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Pending Virginia Place Name Proposal before the Domestic Names Committee, USBGN

Liberty Creek

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Liberty Creek
Proposal type	new name for unnamed feature
Proponent	Keira Hedlund; Ashland, VA
Date proposed	2/6/2024
BGN case number	6212
Quarterly Review List	455

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	37.80347, -77.51351
Secondary coordinates	37.7754, -77.53406
Feature class	stream
Feature size	2.9 mi. long
Feature description	Heads 3.25 mi. NW of Ashland, flows generally ENE into South Anna River
Name history	Named in association with Patrick Henry's "Liberty or Death" speech; Hanover County is Patrick Henry's birthplace
USGS primary topo map	Hanover Academy 1:24,000
State(s)	Virginia
County(s)	Hanover county
Land ownership	private

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names: None found

Case Summary

The new name Liberty Creek is proposed for a 2.9-mile-long stream which heads near Poor Farm Park, 3.25 mi. northwest of Ashland, and flows generally east-northeast into the South Anna River in Hanover County. The proponent, a local resident, states,

Liberty Creek is the proposed name based on Hanover County boasting as the home of Patrick Henry and the theme of his [speech](#) being liberty. Liberty Middle School is the nearest public school to the creek and Patrick Henry High School is also nearby indicating the influence of the natural, human desire for liberty and is a fundamental and founding principal of the United States of America. The currently unnamed feature requires a name as it is a substantial geographic feature to the residents along Yankeetown [Road] to the west and Eagle Point Farm which sits along the eastern border of the creek.

GNIS lists 15 geographic features in Virginia named “Liberty,” including three streams, although none are in Hanover County. The only one named Liberty Creek is in Tazewell County, 230 miles from the stream in question. The closest features are two small communities in neighboring Caroline County, named Liberty and Liberty Fork.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Hanover County Board of Supervisors
State Names Authority	Virginia Board on Geographic Names
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X