



Carter-Taliaferro Cemetery & Preston Grave
Sudley Farm, Centreville

Carter – Taliaferro Cemetery (Sudley – Mountain View Cemetery)

Family cemetery associated with two Carter family historic homes

- *Sudley Mansion House*
 - Stood approximately 250 yards west of the cemetery
- *Mountain View*
 - Stood approximately one-half mile east of cemetery, near intersection of today's Sudley Road and Bull Run Post Office Road

Neither structure remains - although *Mountain View* foundation remnants are still visible

Cemetery is one of the few remaining physical vestiges attesting to the Carter & Taliaferro families' connection with Fairfax County

- 7 marble headstones; several footstones & fieldstones; at least 15 unmarked graves



*Historic Site Locations
1937 Aerial*

Sudley Mansion House

Carter-Taliaferro Cemetery

Mountain View



*Historic Site Locations
1937 Aerial*

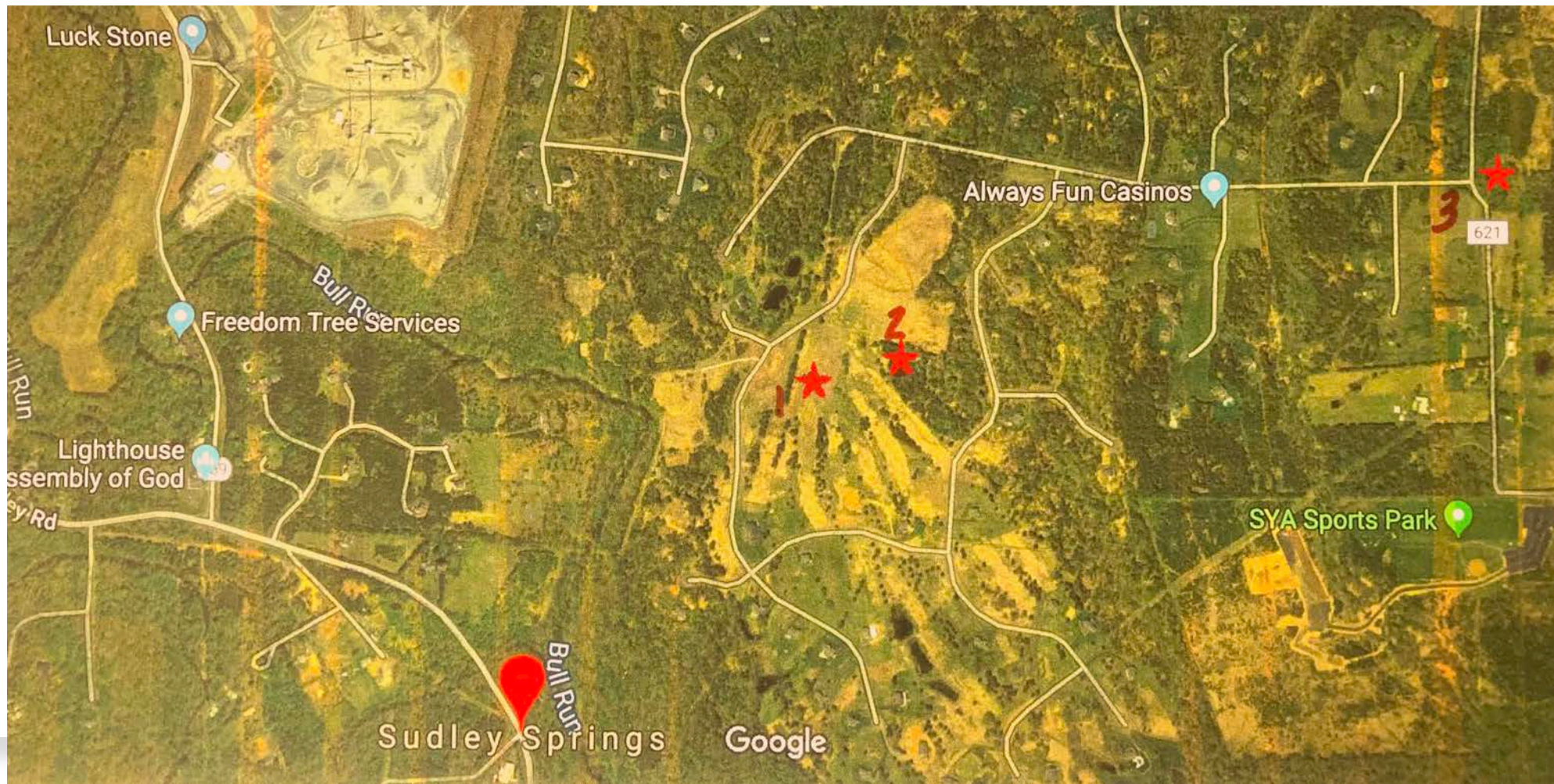


Sudley Mansion House

Carter-Taliaferro Cemetery

Mountain View





*Historic Site Locations
& the Golf Course (1959 – 2010)*

- 1 - Sudley Mansion House
- 2 – Carter-Tailiaferro Cemetery
- 3 – Mountain View

Willie Preston Grave c. 2001



Sudley Mansion House

Bult c. 1760 by John Carter

- Son of Landon Carter of Lancaster County, Va.
- *Grandson of Robert “King” Carter of Lancaster County, Va.*

Overlooked small, thriving community of Sudley

- Sudley Mill (grist mill)
- Sudley Springs Hotel
- Mineral Spring



Mountain View

Bult c. 1755 as an overseer's house

Inherited by William Fitzhugh Carter, son of John Carter of Sudley

William F. Carter married Elizabeth Lucy Ball (of *Portici*) – they raised a large family of five sons and six daughters on this farm

“This farm contains six hundred acres of land and a large area of it consists of beautiful table land, sloping from the house gradually to the banks of Bull Run, and from its crest in the evening or early morning, one gets a view of the Blue Ridge Mountains, so gorgeous, that once seen, is never to be forgotten.” (WPA Historical Inventory, 1956)





Carter-Taliaferro Cemetery

Louisa C. Carter Taliaferro
*2nd Daughter of Wm F. and Eliz. Carter
& Wife of Dr. Benjamin Taliaferro*
(Oct 4, 1815 – Mar 19, 1876)

Dr. Benjamin Taliaferro
(Sep 19, 1810 – Jan 20, 1855) Obelisk

Elizabeth L. (Ball) Carter
Wife of William Fitzhugh Carter
(Aug 1791 – Jan 1855)

William Fitzhugh Carter
Son of John Carter
(Aug 16, 1783 – Aug 27, 1836)
Headstone last seen/read in 1940

Carter-Taliaferro Cemetery

John S. Carter

Son of Landon Carter of Pittsylvania

(Dec 3, 1807 - Jan 13, 1825)

Dr. Cassius Carter

Son of William F. and Elizabeth Carter

(Nov 18, 1825 – Jul 22, 1856)



Carter-Taliaferro Cemetery

Dr. Benjamin Taliaferro Obelisk



2017



January 2021

Obelisk temporarily disassembled to prevent potential damage from ground vibrations caused by heavy equipment use adjacent to cemetery

Private William C. (Willie) Preston (4th VA IN, CSA) Grave

Grave located approximately 100 feet south of where Sudley Mansion House once stood

Enclosed by a single-rail wooden fence approximately 8 ft. (l) x 4 ft. (w) x 2ft. (h)

Private Preston was mortally wounded in the Battle of Brawner's Farm on August 28, 1862 (pre-cursor to Battle of 2nd Manassas)

Evacuated to Confederate Field Hospital at *Sudley Mansion House*, where he died on the evening of August 28, 1862



Private William C. (Willie) Preston

19 years old from Lexington, Va.

- Oldest son of VMI founder and close friend of Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, Lieutenant Colonel John T. L. Preston

Stonewall Jackson & Willie Preston in Lexington, Va.

- Jackson taught Willie in Sunday School
- Willie's step-mother, Margaret Junkin, was the sister of Jackson's first wife, Elinor Junkin, who died during childbirth (a nephew)

Upon receiving notification of his son's death Lt. Col. Preston journeyed to the Manassas Battlefield and to *Sudley Mansion House* in search of Willie's body

- Directed to set of graves near the mansion
- Found remnants of a shirt with Willie's initials (*W.C.P.*) monogrammed on the shirt's cuffs
- Had two identical headstones made - one he erected on his son's grave & the other he transported to Lexington and erected in the family's cemetery plot



Private William C. (Willie) Preston (4th VA IN, CSA) Grave

WILLIAM C. PRESTON

*Son Of
J.T.L. AND S. L. PRESTON
LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA*

*-----
He was a private in the
College Company
of the 4th Virginia Reg't
Stonewall Brigade
and fell at Manassas
August 28th 1862
in the 19th year of his age.*

*-----
The Young Patriot lost his mortal
life in defending his native state.
The Young Christian found his
nobler life in Christ who died for
him.*

Inscription on top of headstone: *SLAIN IN BATTLE*

Footstone inscription: *W. C. P.*





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