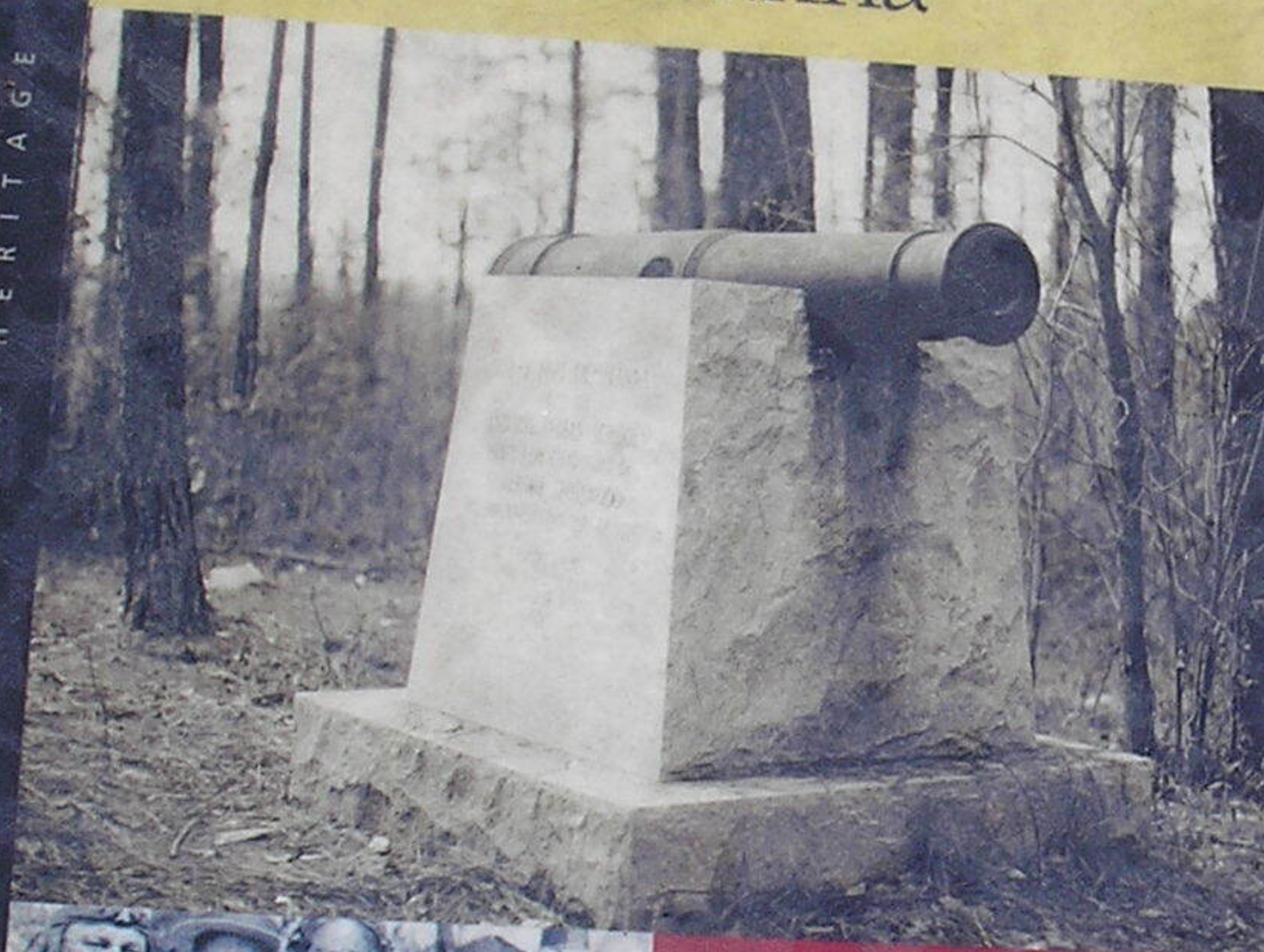


Fort Christanna



(Above) In 1924, a monument was erected on 10 acres of land where Fort Christanna once stood.

(Left) Ada McCrae, a descendant of Governor Alexander Spotswood, unveiled the monument at Fort Christanna in 1924 at a large ceremony that included Pamunkey Indians.

(Above Right) Archaeological research at Fort Christanna has unearthed such artifacts as these tools and points typical of 18th century Native American local tribes, and an English-style strap hinge of that era.

IN 1714, AT GOVERNOR ALEXANDER SPOTSWOOD'S URGING, the Virginia General Assembly funded the Virginia Indian Company, charged with building a fort on the banks of the Meherrin River in what would become Brunswick County. The fort would provide local settlers both a trading base and safety from Indian attacks. The General Assembly also funded a nearby Indian village to offer shelter and protection to displaced Native Americans, mostly of Sapony tribes.

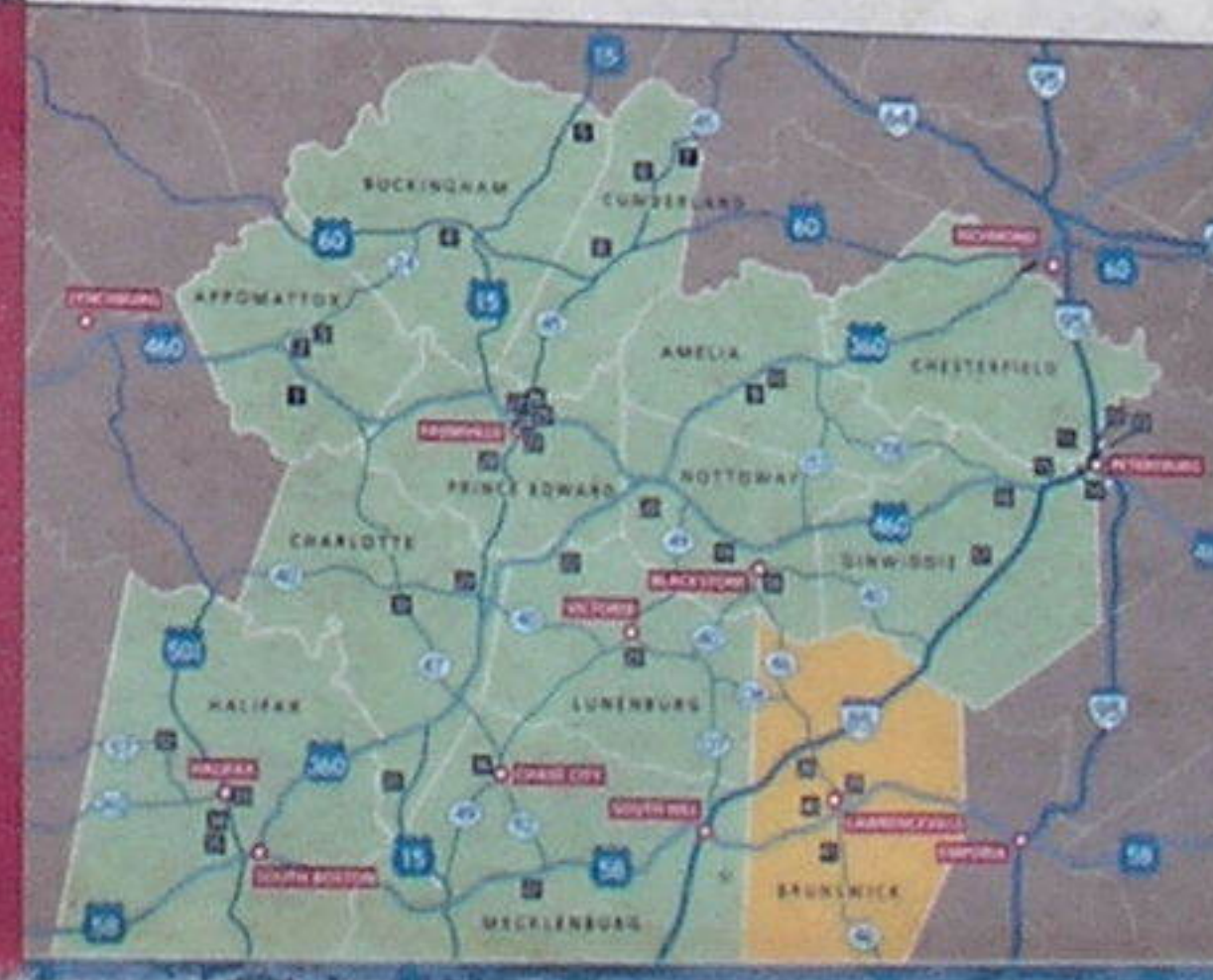
Recognizing the need to educate the Indian children to prepare them to be future citizens, Governor Spotswood hired North Carolina's Reverend Charles Griffin to be a teacher at the fort, paying Griffin 50 pounds annually from his own money. Griffin successfully taught as many as 77 Native-American children at one time. Courses

included English, reading, writing and math, with students also required to "read the Bible and Common Prayers." After the General Assembly withdrew its financial support of the fort, private investors kept it going for a while, though it was not manned after 1724. Finally,



in 1730, the land itself was parceled out to its investors, and Fort Christanna was largely forgotten. In 1924 attention was once again bestowed on the site, when

The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in the Commonwealth of Virginia acquired 10 acres of land where the fort once stood and erected a monument in its memory. Recent archaeological excavations have found the perimeter of the original fort, and efforts will continue in order to learn more about this early Brunswick County site.



APPOMATTOX COUNTY
1. Weymouth Camp/Abel's House
2. Carver-Pick School
3. Education in 1800's Rural Virginia

BUCKINGHAM COUNTY
4. Oak-Rose Schoolhouse
5. Clark G. Woodson Bridge
6. Hamilton High School
7. Rosewood School at Cartersville
8. Jackson Tavern

AMELIA COUNTY
9. Russell Grove Presbyterian Church and School
10. Mrs. Samantha Rankin Hall

CHESTERFIELD COUNTY
11. Virginia State University

PETERSBURG
12. Earlfield School Public High School for African-Americans in Virginia
13. Sackville Library
14. The Peabody-Williams School

SPOTSWOOD COUNTY
15. Southside Virginia Training Center
16. Rocky Branch School
17. Early Education in Spotswood County

NOTTOWAY COUNTY
18. Blackstone Female Institute
19. Mt. Zion Church
20. Ingleside Training Institute

LUNENBURG COUNTY
21. The People's Community Center
22. St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
23. Christian Day School

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY
24. Prince Edward County Public Schools
25. A. A. Martin High School
26. Pamunkey Female Seminary Association
27. First Baptist Church
28. Beulah AME Church
29. Hampton-Sperry College

CHARLOTTE COUNTY
30. Southside Virginia Community College - John H. Daniel Campus
31. Charlotte County Library
32. South School

HALIFAX COUNTY
33. Middleville Community Center
34. Mary M. Bethune High School
35. Washington-Cookman Elementary School
36. Meacham Church

MECKLENBURG COUNTY
37. Thorne Institute
38. Sydnor Academic and Bible Institute

BRUNSWICK COUNTY
39. Southside Virginia Community College - Christena Campus
40. Salem High School
41. Hospital and School of the Good Shepherd
42. Fort Christanna