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preservation piedmont newsletter

Summer 2018

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Kay Slaughter, Secretary

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Ross Stevens
Roulhac Toledano
Peggy Van Yahres
Richard Guy Wilson

Preservation Piedmont Hosts PAPA Annual Meeting at Morven

Networking in the Preservation Community



Preservationists from across Virginia gathered Thursday May 10 to network and share information at the annual PAPA event, hosted this year by Preservation Piedmont and Morven. The event took place in Morven’s main house, a former residence of John Kluge, that is currently under the stewardship of the UVA Foundation. The Morven farm acreage was once part of “Indian Camp,” a 1,334 acre section of a larger

Carter family tract, purchased by Jefferson in 1795 on behalf of his “adoptive son,” William Short.

Piedmont Area Preservation Alliance (PAPA) is an umbrella organization that brings together members of local, regional, and statewide preservation groups at historic venues. Previous annual gatherings have been hosted at: Monticello’s Kenwood Library, Cloverfields, Miller Center, UVA’s Garrett Hall and Rotunda Dome Room, Montpelier, Tiverton, and Roulhac Toledano’s Pink Warehouse.

Following a reception and self-guided tours of the 1820 house and 1930 formal gardens, everyone settled into the parlor to hear updates from representatives of eighteen very active and engaged organizations. Morven’s history was described by Morven Event Director and Preservation Piedmont board member, Rebecca Deeds, along with long-time Morven Estate Manager, Elton Oliver. Ellen Wagner, President, provided Preservation Piedmont’s update.



Preservation Piedmont
 P.O. Box 2803
 Charlottesville VA 22902
www.preservation-piedmont.org

Newsletter
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◀ *Members of the 2018 Preservation Piedmont Board*

Event Recaps >>>

“New discoveries of Thomas Jefferson’s Architecture and Design”

In celebration of the University of Virginia’s Bicentennial and the 60th anniversary of the Bachelor of Architectural History program, Richard Guy Wilson hosted a symposium at the UVA School of Architecture called “New Discoveries of Thomas Jefferson’s Architecture and Design” in March. This symposium was held in conjunction with an exhibition on view at The Fralin Museum of Art at the University of Virginia titled “From the Grounds Up: Thomas Jefferson’s Architecture and Design.” Historians, architects, and architectural historians presented on topics including Jefferson’s process of designing buildings, bricks and materials, slavery and how it shaped Jefferson’s designs, and more. The symposium included special tours of the Fralin exhibit and of the grounds of the University of Virginia lead by Richard Guy Wilson, a member of Preservation Piedmont’s Board of Advisors.



Richard Guy Wilson leading a tour of the exhibit at the Fralin.



Daughters of Zion Cemetery on Decoration Day. Photo courtesy of Edwina St. Rose

Event Recaps >>>

Decoration Day

On Sunday, May 27, 2018, the Second Annual “Decoration Day” was celebrated at the Daughters of Zion Cemetery. Following welcoming remarks by Preserver Bernadette Whitsett-Hammond, the Rev. Dr. Lehman D. Bates, Sr., of Charlottesville’s Ebenezer Baptist Church offered a prayer. Representatives of the Jefferson Lodge No. 20 of Free and Accepted Masons, The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia, placed a floral tribute at the gravesite of their Masonic brother, Rev. M. T. Lewis, who served as pastor of the Delevan Baptist Church (now First Baptist Church, West Main) from 1873-1882. Two inspirational selections were sung by Mr. James Bryant and a poem was delivered by Poetess Shirley Parrish. After brief remarks by Preserver Edwina St. Rose, descendants and community members decorated the graves with flowers donated by the Charlottesville Garden Club and Plantscapes Florist.

Immediately following the ceremony, guests were invited to the Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society for refreshments catered by Exquisite Delights, smooth jazz by the “Cool Lane” combo, and the “Gone But Not Forgotten - Unearthing Memories at the Daughters of Zion Cemetery” originally produced by Prof Lisa Goff’s Spring 2017 Hands-On Public History Class. The exhibit will be on display at the Historical Society through August during normal business hours.

Event Recaps >>>

Historic Garden Week Tour

This year’s focus of Historic Garden Week in the Albemarle – Charlottesville area on April 22nd was the Southwest Mountains Rural Historic District. The properties that were included in the tour were the gardens of Ben-Coolyn, the home and gardens of Castle Hill, East Belmont, and Chopping Bottom. Grace Episcopal Church was also included on the tour and served as the box lunch pick-up site.

Since all of the properties, with the exception of contemporary Chopping Bottom, are very significant to the early history of our area, Preservation Piedmont decided to organize a block of tickets for our members. Edwina St. Rose’s idea turned out to be a great success. Twenty-seven members and guests enjoyed a beautiful day at a nicely discounted ticket price. In addition to touring the properties visitors could take advantage of talks by Ed Lay, Barclay Rives, and Donna Lucey that took place at Castle Hill Cider and the home.



◀ Advisory Board Member Ed Lay sharing his expertise on the Castle Hill Estate

Garden shed at Castle Hill. Courtesy of Niya Bates ▶



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Event Recaps >>>

Stanford Hall Pop-Up Tour”

Several Preservation Piedmont members toured Stanford Hall in early May. This historic home was built in 1822-1824 by a retired Ship's Captain named Lewis, and is one of only three homes in Central Virginia with a French Mansard Roof. The craftsman style interior was restored and renovated in the late 1980s by the current owners, who retained the original plaster walls and decorative moldings. The main residence has five marble fireplaces, 12' ceilings and is situated along with a guest house on 148 beautiful acres overlooking Mechunk Creek. Professor Ed Lay, who is on our board of advisors, was part of the tour group and mentioned that since the house burned in the late 18th century, it is most likely the mansard roof was added then along with the bay windows.



Photos of Stanford Hall
Courtesy of Jean Hiatt and K. Edward Lay

Advocacy Update

With an emphasis on neighborhood preservation, the Advocacy Committee of Preservation Piedmont reviewed and made suggestions to Chapter 7 of the City of Charlottesville's Comprehensive Plan, which pertains to Historic Preservation and Design. The recommendations we made to the Planning Commission focused on retaining and celebrating "sense of place" and the unique features that make Charlottesville a special place to live. We also expanded on goals relating to natural area preservation (including the Rivanna River).



The Board also submitted a draft of a new proposed chapter of the Comprehensive Plan that would address Community Engagement. This proposed chapter recommends new methods for engaging citizens and neighborhood leadership in ways that create mutually beneficial communication with between residents, city staff, and private developers.

In addition to submitting written recommendations, members of the Preservation Piedmont Board attended public meetings about the Comprehensive Plan. In these meetings, we participated in small group discussions and represented historic preservation interests, particularly as they pertain to neighborhood preservation and potential land use issues.



Carr-Greer House
Photo Courtesy of Edwina St. Rose

Carr-Greer Farmhouse on Preservation Virginia's 2018 Most Endangered Places list

Preservation Piedmont supported the inclusion of the circa 1880 Carr-Greer Farmhouse on Preservation Virginia's 2018 Most Endangered Places List to bring awareness to the Ivy Creek Foundation's ongoing restoration and preservation efforts. The farmhouse that is now part of the Ivy Creek Natural Area is one of the few vestiges of the once thriving African American communities of Union Ridge – Hydraulic Mills.

For more info, see: <https://preservationvirginia.org/programs/most-endangered>

upcoming events...

The Events Committee is working on programs and tours for next season, some will be focused on neighborhood preservation. Please stay tuned for interesting events at www.preservation-piedmont.org

grantprogram...

Preservation Piedmont's revived grants program will provide modest grants to support projects that promote the protection of historic resources in Charlottesville and the surrounding area. Have a project you could use funding for? Learn more and apply through our website,

www.preservation-piedmont.org/grants-program

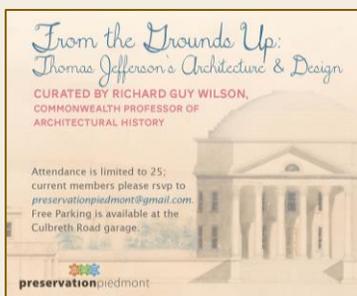
Morven Landscape
Courtesy Kay Slaughter



memberperks...

Members of Preservation Piedmont were treated to a special tour of the "From the Grounds Up: Thomas Jefferson's Architecture and Design" exhibit at The Fralin Museum of Art by Dr. Richard Guy Wilson followed by a special reception at his home. What a treat! We would like to thank Dr. Wilson and his wife, Ellie, for graciously hosting our members.

Renew or join today for more exclusive events and tours!



Contact us >>>

PreservationPiedmont

P.O. Box 2803

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www.preservation-piedmont.org

Let us know if there are preservation projects or news that you would like us to follow!

Membership Application/Renewal Form

Preservation Piedmont is a non-profit corporation that is dedicated to protecting historic structures, sites, landscapes, and neighborhoods, as well as rural areas and open spaces. We do this in order to create an appreciation for the historic resources of the Central Virginia Piedmont region. Based in Charlottesville, we also serve Albemarle and bordering counties.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$35 x ____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Household \$60 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$15 x ____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to receive my newsletter by <i>email only</i> . | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$300 |

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

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If you would like to initiate or renew a membership, please enclose payment and make checks payable to:
Preservation Piedmont



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