

Harrison County
WEST VIRGINIA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

POST OFFICE BOX 2064
CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 26301

NEWSLETTER

F A L L 1 9 7 6

ANNUAL TOUR

The Harrison County Historical Society will sponsor a tour for members and guests of members to Oglebay Park, Wheeling, W. Va., on September 19, 1976. Tour members will visit the Mansion Museum in the park and dine at Wilson Lodge.

The tour schedule is as follows:

Board bus in front of Amy Roberts Vance House	12:45 p.m.
Arrive in Wheeling	3:00
Visit museum and tour park	3:00-5:00
Dine at Wilson Lodge	5:15
Depart for Clarksburg	6:15
Arrive in Clarksburg	8:30

Please send reservation form early since the seating capacity of a bus will determine the number of reservations accepted on a "first come, first-served basis."

RESTORATION OF WING OF AMY ROBERTS VANCE HOUSE

The board has discussed a plan to raze the two-story clapboard portion of the Amy Roberts Vance house (the section which now houses the office, the genealogical department, and the tool collection) and to restore the wing which was a part of the original building. The erection of a wing built of brick similar to that used in the 1807 structure, the length of which would be sixty feet and the width that of the hallway and the west rooms in the 1807 portion of the building, has been estimated by a contractor to cost \$50,000. The wing would contain a serving kitchen, a meeting room with fireplace, an area for the genealogical department, and rest rooms.

News of the projected plan has caused so much criticism, both pro and con, that the board has decided that before any further plans are made to wait for a decision by the membership of the Society.

Adverse criticism heard by the board is:

1. The cost is too high for the Society to fund.
2. The restored wing "will spoil the building."
3. Rather than erect a new wing, efforts of the Society should go into needed preservation of the present structure.

Remarks in favor of the restoration of the wing like the one shown in early pictures of the house include:

1. The genealogical department has not one additional square foot for accessions, many of which now are in boxes in the attic or stuffed into wardrobes throughout the house.
2. The Society needs a larger meeting room.
3. The house should be preserved in the form in which it was originally built.

The board requests that each member of the Society express himself on the matter in one or both of two ways: (1) write a letter to the Society, Box 2074, Clarksburg, West Virginia 26301, giving an opinion on the restoration project. (2) attend the meeting of the Society on October 20, 1976, and voice an opinion.

Harrison County Historical Society
Tour to Oglebay Park in Wheeling, W. Va., and Dinner at Wilson Lodge in Oglebay Park
Sunday, September 19, 1976

CLOSING DATE FOR RESERVATIONS:

Saturday, September 11, 1976

Make check payable to Harrison County Historical Society
Mail this slip and check to: Harrison County Historical Society
Post Office Box 2074
Clarksburg, West Virginia 26301

Number of reservations for tour at a cost per person of \$15.00:
(cost includes bus fare, museum admission, dinner, tax, gratuity)

Amount of check enclosed:

Signature

THE COLLECTION

Accessions

Gun barrel rifling machine built in 1850 by George Jackson Riblett, Sr., blacksmith and noted gunsmith of Shinnston. Hand-welded musket barrel. Photograph of George Jackson Riblett, Sr. Loaned by Victor Thorne Riblett of Florida.

McCabe, The Illustrated History of the Centennial Exhibition...Philadelphia, 1876. Loaned by Mr. and Mrs. T. Edward Davis, Salem, for the Bicentennial Year.

Twenty-four maps of exploration and surveys made by the United States Army 1778 to 1876. Gift of the Department of the Army. Pittsburgh District. Corps of Engineers.

Through the kind offices of Senator Randolph, the Harrison County Historical Society will receive a United States flag which has been flown from the Capitol, Washington, D. C.

SOCIETY BUSINESS

Report of the Treasurer

Financial Statement, July 31, 1976

General Fund

Checking Account-----\$1076.45

Certificate of Deposit----- 1000.00

History Book Fund

Checking Account----- 349.27

Certificates of Deposit----- 2200.00

(interest not included)

Membership

Individual Memberships----- 174

Family Memberships----- 73 (146 persons)

Institutional----- 6

Contributing----- 3

Life----- 14

Honorary----- 2

Thank you!

Alvin Bailey, Argyle Knight, and Madge McDaniel wish to thank the members who participated in the exhibit of paintings before 1914 and in the reception at the dedication of the Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library on June 20, 1976.

Newsletter Spring 1976

The Historical Society needs copies of the Newsletter Spring 1976 for its files. If you are willing to part with your copy, please mail to Harrison County Historical Society, Post Office Box 2074, Clarksburg, West Virginia 26301.

For Sale

Copies of History of Harrison County by Henry Haymond can be purchased by members at the reduced price of \$12.75. Amy Roberts Vance House note paper is on sale at the house for \$1.55.

VANCE HOUSE PERSONNEL

Host and Hostesses

Receiving visitors to the Vance House during the summer months have been Jack Sandy Anderson, Oma Hall, Audra Kincaid, Aileen Lucas, Gladys Merryman, Goldie Robinson, Virginia Shetter, Elizabeth Sloan, Elizabeth Upton, and Helen Upton.

Genealogical Assistants

Working in the Genealogical Department during the summer months have been Mary Allen, Elsie Grant, Penny Linder, Anne Miller, Verna Shingleton, Gladys Smith, and Lucille Stryker.

Hostesses September 1976-May 1977

If you are willing to serve as a host or hostess at the Vance House, on Saturday 2-4 p.m., from September 1976 through May 1977, please check and mail this form to Harrison County Historical Society, Post Office Box 2074, Clarksburg, West Virginia 26301.

Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	1976	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	1977
4__	2__	6__	4__		1__	5__	5__	2__	7__	
11__	9__	13__	11__		8__	12__	12__	9__	14__	
18__	16__	20__	18__		15__	19__	19__	16__	21__	
25__	23__	27__	25__		22__	26__	26__	23__	28__	
	30__				29__			30__		

Signature_____

Telephone_____