

Preliminary Chronology of Revolutionary Era Events Tied to Arlington

1774

July 17, 1774 -- Fairfax Resolves

August 1774 --Members of First Continental Congress (Peyton Randolph, Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Edmund Pendleton, Benjamin Harrison and Richard Bland) maybe pass through Arlington to cross the Potomac at the Georgetown Ferry heading to Philadelphia (need to research dates and routes) Washington usually used his own ferry to cross the Potomac.

Sep. 21, 1774 -- Formation of the Fairfax Independent Company of Volunteers (some members were from Arlington) with George Washington named as Commander

Oct. 19, 1774 -- Fairfax Independent Company writes George Washington in Philadelphia asking him to obtain military supplies

Nov. 3, 1774 -- Fairfax Independent Company drilling in Alexandria -- shoots an effigy of Lord North

Nov. 1774 -- Members of Congress return to Virginia through Arlington

Dec. 26, 1774 -- George Washington offers to buy property in Arlington from James Mercer

1775

Jan. 16-18, 1775 -- Fairfax County Committee of Safety meets in Alexandria

Jan. 16-17, 1775 -- George Washington reviews drill of Fairfax Independent Company in Alexandria

Jan. 17, 1775 -- additional company of militia raised in Fairfax County; Fairfax Independent Company reorganized as Fairfax Militia

Feb. 18, 1775 -- Fairfax Militia drill in Alexandria under command of George Washington

Mar. 18, 1775 -- Fairfax militia drills in Alexandria under command of George Washington

Apr. 15, 1775 -- Fairfax militia drills in Alexandria under command of George Washington

Apr. 26, 1775 --Fairfax militia drills in Alexandria under command of George Washington

May 1, 1775 -- Fairfax Militia met in Alexandria with George Washington

May 4, 1775 -- Peyton Randolph, Edmund Pendleton, Benjamin Harrison, and Joseph Hewes and Richard Caswell of North Carolina cross Potomac on way to Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia [did they go through Georgetown?]

May 1775 -- Thomas Jefferson, Carter Braxton, Thomas Nelson, Jr. and George Wythe cross Potomac on way to join Congress in Philadelphia [where and when did each cross?]

June 20, 1775 -- George Washington writes letter resigning command of Fairfax Militia to assume command of Continental Army

July 8, 1775 -- Fairfax Independent Company writes General Washington offering to report to Cambridge

Aug. 1775 -- Captain George Johnston's Company of the 2nd Virginia Regiment organized with men from Fairfax, Prince William and Loudoun Counties.

Aug. 1775 -- Captain John Fitzgerald's Company of Fairfax County minutemen formed as part of Colonel William Grayson's Battalion of Minutemen

Aug. 1775 -- All male persons above the age of 16 and under age 50 are enlisted in the County militia and ordered to muster every two weeks from March through November beginning in March 1776

Sep. 1775 -- Captain Johnston's Company marches to Great Bridge, Virginia to join the 2nd Virginia Regiment at that battle

Sep. 29, 1775 -- Fairfax Militia officers appointed

Oct. 23, 1775 -- rumor that Gov. Dunmore and 4000 men were sailing up the Potomac to destroy Alexandria

Dec. 9, 1775 -- Fairfax Committee of Safety requests that 4th Virginia Convention station Minutemen and naval vessels be stationed at Alexandria to guard against attack by Gov. Dunmore

Dec. 1775 -- Captain Fitzgerald's Company of Fairfax Minutemen ordered to Williamsburg

1776

Jan 1776 -- Col. Theodorick Bland's Light Cavalry Battalion including Captain Henry Lee III ride north to join George Washington and the Continental Army

Jan. 31, 1776 -- Civilians flee Alexandria because Dunmore's fleet has moved up the Potomac to Mason's Neck; Fairfax Committee of Safety requests arms because the Fairfax Militia is armed with clubs; Fairfax Committee purchases three sloops and recruits a company of Marines to guard Alexandria.

Feb. 10, 1776 -- Newly formed 3rd Virginia Regiment commanded by Col. Hugh Mercer, including Captain John Fitzgerald's Fairfax Company, ordered to Alexandria

Feb. 29, 1776 -- 3rd Virginia Regiment stationed at Dumfries instead of Alexandria

Mar. 1776 -- General Charles Lee rides south to take command of Southern Department

Apr. 2, 1776 -- 3rd Virginia Regiment evacuated at Alexandria and Dumfries but General Lee orders the regiment to Williamsburg

Apr. 10, 1776 -- 3rd Virginia Regiment begins march to Williamsburg but General Lee reverses order and commands the 3rd Virginia Regiment to return to Alexandria

Apr. 14, 1776 -- Col. Mercer receives General Lee's Order and begins march back to Alexandria

May 1776 -- Thomas Nelson, Jr. rides north to take a seat in the Continental Congress

Aug. 1776 -- 3rd Virginia Regiment marches north to join Washington and the Continental Army. David Griffith, who would three years later become the minister of Fairfax Parish and move to the Glebe House in Arlington, is the chaplain and surgeon of the Regiment

1776 -- North Carolina Regiment and other American forces march north

1777

Apr-May 1777 -- Smallpox inoculations in Alexandria

July 1777 -- Lafayette rides north

1777 -- Fairfax Militia posted to Mount Vernon and Alexandria on several occasions

Sep. 1777 -- Fairfax Militia called up for three months and marches to Pennsylvania to join George Washington and Continental Army

1778

Jun 1778 -- Fairfax Militia called up for 20 days to defend Mount Vernon and Alexandria from British ships raiding on the Potomac

Jul. 15, 1778 -- George Washington advises John Parke Custis not to purchase Abingdon Plantation

Oct. 1778 -- Gen. Benjamin Lincoln rides south to take command of Southern Department

Dec. 1778 -- John Parke Custis purchases Abingdon

1779

Mar. 18, 1779 -- David Griffith resigns from Continental Army to become Minister of Fairfax Parish

Mar. 21, 1779 -- Nellie Custis is born at Abingdon

May 22, 1779 -- Rev. David Griffith and his family are residing in the Glebe House

May 1779 -- Fairfax Militia called up for 30 days to defend Mount Vernon and Alexandria from British ships raiding on the Potomac

Sep. 1779 -- Fairfax Militia called up for 30 days to defend Mount Vernon and Alexandria from British ships raiding on the Potomac

1780

May 1780 -- Fairfax Militia called up for 30 days to defend Mount Vernon and Alexandria from British ships raiding on the Potomac

Oct. 1780 -- Fairfax Militia called up for 30 days to defend Mount Vernon and Alexandria from British ships raiding on the Potomac

Oct. 1780 -- Fairfax Militia Company under Captain William Mason marches south to join General Greene's Army in South Carolina. They returned home in February 1781

Nov. 1780 -- General Nathaniel Greene rides south to take command of Southern Army; General Von Steuben rides with him to take command in Virginia

Nov. 1780 -- Lt. Col. Light-Horse Harry Lee and Lee's Legion ordered south to join Southern Army

1781

1781 Lafayette marches south

Jan. 1781 -- Maryland cavalry crosses at Georgetown ferry to join Lafayette

Feb. 17, 1781 -- Governor Thomas Jefferson calls up Fairfax Militia to march to Williamsburg to defend against Benedict Arnold's invasion

April 1, 1781 -- British privateer Alexandria but one of its boats and 16 men are captured by Fairfax Militia and Alexandria naval vessels

April 1-21, 1781 -- British fleet raids Potomac including Mount Vernon

Apr. 30, 1781 -- George Washington Parke Custis born at Abingdon

July 25, 1781 -- George Washington writes John Parke Custis

Sep. 1781 -- French hussars cross Georgetown ferry and ride through Arlington to Yorktown

Sep.. 1781 -- John Parke Custis leaves Abingdon to join George Washington's staff at Yorktown

Sep. 9, 1781 -- Fairfax militia ordered to prepare road from Georgetown ferry to fords of the Occoquan for the American and French wagon trains going to Yorktown

Sep. 1781 -- American wagon train crosses Georgetown ferry

Sep. 1781 -- Cattle drive down Glebe Road

Sep 1781 -- French wagon train crosses Georgetown ferry

Sep. 1781 -- Fairfax militia gathers flour for Army at Yorktown

Nov. 5, 1781 -- John Parke Custis dies

Nov. 1781 -- American Army marches north after Yorktown

Nov. 1781 -- George Washington rides north

1782

1782 -- French Army marches north

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