A REPORT ON RED HILL

LAST HOME AND BURIAL PLACE OF PATRICK HENRY

WITH SUPPLEMENTARY SECTIONS

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Patrick Henry, American patriot and orator, was born May 29, 1736 at Studley in Hanover County, Virginia, some fifty miles from Williamsburg, Capital of the Colony of Virginia. Patrick was the second son of Colonel John Henry and Sarah Syme Henry. His mother, widow of Colonel John Syme, retained management of the Studley Plantation during the minority of John Syme, Jr., Patrick Henry's half-brother. This was the young Henry's home for thirteen years until his father settled at Mount Brilliant in another section of Hanover County.

His formal education was limited, supplemented by instruction in classical studies by his father, a graduate of Aberdeen University in Scotland. At the age of fifteen, Patrick went to work in a country store to learn the business and a year later with his older brother opened his own store. The brothers' venture as partners in the country store ended in failure.

Another year went by and when eighteen years old, in 1754, Patrick Henry married Sarah Shelton and began farming at Pine Slash, a 300-acre tract presented to the young couple by Sarah's father, John Shelton. Three years of farming ended in disaster when the residence at Pine Slash was burned out.
In 1757, at the invitation of his father-in-law, who was now operating the Hanover Tavern at Hanover Courthouse, Henry moved his family to rooms in the Tavern. For the next eight years, living at the Tavern, Patrick Henry continued working the farm at Pine Slash, failed in a second attempt to run a store, and finally decided to study law. In 1760, he was admitted to the bar and began practice in Hanover County and adjoining counties.

Patrick Henry, the young lawyer, first gained public notice in the Parson's Cause. An Act of 1696 fixed the compensation of rectors of the established Church of England in Virginia at 16,000 pounds of tobacco per annum. A short tobacco crop in 1758 with a resultant increase in price led the planter-controlled House of Burgesses to pass an act making salaries for ministers, teachers and others payable in money at the rate of two pence per pound. With tobacco selling at six pence per pound, the clergy appealed to the Crown on the grounds that the Act of 1758 was illegal because it had not been approved by the King. The Act was declared invalid.

In a leading case, the Rev. James Maury brought suit in Hanover County to collect the balance due him based on the Crown's decision and in November 1763, the court ruled in favor of the plaintiff ordering that a special jury be summoned December 1, 1763 to decide the amount of damages the Rev. Maury had sustained. Patrick Henry, appearing for the defendants, argued that the Act of 1758 was a salutary and
valid law approved by the House of Burgesses, the Council, and the Governor with full knowledge of local conditions and needs and concluded his argument by stating that a King by his action in disallowing such acts forfeits all right to the obedience of his subjects and degenerates into a tyrant. Swayed by Henry's eloquent plea, the jury awarded the plaintiff the nominal sum of one penny as damages.

The Parson's Cause questioning the right of the Crown to nullify local acts provided the impetus for the movement for self-government in Virginia and gave Patrick Henry his first opportunity to demonstrate his remarkable talent as a public orator.

Local support of Henry's position in the Parson's Cause may well have influenced his election to the House of Burgesses from Louisa County in 1765. On May 29, nine days after taking his seat in the House, Patrick Henry presented his Stamp Act resolutions. Great Britian's world-wide struggle against France and her allies ended in 1763 after seven years of conflict. In North America and the Colonies where the war was known as the French and Indian War, Great Britian had acquired Canada and the lands west to the Mississippi assuring the Colonies of freedom from the threat of French and Indian attacks on their borders. The cost of the war had been enormous and in January, 1765, acting to force the Colonies to help defray the costs of the French and Indian War and to help support British troops stationed in
North America for the protection of the Colonies, Parliament enacted the Stamp Act for the thirteen Colonies. This legislation provided for taxing legal papers, deeds, wills, clearance papers, newspapers, almanacs or other documents with charges ranging from half a penny to ten pounds.

Individual colonies, including Virginia, immediately remonstrated against the Act presenting petitions to the Crown to repeal the legislation. The principal argument against the Act was that the Colonies were not represented in the Parliament and that the legislation was enacted without their consent. The Stamp Act was to take effect on November 1, 1765. The Crown had already begun to appoint tax collectors but except for the humbly worded petitions, no overt opposition to the tax had been organized.

It was at this point, and under these conditions that Henry presented his resolutions. Five in number, the Resolutions recited the arguments that Virginians were citizens of Great Britain, that their rights had been confirmed by two royal decrees, that the citizens or their representatives are the only ones qualified to know what taxes they can bear and the easiest mode of raising them, that this right of self-taxation had been uninterruptedly enjoyed by the Colony and concluded with the fifth resolution which declared that the General Assembly of Virginia has the only and sole exclusive right and power to lay taxes upon the
inhabitants of the Colony and that every attempt to vest such power in any persons other than the General Assembly has a manifest tendency to destroy British as well as American freedom.

The sixth and seventh resolutions drawn up by Henry but not presented to the House declared that the inhabitants of the Colony are not bound to yield obedience to any taxation act other than the laws of the General Assembly and that any person speaking or writing against the right of taxation solely by the General Assembly shall be deemed an enemy to his Majesty's Colony.

Henry's speech in support of his resolutions was an eloquent and masterful example of oratory. He completed his argument with the now famous lines "Tarquin and Caesar had each his Brutus, Charles the First his Cromwell, and George the Third" - as cries of treason rose from the assembly Henry paused and then finished his sentence "may profit by their example. If this be treason, make the most of it."

Henry's resolutions adopted by the House of Burgesses had immediate and widespread influence. This was the first open opposition to the Stamp Act. Copies of the resolutions including the sixth and seventh ones were widely distributed and published in the Colonies. Similar resolutions in some cases using the identical wording of Henry's
resolutions were passed in eight other Colonies. The resolutions gave impetus to organized resistance, as associations to resist the imposition of the Act were formed. In some Colonies, demonstrations against the tax collectors broke out. The Stamp Act Congress, with nine colonies represented, met in New York in October, 1765.

Patrick Henry had placed the Colonies on the road which eventually led to Independence and Patrick Henry's name and influence were soon known throughout the Colonies. As a result of the strong American opposition which had developed, Parliament repealed the Stamp Act in March, 1766 but affixed the Declaratory Act asserting the right of Parliament to tax Americans in all cases whatsoever.

Henry, because of the prominence he had achieved in opposing the Stamp Act, was elected a delegate to the First Continental Congress which met in Philadelphia in September, 1774. The other Virginia delegates were Washington, Benjamin Harrison, Richard Henry Lee, Peyton Randolph, Edmund Pendleton, and Richard Bland. Once again Patrick Henry took a leading part in the discussions and debates of the Congress. At the opening session Henry stated "The distinction between Virginians, Pennsylvanians, New Yorkers and New Englanders are no more. I am not a Virginian, but an American." In addition to bringing delegates from all the Colonies together for the first time, the First Continental Congress adopted important measures including the Declaration of Rights, a forerunner of the Declaration of
Independence, an address to the King presenting the American grievances and organized non-importation non-exportation agreements to bring the threat of economic pressure on Parliament.

The Virginia delegation returned home confident that the British would yield to American demands - all but Patrick Henry who, shortly after his return to Scotchtown, declared in private talks that Britain would drive the Colonists to extremities and that hostilities would soon commence. He was not long in advancing his opinion in public.

On March 23, 1775, the Second Virginia Convention met in Richmond in St. Johns Episcopal Church, the only building large enough to accommodate the delegates. Henry, attending as a representative from Hanover County, soon had his opportunity. In a series of resolutions, he proposed "that this Colony be immediately put in a position of defence" and that plans be prepared for arming and disciplining such a number of men as may be sufficient for that purpose. Conventions in other Colonies had at the strongest merely announced the possibility of war. Patrick Henry would have the Virginia Convention by adopting his resolutions virtually declare a state of war.

In support of adoption of his resolutions, Patrick Henry gave the most famous speech of his career. He declared that prayers, arguments
and petitions have been ignored, he cited Great Britain's warlike preparations for subjugation of the Colonies, that the Colonies had exhausted all approaches and must recognize that if they desired freedom they must be prepared to fight. Then came his closing and eloquent words: "I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided and that is the lamp of experience. What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! - I know not what course others may take but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!" The forceful oration had its effect.
The Convention immediately adopted Henry's resolutions. A committee of twelve was appointed, with Patrick Henry as chairman and Washington and Jefferson among those serving on the committee to implement the resolutions.

Six weeks later, Henry matched his eloquence with action in what Jefferson described as the first overt act of war in Virginia. As part of the plan to subdue the rebellious Colonies, General Thomas Gage in Boston dispatched troops to seize military stores at Concord, precipitating the Battle of Lexington on April 19, 1775. On the 20th Lord Dunmore, marching by night, removed the gun powder from the magazine at Williamsburg to an armed schooner anchored in the James. News of the Governor's action reached Henry at Scotchtown where he was preparing to leave for the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia.
which was called for May 10. Reports of the Battle of Lexington had probably reached Virginia and perhaps inspired by this action, Henry called for volunteers to assemble at New Castle in Hanover County on May 2nd to take measures to demand payment for the gunpowder removed by Lord Dunmore. Henry, elected Captain of the Militia, dispatched messengers to the Receiver-General for this purpose and marched his militia, now some 5,000 strong, toward Williamsburg. Word that the sum demanded had been paid reached the column before arriving at Williamsburg and Henry disbanded his forces, since the object of the expedition had been achieved.

In May, 1775, Patrick Henry took his seat in the Congress at Philadelphia. He was active in forwarding steps to prepare for war and the creation of a Continental Army supporting the election of Washington as Commander-in-Chief. His services at the Congress ended on August 1st with adjournment of the Congress.

Back home in Virginia on August 5th, the Third Virginia Convention appointed him Colonel of the First Regiment of Regulars and Commander-in-Chief of all forces to be raised for the protection of Virginia. After this appointment Henry never resumed his seat in the Congress. Active and aggressive in organizing and training the Virginia troops, Henry was offered a commission as Colonel of the First Battalion when Virginia forces were mustered for service in the Continental Army.
Feeling that his position in the Virginia military establishment warranted a higher grade, Henry refused this offer and in late March, 1776, resigned his commission as Commander-in-Chief of the Virginia forces.

Henry never assumed an active part in national affairs after this date. The Fifth Virginia Convention, meeting at Williamsburg on May 6, 1776, adopted a Constitution for the government of the Commonwealth of Virginia and elected him the first Governor of Virginia. He was re-elected in 1777 and again in 1778. An article of the State Constitution provided that no governor could serve more than three consecutive terms and it was not until 1784 that Patrick Henry again was elected Governor, followed by his fifth term in 1785.

Henry, as Governor, took a leading part in raising troops and supplies for the Continental Army, in organizing the state government and maintaining cooperation with neighboring states. During his terms as Governor, Virginia was relatively untouched by military or naval action then centered in the northern Colonies. Henry's outstanding contribution to the national cause was his support of George Rogers Clark and the expedition of 1778 which conquered the Northwest Territory for the Colonies.
In 1779, at the close of his third term as Governor, Henry moved to the Leatherwood plantation in Henry County in the western part of the state. Re-elected to the General Assembly, he continued to maintain his position as the political leader of Virginia until the close of the war. From Leatherwood, he returned to Richmond to serve his fourth and fifth terms as Governor in 1784 and 1785.

By 1786 it was apparent that the central government of the United States of America with the limitations imposed by the Articles of Confederation could not function effectively. Patrick Henry had, in general, supported the Federalist theory of a strong central government. For reasons which Henry never fully explained, he declined appointment as one of the seven Virginia deputies to the Constitutional Convention in the Spring of 1787 despite Federalist urging and attempts to enlist his support and attendance. The new Constitution of the United States was signed September 17, 1787 and submitted to the several states for ratification. In March, 1788, Henry was elected a delegate from Prince Edward County to the Virginia Convention to ratify or reject the Constitution where he immediately led the attack on ratification. With all his forceful eloquence Henry argued that the state governments would be destroyed by the new Constitution, that the rights of conscience, trial by jury, and liberty of the press would be lost by this proposed change. Despite all the powerful arguments advanced by Henry and his supporters, the Convention voted 89 to 79 to ratify the Federal Constitution.
Henry had lost his fight against ratification but his arguments for a Bill of Rights was successful. Probably more than any of the opponents of the Constitution, Patrick Henry was responsible for the adoption of the first ten amendments to the Federal Constitution. Once the Federal government was established he urged support. He refused to seek election to the Senate under the new Constitution and at the close of 1790 retired from public life first to the Long Island Plantation and finally in 1796 to Red Hill in Charlotte County.

Because of his influence and reputation several attempts, all of which he declined, were made by the Federalists to secure his return to public life. In 1794, he refused an offer to serve as Senator from Virginia and President Washington's proposal to name him Minister to Spain. In succeeding years he rejected offers to serve as Secretary of State, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and Minister to France. In 1799, Washington alarmed at the threat of nullification implied in the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions, wrote to Henry urging that he seek election as a delegate to the General Assembly of Virginia as a bulwark against the dangerous sentiments raised there by this threat to the central government. The following March, Henry, responding to the President's urging, offered himself as a candidate for election from Charlotte County. Speaking at the county seat in his last public speech, he urged support of Washington and the central government and denounced recent proceedings of the Virginia Assembly for daring to pronounce upon the validity of Federal laws.
Henry won election to the General Assembly but never had the opportunity to serve as the "bulwark against dangerous sentiments."

His health, already weakened by sieges of malaria, gave way rapidly and on June 6, 1799, Patrick Henry died at "Red Hill". He was buried in the garden east of the residence where his tombstone bears the simple statement "His fame his best epitaph."
A REPORT ON RED HILL, LAST HOME AND BURIAL PLACE OF PATRICK HENRY

Location and Site Description

Red Hill is located in Charlotte and Campbell Counties, Virginia, seven miles east of Brookneal on U. S. Route 501 and thirty-seven miles southeast of Lynchburg, largest center of population in Central Virginia. From Brookneal, the historic site is reached by way of State Route 40, State Secondary Routes 600 and 619. From Route 619, the entrance road, Route 677, one and one-third miles long, leads to the residence area and graveyard, where the road forms a rectangular loop enclosing the principal historic attractions of Red Hill.

The Red Hill Plantation tract, now owned by the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation, covers 960.61 acres. The county line runs northeast through the property placing approximately one-third of the tract in Campbell County and two-thirds in Charlotte County. The entrance road, the residence area and graveyard lie entirely within Charlotte County. The residence area and graveyard, approximately nine acres in extent, are situated on rising ground overlooking open fields and scattered clumps of trees stretching south to the valley of the Staunton River. A heavy cover of second-growth pine borders the east, west, and north lines of the residence area.
North of the residence area, the terrain is rolling and irregular
coursed by numerous deep-cut creeks and branches and covered with
second-growth timber or scattered open fields. Of the entire tract
of 960.61 acres, approximately one-third is in open fields and two-
thirds in timbered land.

The surrounding countryside, outside the boundaries of the plantation
tract, is similar in appearance, devoted to farming and logging. There
are no developments in the immediate vicinity which adversely affect
the site.

The Historical Background

In 1792, Patrick Henry began assembling the lands for the Red Hill
plantation. In that year, he acquired 494 acres from Joseph Fuqua
and his wife Catherine and in 1794 purchased 700 acres from Richard M.
Booker, and his wife Elizabeth. Adjoining tracts were added to
increase his holdings to 2,920 acres at the time of his death in 1799.

Sometime during the year 1796, Henry moved from the Long Island residence
on the Staunton River to his last home at Red Hill.

The frame story-and-a-half residence and the usual plantation out-
buildings had been built by previous owners. The only reported addition
made by Patrick Henry was a frame lean-to built against the east end
of the residence. No descriptions or sketches of the several buildings
in the residence group have been discovered but the group probably comprised, in addition to the residence, a separate kitchen building, stable and barns, smokehouse, a detached office, quarters for the family, slaves, icehouse and nearby, the plantation slave quarters.

At the time of his removal to Red Hill, Henry was no longer active in public affairs, devoting his time to his family, his law practice, operation of the plantation and management of his property in various parts of the state.

The last and certainly one of the most significant events in Patrick Henry's long and distinguished career came at Red Hill in 1799, the year of his death. The Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions, adopted by these States the previous year, advanced the principle that a state had the right to nullify an Act of Congress which conflicted with state legislation. Alarmed by this implied threat to the supremacy of Federal authority, Washington wrote Henry on January 15, 1799 urging him to seek election to the Virginia General Assembly and to use his influence in that body to combat this doctrine. Responding to Washington's urging, Henry, in March 1799, offered himself as a candidate for election as delegate to the General Assembly from Charlotte County. In his last public speech at Charlotte Court House, Patrick Henry declared his support of Washington and the central government and denounced the recent proceedings of the General Assembly for daring to pronounce upon the validity of Federal laws. His positive
stand on this issue must be appraised in view of his vigorous leadership in 1788 opposing ratification of the Constitution creating a strong central government.

Henry won election to the General Assembly but never had the opportunity to take his seat in the Assembly and argue against nullification. For several years he had been in failing health aggravated by attacks of malaria. After his March appearance at Charlotte Court House, his health declined rapidly and on June 6, 1799 the great patriot died at Red Hill. He was buried in the garden east of the residence.

His will dated November 20, 1789, probated July 1, 1799, among other provisions gave to his wife Dorpthea "all my lands at and adjoining my dwelling place called Red Hill, purchased from Fuqua, Booker, Watkins, and others, out of the tract called Watkins Order, to hold during her life, together with twenty of my slaves, her choice of them all, and at her death the said lands are to be equally divided in value in fee simple between two of my sons by her; and she is to name and point out the two sons that are to take the said lands in fee simple at her discretion." A clause in her husband's will which directed the revocation of "every gift, legacy, authority or power mentioned herein" in the event that she married again failed to deter his wife from a second union. She married Judge Edmund Winston,
her husband's cousin. Dorothea Henry died in 1831 and in the partition of the Red Hill tract as directed by Patrick Henry's will his youngest son, John Henry, who was three years old at his father's death, received the home tract and 1,706 acres. The balance of the Red Hill tract was deeded to his brother Edward Winston Henry.

In 1833, John Henry added a modest two-story frame house attached to the west end of the original residence, facing the addition south and at the same time his wife planted the attractive boxwood garden and laid out the fieldstone paths connecting the residence to the graveyard.

The earliest description of the Red Hill residence and grounds was published fourteen years after John Henry acquired the estate. Henry Howe in his Historical Collections of Virginia included a sketch of "Red Hill, the Seat of Patrick Henry" and gave his impressions of the residence and grounds. "It is beautifully situated on an elevated ridge, the dividing line of Campbell and Charlotte, within a quarter of a mile of the junction of the Falling River with the Staunton. From it the valley of the Staunton stretches southward about three miles, varying from a quarter to nearly a mile in width and of an oval-like form ... From the brow of the hill, west of the house, is a scene of an entirely different character; the Blue Ridge
with the lofty Peaks of Otter, appear in the horizon at a distance of sixty miles. At the foot of the garden, under a dense cluster of locust and other trees, enclosed by a wooden paling, are the graves of Patrick Henry and his wife, overrun with myrtle, and without any monuments over them. Under the trees seen on the left of the picture in full view of the beautiful valley beneath, the orator was accustomed in pleasant weather to sit mornings and evenings with his chair leaning against one of their trunks, and a can of cool spring-water by his side, from which he took frequent drafts."

John Henry died in 1868 and the Red Hill property passed to his son William Wirt Henry, a distinguished lawyer and historian. Because of the demands of his practice William Wirt Henry moved to Richmond leaving the care of his Charlotte County estate to a manager. William Wirt Henry died in 1900 and in 1905, his daughter, Lucy Grey Harrison, purchased the interest of her mother, brothers and sister in Red Hill for $20,000.

Mrs. Harrison had been left in comfortable financial circumstances when her husband died and decided to return to Red Hill and rehabilitate the family plantation. Her principal undertaking was to build a country home incorporating the original residence and the John Henry addition. In furtherance of this plan, she engaged a nationally famous
architect, Charles Barton Keen, who prepared plans enlarging the John Henry addition as the main feature of the house and adding a wing to balance Patrick Henry's residence. Brick columned entrance gates were installed north and south of the new home, the entire yard was enclosed with a privet hedge, and the original kitchen and slave quarters were torn down. Patrick Henry's law office was moved to a location adjacent to the graveyard and an office building erected by William Wirt Henry was also moved, joined to the law office, and remodelled to serve as a detached residence.

Writing in 1907, while plans for Mrs. Harrison's new home were in preparation, George Morgan in his book *The True Patrick Henry*, tells of his visit to Red Hill and adds further information about the grounds and outbuildings. He describes Patrick Henry's house as facing south (actually it is John Henry's addition that faces in this direction) and continues "It stands on the crest of the hill, at the right spot for the longest and best view down the valley of the Staunton. In a shaded yard back of the house was his office; to the east is the spacious garden; east of that is the graveyard walled about with box hedge and carpeted with periwinkle . . . . There are eight considerable springs, one with a touch of lithia round about the place. The ravines with their whitewashed log cabins are romantic and at the head of the ravines are the springs. Cool Spring was Henry's favorite. From this water was brought to him on a summer day and with a can of it and a gourd, he sat under the locust tree on the lawn, and enjoyed the valley view."
Mrs. Harrison's country home was completed as planned in 1912 and featured in an article appearing in the October, 1912 issue of the magazine, Country Life in America, with floor plans of the building interior, exterior photographs, and a sketch of the grounds layout. Seven years later, in 1919, the entire building including Patrick Henry's original home burned to the ground. Mrs. Harrison moved to the guesthouse which incorporated Henry's law office.

In 1906, Mrs. Harrison had deeded to the Tidewater Railway Company 23.4 acres extending east and west across the property about a thousand feet south of the residence area for the Railroad's right-of-way and in 1933 transferred to the Commonwealth of Virginia 15.18 acres, the right-of-way from Secondary Route 619 to the grave of Patrick Henry. The paved entrance road maintained by the State Department of Highways follows the ridge extending north to Route 619. Mrs. Oliver Bellwood, resident caretaker and guide for the Foundation, pointed out a section of the original and historic road to Red Hill which runs west of the present road.

A Proposed National Monument

A widespread movement in the 1930's to commemorate the life and services of Patrick Henry resulted in an Act of Congress, approved August 15, 1935, providing for the establishment of a National Monument.
at the site of Red Hill, estate of Patrick Henry in Charlotte County, Virginia. By the terms of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior was authorized to acquire the property by donation or by donated funds and to establish the Patrick Henry National Monument to be administered, protected, and developed by the National Park Service. Five years passed, the anticipated donation of lands and funds failed to materialize and an Act approved January 29, 1940, taking cognizance of this development, authorized and directed the Secretary of the Interior to acquire by purchase or otherwise on behalf of the United States, at a cost not to exceed $100,000, the estate of Patrick Henry in Charlotte County, Virginia, known as Red Hill as a permanent public memorial to Patrick Henry.

In 1936, the National Park Service initiated studies and surveys of the Red Hill Estate and prepared a report combining photographs of the residence area and a series of maps of the area. Acting under the authority of the Act of 1940, appraisals of the property owned by Mrs. Lucy Gray Harrison were secured. There was considerable variation in the appraisals submitted by several appraisers, one appraisal valuing the property at $100,000. The National Park Service, in view of the disagreement on valuation offered by private appraisers, decided to use a figure determined by Service appraisers and on June 28, 1940 offered Mrs. Harrison $25,000 for the Red Hill property. Mrs. Harrison refused this offer, and in 1941 a condemnation suit was instituted
in the District Court, Western District of Virginia. Court-appointed
Commissioners after examination of the tract fixed the value at
$47,120 and an award in this amount was approved by the Court in 1943.
The National Park Service had secured an appropriation of $25,000
for land purchase. In order to meet the Court award, a request for
appropriation of an additional $25,000 was submitted to Congress.
This request was denied, Congress indicating that appropriations for
this purpose could not be justified while the Nation was engaged in
World War II.

Senator Carter Glass of Virginia, who had sponsored the Acts to
establish the Patrick Henry National Monument, had by this time
become dissatisfied with the course taken by the Department of the
Interior. At his request, Senator Harry F. Byrd introduced an Act
to repeal the Acts of 1935 and 1940. Describing the purpose of this
Act, Senator Glass was quoted as stating that this legislation would
put to a stop high-handed and arbitrary efforts of the National Park
Service to acquire the property at much below its true value. The
Act was approved December 31, 1944 and the project of a National
Monument at Red Hill abandoned.

The Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation

The Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation was organized by a group of
interested citizens in 1945 as an aftermath of the Federal government
decision to withdraw the proposal to establish a National Monument at Red Hill. In a brochure issued by the Foundation, the purpose of the organization was stated in the Foreword. "Through the generosity of patriotic Americans a perpetual memorial in commemoration of the life and character of Patrick Henry is to be established at "Red Hill" in Charlotte County, Virginia, this being Henry's home and burial place. Thus will this hallowed spot be forever set apart as a National Shrine, dedicated to the aims, ideals, and purposes for which Patrick Henry lived and labored - that the liberty which he envisaged and proclaimed with matchless eloquence may be preserved in the hearts of men everywhere."

Lucy Gray Harrison died April 14, 1944. At the September, 1944 term of the Circuit Court for Charlotte County, Special Commissioners were appointed to offer for sale at public auction or solicit private offers or bids for the real estate owned by Lucy Gray Harrison at her death, containing 60.61 acres, known as "Red Hill". The Foundation's offer to purchase the estate for $60,000 was accepted by the Special Commissioners, and the property was conveyed to the Foundation by a deed dated April 25, 1945. The Foundation had borrowed $35,000 from the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company and by special arrangement with the Court had agreed to pay the balance of $25,000 over a period of ten years. In order to meet these obligations, all funds raised by the Foundation were channeled into the debt funding. No
funds were available to begin active development of the site after
1945, and it was not until 1954 that the restoration program adopted
by the Foundation was initiated. In that year, Mr. Eugene B. Casey
of Maryland, following a visit to the neglected grave and residence
area, offered to finance the restoration program and entered into a
contract with the Foundation to provide the funds required.

The Foundation Restoration Program and Accomplishments

Mr. Casey's generous offer provided the impetus to initiate work on
the Foundation Program. As the first step and in cooperation with
Mr. Casey, the Foundation selected Mr. Stanhope S. Johnson of Lynchburg,
Virginia as architect. Mr. Johnson, as a young architect had been
employed by James Barton Keen as principal architect for the remodelling
of the Henry house group for Mrs. Lucy G. Harrison. As field architect,
Johnson from 1910-1912 spent much time directing the construction of
Mrs. Harrison's country home. Because of his interest in the Patrick
Henry home and as part of his field duties, Johnson made detailed
measurements and sketches of the historic buildings still standing at
Red Hill and fortunately preserved this record through the years.

These measurements and sketches, together with archeological explo­
lations, photographs, and historical descriptions provided the basis
for the Red Hill reconstruction and restoration program. Architect
Johnson was in complete charge of the restoration and reconstruction
program. Dr. Robert D. Meade, Chairman of the History Department of Randolph-Macon Women's College, Lynchburg, who published his first volume of a definitive life of Patrick Henry and who will publish the second, and final, volume either in the fall of 1962 or spring of 1963, served as consultant.

As of July 1962, one historic building has been restored, six buildings have been reconstructed and the graveyard has been enclosed with a stone wall. Details of the buildings and graveyard enclosure are given below and located on the plan of the residence area which accompanies this report.

1. **Patrick Henry's Home (Reconstruction)**- A frame story-and-a-half structure on brick foundation; brick chimney at east end; one room lean-to addition; covered porch and steps also at east end; rived white oak shingles; beaded siding paint a light salmon color; front entrance on north. The home is located on the original site as determined by Johnson's plans and archeological explorations.

2. **Kitchen Building (Reconstruction)**- A frame one-room structure on brick foundation with small lean-to room and massive brick chimney on south end; brick floor; entrance on west side facing the home; rived white oak shingles; beaded siding painted a light salmon color; location and measurements from Johnson's plans and archeological investigation.
3. **Family Privy (Reconstruction)** - A small frame building on brick foundation partitioned to form two compartments, one for men, one for women; opening under privy contains two earthenware pots which are removed through small door; beaded siding painted a light salmon color; rived white oak shingles. The privy is located on the site of the original family privy as determined by Johnson's plans and archeological investigation. While the site is correct, sketches or other descriptions of the original cover structure were lacking. The reconstructed privy is copied from one at Sandusky, a Colonial home near Lynchburg.

4. **The Smokehouse (Reconstruction)** - A square one-room structure with beaded siding on brick foundation; rived white oak shingles; door on west side; dressed stone floor with stone-lined fire pit; exposed ceiling joints with hooks for hanging meat; painted a light salmon color. Location determined by Johnson's plans and archeological investigation which uncovered the stone pit. The original smokehouse was moved to a location adjoining the stable by Patrick Henry's son, John Henry.

5. **Family Slave Quarters (Reconstruction)** - A one-room squared log structure on stone footing; openings between logs inside and out filled with mortar to suggest mud chinking; massive stone chimney at west end; doors at south and north sides; rived white oak shingles;
loft room reached by interior staircase; wood floor. Johnson dismantled this building during the 1910-1912 remodeling. Location from archaeological investigation; reconstruction based on Johnson's measurements. Traditionally these were the quarters for Henry's cook and coachman.

6. **Slave Quarters Privy (Reconstruction)** - A log structure on stone foundation located south of quarter's building; has opening and removable earthenware pot similar to family privy. Location determined by archaeological investigation; design from Johnson's sketches.

7. **Graveyard Enclosure (Reconstruction)** - A dressed stone fence, four feet in height with opening and iron gate on west side. Johnson states that the stone footings and small section of a stone wall were uncovered during archeological explorations. These discoveries were the basis for the construction of the stone wall.

8. **Patrick Henry's Law Office (Restoration)** - A frame structure on brick footing; rived white oak shingles; entrances on north and south sides. This is the only original structure of the Red Hill buildings in Patrick Henry's days. Johnson supervised the moving of the Law Office from the original location in the north yard to a location just west of the graveyard where it was joined to a high ceilinged frame office built by William Wirt Henry. During the
1910-1912 remodelling period, the roof was raised to permit additional rooms on the second floor, dormer windows were added and the roof line extended to form a porch covering. When the restoration of the Law Office was undertaken, it was discovered that part of the original site footings were on the right-of-way of Secondary Route 677. The State Highway Department was unable to permit construction on the right-of-way as long as the road is maintained as a public thoroughfare. Since location on the original site was not possible, a site 75 feet south was selected, the Law Office moved here and restored. Restoration work on the building was centered principally on removing the 1912 alterations, replacing and repairing unsound joists and framing, restoring the original roof line and the single partition dividing the interior. In order to record the original location, Johnson prepared a plan detailing his findings and recorded the plan in the Charlotte County Clerk's Office, Deed Book 149, page 220 dated August 24, 1960.

In addition to the reconstruction and restoration of historic buildings presented in this section, considerable improvements were made on the grounds. Lawns were graded and seeded, old fieldstone walks repaired and new ones added to link the buildings together. Nineteen lamp-posts with simple fixtures are spotted around the grounds. In the Law Office yard, a hitching post, mounting stile and waiting bench have been placed and at the entrance circle, a horse stand and hitching rail.
Cost of the restoration and reconstruction program and ground improvements financed by Mr. Casey, as reported by Architect Johnson, was approximately $117,000.

Proposed Future Work

Future projects planned by Architect Johnson to complete the program are the reconstruction of the stone and frame stable and carriage house west of the residence, reconstruction of the icehouse, wellhouse and woodshed, the possible improvement of the slave burial grounds southwest of the residence area, and the possible re-design or removal of the boxwood maze.

Evaluation of Restoration and Reconstruction Work

Evaluation of the work accomplished is based on inspection of the buildings and other improvements, interviews with Architect Johnson and examination of his papers, sketches, photographs and plans for the 1910-1912 period, working plans for the restored or reconstructed building, extensive reading of books and periodicals, and review of other sources relating to Patrick Henry and Red Hill.

The quality of the restoration and reconstruction work on the buildings is excellent. Architect Johnson has closely followed building restoration and reconstruction standards. Especially noteworthy is the indication of meticulous attention to details and careful study of all possible sources to guide the building program. The Johnson
1910-1912 notes and sketches, principal source of detail measurements and location, show signs of wear and age corroborating Johnson’s statement that they were made in the field in 1910-1911 rather than at a later date from memory. In the course of developing and carrying through the several projects, Johnson had several consultations with Colonial Williamsburg architects asking their advice and suggestions for such buildings as the family privy and design of the lampposts and fixtures. One example of his adherence to authenticity is that heating systems and wiring were omitted in the residence and Law Office.

Mr. Johnson’s decisions on several features in the Red Hill restoration are debatable. It is questionable that there were thirteen lampposts and lamps on the grounds during Patrick Henry’s days. Perhaps one or two, but thirteen appears excessive. A question of judgment is raised, too, in connection with the family privy. Johnson, in the absence of information on the appearance of the privy superstructure, followed accepted practice in utilizing a contemporary design. However, the present building is elaborate and does not harmonize with the simplicity of the other buildings. Perhaps a better choice would have been to omit the reconstruction of the family privy rather than to copy the Sandusky model. Questions are also raised about the use of dressed stone in the interior of the smokehouse. It would appear that fieldstone would be a better choice for a building of this type.
There is doubt, too, about the choice and design of the dressed stone wall enclosing the graveyard. Here again a simple fieldstone wall might be more appropriate. These are minor points and, as noted above, debatable but they were considered in the evaluation of the restoration work at Red Hill. The overall conclusion is that the restoration and reconstruction projects and developments at Red Hill are authentic and excellent reflecting credit on Architect Johnson and the Foundation. The residence area is attractive and appealing, giving the feeling of the simplicity of the 1790's.

Recent Developments

In the spring of 1962, Senator Harry F. Byrd of Virginia wrote to the Director of the National Park Service informing him that the Foundation was interested in donating to the Federal Government the improvements and sufficient land at Red Hill, without cost and without restrictions or conditions, for a National Memorial to Patrick Henry. This offer was confirmed by the Board of Directors of the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation at a meeting held March 29, 1962. A copy of the resolution and a letter dated July 20, 1962 from James S. Easley, President of the Foundation to the Regional Director, Southeast Region which elaborates upon the resolution is included in the Appendices to this report. The only point added by Mr. Easley was the possibility of a payment of $900 to reimburse members and friends of the Foundation for a loan which was incurred to complete a caretaker's residence at Red Hill.
Mr. Easley was careful to emphasize that this request was offered for consideration but would not affect any negotiations with the government.

The caretaker's residence noted in Mr. Easley's letter is located outside the residence area on the east side of the entrance road about 150 feet north of the restored area. The location is shown on the 1962 plan of Red Hill which accompanies this report. The location is very good as a control point for the residence area and can be effectively screened from the road. At present it is occupied by Mrs. Oliver Bellwood who serves as unpaid guide and guardian on a year-round basis for the residence area.

At the request of the Director, this report has been assembled as the basis for consideration of the Foundation's offer.

The Patrick Henry Boy's Plantation

The Boy's Plantation was conceived as a living memorial to Patrick Henry under the sponsorship of the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation. The object of the Boy's Plantation is to accept boys from broken homes and from homes where environment is unsatisfactory and to teach them good citizenship and provide training and preparation for useful occupations. It is not a correctional institution. In operation and objectives, Boy's Plantation will operate on principles successfully employed by such organizations as Father Flanagan's Boy's Home, St. Francis Boy's Home and other nationally recognized institutions.
Funds for development and operation of Boy's Plantation are raised separately from the Memorial Foundation. The Foundation's contribution is the use of their property for farming and associated operations and for the buildings which will be required by the Boy's Plantation. The site selected by the Foundation for the Boy's Plantation headquarters and building group is on the west side of the entrance road 0.3 miles north of the Red Hill residence area. The first of the cottage-type dormitories for the Boy's Plantation, a brick structure of simple but pleasing design, has been completed and other buildings will be erected adjoining the cottage as funds are available. Active operation of the Plantation has begun on a limited scale with six boys enrolled.

It is the intent of the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation to permit the Boy's Plantation to use in their program the portion of the Red Hill tract which will be available after the historic area boundaries are established.
An early sketch of Red Hill (1845). Patrick Henry's home is at right with his son, John Henry's addition (1833) at left.

Red Hill in 1907. View from south with formal boxwood garden in front.
The right wing is the historic part, and its middle room with two windows now used as a library, is the room in which Patrick Henry died.

Red Hill in 1912. This is the country home built by Mrs. Lucy Gray Harrison, the great-granddaughter of Patrick Henry.

Patrick Henry's law office in 1912 showing the alterations made by Mrs. Harrison.
The residence from the southwest. The kitchen chimney and lean-to addition show at extreme right. 1962.

View of reconstructed buildings from southeast. From left to right, the smokehouse, family privy and kitchen. Patrick Henry's residence in rear. 1962.
The restored Patrick Henry's law office. Front (north) view. 1962.

Slave quarters and privy from the southwest. Note massive stone chimney. 1962.
Graves of Patrick Henry and his second wife, Dorothea Dandridge Henry. Section of dressed stone wall enclosing graveyard at rear. 1962.
then imposed import duties on glass, paper, paint and tea. So fiery were Henry and his followers on this issue that the governor dismissed the Virginia Assembly. That day Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, Richard Henry Lee, Francis Lightfoot Lee, Dabney Carr, Peyton Randolph and George Mason met in the Raleigh Tavern in Williamsburg. Here they pledged themselves to a new and independent nation.

In 1774 Henry was a Virginia delegate at the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia. His statement before this august group, "United we stand, divided we fall", is as true today as it was over a century and a half ago.

The Virginia Convention, in 1775, met in Richmond's St. John's Church. Here Patrick Henry fired the delegates with the famous quotation, "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death!".

Patrick Henry became the first governor of Virginia and served three successive terms. Later he served his fourth and fifth terms. At the age of fifty, Henry resumed his law practice. In his late fifties, broken by three decades of tumultuous exertions, he withdrew to Red Hill. Henry's greatest contribution to the nation was his inspired leadership which resulted in the adoption of the first ten amendments to the Constitution. These amendments constitute our National Bill of Rights, and credit for them is due to Henry more than to any other person.

Rest is not for champions. Our young country was torn with disunion. States were declaring that any state had the power to nullify acts of the federal government. Virginia was a strong center of disaffection. President Washington, knowing the great powers of one Patrick Henry, asked him to step into the breach. Thus, the last eventful scene in his brilliant career occurred on March 10, 1799. Patrick left his sickbed at Red Hill and journeyed twenty miles to Charlotte Court House to address an assembly. Here he straightened his bent form and his voice again unleased and lashed out "No state has the right to pass upon the validity of federal laws. No part can be greater than the whole."

AT LTHOUGH Patrick Henry was born at Studley, Hanover County, Virginia, (1736) Red Hill has become more intimate with his name than any other place. It was here that he chose to spend his retirement days. Patrick Henry termed Red Hill the "garden spot of the world". Situated on a bluff overlooking the Staunton River, the pastoral scene is one of beauty and serenity. It is said that on a clear day the "Peaks of Otter" on the Blue Ridge are visible. It was Patrick Henry's request that he be buried at Red Hill and it is here the visitor finds his tomb inscribed "His fame his best epitaph".

The main house at Red Hill was destroyed by fire. The Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation has restored it and the adjoining kitchen. Some of the furnishings are original. The law office still stands, also Henry's tree and the beautiful boxwood garden.

Red Hill...a National Shrine to

Patrick Henry—Genius of Liberty

Patrick Henry (1736-1799) spearheaded America's independence. He was blessed with the attributes that make great statesmen...brilliant memory, a logical mind, quick wit and slow to anger. His fame as America's greatest orator remains unchallenged.

At the age of twenty-three, after unsuccessful attempts at storekeeping and farming, he was in debt, and had a wife and four children to support. Within six weeks, from borrowed law books, he prepared himself for the Virginia bar examination. The examiners detected his scant knowledge but, where essential justice was concerned, they quickly learned that he was infallible—a "born" lawyer.

Within three years Henry tried 1855 suits, most of which he won. In 1769 he was elected to the House of Burgesses, the lower house of the Virginia legislature. Nine days after being seated the first copies of the Stamp Act arrived from the British Parliament. This required all documents, newspapers and pamphlets to carry an expensive stamp. In thundering oratory Henry asserted that free people cannot be governed by laws not of their making, and that the Virginia Assembly was independent of Parliament and Crown. His resolutions were passed and copies rushed to patriots from Charleston to Boston. Within a year Parliament repealed the Stamp Act. England then imposed import duties on glass, paper, paint and tea. So fiery were Henry and his
RED HILL
BROOKNEAL, VIRGINIA

MILEAGE TO:
Brookneal .......... 5 Charlottesville .......... 96
Charlotte Ct. House, 12 Richmond .......... 98
Appomattox .......... 87 Petersburg .......... 124
Lynchburg .......... 84 Williamsburg .......... 136
Roanoke .......... 84 Washington, D. C. ...... 207

"... Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death!"
PATRICK HENRY
VIRGINIA CONVENTION, RICHMOND—1775

PATRICK HENRY'S
Last Home & Burial Place
1736 - 1799
BROOKNEAL, VIRGINIA
Location and Site Description

Scotchtown is located in the west-central part of Hanover County, Virginia on State Secondary Route 685 nine miles northwest of Ashland and U.S. Route 1. Access to the area is by way of State Route 54, State Secondary Route 671 to 685 over paved roads. Richmond, nearest center of population with a metropolitan area population of 400,000, is twenty-eight miles southeast of Scotchtown.

The area surrounding the historic site is rural in character, devoted to farming and lumbering. Scattered open fields along the roads are separated by extensive timbered tracts of second and third growth pine. Much of the land, now forested, was cleared and cultivated in the 1770's. Over the years, as worn-out fields were abandoned, pine and scrub hardwoods took over the open fields. The terrain is gently rolling with creeks and branches feeding into the North Anna River. There are no industrial or commercial developments in the immediate vicinity.

In Patrick Henry's time, the Scotchtown plantation covered 960 acres. The residence area, now owned by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, is in one block of 26.6 acres bounded on the east by woodlands and open fields, on the south by Route 685, on the
west by a sand and gravel road recently built to provide access to farm residences north of the site, and on the north by timberland.

The frame residence facing south is set back approximately 500 feet from Route 685 across an open field. Entrance to the residence is over the sand and gravel road to the west.

The Historical Background

Scotchtown was built by Colonel Charles Chiswell of Williamsburg for his country home on a 10,000-acre tract of land which the Colonel acquired in 1717. The exact date of construction is uncertain. It may have been built as early as 1719; it was certainly completed by 1732 when William Byrd was entertained there. According to tradition, Colonel Chiswell planned to establish Scotch settlers on his estate and named the plantation Scotchtown in anticipation of the proposed settlement.

The Scotchtown house; 93 x 35 feet, one of the largest in the colony, was a frame story-and-a-half structure on a brick foundation with a roof of unusual design. Two massive chimneys pierced the roof a room's length from the east and west ends of the building. On the first floor was a wide central hall extending from the front to the rear porches. On either side of the hall were four rooms grouped around the chimneys. The basement was partitioned into eight rooms and a wine cellar with exterior entrances on the north and east sides.
The attic reached by a staircase from the one room at the northeast corner was one tremendous room, unfinished and without partitions.

The road to the house in the 1700's ran east of the house. In the rear yard were the outbuildings — a schoolhouse, office, kitchen, smokehouse, wash house, ash house, blacksmith shop, plantation warehouse or store, and guesthouses. Half a mile from the mansion on New Found River was the mill and slave quarters. A paling fence enclosed the main house. Boxwood in front of house, oak and other trees and shrubbery were planted in the yard and along the fence.

Sometime before his death in 1766, Colonel Chiswell sold the Scotchtown plantation to John Robinson. Robinson's executors partitioned the estate selling the home tract of 960 acres to John Payne. One of his daughters was Dolley Payne who was later to marry James Madison. Dolley's associations with Scotchtown, despite the legend which still persists, was limited. She was born at Guilford, North Carolina, in 1768. Three years later, in 1771, John Payne sold the Scotchtown plantation to Patrick Henry for 600 pounds. At most, Dolley Payne lived here three years. Her maternal grandfather lived at Cole's Hill not too far distant from Scotchtown, and her recollections of the place were probably derived from visits while staying with her grandparents.

**Patrick Henry at Scotchtown**

Scotchtown was Patrick Henry's home from 1771 until he was elected first Governor of Virginia in 1776 and moved to the Governor's palace at Williamsburg. He continued to maintain his residence at Scotchtown until 1777 when he sold Scotchtown plantation to Colonel Miles Carey.
The years at Scotchtown cover the period of Patrick Henry's leadership in shaping the course of events leading to Revolution and Independence. By 1771, he was recognized as one of the most influential delegates in the House of Burgesses with a strong following among those who opposed temporizing with British pressure on the Colonies. In 1774, he was elected a delegate to the First Continental Congress where he was identified with the group advocating radical measures and a national outlook. In March, 1775, at the Second Virginia Convention, he delivered his famous "Liberty or Death" oration advocating immediate measures to put Virginia in a "state of defense" and in April commanded the Gunpowder Expedition to force Governor Dunmore to make restitution for the gunpowder removed from the Williamsburg powderhouse. In quick succession Henry attended the Second Continental Congress, was called back to Virginia as Colonel and Commander in Chief of the forces raised for the defense of Virginia, refused the offer of a colonelcy in the Continental Army, and in 1776 became the first Governor of Virginia. His first wife, Sarah Henry, died at Scotchtown in the spring of 1776 and is buried in the family graveyard.

In the 1820's, the Taylor family acquired Scotchtown and shortly thereafter remodeled the residence. The two massive chimneys were razed and replaced by four chimneys and interior partitions were moved to conform to the location of the new chimneys. During the
remodeling, some of the original mahogany and walnut panelling and marble mantlepieces were torn out and discarded.

Scotchtown continued in the ownership of the Taylor and Sheppard families through the years until the 1940's. Portions of the 960-acre tract were sold off reducing the home tract to 99 acres in 1949. The residence was maintained in relatively good condition. The original wood-shingle roof was replaced by a metal cover in the 1920's protecting the structure from weathering. The outbuildings and grounds, however, were neglected and the general appearance of the place deteriorated. Sometime before 1936, Miss Lavina Sheppard Taylor, last of the Taylor family to own Scotchtown, was forced by ill health to move out of the residence. In 1936, when the Historic American Building Surveys measured and photographed the house, it was occupied by tenants and had begun to show evidence of lack of proper maintenance although still structurally sound.

The Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities Acquires Scotchtown

Lavina Sheppard Taylor died in 1949. The Hanover Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities had for some time been interested in Scotchtown. Settlement of Miss Taylor's estate offered the opportunity to purchase the residence and tract, and the local Chapter began a campaign to raise funds to preserve Scotchtown
as a national shrine. Miss Taylor left no will. Protracted litigation to determine the heirs and effect a settlement and sale of the property extended over a period of years. By 1957, the Chapter had raised enough money to offer to purchase the house and plantation for $30,000. The court refused this offer and appointed Special Commissioners to sell at public auction the Scotchtown tract consisting of one lot of 26.6 acres with the residence lying north of State Route 685 and one lot of 73 acres lying south of Route 685. At the auction, held June 26, 1958, the two lots were sold to George M. Weems for $37,000 who then directed that the 26.6 acre lot be conveyed to the Association. The Special Commissioners accordingly deeded the lot to the Association by deed dated August 5, 1958, recorded August 27, 1958 in the Hanover County Clerk's Office, Deed Book 186, page 76. The 73 acre lot under the same conditions was conveyed to Ann A. W. Blackburn, one of the Taylor heirs, and Annie Reams Arnold. By these arrangements, Mrs. Leslie D. Campbell, Sr., Chairman of the Scotchtown Restoration Committee, stated that the actual cost to the Association for the residence and 26.6 acres was reduced to $17,000.

Restoration of Scotchtown

Restoration of the residence, approximately ninety percent completed as of July 1962, has been under the direct supervision of Mr. Walter M. Macomber of the architectural firm of Macomber and Peters, Washington, D.C.
Mr. Macomber, before entering private practice, was Architect for Colonial Williamsburg, Inc., and in planning and directing the restoration work at Scotchtown has employed the techniques and practices which guided the restoration at Williamsburg. Primary reliance has been on the careful examination of the structure to determine original architectural details, supplemented by photographs and descriptions of the building and archeological excavations around the exterior foundations. Restoration work accomplished to date is excellent and authentic, both exterior and interior. Work required to complete the restoration of the residence is pointing of exterior brick foundation walls, paving of basement floors and rebuilding of front and rear porches. Mrs. Campbell reports that cost of restoration work, as of July 1962, was approximately $75,000 and that another $75,000 will be needed to complete the restoration program. The Virginia General Assembly in 1960 appropriated $30,000 for the Scotchtown restoration and an additional $30,000 in 1962, payable $15,000 for each of the fiscal years 1963 and 1964 assuring the availability of funds to continue the project.

Projected Program

Immediate objectives upon completion of restoration of the residence is the reconstruction on the original sites of three of the outbuildings; one to serve as a caretaker's residence; a second as office and salesroom for souvenirs and appropriate publications, postcards, and other items; and the kitchen. Archeological investigations of two of the sites under
the direction of Architect Macomber has already begun. At the proposed office site, exploratory trenches uncovered foundation footing and disclosed that these footings extend under the gravel road running west of the residence. If the Association proceeds with the plan to reconstruct this building, additional land will have to be purchased and the road re-located farther west. Other projects will be the uncovering and reconstruction of the graveyard where Sarah Henry is buried, the possible rebuilding of the original entrance road, reconstruction of the wellhouse and the cover building for a dry storage pit and landscaping of grounds.

Furnishing Program

A furnishing committee has been appointed and has begun the task of securing furniture and furnishings for the sixteen rooms of the residence by donation or purchase. Several pieces have been installed in the house and about $8,000 has been spent thus far. There will be undoubtedly a number of donations, but principal reliance will be on purchase of selected pieces which will require at least $35,000.

Operation

The Hanover Chapter of the Association will operate the residence and provide guide service. At present the residence is open to the public on Sundays. One of the purposes in providing a caretaker’s residence is to secure the services of a caretaker who will provide guide and information service on a year-round basis.
ASSOCIATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF VIRGINIA ANTIQUITIES

LAND PLAT
SCOTCTOWN HOME PLACE - 26.6 ACRES
ACQUIRED AUGUST 27, 1958 BY

LEGEND
APVA BOUNDARY
PAVED ROAD
UNIMPROVED ROAD

BLACKBURN & ARNOLD
73 ACRES

OLD SCOTCTOWN SLAVE GRAVEYARD

RESIDENCE

TO FORK CHURCH

NO SCALE

Front (south view) of the restored building. Note ragged survivors of boxwood. 1962.
A COMPARATIVE EVALUATION OF SCOTCTOWN AND
RED HILL AS MEMORIALS TO PATRICK HENRY

SCOTCTOWN

I. Points in Favor

A. Patrick Henry lived at Scotchtown from 1771 to 1777 during the period of his most active participation in events leading to the Revolution. Most important of these events were his services as delegate to the First and Second Continental Congress, his resolutions and speech at the Second Virginia Convention (St. John's Church, Richmond, 1775) which committed Virginia to preparation for war, his leadership in securing reimbursement for the powder seized by Lord Dunmore, and his election as first Governor of Virginia.

B. The house is original, of unusual design and appeal. Restoration work on the structure accomplished by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, present owners of the site, is excellent. Careful attention has been given to preserving original features and restoring both exterior and interior details to insure a faithful restoration to the 1700 appearance.

C. The program for additional development includes the exterior reconstruction of three structures; one to serve as a caretaker's residence; the second for use as area office and space for sale of appropriate publications, postcards and souvenirs; and the
kitchen. It is probable, too, that the wellhouse covering the brick-lined well (original) and a cover structure for a brick-lined dry storage pit will also be reconstructed. The General Assembly of the Commonwealth has appropriated an additional $30,000 available during the 1963-1964 fiscal years which will be available for completion of restoration of the house and for undertaking these projects.

D. The Garden Clubs of Virginia have tentatively agreed to finance the landscaping of grounds as of the 1770 period, provided that suitable plans are prepared and that the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities will guarantee proper maintenance of the completed project.

E. Accessibility of the site is very good. At present Scotchtown is nine miles from U.S. Route 1 and will be ten miles from Interstate 95, principal north-south route in Virginia. U.S. Route 301 which will be linked to 95 provides easy access to the Baltimore metropolitan area. Other important population centers which the site may draw on are Washington, D.C., Richmond, and Norfolk. With proper publicity, Scotchtown should attract a substantial number of visitors which will offer an opportunity to spread the Patrick Henry story.

F. Location of the site is very good. The surrounding countryside is rural in character with open farming land and wooded
areas. Undoubtedly, much of the acreage now in timber was in open
fields in the 1700 period. There are no adverse developments in the
vicinity of the area and the Association representatives feel certain
that Hanover County will adopt zoning regulations to prevent intrusive
developments if this action is necessary.

II. Points Against

A. The site, at present, is limited to 26.6 acres, a very
small portion of the Scotchtown Plantation of 900 acres in the 1770's.
Additional land is needed to insure that all significant sites are
included in the area, to correct the road intrusion which is too close
to the house, and to provide a suitable parking area which will not
encroach on the residence yard.

B. Interpretation and presentation of the life and services
of Patrick Henry will naturally concentrate on the period 1771 to 1776
when Henry was elected Governor and moved to Williamsburg. Events of
his earlier years as the rising lawyer and services prior to 1771, his
important services as Governor 1776-1779 and 1784-1786, and events of
his later years would tend to be treated as of secondary importance.
The best presentation and interpretation of Patrick Henry's life and
services is one that will cover his entire life providing proper emphasis
and balance for his entire career.
C. The furnishing program for Scotchtown, a major consideration for effective public presentation, is indefinite and uncertain. A furnishing committee has been appointed and has been active but the furnishing of some sixteen rooms will be costly. Thus far $5,000 has been withdrawn from state appropriated funds for purchase of a few selected items. Much more furniture and furnishings will be needed but there is no assurance that the Association will be able to secure funds to complete the program.

D. The Association is a conservative organization depending upon membership fees and income derived from operation of historic sites such as Mary Washington Home, John Marshall Home and Jamestown. The organization does not have the trained interpretive personnel and facilities for public display of Scotchtown to make the maximum possible use of its potentialities. There is no indication that the Association is interested in transferring Scotchtown to the State or to the Federal government to permit development and interpretation of these potentialities.

E. Scotchtown failed to win recognition when investigated and evaluated for National Historic Landmark status during the Advisory Board's consideration of the themes "The War for Independence" and "Development of the English Colonies, 1700-1775".
I. Points in Favor

A. Patrick Henry lived at Red Hill from 1796 until his death in 1799. The major event of his brief years at Red Hill and one of the outstanding happenings of his career was his support of Washington and the Federalist position during the crisis of the threat of nullification raised by the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions. His positive stand on this issue marks the climax of his public career and services to his country. The threads of his decision in this critical year reach back to the Henry who played such a decisive role in the events leading to Revolution and creation of a new Nation, the Henry who led the fight against ratification of the Constitution, to the final upholding of the principle of a strong central government for the Nation which owes so much to his efforts.

B. A definite asset in developing the site as a memorial to Patrick Henry is the fact that he was buried at Red Hill in the small family burial ground near the restored residence. On the original tomb over his grave is inscribed "His Fame Is His Best Epitaph".

C. The restoration and reconstruction program for Red Hill sponsored by the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation is very good and authentic. The quality of the restoration and adherence to high standards is excellent and based on acceptable documents, drawings, and archeological investigations.
D. The Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation which owns 960.61 acres of the original Red Hill Plantation covering the heart acreage of the tract will donate to the Federal government all improvements and developments made by the Foundation with no conditions attached. Acreage to be donated will be determined by the Federal government. The Foundation will expect that the Federal government will provide adequate protection, administration and maintenance of the site and developments if the offer of donation is accepted.

E. Plans for reconstruction of additional buildings and landscaping of grounds will be terminated. Any further developments, improvements, or modification of completed work will be left to the discretion and decision of the Federal government.

F. Of the several sites and places associated with Patrick Henry, Red Hill offers the best opportunity for the presentation and interpretation of the Patrick Henry story spanning the entire life and career of the patriot. Emphasis would be placed on the highlights of his services and career in a continuous chronological presentation.

G. The location is excellent. The surrounding countryside outside the Foundation lands is rural in character devoted to farming and woodlands. There are no adverse developments in the immediate vicinity and no indication that changes or intrusions will occur.
H. Operation of the Patrick Henry Boy's Plantation on that portion of the Foundation's lands which will not be needed for the Federal area will not conflict with operation and maintenance of the historic area. The Foundation will continue to function as an organization and will offer full cooperation with the Federal government.

I. The Foundation has not adopted or prepared a furnishing program for the historic structures restored or reconstructed. The cost of completing this program will be considerably less than the furnishing program for Scotchtown, there will be fewer rooms; the outbuildings reconstructed -- kitchen, smokehouse and slave quarters -- will require very simple items. The inventory of Henry's estate is available to serve as a guide for the furnishing program.

J. A major point in evaluating Red Hill as a memorial to Patrick Henry is that legislation to establish the Patrick Henry National Monument at Red Hill was enacted by the Congress and approved by the President in 1935 and 1940. Authorization for the proposed Monument was withdrawn in 1944 after Congress failed to appropriate funds for the purchase of the Red Hill tract.

K. Dr. Robert D. Meade, Chairman of the History Department at Randolph-Macon Women's College, Lynchburg, Virginia, is recognized as the outstanding authority on Patrick Henry. Dr. Meade has been
engaged in the research and writing of a definitive biography of the patriot since 1945 and published Volume I of the biography in 1957. The second and concluding volume is scheduled for publication in late 1962 or the spring of 1963. When asked which of the two areas — Scotchtown or Red Hill — would be most appropriate as a memorial to Patrick Henry, Dr. Meade was very positive in expressing his preference for Red Hill. An indication of his interest and support of Red Hill is that he plans to donate the extensive collection of letters, notes, sketches, photographs, manuscripts and other material which he assembled in his research on the life of Patrick Henry to Red Hill.

II. Points Against

A. Red Hill does not match Scotchtown in accessibility and nearness to major centers of population. U.S. Route 501, the north-south highway connecting Lynchburg and South Boston, is seven miles from the residence area at Red Hill. State Route 40, an east-west road from Brockneal and 501 to Keysville on U.S. Route 360, is also seven miles from the residence area. Neither of these highways approaches U.S. Route 1 in volume of traffic. Lynchburg, Roanoke, Danville and Richmond are the nearest large centers of population. Potential number of visitors would be considerably less than at Scotchtown. However, National status for Red Hill would undoubtedly give a boost in the number of visitors.
B. State Secondary Route 677 serves as the entrance road to the residence area at Red Hill. The first section of this road beginning at State Secondary Route 619 crosses privately-owned property for approximately one-third of a mile before reaching the Foundation line. As a protective measure and to forestall the possibility of unfavorable developments, a small acreage, about five acres, at the junction of Routes 677 and 619 should be acquired either by purchase or by exchange of less desirable Foundation property.

C. The major part of the development program at Red Hill as conceived and planned by the Foundation has been substantially completed. If the Federal government had established the Patrick Henry National Monument as authorized by Congress in 1935, it is entirely probable that the scope and type of development, especially as relates to the reconstruction of the home and outbuildings, would have differed from that adopted by the Foundation. While accepting and endorsing the development work accomplished by the Foundation, it is proper to consider this factor in evaluating Red Hill.

CONCLUSIONS

Investigation and evaluation of the two areas -- Scotchtown and Red Hill -- as outlined in this summary definitely point to the conclusion that Red Hill has the better potential as a memorial to Patrick Henry.
A REPORT ON OTHER HOMES ASSOCIATED WITH PATRICK HENRY

During his lifetime, Patrick Henry lived at eleven different places in Virginia. Two of the homes -- Red Hill and Scotchtown -- have been described in detail in this survey; the remaining nine residences are located and described briefly in this section for the purpose of recording these sites and completing the survey of places associated with Patrick Henry.

With the exception of Hanover Tavern, the Henry residences at the nine sites are no longer standing. Descriptions of sites were obtained from several sources including biographies of Patrick Henry and county histories. Field investigations of the nine sites were not undertaken. In the absence of significant, recognizable physical remains at these nine sites and in view of the superiority of Red Hill or Scotchtown as memorials to Patrick Henry, it was decided that no advantage would be gained by further field studies and the assembly of data to determine approximate land acreage and costs required for preservation of the nine sites.

The nine sites associated with Patrick Henry are listed and described below in chronological order:

1. Studley - Birthplace of Patrick Henry, born May 29, 1736. Location: Hanover County, on State Secondary Road 640, seven miles east of U.S. Route 301. The junction of 640 and 301 is nine miles south of Hanover Court House.
Description: Data from a fire insurance policy, 1796, shows a two-story brick house, 30 x 40 feet, a large outside nursery, an outside kitchen, a store, dairy, and several other outbuildings. Another description of Studley (Circa 1850) by Charles Campbell is preserved in the William and Mary Library at Williamsburg. There is no record of contemporary, detailed descriptions of Studley. Local tradition places the destruction of the place by fire circa 1860.

Foundations of what may be the original home were uncovered in 1936 in a cultivated field in connection with the observance of the 200th anniversary of Patrick Henry's birth. The numerous outbuildings, like the main house, have long since been torn down or otherwise destroyed.

Comment: Studley was the home place for the John Syme plantation. His widow, Sarah, married John Henry, Patrick Henry's father. The Henry family lived at Studley for thirteen years. With the approaching majority of John Syme, Jr., Sarah's son by her first marriage, John Henry moved his family to Mount Brilliant.

Location: Hanover County in south-central section, about a mile from the ruins of the Auburn Mills on the South Anna River and a few miles from the Goochland and Henrico county lines.
Description: According to tradition, the Mount Brilliant residence was a story-and-a-half frame structure on a brick foundation with dormer windows, built in the English style. The dwelling stood on one of the highest points in Hanover County with forests of oak and pine nearby. The residence was torn down years ago but the exact or approximate date is not known. The location is now a cultivated field with no evidence of the original site. About a quarter-mile from the main house site is the site of another building, probably slave quarters.

Comment: At the age of fifteen, Patrick Henry was placed in a country store to learn the mercantile business. After a year's training his father furnished the stock and started Patrick and his older brother William in business for themselves in a store located near the New Kent County line somewhere in the vicinity of Old Church. The venture failed after a year's operation.

3. Pine Slash - First home after his marriage in 1754 to Sarah Shelton of Rural Plains.

Location: A few miles from Studley on John Shelton's Rural Plains plantation.

Description: The residence at Pine Slash with 300 acres of land and six slaves was a gift to Patrick Henry and Sarah from the bride's
father, John Shelton. Presumably the residence was a modest frame structure. No record and no descriptions of the home and its outbuildings except an overseer's cottage have been located. In the spring of 1757, Pine Slash was destroyed by fire. The Henrys took up temporary residence in the overseer's house about 100 yards from the burned-out residence.

Comment: Sometime in the fall of 1757, the Henrys left Pine Slash, moving to the Tavern at Hanover Court House. Patrick Henry continued farming the Pine Slash property for several years after his removal.

4. **Hanover Tavern** - Patrick Henry's home from 1757 to 1765.

Location: Across the highway from the Courthouse Building.

Description: The rambling two-story frame structure still standing has been altered but still retains some of the original features. In Patrick Henry's time the ground floor provided space for a bar-room and presumably public rooms and dining room with a number of chambers on the second floor. Descriptions of the inn and information about the rooms occupied by the Henrys have not been found. At present (1962) the Tavern houses the Barter Theatre.

Comment: The tavern was operated in 1757 by Henry's father-in-law, John Shelton. Patrick Henry still continued to operate the farm at
Pine Slash, engaged for awhile in operating a country store, began his law studies and was admitted to the bar in 1760. In 1763, Henry first attained prominence as attorney for the defendants in the Parson's Cause.

5. Roundabout - Patrick Henry moved here in 1765.

Location: Louisa County, eight miles south of U.S. Route 33 at Louisa.

Description: Patrick Henry purchased 1,700 acres on Roundabout Creek from his father. On a hillside overlooking the Creek he built his residence, a one-and-a-half story frame building with three rooms downstairs and one above. There was a large front room with a stairway leading to the second floor. Opening off the front room to the rear was another large room and the third room was located to the left. Roundabout was destroyed about 1920. Some of the handhewn beams from the original house were used in a stable still standing at the site.

Comment: Patrick Henry was elected to represent Louisa County in the House of Burgesses in 1765 before taking up his residence at the Roundabout plantation. His Stamp Act resolutions and speech (May 29, 1765) brought Henry national attention.
6. **Leatherwood** - Patrick Henry's residence from 1779 to 1784.

Location: Henry County (established in 1776 and named for the patriot) on State Route 57, eight miles northeast of Martinsville.

Description: In the summer of 1779, Henry came to the county and built a home Leatherwood on a ridge overlooking Leatherwood Creek on a tract of 10,000 acres he had previously been granted or purchased. No detailed description of the house and outbuildings has been located. Dr. Robert D. Meade, Henry's biographer, reports after a recent visit to Leatherwood that portions of the original home may have been used in a residence on the site after the home was torn down. The site is marked by a granite monument with a bronze plaque erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Comment: Patrick Henry moved here at the close of his third term as Governor of Virginia. According to one report, his object in making his home so far in the interior was to place his family in a location which would be free from British raids and to try the benefits of a climate which he hoped would give him relief from the malaria attacks he had suffered for several years. He was elected to the General Assembly from Henry County in 1780 and in 1784 elected for his fourth term as Governor.

7. **Salisbury** - Residence during his fourth and fifth terms as Governor of Virginia, 1784-1786.
Location: Chesterfield County, two miles north of Midlothian and U.S. Route 60.

Description: The residence built in the eighteenth century as a hunting lodge on a 16,000 acre tract was a story-and-a-half frame building with tall chimneys. No detailed descriptions of Salisbury have been found. The house was destroyed by fire sometime after 1906.

Comment: There is a photograph of Salisbury in Morgan The True Patrick Henry taken in 1906. Henry moved here to be near Richmond, the new capital of Virginia.

8. Prince Edward County Home - 1786-1792

Location: Prince Edward County: North of the present Appomattox Presbyterian Church, near the Appomattox River.

Description: Henry purchased the 1,700 acre tract and home from Colonel John Holcombe. The house is no longer standing. There is a reference to a beautiful row of black locust trees in front of the house but no other information on the appearance of the structure or grounds.

Comment: Patrick Henry, according to several accounts, moved to Prince Edward County to be near Hampden-Sydney College. He was a
trustee of the college and planned that his sons should attend school there. The outstanding event of his years in Prince Edward County was his election to the Virginia Constitutional Convention where he led the opposition to ratification of the Constitution.

9. Long Island - Residence from 1792 until the move to Red Hill.

Location: Campbell County; eight miles south of Gladys, reached by State Secondary Routes 699 and 761.

Description: The residence was located on a large island in the Staunton River. The house site is still discernible according to Dr. Robert D. Meade but no detailed description of the structure and outbuildings has been located at the time this report is being prepared. The entire plantation covered 3,522 acres.

Comment: Patrick Henry was by this time in virtual retirement.
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APPENDICES

A REPORT ON RED HILL

LAST HOME AND BURIAL PLACE OF PATRICK HENRY
Mr. Elbert Cox, Regional Director
Southeastern Region, National Park Service
P.O. Box 10008
Richmond 40, Virginia

Dear Mr. Cox:

At the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation held on May 29, 1962, at Red Hill, Virginia, it was brought to the attention of the Board by report of the President that the Federal Government had given, and proposed in the future to give, certain consideration to a plan by which the government through the National Park Service or other appropriate agency might assume the control, management and development of the lands belonging to the foundation and covering the historical portion of the shrine commemorating the life and services of Patrick Henry which is located at Red Hill, Charlotte County, Virginia.

There was a full discussion of the matter and it was the unanimous opinion of the Board that such a plan would be welcomed by the Board since it would perpetuate the ideals which this organization has attempted to establish and preserve and would be a suitable shrine for that purpose.

I enclose herewith a copy of resolution adopted at that time which covers the basic idea. I would like to suggest that in this connection there was also discussed the matter of the exact location of the line between the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation Shrine and the remainder of the farm land which has been assigned to the Patrick Henry Boys Plantation. It was the opinion of the Board, as expressed by them, that if in the development of the idea of the government taking over this property any question should arise about the boundary between the two and if for any reason the Federal Government desired any additional land to be included in the transfer the officers were given authority to work out any such plans as might be necessary to comply with the government's desires in that matter, and this general idea would prevail in the negotiations which might follow.
At the present time Mr. Eugene B. Casey has made, and there has been in progress recently, a development of the shrine, and some matters which he had designed to complete may have been held up to await the decision of the matter involved in this letter. I am sure that Mr. Casey would co-operate with the government in any reasonable way to continue with the plans which he had or to leave the property as it now stands, whichever would be agreeable to him and the Federal Government.

There is pending at the present time the matter of a house which was built by the shrine to house the manager of the place and the building was done under pressure to get the place ready for use. The cost of it demanded a loan of $900.00 to complete the building and make it ready for habitation. This has just been completed.

If it would be proper to consider, it would be a help to those of us who financed this plan to be reimbursed for the portion which they had to contribute for that purpose for the reasons which I have set out above. If the government would hesitate or would not feel inclined to cover that item we would still proceed with the plan as the matter appears to the government.

If there is any matter which I have not covered in this letter I will be glad to consider any suggestion that might be made by the representatives of the Park Service and clear the matter to the satisfaction of the Park Service or the Federal Government.

In conclusion I would like to emphasize the fact that all members of the Board present at the meeting agreed that this would be a move in the public interest as well as in the interest of those who have tried to protect and commemorate Patrick Henry's part in the creation and development of this nation, and any suggestions made to us would be handled in a manner that would be satisfactory to the Park Service.

Yours very truly,

James S. Easley

JSE: cw
Encl.
Resolution adopted by Board of Directors of Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation at annual meeting held on May 29, 1962.

The President reported that an approach had been made to him looking toward the federal government through the National Park Service taking over the operation, maintenance and development of the lands covering the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation at Red Hill, Virginia.

After discussion of the matter it was the sense of the body that such a movement would be beneficial to the ideals and purposes of the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation in that it would assure protection of the property and its maintenance as a national shrine; and it was resolved that the officers of the Foundation be given full authority to deal with the government in regard to this matter and to work out any plan for the carrying out of this idea which would be approved by the said officers.

A true copy,

s/ James S. Easley
President

Secretary