

# GOOCHLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM

2875 River Road West Goochland, Virginia 23063

The Goochland County Historical Marker Program (GCHMP) is a committee of individuals who accept nominations for a Virginia or Goochland County historical marker, including both highway markers and building plaques. This committee is made up of four (4) members of the Goochland Historical Society and one (1) county employee.

Nominations for historical markers must commemorate persons, sites, buildings, or events of national, state, regional or local significance. Living persons or events that occurred less than fifty years ago are not eligible. Exceptions may be allowed if the person, site, building, or event is of extraordinary historical significance.

Highway markers will be erected in safe locations, at or close to the places being commemorated, and where they will be visible to the traveling public.

Each nomination must have a sponsor(s). A nomination can be obtained from the Goochland Historical Society website [www.goochlandhistory.org](http://www.goochlandhistory.org) or by calling the Goochland Historical Society at 804-556-3966. The GCHMP is available to provide guidance during the nomination process, however, sponsors are responsible for obtaining all items included in the nomination process - required historical information and documentation, site location (with signed agreement of the private property owner(s) of the land on which the marker is to be placed), local approval for the marker, and financing.

Because county funding is limited, private funding of the marker may be necessary. The GCHMP will advise the sponsor of current marker costs and the availability of county funding.

The GCHMP will review marker nominations within 45 days of receipt and the sponsor(s) will be notified. If, after researching a topic, GCHMP determines it is not eligible for a marker, the sponsors will be notified. Consideration will be given to equitable distribution of markers among the various magisterial districts.

Nominations approved by this committee may be sent to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) to determine informally whether the topic is of local, state, or national significance. If it is of local significance only, the committee is authorized to proceed with its program; if it is of state or national significance, the same procedures are followed for obtaining a state marker approval from the Board of Historic Resources. If the VDHR staff decides it is of national, state, or regional significance, they may re-research and re-edit the text before submitting it to the VDHR Board for approval. If VDHR declares that the marker is of local significance only, then it will be placed on either a Goochland County Historical Marker or a distinctive Goochland County Historic Building Plaque.

The GCHMP is responsible for ensuring that the regional Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) office is contacted concerning the installation of highway markers, including clear zone and breakaway requirements as well as right-of-way restrictions.

Maintenance and upkeep of the markers is the responsibility of owner(s) of the land where the marker is placed.