



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Supervisor Candidate Questionnaire Response</i>	1
<i>The 1954 Hague Convention</i>	2
<i>Southern Albemarle's New Historic District</i>	3
<i>A Fifeville Neighborhood Conservation Dis-</i>	
<i>A Eugene Bradbury House Faces Demolition</i>	4
<i>Piedmont Area Preservation Association</i>	6
<i>Broadus Appointed to Virginia's BHR</i>	
<b>Membership Application / Renewal Form</b>	
<i>A Request of and Report to the Membership</i>	8

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Brian Broadus	<i>President</i>
	<i>Outreach and Networking Chair</i>
Gina Haney	<i>Vice-President</i>
	<i>Grants and Development Chair</i>
Eryn Brennan	<i>Secretary</i>
Ross Stevens	<i>Treasurer</i>

Daniel Bluestone  
Alec Cargile  
Helena Devereux  
Adriane Fowler  
Genevieve Keller  
Gardiner Hallock  
Anita Anderson  
Julie Mahon  
Scott Meacham *Membership Chair*  
Justin Sarafin

## AN ALBEMARLE COUNTY PRESERVATION ORDINANCE: WHERE THE SUPERVISOR CANDIDATES STAND

In late August, Preservation Piedmont presented the seven candidates for the three contested seats on the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors with four questions and two weeks to report answers to them to Preservation Piedmont using email, postal mail, or facsimile. The organization telephoned each candidate after one week to remind the him or her of the solicitation and to assure each candidate of Preservation Piedmont's determination to represent the candidate's views accurately, should the candidate add a statement. The questions were:

**Question One:** Do you support a County-wide Historic Preservation Ordinance that would designate buildings and other man-made landmarks on the basis of age (Example: all structures over 100 years old) for special review by a Supervisor-appointed board before those buildings or man-made landmarks could be altered or demolished?

**Question Two:** Do you support a County-wide Historic Preservation Ordinance that would designate buildings and other man-made landmarks on the basis of fixed date of construction (Example: all structures built before 1945) for special review by a Supervisor-appointed board before those buildings or man-made landmarks could be altered or demolished?

**Question Three:** Do you support a County-wide Historic Preservation Ordinance that would designate buildings and other man-made landmarks on the basis of architectural and historic significance according to criteria established by the Supervisors and part of the ordinance, regardless of age or fixed date of construction, for special review by a Supervisor-appointed board before those buildings or man-made landmarks could be altered or demolished?

**Question Four:** Do you support or would you propose special incentives for historic preservation, such as property-tax reduction for structures preserved according to certain criteria?

### RIVANNA DISTRICT

**Marcia Joseph** (Democratic Challenger) responded "No" to Questions One, Two, and Three, and "Yes" to Question Four. Ms. Joseph went

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

## THE 1954 HAGUE CONVENTION

Preservation Piedmont advocates that the United States ratify **The 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict** adopted at The Hague, or “the 1954 Hague Convention.” This Hague Convention has remained dormant in the Senate ever since President Clinton forwarded it for ratification in 1999. With the recent increase in awareness of the fragility of cultural property in wartime, now seems an ideal time to ask whether the U.S. should finally join most of the other nations of the world and ratify the treaty. Preservation Piedmont will ask Virginia’s Senator Jim Webb, a member of the Committee on Foreign Relations, to consider pushing the ratification process, and Preservation Piedmont expects to ask the Charlottesville City Council and Albemarle County Board of Supervisors to resolve to support U.S. ratification of this important international agreement.

What is the Hague Convention, and why is Charlottesville by far the most appropriate place to start local support for its ratification? The Hague Convention is a 1954 agreement among countries to safeguard cultural property in wartime. Each country promises to designate significant artifacts, buildings, and other properties within its own borders, as well as to train its military to respect designated sites abroad. The Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property is analogous to the four Geneva Conventions for the protection of human beings in wartime. The impetus for drafting the Hague Convention was the property destruction caused by World War II, and the inspiration for many of the Convention’s tenets was the exemplary set of protocols the United States military developed during the war to deal responsibly with cultural property. The Convention exempts cultural properties that are located near military targets, and it removes any possible obligation to avoid a site that an enemy force is using for shelter. At least 114 countries have

signed on to the Convention over the past 50 years. Ninety-two of those countries have also ratified the first of two Protocols to the Convention, a contemporary agreement meant to prevent the exportation of cultural property from occupied territory.

Although the United States signed the Convention at its inception in 1954, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff unanimously recommended in 1999 that the Senate ratify the Convention, the U.S. has not formalized its commitment to the Convention or the First Protocol. Since that 1999, the U.S. military has only made its policies more and more consistent with the Convention, and today the military generally aims to operate in accord with the spirit of the Convention even though it is not bound to do so. The only other major holdout from the treaty, the United Kingdom, recently announced that it would finally ratify the Convention and First Protocol. New information about the jeopardy faced by monuments and sites in wartime, not only in Iraq and Afghanistan but in zones of conflict around the world, has raised Americans’ awareness of the need to commit to designate and protect essential sites in this country and overseas.

This is where Central Virginia takes on a special relevance. A large part of any country’s activity under the Hague Convention is designating cultural properties that hold special importance. Charlottesville and Albemarle County are home to two places that would qualify immediately: Monticello and the University of Virginia. Both are part of a single UNESCO World Heritage Site (which the Commonwealth desires to include the State Capitol), and Monticello is in fact the only privately-owned building in the U.S. on the World Heritage List. Charlottesville and Albemarle might have more to gain from American ratification of the Hague Convention than any place in the country, and Preservation Piedmont hopes to take a first step toward raising public support for this important treaty.

## THE NEW SOUTHERN ALBEMARLE RURAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

Last month, the Southern Albemarle Rural Historic District was officially listed as a Virginia Historic Landmark District. In the coming months it will be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The district is located in southeastern Albemarle County and encompasses 1,591 properties on approximately 83,627 acres, forming the largest Rural Historic District in Virginia. Initiated and funded by the Southern Albemarle Association, a neighborhood organization composed of residents who live in the district, the designation recognizes the significant, and physically intact, history of southeastern Albemarle County.



Beginning at Monticello Mountain, the district boundary runs south through the Green Mountains to the James River and then travels eastward toward the town of Scottsville and the village of Woodridge. The boundary then continues northward toward Simeon and eventually touches the Rivanna River at Milton. Many of the county's earliest roads are incorporated into the district and often help delineate the boundaries of the district. Highlights of the vast resources found within the district include buildings associated with Presidents Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, and Theodore Roosevelt (with the presidential retreat at Pine Knot). Additionally, resources associated with other nationally important figures such as the missionary Charlotte "Lottie" Moon, Virginia Governor Thomas Mann

Randolph, and Illinois Governor Edward Coles, can also be found in the district.

Architecturally, the district contains many excellent high-style dwellings and the best collection of buildings influenced by Thomas Jefferson's neoclassical architectural ideals in the country. While the district boasts an exceptional collection of vernacular and high-style houses, a remarkable collection of historic villages and settlements are also located throughout the district. These villages, such as Howardsville, Alberene, Rose Hill, and Esmont, reveal the history of Albemarle County from its beginnings circa 1729 through to African-American Reconstruction-era settlements and the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

## A FIFEVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION DISTRICT?

Preservation Piedmont, in conjunction with Charlottesville's Fifeville Planning District, is exploring the creation of the city's first "Neighborhood Conservation District" (NCD) in the Fifeville neighborhoods.

We believe in direct community involvement in an ordinance-drafting process and that current circumstances favor drawing up sensitive laws that will be a model for preservation planning and for conserving neighborhood cultural resources and community. We propose to work exclusively with the District neighborhoods to get up an ordinance that guides alteration, demolition, new construction, renovation, and enforcement. Eryn Brennan and Gina Haney are leading our work. An entirely separate Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places Historic District nomination process for Fifeville politically entangled the one of NCD consideration, so much so that Charlottesville indefinitely deferred state consideration of the Virginia and Federal nominations. Preservation Piedmont is not now nor will it be involved in the Registers application.

### ALBEMARLE COUNTY ELECTIONS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

on to write that she had helped coordinate a grassroots effort to create the Southern Albemarle Rural Historic District, an enterprise that took “several years of effort to raise funds and to compile the documents necessary for state and federal recognition.” Ms. Joseph is “in favor of protecting our historic resources in Albemarle County. But not by ordinance.” Since she believes that “education is the key in protecting historic properties,” she supports the County’s Planning staff providing information to an owner of a contributing structure in a Virginia Landmark and National Historic Register District regarding the state and federal tax incentives for building rehabilitation (and for negotiating a historic preservation easement). This guidance would be supplied to an owner who is applying to demolish such a structure, too. To her, “the visual impact of vast open spaces, pastures, and active agriculture create the rural character [of the County] that most of us experience. It is important to protect these resources by slowing down the residential development that continues to occur in Albemarle’s rural areas.” She would approve of legislation that requires Albemarle County to document a structure more than 100 years old that is permitted for demolition.

**Ken C. Boyd** (Republican Incumbent) **did not directly answer any of the questions, but did write that he supports the preservation of our historic structures and “would definitely be willing to consider an ordinance to help with that effort.”** He went on to note that he is also a “staunch supporter of the historical rights in this country for individuals to own property.” The way the ordinance “would balance these important issues would be the determining factor in his support.”

### SCOTTSVILLE DISTRICT

**Lindsay Dorrier** (Democratic Incumbent) **responded “Yes” to all four Questions.**

**C. Kevin Fletcher** (Independent Challenger) **responded “No” to Questions One and Two, and “Yes” to Questions Three and Four.**

**Dennis L. “Denny” King** (Independent Challenger) **did not respond.**

### WHITE HALL DISTRICT

**Ann Huckle Mallek** (Democratic Challenger) **answered “No” to Questions One and Three, and “Yes” to Question Four. Her answer to Question Two was a “Yes” in which she named the year 1900 and a qualification that the review would be for “Demolition Only.”** Ms. Malleck wrote further that she supports “the concept of a permit process with a specified period of notice and action before a structure built before 1900 is demolished. I have heard that a demolition permit request might set in motion offers of assistance or grants for restoration, or buyers who might move the structure or use its components.” She believes that the Albemarle County Historic Preservation Committee has accomplished much using “education and new owner contact to inform owners of the value of their property” and hopes those efforts might continue. Ms. Malleck writes, “I like the concept of learning and retaining information about our history, and feel the fascination of visiting a place like Pine Knot, to understand the simple life that powerful people sought for refuge. I am always grateful that the Levy family came to the rescue of Monticello for all of us today. Will we be so forward thinking? Can we persuade our landowners to undertake such projects today? I hope the answer is yes but I need more details.”

**David C. Wyant** (Republican Incumbent) **did not respond.**

**EDITORIAL: “JEFFERSON” SCHOLARS  
ENDANGER CHARLOTTESVILLE  
LANDMARK**

In February, UVa’s Jefferson Scholars Foundation paid three million dollars to purchase the historic Robert F. Compton residence at 124 Maury Avenue, Charlottesville. Designed in 1913 by the architect Eugene Bradbury, the house is one of the most important built in Charlottesville during the 20th century. Most recently the Beta fraternity chapter house, the property finally seemed in good hands: those of a Foundation tied in both name and purpose to the traditions of excellence at the University of Virginia. But it now appears that the Jefferson



Holsinger Collection, Special Collections, UVa Library

Scholars will be tougher on the house than decades of fraternity partying—the Foundation is considering demolishing the house in favor of something a wholly new. From a cultural, economic, and environmental perspective, the project makes no sense and shows little regard for Virginia’s heritage.

We often confront difficult choices between preserving the past and building the future. The

Compton House presents no such choice. It sits well back on its 1.6-acre lot. It can easily be integrated into the social, academic, and residential spaces that the Jefferson Scholars require. The cost for a new 23,000-square-foot Jefferson Scholars headquarters building is estimated at nearly \$11,500,000. The Compton House has 12 rooms and 4,600 square feet of space. Rehabilitating this house will cost the owner much less than \$500 per square foot, particularly if the renovation takes advantage of generous state and federal historic preservation tax incentives. The Jefferson Scholars cite an interest in making the building a US Green Building Council-certified one, but do not seem to know that the house’s “embodied energy” is 15 to 30 times greater than its annual energy consumption; that, having already solidly lasted 94 years,

it’s also likely to outlast any new building; or that laying down a new roof of recycled material is not thriftier than simply leaving terra cotta tile alone. Historic preservation is the keystone of sustainability: the most sustainable thing that the Jefferson Scholars Foundation can do is to use the Compton House as part of the broader development of the site. The working life of the Compton House is not over; reuse will preserve resources, avoid demolition costs, conserve landfill volume, and free Jefferson Schol-

ars Foundation resources to support young academics. And renovation buys more local labor per construction dollar than does new building.

Fortunately, members of Charlottesville’s City Council grasp the preservation and environmental dimensions of the Jefferson Scholars designs. Preservation and sustainability are key elements in the city’s comprehensive plan. On September 17th,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

**SOUTHERN ALBEMARLE RURAL HISTORIC DISTRICT, CONTINUED FROM PAGE THREE**

soapstone and slate quarries that once dominated the region's economy. Large farms in the district also preserve Albemarle's historic agricultural landscapes. The several working quarries scattered throughout the Green Mountains maintain the county's industrial past. Archaeological sites that have been excavated on Monticello Mountain and Shadwell also serve to demonstrate that much of the district's history and prehistory might survive just a few inches below the region's rich red-clay topsoil.

With the creation of the Southern Albemarle Rural Historic District, a continuous swath of historically-designated land now stretches from the James River north to the middle of Orange County. The districts, which make up this chain of historic agricultural landscapes and villages, include the Southwest Mountains Rural Historic District, the Madison-Barbour Rural Historic District and the Scottsville National Register Historic District. Together, all of these districts comprise approximately 143,000 acres and contain some of the most important historic sites in state.

FIND THE FULL NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION FOR THE DISTRICT AT THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES:  
[HTTP://WWW.DHR.VIRGINIA.GOV/REGISTERS/COUNTIES/ALBEMARLE/002-5045\\_SOUTHERN\\_ALBEMARLE\\_RHD\\_2007\\_NRDRAFT.PDF](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/registers/counties/albemarle/002-5045_SOUTHERN_ALBEMARLE_RHD_2007_NRDRAFT.PDF).

**COMPTON HOUSE THREATENED, CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE**

the Council unanimously deferred use of 21 million dollars in public bonds for the Jefferson Scholars project. Addressing Foundation president James Wright, and Robert Moje and Joseph Atkins of VMDO Architects, Mayor David Brown declared: "You are asking us for something. You are asking us to endorse this funding. And we are asking you for something—to do your best to preserve that building. And I haven't heard much that is particularly reassuring about the 'preserving the building' part. I would like to hear that." Councilor Kendra Hamilton added, "We are going to have to justify [this to] the community. We are living in a town that is extremely preservation-minded, where neighborhoods are lining up to be included under historic preservation and [where the University] is a World Heritage Site."

In 1916, supporting Bradbury's candidacy to the AIA, architect Waddy B. Wood declared that Bradbury was "a man of highest integrity, a gentleman, and possessed of a very keen knowledge of Virginia Colonial." Bradbury grappled with the intricacies of the relationship between building and site; he worked in a design culture that, according to his contemporaries Henry Vincent Hubbard and Theodora Kimball, charged architects with a responsibility for the broader "composition of which the house forms a part, which includes, also, the trees around it, the approaches, [and] the shape of the ground on which it is set."

Bradbury stretched the Compton house front across 79 feet. Porous elements flank the main body of the building and forge a reciprocity between the house and the site. The orange roof pulls the Albemarle red clay up into the composition. Exploiting the relationship between the building and its ground shows a deeper understanding of Jefferson the architect than was possessed by many designers who adopted Jefferson's classical palette while overlooking his ability to engage site, topography, and geology. In a university community that is rabidly committed to extending Jefferson's architectural legacy, we have much to learn from the example provided by Bradbury's early-twentieth-century work. The Compton House should be preserved as part of the Jefferson Scholars Foundation headquarters.

## THE PIEDMONT AREA PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

An important 2007 goal of Preservation Piedmont has been to improve communication within the Central Virginia historic preservation community. In that goal, we are supported by preservation planners in Albemarle County and by the Thomas Jefferson Foundation. On September 13th, the Piedmont Area Preservation Association announced its manifesto at a gathering of local preservation organizations hosted at Blenheim, a historic property in the new Southern Albemarle Rural Historic District. It will meet twice annually to recommit to a common mission and to establish yearly preservation and conservation priorities. With the technical advice of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, the organization will build a mutually-maintained, Internet-based communications network to notify member organizations of endangered places requiring political or private action to save; enable coordinated advocacy campaigns for agreed-upon preservation and conservation issues; share organizational proceedings and organizational news; publicize the successful conservation, rehabilitation, or restoration of a cultural or natural resource; and work toward a 'Preservation

Week' proclaiming the value of local public, non-profit-owned, and private historic buildings and landscapes and offering the general public an enhanced opportunity to tour such properties. The weblog Internet site will post news, photographs, and commentary. An electronic mail group will allow a member organization to broadcast news to representatives of every other organization.

### BRIAN BROADUS APPOINTED TO BOARD OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

In July, Governor Tim Kaine commissioned current Preservation Piedmont president Brian Broadus to a four-year term on the commonwealth's Board of Historic Resources. Mr. Broadus is currently its only architect. The seven Board members meet quarterly to consider nominations of properties and districts to the Virginia Landmarks Register. The group accepts and holds Virginia's historic preservation easements and approves the text of highway historical markers, and it reviews the work plans of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources itself. Mr. Broadus is grateful to Governor Kaine for his appointment and looks forward eagerly to supporting him in upholding Article XI of the Virginia Constitution as Virginia begins its fifth century.

#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Preservation Piedmont is a non-profit corporation 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 | \$ 20  | <input type="checkbox"/> Student                 | \$ 10  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family     | \$ 35  | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organization | \$ 50  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron     | \$ 100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business                | \$ 100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life       | \$ 300 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Patron         | \$ 300 |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Preservation Piedmont**  
**P.O. Box 2803**  
**Charlottesville, VA 22902**

Preservation Piedmont is also establishing an email network in order to better serve our members and quickly update preservationists throughout the region about important preservation issues. Please include an email address.

P. O. Box 2803 Charlottesville, Virginia 22902  
<http://avenue.org/pp/>



## A REQUEST OF AND REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

To quote from our previous newsletter: “On the reverse of this page is a **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM**. Please enter the information requested and return the form **SOON**, along with the appropriate contribution, to our mailing address. Be assured of the Board’s high gratitude for your new or continuing membership in Preservation Piedmont. We’re working more diligently than ever to protect historic resources in Central Virginia and we invite you to participate with us closely. You’re welcome at our monthly Board meeting: date, time, place, and [agendas] (of past meetings) are posted on our website. You’re particularly encouraged to sign up with one of our four Board Committees: Membership, Outreach and Networking, Grants and Development, and Advocacy and Documentation.”

Since Spring we’ve continued our diligence: we can say that our advocacy has been essential in saving four historic structures in Charlottesville. For the first time, candidates for the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors have been called to hold and publish, prior to an election, a position on a County historic preservation ordinance. Gina Haney and Brian Broadus were guests on Coy Barefoot’s WINA radio program, and Preservation Piedmont will be holding forth on **Rick Moore’s “Sunday Morning Wake-Up Call” call-in show on WNRN (91.9 FM in Charlottesville, 94.7 in Lovingston, and 103.1 in Richmond) at 11:00 AM on November 4th (Listen! Telephone!)**. We’re preparing to document, in cooperation with Colonial Williamsburg, a threatened historic structure (the Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Ivy). We’re exploring popular support for the creation of Charlottesville’s first neighborhood conservation district (in Fifeville). We are vigorous advocates for and key organizers of the Piedmont Area Preservation Association. We’ve stewarded two grants since the Spring: one to enable the Martha Jefferson Neighborhood Association to complete its Registers application and another to further the work of the Greene County Historical Society. If you’re already a member of Preservation Piedmont, you’ll soon receive a questionnaire asking you for important information to permit us to contact you when important historic preservation issues rise up in your locality.

We are pleased to serve you and look hopefully for your continuing or new sponsorship and participation.