

## **HISTORY OF LINCOLN, VIRGINIA**

**Submitted by  
Laura Longley, Executive Director  
Lincoln Bicentennial Committee**

Lincoln, Virginia, is a unique, intact historic Quaker village founded in the 1730s with a heritage that connects it not only to President Lincoln himself but also to his legacy of freedom and equality.

A few facts:

- Lincoln, Virginia, is located in Western Loudoun County, about 30 minutes' drive northwest of Dulles Airport--and a world away.
- The village, originally named Goose Creek, was settled by Quakers in the 1730s. Many of the original families' descendants still live in the immediate area. And Goose Creek Meeting is one of the few remaining active Quaker meetings in the region.
- The village's oldest buildings date to the mid-18th century; many more pre-date the Civil War and show signs of the community's role in the Underground Railroad—remnants of tunnels, hidden cubbyholes, false floors in barns.
- Among all the Quaker villages of the region, Goose Creek was known for the close, supportive relationship between its black and white residents, manifested in the historic Grace Church and Colored School B, which the community members built together in 1885. Saving Grace via restoration is a concern for all residents and preservationists everywhere. Among the village's other historic sites: Mt. Olive Baptist Church, built in 1884; the original Quaker meeting house built in 1765, the Lincoln Graded School (later the Catherine Marshall house), and the Meeting's one-room Oakdale School, which schooled children both black and white between 1815 and 1885.
- As for Mr. Lincoln himself, this part of Loudoun County was the only area to deliver votes--9 of them--for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. And he wasn't even on the ballot!
- Goose Creek's residents renamed their village Lincoln after the 16th president awarded them their own post office in 1861. It became only the second place in country to be named for Abraham Lincoln--after Lincoln, Illinois, which he had christened himself.