Prosperity Baptist Church, Ticonderoga and DMV. This might be considered the Southern Edge of Conklin, though such a determination requires more research.



Figure 11 “Difficult Corner,” looking West, November 2013. Going right goes to Braddock. Traveling left goes to Gum Spring.



Figure 12 Difficult Corner Looking N along Ticonderoga towards Braddock.



Figure 13 Driveway to Compound Rear of car points to Braddock. 12/1/2013



Figure 14 Conklin School Location in Dec, 2013

On the old site is a trailer and shack surrounded by dog houses and cars.



Figure 15 Conklin School Location in Dec, 2013

1.2.4.2 Cedar Hunt Property

In James River's study of the Settle/Dean Cabin, they placed Conklin 2,000 feet to the SE of the cabin. My impression is that former residents of the cabin felt they were a part of Conklin, as was the Conklin grave, so I disagreed with James River's interpretation. I then discussed this with Dr. Matthew R. Laird, Ph.D., RPA, Partner & Senior Researcher, James River Institute for Archaeology, on the chance that they had access to different sources. He concurred with my conclusions, indicating that the notation was based merely on a measurement to the site of "Conklin" as depicted on the U.S.G.S. Arcola topographic quadrangle map (Figure 2), rather than any definitive historical or oral history reference. I only mention this, not to criticize James River, which did a detailed analysis; rather to emphasize the importance of double checking theories and facts. Readers of this paper are encouraged to do the same (Laird, 2014).

Perhaps a more reasonable western boundary on the north side of Braddock would be the former Cedar Hunt Property, which is a 247 acre site consisting of three parcels of land within Loudoun County's GIS system as Map Cell Property Identifier (MCPI) #s: 165-16-1130, 166-37-7807, and 166-47.3452. It is situated about 2,000 feet west of Prosperity Baptist Church and slightly less than 2,000 feet east of the junction of Braddock and Gum Spring. The property was also known as Estates at Elk lick Downs and contains the Conklin Cemetery where the namesake of the village is buried, members of the Saffer family and some African-Americans who would have seen themselves as residents of Conklin Village, by whatever name it would have then been known. Much of my research on this property was as a result of Toll Brothers giving me access to various environmental assessments (Williamsburg Environmental Group Staff, 2002, July).

I recommend that future researchers considered examining:

Phase I Environmental Site Assessment of 247 Acre Property known as Cedar Hunt, Loudoun County, Virginia, done for Mr. Tom Murray, Toll Brothers, Inc. Arcola, Va.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

Prepared by Williamsburg Environmental Group., Inc. 3000 Easter Circle, Williamsburg, Virginia 23188. (757) 220-6869. WEG Project #1408.

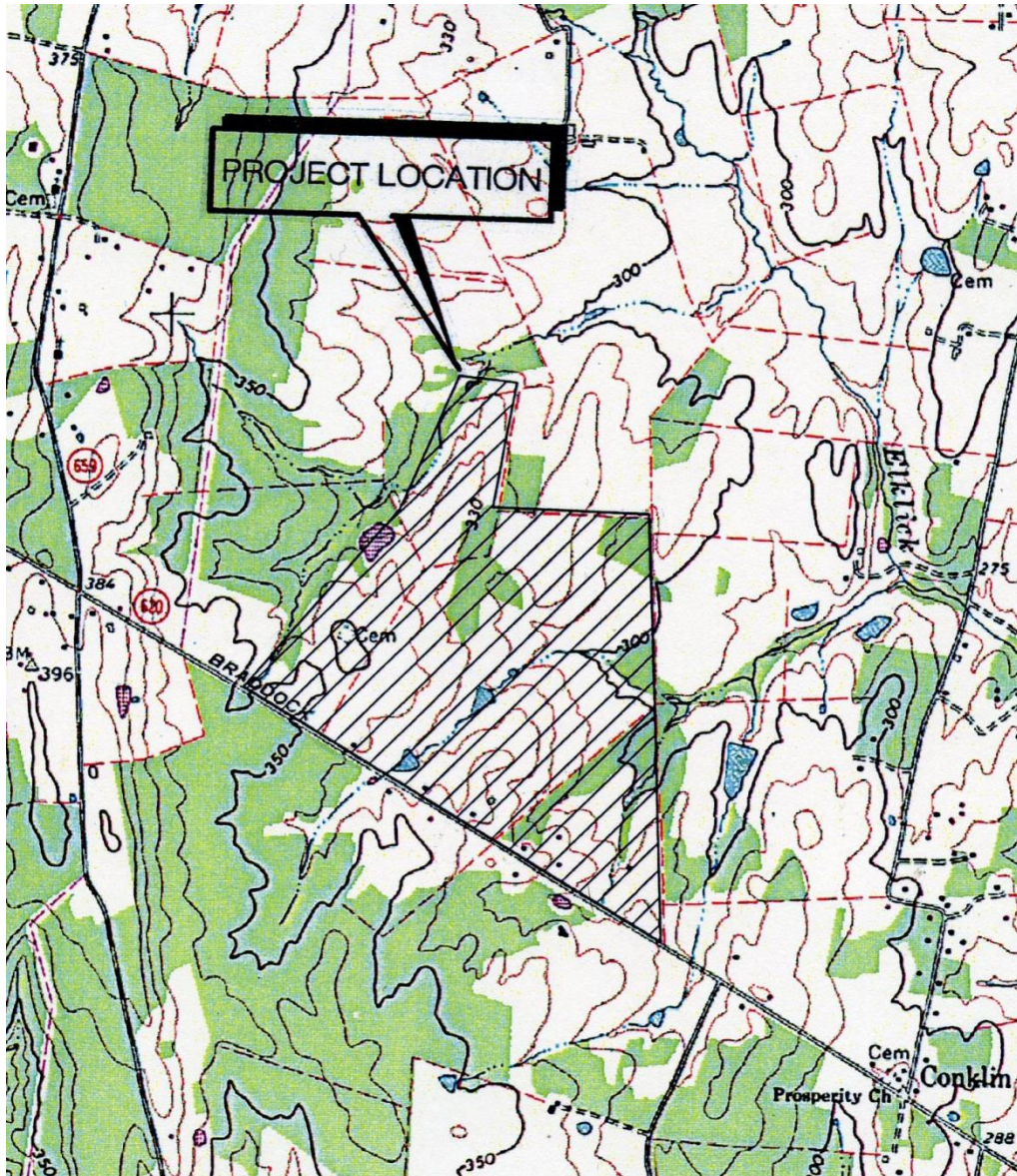


Figure 16 Cedar Hunt Property (Williamsburg Environmental Group Staff, 2002, July, pp. Fig 1-2)

When observed for potential development purposes on July 2, 2002, Braddock road was unpaved and covered in gravel. The land was open and consisted of a former tree farm, woodlands, four ponds, three occupied residential properties with associated outbuildings, two abandoned residential properties and a former equestrian facility. The

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

study I drew on did not identify the residents. A list of the structures follows. I've also included a few sample photos from the Williamsburg study. A complete set and detailed descriptions of each of the structures is included in the digital archive associated with this study.

- 1 two story wooden house.
- 1 mobile home trailer.
- 1 one story wooden house.
- 2 wooden carports.
- 1 partially dismantled barn and lean-to structure.
- 1 partially dismantled horse stable.
- 4 structures used for storage.
- 1 abandoned mobile trailer.

The following five photos are from the Williamsburg Study, courtesy of Toll Brothers (Larkin, 2014). Other photos and physical descriptions are included in the digital archive which I'm donating to the Balch Library and Prosperity Baptist Church.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia



Photograph 19. View of the one-story residence that is part of the equestrian facility.



Photograph 20. View of stable building and the two storage sheds located at the southeast and southwest corners of the stable.



Photograph 7. View of the two-story house located the farthest west on the subject property.



Photograph 23. View of the residence east of the equestrian facility.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

In 2002, the property was owned by Peter Knopp, who also owned Ticonderoga Farms on the south side of Braddock Road. The immediate prior use was a tree nursery, with the trees grown for landscape companies though the residential structures dated back at least to 1979, which as far as the study's historical study went (Williamsburg Environmental Group Staff, 2002, July, p. 7). A cemetery on the property is the family burial property for the Conklin and Saffer families, as well as some African-Americans.

I 2.5 East Conklin

We originally included for discussion purposes everything on Braddock road from the Fairfax County line to the junction of Old Elk Lick Road, which would include the Cardinal Ridge school property, once owned in part by the Allen Family, one of the core families in this study. (See separate volume in the series is called The Cardinal Ridge Property). The eastern boundary of the Allen property is now considered a better East demarcation.

In 2002 and 2003, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors contracted with History Matters to survey historic resources related to the African-American experience in Loudoun County, Virginia (Smitt, Johnston, & Glynn, 2004). This included a land survey of the remaining homes in Conklin in 2002, with a focus on five homes. Four are on the North Side of Braddock and the east side of Elk Lick, which we consider as Conklin's "main street." One house was on the west side of Rt. 621 and south of Braddock at the corner. To see the full report on the findings, visit the Balch Library in Leesburg, which was kind enough to loan me the material for this report.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

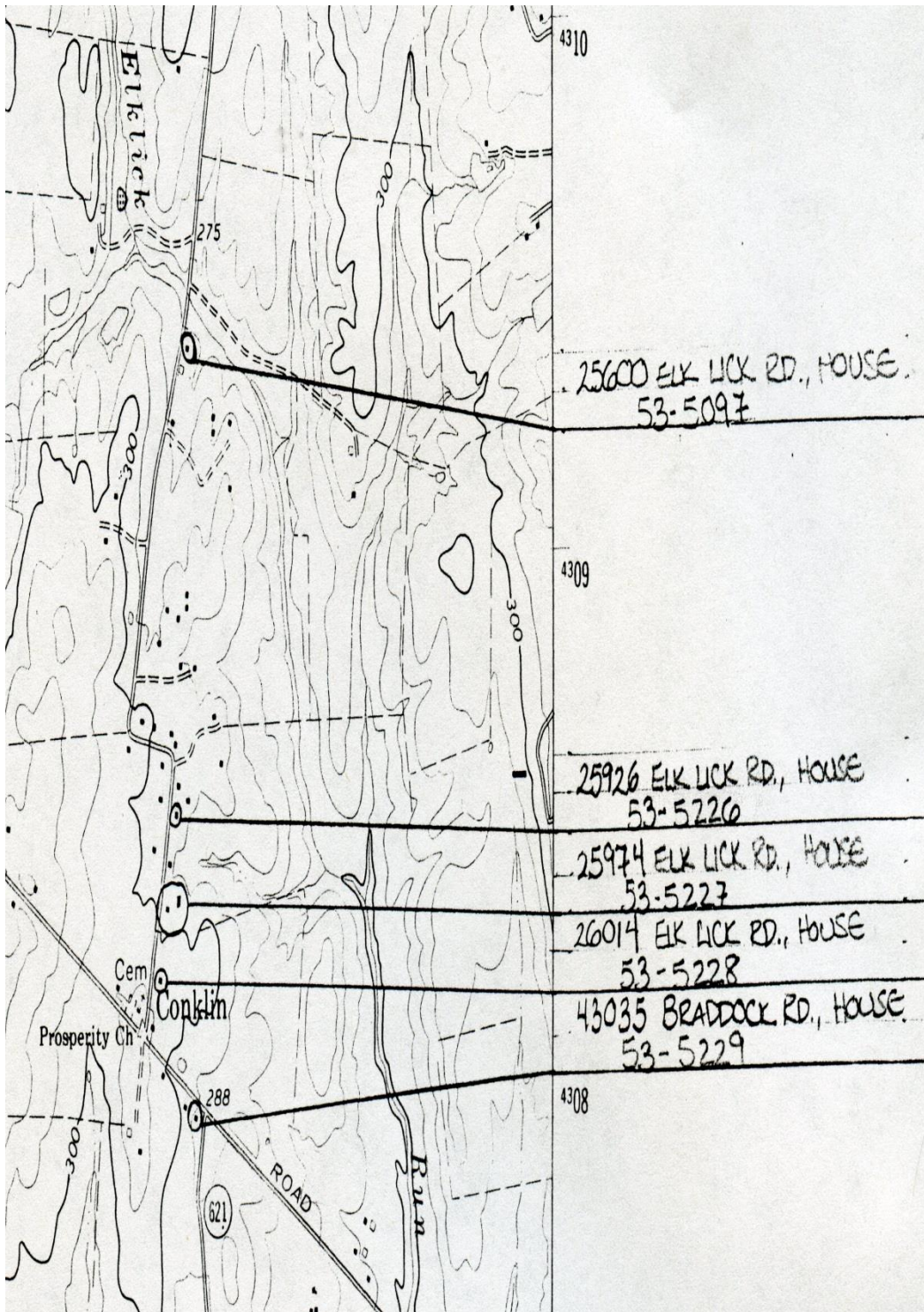


Figure 17 Map of Six Homes in Conklin in 2002

The figure above is a stretched out portion of Arcola, Va Map 38077-H5-TF=024 of 1981, DMA 5461 1 NE-Series V834.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

House One was 25600 Elk Lick Road, (53-5097, Box 2) which had been demolished by 2002.

House Two was at 25926 Elk Lick Road in 1940, (53-5226, Box 2) which was changed to 25962 by 2002. The tax parcel was 129-15-1581-000 and sat on 0.7 acres. The foundation was raised and the building consisted of a frame structural system. Windows were double-hung sash. The roof was a side gable. There was an exterior end chimney. This was a one story 2 bay house with a post, square wooden porch. The roof was made of asphalt shingle. A one story shed-roofed privy also stood at the NE corner of the house. A metal shed also stood on the east side. The building was probably built around 1940.

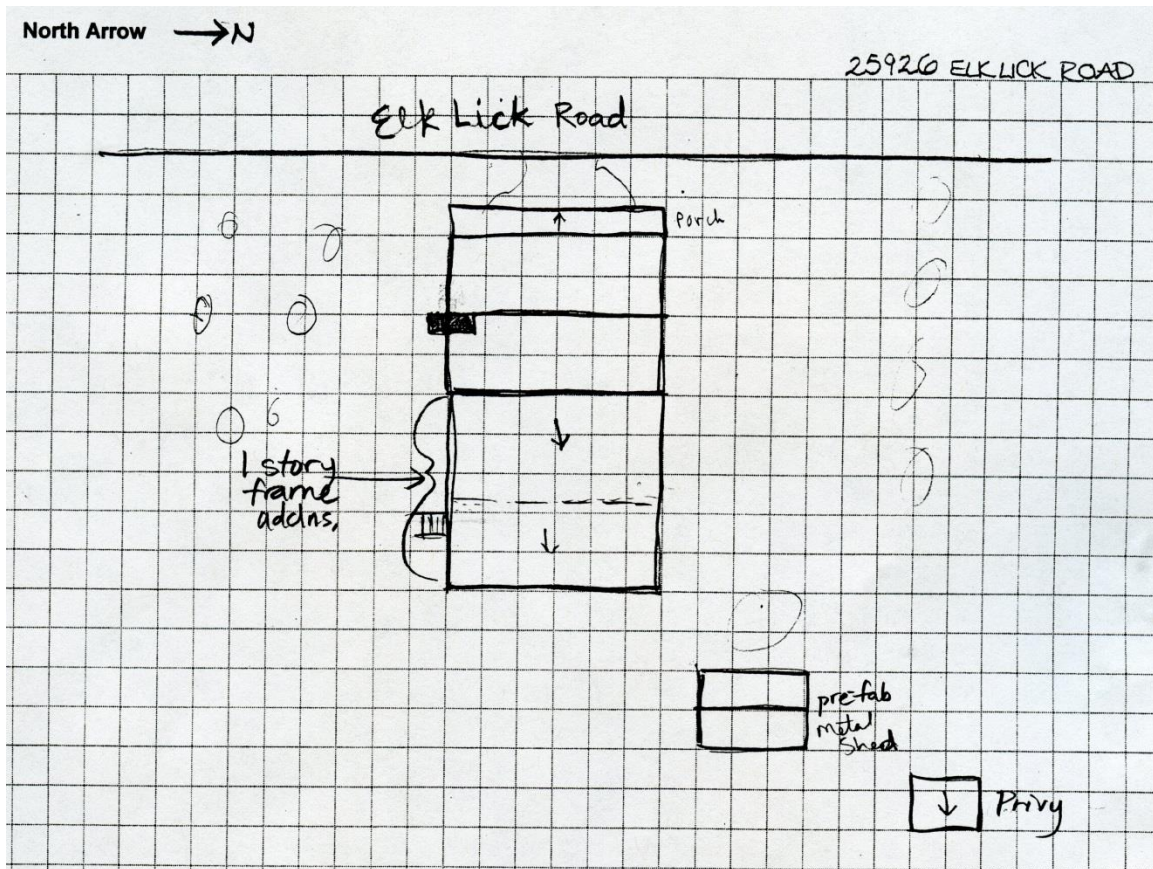


Figure 18 25926 Elk Lick Road

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

The following photographs were of the North and East elevations and were taken on Nov 6, 2002. The originals are in the Balch Library.



Figure 19 25926 East & West Elevation, Elk Lick, 11/6/2002

House 3 25974 Elk Lick Road (53-5227, Box 2) The property was built circa 1940 with a solid foundation and frame structure, as well as double-hung windows, a gabled roof and two interior chimneys. It also had a one story enclosed porch. One chimney was of American bon brick and the other of concrete construction. The frame house stood on a level lot and faced west onto Elk Lick Road. There was also a tree line to the east of the houses and several deteriorated outbuildings were also located on the property. In addition, a deteriorated tenant house and small animal sheds were located at the NE of the house. Two ruinous sheds, a metal, gable roof shed and a slant roof shed to the south of the house. A large, deteriorated frame barn stood to the east of the sheds.

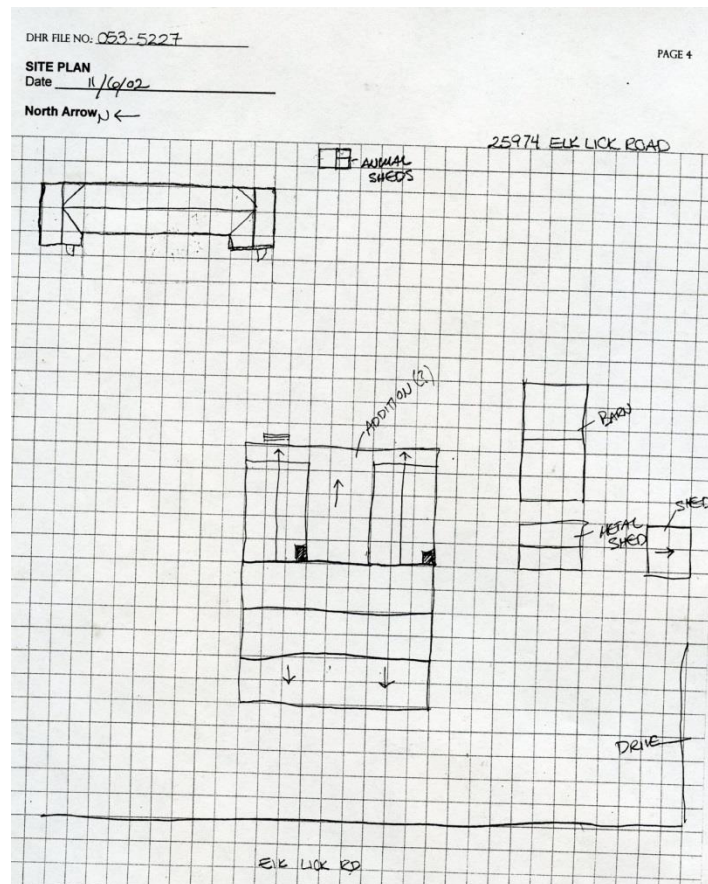


Figure 20 Layout of 25974 Elk Lick, 11/6/2002



Figure 21 25974, Elk Lick, South Elevations, shed, West.



Figure 22 25974 Elk Lick, West and South Elevations



Figure 23 25974 Elk Lick Road, Barns, Sheds, North of House, 11/6/2002



Figure 24 25974 Elk Lick Road, Animal Sheds, East of House, 11/6/2002



Figure 25 25974 Elk Lick, East & South Elevations, 11/6/2002

House Four: 26014 Elk Lick Road. (053-5228, Box 2), Built about 1950. In 2002, the structure stood west on Elk Lick road on a lot overgrown with shrubs and trees. A metal wire metal fence also ran from the south corner of the house parallel to the road. Tax parcel 167-40-9076-000. Had a solid foundation and the structural system was masonry. Windows were sash, double hung. The roof was a side gable. There was one chimney in the center interior and one at an exterior end. The house also was of asphalt shingle. Two sheds stood to the south and east ends. The 1 story house had an L shaped footprint and features tripartite, horizontal 2/2 windows with simple, flat wood trim. At the time of examination by the survey, the stucco house was vacant and in a state of disrepair. A colonial revival door surround was also visible on the west elevation of the rear ell. The chimneys were parged. The surveyors also felt the home was a good example of a modest, mid-20th century house in rural Loudoun County.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

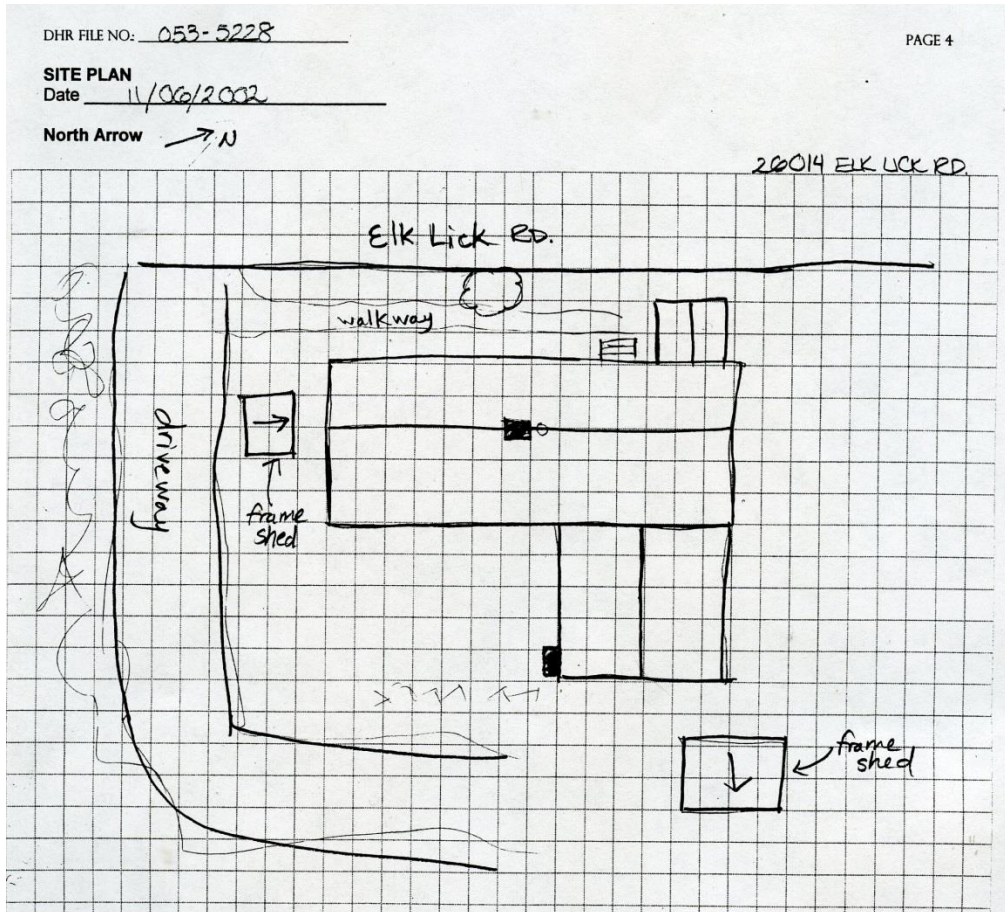


Figure 26 26014 Property Plan



Figure 27 26014 Elk Lick, Facade or West Elevation in 2002



Figure 28 26014 Elk Lick, South Elevation, 11/6/2002



Figure 29 26014 Elk Lick, Shed, East of House, 11/6/2002

43035 Braddock Road (South Conklin)

The concrete block house had a ranch house form with little style. Built circa 1940, Tax Parcel 130-35-3891-000. Had a solid foundation and was made of masonry. Windows were double-hung sash. Roof was a gable, Side. One central interior chimney of block I story square wooden post porch. Located at the SW corner of the intersection of Braddock Road (Route 620) and Bull Run Post Office Road. The house sat at an angle to the intersection, facing NE. A gravel drive was located to the west of the house and there were a couple of mature trees on the property. A shed-roofed frame shed and a gable-roofed frame shed with a 1-story, shed roofed addition stood to the SW of the house.



Figure 30 43035 Braddock, NE and NW Elevations in 2002



Figure 31 43035 Braddock Road, SW and NW Elevations in 2002



Figure 32 Sheds, SW of House, 43035 Braddock Road in 2002

I 2.6 South Conklin

A consensus has not emerged on how far to go. Originally for research purposes, I took the border to the junction of Buffalo Run Lane and the Old Post office Road. The people in Buffalo Run Lane today (and likely in the past as well), mostly have commerce with Fairfax County. Some of them migrated from West Virginia. Except perhaps for some farmers between that point and Braddock, the people now living in this corner live quite modestly. However, after talking with Jimmy Dean and others, I am convinced that the modern homes at least went no further than the junction of Braddock and Elk Lick; but the historic line can be the southern frontier of Hampton Brewer's property or even ¼ mile south of Braddock at the location of the former Conklin Post Office.

43035 Braddock Road (South Conklin)

The concrete block house had a ranch-house form with little style. Built circa 1940, Tax Parcel 130-35-3891-000. Had a solid foundation and was made of masonry. Windows were double-hung sash. Roof was a gable, Side. One central interior chimney of block I story square wooden post porch. Located at the SW corner of the intersection of Braddock Road (Route 620) and Bull Run Post Office Road. The house sat at an angle to the intersection, facing NE. A gravel drive was located to the west of the house and there were a couple of mature trees on the property. A shed-roofed frame shed and a gable-roofed frame shed with a 1-story, shed roofed addition stood to the SW of the house.



Figure 33 43035 Braddock, NE and NW Elevations in 2002



Figure 34 43035 Braddock Road, SW and NW Elevations in 2002



Figure 35 Sheds, SW of House, 43035 Braddock Road in 2002

I 2.6.1 Conklin Post office and First Store: (South Conklin)

Conklin was named for a white landowner named Joseph R. Conklin, though two centuries after it had already been settled around 1715 in the Elk Lick area, then simply known as Arcola. In more modern times the area was also known as southern Broad Run, a former Magisterial District. In 1755 the area might also have been called Colchester Road (today's Braddock Road). The area was also known in the 90's by some as part of Pleasant Valley since it was vaguely on the boundary between Pleasant Valley and Arcola. However, most residents would eventually know the village at least as Conklin, who migrated from Gregg Township in Pennsylvania, and purchased over 100 acres of land from Horace Adee in 1871. Two years after his arrival in 1872, the first public building went up, namely the Conklin Colored School described earlier on Adee land. A one room school for white children called McGraw's Ridge School was also built in 1889 on Gum Spring Road, south of Braddock (Route 620) (Hiatt, December 27, 1998 and January 22, 1999), (Dean N. , 2014). The school was later closed in 1939. Today, Pleasant Valley has a very different definition, and in 1871, the Pleasant Valley Post Office was 4.5 miles east of Conklin.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

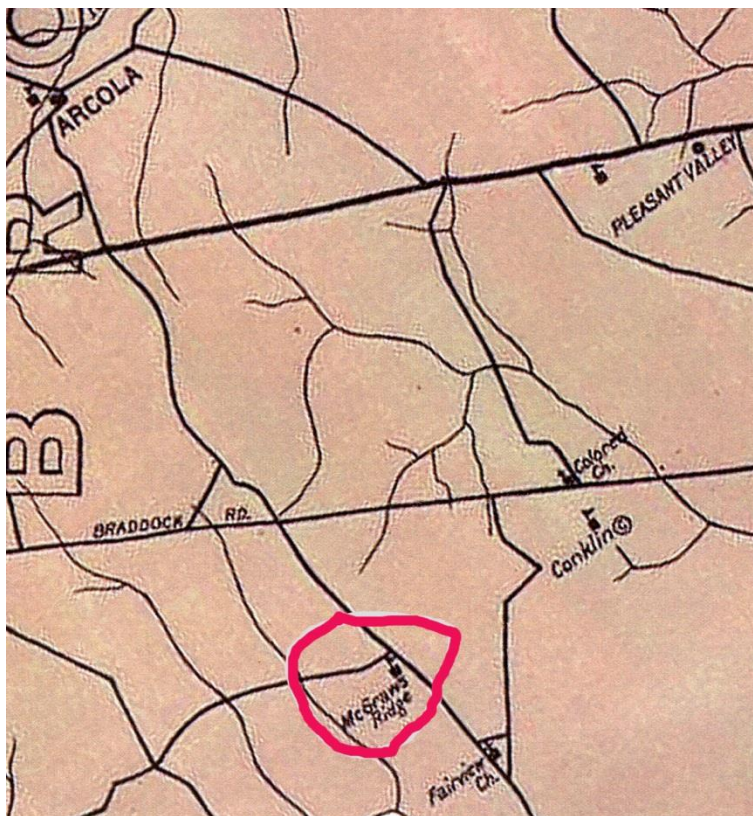


Figure 36 McGraw Ridge from 1923 Emerick Map

The first store was at the south east corner of Colchester (today's Braddock) and Fairview Church Roads (today's Ticonderoga). The store was built in 1890 and housed the first Conklin Post office, initially operated under E. M. Utterback who made the application on May 6th, 1890 during the administration of Republican Benjamin Harrison. Conklin and his wife owned the store and took over the post office in 1892⁷. It is worth noting that post masters were political appointments and in November, 1892 Democrat Grover Cleveland was elected. In 1895 by Charles R. Skillman took over the post mastership until the post office burned in 1910 and was moved to the South West corner of Colchester and Bull Run Post office road (route 621). The post office was then closed in 1917, sending the mails to Arcola. My proposal is to place historical markers at both locations.

⁷ We have found other evidence that the village was well known as Conklin from the reports of the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind in Staunton, who had a student from Conklin, Loudoun 1898-1904 named B. Cunningham.



Figure 37 Conklin Post Card 1908

The picture above is of a rather poor strike of a Conklin postmark of 1908 over the one-cent Franklin stamp. It was forwarded through nearby Pleasant Valley and Herndon, both in Fairfax County, possibly to catch the train for processing in Washington, DC, to Indiana (Lisbeth, 2013).

The original location for the Conklin Post office was $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south of Elk Lick and considered an extension of Postal Route 11111, which was the route from Herndon to what was then known as Pleasant Valley on which the mail was carried six times a week in 1890 before Conklin was established. Eventually Conklin's route was known as 11969, and operated about 4.5 miles from Pleasant Valley, which was east of Conklin. Five miles south of Conklin was the Sudley Springs station. Five miles north was the Arcola station. It was also south of the nearest railroad, Washington and Western (predecessor to the **Norfolk and Western Railway**), and serviced a population of one hundred people. By April 26, 1892, the site was moved $\frac{1}{2}$ miles west on route 11969. It was 18 miles from the Potomac River and one mile from Elk Lick on the west side.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

The Pleasant Valley Post office was 5.5 miles away in a NE direction. The office was also 11 miles from the Sterling Station of the Washington and Ohio Railroad on the south side of the railroad and 5.5 miles south of Arcola (Utterback, 1890, May 6), (Conklin, 1892, July 16). As for the Washington and Ohio, it operated using the following stations: Alexandria, Leesburg and Hamilton. It also linked to Kemp's stages at Hamilton which serviced Purcellville, Round Hill, Snickersville, Berryville and Winchester (Rail Staff, 1873)

The following maps are derived from the original proposal for the Conklin Post office in 1890 and a report to the Topographer of the Post office in 1892.

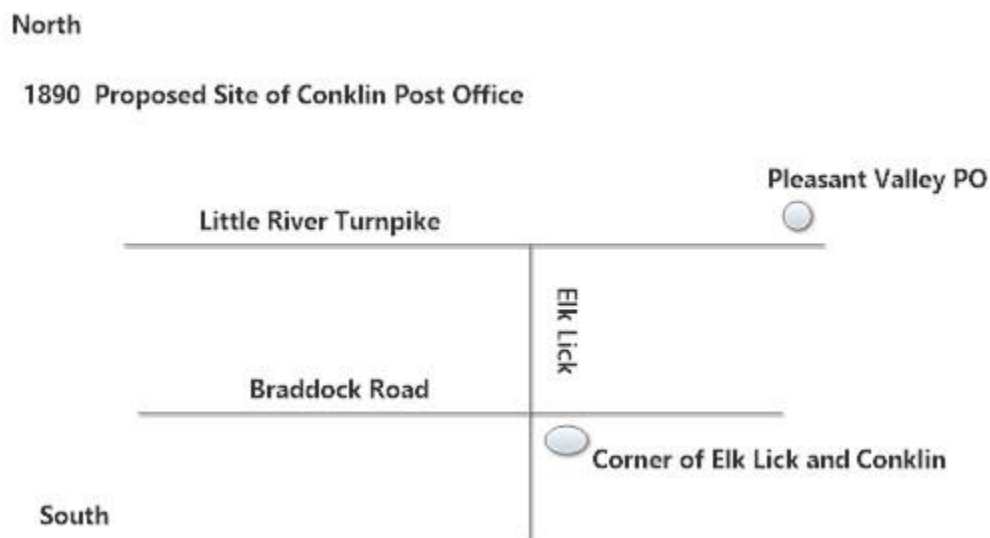


Figure 38 1890 Proposal Map

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

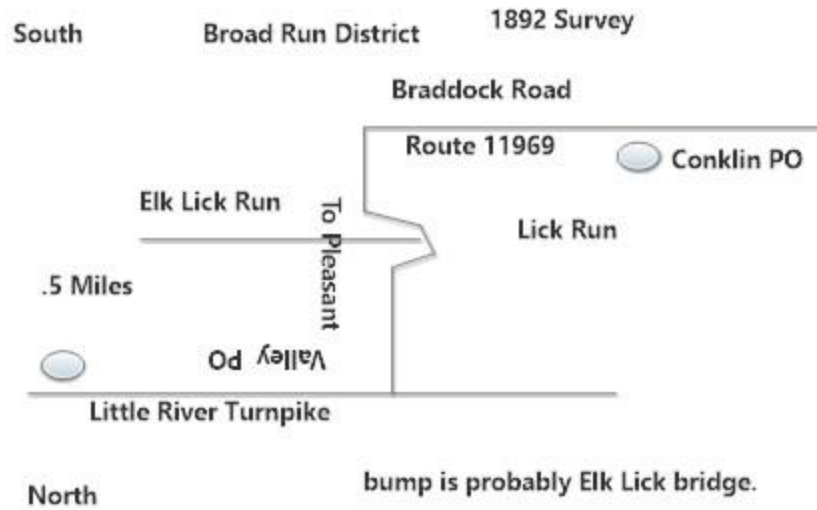


Figure 39 1892 Map For Report to Postal Office Topographer

I 3. The Dean Initiative

In 2011, after a redistricting in Loudoun County driven by the 2010 US Census, local citizens attempted to rename the Magisterial District in which the church sat after Jennie Dean, who had started the Prosperity Baptist Church (Roeder L. , District 4 is Now the Jennie Dean District, 2011) (Gibson, 2011). Until then, the District was named after John Foster Dulles and Dulles Airport, but was also cut up in 2011 and parts given to other districts, and given the temporary name of District 4, pending a permanent designation. Many were in favor of naming the new District Dean or Jennie Dean, including a local artist named Sherry Zvares Sanabria who did a painting of the Settle-Dean cabin (Sanabria, 2011) and former Supervisor for the Blue Ridge District, James Burton (Burton, 2011). As Supervisor Sally Kurtz said in one of the Board of Supervisor debates, the initiative was sound and was "about putting our best foot forward," a point loudly applauded by residents and former residents in and around Conklin.

Thanks to efforts by the African-American community, the Prosperity Baptist Church, Leesburg Supervisor Kelly Burk and others, the Board of Supervisors did vote to name the new District Jennie Dean. Efforts then went into high gear to invite the Black Caucus of the US Congress, President Barack Obama and others to Loudoun County to celebrate the historic decision. Research indicated at the time that no other Magisterial District in the State of Virginia had even been named after an African-American, much less a former slave, in this case someone who made an enormous contribution to the education of Loudoun citizens through her school in Manassas. Expectations arose that this vote would even provide a strong infusion of tourist dollars. Unfortunately, opponents changed the minds of enough supervisors in a second meeting. They renamed the district Dulles (which it was called prior to the census) in a 5-4 decision, missing an historic opportunity in civil rights as well as an opportunity to expand the local tourist economy (Owens, 2011) (Moore, 2011). "I find it ironic that we are considering naming it after a

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

gentleman that also didn't live in Loudoun County," Burk said, referring to Dulles Airport namesake Eisenhower-era Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

I 4 Conklin Grave Sites

There are several cemeteries associated with the village of Conklin, such as the Hampton Brewer Cemetery, the Conklin-Saffer Cemetery, the Prosperity Baptist Church Cemetery, and others. My plan is to study each. Conklin's grave and that of his family, the Saffer family and other pioneers are in a private cemetery off of Braddock Road on the North side of Longacre Drive. This is at the western edge of what this paper defines as Conklin. There are many other cemeteries as well, as this was an agricultural zone in the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries. People were often buried on their own land, such as happened to Hampton Brewer, who was probably buried in a cemetery with some of his cluster of African-Americans on the northern border of his property at the south line of the school bus parking lot at Lundsford Middle School.

I 4.1 The Hampton Brewer Cemetery (SW Conklin)

Brewer died in December, 1884; unfortunately, I found no mention of a will (Duncan, Loudoun County Virginia Will Book Index 1757-1946, 2001). I also looked for an obituary in Loudoun, Prince William County, without success. Unfortunately, most of the newspapers for Prince William County have not survived due to a fire in 1905. Also examined was an index for the newspapers in Fauquier County, the index to the "Alexandria Gazette", Washington Post, paid newspaper site Genealogy Bank and online at the Library of Congress for Virginia or D.C. newspapers. No luck (Veness, 2013).

Oral tradition has it Brewer was buried in his own cemetery behind Lundsford Elementary School off of Ticonderoga Road on a patch of his land, along with members of the Allen family (Saffer, History of Hampton Brewer, 2103), though this has not been proved. Wynne Saffer heard this from Delbert Linton around 1982. What makes that significant is that Delbert, who was in his 80's when he talked to Saffer, had lived on the Dr. Gallagher farm on the Old Post office Road nearby for many years. It was

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

customary then for farmers to share labor, and thus they came to know each other quite well, in addition to their histories. Linton also took a deep interest in the many cemeteries in this region of the Dulles District and helped Saffer learn their locations. Linton's father also buried Frank Denny in 1945, who was the last person buried in the Saffer cemetery just west of Prosperity on the north side of Braddock. Absent any written record, this is the best available source. Delbert died September 18, 2002 in Sterling, so can't be interviewed again; but I plan talk to his daughter, who is alive. Members of the Allen family who obtained land from Brewer are probably also buried in his cemetery, probably Betsy Allen, for example, as are some in the Prosperity Baptist church grave yard. This is Cemetery Number 076 in the Balch Library files. Photographs are available in Video Collection 13, Loudoun County Cemetery Records, VC0013. The following two from the collection are provided courtesy of the Balch Library and were taken by Wynne Saffer.



Figure 40 Cut Field Stone Tomb Stones at Hampton Brewer Cemetery



Figure 41 Wynn Safer at tomb stones in Hampton R. Brewer Cemetery

I 5. Conklin in the 1970's and 80's

Every Sunday morning when the weather was right, hot air balloons floating over Conklin, competing with the Concorde jets.



Figure 42 Balloons over Conklin January, 1986

I 6. A story of Freedom

The Discovery:



Figure 43 Pastor Lawson locates a book.

Prior to the Civil War, In 1854 and 1857, white farmer Hampton R. Brewer of Fairfax and Prince William counties and a slave owner in 1850, registered free in Loudoun County, Virginia ten African-Americans, mostly of the Allen family⁸; but this story is much more than that. Given the horrible things that happened to African-Americans in American history and the pressures on friendly whites as well, this book needs to be more than a simple recitation of facts. It is also part of the national story about civil rights and integration.

This research project began with a discovery by Pastor Carlos Lawson in the archives of the Prosperity Baptist Church, situated on the north side of Braddock Road next to present-day South Riding, a place of worship and learning started by famed former slave, evangelist and educator Jennie Dean. One afternoon in August, 2013, Pastor Lawson and I were in the basement of the church and dived into a box of recently recovered old church files, financial records, burial notices and many other interesting documents from the church's recent and distant past. At the bottom, almost invisible, was a small roll of papers. The savings bond sized sheets didn't look like much at first, until gently laid flat. What Lawson and I had discovered was a set of property tax receipts for land owned by Hampton R. Brewer

⁸ Before emancipation, freed African-Americans were required by law to leave the state not later than one year after obtaining their freedom. They were also required to register at the county level every three years. In other words, despite the evacuation order, many stayed in Virginia, even though they had to reregister locally on a regular basis.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

between 1882 and 1890. Who was Brewer and why were his tax receipts in the Archives, especially since the church wasn't started until 1899? We thought the discovery might be a clue to a love story, or friendship or just an interesting tale about a white farmer and a few African-Americans whose freedom he registered and who learned how to succeed. None of these people were famous. None invented anything or wrote a great novel; but theirs is an American story worth hearing because America is built more on the backs of ordinary, forgotten people than on the shoulders of the mighty. Some of these very ordinary Americans also sometimes risked everything for their country by serving in the military. The irony of course is that the country served by the African-Americans in the Civil War and World War One didn't respect these people.

The Story:

The basic story is that a white farmer named Hampton R. Brewer from Prince William and Fairfax counties moved to Loudoun with African-Americans that he registered as free and who lived with Brewer on land he purchased from a slave dealer and rather broad-based businessman in Fairfax County. These former slaves were probably all related and mostly ended up living on Brewer's land. Indeed all of his land, except for a portion for a cemetery, likely was obtained for free or was purchased by the African-American "cluster," which they held onto until the mid-1960's. Why?

Hampton R. Brewer was probably born about 1802 in the Leeds Parish of Prince William County, Virginia to John V. Brewer, who leased land. By 1832, Brewer moved to nearby Fairfax County where on April 14, 1832 (recorded April 20 (Commissioner of the Revenue, 1832)) he bought a 215 and 1/3 acre farm (all in Fairfax) from Charles and Ann Marie Ratcliffe for \$567. This land was on Cub Run, very near Loudoun, and adjacent to part of estates owned by Carter, Fitzhugh, Francis M. Lewis & Dozier Bennett; also part of a larger tract conveyed to said Ratcliffe by Jeremiah Hutchison. He would later try to sell the land and have to sue to gain his money (See Annex).

An examination of 1844 records from Prince William County initially indicated Brewer owned a single slave above the age of 16; but a reexamination showed that not

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

to be true⁹. He isn't known to have had any slaves until 1850. As enumerated on September 3, 1850, the 1850 US Census for Fairfax (US Census Bureau, 1850) indicated that Hampton R. Brewer was born about 1802, (then age 47) was a farmer worth \$4511 and had a single free black male living with him born about 1824 (then age 26). His name was Nimrod Robinson, who lived in the same home (Dwelling 421), and might have been a relative of neighbors.

Interestingly, the month prior, on August 31, 1850, also in Fairfax County, the enumerator in the US Census Slave Schedule showed that Brewer owned six slaves. Their sex and age were given, but not the names: One 42 year old mulatto female, one 21 year old mulatto male, one 13 year old black male, one 13 year old black female, one 15 years old black female, and one black 6 year old male. (US Census Bureau, 1850, p. Slave Schedule). I'm not certain who these people were, who they were purchased from or for how much, nor can I prove what happened to them. An expert on slaves in Fairfax suggested they might have been inherited from Brewer's mother, who lived in Fauquier County after moving from Fairfax; however, research into Fauquier County records didn't confirm that analysis (Ginther, 2013)¹⁰. The expert might be right; but I haven't found proof.

The next records for Brewer are in 1854 and 1857 when he certified in Loudoun County as free ten African-Americans and then in 1859 bought 133 acres and 22 poles just south of present day Braddock Road from a well-known slave dealer and businessman named Alexander S. Grigsby, who operated in Centreville, Fairfax County. Grigsby could also have been the seller of the 1850 slaves; but evidence supporting that theory has not emerged.

One of the people Brewer registered as free in Loudoun County in 1854 was Betsy Allen, whom I and many I have consulted believe was the matriarch of the African-Americans. She was born about 1804 to Polly Allen, a woman emancipated by

⁹ I'm mentioning this because many of the records I examined for this study were handwritten, not typed, making mistakes very easy for the unwary.

¹⁰ The use of Black, Colored and Mulatto reflects the terminology of documents I researched.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

Robert Carter¹¹, and the sister of Anne Allen, Mary Allen and probably others. Betsy had also been registered as free since 1826. By cross-referencing the 1854 list of registered African-Americans with the 1850 schedule, a potential for overlap also emerges. What if the “slaves” in the 1850 list were not slaves at all; but actually free African-Americans (or a mix of slaves and freed African-Americans) who were also relatives of Betsy pretending to be slaves in order to have “protection” under Brewer? In fact, what if the so-called slave from 1844 was actually Betsy Allen? It’s a sensitive theory proposed by some, and I have doubts. After all, the population then was small and the enumerators were local, so they likely would have known who was free and not.

Possible cross reference of 1850 Fairfax “slaves” against the list of African Americans registered as free in 1854 in Loudoun

1854 Freedom List	1854 Freedom List Age	1850 Slave Schedule list from Fairfax Number of Slaves	Age	Gender	Black or Mulatto
Betsy Allen	50	1	42	F	M
William Allen	24	1	21	M	B
Alex Allen	19	1	13	M	B
Mary Allen	16 ½	1	13	F	B
Narcissa Allen	20	1	15	F	B
		1	6	M	B

Why would free African-Americans ever pretend to be Slaves? While I doubt the theory, it is also important to keep in mind that African-Americans who were registered as free were often harassed, especially if they lost their registrations of freedom, which had to be renewed every three years. Registrations served as a sort of limited travel document or passport of sorts (and permit to work after 1793); and there were severe penalties for not holding proper papers (Levy, 2005, p. 180) (Barden, 1993, p. 8). Safe travel was therefore difficult, whereas ironically, if someone wanted to harass a slave, he would have to deal directly with the white owner. In other words traveling as a slave might make movement easier in some instances, if also demeaning; but again, while this theory has attractions, I am not convinced.

¹¹ Recommended reading is [The First Emancipator](#) by Andrew Levy, Random House, 2005

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

Nearly all of the African-Americans certified as free in 1854 and 1857 (perhaps all) by Brewer were members of the Allen family. One certified as free was also a Jas (probably James) Gaskins, who eventually joined the Union Army. He was a son of Amy Gaskins, though he could also have been a member of the Allen family.

Theory One: Brewer purchased slaves in Fairfax and freed them, perhaps also bringing with them some previously freed slaves to Loudoun to work on his farm. The Civil War destroyed economic opportunity and so he might have sold off the farm to them bit by bit to make ends meet. This is certainly the story of many other farmers; but clearly there was also a tenacity by the African-American cluster to stick to original Brewer land in Loudoun and the Allen family retained personal papers belonging to Brewer into the mid-twentieth Century. Something about the accumulation of facts leads me to think there was a “friendly relationship” between Brewer and the African-Americans that went beyond economics.

Theory Two: There is an oral tradition in the Dean-Allen families that Brewer might have kept some of the cluster in servitude beyond the Civil War. According to this tradition, Brewer was brought to court by one or more of the Allen family. (Hill, African-American History Expert, 2013). Anything is possible; but absent some documentation, I am not convinced. While some former slave owners did try to retain or sell their former charges after the war, this wasn’t common, especially as Lincoln’s emancipation was well-known. The former slaves could simply walk off the farm, especially a farm owned by a Middle-Aged white farmer. Further, a detailed examination in the Loudoun County Archives of Minute Books of the Circuit Court and County Court, as well as Order Books for the Circuit Court for the entire period Brewer lived in Loudoun revealed nothing except a minor debt claim in 1872 (and other years) with George F. Carter (County Court of Loudoun, 1872, p. 335). I propose that this tradition might actually be a corrupted version of Theory Three, which for now is the preferred proposal. It could also derive from Brewer’s vote in May, 1861 to support secession. Whatever his reasons for doing that, surely his African-American cluster would not have been supportive of the vote (Chamberlain, 2003).

Theory Three – The Working Theory: In this scenario, Brewer and Betsy Allen (or one of the women in the 1850 list) constituted a couple, and as a result of a romance or strong friendship Brewer was convinced to save other members of her family from a life of servitude and distress. In 1860, eight members of the Allen family and a James Gaskins lived in the home of Betsy Allen, which was on Brewer's property. That gave them protection, since harassing white neighbors would not bother them before talking to Brewer. Some of these people and their children would also end up owning Brewer's property, continuing to pay taxes through their estates up to 1965, such as Christine Norris did for the estate of William Allen, her grandfather through Lucien Allen. There is no record that either Betsy or Brewer ever married, so caution is required applying Theory Three; but if they were in a romance, one reason for there not being a record was **that it was illegal**. Any romance would have been covered up.

The cluster of African-Americans became laborers, farmers, soldiers and a tanner in one instance. Eventually the Allen family married into the famous Dean family and some are buried in the Prosperity Baptist Church. Others and presumably Hampton R. Brewer, are buried in the Hampton R. Brewer cemetery which is at the south fence of the Lundsford Middle School on Braddock Road – though I can't yet prove that with paper documentation, only the memory of a neighbor who briefed Wynne Saffer in the early 1980s.

This study examines most members of the Allen family and Brewer, as best as records can reveal; but some guessing is required, certainly on the relationship between Brewer and his freed African-Americans. My opinion (and of others I consulted) under Theory Three is that given that:

- (a) Brewer's personal tax records for 1882-1890 were retained by the family in the Prosperity Church archives,
- (b) Brewer must have taken special efforts to bring them over to Loudoun,
- (c) The extended family retained a link with Brewer for the rest of his life,
- (d) Betsy (the probable matriarch) lived on his property for the remainder of her life ,
and
- (e) Brewer sold off his property not to strangers but to this extended family,

Conclusion: This group appears to have been a family in all but license. In other words, Brewer was likely the patriarch of the cluster and possibly the romantic partner of Betsy, the group's matriarch. In the absence of letters and other documents, this can't be proven, but it is the working theory.

I 7 Biographies

I 7.1 Hampton R. Brewer

Hampton R. Brewer was probably born in Prince William County, Virginia about 1802 and died Dec 20, 1884 in Loudoun County (Frain & Hiatt, 1998). He was the son of John V. and Nancy Brewer of Prince William County. Brewer's father John V. Brewer left a will in Prince William County (PWC), (Will Book M, page 140), which he wrote on 27 January 1805. Although he was rather young at this time, the will says he was sick (and obviously thought he was going to die) so he wanted to make sure that he took care of his wife, Nancy, son Hampton and an unborn child. He actually died before 1 March 1824 the date the will was brought into court (**John V. probably died the end of February 1824**). Vital records were not kept yet on deaths, so any official proof would be in the nature of church records.

At the time, the Brewer family was on land leased in the Parish of Leeds in PWC according to an arrangement with John's father Thomas dating back to 1792.

"John V. Brewer dated 27 Jan 1805 (PWC WB M, p. 140). Witnesses were Wm Cundiff, Thos. Blackwil, and Thomas Brewer Jr. The will was presented to the court and proved by the oaths of Thomas B. Sinclair and the handwritings of William Cundiff and Thomas Brewer¹². " An excerpt

¹² See Brewer Family File, **Ruth E. Lloyd Information Center for Genealogy and Local History (RELIC)** Prince William Public Library System Bull Run Regional Library, 8051 Ashton Avenue, Manassas,

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

reads "...it is my will and desire and I give the whole of the Residue of my Estate of all kind whatsoever and all my monies that may be due me to my loving wife Nancy Brewer during her natural life or widowhood and after her death or Intermarriage to be equally divided between my son **Hampton R. Brewer** and a child unborn and I give the whole of the abovementioned estate to them and their heirs lawfully begotten forever;...John V. Brewer." The bond for Nancy Brewer's administration of the will of John V. Brewer is signed by her as Ann Brewer and by Wm. P. Rogers and Russell H(?) Wigginton. (PWC Bond Book on microfilm, 1824, p. 73).

With regard to the property in Prince William County owned by the Brewer family, see *Deed Abstracts of Prince William County, VA 1791-1796* edited and published by Ruth and Sam Sparacio, The Antient Press, 1993, p. 25:

pp. 78-80 This indenture made this 11th day of November in year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety one between Mann Page of County of Spotsylvania of one part and Thomas Brewer of County of Prince William of other part; Witnesseth that Mann Page in consideration of the rents and covenants herein after mentioned on part of Thomas Brewer to be performed, by these presents doth demise grant and to farm let unto Thomas Brewer one hundred and sixty acres of land with appurtenances lying in the Parish of Leeds in Prince William County which said tract of land is bounded. Beginning at two small black Oaks corner to Buckners, thence with his line South 20 degrees west 98 poles to three white Oaks, corner to said Lott, thence with the Patent Line South 54 East to a corner of the old Patent, thence with a line of the Patent North 39 East to the Dumfries Road, thence up said Road to the Beginning. To have and to hold the said land and premises to Thomas Brewer and his heirs during the natural life and lives of them, to wit, Thomas Brewer, John Brewer & Thomas Brewer Junr., and longest liver of them, paying yearly one thousand five hundred pounds of crop tobacco with cask for the one hundred and sixty acres of land unto Mann Page his heirs...Mann Page, Thomas Brewer. Wit. Alexander Lee, John Hobby, John Brewer. At a Court held for Prince William County the 2nd day of April 1792 This Lease from Mann Page to Thomas Brewer was proved by the oaths of the witnesses and admitted to Record. Teste Robt. Graham, Cl Cur.

Brewer's mother Nancy, which is a nickname for Ann (*Nicknames Past and Present* by Christine Rose, 4th ed. Expanded 2002) is in the 1824 Personal Property Tax List for Prince William County (the year John V. dies), listed as the Head with two male tithables, and 1 slave and 7 horses. An expert at RELIC followed the Personal Property

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

list and discovered that in 1826 she had the two males but the 1829 records indicated Ann Brewer & son, the next in line being William Brewer. It may be that her unborn child not yet named in 1805 was William. Ann Brewer was also in the 1830 and 1840 census for Prince William County as Head of the Family. (**Note:** I haven't done a detailed genealogical report on the Brewer family, as that's outside the scope of this study. William may have had children and records may have survived through time that can shed more light on Hampton R. Brewer's relationship with the cluster.)

The marriage record of John and Ann may be in *Marriages of Loudoun County, Virginia 1757-1853* compiled by Mary Alice Wertz, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc. Baltimore 1985, p. 17: **Brewer, John & Nancy Milholland. 1796.**

Littlejohn. [Littlejohn is the name of the minister who returned the bond. In her Appendix, p. 190, she has further information: Littlejohn, John. Methodist Episcopal. June 1786. Bond. [The bond date is when the minister gave a bond to the Governor in order to perform the rites of matrimony.] Ann may have turned up as well in the 1850 census for Fauquier County, Turner District. William Brewer, age 45 was then listed as Head of family and was a laborer by occupation. Ann Brewer was listed as 75 years old. She didn't show up in the 1860 census, perhaps Ann Brewer, **died between 1850 and 1860.**

In an Annex to this volume is a discussion of a law suit (1841-1842) between Hampton Brewer (described mostly as Brewer). Brewer sold some land to Triplett and Triplett didn't pay what he owed. (Chancery Case was in **Fairfax County**, Case # 1842-005 available online at the Library of Virginia. It was regarding 215 1/3 acres.) Brewer sued and won. On the page with image 18 out of the 26, it states in faint ink that **Ann Brewer was then residing on the property.** In other words, instead of remarrying, she remained a widow.

In the law suit documents folder is an agreement titled Articles of Agreement made and entered into this 21st Day of January, 1839. It appears to be a set of articles of agreement between Triplett and Brewer entered into 21 January, 1839. In consideration for a sum (?) hundred and sixty dollars, to be paid by Triplett, Hampton

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

Brewer sold him some land (Confusing to me at first because the handwriting initially looked like 1859) in fee simple, the land lying in Fairfax County, originally purchased of Charles Ratcliffe, (dead) adjoining the land of Francis (unreadable) on which Ann Brewer then resided.

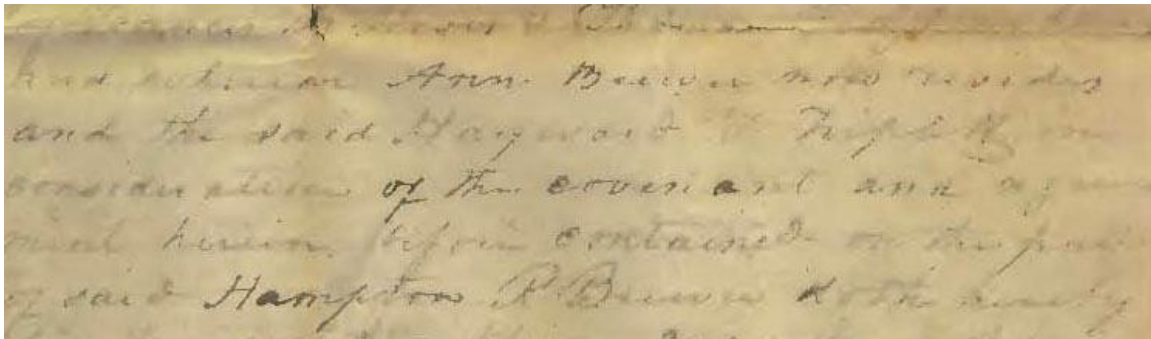


Figure 44 Ann Brewer Living in Fairfax

Brewer also appeared as a basic farmer in Prince William County in the property records of 1844-1847, when he lived in the District of Thomas Shaw. At first, I felt that Brewer might have owned a slave that year; but with the assistance of the RELIC room in Manassas, we determined that he did not. The 1844 personal property record for Brewer looks like 1 white above 16, 5 horses etc. and 4 wheel carriages worth \$40.00. The second and third columns, where slaves 16 and above and slaves 12 to 16 would have been entered, are empty (Scott, The Ruth E. Lloyd Information Center, 2013). There are no other records in the county indicating slave ownership (Clerk of the Court, Prince William County, 1854) and even if he did own slaves, Fairfax County and Prince William County personal property do not identify slaves by name (McCoy, 2013). I had hoped that if he owned any slaves, they could be linked to the 1850 list in Fairfax County or the lists of declared free African-Americans in Loudoun.

The 1850 census for Fairfax says Brewer had real estate worth \$450 and that his occupation was a farmer. It looks like he was living in Fairfax County starting in April 1832 when he bought the 215 1/3 acres from Charles Ratcliffe & his wife Ann Maria for \$567 near Cub Run. [Fairfax Co. Deed Book A, no.3, p.108], later years he is in Loudoun Co. Brewer also appeared in the Slave Schedule of the 1850 Census for Fairfax as the

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

owner of unnamed slaves. (US Census Bureau, 1850)¹³. That's the only time he is shown as a slave owner – though his mother may have owned slaves, so these might be them, which was determined by examining the 1840 census for the Eastern District of Prince William County, (PWC). Ann Brewer had two male slaves between 10-24, two male slaves between 0-10 years old, one female slave between 36-55, one female slave 10-24 and one female slave 0-10 years old. Could this be the Allen family? It is not a direct match to the 1850 list (Annex Three).



Figure 45 Looking into Brewer's Land in 2014

Brewer is next heard of in 1854 and 1857 in Loudoun County when he registered two groups of African-Americans, which included Betsy Allen, probably the matriarch and about Brewer's age. As a result, the Allen family in particular prospered but also other families such as Gaskins. This also had a positive impact on the famous Dean family, as the two intermarried. Most of the African-Americans were also of the Allen family. In fact, they may all have been related. (Annex titled Freedom Files). If Brewer's mother

¹³ The 1850 Census showed Brewer as a single farmer worth \$4511, with one Black laborer, age 25 named Nimrod Robinson. There was also a black Allen family as neighbors, but I don't know if they are related to the Allen family of Loudoun. Family 428. Nancy Allen, 41, Ruth Allen 5, Mayhala 3, and Orhn R. Allen 3/12 boy baby.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

Ann did have some slaves and also died between 1850 and 1860, these might have been inherited from her. Unfortunately, that link has not yet been documented.

There is no indication that Brewer ever married. He was listed as single in Prince William County in 1844-47 and then again in 1880 as a single, white farmer in the Federal Census for the then Broad Run District, Loudoun County (US Census Bureau, 1880).

What was Conklin Road?

In Loudoun, Brewer lived as a modest farmer by "The Old Road," probably Braddock Road (Saffer, Explanation of the Old Road designation, 2013), known through 1950 in county records as "The Old Road." Judging by the 1930 Census for Loudoun, it was then also called Conklin Road. However, if we look at the 1920 Census, Conklin Road and Braddock Road are two distinct roads. See the citations for Archie Newman listed on Conklin Road, next door to Thomas McIntosh on Braddock.

The working theory is that Brewer brought former slaves to Loudoun where he also registered them as free. He may have had a familial or strong friendship with them. However, without actual documents, diaries, etc., describing the relationship is simply an educated guess. In other words, there isn't any proof as to why Brewer registered so many African-Americans. Quakers might have done that, but there is no proof of his religion. Another thought is that some of the children might have been his own. Betsy Allen (who is probably the matriarch) lived next door to Brewer in the 1860 census but on his land, and she had children in her home who were mulatto (hers?).

Unfortunately, the Register of Free Negroes for Prince William County didn't survive but in *Abstracts of Loudoun County Virginia Register of Free Negroes 1844-1861* by Patricia B. Duncan, p. 134 Betsy Allen was registered in Prince William County (date not given) and in 1854, date of Loudoun's registration, she was 50 years old (fits into Ann Brewer's slave list), yet she did not appear on the 1840 federal census as a freed woman of color (so it would seem she got her freedom after 1840). Perhaps Brewer simply showed kindness to his former slaves, or it could be that as an unmarried man, he didn't have family to leave them to and because of their kindness towards him, he in turn made them free by registered them free – as opposed to formally doing deeds

of manumission. Of course, this is all speculation. See chapter on the Allen Family and other Free African-Americans.

Brewer's Politics:

We don't know much about Brewer's politics, except that he took the time to register and in the 1861 vote for secession, voted in favor. He also registered to vote in 1855 and 1861 for the Gum Spring Precinct. He may have registered in other years as well; but those records have been lost.

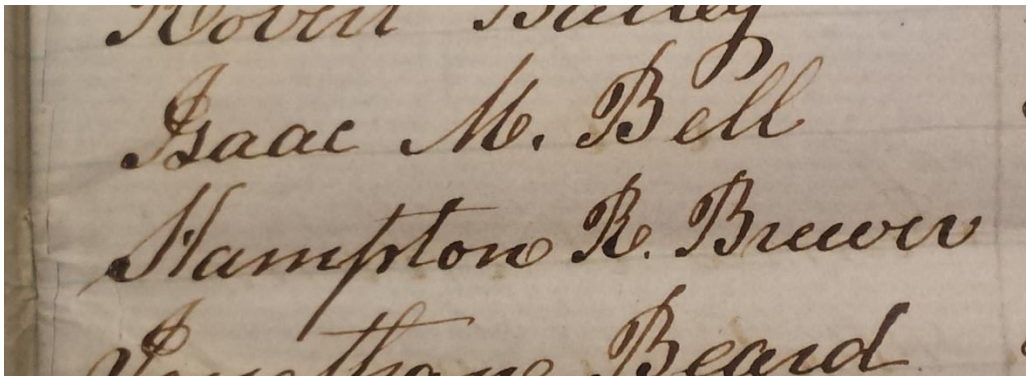


Figure 46 Registration for 1855 in Gum Spring

In May, 1861 in Aldie, twice as many people (1626 to 726) voted for secession as against and in Gum Spring was 135 to 5 (Williams, 1938, p. 199). Brewer voted in favor of succession, as was reported by Taylor Chamberlain in *Where Did They Stand*. The vote was in Gum Spring, 54 in favor and 5 against, with many not voting at all. (Chamberlain, 2003, p. 8). As reported by the Waterford Foundation, "In the tumultuous early months of 1861, citizens of Loudoun County, Virginia, faced a fateful choice. Should they join their fellow Southerners who had already seceded from the United States, or remain loyal to the Union whose capital lay barely 25 miles to the southeast? Many were swayed by months of fiery speeches in support of "states rights" and the Southern way of life—including slavery. Others with close business and family links north of the nearby Potomac River, feared war and economic ruin." What surprised me was that the vote was public. Also as reported by the Waterford Foundation, "The question was put to a vote on 23 May 1861. But there was no secret ballot, and each vote, publicly cast, carried personal consequences for the voter—both in

relation with his neighbors and in his post-war dealings with the federal government (Chamberlin, 2003)."

Apparently, voting against secession was also a dangerous thing, so it is hard to judge Brewer's real politics from this particular event; and it is important not to think of his motivations through the lens of a 21st century person. What is certainly true is that in practically every part of Loudoun, save German and Quaker, the vote went for secession (Head, 1908, p. 148).¹⁴ It was dangerous, as evidenced by the journal of James Smith of Gum Spring Precinct, to vote against secession. Smith and his son in law went by wagon to the precinct to vote early in order to avoid trouble, of which there was none at the polling station. However, on his way back home, the two were accosted by other neighbors, a store keeper named J.M. who felt the family would not be allowed to stay in the land another 48 hours, unless they took an oath of allegiance to the Confederacy, J.M. intended to enforce, as the Governor had made him a Captain of the Guard. Another neighbor called them traitors (Saffer, James Smith Votes at Gumspring, 2006).

Defining the Gum Spring Precinct:

On October 29, 1870, the year before Horace Adey sold his land for a colored school the Board of Broad Run District divided the township into two precincts.

- The boundary of the two precincts "Commencing at Gulick's old mill on Goose Creek, from thence with Road to Mount Hope Church, from thence with road to the mouth of Horspen Run (which is today in Sterling) from thence with said Run to Fairfax line.
- All north of the line was Guilford Precinct. All south was Gum Spring Precinct (Washingtonian Staff, 1871).

Brewer died unmarried on Dec 20, 1884 of old age. See Loudoun County, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 1881: 1. (Frain & Hiatt, 1998, p. 53) and is said to have been buried in the Hampton R. Brewer cemetery at the NW tip of his property, which is the southern fence line of today's Lundsford Elementary School (Saffer, History of Hampton Brewer, 2103). (see discussion on Hampton Brewer Cemetery). Note: Brewer's death records

¹⁴ I am also conducting a study of the vote in Gum Spring precinct to try to gain a clear understanding of the politics and economics that might have guided voting.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

show different parents (George and Mary); but there is no source for an informant, so in light of the presence of the other records over his life, the death notice isn't considered reliable on this point.

I 7.2 Biographies of the Allen Family and other Free African-Americans

Although Brewer's exact relationship to Betsy Allen isn't fully documented, what is clear is that he had much to do with her family, certifying many free. Without the declarations, their movement in Virginia would have been very difficult and opportunities for economic fortune nearly impossible. The Allen and Dean families of the 21st century and that of Gaskins and Payne would have been quite different. For example, James Gaskins could not have served in the Union Army.

Family trees can help us, showing clear relationships between people the further out they live past the civil war, such as the families of Alexander and William Allen in 1880, but the earliest relationships, ones close to slavery for example, are more difficult to document and often make a definitive family tree impossible, so a few guesses have crept in. Fathers are tough as well for early slave families, patrimony wasn't always documented. For slaves in Virginia, birth records started in 1853; but only listed the owner and mother, not the father (Saffer, *Slave Family Records*, 2013). As an example, Betsy Allen appears to be the matriarch of the family and of nearly the same age of Brewer; but were they a couple and how are the many young people listed in the 1860 census for her household related? Was she the spouse of the male in the 1850 list? That's unclear. Are the children in the 1850 list of Betsy, or perhaps nieces and nephews? That's also not clear.

The Ashton's are interesting as they fall within both the William and Alexander Allen branches of the family. Who are Gracie and George Ashton, listed with Alexander's family in 1910? Probably related to Ernest Ashton, who was listed in the 1930 Census for Loudoun as the son-in-law of Lucien Allen, a son of William and brother to William, Jr. Ernest Ashton a Veteran of World War One, was the husband of Annolia, daughter of Lucien. They married when he was thirty and she was 15 and by 1930 were living with Lucien and William, Jr.

I 7.2.1 Betsy Allen, her Siblings and Parents

Betsy Allen was registered in Fairfax County as free as far back as 1826, then thought to be about 16 years of age and the daughter of Polly Harris (AKA Allen), a woman emancipated by Robert Carter, the First Emancipator (Sweig, Registrations of free Negroes commencing September court 1822, book no. 2", and "Register of free Blacks 1835, book 3" : being the full text of the two extant volumes, 1822-1861, of registrations of free Blacks now in the County Courthouse, Fairfax, 1977, pp. Register No 51, 10 June, 1826). By that reckoning, she was born about 1810, only eight years younger than Brewer. When she was registered in Loudoun in 1854 she would have been 44 years old and probably single. She also lived on Brewer's property the rest of her life, though perhaps in a separate house. I suspect that because she was also registered as free in PWC, and in Fairfax June, 10, 1826 (Sweig, Registrations of Free Negroes, Commencing September Court, 1822, Book No 2 and Register of Free Blacks, 1835, Book 3, 1977, p. 31) she might have lived on Brewer's property in PWC as well; but that remains to be documented. Unfortunately, Betsy's registration records in PWC are missing. There is also no mention of Betsy Allen in RELIC especially their books by Joan Peters on *Slave and Free Negro Records, Prince William County or Prince William County Census, Free Negro families* (Scott, Heritage of Hampton Brewer, 2013).

Betsy was an African-American, five foot in height with a scar on her forehead and on the right cheek. She was the sister of Anne Allen, Mary Allen, and possibly Rachel Allen (deceased by 1854), mother of William Allen. Anne Allen was registered in Fairfax the same day as Betsy, and was then 27 years old, 4'11 1/2" with a small scar on her right jaw (Sweig, Registrations of free Negroes commencing September court 1822, book no. 2", and "Register of free Blacks 1835, book 3" : being the full text of the two extant volumes, 1822-1861, of registrations of free Blacks now in the County Courthouse, Fairfax, 1977, pp. Register No 50, 10 June, 1826). Mary Allen was 15 years old at the time, 4'10 1/2" with a small scar on her upper lip (Sweig, Registrations of free Negroes commencing September court 1822, book no. 2", and "Register of free Blacks 1835, book 3" : being the full text of the two extant volumes, 1822-1861, of registrations of free Blacks now in the County Courthouse, Fairfax, 1977, pp. Register No 52, 10 June

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

1836.). It would not be surprising to learn that Betsy was also the sister of Charlotte Allen, grandmother of Alexander through Amanda.

Betsy was also registered free in Loudoun as proved by oath of Brewer on September 11, 1854. The register showed her then as 50 years old, 5'3" tall and of black color. Record 2250, Page 174. (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000).

1860: Betsy worked as a laborer and perhaps in a separate house from Brewer but on the same property. Nine members of the Allen family lived with her, as well as James Gaskins.

1870: Betsy lived with four members of the Allen family, plus two with the family name of Buckhannen. In 1871, she owned livestock, a pleasure wagon, a clock and a dog (Commissioner of Revenue, 1871, p. line 20)

1880: Betsy lived by herself as a housekeeper, according to the census.

1890: The census record was destroyed. 1880 was the last reference for Betsy, so she probably died between 1880 and 1890.

Polly Harris (AKA Allen) was born in 1778 the daughter of Rachel and George and was one of a group of slaves freed by Robert Carter III in his Deed of Gift of August 1, 1791. For details on where the former slaves lived and how they lived while in captivity, the following dissertation is recommended: "Flushed with Notions of Freedom" by John Randolph Barden, in partial fulfillment of his PhD in the Department of History, Duke University (Barden, 1993). **Polly**, the mother of Anne, Betsy and Mary Allen, was also registered in Fairfax as free by Nancy Newman on 17 July, 1826. Unfortunately, the records don't give her parent's names. What is known is that she was African-American, about 41 years old, 5'1" with a large nose and large lips. She also had a small scar on the end of the middle finger of her right hand and a scar on the forehead, as well as a small scar on the back of the right hand above the third joint of the first finger. She was also emancipated by Robert Carter (Sweig, Registrations of free Negroes commencing September court 1822, book no. 2", and "Register of free Blacks 1835, book 3" : being the full text of the two extant volumes, 1822-1861, of registrations of free Blacks now in the County Courthouse, Fairfax, 1977, pp. Register No. 57, June 22, 1826).

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

The following family tree makes some assumptions about Polly and her children. For example, Charlotte was probably the sister of Betsy, as well as Rachel; but that remains to be documented in future research. Some of the “siblings” had children and those relationships are covered in their individual trees.

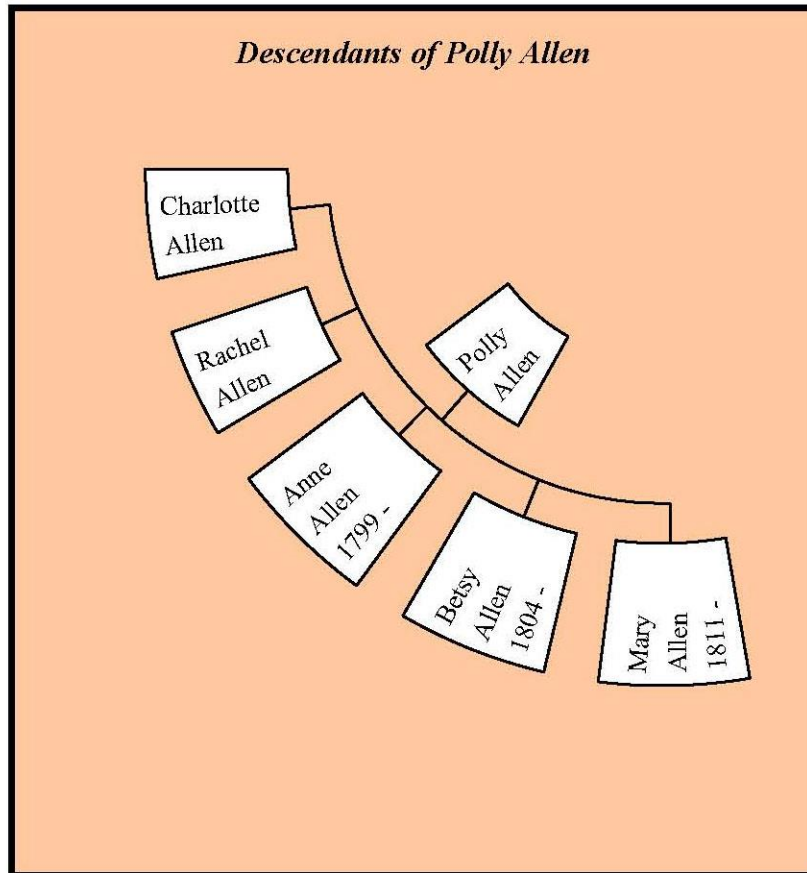


Figure 47 Suspected 1st Generation from Polly Allen

I 7.2.2 Charlotte, Amanda and Alexander Allen

Alexander Allen, (son of Amanda Allen and Grandson of Charlotte), was declared free in 1854 by oath of Hampton R. Brewer. About 19 years old, 5' 8 ½" tall, dark mulatto color, small scar on his left arm and one on his right foot. Record 2254, Page 175 (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000). Exact dates of birth are often hard to nail down in the 19th century, sometimes because the person being reported on didn't know, or in the case of census records, the enumerator didn't always talk to the person being enumerated. However, by using both the 1854 Loudoun registration and the 1860 Census as reference points, Alex was likely born about 1832/33, depending on the birth month. Sometimes errors just creep in, as I learned when researching my great-grandfather, Anton Röder, who immigrated from Germany. Census and other records showed a variety of birth years, even though they always got the month and day of birth correctly.

Alexander appears to also have had two wives, Martha and Ella. The 1900 Census indicates he was married to Ella from about 1868, so the children born prior to that were probably the offspring of Martha (none are known); and after that to Ella. Some of the people listed as his children are guesses, essentially children living with Alexander, like Gracie and Ernest Ashton. It isn't certain if Gracie and Ernest were actually children of Alexander; but the 1880 census does indicate that the following people definitely were children of Alexander: Edgar, Helen, Mandy, Randolph, Corra and Asbury. In addition, Alexander's will of September 15, 1913 cited Viola Beatrice Allen and Selina Alexander Allen as daughters and confirmed Randolph as a son, who himself had a son named George Allen (Allen A. , 1917, p. 222). Henry Alexander Allen may have been a son, Sarah Allen a daughter, Ernest Ashton a grandson and Grace Ashton Newman a daughter or granddaughter. This needs research. Relatives in Alexander's will not requiring inheritance due to their "comfortable prosperity" were Helen Dean, Amanda Carey, Asbury Allen and Mary Harris. His widow Ella was suggested as executrix but renounced this in favor of GW Dean as Administrator. Lucien Allen appears to also have been an administrator. Lucien (1864-1939) was a son of William Allen and grandson of Rachel. He was also the husband of Mary Ellen Dean (1878-1960), who had been a washer woman in 1920.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

See Loudoun Property and Jobs, as well as Neighbors and Census Records.

- 1854: Registered by Brewer in Loudoun as Free.
- 1860: Alexander listed as a Farm Laborer, with a wife named Martha. By the turn of the century, the average daily wage for a laborer was \$1 (Head, 1908, p. 101).
- 1870: Alexander listed as a Farm Laborer.
- 1880: Alexander listed as a Farmer with wife Ella.
- 1883: Alexander listed with 10 acres of land from Hampton R. Brewer.
- 1887-1900: No change in land. Farmer with mortgage free land. Wife is Ella.
- 1910: Paid taxes on 14 acres, free of mortgage. General Farmer and Tanner.
- 1930: Alexander died in 1913; but the estate still paid taxes on 24 acres.
- 1940: Alexander's estate paying on 24 acres on Old Road.
- 1950: Alexander's estate disappears.

In addition to there being a will, Alexander's estate was examined on Dec 14, 1914 in order to account for debts and what balance would be passed on. There is nothing extraordinary in it; but a few bills needed to be paid offer a glimpse of his life. In one entry, he owed \$3.97 to J.E. Douglass and Son for his mill account. That would be the historic Aldie Mill, which still stands and is operated as a park. He also had medical bills and a bill for threshing wheat, so he know he had health issues and grew wheat, probably milling it at Aldie (Loudoun Circuit Court, 1914-1915). **FYI:** The community of Conklin is often referred to as Aldie, meaning that mail went to the Aldie Post office. In 2013, the post office for this area is Chantilly, which is in Fairfax. We also know that Alexander owned a brood mare, two colts, one cow, one brood sow, 2 shoats (weaning pigs), a male hog and 20 bushels and 39 pounds of wheat (Loudoun Circuit Court, 1912-1914).

According to the 1880 Census for Loudoun County, Alexander (age 43) and his family were neighbors of Brewer. He also bought part of Brewer's land in 1883 for \$100 . His family were classified as Mulatto and consisted of Ella (wife) 38, Edgar (son) 11, Helen (daughter) 9, Mandy (daughter) 4 and Asbury (son) 1. Alex could be the Alex Allen (son of Amanda Allen) declared free by Brewer on September 11, 1854. The ages are about right.

Amanda Allen

With regard to Amanda, mother of Alexander, not much is known, other than that she was the daughter of Charlotte Allen and mother of Alexander and John. She was also registered as free in Loudoun by Brewer in 1857, so she was alive in Loudoun by that date, and she was likely a sister of Rachel and Betsy, etc.

The records for delinquent dog taxes in Loudoun's Archives can be interesting, due to handwritten side notes, therefore should not be ignored by the local historian¹⁵. In the case of Alexander and his mother, there were no side notes; but by showing that in 1857 both an Alexander and Amanda Allen (colored) didn't pay their taxes, it emerged that both were alive that year (Loudoun County Sheriff, 19th Century). The explanation on not paying her taxes might simply be that she was not registered as free until that year, though her son Alexander was registered free in 1854 by Brewer.

¹⁵ I plan to do a separate analysis of these records for publication in 2014.

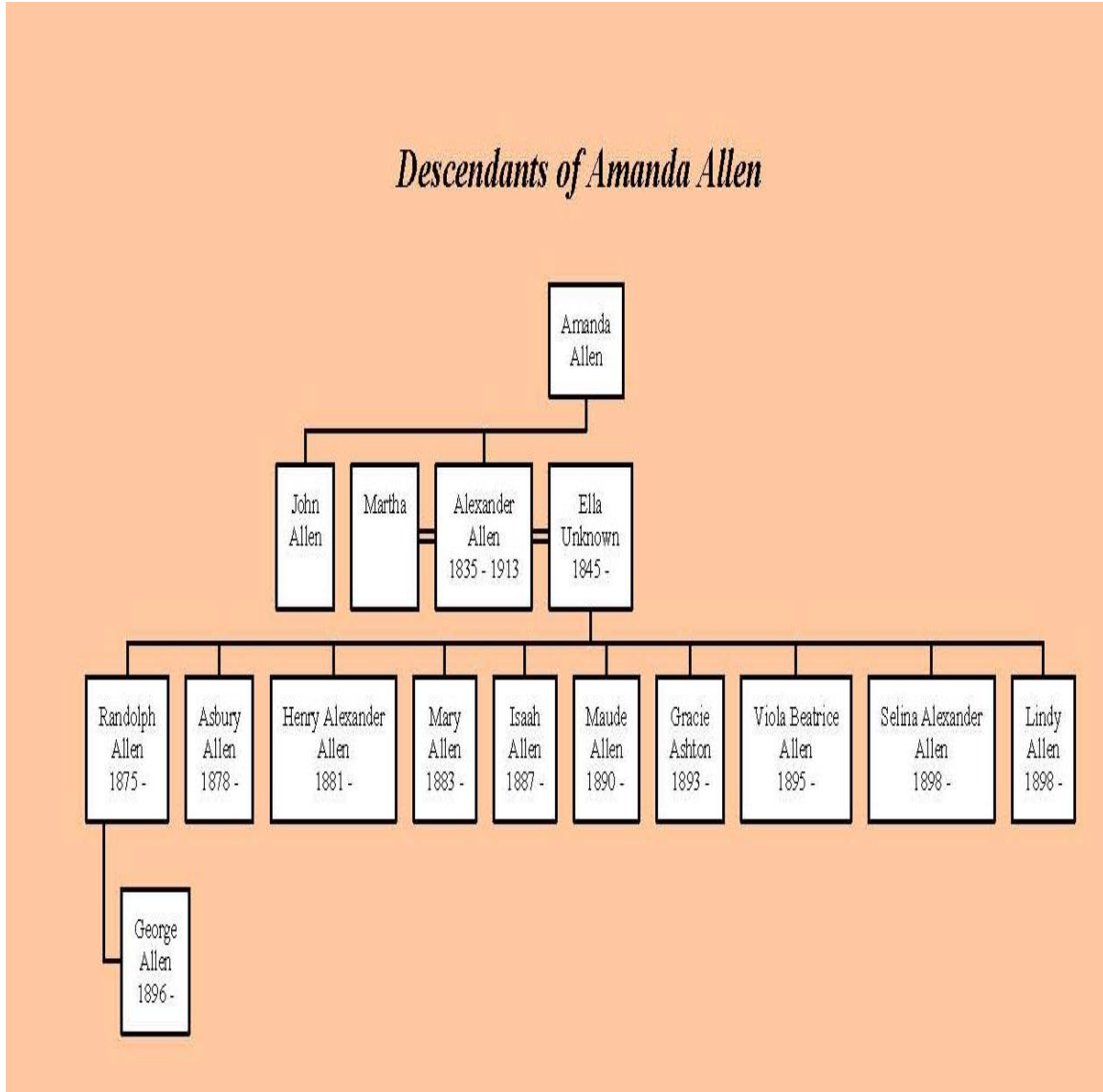


Figure 48 Descendants of Amanda Allen

Other descendants of Amanda to be studied are Edgar (born 1869), Helen (born 1871), Amanda (born 1872), Corra (born 1876)

I 7.2.3 William Allen and Rachel

William Allen, brother of Narcissa, was born May, 1830 and died about 1910. He had been registered free on September 3, 1854 through an oath of Hampton R. Brewer. About 24 years old at the time, he was 5' 7 3/4" tall, dark complexion, with a scar near the corner of the left eye and one near the corner of his mouth. Record 2251, Page 174. (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000).

William was also a son of Rachel Allen, deceased, according to his Loudoun registration. Her registration was done March, 1837 (Peters, pp. Register No. 333, 1836-39, pg 97). After moving to Loudoun, he worked as a farm laborer in 1860 and 1870, then as a farmer by 1880. His wife was Caroline and his son William Jr. appears to have done odd jobs. As seen in the census records, William did have grandchildren as well; but it is unclear which child was his in the census and which was a grandchild. In fact, the 1900 census shows William, Jr. as single.

The grandchildren in question are

Massah	10	F	?	g- daughter	
Lizzie	1	F	Feb 1899	g- daughter	
Richard	8	M	Dec 1891	g-son	Born 22 July, 1888 to Alfred Allen, laborer and Eliza Allen. (Dunn, Loudoun County Virginia Birth Register, 1880-1896, 1999, p. 3) (Was Alfred a son of William?)

An odd Caroline reference is found when a Free Black female named Allen (no first name), is listed as born, December, 1859 in Loudoun to Caroline Allen. The father is not listed, nor his occupation. (Duncan, Loudoun County Virginia Birth Register, 1853-1879, 1998, p. 4).

Dates for William

1830 Born in May

1854 September 3. Registered as free in Loudoun by Brewer

1857 Did not pay dog tax in Loudoun.

1860 Farm laborer, with wife Caroline

1870 Laborer with wife Caroline

1880 Laborer with wife Caroline

1883 William listed as owning ten acres of land off the Old Road, from Brewer.

1887-1900: No change in Land. Listed as a farmer, free of mortgage, with wife Caroline.

1910-1950. William's estate paid taxes on 18 acres.

1960: William's estate referred to Mary Ellen of Centreville (probably Mary Ellen Dean)

1965: William's estate paid taxes c/o Christine Norris of Centreville. (Lucien, son of William, had a daughter named Christina, born about 1910; so it would not surprise me that Christine Norris is the same woman. That would certainly explain why she was maintaining links to the property by paying its taxes. It could be in fact this was the property she grew up on. Other records indicate that Christine E. Norris was born September 14, 1913 and died in Clifton, Fairfax, Va. Aug 3, 2006.

William Allen (age 50) also bought part of Brewer's farm in 1883. His family was neighbor and farmers, and listed as Black. He was the son of Rachel Allen. Caroline (wife) 44, Nancy (daughter) 20, Luther (son) 15, Eliza (daughter) 13, William (son) 9, Athaway (daughter) 7, Elizabeth (daughter) 3, Infant (daughter) 9 months. It is also worth noting that William Saffer was a neighbor. (US Census Bureau, 1880). His descendent Wynne Saffer is currently one of the most respected historians in Loudoun County. William was probably the William Allen declared free by Brewer on September 11, 1854. **Note:** I suspect Rachel was a free Negro. Remembering first that Rachel Allen, deceased, was the Mother of William, Narcissa and Mary Allen, in the Prince William Minute Book for March 6th, 1837 (Minute Books, 1833-43), p. 97 is the following: "Ordered that it be certified that the Register No. 333 of Rachael Allen is truly made. (Clerk of the Court, Prince William County, 1843, p. 97).

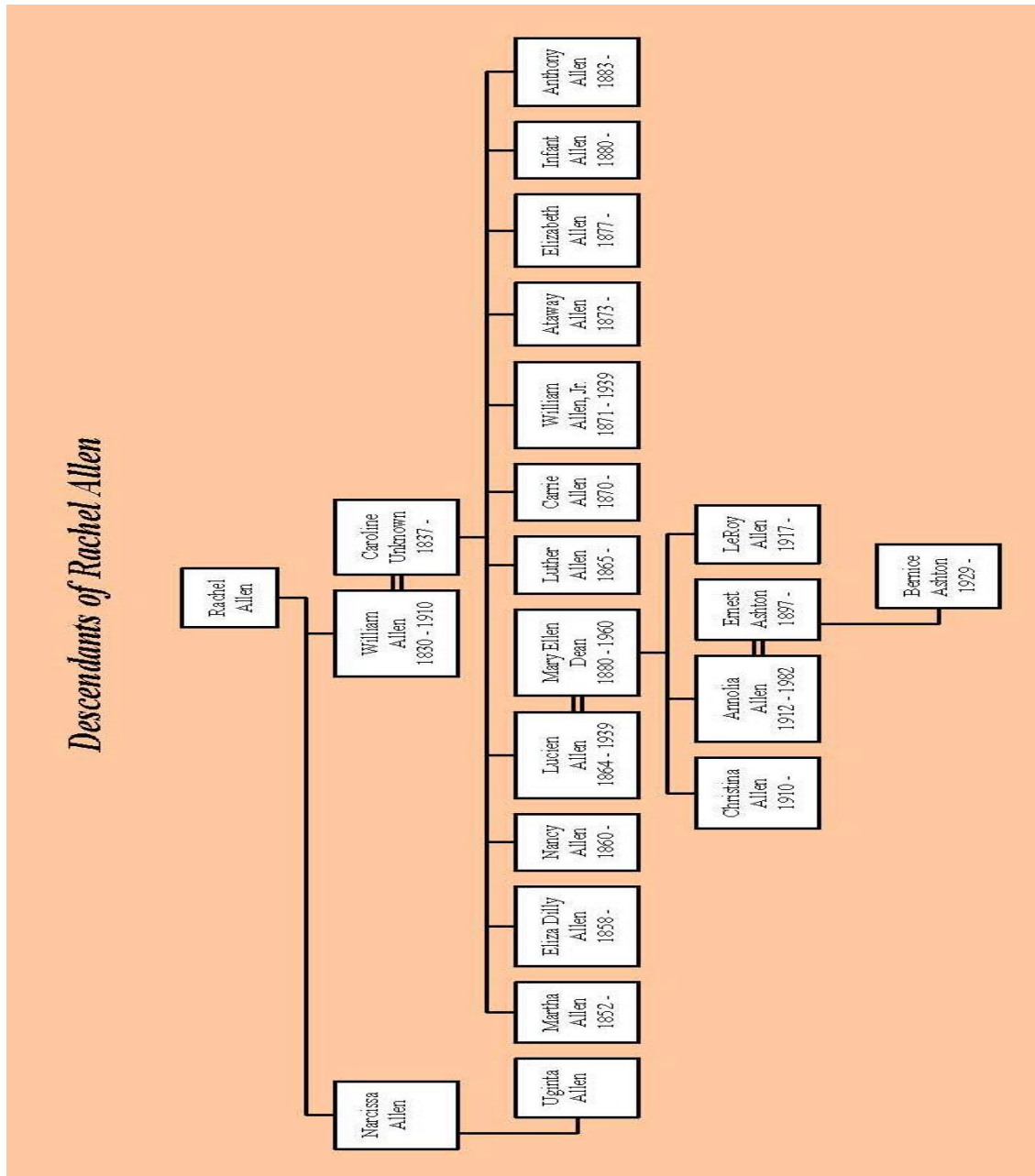


Figure 49 Probable Descendants of Rachel Allen

To be added with 2nd Edition, Narcissa, born 1857. Luther may also be Lucien.

I 7.2.4 James Gaskins



Figure 50 Tombstone James Gaskins

James Gaskins was one of the African-Americans registered as free by Brewer. He also lived at Betsy's home and joined the 39th Colored Infantry which was organized in 1864 in Baltimore, Maryland and saw considerable action, including the siege of Petersburg in Virginia and the battles of Wilmington and Fort Fisher in North Carolina. Following the war, James married Hannah Buchanan (born about 1845 and daughter of Robert and Mahala Buchanan). Hannah's brother Martin Van Buren Buchanon also served in the 3rd Colored Infantry (Grigsby K. D., 2012, pp. 251-252). James was buried in the Mount Zion Community Cemetery in Leesburg. Buried next to him was Mary Davis Gaskins, died in 1935. I'm researching that link.

I 8 Linking African-American families

A tempting project would be to try to link the cluster of African-Americans associated with Hampton Brewer with others in Loudoun holding similar family names; but that's outside the scope of this research and is more properly work that should be done by the Black History Committee at the Balch library and other historians like Kevin Dulany Grigsby who wrote [From Loudoun To Glory: The Role of African-Americans from Loudoun County in the Civil War.](#)

A good example of the potential for error is found researching the Gaskins family. James Gaskins, brought great honor to the cluster of African-Americans and to Loudoun as a whole. But not everyone in Loudoun with that family name is related. In Grigsby's work, he has a wonderful photograph of Anna Gaskins, a teacher at the Willisville school. However, as Grigsby pointed out to me, there is no relation between the two Gaskins. The Gaskins from page 206 were descended from freedmen from western Loudoun. Gaskins was simply her husband's name. He was the brother of Grigsby's great-great grandfather. She was a Shorts from Upperville. Considering my set of Allen's/Gaskins were from outside of Loudoun and Grigsby's set of Gaskins were in Loudoun as far back as at least the late 1700s/early 1800s any connection is further unlikely. There were quite a few Gaskins families in Loudoun and Fauquier counties so Grigsby usually doesn't try to connect his Gaskins to others unless there is some close geographic closeness. While, I don't subscribe that research technique, as a current Loudoun resident, I'd like to see developed a definitive database of names, biographies and listings of artifacts and geographies that links all African-Americans at least from World War One, back. That would be an enormously important research project.

I 9. Prince William County Connection (1802 - Around 1848)

Looking for Records in Prince William County

Visiting the Bull Run Regional Library in Manassas (the collection of The Ruth E. Lloyd Information Center for Genealogy and Local History (RELIC)) can be very rewarding; but there are gaps in Prince William County records, due to the destruction of many files by Federal forces during the civil war. In addition, most of the newspapers for Prince William County held by the Relic Room were destroyed in a fire in 1905.

Virginia did not begin keeping "vital records" (marriages, births, deaths, etc.) until 1853. While marriages have always been registered locally, virtually all births and deaths have been registered with the Division of Vital Records in Richmond. On one or two occasions in the early years of the 1900s, some effort was made to maintain birth and death registrations at the county level, but most consistently these registrations have been made with the state. Interestingly, at first, the public was very slow in keeping with rules and regulations pertaining to marriages, births, and deaths. Much of the public in the 1800s and 1900s considered marriages, births and deaths to be religious matters and not civil affairs. (An Application for Certification of a Vital Record must be used to obtain vital records from the Division of Vital Records at P.O. Box 1000, Richmond, VA 23118-1000; and the charge is \$12.00 whether or not a record is found).

Also, many Prince William County court records were "lost or destroyed" during military operations in northern Virginia. What is known today, based upon regimental histories of some Union regiments stationed in and around Brentsville (then the county seat) between 1861-1865, that some Federal troops burned volumes of the county's records in order to keep warm or to cook. A striking example is the procedure used for marriages before 1850: The prospective groom and "a security" (almost always his "best man.") would go to a county clerk and apply for a "Marriage Bond," whereby the groom proposed to marry such and such a lady. Not a single Prince William County Marriage Bond survived the military operations. They were burned. People have to search church records and extant family Bibles for marriage date data.

I 10. Fairfax County Connection and 1850 Slave Schedule

According to the 1850 Federal Census for Fairfax Virginia, Schedule of Slave Owners, enumerated on 31 August, 1850, (US Census Bureau, 1850) Brewer was owner number 211 and suddenly appears to own six slaves, the first time he was known to own any. Unfortunately, their names are not listed and there are no transaction records. On the other hand, there is another way to interpret the list, according to Wynne Saffer. The freed slaves might have pretended to be slaves again in order to achieve protection; but experts on slaves in Fairfax believe that would have been impossible because of the low population. Most people were well known, as was their status, and the enumerator of the 1850 schedule would probably have been a local resident. The ages of the people in the 1850 schedule do approximate those of most in the 1854 Freedom list. On the off-chance that it is accurate, the column on the far left of the slave schedule provides potential links to the 1854 freedom list.

1854 Freedom List	1854 Freedom List Age	1850 Slave Schedule Number of Slaves	1850 Slave Schedule Age	1850 Slave Schedule Gender	1850 Slave Schedule Black or Mulatto
Betsy	50	1	42	F	M
William	24	1	21	M	B
Alex	19	1	13	M	B
Mary	16 ½	1	13	F	B
Narcissa	20	1	15	F	B
		1	6	M	B

The names above are of course a guess. The people certainly do look like a family, two adults (one male and female) and four children, and as mentioned earlier could have been inherited from the mother. Interestingly, Brewer does not appear in the 1860 Slave Schedule from the US Census, so if they were slaves, he either sold them, freed them or registered them freed between the census.

Brewer sold land in Fairfax and then the buyer didn't pay, so Brewer sued and won in 1842, the court sale to pay the bill being in 1842. At that time, Brewer might not have owned any land, not until he purchased property in Loudoun from Grigsby. So if he had slaves in 1850, why? What would have been their purpose?

I 11 Loudoun County Connection

I 11.1 Loudoun Property

Our research on Brewer began in Loudoun County by finding his property tax records in August, 2013 rolled up in a box at the Prosperity Baptist Church archives. The relationship to Prosperity Baptist Church is Brewer's ties to the Allen and Gaskins families, who attended the Church once it was built in 1899; however, Brewer passed in 1884, a decade before construction.

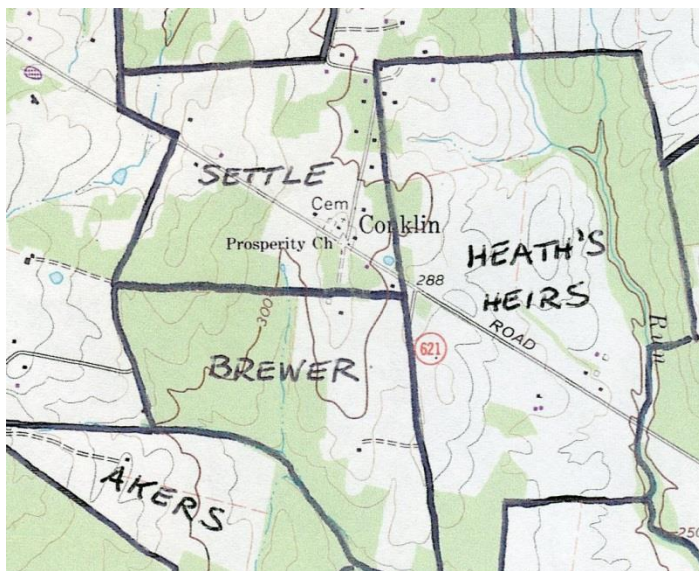


Figure 51 Brewer Farm, 1860. by Wynne Saffer

Brewer appears to have moved to Loudoun from Fairfax between 1850 and 1854, when he registered a number of African-Americans in Loudoun as free. The Brewer farm's 1860 boundaries consisted of 133 acres and 22 poles obtained from Alexander S. Grigsby in 1859; but records don't indicate where in Loudoun Brewer lived prior to buying the land.

Several years later in September, 1866 Brewer was listed as being the informant for a "colored" laborer found dead on "the Old Road," probably today's Braddock Road. This is an especially interesting record, as Brewer knew the man's name as Manuel Clark and that he was a single laborer; but didn't know the man's parents or where the gentleman had been born. This suggests that Clark may have been a transient laborer hired by Brewer or a neighbor; but Brewer is also listed as "Head of Family," which is an extraordinary statement to make at that time about the relationship between a white farmer and an African-American. The notation could have been an error or perhaps a way of referring to the fact that Brewer owned the land that many "colored" people lived on, making him the head of an informal family. There is no way at this time to be

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

certain (Clerk of County Clerk, 1866, p. 45). I double checked the records in county records with those in Richmond, and they confirmed the notation.

During Brewer's time, Loudoun was agricultural in nature and following the Civil War, the number of farms actually increased, due largely to the breakup of large farms, often too expensive to maintain without slaves or because of a decline in market demand or the need to pay back-taxes outstripped revenue. As famed Virginia historian Clifford Dowdey noted "no plantation, under conditions then known, could be worked without a system of slave labor. Since the slaves represented capital, and their emancipation amounted to confiscation without reparation, the planters lacked cash to replace stolen stock and destroyed equipment, or to pay wages to the freed slaves. Most of the planter families drifted into the cities in search of primary subsistence (Dowdey, 1957)."

Fearing debt collectors, some like the Conklin family in 1874 used the provisions of the 1862 Homestead Act to exempt a portion of their property. That would include land and livestock (Scheel E. M., 1976). Brewer did the same with his property, taking advantage of the Homestead Act of June 1870. With that action on December 19, 1870, Brewer protected land he had purchased in 1859 adjoining that of Thomas Settle and David James in the amount of 113 acres, worth about \$800. He also protected two horses worth \$160, three cows worth \$85, a farm wagon and plow, a harrow, shovel and spades, being all of farm implements, worth about \$35 or \$40. He also protected his kitchen furniture, worth about thirty cents, two hogs worth \$10. All of this value was not to exceed \$2,000 (Commissioner of Revenue, 1870, pp. 6B, Page 97). That's really interesting given that the Homestead Acts were intended to both support Americans who had not taken up arms against the nation and to bolster the agricultural economy. Brewer hadn't served in the Confederacy; but he had voted in favor of the Confederate cause. Either that didn't matter, or the government didn't realize what Brewer had done.

Brewer also sold off portions of his land to members of the Allen family, though not at cut-rate prices, turning his one farm into several, as did many of his neighbors, in

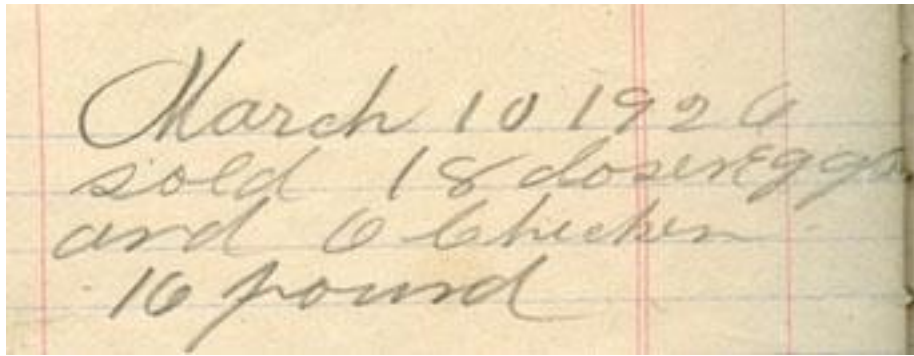
A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

this case to African-Americans. At that time Loudoun had a high African-American population, about a third of the total population before, during and after emancipation (Head, 1908, pp. 85-86). Betsy appears to have lived on the Brewer farm without cost.

Year	# of Farms in Loudoun
1850	1256
1860	1207
1870	1238
1880	1841
1890	1818
1900	1948

In the Prosperity Baptist Church archives are receipts for taxes on Brewer's property for the years between 1882 and 1890, which was then in the Broad Run District in Loudoun (Aldie Post office), but by 2013 in the southern end of the Dulles District. Note" Taxes were paid in 1899 and 1890, though he died in 1884. The average value of land in 1890 was about \$35 an acre, with only the counties of Augusta and Rockingham having higher values (Head, 1908, p. 92). There are handwritten notes on the backsides, which may indicate that that Brewer owed money, perhaps taxes and penalties; the significance of which needs to be examined. It can be surmised that he was considered a member of the Allen family, since they lived on his property and ended up buying his land over time.

One of the goals of the study has been to understand the average life of both Brewer and the African-Americans he declared freed, as well as their descendants. From studying personal notes from Lucien Allen, Mary Dean Allen and others, it is clear that life was tough. As an example, between May and July, 1926, some of the Allen's did road work for \$1.25 a day or for local farmers for .75 cents a day. In other cases, the family sold or bartered in butter, eggs and chickens; in fact judging by a transaction of March 10, 1926, chickens and eggs were a big part of earning money. On that day, the Allen family sold 18 dozen eggs and 6 chicken weighing in at 16pounds. Clearly these people were also determined to be a success (Allen L. , 1916-1928).



March 10 1929
sold 18 dozen eggs
and 6 chickens
10 pound

Figure 52 Sold Eggs

Another primary goal of the research project was to discern where the Brewer farm was in relationship to Prosperity Baptist Church, especially as this land ended up in the hands of the Allen family and other families from the original group of freed African-Americans. That has been determined as the east side of Ticonderoga, very close and south of the church. In addition, the Allen's were likely buried on Brewer's plot. (Saffer, Loudoun County Virginia 1860 Land Tax Maps, Thomas M. Wrenn's District, 2002). The original Brewer property would eventually all end up in the hands of the Allen, Gant and Payne families, except for a small number of acres that are perhaps the location of the graveyard. That original property of 133 acres and 22 poles was obtained from Alexander S. Grigsby in 1859, who obtained it from Elizabeth Fox and others in 1813 (Commissioner of Revenue, 1859). Unfortunately, in those days descriptions of land were often informal by modern standards, with measurements from tree stumps and rocks. One part of the land was bounded by a spring described in a survey of John Coffey of 1787; but that survey isn't in the county court archives. One bit was purchased by William Allen in 1883 (perhaps earlier) and held as estate property as late as 1965, when inquiries on the land were referred to Christine Norris of Chantilly.

- **1859** Brewer obtains land from Grigsby. Loudoun County, Virginia Land Tax Records, 1859 Book 5T, Page 285.
- **1870, December 12th**. Brewer conveys land to Alexander Allen: See Liber 6B, Folio 166. See also reference for August 6, 1938.
- **1880** Betsy Allen (Black) is listed in 1880 Federal census for Loudoun as a neighbor; but does appear to be a property owner, so the assumption is that her home was on his land. Not listed in archives. No record found of a sale or deed for her. The Buckhanon family lived in Mercer District, including Sinah, eight months old, daughter of Fenton Buckhanon, who worked on a farm.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

- **1882** Brewer paid taxes on 113 acres, suggesting that he sold off 20 acres between 1859 and 1882. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1882).
- **1883** Brewer paid taxes on 113 acres, identified as on The Old Road. Unfortunately, this term, which was used through 1950, has no special meaning today in the County Archives; but Wynne Saffer was able to explain that it means Braddock Road. The same year he sold 14 acres to Alexander Allen for \$100 and 8 acres to William Allen, also on the Old Road (Revenue, Commissioner of Revenue, 1883).
 - **Re the sale of land to Alexander, see** Liber 6T, Folio 393 dated April 2, 1883. See also the will of Alexander Allen in Will Book 3T, Page 222 and reference for August 6, 1938.
- **1884.** Brewer died In December. He also paid taxes on 91 acres on the Old Road. His transfer of 1883 is recorded in 1884 (Commissioner of Revenue, 1884). William Allen is listed as owning 10 acres on old road obtained from Brewer and Alexander Allen is listed as owning 10 acres, which he obtained by Brewer.
- **1885.** Brewer's estate paid tax on 91 acres. (Treasurer of Loudoun County, 1885)
- **1886.** Brewer's estate continued to pay taxes on 61 acres, and sold 30 to Mary Gant and Eugene Allen (Commissioner of Revenue, 1886). (These seem to be referenced on the 1886 Tax Receipt. See back of receipt)
- **1887.** Brewer's estate Paid taxes on 14 acres of land. (Treasurer of Loudoun County, 1887). Alexander and William have the same land. Brewer also sold or gave (unsure which) 10 acres to Catherine Payne, 13 acres to Mary Smith, 12 acres to Sinah Buckhanan ¹⁶and 12 acres as well to Nancy Buckhanan. There also appears to be a reference to these transfers on the 1885 Tax Receipt (see back cover) in Annex Two.
- **1888.** Brewer's estate paid taxes on 14 acres (Treasurer of Loudoun County, 1888). Catherine Allen had two acres of land in Farmwell from George Monroe.
- **1889 No records**
- **1890** Brewer estate paid taxes on 14 acres (Treasurer of Loudoun County, 1890). Alexander and Williams' lands have not changed. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1890)
- **1892** Brewer estate paid taxes on 14 acres. Probably sold in 1893; but not recorded.
- **1893-1895.** Hampton R. Brewer does not show up in county tax records.
- **1900** Brewer has disappeared as a reference point. Alexander and William Allen's land status has not changed. Still listed on The Old Road. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1900)
- **1910** William Allen's estate paid taxes on 18 Acres. Alexander Allen paid taxes on 14 and Catherine Allen paid on 2 acres. All were listed on The Old Road. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1910). Sinah Buchanon died this year.
- **1913, November 15.** Will of Alexander Allen, Will Book 3T, Page 222, Loudoun County Archives.
- **1914, Dec 14.** Fiduciary for estate of Alexander Allen conducted. See Fiduciary Accounts, Book 8, Loudoun County Archives. See also appraisal of November 22, 1913. Fiduciary Accounts, Book 7, Loudoun County Archives.

¹⁶ A Sinah Buchanan does appear in the 1880 Census for Mercer in Loudoun, age eight months old, daughter of Fenton Buckanon, a black farm worker. There are two Buckanon families in fact

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

- **1922** William's estate paid taxes on 18 acres (Commissioner of Revenue, 1922).
- **1930.** Alexander Allen has died but estate paid taxes on 24 acres on The Old Road. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1930).
- **1938, August 6.** A package of land owned by many members of the Allen Family, the Harris family and others was transferred to Ernest Ashton. This was 24 Acres in total conveyed to Alexander Allen by Hampton R. Brewer on December 12, 1870. See Liber 6B, Folio 166 and Liber 6T, Folio 393 dated April 2, 1883. See also the will of Alexander Allen in Will Book 3T, Page 222.
- **1940.** Alexander's estate paid taxes on 24 acres on The Old Road and William's estate pays taxes on 18 acres, the Old Road. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1940).
- **1950.** Alexander's estate disappeared. William's estate was still paying taxes for land on the Old Road. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1950).
- **1960.** William's estate taxes were referred to Mary Ellen of Centreville. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1960). . My guess is that Mary Ellen is the wife of Lucien, one of William's son. In 1960 and 1965 the records have a coded cross reference in the files other than The Old Road; but the key to the county's cross reference has been lost. Probably Braddock Road, what was also known earlier as Conklin Road.
 - **See also Deed Book 396, Page 664.** Richard and Nellie Thornton of the first part and Ernest Aston (unmarried) of the second part portioned land straddling Braddock Rock. They were equal tenants in common and for simplicity, divided the land between them. The package as a whole has been conveyed to the Thornton's and Ernest from another deed of partition with Hester White, widow and others, on December 15, 1944. See Deed Book 11 Y, Page 31.
- **1965.** William Allen's estate paid taxes on land (no address given this year) was c/o of Christine Norris, Chantilly. (I suspect this was Christina Allen, daughter of Lucien Allen and a granddaughter of William).
- **1985.** Deed Book 866-1367. A boundary line agreement was entered into April 25th, 1985 between Ticonderoga Farms and Bernice E. Perkins. They had adjoining property with a common boundary and wanted to come to a formal agreement on the boundary line. Ticonderoga obtained their land by three separate deeds.
 - **Feb 23, 1984:** From Lee Roy Allen and Jessie Mae Allen, his wife, and Bernice E. Perkins and Clifton Perkins, her husband, grantors. Deed Book 837, Page 1704 (sometimes referred to as the Narcissa Burl property).
 - **Feb 23, 1984:** From Lee Roy Allen and Jessie May Allen, and Bernice E. Perkins and Clifton Perkins, grantors, Deed Book 837, page 1702 (sometimes referred to as the Mary Smith Estate).
 - **Feb 23, 1984:** General warranty deed from Lee Roy Allen, Jessie Mae Allen, Bernice Perkins and Clifton Perkins. See Deed Book 837, Page 1699, sometimes referred to as the Allen Property).
 - **Note:** The property of Bernice Perkins is described in Deed Book 396, Page 664 and Deed Book 11-PP, Page 407. See also Tax Map 106, Parcels 47-B and 48.
- **2011.** About this time, portions of Brewer's land, now owned by the Allen family, passes to The Loudoun County Public School System for the construction of Cardinal Ridge Elementary School, south of Braddock Road. The owner of the land prior to

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

transfer was Mrs. Laverne Grant and T. Perkins (See Bernice Perkins in 1985 reference) of 68 Adams Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001-1026. See Loudoun County Deed Book 1990, P11-407-866-1367-Bla and Will Book 115-1640.

Information on the property is also described in a separate study called Cardinal Ridge Elementary School, a Conklin Virginia Study by Larry Roeder.

- **2013.** Cardinal Ridge Elementary School, a Conklin Virginia Study by Larry Roeder.

I 11.2 Loudoun Census Records

1860 Census for Loudoun (US Census Bureau, 1860)

#	Name	Age	Sex	Race	Job	Value	Went to School in Year	Over 20 and Read and Write
1	Hampton R. Brewer	57	M		Farmer	¹⁷	No	
2	Betsy Allen	56	F	N	Labor	25	No	Yes
	Mary Allen	23					No	Yes
	James Gaskins	18		B				
	Margaret Allen	10	F	M				
	Helen Allen	7	F	M				
	Nancy Allen	4	F	M				
	Sinah Allen	3	F	M				
	Catherine Allen	7	F	M				
	Eugene Allen	7	M	M				
	Nimrod Allen	2	M	B				
3	William Allen	30	M	B	Farm Labor	30	No	Yes
	Caroline	25	F	M				
4	Alexander Allen	25	M	M	Farm Labor	25	No	Yes
	Martha	30	F	B			No	Yes

Post office was Arcola, in 2013, it is Chantilly, a town in Fairfax.

¹⁷ Brewer's Real estate was worth \$700 and personal wealth at \$400.

1870 Census for Loudoun (US Census Bureau, 1870)

Note: The 1870 Federal Census asked if any male over the age of 21 was denied the right to vote. None of the Allen's said yes; however, that doesn't mean they voted. Unfortunately there are no records in Loudoun Archives (Poll Books, Voter Registers) for the year 1870. There are some miscellaneous papers for various other years around that time and Voter Registers from the early 1900's that could be helpful and of course there are the Court Order Books where something might be recorded regarding the election districts (Fishback, 2013)

#		Age	Sex	Race	Job	Value Real Estate	Value Personal Property
1	Hampton R. Brewer	68	M	W	Farmer	550	100
2	Betsy Allen	62	F	B	Keeping House		100
	Catherine Allen	18	F	M	Domestic Servant		
	Margaret Allen	1	F	M			
	Eugenia Allen	18	F	M	Domestic Servant		
	Sinai Buckhannen	18	F	B	At home		
	Helen Buckhannen	19	F	B	Domestic Servant		
	Nimrod Allen	12	M	B	Laborer		
	Alexander Allen	30	M	B	Laborer	60	
3	William Allen	40	M	B	Laborer	100	
	Caroline Allen	33	F	M	At home		
	Nancy	10	F	M	At home		
	Martha	8	F	M	At home		
	Lucien ¹⁸	5	M	M			
	Eliza Dilly	2	F	M			

Sinai Buckhannen probably is also Sinai Buckhannen (with a slightly different age), a servant housekeeper living in the home of white farmer George Hutchison in the Broad Run District of Loudoun in 1880 (US Census Bureau, 1880). I didn't locate more on Helen.

¹⁸ Buried at Prosperity Baptist Church

1880 Census for Loudoun (US Census Bureau, 1880)

	Name	Age	Race	Sex	Occupation
1	Alexander Allen	43	M	M	Farmer
	Ella Allen	38	M	F	Wife
	Edgar Allen	11	M	M	Son
	Helen Allen	9	M	F	Daughter
	Mandy Allen	7	M	F	Daughter (Amanda 2/21/1872) (Clerk of the Court for Loudoun County, 1869-1879)
	Randolph Allen	5	M	M	Son (Born May 1, 1874 (Clerk of the Court for Loudoun County, 1869-1879))
	Corra Allen Asbury Allen	4 2	M M	F M	Daughter Son (Born June 3, 1878 (Clerk of the Court for Loudoun County, 1869-1879))
2	William Allen	50	B	M	Farmer
	Caroline Allen	44	B	F	Wife
	Nancy Allen	20	B	F	Daughter
	Luther Allen	15	B	M	Son
	Eliza Allen	13	B	F	Daughter
	William Allen	9	B	M	Son
	Ataway Allen	7	B	F	Daughter
	Elizabeth Allen	3	B	F	Daughter (DOB 3/16, 1877 (Clerk of the Court for Loudoun County, 1869-1879)) (Dunn, Loudoun County Virginia Birth Register 1853-1879, 2000)
Infant	9/12	B	F	Daughter	
3	Hampton R. Brewer	78	W	M	Farmer
4	Betsy Allen	74	B	F	Housekeeper
5	Albert Payne	25	B	M	Farm Laborer
	Catherine Payne	26	B	F	
	Irene Payne	5	B	F	
	Ida Payne	4	B	F	
	Margaret Gant	10	B	F	Niece

The census record for 1880 was faint, and at first it appeared that Brewer lived with a single black Negro named Betsy Allen (a house keeper) of about the same age, plus a young black family by the name of Payne; but a closer examination of the records indicates that Brewer was a neighbor on the same land probably¹⁹. Brewer was dwelling

¹⁹ As elsewhere, when I use the term Black, Mulatto or Colored, it reflects the terminology of the reference documents I used for research.

516. Betsy was single, head of household and in dwelling 517. The Payne family was in building 518²⁰. (US Census Bureau, 1880).

Another neighbor to the north was Thomas Settle of the Settle-Dean relationship which led to the Prosperity Baptist Church. With the exception of Charles Dean (black) who lived with Thomas Settle, Betsy Allen, Margaret Gant and Albert Payne's family, all of the neighbors were white. Occupations in 1880 were mostly Farmer, Housekeeper and Farm Laborer. There was one blacksmith.

1890 Census for Loudoun

The 1890 census records were virtually all "destroyed by fire" in 1921.

1900 Census for Loudoun (US Census Bureau, 1900)

According to the 1900 Census, Neither Alexander or Ella Allen could read or write, though with the exception of their 2 year old Lindy, all of their children could do both. Both had been married for 32 years and had 11 children, all of whom were alive at the time, seven of whom were residing with them. As for William, Carline and their children, none could read or write.

One of the additional things of importance in the census report was that it showed the month and year of birth for each person, instead of estimates.

In addition, instead of noting whether African-Americans were Mulatto or Black, they were itemized as Colored. As also noted elsewhere, the Allen's were also born in Virginia, as were their parents.

The census showed dates of birth, which is always important but sometimes birth registers in Loudoun had a different date. Often, there was no registration. When I

²⁰ Albert Payne, Black, 24, Farm Laborer; Catherine Payne, Black 26, Wife of Albert. Kept the house; Irene Payne, Age 5, Black; Ida Payne, Age 4, Black; Margaret Gant, Age 10, Black niece.

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

found a date, I mentioned it. Dates also vary between census records. For example, while Viola, daughter of Alexander is shown as born in 1898 in the 1900 census, the 1910 census shows 1894. I found no comparative county record. Alex's wife Ella is shown born in 1850 in the 1910 census but in 1845 in the 1900 census and 1842 in the 1880 census.

	Name	Age	Sex	DOB	Job	Owned	Type Of Land	Farm Schedule
1	Alex Allen	64	M	Aug, 1835	Farmer	Free of Mortgage	Farm	167
	Ella Allen	55	F	May, 1845				
	Asbury	21	M	May, 1875	Actually June 3, 1878, near Pleasant Valley. (Dunn, Loudoun County Virginia Birth Register 1853-1879, 2000)			
	Henry A.	19	M	June, 1881				
	Mary	16	F	Oct, 1883	Oct 10, 1883, near Gum Springs. (Dunn, Loudoun County Virginia Birth Register, 1880-1896, 1999)			
	Isaah	13	F	June, 1886	10 May 1887. Alexander is listed as a farmer (Dunn, Loudoun County Virginia Birth Register, 1880-1896, 1999)			
	Maude	10	F	Jan, 1890	1 January, 1890 near Arcola. Alexander is listed as a laborer (Dunn, Loudoun County Virginia Birth Register, 1880-1896, 1999).			
	Viola	5	F	Jan, 1895	Viola married John B. Harris on Nov 29, 1915 (Clerk of the Court, 1926).			
	Lindy	3	F	June, 1898				
2	William Allen	70	M	May 1830	Farmer	Free of Mortgage	Farm	120
	Carline	63	F	Apr 1837				
	Carrie	20	F	Sept 1870				
	Anthony	16	M	Jan 1883	7 August 1883 at Gum Springs. William is listed as a farmer. (Dunn, Loudoun County Virginia Birth Register, 1880-1896, 1999)			
	William	28	M	March ?	Son (single)			
	Massah	10	F	?	g-daughter			
	Lizzie	1	F	Feb	g-daughter			

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

Richard	8	M	1899 Dec 1891	g-son	Born 22 July, 1888 to Alfred Allen, laborer and Eliza Allen. (Dunn, Loudoun County Virginia Birth Register, 1880-1896, 1999, p. 3)
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1910 Census (US Census Bureau, 1910)

Alexander and Ella were married 45 years and could not read or write; but their children could. They were also shown as Mulatto. There were two William Allen's' shown. One was married 7 years and the other was not. Judging by the relative ages, it is hard to believe that children like George were his, perhaps actually grandchildren. For example, Alexander's son Randolph (not shown here but born in 1875) had a son named George. However, from his will of 1913, it is clear that Viola and Salina were daughters.

1	Alex Allen	73	M	1837	Tanner, General Farm	Owned farm free
	Ella	60	F	1850		
	Isaih	23	M	1887	Labor Horse Farm?	
	Viola	16	F	1894		
	Salina	12	F	1898		
	Gracie Ashton	17	F	1893		
	Ernest Ashton	13	M	1897		
	George Allen	14	M	1896	Labor Horse Farm?	
2	William Allen	38	M	1872	Odd jobs	
	Abbey	42	F	1868		
	Millie	3	F	1900		
	Dorothy	3	F	1909		
3	William Allen	36	M	1874	Handyman in Mercer	

1920 Census for Loudoun (US Census Bureau, 1920)

The family of William Allen (deceased lived on Conklin road) in the home of Lutien or Lucien Allen (a son of William), which he owned. William, Jr. was single. Broad Run District of Loudoun.

Name	Status	Age	Occupation
Lucien Allen	Head	55	Farmer
Mary E. Allen	Wife	40	Wash Woman
William	Brother	49	Farm Labor
Christina	Daughter	10	None
Anolia	Daughter	7	None
Leroy	Son	3	None
Caroline	Mother	82	None

1930 Census for Loudoun (US Census Bureau, 1930)

Lucien Allen, son of William and Caroline, lived on Conklin Road, which was what is now called Braddock Road and previously the Old Road. He owned his own home, worth \$5,000. Lucien's son-in-law Ernest Ashton was also a veteran from World War One, in 1930 working as a farmer.

Name	Status	Job	Age	Age when Married	School in 1930	Read and Write?
Lucien	Head	Farmer	65	35	N	Y
Mary E.	Wife		50	20	N	Y
Christina ²¹	Daughter	Public School Teacher	20		N	Y
Leroy	Son		13		Y	Y
Annolia Ashton	Daughter		17	15	N	Y
Ernest Ashton	Son in Law	General Farmer	32	30	N	Y
Bernice Ashton	Grand Daughter		1 3/12		N	N
William	Brother	General Farmer	58		N	Y

²¹ See Appendix on School Teachers.

1940 Census for Loudoun (US Census Bureau, 1940)

Ernest E. Ashton and Annolia Allen.

See also the Annex Five, The Soldiers.

Name	Status	Job	Age	Income	Highest Grade Reached	Residence In 1935
Ernest E. Ashton	Head	Own Farm	42	600	6	Same House
Annolia A.	Wife		26		7	Same House
Bernice	Dau		11		5	Same House
Mary E. Allen	Head		65		4	Same House
Leroy Allen	Son	Own Farm	23	400	7	Same House
Mary Johnson	Boarder	Teacher Public School	27	600	12	Hamilton

Mary Johnson was Mary Dean Johnson (see Appendix on schools) The census was wrong on education. Mary Dean Johnson had a BS from Hampton College. (Kroiz, Mary Dean Johnson History, 2013)

Annex 1. Personal Property for Brewer and African-Americans

Except during the Civil War and up the 1870s, Loudoun often kept track of personal property and taxed it, items like livestock, watches and clocks, dogs and household items. (see Amanda Allen for discussion of value of dog taxes as an historical tool).

People were also taxed. These records for the years covered paint an interesting picture of how Brewer and his friends earned a living, which was mainly farming of hogs, cattle, sheep, supported by horses, asses and jennets. Note, each citation has a line reference with relates to the specific page on which the individual is listed. When doing the research, be certain to look in the right District and know that while names are gathered in a specific alphabet, they are not necessarily in order within the alphabet.

May 20, 1856:

Alexander and William Allen were each taxed \$1 as males over the age of 16 (Commissioner of Revenue, 1856, p. Lines 27 & 28).

Hampton R. Brewer was taxed for being a free male over the age of 16. He had no slaves in his possession. His personal wealth (not the land itself) consisted of:

- 3 horses, mules, asses or Jennets worth \$100.
- 22 cattle, sheep or hogs worth \$50.
- Household and kitchen furniture worth \$25.
- (Commissioner of Revenue, 1856, p. Line 24)

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

April 18, 1860

Alexander Allen was taxed \$1.90 as a free male Negro between the age of 21-55. His wealth consisted of:

- Cattle, sheep or hogs worth \$15.
- Household effects worth \$10. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1860, p. Line 24).

William Allen was taxed \$1.84 as a free male Negro between the ages of 21-55. His personal wealth was Household effects worth \$10. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1860, p. Line 23).

Hampton R. Brewer was taxed as a person at the rate of \$1.84. His personal worth was:

- 5 Horses worth \$150.
- 7 cattle, sheep or hogs worth \$155.
- 7 sheep and hogs worth \$15.
- Household effects worth \$40.
- 2 Dogs, for which he paid a tax of .08 cents (Commissioner of Revenue, 1860, p. Line 14)

James Gaskins lived with Hampton R. Brewer. Not taxed or a person of property. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1860, p. Line 15).

No records kept during the Civil War. Gaskins was also serving in the Union Army.

1867

William Allen was taxed as single male negro above the age of 21 and living at Hampton R. Brewer's home. His personal wealth was:

- 1 horse, mules, asses or jennet worth \$30.
- 2 cattle worth \$40.
- Hogs worth \$2.04 (probably tax, nor value).
- Personal property worth \$104. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1867, p. Line 12)

Hampton R. Brewer was taxed as a white man between the ages of 21 and 60. His personal wealth was:

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

- 2 horses, etc. worth \$150.
- 6 cattle worth \$120.
- 19 sheep worth \$76.
- 16 hogs worth \$64.
- 1 clock worth .03 cents
- One dog. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1867, p. Line 29).

1871

Alexander Allen was taxed as colored male over age 21 with personal wealth of:

- 1 cattle worth \$12.
- 4 hogs worth \$6.
- 1 dog.
- Household worth of \$10. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1871, p. Line 22)

Betsy Allen had no males on her property. Her personal worth was:

- 1 horse, etc. worth \$10.
- Household value \$10.
- 4 cattle worth \$60.
- 24 sheep worth \$60.
- 3 hogs worth \$6.
- 1 pleasure wagon worth \$12.
- 1 clock worth \$1.
- 1 dog. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1871, p. line 20)

William Allen was taxed as a colored male over 21. His personal worth was:

- 1 horse, etc. worth \$25.
- 4 hogs worth \$4.
- Household items worth \$10.
- 1 cattle worth \$15.
- 1 dog. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1871, p. Line 7)

Hampton R. Brewer had a personal wealth of:

- No dogs
- 2 horses, etc. worth \$100.
- 2 cattle worth \$30.
- 6 hogs worth \$12.
- 1 pleasure carriage worth \$10.
- Farm implements worth \$12. (Commissioner of Revenue, 1871, p. Line 2)

Annex 2: Tax Receipts for Hampton R. Brewer in Broad Run

The original Tax Receipts are kept in the Archives of Prosperity Baptist Church. In addition to the images below, an electronic version is the electronic file associated with the report. **Rather than use a traditional scanner, because the paper was fragile and not totally flat, we used a camera for the photos.**

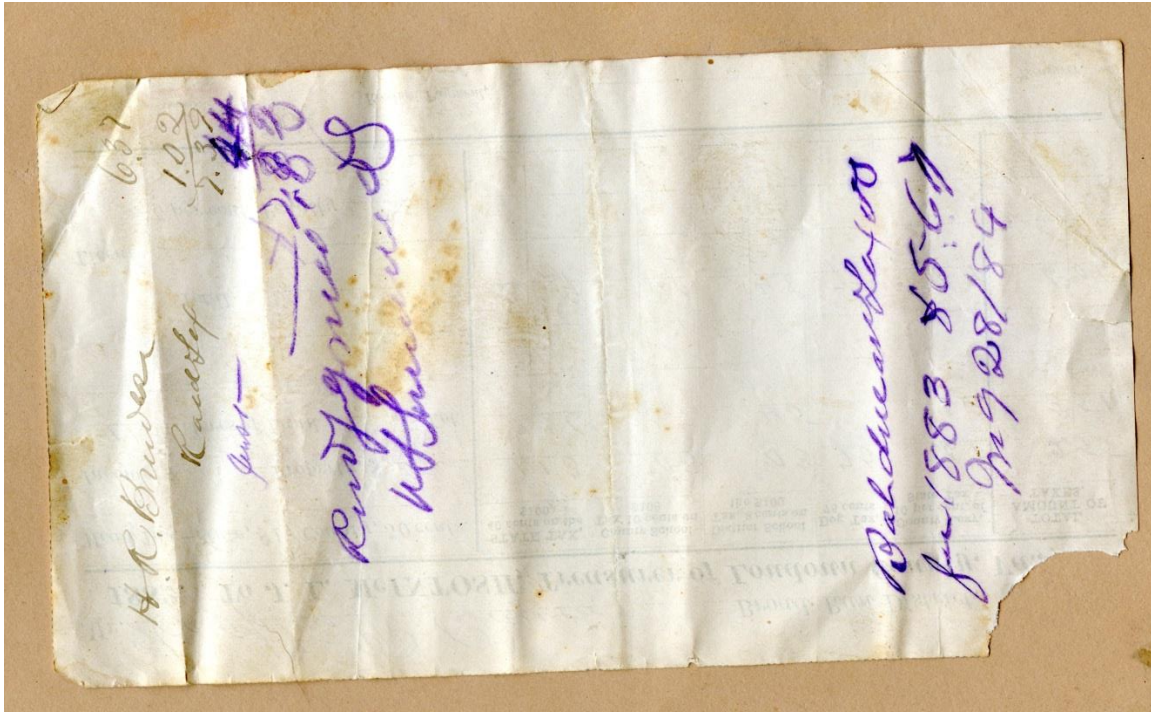
1882 113 Acres

Mr. *Hampton R. Brewer* Broad Run District,
1882. To J. L. McINTOSH, Treasurer of Loudoun County, Va.,

	STATE TAX, 40 cents on the \$100	County School Tax 10 cents on \$100	District School Tax, 8 cents on the \$100	Dog Tax, 75 cents	County Levy, 10 per cent. of State Tax	TOTAL AMOUNT OF TAXES.
Head Tax—State, \$1; County, 50 cents.						255
Income, \$ Property, \$ 32	113	03	03	75	61	351
113 Acres of Land Lot	226	57	45		23	
Total	339	60	48	75	84	606
License						31
5 per cent. Penalty						637

Received Payment, _____ Treasurer.

PC10WAC PRESS, ALEXANDRIA.



1883 113 Acres

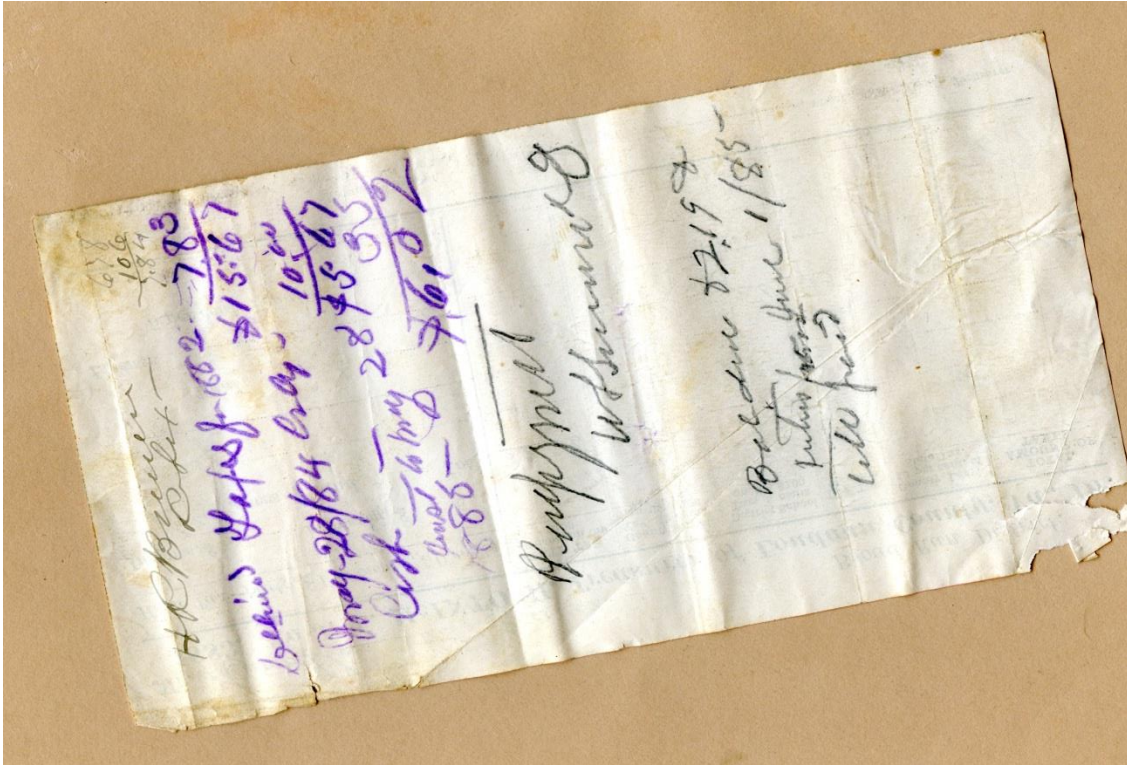
Broad Run District,
Loudoun County, Va., Dr.

Mr. *Hampton R. Brewer*
1883. To J. L. McINTOSH, Treasurer of Loudoun County, Va., Dr.

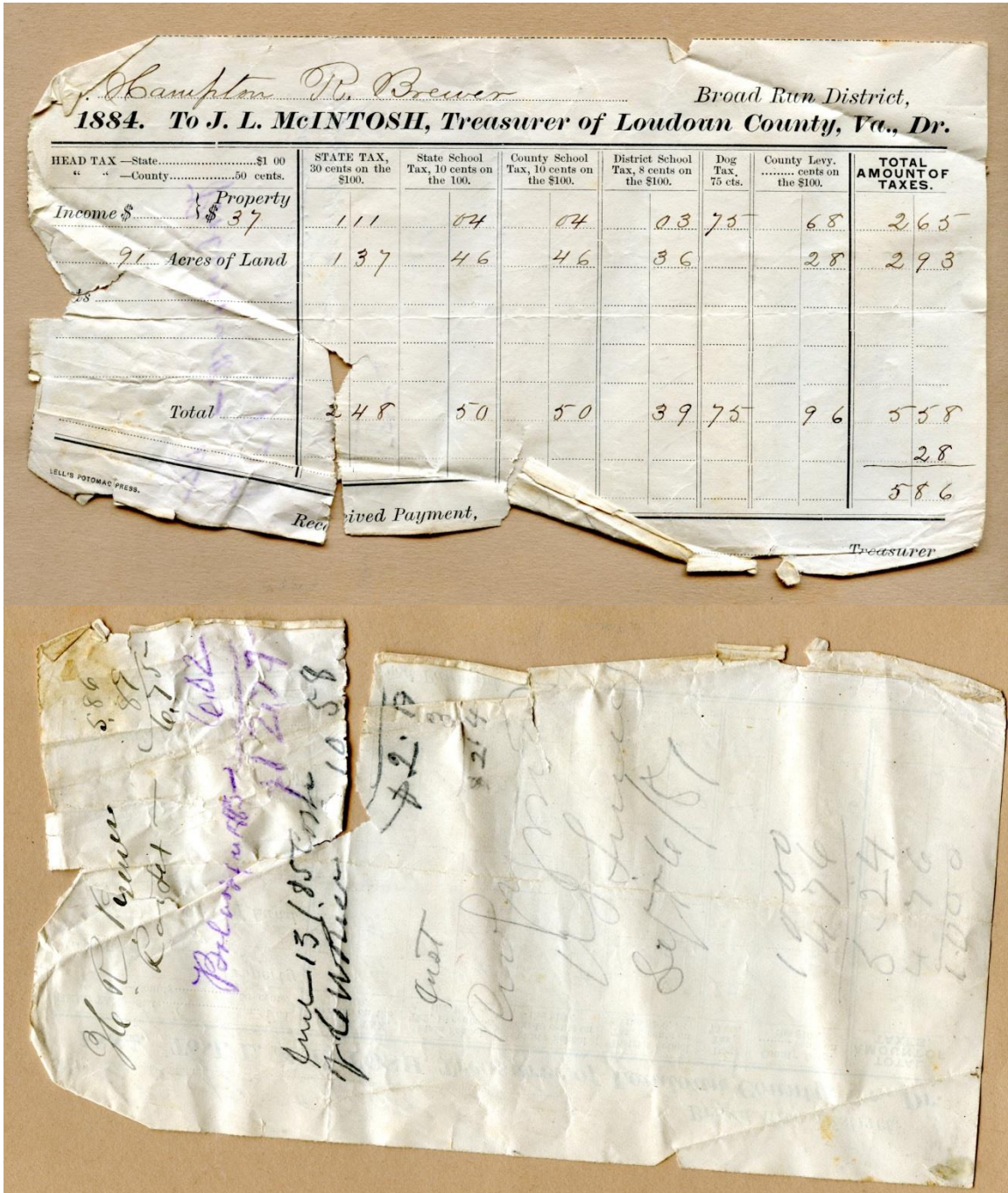
	STATE TAX, 40 cents on the \$100	County School Tax, 10 cents on the \$100	District School Tax, 8 cents on the \$100	Dog Tax, 75 cents	County Levy, 10 per cent. of State Tax.	TOTAL AMOUNT OF TAXES.
Head Tax--State, \$1; County, 50 cents					69	283
Income, \$ Property, \$ 6.8	1.27	07	02	75	34	362
113 Acres of Land Lot	2.26	57	45			
Total	3.53	64	50	75	103	643
License						33
5 per cent. Penalty						6.78

Received Payment, _____ Treasurer.

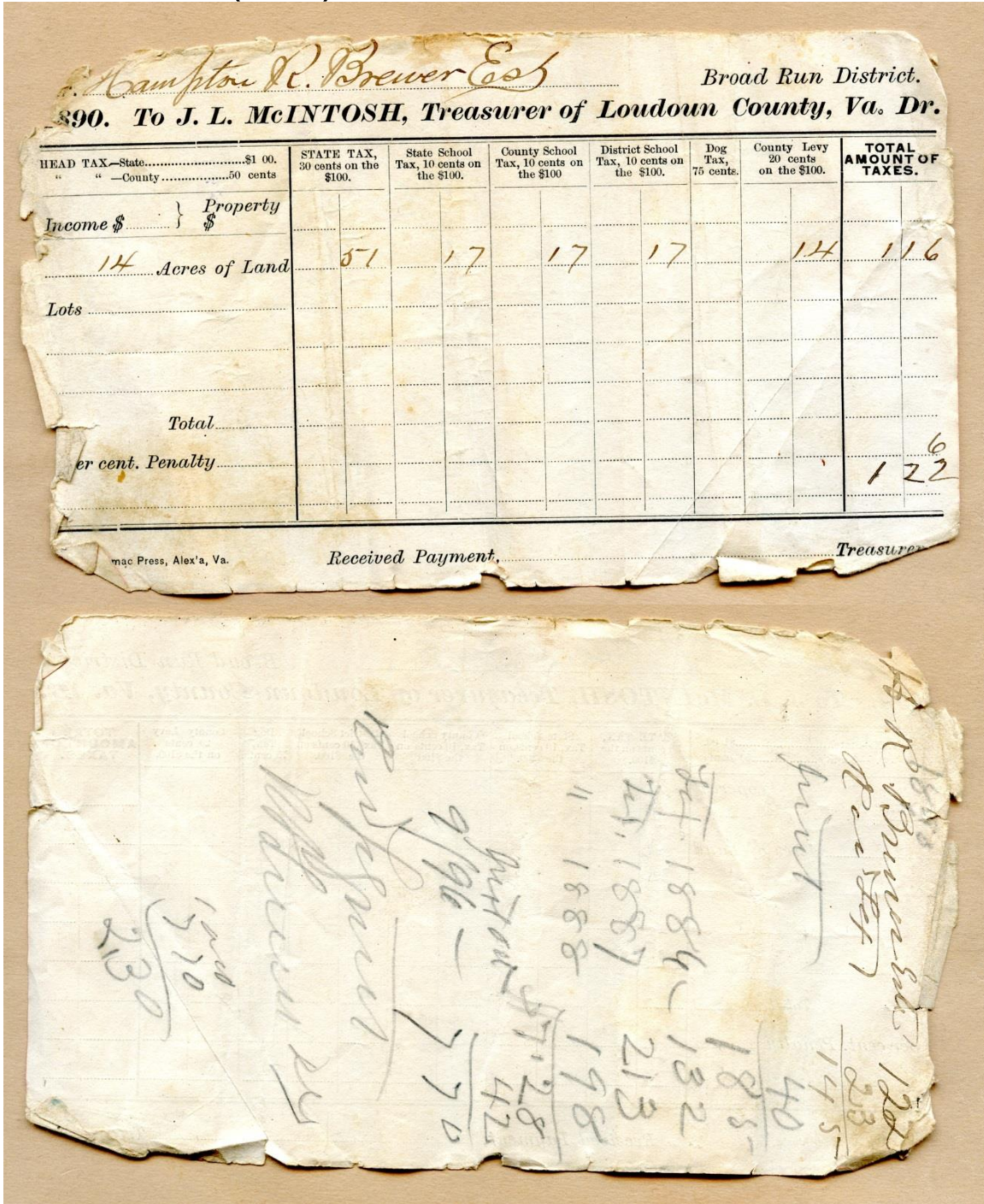
BELL'S PAT. OFF. PRESS.



1884 91 Acres



1889 No Receipt noted for this year
 1890 14 Acres (Estate)



Annex 3: 1854 & 1857 Freedom Files for African Americans.

The following eleven African Americans were declared free by Hampton R. Brewer in Loudoun County in 1854 and 1857. Images of the records are part of this Annex and are included in the electronic file associated with the report..

Although someone might use the process of registration to certify someone as free who was not, it is important to note that these certificates were not intended to make someone free. They were declarations that someone was already free and essentially acted like passports for African-Americans, without which they would be unable to move about in Virginia without fear of arrest.

- **Alexander Allen** (son of Amanda Allen), 1854
- **Amanda Allen** (daughter of Charlotte Allen), 1857
- **Betsy Allen**, (sister of Rachel? Not sure) 1854
- **Martha Allen** (Daughter of Harriet Fletcher), 1857
- **Mary Ellen** (Daughter of Rachel) and her daughter Catherine Allen, 1854
- **Narcissa Allen** (Daughter of Rachel Allen) and her daughter Uginta, 1854
- **William Allen** (Son of Rachel Allen), 1854
- **Jas Gaskins** (son of Amy Gaskins), 1857

September 11, 1854:

- **Betsy** was also registered free in Loudoun as proved by oath of Hampton R. Brewer on September 11, 1854. The register showed her then as 50 years old, 5'3" tall and of black color. Record 2250, Page 174. (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000). This register also documented that she had been registered as free in Prince William County.
- **William Allen**, declared free as proved by oath of Hampton R. Brewer. About 24 years old, 5' 7 3/4" tall, dark complexion, scar near the corner of the left eye and one near the corner of the mouth. Record 2251, Page 174. (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000)
- **Narcissa Allen**, No freedom information given; but I suspect Brewer played a role. About 20 years old, 5' tall, black, no scars worth mentioning. Record 2252, Page 174. (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000)
- **Uginta Allen**, (Child of Narcissa). No freedom information given. 18 months old, black, no scars worth mentioning. Record 2252, Page 174. I suspect Brewer played a role here. (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000)
- **Mary Allen**, declared free as proved by oath of Hampton R. Brewer. About 16 years old, 5' 2 1/2" tall, black color. Record 2253, Page 175. (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000).
- **Catharine Allen**, (daughter of Mary Allen), declared free as proved by oath of Hampton R. Brewer. 18 months old, lighter complexion than mother. Record 2253. Page 175 (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000)

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

- **Alex Allen**, (son of Amanda Allen), declared free as proved by oath of Hampton R. Brewer. About 19 years old, 5' 8 ½" tall, dark mulatto color, small scar on his left arm and one on his right foot. Record 2254, Page 175 (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000).

January 13, 1857 that the following were free African-Americans.

- **Amanda Allen**, Daughter of Charlotte Allen. About 36 years old, 5'7" tall, brown color. Date 13 Jan 1857, Record 23990. (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000, p. 180)
- **John Allen**, son of Amanda Allen, freedom proved by Oath, About 14 years old, mulatto color. Date 13 Jan 1857, Record 2390. Page 228 (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000, p. 180)
- **Jas. Gaskins**, son of Amy Gaskins, About 12 years old, black color. Date 13 Jan, 1857. Record 2391, page 228. (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000, p. 180).
- **Martha Allen**, daughter of Harriet Fletcher, About 21 years old, 5'1" tall, brown color, scar on left side of the jaw. Date 13 Jan 1857. Record 2392. (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000, p. 181).²²

Registration of freedom for African-Americans was required by law, in order to limit the travels of slaves. The law was passed by Virginia House of Delegates, 10 December 1793. In addition, free Negroes and mulattos (meaning color of skin, not mixed race) were not allowed to migrate into the state. If they did, they could be seized and deported. (Duncan, Abstracts of Loudoun County, Virginia, Register of Free Negroes, 1844-1861, 2000, pp. i-iii)²³

Alexander Allen, (son of Amanda), Registration as Free, 1854.

²² County Records Roll135, Record of Free Negroes 1844-1861 (last one)

²³ i-iii of register

Virginia to wit N 2254
 Presly Saunders Clerk of the County
 Court of Loudoun State aforesaid, certify
 that Alex^r Allen son of Amanda Allen
 of dark mulatto colour is free as proved
 by the oath of Hampton R Brewer
 having a small scar on his left arm
 and one on his right foot about 19 years old
 & 5 feet 8 1/2 inches high was this day re-
 gistered in my office according to law
 Sept. 11th 1854

Examined 27 Oct 1856
 A. S. Doan

Figure 55 Registration of Freedom for Alexander Allen, 1854

(Clerk of the Court for Loudoun County, 1861) age 19 Male

Amanda Allen, (daughter of Charlotte Allen), Registration as Free, 1857

Virginia to wit
 Presly Saunders Clerk of the County Court of
 Loudoun County Certify that Amanda Allen
 daughter of Charlotte Allen a free woman
 of colour as proved by the oath Hampton
 R Brewer said Amanda is of brown colour
 about 36 years 5 feet 7 inches high together
 with her child named John of a mulatto
 colour about 14 years old proved to be
 free by the oath of said Brewer in this
 day registered in my office 13th July 1857

Examined
 Jas. Doan 13th July 1857
 Paid 25 cents
 Paid 17 1/2 cents

Figure 56 Registration of Freedom for Amanda Allen, 1857

(Clerk of the Court for Loudoun County, 1861). Age 36. Female

Betsy Allen (Registration of Freedom, Loudoun County) 1854

Virginia ^{N^o. 2230} to wit
Josely Saunders Clerk of the
County Court of Loudoun, State aforesaid
certify, that Betsy Allen (registered in
Prince Wm^{ts} N^o.) a woman of black colour
free as proved by the oath of Hampton R
Brewer, about 50 years old & 5 feet 3 inches
in height, was this day registered in my
office according to law Sept. 11th. 1854

Copy sealed & delivered
27th Oct. 1856
Saunders
Sept 11th 1854
J. N. Braden

Figure 57 Registration of Freedom for Betsy Allen, Sept 11, 1854

(Clerk of the Court for Loudoun County, 1861) Age 50 Female

Betsy Allen, William Allen, Mary Allen, Narcissa Allen, (children of Rachel Allen, dead), Uginta Allen (daughter of Narcissa Allen), Alexander Allen (Son of Amanda Allen), 1854

Betsy Allen registered in Prince Wm Co.

Wm Allen
Narcissa Allen
Mary Allen
~~Alexander Allen~~
~~Uginta Allen~~ } Children of Rachel Allen dec'd

Narcissa Uginta Allen daughter of Narcissa Allen

~~Catherine~~
~~Elizabeth~~ Allen daughter of Mary Allen

Alexander Allen son of Amanda Allen

proved free by the oath of
Samuel R Brown and ordered
to be registered A.S.B.

Figure 58 Application for Registration as Free, 1854

(Clerk of the Court for Loudoun County, 1854)

The blue form above is a photo copy of the original letter used to register the Allen's as free. Housed in the Loudoun County Archives, Leesburg . No equivalent has survived for the group that received registration in 1857.

Martha Allen (daughter of Harriet Fletcher), Registration as Free, 1857

2892
Virginia to wit
I Presly Saunders Clerk of the County of
Loudoun County Certify that Martha Allen daughter
of Harriet Fletcher is a free woman
of colour as proved by the oath of Hampton
R Brewer said Martha is of a brown colour
a scar on the left side of the jaw about
21 years 5 feet 1 inch high was this day
registered in my office 13th Jan^y 1857

Examined
Geo. H. Catton, J.
July 13. 1857

Figure 59 Registration of Freedom, Martha Allen, 1854

(Clerk of the Court for Loudoun County, 1861) Age 21 Years old. Female

Mary Ellen (daughter of Rachel Allen) and her daughter Catherine Allen, Registration as Free, 1854

Virginia to wit No 2253
I Presly Saunders Clerk of the County Court of Loudoun, State aforesaid certify that Mary Allen a woman of black colour & Catherine ^{18 months old} her child of lighter complexion free as proved by the oath of Hampton B. Brewen aged about 16 & 1/2 years, woman's height 5 feet 2 1/2 inches, were this day registered in my office according to Law Sept. 11th 1854.

*Examined by Oct 1 1854
J. S. Braden
Sept 11 1854*

Figure 60 Registration of Freedom, 1854 for Mary and Catherine Allen

(Clerk of the Court for Loudoun County, 1861) 16 and 1/2 years old. Female

Narcissa Allen and her Child Uginta (Registration as Free, 1854)

Sept 11 1854
No 2252
Virginia to wit:
I Presly Saunders Clerk of the County Court of Loudoun of the State aforesaid, certify that Narcissa Allen & Uginta her child ^{18 months old} both of black colour no scars worth naming, about 20 years old and 5 feet high were this day registered in ^{child's age 1 1/2 years} my office according to Law Sept. 11th 1854

*Examined by Oct 1 1854
J. S. Braden
Sept 11 1854*

Figure 61 Registration of Freedom, Narsiaa and Uginta Allen, 1854)

(Clerk of the Court for Loudoun County, 1861). 20 Years old Female

William Allen, (Son of Rachel Allen), Registration as Free, 1854.

Copy made & delivered
Gamin 27 Oct. 1856
A. J. Braden
Sept. 11th 1854

No. 2251
Virginia to wit:
I Presly Saunders Clerk of the
County Court of Loudoun, State afore-
said, certify that Wm Allen a man
of Colour, ^{dark complexion} free as proved by the oath of
Hampton R Brewen, has a scar near the
corner of the left eye, and one near the cor-
ner of the mouth, aged about 24 years, 5 feet
7 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in height was this day regis-
tered in my office according to Law
Sept 11th 1854

Figure 62 Registration of Freedom William Allen, 1854

(Clerk of the Court for Loudoun County, 1861) **24 Years old Male**

Jas Gaskins (son of Amy Gaskins), Registration as Free, 1857

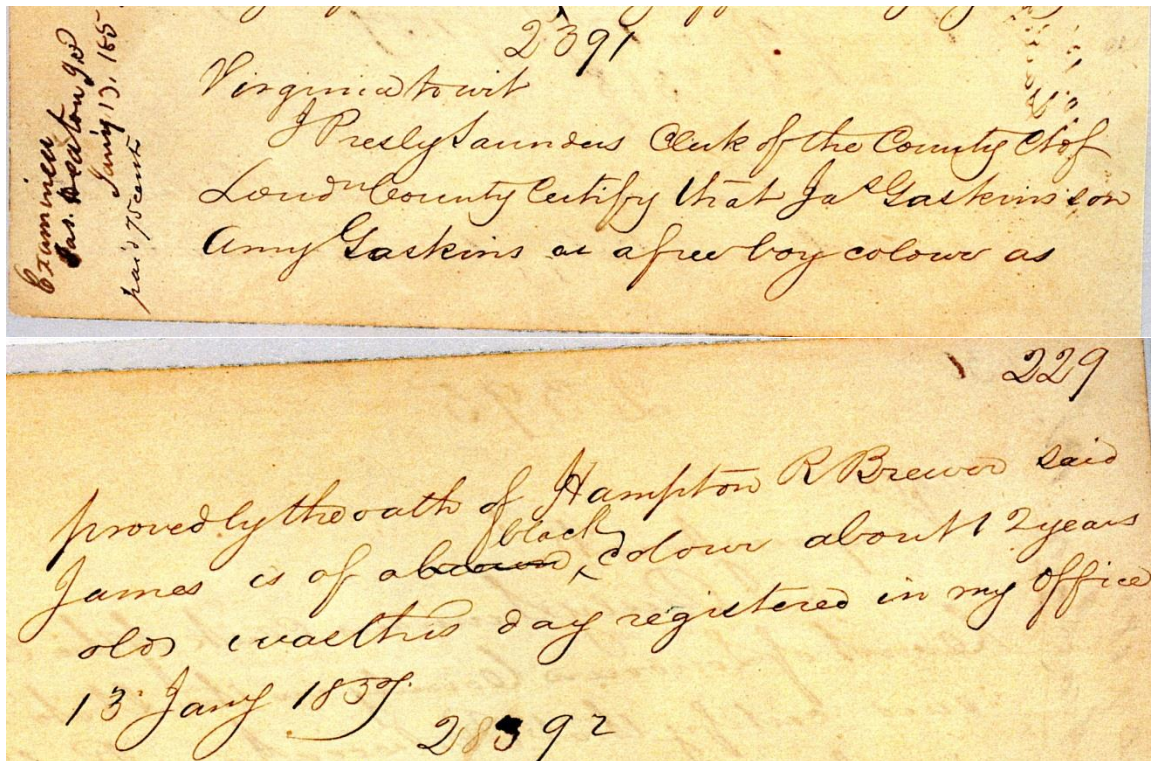


Figure 63 Registration of Freedom, 1857 for Jas Gaskins

(Clerk of the Court for Loudoun County, 1861) 12 Years old Male. Gaskins eventually would serve in the Union Army

Annex 5: The Soldiers

African-Americans have a long, proud tradition of military service going back to colonial days in North America; though because of mistrust by white, English colonists, their service was not often recognized with the honor it deserved. Despite that, while “colonial law and social pressure forbade free blacks and slaves from bearing arms, ... the defensiveness of the colonies, the constant Indian and foreign threat, and a limited white population willing to muster in the military revealed an immediate need to enlist the services of black soldiers. By the 1770’s that pattern was well established, and it remained in place during the first months of the American War for Independence (Smith G. A., 2013).” Still there was a real fear, not without reason that free African-Americans might use their arms to rebel against servitude and turns the tables on the masters. This was seen when former slaves joined the British army during the Revolution and led Royal forces into the plantations of the southern colonies, or joined the Spanish in Florida or melded with Indian tribes, themselves fighting territorial growth by white colonists. What can’t be denied is the bravery and excellence of service of African-Americans in the military in every conflict. Grigsby’s important work *From Loudoun to Glory* on the Civil-War experience of Loudoun African-Americans is a must read. Success for the Union was important to Brewer’s African-Americans because it guaranteed liberty, if not equality.

Annex 5.1 Civil War

James Gaskins, one the African-Americans registered as free by Brewer.

James joined the 39th Colored Infantry, which was organized in 1864 in Baltimore, Maryland and saw considerable action, including the siege of Petersburg in Virginia and the battles of Wilmington and Fort Fisher in North Carolina. Following the war, he married Hannah Buchanan (born about 1845 and daughter of Robert and Mahala Buchanan). Hannah’s brother Martin Van Buren Buchanon also served, in his case in the 3rd Colored Infantry (Grigsby K. D., 2012, pp. 251-252).

LeRoy (Lee Roy) Allen also served in the 3rd US Colored Infantry (Grigsby K. D., 2012, p. 243).

Annex 5.2 World War One (The Great War)

Unfortunately, the Civil War didn't bring true equality. Indeed, finding profitable work and advanced education was difficult for African-Americans, though some like Mary

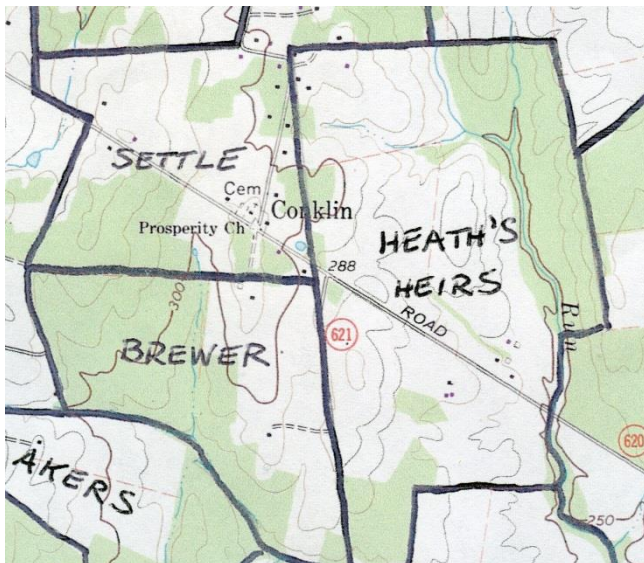


Figure 64 Saffer Map of Conklin Showing Heath's Heirs

Dean got a BS. To fix that problem, some went into the military in order to gain veteran's benefits, as well as serve the country that so mistreated them. They served with great honor and were, like their military ancestors and , a credit to our nation.

Ernest Ervil Ashton, (age about 20) husband of Anolia Allen (granddaughter of William Allen through Lucien), enlisted into the US

Army in Loudoun on September 11, 1918. At this point, that's all that is known of his service. It is doubtful he saw much combat, since the war ended in November; but it is possible that he served in the occupation of Germany. This remains to be researched. (Loudoun County Court, 1918). His draft card showed his father as William Ashton of Fairfax, then living in Arcola. No wife listed on card (Ashton, 1918); because he won't marry Anolia Allen (then age 16 and daughter of Lucien and Mary E. Allen until March 3, 1928 in Leesburg by J.N. Yearwood, a native of Barbados and Clergyman ,in 1920 living in Anne Arundel, County, Maryland (US Census Bureau, 1920).. They were then living in Arcola (Clerk of the Court, 1938). His parents were William and Cora Ashton, farmers.

On April 2, 1960, Ernest E. Ashton, and the couple of Richard K. and Nellie M. Thornton split land they obtained on 15 December, 1944. Ernest retained possession of the

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

portion south of Braddock Road and along the land of Lucien Allen and Alexander Allen. In turn, Ernest granted to the Thornton family land on the north side of Braddock that started at Thomas Dean's line east to the White Chimney line, 1642 feet. My first instinct was that this is the White Chimney described in the report on Cardinal Ridge High School (Roeder L. , Cardinal Ridge Elementary School, 2013 Survey, 2013) (Commissioner of Revenue, 1960); but Wynne Saffer indicated this is a reference to the White Chimney farm, which is described on a map by Saffer as the Heath's Heirs property. Very Close, but not the same.

Isaiah Allen, (age about 30) son of Alexander Allen, appears to have also enlisted in the Army from Waxpool on October 30, 1917, so he could easily have seen combat. (Loudoun County Court, 1918). The census has his birth date as May 10, 1887, whereas his draft card showed him born in Arcola May 12, 1888 but at registration living in Waxpool where he worked as a farmer for someone else (illegible). He was also shown as married and the sole means of financial support; but the name of the wife is not given, only her race, which was listed as African (Allen I. , 1917).

George R. Allen, (age about 22) grandson of Alexander Allen, through Randolph Allen, enlisted from Arcola on August 21, 1918. (Loudoun County Court, 1918). When George registered for the draft, he was working for Ernest E. Ashton in Arcola but living in Bull Run (Allen G. R., 1918).

Other Allen men also enlisted in Loudoun, though I don't know as of this edit if those gentlemen are part of the same family (Loudoun County Court, 1918).

- **Jacob A. Allen**, registration number 408911, From Washington, DC. Enlisted 8/21/1918.
- **Thornton S. Allen**, registration number 3632532, From Philomont. Enlisted 7/18/1918.
- **Manuel Allen**, registration number 2667275, From Philomont. Enlisted 4/25/18.
- **Elsworth Allen**, from Arcola, Enlisted 10/30/17.

George Hamilton Jackson (5/30/1880-2/7/1978) was the father of **Mildred and Preston Jackson**, who studied under Mary Dean Johnson in 1940 at Bull Run Colored School. (See those citations in the Volume on Students and Teachers). He registered for the World War One draft on September 12, 1918 and left the Army as a PFC (Private First Class). According to his registration card, his nearest relative was Ruth A. Jackson, which was his wife. The Census citation for 1940 showed George born in 1881; but his draft card showed him born May 30, 1880. Signed with an X. His occupation was as a farmer and his employer was Henry Havener.²⁴ Mail box was Aldie. (Draft Board for Leesburg, 1918). He died February 7th, 1978 and is buried at the MOUNT PLEASANT MEMORIAL PARK in Section C1. (Balch Library Staff, 2010)

²⁴ According to the 1920 Census for Loudoun, Henry Havener was a white farmer on Braddock Road in the Broad Run District. In 1940, the farm was listed on Route 624 and was worth \$3,000.

Annex 5.3 World War Two

Benjamin A. Trammel, (see student citation for Clifton Lee, taught by Christine Allen at Greggsville in 1927). VIRGINIA TEC5 1698 ENGR C **BN** WORLD WAR II, according to Loudoun Cemetery Database.

Annex 6: Fairfax County Law Suit of 1841

- Articles of Agreement made and entered into this 21st Day of January, 1839., which is the electronic background portion of the report. It appears to be a set of articles of agreement between Triplett and Brewer entered into 21 January, 1839. In consideration for a sum (?) hundred and sixty dollars, to be paid by Triplett, Hampton Brewer sold him some land (Confusing to me at first because the handwriting initially looked like 1859) in fee simple the land lying in Fairfax County, originally purchased of Charles Ratcliffe, (dead) adjoining the land of Francis (unreadable) on which Ann Brewer then resided (Hampton Brewer's mother).
- Hayward Triplett made an indenture on February 4, 1841 owed a debt of \$499.27 to Richard L. Douglass, apparently with some property cited in a Deed of Trust of August 15, 1840..
- Douglass was worried that the land security wasn't sufficient, so on February 4, 1841 Triplett and his wife further secured the debt by conveying to Thomas a tract of 220 acres with everything on it.
- The February 4, 1841 deal allowed Thomas to remain on Triplett land unless a default on the loan happened. If a default did happen, Thomas had the authority to sell the land at public auction to pay off the debt, the remainder of proceeds to go to Triplett, less expense.
- It appears that Brewer on 21 July, 1839 had sold 213 1/3 acres to Triplett (must have been the same land, near Centreville) for which Triplett was to pay Brewer half on 1 July, 1840 and the remaining half on 1 July, 1841. However, Brewer complained in court on 19 July 1841 that Triplett failed to make the last payment and therefore Brewer felt he had the right to retain title until Triplett paid the mortgage. .
- On 22 July, 1841, the Court ordered Triplett to appear in court to answer Brewer's charges, and if he didn't within three months, the bill would be considered confessed.
- On 8 September 1841, the Court again ordered Triplett to appear in Court and answer the Bill within two months, or the bill would be considered confessed.
- On 24 March 1842 the Court orders the land sold in public auction.
- The land was finally sold on October 22, 1842 for 752.50, less expenses. Brewer got \$296.69. The residue after cost was paid to Thomas, attorney for Lowe and Richard L. Douglas.

Some of the material is hard to read, so I asked an expert in Fairfax County to review my findings for accuracy, and she agreed with the analysis (McCoy, 2013). Maddy managed the Slavery Inventory Database.

Indenture of February 4, 1841

- Indenture made February 4, 1841 between Hayward F. Triplett of the first part and his wife Evelina²⁵, Henry W. Thomas of the second part²⁶ and Richard L. Douglass (this name is unclear from the handwriting) of Alexandria of the 3rd part.
- Hayward was indebted to the 3rd part by a Deed of Trust recorded in the Clerk's office of the County Court of Fairfax August 15, 1840.
- The parties of the 3rd part were apprehensive that the property conveyed in the former deed would secure their debt of 499 dollars and 27 cents.
- Triplett was willing to secure the debt.
- The indenture witnessed that in consideration of the premises, Hayward F. Triplett and Evelina granted, bargained and sold Henry W. Thomas, etc. a certain tract of land located in Fairfax County, adjoining the lands of Thomas Fitzhugh's heirs and Francis M. Lewis²⁷, containing 220 acres, together with all the appertences.
- The Triplett's allowed Henry W. Thomas to remain in premises unless a default on payment was made. If a default happens, Thomas will be requested by the parties of the Third Part to sell the land or such a part as sufficient for public auction to the highest bidder within thirty days thereof by advertisement in the Alexandria Gazette. Out of the proceeds of the sale were to be taken the expenses of the deed paid to David J. Douglass the amount of the debt, the remainder then to Hayward F. Triplett. But if the debt is discharged by the letter then the indenture will be null and void.

²⁵ Probably a farmer named Hayward F. Triplett and Evelina F. Triplett of Prince William County, according to the 1850 census for that county.

²⁶ Might be Henry W. Thomas, a Fairfax Lawyer and slave owner, according to the 1850 census for Fairfax.

²⁷ Could be Francis M. Lewis, a slave owner in Prince William County, according to the 1850 slave schedule for that county.

Allegations by Hampton R. Brewer 19 July, 1841

To the Judge of Circuit Superior Court For Fairfax (Brewer, 1841, July 19)

On 21 July, 1839 Brewer entered an agreement with Hayward F. Triplett of Fairfax County for bargain and sale of a certain tract of land, 213 1/3 acres for which Triplett was to pay Brewer \$567 half on 1 July, 1840 and the remaining half on 1 July, 1841. However, Brewer complained that Triplett failed to comply with his contract by not making the last payment; therefore he felt it appropriate to retain title until Triplett made the payment.

Seeing no probability of Triplett ever being able to pay off the last note, Brewer asked that Triplett be made a defendant to the bill with proper words to charge him. Brewer also indicated that the value of the land has changed since Triplett possessed it by heavy artifice, cutting and clearing of waste and destruction of wood and timber. Knowing no other redress, Brewer asked the Judge for a decree of sale of the land for purpose of paying the last installment due Brewer, plus costs, etc.

Allegations were certified by a Justice of the Peace on 19 July, 1841.

Uncertain Date 1841 Others Join Brewer in Law Suit

Henry W. Thomas, attorney for Lowe and Douglass, asks to join the suit by Brewer against Triplett, citing as an exhibit the deed between of trust between Triplett and the Lower and Douglass of 4 February, 1841, the original of which was exhibited, and which they felt was due and full in force.

Summons in Support of Hampton Brewer, 22 July 1841

Summons to Hayward F. Triplett to appear in Circuit Superior Court of Fairfax 1st Monday in August. If not answered in 3 months, the bill be considered confessed.

Summons to Answer Hampton R. Brewer's Charges 8 Sept 1841

Summons delivered by the Sheriff to Hayward F. Triplett to appear before the Judge of Circuit Superior Court, 1st Monday in October, next to answer a bill exhibited against him by Hampton R. Brewer. Unless he answers bill within two months, the court will consider the bill confessed.

The summons was executed 27 September, 1841

Order by Superior Court of 24 March 1842 Selling Land

In Chancery, this cause came before the Court on 24 March, 1842, and the documents were taken as a confession of the defendant, whereby a decree was made the tract of land of 215 1/3 acres situated near Centreville was the same that was sold to the defendant be sold at public auction at the door of the Court House after four weeks advertisement in the Alexandria Gazette by motion, to be placed at the door of the Court House and at Centreville upon the following term. 1/3 of the purchase money to be paid in cash and the residue to be paid in two equal payments (to bear interest) at two years; and Alexander S. Grigsby and A. Sidney Gibbs are hereby appointed Commissioners to carry into effect the decree (Circuit Superior Court of Fairfax County, 1842).

Report of Sale October 27, 1842

The Undersigned Commissioners directed by an order of the past May term of the Circuit Superior Court of Fairfax reported that they duly advertised the premises and held an auction. John F. Elf, M. Lowe, Richard L. Douglas and X?, the highest bidders, at the price of three dollars and fifty cents an acre. The tract was deeded off to them. Total price was \$752.50. The expenses attending the execution of the order were:

Advertisement \$3.50

Payment for Mr. J. Allen to cry the sale \$5.00

(something) \$37.62

Writing the Deed \$5.00

Total cost 51.12. (Grigsby & Gibbs, 1842)

Decree Oct, 1842 in Matter of Hampton R. Brewer vs Triplett

Oct, 1842, the Court decreed the sale of the deed was confirmed. Hampton R. Brewer appears to have received \$296.69. The residue after cost was paid to Thomas, attorney for Lowe and Richard L. Douglas.

Hard to Read Mystery Law Suit

I also asked Maddy McCoy, Fairfax County Historic Courthouse, Virginia Slavery Inventory Database, to help me with interpretation of handwriting of a document in the official file. In her opinion, this was from another Chancery Cause. See: Thomas vs Jolly 1857-051; but she recommended against discarding the document as it may turn out that the Brewer referenced here was a relative of Hampton, thus shining a better light on his lineage. **Research yet to be accomplished.**

Maggie's transcription of the text went as follows.

[Left Column:]

William Thomas & Delila his wife vs Catherine E Brewer (check) [the court located this person] Bushrod Jolly & Lucinda I Jolly/Fauq [I believe the Jollys reside in Fauquier County], Cuthbert Pettitt & Virginia A his wife & Wm. H Thomas

The object this suit is to obtain a decree for the sale of two acres of land bequeathed by Lucretia Violet [Lucretia Violet lived in southern FXCO, she is often referred to as "The Widow Violet"] to Henrietta Ann Brewer, decd. among her heirs at law

[Right Column:]

Wm Thomas	Principle
Celia his wife	Delila his wife
	Principal
	Spa [I believe this is "Special"] in Chy [Chancery Court]
	Triplette [surname]

[Reverse Side:]

Pennsylvania	Georgia
Maryland	Alabama
Virginia	Mississippi
North Carolina	Florida
South Carolina	Maine
	New Hampshire]

752.80
51.12
\$701.38
296 69
\$404.69
27.15
\$377.54

Hard to Read Articles of Agreement between Brewer and Triplet.

We have already established that Hampton R. Brewer on 21 July, 1839 had sold 213 1/3 acres to Triplett (near Centreville) for which Triplett was to pay Hampton R. Brewer half on 1 July, 1840 and the remaining half on 1 July, 1841. However, Brewer complained in court on 19 July 1841 that Triplett failed to make the last payment and therefore Brewer felt he had the right to retain title until Triplett paid the mortgage.

The long pale document contains the Articles of Agreement between the two gentlemen. It is very hard to read but appears to confirm the terms cited by Brewer in his court proceedings. Also contained in this document may be other information to further confirm by reviewing Court Records, Deeds and Property/Personal tax records.

- The articles appear to say that Brewer bought the land from Charles Radcliff (deceased) and that it adjoined the lands of Frances S___ and Thomas _____. Someone named Ann Brewer seemed to reside there as well.

Annex 7: List of Illustrations

Figure 1 Ronnie Arnold on Cardinal Ridge property.	8
Figure 2 Nelli Thorton didn't want to leave. (Pae, 1993)	10
Figure 3 Elk Lick Road Bridge 12/1/2013	16
Figure 4 Prosperity Baptist Church	18
Figure 5 Concept Development Plan Map (Eastern States Engineering Staff, 2003, March 30)....	25
Figure 6 Existing Conditions Rezoning Plat (Eastern States Engineering Staff, 2003, March 30) ...	26
Figure 7 New Location of Settle Dean Cabin (Eastern States Engineering Staff, 2003, 3/30)	27
Figure 8 Farm SE Corner of Braddock and Gum Spring 12/1/2013.....	29
Figure 9 Conklin Park	30
Figure 10 Conklin School, 1940	31
Figure 11 "Difficult Corner," looking West, November 2013. Going right goes to Braddock. Traveling left goes to Gum Spring.	34
Figure 12 Difficult Corner Looking N along Ticonderoga towards Braddock.	34
Figure 13 Driveway to Compound Rear of car points to Braddock. 12/1/2013	35
Figure 14 Conklin School Location in Dec, 2013	36
Figure 15 Conklin School Location in Dec, 2013	36
Figure 16 Cedar Hunt Property (Williamsburg Environmental Group Staff, 2002, July, pp. Fig 1-2)	38
Figure 17 Map of Six Homes in Conklin in 2002.....	43
Figure 18 25926 Elk Lick Road	44
Figure 19 25926 East & West Elevation, Elk Lick, 11/6/2002	46
Figure 20 Layout of 25974 Elk Lick, 11/6/2002	47
Figure 21 25974, Elk Lick, South Elevations, shed, West.....	48
Figure 22 25974 Elk Lick, West and South Elevations	48
Figure 23 25974 Elk Lick Road, Barns, Sheds, North of House, 11/6/2002	49
Figure 24 25974 Elk Lick Road, Animal Sheds, East of House, 11/6/2002.....	49
Figure 25 25974 Elk Lick, East & South Elevations, 11/6/2002	50
Figure 26 26014 Property Plan	51
Figure 27 26014 Elk Lick, Facade or West Elevation in 2002	52
Figure 28 26014 Elk Lick, South Elevation, 11/6/2002	53
Figure 29 26014 Elk Lick, Shed, East of House, 11/6/2002	53
Figure 30 43035 Braddock, NE and NW Elevations in 2002	54
Figure 31 43035 Braddock Road, SW and NW Elevations in 2002.....	55
Figure 32 Sheds, SW of House, 43035 Braddock Road in 2002	55
Figure 33 43035 Braddock, NE and NW Elevations in 2002	57
Figure 34 43035 Braddock Road, SW and NW Elevations in 2002	57
Figure 35 Sheds, SW of House, 43035 Braddock Road in 2002	58
Figure 36 McGraw Ridge from 1923 Emerick Map	60
Figure 37 Conklin Post Card 1908	61
Figure 38 1890 Proposal Map.....	62
Figure 39 1892 Map For Report to Postal Office Topographer	63
Figure 40 Cut Field Stone Tomb Stones at Hampton Brewer Cemetery	66
Figure 41 Wynn Saffer at tomb stones in Hampton R. Brewer Cemetery	67
Figure 42 Balloons over Conklin January, 1986	68
Figure 43 Pastor Lawson locates a book.	69
Figure 44 Ann Brewer Living in Fairfax	78
Figure 45 Looking into Brewer's Land in 2014.....	79

A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

Figure 46 Registration for 1855 in Gum Spring	81
Figure 47 Suspected 1st Generation from Polly Allen	87
Figure 48 Descendants of Amanda Allen	91
Figure 49 Probable Descendants of Rachel Allen	94
Figure 50 Tombstone James Gaskins	95
Figure 51 Brewer Farm, 1860. by Wynne Saffer	99
Figure 52 Sold Eggs	102
Figure 53 The 1885 Receipt appears to confirm the transfers to Nancy and Sinah Buchanan, as well as Mary Smith and Catherine Payne.	120
Figure 54 1896 Records also seem to reference property sales.	121
Figure 55 Registration of Freedom for Alexander Allen, 1854	127
Figure 56 Registration of Freedom for Amanda Allen, 1857.....	127
Figure 57 Registration of Freedom for Betsy Allen, Sept 11, 1854	128
Figure 58 Application for Registration as Free, 1854.....	129
Figure 59 Registration of Freedom, Martha Allen, 1854	130
Figure 60 Registration of Freedom, 1854 for Mary and Catherine Allen	131
Figure 61 Registration of Freedom, Narsiaa and Uginta Allen, 1854)	131
Figure 62 Registration of Freedom William Allen, 1854	132
Figure 63 Registration of Freedom, 1857 for Jas Gaskins	133
Figure 64 Saffer Map of Conklin Showing Heath's Heirs	135

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A History of Conklin Village, Loudoun, Virginia

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