

P12697

Welcome to Shepherdstown

THE "OLD UNTERRIFIED" of
INDIAN and REVOLUTIONARY
WARS

THE OLDEST TOWN IN
WEST VIRGINIA

Shepherdstown
Chamber of Commerce

HISTORY IN SHEPHERDSTOWN

Potomoke Church, first west of the Blue Ridge, 1719 (Presbyterian) was here.

First land patent, on which town now stands, was dated 1734.

Mecklenburg incorporated, 1762, located on grant of John and Isaac VanMetre, June 17, 1730; assigned to Joist Hite August 5, 1731.

First Lutheran Church organized 1765.
Reformed Church organized as separate denomination, 1782.

Episcopal (English) Church organized prior to 1769.

First known school, on portion of Lots 62 and 32, High Street, revealed by deed dated March 23, 1773.

First steamboat by James Rumsey, December 3, 1787

First newspaper, "Potowmac Guardian," 1790.

First post office, June 30, 1792.

Swearingen's (Thomas) Ferry, was established before October, 1765.

Town's name changed from Mecklenburg to Shepherdstown, in honor of Thomas Shepherd, the founder, 1798.

Shepherdstown Academy, first classical school, established previous to 1787; chartered, 1813.

Gave several companies to the Revolutionary War.

Proposed site for the National Capitol, 1790.

Pack Horse Ford, the gateway to the Shenandoah Valley, over which passed early pioneers, designated on Fairfax map of 1736 as "waggon road to Philadelphia."

NOTES OF INTEREST

Homes of Charles Lee, Horatio Gates, and William Darke, of Revolutionary fame, were near here.

Pack Horse Ford crossed by Moravians from Bethlehem, Pa., on way to settle Winston Salem, N. C., 1752.

David Shepherd, founder of Wheeling, went from here.

James Strode Swearingen, founder of Chicago, lived here.

Twenty-one springs of pure water attracted pioneers to settle here.

INVITATION

Tourists and visitors to Shepherdstown should remain long enough to hear its tales of ghost visitations, stories of Indian romances and narratives of thrilling experiences of the settlers here more than two hundred years ago.

Come again.