

HENDERSON HOUSE – DUMFRIES

Source: Prince William A Past to Preserve by the Prince William County Historical Commission

Historic Name: Henderson House

Date or Period: Late 18th Century

Original Use: Residence

A large, two-story, red, brick building with a metal-covered roof, this building was built by Alexander Henderson. Henderson came to Virginia from Scotland in 1756. He was an officer under George Washington during the American Revolution, a large landowner, a merchant, and the father of Archibald Henderson, the fifth commandant of the U. S. Marine Corps, who held the position longer than any other person.

Source: “Prince William the Story of Its People and Its Places” by The Virginia Writers Project – Originally compiled in 1941 and later sponsored by The Bethlehem Good Housekeeping Club of Manassas, Virginia in 1961 –

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The HENDERSON HOUSE, a large red brick dwelling (R) was built about 1785 by Colonel Alexander Henderson and more recently enlarged towards the highway. Above the tin-covered hip roof are the molded tops of brick chimneys.

Alexander Henderson (1738-1815), who came from Scotland to Virginia about the year 1756, settled first in Colchester and was made a vestryman of Truro Parish. In the long dispute that took place in 1769 over the selection of a site for Pohick Church, when the vestrymen absented themselves from appointed meetings in order that there would be no quorum to take action, Washington wrote in his diary, “Went to an intended vestry at ye cross Roads – but disappointed of one by Mr. Henderson’s refusing to act.” Colonel Henderson, it seems, later repented of his indecision and cooperated with George Washington.