

April 22, 2021

**VIRGINIA VAGABONDS  
TAPPAHANNOCK, VIRGINIA  
ESSEX COUNTY  
MAY 1 THRU SEPTEMBER 30, 2021  
5/10 KILOMETERS**

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS:**

Find the Love

Mayflower - 400TH ANNIVERSARY - Rappahannock River or Tappahannock Tribe

Rockin' Round the Clock

Virginia Counties - Essex County

Walking with America's Veterans

Walking the USA - A to Z - "T" for Tappahannock

**Walk Registration:**

Please use the online start box provided by the American Volkssport Association website ([my.ava.org](http://my.ava.org)). The directions and insert cards are PDFs that you can download and print as needed. The POC does not provide event directions or accept alternate payment methods. The entire online process should take less than 10 minutes for a first time user

**Walk Completion and Walk Credit:**

Once you have physically completed the walk, please login to your Online Start Box account and select the "Maps /Finish" tab. Use the displayed entry form to submit the date and distance of your walk as well as select applicable AVA Special Programs to generate stamped "virtual" insert cards that you may later choose to print out.

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**START POINT:** Parking lot of Essex County Library, 117 North Church Lane, Tappahannock, Virginia GPS Coordinates: N37° 55.7772', W076° 51.7133'

**DRIVING DIRECTIONS:**

**From the Hampton Roads area**, take I-64 to Exit 258 to exit towards Yorktown, US 17 North, J. Clyde Morris Boulevard. Follow US 17 North approximately 69.7 miles to the library on your right. This is just past where US 360 East turns right in Tappahannock. **From Richmond**, follow US 360 East to Tappahannock. After reaching Tappahannock, the library will be on the right just after US 360 East turn right. **From Fredericksburg and points North**, Take I95 to exit 126 towards Spotsylvania. Follow US 17 South for approximately 46.4 miles. The library is on the left just before US 360 East turns left.

**RESTROOMS:**

Restrooms are available at the Essex County Library, if open, as well as at restaurants along the trail.

**Historical Information:**

In 1608, this area was first visited by Captain John Smith. The area was inhabited by Native Americans and when Captain Smith attempted to land here he was fiercely driven back to his ship. It was a Native American village and so he gave both the river and the village Native American names. The river became the Rappahannock, which meant "rise and fall" of water, and the village, set upon it, became Tappahannock, which means "town on the rise and fall of water". In the mid 1600's, a trading post was established by Jacob Hobbs. For a few years the area was known as Hobb's His Hole and later as New Plymouth. Eventually, the original name was returned in 1705. On and around the water still remain thirteen homes and buildings from these early days of Tappahannock.



1. Leave the library and turn right and walk to the street (Cross Street).
2. Turn right on Cross Street and follow it as it curves right to the 4-way stop sign.
3. At the stop sign, turn left on Marsh Street.
4. At the stop sign, turn right on Water Lane (Route 1004).
5. At the stop sign, turn left on Queen Street.
6. Walk one block and turn left on Newbill Drive (Route 1013).
7. Walk under the bridge and continue to Prince Street.

*The Tappahannock River is to your left.*

*First LOVE sign is on the hill to the right after you walk under the bridge.*

*You are now in the Tappahannock Historic District. It is roughly bounded by Queen St., Church Lane, Rappahannock River and the grounds of St. Margaret's School.*

8. Turn right on Prince Street.

*Customs House (109 Prince Street - on right): early 1800's, at the foot of Prince Street. Archibald Ritchie owned the lot. At the site, John Whitlock operated Whitlock's Ordinary*

*in the 1760's and 1770's. It is now a private home.*

*Scots Arms Tavern (123 Prince Street - on right), c. 1680, the oldest building on the tour, has been owned continuously by the Derieux family for more than a century. It is now a private residence.*

*The Daw Theatre is on the left at 154 Prince Street. The Essex Theatre Theatre was opened in 1930. It was renamed Daw Theatre in 1939. It was closed sometime between spring 1999 and fall 2000.*

9. At the flashing red light (4-way stop sign), turn left on Water Lane. **1 km**

*St. Margaret's School is an independent, Episcopal, all-girls school located in the town of Tappahannock, Virginia, on the banks of the Rappahannock River. St. Margaret's is governed by the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. St. Margaret's opened in 1921 with 14 students and now has an enrollment of 125 girls.*

10. Just before Water Lane goes down the hill, turn right on Jeannette Drive (Route 1011).

11. Walk one block and turn right on Della Street (Route 1021). Sign hidden in the trees on the right.

12. At the first stop sign, turn left on Wright Street (Route 1008). **2 km**

13. At the traffic signal, cross Church Lane, using the crosswalk.
  14. Turn right on Church Lane.
  15. Walk two blocks and turn left on Earl Street (just after the Buick dealership - Route 1007).
  16. At the stop sign (T-intersection), turn left on Essex Street (Route 1003).
  17. Just before the second stop sign, turn right on Warner Street (Route 1023).
  18. At the end of Warner Street, turn right on Pegram Lane (no sign). **3 km**
  19. At the stop sign, turn left on Lewis Street (Route 1015). Name changes to Wakefield Avenue as the road curves right.
  20. At the stop sign, cross Daingerfield Street and Cralle Avenue (sign behind telephone pole - Route 1020).
  21. Turn right on Cralle Street.
  22. At the stop sign (T-intersection, turn left on Essex Street (Route 1003). Name changes to Duke Street at the first curve.
  23. At the stop sign, turn left on Church Lane (**4 km**) and walk to the traffic signal.
  24. Turn right and cross Church Lane.
  25. Turn right on Church Lane and walk two blocks to Virginia Street.
  26. Turn left on Virginia Street.
  27. Turn left on Cross Street (Route 1001).
- On the right between Prince and Queen Streets is a sign about Thomas Ritchie's birthplace. Thomas Ritchie was the editor and primary writer of the Richmond Enquirer from 1804 - 1845. The paper was the most popular in Virginia throughout this period. Thomas Jefferson encouraged the establishment of the paper and said, "I read but a single newspaper, Ritchie's Enquirer, the best that is published or ever has been published in America." Ritchie supported extensive internal improvements to Virginia, public schools and gradual emancipation of slaves. In 1845, President Polk helped to bring Ritchie to Washington to edit the newspaper The Union from 1845-1851.*
- Veterans Memorial to the left just before Queen Street.*
28. At the third stop sign, turn left on Queen Street.
  29. At the crosswalk, turn right and carefully cross Queen Street.

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30. Turn right and walk to the parking lot entrance for NN Burger, just before the building.

31. Turn left and walk through the parking lot to the road Marsh Street (no sign).

*LOVE sign painted on the NN Burger building.*

32. Turn right on Marsh Street

33. At the 4-Way stop sign, turn left on Cross Street to return to the library. **5 km**

34. **5-kilometer** walkers are finished.. **10-kilometer** walkers continue with direction 35.

35. **10-kilometer** walkers, leave the library and turn right on Cross Street to the 4-Way stop sign (Marsh Street).

36. At the stop sign, turn right on Marsh Street.

37. At the stop sign, very carefully cross Church Lane and continue straight on Marsh Street. **6 km at the driveway (Route 9123) on the left for Essex elementary School**

*Foxchase Apartment Homes on the right across from the school.*

38. At the end of the pavement at the gravel parking lot for the Essex County Little League fields, reverse your direction on Marsh Street. **7 km at Carrington Place on the right**

39. At the beige water tower on the left, turn right on Rouzie Drive (Route 1029).

40. Follow Rouzie Drive as it turns left and left again.

41. At the stop sign (T-intersection), turn right on Marsh Street (Route 657).

42. At the entrance to Foxchase Apartment Homes on the left (crosswalk by the school), turn left on the sidewalk to enter the apartment complex.

43. At the far end of the sidewalk, reverse your direction and walk back to the stop sign (T-intersection) at Marsh Street. **8 km**

44. Turn left on Marsh Street.

*Essex Masonic Lodge No. 126 is on the right just past Marsh Street Park on the left.*

45. Turn right on Markham Terrace (Route 1029 - no sign - Moore Street is on the left at this turn).

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46. At the end of Markham Terrace, turn left on Queen Street.

47. At the traffic signal, turn right on Church Lane.

48. At the next traffic signal, turn left and cross Church Lane, using the crosswalk. **9 km**

49. Continue straight on Prince Street.

*The Old Debtor's Prison (321 Prince Street - on left) on the courthouse green next to the Essex County Courthouse was built prior to 1769. It now serves as the Essex Treasurer's Office.*

*Essex County Courthouse (on left): built in 1848 to replace the old courthouse, now Beale Memorial Baptist Church. A 1926 renovation added a bell and clock tower (ROCKIN' ROUND THE CLOCK). The Essex Court House contains the oldest records in Virginia. James B. Slaughter's recent history of the area, Settlers, Southerners, Americans: The History of Essex County, Virginia 1608-1984, recounts in detail the county's 350-year-old story. The courthouse has long contained the largest portrait collection in the county.*

*The Old Clerk's Office (307 Prince Street - on left) was built in 1808 next door to the courthouse. It is now the home of the Essex Women's Club. The photo to the right shows the Old Clerk's Office in the*

*foreground along with the Centennial Fountain directly behind it.*

*Ritchie House, c. 1706, at the northeast corner of Prince and Cross Streets, reflects Archibald Ritchie's leading role in Tappahannock in the decades before and after the Revolution. The ornate paneling in the house was removed in the 1930's and is on permanent display in the Tappahannock and Essex Rooms at the Winterthur Museum in Wilmington, Delaware. The house is now the law offices of Dillard and Katona Attorneys and may be open by appointment.*

50. At the bottom of the hill, turn left on Newbill Drive.

51. Continue under the bridge and up the hill to the stop sign (T-intersection).

52. Turn right on Queen Street.

53. Walk one block and turn right on Water Lane (Route 1004).

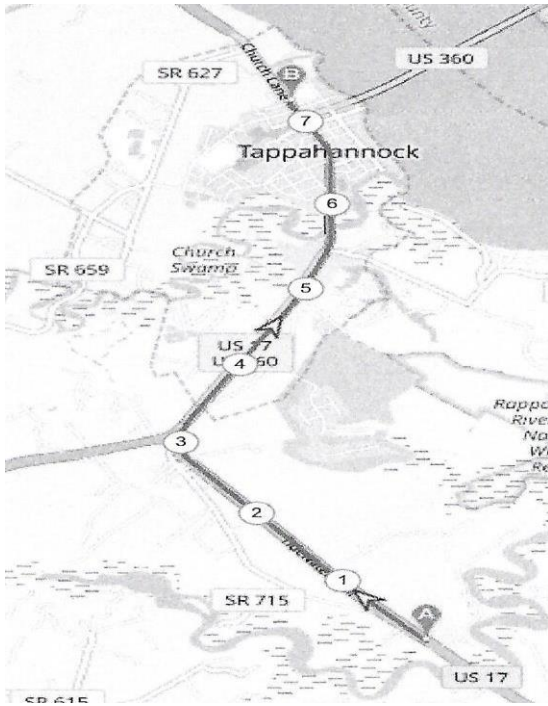
54. Walk one block and turn left on Marsh Street (Route 657).

55. At the 4-way stop sign, turn right on Cross Street (Route 1001).

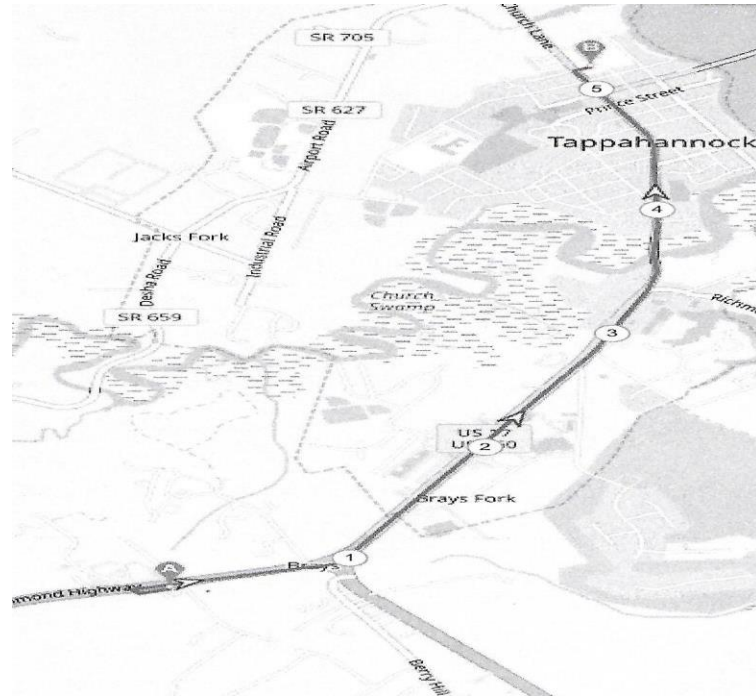
56. Follow Cross Street back to the library on the left to return to your car.

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DRIVING MAP FROM HAMPTON:



DRIVING MAP FROM RICHMOND:



DRIVING FROM POINTS NORTH:



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Map for 5-Kilometer Walk and First 5-Kilometers of the 10-Kilometer Walk:

**First 5 Km - Tappahannock**



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