



Preservation *of* Historic Winchester, Inc.

Membership Newsletter

Fall 2021

Volume 44 No. 3

CONTENTS

Holiday House Tour
Returns to Town for
45th Celebration

PHW Pledges to
Support Godfrey
Miller Home Repairs

*Godfrey Miller Home
Insert*



CONTACT

Address

530 Amherst St.
Winchester, VA 22601

Phone

(540) 667-3577

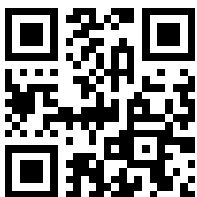
E-mail

phwinc.org@gmail.com

Website

www.phwi.org

Scan the QR code to
sign up for our weekly
Mailchimp email
newsletter. It's free
and delivered to your
mailbox every Friday!



HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR RETURNS TO TOWN FOR 45TH CELEBRATION

The Holiday House Tour returns this year for its 45th anniversary after taking a small break during last year's peak coronavirus season. This year we are proud to announce a selection of three recently renovated buildings, all of which are first time houses for the tour. While the size of the tour is smaller than usual, we believe quality will surpass quantity this year. Read on to learn more about our exceptional sites for 2021!

25 WEST PICCADILLY STREET



The Philip Williams House was constructed in 1838 in the Greek Revival style. On Nov. 5, 1845, John R. W. Dunbar of Baltimore deeded this property to his brother-in-law Philip Williams, Jr. It was described as "a lot of land in Winchester on which the said Philip Williams, Jr. has lately

erected a dwelling house." Williams, who was born in Frederick Co., was admitted to the bar in 1832, was Commonwealth Attorney for Shenandoah and Warren Counties and also represented Shenandoah County in the Virginia House of Delegates. His first wife was Ann Hite of Belle Grove.

In 1898, the dwelling and property were sold to Minnie A. Miller, and under her stewardship several additions were constructed to the rear of the building. The interior enlarged room openings, mantel changes, and

pressed metal facade design are similar to those seen in other grand homes receiving attention after the Civil War.

In the early 20th century, the building began its second life of commercial uses, including a tea house, an inn, and perhaps the best remembered, the Colonial Arts and Crafts Shop. After the closure of Joe's Steakhouse, the current owners Scott and Barbara Bessette undertook a historic tax credit project to rehabilitate the structure for an event center.



321 SOUTH STEWART STREET

Julia Beverley purchased the corner lot on Stewart and Cecil streets on July 14, 1911. The pebbledashed Colonial Revival-style house was built by 1913, when the Beverley family hosted an elegant supper for a number of out of town guests visiting their daughter Miss Frances Beverley in their newly-built home. The property remained in the Beverley family until 1957.

The house has remained largely unchanged on the exterior since its construction. The classic facade harkens back to the mid-1800s and the era of Greek Revival style in

American construction with its clean white exterior, dark shutters, and a pedimented entry. The gentle arch in the pediment, along with the understated dentil molding, is carried around to the Cecil Street side of the home on the small southern addition. Look carefully for the arched window with Y-tracery tucked behind this sunroom.

The current owners Michael and Lauren Peterson bought the house in 2018 to fit their multi-generational family. Their own design elements have been used to refine the traditional living and dining spaces. Most recently they have renovated their kitchen to a more contemporary and comfortable space for their active family of eight, including their four daughters and Lauren's parents, Arlene and Dennis Torbett.



814 SOUTH WASHINGTON STREET

The pebbledash-covered late Italianate-style home was built for Maurice M. Lynch around 1890. Lynch entered the University of Virginia in 1885, but he withdrew for financial reasons before completing his studies. While teaching school, he studied law in the office of Judge William L. Clark and was admitted to

the bar in 1887. His own struggles to receive education drove him to better the schools for the area's children. He served on the Handley Board of Trustees, the State Board of Education, and as Superintendent of Winchester and Frederick County Public Schools.

The new owners, John and Jade Manuel, have spent the last four years bringing colorful life back into their home. The Italianate styling was the inspiration for the arched openings with black and white Italian marble floors in the foyer, as well as the Italian range in the updated Art Deco-themed kitchen. The home is filled with original character including the original 130-year-old antique heart pine floors, three brick chimneys, picture rail, and 9-foot windows in the living room.

John and Jade have partnered with the extraordinarily talented Desiree Chandra Lee, owner of Hunt Country Gardens, as well as donations from The Little Garden Club of Winchester, to decorate their home with luscious garlands and wreaths. The home will feature three themed trees: A whimsical forest tree, a family heirloom tree, and a Childhood Leukemia tribute tree in honor of their nephew, Oliver Manuel.

PHW is grateful for the financial support of our major sponsor Bank of Clarke County Foundation, and advertising sponsors Colony Realty; The Shenandoah Group of Wells Fargo Advisors; Lisa McCoig CPA, PC; Winchester Little Theatre; Summit Community Bank; Frederick Block, Brick & Stone; Belle Grove Plantation; Maral Kalbian; and Angel's Roost. Thank you as well to our in-kind donors of materials for the Shop! ◆

PHW PLEDGES TO SUPPORT THE GODFREY MILLER HOME REPAIRS

PHW has teamed up with the Godfrey Miller Home and Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church to help retain one of downtown's iconic historical structures. The limestone building, constructed circa 1785, is in need of significant exterior maintenance.

Repairs are needed primarily on the wooden elements. Some of the most significant work will be the repair and reglazing of 18 windows, as well as removing lead paint to provide a clean working surface for the repairs.

The work will be performed by the Durable Restoration Company, which recently completed work on the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church spire. It is expected to cost about \$109,000, a significant amount for anyone, and especially so for a nonprofit organization.

The PHW Board of Directors pledged \$10,000 in support of the project. We also pledged to reach out to our membership and readers to ask you to join us, as you did for the Old Lutheran Church Wall project, to help match our pledge.

Please send your donation to the Godfrey Miller Home & Fellowship Center, 28 South Loudoun St., Winchester, VA 22601, to join us in supporting the restoration of this local landmark building!

Be sure to walk by to see the work in progress while you are enjoying your holiday activities in Old Town Winchester! ◆





Godfrey Miller Historical Home and Fellowship Center

October 25, 2021

Dear friends of the Godfrey Miller Home,

The Godfrey Miller Home, built around 1785 by Daniel Sowers on a lot granted by Lord Fairfax in 1753, has stood at the center of the historic old town Winchester walking mall for over two hundred years. In 1812, it was purchased by John Miller and remained in the Miller family for the next 126 years. John Miller was a mayor of Winchester, and other members of the resident family were prominent area physicians, pharmacists, merchants, and bankers. The home also served as a hospital for Union and Confederate soldiers during the Civil War.

In 1938, the home and property were left to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church by Margaretta Sperry Miller. The leadership of Grace at that time decided that day to day operations of the home should be managed by a separate board of directors. So, in 1948, it was incorporated as a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization and opened as a residence for "elderly ladies." In 1976, it reopened as a fellowship center for older adults. The Judge Robert K. Woltz Pavilion was added to the rear of the property in 2002, and significant restoration of the historic home was undertaken in 2003. Today the home is open for scheduled tours and provides services to the greater Winchester older adult community.

The Godfrey Miller Home is a prominent feature of the downtown Loudoun Street Mall. The exterior of the historic home is now in need of restoration to maintain the integrity of the façade and to allow the Home to remain a vital service resource for older adults in the Winchester area. Specific repairs include the roof rakes, two lower roof panels, porch, all trim and moldings, 28 shutters, 18 windows, rear dormer, and front door with upper transom.

Through the strong commitment of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, the advocacy and support of Preservation Historic Winchester's Board of Directors, and with your help, we will see this historic and vital home continue to contribute to the Winchester community for years to come. We hope that you will use the enclosed giving guide as a means of helping you make a financial commitment to this important restoration and preservation effort.

For your partnership with us in this endeavor, the board of Godfrey Miller Home, Inc., the leadership of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, and others in the Winchester community join together to say "Thank You" for whatever expression of support you wish to offer for this historic home in our community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jason Gottschalk
Executive Director



Godfrey Miller Home

Fundraising Goal - \$109,677.50

Please print.

This gift of \$_____ is for the restoration and preservation of the Godfrey Miller Home exterior on the old town walking mall in Winchester, Virginia. This is a charitable, tax-deductible donation to the Godfrey Miller Home, Inc., a 501(c)3 organization.

If you wish your gift to be made in memory or honor of an individual or group, please complete this information:

First name: _____

Last name: _____

Type: Memory Honor

Mail an acknowledgement letter on my behalf to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Unless otherwise indicated, all gifts, including those designated in honor or memory of others, will be publicly acknowledged. No dollar amounts of gifts will be made public in any form. Every gift is appreciated and will be acknowledged by letter for tax related purposes.

Donor Name: _____

Signature: _____

Address: _____

*Please make check payable to Godfrey Miller Home and note "Exterior Preservation Fund."
Return to Godfrey Miller Home using the enclosed envelope. Thank you.*



Preservation of Historic Winchester

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

NEWS

Fall 2021

Nonprofit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 34
Winchester, VA

BOUGH & DOUGH SHOP AT THE HEXAGON HOUSE

530 Amherst Street, 10 AM - 5 PM

Do some holiday shopping while picking up your Holiday House Tour tickets at the Hexagon House. The shop features décor, ornaments, sweet treats, small gift items, and fresh greens for holiday decorating.

Free hot drinks will be served on Sunday, December 5, while supplies last, to complement the Holiday House Tour.

The shop will be open **November 15-18, 22-24, 26-27**, and the full week of **November 29-December 5**. Please wear a face mask while shopping inside.

Select products may be available through our online shop www.phwinc.ecrater.com for curbside pickup—use code “curbside” at checkout to pick up your items at the Hexagon House.

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 \$30 Family/Business \$55
 Corporate \$100 Other

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

GET YOUR NEWS BETWEEN NEWSLETTERS;
FIND PHW ON:

