

april 2005



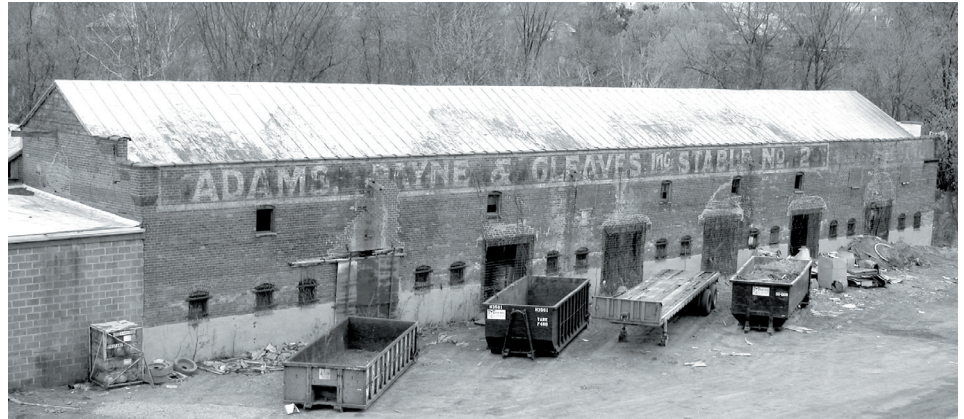
ROANOKE VALLEY PRESERVATION FOUNDATION focus

Catawba barns, Roanoke stable at risk

Barns on the Virginia Tech farm in the Catawba Valley and Roanoke's last livery stable have been nominated for Virginia's Most Endangered Sites, to be selected by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.

The sites judged most endangered will be announced at APVA's 111th annual membership meeting at Smithfield Plantation in Blacksburg on May 21.

The Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation made the nominations. The picturesque barns are in jeopardy because the Virginia Tech Natural Resources Department has said their liability and maintenance is too expensive for planned research operations on the farm. If funding is not found for another use for the barns, they may be removed. The barns, located off Virginia 311 at the bottom of Catawba Mountain, are considered the focal point for the community's pastoral landscape. The barns are the center of a 400-acre farm operated by the old Catawba Sanatorium



The former Adams, Payne and Gleaves stable, adjacent to the Roanoke City Mills on South Jefferson Street, is believed to be more than 100 years old.

from 1909 until they were taken over by Virginia Tech in 1982 and operated until the 1990s.

The livery stable, located adjacent to Roanoke City Mills off South Jefferson Street, has been used for storage by Virginia Scrap Iron & Metal, now in liquidation.

The Roanoke Redevelopment and

Housing Authority has started the process of acquiring the buildings and they may be replaced by development.

The property is in the flood plain.

The stable, operated by Payne, Adams and Gleaves, is believed to be more than 100 years old.

--George Kegley

Meathouse makeover



Preservation foundation board member Mark Clark cuts away badly deteriorated parts of a log as part of an ongoing restoration of the Buena Vista meathouse. The building, on the grounds of the Buena Vista Recreation Center in Southeast Roanoke, is being restored by the preservation foundation using a neighborhood development grant from the City of Roanoke. Story and more pictures on page 2.

2005 preservation awards add category you don't want to win

The Bulldozer Award will be an example of what not to do.

Continuing a tradition started in 1996, the Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation will present nine awards for individual achievement and preservation of buildings, sites and the environment.

The awards will be presented during National Preservation Week at a reception at Buena Vista in Southeast Roanoke on Wednesday, May 11, at 5:30 p.m. The public is invited.

A highlight of the 2005 recognition will be a new Bulldozer Award for bad stewardship counter to accepted preservation practices. The intent is to feature an example of what not to do.

The 2005 awards will be given to four individuals and five buildings and businesses. They represent important achievement, rehabilitation and preservation.

The preservation organization recognizes endangered sites in the fall and makes awards in the spring.

Western Virginia history group plans historical talks and tours

Talks on the last days of the Confederacy, a new books of love letters from a Smyth County officer in the Civil War and an archaeological dig at Kentland plantation in Montgomery County, plus a June bus tour to the Radford-Pulaski County area are planned by the History Museum and Historical Society of Western Virginia.

William C. "Jack" Davis, program director of the Center for Civil War Studies at Virginia Tech and the author of more than 40 books, will talk about

the end of the Confederacy on Tuesday, April 26, at 7:30 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, 2011 Brandon Road in Roanoke.

Tom Klatka, archaeologist with the Roanoke Regional Preservation Office of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, will describe the Kentland dig at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 24, at Christ Lutheran.

Dr. James I. Robertson, noted Civil War historian and director of the Virginia Tech Civil War Center, will speak at

7:30 p.m., Thursday, June 16 at Christ Lutheran about the book of letters, which he edited.

The June meeting will be the last of the season. The next lecture will be in September.

The museum and historical society is planning visits to Glencoe Museum and the centuries-old Jeffries home in Radford and to Rockwood, a Reconstruction-era home near Dublin on a spring bus tour on Wednesday, June 15.

More information is available at 342-5770.

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Clockwise from above: The meathouse at the end of the day. The meathouse earlier that morning. Ruth Doan mixes a borate solution before applying it to the logs. Doubled 2-by-4 lumber helps support a corner where a deteriorated log has been removed.



Buena Vista meathouse work is under way

The first Buena Vista meathouse workday, held April 9, was a big success.

Volunteers from the Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation cleaned out the circa 1850 hewn-log building and removed fencing wire and hundreds of nails from the exterior.

They then jacked up the

building to remove rotten and bug-eaten logs and crumbling foundation stones, shored up the building with 2-by-4 bracing, and treated the logs with borate preservative.

It was a great learning experience and a lot of fun.

The next workday, scheduled for Saturday, May 14 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., will involve

rebuilding the stone foundation, replacing missing logs and filling voids in many partially deteriorated logs with epoxy.

When the foundation and walls are completed, we will move on to replacing the plywood and tarpaper roof with the appropriate wood shingles.

Volunteers are welcome.

-- Mike Pulice

This & That

RVPF developing list-serv to keep members updated

From time to time, the foundation discovers a tidbit of information that could be of interest to its members.

An electronic mailing list is under development to allow us to share stories, pictures and other information in a timely manner.

We promise that we will not inundate you with e-mail. But we will send a communication from time to time to keep you informed of related happenings. Help us build this list to allow us to reach all our members and friends. Go to our website (www.roanokepreservation.org) to sign up today.

Workshop to teach residents to research home's history

Old Southwest Inc. will sponsor a workshop to teach interested residents how to research the history of their homes, at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 7, at the Virginia Room of the Roanoke Public Library.

Anyone may attend. Roanoke residents who would like to take part should obtain the land card for that property at the Municipal Building prior to May 7 and bring that with them.

Virginia Room staff will provide a short workshop in getting started.

National Trust seeks items to list on activities calendar

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is looking for activities to be listed on its events calendar by preservation organizations celebrating May as Preservation Month.

The theme for the month is "Restore

America: Communities at a Crossroads."

The National Trust has been featuring grassroots preservation efforts during the second week in May since 1971, but this is the first year for a monthlong observance. Events such as architectural and historic tours, award ceremonies, fund-raising and educational programs and heritage travel projects are listed on the annual calendar.

To see events listed in 2005, visit the National Trust website: www.nationaltrust.org.

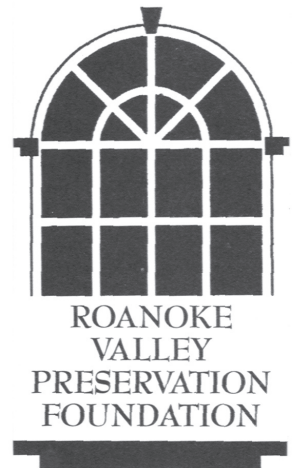
Raleigh Court Civic League plans block party for May 21

The Greater Raleigh Court Civic League will celebrate the spirit of this historic neighborhood with a block party Saturday, May 21, from noon to 3 p.m.

The party, on the grounds of the Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church, is free and open to all Greater Raleigh Court residents and will feature free food, live music and kids' activities.

YES! I want to help preserve and protect the Valley's historic, natural and cultural heritage by joining the Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation.

\$5	Student	\$100	Friend of Preservation
\$10	Teacher	\$250	Foundation Sponsor
\$25	Individual	\$500	Landmark Donor
\$40	Family	\$1,000	Cornerstone Club
\$75	Business/Organization	Other	\$ _____



Name: _____

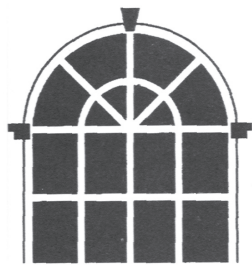
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Please make your check payable to the Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation and return to:
Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation
P.O. Box 1366
Roanoke VA 24007

*The Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation
cordially invites you to its
2005 Preservation Awards Reception
5:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 11,
at Buena Vista,
Penmar Avenue Southeast,
Roanoke, Virginia.*



ROANOKE
VALLEY
PRESERVATION
FOUNDATION

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