

Resolution to Protect and Preserve the History and Heritage of the Natural Bridge of Virginia

Augusta County Historical Society

August 18, 2013

Whereas the Augusta County Historical Society Board of Directors recognizes the significance of the history and heritage of the Natural Bridge of Virginia including the following points:

That the Natural Bridge has been considered a spiritual place by the Valley's Native Americans for many centuries and that more recently the bridge has associations with significant historical figures such as George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, the Bridge's first owner who wrote that the "sublime" limestone arch should always be accessible to the public;

And that In recognition of the historical significance of the Bridge, it has been designated as a National Historic Landmark, a Virginia Historic Landmark, and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places;

And further, the board of the Augusta County Historical Society is also aware of the fact that the history of the Natural Bridge and Rockbridge County is intertwined with the history of Augusta County and was a part of Augusta County from 1738 until 1778 when the new county of Rockbridge was carved from the southern portion of Augusta.

Therefore the Augusta County Historical Society Board of Directors recognizes the importance of keeping Natural Bridge accessible for future generations through publicly-owned access and as such supports and encourages the efforts under way by local, state, and national leaders to ensure that the Natural Bridge of Virginia is forever preserved as a public symbol of our history and heritage.

SIGNED

Nancy T. Sorrells

President, Augusta County Historical Society

DATE