

Ward's Occoquan Tavern

Zachariah Ward owned and operated a tavern in the Occoquan area of Prince William County, Virginia, from about 1807 to 1822. Anna Ward then purchased a business license to operate a house of private entertainment from 1823 until at least 1837. (The main difference between a tavern/ordinary and a house of private entertainment is the latter cannot sell any alcohol.)

Alexandria Gazette 31 Dec 1818

TO THE PUBLIC – Z. Ward begs leave to return his thanks to his friends and the public for the liberal patronage he has hitherto received, particularly since the commencement of his new establishment. He takes this method of informing travelers that he continues to keep a HOUSE OF ENTERTAINMENT, on the main road leading from Alexandria to Dumfries, two miles south of the romantic town of Occoquan; and although he will not boast of having his table constantly supplied with venison, wild turkeys, wild ducks &c. he pledges himself to those ladies and gentlemen who may please to honor him with their company, that no exertion shall be wanting on his part to render their time agreeable and themselves comfortable.

Dec 3, 1818

Ron Turner