



Farmville - Prince Edward Historical Society

P.O. Box 546
Farmville, Virginia 23901

June 2015

"Farmville and Prince Edward County After the War"

Dr. William E. Thompson

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

7:00 pm

Historic Farmville Train Station

Guests always Welcomed

Board meets at 6:00 pm

What happened in Farmville and Prince Edward County after the surrender at Appomattox?

Dr. William E. Thompson, the speaker at the June 16th meeting of the Farmville-Prince Edward Historical Society, will answer this question. Willie is a retired Presbyterian minister, historian, and author of several books. His most recent project is the booklet, *Farmville's Fiery Friday*, which tells the events that happened in Farmville on the day after the Battle of Sailor's Creek. He is an honor graduate of Davidson College and holds three graduate degrees from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. He holds an honorary Doctor of Divinity from Hampden-Sydney College.



Willie Thompson

According to Bradshaw's *History of Prince Edward County*:

"The ringing of church bells on the morning of Sunday, April 9, 1865, announced to Farmville the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox Courthouse. The word spread rapidly. During the day the news widely circulated by people traveling through the country. Prince Edward had been occupied territory since the Federal army, pursuing the Confederates, had marched through on Friday, April 7.

"Only those present can imagine the horrors of that miserable night," wrote Dr. J. L. White. "Closed doors were little protection from the swarm of Federal host who crowded yards and streets and none at all from the horde of lawless thieves and boomers who followed." Martial law was established in Farmville on Saturday, April 8, and the town and vicinity were placed under military government with a provost marshal and a strong garrison.

Donations Wanted...

The Farmville-Prince Edward Historical Society is looking for items or memorabilia that relate to Farmville or Prince Edward County history. When you are cleaning out your basements or attics, remember that the historical society would like to have any items that relate to the Town of Farmville or Prince Edward County.

Upcoming Programs:

July 21, 2015: Bob Flippen, *Lithia Springs*
(By Special Request)

August 18, 2015: Edwina Covington, *Small Community Schools and their History*
(Hixburg, Pamplin, and Prospect)

September 15, 2015: Jimmy Hurt, *Postcards of Farmville*

This Day in June in Prince Edward County History

6-1-2001 Telephone Area Code changes from 804 to 434
6-2-1959 Board of Supervisors announces its intention to cease funding of public school system in Prince Edward until further notice
6-4-1894 Hampden-Sydney College trustees vote unanimously to oppose "by any legal and moral means" Union Seminary's possible move elsewhere
6-5-1788 Prince Edward delegate to Virginia Convention, Patrick Henry, argues against ratifying U.S. Constitution, fearing centralized power and no bill of rights
6-5-1905 Crosses of Honor presented to many Farmville Confederates
6-5-1836 Dr. Peter Winston, Surgeon Confederate Hospital, mayor, delegate, born
6-6-1749 License issued for Anderson's Ordinary in Worsham area as condition for establishing the new Prince Edward County court there
6-6-1907 Charles Bugg, grocer and postmaster, died
6-6-1923 Farmville Lions Club chartered
6-6-1944 Farmville soldiers participate in Normandy invasion (D-Day).
6-7-1905 Gov. Montague addressed the graduating class of the Normal School.
6-7-1905 Narrow-gauge Farmville and Powhatan Railroad sold and renamed Tidewater and Western, but nicknamed "Tired and Weary"
6-8-1791 George Washington crossed the Appomattox River at Rutledge's bridge near end of Bridge Street and spent night in Prince Edward Court House village
6-9-1761 Petition sent to Cumberland Court to allow a bridge into Prince Edward
6-9-1798 John Woodson surveys the town's first lots
6-9-1924 Work starts on Hotel Weyanoke
6-10-1926 Confederate Veterans State Convention in Farmville
6-10-1943 Cannery opened in the basement of Farmville High School
6-11-1926 Confederate veterans go to Appomattox Court House
6-12-1926 S. W. Paulett elected State Commander at UCV Convention

6-12-1820 R. S. Paulett, Farmville tobacconist, born
6-12-1861 The Randolph Guard mustered into service
6-12-1934 Council requests a state liquor store be opened in Farmville
6-12-1943 Farmville's Lt. Robert L. Gilbert shoots down three Japanese planes during Solomon Islands campaign
6-13-1854 Hampden-Sydney trustees reluctantly acquiesce to actions of Virginia General Assembly, assuming governance of the college's Medical Department (now MCV)
6-15-1898 Spreading rails causes wreck on Farmville & Powhatan Railroad
6-17-1903 Farmville Guard ordered to Richmond to quell labor riots
6-17-1942 First darkness-to-dawn blackout. Air raid preparation
6-19-1775 Prince Edward committeemen pass resolutions condemning action of Royal Governor Dunmore in moving gunpowder from Williamsburg
6-19-1916 Farmville Guard receive orders to prepare for duty in Mexico
6-19-1922 Farmville Creamery began operations
6-21-1972 Hurricane Agnes brings Farmville's worst flood.
6-22-1914 Rail traffic diverted to the new steel High Bridge which replaced the wooden one built in 1853
6-22-1916 Farmville Guard ordered to military duty along U.S.-Mexican border
6-23-1918 Robert B. Berkeley, Dr., lawyer, newspaper editor, died
6-24-1906 The last services were held in the Methodist Church before the old structure was torn down
6-26-1796 Benjamin H. Latrobe arrives at Bizarre
6-26-1909 Dr. James L. White, founder White Drug Company, died
6-26-1908 Socialist J. L. Fitts addressed local farmers
6-26-1918 Birth of noted Prince Edward entrepreneur-philanthropist J. B. Fuqua
6-28-1783 County's eight-year-old Hampden-Sydney College finally officially chartered by Virginia General Assembly
6-28-1929 E. H. Irby scores Farmville Golf Club's first hole-in-one
6-29-1897 Daughters of the Confederacy gave basket picnic at Lithia Springs.



Farmville's Newest Renovation...

Do you remember when this was the Spotless Store? Do you remember when this building was Farmville Wholesale Grocery? Do you remember when this building was the Farmville Dispensary? This is building No. 1 at the Green Front Furniture Store, which is owned by Dickie Cralle. The stucco put on in the 1960s has been replaced by a recreation of the original iron-front façade.