



42nd Annual Candlelight Tour!

The Historic Fredericksburg Foundation's 42nd annual *Candlelight Tour of Historic Homes* is set for this December 8th and 9th. This popular holiday tradition is HFFI's flagship fundraising event, drawing 1,500 people to downtown Fredericksburg every year.

This year's featured properties include three homes on upper Hanover Street (700, 701, and 919), Brompton at 704 Sunken Road, and the historic Braehead estate at 123 Lee Drive (day tour only). An additional venue, 806 Hanover, will also be open during Saturday evening's tour.

During the day, musical groups and other performers will be serving up some holiday entertainment along the tour route, and a *Ghosts of Fredericksburg* storyteller will be on hand to shed light on some of the

neighborhood's previous inhabitants. Santa and Doc the Elf will be there too, visiting with tour patrons and spreading good cheer.

Our always popular *Evening Tour by Candlelight* is scheduled for Saturday evening from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, followed by our equally popular *Cocktail Party* event at the A. Smith Bowman Distillery in the historic Bowman Center (One Bowman Drive).

Looking for unique holiday gifts? The *Candlelight Tour Gift Shop* will be open both days from 11:00–5:00 in the *Alternative Paths Training School* located at 710 Littlepage Street. Come in for some complementary cookies and hot apple cider, and be sure to stop by HFFI's table to purchase your 2012 Christmas ornament, copies of our new publications, and other items.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.hffi.org, at HFFI's office located in The Lewis Store (1200 Caroline Street), and at any of the following locations:

- Fredericksburg Visitor Center, 706 Caroline Street
- 25 30 Espresso, 400 Princess Anne Street
- Amy's Café, 103 W. Cambridge Street, Falmouth
- Spotsylvania Visitor Center, 4704 Southpoint Parkway

Same-day tour tickets will be five dollars more and will only be available at the Fredericksburg Visitor Center and HFFI Candlelight Tour Gift Shop. Tickets will not be sold at the individual homes.

For more information on HFFI's 42nd Annual *Candlelight Tour*, contact Lori Syner at 540-371-4504 or by email at office@hffi.org.



HFFI 2012 Candlelight Tour Home Featured in National Trust for Historic Preservation Article

One of this year's *Candlelight Tour* homes, the historic *Braehead estate*, was recently featured in an interview published online by the National Trust for Historic Preservation (*[Interview] Merry Powell, Interior Designer: "Preservation is Contagious"*). In it, interior designer, Merry Powell, talks about her work and experiences during the property's recent restoration.

Read it online at: <http://blog.preservationnation.org/2012/10/22/interview-merry-powell-interior-designer-preservation-is-contagious/>

Become an HFFI Member

By supporting HFFI's mission, our individual and corporate members are directly investing in Fredericksburg's future by helping us preserve our community's past. Members also enjoy a range of benefits, including an invitation to the annual membership meeting, a quarterly newsletter, a free copy of the *Journal of Fredericksburg History*, published annually, and discounts on HFFI-sponsored events, publications, and other merchandise. Join now and enjoy these and other exciting benefits.

Welcome to HFFI's Newest Members

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Leigh Carroll Baysden | Virginia Gerrish | Bruce Milhans |
| Jacklyn Boice | Linda Horn | Eric Rudenshiold & Abigail Carter |
| Ken Bradshaw | Judy Jobrack | Thomas & Mary Rumora |
| Mike & Sharon Carmody | Stephen & Amy McCullough | Ann Powell Sniffin |
| Melissa Crouse | Ray & Mary Maki | Jim & Beth Stenstrom |
| Dan & Nancy Fahy | Joseph & Susan Metz | Alison & Bill Freehling |

Corporate Members, Sponsors & In-Kind Contributors:

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|------------------------------|---|--|
| Davenport & Company | Nationwide Insurance/ Harry S. Rosnick | Proplayers Live* |
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| Hirschler Fleischer* | Parrish Auto Body | Rapphannock Electric |
| Kitchen Works | Penn Mar Floors | RBC Wealth Management /Robert Lang* !! |
| Impressions Interiors | | sterne agee |

* Gold Corporate Member !! Presenting Sponsor of the Candlelight Tour Cocktail Party

Historic Fredericksburg Foundation, Inc.

Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2012

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MEMBERSHIP

Contact Lori R. Syner for questions regarding your membership renewal or about becoming a new member.

HFFI Needs Your Help

HFFI is looking for volunteers to help us preserve the history and historic resources of the Fredericksburg region. We have a wide variety of opportunities and can tailor them to suit your interests.

HFFI Committees

CANDLELIGHT TOUR

4th Tuesday/month • 9:30 am

MEMBERSHIP & FUNDRAISING

2nd Saturday/month • 10:30 am

HISTORICAL MARKER

3rd Tuesday/month • 4:00 pm

ORAL HISTORY

Ad needed

PUBLICATIONS

3rd Monday/month • 6:00 pm

REAL ESTATE

2nd Tuesday/month • 5:00 pm

General Areas of Interest

Advocacy

Administrative/General Office

Archival/Library Management

Building Maintenance/Painting

Education & Outreach

Events Planning (2-3/year)

Fundraising

Grant Writing

Membership Development

Research (historical, property, preservation)

Graphics Design

Real Estate

Special Projects (lectures, tours)

Specific HFFI Programs

Volunteers may also opt to participate in one of HFFI's ongoing **programs**:

Annual Candlelight Tour • Quarterly Newsletter • Publications

If interested, please contact HFFI (540-371-4504 or office@hffi.org).



HFFI Stewardship Initiative: The Ellis-Bell Site Excavation

Earlier this year, HFFI received news that a large cache of stoneware fragments had recently turned up at the site of the new Amelia Square Townhomes development on William Street in downtown Fredericksburg.

The find's significance lay less in the shards themselves than in what they represented—possible evidence of an intact, historic stoneware kiln. In fact, historical research compiled during a 2005 survey of this property had

to locate the kiln's remains. Based on archival research and the volume and distribution of stoneware fragments recovered during the dig, it appears the 1830s kiln very likely stood along William Street, near its present-day intersection with Winchester Street, but was later destroyed during the construction of a new warehouse at the same location in 1849.

Though the kiln itself was not recovered, the effort nevertheless proved a huge success. An analysis of the vessel pieces and wasters the team collected will tell us a great deal about how and what types of stoneware were being produced here. The excavation also revealed evidence of a previously unknown, pre-Civil War structure on the site and artifacts from the foundations of two 1880s brick townhomes that had burned in a 1914 fire.

This was truly a community-based effort, made possible by our dedicated volunteers (including many HFFI members!) and the monetary and in-kind contributions pledged by private citizens, the City, and several state and local organizations.

For more details on the project and the site's history, check out this article from **Fredericksburg.com**: <http://blogs.fredericksburg.com/newsdesk/2012/10/08/19th-century-pottery-site-is-major-find/>.



Volunteers, Jackie Cuyler and Bill Cole, take a break to pose for a photo.

confirmed that not one, but two separate kilns had once operated at or near this location during the early 19th century: a stoneware operation run by Francis Hamilton Bell in the 1830s and an earlier, circa-1810 brick-making facility owned by the Ellis family.

Upon learning of the discovery, HFFI, in partnership with Dovetail Cultural Resource Group, sought and received approval from the property's owner, Silver Companies, to organize a salvage excavation. Over a four-day period in late October (25th–28th), a team of archaeologists and more than 30 volunteers raced ahead of hurricane Sandy

HFFI would like to offer its sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone who supported the project:

- | | |
|--|---|
| HFFI's dedicated team of volunteers! | Matthew Kelly |
| Dovetail Cultural Resource Group | Primavera |
| City of Fredericksburg | Silver Companies |
| Ferry Farm & George Washington Foundation | Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) |
| Fredericksburg Area Museum and Cultural Center | G. L. White Portable Toilets |

Vintage Route 1 Tour Wrap Up

On Saturday, September 8, 2012, HFFI held its 1st Annual *Vintage Route 1 Tour & Downtown Community Day*. It was a great success as local residents and out-of-town guests gathered to enjoy the various activities going on at several different downtown venues.

Patrons who purchased tickets for our guided streetcar tours heard stories and learned about the architecture changes that occurred along Princess Anne Street during its tenure as Fredericksburg's Route 1 corridor in the mid-20th century. Nearly 100 guests made it



Rosie the Riveter (Kerri Barile)
and our Route 1 event barker
(Dennis Buchanan).

over to Market Square for our vintage fashion show. Photos of the event were featured in the October issue of *SNAP* magazine—be sure to check them out online!

Riverfront Park featured a wonderful showcase of classic cars sponsored by the Historic Fredericksburg Region AACA, as well as a variety of vendors and children's activities. The highlight of our children's area was the HFFI Jr. Archaeology Lab where kids got some hands-on training on how to properly clean, tag, and catalog artifacts found in an archaeological dig. Student volunteers from the University of Mary Washington were on hand to make sure participants learned that it's not just *what* you find in the dirt that matters, but also information about *where* it was found and *what it was found with* that helps archaeologists understand who, how, why, and when it was used.

The Fredericksburg Masonic Lodge #4 generously allowed us to use their historic facility as our Route 1 Headquarters, where guests could purchase a variety of HFFI merchandise, enjoy a kids coloring station, and wander through a wonderful Route 1 history exhibit featuring a photo timeline of Fredericksburg's evolution

during the 20th century. The same exhibit is now on display at the Lewis Store (1200 Caroline Street). Be sure to drop by Monday through Friday between 9:00am–2:30pm to see it.

A big thank you to everyone who had a hand in making the Vintage Route 1 Tour such a success! Whether it was before, during, or after the event, our volunteers are what made it happen. We are starting to plan for 2013, so if you would like to be involved or have an idea for next year, please email Emily Taggart Schricker at route1@hffi.org. We would love to have you join us!



Route 1 Volunteers:

| | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Melissa Arrowsmith | Alexandra Crowder | Amy LaMarca | Leslie Pugh | Emily Taggart Schricker |
| Mike Ashenfelder | Elizabeth Daly | Mary Maher | Geoff Raines | Bill Shorter |
| Kerri Barile | Carthon Davis | Sean Maroney | Hannah Ridenour | Mike Spencer |
| Linda Billard | Heather Dollins | Jefferson Nazworth | Peter Rose | Jennifer Sustart |
| Dennis Buchanan | Kerry Gonzalez | Ali Newland | Amber Roth | Aubrey VonLindern |
| Lindsay Bulles | Charles Ingram | Andy Newland | Carol Roth | Nikki Wiles |
| Betsy Caufield | Renee Johanneson | David Noel | Angela Salazar | |
| Teresa Cramer | Joanna Jourdan | Laura Noel | Sarah Sanders | |
| Melissa Crouse | Maureen Kefauver | Danae Peckler | Adam Schricker | |

Other Route 1 Event Contributors:

Central Rappahannock Heritage Center

Asylum Entertainment (Trolley Sponsor)

Historic Fredericksburg Region Antique Automobile Club of America

Stewardship Matters

Welcome to the first installment of *Stewardship Matters*—a new segment featuring general information and links to useful print & online resources on a variety of topics provided to help owners maintain, repair, and rehab their historic buildings.



Weatherizing Your Historic Property for the Winter... Winter is coming. It's time to start thinking about weatherizing your historic home or business. Check out the links below for helpful hints and tips...

Weatherization Guide for Older and Historic Buildings (National Trust for Historic Preservation)

<http://www.preservationnation.org/information-center/sustainable-communities/weatherization/>

Preservation Brief #3: Improving Energy Efficiency in Historic Buildings (National Park Service)

<http://www.nps.gov/hps/TPS/briefs/brief03.pdf>



**Storm Windows?
You're not shut
out in the cold!**

We often get calls this time of year from homeowners asking about storm windows. Appropriately designed and properly installed storm windows can indeed improve the energy efficiency of your historic home or business. In fact, as studies have shown, when paired with fully operational historic windows, they can generate energy benefits equal to or greater than modern replacement windows. They can also provide an effective noise barrier and help protect your historic

windows against the elements. For these reasons, they are frequently approved in historic tax credit projects. To realize these benefits, new storm windows should fit snugly within, and fully fill the frame. And, they should also match the size, shape, and color of the existing historic windows with framing elements (e.g., sashes and mullions) closely aligned to avoid obscuring any character-defining features. Single-paned storm units often work best on historic buildings because their simple design is less visually intrusive. **Guidance on the proper use of storm windows and how to maintain your historic wood sash windows** can be found at: <http://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/tech-notes/Tech-Notes-Windows03.pdf>. Or call HFFI. We are happy to help!

Please contact HFFI (540-371-4504 or office@hffi.org) if you have questions or want additional information concerning this or any other topics covered in our *Stewardship Matters* features. Also, let us know if you have ideas or particular subjects you would like to see covered in future installments.

In Memoriam:

**Dr. Robert C. Wheeler II
(1935–2012)**

Dr. Robert C. Wheeler, II, passed away on October 22nd. His contributions to this city—as a physician, civic leader, and conservationist—were many and profound. Equally significant were his contributions to historic preservation, including efforts to protect and restore his own home (1201 Princess Anne Street), Hunter's (Lauck's) Island, and HFFI's current headquarters, the Lewis Store (1200 Caroline Street), which he and his wife, Mary Ellen Wheeler, donated to the Foundation in 1996.

Read more about Dr. Wheeler's life and accomplishments at: <http://www.fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2012/102012/10252012/733327>

The Lewis Store Recognized!



On September 20th, the Fielding Lewis Store and eight other historic properties were approved for listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register (VLR), the state's official list of historically significant sites, buildings, and structures. In addition, the Department of Historic Resources (DHR) State Review Board forwarded the listings to the National Park Service for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (NHRP).

The successful nomination was prepared by Cristine Lynch, a recent graduate of the University of Mary Washington's Historic Preservation Department. A press release issued by the DHR recognized the Lewis Store as one of a "very small group of Virginia stores built before 1750," and possibly "one of only three brick stores in Virginia dating from the period." (**See full press release:** http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/pdf_files/PressReleases/Sept.2012.VLRs.FINAL.pdf).

FACTOID: Listing on the VLR and NRHP places no restrictions on what owners may do with their property. It does, however, open doors to possible funding assistance (e.g., tax incentives, grants) for repair & rehab projects.

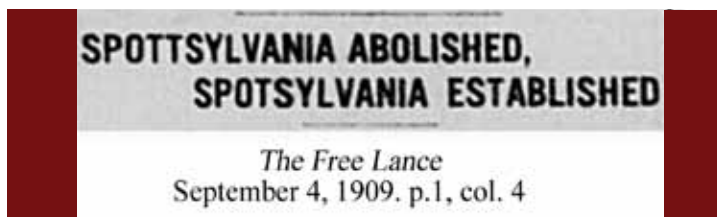
***What's in a Name !? I don't care what you say about me, . . .
as long as you spell my name right.*** - George M. Cohan

BY BILL SHORTER

One of the many facets of historic preservation belongs more in the realm of the intangible than the physical. An earlier Newsletter mentioned how the spirit of Fredericksburg, populace and city, persevered during the years following the Civil War. Alongside human persistence is the spirit of place, that is, the accompanying identification one makes with his or her region of birth or abode. Such is the case for Spotsylvania, a century ago.

In the first decade of the 20th century, the name, "Spotsylvania," was the subject of contention between a local resident and, what the *Free Lance* called, "that vague monster, the 'government,'" meaning the Post Office Department. Mr. William D. Richardson of Willis Hill undertook the challenge to correct a journalistic misstep—the spelling of Spotsylvania as Spottsylvania. For some reason lost to history, the two "t" spelling was established in the list of U. S. Post Offices.

History was on the side of Mr. Richardson. In November 1720, an act of the General Assembly created Spotsylvania County with a spelling of only one "t." In Hening's *Statutes at Large*, the correct spelling is used more than 90 times between its origin and 1792. The incorrect spelling also can be found in Hening but only five times, the earliest in 1752.



Most of the two "t" variations were incidental, occurring in either a long list of Virginia counties or an index.

Somehow, the error got out to other parts of the nation, probably by means of war correspondence during the Civil War, and became entrenched in local gazetteers. Regardless of its genesis, the misspelling continued to be used over subsequent decades until 1909 when it was corrected by the Postmaster General.

As was to be expected, the name Spotsylvania continued to be misspelled outside of the Fredericksburg area for many years after the correction. The *Washington Post*, *New York Times*, and other large newspapers were spelling the name with the double "t" until well into the 1990s. But, thanks to efforts of Mr. Richardson, the correct spelling of Spotsylvania has been preserved for one hundred years, at least for the people who matter.

*He that filches from me my good name
Robs me . . . And makes me poor indeed.*

—William Shakespeare, *Othello*. Act iii. Scene 3.

Advocacy Brief



In recent weeks, City Council has met several times to discuss the still-uncertain future of Fredericksburg's historic Circuit Courthouse (*see links below for details*). Presently, there are no plans for the building's continuing use beyond 2014 when all current court functions and staff are set to move into the new court complex. Council's recent deliberations have focused on identifying priority objectives (with "Preserve the iconic historic structure" topping the list) and evaluating general strategies for the building's renovation and future reuse.

This unique landmark (the only courthouse ever designed by renowned American architect, James Renwick, Jr.) has been the centerpiece of downtown civic life for more than 150 years and a source of pride for generations of Fredericksburg residents. As the Courthouse's current stewards, it falls to us to ensure that this vital link to the past is properly preserved and remains an integral part of our community's present and future.

With that in mind, we would like to hear from you, our members, on this issue. Tell us about your ideas for the building's future use and long-term preservation.

Read more about
Council's Renwick
Courthouse
Discussions:

City Council mulls historic courthouse's future (*Fredericksburg.com*, Oct. 9, 2012):
<http://news.fredericksburg.com/newsdesk/2012/10/09/city-council-mulls-historic-courthouses-future/>
Courthouse plans at top of council's priority list (*Fredericksburg.com*, Nov. 14, 2012):
<http://news.fredericksburg.com/newsdesk/2012/11/14/courthouse-plans-at-top-of-councils-priority-list/>

Shop HFFI

2012 Candlelight Tour Ornament



Design inspired by
700 Hanover Street.

\$21.00 HFFI Members
\$24.00 Non-members

Past Years' Ornaments Still Available

2009, 2010 & 2011

\$21.00 HFFI Members
\$24.00 Non-members

1995, 2000 & 2003-2008

Half-price \$12.00 (**Limited Supply!**)



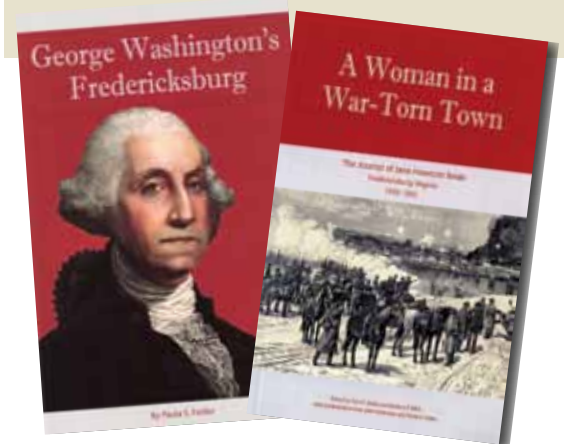
Journal of Fredericksburg History Volume 13

Non-HFFI Members: **\$10.00**

HFFI Members: **Free! ****

** If you haven't picked up
your complimentary copy
yet, just stop by HFFI's offices
(1200 Caroline Street) or this
year's **Candlelight Tour
Gift Shop** (Dec. 8-9)
to do so.

From HFFI's new Rappahannock Series



New Editions of:

George Washington's Fredericksburg

*The Journal of Jane Howison Beale,
Fredericksburg, Virginia, 1850-1862*

These and other retail items,
including a range of publications on
Fredericksburg regional history, are
also available for purchase online
through HFFI's website: www.hffi.org.

Or stop by this year's **Candlelight Tour
Gift Shop** on Dec. 8th & 9th (*See pg. 1*)

Where [Who] in the 'Burg?



This issue's *Where in the 'Burg?* photograph is more of a "*Who in the Burg?*" challenge. The image below appeared in a publication entitled, *Photographic Studies of Old Virginia Homes & Gardens*. The caption printed below the image read: "President James Monroe's Law Office in Fredericksburg. A national shrine containing original furniture of the White House."

Your Challenge!

First, see if you can identify either of the people depicted in the photo.

Second, try to identify the year this image was taken.

You can submit your guesses and/or simply share some of your memories with us by phone (540-371-4504) or email (office@hffi.org).

Image courtesy of Barbara Willis.

DATES TO REMEMBER

| | | |
|--------------|--|----------------|
| December 8–9 | Candlelight Tour (Daytime Hours) Upper Hanover Street | 11:00am–5:00pm |
| December 8 | Private Candlelight Tour & Cocktail Party Upper Hanover Street (Tour) Bowman Center (Cocktail Party) | 6:00pm–10:00pm |
| January 16 | Board of Directors Meeting The Lewis Store | 6:30pm–8:00pm |

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