



Goochland County Historical Society Newsletter

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LOST ARCHITECTURE EXHIBIT OPENS

On April 1, 2021, the Goochland County Historical Society (GCHS) opened our **Lost Architecture of Goochland** exhibit at the Goochland County History Center. Alongside photographs of some of Goochland's lost architectural jewels are seldom seen objects from our collection of artifacts, as well as items on loan from private collections. This exhibit features furniture and decorative objects used by the Anderson family at Thorncliff, the sign that marked the entrance for Ben Lomond, a place setting used by the Coffee family at Eastwood and more. This exhibit will run through August 31, 2021. Stop in, stay a while and let your mind wander back through the years. ❁



Left: Place setting used at Eastwood. Above: Eastwood



Above: Thorncliff. Left: Silver tazza and butter dish from Thorncliff. Far left: Ben Lomond. Below: Sign from the drive to Ben Lomond.



by, circa 1870

It is monogrammed with AWB
the wife of Joseph Ross
head of Henricwood in Louisa

Gorham Butter Server

American
Sterling Silver, chased decorated dome top with floral and foliate
finial. C. 1880

This butter server was used at Thorncliff by the Anderson family.
It is engraved with the initials of Sarah Elizabeth Anderson and
Mar. 3, 1880, the 47th anniversary of her wedding to Joseph Ross
Anderson. Their son, Joseph Ross Anderson, Jr., built and lived at



SOCIETY MESSAGE



Goochland County Historical Society

James Richmond
Executive Director
Catherine Southworth
Office Administrator
Board of Directors 2021

Christina Dunn, President
Bruce Venter, 1st Vice President
Vernon Fleming, 2nd Vice President
Virginia Olsen, Secretary
Kathleen Kimmel, Treasurer
Scott Johnson, Immediate Past President

Cheryl Childress, Melinda Gammon
Rachel Jacobsen, Laura Meadows,
Raymond Miller, Richard Toler,
Linda Weistroffer, Erin Yearout-Patton

Visit the Goochland Historical Society

The Society's History Center is located next to the Goochland Courthouse Green at 2924 River Road West (Route 6)

Office hours:

Wednesday–Friday, 10:00–3:00
2nd Saturday of the month, 10:00–3:00

Note: Those travelling long distances should call the society to confirm it will be open the date of your visit. Phone (804) 556-3966.

Email the Society:

goochlandhistory@comcast.net

Visit us online:

www.goochlandhistory.org
www.goochlandhistory.wordpress.com
www.twitter.com/GoochlandCHS

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Dear Historical Society Members,

April is National Volunteer Month and in 2021, April 18–24 is National Volunteer Week. Both are dedicated to recognizing the importance of volunteering and honoring the many significant contributions volunteers make to our society by generously donating their time and talents to worthy causes, including that of the Goochland County Historical Society.

National Volunteer Week was established in 1974 by the United States government to recognize the power of volunteers in tackling society's many issues. Then in 1989, President George H. W. Bush, in his inaugural address, invoked the vision of volunteers as a "thousand points of light" and invited the nation to take action through service to their fellow citizens. His call inspired many Americans who had never volunteered before. According to recent data from the Urban Institute, Americans volunteer 8.8 billion hours annually. You have only to recall those organizations in Goochland that have thrived because of volunteers—fire and rescue, social services through Goochland Cares, Habitat for Humanity, animal shelter, Rotary, Goochland Education Foundation, NAACP, Friends of the Goochland Library, Chamber of Commerce, Second Union Rosenwald School Foundation, and the many churches in the county. The list could go on, as there are many other groups that depend of volunteers for manpower.

Simply put, the Goochland County Historical Society could not operate without volunteer assistance. Volunteers are essential to our success and we thank them for their willingness to serve, for the talents they bring to the table, and for the time they are willing to give to the cause of preserving, presenting, and promoting Goochland's history. Currently we operate with two part-time staff, 14 Board members, and 10 volunteers who donated at least 836 hours in 2019, our most recent report. That number of hours is probably higher, but some volunteers don't always sign in and some, like those who write for the Society's *Magazine*, don't work on site. We only count what is official, taken from the sign-in sheets.

We would like to recognize those dedicated volunteers who assist with the day-to-day operation of the History Center: Cheryl Childress, Cheryl Copper, Christina Dunn, Kay Higgins, Scott Johnson, Suzanne Keesler, Margaret Lindner, Laura Mausolf, Jordan McIntosh, Ginny Olsen, Richard Toler, and Sandie Warwick. In addition, staff—Catherine Southworth and James Richmond—volunteer one day per month on their day off.

If you do not volunteer and have time on your hands, you might consider doing so for the Goochland County Historical Society or for another organization in the county. Volunteering keeps you active; and allows you to meet new people and do good—all at the same time.

A million thanks to our volunteers,

Handwritten signature of Scott Johnson, President.

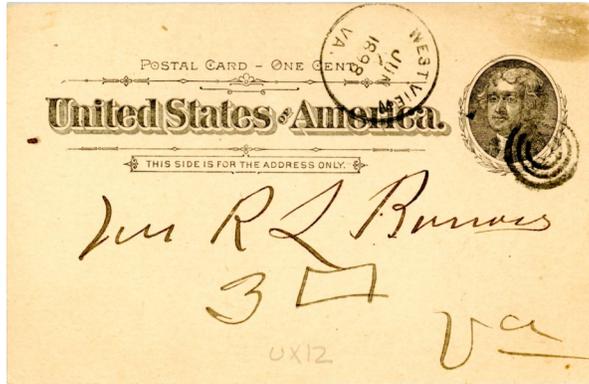
President

Handwritten signature of James Richmond, Director.

Director

3☐: YOU HAVE TO WONDER

To say the least, this is certainly a curious way to address a postcard. One has to wonder what the post office of today would do with it. Three Square, hence the “3” and the square, was a post office in Goochland, according to *The Gazetteer of Virginia* (1904) by Henry Gannett. It appears on county maps from 1863 by the Confederate Engineer Bureau and from 1881 by County Surveyor John W. George. Three Square is listed in *Chataigne’s Virginia Gazetteer and Classified Business Directory, 1888-1889*, identifying the postmaster



there as R.D. James. He also was identified as an attorney at law and farmer at that location. A coach and wagon maker, general merchant, and

two undertakers ran businesses there as well. Several large farms were nearby, making Three Square a fairly busy community. The post office was in existence in 1898 when this post card was mailed, but it has since been closed. However, Three Square, located on Route 600, continues to appear on road maps as a place name.

The envelope is from the collection of Kay Higgins, a volunteer at the Goochland County Historical Society, who collects historical postmarks. ❁

SANDSTONE MINING IN GOOCHLAND?



Most of you know that granite is actively mined in Goochland County today. Also, you may remember that coal was mined in the Manakin area in the 1700s and 1800s and that gold was mined in the western region of the county from the 1830s until the 1930s. However, did you know that sandstone also was once mined in the county?

In January of this year, a historian in Stafford County, Virginia, emailed the Goochland County Historical Society, asking where sandstone had been mined in the county. Staff and volunteers drew a blank – no one had ever heard of this. Using the research already conducted by the historian and working our contacts in the Manakin area, we learned that

there was a sandstone mining pit, now filled with water, on the Tuckahoe Plantation. We visited the location in February where we found evidence of the mining operation. Research in old Richmond newspapers showed that sandstone mining was active there in the very early 1800s.

Sandstone is a common sedimentary rock formed by the gradual consolidation of organic and inorganic matter, carried by wind, water or ice and gradually deposited in layers. It is often found along rivers. Because it is soft, it is easy to cut and, therefore, useful as a building material, as well as for tombstones and grindstones, such as those used in gristmills. Because it is porous, it is useful as a reservoir for water. Because it is highly durable, it will last for centuries. Considering the time the mine was in operation, its proximity to the James River – the mining pit is only about 100 feet from the old canal bed, its durability, and its usefulness as a building material and as a reservoir for water, it seems likely that the sandstone may

have been used in the construction of the James River and Kanawha Canal.

The canal project was begun in 1785 with the chartering of the James River Company which completed the canal as far as Westham in western Henrico County, not far below Tuckahoe. In 1820 the Commonwealth of Virginia, a major shareholder, purchased the company’s charter, reconstructed the existing canal, and extended it into Goochland County. Later, with the incorporation of the James River and Kanawha Company in 1835, the waterway was completed as far as Buchanan in Botetourt County, ending construction west in 1851.

At this point we can only theorize that the sandstone mined at Tuckahoe was used in the construction of the canal, as we do not have proof positive that is the case, however, given the characteristics of sandstone and the time period in which it was mined, it seems logical. We will continue to search for evidence to determine if this theory is correct or not. After all, history is often a mystery – one worth solving. ❁

IN MEMORIAM

William Edward Quarles, Jr. (1952–2021) served on the board of the Goochland County Historical Society (GCHS) from 2017–2019. His interests centered on education and history; his voice was most often heard in discussions about how the Society could support the teaching of history in Goochland schools. However, his contributions to the county went far beyond his contributions to the Society. He served two terms on the Goochland County School Board, representing District 2 and was Vice-Chair of the Board at the time of his death. Previously, he represented District 2 for eight years as a member of Goochland’s Board of Supervisors, serving as Chairman in 2008, 2010, and 2011; and as Vice-Chairman in 2007. Prior to that he was on the Goochland County Planning Commission for six years (1998–2003), serving twice as Chairman. He was co-founder of the Goochland Education Foundation, holding the offices of President and Vice President. Also, he was a member of

the State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board as a representative for the Virginia Association of Counties.

Mr. Quarles, who grew up in Louisa and Goochland counties, graduated from Goochland High School in 1970. He then attended Virginia Union University, graduating in 1974 with a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry and biology. He taught school in Louisa County and Richmond City before joining Dominion Power where he worked for 30 years as a member of the chemistry and management team at the North Anna Nuclear Power Station. ❀

Rachel Ann Kimmer Parker (1942–2020) was a longtime and supportive member of the GCHS. She served on the board and as Recording Secretary in 1983; and was a regular participant in programs including chairing the final house tour. She was a graduate of Goochland High School, having been Valedictorian of the Class of

1960. She attended the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, graduating in 1964 with a B.S. in Mathematics. Her aptitude in this field led to her first position as a mathematician at Langley Air Force Base in Hampton. She then moved to Richmond to work for the C&P Telephone Company before returning in 1974 to Goochland where she taught riding and boarded horses for a number of years.

In 1987, she and her husband Jim founded Parker Properties, Inc. In 1999, she was named “Business Person of the Year” by the Goochland Chamber of Commerce; in 2004, she was honored to serve as the Goochland County Christmas Mother; and in 2007 she was recognized by the Richmond Association of Realtors as a “Distinguished Achiever,” having excelled for a period of more than 20 consecutive years. Mrs. Parker was active in both the Goochland and Tuckahoe Woman’s Clubs and served as an Elder at Hebron Presbyterian Church. ❀

GOOCHLAND COUNTY HISTORY CENTER SCHEDULED FOR MAJOR ENHANCEMENT

A major enhancement will soon improve the appearance of the Goochland County History Center. The Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardeners have generously offered to landscape the small area in front of the building. At present (right), that area is home to a few azaleas, less than attractive monkey grass, a couple of green orbs of unknown origin, and spontaneous weeds. Most of the existing plants will be recycled as part of the new landscaping plan, the guiding theme of which is “Plants of Our Ancestors.”

New plantings will have been known by 18th century gardeners,



cooks, and herbalists; they were selected by the Master Gardeners because they have an interesting use or an associated historic tale. For example, winter savory was brought to North America by early colonists

and was the strongest flavoring herb available before pepper became a common commodity. Other plants are native to Virginia and were used by local Native Americans. Several native flowering plants from the colonial period also will be included in the design, such as those grown by Thomas Jefferson in his gardens at Monticello.

Keep an eye open for our new garden. Thanks to the Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardeners, a colorful garden will be a lovely addition and increase our visibility to those walking along or driving on Route 6. ❀

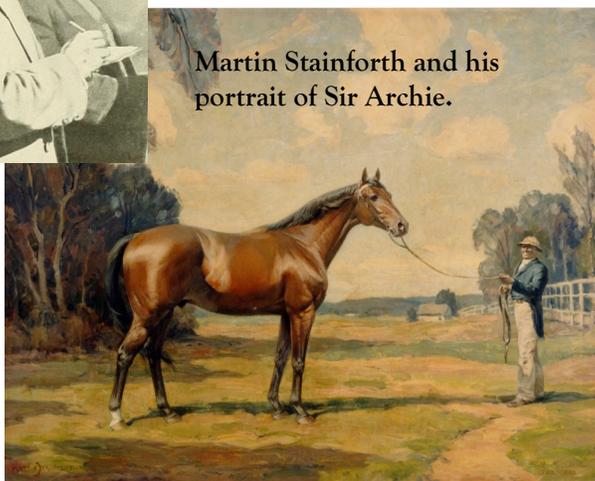
THE ARTIST WHO PAINTED SIR ARCHIE

For a number of years, the GCHS has owned a copy of a portrait of the famous racehorse Sir Archie (sometimes spelled Archy) who was born in Goochland County in 1805 at Ben Dover, home of part-owner Archibald Cary Randolph. The horse, named for Randolph by his other part-owner John Tayloe III of Mount Airy in Richmond County, went on to become one of the most important foundation sires of the American Thoroughbred. In fact, most of the winners of the Triple Crown (Kentucky Derby, Preakness, and Belmont Stakes), including Virginia's own Secretariat, are descended from him. The Society has sold reproductions of his portrait for a number of years and recently even turned the portrait into a puzzle which it also sold.



just finished the book were discussing the painting that is the centerpiece of the story. This, in turn, led to identifying other famous equine artists they liked. Then the question arose: Who painted the Society's portrait of Sir Archie?

A quick look in the lower left corner of the painting revealed the name of Martin Stainforth, a well-known British equine artist who worked in the United States,



began to specialize in painting animals, especially horses. The book *Racehorses in Australia with Paintings by Martin Stainforth* is considered an important reference source on the Australian Thoroughbred.

By 1930 Stainforth had returned to England where he painted portraits of Thoroughbreds belonging to prominent people, including King George V of Great Britain. In 1934, he moved to New York City, residing there for the next 15 years. During this time he was commissioned to paint a number of horses, especially Thoroughbreds, such as Triple Crown winner War Admiral (1934-1959), Man o' War (1917-1947) and, of course, Sir Archie. Unlike the others, Sir Archie was not painted from real life, as he died in 1833; descriptions of the horse and an earlier portrait by Boston artist Alvan Fisher probably provided guidance for the painter. The setting for the painting is

While some of us who work at the Society have always been obsessed with the horse, we never really thought about the person who painted him, that is until Virginia author Rita Mae Brown released her latest novel *Out of Hounds*. The mystery involves the theft of a famous Sir Alfred Munnings painting of a woman riding sidesaddle, as well as a murder. There is always a murder. A couple of our volunteers who had

as well as in Australia. Needless to say, they were surprised at their discovery. Martin Frank Stainforth (1866-1957) began his career with religious portraits and wood engravings, exhibiting at the Royal Academy in England, as well as in large European cities. By the early 20th century, he was working as a magazine illustrator, but a 1908 trip to Australia changed the direction of his art. After settling in Australia, he

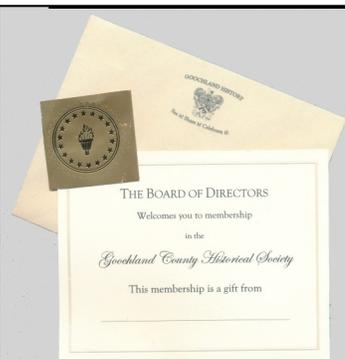
Mowfield in Northampton County, North Carolina, home of Sir Archie's last owner John D. Amis. Supposedly Sir Archie was an imposing looking animal and Stainforth's portrait of him with his longtime groom, certainly bears that out.

For more on Sir Archie, see "The Mystery and Mis-history of Sir Archy" by Catherine Southworth, *Goochland County Historical Society Magazine*, Vol. 47, 2016. ❁

TIME to RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP for 2021

Memberships expire at the end of the calendar year. We value your continuing support and look forward to you remaining a members. If you have not already done so, renew for the 2021 year by sending your check to PO Box 602, Goochland, VA 23063.

You can renew online at our website using Paypal. Paypal accepts most credit cards and you don't need a Paypal account in order to pay your membership dues. ❁



Events Update

Due to the uncertain situation caused by the coronavirus pandemic, the GCHS has no lectures or workshops scheduled. When the situation improves to where we can continue regular programming, we will do so and notify you as soon as possible.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Despite the coronavirus, the GCHS has continued to attract new members. We welcome the following:

John G. Dickenson, Jr. ✿ William Dunn
Joseph Elia ✿ Kristen Gardner
Todd & Tina Graham ✿ Tom Hillman
Kimberly Hiteshew ✿ Ann James
Frankie G. Knibb ✿ Mr. & Mrs. Victor Lee Mauzy
Phyllis McLaughling



Lost Architecture of Goochland

April 1, 2021–August 31, 2021
at the
Goochland County History Center