



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

W. Sheppard Miller, III
Chairperson

1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 482-5818
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Agenda item # 2

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

January 14, 2025

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Fowlkes, **Seconded By:** Mr. Coleman

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

Title: Bridge Naming: "Tate Brothers Memorial Bridge"

WHEREAS, in accordance with § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Wise County Board of Supervisors has requested, by resolution dated November 14, 2024, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), to honor and memorialize the life and service to their country and community of Chief Gunners Mate Creed Tate, Sergeant Fleet Tate, Gunners Mate James Tate and Sergeant Woodrow Tate, name the bridge on Route 613, East Stone Gap Road, Wise County, over Beaver Dam Creek, as the "Tate Brothers Memorial Bridge"; and

WHEREAS, Wise County, by that same resolution dated November 14, 2024 and by letter dated December 11, 2024, has agreed to be responsible for payment of all sign costs billed by the Virginia Department of Transportation calling attention to this naming, which will include the costs to produce, place, and maintain the signs; and

WHEREAS, § 33.2-213 provides that VDOT shall place and maintain appropriate signs indicating the names of highways, bridges, interchanges, and other transportation facilities named by the CTB and requires that the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining such signs shall be paid by the localities in which they are located or by the private entity whose name is attached to the transportation facility so named.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to § 33.2-213 of the *Code of Virginia*, the CTB hereby names the bridge on Route 613, East Stone Gap Road, Wise County, over Beaver Dam Creek, as the "Tate Brothers Memorial Bridge".

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that VDOT is directed to produce, place, and maintain the signs calling attention to this naming, and secure payment from Wise County for these costs as required by law.

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CTB Decision Brief

Bridge Naming: "Tate Brothers Memorial Bridge"

Issue: Commemorative naming, at the request of Wise County, of the bridge on Route 613, East Stone Gap Road, Wise County, over Beaver Dam Creek, as the "Tate Brothers Memorial Bridge".

Facts: The Wise County Board of Supervisors enacted a resolution on November 14, 2024, to honor the life and service to their country and community of the four Tate brothers.

According to that resolution, Creed, Fleet, Woodrow and James Tate were dedicated sons of Peter and Laura Tate. They all served honorably in the United States Armed Forces during a time of great global conflict, demonstrating unwavering courage and commitment to their country.

Chief Gunners Mate Creed Tate served in the Navy, bravely participating in pivotal battles across the Pacific and at Pearl Harbor during the Japanese attack.

Sergeant Fleet Tate served in the Army as a mortar man, playing a crucial role in the liberation efforts in New Guinea, Luzon, and the Philippines.

Gunners Mate James Tate served valiantly in the Navy in the North Atlantic contributing to critical naval operations.

Sergeant Woodrow Tate demonstrated exceptional bravery while serving in the South Pacific including significant engagements in the Marshall Islands, Guadalcanal and New Guinea.

The Tate brothers returned home as hardened combat veterans, carrying with them the respect and admiration of their community for their service and sacrifice. The contributions of the Tate brothers extend beyond their military service as they remained influential and respected members of their community before and after the war.

Chief Gunners Mate Creed Tate departed this world on February 27, 2005 at the age of 88.

Sergeant Fleet Tate departed this world on June 26, 2010 at the age of 91.

Gunners Mate James Tate departed this world on September 17, 1997 at the age of 72.

Sergeant Woodrow Tate departed this world on March 19, 1998 at the age of 83.

Action Required by CTB: The *Code of Virginia* requires a majority of the CTB members to approve a resolution naming a highway or bridge, as appropriate. A resolution will be provided for the Board's consideration.

Result if Approved: The bridge on Route 613, East Stone Gap Road, Wise County, over Beaver Dam Creek, will be known as the "Tate Brothers Memorial Bridge". In accordance with law,

and by resolution dated November 14, 2024 and letter dated December 11, 2024, Wise County agrees to pay the costs of producing, placing, and maintaining the signs calling attention to this naming.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

Public Comments/Reactions: VDOT has not received any public comments on this proposal.

Wise County Board of Supervisors



Office of the County Administrator

TELEPHONE (276) 328-2321
FAX (276) 328-9780

Michael W. Hatfield, P.E.

P.O. BOX 570
WISE, VA 24293

WISE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

RESOLUTION TATE BROTHERS MEMORIAL BRIDGE

WHEREAS, the Tate brothers—Creed, Fleet, Woodrow, and James—were dedicated sons of Peter (Pete) and Laura Tate, all of whom served honorably in the armed forces during a time of great global conflict, demonstrating unwavering courage and commitment to their country; and

WHEREAS, Chief Gunners Mate Creed Tate served in the Navy, bravely participating in pivotal battles across the Pacific and at Pearl Harbor during the Japanese attack; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Fleet Tate served in the Army as a mortar man, playing a crucial role in the liberation efforts in New Guinea, Luzon, and the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, Gunners Mate James Tate served valiantly in the Navy in the North Atlantic, contributing to critical naval operations; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Woodrow Tate demonstrated exceptional bravery while serving in the South Pacific, including significant engagements in the Marshall Islands, Guadalcanal, and New Guinea; and

WHEREAS, the Tate brothers returned home as hardened combat veterans, carrying with them the respect and admiration of our community for their service and sacrifice. The contributions of the Tate brothers extend beyond their military service, as they remained influential and respected members of our community before and after the war; and

WHEREAS, naming the bridge in their honor will serve as a lasting tribute to their bravery, commitment, and the values they exemplified. Such recognition will inspire future generations to remember the sacrifices made by those who served in the armed forces.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wise County Board of Supervisors desires that the bridge located on East Stone Gap Road (613) approximately 125 feet southeast of the intersection with Clinch Haven Road (612) shall henceforth be known as the "Tate Brothers Memorial Bridge" in honor of Creed, Fleet, Woodrow, and James Tate, reflecting the community's gratitude for their service and commitment to our nation.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County of Wise shall pay all associated expenses in fabricating and future maintenance of the signs.

ADOPTED this the 14th day of November 2024.

ATTEST:


Michael W. Hatfield, Clerk

WISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS


J.H. Rivers, Chairman

Wise County Board of Supervisors



Office of the County Administrator

TELEPHONE (276) 328-2321
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Michael W. Hatfield, P.E.

WISE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

P.O. BOX 570
WISE, VA 24293

December 11, 2024

Virginia Department of Transportation
Attn: Glenn M. Cantrell, Eng. Tech., Sr. – Permits

VIA Email: glenn.cantrell@VDOT.Virginia.gov

In Re: Tate Brothers Memorial Bridge

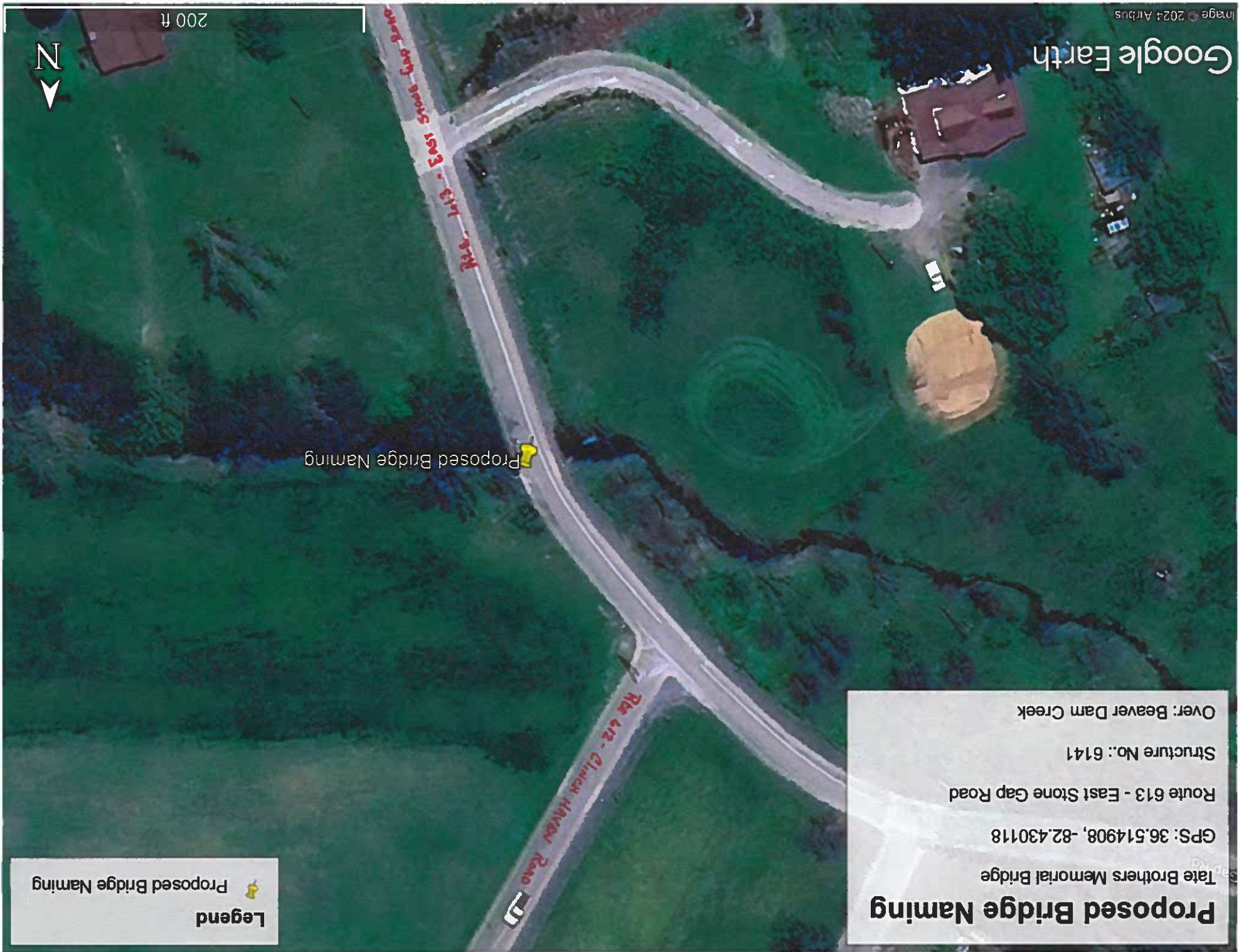
Dear Glenn:

This letter confirms that the Wise County Board of Supervisors pay all associated expenses for the fabrication, installation, and future maintenance of the signs pertaining to the Tate Brothers Memorial Bridge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Hatfield".


Michael W. Hatfield, P.E.
County Administrator




Proposed Bridge Naming

Tate Brothers Memorial Bridge
GPS: 36.514908, -82.430118
Route 613 - East Stone Gap Road
Structure No.: 6141
Over: Beaver Dam Creek

Legend

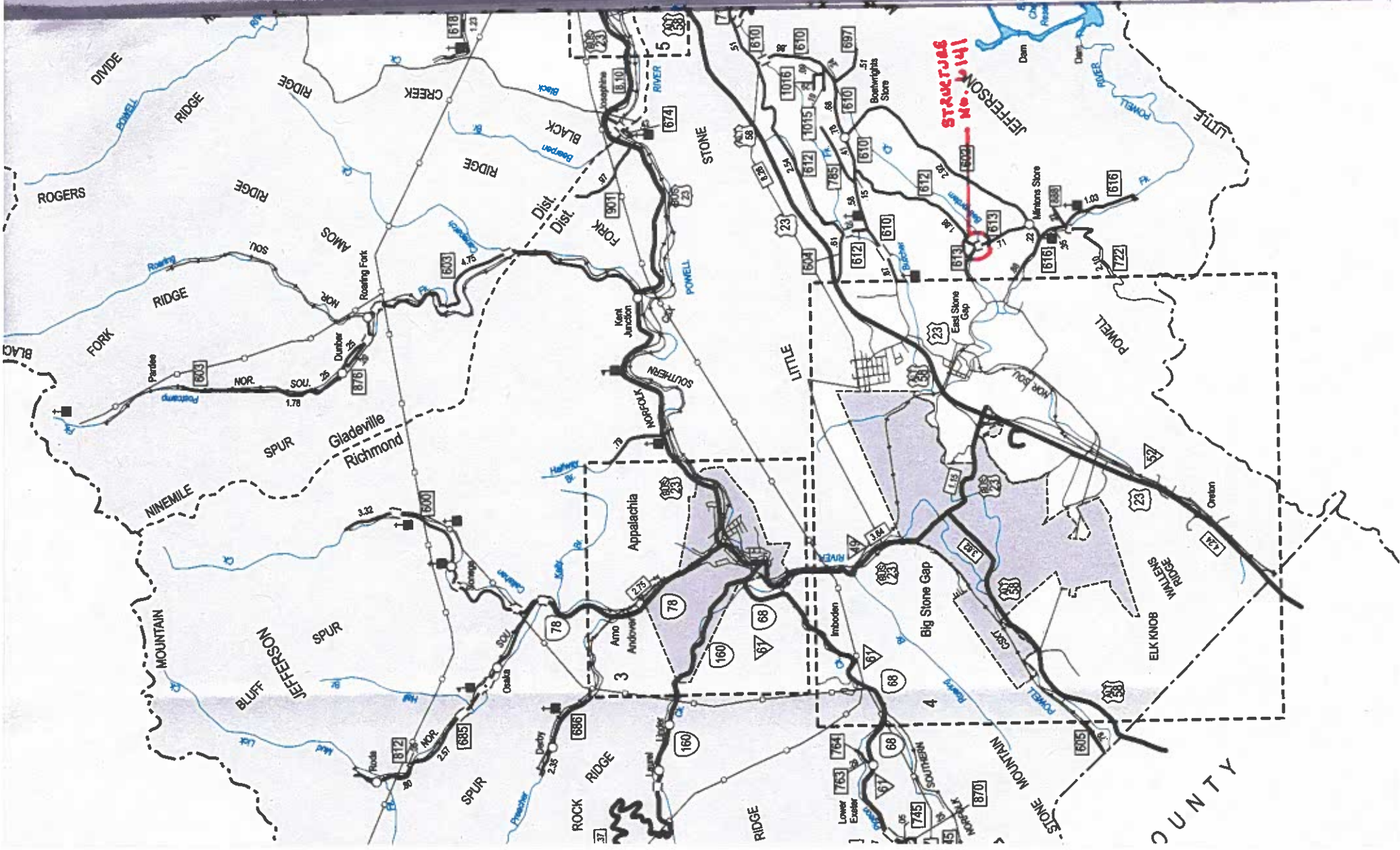
 Proposed Bridge Naming

 Proposed Bridge Naming



200 ft

Wise
County



Mrs. Mullins,

Per VDOT's request, here are the dates of birth and the dates of death for the four Tate brothers that the bridge will be named for:

Woodrow Edward Tate – 9/19/1914 to 3/19/1998

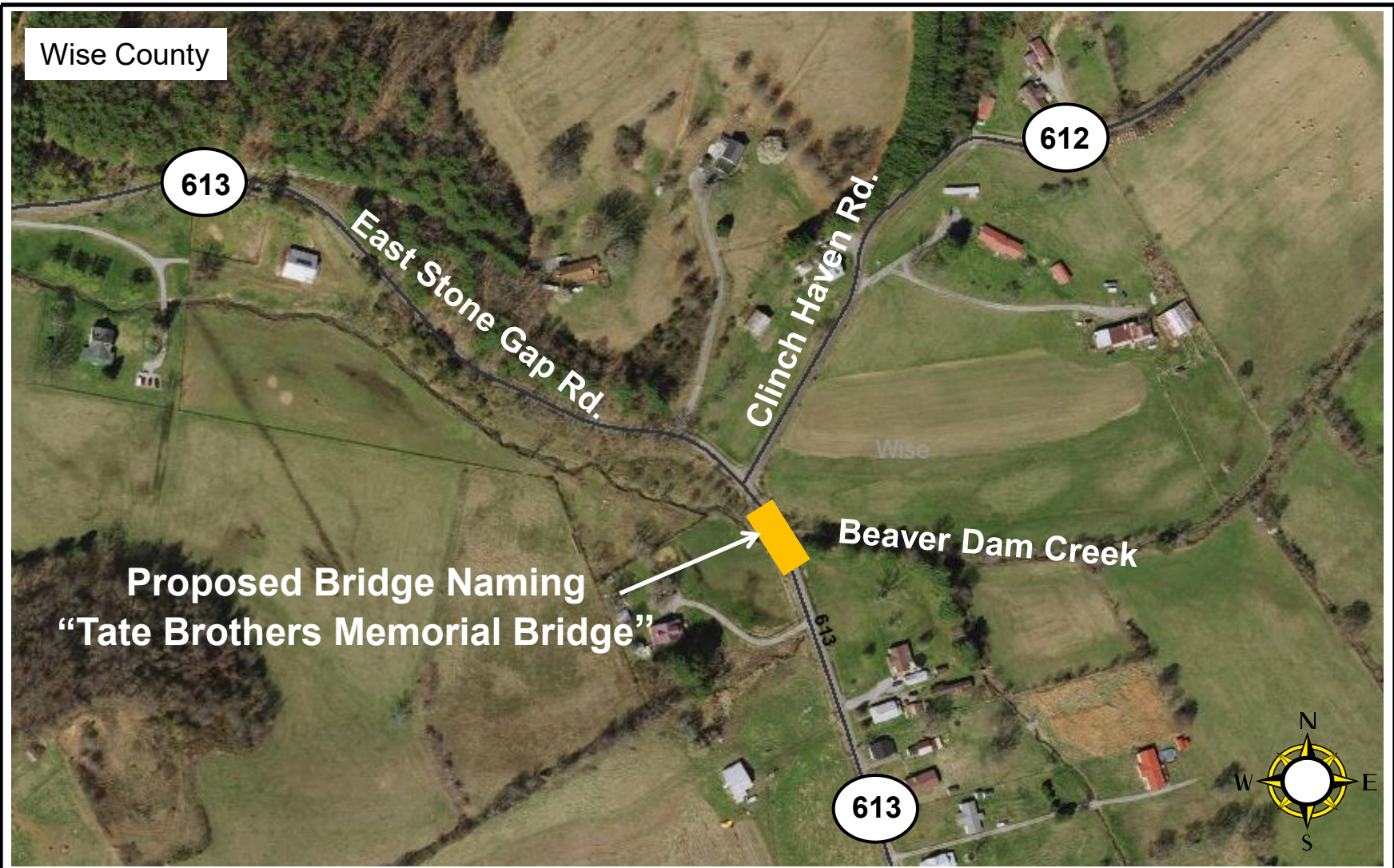
Marvin Creed Tate – 3/21/1916 to 2/27/2005

Fleet L Tate – 9/21/1919 to 6/26/2010

James Polk Tate – 2/14/1925 to 9/17/1997

Please let me know if I need to provide any additional information. Thanks for all your help.

Matt Cooper



Wise County

613

East Stone Gap Rd.

Clinch Haven Rd.

612

Beaver Dam Creek

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"Tate Brothers Memorial Bridge"

613

613



Maintenance Division

CTB MEETING: January 14, 2025

Wise County

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