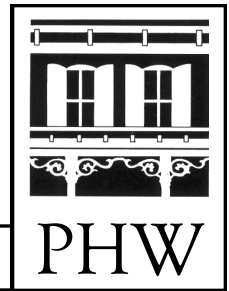


of Preservation Historic Winchester, Inc.



Winter 2012

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HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

PHW hosted another successful Holiday House Tour on December 3 and 4. About 100 guests partook of the party festivities on Saturday evening at the Lewis Jones Knitting Mill, offices for the Oakcrest Companies. Crowds were steady throughout Sunday during the daylight tours, notably the home of Harry and Debbie Smith, the Red Lion Tavern, and the office of J. Douglas McCarthy & Assoc., Ltd.



Sandra Bosley (left) and Courtney Smith (right) prepare for visitors at the Red Lion Tavern on Sunday. Photo by Jeff Taylor, the Winchester Star.

The Bough and Dough Shop saw brisk sales this year thanks in part to the fantastic selection of goods for sale. Along with the pottery, soaps, jellies and, of course, the freshly cut greenery, PHW welcomed artist Kathy Manuel back to Winchester. Kathy's hand-painted ornaments of historic homes were the surprise hit of the Shop.

Once again, PHW would like to extend its thanks to the innumerable volunteers who helped to coordinate the event, the decorators, the docents, property owners and tenants and the generous staff and volunteers of the Winchester Little Theatre for the use of their building, costumes and volunteers to provide the strolling carolers, and to our event sponsors Wells Fargo, BB&T, United Bank, Union First Market, Bank of Clarke County, and The Final Yard. Every person's contributions, visible or invisible on the day of the tour, were intrinsic to our success.

For more photos from HHT 2011, visit PHW's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Preservation-of-Historic-Winchester/192253390799111>

Next year's tour is scheduled for December 8 and 9. Be sure to mark your calendars! ♦

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LEAD-BASED PAINT AND PRESERVATION

As preservationists know, old houses often contain materials that are now regulated and require special handling and disposal. Coping with these surprises in a sensitive and minimally invasive way is a substantial part of maintaining the historic character of a property. Lead-based paint is one of these hazardous materials present in nearly every preservation project, even for buildings of the "recent past" of the 1970s.

Why was lead used in paint? The colors "white lead" and "chrome yellow" were two primary colors that utilized lead-based pigments, although the substance was added to many other paints to improve performance, reduce drying times, and extend the durability of the finish. Much like asbestos, although the properties of lead were useful, their effects on human health was deleterious.

The danger from lead-based paint originates when flaking paint releases lead particles, which can then be inhaled, ingested, or contaminate the soil surrounding the exterior of the building. Lead is particularly harmful to children, impairing neurological growth, but can also cause a variety of ailments in adults with symptoms ranging from abdominal pain, confusion, headache, anemia, and in severe cases seizures, coma, and death.

How do you keep your work environment safe? If possible, it may be best to leave lead paint layers undisturbed, as haphazard abatement efforts are more likely to increase the risk of lead contamination. If lead-based paint is failing and in need of abatement, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has compiled a checklist to help you minimize the lead contamination risk:

1. **Check the Law:** Before beginning to work, consult your local or state ordinance to determine the legal method for handling and disposing of lead paint. Contractors must be certified to abate an area larger than 6 sq. ft. of interior painted surface (20 sq. ft. for exterior) under the Toxic Substances Control Act.
2. **Clear the Area:** Children and pregnant women should never be allowed in the work area.
3. **Work Day Dos and Don'ts:** On work days, wash your hands and face before smoking, eating, and

drinking. Never smoke, eat, or drink in the area you are working in.

4. **Watch the Eyes (and Hands):** Wear disposable gloves and eye protection.
5. **Don't Breathe It In:** Use a respirator if there is friable paint or if you are scraping or sanding paint.
6. **Cut Down on Dust:** Use a wet sanding technique to minimize dust.
7. **Get the Vacuum:** Vacuum using a high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter.
8. **Laundry Time:** Wash your work clothes separately from your household laundry. You can also wear a Tyvek suit to protect your clothes. Take the suit and your shoes off before you leave your work area.
9. **Cover and Protect:** Place tarps under your work surface to collect loose paint. Seal off the work space from other rooms and from HVAC systems. Cover furniture and other items in the work area.
10. **Eat Right:** In general, eating a nutritious diet rich in iron and calcium will reduce the amount of lead absorbed by your body if any does happen to be ingested.

Further reading:

"Appropriate Methods for Reducing Lead-Paint Hazards in Historic Housing" by Sharon C. Park, AIA, and Douglas C. Hicks

<http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/TPS/briefs/brief37.htm>

"Don't Spread Lead: A Do-It-Yourself Guide to Lead-Safe Painting, Repair, and Home Improvement" by the New England Lead Coordinating Committee

http://www.nelcc.uconn.edu/documents/DSL_001.pdf

Lead Paint and Historic Building Training Manual by Dennis Livingston, Jeff Gordon, Carol J. Dyson, and Mike Jackson

<http://www.illinoishistory.gov/PS/Lead%20Paint%20and%20Historic%20Building%20Training%20Manual.pdf>

Renovation, Repair and Repainting Rule by US EPA

<http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/renovation.htm> ♦

NEWS BITES

David Edwards Stepping Down

After nearly a decade of serving on PHW's Board of Directors, David Edwards has resigned. He has been promoted at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and his new duties conflict with the PHW meeting schedule. David has promised to stay in touch, both as a resource for preservation issues and as a volunteer.

Mesker Façade Update



This recent image of the former Blind Faith building shows the dramatic changes taking place in the façade reconstruction. The rear addition and new construction phase of the project is complete. Check out the

progress the next time you're downtown!

PHW Website Gets a Facelift

The first major change to the official PHW website will go live in early March. The change is partially cosmetic (what you see when you visit) but is mostly taking place behind the scenes. Content is being reorganized to reflect PHW's three primary goals : Education, Issues and Advocacy, and Membership and Events. The new template also allows us easier integration of social media widgets and one other often-requested item: Paypal.

A New Way to Pay – Paypal

PHW is now able to accept dues and donations via the popular online payment service Paypal. Look for the Paypal button on the revamped PHW website, www.phwi.org. Now you can pay by credit or debit card, an option that has been much asked-for over the past few years. We are still accepting snail-mail checks as well!

Stewart Bell, Jr. Archive Images

If you haven't visited The Handley Regional Library site recently, you may be missing out on a great research tool. Go to www.handleyregional.org. Under "Our Services" click on "Family and Local History" and scroll down the page to find the online photograph collection. Many of the fantastic images in the Stewart Bell, Jr. Archives can now be searched by subject and keyword, and be viewed and ordered online. If you prefer, you can browse some random images. See what you can find today!

Board of Architectural Review Openings

The Winchester BAR will have two openings this spring when Cathy Shore and Patrick Farris become term-limited. BAR meetings are held on the first and third Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. If you would like to help influence the decisions in the historic district, read more or apply for the volunteer position at www.winchesterva.gov/government/boards-and-commissions.php ♦

ROUSS DAY RECAP

Happy birthday, Charles Broadway Rouss! PHW continued its tradition of participating at the Rouss Day celebrations this year through the work of our cookie brigade. PHW provided the refreshments available at the panel discussion of Rouss's contribution to Winchester's medical community. The event was held on February 11, Rouss's birthday, at the Old Hospital, 333 West Cork Street. Thirty attendees were not deterred by the snow flurries and sat in on the discussion, covering the formation of the hospital, its early years, and how (and perhaps why) Rouss contributed to the hospital.

The highlight of the refreshments was undoubtedly the special "Old Jake" cupcakes created by The Cake Boutique. The delicious carrot cake with cream cheese frosting cupcakes were each adorned with an image of the weathervane atop Rouss Fire Hall. If you liked the cupcakes and would like something similar for your next gathering, you can contact The Cake Boutique at the.cake.boutique@live.com, call (540) 450-8665, or find them on Facebook. If you'd like to join the PHW cookie brigade and bake for events like this, let the PHW office know! ♦

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Charles Broadway
ROUSS DAY

11:00 am
Panel Discussion
C.B. Rouss and the
founding of the
Winchester Hospital

1:00 pm
Wreath Laying

Location:
Rouss Monument
Mount Hebron Cemetery
305 E. Bocawen Street

Location:
Old Hospital
333 W. Cork Street
Level I Conference Room

Suggested Parking:
Along Cork Street

Saturday, February 11, 2012
Inclement Weather Date: February 18

Celebrate C.B. Rouss' birthday, his contributions
to Winchester and his legacy.

*On Friday, February 10th, first 50 people to enter
Rouss City Hall will receive a birthday cupcake.*



Preservation of Historic Winchester

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

NEWS

Winter 2012

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UPCOMING EVENT

Transforming Yeomen to Patriots: Securing the Shenandoah Valley from 1720 to 1864



Following recommendations from the British Board of Trade in 1720, extensive land grants to proprietors were discouraged, instead favoring compact settlements. This resulted in yeomen, not aristocrats, transforming the Shenandoah Valley into a commercial center. This class will discuss events and profile leaders of this change.

PHW member Suellen Knowles will lead this Continuing Education class at Shenandoah University's Center for Lifelong Learning **Thursdays March 15 to April 12 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM**. The class costs \$89, which includes two Saturday site visitations and materials.

For more information on the class, contact Jo Miller, jmille3@su.edu or (540) 665-5442. The spring brochure and online class signups are available at <http://www.su.edu/lifelonglearning>. Only 20 seats are available for this class, so don't delay!

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 \$25 Family/Business \$45
 Corporate \$100 Other

Name: _____

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E-mail: _____

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