

Preservation Piedmont
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www.preservationpiedmont.org

Newsletter – Spring 2011



preservationpiedmont

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Board Members

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Elizabeth Meyer
Justin Sarafin
Richard Guy Wilson

Want to stay connected with Preservation Piedmont and receive up-to-date news and event information? Link to us on Facebook or join our network on LinkedIn so you never miss a thing!

PRESERVATION WEEK 2011 by Melissa Thackston

Please join us March 30th through April 9th for the Third Annual Preservation Week! This year has so much to offer we couldn't contain it in one week! Preservation Piedmont will once again be organizing Preservation Week and will be working with many Piedmont Area Preservation Alliance partners to provide a wide range of events and learning opportunities.

Jean Carroon, author of *Sustainable Preservation: Greening Existing Buildings*, will kick off Preservation Week on March 30, 2011 with a lecture and book signing. The event is jointly sponsored by Preservation Piedmont, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, and the Tusculum Institute of Sweet Briar College.

From March 31 through April 3, Preservation Virginia will be holding an antiques show highlighting well-known East Coast U.S. dealers. The show will offer numerous opportunities to learn about, as well as purchase, period furniture and decorative accessories. For more information, please visit www.apva.org.

As part of April's First Fridays program (April 1), Preservation Piedmont will be hosting Preservation Week's opening reception at the offices of John

Milner Associates, Inc. (300 W. Main St., Suite 201, across from the Sacajawea statue at Main and 5th Streets). On Sunday, April 3, the Horse & Hound Gastropub at 625 West Main Street will be offering a 10% discount on Sunday brunch for Preservation Week attendees. (RSVP directly to Horse & Hound at 434.293.3365 and mention Preservation Week 2011.)

Immediately after the brunch, please join Preservation Piedmont for a walking tour of the West Main Street corridor. Throughout the following week, April 4-9, Preservation Piedmont will be hosting a series of brown-bag lunch and evening lectures. See the Preservation Week insert for more details.

Preservation Week 2011 will conclude in partnership with the University of Virginia's School of Architecture Historic Preservation Lecture and Symposium, *Keeping Memory Green*, occurring Friday, April 8 through Saturday, April 9. Details are available at www.arch.virginia.edu.

Events are still evolving, so check the Preservation Piedmont website regularly at www.preservationpiedmont.org for up-to-date details on all Preservation Week events. We look forward to seeing you there!

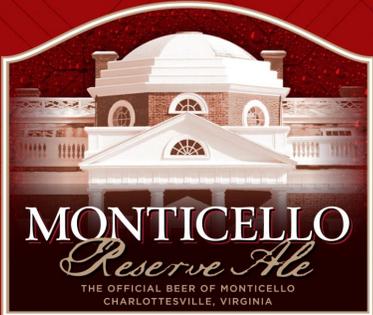
MONTICELLO RESERVE ALE *by Justin Sarafin*

The business of interpreting history in Jefferson's Virginia often takes some unexpected twists and turns. Out of research for the restoration and furnishing of Monticello's dependencies has emerged a new, refreshingly-crisp interpretation of one of the "table liquors" that was consumed regularly at Jefferson's dining table. The restoration and 2003 opening of the Beer Cellar, located in the lower, service level of the house, piqued the interest of Charlottesville native Mark Thompson, Master Brewer at Starr Hill Brewery.

Monticello's brewing records date to 1772 when Jefferson's wife Martha oversaw the periodic brewing operations, producing 15-gallon casks of small beer (beer with low alcohol content) about every two weeks. It was in the early 19th century that brewing took on a more industrial scale. The appearance of Captain Joseph Miller, detained in Albemarle County during the War of 1812, helped improve upon the quality and quantity of Monticello beer. While at Monticello, Joseph Miller trained the enslaved Peter Hemings in the arts of malting and brewing. Hemings – a brother of Sally – carried on the brewing operations, making 100 gallons of ale every spring and fall. After brewing in the brew house (currently not located archaeologically), beer in cask was stored for several weeks in the beer cellar, and then it was bottled and stored in stoneware or glass bottles that were easier to transport to the dining room.

during Jefferson's retirement years. Part of what makes Monticello Reserve Ale unique is that it is inspired by Jefferson's predominant use of wheat and corn as ingredients. Mark Thompson and Levi Duncan, of Starr Hill, consulted Michael Combrune's 1804 *Theory and Practice of Brewing*, a text that was owned by Jefferson, to gain a better historical context while creating the recipe for Monticello Reserve Ale. Like the beer Peter Hemings brewed for the Monticello household, today's is brewed with wheat and corn.





*I am lately become a brewer
for family use, having had the benefit of
instruction to one of my people by an English
brewer of the first order.*

—Thomas Jefferson to Joseph Coppinger, April 25, 1815

Beer produced on the Monticello plantation was served during dinner, with wine served after the meal. From her first arrival at Monticello in 1772, Jefferson's wife Martha oversaw the periodic brewing operations, producing fifteen-gallon casks of small beer—beer with low alcohol content—about every two weeks.

Larger scale brewing began with the appearance of a British brewer detained in Albemarle County during the War of 1812. Captain Joseph Miller improved upon the quality and quantity of Monticello beer, introducing ale, stronger beer better suited to storage. Joseph Miller trained the enslaved Peter Hemings in the arts of malting and brewing. Hemings—a brother of Sally—carried on the brewing operations, making one hundred gallons of ale every spring and fall.

Jefferson wrote in 1821 that he had "no receipt for brewing" doubting if the operations of malting and brewing could be successfully performed from a receipt."

MONTICELLO
Reserve Ale

THE OFFICIAL BEER OF MONTICELLO
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

STARR HILL
THE GIFT OF GREAT BEER

Mark A. Thompson MASTER BREWER

Monticello Reserve Ale is inspired by what was produced and consumed regularly at Monticello

Monticello Reserve Ale was launched at the Thomas Jefferson Visitor Center on President's Day, February 21, 2011, and is available in 750ml bottles at Monticello's Museum Shop and around Charlottesville in both bottle and on draft. Demand for Monticello's historic ale will determine how widely it will be distributed, but it will certainly include the greater Washington and Williamsburg areas.

INTRODUCING NEW BOARD MEMBERS by Laura L. Knott

Preservation Piedmont would like to introduce three new members to our 2011 Board of Directors.

Nick Bon-Harper is an archaeologist with Rivanna Archaeological Services, LLC, a firm that has served as consulting archaeologists and historians on a number of prominent and nationally recognized properties in Virginia and throughout the United States. Born and raised in the southeast of England, Nick has worked as a professional archaeologist in North Carolina and Virginia since 1996. Recent projects include documenting a possible slave cemetery in Fluvanna County and excavating an early 19th century agricultural complex in Loudoun County. Nick currently volunteers with the Fluvanna Historical Society on their investigations of the Revolutionary period Point of Fork arsenal, and along with his colleagues at Rivanna Archaeological Services, is assisting the Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society in locating the site of the original Albemarle County court house.

Laura L. Knott is an historical landscape architect and serves as Principal Landscape Architect in the Charlottesville office of John Milner Associates, Inc., a full-service historic preservation firm based in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Laura is author of "Historic Landscapes," in the reference book, *Landscape Architectural Graphics Standards* (2006). She and her staff at JMA are involved in a wide range of cultural landscape preservation projects, including cultural landscape reports, inventories, and assessments for the National Park

Service, and local governments; National Register and National Landmark nominations; HABS/HAER/HALS documentation; environmental impact statements and environmental assessments; and design for adaptive reuse of historic landscapes.

Richard Guy Wilson, the Commonwealth Professor's Chair in Architectural History at the University of Virginia, specializes in the architecture, design and art of the 18th to the 20th centuries, both in America and abroad. A frequent lecturer for universities, museums and professional groups, he has also published widely with many articles and reviews to his credit. He has been the curator for major museum exhibitions and author of their accompanying books, including *The American Renaissance, 1876-1917*, *The Art that is Life: The Arts and Crafts Movement in America*, *The Machine Age in America, 1918-1941*, *The Making of Virginia Architecture*, and *Thomas Jefferson's Academical Village: the Making of an Architectural Masterpiece* (1993 and 2009). The author or joint author of 16 books on American and modern architecture, which include studies of McKim, Mead & White and Monument Avenue in Richmond, he also contributed to the book, *RM Schindler* (2001), and was the principal author and editor of the Society of Architectural Historians 2002 publication, *Buildings of Virginia: Tidewater and Piedmont*. Other books by Wilson include *The Colonial Revival House*, published in the fall of 2004 and *Harbor Hill: Portrait of a House* (2008).

FALL TOUR RECAP by Eryn Brennan

Thank you to everyone who participated in our 2010 Fall Tour and Open House annual fundraising event! We had an outstanding turnout for the weekend and raised over \$700 for Preservation Piedmont thanks to the hard work of our board members and volunteers. We would especially like to thank the nine property owners who opened their homes for the North Downtown neighborhood Open House Tour. We greatly appreciate their participation and thoroughly enjoyed visiting their homes. We would also like to thank Bill Speidel for leading the Fry's Spring neighborhood walking tour and all the homeowners in Fry's Spring who graciously opened their homes for the event. The walking tour ended at the Fry's Spring Beach Club, where we held our Annual Meeting. The meeting could not have been organized without the assistance of Cristina Webster, General Manager of the Club, and the help of Hardy Whitten. Thank you also to Anita Anderson and our other board members whose food and wine donations contributed to a wonderful spread of food and libations.

Following the meeting, the Fry's Spring Station restaurant and bar sponsored a discounted food and wine dinner for Preservation Piedmont members. Several of us took advantage of this generous offer and we thank PK Kamath for making it possible. Thank you again to everyone who participated and we look forward to seeing you at 2011 Fall Tour!



The Speidel House

PRESERVATION WEEK 2011 MATERIALS ENCLOSED!

OPEN TODAY!!



DOCUMENTATION UPDATE *by Emilie Johnson*

Preservation Piedmont has successfully recorded several buildings during the 2010-2011 winter season. In November, a large portion of the IX factory complex at Monticello Avenue between 2nd and 6th Streets SE was documented. Despite the regular structural system, the vast size of the buildings made documentation a challenge. The varying materials and building technologies found throughout the buildings demonstrated how this industrial complex developed over time. Preservation Piedmont Advisor Bill Emory photographed the buildings, including some of the paintings found on interior walls. Demolition was under way by December and site managers have indicated that only the metal shed is to remain.

In January, members of Preservation Piedmont also documented two houses on King Street in the Fifeville neighborhood. Modestly scaled, with simple window and door framing, they are examples of small houses

built in a neighborhood that was developing on the outskirts of town in the late nineteenth century. Both buildings appear on the 1907 Sanborn fire insurance map, indicating their turn-of-the-century age.

In February, members documented a small house on Elliott Avenue, a structure that appears on the 1920 Sanborn map. Board member, Laura Knott, has conducted deed research on the property, and we hope this research and an analysis of the building fabric will help us determine a more accurate date of construction.

Preservation Piedmont welcomes members to join us in documenting the area's historic resources. If interested, email preservationpiedmont@gmail.com and we will contact you when we schedule our next documentation project.