

INFORMATION ABOUT OWNERSHIP OF CONFEDERATE MONUMENT IN BERRYVILLE, VA

This was collected and compiled by Maral S. Kalbian for Clarke County (June 18-June 29, 2020.)
Updated July 24, 2020.

August 30, 1884: At their 1st Annual Reunion, the *Association of the Survivors of the Clarke Cavalry* adopted a resolution that a 10-member committee be formed to look into “the question of the erection of a suitable monument at some convenient point in this county...” (*Association of the Survivors of the Clarke Cavalry Minute Book 1884-1918*; CCHA 1939.00106.001, p. 29).

March 1, 1886: Act of General Assembly to incorporate the *Association of the Survivors of the Clarke Cavalry*. It allowed them to hold real estate and be exempt from taxation (*Acts of Joint Resolutions of General Assembly 1885-1886*, Chapter 357, pp. 392, 393).

March 1, 1886: Act of General Assembly to authorize the Clarke County BOS to sell and convey to the *Association of the Survivors of the Clarke Cavalry* a part of the public square in Berryville (not to exceed 25 feet in diameter) for the purpose of erecting thereon a memorial monument to “their deceased comrades in arms.” (*Acts of Joint Resolutions of General Assembly 1885-1886*, Chapter 358, p. 394).

(Note that the Association could not raise the funds needed before the financial downturn of the early 1890s, so the project was put on hold until the late 1890s when they resurrected the idea.)

June 19, 1900: Deed from The Board of Supervisors of Clarke County to the Association of the Survivors of the Clarke Cavalry (transcription below).

This Deed made this 19th day of June 1900 between the Board of Supervisors of the County of Clarke in the State of Virginia of the first part, and the Association of the Survivors of the Clarke Cavalry a body politic under the laws of the state of Virginia of the second part Witnesseth that whereas by an act of the General Assembly of Virginia assessed March 1, 1886 to be found in the Session Acts of 1885 - 86 Chapter 358 page 393. The said Board of Supervisors was authorized to sell or donate and convey to the said Association a part of the public square in Berryville in said County, not to exceed twenty-five feet in diameter, for the purpose of erecting thereon a memorial monument to their deceased Comrades in Arms and whereas the said Board of Supervisors at a meeting thereof on the 28th day of April 1900 adopted a resolution authorizing its Chairman to execute a deed under the hand with the seal of the Board, and attested by the Clerk of the said Board, said deed to convey to the Association of the Survivors of the Clarke Cavalry a lot circular in form with the diameter of twenty-five feet, the center of which be at or near a point where a peg has been driven in the ground in the public Square. Said lot to be used solely for the purpose of erecting thereon a monument of the

Confederate dead of Clarke County. Now therefore this deed witnesseth that the said Board of Supervisors for and in consideration of the premises doth hereby donate and convey to the Association of the Survivors of the Clarke Cavalry a lot in the form of a circle, with a diameter of twenty-five feet (25 feet) in said public square in the center of which lot is now designated by a planted stone. The said lot to be used for the purpose aforesaid and for no other purpose relative [?]. Witness the signature of Thomas B. Levi the Chairman of the said Board of Supervisors of Clarke County, with the seal of said Board annexed, attested by the Clerk of said Board this 19th day of June 1900. (Clarke County Deed Book Z, pp. 244, 245).

July 21, 1900 - large unveiling ceremony

August 22, 1916: At the 32nd Annual reunion of the Association of the Survivors of the Clarke Cavalry, "on a motion comrades [names] were appointed to a committee to call on the Stone Wall Chapter of the U D Vs of Berryville Va and request that their organizations take charge of the Confederate Soldiers Monument which stands in Court House grounds in Berryville, Va when this organization ceases to exist." (*Association of the Survivors of the Clarke Cavalry: Minute Book 1884-1918*; CCHA 1939.00106.001, p. 196).

1932: According to the archivist at the UDC headquarters in Richmond, VA, the Stonewall Chapter of the UDC went "defunct" in 1932.

******I read through the Clarke County Board of Supervisors Minutes from 1916 to 1959 and did not find any mention of the monument being conveyed to them or them being asked to take over maintenance.**