



TimeLines

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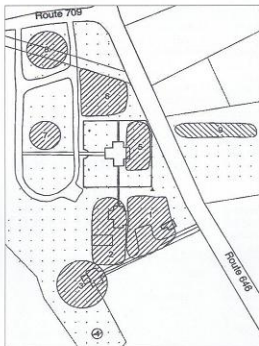
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Search on for John Carter's church

The diggers are out in force this fall looking for the first church built on the grounds of Historic Christ Church. Under the guidance of archaeologists David Brown and Thane Harpole of DATA Investigations LLC, student and adult volunteers are working to find the footprint of the church begun by John Carter I and completed in 1670. The work focuses on a site behind the current church that yielded a dense concentration of artifacts in an earlier investigation. These items suggest a structure with a brick foundation, tile floor and glass windows dating from the late seventeenth century.

Diggers' delight

The excitement surrounding the dig arises from the opportunity it provides to explore the evolution of the Christ Church site over three centuries. The project has been fully funded by a generous gift from Bob and Marty Scheu.



The diagram of the archaeological survey conducted in 1999 indicates nine identified sites. Site 5, northeast of the current church, appears to be the site of the first Christ Church used from 1670 through the first quarter of the eighteenth century.

Board fills new staff position

At the March meeting of the Foundation Board, executive vice president Bob Cornelius announced the selection of Camille E. Bennett as development director. Bennett, with a professional career in management consulting and service on the Board and the Volunteer Council, took up the position in May.

Feasibility Study outcome

The Feasibility Study commissioned in 2004 and conducted by E.L. Freeman Consultants of Williamsburg recommended that the Board create "a staffing model that will assure adequate support of the institution's strategic goals." With full-time responsibilities, the

development director contributes to the human resources needed to attain the Foundation's goals of preserving and interpreting Historic Christ Church.

duPont Fund support

The Jessie Ball duPont Fund is supporting the development director's salary.

DID YOU KNOW...?

HCC attracts over 13,000 visitors a year

- 49% from states other than Virginia
- 37% from Virginia beyond Northern Neck
- 11% from Northern Neck
- 3% from more than 30 foreign countries

ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE

- 2005 goal is \$160,000
- Over 250 donors to date
- 70% of donors have increased their gifts
- Board of Directors' gifts up by 60%
- Increase in mailings from 3500 to 4500
- First ever mailing to 400 local businesses
- Appeal ends December 31, 2005
- HAVE YOU GIVEN?

From the President

Let us count our blessings

The family and friends of Historic Christ Church are truly blessed to have the responsibility for the care, maintenance, interpretation, research, restoration and preservation of Christ Church, Lancaster. The past 47 years in the life of the Foundation have been filled with opportunities and challenges that have resulted in the "pristine and beautifully preserved Christ Church" that we see today. One only needs to talk to a single visitor to appreciate the value of the service that the Foundation provides through its volunteers and supporters.

Mission for the future

The initial response to the master site plan, the Foundation's current initiative toward meeting its mission statement (see pp. 4-5), has been extremely favorable. The six open sessions held in September to discuss the plan were well attended and provided valuable feedback that will bring the conceptual drawings to maturity.

Share the mission with us

Please be receptive to letters or calls regarding the Annual Appeal as we gather the financial resources to bring the site plan to life. Christ Church, Lancaster has meant so much to so many for so long. How can one not be blessed with the responsibility for its future?

John H. Hunt, II



John H. Hunt II, above right, with Stuart A. Bunting, Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury chief executive, who won the drawing prize at the Lancaster County Chamber of Commerce After Hours event sponsored by the Foundation in September. Hunt is president of the FHCC Board of Directors and has served the Foundation since 1986. He was treasurer from 1988 to 2005 and vice president 2003 to 2005. He is executive vice president of Chesapeake Bank and an avid boater with a US Coast Guard 50 ton Masters license.

Foundation Briefs

Education

Karen Sciacchitano and a committee of ten volunteers led a full continuing education program in 2005. Highlighting the four-morning Spring Training held in March were presentations by Carter Huddings on the archaeological dig at Corotoman and Nat Neblett on Georgian architecture. In June volunteers crossed

the Rappahannock to visit Christ Church and Lower United Methodist, two beautifully restored churches, and Wilton, a beautiful but not yet restored home. September saw the volunteers gather for a workshop on period attire led by Dixie McCaig and Robert Teagle. In October volunteers crossed the Rappahannock again to visit Vauter's Church and the glebe house at St. Anne's parish, both structures possessing exceptional brickwork. The medieval and classical elements of Yeocomico Church rounded out the trip.

Books galore

The Book Club met four times to discuss books on Virginia history such as Andrew Levy's *The First Emancipator* about Robert Carter III, known as the Founding Father who freed his slaves.

Research

With the publication last year of *Landholders and Landholdings*, the fourth and final book in the Historic Christ Church Heritage series, Research chair Barbara Hensler put together a list of projects for current and future work. Mary Kay Davies is doing further research on the waterway and place

names on the *Landholders* map. Bob McKenney, Dixie McCaig and Marcia Adams have completed transcribing the processioners reports used in that project. McCaig and Hensler are preparing indexes to these reports.

McKenney is also working with Lloyd Smith on the Robert Carter executor papers. Dick Fussell, with the support of his wife Pat and Sue Rogers, created and continues to update a computer-based index of Research Room materials. Anne Davis is opening a new topic, that of eighteenth century diseases.

Carter connections

John and Marge Page are continuing a multi-year project building a computer database of Carter descendants. Finally, Margaret Gunn serves as liaison with the Carter family website,

Preservation

The conservation of the entablature is proceeding as planned and will conclude in 2007. Two other areas are proving more troublesome to resolve.

Basic issues

The grave markers of Judith and Betty Carter have been stabilized to a condition that evokes the beauty of their original state and returned to their resting places east of the church. Robert's sarcophagus, however, has caused more difficulty. Matching the Italian marble of the base with a domestic, and cost effective, product has yet to be successful and may require the use of imported, and more expensive, materials.

More sand than stone

After nearly three centuries of exposure, the Aquia sandstone used for the windowsills and decorative elements of the doors and windows is badly deteriorated and allowing water damage to the structural fabric of the building. The solutions under consideration include repairing the sills or replacing them with matching sandstone or the more imperious limestone. Preservation chair Tony Waring and Bob Cornelius are researching the often conflicting views of experts whether repair is possible or replacement necessary.

"Historic Christ Church is a gathering place for people of diverse interests."

John Hunt

Volunteer Council August 2005

Foundation News and Views

Development issues remain at the forefront

Since 1958, generous financial support from friends of Historic Christ Church has empowered the Foundation's successful pursuit of its mission. Life Memberships provided the essential capital to undertake the stabilization of the church in the early years. Subsequently, Life Memberships and bequests allowed the accumulation of endowment funds. The endowment, prudently invested by the Finance Committee, provided sufficient resources for ongoing preservation and for current operations.

New resources necessary

By the mid-1990s, the preservation agenda spelled out in the Historic Structures Report, growing programs in several areas, and the effects of inflation on basic operating costs exceeded the ca-

capacity of the traditional revenue sources. A low-key Annual Appeal was then instituted to increase revenue.

Present realities

Today, the Foundation has reached another threshold in its development initiatives. As with any business enterprise, it is impossible to mark time. The enterprise grows, or it declines. Since 1996, Historic Christ Church Foundation operating budgets have primarily depended on the return from investments and only secondarily on the Annual Appeal. Assessment of market conditions and comparable organizations indicates that this lopsided ratio must change and contributions realized through the Annual Appeal must grow. Underwriting 60% of the operating budget through the Annual Appeal by

2010 is the challenge before us.

What is needed now

A 60% increase in the 2005 Annual Appeal sets us on the road to meet this challenge. The Foundation's officers, directors and staff are showing the way. Even with several directors yet to give, the Foundation's leaders have already exceeded by more than 60% the amount they gave in 2004.

Most often I am writing in this space about preservation accomplishments and programmatic achievements, rather than fiscal realities. However, fiscal realities drive preservation and programming. The Foundation is at a watershed. The friends of Historic Christ Church will, in large measure, write the future as they write their checks.

Bob Cornelius

From The Archives

First dig begins archaeological story at HCC

Excavations taking place this fall at the site of John Carter's 1670 church (see page 1) build on an important tradition of archaeological research at Historic Christ Church. Indeed, from its earliest days, the Foundation recognized the significant role archaeology could play in uncovering the history of the site. Within a year of its creation in 1958, the Foundation commissioned a survey to determine the location and design of the brick wall that originally enclosed Christ Church.

Eminent excavator

Led by noted archaeologist Dr. J.C. "Pinkie" Harrington (1901-1998), excavations over a three-day period revealed the footings of a brick wall, which encompassed an area around the church of nearly 200 sq. ft. Harrington identified the boundaries of the original wall, its thickness, and the bonds used in the brickwork—Flemish above the water-table and English below. He found specially shaped bricks used to create a water-table near the base of the wall and confirmed that molded curved coping bricks finished the top. He also found



Dr. J.C. Harrington (left) and Foundation secretary Charles A.G. Dawe inspect portions of the original churchyard wall. In the background is part of an iron fence put up around the churchyard in 1927.

that the four corners of the wall were curved. The bricks used were identical to those of the church itself. Harrington felt they came from the same kiln, supporting the view that the wall was constructed during the same period as the church. Harrington's work helped to get the Foundation off to an auspicious start

and set a standard for historical research and education that continues to this day. The current digs at the 1670 church site represent the next phase of discovery at Christ Church. They hold great potential to add to understanding of the site and its evolution over the colonial period.

Robert Teagle

Master Site Plan projects improved

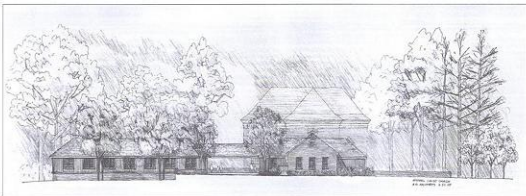
What does the plan offer?

Visitor Enhancements

- Gallery enlarged by 40% to support new insights and information
- Temporary exhibit space to encourage repeat visitations
- Seamless progression from the gallery to the church

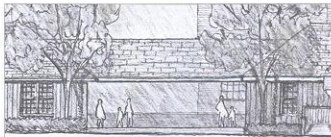
Space Enhancements

- Administrative space to coordinate staff efforts
- Centralized space for volunteer activities
- Parking for visitors, volunteers and staff in one lot



The elevation, above, shows the view visitors will have from the new parking lot south of the Carter Center. They will follow a pathway to a new handicapped accessible entrance to the Center. Along the way they will pass the herb garden and a delightful little courtyard framed by the Bayne Center, the Carter Center and a new building.

The elevation, above right, shows the portico connecting the Carter Center and the new, 2000 square-foot administration building housing space for staff and volunteers. Visitors will enter the Carter Center through the current office door, where an expanded gift shop and gallery display will greet them. After enjoying the gallery, visitors will begin their tour of the church with a docent to guide them.



The site plan footprint, right, created by the Charlottesville architectural firm, Bushman Dreyfus Architects PLC, shows the revamped parking lot on the left and the church within its wall on the right. The center buildings include the rectangular staff/volunteer wing projecting from the Carter Center. The exterior of the new building will blend with the existing buildings, which will be repainted and re-roofed as part of the construction. Construction costs for the project total \$1.1 million with an additional \$200,000 for gallery renovations and a similar amount to establish an endowment for maintenance. 2008, the Foundation's fiftieth anniversary, is the project's expected completion date.

From The Council

2005 Season spans work and fun

Historic Christ Church's Volunteer Council and its 262 volunteers are busy all season long from April 1 through November 30 greeting and guiding visitors, cutting and arranging flowers, tending the herb garden, researching the history of the Church and its parish, stocking the gift shop, preparing mailings to donors and other volunteers, and heading all the volunteer committees. Many of them also participate in continuing education, support the Annual Appeal and work to recruit new volunteers.

Learning never stops

Continuing education included Parish

Crawls to Middlesex, Essex and Westmoreland counties, a costume workshop, an active book group and a visit to the Virginia Historical Society. Volunteers also attended presentations on the Site Improvement Plan.

Supporting the Foundation

Along with officers of the Foundation, volunteer leaders wrote personal messages on Annual Appeal letters. Clerical Committee members then folded, stuffed and sorted these letters. The 4500-piece mailing took fifteen volunteers 118 hours to complete over three days, an example of the kind of enthusiasm Historic Christ

Church volunteers bring to their work.

Attracting new recruits

Recruitment of new volunteers is a key responsibility of the Volunteer Council. With vice chair Betty Martin in the lead, Council members staffed a booth at the Irvington Farmers Market and followed up with opportunity and orientation days.

If you have a potential volunteer in mind, someone who would enjoy sharing the spirit of the Christ Church family, submit his or her name to the Foundation office. We will gladly discuss volunteer opportunities.

Cathryn Baumhardt



Dressed to the nines, eighteenth-century style, volunteers at the continuing education costume workshop, above, demonstrate how period clothing expressed the social strata of its owners. Dixie McCaig, Jim McCaig, Ginny Wagener, Camille Bennett and Bill Croner bring to life some parishioners from *People in Profile, Christ Church Parish 1720-1750*, an HCC Heritage Series book.



Above, Peggy Wilson and Betty Riley, with Jack Blaine as clerk, serve as hostesses at the Annual Meeting. Over 175 members attended the May gathering to review the year's activities and to hear guest speaker Dr. Dan Roberts of NPR's syndicated history program, *A Moment in Time*.



Left, in October, businesswomen from the W.R. Grace Company booked a tour of HCC, complete with a horse-drawn vehicle from Hundley Carriages of Richmond, during their stay at the Tides Inn. The group was one of 28 reserving a Special Group tour this season. Normally, such tours include a costumed docent, but the Grace group arrived unexpectedly a day early. Docent Betsy Elliot, on duty in the Carter Center, pitched in to relate the Christ Church story.



The last two weeks in September brought out many volunteers interested in learning about the master site plan's addition to administrative and volunteer space and repositioning of the visitor approach to the church. Six presentations led by Board president John Hunt and executive vice president Bob Cornelius were complemented by development director Camille Bennett, above right. Founding volunteer Madeline Hooper and more recent volunteer Ben Davis enjoy reviewing the new plans.



Preservation chair Tony Waring, right, and Board vice president Rev. Hugh White, left, discuss the intricacies of Robert Carter's sarcophagus with conservator Greg Cowan. When the grave marker was disassembled, the east and west stones of the base were found to be too degraded for repair. The sarcophagus remains at the Tidewater Preservation workshops in Fredericksburg as the search continues for marble to match the elegant blue-gray veining in the base.



The Annual Appeal is a key aspect of the FHCC financial structure. Far left, Volunteer Council secretary Ronnie Gerster and Appeal chair Ann Carter Lee impart a personal touch. Left, Clerical Committee members Candy Howard and Pat Fussell prepare to send the Foundation's requests to its friends.



Researchers behind the scenes and receptionists on the front lines all work to bring the Christ Church story to life. On the left, Lloyd Smith, Bob McKenney and Margaret Gunn consult Research Room files. Below, Nan Liner, Susan Woodard, Maryann Low, and Chris Bresett, with Council vice chair Betty Martin, enjoy one another's company at the receptionists' get together in July.





*Since 1735,
as it came from
the hands of its builders*

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for
Historic Christ Church**

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TimeLines

KATHY MOELLER

Editor

—2005 Contributions Update—

Elis Olsson Memorial Foundation
\$25,000 for

Carter tombs stabilization

Jessie Ball duPont Fund
\$48,000 for

Master Site Plan development
Gallery re-design
Compensation support

Bob and Marty Scheu
\$15,000 for

Phase II archaeology of 1670 church site

Earle Thompson and Kent Mallory
T&M Well Works, LLC
In-kind for

Significant repairs to water well

Thank You

A full listing of 2005 contributions will appear in the FHCC Annual Report.