



Official Publication of the VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

SEE PAGE 10 FOR DETAILS

Gazette

The VHLC held its September meeting in Staunton as guests of the Historic Staunton Foundation and the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Foundation, Inc. The visit included a tour of the Wharf Area Historic District, the Sears House and Old Western State Hospital. William T. Frazier, former sites surveyor for the VHLC, is associated with the Historic Staunton Foundation. HSF volunteers have helped produce the excellent exhibit, "Faces of Staunton," and publication, News, which have brought much attention to the historic Valley town and its fine historic foundation.

In November, architectural historian Dell Upton delivered papers at the fall meeting of the Virginia Folklore Society, at Charlottesville, and at the annual meetings of the Eastern States Archaeological Federation in Richmond, as well as a lecture on English vernacular architecture in the Society of Architectural Historians Fall Lecture Series at the University of Virginia. Upton was recently elected vice-president of the Virginia Folklore Society.

Several members of the VHLC and VRCA staffs read papers at the Tenth Annual Conference of the Society for Historical Archaeology, held in January in Ottawa, Ontario. The papers were part of a symposium, "The Virginia Plantation System: Excavation and Preservation of Colonial Ideas," chaired by Commissioner of Archaeology William M. Kelso, who also presented a paper entitled "Plantation Landscapes at Kingsmill, Virginia: Images of Environmental Adjustment." Other papers were "An Early 17th-

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Century Settlement on the Governor's Land," by archaeologist Alain Outlaw, "Architecture and Social Class: Testing an Historiographic Model." by archaeologist Carter Hudgins, "Traditional Architecture and the Virginia Plantation System," by architectural historian Dell Upton, "Rich Man, Poor Man: Status Definition in Two 17th-century Ceramic Assemblages from Kingsmill," by Laboratory Curators Merry Abbitt Outlaw and Beverly Bogley and archaeologist Alain Outlaw, and "Agricultural Hoes in the Colonial Period," by archaeologist Keith Egloff. Former VRCA archaeologist Fraser Neiman, now archaeologist at Stratford Hall, also presented a paper, which was entitled "The Chesapeake Plantation System and Economic and Social Change in the Later 18th Century: Evidence from Kingsmill and Stratford.'

Tucker Hill, VHLC assistant director, was the editor for the second edition of *The Architecture of Historic Richmond*, published this autumn by the University Press of Virginia. The book was written in 1968 by the late Paul S. Dulaney.

In July the Richmond City Council appointed Hill to serve on its Urban Design Committee. This committee advises the City Planning Commission on matters involving the appearance of new construction and improvements to city properties.

Hill was also appointed to the search committee of the School of Architecture at the University of Virginia, which is presently interviewing candidates for the position of chairman of the Division of Architectural History, vacated in 1976 by Professor Frederick D. Nichols.

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Executive Director Resigns

JUNIUS R. FISHBURNE, JR., VHLC executive director since 1972, has resigned this position effective March fifteenth. Mr. Fishburne, a member of the original VHLC staff, participated in every phase of developing the Commonwealth's decade-old historic preservation program. He leaves to become president of Southside Historical Sites, Inc., a public foundation chartered to carry out research in conjunction with the Department of Anthropology of the College of William and Mary. He will also serve as executive director of the Historic Hopewell Foundation, which has its headquarters in Weston Manor, an eighteenth-century landmark in Hopewell.

During his five years as executive director, the VHLC program has grown to include protective easements for the owners of historic properties, grants-in-aid for renovation of registered landmarks, educational activities including publications, and finally the nurturing of an archaeological research center. The survey of historic structures and sites begun in 1967 is now a primary source of data for preservation-related activities throughout the Commonwealth.

To date 668 properties have been included in the Virginia Landmarks Register. Most of these buildings and sites were nominated from among the thousands of entries in the VHLC survey. "Mr. Fishburne has been dedicated to the work of the Commission," as VHLC Chairman, Dr. Frederick Herman observed, "and we are sorry to see him leave although we wish him every success with his new endeavor."

As president of Southside Historical Sites, Inc., Mr. Fishburne will attempt to develop Flowerdew Hundred Plantation into a major public attraction. Flowerdew, located on the southside of the James River in Prince George County, was an English settlement as early as 1619. It is a significant archaeological area with building sites from the crucial decade of the 1620s when Virginia made the transition from private company to royal colony. There is also evidence of Indian occupation from 8000 B.C. to 1644 A.D.

Fishburne, 37, is married to the former Eleanor Gwathmey Lane of Richmond and is the father of two sons. The Albemarle County native graduated from the Episcopal High School and received his undergraduate education at the University of Virginia. His M.A. and Ph.D. degrees were awarded by Tulane University in colonial Virginia history. Fishburne also resigns as State Historic Preservation Officer for Virginia, a position that represents the historic preservation program of the Department of the Interior.

The Eight Most Common Mistakes In Restoring Historic Houses (... ざ How To Avoid Them)

by Morgan W. Phillips

As more and more people turn to restoring old houses, is is becoming apparent that certain serious mistakes are being made over and over again. This article outlines these most common mistakes and tells you, at least in general terms, how to avoid them.

Don't destroy the evidence: Make tracks.

Old buildings almost invariably consist of material from a number of periods. When a decision is made to remove some recent material and reproduce what had existed at some earlier time, the problem arises of how to find out exactly what the earlier material looked like. Very often a detailed answer can be found in evidence actually on the site. Telltale fragments of missing woodwork may have been reused as a part of later woodwork, or may have fallen into some crevice during the remodeling. A ridge in the paint layers, when illuminated with a light held at an angle, may give the profile of a key piece of woodwork which has been removed.

A common mistake is to proceed with restoration work before gathering all such evidence. The evidence is then lost—removed by carpenters, obliterated by sanding, or thrown away during the overambitious cleanup.

For the same reason that architectural evidence is valuable to use, we should leave a record of our work for the future. New wood should be marked, and a thorough record kept, with text, photos, and drawings or sketches. Measured drawings of the building are the ideal place on which to note all the evidence discovered.

Early eighteenth-century mantle later removed as not appropriate to period of restoration

Don't overrestore.

Overrestoration usually takes two forms. First, there is the replacement of old material just because it shows the signs of age and thus looks a little too rough to suit the tastes of a perfectionist. Old bumpy plaster is replaced with a perfect new job; old fireplace bricks showing some minor heat damage are replaced. A building thus restored loses the patina of age which made it appealing in the first place, and loses the actual materials which make it genuinely old.

A second form of overrestoration is to return the building to its original appearance by stripping away later additions of historical or architectural value. Virtually every old building is a collection of material of different dates. This is true not only of American houses but also of the famous ancient buildings of Europe and elsewhere. Sometimes the additions are of more interest than the original parts. A typical example of a valuable later addition is a fine Federal period mantel built in front of an earlier larger fireplace. All too often such fine work is destroyed to expose what remains of the original fireplace.

Clearly there is usually a lot of material of no value, which can be removed. But the decision about what goes and what stays should be made very carefully, on the basis of a study of the building, and after consultation with others who are familiar with American architectural history.

In general, the best policy is to retain later material: as a real part of the building's past it has more value than "fake" material put in now. If you don't have time to carry out a study of the building, then the safest policy is certainly to keep later features in place.

Don't make a building that never was.

This is a very common mistake, and a subtle one. It most often happens in one of two ways.

First, it is quite common to see one part of a building restored to one date and another part to another date. As an example, suppose a house of 1810 was heavily remodeled in 1860—roof raised, new front doorway, new window sash. If today we tear out the 1860 sash and put in 1810-type sash, while retaining the other 1860 features, we have created an appearance which the building never had at any time. Usually this mistake occurs through lack of study of the building, or through the owner's selective dislike for some part of the later remodeling.

A second example of restoring to a condition which never existed is to restore a building to an appearance which is earlier in character than the building itself—and more primitive. Many old buildings were better-finished than we realize. For example, the best 18-century floorboards were not 18" wide and knotty, but 6" to 10" wide, free of knots, and cut across the growth rings so as not to splinter or warp. The use of typically wide, poor-quality attic floorboards in the restoration of formal rooms is a classic mistake.

Probably the most common example of "earlying it up" is the removal of plaster from ceilings so as to expose bare beams, when these beams were never meant to be exposed. Only the earliest or most primitive houses had exposed beams: in most areas from the early 18th century onwards plaster, paneling, and moldings were considered beautiful—not beams.

In order to avoid making a building look earlier than it ever possibly could have, it is important to have in mind the actual date of the building. Quite often one sees a fine formal house of, say, the Greek Revival period (c. 1825-1860) marked with a date of perhaps 1750, and sometimes "restored" accordingly. This is apt to happen when the owner has searched the deeds and discovered that a house was built on the site in 1750, but has failed to consider what might have happened to that house of 1750. Did it burn in 1790? Was it taken down or moved across the street? Or was the land divided in 1839 so that the 1750 house is really the one next door? The construction of the present house may not be recorded in any documents.

The importance of researching and analyzing a building as a guide for restoration and repair cannot be overemphasized. Documents and the building itself must be studied together. If one trusts only the documents, one can make the kind of mistake just described. If one examines

Editor's Note: Mr. Phillips is a restoration consultant associated with the Consulting Services Group of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, 141 Cambridge St., Boston, Mass. 02114. This article is reprinted with permission from the December 1975 issue of *Yankee Magazine*, Dublin, N.H. 03444.

Thomas Wallace House, Petersburg. Round pavillion is not original, but an historical addition, which has become an integral part of the historic structure.









only the building, much information contained in deeds, wills, inventories, old maps, old drawings, and many other sources will never be found. Such information is invaluable in piecing together the whole story of the building and in making the decisions required during the restoration process.

Don't scrape.

The most common procedure in reproducing old paint colors is to scrape clean a sample of the old paint and then match its color with new paint. In many cases the color thus achieved is incorrect, since the old sample has discolored with time. Many unstable pigments were used in early paints, and have faded. The oil in many old paints has yellowed, often after the paint was covered by later layers, since oil yellows fastest in the dark. Thus many old colors were brighter than we realize.

The analysis of old paints to determine their original colors is very difficult. Short of hiring a professional, the best that a homeowner can do is just to avoid unnecessary stripping of old paint, since this destroys the old samples and means that the research can never be done. And it's not good enough to strip a whole room and leave just one area as a sample: a future researcher will want to look all around the room with a microscope to find one or two well-preserved samples. These are very apt to be little thick lumps of paint near hardware or in crevices, and there may be only a few good ones in a whole room.

Thus paint-stripping should be undertaken only when absolutely necessary, and as much of the old paint left on as possible. Since most old woodwork was painted from the start, the bare knotty-pine look is apt to be incorrect, anyway. An exception is some types of Victorian houses where interior woodwork was varnished.

Old wallpapers should be preserved when possible for the same reasons as old paints: they are evidence of changing taste in the building through the years. Many old papers date back as far as the late 18th century and have real value. If a paper has to be removed, you should keep

Detail of restored parlor, John Marshall House, Richmond, Paper is copy of original rag-pulp hand-blocked paper with a design typical of the late 18th to early 19th century. (Courtesy of APVA)



samples at least large enough to show a full repeat of the pattern. Some wallpapers are important enough to deserve being kept intact on the wall at all costs.

Don't sandblast; Avoid destructive repointing.

The cleaning and repointing of old brickwork is seldom done properly.

Old brickwork is often sandblasted to remove paint. Unfortunately, in most cases this also removes the hard skin of the bricks, exposing the much more porous and weaker interior, which often cannot stand up to the weather. Since the skin was formed in the brick kiln, it can never be reformed once it is removed. After being sandblasted, old bricks absorb much more rain water and, with freezing temperatures, often start to spall and crumble in a few years or even months.

Having removed the bricks' natural barrier to excessive water penetration, building owners are apt to be sold a silicon treatment to help keep water out. This treatment has something of a bad reputation: it is said that it can trap in water which has got into the bricks in any of a variety of ways, such as through small cracks in mortar joints, from normal interior humidity, or by rising through capillary action from damp soil beneath the building. If this should occur, such trapped water can cause doubly accelerated decay of old brickwork. Silicones are no substitute for the bricks' own skin.

Careful removal of later wall paper led to discovery of original wall stenciling at Pace-King House, Richmond (Courtesy of APVA)



Where old paint is to be removed, one question to ask is whether the paint should be removed at all. Many early brick buildings were originally painted, and the record of the original color is the old paint itself. Once this is removed, the story is lost.

If it is decided to remove the paint, a variety of chemical removers are available. If the right remover is chosen to suit the individual building, this method, although slow, is usually the least damaging to the bricks.

Repointing with Portland cement mortar is perhaps the most common and most damaging error in masonry restoration. Portland cement

Early nineteenth-century brickwork that has been sandblasted and repointed with no care taken to match the original joints.



Early nineteenth-century brickwork that has been sandblasted, after approximately ten years of weathering.



Early nineteenth-century brickwork that has had paint removed by chemical process with no ill effects on the bricks or original mortar joints.



mortars are made with Portland cement, some lime, and with sand as a filler. If the proportion of cement versus lime is high, the mortar is extremely strong, thus being well-suited to the best modern bricks, which are also very strong. Together they produce the high-strength masonry needed for modern construction. But old bricks (and many kinds of stone) are much weaker and can be damaged by very strong, hard mortar used in repointing. A basic principle is that mortar should always be weaker than the bricks or stones which are bedded in it: thus the old lime mortars-made with only lime and sand-worked well with soft bricks and stones. A soft mortar can cushion various movements which occur in masonry: thermal expansion and contraction, expansion and contraction caused by humidity changes, foundation settlements, and so on. Small cracks of no importance may form in the mortar. But where the mortar is stronger than the bricks or stones, the latter give way before the mortar, by serious cracking or spalling.

The formulation of mortar for old buildings requires experience and judgment. Many old limes contained certain impurities which actually made them stronger than today's pure lime. When using modern lime a relatively small amount of Portland cement is often needed to provide the same durability and strength that the old mortar had. The proportion of cement should be chosen on the basis of the strength of the bricks or stones, and severity of weathering action, and other factors.

New mortar should be color-matched to the old. This requires sand of the right color, and usually some masonry pigments. A great many buildings have been defaced by dark gray Portland cement mortar, when originally the mortar joints were the light warm white of lime. Some manufacturers offer a perfectly white Portland cement which is extremely useful in mixing new mortar to match the color of lime.

Perhaps the worst aspect of Portland cement mortar in old masonry is that its strength makes it almost impossible to remove without damaging soft bricks or stones. As for removing old mortar prior to repointing, few people realize the damage usually done even in removing a soft, deteriorated lime mortar. Electric-powered cutting wheels are often used, which almost always damage the corners of fine, closely laid old bricks, thus sometimes noticeably enlarging narrow mortar joints. Only hand tools should be used for removing old mortar, unless in a particular situation a contractor can show that some type of power tool is not damaging in any way.

Old mortar in good condition should not be disturbed. It is normal for old mortar to be weathered back a short way from the face of the bricks; this does not mean that repointing is needed, since having eroded back a little the old mortar may be sheltered by the bricks and may not erode any further.

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Don't assume it can't be fixed.

With the advent of all kinds of modern products it has become possible to recondition partly deteriorated woodwork, plasterwork, and other architectural material which, 20 years ago, would have had to be replaced. Thus an old building can retain more of its authentic material, and more of its value. Quite often one sees old features which could be saved being carted off to the dump.

This suggestion that modern products are useful in restoration should not be seen as a contradiction of the preceding part of this article where we pointed out that lime mortar (a traditional material) is generally better than Portland cement mortar (a more modern material) for repointing soft brickwork and stonework. Portland cement *is* extremely useful in restoration—for foundation work, for strengthening lime mortars moderately, and for many other purposes. The point is that both modern and traditional materials are useful, and that any material can be used incorrectly.

Some of the most remarkable progress in the conservation of old buildings is being made in the area of wood preservation by means of epoxies, polyesters, and other modern synthetic resins. Such resins are the basis of modern waterproof glues, and of many products sold in marine hardware stores for impregnating partially rotted wood or filling holes in wood.

The things that can be done with waterproof

glue would have amazed an old-timer accustomed to animal glue, which is water-soluble. For example, a roof balustrade of 1806 can have new wood fitted into each baluster wherever the wood is rotted away—and there need be no fear of the patches coming loose because of rain or dampness. Such a balustrade would have to be replaced completely prior to the introduction of waterproof glue. Waterproof glue opens the door for the extensive repair of damaged woodwork by skillful piecing-in of new wood.

In the same way, modern resins allow old partly rotted wood to have permanent strength restored. In some methods, holes are drilled into the wood to expose the end grain, and the resin soaked into the wood through the holes. It then hardens. Not only are such wood-consolidating methods popular in the marine field, but similar methods are used in the conservation of antique wooden art objects. Resin-impregnation is sometimes the only way to conserve a valuable piece of woodwork in an old house: the capital of a column, the bottom of an original door.

Other modern materials can be used for consolidating weakened plaster, readhering peeling paint in wall paintings, and many other purposes. Steel is a modern architectural material which, because of its great strength, can be used to permit an old beam to be reinforced, rather than having to be replaced. Very small amounts of steel can form the backbone of an inconspicuous repair which must carry a heavy load.



Get the design right.

Sometimes there is no alternative but to replace something—or a portion of something which is missing or decayed beyond repair. A basic objective in such work should be to avoid making the new piece a poor parody of the original. Much restoration work stands out like a sore thumb.

The elements of old buildings usually exhibit very specific design characteristics. Although the designs are usually similar to material on other buildings of the same date, there are important regional differences and individual differences which must be respected.

Old moldings—which includes large items such as cornices—were usually designed according to a geometric system, which varied from one period to the next according to whether the designers of the period were looking toward Greece or Rome or the Gothic era for their architectural details. When an old molding must be reproduced, the paint should be removed from a well-preserved section of the old piece, and the design observed and comprehended. Then, if the work of reproduction is given to a shop or mill, very specific instructions (a precise drawing, model, template, etc.) must be provided.

Get help:Don't barge ahead.

How many times have we seen an owner, eager to "restore" a newly acquired house, rush in and tear out large portions of the interior and exterior surfaces, only to discover that the original finishes are long gone and cannot be accurately reconstructed. A professional is then brought in to make sense of a confused jumble of architectural remnants, and the owner sadly discovers, too late, that he has stripped and thrown away valuable portions of his house—the perfectly sensible and aesthetically pleasing Federal remodeling, for example.

All the points we have discussed should make it clear that a restoration or a repair going much beyond ordinary maintenance involves many technical and historical questions. Although elaborate research cannot be done on every old building, old buildings of any quality deserve the best study and care that their owners can give them. In the long run it pays off.

Two simple rules can be followed to improve the quality of repair work at little or no cost. The first is to seek professional advice. At the most basic level this means a visit by someone professionally qualified in the field, and it may save a lot of money from being spent on something which will be damaging or destructive. Even professional people in architectural history and restoration have to consult with each other constantly according to the specialties which each person has, and there is certainly no way to get the proper information just by reading the books or articles which are available. A tremendous amount of study and experience goes into the training of professional people in the field.

A second basic rule is to take the maximum time possible to make decisions. Getting the technical or architectural history information needed is always a slow process. More disconcerting is the fact that different people supposedly qualified in the field will give different opinions and answers. What do you do when the "experts" disagree? To begin with, by taking enough time to talk to different people, you can slowly sort out people who are more expert from people who are less so.

Even then, knowledgeable people may disagree about difficult problems. But usually if you take enough time to gather information and opinions you can learn enough about a problem to determine the best course of action.

Heavily-vandalized mantle as restored at Wishart House, Virginia Beach



City Hall, Petersburg, ca. 1960s. Original Custom House and Post Office structure included five bays to the left of picture. (Courtesy Historic American Buildings Survey)



VIRGINIA LANDMARKS REGISTER

As the work of the VHLC is directed toward recognition and preservation, it is pleased to take stock of the persistence of landmarks. By the end of December 1976, only five structures had been destroyed subsequent to their being included in the Virginia Landmarks Register. At the same time, six hundred sixty-eight properties remained on the Register. A comprehensive edition of the Virginia Landmarks Register is now in print (see below on this page). Information relating to these buildings and sites is published regularly in Notes on Virginia. Notice is also taken, as on the pages immediately following, of the most recent additions to the Register. DEBTORS' PRISON, ACCOMACK COUNTY: Built in 1783 as a jailer's residence within the then existing brick-wall enclosed jail yard, this is the only surviving element of that complex and the earliest public structure still standing in the county. It was converted to a debtors' prison in 1824.

BURGH WESTRA, GLOUCESTER COUNTY: Built for Dr. Philip Taliaferro, Burgh Westra follows the design for a Tudor Gothic dwelling published by Andrew Jackson Downing, noted architectural critic and horticulturist in the antebellum era.

Debtors' Prison, Accomack County





PITTS NECK, ACCOMACK COUNTY: The early eighteenth-century dwelling house at Pitts Neck is notable for its handsome paneling and unusual plan. The Pitt family operated a tobacco warehouse on the nearby Pocomoke River during colonial times, and the Chesapeake Bay steamer regularly stopped at the landing as late as 1924.

Pitts Neck, Accomack County

Tidewater & Eastern Shore





Official Publication of the Vincinia History: Landmarks Commission

Virginia Landmarks Register is now in print. The volume contains brief statements on each of approximately six hundred properties included in the Register, and is profusely illustrated. The book measures $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11" and is 216 pages in length. It is available for purchase at \$8.95 a copy from the printer, The Dietz Press, or through many bookstores.

A cloth-bound copy of the

To order, send \$8.95 (plus Virginia sales tax) per copy to:

The Dietz Press 109 E. Cary Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

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Address_

State _____ Zip_



Totomoi, Hanover County

Ingleside, Westmoreland County





Melville, Surry County



TOTOMOI, HANOVER COUNTY: Totomoi survives as a remarkably undisturbed late eighteenth-century plantation with a frame dwelling house of considerable architectural interest. The property is still owned by direct descendants of Thomas Tinsley, the grantee.

INGLESIDE, WESTMORELAND COUNTY: This temple-form, Flemish-bond brick structure was erected in 1834 for Washington Academy and converted to residential use later in the antebellum era. In 1890 it passed to the Flemer family who maintain a home here on what has become their 1200-acre Ingleside Plantation Nurseries, Inc.

MATHEWS COUNTY COURTHOUSE SQUARE: The history of this and many another old Virginia county may be traced through just such an assemblage of structures as this: a T-shaped, Flemish-bond brick courthouse (1792-95) with attendant buildings, Confederate monument, library, and county office building. Mathews County, though in one of the earliest settled sections of Virginia, was not set off from Gloucester until 1790.

MELVILLE, SURRY COUNTY: Melville, a flat, open tract of land in a secluded area once known as Troopers, possesses one of the oldest surviving houses in Surry County. Built during the

Weyanoke Plantation, Charles City County

second quarter of the eighteenth century for Nicholas Faulcon, the house is distinguished by its handsome brickwork with gable-end chevroning and its clipped-gable roof.

JAMES MONROE FAMILY HOME SITE, WESTMORELAND COUNTY: Through archaeological and historical research, the precise location of James Monroe's boyhood home has been located and excavated. The site is within a county park at Monroe Hall.

COLLEGE LANDING, WILLIAMSBURG: Warehouses and wharves, together with structures serving a transient, lower-middle-class population, were built here during the eighteenth century when College Landing was the port of entry for James-River-borne traffic to and from Williamsburg. The site is undergoing archaeological investigation.

WEYANOKE PLANTATION, CHARLES CITY COUNTY: This scenic James River plantation was begun in the seventeenth century on lands formerly the home of the Weyanoke Indians, a small tribe within the Powhatan Confederation. The handsome Georgian dwelling is a landmark to Fielding Lewis, its builder, who restored the plantation to prosperity during the years following the Revolution.



LINDEN FARM, RICHMOND COUNTY: Built by the Dew family in two stages early in the eighteenth century, this small, story-and-a-half frame farmhouse may well be the oldest house on the Northern Neck.

LITTLE TOWN, SUSSEX COUNTY: Little Town was built in 1811 for James C. Bailey, clerk of the county court. The handsome brick, early-Republican residence remains in the possession of Bailey's descendants.

Little Town, Sussex County



Linden Farm, Richmond County



PROSPECT HILL, CAROLINE COUNTY:

Built as the country home of a prominent

merchant of antebellum Falmouth, Prospect Hill

has Flemish-bond brickwork, a beautiful fanlight

doorway, and well-crafted interior trim. It is

situated on a rolling tract overlooking the river

and unspoiled countryside of the Rappahannock

VARINA PLANTATION, HENRICO

COUNTY: Still a prosperous working farm,

these broad, level fields were under cultivation

before the Massacre of 1622. Traditionally as-

Prospect Hill, Caroline County

Valley.

sociated with John Rolfe and Pocahontas, Varina was the site of the Henrico County seat from 1632 to 1752. The present house was built in 1855 by the Atkins family, antebellum owners of the property.

> SPRING GROVE, CAROLINE COUNTY: The plantation house at Spring Grove ranks among Virginia's finest domestic examples of the Italianate villa style of architecture. It was built in 1856 for Daniel Coleman DeJarnette, a scholar and member of the Virginia House of Delegates, and the United States and Confederate congresses.

> ROXBURY, WESTMORELAND COUNTY: Roxbury is a notable example of a mid-Victorian house in the picturesque mode. Completed in 1861 for Dabney Carr Wirt, it would be one of the last fine houses built in Virginia for a long generation.

> WIRTLAND, WESTMORELAND COUNTY: Wirtland was erected ca. 1850 by Dr. William Wirt, Jr., son of the noted jurist, statesman, and biographer of Patrick Henry. The romantically landscaped park and carefully crafted Gothic Revival mansion remain in excellent condition to epitomize the mid-nineteenth-century ideal of an American villa.

Spring Grove, Carolina County



Roxbury, Westmoreland County

Wirtland, Westmoreland County





JACKSON WARD, RICHMOND: This visually cohesive and well-defined neighborhood covering some forty-two blocks in the center of Richmond is broadly significant to students of black, urban, and business history. It was the center of Negro community life in Richmond during a watershed era for that race and the nation.



Steamer Company No. 5

15-21 W. Clay Street

136-138 W. Clay Street

The market



Meredith House



16





Tucker Cottage



600 Block N. 3rd Street

Cattoria



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WINDSOR SHADES, KING WILLIAM COUNTY: Windsor Shades, also known as Waterville, is situated on the Pamunkey River at what was, in early times, an important ferry to New Kent County and Court House. The gambrel-roofed mid-eighteenth-century structure is easily recognized by its massive Flemishbond brick chimney stacks at either end.

OLD MIDDLESEX COUNTY COURT-HOUSE: This remains the principal historical focal point of the old seaport village, and sometime county seat, of Urbanna. When the court was removed to Saluda in 1852, the old court building was renovated in the Gothic style and converted into a chapel. It was deconsecrated in 1948 and deeded to the Middlesex Woman's Club.

RICHNECK PLANTATION SITE, NEW-PORT NEWS: A major seat of the Cary family, prominent in colonial Virginia, Richneck is now an archaeological site yielding information on domestic life in the eighteenth century.

SEVEN SPRINGS, KING WILLIAM COUN-TY: Built ca. 1725-1740 by the Dabney family, Seven Springs is a striking example of Tidewater Virginia domestic architecture, unique in its central-chimney plan.

Windsor Shades, King William County



Old Middlesex County Courthouse



THE PACE-KING HOUSE, RICHMOND: This prodigious Italianate mansion with outstanding cast-iron porch is owned and is to be restored by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities. Completed in 1860, the Pace-King House survives as a rare example of the grand mansions erected in Southern cities just prior to the passing of the Old South.

Correction: WILTON, RICHMOND: This impressive fully paneled, five-bay brick house, built 1750–1753 for William Randolph III, descended to his son, Peyton Randolph, NOT to the Peyton Randolph who served as president of the First Continental Congress as was erroneously stated in Notes #14.

Seven Springs, King William County



"Pace-King House Neighborhood" (Courtesy Valentine Museum)



Piedmont & Northern Virginia

GRACE CHURCH, ALBEMARLE COUNTY: This picturesque Gothic Revival building is the only known work in Virginia designed by William Strickland, architect of the Tennessee State Capitol. Grace Church is the successor of a colonial chapel, "Walkers," the site of which is marked by a boulder in the front yard of the present building.

SCOTTSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT, ALBEMARLE/FLUVANNA COUNTIES: Scottsville in its architecture, its historical association with the canal, and its location beneath river bluffs on the north side of the great Horseshoe

Grace Church, Albemarle County



Scottsville, Albemarle/Fluvanna Counties



Bend of the James River, is the quintessential nineteenth-century river town. Despite the ravages of time, several major floods, and a fire, fifty-three structures of historic or architectural significance remain.

SHACK MOUNTAIN, ALBEMARLE COUNTY: Shack Mountain is regarded as the finest architectural work of Sidney Fiske Kimball (1881–1955), the most noted of America's first generation of architectural scholars. Erected in 1935–1936, the gem-like structure was designed in the style of Thomas Jefferson and was intended to be Kimball's retirement home.

Shack Mountain, Albemarle County



Scottsville, Albemarle/Fluvanna Counties



ANDREWS TAVERN, SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY: Home to several generations of the Andrews family and a focal point of local life throughout the nineteenth century, when it served variously as an ordinary, school, post office, and polling place, Andrews Tavern, with its cluster of outbuildings and rural setting, remains a familiar and picturesque county landmark.

LLOYD HOUSE, ALEXANDRIA: This twoand-one-half-story Federal mansion has handsome stone detailing and a refined frontispiece doorway. It was built in 1796 and is an integral part of the Christ Church neighborhood in Old Town, Alexandria.

SUNNY BANK, ALBEMARLE COUNTY: Sunny Bank is a handsomely preserved Piedmont plantation with a dwelling house and outbuildings of considerable architectural interest. The house bears the Jeffersonian imprint, both in its style and its location atop an eminence with panoramic views of exceptionally scenic countryside and mountains.

WOODBURN, LOUDOUN COUNTY: Situated in the rolling countryside of Loudoun County, Woodburn contains a remarkably wellpreserved collection of stone and brick buildings dating from the late eighteenth through the

Andrews Tavern, Spotsylvania County



Lloyd House, Alexandria



mid-nineteenth centuries. Several phases in the evolution of a large Northern Virginia farmstead are documented in this group of domestic, agricultural, and industrial buildings.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, FAIRFAX COUNTY: Built in 1858, and the oldest Catholic church in continuous use in Fairfax County, St. Mary's was



St. Mary's Church, Fairfax County

Sunny Bank, Albemarle County



Woodburn, Loudoun County



the headquarters for the treatment of wounded Union soldiers following the Second Battle of Bull Run, and is thus associated with Clara Barton.

COLVIN RUN MILL, FAIRFAX COUNTY: Constructed between 1800 and 1820 and repaired and restored between 1969 and 1975, this is an excellent example of the grist mills long essential to the rural economy of Virginia. The four-story brick-and-frame structure incorporates various innovations in milling technology and technique that were an important phase of the industrial revolution in America.

HOPE PARK MILL AND MILLER'S HOUSE, FAIRFAX COUNTY: Taking its name from the large plantation it was built, ca. 1800, to serve, Hope Park Mill prospered under the ownership of Frank Robey, who ground graham and buckwheat, as well as more common, flours and operated a store here until his death in 1906.

BELMONT, LOUDOUN COUNTY: The elegant Federal-style plantation mansion at Belmont was erected 1799–1802 by Ludwell Lee, son of Richard Henry Lee, signer of the Declaration of Independence. The estate symbolizes the late eighteenth-century resettlement of many prominent Tidewater families in the more fertile northern and western areas of the state.

Colvin Run Mill, Fairfax County



Belmont, Loudoun County



CORNWELL FARM, FAIRFAX COUNTY: Cornwell Farm was established during the early nineteenth century on land that was originally part of Lord Fairfax's Great Falls Manor. Built in 1831 in the Georgian style of an earlier generation, the house is well crafted, with exceptionally fine brickwork.

ANNE SPENCER HOUSE, LYNCHBURG: The house and small shingled study in the garden remain as a virtually undisturbed memorial to the life and work of Anne Spencer (1881–1975). Mrs. Spencer was a lyric poet of considerable talent, whose determined and dedi-

Cornwell Farm, Fairfax County



Edward & Anne Spencer Home, Lynchburg, view of garden, (Courtesy Turnkey Enterprises, Lynchburg)



Taylorstown Historic District



cated efforts in pursuit of racial justice evinced the same grace and dignity as her literary and intellectual activities.

TAYLORSTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT, LOUDOUN COUNTY: This picturesque location, with its steady supply of water power and accessibility to the surrounding area, was naturally attractive to millers of the mid-eighteenth century. Their craft was plied here for over two centuries, a fact of the hamlet's history visually symbolized by Thomas Taylor's fieldstone mill, now a private residence.

ST. THOMAS' CHURCH, ORANGE COUNTY: Built in 1833–1834 as successor to the original church of St. Thomas' Parish, which was demolished following the Disestablishment, the present structure served as a hospital for wounded soldiers and shelter for refugees during the War Between the States.

Old photo of St. Thomas' Church, Orange County (Courtesy Wm. H.B. Thomas)



Southside Virginia

APPOMATTOX IRON WORKS, PETERS-BURG: This unique complex of nine functionally related structures is one of the most complete physical records of an early iron foundry in the country. Much mid- to late nineteenth-century machinery remains along with the wooden patterns from which products were cast. A small forge and a museum of iron making are in operation, the former producing domestic utensils.

NATHANIEL FRIEND HOUSE, PETERS-BURG: This outstanding example of urban Federal architecture was built for Nathaniel

Nathaniel Friend House, Petersburg (Courtesy HABS)



Friend, Jr., wealthy import-export merchant and mayor of Petersburg (1812–1813).

CASTLEWOOD, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY: Castlewood, at the eastern edge of Chesterfield Court House, is at once one of the county's finest and most puzzling early-nineteenth-century houses. The five-part building, erected in several stages of uncertain sequence, contains a highly varied group of rooms.

Appomattox Iron Works, Petersburg



Castlewood, Chesterfield County



CHESTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY: This simple American Gothic Revival structure served the Presbyterian Church of Chester from 1878 to 1954.

THE LITTLE PLANTATION, HALIFAX COUNTY: Situated on the Dan River, the Little Plantation is a well-preserved example of an antebellum Southside tobacco plantation. The compact, pleasingly proportioned dwelling house sits at the fore of a court of early outbuildings. BOYD'S TAVERN, MECKLENBURG COUNTY: The original core of this rambling frame structure was erected early in the nineteenth century, probably by Alexander Boyd, Jr., a businessman and founder of the county seat community of Boydton. A family association intends to renovate and restore the structure, which was long a popular hostelry and community center.

Boyd's Tavern, Mecklenburg County

Mountain & Valley

Chester Presbyterian Church, Chesterfield County



Little Plantation, Halifax County



THE COINER-QUESENBERY HOUSE, WAYNESBORO: This sophisticated brick structure was built in 1806 and is one of the few early structures remaining in the highly industrialized community of Waynesboro. The house has been restored and adapted for use as an office building.

ROARING SPRING FURNACE, BOTETOURT COUNTY: This water-powered, hot-blast, charcoal furnace was built in the 1830s and returned to service during the war years of 1861-1865 when it helped to supply the Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond.

Coiner-Quesenbery House, Waynesboro



WILLA CATHER BIRTHPLACE, FRED-ERICK COUNTY: American novelist and short-story writer Willa Cather lived her first ten years in the Back Creek Valley of Frederick County. She was born in this log and frame structure, the home of her maternal grandmother.

HARVEY HOUSE, RADFORD: This especially pure example of the Queen Anne style, with its picturesque exterior, its handsome interior paneling and its robust stained glass, stands as an elegant monument of a local short-lived landdevelopment boom of the 1890s.

Willa Cather Birthplace, Frederick County



Harvey House, Radford



PRESTON HOUSE, SMYTH COUNTY: This large, rambling, early-Republican structure is situated on a knoll with a commanding view of Saltville. The Prestons, a family prominent in the political affairs of Southwest Virginia, lived here during antebellum times, when they controlled large portions of the salt-producing lands from which the town derived its name and principal livelihood.

INGLES BOTTOM ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES, MONTGOMERY COUNTY: Named for the pioneer family whose members have occupied these lands since the beginning of settlement, Ingles Bottom is located on the east bank of the New River, an ancient waterway utilized by mankind from 8000 B.C. to the present.

MASSANUTTON HEIGHTS, PAGE COUNTY: Massanutton Heights is, in its architecture and artifacts, an essentially undisturbed example of a prosperous early nineteenth-century Valley German farmstead. It is particularly noteworthy for the striking stenciled decorations in the parlor.

OLD STONE CHURCH, WINCHESTER: Now restored to its original (1788) appearance, Old Stone Church is an early example of the austere ecclesiastical architecture favored by the Scotch-Irish of the Valley. Although the property passed out of Presbyterian ownership from 1834 to 1932, as a descendant of the ancient Opequan Church and the meeting place for twelve early sessions of the Synod of Virginia, it has an assured standing as a community landmark.

LIBERTY HALL ACADEMY RUINS, ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY: Washington and Lee University has undertaken to study and preserve the Mulberry Hill site of its precursor, Liberty Hall Academy. Liberty Hall, begun as Augusta Academy in 1749, was in operation here during the early years of the Republic. FORT CHISWELL SITE, WYTHE COUNTY: Two interstate highways will shortly interchange at the site of colonial Fort Chiswell, a location occupied successively by Alexander Sayers (1752–1765), Colonel William Byrd (1760– 1761), James McGavock and McGavock descendants (1771–1901). Archaeological study of the threatened portion of the site has been completed.

DAUGHERTY'S CAVE SITE AND THE BREEDING SITE, RUSSELL COUNTY: These physically related and complementary sites contain nine thousand years of stratified natural and cultural deposits of considerable value to anthropologists, ecologists, natural historians, and students of folklore.

SINGERS GLEN, ROCKINGHAM COUNTY: Although the early development—and subsequent naming—of Singers Glen is associated with Joseph Funk, antebellum Mennonite church musician and publisher, the village's architectural character is a product of its late nineteenth-century period of growth and prosperity.

Old Stone Church, Winchester



Massanutton Heights, Page County



Liberty Hall Academy ruins, Rockbridge County





Calder Loth spoke on preserving historic districts at the second Lynchburg Seminar on historic preservation, September 23. The seminar was sponsored by the Lynchburg Historical Foundation, Inc., the Junior League of Lynchburg, Inc., and the Fidelity National Bank.

Virginia Landmarks registrar Cory Pellegrin (left) with assistant registrar Ann Miller leaving Morson's Row offices to mail the latest batch of VHLC plaques. These plaques will eventually be available to the owner or administrator of each registered Virginia landmark. Pellegrin trained as an art historian (B.A. in Fine Arts, 1974) at the College of William and Mary. She is responsible for maintenance of the Virginia Landmarks Register and serves as a liaison between the VHLC and the Keeper of the National Register in Washington. She is also responsible for much of the correspondence between the VHLC staff and owners of registered landmarks.

Ann Miller organized, and prepared an index for, the Commission's extensive file of pre-1861 Mutual Assurance policies during the summers of 1972, 1973, 1974. She joined the staff full time after graduation from Bridgewater College in May 1975. In addition to assisting Pellegrin, she maintains files for properties covered by easement and for registered landmarks generally.



VHLC Executive Director Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., with architectural historian Calder Loth and Chauncey Spencer at the Anne Spencer property, Lynchburg. Building shown was the noted poet's study, which, with her house and garden, has been added to the Virginia Landmarks Register (See Register section). "Courtesy The News & The Daily Advance, Lynchburg, Virginia"



Virginia Research Center for Archaeology

The merger of the archaeology office of the Virginia State Library with the Virginia Research Center for Archaeology of the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission has streamlined the Commonwealth's archaeological review of development projects. Under the new review procedures, the VRCA's staff members, Wayne Clark, David Hazzard, Keith Egloff, and Martha McCartney, are responsible for evaluating all federally funded or licensed projects from an archaeological perspective. The VHLC retains the primary responsibility for reviewing possible effect on standing structures and historic sites.

The VHLC and the United States Soil Conservation Service have entered into a contractural agreement to survey various soil conservation projects throughout the Commonwealth. Initially, archaeological survey and study of relevant historical documents will concentrate on various watershed projects. In addition to the immediate significance of these sites, the VRCA hopes to work out models of prehistoric density and distribution that may be used for predicting probable importance of sites in the future.

The Indian Point site, located adjacent to the Patawomeke site, has been given partial protection from erosion by the erection of a bulkhead around the point. All but forty feet of the site has been lost to the waves of Potomac Creek. The absence of adequate survey data for the Virginia side of the Potomac River has been partly rectified by Steve Potter of the University of North Carolina who has turned in 147 site survey forms for Northumberland County. The survey will be the subject of Mr. Potter's Ph.D. dissertation at the University of North Carolina.

The VRCA staff continues to analyze data from its three-year excavation at Kingsmill. Three annual reports have been completed and a fourth is in progress. Analysis of Kingsmill data from seventeenth-century sites show patterns of domestic architecture for which no known buildings survive in Virginia.

Staff archaeologist Carter Hudgins is completing the final report of highway salvage excavations at one of colonial Williamsburg's ports of entry, College Landing. Burial and domestic sites provide new insight into black culture during the late-colonial and post-revolutionary eras; and sites relating to occupational activities have potential for contributing to the knowledge of racial acculturation during the late eighteenth century.

The final report has been completed for the

Robert Anderson excavating refuse pit at Governor's Land. Sword and ceramics shown date from late period of Virginia Company (ca. 1617-1625).

excavations directed by Keith Egloff near Colonial Beach. Very little of the house site survived undisturbed in the area of James Monroe's birthplace. Display cases relating to the site have been installed in the Westmoreland County Museum at Montross. Elsewhere in Tidewater, the research project at Governor's Landing, near Jamestown, ended its first season. Alain Outlaw, field supervisor for the project which is being funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, reports recovery of remarkably well-preserved early seventeenth-century military artifacts and a settlement site most probably dating from ca. 1618-1630.

The Koehler site at Martinsville was excavated

prior to destruction by a sewage treatment plant. The site, apparently dating from the late-Woodland-Indian to early historic period (ca. 1300-1630), was studied by means of federal funding.

Keith Egloff and David Hazzard of the VRCA, with assistance from Tom Funk and Martha McCartney, worked with volunteers from the Wytheville area and the upper New River, Wolf Hills, and Roanoke chapters of the Archaeology Society of Virginia in the continued excavation of the Fort Chiswell site in Southwest Virginia. The results complement the earlier work done by the University of Virginia and resolved the major questions raised by those excavations.



Early seventeenth-century timber house site and associated refuse pits excavated by VRCA at the Governor's Land site near Jamestown. 29

Notes on Landmarks

BOYKIN'S TAVERN, Isle of Wight County, faces an uncertain future. In recent months the Isle of Wight Planning Commission concluded that restoration of the eighteenth-century structure as a county office building is unfeasible and recommended that a modern building be put on the site.

The BRUNSWICK COUNTY COURTHOUSE in Lawrenceville is currently undergoing an extensive renovation. Plans call for the rebuilding of the interior of the Greek Revival structure, although the impressive main stair is to be preserved.

Restoration of the BALL-SELLERS HOUSE, Arlington County, a rare example of a poor farmer's house of the late eighteenth century, has commenced under the auspices of the Arlington Historical Society. The oldest section of the house will be maintained as a museum, while the nineteenth-century portion has been renovated for use as a dwelling. Careful removal of wallboard revealed surviving portions of original plaster, lath, and chairboard attached to the crude log walls.



Ball-Sellers House, Arlington County. Restoration in progress.



Ronald E. Shibley, Director of Historic Fredericksburg Foundation Incorporated, disassembles a nineteenth century smokehouse on Lafayette Boulevard which will be reassembled in the backyard of The Chimneys on Caroline Street as a toolshed. Although used most recently as a taxi stand, this 8 x 8 foot building which was given to the Foundation had its origin on a farm in Stafford County where it reputedly served as a meathouse for Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside, the Union Commander. The VHLC holds an easement on The Chimneys and reconstruction of the small building on that property had received prior approval by the Commission.



Supplied with vehicle, camera, maps, and VHLC architectural survey forms, Jeff O'Dell records the Durette House, Henrico County. The Henrico survey of over 300 sites and structures is being published in a profusely-illustrated book available from the County Department of Planning. O'Dell has also surveyed some 900 buildings in Petersburg and is presently employed by Chesterfield County where he is completing an inventory of early structures for use by the Planning Department. The entire contents of CARTER HALL, Clarke County, were auctioned in September. The famous plantation is being offered for sale.

The VHLC notes with regret the death of Nanette Ford Dunlop. Mrs. Dunlop was a prominent preservationist and owner of EL-LERSLIE, Colonial Heights. No word has been received as to the future of this historic estate noted for its nineteenth-century landscaped park.

Restoration of the WESTERN HOTEL, Lynchburg, is nearing completion. The early nineteenth-century hostelry is to contain a restaurant and apartments for individuals of modest means.

A special task force has been formed by the state secretary of administration and finance to deal with the utilization of the old WESTERN STATE HOSPITAL COMPLEX, Staunton. The complex contains one of the finest collections of antebellum institutional buildings in the nation. The VHLC is represented on the task force by architectural historian Calder Loth.

Ceremonies marking the restoration and official opening of WESTON MANOR, Hopewell, were held in September. The late-Georgian plantation house is to be used for special cultural events.

After years of uncertainty, the Smith House, a prominent landmark in the FALMOUTH HIS-TORIC DISTRICT, Stafford County, is being moved out of town in order to preserve it. Woodlawn Realty, owner of the property, threatened to demolish the house unless it was moved.

Funds are being sought to stabilize the GOOSE CREEK STONE BRIDGE, Loudoun County. The venerable multi-arched structure was given by the State Highway Department to the Loudoun-Fauquier Garden Club in 1975. The stabilization is a joint project of the garden club and the Loudoun County Bicentennial Committee.

The Department of the Interior has agreed to accept open-space easements on more than eight thousand acres within the GREEN SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT, Louisa County. The easements were previously solicited and held by Historic Green Springs, Inc., which has led the battle to keep inappropriate development out of the nation's largest historic district. The U.S. Navy is threatening to abandon the use of the JAMESTOWN EXPOSITION SITE BUILDINGS, Norfolk. Erected as the state pavilions for the 1907 Jamestown Exposition, the remaining buildings form the most complete collection of early exposition buildings in the country. They are currently used as officers' residences.

The extensive restoration of the JOHN MAR-SHALL HOUSE, Richmond, is complete. Ceremonies marking the reopening of the house were held July 3. Mrs. Kenneth Higgins, former president of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, and currently a member of the VHLC, presided.

Complete restoration of the OLD LYNCH-BURG COURTHOUSE, has begun. The impressive structure ranks among the state's outstanding examples of the Greek Revival style.

POINT OF HONOR, Lynchburg, is in the final stages of restoration. The noted Federal-style mansion is to serve as a museum of Lynchburg history and decorative arts.

Restoration of the RIDDICK HOUSE, Suffolk, has been made the major project of the Suffolk Bicentennial Commission. Built in 1837, the noted Greek Revival mansion has housed the city's school administration offices for the past several years.

The SEARS HOUSE, Staunton, is undergoing a complete restoration funded in part by a grant from the Department of the Interior. Prominently sited on a hill overlooking the city's business district, the house is a fine example of a mid-nineteenth-century Tuscan cottage. The restoration is being undertaken by the Historic Staunton Foundation.

Restoration of the STUART HOUSE, Staunton, is complete. Built in 1791, the famous Staunton landmark is now the residence of Justice George M. Cochran, a descendant of Archibald Stuart, builder of the house.

Plans are underway to have the MAGGIE WALKER HOUSE, Richmond, acquired by the city. The late Mrs. Walker was a pioneering black businesswoman and the house remains essentially as it appeared during her residence.

The faculty house occupied by both "Stonewall" Jackson and Robert E. Lee at WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY, Lexington, is to receive a thorough restoration. The project is being directed by J. Everett Fauber, FAIA. Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Morson's Row 221 Governor Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

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