

1917–1918: World War I

On April 6, 1917, the United States declared war on Germany because Germany had declared unrestricted warfare on all shipping to and from England and it was discovered that Germany wanted to get Mexico to attack the US border and prevent the US from supplying arms to Britain and her allies.

Julia Rhinehart (Powell) (1881-1957)

and her husband, Will, owned the house from 1920 until the end of their lives.

She was one of the first women allowed to enlist in the US Navy as a Yeoman (f). She was assigned to the Washington, DC Navy Yard and helped free up men to go to war by taking over their clerical duties. She achieved the rank of Yeoman 2nd Class



William Powell (1891-1969)

was a US Army Sergeant 1st Class in the 118th Ordnance Depot Company and was stationed at Camp Wadsworth in Spartanburg, South Carolina. The camp was a US Army mobilization center and trained soldiers and provided war supplies. The 118th helped supply munitions for the war effort.



We salute all the veterans of the Ball-Sellers House, past, present, and future.

The Ball-Sellers House 5620 Third Street, South Arlington, VA 22204

The Ball-Sellers House is the oldest structure in Arlington County, Virginia. John and Elizabeth Ball built it in the 1740s and farmed the 166 acres he had acquired from Lord Fairfax VI. Three generations of the Carlin family lived here and they are considered the “First Family” of the Glencarlyn neighborhood.

The house was donated to the Arlington Historical Society in 1975, by the last owner, Marion Sellers, the niece of Julia and Will Powell.

Today the Ball-Sellers House is on the National Register of Historic Places in America and the Virginia Landmarks Register.

We welcome an opportunity to share it with you. We are open free every Saturday 1-4 p.m., April through October, host several public events throughout the season, and offer free private group visits for all ages by appointment.

Please contact the Arlington Historical Society for more information:

Tel: 703-892-4204

Email: BSH@arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org

Website: www.arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org

www.facebook.com/BallSellersHouse



The Ball-Sellers House



A Living History Military Timeline

5620 Third Street, South
Arlington, VA 22204



The house on this site, now known as the Ball-Sellers House, has been here for more than 270 years and many of its residents have served their country in the military at home and abroad.



1754-1766: French and Indian War

British colonies in America fought the French colonies of New France and their Native American allies. French expansion into the Ohio River Valley brought repeated conflicts with British colonial claims.

John Ball (1714-1766) was the builder of the house in about 1742. As an adult male, he was required to serve in the local militia and would have trained with them in case hostilities reached Northern Virginia.

1775-1783: American Revolutionary War

The 13 British colonies fought for independence from Britain and to become the United States.

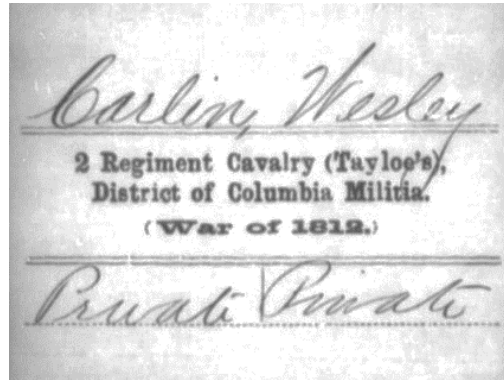
William Carlin (1732-1820) was a tailor to George Washington and the 2nd owner of the house. Too old to fight in the war, he equipped the Virginia Volunteer militia with its winter cloaks and donated other clothing to the army and its commander.

1812-1814: War of 1812

On June 18, 1812, the US declared war on England because it had been impressing American sailors into

the Royal Navy and blockading US and neutral ships during British hostilities with France.

Wesley Carlin (1788-1875) was one of William Carlin's three sons who were all raised in the house. He volunteered as a private and rose to become a lieutenant in the 2nd Cavalry Regiment of the DC Militia. He participated in pursuing and harassing British troops after they burned Washington, DC and sailed away down the Potomac River.



1861-1865: Civil War

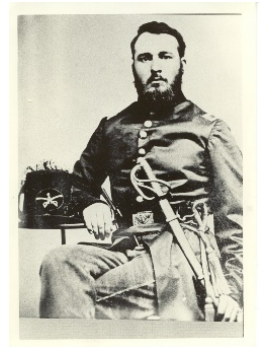
War broke out in April 1861 when secessionist Confederate forces attacked Fort Sumter in South Carolina shortly after U.S. President Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated--11 southern states seceded from the US to form the Confederate States of America. Between 620,000 to 750,000 soldiers died from both sides.

Like many families, the four Carlin children who were raised in the house and came of age during the Civil War appear to have been on opposite sides. **Anne Carlin (1828-1892)**, the only sister among the four siblings in this generation went to live in Washington, DC during the Civil War. Her younger brother, **Andrew Carlin (1831-1885)**, probably remained on the farm to take care of it during the Union occupation of the county. The two older brothers served in the Confederate Army.

John E. F. Carlin (1822-1900) was a member of the Marion's Rifles, Company A, 5th Regiment, part of the "Stonewall Brigade" based in Leesburg.

William H. F. Carlin (1825-1901) was a private in the 3rd Regiment of the Virginia Infantry, Company E. He was captured and held until January 1865.

William Burdett (1836-1914) bought the house from the Carlin family and owned it from 1887-1910. Originally from Iowa, he entered the Union army as a private in the 1st Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Cavalry in May 1861 and was promoted steadily to the rank of captain where he served as assistant provost marshal general in 1864.



1898: Spanish-American War

On April 25, 1898 the United States declared war on Spain following the sinking of the battleship *USS Maine* in Havana harbor on February 15, 1898. The US went to war because many people wanted revenge for the *Maine*, wanted Cuba to be independent from Spain, and some who the US to be a colonial empire

Joseph William Harriman (1875-1933)

rented the house in 1900. He was a US Navy Machinist 2nd Class and served aboard the *USS Franklin* and the *USS Yankton* where he saw action at Cape Muno in Cuba.

