

Reading of the Declaration of Independence-August 12, 1776

August 12th 1776 (1)

The Meeting of the Justices of Loudoun County at the Courthouse on Monday the 12th day of August in the Year of our Lord One Thousand seven Hundred and seventy six

Present Josias Clapham } Tho: Lewis
George West } Samuel Love
Francis Peyton } Guilleman

The Oath agreed upon by the Honble Convention was presented and read. Whereupon George West and Francis Peyton lent. Administered the said Oath to Josias Clapham Gent. & he Administered the said Oath to George West, Francis Peyton, Thomas Lewis & Samuel Love Jr. Gent.

The Court held for Loudoun County

Monday the 12th day of August in the Year of our Lord One Thousand seven Hundred & seventy six and in the 1st Year of our American Independance

Present Josias Clapham - George West
Francis Peyton - Tho: Lewis - Samuel Love Jr. Gent.

The Declaration of Independancy by the Hon^{ble} Congress was read at the Courthouse & by the Sheriff pursuant to an Order of the Governor & Council of Virginia

Charles Birnis was sworn Clerk of this Court pursuant to an Ordinance of Convention

Philip Roland Esq. produced a Commission from his Excellency the Governor of Virginia appointing him Sheriff of this County who took the Oath prescribed by an Ordinance of Convention and on his Motion Ralph Murray and Christopher Perfect was sworn Deputies under him

Indenture of Slave & Release from Charles Dawson & Wife to Robert McCain the knowledge of some Relinquished & Entered to be Recorded

Indenture of Assignment from Thomas Brown to William French proved by Coleman Brown & George Dawson & Certified About George West Gent.

On August 12, 1776, a [reading of the Declaration of Independence](#) took place on the steps of the Loudoun County Courthouse. On that day, Josias Clapham, George West, Francis Peyton, Thomas Lewis, and Samuel Love were given the official Oath as Justices for Loudoun County, Commonwealth of Virginia, in the United States of America. After the Oath was administered, the Declaration of Independence was read by the Sheriff on the Courthouse steps in accordance with an Order from the Governor and Council of Virginia.