

**Virginia Department of Historic Resources
Historical Highway Marker Information**

This information form is designed to provide the Virginia Department of Historic Resources with the necessary data to be able to evaluate this potential marker topic.

Proposed Marker Topic: Gloucester Hall

Proposed Physical Location of Marker:

(Please attach a map showing the proposed location for the marker. Also, review “**Criteria for Marker Placement**” for more information on how to determine an appropriate site.)

Physical address (e.g., 2801 Kensington Avenue, U.S Rte. 1, 3 miles east of Richmond):

East side of west-bound lane of US Rt. 17, north of State Route 610 (Woods Cross Roads) near Bacon's Fort Road.

City or County where proposed marker would be located: Gloucester County

Location of event being commemorated or site associated with topic, if the marker will not be placed at the actual historic site. (If the two sites are different, please be sure to indicate each one on the map submitted as part of the application package.):

The home of Rob Atkinson, 9775 Bacons Fort Rd, Gloucester, VA 23061.

How far away (e.g., yards, miles) is the historic site from the proposed marker site (if applicable):

Less than 1 mile.

Why can't the marker be placed at the historic site discussed in the marker (if applicable)?

The exact location of the site is not yet known, but the reconstruction of land patents and additional primary document research has isolated the likely location within a given area, making the sign placement fairly accurate. Limited archaeology survey in the near future may help identify the actual site location.

Is the proposed marker associated with a “mitigation” agreement stemming from a federal 106 environmental review project? If so, please provide details about who is involved with the project and the appropriate project codes.

No

Proposed Text for the Marker: (Please consult the “Highway marker Writing Style” for details. It is often helpful to seek assistance from local and regional historical associations and governmental entities in researching and crafting the proposed text. Please remember that changes to the submitted text are likely to be made by this department’s staff, the marker editorial committee, and/or members of the Board of Historic Resources when deemed necessary so that the marker’s text conforms to the marker program criteria and writing style. To provide assistance in drafting text, examples of recently approved marker texts are available from DHR upon request.)

GLOUCESTER HALL

Nearby is the site of Gloucester Hall (c. 1665) where Nathaniel Bacon died in 1676, effectively ending his Rebellion. In 1684, this home served as the first Virginia residence of Governor Francis Howard, whose wife died there in 1685. The home was built by Col. John Pate, a member of the Council of State, on his 2100-acre plantation, including 1141 acres patented by his uncle Richard Pate in 1650. The plantation was inherited by Col. Thomas Pate in 1672. Both Richard Pate and Col. Thomas Pate represented Gloucester County in the House of Burgesses.

NOTE: On June 18, I was informed that the Virginia Department of Historic Resources had approved the following text for the marker, with revisions agreed between the Marker Editorial Committee and me:

GLOUCESTER HALL

Near here stood Gloucester Hall (built ca. 1660s), where Bacon’s Rebellion effectively ended with the fatal illness of its leader, Nathaniel Bacon, in 1676. In 1684 this house served as the first Virginia residence of Royal Governor Francis Howard, baron Howard of Effingham, whose wife, Lady Philadelphia Pelham Howard, died there in 1685. Col. John Pate, a member of the Council of State, built the house on his 2,100-acre plantation, including 1,141 acres that his uncle Richard Pate had patented in 1650. Col. Thomas Pate inherited the plantation in 1672. Both Richard Pate and Col. Thomas Pate represented Gloucester County in the House of Burgesses.

Bibliographical Sources Consulted. A minimum of three sources is required. **Please photocopy and attach each source.** Each bibliographical source listed below should include the following information: author, title, and publisher, the publisher's location [City and State], and date of publication.):

Name of the house

The Papers of Francis Howard, Baron Howard of Effingham, 1643-1695, edited by Warren M. Billings, Virginia State Library, 1989:

p. 78, footnote 1 – Thomas Pate's home known as Gloucester Hall;

p. 88 – Gov. Howard's letter of April 1684 to his wife shows Gloucester Hall as his address (next to the date);

p. 162 -- Gov. Howard's letter of 21 November 1684 to the Maryland Council of State shows Gloucester Hall as his address (next to the date).

Plantation landholdings

Virginia Land Registry Office, Land Patents, Gloucester County, Book 2, p. 271:

1650 -- headright of Wingfield Webb and Richard Pate, "received a land patent of 1141 acres on the North side of the York River lying on an Eastward branch of the Poropotank River".

I have found no record of how the entire patent came to be owned solely by Richard Pate.

"Virginia in 1667-1669", *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 19, No. 3 (July 1911), pgs. 255-257, footnote 8:

Describes the grants of Col. John Pate ("in addition to land inherited, and any he may have bought"). Also, references Richard Pate's patent of 1141 acres in 1650.

"*Virginia Quit Rent Rolls, 1704*", *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 32, No. 2 (April 1924), p. 153; and Vol. 32, No. 3 (July 1924), p. 283:

Shows John Pate of Gloucester County with 1100 acres in Petso [Petsworth] Parish - Gloucester County and 1000 acres in King & Queen County.

John Pate was the eldest son of Col. Thomas Pate, and he inherited the plantation upon the death of his father in 1703.

Relationships

Minutes of the Council and General Court of Colonial Virginia, H. R. McIlwaine, editor, Virginia State Library, 1979, p. 317:

Notes the death of Col. John Pate in 1672 and identifies him as the uncle of Col. Thomas Pate.

"Virginia in 1667-1669", *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 19, No. 3 (July 1911), pgs. 255-257, footnote 8:

Discusses the relationships between Richard, John, and Thomas Pate.

Principal offices held

The General Assembly of Virginia, 1619-1978, Virginia State Library, 1978:

John Pate, Council of State, 1671-1672, p. xx; Richard Pate, House of Burgesses, Gloucester, 1653, p. 31; Thomas Pate, Gloucester, 1684, p. 47.

Minutes of the Council and General Court of Colonial Virginia, H. R. McIlwaine, editor, Virginia State Library, 1979, p. 282:

John Pate sworn in as member of the Council of State.

Military titles

Minutes of the Council and General Court of Colonial Virginia, H. R. McIlwaine, editor, Virginia State Library, 1979, p. 315:

Four references to "Coll" John Pate, previously noted as John Pate, Esq.

The Vestry Book of Petsworth Parish, Gloucester County, Virginia, 1677-1793, C. G.

Chamberlayne, editor, Virginia State Library, 1979, p. 8:

First reference to Thomas Pate as "Coll."

Death of Nathaniel Bacon

"A True Narrative of the Rise, Progress, and Cessation of the Late Rebellion in Virginia, Most Humbly and Impartially Reported by his Majestyes Commissioners Appointed to Enquire into the Affaires of the Said Colony", *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 4, No. 2 (Oct., 1896), p. 153:

This was the official report of Bacon's Rebellion prepared for King Charles II. Includes a description of Bacon's death at Col. Thomas Pate's home.

Residence of Royal Governor, Baron Francis Howard

The Papers of Francis Howard, Baron Howard of Effingham, 1643-1695, p. 51, edited by Warren M. Billings, Virginia State Library, 1989:

pgs. 50-51 -- Gov. Howard's letter of 19 February 1684 to his wife describing his arrival at Col. Thomas Pate's home;

p. 78, footnote 1 – "For much of his stay in Virginia, [Gov. Howard] lived at Pate's home, known as Gloucester Hall, on the banks of Poropotank Creek."

Virginia's Viceroy, Their Majesties' Governor General, Francis Howard, Baron Howard of Effingham, by Warren M. Billings, George Mason University Press, 1991, pgs. 33-34:

Describes the arrangements for Gov. Howard to stay at Thomas Pate's home.

Death of Gov. Howard's wife, Lady Philadelphia

Virginia's Viceroy, Their Majesties' Governor General, Francis Howard, Baron Howard of Effingham, by Warren M. Billings, George Mason University Press, 1991, pgs. 58-59:

Lady Philadelphia fell "deathly ill at Gloucester Hall." On 17 August 1685, she died, only 30 years old. From her symptoms, Billings concluded that her death was due to scurvy.

NOTE: The only information on the marker that cannot be verified is the date of construction of Gloucester Hall c. 1665. But the date can be logically deduced. Richard Pate arrived in Virginia c. 1636 at age 35. He acquired the 1141 acres in 1650. His nephew John Pate, well-educated and a lawyer, arrived in 1651 about age 21. The large acreage had to be cleared, tobacco planted, and income generated. Richard died in 1657. Some of John's legal work can be traced through *Minutes of the Council and General Court of Colonial Virginia*. Since the Council's membership consisted of the most prominent and wealthy men in Virginia, it can be assumed that he would have felt the need for a grand home for a man of his social standing.

Sponsor Information (For more than one sponsor, please use a separate sheet. If the author of the text is different from the sponsor, please provide that person's contact information in the space provided below.)			
(Name) A. J. Pate		(Organizat ion)	
(Address) 15118 Terrace Oaks Drive	(City) (State) Houston, Texas	(Zip Code) 77068	
(Daytime telephone including area code) 281-444-3568	(Email Address)	a12j02@sbcglobal.net	
Signature: _____ Date: _____			
By signing this agreement you confirm that you have funding to pay for a state historical highway marker (\$1,350). In certain situations the sponsor could be responsible for expense associated with installing a sign. The sign is the property of the Commonwealth of Virginia.			
•• Signature required for processing all applications. ••			
In the event of organization sponsorship you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person.			
Contact person: _____			
Daytime Telephone: ()		Email address: _____	
Author's Information (If the author of the text is different from the sponsor, please provide that person's contact information here.)			

(Name)		(Organizat ion)	
(Address)	(City) (Zip Code)	(State)	
(Email Address)			
(Daytime telephone including area code)			

NOTE: If the marker proposed is on a specific property or references a specific physical property, the Department of Historic Resources needs the property owner's information and signature prior to reviewing the proposal. Please provide the same below:			
Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/>			
Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/>			
(Name)		(Firm)	
(Address)	(City) (Zip Code)	(State)	
(Email Address)			
(Daytime telephone including area code)			
Property Owner Signature: _____			Date: _____

Notification

In some circumstances, it may be necessary for the department to confer with or notify local officials of proposed listings of properties within their jurisdiction. In the following space, please provide the contact information for the local County Administrator or City Manager.

Mr. Mrs. Dr.

Miss Ms. Hon.

Brenda Garton

County Administrator

(Name)

(Position)

Gloucester County

P.O. Box 329

(Locality)

(Address)

Gloucester

VA

23061

804-694-4042

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

(Daytime telephone including area code)

If you wish to have an unveiling/dedication ceremony, please provide a proposed date for the event:

A ceremony will be planned, but such planning will be dependent upon the date that the marker will be ready for installation.

We have tentatively planned the unveiling for October 26, 2012, the 336th anniversary of Nathaniel Bacon's death.