

On Saturday, October 14th, a new highway historical marker was dedicated in Lynch Station for the home of the Leftwich Family of Bedford County, who were prominent in both the American Revolution and the War of 1812. Several family members are buried in the cemetery near the plantation house. Two Revolutionary War veterans' graves have modern tombstones, Joel and Thomas Leftwich. Joel was also a General in the War of 1812 and commanded a brigade of troops.

The ceremony was conducted by the Leftwich Family Association, and the master of ceremonies was Cham Light, a descendant of Joel Leftwich, and also a member of the SAR. Several members of the Fincastle Resolves and Culpeper Minutemen Chapters attended and participated in the ceremony, primarily as members of the Color Guard. Three members of the War of 1812 Society in the Commonwealth of Virginia attended, President Charles Poland, Past President Dennis Fritts and Chaplain Dave Howard.

After the unveiling, the group of about 50 Leftwich descendants toured the family cemetery, near the old plantation house. The cemetery is currently the subject of an archeological study to determine the number and position of the graves. At least four Revolutionary War veterans are thought to be buried there. Some photos follow showing the unveiling of the historical road sign and the ceremony the cemetery.



Dennis Fritts, Past President of the War of 1812 Society arrives with the Society flag



The veiled Virginia historical road sign



The sign is unveiled



FR 29

MOUNT AIRY

About two miles southwest is Mount Airy, a plantation house built ca. 1800 for Col. Thomas Leftwich (1740-1816). The two-story frame house retains much of its Federal-style woodwork. Leftwich served in the Seven Years' War and was a captain of the Bedford County militia during the Revolutionary War. He was later a lieutenant colonel and commander of Virginia's 10th militia regiment. Leftwich served Bedford County as a justice, sheriff, and member of the Virginia House of Delegates. About 30 enslaved African Americans worked at Mount Airy. Leftwich and his brothers William, Uriah, and Joel, also veterans of the Revolutionary War, are buried in the property's family cemetery.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES, 2017



Mount

Airy Plantation House, the front end dates from about 1800



The colors are posted for the cemetery ceremony



The colors are presented for the Pledge of Allegiance



Color Guard at the ceremony, left to right: Bill Schwetke of the Culpeper Minute Men Chapter SAR, Charlie Coale of Fincastle Resolution SAR Chapter (FR) and Dennis Fritts of the FR and who is also Past President of the War of 1812 Society.



Members of the Fincastle Resolutions Chapter SAR, left to right: Wayne Miesen, Dave Howard, Chuck Poland, and Dennis Fritts The last three on the right in the photo are members of The War of 1812 Society in the Commonwealth of Virginia



Leftwich Family Cemetery with two of the marked graves of Revolutionary War soldiers

