

Photo Courtesy of Friends of the Hollow

**IN HUME:** The Hollow, John Marshall's boyhood home.

## Mark in history

The boyhood home of Chief Justice John Marshall near Hume was recently recognized officially with a roadside marker from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

The Friends of the Hollow Inc. a non-profit group formed in 1981, is raising money to purchase the land and restore the small structure. The group wants to open the house to the public and sponsor archaeological digs on the property.

"We are really pleased to announce this important step in recognizing Marshall's boyhood home," said Tom deButts, president of the group.

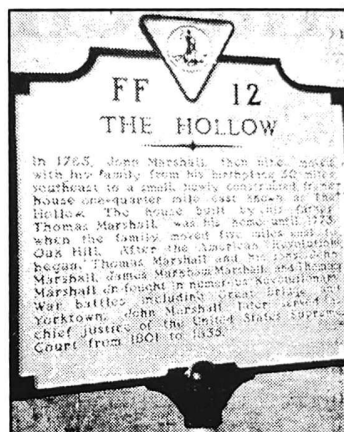
"This is a move in the right direction but our work is not yet complete. The structure and the land on which it sits is at risk of development and may be lost forever," he added.

The Hollow house was built prior to the Marshall's 1765 move with his family from his first Fauquier County home in near Midland.

The Friends estimate the Hollow house may have been built between 1763 and 1764.

John Marshall was nine when his family moved to the newly constructed one-and-a-half story frame house on a beautiful rise just north of the present-day Markham.

John and his nine siblings lived there until he was 18, when his family moved five miles east to Oak Hill.



**MARKED:** The home has been recognized with a marker.

In addition to the Marshall family, a Scotch minister, James Thompson, came to live at the Hollow temporarily in 1767.

Unlike the many log houses built in the frontier then, the Hollow is a rare existing example of a wood frame house that has not been incorporated into a more recent structure.

The Fauquier County Deed Book reveals that Thomas Marshall leased a 330-acre tract encompassing this property from Thomas Ludwell Lee and Colonel Richard Henry "Lighthorse Harry" Lee in 1765.

John Marshall is best known as the influential chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1801 to 1835.

— By Dan Lowrey