

# A Guide to the Goose Creek Historical and Cultural Conservation District Collection, 1972-1981

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1972-1981



A Collection in Thomas Balch Library M 100  
Thomas Balch Library  
2014

## History

**Processed by:** Ashley Swartwout

## Title Statement

A Guide to the Goose Creek Historical and Cultural Conservation District Collection, 1972-1981

**Subtitle:** Goose Creek Historical and Cultural Conservation District Collection

**Collection:** M 100

**Author:** Ashley Swartwout

## Publication Statement

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word, created by Elizabeth E. Preston, 23 June 2014

**Language Usage:** Description is in English

## Descriptive Summary

**Collection number**

M 100

**Language**

English

**Abstract**

There is one box with the correspondence of John Lewis, newspaper clippings dealing with the designation of Goose Creek as a historical district, and various documents regarding the designation of historical districts.

**Creator**

John Lewis, Winchester, VA

**Physical Characteristics**

.15 cu. ft..

**Repository**

Thomas Balch Library

## Administrative Information

**Access Restrictions**

Collection open for research.

**Use Restrictions**

No physical characteristics affect use of this material.

**Acquisition Information**

John Lewis, Winchester, VA

**Processing Information**

Ashley Swartwout, 20 June 2014

**Preferred Citation**

Goose Creek Historical and Cultural Conservation District Collection (M 100), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

## Accruals

1991.0003X

## Alternative Form Available

None

## Adjunct Descriptive Data

## Related Material

None

## Bibliography

Ancestry Library Edition, United States Obituary Collection, Thomas Balch Library, <http://www.ancestrylibrary.com> (accessed 20 June 2014).

Goose Creek Historical and Cultural Conservation District Collection (M 100), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

## Other Finding Aid

None

## Historical Information

The Goose Creek Historical and Cultural Conservation District was established 7 February 1977 by the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors. A sixteen square mile area south of the towns of Purcellville and Hamilton, the Goose Creek Historical and Cultural Conservation District is an area originally settled by Quakers in the 1700s. Many buildings in the area, such as the Quakers' Meeting House, pre-date the Civil

War, and some pre-date the Revolutionary War.

The Goose Creek Historical and Cultural Conservation District was mainly the work of John Lewis (26 June 1930-14 April 2013), a local architectural historian employed by the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, who surveyed the land, made notes of the historic buildings, and working with the Lincoln Community League, fought the county government to get the Goose Creek area designated an historic district.

After spending two years surveying the area, Lewis approached the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors with the support of over 80 percent of the Goose Creek landowners to request historic designation. Many of the landowners belonged to families who had lived on the same land for nine generations or more. While they had worked personally to preserve the historical significance of their land, they wanted to receive official historic recognition to prevent outside companies from building structures or damming the creek in a way that would negatively impact the surrounding Goose Creek area.

The goal of obtaining such designation was to preserve important historic buildings of cultural significance from commercialization or whims of future homeowners. After two and a half years of debating, compromising, and legal inquiries, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors designated the Goose Creek area an historic district. With the designation, the Board of Supervisors set up a review board composed of two historians and three local homeowners who would approve construction of new buildings and changes to existing structures in order to preserve the historic integrity of the area.

## Scope and Content

There is one box with the correspondence of John Lewis, newspaper clippings dealing with the designation of Goose Creek as a historical district, and various documents regarding the designation of historical districts.

## Arrangement

Box: folder

## Contents List

### Box 1

**Folder 1: Application for the National Register of Historic Places**

**Folder 2: Conservation Conference program, 1979**

**Folder 3: Correspondence, 1973**

**Folder 4: Correspondence, 1976**

**Folder 5: Correspondence, 1977**

**Folder 6: Correspondence, 1978**

**Folder 7: Correspondence, 1979**

**Folder 8: Correspondence, 1981**

**Folder 9: "The Goose Creek Historic Area Preservation District" by Frank Ralfo, 1976**

**Folder 10: Goose Creek Historical District documents, 1975-1979**

**Folder 11: Lists of Landowners in Goose Creek Historical District, 1979**

**Folder 12: Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, 1977-1978**

**Folder 13: News Clippings, 1972**

**Folder 14: News Clippings, 1973**

**Folder 15: News Clippings, 1974**

**Folder 16: News Clippings, 1976**

**Folder 17: News Clippings, 1977**

**Folder 18: Notes from John Lewis's interview with Ashton Nichols, 1977**

**Folder 19: Potomac Basin Reporter, 1976-1977**

**Folder 20: State and Local Historic Preservation Standards, 1977**