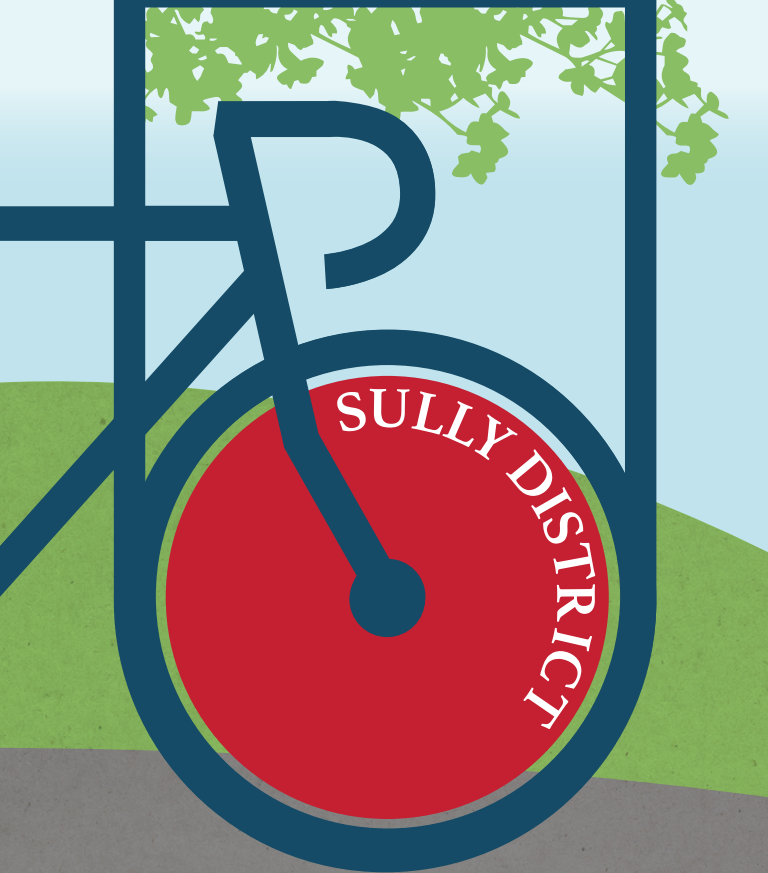


# Historic Fairfax CYCLE TOUR



# Cycle through history!



## Historic Fairfax Cycle Tour: Sully District

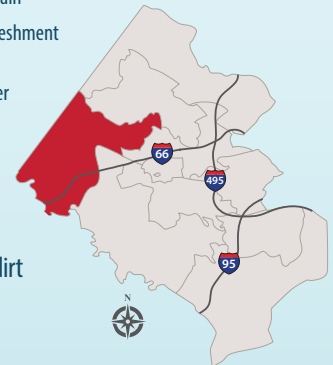
With leading-edge technology companies and one of the world's major international airports, Western Fairfax County is moving fast into the future! But many reminders of Sully District's historical roots exist today, and are accessible by bike.

The Historic Fairfax Cycle Tour Sully District will guide you on a fascinating and educational bicycle route by landmarks such as Sully Plantation, the Mt. Gilead House and Civil War sites. The tour can be completed in one loop or multiple stages, as determined by the comfort level and ability of your group's riders.

### Safety Reminders and Tips for your Trip:

- Follow the rules of the road
- Check your bicycle's tire pressure, brakes and chain
- Bring water and snacks as there are limited refreshment opportunities on the tour
- Mountain or hybrid bikes are recommended over road bikes, as some parts of the tour have rough surfaces

Sully District was once a sparsely populated rural area, where Civil War troops traveled from town to town on dirt roads. Today, as part of Fairfax County's "technology corridor," Sully District has become an important center for business and economic development.



Fairfax County Supervisor Districts  
Sully District shown in red

# Bicycle Tips for On and Off the Trail



## Beware of car doors

They can open at any time.  
Ride at least 5 feet away from parked vehicles.

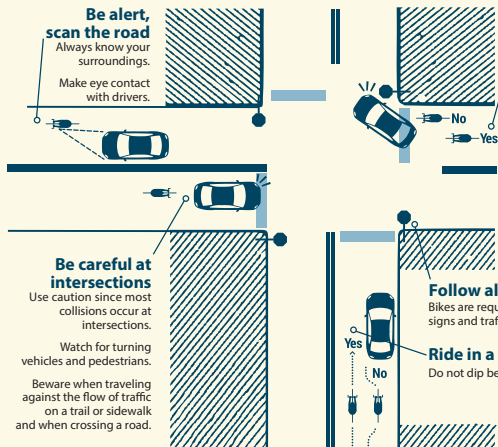


## Use a hardened steel U-lock

Fill up as much of the space within the U-lock with the bicycle and what it is attached to as you can.

## Be alert, scan the road

Always know your surroundings.  
Make eye contact with drivers.



## Ride in the appropriate position and lane

Move into the appropriate lane early.

In narrow lanes or slow traffic, it may be safer to take the whole lane.

Ride to the right with traffic. Do not ride in a right turn only lane if you are going straight.

## Be careful at intersections

Use caution since most collisions occur at intersections.

Watch for turning vehicles and pedestrians.

Beware when traveling against the flow of traffic on a trail or sidewalk and when crossing a road.

## Follow all traffic laws

Bikes are required to obey all regulatory signs and traffic lights.

## Ride in a straight line

Do not dip between parked cars.

## Lock bike securely

Secure lock through bike rack, wheel, and frame



Lock your bike to a solid object so that it cannot be lifted over

Replace quick-release mechanisms with a bolt or lock parts separately



## Use appropriate hand signals

Tell motorists, cyclists and pedestrians what you intend to do; be predictable.

## Control your speed

Slow down when the trail is busy, potentially slippery, or if sight lines are obstructed.



## Signal when passing

Pass on the left and only when safe. Warn pedestrians and other cyclists before passing them—it's the law. Bells are best. Use verbal warnings only when necessary. Those being passed can acknowledge with a wave.



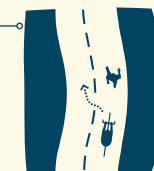
## Cell phone and headphone dangers

Keep the trails safe and communication with other trail users clear. Avoid using cell phones and keep one ear clear when using earphones, as required by law.



## Keep to the right

All trail users should keep to the right except when passing on the left. Move off to the right of the trail when stopping.



## Be visible

Wear bright or light colored clothing with reflective material or straps.



## Use lights

When riding in low visibility conditions, including darkness, use at least one front white light and one rear red flashing light.



## Wear a helmet

Helmets dramatically reduce the risk of head injury in the event of a bicycle crash. Children under 15 are required to wear a helmet.



## Be alert

Be alert to trail conditions. Watch for slippery surfaces such as bridges, wet sections, ice and gravel. Watch for debris in the trail. Ring bell for others where visibility is restricted.



## Two wheels or two feet: Sharing the way

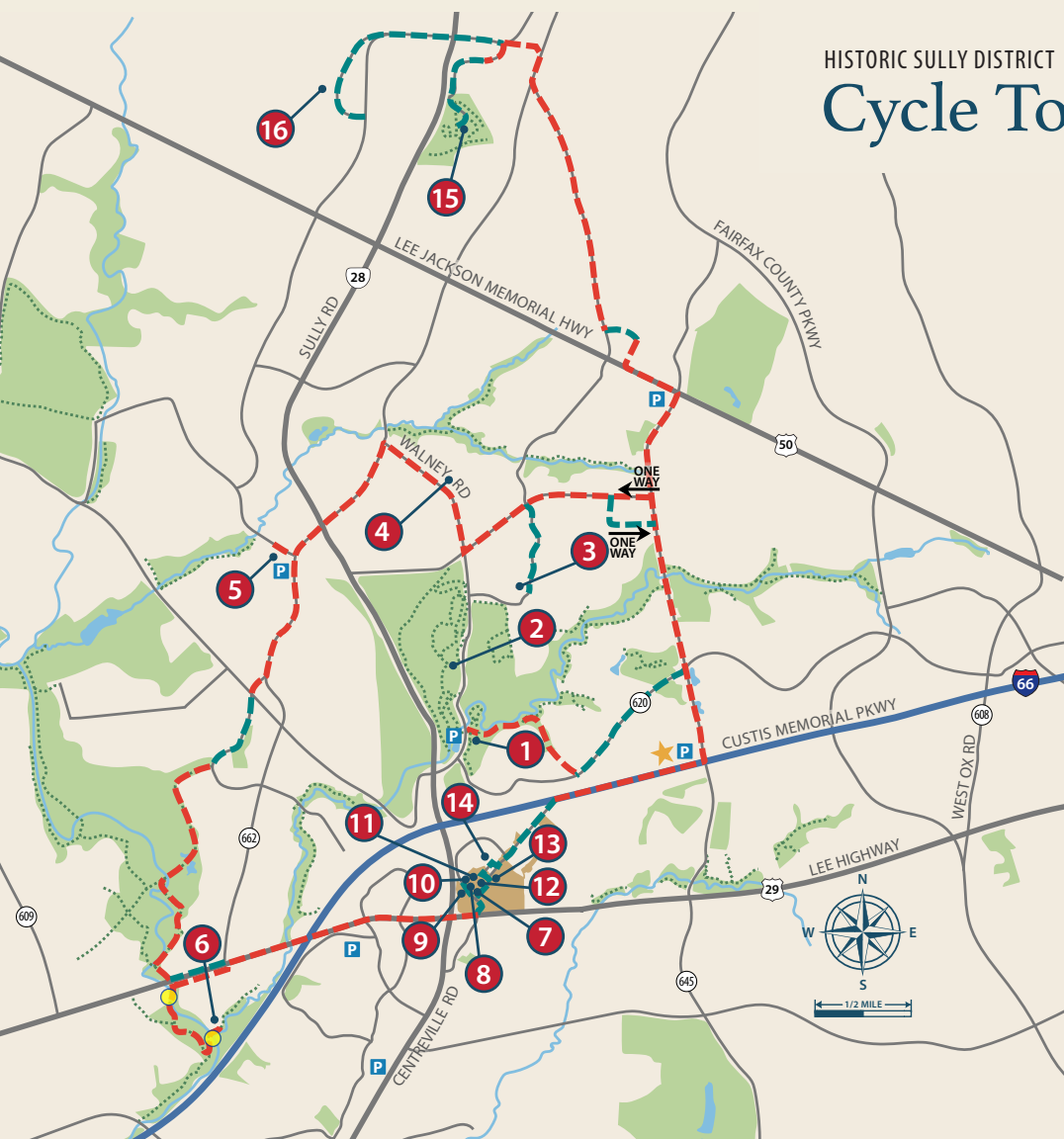
Multi-use trails are shared and enjoyed by bicyclists, pedestrians, runners, skaters, crosscountry skiers, dog walkers, baby strollers, persons in wheelchairs, and others. Use courtesy and common sense to avoid collisions—especially when the trails are most crowded.

A complete list of Virginia Bicycle Laws are online at [vdot.virginia.gov/programs/bk-laws.asp](http://vdot.virginia.gov/programs/bk-laws.asp)

For further information, visit: [sharevaroads.org](http://sharevaroads.org)

HISTORIC SULLY DISTRICT

# Cycle Tour Route Map



- 1— Cabell's Mill and Middlegate House
- 2— Walney Visitor Center
- 3— Cross House
- 4— Leeton
- 5— Sully Governmental Center—  
Newton Boundary Stone
- 6— Lanes Mill and Newton's Mill Ruins
- 7— Harrison House
- 8— Havener House
- 9— Centreville Methodist Church
- 10— Stone Filling Station
- 11— Mt. Gilead
- 12— Spindle Sears House
- 13— St. John's Episcopal Church
- 14— Civil War Earthworks
- 15— Sully Historic Site
- 16— Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center

- STRINGFELLOW PARK & RIDE
- ROUTE ON PAVED TRAILS/SIDEWALKS
- ROUTE ON ROAD
- UNPAVED TRAIL
- HISTORIC AREA
- FAIR WEATHER CROSSING

14MI—MAIN LOOP STARTING AND ENDING AT STRINGFELLOW PARK & RIDE AND VISITING SITES 1–14

6.25MI—STRINGFELLOW PARK & RIDE TO THE STEVEN F. UDVAR-HAZY CENTER



Sites along Virginia Civil War Trails are indicated with a bugle



28

50

P

P

645

66

P

4

3

2

1

Walney Rd

Leeton

Poplar Tree Rd

Cross House

Autumn Glory Wy

Walney Rd

Walney Visitor Center

Cabell's Mill and Middlegate House

Chantilly Library

Fallen Oak Dr

Point Pleasant Dr

Stringfellow Rd

Rocky Run

Fair Lakes Pkwy

Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

SULLY RD

Stringfellow Park & Ride

Northbourne Dr

PARK BIKE AND WALK TO SITES 1-2



## 1 Cabell's Mill and Middlegate House

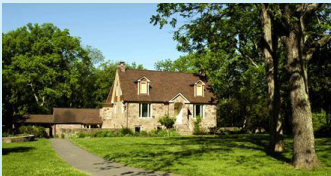


Thomas Brown obtained a life tenancy from Willoughby Newton, owner of the property around Cabell's Mill, in 1742. Brown and his youngest son Coleman Brown purchased over 600 combined acres north of Big Rocky Run. This land now forms the core of the Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, which includes Walney, Cabell's Mill and Cabell miller's

house (now known as Middlegate House). The mill itself was in the ownership of the Lane family sometime prior to 1800. Thomas Cabell purchased the property in 1866. Cabell's Mill was later sold to Edward Pittman, whose niece Caroline Settle sold it to J.W. Rixey Smith in 1929. Ellanor C. Lawrence and her husband, David, used the property as a country retreat after 1944. In 1971 David Lawrence deeded the property to the Fairfax County Park Authority, which opened the park in 1980.

## 2 Walney Visitor Center

Thomas Brown leased the land on which Walney stands from its owner, Willoughby Newton, beginning in 1742. Thomas and his youngest son Coleman, a vestryman at Truro Church, purchased over 600 acres north of Big Rocky Run that form the core of the Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. A cousin, Lewis Henry Machen, a clerk of the United States Senate, bought the property in 1843 as a hedge against the insecurity of a job dependent on political patronage. His two sons, Arthur and James operated the farm, which Arthur named Walney. The farm suffered extensive damage during the Civil War occupations of Centreville. Ellanor C. Lawrence bought the farm from the Machen heirs in 1935 and renovated both Walney and Middlegate, the Cabell miller's house. After her death in 1969,



her husband David Lawrence deeded the farm to the Fairfax County Park Authority.

## Cross House 3

The Cross Farmhouse was built for Alfred Judson Cross in 1905, replacing an earlier structure built by Cross's father and lost to fire earlier that year. The Cross Farm was part of an 18th-century grant to Robert Carter, Jr. from Thomas, Sixth Lord Fairfax. Cross's grandfather bought the land from the Carter heirs in 1825. Cross's father, a slave owner and veteran of the War of 1812, settled on the land and built a house in the 1840's. The house was rebuilt on the same foundation using timber cut on the farm and sawn at a local mill. The Cross family farmed the land until 1959. It is perhaps the last remaining architectural example of a turn of the century farmhouse left standing in the Sully district.



## Leeton 4

This land was part of a 4,142 acre Northern Neck grant granted to George Turberville in 1727. His grandson George Richard Lee Turberville inherited it in 1790. George Lee Turberville was one of five William and Mary students that met in Williamsburg's Raleigh Tavern in 1776, to foster friendship, morality and literature, and helped organize Phi Beta Kappa, America's first Greek-letter society. Harriet, wife of George Turberville, was the daughter of Richard Henry Lee, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. In 1817 the tract was divided between their two children. The son, George Lee Turberville, received the land surrounding Leeton. His sister Cornelia received land north of Little River Turnpike, where she and her husband built Chantilly. Leeton and 79 acres remained in the Turberville family until 1952 when it was purchased by W. Lewis Leigh and his wife Frances S. Leigh.





## Sully Governmental Center— Newton Boundary Stone

5

The Newton Boundary Stone is one of a series of seven stones that marked the boundary lines of a 1,719-acre grant belonging to Willoughby Newton in the 1730s and 40s. Newton was responsible for bringing settlers to the area by leasing parcels of 100 and 200 acres for small farms. He built a “quarter” to house his own slaves working the plantation and erected a grist mill on Big Rocky Run. In 1746, Newton gave one acre of his total of 6,400 acres to the Truro Parish vestry upon which they built Rocky Run Chapel. Newton’s development included the colonial settlement of Newgate, which became the Town of Centreville in 1792. The stone was discovered in 1971 by local Boy Scouts as part of a search instigated by the county. The stone is located inside the lobby of the Sully Governmental Center.

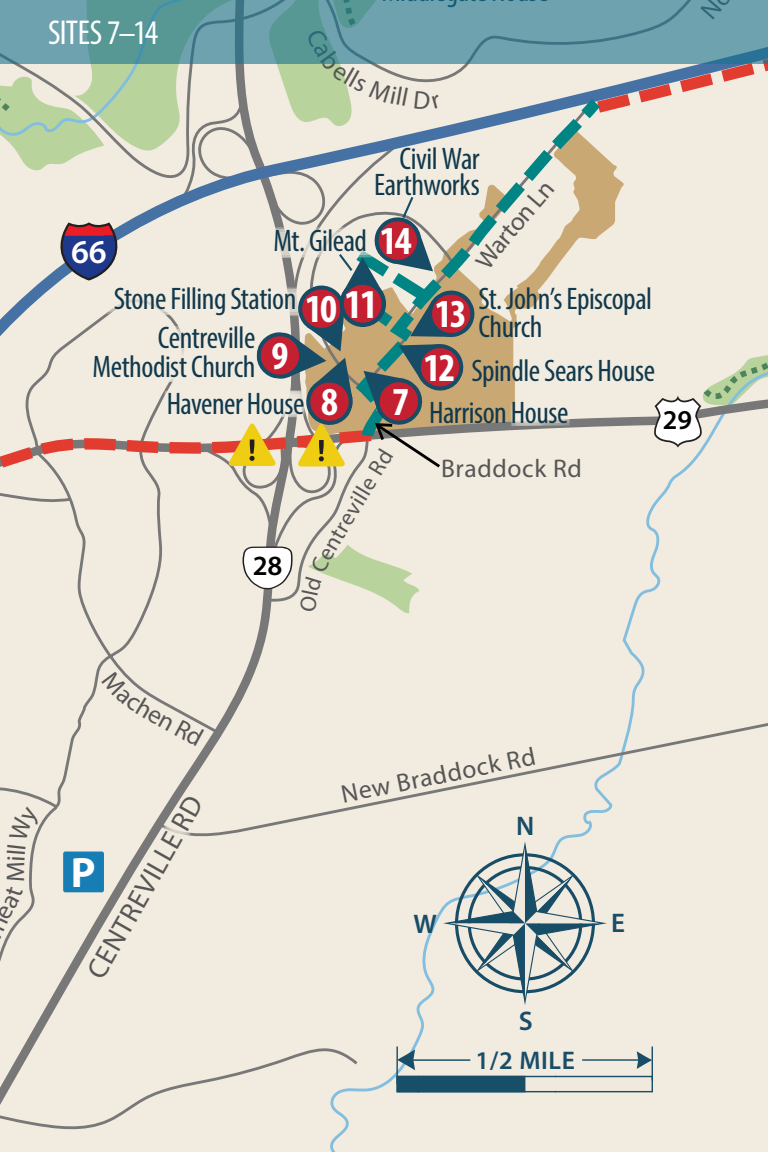


## Lanes Mill and Newton's Mill Ruins

6

Lanes Mill Cultural Resource Park, located where Little Rocky Creek feeds into Cub Run, contains the ruins of one of the county’s most significant industrial complexes. The site’s use as a mill dates from after 1760, when James Lane, Jr. was granted permission to build a mill on land that was formerly the property of Willoughby Newton. Lane’s son William, one of the original trustees of the town of Centreville, inherited the mill in 1777. An 1807 insurance policy refers to Lane’s “Merchant’s Mill” called Cub Run Mill. The mill remained in the Lane family until 1854. After it had changed hands several times, the mill was sold to Wilson Farr in 1930. The Fairfax County Park Authority acquired the property in 1990. It was, at one time, home to Pendleton Robinson, a grandson of James “Gentleman Jim” Robinson, a highly respected African American born free in 1799.





## Harrison House 7

The Harrison House, part of the Centreville Historic Overlay District, is one of the most unusual dwellings in the region. It is an example of a regionally popular house type equipped with a central entrance passage. The wooden house was erected between 1865 and 1867, and physical examinations of the property indicate that the stone cellar and foundation may predate the house by as much as 60 years. The decorative "German" siding appears to be a later addition. The house was owned by members of the Harrison family from 1875 to 1949. Harrison House is said to have an association with a nearby tanyard for animal skins and hides and hosted services for St. John's Episcopal Church during military Civil War occupation.



## Havener House 8

The Havener House, built about 1790, was known as the Red House during the last half of the 19th century and the early 20th century due to its red paint. The lean-to was added to the rear between 1815 and 1850. The earliest known occupant of the "store and dwelling house" was Charles Tyler, who is noted as living there in an 1803 insurance policy. The southern room of the house was used as a store and/or post office until 1921. Owner Francis Adams's son-in-law John Hening operated a hotel in the house in 1820 and it may have been used as a Union hospital during the Civil War. Howard H. and Myrtle Shaw Havener bought the house in 1921 and lived there for more than 50 years.





## 9 Centreville Methodist Church



The Old Stone Church on Main Street at Centreville was originally built by October 1854. The deed stipulates the building's purpose: "...first, for the use of the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South as a place for public worship, secondly, when not occupied nor used by said denomination, then to permit any other denomination of Christians to use the same for public worship..." It appears in photographs taken by Matthew Brady during the Civil War and was used by both sides as a hospital during the First and Second Battles of Manassas. The structure was badly damaged after the second battle, and the ruins were rebuilt in 1870 to a similar design. A gallery used by African-American worshippers was removed more than fifty years ago. The building is now known as the Church of the Ascension, an Anglican parish.

## 10 Stone Filling Station

The Stone Filling Station is significant as an example of the economic, social, and political heritage of Fairfax County and Centreville as the first standalone gas station in Centreville. The station is a rare remaining example of a stone filling station in Fairfax County. The station is the work of master craftsmen, two local masonry craftsmen named Pinkney McWhorter and Will Crouch. In May 1936, Carroll B. Carter purchased property on Lee Highway near Braddock Road. Carter arranged to have stone from the Four Chimneys House, a nearby Civil



War ruin he also owned, salvaged and used in the construction of the filling station. After completion, the building was leased to Texaco. In later years the station sold Shell gasoline.

## Mount Gilead 11



For almost two centuries, the house known as Mount Gilead has fulfilled its role as a family home in rural Virginia. It is a local tradition that Mount Gilead was built about 1749, but no documents have been found to confirm this date. Original sources reveal its architectural similarity to Fairfax County dwellings of 1730 to 1790. In 1785 James Hardage Lane sold a six-acre parcel on the edge of the three hundred fifty acre tract to Joel Beach who was the husband of his daughter Elizabeth. There is sufficient documentation to conclude that Joel Beach built the structure about 1785, named it Mount Gilead, and operated an ordinary in the village of Newgate until 1789. The Jamesson family lived in Mount Gilead from 1837 to 1904. Alvin C. Detwiler, who purchased the dilapidated house in 1935, undertook an extensive renovation.

## Spindle Sears House 12



The Spindle Sears house was a mail order ready-to-assemble bungalow purchased from Sears, Roebuck & Co—one of approximately 450 kit house designs that Sears sold between 1908–1940. In 1933 Roger and Wilma Spindle purchased 4.5 acres in Centreville for \$800. The Spindles chose to build a ready-to-assemble bungalow and wrote Sears, Roebuck & Co a check for \$1244 to cover the cost of the house. The building materials were shipped to the Clifton railroad station in early 1934, and Bernard and Wallace Cross were hired to construct the house. The Crosses were paid \$400 to erect the house. Construction took about two and a half months. Over time the Spindles sold off bits and pieces of their property, ending up with just over two-and-a-half acres. Roger Spindle died on March 30, 1965. Wilma sold the house and remaining acreage to the Airston Corporation in 1986.

### 13 St. John's Episcopal Church



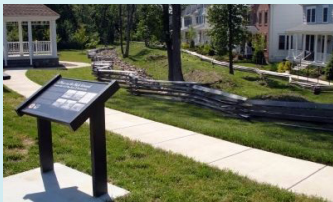
The original St. John's Episcopal Church was constructed by 1851, but it was destroyed during the Civil War. The current building was under construction by August of 1867, and probably completed that year. The church is in the Gothic Revival style. The congregation obtained an old pulpit and communion table from Saint Paul's Church in Alexandria.

Church membership declined after the Civil War. Services were discontinued in 1891 and the eleven remaining communicants were transferred to Christ Church, Chantilly. Over the next 60 years, services were held intermittently at Saint John's. The church reopened in 1954. The nearby landscaped cemetery contains the graves of Civil War soldiers.

### 14 Civil War Earthworks

In mid-October 1861, Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston made Centreville the site of the winter encampment of the Army of Northern Virginia. The occupation involved thousands of troops and was surrounded by a large system of earthworks. The Centreville trenches connected several forts, two of which were located on opposite sides of the Route 29, Braddock Road and Old Centreville Road intersection. One of these, Artillery Hill, was graded down to street level in 1943, and is at the present site of the Newgate Shopping Center. Another was known as Fort Johnston, and was leveled in 1929 for residential development.

Although the Confederate builders did not record their work, engineers of Union forces later photographed and mapped the area.





## Sully Historic Site 15

Sully is an important frame house completed in 1794 by Richard Bland Lee, Northern Virginia's first Representative to Congress, as well as General Robert E. Lee's uncle. Sully is presented by the Fairfax County Park Authority as an historic site and museum house. The property includes original outbuildings, representative slave quarters, and gardens. Sully stands on part of land inherited from Lee's grandfather Henry Lee I. Lee sold it to his cousin Francis Lightfoot Lee to settle debts in 1811. Francis Lightfoot Lee was committed to the Pennsylvania Hospital after a breakdown in 1825 and the property left the Lee family in 1838. It served as a dairy farm and ambassadorial residence during the following 120 years. Soon after the land was acquired by the federal government in 1958 for construction of Dulles Airport, Congress passed legislation to preserve the house.



## Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center 16

The Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Virginia is a part of the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC. It is equipped with two enormous exhibit halls—the Boeing Aviation Hangar and the James S. McDonnell Space Hangar—which contain a large collection of artifacts from every period of aviation and space exploration history. These include a Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird, a Concorde aircraft, and the space shuttle Discovery. From the Donald D. Engen Observation Tower visitors can get a bird's-eye view of architect Eero Saarinen's graceful Washington Dulles International Airport and the surrounding runways. The airport site was selected in 1958 and it opened in 1962.



*Cycle through  
history!*





## Historic Fairfax Cycle Tour: Sully District

The Historic Fairfax Cycle Tour aims to reach out to residents and visitors alike and provide a fun way to learn about the history of Fairfax County, all while riding a bicycle! The Sully District tour offers a ride through history from the historic Centreville area, to several important Civil War sites, and to all the history housed in the Steven F. Udvar - Hazy Center.



County of Fairfax,  
Virginia



In accordance with Title VI and ADA requirements, please contact the Fairfax County Department of Transportation at 703-877-5600, TTY 711 to request reasonable Title VI or ADA accommodations, including printed material in an alternate format or translated, and interpreter services for public events. Requests for assistance at public events must be received at least 7 days in advance of the scheduled event.

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