

PLACE: CAMP HOLLY SPRINGS

LOCATION: Henrico County. Bounded on the south by Route 5 (New Market Road) and on the west by Turner Road and on the east by Bailey Creek. Northern boundaries are uncertain.

SIGNIFICANCE: Here, in this vicinity, in April 1813, Major William Armistead and several hundred militia established Camp Randolph near the natural springs, Holly Springs, on the land of Richard Randolph. They also occupied Malvern Hills to the west. Later, a larger militia group under Lt. Col. John H. Cocke, established a camp at the Holly Springs (Now the site of Diamond Springs Bottled Water company) By the end of June, there were over seven hundred militia troops camped near the springs to guard the main river road against possible British invasion. Detachments of militia used Malvern Hills as a lookout for possible British vessels coming up the river. The camp was used from time to time by local militia, but was again occupied by a larger militia force (about 1500) under the command of Brig. Gen. Robert Porterfield from August 1814 to February 1815. Here, the militia prepared for an expected British invasion which never came. [Sources, William Armistead to Governor, 4/12&16/1813, Barbour Executive Papers, LVA; Cocke Papers, UVA, #640; Stuart L. Butler, "Gen. Cocke in the War of 1812," in Magazine of Albemarle County History, Vol. 65 (2007) 19-43.]

POSSIBLE LOCATION OF MARKER: At the junction of Turner Road and New Market Road (Route 5)