

of Preservation Historic Winchester, Inc.

Summer 2008

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2008 PRESERVATION AWARDS HOWARD KITTELL

One of the most gratifying activities that Preservation of Historic Winchester does is to each year recognize individuals, corporations, and organizations who have had the courage to tackle the restoration of historic buildings, step out and advocate for preservation of our architectural heritage, provide the vision that promotes preservation, or record the history of our community so that its residents are inspired to save its past. For more than 25 years PHW has recognized these preservation accomplishments through its annual Preservation Awards. This year was a banner year for our awards program.

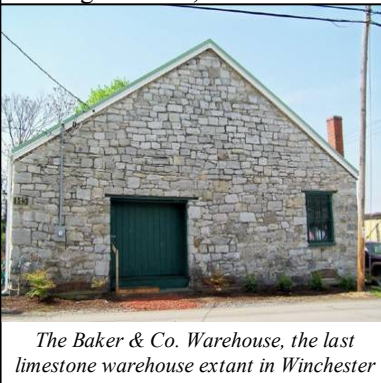
For the second year in a row PHW members were asked to nominate projects, individuals, corporations and institutions that took the preservation challenge. We are pleased to report that of the many nominations, 10 were selected to receive awards. There are six award categories, five of which are named after distinguished individuals who contributed to PHW's growth and success. The recipients, grouped by award categories include:

Lucille Lozier Award honors the restoration/renovation of a significant structure retaining 75% of its historic architectural fabric. Mrs. Lozier was a founding member of the board of directors and an early president of PHW who made tremendous contributions to the fledgling organization.

- Presented to: Glen Burke and Charles Botto for the restoration and renovation of the George Washington Hotel, one of the 20th-century landmarks of Winchester.



The George Washington Hotel



The Baker & Co. Warehouse, the last limestone warehouse extant in Winchester

- Presented to: Habitat for Humanity of Winchester-Frederick County for the restoration and adaptive reuse of the Baker & Co. Warehouse, 145 Baker Street as the new headquarters for Habitat for Humanity.

Carroll H. Henkel Award is presented to a person whose outstanding service and leadership contributes to the cause of preserving historic architecture in Winchester.

- Presented to: Dr. James A. Davis for his work in reusing historic buildings in Winchester and encouraging programs that teach and promote area history at Shenandoah University.

Ben Belchic Award is given in recognition of scholarly work contributing to the historic literature of the area. Mr. Belchic was a founding member of PHW and long-time president and board member of the Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society.

- Presented to: Michael M. Foreman for his book *Some Worthy Women*

Elsie M. Rosenberger Award is presented in highest recognition of a volunteer for the giving of time, sharing of ideas, active participation, and total support of PHW. Miss Rosenberger was one of PHW's early volunteers who had a hand in most everything PHW undertook.

- Presented to: Eleanor "Brookie" Phillips for years of unsung, dedicated service to PHW including Holiday House Tours, membership events, providing moral support to beleaguered staff, and doing just about anything that was needed. (Cont. on page 4)

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REVOLVING FUND SPOTLIGHT: 311 SOUTH LOUDOUN STREET

SANDRA BOSLEY

As you may know, one of the foundations of PHW is the Revolving Fund program. Revolving funds are a way for organizations to take a corpus of money, purchase a property that is in need of attention or in danger of demolition, and resell the property to new owners who are willing to undertake the rehabilitation. The new owners agree to certain restrictive covenants that are placed on the deed to ensure the property is well maintained. The money from the sale is then “revolved” back into the fund for the next purchase, thus allowing a small non-profit to make a larger impact than if it attempted to hold and rehabilitate endangered properties itself. We hope to run a series of articles throughout the upcoming newsletters that expand on the history of the properties that are currently monitored by the Jennings Revolving Fund.

First, however, a brief history lesson is on order. Revolving funds were a relatively new idea in the preservation scene of the late 1960s and were first instituted in cities like Savannah and Charleston, which were historically the leaders in historic preservation efforts. Our fund takes its name from W. Raymond Jennings, a PHW Board Member who championed the cause but was tragically killed in a plane crash before he could see a local revolving fund in action. His idea was not forgotten, however, and before his untimely death the project was beginning to take



The Simon Lauck house, c. 1974

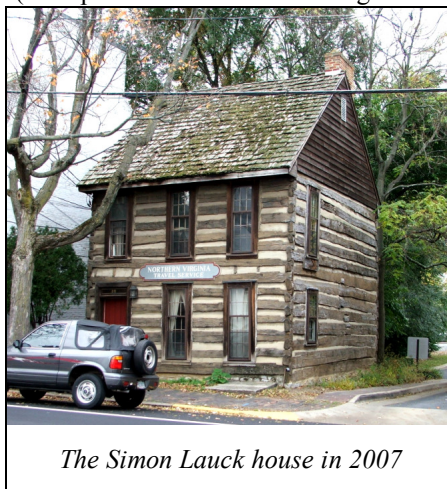
shape under Betsy Helm's guiding hand. The Jennings Revolving Fund began its work in 1974 by hiring Arthur Ziegler as a consultant, and also by writing grants, holding fund raisers, and securing lines of credit for the operating and purchasing expenses. During Ziegler's visit to Winchester, South Loudoun Street was recommended

as a target area, due to the quality of the homes from the late 18th and early 19th centuries that were in need of extensive rehabilitation. It was 1975 when the Fund made its first purchase at 311 South Loudoun Street. What appeared to be a Victorian frame residence was hiding an 18th century log house. The building was in danger of demolition for an expansion of the Salvation Army. Through many negotiations, PHW was able to purchase the property. PHW members began the grunt work of clearing out trash and even undertook some demolition work to remove the Victorian façade and uncover the log building beneath. While demolishing a substantial, contributing portion of a building today would be unacceptable, it was deemed a “necessary sacrifice” at the time to shock Winchester's residents into realizing the age and history of the local buildings. During a return trip to Winchester, Arthur Ziegler was photographed while admiring the newly uncovered Simon Lauck house (see photo, left.)



Arthur Ziegler, left, points out interesting details to several PHW Board Members at the Simon Lauck house

The log house uncovered at 311 South Loudoun Street was built by Simon Lauck circa 1790. Simon Lauck was a gunsmith who is now somewhat famous for his flintlock rifles in the antique market. Simon was the younger brother of Peter Lauck, who is perhaps best known in Winchester for building the Red Lion Tavern on the corner of Loudoun and Cork Streets. Both brothers marched with Daniel Morgan to Boston in 1775 during the Revolutionary War. Simon became Morgan's aide-de-camp and remained with Morgan throughout the war, acting as an interpreter for Hessian soldiers. He returned to Winchester after the war and made his home at 311 South Loudoun Street, eventually doubling the size of the original house, and, later, adding a third story, to accommodate his growing family. His gunsmith shop was most likely located in a rear addition. The house boasts large, well-preserved oak timbers, handwrought hinges, and an interesting dual fireplace. Several artifacts were uncovered around the house by the Department of Historic Resources during site excavations at the Fern Adams building at 303 and 307 South Loudoun Street (once part of Simon Lauck's original landholdings.) The artifacts



The Simon Lauck house in 2007

included brass buttons, pottery shards (both pre- and post-Civil War,) and a gun barrel.

Simon Lauck's house is now in use as the offices of the Northern Virginia Travel Services. ♦

DONATIONS FUEL PRESERVATION

As the work on the Old Church Wall comes to its conclusion, Preservation of Historic Winchester would like to thank its members for their contributions. PHW began the fundraising efforts to stabilize the last remaining wall of the first Lutheran Church in Winchester with a contribution of \$15,000. Thirty-four members made donations during PHW's subsequent fundraising drive for a total of \$11,200! Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church will hold a special program of recognition and rededication of the Old Church Wall on **September 27 at 11 a.m.** PHW members are invited to attend; please check our website for more information as it becomes available.

PHW is also pleased to announce a special donation from Kathryn Werner, one of our longtime members. When sending in her membership renewal check, she included a special donation of \$1,000 to help PHW continue its programs to save Winchester's history and architecture. Thank you, Kathryn!

We would also like to take a moment to thank our donors who renew their membership levels above the basic yearly fees for individuals, families, small businesses, and corporations. From

June 2007-June 2008, PHW had two members who contributed at the *Preservation Trustee* level, four who contributed at the *Heritage Supporter* level, and twenty-eight *Winchester Fellows*. Thank you for your support!

Not all donations need to be large to make a difference – smaller amounts do add up impressively and are always appreciated. The majority of PHW's members renew at the standard rate – without them, PHW would be hard-pressed to fund any activities outside of Holiday House Tour. See the chart below for the breakdown in percentage of our memberships. Our goals for membership this year are to increase the membership, especially by inviting the younger generations to participate, reaching out to past members

June 2007-June 2008 Memberships		who are no longer active, and also to work on retaining newer members. Expect more membership-centric activities from PHW as we explore new ways to reach out to the community. ♦
\$25-\$44	27%	
\$45-\$99	54%	
\$100-\$249	16%	
\$250-\$499	2%	
\$500+	1 %	

MEET THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Bruce Downing

I have been a member of PHW since coming to Winchester in 1976. Various members of my law firm have been Counsel to PHW over the years. I serve in that capacity now. My home has been on the Holiday House Tour twice (1989 and 2004). My most recent involvement has been being a house chairman and docent for last year's Holiday House Tour, and acting as a docent for the Underground Winchester tours. I look forward to working on the board.

David Logan

I grew up in Fredericksburg, Virginia around old houses, and developed an interest in working on them in my teenage years. I went to college to study Biology at William and Mary. While in Williamsburg, my interest in history and historical structures continued to grow. After college, I went to work for a wood preservation company, specializing in timber decay and prevention, and process control technology. After realizing how much I missed working on old buildings, I started a restoration and renovation company, specializing in historic building techniques, historic materials, and design. Our team is continuing to learn together by taking part in different training groups that are furthering restoration knowledge.

What I would like to bring to PHW is a technical contribution, and to use our resources for the good of Winchester's buildings and people. I am passionate about building quality, and feel that top quality materials that are also low maintenance were developed long ago, and I have a desire to further that knowledge. Winchester is very fortunate to have been built at such a high standard of quality, and I would like to contribute to its preservation.

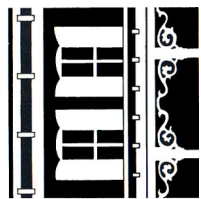
Debby Johnson

I was approached by Frank Wright to become involved in PHW. My interests with Winchester include: City government and accountability, OTDB (website, Visitor Center, Tourism), National Cemetery Lodge needs, and the Historic Plaque process. I hope to be involved with a new PHW that is not another fragmented group, but one that works closely with all relevant Winchester City departments and committees toward common goals. I have been involved with PHW since 1979 with the purchase and restoration of a home through PHW's Revolving Fund. Projects include: Purchased/restored Miller Drug Store at 105-107 N. Loudoun St., operated a Visitor's Center, opened first downtown Bed and Breakfast Soldier's Haunt Inn, opened the Fuller House on W. Boscawen St. I also served on PHW's Historic Plaque committee with Anna Thomson and Becky Ebert and opened the Fuller House to the Holiday House Tour in 1996. Current projects include the restoration of the Union Bank.

Tim Winther

It is a pleasure for me to become active in PHW. I am the owner of Cresthill Stoneworks. We are a company that works primarily in the restoration field. I would say that accounts for about 80% of our business. We also have a stone fabrication shop that allows us to do custom cutting, polishing, edge treatments and the like for other contractors and ourselves. 90% of the work we do incorporates the use of lime mortars. Proper use of compatible materials is one of the things that I am most passionate about in the restoration field. I have seen too many historic buildings ruined by putting modern materials where they do not belong. I look forward to working with the board to help educate homeowners and other contractors in the use of appropriate materials. Feel free to contact me with any questions that you may have. cresthillstoney@yahoo.com ♦

Preservation of Historic Winchester



Hexagon House ♦ 530 Amherst St. ♦ Winchester, VA 22601

NEWS

Summer 2008

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AMHERST STREET: AGLOW FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Amherst Street will be aglow December 6 and 7, 2008, while six historical homes on Amherst Street are open for the 32nd Holiday House Tour. You may begin or end your Saturday evening candlelight tour with holiday festivities at our party location, on South Washington Street. We are always in need of our memberships' participation for this event to take place. Please contact the PHW office, or Emily Skiles (ehs@shentel.net, 542-0024), if you would like to help in the planning stages of our tour, act as a docent during the tour, or if you know of any small musical groups that might be willing to add holiday cheer to Amherst. ♦



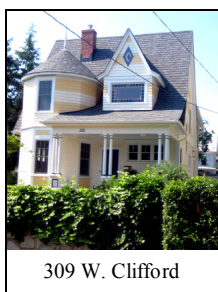
2008 PRESERVATION AWARDS (CONT.)

Katherine G. Rockwood Revolving Fund Award is presented to owners of Revolving Fund properties who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in their restoration efforts. Katie Rockwood is a legend in the annals of PHW's history for her work in almost every aspect of the organization's mission and her commitment to the Revolving Fund.

- Presented to: Brandon Pifer for his restoration of 707-711 South Loudoun Street, a Revolving Fund property just outside the Winchester Historic District.



707-711 South Loudoun



309 W. Clifford

Awards of Merit are given for restoration projects that revitalize properties in the Winchester Historic District, contribute to the streetscape, and inject new economic life into buildings that might otherwise be lost or become obsolete. This year four Awards of Merit were given.

- Presented to: First Presbyterian Church for its restoration of the stone house, compatible expansion of the church edifice and commitment to downtown Winchester.
- Presented to: Robert E. Rose Foundation for its restoration of 501-503 South Kent Street, a duplex residential structure in the Winchester Historic District.
- Presented to: Stanley Corneal, Debra Lynn Johnson, and Richard Oram for their restoration of 116-118 South Braddock Street, a commercial structure in the Winchester Historic District.
- Presented to: Richard and Melanie Lewis for their restoration of 309 West Clifford Street, a late Queen Anne style residence.

It is with heartfelt gratitude and best wishes that PHW is privileged to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of these individuals, companies and institutions. ♦

ARE YOU A PHW MEMBER?

Preservation of Historic Winchester, Inc., is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting Winchester's architectural heritage. PHW depends on income from membership and contributions to achieve its goals. *All contributions above membership are tax deductible.* Join today by completing this form and returning it to PHW, 530 Amherst St., Winchester, VA 22601.



___ Individual
___ Corporate

\$25
\$100

___ Family/Business
___ Other

\$45

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____