

PLACE: Nomini Ferry

LOCATION: Westmoreland County, at the site of the present Nomini Bridge across Nomini Creek on Route 202.

SIGNIFICANCE: On 20 July 1814, Admiral Cockburn directed four of his frigates to cross the Potomac from Maryland to attack a concentration of Virginia militia at Nomini Creek. With forty barges of Royal Marines and navy, the enemy force moved up to Nomini Ferry located at this point. Lt. Col. Richard Parker, with about hundred Westmoreland County militia, arrived about the same time as the British at the Ferry. Parker's men occupied the commanding heights behind the Ferry to thwart the enemy approach. They soon found themselves outflanked by enemy marines. Outnumbered by thirty to one, Parker's forces retreated down to Templeman Cross Roads, and camped at the Westmoreland Court House. Later that evening, the British returned to Nomini Ferry and remained there until the following day when they returned to their ships. In the wake of the British invasion, many houses, including Mrs. Thompson's at the ferry and nearby Bushfield were destroyed. [Sources: Naval War III, newspapers, Governor Executive papers in LVA, etc.]

POSSIBLE LOCATION OF MARKER: On Route 202 just west of the Nomini Bridge crossing over to Mount Holly.