

***The African American
Historic Sites of Vienna, VA
Walking Tour***

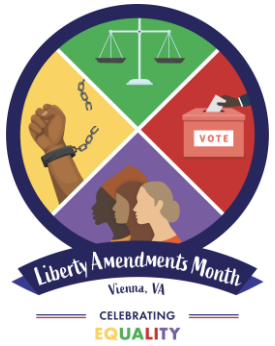
Compiled by Sylvia Taylor and Gloria Runyon

**Originally created as a riding tour,
the *Walking Tour* has been divided
into four walking segments.**

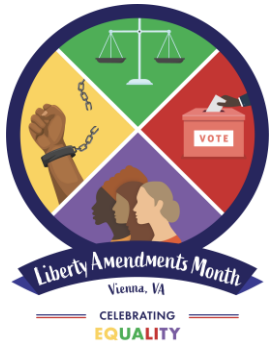
INTRODUCTION

- The *African American Historic Sites Tour of Vienna, VA*, was originally created in February, 2017, as one of the events held in celebration of *First Baptist Church of Vienna's 150th Anniversary*.
- The tour compilers, *Sylvia Taylor* and *Gloria Runyon*, are longtime Vienna residents, members of First Baptist Church of Vienna, and Board Members of Historic Vienna, Inc.

The African American Historic Sites Tour of Vienna in support of the 13th and 14th Amendments



- *The 13th Amendment to the Constitution* abolished slavery within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction, stating that neither slavery nor involuntary servitude except as a punishment for crimes.
- *The 14th Amendment to the Constitution* granted citizenship to all persons born or naturalized in the United States, including former enslaved people, stating that citizens shall not be deprived the right of life, liberty, and property without due process; or without equal protection of the laws, guaranteeing all citizens equal protection of the laws.



- In support of the 13th and 14th Amendments, our Liberty Amendments event will offer a historic virtual tour of the African American presence in Vienna from 1867 to 2006.
- Although there were African Americans (and other people of color) who were free before the Civil War who lived and owned property in Vienna, after the end of the War, more people of color and the former enslaved in Vienna were given the opportunity to own homes, have schools, and churches.
- All citizens, including the formerly enslaved, were given the right to due process and protections.
- This tour will offer you a glimpse of this community in Vienna, Virginia.

Walking Tour Segment -2-

- *Stop 9 Malcolm Heights:* Lincoln & Highland Streets NW (Originally African American Neighborhood)
- *Stop 10 Peterson Lane Park* - Malcolm Rd. NW, near Orchard St. NW
- *Stop 11 Sons and Daughters Cemetery* - 500 block Orchard St. NW
- *Stop 12 First Baptist Church of Vienna, Relocated,* - 450 Orchard St. NW
- *Stop 13 Home of Mrs. Channie Henderson* - 432 Orchard St. NW



****Stop 9 MALCOLM HEIGHTS
Lincoln & Highland Streets NW
(Originally a Colored Neighborhood)***



Former Thomas House 533 Lincoln St. NW

Former Marion House 531 Highland St. NW

- Malcolm Heights is a neighborhood that was built around 1948. The Town of Vienna contracted an architect from McLean to build a neighborhood on Lincoln and Highland Streets for the colored residents of Vienna.
- For many years, the streets were unpaved. Eventually, with the prodding of Mrs. Monica Thompson who lived on Lincoln St, and the Malcolm-Windover Heights Civic Association, the streets were paved c. 1976/1977 and sidewalks were constructed.
- ***Mrs. Fannie Thomas*** who also lived on Lincoln St., remembers being the first resident of this neighborhood.
- Over time, as original owners sold their houses and relocated, their houses were either enlarged or replaced with larger contemporary houses.
- ***Mrs. Thomas' house and the former William Marion Family's house are two of the replaced houses.***
- Today, this is a mixed racial neighborhood of 27 houses. Only six of the original houses have remained.



****Stop 10 PETERSON LANE PARK
Malcolm Rd. NW***

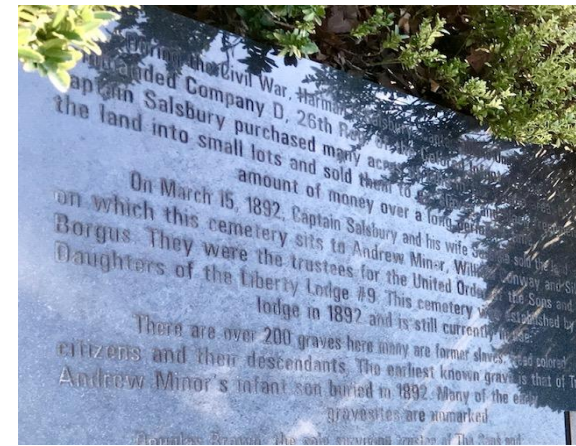


- *Peterson Lane Park* was named for “*Ting*” *Peterson*, father of *Joe Peterson*, an African American resident whose house was next to the park.
- The park was the location of a vibrant community of six or seven African American families whose houses stretched to Corsica St.
- Today, the Park is a neighborhood activity center that has walking trails, a pick-up basketball court, a soccer area, a Gaga pit, a playground, and a parking lot.





****Stop 11 SONS AND DAUGHTERS CEMETERY
South Side of Orchard St. NW near Malcolm Rd.***



- The historic plaque at the entrance of the cemetery reads:

“During the Civil War, Harmon I. Salsbury, Captain in the Union Army, commanded Company D, 26th Reg. of the Colored Infantry Troops. At war’s end Captain Salsbury purchased many acres of land in the Vienna area. He divided the land into small lots and sold them to ex-slaves and black freedmen for a small amount of money over a long period of time. On March 15, 1892, Captain Salsbury and his wife Susanna sold the land on which this cemetery sits to Andrew Minor, William Conway and Silas Borgus. They were the trustees for the United Order of the Sons and Daughters of the Liberty Lodge #9. This cemetery was established by the lodge in 1892 and is still currently in use. There are over 200 graves here many are former slaves, freed colored citizens and their descendants. The earliest known grave is that of Trustee Andrew Minor’s infant son buried in 1892. Many of the early gravesites are unmarked. Douglas Brown, the sole surviving trustee of the The Sons and Daughters Lodge, transferred ownership of the cemetery, before he passed, to the First Baptist Church of Vienna on December 6, 1986.”

- Due to the efforts of Ted Thomas, Maud Robinson, and Historic Vienna, Inc., the cemetery was designated a Historic Site with a historic marker.



****Stop 12 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA
RELOCATED 1957 & RENOVATED 1996
450 Orchard St. NW***



- In December, 1957, First Baptist Church relocated from Lawyer's Rd. NW to 450 Orchard St. NW.
- The cornerstone laying for a new building was an historic occasion for the members and friends of the church.
- Later, extensive renovation and the new construction of the building was implemented.
- In February, 1995, the congregation moved temporarily to nearby *Louise Archer School*, where church services were held for about a year while the construction of the new building took place.
- On *April 14, 1996*, the congregation of First Baptist Church of Vienna dedicated a beautifully redesigned and renovated edifice. *In 2017, the church celebrated its 153rd Anniversary.*



****Stop 13 HISTORIC HOUSES
FORMER CHANNIE HENDERSON HOUSE
(Renovated) - 432 Orchard St. NW***



- Mrs. Channie Henderson, a teacher at the Vienna Colored School, later renamed Louise Archer School, taught her students in the classroom that was at the front of the three room school.
- Her house was built by her husband Harold Henderson, Sr. on property purchased in 1948 from Wise Dairy Farm next door.
- The house was completed in 1952. Mrs. Henderson also taught at Oakton Elementary and Cunningham Park Elementary.
- Eventually, the Henderson family relocated and the house was sold to new owners.
- In 2018-2019, the original house was redesigned (*above*) with the original entrance encased in a renovated porch, and a garage and a rear wing added.