

Tydewater County, Virginia

Tydewater County is a fictional county located in the Commonwealth of Virginia. It appears initially in a series of books by O.C. Topping entitled, *The Pallbearers*. It is also mentioned as the location for Tydewater Hospital in the short story by O.C. Topping entitled, *Dr. Christmas*.

History

After the fall of the United States between the first and second insurrections, the last resulting in destruction of the US Capitol, Virginia formally seceded from the Union after a number of other states did the same. Thereafter, Virginia's governor declared Virginia a sovereign nation and soon after declared martial law to preserve life and order due to the upheaval and chaos caused by the nation's collapse.

Three years later, twelve states, including Virginia, banded together to form the Union of Mid-Atlantic States (UMAS). At that time, Virginia ratified the Union's new Constitution and entered into multiple trade and force agreements with its other member states.

During the three years of Virginia's sovereignty, its legislature redrew many of the country's boundaries, both city and counties. During this time, Tydewater County was created and continues to this day.

Geographical Location

After the great earthquake that occurred soon after the United States' first insurrection on January 6, 2021, the Rappahannock River greatly expanded beyond its banks. Also during this time, the Crosslands arose where former Laucks Island had existed just North of the City of Fredericksburg. Finding it necessary to redefine the city's and counties' boundaries due to the drastic changes in surrounding waterways, the Crosslands became part of Tydewater County.

Tydewater County is now comprised of approximately 562 square miles, of which 22 miles is water. The Potomac River flows along its eastern border, the Great Rappahannock River and City of Fredericksburg to its south, Stafford and Prince William Counties to its North, and Culpepper and Orange Counties to its west. The county also has a number of fingers extending beyond its original borders into the North, South, East and West. Many counties, such as Stafford County, the City of Fredericksburg, and Culpepper gave up a considerable amount of their territories to form Tydewater County after the area was so radically transformed.