

The American Civil War –150th Anniversary

Enjoy the Inns at Montpelier Bed and Breakfast's tours of the Civil War in Central Virginia and stay at The Ebenezer House.

The American Civil War was the defining moment in history that ended the cruel practice of slavery across the country. After the Civil War, the African American families worked as tenant farmers and farm labors in the fields to feed their families. As time passed with their meager savings they began to purchase small parcels of land. This became their personal and economic freedom. And then African Americans began to build churches in their community.



So begins the story of the Ebenezer House which was once the Ebenezer Methodist Church, a black church, built in 1901 in Culpeper County, Virginia.

In 1983, the trustees decided to build a new church and sold their old church. Richard Gordon, a well known Madison County wood worker, who builds furniture and cabinets, torn the church down and rebuilt it in Madison County, making it his workshop and living quarters for his family. He used all of the materials and kept the same design of the church.

In 2001, the Webb family purchased the property as a perfect place for all of their family furniture and antiques. It wasn't until 2003 that they decided to turn the house into a bed and breakfast. Having traveled in England, Scotland, and Ireland numerous times and staying in bed and breakfasts, we thought this would be a great way to meet people from all over the world. This has been a great and enlightening journey.

A few years ago a committee of trustees from the Methodist Senate came to the door and said they were looking to see where the Ebenezer Methodist Church had been moved... This was the old church they were looking for. The trustees gave to us wonderful information and a map where the original church had its beginning in Culpeper County.

The original land for the church was purchased by the Clarkson Tabernacle Committee of the Mt. Airley ME Church in 1897 and another parcel of the land that the church set on had been purchased for a "sum of five dollars cash in hand and personal property of one bay horse called Tom, one McCormick Binder, one McCormick Mower, one Bickford and Huffman Drill, and one Studebaker Wagon".

This was great information and made us fall more in love with our Ebenezer House.