

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

Historic Name: Fairfax House

Date or Period: ca. 1825

Original Use: Residence

Vicinity: Leesylvania

"Only the foundation and the ruins of two brick chimneys remain of the Fairfax House. There is also a brick-lined well near the house, some foundations of farm buildings, and the remains of a large well on the hill behind the house. The Fairfax House was located about 500 yards east of the Lee House known as Leesylvania (see page 27), on a hill overlooking the river at Freestone Point in what is now Leesylvania State Park. It was a two-story, three-bay, frame house on a high stone foundation with brick end chimneys. The house had a central hall plan with parlors on either side. Soldiers camped at nearby Freestone Point to guard the heavy artillery guns that had been placed on the cliff during the Confederates' successful blockade of the Potomac River during 1861 and 1862. Between 1910 and 1920, the house burned. Some say that bootleggers, who were then occupying the house and illegally making whiskey, deliberately started the fire to avoid apprehension. Another source claims that the fire was caused by sparks from a passing train."