

Historic **HFFI IS 50!**  
1955-2005  
**Fredericksburg**  
*Foundation, Inc.*

March-April  
2005



## 604 William Street Sold Proceeds to Finish Lewis Store

A contract has been signed to sell the 604 William St. building, home of HFFI since 1994, to Kenneth Loff of Hanover Street, Fredericksburg. Mr. Loff, an HFFI member, has accepted an easement on the property to protect its appearance.

"We are excited that this sale will enable us to consolidate in the Lewis Store, move into one of the most historic structures in the historic district, and utilize this HFFI signature project," stated foundation president Carter Hudgins.

The sale was conducted with the approval of the heirs of Mrs. D. Letcher Stoner, an HFFI founder and donor of the building. "Mother would be delighted to know her donation has served and will continue to serve the foundation so well," according to Mrs. Weber Stoner Taylor, her daughter.

604 William Street was built in 1850 and originally occupied by Charles G. Brown and Joseph B. Ficklen as a grocery. The current ground floor occupant, local historian Paula Felder, will remain in her premises.

The HFFI Board will decide the use of the substantial funds remaining from the sale after completion of the Lewis Store project.

## HFFI Favors Downtown Hotel

— BUT HAS RESERVATIONS  
ABOUT MARRIOTT PLAN

On Feb. 16, the Historic Fredericksburg Foundation Board of Directors resolved to support a new hotel downtown, but expressed reservations about the mass and scale of the proposed Marriott as well as the 'special exception' it seeks from City Council.

"Historic preservation is a tool of economic prosperity, not an opponent" states Executive Director Tom Hart, who spoke before City Council on March 8.

The materials, access, size, and style of the proposed Marriott hotel on Sophia Street continue to evoke criticism by citizen groups. At the February 14 Architectural Review Board meeting, several citizens, including HFFI president Carter Hudgins, voiced concern about the use of the modern "EIFS" exterior material and the plan to exceed the city's mass and size standard (or "FAR") for the site.

In a February 28 letter to the developers, the ARB noted "the design lacks cohesion," "the proposed size presents a design challenge," "site planning appeared inadequate for the traffic," and "proposed use of EIFS had not become acceptable."

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### *Inside This Issue*

604 William St. Sold	Page 1
Hotel Report	Page 1
Lincoln Cottage Tour	Page 2
HFFI's Pet Dog	Page 3
Cemetery Wall	Page 4
47th Va. Flag Project	Page 4

## Members Tour 'Lincoln Cottage'

On February 12, Lincoln's birthday, HFFI members enjoyed a special tour of the 'Lincoln Cottage' at the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington. The 1842 Cottage, originally built by banker G.W. Riggs, became a summer escape from the heat and frustrations of office for several presidents after 1851, including Lincoln — a sort of 19th-century Camp David. The house, now being restored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is not yet open to the public.



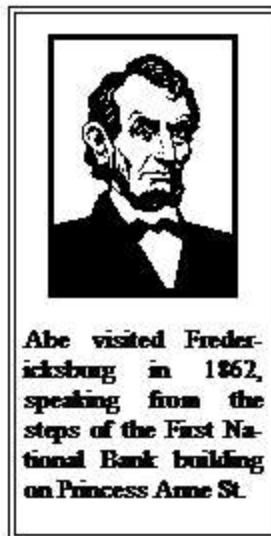
The group heard Sophia Lynn of the National Trust explain the project.



National Trust restoration director David Overholt (r) and HFFI's Tom Hart (l) at the front door. Note ghost marks of metal hinge straps.



The Cottage in the 1860's.



Abe visited Fredericksburg in 1862, speaking from the steps of the First National Bank building on Princess Anne St.



The seldom-seen grounds of the Armed Forces Retirement Home are impressive.



The \$12 million restoration by the National Trust is a textbook exercise in preservation.



The vista of the Capitol enjoyed by Lincoln is still visible.

## "Pawsitively" Dog for HFFI!

Thanks to the generosity of sponsors Angus and Barbara Muir, Historic Fredericksburg will soon boast its own doorstep dog to participate in the "Pawsitively Fredericksburg" fund-raiser and downtown celebration this summer.

"Pawsitively" will bring about 40 life-size fiberglass cats and dogs to the streets of Fredericksburg. Each will be decorated by a local artist, often with witty visual puns and jokes.



"Dogger" by Leslie Brier

HFFI's pet, historically named "Dogger" and created by artist Leslie Brier, will feature old photos to include images of downtown buildings that HFFI has saved over the years.

The 40 animals will be unveiled at an April 30 "Putting on the Paws" cocktail at the historic Doswell-Rowe house, courtesy of Nelson Cole. Invitations to buy tickets will be in the mail to HFFI members soon.

"Pawsitively" will benefit the Foundation and our partners, the Rappahannock Rotary, Downtown Retail Marketing Inc., and the SPCA.

HFFI members Sue Bredi and Sandy Staley provided the idea and impetus for the project, and event specialist Sue Henderson is coordinator.



## Repair of Confederate Cemetery Wall Begins

*"...now, thanks to the Historic Fredericksburg Foundation Inc. and other donors, the historic wall around the Confederate Cemetery in Fredericksburg is going back up."*

— *Free Lance Star*, March 9

Repairs on the Confederate Cemetery wall that was damaged by hurricane Isabel in 2003 have begun. Although only a 50-foot section of wall fell down, 180 feet are being rebuilt down to the foundation to ensure future stability.

More than 100 contributors, of whom HFFI was the first and among the largest, matched a grant from the city of \$35,000. The funds constituted the 2003 "Bricks and Mortar" grant raised from

the 2003 Christmas Candlelight Tour.

Ladies Memorial Association President Barbara Crookshanks, who accepted HFFI's \$6,000 donation Oct. 27, states that the wall should be completed in time for this year's Memorial Day ceremony.

The speaker at the May 30 ceremony will be Carter Hudgins, professor of history at UMW and president of HFFI.

3,300 Confederate dead, including six generals, are interred in the cemetery.



The Confederate Cemetery wall was built from bricks of homes destroyed in the battle. This one still has a bullet buried in it.

## "47TH VIRGINIA" SEEKS HELP TO RESTORE FLAG

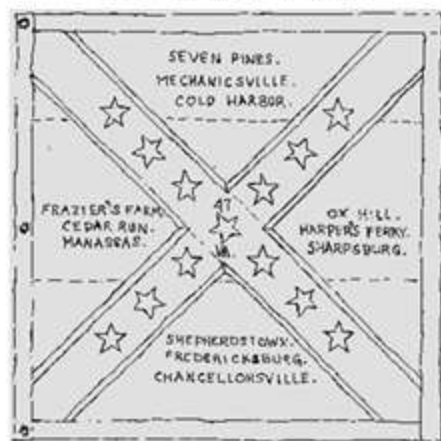
Those who have enjoyed the HFFI Candlelight Tour in recent years have witnessed the spectacle of the Battle of Fredericksburg by the Civil War re-enactor's group portraying the 47th Virginia Infantry's Company 1.

Company 1 was originally raised as the 'Stafford Guard' in April 1861 and participated in many of the most important battles of the war.

Two original battle flags of the 47th Virginia are in the collection of the Museum of the Confederacy. The re-enactors

solicit help to raise \$42,000 to conserve the old banners.

Donations may be sent to:  
Museum of the Confederacy  
47th Virginia Flag Fund  
1201 Clay St.  
Richmond, VA 23219



Sketch of the 47th Virginia battle flag.

### Mark Your Calendars...

April 16 – Free member tour of James Madison's Montpelier.

April 30 – "Pawsitively Fredericksburg" unveiling.

### Candlelight Tour Thanks (cont.) Our researchers & a houseful of hostesses!

Laura Farwell	Cynthia Helton
Kitty Farley	Sandy Staley
Nichol Forbes	Anna Branner
Janet Edson	Leary Busa
Teri R. Reece	
Debbie & Ashley Bird	
Sharon Kendall	
Nancy Sims	
Kristina Harris	
Frances Brooks	
Robin Lacy	
Suzanne Duprock	
Sandy Greenawalt	
Ruth Wilson	
Nancy Parr	
Mary Makowski	
Sharon Hoch	
Katherine Hager	
Vicki Wharton	
Linda Strubing	
Debbie Bigelow	
Carmen & Jeannette Rovira	
Rachel McDonald	
Martha Buttress & Joanna Pierson	
Monty & Andy Johns	
Sharon Blancard	
Barbara Chabanik	
Bryn Eudailey	

*Historic*  
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### Inside This Issue

604 William St. Sold	Page 1
Hotel Report	Page 1
Lincoln Cottage Tour	Page 2
HFFI's Pet Dog	Page 3
Cemetery Wall	Page 3
47th Va. Flag Project	Page 4

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