



Midway

836 Midway Lane • Lancaster, VA 22503

History of Midway

Midway was built in 1842 by Mr. and Mrs. Addison Lombard Carter. As was common in the Antebellum period, the home was designed in the Greek Revival style, most apparent in its detailed symmetry. The Carters lived at Midway during the Civil War when a Yankee boat fired on the estate destroying three chimneys and lodging a number of shells in the manor wall.

During construction of the Midway manor, the Carters lived in an older 2 room "salt box" which still stands to the left of the main residence. Although this structure has been restored true to form, the chimney is all that is original.

Midway conveyed to the Carters' one surviving daughter, who married into the Ball family. In 1939, the home was remodeled for a family member by Jesse Ball Dupont, a native to the Northern Neck and a nationally known philathropist. Midway was home to the Ball family until 1964 when Mr. and Mrs. J. Holmes Branson purchased the estate.

The current owner, a German native, purchased the property in the 1980s as a safe haven from the Cold War. In anticipation of a major renovation to the manor, this owner built an additional home on the property in the early 90s. From 2000 - 2010, the current owner caringly renovated the manor to accomodate modern conveniences. During this restoration, as well as the renovation by Jesse Dupont, the style and layout of the home was preserved as was much of the original detail to include flooring, pocket doors, mantles, moulding and the signature ceiling medallion. This renovation also included the addition of a heated swimming pool and pool house and the reconstruction of the barn/garage.

In its early years, the estate included a horse stable, also built with perfect symmetry. Most likely, this structure was later used as a tobacco barn. During the current owner's renovation of Midway, the barn was reconstructed into a large garage but the symmetry and some of the original building material was preserved.

With a manor and accessory structures that have been beautifully modernized while preserving their historical integrity, this property is as timeless as it is current. Outlined to the west by tidal waters off the Rappahannock River, Midway offers a waterfront marked by clear water pools and sandy banks. Protected by an abundance of woods to the east, this 226+ acre property is a sanctuary for nature and wildlife. The Midway estate, lovingly called "The Farm" by its current owners, is an historical gem.