

**FAUQUIER COUNTY
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

Meeting Minutes

December 5, 2018

4:00 p.m.

Old Bust Head Brewery Meeting Room

7134 Farm Station Road

Vint Hill, VA 20187

Attendance:

Mary Root, Chair (Citizen-at-Large)
Virginia Gerrish (Center District Representative)
John Toler (Scott District Representative)
Jack LaMonica (Marshall District Representative)
Bryan Jacobs (Lee District Representative)
Reta Rodgers (Cedar Run District Representative)

Absent:

Bob Lee (Planning Commission Representative)

Guests:

Karen Hughes White - AAHA
Angela Hughes Davidson - AAHA
Norma Logan - AAHA

Staff:

Wendy Wheatcraft, Staff
Maureen Williamson, Staff

1. Vice Chair Jack LaMonica called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. The November 7, 2018 meeting minutes were reviewed.
Mr. Jacobs made a motion to approve the minutes with no changes. Ms. Gerrish seconded the motion. The motion carried 6 – 0.

The ARB members and guests introduced themselves.

Ms. Root joined the meeting at 4:07 p.m. and assumed the role as Chair.

3. Ongoing Business
 - 2019 Programs
 - Enslaved Fauquier Craftsmen Project
Ms. Wheatcraft reminded the ARB and shared with guests her suggestion to provide educational programming focusing on enslaved craftsmen of Fauquier County in a May 2019 presentation. She again noted that it will take a significant amount of research and since the November 2018 meeting, she and members of the Afro-American Historical Association (AAHA) met at the Old Jail Museum and had a discussion on sources found within the County and at the AAHA and John Gott Library in Marshall. She thanked Ms. White, Ms. Davidson, and Ms. Logan, who are visiting

from the AAHA, for joining the discussion this afternoon and welcomed their thoughts about the educational programming.

Ms. White said that there are journals kept at the Fauquier Heritage and Preservation Foundation in Marshall. She noted that the AAHA has completed a project that identified the enslaved whose occupation was listed as a specific craftsmen using the 1870 census of the Upperville area. Ms. White noted that the project database is in Excel format and easily searchable. She said that another resource that is searchable are the loose papers list with various accounts of the enslaved and their trades. She mentioned the Freedmen's Bureau Papers and noted that this source is searchable, in particular by labor contract, which in some cases, list names and occupations for those hired for various positions. She shared that the WPA records are searchable in house at AAHA, as well. Ms. White told the ARB that the AAHA facility is open Tuesday and Wednesday 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. She said the bulk of the documentation is stored on a museum software program called Past Perfect and is keyword searchable.

Ms. Wheatcraft mentioned the scanned copies of the Virginia Gazette newspapers, which are searchable from a Colonial Williamsburg webpage, as another source. She said the newspapers are categorized according to a subsection titled 'Slaves.' She added that some of the newspapers are further subcategorized into craftsmen including carpenters, brick layers and brick makers. She also mentioned that within the journals are runaway ads, which occasionally list the trade of the enslaved. However, these newspapers are from all over the state not just Fauquier County. She shared an example of a Fauquier County runaway ad, which listed the trade of the enslaved. Ms. White said that most of the runaway ads for Fauquier County have been digitalized and are available at the AAHA.

Ms. White also noted that wills and appraisals are excellent information sources, as the enslaved may have been listed as property of an estate. She added that wills and appraisals often gave the name, age, occupation and value of the enslaved.

Ms. Root reminded the ARB of her desire to visit the Alderman Library at University of Virginia, as this is where she first found reference in an account book belonging to a William Skinker, thought to be the owner of an enslaved man and mason named Hannibal. She said that the enslaved were often hired out to others and feels that Hannibal, who is listed as belonging to William Skinker, may have been hired for various building projects in Fauquier County. Ms. Wheatcraft noted that the WPA records for Grove Baptist Church (initials on the lintel in 1833), Chestnut Lawn (1832), and possibly Zoar Baptist Church (initials on the lintel as 1852), may have been built by Hannibal. However, Ms. Wheatcraft said that much of the story of Hannibal is oral history. Ms. White said that when people come in with oral histories, the information is taken down and the AAHA tries to support it with primary source documentation. She added that nine times out of ten, an oral history has been verified as truth and she has been able to prove ninety percent of them with primary source documents.

Ms. White noted that Virginia Baptist Historical society in Richmond may be able to assist with researching the records of the Grove and Zoar Baptist churches. She also mentioned that the AAHA has a book on the Skinker family.

Ms. White said that the AAHA will highlight the eight Rosenwald schools of Fauquier County in 2019. She told the ARB that AAHA will erect a historical marker at Eva Walker Park in Warrenton to recognize the schools. The first Saturday in February at 1:00 p.m. the AAHA will show a film centered on the Rosenwald Schools.

- Slave Cemetery identification – Rock Hill Mill Road
Ms. Wheatcraft said that one of the other projects the ARB had begun to discuss at an earlier 2018 meeting is locating a slave cemetery off Rock Hill Mil Road. She said the ARB may remember at the August 2018 meeting discussing photo copies of an 1860 deed, which mentions the location of a slave cemetery. Ms. White remembered a project that may have included a cemetery in this area. Ms. Wheatcraft said she would send Ms. White information on the cemetery. Ms. Root asked Ms. Wheatcraft to send her the information, as well and she will try to plot the cemetery location using AutoCAD software.
- Archaeological Slave Dwelling Study Presentation
For archaeology month in October 2019, Ms. Wheatcraft has started to think about asking the archaeologists at Montpelier who have completed much study on slave dwellings, if they would consider making a presentation in Fauquier. She said that they have accumulated a lot of information and could recount their discoveries and how it could be applied here. Ms. Root asked Ms. White if there is research as to the standard size of a slave dwelling. Ms. White said that she could not answer that specifically. However, the 1860 slave schedule gives us the number of enslaved and the number of slave quarters for each slaveholder identified. With that number, you can look at the number of dwellings versus the number of slaves so you know approximately how many slaves were housed within each dwelling. She also shared that Wynne Saffer, of the Mosby Heritage Area Association, utilized the 1861 land tax records to plot the landholders of Fauquier County. She said a goal of the AAHA is to plot on a map the property owner, the number of slaves, and the number of dwellings to get an idea of the landscape of the County. On August 3, 2019, the AAHA will host keynote speaker anthropologist Dr. Michael Blakely of the College of William & Mary. As it is the 400th anniversary of the first enslaved African coming to Virginia (Jamestown), Dr. Blakely will speak about the influence of the enslaved.

4. Announcements

- Vint Hill Preliminary Information Form & Online Museum Exhibit
Ms. Wheatcraft told the ARB that the Vint Hill Preliminary Information Form (PIF) is almost complete. She said that when the Vint Hill Parkway was constructed, buildings were demolished, which were considered contributing to Vint Hill and therefore, the project caused an adverse effect. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was written that stipulated that a Vint Hill historic district PIF be written and submitted to DHR to mitigate the adverse effect. The PIF will proposed a different boundary for the district, rather than remain 700 acres, as it is now.
- January Meeting Date
Ms. Wheatcraft asked the ARB if they would like to shift the January 2019 meeting date in the event members may be out of town through January 2, 2019, the day on which the next meeting is scheduled. The ARB agreed to meet on Wednesday, January 2, 2019.

5. The next ARB meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 2, 2018.

6. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.