

Statement of Justification

Virginia Civil War Trails Sign
on the grounds of the
Waterford Baptist Church
15545 High Street, Waterford, Virginia 20197

The Waterford Foundation, Inc. seeks approval to place an official Virginia Civil War Trails sign on the grounds of the Waterford Baptist Church, near the northwest corner of Patrick and High streets. The Waterford Baptist Church is a fitting place for this sign since it was the site of an engagement between White's Cavalry and the Loudoun Rangers, and since it will sit near the Scenic Byways High Street, Butchers Row, and Loyalty Road, all significant roads in the Civil War.

The sign describes Waterford's history as a "cursed Quaker settlement" loyal to the Union, but occupied by both armies as they crossed and re-crossed the Maryland-Virginia border until miller Sam Means issued the call to form the Independent Loudoun Rangers, the only Federal cavalry raised in Confederate Virginia.

This Civil War Trail marker will enhance the historic character of the Scenic Byways upon which it sits and the Old School across the street which will serve as the Waterford Foundation's headquarters and visitors center as the Civil War Sesquicentennial begins.

The text for the sign has already been vetted by Loudoun's Civil War Sesquicentennial Steering Committee, which is spearheading all County commemorative events, and the complete package with proposed illustrations, text and a site map has been submitted to Virginia Civil War Trails Inc. for production of the sign. The text of the sign will need to slightly revised once we receive HDRC approval for its placement on the property of the Waterford Baptist Church to reflect the change of location from the Waterford Old School.