

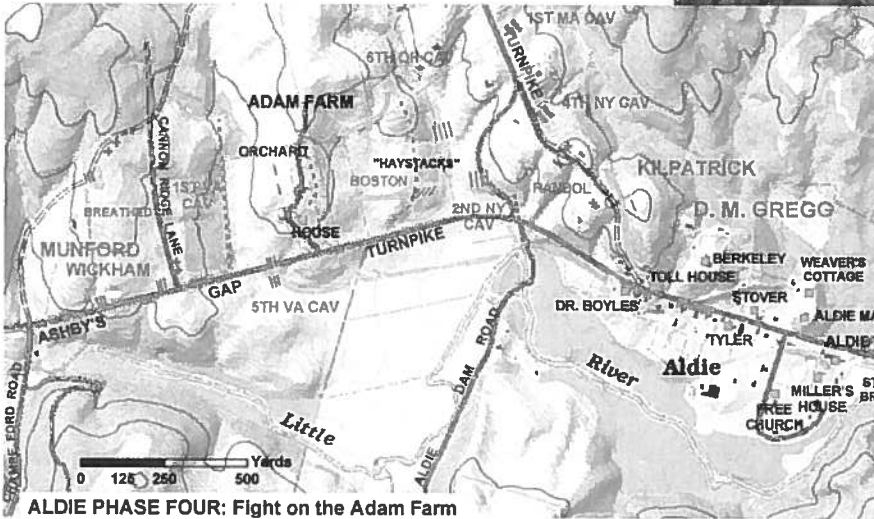
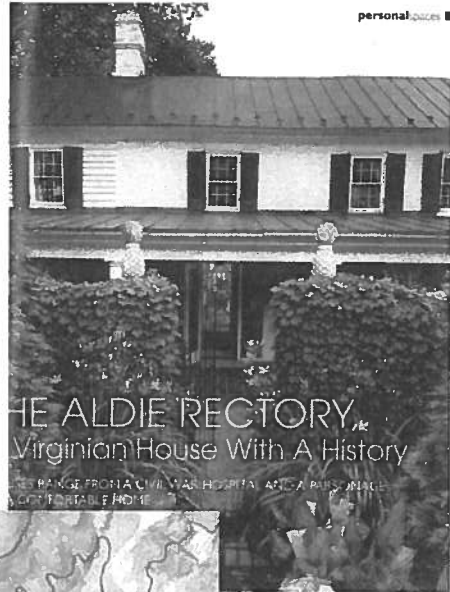
The Old Aldie Rectory



One of the most noteworthy old homes in Aldie is the Old Aldie Rectory, so named because of its use as a parsonage by the Mt Zion Old School Baptists from 1878 to 1907 and then by the Episcopalians ("John's Parish") from 1907 onward. Noted John's Parish trustees included Mr & Mrs Henry Fairfax (then owners of Oak Hill), Captain Alfred diZerega, and Alexander Moore. This congregation is now Our Redeemer Episcopal Church in Aldie, built in 1892 on Rt. 50 but at the Eastern end of town on donated Oak Hill property.

The house was originally built about 1803 as a residence, on land surveyed by George Washington in March 1774. Thomas Noland and family were the first to live there. Dr. Thomas Boyle bought the house in 1841, and lived there until his death in 1872. During the Civil War, Dr. Boyle converted part of the house into a makeshift hospital, where he treated numerous casualties from both sides in the campaigns leading up to Gettysburg, especially the Battle of Aldie in 1863.

During the war, Ellen Tyler boarded in part of the house while her husband Edmund Andrew Tyler served elsewhere in the 8th Virginia Infantry. She watched in June 1863 from an upper floor window as the Union soldiers passed in front, turning up the Snickersville Turnpike on their way towards the waiting Confederates at the crest of the long hill. Aldie residents recall her grandson John M. Tyler retelling Ellen's story of hearing a Yankee officer standing in his saddle and yelling "I'll take this damn hill if it takes every man I have." She was apparently shocked by the profanity.



ALDIE PHASE FOUR: Fight on the Adam Farm

Reverend David Campbell Mayers lived in the Rectory from 1921 until 1946. He was a "pillar of the community", even joining with his wife in 1923 the Aldie Horticultural Society, founded to "beautify the village, interest school children in horticulture, and to grow bulbs for sale in city markets." The "Aldie Hortie" society continues to this day.



Travelers through Aldie may notice the welcome signs at either end of town. Hanging from each is a plaque: "Darlene Williams, Honorary Citizen." Darlene owned the Rectory from 1999 until called away by work and family several years ago. She was an active force in the Aldie community and contributed unselfishly her time and resources to all things Aldie. On the 200th birthday of the Rectory, she held a large party there and presented the signs to the village. After her departure, the Ruritan added the plaques in her honor.

The current owners are the husband and wife team of Anthony Cluff and Donna Clark. Donna is a prize-winning artist and photographer whose Old Aldie Rectory Studio is on the property. Anthony is an author whose most recent book is "In Search of the Great White God."



John M Tyler