Society Plans Plaque Unveiling Ceremony December 11 2016

A plaque unveiling ceremony honoring Captain Vincent Shackleford at the North Farnham Episcopal Church in Richmond County, Virginia is scheduled for December 11, 2016 at 10:30 am.

As the plaque to be unveiled below details, this was the last land battle of the War of 1812 in Virginia and it took place in the vicinity of this church on December 6, 1814 between British forces and the Richmond County Militia.

CAPTAIN VINCENT SHACKLEFORD

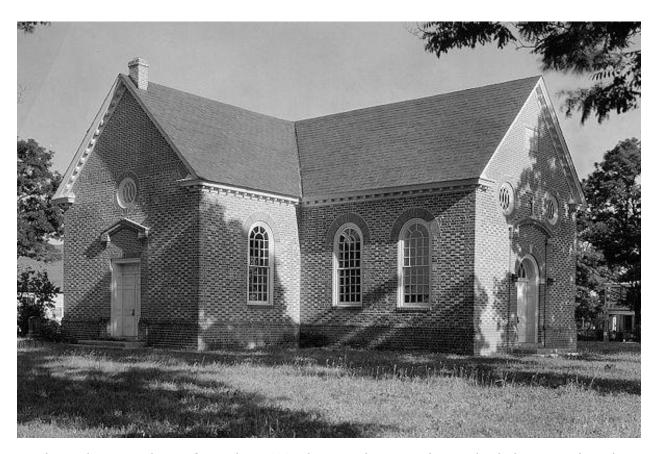
On December 6, 1814, British naval and marine forces landed at nearby Morattico on the Rappahannock River and marched inland to destroy militia then gathering at Farnham Church. Defending at Farnham Church was a Richmond County artillery unit of nearly one hundred men commanded by Capt. Vincent Shackleford. During the skirmish with British forces, two militia soldiers were killed and two were wounded, including Captain Shackleford, who was captured and later paroled. He carried a musket ball in his leg until his death on February 12, 1820. In his will, Captain Shackleford requested that the ball be extracted and the "indelible impression to be made by such a memento, may instill the strongest and lasting principle of courage and patriotism in the young and tender minds of our mutual offspring." May the sacrifices of these brave men never be forgotten.

Dedicated 2016 by the General and Virginia Societies of the War of 1812

Please note that the General Society War of 1812 and the Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia shared the cost of procuring this plaque. The public is invited to attend the ceremony and societies and other organizations are invited to present wreaths. Following the ceremony the Farnham Episcopal Church clergy have invited attendees to attend a gathering at their Fellowship Hall.

Societies should contact organizers Charles Belfield, e-mail belmo54@gmail.com, or Mike Lyman, email melyman@va.metrocast.net if they wish to be shown on the program as giving greetings and/or presenting wreaths. The address of the church is: 231 N Farnham Church Rd, Farnham, VA 22460. It is on route 692 just off route U.S. 3 that goes from Fredericksburg south to Kilmarnock. See the maps below.

Below is from the website genealogytrails.com/vir/Richmond/churches northfarnhamparish.html



North Farnham Parish was formed in 1683 when Farnham Parish was divided into North and South Farnham. The division of Farnham Parish occurred nine years before Rappahannock County was divided into Richmond and Essex Counties.

This Episcopal church was erected in 1737. The interior of the church fell into ruins during a long period following the American Revolution. In 1814, the raiders from Admiral Cockburn's British fleet and the Virginia militia fought a skirmish here. Bullet holes are still visible in the walls.

Between 1863 and 1865, the church was used as a stable by Union soldiers during the Civil War.

After many years without a rector, Reverend George W. Nelson became rector of the church in 1834. Six years later, in 1840, he passed away.

After a fire in 1887, only the walls of the church were left standing. It wasn't until 1921 that the restoration of the church was completed. The Right Reverend F. D. Goodwin was elected bishop of Virginia while he was serving as the rector of Cople, Lunenburg, and North Farnham Parishes.

Picture courtesy of the <u>Library of Congress</u>



