

THE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION OF THE
GERMANNA COLONIES IN VIRGINIA,
INCORPORATED

THE FIRST DECADE 1956 - 1966

BY

Charles Herbert Huffman, President



THE GERMANNA RECORD
NUMBER NINE
1966

(Second Printing March, 1978)

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Twenty-nine Pictures and Maps

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Official Publication of the Memorial
Foundation of the Germanna Colonies, Inc.

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Second Printing, March 1978)
Green Publishers, Inc.
Orange, Virginia

GERMANNA MARKER



This highway marker stands on the south side of Route 3 at the brow of the bluff near the Rapidan River bridge. The handsome marker was designed and constructed by Mr. J. B. Carpenter, Sr. in his hobby workshop.

Dedicated

TO

"... THE UNDAUNTED FEW

WHO CHANGED THE OLD WORLD

FOR THE NEW."

AND TO

THOUSANDS OF THEIR DESCENDANTS WHO
TRACE THEIR ANCESTRY BACK TO GERMANNA

AND TO GERMANTOWN IN VIRGINIA

CONTENTS

PART I

PAGES

PREPARATION	1-17
"I never heard that before." Bombing Sortie. Demolition. Restoration. Letter of Greetings. St. Nicolai reconsecrated Letter returned to America as News Article Dormant interest reawakened Appointment prearranged: Grand Central Station, New York The stranger in gray top coat and gray hat	
COUNT-DOWN	17-19
Informal conference. Monticello Hotel Lobby A generous stipend and specific directives advanced A new concept of the Germanna-Siegen story Germanna visited. Homeward bound.	
LIFT-OFF	19-28
Options sought: Site of the "Enchanted Castle" and Blockhouse Fort Preliminary conferences. Temporary organization formed "What's in a name?" One considered. Unanimously approved Purpose and objectives formulated Charter applied for Trustees named. Officially approved.	
ORBIT	28-79
Constitution drawn up. Adopted. A Non-Profit Organization Tax exemption status applied for: Federal, State, and Local Real estate purchased. 270 acres of the original Germanna tract Survey of the tract by certified surveyor Survey made and deed recorded Area christened "Siegen Forest" Improvements: Markers, clearings, reforestation, pentagon, plaza Annual Reunions. Objectives Germanna Reference Library Germanna publications: Auspices of the Foundation. Contributions The Germanna Record. Official publication. To date, Nos. 1-9. GERMANNA HIGHWAY. Culpeper to Fredericksburg. Official petition. Accountant's first annual report. Receipts and Disbursements. Mr. Ernst W. Flender. Discriminating philanthropist. Membership rosters: Annual and Life. "A Valued Appraisal" unsolicited.	
RE-ENTRY Retrospect. Echoes of the "Undaunted few..."	80-84;108

PART II

Antecedent Episodes

HANDS ACROSS THE SEA. The Muesen Tri-centennial	1927
Actors in the Round-Up: Pfarrer Heider, Maj. Klien, Consul Huddle, Sec'y of State Kellogg, President Coolidge, Gov. Byrd, Dr. Eckenrode, and Mr. Horsley.	
COMING OF THE PIONEERS. Orange County Bi-centennial 1934	85
Temporary marker unveiled. Immigrants of 1714 memorialized His Excellency, Dr. Hans Luther, German Ambassador to the United States, the honored guest speaker.	
PERMANENT MEMORIAL. Granite shaft unveiled and dedicated, 1953	106
CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS—THE GERMANNA COLONIES— 1714-1966	110

THE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION OF THE GERMANNA COLONIES, INC.

THE FIRST DECADE

1956 - 1966

PART I

	Pages
The Preparation	1-17
The Count-Down	17-19
The Lift-Off	19-28
The Orbit	28-79
The Re-Entry	80-84; 108

GERMANNA REVIVED

Much groundwork usually precedes any successful launching. Getting the Germanna Memorial Foundation off the launching pad has been no exception. A record of the preparation, the lift-off, and the story of orbit through the first decade, 1956-1966, is the chief objective of this narrative.

A guest attending our last reunion, July, 1965, approached the writer and asked how we succeeded in getting an organization, such as this one, started. When I began to oblige by responding to his request, he quickly interposed with, "Wait a minute, I want my wife to hear this!" And, since this last reunion in July, one of our trustees and I had occasion to refer to details incident to our early efforts at organization. He remarked, as if in surprise, "I never heard that before." I shall endeavor, therefore, to recount the most salient events and to relate such as have transpired by reason of our common desire and our concerted efforts to establish firmly The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc.

It is pertinent at the outset to announce that as in all like historical movements certain contributing factors, antecedent to those of immediate concern, should be pointed out, acknowledged, and the extent and character of their involvement explained.

Impetus, or "thrust," if we choose so to describe it, stemmed from several sources — from three unrelated episodes of historical significance that had occurred previously. Although each incident of the series was a distinct unit in form and purpose, yet they adhered closely, each to the others, by the common bond of national origin.

These historical events were: 1) In 1927, the Muesen, Germany Commemoration of three centuries of its history. 2) In 1934, the Orange County Bi-Centennial Celebration of its establishment. 3) In 1953, the unveiling and dedication of the granite marker, erected at Germanna to the memory of the first colony from Germany in 1714, and in honor of these pioneers. Each of these events was concerned with the same subject matter as the others and was motivated by the like desire of doing honor to the memory of distinguished ancestors. Later in this narrative these episodes will be dealt with and integrated into the whole.

A Chance Rendezvous

Shortly after the unveiling ceremony of the marker April 28, 1953, alluded to above, several expository articles describing the historical background of the event, including reproductions of photographs of the current scenes, were written and published. One of these news-articles, by chance, reached Germany and the city of Siegen, from whence many of the pioneers had emigrated in 1713-1714. Again by chance, this journal came to the notice there of an author — a novelist and journalist of note, Mr. Alfred Luck, who, shortly prior, had been engaged to write the history of iron ore mining and manufacturing — the chief industry for centuries of Siegen and environs. Our immigrants to Colonial Virginia, by reason of their superior training, industry, and skills prior to emigration, had been deeply involved in this vast industrial complex, and consequently had made enduring contributions to its development. This Mr. Luck, it seems, captivated by the possibilities inherent in our news-story of the marker incident, promptly initiated correspondence, and

requested permission to quote excerpts from our article and make use of the illustrations therein. The request was cheerfully granted, and his story soon followed, having made liberal use of the current information at his hand*

Subsequent exchange of information, ideas, and views continued for some time, during the course of which Mr. Luck informed me that the Saint Nicolai church, wherein many of the 1713-1714 immigrants were baptized, had been destroyed during World War II by our American bombers.** and that in the interim of ten years, the structure had been rebuilt and would, on December 16, 1954, be reconsecrated. "How suitable, fitting, and seemly it would be, he asserted warmly, "if you, the President of the organization, would write a message of greeting to the Mother Church to be read on this historic occasion!" The letter suggested was written, and the Greeting Message thus became an integral part of the order of consecration. The English was, perforce, translated into the German, and hence in the news-story as printed in the *Siegener Zeitung*, appeared as on page 9.

*Mr. Luck's history alluded to was published in six installments, February to July, 1955, under the title, "Eisen, Erz und Abenteuer," in *UNSER WERK*, Siegen. The Germanna Library has copies of these interesting publications available for research purposes.

**Was it the decree of fate that our emigrants from Siegen should suffer vicariously from the destruction of their place of baptism, perhaps at the considered instance of their descendants?



Ruins of Saint Nicolai Church in Siegen, Germany, destroyed by bombs December 16, 1944. Only the tower remained standing. In this church many of the immigrants who came to America in 1714 were baptized. For a picture of this edifice prior to its destruction, see Wayland: "Germanna: Outpost of Adventure, 1714 to 1956," p. 66.



The interior of the Saint Nicolai Church after its complete restoration, and consecration, December 4, 1954. Ten years after the demolition, the ceremony of reconstruction took place. The letter of felicitation below was made a part of this joyous occasion. Presently a newspaper account of the incident was sent to Mr. E. W. Flender, of New York City. Soon thereafter the first steps were taken leading to the establishment of the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies. (For a more detailed account of this phase of the story, see pages 10-17.

Im Glauben der Vorväter / Zur Einweihung der Nikolaikirche Ein Brief aus Amerika

Zur Einweihung der Nikolaikirche am 16. Dezember ging der evangelischen Kirchengemeinde Siegen ein Brief des Bundes der Kolonisten von Germanna in Virginia zu. Dieser Brief, der das Datum des 4. Dezember 1954 trägt, hat folgenden Wortlaut:

Durch einen rechtzeitig geschriebenen Brief des Herrn Alfred Lück haben wir soeben erfahren, daß die durch Bomben zerstörte Nikolaikirche zum größten Teil wiederhergestellt ist und am 16. Dezember 1954 wieder eingeweiht werden soll. Amerikanische Nachkommen von Söhnen und Töchtern der Nikolai-gemeinde freuen sich mit der Heimatgemeinde über die Vollendung dieses Werkes. Mit diesem Wiederaufbau bezeugt die christliche Gemeinde deutlicher als durch manche andere Zeichen, daß der Glaube unserer Väter in ihr noch lebendig ist.

Dreizehn Familien aus Nassau-Siegen, insgesamt 42 Personen, kamen im April 1714 in Colonial Virginia an. Hier wurden sie vom Gouverneur Spotswood, der sich persönlich um sie kümmerte, herzlich willkommen geheißen. Da er schon vorher von ihrem Kommen unterrichtet worden war, siedelte er sie gleich im nordöstlichen Teil des Gebietes von Virginia an, das heute Orange County genannt wird, und nannte ihr Dorf Germanna. Hier an den Ufern des Rapidan-Flusses baute er für sie eine Pfahlburg und errichtete in ihr ein Blockhaus zum Schutz gegen feindlich gesinnte Indianer. Die Einwanderer gebrauchten das Blockhaus für ihre Gottesdienste, die täglich und am Sonntag zweimal stattfanden.

So wurde der Raum, den der Gouverneur ihnen vorsorglich zum Schutz gegen Angriffe hatte errichten lassen, ein Ort des Friedens und der Mittelpunkt unserer ersten deutschen reformierten Gemeinde. Und diese dreizehn Familien unter der Führung ihres geliebten Pfarrers Johann Heinrich Haeger gründeten die erste feste und rechtlich geordnete Gemeinde der Deutschen Reformierten Kirche in Amerika. Am 26. April 1953 wurde zu ihrer Ehre und zur Erinnerung an sie auf dem Boden von Germanna, das ihr erstes Heimatdorf in der neuen Welt geworden war, ein ansehnliches Granitdenkmal enthüllt.

Sankt Nikolai, die Mutterkirche der Pioniergemeinde von Germanna, kann heute mit Recht stolz sein auf die vielen wertvollen Beiträge, die ihre Söhne und Töchter überall in den Vereinigten Staaten zum Leben in Kirche und Bürgergemeinde geleistet haben. Hunderte von ihnen haben Unermeßliches zur politischen, beruflichen, industriellen und erzieherischen Blüte der Nation beigetragen. In ihrer aller Namen spreche ich der Sankt-Nikolai-Gemeinde zu diesem frohen und in die Zukunft weisenden Tage unsere herzliche Mitfreude und aufrichtige, beste Glückwünsche aus.

Charles Herbert Huffman

Präsident des Bundes der Kolonisten
von Germanna

At the suggestion of Mr. Alfred Luck, of Siegen, Germany, this letter was written by the author of this History. It was presently submitted by Mr. Luck and, at his instance, was incorporated in the reconsecration service of the restored Saint Nicolai Church. This communication was one of three incidents which, fortuitously united, led to the organization of the Germanna Foundation, in 1956.

The Letter to Siegen Reaches New York City.

333 East 57th Street
New York 22, N. Y.

New York
Feb. 6, 1955.

Dear Mr. Huffman,

"My sister Hanna Flender of Siegen sent me a clipping from the *Siegener Zeitung* quoting your letter of Dec. 4th to the evangelische Kirchgemeinde Siegen. I had previously heard about a group of people from Siegen emigrating to Virginia, establishing in Fredericksburg the first iron foundry or blast furnace in America. The information given in your letter about the 13 families who arrived in Virginia in 1714 was new to me.

"I am wondering what became of the Germanna settlement. Evidently the name no longer exists as a going community. I also wonder whether the names of the first 13 families are known. The Virginia telephone books which I consulted show few German names, but where they appear it is interesting that they are very numerous and that the original families have grown and remained in Virginia. A name which struck me was "Utz". It could have been "Utsch". Half of the population of Gosenbach, a village a few miles west of Siegen, a famous mining center for centuries, bears this name.

"Would you please tell me where the monument in honor of the first settlers from Nassau-Siegen is located? Some time in the spring I expect to be in Virginia (visiting my son Richard Flender, a law student at Charlottesville) and I would like to take a picture of it for the magazine issued by the Siegerlaender Heimatsverein. If this publication is not sent to you you will perhaps be interested in the last issue which I am mailing to you under separate cover.

"Very sincerely yours
Ernst Flender"

It is evident from the above letter that, albeit a native and resident of Siegen throughout his youth, the writer had scant knowledge of our 18th century immigrants, and even less curiosity about them. The news-clipping forwarded by his sister to him made him aware of them, aroused his interest in them, and stimulated his concern for them, hence his quest for further information. It should be noted here that, prior to the Greetings Letter and the resulting news-clipping incident, neither he nor I had been aware of the other's existence. His request for information therefore, was promptly and cheerfully complied with. The essential parts of my response follow.

"Dear Mr. Flender:

February 8, 1955

"Thank you for your letter of the 6th enquiring about the colony from Siegen that came to America and Colonial Virginia in 1714. I am glad to give you such information as a brief letter will carry, assuring you at the same time that there is much interesting information that cannot be included here. I have been gathering data for some time, and hope, at some future time, to write a small book on the subject.

"Your reference to the clipping from Siegen concerning the reconsecration of the Saint Nicolai church came about in this manner. I have written several articles about the Siegen colony. One of these fell into the hands of a Mr. Alfred Luck of Siegen. He wrote me stating that he had been commissioned recently to write an article tracing the iron industry of Siegen, which history, he asserted, should include the story of the 18th century iron mining specialists who came to America. He asked for permission to quote from my article and to use several pictures appearing therein. Permission was given. He told me also about the destruction of the Saint Nicolai church, except the tower, and said the restored one would be reconsecrated December 16, 1954, and suggested that I write a letter of greeting to be read on the occasion. The letter was written; hence the clipping.

"I am enclosing some information, which I trust will be of interest to you. The picture of the marker was made in the marble yard before removal to the site. . . . I note that your son is a student in the Law School of the University of Virginia, and that you expect to visit him there later in the spring. Incidentally, I am a graduate of the University, hence, when you come to visit your son, I might find it possible to accompany you to the site of the marker, should you wish it. When you have had opportunity to study the enclosures, please let me have your reaction. If I can be of further service, do let me know.

"Sincerely,

C. H. Huffman"

The Confrontation

Correspondence bearing significant information of much personal interest to both continued through the first months of the new year, 1955, but as yet there had been no meeting — no confrontation — but rather indulgence in a sort of blindman's buff. Near the end of February the interested Siegener wrote that if at any time I might be passing through New York, he would like a meeting with me, even if but a very brief one. About this time it happened I had been named a delegate to the College English Association Institute to be held at Union College, Schenectady, New York, April 5th through the 7th, which information I passed along. Presently, the letter of March 6th appeared to be bringing an interview nearer.

"I shall be in New York April 4th," he wrote, "and would like to meet you if your time should permit. We could meet at the Union League Club at Park Avenue and 37th Street, only a few blocks south of Grand Central Station where you will board the Schenectady train. I do hope your time between trains will permit me to make your acquaintance and have a chat with you."

My reply on March 22 conveyed to him the following information:

"My reason for delay in answering your recent letter was that I could not be sure of the exact time I might have to spend in New York City. I think my schedule is now complete, at least to this extent. I expect to arrive at the Penn. Station Tuesday morning, April 5th about 6:30 On my return from Schenectady I shall arrive at the Grand Central Terminal about 9:30 p.m., April 7th, and shall have an hour before transferring to Penn. Station. Perhaps if you are free we might meet there. A line or two to let me know the exact time and place, and marks of personal identification, may be advisable in the meantime."

This "line or two" followed under date of March 31, 1955:

"I was away in Florida and upon my return I find your letter of the 22nd. I shall be delighted to spend an hour with you on April 7th. I suggest that we meet at the Grand Central Terminal at about 9:30 P.M. I shall be waiting for you at the information desk in the middle of the main lobby. I will be wearing a light grey overcoat and a grey hat.* If this is agreeable to you, you do not have to write me again. I shall be waiting for you and we can drive over to Penn. Station together. . . .

Sincerely yours,

E. W. Flender"

Correspondence relating to our common interests continued thruout the first weeks of the New Year, 1955, but as yet there had been no meeting, no confrontation, only a sort of Blind Man's Buff, so to speak.

Trains from Schenectady April 7th were running late.

*I had not the slightest idea how many other strange men (to me) would be swarming about in the main lobby of the Grand Central Terminal wearing grey top coats and grey hats.

I was tired and weary, and my baggage heavy. The main lobby of the Grand Central Terminal seemed far from where I alighted. Finally I reached the main lobby, passed through the entrance gates and went directly to the elevated platform where lockers were provided for the convenience of passengers. After depositing my baggage, I moved to the front of this elevation and glanced down to try my luck at spotting the one man among the many who might be wearing a gray outfit. Few passengers remained in the lobby, but among these one in gray stood at the Information Desk.

Presently, a tall, handsome gentleman, in becoming gray, walked briskly to the passenger entrance and peered intently down the long flight of stairs; turned sharply and returned to the desk, and thumbed impatiently a train schedule folder. Stepping more briskly than before, he returned to the gate, peered down, but saw no one. "Now," I concluded, "it's time to advance."

"Is this Mr. Flanders," I stammered, timidly.

"No," he confided, smiling at my confusion. "My name is Flender."

"And mine is Huffman — C. H. Huffman — who promised to meet you here."

"We'll go at once and have dinner," he replied promptly, and led the way.

The two hours before my departure passed rapidly. The genial host, the good food, the informative, encouraging conversation — of special interest to me — assured me that I had been given the good fortune of intimate association with a gentleman of distinction. The details of two high lights lingered in my memory: 1) My host's expressed desire to visit the site where the Nassau-Siegen immigrants had first been settled in 1714 and to see the marker erected there to their memory in 1953; and 2) my offer to accompany him and assist in this objective.

Shortly after my return home, I wrote again offering my willingness to accompany him to the Germanna community at his convenience and pleasure. On May 17th he replied:

"I expect to be in Charlottesville about June 10. If I

can arrange it I shall telephone you to see whether you are free for a short visit."

On May 30, 1955, I received a very important letter, the pertinent parts of which are reproduced below.

May 30, 1955.

"Dear Mr. Huffman,

"The trip to Charlottesville is primarily made at the request of my wife. My son Dick, who is finishing his first year at Law School is leaving Davis Hall and has taken an apartment with 2 friends. My wife is anxious to see how he is living, and equally anxious to show my 16 years old daughter the many historical points of interest in and near Charlottesville.

"I am mentioning this to you because I would not have the time to avail myself of your very kind offer to take me to Germanna and Germantown. Your offer is indeed a most generous one and I appreciate it no end. I may never have the opportunity again of such pleasant and expert guidance.

"As we have to take a few things back to New York I shall be driving to Charlottesville in my station wagon, leaving New York on the 9th and arriving in Charlottesville in the early afternoon of the 10th. If agreeable to you I could drive up and see you in Harrisonburg in the late afternoon of the 10th or the 11th, or meet you any place you may determine.

"On my way to Charlottesville I had planned to take route 3 from Fredericksburg to Culpeper. Your map will show me the markers and the proposed picnic grounds, and I shall look around for any sign of old Germanna. On my way back to Washington I intend to go through Warrenton if route 29 will take me through the Germantown district. Your suggestions will be appreciated.

"When I was in Germany, recently, my brother

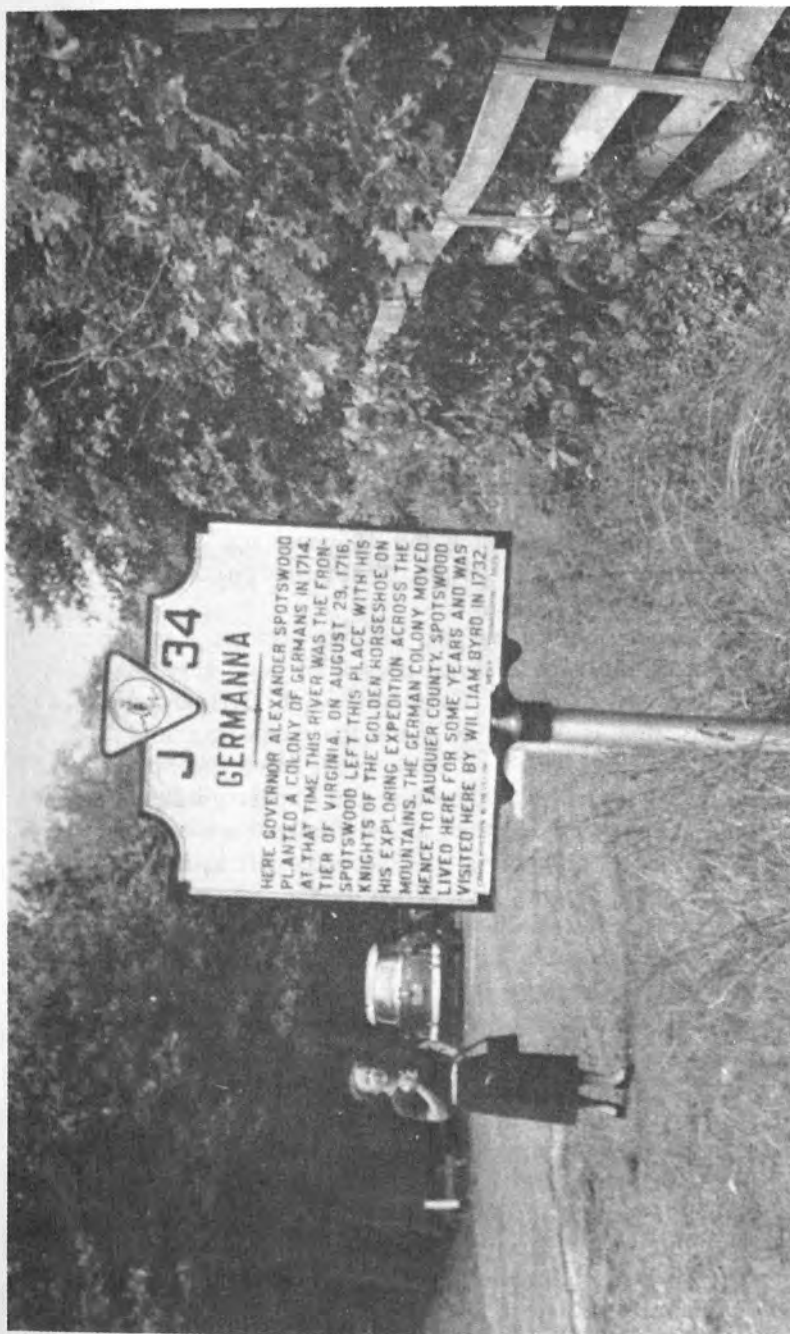


Photo by Mr. Ernst W. Flender, who, with Mrs. Flender visited Germanna in June, 1955, on their return trip from Charlottesville to their home in New York City. This was the first (and perhaps the only) time the family passed this way.

gave me a number of books and papers. The biographical details regarding Henry Haeger are all known. However, I am enclosing them, also a copy of Haeger's baptismal certificate and a copy of the wedding certificate of Haeger's father. You may have a place for these papers in your collection. Please notice the reference that "Haeger war der erste reformierte Pfarrer in Virginia". They should have gone a little further and make it "U. S. A."

"The books referred to deal with the history of Nassau-Siegen; being photostatic copies they are difficult reading.

"With best wishes, I remain,

"Cordially yours,

"Ernst Flender"

The Count-down

The week of June 5-11, 1955, in Virginia, was marred by continuous rainfall. Heavy, thick, gray fog hovered close to the land, and enveloped the Blue Ridge Mountains. In consequence, rather than have my host risk crossing over into the Valley, I traveled by public conveyance to Charlottesville. We arrived at the Monticello Hotel in the early afternoon at nearly the same hour. In mid-afternoon, son Richard having joined the family, we visited Monticello, home of Thomas Jefferson, and other scenic points of historical interest in the vicinity. Heavy rain continued, and dense fog continued to obscure the landscape. Our preference, therefore, of the in-doors was fixed. The four members of the Flender family were my guests to dinner in the Monticello Hotel.

After dinner, the family, guests of the hotel, retired. Mr. Flender and I repaired to the hotel lobby and discussed freely present and future prospects for Germanna development. No interest among descendants at this date was in evidence, and activity on the matter was static. Presently the climax of the evening's conversation was reached, and with it the new concept of the Germanna-Siegen story emerged.

"When I return home," he confided, "I shall send you a check for one thousand dollars (\$1,000), to be used as you have need. I suggest that you contact, respectively, holders of such original, Germanna real estate as is desirable for us, sound them out on the possibility of an option, with the view to purchase. Also, select the best attorney you know, inform him that the establishment of a Foundation to the memory of our 18th century immigrants from Nassau Siegen is being contemplated, and enquire concerning his willingness to direct the legal phases necessary to achieve this end."

The personal check for \$1,000 arrived in the mail June 21st. Without delay, I proceeded to carry out our benefactor's expressed wishes, and thus the first step leading to a permanent organization was taken. Two highly respected gentlemen, interested in the fascinating story of the German immigrants — Mr. J. B. Carpenter, Sr., of Culpeper, and Dr. John W. Wayland, of Harrisonburg, were informed and their counsel sought.

Efforts to secure an option on the Spotswood site, where the Governor's "Enchanted Mansion" and the stockade and blockhouse once stood, were unsuccessful. On January 3, 1956, holders of the deed to this real estate wrote: "We have decided not to sell at the present time." For subsequent negotiations concerning the acquisition of real estate, see page 30.

Meanwhile progress was being made on the matter of setting up the organization and of securing a charter. An attorney was engaged and his counsel sought. Broad outlines of our purpose and objectives were described. He then informed me of certain necessary steps to be taken. First, a temporary organization would be formed, consisting of at least five well-known and respected citizens of the community, whose names would be presented to the Court. If approved by the Court, the five would take oath to manage the affairs of the new organization for a period of one year. This directive was promptly complied with, and the first meeting, of a preliminary character, was called for January 7, 1956, to convene at Madison College. The following persons were present: Mr. T. W. Fishback, Mr. C. H. Huffman, Mr. B. L.

Stanley, Mr. Frank C. Switzer, and Mr. J. W. Wayland. Two gentlemen, not present, were recognized as much interested: Mr. J. B. Carpenter, of Culpeper, Virginia, and Mr. E. W. Flender, of New York City. Following general discussion, and exchange of ideas, a temporary organization was formed with C. H. Huffman, president, B. L. Stanley, secretary, and T. W. Fishback, treasurer. To the name of the organization first proposed, "The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies," Mr. Fishback proposed adding the phrase, "in Virginia." This was done, and the full name, "The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia," was unanimously approved. The first meeting adjourned about 5 o'clock, p.m. to convene again at the call of the President.

The next meeting of the organization was held January 21, 1956 for the purpose of giving attention to directives submitted by the State Corporation Commission in formulating our application for a charter, and for the purpose of discussing such other items as appeared pertinent. On February 8, 1956, the officers and trustees met in the law offices of attorney Aldhizer. With his advice and counsel we formulated and adopted the following Certificate of Incorporation of The Memorial Foundation, to be submitted to the State Corporation Commission, requesting issuance of a Charter.

The following Certificate of Application was approved by the trustees, February 8, 1956 and submitted to the Corporation Commission.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION
of
THE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION OF
THE GERMANNA COLONIES IN VIRGINIA,
INCORPORATED

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that we, the undersigned, do hereby associate ourselves to establish an association, not organized for profit, in which no capital stock is required or to be issued, under and by virtue of the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, for the purposes and under the cor-

porate name hereinafter mentioned, and we do, by this our Certificate of Incorporation, set forth as follows:

I. The name of the corporation is to be THE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION OF THE GERMANNA COLONIES IN VIRGINIA, INCORPORATED.

II. The name of the City wherein the principal office in this State is to be located is Harrisonburg, Virginia, and the post office address of the corporation is to be Post Office Box 786, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

III. The purposes for which the corporation is formed are as follows:

(1) To preserve and make known the history of the several Germanna Colonies, their operations under the patronage of Alexander Spotswood, his residence and activities at Germanna and in the surrounding area.

(2) To purchase, hold, and improve real estate; to publish bulletins and other printed matter relating to the field of interest and of a character to preserve and disseminate information for the general public, and to do any and all other acts which are necessary and proper to accomplish these purposes.

(3) To establish an endowment fund or funds for the acquisition, restoration, perpetuation, and maintenance of any real estate acquired by the corporation for its operating purposes.

IV. The affairs of the corporation shall be managed by a board of trustees, the maximum number of which shall be fifteen and the minimum number of which shall be five. the exact number thereof shall be determined annually at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Vacancies on the board of trustees shall be filled by the remaining members of the board of trustees if such vacancies should occur more than ninety days prior to the date of the annual meeting of said board of trustees. If such vacancies should occur within ninety days prior to the annual meeting of said board of trustees, then such vacancies shall be filled at the annual meeting of said Board of Trustees.

The entire voting power shall be vested in the trustees, who may take any lawful action for or on behalf of the cor-

poration which might be taken by members having such voting power or by stockholders and directors under any Section of Chapter 13 (Non-Stock Corporations) of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended.

V. The names and residences of the trustees who are to manage the affairs of the corporation during the first year of its existence are as follows:

TRUSTEE	RESIDENCE
T. W. Fishback	16 Grace Street Harrisonburg, Virginia
C. H. Huffman	271 Grattan Street Harrisonburg, Virginia
B. L. Stanley	56 Cantrell Avenue Harrisonburg, Virginia
Frank C. Switzer	311 Paul Street Harrisonburg, Virginia
John W. Wayland	53 Weaver Avenue Harrisonburg, Virginia
J. B. Carpenter, Sr.	801 S. East Street Culpeper, Virginia
E. W. Flender	333 E. 57th Street New York, New York

And the name, residence and post office address of the President of the corporation is: C. H. Huffman, 271 Grattan Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia; the name, residence and post office address of the Secretary of the corporation is: B. L. Stanley, 56 Cantrell Avenue, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

VI. The period for the duration of the corporation is unlimited.

VII. The amount of real estate to which the holdings of the corporation are at any time to be limited is one thousand (1,000) acres.

WITNESS the following signatures this 8th day of February, 1956.

/s/ T. W. Fishback
/s/ C. H. Huffman
/s/ B. L. Stanley
/s/ Frank C. Switzer
/s/ John W. Wayland

STATE OF VIRGINIA

COUNTY OF ROCKINGHAM, to-wit:

I, Gene Fahnestock, a notary public in and for the County aforesaid, in the State of Virginia, whose commission expires on the 2nd day of September, 1957, hereby certify that T. W. Fishback, C. H. Huffman, B. L. Stanley, Frank C. Switzer, and J. W. Wayland, whose names are signed to the foregoing writing bearing date on the 8th day of February, 1956, have this day personally appeared before me in my said County and acknowledged the same.

Given under my hand this 8th day of February, 1956.

/s/ Jean Fahnestock
Notary Public

**NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF CHARTER
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**

**Department of the
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
City of Richmond
March 14, 1956**

NOTICE OF ISSUING AND CERTIFICATION OF Charter of The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated to be recorded in the office of the State Corporation Commission and where necessary certified to the clerk of the proper court for recording in his office.

Papers covering the above specified application having been duly considered by the Commission, and being found that all requirements of the law have been complied with, the Commission has this day ordered the same to be admitted to record in this office.

Enclosed herewith you will find receipt of the State Corporation Commission for charter fee (if any required on this application), \$5.00 for costs in this office, and recording fee. Where necessary to be recorded by a court clerk, such clerk will receipt direct to you for his fee.

Your attention is called to blanks and circulars prepared by the Commission and enclosed herewith for the use of the corporation, as specified below in paragraphs against which is marked upon the margin the typewritten letter "X".

A blank for report pursuant to Sections 12-9, and 13-32 Code of Virginia, 1950, with the law printed upon the back of the blank, requiring same to be made to the Commission upon the organization of the corporation, and within thirty days after the time appointed for the election of officers and directors, annually thereafter. This report must be filed as soon as the corporation is organized, whether the officers or directors, as shown in the charter, are changed or not.

BY-LAWS

—of—

**THE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION OF THE
GERMANNA COLONIES IN VIRGINIA,
INCORPORATED**

ARTICLE I**Name**

This organization shall be known as the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated.
A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

ARTICLE II**Purpose and Objectives**

Note: To conserve space in printing, Article XI only, which follows, is given here. A booklet of 10 pages, CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS, is available, and may be had for the asking.

ARTICLE XI

Seal



The corporate seal of the Foundation shall consist of three concentric circles. In the first, or outer circle, shall be engraved the wording: **The Memorial Foundation of the Germainna Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated.** In the second circle shall be engraved: **Chartered March 14, 1956;** also the inscription in Latin, **"Sic Juvat Transcendere Montes."** In the third, or inner circle, shall be engraved a pentagon-shaped formation, symbolizing the five-sided stockade which protected the block-house in its center. In the very centre of the three concentric circles shall be engraved a horseshoe, symbolizing the gold memento which Governor Spotswood, it is said, gave to each of his associates upon their return to Germainna from their first trip over the Blue Ridge Mountains in 1716. This seal shall be affixed to required documents.

AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER OF INCORPORATION

Item 4 of the Minutes of the called meeting held in Attorney Geo. S. Aldhizer's office June 12, 1957, read:

"The President was instructed to file a tax exemption certificate with the Collector of Internal Revenue at Richmond, Virginia." (This directive was attended to with dispatch.)

Reply to the application alluded to above was received June 28, 1957, which read in part:

"This is to acknowledge receipt of your exemption application, Form 1023, and annual information return, Form 990-A.

"You are advised that the application has been forwarded to our National Office for consideration. In the event that additional information is required, you will be contacted by that office."

We were contacted by the National Office and informed that our Charter of Incorporation made no provision for the disposition of assets in the event of dissolution of the corporation, and that before further consideration could be given to our application it would be necessary to amend the Charter.

Accordingly, a special meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to meet at 2 o'clock, p.m. on March 31, 1958, at

the principal office of the corporation, Harrisonburg, Virginia, upon written waiver of notice of such meeting signed by all of the trustees of the corporation, with the following trustees present: C. H. Huffman, T. W. Fishback, John W. Wayland, Frank C. Switzer, and B. L. Stanley.

The meeting was called to order by C. H. Huffman, President, who acted as chairman of the meeting, and B. L. Stanley acted as Secretary thereof. (Quoted from the Minutes of March 31, 1958.)

"The Chairman announced that the meeting had been called for the purpose of considering an amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation (now called Articles of Incorporation) issued by the State Corporation Commission of Virginia, on March 14, 1956, so as to provide for the distribution of the assets of the corporation in event of dissolution of the corporation, since the original charter made no provision therefor. He stated that in his opinion it was advisable to provide, in the event of dissolution, that the assets arising from the sale thereof, should pass to the Literary Fund of the State of Virginia. He further stated that he had been advised by George S. Aldhizer, II, attorney for the corporation, that the Charter should be so amended. After full discussion of the matter, T. W. Fishback presented the following resolution, which was unanimously approved." (Here follows the legal document as prepared by the attorney for the corporation):

ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT

to the

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION OF THE GERMANNA COLONIES IN VIRGINIA, INCORPORATED.

WHEREAS, The Memorial Foundation of the Germainna Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated, a corporation not organized for profit, created under and by virtue of the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, desires to have its charter amended as hereinafter set forth.

NOW, THEREFORE, TO THAT END, I, C. H. Huffman, President of said corporation, attested by B. L. Stan-

ley, Secretary of the corporation, do hereby certify as follows:

(1) That on the 31st day of March, 1958, after due notice to all the members of the board of trustees of the corporation, there was duly held a meeting of said board of trustees, at which meeting five of the eight trustees were present, and at which meeting all the trustees present, being a majority of the trustees of the corporation, unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED that the Articles of Incorporation of The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated, issued by the State Corporation Commission of Virginia on March 14, 1956, be amended by the addition thereto of a new paragraph, to be numbered VIII, to read as follows:

"VIII. In the event of the dissolution or final liquidation of this corporation, the assets of the corporation shall be applied and distributed as follows:

"(a) All liabilities and obligations of the corporation shall be paid, satisfied and discharged, or adequate provision shall be made therefor.

"(b) Assets held by the corporation upon condition requiring return, transfer or conveyance, which condition occurs by reason of the dissolution, shall be returned, transferred or conveyed in accordance with such requirements.

"(c) All other assets received and held by the corporation, subject to limitations permitting their use only for charitable, religious, eleemosynary, benevolent, educational or similar purposes, but not held upon a condition requiring return, transfer or conveyance by reason of the dissolution, shall be distributed, or the net proceeds arising from the sale thereof shall be paid, unto the Literary Fund of the State of Virginia."

(2) That there are no members of said corporation having voting rights, and as stated above, said resolution to amend the Articles of Incorporation of the corporation was unanimously adopted by five of the eight trustees of the

corporation, being a majority of the trustees of the corporation.

THEREFORE, this certificate is now signed by C. H. Huffman, President of the corporation aforesaid, attested by B. L. Stanley, its Secretary, this 10th day of April, 1958.

THE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION OF THE
GERMANNA COLONIES IN VIRGINIA,
INCORPORATED

By

President

ATTEST:

.....
Secretary

STATE OF VIRGINIA,
COUNTY OF ROCKINGHAM, to-wit:

I, Gene F. Rohart, a notary public in and for the County aforesaid, in the State of Virginia, whose commission expires on the 30th day of July, 1961, hereby certify that C. H. Huffman, who, being by me first duly sworn, has this day personally appeared before me in my said County and declared that he is the President of The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated, that he signed the foregoing document as President of the corporation, and that the statements therein contained are true.

Given under my hand this 10th day of April, 1958.

.....
Notary Public

The proposed amendment to the Charter of Incorporation was approved, and the matter of Federal Tax Exemption closed.

U. S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT
Internal Revenue Service
Washington 25, D. C.

The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna
Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated
Post Office Box 786
Harrisonburg, Virginia

Aug. 14, 1958

Gentlemen:

It is the opinion of this office, based upon the evidence presented, that you are exempt from Federal income tax as an organization described in section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as it is shown that you are organized and operated exclusively for educational purposes.

Accordingly, you are not required to file income tax returns unless you change the character of your organization, the purposes for which you were organized, or your method of operation. Any such changes should be reported immediately to the District Director of Internal Revenue for your district in order that their effect upon your exempt status may be determined.

You are required, however, to file an information return, Form 990A, annually, with the District Director of Internal Revenue for your district so long as this exemption remains in effect. This form may be obtained from the District Director and is required to be filed on or before the fifteenth day of the fifth month following the close of your annual accounting period.

Contributions made to you are deductible by the donors in computing their taxable income in the manner and to the extent provided by section 170 of the 1954 Code.

Bequests, legacies, devises or transfers to or for your use are deductible in computing the value of the taxable estate of a decedent for Federal estate tax purposes in the manner and to the extent provided by sections 2055 and 2106 of the 1954 Code. Gifts of property to or for your use are deductible in computing taxable gifts for Federal gift tax purposes in the manner and to the extent provided by section 2522 of the 1954 Code.

No liability is incurred by you for the taxes imposed under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) unless you have filed a waiver of exemption certificate in accordance with the applicable provisions of such Act. In the event you desire social security coverage for your employees or have any questions relating to the filing of a waiver of exemption certificate you should take the matter up with your District Director of Internal Revenue.

Your attention is called to the provisions of section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 under which your exemption will be revoked if any substantial part of your activities consists of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, or if you participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Any reference herein to a provision of the 1954 Code shall be deemed a reference to the corresponding provision of the 1939 Code.

The District Director of Internal Revenue for your district is being advised of this action.

Very truly yours,
s/ J. F. Wodey
Chief, Exempt Organizations Branch
IRS—D. C.

EXEMPTION FROM VIRGINIA STATE TAX ASSESSMENTS

At the Executive Committee meeting held September 30, 1958, the President of the corporation announced his belief that the Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated, was entitled to exemption from tax assessments, State and Local, by the State of Virginia, and would proceed with application for this relief. At the annual meeting of the Trustees held at Culpeper, November 4, 1958, the President reported that he had been unsuccessful in this matter, and that further endeavor would be necessary.

The State Tax Commissioner, in reply to our enquiry, informed us that exemption privileges are granted in the Virginia Commonwealth **only** by authorization of the Virginia General Assembly. Our attorney, State Senator Aldhizer, therefore, was consulted for counsel and advice. He assured us he would be glad to attend to the matter. On January 24, 1962, the President of the corporation wrote the Senator: "I trust our request for tax exemption will not be missed among the many bills that are before the Legislature for consideration, and I hope, too, ours will receive favorable action." In reply, the Senator wrote, February 5, 1962:

"Dear Dr. Huffman:

"Enclosed herewith is printed Senate Bill No. 147 in connection with The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated, which was reported out of the Committee on Finance unanimously on Friday, and which I hope will shortly be enacted into law.

"Sincerely yours,

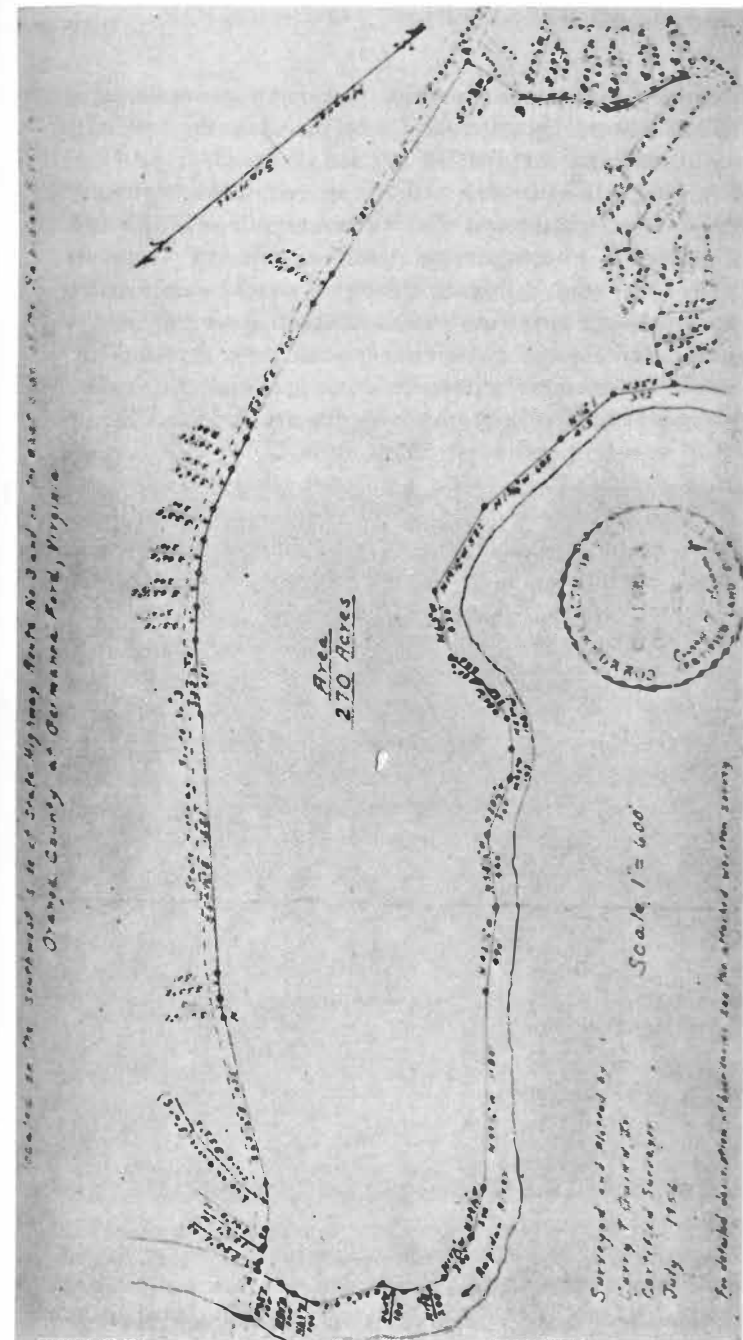
"George S. Aldhizer, II"

In February, 1962, The General Assembly of Virginia, in regular session, declared the Germanna Memorial Foundation exempt from tax assessments, State and Local. In August, 1958, the U. S. Treasury Department gave notice of Federal Tax Exemption.

The corporation, therefore, is exempt from tax assessments, Federal, State and Local.

SIEGEN FOREST

In our ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION we announced as one of our **purposes**: "To purchase, hold and improve real estate." Our first acquisition of property was the 270-acre stretch of densely wooded land, a portion of the original Germanna tract, which lies in the northeast corner of Orange County, Virginia, and within the horseshoe bend



Map of the Official Survey of the 270-acre area — that portion of the original Germanna tract now owned by the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies, Incorporated. The Survey and Map by Curry T. Guinn, Jr., Certified Surveyor, July, 1956. For the detailed description of the boundaries and the deed to the real estate see Deed Book, No. 172, at page 276, Orange County Court House, Virginia.

of the Rapidan River. Ownership, free from encumbrance, of the valuable real estate was made possible through the generosity of one of the trustees. (See pages 34-35). It is bordered on the north for one mile or more by the highway, Va. Route 3 (now christened The Germanna Highway) and on the south for a comparable distance by the Rapidan River. The splendid concrete bridge, which carries the Germanna Highway over the Rapidan River, is at the north-east corner. Remains of old chimneys and an old cemetery remind one that former generations have passed this way. Well-preserved trenches and cannon pits are mute evidence



This granite shaft, honoring the memory of the second Germanna colony (1717) was unveiled during the Reunion, July 16, 1961. It was donated by Mr. J. Carlton Clore in honor of his parents, Mr. & Mrs. James Cleveland Clore, of Madison, Virginia. Reading left to right are Mr. James Cleveland Clore; Master James Carlton Clore, who unveiled the marker; Mr. J. Carlton Clore, donor; and Miss Ann Victoria Clore.

that Germanna Ford and environs had been accustomed to marching armies, earlier for forces of the Revolution, later for Yankee and Rebel — truly an opportune gateway to Yorktown and to the Wilderness and Appomattox. The Board of Trustees approved the name and christened the area "Siegen Forest", for the city Siegen in Germany, whence many of the 1714 immigrants came.

Improvements got under way promptly. Heavy machinery was used where necessary to open roads to distant points. A large plot of several acres, cleared of trees and other obstructions, was trimmed, groomed, and sodded. Lob-lolly seedlings, 2,500 of them, were set, and now form a rich green backdrop for the plaza.

Travelers going either east or west over the Germanna Highway are greeted by several distinctive markers. One



This shaft honoring the 1714 immigrants, erected temporarily on Route 3, was relocated at private expense at this permanent site in Siegen Forest.

of these is the attractive picture-frame, constructed of deep-red heart of native Siegen Forest cedar. The two sturdy uprights support a metal tablet, suspended between them from the cross-tie, that tells the Germanna story. Recessed slightly from the highway is the open, five-sided structure, with concrete base, and composition roof which is up-held by six, rough-hewn, Siegen Forest posts — the whole designed symbolically to call to mind the original blockhouse that stood in the center of the fort for a protection against Indian attacks. On either side of this symbol and facing each other, stand the sentinals, two granite markers which bear, respectively, the etched names of the 1714 and 1717 pioneer settlers. A few yards south, in the fringe of the Forest, overlooking the Rapidan, is the picnic area, equipped with stationary speaker's platform, tables, and other facilities. Here descendants and guests, representing many states of the Union, assemble annually for their Reunion.

PERTINENT DETAILS OF PURCHASE

Copied from the Minutes of the Special Meeting
of the Trustees Held June 12, 1956

"In response to a call of the President, Dr. C. H. Huffman, the Directors of the Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc. met at 2:30 p.m. in Attorney Aldhizer's office, Harrisonburg, Virginia, for the purpose of disposing of certain items of business pertinent to the Foundation. The following Trustees were present:

Dr. C. H. Huffman, Mr. E. W. Flender, Mr. T. W. Fishback, Mr. J. B. Carpenter, Sr., Mr. B. L. Stanley, and Dr. John W. Wayland.

"On motion, the minutes of the preceding meeting was dispensed with. The President (Chairman) announced a quorum present, and ready to proceed with items of new business, which were disposed of as follows:

"1. Mr. E. W. Flender moved that a certain tract of land in Orange county, known as the Myers Tract, be purchased immediately at the price offered, namely \$10,000, provided that a general warranty deed could be given. The motion was seconded by Mr. T. W. Fishback, and passed unanimously.

"2. Dr. J. W. Wayland moved that the Trustees accept, for the Foundation, the very generous gift-offer of Mr. E. W. Flender, Trustee, to give to the Foundation a certificate of one hundred shares (100) of oil stock, each share having a market value of approximately \$160.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. T. W. Fishback, and passed without debate.

"3. The Secretary, Mr. B. L. Stanley, was instructed to write the name of Dr. C. H. Huffman (President) in the certificate, who would then deposit the cash realized from the sale of the one hundred shares of the oil stock to the credit of the Foundation. The Treasurer, Mr. T. W. Fishback, was instructed to invest a portion of the remainder of the money, after the purchase price of the Myers property had been paid, at 2½%. A sufficient amount should be retained for current expenses.

"4. The President was instructed to file a tax exemption certificate with the Collector of Internal Revenue, Richmond, Virginia.

"5. A request by Mr. Fishback, Treasurer, to fix bond for him was not granted, the Directors seeing no need for such action.

"The meeting adjourned at 5 o'clock." C. H. Huffman, Pres., B. L. Stanley, Secy."

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE FIRST ANNUAL STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS
AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE ORGANIZATION,
MADE AT THE END OF THE FIRST FISCAL YEAR
OF OPERATIONS, MARCH, 1957, FOLLOWS.

A comparable report of operations has been made annually

at the close of each fiscal year. Members of the Board of Trustees are provided with copies for their information.

The Memorial Foundation of the
Germanna Colonies in Virginia Inc.
Harrisonburg, Virginia

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to your instructions we have made an examination of the cash records as kept by your treasurer, Mr. T. W. Fishback and hereby submit our report thereon, consisting of a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of March 31, 1957 and a Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1957. These statements are attached herewith.

The cash in Bank was verified both by confirmation from the depository and from the bank statement on file. The inventory of books was valued at cost as furnished to us by Mr. C. H. Huffman. The fixed assets were valued at cost, and we read the deed to the property which is situated in Orange County, Virginia. The Account Payable is a balance due the printer of a book being published by you, and we have been informed that there are no other liabilities.

Respectfully submitted,
S. B. HOOVER AND COMPANY
By S. B. Hoover
Certified Public Accountant
(State of Virginia)

THE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION OF THE
GERMANNA COLONIES IN VIRGINIA INC.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
MARCH 31, 1957

A S S E T S	
Cash in Bank—Checking Account	\$ 663.37
—Savings Account	5,052.08
Inventory of Books	1,863.00
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$ 7,578.45

FIXED ASSETS:

Land	\$10,409.00	
Roadway and Improvements	198.67	10,607.67

OTHER ASSETS:

Organization Expense	226.25	
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TOTAL ASSETS **\$18,412.37**

LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS
LIABILITIES:

Account Payable—On Printing Book	\$ 1,000.00	
SURPLUS—OR NET WORTH:	17,412.37	

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS \$18,412.37

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1957

RECEIPTS:

Contributions	\$17,200.00	
Membership Dues—		
Yearly	\$ 235.00	
Life	700.00	935.00

Interest On Savings Account	52.08	
Loan	10,000.00	

TOTAL RECEIPTS **\$28,187.08**

LESS — DISBURSEMENTS:

Travel Expenses	\$ 228.59	
Books and Supplies	1,365.58	
Repayment of Loan	10,000.00	
Repairs To Well	30.00	
Taxes	13.54	

Capital Expenditures:

270 Acres Land	\$10,000.00	
Legal and		
Recording Fees ...	199.00	
Surveying	210.00	
Improvements and		
Roadway	198.67	10,607.67
Organization Expense	226.25	

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 22,471.63

BALANCE MARCH 31, 1957 \$ 5,715.45

ACCOUNTED FOR AS FOLLOWS:

Cash In The National Bank—	
Checking Account	\$ 663.37
Savings Account	5,052.08
TOTAL	\$ 5,715.45

THE GERMANNA LIBRARY

Publications: Auspices of the Germanna
Memorial Foundation

Genealogy, History, Biography Pertaining to the Original Settlers of the German Colonies in Virginia, 1714, 1717, and Subsequently, and to their descendants. Note: Ten copies of each of the following are reserved in the Library.

The **Germanna Record**, founded in 1960, is the official publication of "The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated." Dr. Charles Herbert Huffman, Editor.

Germanna Record, No. 1

Family records of three of the immigrants to Germanna in 1714: Peter Hitt, John Joseph Martin, and Tillman Weaver. By B. C. Holtzclaw.

Germanna Record, No. 2

Germantown Revived. The history and genealogical wealth of Germantown from its founding about 1720 to its partial dissolu-



Descendants search for information pertaining to their family history, and are frequently amazed at the wealth of genealogical data made available to them in our publications. Our memorial volume, "The Ancestry and Descendants of the Nassau-Siegen Immigrants to Virginia," a book of 583 pages, has been described as "definitive in its field."

tion fifty years later. Reproduction of the original Hooper and Barbour surveys and the official patent document of 1724. Index of the pioneer families and later arrivals. By W. B. Hackley and B. C. Holtzclaw.

Germanna Record, No. 3

John Hoffman - 1714 Germanna Colonist. Extensive records of the pioneer's descendants. By B. C. Holtzclaw.

Germanna Record, No. 4

John Jacob Rector - 1714 Colonist. Extensive records of the immigrant's descendants. By B. C. Holtzclaw.

Germanna Record, No. 5. Memorial Volume. "Definitive in its field."

Ancestry and Descendants of the Nassau-Siegen Immigrants to Virginia, 1714 to 1750. 583 pages. By B. C. Holtzclaw.

Germanna Record, No. 6

Second Germanna Colony of 1717. Records of the first two or three generations of the 1717 pioneer families who settled first at or near Germanna on the Rapidan. Subsequently, about 1726, on the Robinson River. Data on a total of 128 families. Also a map of the first patents of land in Madison County, Virginia, prepared by Prof. D. R. Carpenter. By B. C. Holtzclaw.

Germanna Record, No. 7

Germanna Descendants in Reunion. Annual

Current scenes. Historical and genealogical contributions. Pertinent information. Ten issues bound together. One set reserved in the Germanna Library. C. H. Huffman—Editor.

History and Biography

Germanna Record, No. 8

Germanna: Outpost of Adventure, 1714-1956

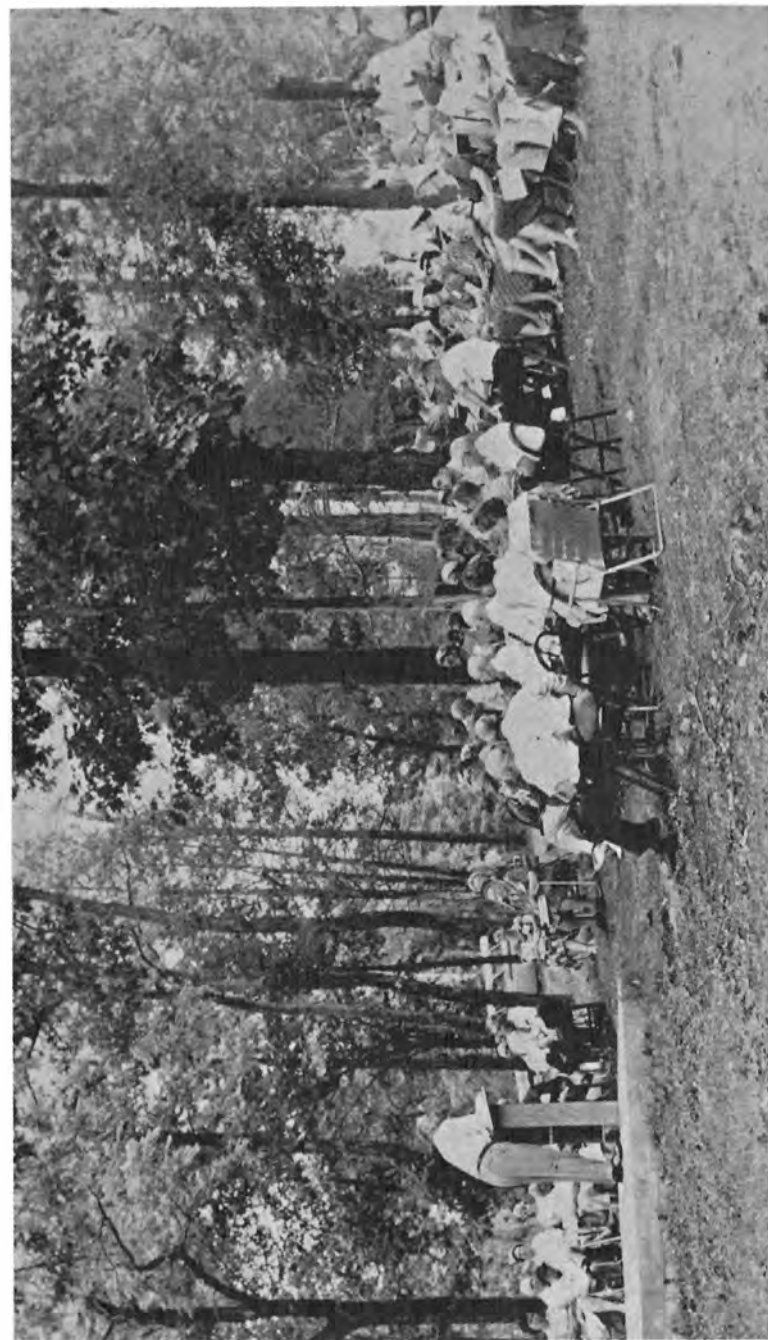
Thirteen families from Siegen, Germany, 1714; twenty from the Palatinate, 1717. Spotswood, the Patron. Fontaine, the Chronicler. Knights of the Golden Horseshoe. Indexed. Illustrated. Bibliography. By J. W. Wayland and C. H. Huffman.

Germanna Record, No. 9

History of the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated. The First Decade—1956-1966. Part I. Origin, Development, Objectives. Part II. Antecedent Episodes—1927, 1934, 1953. Illustrated. By C. H. Huffman.

Germanna Record, No. 2

Germantown Revived. The historical wealth of Germantown on Licking Run, from its founding about 1720 to 1750. By W. B. Hackley and B. C. Holtzclaw.



The large, attentive audience listens to Dr. B. C. Holtzclaw, author, as he describes the comprehensive Memorial Volume, "Ancestry and Descendants of the Nassau-Siegen Immigrants to Virginia, 1714-1750," and presents to the Germanna Library the first copy for reference.

In addition to the preceding list of books published by the Foundation, the Germanna Library holds, from widely scattered sources, a large collection of important data, some printed, that disclose the genealogical wealth of information already at hand, and much more yet to be gathered. Some compilations, although relatively complete, are restricted in scope; others incomplete are being expanded. All are valuable additions to the ever increasing volume of data that relate to the German immigrants and to their descendants.

Achenbach Sohne: Festcrift aus Anlass der Grundung des Buschhuttet Eisenhammers vur 500 Jahren: 1452-1592. Ein Beitrag zur Industriegeschichte des Siegerlandes. Achenbach Sohne Buschhuttten Kreis Siegen. 240 pages, handsomely bound. Siegen

Anderson, James Scott: Ancestors of James Scott Good. Presented by James J. Anderson. Chart. Kansas

Bayles & Blumm: The Rudolph Family of Virginia. By Mrs. Willetta Baylis and Dr. William Blum. W. Virginia

Bottger, Hermann: Frederick Flender - Ein Kampfer. Fur Recht und Freiheit des Siegerlander Folks. By Hermann Bottger. Presented by Reinold Schleifenbaum. Siegen

Boyd, Laffitte Montague: Broyles, Laffitte, and Boyd Families. Collected and Edited by Laffitte M. Boyd. Georgia

Britton, Mrs. Alexander M.: The Maiden Family History, Chart. By Mrs. Alexander M. Britton, Historian. Washington

Byrd, Hon. Harry F.: The Germanna Shrine: Great Beacon of Horseshoe Bend. Anniversary Address, Germanna,

1964. Story of Germanna Descendants in Reunion, Annual, 1964. Virginia

Carpenter, Prof. D. R.: 1) The Route Followed by Gov. Spotswood in 1716. Map and Description. Published in The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, Vol. 73, No. 4. Virginia
2) Map of First Patents of Land in Madison County.

Church, Randolph W.: Tidewater to Shenandoah Valley. Maps, Pictures, Description. Published in Virginia Cavalcade, Winter, 1951. Virginia

Cockrell, Maj. Henry B.: Peter Hitt of Germanna and Ger-



Registration and the sale of Germanna books are always important items of business to be recorded for the permanent files following Reunions.

mantown. Extensive collections by Major Henry B. Cockrell. Virginia

Crigler, Arthur D.: 1) Photostat Copies of the Civil Suit: Spotswood vs. Crigler. Virginia State Library.
2) The Crigler Genealogy.
3) Stammfolge Krieglcr aus Schlesiern.
Presented to the Foundation by Arthur D. Crigler. Alabama

Davidson, D. N.: Bi-Centennial Celebration of Orange County, Virginia, 1934. Official Program Outline. By D. N. Davidson. Virginia

Dixon, Margaret, and Vann, Elizabeth:
1) Brumback-Hotsenpillar Genealogy.
2) Virginia's First German Colony.
By Margaret Denny Dixon and Elizabeth Denny Vann. Virginia

Eckert, Helen. 1) The Rector Family of Pickaway County, Ohio. "The Push to the West."
2) Early Settlers in the Deepcreek Township.
By Helen Eckert, Columbus, Ohio. Ohio

Fickeler, Dr. Paul. Ein Beitrag Zur Industriegeschichte Sugerlandes. Presented by Ernst W. Flender. New York

Flender. 1) Geschichte Der Familie Flender,
2) Bearbuten von Emil Flender, Vol. I. and II.
Presented by Ernst W. Flender. New York

Flender, Ernst W. Ein Echo aus Amerika, pages 16-18 in "Unser Werk," August, 1955. Written after the author's visit to Germanna, June, 1955. New York

Glenn, Mrs. Fay E. Churches of Lancaster and Garrard County, Kentucky. Presented to the Foundation.
The Kemper Line Through 18 Generations.

Highlights of the Germanna Story. Address, illustrated with 26 slides. For the Henry Champion Chapter, Daughters of the American Colonists. Kansas

Gordon, Armistead C.: Address before the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Virginia, September 5, 1921, at Swift Run Gap in the Blue Ridge Mountains, on Governor Spotswood and the Knights of the Golden Horse-shoe. Virginia

Grayson, Jennie Thornley. Germanna: A Novel
By Jennie Thornley Grayson. Virginia

Green, James W.: Orange Courthouse, 1861-1865. Historical Introduction. By James W. Green. Virginia

Grose, George Richmond: Edward Rector.
Presented by John K. Gott. Virginia

Heinonen, Bernice (Rector): Pedigree Chart.
By Mrs. Bernice Lorene (Rector) Heinonen. Oregon

Hinke, William J.: The First German Reformed Colony in Virginia: 1714-1750. Published in the Journal of the Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, 1903, Vol. II. By William J. Hinke. Pennsylvania

Hitt, Daniel Webster: Peter R. Hitt. Biographical and Genealogical. Presented by Daniel Webster Hitt. Texas

Holtzclaw, Benjamin C.: 1) Genealogy of the Holtzclaw Family, 1540-1935.

2) Contribution of the Germanna Descendants to the Baptist Denomination. Published in "The Virginia Baptist Register," No. 4, 1965. Dr. Woodford B. Hackley, Editor.

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New Mexico

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2) Weichersbach, Germany, village of Nicholas Yager's birth and youth.

3) Six photographs (enlarged) of the contemporary Weichersbach by the descendant, then in U. S. Uniform, 1945.

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- 1) John Hoffman of Germanna and Some of His Descendants.
- 2) Contender for Orange County as Location of First German Settlement.
- 3) Sundry Items Regarding the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies.
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OFFICIAL PETITION TO THE STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

To the Honorable,
The State Highway Commission
of the Commonwealth of Virginia

Gentlemen:

Whereas many of the highways of the Commonwealth bear names which have appropriately been given them in recognition of eminent citizens and localities celebrated in history, and

Whereas State Route No. 3 between Culpeper and Fredericksburg runs through Germanna, a locality rich in historic associations, as set forth in detail below, and

Whereas an old road traveled over by Col. William Byrd going to Germanna in 1732, to visit Ex-Governor Spotswood, was then known and mentioned by Col. Byrd as the "Germanna Road," part of which at least must have coincided with the present Route 3 between Fredericksburg and Germanna,

We hereby respectfully petition your honorable body to designate the said Route No. 3 between Culpeper and Fredericksburg as the GERMANNA HIGHWAY.

And we submit herewith the following items pertaining to Germanna in evidence of its outstanding place in the history and literature of Virginia from early Colonial times to the present.

1. In 1714 the first settlement was made here by a colony of skilled ironworkers from Nassau-Siegen under the patronage of Governor Alexander Spotswood, and at that time the locality was named Germanna. Ever since that time it has been so named and known.

2. Germanna, fitted as an outpost of defense on the frontier of Virginia, was the first settlement of white people in what is now Orange County.

3. The Germanna colony of 1714, a congregation of German Reformed Protestants, with Rev. John Henry Haeger

as their pastor, were the first organized congregation of the German Reformed denomination in America.

4. In 1716 Governor Spotswood assembled at Germanna gentlemen associates, rangers, pioneers, and guides for his celebrated expedition over the Blue Ridge. Following the successful enterprise, the company returned to Germanna and there disbanded. Spotswood's gift of a small gem-studded gold horseshoe to each of his gentlemen companions served to make them known as the "Knights of the Golden Horseshoe."

5. Near Germanna, in or about 1716, Spotswood established a well-equipped iron furnace, thus winning the title, "The Tubal Cain of Virginia." This important enterprise was made possible by the experienced ironworkers from Nassau-Siegen, settled at Germanna in 1714. In 1717 and subsequently other German immigrants settled at and near Germanna and participated in the local industries.

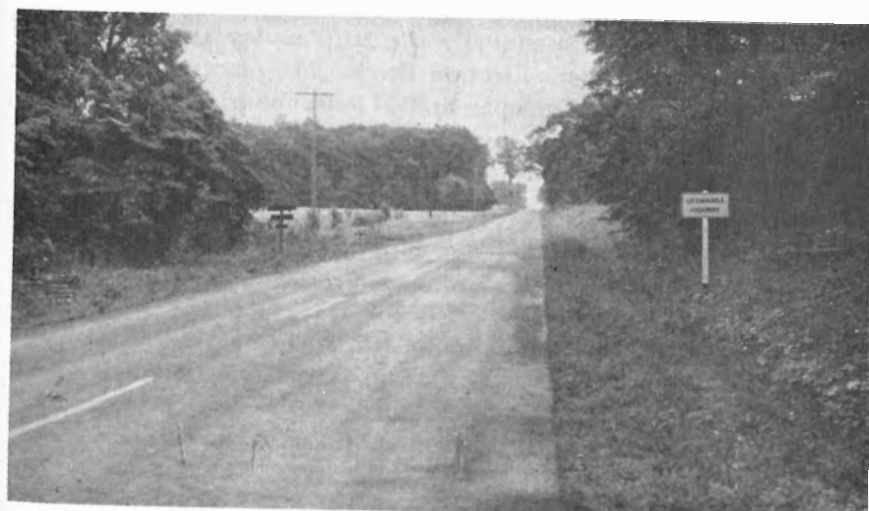
6. In 1720, when Spotsylvania County was laid out, Germanna was within its borders and was made its county-seat, so continuing for ten years until the courts were moved to Fredericksburg.

7. When Spotswood retired from the governorship he made his home at Germanna. Here he was visited in 1732 by Col. William Byrd who wrote an extended account of Spotswood's iron works. This account is included in Colonel Byrd's interesting book entitled, "A Progress to the Mines." In this book Colonel Byrd speaks of passing over the "Germanna Road" on his way to Germanna.

8. The ford of the Rapidan River at Germanna has long been celebrated. It was used by the Indians. In 1726 the General Assembly established a ferry here. During the Civil War this crossing was a strategic point and was much used by both Confederates and Federals. Part of Hooker's army crossed here preceding the battle of Chancellorsville. In the autumn of 1863 General Lee's army crossed here to take up its position along the southern side of the Rapidan. Meade's army crossed here preceding and following the battle of Mine Run. In the spring of 1864 Grant and Meade came over by Germanna Ford and Ferry immediately preceding the battle



By authority of the State Highway Commission, Virginia Route 3 between Culpeper and Fredericksburg is designated the **GERMANNA HIGHWAY**. The beautiful pastoral scene above, the Culpeper area, is near the junction of Germanna Highway with U. S. Route 29 which links Danville, Lynchburg, Charlottesville, Culpeper, Warrenton, and Washington. The lovely sylvan scene below, the Germanna area, is near the Wilderness where Route 20 connects from Orange. Extending eastward, Germanna Highway joins U. S. Route 1 at Fredericksburg which links Richmond and other strategic points south; and Alexandria, Washington, and other central points north.



of the Wilderness. Germanna is really on the edge of the Wilderness battlefield. Route No. 3 now crosses the Rapidan just above the old ford on a steel and concrete bridge.

9. On the south side of the river at Germanna are well-preserved infantry trenches and cannon pits remaining from the Civil War.

10. Years ago the State Department of Conservation and Development erected beside the highway two large metal tablets giving historical information. More recently the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc., a non-profit organization that owns unencumbered 270 acres of the Germanna tract, has erected a granite monument and other markers giving pertinent information to visitors and tourists. This organization is engaged in making the Civil War trenches and cannon pits easily accessible and in publishing books and periodicals of interest to the public, revealing Germanna's significant role in the history and literature of Virginia.

Respectfully submitted by the Board of Trustees of the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Inc., Harrisonburg, Virginia

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board meets annually the 1st Tuesday after the 1st Monday in November (Election Day). The place of meeting alternates between Culpeper and Harrisonburg, Virginia.

(Officially approved. Named in the Charter, March, 1956)

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Trammel W. Fishback, Treasurer
Border L. Stanley, Secretary

J. B. Carpenter, Sr. Culpeper, Virginia
T. W. Fishback Harrisonburg, Virginia
E. W. Flender New York City

C. H. Huffman Harrisonburg, Virginia
*B. L. Stanley Harrisonburg, Virginia
F. C. Switzer Harrisonburg, Virginia
**J. W. Wayland Harrisonburg, Virginia

*Deceased, June, 1965.

**Deceased, January, 1962.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(The Board of Directors as Constituted, November, 1966)

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Popular merchant. Co-owner and manager of the Central Hardware Company, Inc., Culpeper. Extensive and successful business promoter for more than a half century. Leader in business and civic affairs.

T. W. Fishback Harrisonburg, Virginia
Successful business career. Successful banker, rising to the responsible position of Executive V-President of the National Valley Bank, Harrisonburg. Realtor. Active and popular in civic and community matters.

E. W. Flender New York City
Native of Siegen, Germany. Came to America in the early years of the century. Successful business career. Investment banker. For many years officially associated with C. B. Richard & Company, 50 Broadway, New York City.

B. C. Holtzclaw Richmond, Virginia
Elected to the Board, November 6, 1956. Scholar, author, educator, genealogist. Popular Professor of Philosophy, University of Richmond, Administrator.

- C. H. Huffman Harrisonburg, Virginia
 Author. Professor of English, Head of the Department,
 Director of the Division of the Humanities, Madison
 College, Harrisonburg. Active in educational and cul-
 tural circles.
- J. E. Martin Lignum, Virginia
 Elected to the Board, November 8, 1960. Successful
 business career. Manager, Edgar Payne Martin Lumber
 Company, Lignum. Currently co-owner and manager
 of the K and M Lumber Company, Lignum, Virginia.
- Wm. H. Martin Culpeper, Virginia
 Elected November 5, 1957. Popular and efficient leader
 in the business and social interests of the community.
 Highly respected. Insurance adjuster.
- H. M. Pearson Remington, Virginia
 Elected November 2, 1965. Highly respected member
 of the Fauquier County School Board. Director of In-
 struction. Popular leadership among patriotic and his-
 torical societies.
- F. C. Switzer Harrisonburg, Virginia
 Efficient Mayor of the City of Harrisonburg, serving
 successive terms in office. Successful business career.
 Director, Harrisonburg Telephone Company. Highly
 respected and popular in the community.
- C. A. Utz Gordonsville, Virginia
 Elected November 2, 1962. Efficient public official. Sev-
 eral terms on the Orange County Board of Supervisors.
 Successful merchant. Community leader.

THE PIONEERS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS

Family names in the first colony of 1714 from Nassau-Siegen were: Brumback, Fishback, Haeger, Hitt, Hoffman, Holtzclaw, Kemper, Koontz (or Coons), Martin, Rector, Spillman, and Weaver. In the second colony of 1717 from Alsace, the Palatinate, and other districts, were: Auberge, Ballenger, Blankenbaker, Broil, Carpenter, Clore, Cobbler, Cook, Crigler, Fleshman, Holt, Kaffer, Mayer, Pavler (or Parlur), Paulitz, Sheible, Smith, Snyder, Turner, and Utz.

Descendants of these Germanna colonists, and other persons interested in American history, are eligible to apply for membership in the Germanna Memorial Foundation.

The several classes of members are:

ANNUAL MEMBERS. 1. Individuals: Those who pay dues annually of Five Dollars. 2. Families (husband, wife, and children under 21): Those who pay dues annually of Eight Dollars.

LIFE MEMBERS. Those who make a contribution of One Hundred Dollars, or more.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS. Those firms, associations, or corporations which make a substantial contribution to the Corporation.

Approximately 600 applications for membership have been received. Thirty-six states of the Union are represented in the membership.

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*Please forward your zip code number at your earliest convenience.—President



Thirty-five affiliates of the DAR were present for the reunion in Siegen Forest, Sunday, July 19, 1964, the special occasion being the 250th anniversary of the Nassau-Siegen immigrants' arrival at Germanna, April, 1714. The president of the Foundation warmly welcomed the distinguished guests, whose presence, he asserted, served to make all of us keenly aware and deeply grateful that scores of Germanna descendants of the Germanna-Germantown pioneers rendered loyal, effective service throughout the American Revolution. See the 1963 Annual for a partial list of our Revolutionary patriots. See the 1964 Annual for the list of DAR's present for this anniversary occasion. In the photograph, right to left, are: Mrs. Robert B. Smith, State Regent, Daughters of the American Revolution. Mrs. Robert V. H. Duncan of Alexandria, President General, National Society, DAR. Senator Harry F. Byrd, Advisory Board, DAR, 1962-1965. Mrs. Robert F. Estes, Regent, Golden Horseshoe Chapter, DAR, Orange, Virginia. Dr. Charles H. Huffman, President of the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies, Incorporated. The above photograph and a brief historical sketch was published in the DAR MAGAZINE, page 719, issue of August-September, 1964.

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One special feature of the Reunion are the Exhibits — displays of scenes, artifacts, and curios — that make vivid the story of Homeland in America and of the Fatherland in Europe. It is gratifying that young people, looking to the future of the Germanna Foundation, find these vivid reminders informative and interesting.

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SIEGEN FOREST



The Corporation owns 270 acres, "Siegen Forest", of the original Germanna Tract. The acquisition of this property was made possible by the generosity of one of the trustees of the Foundation.

By authority of the Virginia State Highway Commission, issued March 26, 1959, Virginia Route 3 from Culpeper to Fredericksburg has been designated GERMANNA HIGHWAY. This highway borders Siegen Forest and traverses the area where the first colony of 1714 was settled by Governor Spotswood.

MR. ERNST W. FLENDER

Mr. Flender was born in Siegen, Germany, in 1888. After completing his studies in Germany, Switzerland, France, and England, Mr. Flender came to New York in 1915, and shortly thereafter founded the Argentine Trading Co., which devoted itself to export to South America.

Following World War I, Mr. Flender accepted a responsible position with the private banking firm of C. B. Richards and Co., of New York City, rising rapidly to general manager of the firm in 1923, and to managing partner in 1925. Gradually liquidating most of the banking divisions, he then built up the investment division and Stock Exchange business. In 1956 he became a limited partner, and in 1964 went into full retirement.

Mr. Flender's family consists of his wife, Mrs. Emily Gallagher Flender, whom he married in 1928, and three children—two sons, and a daughter, now Mrs. Robert W. Webber.

Mr. Flender's close association with our Germanna story has been of inestimable value. His genuine interest accounts, in large measure, for the founding of the Germanna Memorial Foundation in 1956, for the prompt implementation of effective planning, for the acquisition of Siegen Forest (home-site of the German immigrants), and for the promotion of research that resulted in our Memorial Volume, "Ancestry and Descendants of the Nassau-Siegen Immigrants to Virginia, 1714-1750."

Mr. Flender's generosity has been motivated solely by personal satisfaction arising from assurance that the first home-site of his national kinsmen from Nassau-Siegen is being preserved and gradually restored, and that expert assistance is being made available to descendants in tracing their ancestry back to the pioneers of Germanna and Germantown.

The trustees of the Germanna Foundation, the membership, and especially the president of the organization, Dr. Charles Herbert Huffman, are deeply appreciative and most grateful for Mr. Flender's personal interest, for his mature counsel, and for his continual promotion and generous support of the purpose and objectives of the organization.



MR. ERNST W. FLENDER

BUSINESS PROMOTER, INVESTMENT BANKER

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR, DISCERNING PHILANTHROPIST

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

The Board of Directors has decreed that **Life Membership** in the Germanna Memorial Foundation shall be attained 1) by payment of the established fee of \$100; 2) by continuous and regular service as Trustee; and 3) by special service performed, upon official invitation, at unveiling and dedicatory functions. **Honorary Life Membership** is granted upon the nomination, election, and invitation of the Board of Directors. By decree of the Board, both husband and wife (or wife and husband) shall be deemed a unit in their affiliation with the organization.

Hon. and Mrs. Lindsay Almond Richmond, Virginia
 Mr. Samuel Bemiss Richmond, Virginia
 Dr. and Mrs. Howard Benchoff Woodstock, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. C. Ralph Briles Asheville, N. Carolina
 Hon. and Mrs. Harry F. Byrd, Sr. Berryville, Virginia
 Dr. Lester J. Cappon Williamsburg, Virginia
 Prof. and Mrs. Delma R. Carpenter Salem, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Carpenter Mitchells, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. Jesse B. Carpenter, Sr. Culpeper, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Carpenter Brightwood, Virginia
 Dr. and Mrs. W. I. Carpenter Norfolk, Virginia
 Major Henry B. Cockrell Arlington, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Coons Richmond, Virginia
 Mrs. Ona Martin Ellis Jeffersonville, Indiana
 Judge Alvin T. Embrey Fredericksburg, Virginia
 Dr. and Mrs. Robert F. Estes Orange, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. Trammel Fishback Harrisonburg, Virginia
 Mr. Emil Flender Siegen, Germany
 Mr. and Mrs. Ernest W. Flender New York, New York
 Dr. and Mrs. S. L. Flickinger Intermont, W. Virginia
 Hon. and Mrs. Mills E. Godwin Richmond, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. James W. Green Orange, Virginia
 Mrs. Frances R. Grattan Harrisonburg, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. W. Burton Guy Baltimore, Maryland
 Dr. and Mrs. Woodford B. Hackley Richmond, Virginia
 Hon. and Mrs. Albertis Harrison Richmond, Virginia
 Rev. and Mrs. Paul V. Helm N. Canton, Ohio

Dr. Edwin Hemphill Richmond, Virginia
 Dr. and Mrs. Benj. C. Holtzclaw Richmond, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack G. Holtzclaw Richmond, Virginia
 Dr. and Mrs. Charles H. Huffman Harrisonburg, Virginia
 Rev. and Mrs. J. Wade Huffman Hagerstown, Maryland
 Mr. John M. Jennings Richmond, Virginia
 Dr. and Mrs. Constantine Kemper Denver, Colorado
 Mr. and Mrs. Hathaway G. Kemper Chicago, Illinois
 Mr. and Mrs. James M. Kemper Kansas City, Missouri
 Mr. and Mrs. James Scott Kemper Chicago, Illinois
 Dr. and Mrs. Amos R. Koontz Baltimore, Maryland
 Mr. James W. Koontz, II Baltimore, Maryland
 Dr. Warren W. Koontz Lynchburg, Virginia
 Mr. Alfred Luck Siegen, Germany
 Mr. and Mrs. Lester R. McDonnell Youngstown, Ohio
 Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Payne Martin Lignum, Virginia
 E. P. Martin Lumber Company Lignum, Virginia
 Mr. James E. Martin Lignum, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Martin Culpeper, Virginia
 Mr. Paul Mellon Upperville, Virginia
 Dr. G. Tyler Miller Harrisonburg, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Myers Fredericksburg, Virginia
 Dr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Newell Richmond, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Jett Payne Arlington, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. H. Marvin Pearson Remington, Virginia
 Mr. Walter Potter Culpeper, Virginia
 Mr. Wm. M. E. Rachal Richmond, Virginia
 Dr. and Mrs. L. E. Rector Seattle, Washington
 Mr. John Rodgers Culpeper, Virginia
 Mr. Reinold Schleifenbaum Siegen, Germany
 Mr. Wayne D. Seaman Waycross, Georgia
 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Spilman Waynesboro, Virginia
 Rev. and Mrs. Border Stanley Harrisonburg, Virginia
 Dr. Earl G. Swem Williamsburg, Virginia
 Hon. and Mrs. Frank C. Switzer Harrisonburg, Virginia
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Utz Gordonsville, Virginia
 Prof. and Mrs. Claude L. Yowell Culpeper, Virginia

ANNUAL REUNIONS

Principal objectives of the Reunions have been to bring together the descendants and their friends so that they may become conscious of their common ancestry and thus be more keenly aware of their unique heritage.* 2) To provide appropriate, interesting, and informative programs that recall the historic past and stimulate interest for present and future activities. 3) Provide for them, annually, in July, the opportunity of enjoying a "family picnic," in the sylvan setting made memorable by their ancestors two and a half centuries ago. And 4) to introduce our Germanna Memorial Foundation publications, which bring together the genealogical and historical data pertaining to the German immigrants to Colonial Virginia in 1714 and 1717, and subsequently.

Nine reunions have been held — all in Siegen Forest. Seven to nine states of the Union have been represented among the attendants on successive occasions. The average attendance has been in excess of 200.

The following are typical reactions expressed: "There is one word that describes the Reunion to me more than any other and that is the word **inspiring**. I was delighted to be there Liking history as I do I count the day as one of the happiest ones of my life"

"I did not see or hear a mosquito, fly, or other flying or crawling object at Germanna. It was the nicest outdoor picnic I ever attended."

"We enjoyed the meeting at the Germanna Reunion very much, and will try to attend in future years. I am enclosing a check in the amount of \$100 and our Life Membership application card with address."

* German immigrants usually came to America in firmly united family groups. This phenomenon enables experts today to estimate that one in six Americans can trace all or part of his ancestry to them.



The first reunion, held in Siegen Forest, July 21, 1957. The winsome smiles indicate pleasure at the privilege and opportunity of being present.

GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS*

As you meet each other today on this festive occasion — each at the end of a long line of distinguished ancestors — you are no doubt keenly aware of pent-up emotions — emotions that often were felt but were never fully expressed. It is with deep humility, therefore, that I greet you as members and friends of The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, and congratulate you upon the successful completion of this first step toward the realization of your cherished hopes. Perhaps your greetings are spoken for the first time here among kindred spirits in honor and in memory of forefathers who, nearly two and a half centuries ago, came to this spot of the New World and brought with them from the Old culture of mind and skill of hand. Gratefully and proudly you join in the chorus, "I'm truly happy to greet you here — here at Germanna where our forefathers, bound inseparably by ties of family, language, vocation, and religious tenets — first built their homes, and where they lived and worked and worshipped together.

The primary purpose of a foundation is to support the superstructure. If the building is to be a beautiful one, meaningful and enduring, and if it is to mellow gracefully with the passage of time, the foundation must be laid carefully and well. Our Memorial Foundation, we are persuaded, does rest upon a solid footing. The four cornerstones are the enduring verities, shall we say, that were bequeathed to descendants, yes, but more broadly still, bequeathed to all the peoples of this nation.

The first one of these four verities that lie at corners of the Memorial Foundation let us denominate **courage**. In the summer of 1713 a small band of enterprising persons, numbering in all about forty, got together and entered into a solemn compact. Briefly, they agreed among themselves to turn their backs on home, friends, relatives, and Fatherland, and turn their faces westward by accepting the invitation, then in their hands, to come to America. This momentous decision required a quality of courage of the highest and

* By Dr. Charles Herbert Huffman, President of the Foundation.

purest type. It is this quality of character that they brought with them from their native Siegen and environs to their new life in America. The first colony arrived here at Germanna in April, 1714. The first was followed by others of like character and purpose in 1717 and in 1719.

The second cornerstone may appropriately be named **skill and craftsmanship**. The invitation to come to America was first extended only to such as were endowed by nature and by training with sound knowledge and superior skill of hand and brain. Their specialty was iron ore mining and metallurgy. We are confronted today with the assertion, displayed in almost every magazine, "Only steel can do so many jobs so well." But specific processes which made this development possible were unknown in America in the early 18th century. Indeed such were not well understood among Englishmen until these skilled craftsmen arrived and explained the science. The initial stages were undertaken here under able leadership from Siegen, Germany. Today iron and steel constitute one of the basic factors of our national economy.

The third cornerstone of the Foundation is **independence** of religious and political ideals. Here at Germanna our forefathers established the first organized congregation in America of the German Reformed Church. This deliberate act on their part, in violation of precedent and established practice, was not so simple and easy as it is today. Indeed it was a bold and daring venture, owing to the intolerant and generally hostile attitude of the Established Church toward other religious sects. But despite such obstacles and deterrents they proceeded to conduct their worship according to their custom and ritual, once each week day and twice each Sunday. The blockhouse, which was intended only as a protection against attacks of hostile Indians, they used as a house for worship. It has always seemed to me significant and indeed a bit ironical that this provision which Governor Spotswood made for imminent war they made use of for permanent peace. So far as is known our colonies were never attacked by the natives, nor were they ever molested by them.

They took no part in the entangled web of politics with religion, the prevailing mode then in Colonial Virginia. True,

they were not missionaries for their faith and form of worship, but in the matter of religious freedom they did assert their independence. They desired to worship as they chose without let or hindrance from others. Resenting interference from others, they scrupulously avoided provoking the suspicion and displeasure of others. In the practice of their religious tenets, to paraphrase Mr. B,

"They drew their furrer straight

And into nobody's tater patch poked."

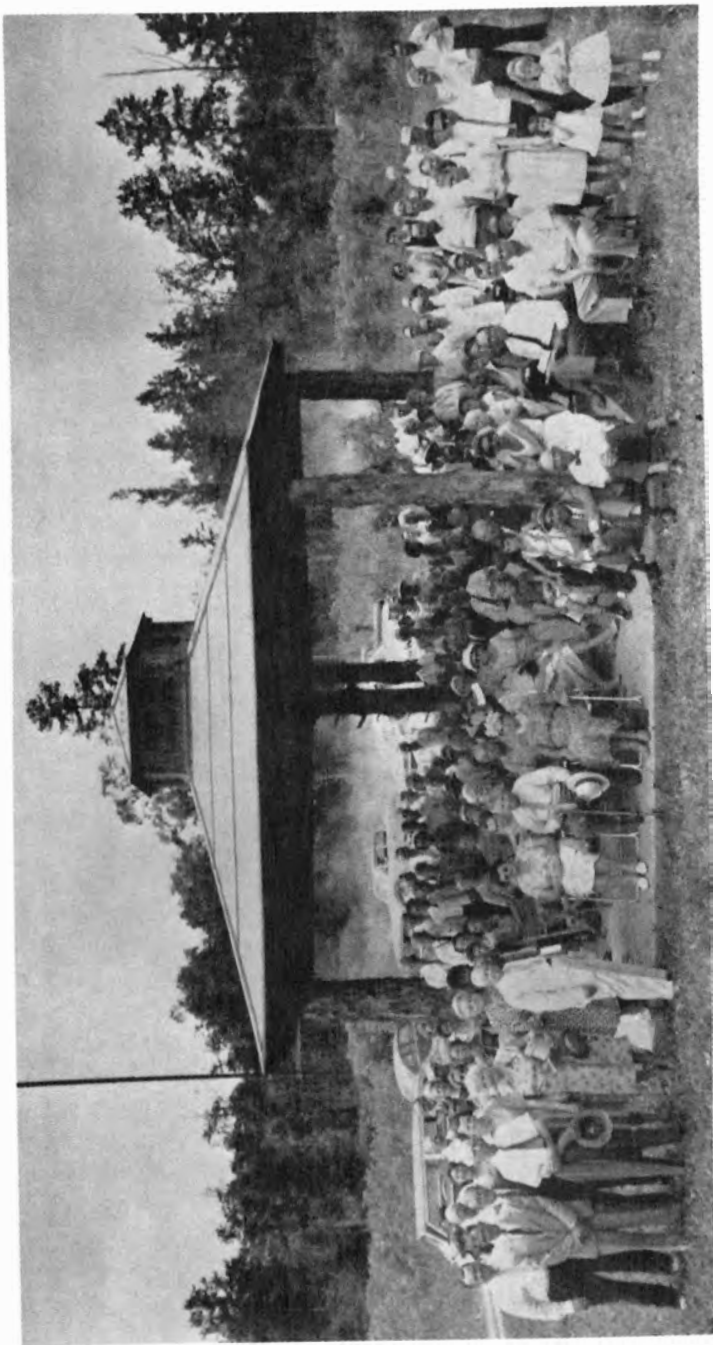
Thus it is evident that they were not granted toleration. They won it. And thus it occurred, too, antedating by a half century or more Jefferson's statute for Religious Freedom in Virginia, they pointed the way and demonstrated by their example the feasibility of complete separation of church and state, a common heritage, dear to us today.

Let us call the fourth verity **Democracy**. It is certain that a calm, even-tempered, and exemplary democratic spirit was the controlling force of their life and thought. In 1719 or 1720 the first colony patented a large body of land in what is now Fauquier County, moved there and founded Germantown on Licking Run. The cost of this purchase was shared equally, and then the immense tract of 1800 acres was divided into twelve equal parts, one part going by lot to each family. Here their grist mill, iron furnace and forge, their church and school were community projects. And here they practiced, with balanced emphasis on each, individualism and the general welfare, an exhibition, if you will, of our future Democracy at work.

Today, then, we lay claim to our heritage — to their democratic ideals, their quiet, unobtrusive independence, their efficient craftsmanship, and to their indomitable courage — and we freely appropriate these verities and proclaim our use of them as cornerstones of the Foundation, established to their memory and promoted in their honor. But concurrently we admonish ourselves that the enduring structure is yet to be built. Upon greeting each other today as members and friends of The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies Virginia, let it be said sincerely that this first Reunion is our book of beginnings and our story without end.



Sylvan scene on the historic banks of the Rapidan, July, 1965. Leisurely relaxation and congenial conversation with "relatives," always follow the formal program and the picnic dinner in Siegen Forest.



Descendants and their friends in excess of 200 assembled at Siegen Forest, July 16, 1961, for their reunion. The district and eight states of the Union were represented: Florida, Maryland, N. Carolina, Ohio, S. Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and W. Virginia. Center-piece here is the symbolical structure, which reminds us of the five-sided blockhouse inside the fort designed by Gov. Spotswood as a special protection against marauding Indians. This picture was made immediately after the dedication ceremony.

PART II

EPISODE 1

EMIGRANTS FROM THE HOMELAND TO THE NEW WORLD

The three events which follow preceded the establishment of the Memorial Foundation in 1956, but neither one of the three was directly connected with the others, or with the Foundation. Each was a complete distinct unit, removed from the others in time and space. However, each was concerned with the same small body of persons who emigrated from the Homeland from the same general locality and who flourished during the same period of time. Perhaps one common bond prevailed. Along the chain of memory the voice of "Little Sir Echo" passed from the earliest event of the series to succeeding ones, seemingly "Lest We Forget." The earliest enquiry about the pioneers came out of the Homeland, in April of 1927.

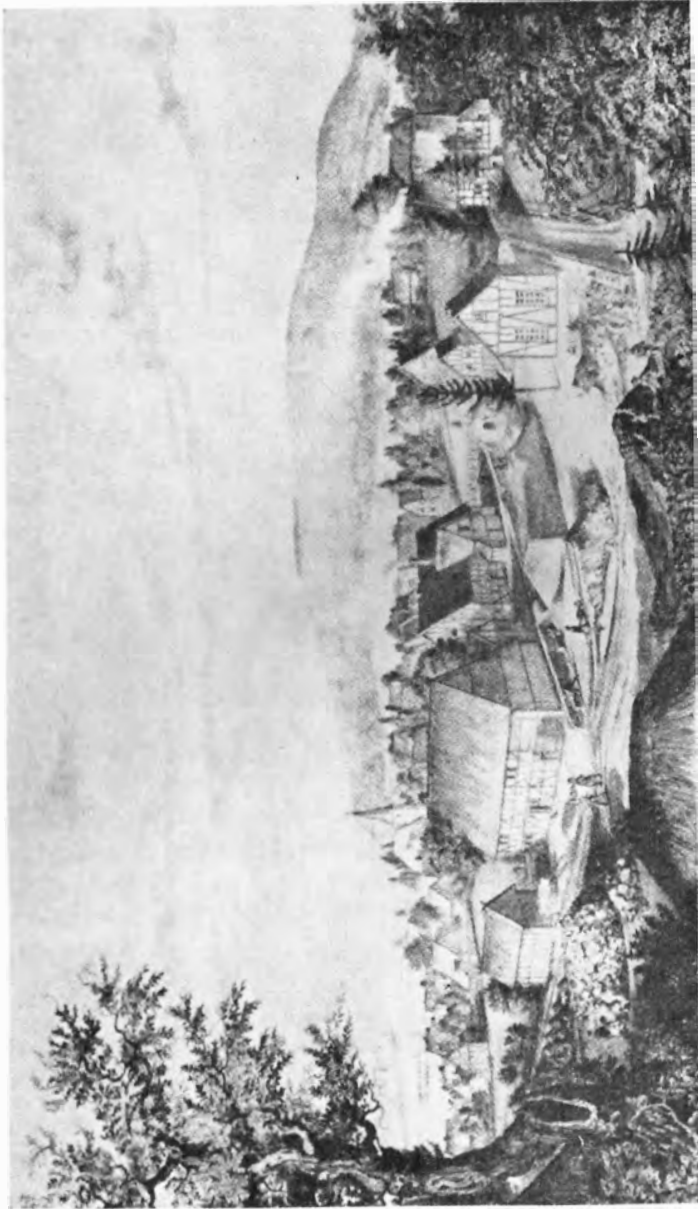
Revival of the Ties between Homeland and Emigrants

"Old Friendly Relations Established."

I cannot now recall how I first had knowledge of this earliest episode, but immediately upon learning that Governor Harry F. Byrd was one of the principal actors in this historical drama, I requested assistance from him in bringing the details together. His courteous response to my enquiry follows, dated July 19, 1955.

"I have received your letter of July 19. I have some recollection of this matter, but I am very sorry I would not know how to locate the papers."

Deeply interested in the "papers," I turned to the Virginia State Library, Richmond, and with the scholarly assistance of Dr. Edwin Hemphill, Head of the History Division,



Muesen, Germany — celebrated the 300th anniversary of its history in 1927. Officials responsible for the success of this memorable occasion very graciously recalled the contribution to community development made by families that emigrated to America in 1714.

quickly located copies of two letters, which proved to be leaders to others of equal importance.

Müsen, Freis Siegen

April 1927

His Excellency Coolidge,
President of the United States of America
Washington

Permit us to approach your Excellency with the following request:

Our protestant church community of Müsen celebrates on June 26th of this year the 300th anniversary of its existence, and we are publishing a pamphlet for this occasion. Since, 200 years ago, 12 miners from Müsen emigrated to America, to the State of Virginia and founded there the town of Germanna which is in ruins today, we like to retain also this incident in the book of our hometown. Since we know from American sources that the first blast furnace which those settlers have built in America is still standing in that place, we would be extremely thankful to your Excellency, if you could obtain for us a photograph of that cultural monument.

We believe that we are doing a deed of cultural value by publishing this book and that we thus promote the old and friendly relations between our country and the United States.

The Evangelical Church Community of
Müsen, in Westphalia

Signed: Rev. Heider

Signed: Major (retired) Fritz Klein

Report of the State Conservation
and Development Commission.

Richmond, Virginia, June 2, 1927

His Excellency Harry F. Byrd
Governor of Virginia

Richmond
Virginia

The enclosed set of photographs was made by the Photographer Cooke under my supervision the 24th and 25th day of May. They represent what is known as the Spotswood house on the Germanna plantation; the spot on which the former town of Germanna, situated on the Rapid Ann River, about 10 miles north-west of Chancellorsville had been erected; and the Spotswood Mine and foundry, situated about 10 miles east of Germanna and 5 miles north of Chancellorsville, on a place which is known today as "The Wilderness".

The spot, on which the town Germanna stood, is identical with the position as marked on the military map of 1862 of the United States, on the bend of the Rapid Ann River, directly above the bridge which today crosses the river on the road from Culpeper to Fredericksburg. If one approaches the bridge from the south-side the road runs for a short stretch almost directly west and almost parallel with the river and passes near the bridge a number of natural terraces, interrupted by mountain gorges. A photograph taken from the southern end of the bridge shows these hills. Another photograph shows one of those hills, directly west of the bridge, on which two old chimneys rise, the relics of two houses of the town Germanna. Another photograph shows the same two chimneys, taken from the height of the terrace, from another side. Just above the bridge and opposite the spot where the above mentioned first photograph was taken can be found the foundation walls of the building of which Mr. Marion Willis, Sr. of Fredericksburg said that it is the old mill and storage depot. He claims that it was a three-story building. The mill was supposed to have been in the ground floor and the

upper floor was used by the superintendant or as storage depot. The entrance to the depot was from a rock-terrace which is just visible from the right corner of the first photograph. Mr. Willis claims that a number of buildings and the mill had still been standing in 1862, that he, himself, had helped to bring the provisions out of the mill, which had been set on fire, 1862, for military reasons, together with the other buildings of the town.

Another of the photographs represents the old wooden buildings, which is called Spotswood House.



The ruins of this old house mark the site of the five-sided fort which stood nearby, inside which were the "nine houses all in a line," and in the exact center of the fort the five-sided blockhouse to match the five sides of the great enclosure. It is generally assumed that it was to this "Enchanted Castle" that the Cavalier, Ex-Governor Spotswood, brought his bride, Anne Butler Brayne, about 1724, and in which the Spotswood family lived until the Colonel's death in 1740. (Photo by Mr. J. R. Horseley in 1927. Demolished about 1932.)

The close-up of the house was taken from the westside, near the old garden, whose flowerbeds are clearly visible above the terrace. This house is built almost entirely from cut beams which are united by tenons and fastened with wooden plugs. The boards below the plaster are split and nailed together again with iron nails. The house is situated on an elevation which slopes down in all directions, with sharply cut terraces on the front side, which slope towards the lower table land (mesa). The house stands in an open field, about half of a mile south of the town Germanna and has a view over the river. The entrance used to be on the south side and had connections with the road to Culpeper that still exists. Mr. Willis said that the back of the house, in the form of a T, had been erected comparatively recently; That the original house, which he knew as a boy, is the two-story front part. It seems probable from the structure of the house that the original house had only one story with a ground floor or cellar, and that a second floor was added later. Mr. Willis also said, that the old inn used to stand on a steep hill on the north side of the river to the right of the bridge and just below the old ford. Now a house stands on the spot where the inn used to be.

The mine and the foundry can be reached from the old mining road and are situated about one fourth of a mile above the ford of the river. An old mill is standing a short stretch below this ford. The mine and the smelting furnace lie a hundred feet apart on the westside of the river, against the side of a steep hill. A wide terrace has been cut into the side of the hill, above the entrance to the mine. A big pile of dross is still lying near the smelting furnace on the westside of the river, and a second pile of cinders is lying on the eastside. Just above the furnace, on the same level with the terrace is a pile of marl or oyster shells which apparently were used as lime in the melting process of the ore. Where the mining road runs into the Rappahannock River, there is a spot called "Shell Bank", from where apparently the marl or shell-lime were taken. Above the reach of the mine and the furnace there are traces of a

dam and a millpond in the river from which perhaps water and power were taken to work the furnace.

Only a few remains stand from the furnace, most of it has crumbled off. The photograph shows on two sides what apparently has been an octagonal rick. Ashes and signs of fire on the walls are still clearly visible. All the ruins were covered with weeds and had to be cleared from the overgrown plants before the photographs could be made. The same thing was true for the mine entrance, which is almost filled with loose dirt and stones. Inside of the entrance the wall and the vault are still standing.

Further information concerning the history of these places will be obtainable from Dr. Eckenrode.

I hope that the short description of the topography of these places will serve as explanation for the photographs.

Sincerely

Signed: J. R. Horsley,
Field Assistant.

JRH/F

Addenda

The colonists of Germanna came in the year 1714 from England and reached Virginia before the 28th of April 1714. During the summer of the same year they erected the town of Germanna. There were first 13 houses and one log-house. The inhabitants counted apparently 50 heads. In the year 1717 a further number of Germans arrived and the town grew constantly until 1720. The colonists from Siegen went from Germanna to Germantown, probably in the year 1720 or 1721. Germantown was situated at that time in the county of Stafford, later Prince William county and still later in Fauquier County.

The mine and the foundry near Chancellorsville (13 miles from Germanna) seem to have been worked only for a short time by the Siegener Germans. Later on they were taken over by other Germans. William Byrd made his

famous visit to the mines in the year 1732. At that time various other melting furnaces were found in Virginia.

C O P Y

June 3, 1927

Mr. J. R. Horsley,
Conservation & Development Commission,
Richmond, Virginia.

Dear Rolfe:

I thank you for your letter of June 2, enclosing photographs of the Spotswood Mine Furnace, and I am sending these on to the Secretary of State for transmission to Germany. If this is the first ore furnace built in Virginia it might be well to give this to the newspapers, as it is most interesting.

With best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,
[Harry Flood Byrd, Governor]

C O P Y

June 3, 1927.

Hon. Frank B. Kellogg,
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

In reference to your letter of May 11, File FA-811.412/216, enclosing letter from Heinrich Heider, a priest of Siegen, Westphalia, Germany, requesting photographs of a structure built by German immigrants early in the 18th Century, I take pleasure in advising that I

sent to this site an official of the State and obtained the photographs desired.

I enclose the photographs, together with a letter and other explanatory information, and I trust these will serve the purpose of Herr Heider.

With best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,
[Harry Flood Byrd, Governor]

C O P Y

June 20, 1927.

Mr. E. O. Fippin, Secretary,
Conservation & Development Commission,
Richmond, Virginia.

Dear Mr. Fippin:

I know you will be interested, as well as Mr. Horsley, in the attached letter from the Secretary of State, expressing his appreciation for the information with respect to the settlement known as Germanna.

With best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,
[Harry Flood Byrd, Governor]

American Consular Service
American Consulate
83 Kaiser Friedrich Ufer, Cologne, Germany

July 11th 1927

Rev. Heinrich Heider,
Müsen, Kr. Siegen in Westphalia.

The consulate received a communication from the State Department in Washington, according to which

the latter had obtained from the White House the correspondence which you had directed to the President of the United States and in which you express the desire to have in connection with the 300 year anniversary of your hometown some photographs made of the buildings which have been erected in the 18th century by German Immigrants coming from your town.

The State Department has sent to the consulate a number of photographs which permit a good view of the buildings erected by these immigrants and of the agricultural surroundings. At the same time the consulate received commentaries to these photos which are being translated at present and after completion of the translation will be sent to you.

The Consulate is sending you this information due to the fact that the date of your anniversary celebration has passed already according to your information. The consulate believes however that you will find the commentaries which are being translated at present, of greatest interest and that you can make use of them in your intended publication. Therefore the consulate is sending you this advanced information in the hope that it might be possible for you to postpone your publication until you receive the above mentioned material from the consulate.

It is regrettable that the passing on of the material has been delayed due to the fact that the letter you addressed to the President has not been turned over in time to the State Department, in order to let you have this requested information at an earlier date.

As mentioned above the consulate will pass on to you the information, which it has in its possession, as soon as it is possible.

Sincerely yours
J. Klahr Huddle
American Consul.

American Consular Service
American Consulate
83 Kaiser Friedrich Ufer, Cologne, Germany

July 14th 1927

Rev. Heinrich Heider, Müsen,
Dr. Siegen in Westphalia.

Reference is made to the letter of July 11th 1927, in which the consulate informed you that a communication had been received from the State Department in Washington, according to which a number of photographs of an old settlement, founded by Germans from Siegen, in the American Colony of Virginia, had been sent as well as commentaries of this settlement.

I am happy to be able to send these photographs to you and I hope that they may be of value to you and the members of your community, and that they can be used for the planned chronicle whose publication you are preparing.

The Consulate wants to mention for your information that the State Department has forwarded to the Honorable Governor of Virginia your request addressed to the President of the United States immediately after receiving it. His Excellency, the Governor, was so kind as to fulfill your wishes immediately and to order the taking of the photographs under the supervision of the field assistant, J. R. Horsley of the State Conservation and Development Commission of Virginia; at the same time a short historical sketch of the town Germanna was written by the director of the archeological and historical department of this state, a Dr. Eckenrode.

The State Department has sent to the Consulate a copy of the letter from Field Assistant J. R. Horsley of the State Conservation and Development Commission of Virginia, and a copy of the historical sketch of Director Dr. Eckenrode. The Consulate takes the opportunity to turn over to you a German translation together with the letters as invoice to this communication.

You wrote in your letter to the President that you would be glad if libraries in the United States were interested in the chronicle you have published. The State Department informs us that, upon request, it would gladly take over dispatch of some copies of your book to the Library of Congress of the United States, which in turn can bring this publication to the attention of other libraries in the United States.

The Consulate would gladly arrange for this purpose the sending of these copies of your chronicle to the State Department, if this should be agreeable to you. The Consulate asks you, however, to inform us, before sending the copies, if any costs are connected with the books, and if so, how high the price of the individual copy will be.

In consideration of the, for you, so valuable contents of this letter, the Consulate would be thankful if you would confirm immediately the receipt of this letter.

Sincerely yours,
J. Klahr Huddle
American Consul.

Müsen, Kreis Siegen in Westphalia
July 15th 1927

To: Mr. J. Klahr Huddle
American Consul
Cologne (Rhine)
Kaiser Friedrich Ufer 83.

Being in possession of the photographs of Germanna which you have kindly sent us by order of the State Department in Washington, as well as the explaining text which you have kindly translated for us, we want to express our wholehearted and most sincere thanks in the name of our hometown as well as the entire district of Siegen. We shall hasten to express our highest admiration as well as sincere thanks to His Excellency the President and His Excellency the Governor

of Virginia as well as the above mentioned Dr. Eckenrode and Horseley for the distinguished and kind manner in which they have received our request.

It is, of course, for our community and our entire district of Siegen an extraordinary attraction and of fascinating interest and value to receive in such a distinguished and kind manner a greeting from the new home, which citizens of Müsen and Siegen have once founded for themselves in Virginia and to inspect the historical traces their work left in their new fatherland.

Müsen and the district of Siegen (Siegenerland) are looking back for about 2700 years of a tracable industrial past; so, it is to us of particularly high value to see how our forefathers took this knowledge with them to their new home and built the first furnace in America, of which we possess the ruins now in photographs.

We hope however, that, over there in America, a greeting from the old home of those emigrants has created the same joy and we believe, that a high cultural value lies within this exchange of deeply human relations between the old and the new home and that it will serve the thought of peace.

Our chronicle is finished and has been printed, since we had to keep the date of June 26, 1927. We believe that this chronicle will be of value in various ways to American libraries. We are considering, however, to publish in a separate edition these thoroughly valuable pictures and commentaries together with a report about the celebration itself which can easily be attached afterwards to the chronicle. Thus, they still will find full consideration. This much so far as information. We shall return very soon to the other points of discussion suggested by you.

Sincerely and with the expression of deepest thanks,
Heider

Minister of the Evangelical
Community of Müsen.

"A greeting from far away.

"Following the suggestion of retired Major Fr. Klein Dahbruch, we sent a personal letter to president Coolidge, himself, explaining to him our intentions to publish a chronicle on the occasion of the 300 year anniversary celebration of Muesen and asked him to send us kindly some photographs for our chronicle of the first settlement of those emmigrants (see page 334 of our anniversary-issue.)

"We did not hear for a long time what had happened to our letter. Our book was supposed to be ready on the day of the celebration, June 26, 1927 and had to be published without those photographs. Finally, beginning of July, the Evangelical minister of Müsen received a letter from the American General-Consul, Mr. Huddle, from Cologne. In this letter he reported to us that the Department of State in Washington had received from the White House our letter to President Coolidge and that a number of photographs had been sent with suitable commentaries which were still being translated.

"Very soon wonderful pictures with commentaries in German arrived, which told us of the activities of those settlers from Müsen and Siegerland in Virginia in 1715. The ruins and the landscape of that settlement, long since passed, as well as the overgrown entrance to the mine and the ruins of the blast furnace could be seen clearly.

"The governor of Virginia after receiving our letter through the State Department had been so kind as to make the necessary arrangements to fulfill our wish; an assistant at the State Conservation and Development Commission had had photographs taken with necessary commentaries. The director, a Mr. Eckenrode, had written a short historical introduction. The exchange of letters follows herewith - - -."

The correspondence which developed this event appears to have extended over a period of time from late April to mid July, 1927. So far as I can ascertain, the stages of development followed this order: The Priest (or pastor) Heiden in Muesen, Germany, made the initial request through the German consul here in Washington. He passed it along to

President Coolidge, who, in turn, turned it over to the State Department. From thence it came to Governor Byrd of Virginia, who gave Dr. Eckenrode the honor of bringing together the information requested. It seems the Doctor shared the honor with Mr. Horsley, who was detailed to get photographs of the remains. The sketch, prepared by Dr. Eckenrode, and the photographs, were finally sent to the Hon. J. Klahr Huddle, American Consul at Cologne, Germany, who transmitted them to Muesen, where they now repose, I understand, in a museum.

Thus three centuries of Muesen history reached a climax and came to an end in the elaborate celebration of June 26, 1927. If the story of the Germanna colony of 1714, composed of families from Muesen and Siegen, had not been linked up with the Hometown, obviously the dramatic narrative would have been far from complete. In the following excerpt from Dr. Hemphill's letter of November 4, 1955 he lets us know where to locate full details of this story.

"Dear Dr. Huffman:

"Your loan has been of distinct service in stimulating us to make some unexpected discoveries. One of these is the fact that this library has in its collections a special copy of the German book edited by Heinrich Heider and entitled **Von Kindelsberg/und Martinshardt**, published in 1927. The copy is a special one in that it is a presentation copy inscribed to the late Dr. Hamilton James Eckenrode by pastor Heider. Dr. Eckenrode presented this volume to this library in 1929. In this volume I have been able to find, of course, the original pages of text and pictures selected, photostated for you in Germany. . . ."

"With best personal wishes, I am

"Yours sincerely,

"W. Edwin Hemphill, Head
History Division"

PART II
EPISODE II — 1934
“Coming of the Pioneers”

In 1934, Orange County celebrated its bi-centennial. The life of Colonial Virginia in 1734 was revived and again visualized in elaborate and impressive ceremonies. Appropriate pageantry, expertly planned and directed, continued four days — Tuesday through Friday. However, twenty years prior to the official enactment of 1734 when Orange was cut off from Spotsylvania County and formed into a separate political unit, forty or more immigrants from Nassau-Siegen, Germany, had arrived in Virginia and had been settled in 1714 at a place called Germanna, on the banks of the Rapidan River, then in Essex, later in Spotsylvania County. The new Orange County of 1734 fell heir to this region which, since then, has formed the extreme northeastern section of the county. It was, therefore, historically accurate and altogether appropriate to feature Germanna in the bi-centennial pageant as the first settlement within the bounds of Orange County.

The Official Program for the celebration, prepared by Prof. D. N. Davidson, Supt. of Orange County Public Schools, shows the panorama of incidents grouped into thirteen episodes. The third one was labeled “Germanna,” followed by the sub-title, “The Coming of the Pioneers.” Thirty-eight persons — men, women, and young people — were assigned important roles in this part of the historical drama. On page 4 of the Official Program, under “Group Activities,” the directory sets out the following guide lines:

TUESDAY
 September 25, 1934
 11:00 A.M.
 At Germanna

The Colonial Dames of America, in the
 State of Virginia, Fredericksburg, Commit-
 tee, Hostesses.

For the Reformed Church in the United States. An Address by President Geo. W. Richards, D.D., LL.D., of Eastern Theological Seminary. (Subst.: Rev. S. L. Flickinger, D.D., Winchester, Virginia)

For the Lutheran Church, an address. (Speaker to be selected.)

An address by His Excellency, The German Ambassador, Washington, D. C.

The Programme

Presiding—Mr. Justice George L. Browning, of the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals.

Invocation—Dr. J. J. Shearer.

Address of Welcome—Mrs. Granville Gray Valentine, President of the Virginia Chapter of Colonial Dames of America.

Address—Germanna in Its Relationship to the Reformed Church in the United States, By Dr. S. L. Flickinger.

Address—Germanna in Its Relation to the Lutheran Church. By Rev. John H. Fray.

Unveiling the Marker—By descendants of the Rev. John Henry Haeger, pioneer minister.

Address—His Excellency, Dr. Hans Luther, the German Ambassador to the United States, Washington, D. C.

Prayer and Benediction—The Rev. A. M. Gluck, D. D., Martinsburg, West Virginia.

This was, indeed, an appropriate and dignified program that was carried out at Germanna on September 25, 1934 — one that brought pleasure and enlightenment to about 1,000 people who gathered at the Germanna site for the occasion.

The following excerpts are from the Memorial Address by the Rev. S. L. Flickinger, D.D., delivered on this occasion.

“We have met today at a notable place for a laudi-

ble purpose. This place, like Jamestown with nothing left but its beautiful natural setting and earth covered remains of historic houses and homes, is sacred in the memory of the Church and the State. Here brave souls dared hardships, privations and dangers to plant in a new land seeds of devotion and loyalty whose harvest are the good things of America.

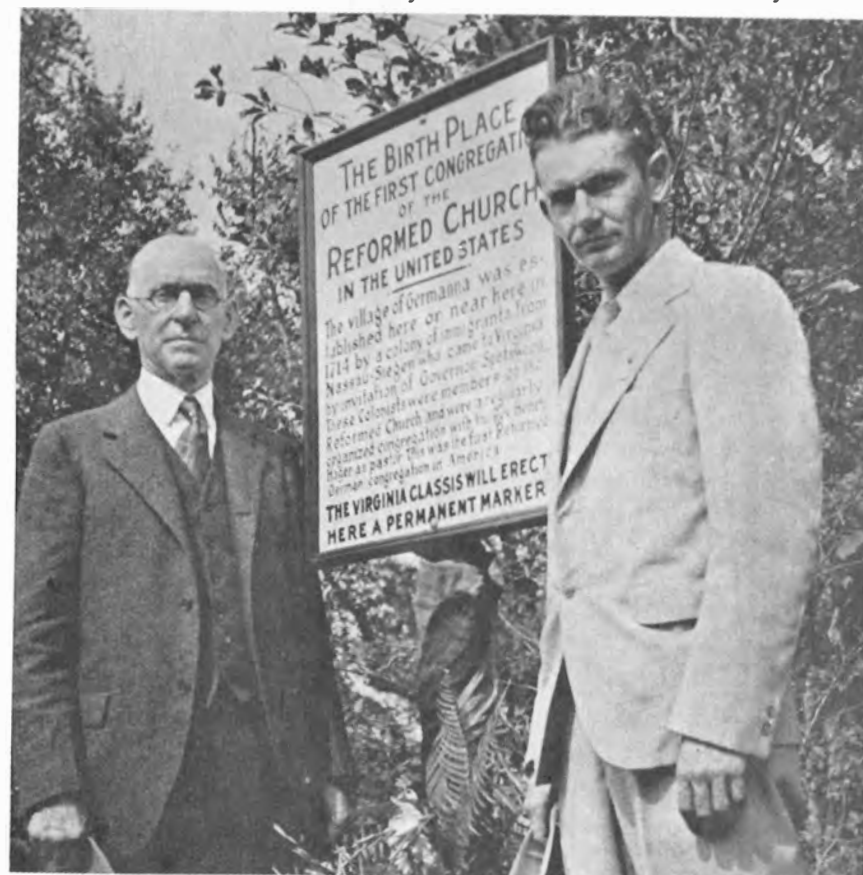
"The people who fail to remember their fathers and mothers will not long be remembered by their sons and daughters. 'A land without memory is a land without hope.' The character of their memorials is a prophecy of the future of the Church and of the State, therefore



Miss Pauline Hoffman (Mrs. Warren H. Daughtery) left, and Miss Virginia Hoffman (Mrs. Thomas F. Hardesty) right, descendants of the immigrants John Hoffman and Pastor Haeger, unveiled the temporary marker at Germanna, September 25, 1934, in the afternoon of the first day of the Orange County Bi-centennial celebration.

what we do here and what shall be done at the Orange County Bi-centennial of which this Church memorial is a part will be of far reaching importance."

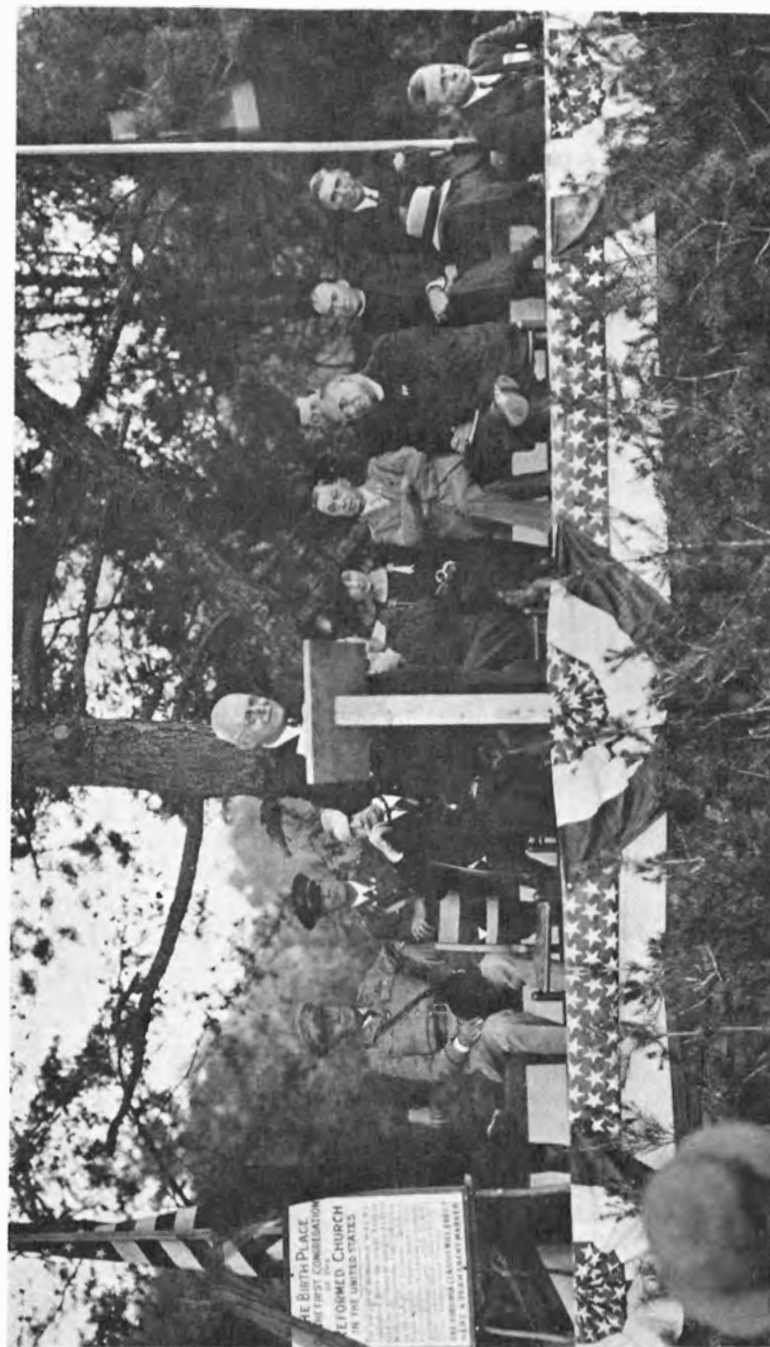
But details of festivities such as this one are soon forgot, however meritorious and memorable they had been on occasion. The Orange Bi-centennial was no exception. For a few, however, one phase of the episode survived, at least as a faint echo, which, some years later, issued forth in visible form. Revival later may be accounted for in this way.



Dr. J. Silor Garrison, left, and Col. Frank C. Switzer, right, assumed responsibility for the formal program which took place at Germanna, September 25, 1934, the first phase of the Orange County Bi-centennial.

The chairman of the committee in charge of the Orange bi-centennial requested the historical committee of the Reformed Classis, of which the Rev. J. Silor Garrison, D.D., was chairman, to assist in providing exercises at Germanna, the site of the first settlement in Orange County and site of the first regularly organized German Reformed Congregation in America. The entire membership of the 1714 colony was composed of German Reformed adherents. They had brought with them their beloved pastor, the Rev. John Henry Haeger, and their well-trained, experienced schoolmaster, Jacob Holtzclaw. Together, with the complement of elders, John Joseph Martin and John Jacob Rector, the formal organization of the first German Reformed Church in America was made complete and stable. Following a scholarly address by Rev. S. L. Flickinger, D.D., as part of a memorial service, a temporary marker was unveiled and dedicated to the memory of the German colonists and in honor of their unswerving religious faith.

The marker was, indeed, of a temporary character, and stood visible for a short time only, but its message prevailed. Moreover, the Rev. Mr. Garrison, responsible for this phase of the bi-centennial festivities, expressed his personal intentions and ardent hope concerning it: "A more permanent marker will sometime be erected at this site." He did not live long enough to know the consummation of his wishes, but his vision became a reality nineteen years later. For a fuller account of this phase of the Orange County Bi-centennial, see **The History of the Reformed Church in Virginia, 1714-1940**, pp. 34-39; 465-468.



His Excellency, Dr. Hans Luther, Ambassador to the United States, addressing the large audience assembled at Germanna, September 25, 1934. This first episode of the Orange County Bicentennial, dramatized "The Coming of the Pioneers," and memorialized the organization here at Germanna of the first regularly constituted congregation of the German Reformed Church in America.

PART II

EPISODE III — 1953

"Mysterious haunts of echoes, old and far,
The voice divine of human loyalty." —

George Eliot: *The Spanish Gypsy*

Late in the summer of 1952 it occurred to a small group of interested persons that those brave pioneers who had arrived in Virginia in April, 1714, and who had been settled by Governor Spotswood on an outpost of civilization, ought to be recognized for what they were and be accorded the honor they deserved. Just as the temporary marker, staked up in 1934, had no longer a foot of ground to stand on, so also these courageous immigrants, ignored and forgotten, had not a niche reserved for them in history, not even in the annals of the contemporary, religious denomination whose tenets, it was well known, they had brought with them.

Accordingly, a Promotion Committee composed of Dr. Howard Benchoff, Dr. O. B. Michael, Col. F. C. Switzer, and Dr. C. H. Huffman, Chm., was organized to collect funds for an appropriate marker of permanent and imposing character. Funds were easily raised. A massive granite stone was selected and the dimensions and design chosen. During the winter months the project was completed for installation, unveiling, and dedication. On the smooth, polished surface of one side the names of the heads of the immigrant families were etched:

MELCHER BRUMBACK	JOHN HOFFMAN
JOHN CAMPER (KEMPER)	JACOB HOLTZCLAW
JOHN CUNTZ (COONS)	JOSEPH JOSEPH MARTIN
HARMON FISHBACK	JOHN JACOB RECTOR
JOHN FISHBACK	JOHN SPILLMAN
JOHN HENRY HAEGER	TILLMAN WEAVER
PETER HITT (HEIDE)	

It must be remembered that Pastor John Henry Haeger was also head of a family in this colony. His wife was living with him as late as 1732, when his

will was drawn, and there were at least two daughters, Agnes and Anna Catherine. Agnes was the first wife of John Fishback and Anna Catherine was the first wife of John Hoffman. The Rev. Daniel and the Rev. James Hoffman, both of whom ministered in the Valley of Virginia late in the century, were great grand-



The first permanent marker honoring the memory of the Nassau-Siegen immigrants to Virginia was dedicated in the spring of 1953. This granite shaft was unveiled April 26, 1953, by Mr. Jack Gilbert Holtzclaw, a direct descendant in the sixth generation of the Germanna pioneer, Jacob Holtzclaw. An impressive program, appropriate for the occasion, was presented before a large, appreciative audience. The memorial was erected temporarily on a leased plot of ground by the side of the highway, but was moved to its present location in Siegen Forest in April, 1961.

sons of this couple. The Unveiling ceremony took place at the site of Germanna, Sunday, April 26, 1953, at 3:30 p.m.

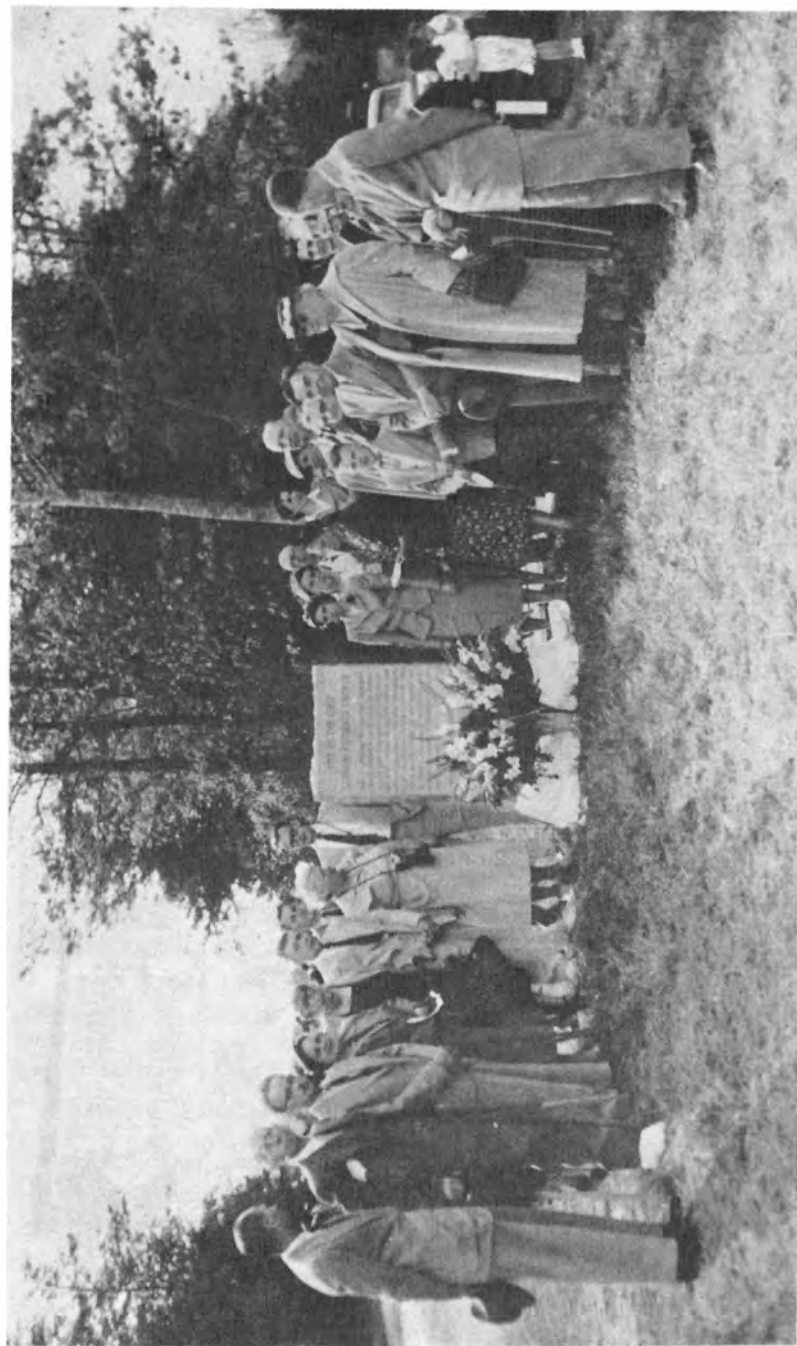
An interesting and impressive program was prepared for the occasion. Those taking part were the Rev. Paul V. Helm, Jr., Mr. Jack Gilbert Holtzclaw, Dr. C. H. Huffman, the Rev. J. Wade Huffman, the Rev. Arthur W. Newell, and Dr. John W. Wayland. The attractive, four-page program folder contained a descriptive, historical sketch which concluded with the following observation:

During the six decades of their organized life in Colonial Virginia, they contributed immensely to the American way of life. First, by their wise and prudent discretion, they won toleration for their religious tenets and thus, unquestionably, showed us the feasibility of complete separation of church and state. This basic contribution antedated by many years Jefferson's Statute for Religious Freedom in Virginia. Second, by their emphasis upon rugged individualism, tempered by sincere interest in the general welfare of all, they gave us a unique exhibition of our future democracy at work. We, their beneficiaries today, are thereby reminded that, although the things of the hand perish, the things of the spirit are eternal.

"On this green bank, by this soft stream,
We set today a votive stone;
That memory may their deed redeem,
When, like our sires, our sons are gone."

IN RETROSPECT

It may be rewarding at this point to refer back to Part I, page 6, wherein the effort is made to explain how the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies, Inc. originated. Note that articles, seeking to give concise historical background to events of interest pertaining to the Germanna immigrants, reached Siegen, Germany. The contents of those articles were concerned chiefly with details embraced in Episode III, Part II, just concluded. Thus the wheel of exposition has come full circle.



Some of the descendants of the 1714 pioneers present at Germanna April 20, 1953 for the dedication and unveiling of the first permanent marker in honor of the Nassau-Siegen immigrants.

GERMANNA CHRONOLOGY

- 1714—The first colony is settled at Germanna under the patronage of Governor Alexander Spotswood.
- 1714—The place called Germanna is for the first time given a local habitation and a name in Acts of Assembly passed in Colonial Virginia in 1714.
- 1715—Within the year following their settlement at Germanna, the immigrants begin mining operations, demonstrating their skill as prospectors, assayers, and mentors.
- 1715—John Fontaine, Clayton, and Beverley visit the village of Germanna, November 20th and 21st — thus leaving for us the first eye-witness description of the frontier scene. (See scene that follows.)
- 1716—Spotswood, with John Fontaine and others, leaves Germanna August 29th to cross the Blue Ridge. Wednesday, September 5th they reach the top of the mountain. September 6th they cross the river at the foot of the mountain in the Valley of Virginia. Monday, September 10th, the "Knights" arrive back at Germanna.
- 1717—Experienced workmen from Siegen probably complete the construction of the Spotswood furnace, 13 miles down the Rapidan from Germanna.
- 1717—The second colony is settled at or near Germanna, and is thus



befriended by Spotswood through the initial stages of settlement.

- 1718—The first colony of Germans fulfill their contract and terminate activities under Governor Spotswood.
- 1718—**The Germanna Compact.** Heads of the 12 families composing the first colony come to a unique agreement with each other to be at equal expense in the purchase of their future home site (1800 acres) the same to be divided equally amongst all of the partners by lot.
- 1720—The Germanna pioneers from Siegen move northward and found Germantown on Licking Run (the 1800-acre site, now in Fauquier County, Virginia.)



THE WEAVER HOUSE. Above the door was the date 1721. This was probably the first house built by the pioneers on their 1,800-acre tract, where they had founded Germantown about 1719-20. For a detailed account of this historic event, see *Germanna Record*, No. 2, "Germantown Restored."

- 1721—November 7th John Hoffman of the first colony marries Anna Catherine Haeger, daughter of pastor John Henry Haeger.
- 1721—Germanna becomes the county-seat of the new county of Spotsylvania, and so continues for about ten years.
- 1722—Spotswood makes his home at Germanna, and builds his "Enchanted Castle" across the street, opposite the nine houses all in a line, described by John Fontaine in 1715, which houses had recently been vacated by families of the first colony who had been sent over by Queen Anne in 1714.

- 1726—The colony of 1717, residing at or near the village of Germanna, move to the Robinson River section, now in Madison County.
- 1732—September, Col. William Byrd visits Spotswood at Germanna, and is cordially received in the "Enchanted Castle." At the termination of the brief sojourn, together visitor and host travel from Germanna 13 miles down the Rapidan to inspect the Spotswood iron mines and furnace.
- 1733—The Rev. John Henry Haeger, pastor of the Licking Run congregation, draws up his last will and testament, naming therein his seven grandchildren as beneficiaries. Mr. Haeger's will was probated in May, 1737, following his death at the advanced age of 93.
- 1740—Hoffman's Chapel constructed about 1740 in the Robinson River area in Madison County.
- 1740—Alexander Spotswood dies at Annapolis, Maryland, aged 64.
- 1750—Germanna descendants in the Colonial Wars — 1750 through the Revolution.
- 1796—Two ministers — the Rev. Daniel and the Rev. James Hoffman, brothers — great grandsons of the Rev. John Henry Haeger, pastor of the Germanna and Germantown congregations, cross over into the Valley of Virginia and begin their ministry among the German Reformed congregations here.
- 1852—First edition of the **Memoirs of a Huguenot Family**, by Ann Maury. Containing the daily journal of John Fontaine telling of his visits to Germanna in 1715 and 1716 and of his tour with Governor Spotswood and others across the Blue Ridge to the Shenandoah Valley.
- 1862—Breastworks, trenches, and cannon pits, defensive preparedness at Germanna Ford, gateway to the Fredericksburg and Wilderness campaigns.
- 1863—April 29th, Hooker's army crosses at Germanna Ford, moving south and east toward Chancellorsville.
- 1863—April, Abortive attempt to bridge the Rapidan at Germanna Ford to facilitate quick movement east for Stuart's cavalry, stationed at Culpeper. September, Lee's army crosses at Germanna Ford, moving south and west. November 26th Meade's army crosses at Germanna Ford to attack Lee at Mine Run. November 30th Meade's army retires from Mine Run and recrosses at Germanna Ford to the north side of the Rapidan.
- 1864—May 4th and 5th the army of Grant and Meade crosses, mainly at Germanna Ford, to attack Lee in the Wilderness.
- 1866—**A Progress to the Mines**, by Col. William Byrd, published in Richmond, tells of Byrd's visit to Spotswood at Germanna in 1732.
- 1899—**Genealogy of the Kemper Family**, by Kemper and Wright.
- 1903—"The First German Reformed Colony in Virginia," by Wm. J.

- Hinke, published in the **Journal of the Presbyterian Historical Society**, Philadelphia. 1906, two articles on the Germanna Colonies in the **Virginia Magazine of History and Biography**, Richmond.
- 1907—**The History of Orange County**, by W. W. Scott, Richmond. Much about Germanna.
- 1914—**Genealogy of the Fishback Family**, by Willis M. Kemper, New York.
- 1921—September 5th address by Armistead C. Gordon before the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Virginia, at Swift Run Gap atop the Blue Ridge Mountains on the occasion of the dedication of the monument to Governor Spotswood and the Knights of the Golden Horseshoe.
- 1924—**Landmarks of Old Prince William**, 2 vols. by Fairfax Harrison, Richmond. Contains much about Germanna and Germantown.
- 1926—Attractive tablet placed to mark the Spotswood family marble fountain spring, by Mrs. Fred Robinson, sponsor for the Society of Colonial Dames in America.
- 1926—**History of Madison County**, by Prof. Claude L. Yowell, published at Strasburg, Virginia. Many pioneers from the several Germanna Colonies shifted to Madison County.
- 1927—The Evangelical Community of Muesen, Germany, carried out an elaborate anniversary celebration of its 300 years of history, and very appropriately took steps to link up the Germanna colony of 1714, composed of families from Muesen and Siegen, the first German Reformed congregation in America. Contact with Germanna was effected through the American Consul at Cologne, President Coolidge, and Governor Harry F. Byrd of Virginia, at whose instance Mr. J. R. Horsely, Field Assistant in the Virginia Conservation and Development Commission, had photographs made at Germanna and the Spotswood Furnace. Dr. H. J. Eckenrode prepared an historical commentary to accompany the photos.
- 1929—**Genealogy of the Fishback Family in America**, with supplement, by Willis M. Kemper.
- 1930—The Virginia Department of Conservation and Development erects at Germanna two large metal tablets inscribed with pertinent data to mark the historic peninsula encircled by the Rapidan River.
- 1934—Orange County observes its bi-centennial. On September 25th an elaborate program was carried out at Germanna, at which time and place Dr. Hans Luther, German Ambassador to the United States, made the principal address.
- 1936—**Genealogy of the Holtzclaw Family**, by Dr. B. C. Holtzclaw, Richmond.
- 1936—**History of the Descendants of John Jacob Rector**, by Dr. Levi B. Salmans.

- 1937—**Historic Homes of Northern Virginia** . . . , by Dr. John W. Wayland. Several pages relate to Germanna.
- 1940—**Ups and Downs of a Confederate Soldier**, by James Huffman. Relates chiefly to the Germanna Hoffmans.
- 1945—**Iron Works at Tuball**, by Dr. Lester J. Cappon. University of Virginia.
- 1948—**History of the Reformed Church in Virginia, 1714-1940**, by Dr. J. S. Garrison. Historical sketch of Germanna, the pioneers, and the first congregation of the German Reformed Church in America, organized by the Nassau-Siegen immigrants in 1714.
- 1949—Societies of the Germanna Colonies and Knights of the Golden Horseshoe organized at the site of the "Enchanted Castle." (Not incorporated.)
- 1950—**Descendants of Dr. George Whitfield Kemper, Jr.**, by G. Fred Switzer.
- 1951—**John Henry Haeger**, by Dr. William J. Hinke.
- 1951—**Spotswood's Famous Expedition from Tidewater to Shenandoah Valley**, by Randolph W. Church, Librarian, Virginia State Library. Illustrated with photographs and maps. In **Virginia Cavalcade**, winter issue, 1951.
- 1953—April 19th "Knights of the Iron Horseshoe," by Charles Herbert Huffman, in the Richmond **Times-Dispatch**, page A-3.



Photo of the distinguished guests — principals in the Orange County Bi-centennial celebration at Germanna, September 25, 1934. Left to right: Chief Justice Browning of the Virginia Supreme Court, His Excellency, Dr. Hans Luther, German Ambassador to the United States, His Honor, Governor James H. Price, Governor of Virginia, and his military and civilian aids.

- 1953—July 7th **The First Reformed Congregation**, in **The Messenger**, St. Louis, Missouri, (Vol. XVIII, No. 13), by Charles Herbert Huffman.
- 1953—April 26th Granite shaft, honoring the 1714 colony, unveiled at Germanna, with program.
- 1954—**The Germanna Journal**, Vol. 1, No. 6, mimeographed, by Brawdus Martin and Mrs. Agnes L. Kemper.
- 1955—August, "Ein Echo aus Amerika," by Ernst W. Flender, in **Unser Werk**, Siegen, Germany.
- 1955—"John Hoffman of Germanna and Some of His Descendants," by John W. Wayland, in the **Virginia Magazine of History and Biography**, Richmond, Virginia.
- 1955—"Eisen, Erz and Abentour," by Alfred Luck, Siegen, Germany. Concerned with extensive records relating to influences in America.
- 1956—January, The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, organized, trustees named, approved by Circuit Court.
- 1956—The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, chartered by the Virginia Corporation Commission.
- 1956—June, The Memorial Foundation purchases 270 acres of the Germanna peninsula and presently christens this tract "Siegen Forest," thus perpetuating the name of the city **Siegen** in Germany whence many of the 1714 colony emigrated.
- 1957—January, **Germanna, Outpost of Adventure, 1714-1956**, by John W. Wayland and Charles H. Huffman, published.
- 1957—May, Attractive plaque designed and constructed by J. B. Carpenter, Sr., placed alongside Siegen Forest.
- 1957—July, First Reunion of Germanna descendants and friends held in Siegen Forest, and first annual booklet reporting the success of the occasion, entitled "**The Story of Germanna Descendants in Reunion at Siegen Forest, Virginia.**"
- 1958—August, The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies, Inc. is declared a non-profit organization and, consequently, exempt from Federal income tax assessments. Exemption includes: "Contributions made to you are deductible by donors in computing their taxable income in the manner and to the extent provided by section 170 of the 1954 code." Subsequently, exemption from State and local tax assessments passed by the Virginia General Assembly, in regular session.
- 1959—Virginia Highway, No. 3, between Culpeper and Fredericksburg, christened **GERMANNA HIGHWAY**, by authority of the Virginia State Highway Commission.
- 1960—The story of **The Little Fork Colony**—the second colony from Nassau-Siegen, Germany — revived and narrated by Dr. W. B. Hackley and Dr. B. C. Holtzclaw.

- 1961—**The Brumback-Hotsinpillar Genealogy**, by the co-authors, Mrs. Margaret Denny Dixon and Mrs. Elizabeth Denny Vann.
- 1961—The Pavilion, pentagon-shaped to remind all of the block-house described by John Fontaine in 1715, constructed and dedicated.
- 1961—Granite shaft unveiled and dedicated, memorial to the 1717 colony.
- 1961—Granite shaft, memorial to the 1714 colony, dedicated in 1953, removed from its first location and relocated in Siegen Forest.
- 1961—**The Germanna Record** launched, official publication of the Germanna Memorial Foundation.
- 1962—The Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies described as "unique in American life," by Dr. Earl G. Swem, eminent bibliographer, and Librarian Emertus, of William and Mary College.
- 1962—Scientific surveys and extensive research on the history and genealogical wealth of Germantown, by Professors Woodford B. Hackley and Benjamin C. Holtzclaw, and published under the caption, "Germantown Revived", in **Germanna Record**, No. 2.
- 1963—"The Dramatic Story of the Second German Colony of 1717 at Germanna," address by Prof. Claude L. Yowell. "A Visit to the Homeland," described by Dr. B. C. Holtzclaw, who during the summer of 1962, aided by a stipend for study, had spent the summer months in Siegen, Germany and environs, collecting data for the completion of **Germanna Record**, No. 5. Both addresses delivered at the annual Reunion, July, 1963.
- 1964—May, **Ancestry and Descendants of the Nassau-Siegen Immigrants to Virginia, 1714-1750**, by Dr. B. C. Holtzclaw, published as **Germanna Record**, No. 5.
- 1964—Observance of the 250th anniversary of the arrival at Germanna of the Nassau-Siegen immigrants, April, 1714. Anniversary address by U. S. Senator Harry F. Byrd. (See pages —.)
- 1965—"Germanna — Whence and Whither?" reunion address by Dr. John E. Manahan. Impressive exhibit of valuable articles.
- 1965—The 1965 Annual, **The Story of Germanna Descendants in Reunion at Siegen Forest**, dedicated, by the Trustees, to Mr. J. B. Carpenter, Sr. of Culpeper, Virginia, "in grateful appreciation for his continual promotion and generous support of the purpose and objectives of the organization."
- 1965—October, "The Route Followed by Governor Spotswood in 1716 Across the Blue Ridge Mountains," map and commentary, by Prof. Delma R. Carpenter, Sr., of Salem, Virginia, in **The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography**, Vol. 73, No. 4, October, 1965.
- 1966—**History of the Memorial Foundation of the Germanna Colonies in Virginia, Incorporated, The First Decade — 1956-1966**, by Charles Herbert Huffman.

A summary of the reunion activities is published annually in "The Story of Germanna Descendants in Reunion at Siegen Forest." The first number appeared in 1957. The Germanna Library has one copy of all issues bound together in one attractive binding. Single copies only, available.

Special Features

- 1957—The Foundation. Dedicatory Prayer. Faith of Our Fathers.
- 1958—Searching for Ancestors.
- 1959—The Rectors of Pickaway County, Ohio.
- 1960—1717 Colony. Land Map, 1726, Madison County. The Little Fork Colony, Culpeper County.
- 1961—Unveiling and Dedication of the Granite Shaft — Memorial to the 1717 Colony.
- 1962—Summary of the Germantown Study.
- 1963—Germanna in History. Descendants in the Revolution.
- 1964—Celebration of the 250th Anniversary.
- 1965—"Germanna — Whence and Whither?"
- 1966—Germanna in Retrospect. German-American Folklore.