

SOCIETY CONDUCTS A PLAGUE UNVEILING CEREMONY DEC 11, 2016

The Society of the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Virginia on December 11, 2016 unveiled a plaque at the historic North Farnham Church in Richmond County. The plaque honored Captain Vincent Shackelford who commanded a militia artillery company and other elements of the Richmond County militia in a battle against British forces on the grounds of the church on December 6 1814. During the battle he was wounded and taken prisoner and later released on parole. In his will he requested that a musket ball in his body from the battle be extracted and used as a memento to instill patriotism in our mutual offspring.

Charles Belfield was the organizer of the event. Conducting the ceremony were the following members of the society: Stuart L Butler, 2d Vice President; Myron (Mike) E Lyman, Sr , Past President; Charles E Belfield, Councilor and Color Guard Chairman; Hugh A Markham, Registrar; George G Beckett, III, member Color Guard and Richard (Dick) J Fickling, member.

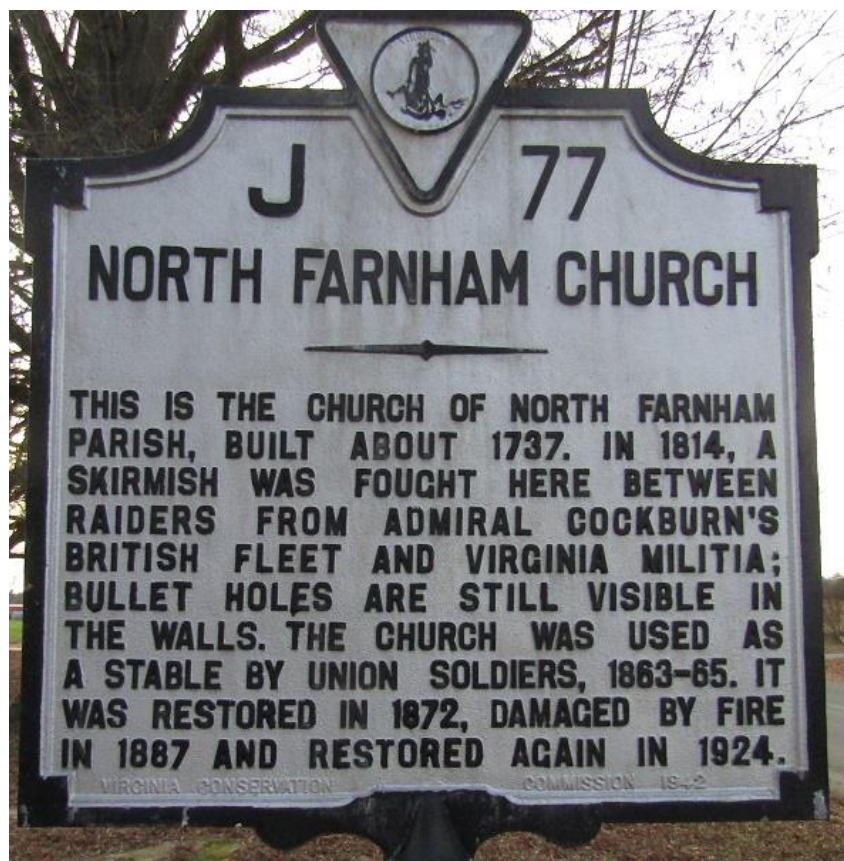
Because of the cold weather the first portion of the ceremony was conducted inside the vestry hall of the church, then the attendees proceeded outside to unveil the plaque and for wreath presentations.

Photos of the church are followed by the program and more photos taken during the event.





A Virginia historic road sign in the churchyard describes its history



Bullet Holes in North Farnham Church



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 Shackelford. During the skirmish with British forces, two militia soldiers were killed and two were wounded, including Captain Shackelford, 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 Shackelford 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

(Page one of the program)

PLAQUE UNVEILING CEREMONY
North Farnham Episcopal Church
Farnham, Virginia
December 11 2016



Honoring Captain Vincent Shackelford

**Whose War of 1812 unit defended the church
in a battle with British forces Dec 6 1814**

Conducted by

**The Society of the War of 1812
in the Commonwealth of Virginia**

Page two of the program

PROGRAM

10:30am Call to Order: *Charles Belfield, Councilor, War of 1812 Society in VA*

Invocation: *Reverend Peter Hogg, Farnham Episcopal Church*

Forwarding & Presentation of Colors: *Virginia Society War of 1812 Color Guard*

Pledge of Allegiance: (see page 4)

Color Guard Post Colors: *VA Society Color Guard*

Introduction of Attendees and Color Guard: *Charles Belfield*

Opening Remarks: *Charles Belfield*

Greetings & Remarks Representative General Society War of 1812: *Mike Lyman Grant Committee*

Greetings & Remarks Representative Virginia Society War of 1812: *Stuart Butler, 2d Vice President*

Greetings & Remarks Representative North Farnham Church: *Reverend Peter Hogg*

Greetings & Remarks Representative Northern Neck VA Historical Society: *Steve Walker Past Pres*

Greetings & Remarks Representatives of Others TBA:

Introduction of Guest Speaker: *Mike Lyman, Past President War of 1812 Society in VA*

Presentation by Stuart L Butler "Battle of North Farnham Church" Author of *Defending the Old Dominion: VA and Its Militia War of 1812* and "A Guide to VA Militia Units War of 1812 and VA Soldiers in the U.S. Army 1800-1815"

Unveiling of Plaque Ritual: *Mike Lyman and Hugh Markham, Registrar War of 1812 Society, VA*

Plaque Unveiling: *Charles Belfield and Reverend Peter Hogg*

Wreath Presentations: Representatives of General and VA Societies War of 1812, Northern Neck of VA Historical Society and others TBA

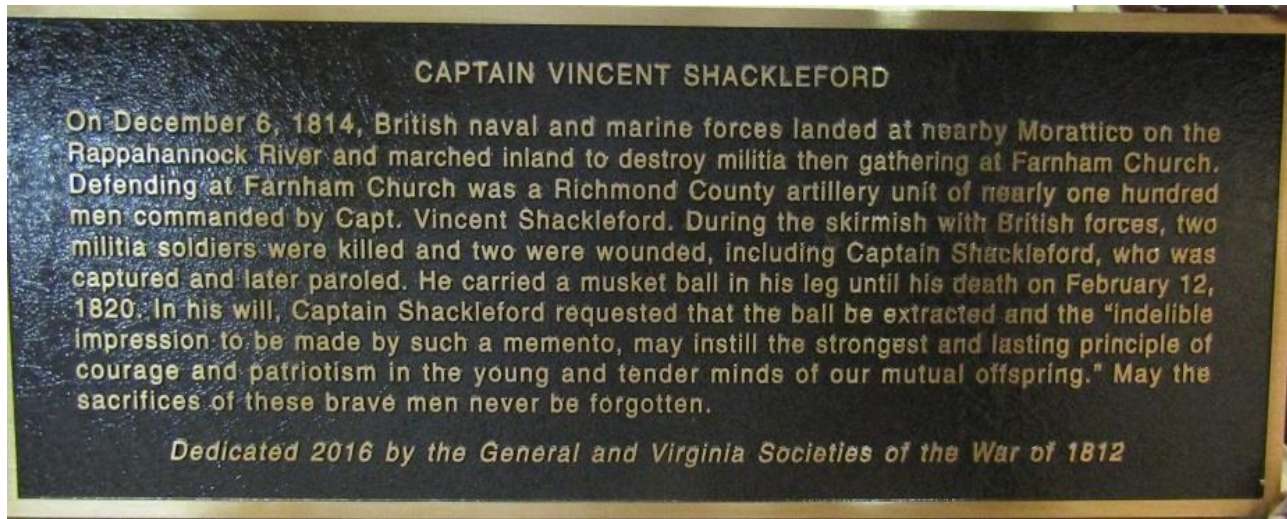
Presentation of Colors (please stand): *VA Society Color Guard*

Musket Salute and TAPS: TBA

Benediction: *Reverend Peter Hogg, Farnham Episcopal Church*

Closing Remarks & Adjournment: *Charles Belfield*

(Page three of the program)



Above is a photo of the plaque mounted in the cemetery

He was born in 1785, son of Richard Shackelford, who died in 1794 and Margaret (Peggy) Landman, who died before him. He married Lucy Roane Brokenbrough, daughter of Colonel Moore Fautleroy Brokenbrough and Lucy Roane Barnes. He was the Sheriff in Richmond County in 1817 and represented the county in the Virginia Legislature. He died in Warsaw, Richmond County sometime after the Aug 7, 1820 U.S. census.

He commanded an artillery company in Richmond County in the 41st Virginia Regiment commanded by Lt Col Vincent Branham. During the period, April 6 to 10, 1813, his unit traveled to Lancaster County because of British incursions there. In July and August 1814 his unit was dispatched to Sabine Hall on route 624 in Richmond County. In September 1814 his unit went to Alexandria when the British were in the Potomac River there. And as described on the plaque, he established a defense of the North Farnham Church during the first week of December 1814 with his Artillery Company and Richmond County militia. During the battle he was wounded and taken prisoner. During the battle his unit had two killed and four wounded. The enemy acknowledged the loss of 15 killed and 31 wounded in the battle. (Niles Register)

He and his wife Lucy had two sons, Lyne born Feb 16, 1808, died 15 Mar 1859 and Thomas R Shackelford born Jan 6, 1814, died 13 Oct 1872. He and his family are buried in the Shackelford cemetery located on Court St in Warsaw

(Page 4 of the program)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The Star Spangled Banner Flag

It contains 15 stars and 15 stripes and was the U.S. flag at the time of this battle and perhaps was displayed by Captain Shackelford as he defended the church during the battle. A rendition of this flag is carried by the color guard at this event.



For more Information

For viewing photographs taken at this event and for information on other ceremonies conducted or to be conducted by the War of 1812 Society in Virginia, or for information on how you may become a member, please visit our website at www.1812va.org

Our Objectives

The objectives of the Virginia Society are the collection and preservation of rolls, records, books, and other documents relating to the War of 1812; the encouragement of research and the preservation of historical data, including memorials to patriots of that era in our national history; the caring for the graves of veterans of the War of 1812; the cherishing, maintenance and extension of the institutions of American freedom; the fostering of true patriotism and love of country.

Membership

Any male person above the age of twenty-one years, who participated in, or who is a lineal descendant of one who served during the War of 1812, in the army, navy, revenue-marine, or privateer service of the United States, offering proof thereof satisfactory to the State Society to which he may make application for membership, and who is of good moral character and reputation, may become a member of this Society.

(Photos taken from inside the Vestry Hall)



Above Society members from left-George Beckett, Hugh Markham, Charles Belfield and Mike Lyman



Stuart Butler as guest speaker gives information about the battle on Dec 6 1814



Mike Lyman introduces Stuart Butler and gives remarks



Joanne Fickling of the James Monroe Chapter, U.S. Daughters of 1812 gives greetings from their Society



The Reverend Peter Hogg of the church gives greetings and remarks



Steve Walker, former president of the Northern Neck of Virginia Historical Society gives greetings and information about the other existing Episcopal Churches on the Northern Neck of Virginia and when they were established

Outside of the vestry hall on the walkway to the church the plaque was mounted. Prior to the unveiling, Mike Lyman and Hugh Markham do the unveiling ritual





The plaque was then unveiled by Charles Belfield and Reverend Peter Hogg







Mike Lyman as a member of the General Society Grant Committee presented their wreath, Dick Fickling of the Virginia Society presented their wreath and Steve Walker of the Northern Neck of Virginia Society presented their wreath



Below the Society Musket Firing Party consisting of Charles Belfield, George Beckett and Hugh Markham prepare for the firing



After the taps were played Reverend Peter Hogg gave the benediction



Below is the Niles Register description of the results of the battle at the church

U.S., Returns of Killed and Wounded in Battles, 1790-1844 for Vincent Shackleford
Returns of the Killed and Wounded of American Troops, 1790-1840

Vol. in the memory of December, 1814.

BATTLE OR TOWN	YEAR	DAY	OFFICER	REGIMENT AND COMP	KILLED				WOUNDED		
					Non-Comd Officers	Privates	Captains	Other Comd Officers	Non-Comd Officers	Privates	Other
Near Branchburg Church	1814	Dec. 21	Capt V. Shackleford	1st Regt Virginia Militia	2				2		2
South of Heppahomoch	1814		Virginia Militia	1st Regt Virginia Militia		1	1	3		41	41
				Aggregate	2	1	1	3	2	41	46
			<p><i>News of Officers Wounded</i></p> <p>Capt Vincent Shackleford, 1st Regt (Now of the Va. House of Delegates)</p>		<p>The enemy's force numbered 2000. The whole loss in their expedition was upwards of 100 in killed, wounded and captured. At Branchburg Church they acknowledged a loss of 15 killed and 31 wounded. Capt. Shackleford was wounded and taken prisoner. The enemy granted him with compliments on his conduct.</p> <p><i>The Niles Register, Vol. 7, p. 200; Sketches of the War, p. 479.</i> <i>By Lt. Col. J. H. Egan, U.S. Army, 1851.</i></p>						