

Goose Creek Friends Meeting Timeline

Goose Creek Meeting House stands on land that was used as a trade route by Iroquoian, Powhatan, and Siouan tribal groups. This was also seasonal hunting and fishing grounds for the tribes in the area. Along the rivers and streams there is evidence of early people who came here for flint knapping.

In later times it was sparsely inhabited by Manahoac or Monakan (Mahock) tribes which spoke a language known as Tutelo, a Siouan language. At the Albany conference of 1684, the Mohawks agreed not to come east of the Blue Ridge mountains. There were many treaties made in Albany which established boundaries. At the Albany treaty of 1715, the Iroquoian and Algonquian tribes agreed to stay west of the Blue Ridge Mountains and west of the Potomac River. (These treaties did not keep the colonists from crossing the lines and settling.)

1730's—Quakers first came to western Loudoun County in the early 1730's from Pennsylvania. They had small farms raising wheat, oats, and flax. They built and operated mills and established businesses to serve the community.

1735--the first record of Quaker land transfer is to Amos Janney. Hannah and Jacob Janney obtained a grant for 690 acres south of Waterford in 1743.

1745 circa—Hannah Janney sat on a log in worship in the woods just south of today's meeting house.

1757—In June, John Woolman visited Goose Creek meeting, writing in his journal: *Travelling up and down of late... from whence, accompanied by William Standley before mentioned, I rode to **Goose Creek**, being much through the woods, and about one hundred miles. We lodged the first night at a public-house; the second in the woods; and the next day we reached a Friend's house at **Goose Creek**.*"

1765—Stone Meeting House (still standing, now the meeting caretaker's home) was built and was used until membership outgrew the space

1774—Goose Creek became a preparative meeting under the care of Fairfax Meeting in Waterford

1785—Goose Creek Meeting became a full monthly meeting (12th month 26th day)

1798—Elias Hicks, with Susanna Matthews and Joseph Cooper, visits Goose Creek for Quarterly Meeting. Meeting minutes report: "Elias had to deliver some very close doctrine on the subject of infidelity."

1815—Oakdale School was built with brick made locally. It is told that it was practice brick for the proposed new meeting house. Friends had been holding informal instruction on various farms but wanted a central place for schooling. They hired a

teacher to teach all the children from the surrounding farms including several children of the African American tenant farmers. It was one of the earliest integrated schools in Virginia.

1816-1817—Friends built the two story brick meeting house because of the growing Quaker community. The builder was Daniel Cockrill.

1824—Loudoun Manumission and Emigration Society met at Oakdale School to get owners to free their enslaved workers.

1827 Goose Creek hosted the Loudoun Manumission and Emigration Society's 21 delegates for the first convention in Virginia for the abolition of slavery.

1828 Yardley Taylor was arrested for "enticing, persuading and advising a certain negro slave named Harry" to escape bondage. Taylor eventually pleaded guilty to the charge and paid a \$20 fine. Harry's fate after capture is unknown but can be, tragically, surmised.

1842—Lucretia Mott visits here during her anti-slavery lecture tour, speaking at Goose Creek meeting before heading to Washington, D.C. to speak before Congress.

1849 In August, Samuel McPherson Janney, eminent Goose Creek minister and author, was arrested for "having written and caused to be published in the Washingtonian a paper printed in said County, calculated to incite persons of colour within this Commonwealth to rebel and make insurrection."

1864 Quaker barns were burned in late November by Union soldiers trying to prevent John Singleton Mosby's 43rd Battalion raids. The Confederates lead by Mosby had been able to raid stored food and livestock and were able to sustain surprise attacks.

1865—Two months after end of the Civil War and the surrender at Appomattox, Friends held classes for African American students in the meeting house. "Goose Creek School for Negroes" or "Colored School B" was built on land acquired from Quakers Edward and Eliza (Janney) Rawson. Eliza Rawson was the first teacher there.

1884-- Mount Olive Baptist Church was built on land acquired by Freedmen from Quakers, Edward and Eliza Rawson.

1885 --Grace Methodist Episcopal Church built by Freedmen and the Quakers. The basement of the church was operated as a vocational school with local Quakers teaching sewing, cooking and shoe repair.

1892-Conference of First Day Schools and Philanthropic Committee-- 300 friends from meetings along the Eastern seaboard came to exchange ideas and was the forerunner of Friends General Conference. The week long gathering not only was to bring youth together but to invigorate the programs for young people.

1895—March 5, Susan B. Anthony, at the invitation of Goose Creek meeting's "Philanthropic Committee," came to Lincoln and spoke on the topic of women's suffrage. Goose Creek Meeting minutes' report: "The Philanthropic Committee report having engaged Susan B. Anthony to lecture in this house 3rd mo 5th & that the occasion was one full of interest & instruction." The famed civil rights campaigner came at the invitation of Eliza Rawson, clerk of the Philanthropic Committee.

1943—The two story Meeting House was severely damaged in a windstorm January 19,

1943. The "Orthodox" Lincoln Friends Meeting invited the members of Goose Creek to worship with them until the brick building could be repaired. It was during the war when there were numerous supply shortages. During winter months, Meetings for Worship were held in the Lincoln Graded School.

1949—October 30, 1949—the newly rebuilt one story Meeting House was dedicated.

1951—The two meetings reunited to form Goose Creek United Meeting. Lincoln Meeting members came to join the Goose Creek Friends in the new meeting house.

1982—The meeting house was enlarged by the addition of a gathering room used by the First Day School. Member, Tom Kosbob, was the builder. It took only a few months to be built and it was fully paid for by donations by its completion.

1986—Young Friends participated in "Mothers for Peace" trip to the USSR.

1988—Hosted the joint writing project of visiting authors from the USSR and the US. The book of collated pieces in *The Human Experience, Contemporary American and Soviet Fiction and Poetry*.

1996—Alternatives to Violence workshops were held at Goose Creek and began bringing AVP to Loudoun County Juvenile Detention Center for 14 years.

1997—Air Conditioning was brought to the meeting house and the Office and Library were renovated.

2000-2010—Oakdale School Living History Project with the Lincoln Elementary School PTO provided a day in the life of a 1818 scholar. Set in Oakdale school house, Loudoun County students as well as our own Quaker children were provided with the biography of a student who had once attended the school. They spent the day experiencing school as it was taught in that time. (This project was laid down 2010).

2005, 2006—Response to Hurricane Rita—a group went twice to help homeowners repair their homes. This was in partnership with The Southern Mutual Help Association.

2010- Goose Creek Friends Scholarship fund and Jane Pancoast Shepherd Scholarship fund were established combining several educational funds to grant money to scholars going to post high school programs as well as college programs.

2013-- Kitchen renovation with a high efficiency dishwasher/"splitters" AC and heating units in the First Day School room

2014—"Peace Community in the time of war" Civil War sign dedication commemorating the burning of Quaker barns during the Civil War.

2014--Energy audit to lower our meeting house carbon footprint—All of the suggested changes have been made as of 2021.

2017—Bicentennial Celebration at Goose Creek—Many committees had activities at different stations. Unity with Nature decorated our historic trees with Quaker quotes related to stewardship. Oakdale School house was open with children's activities from the 1800's. Hannah Janney was honored with poetry writing at the site of her first meeting for worship place in the woods beside Goose Creek.