

Harrison County
WEST VIRGINIA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

POST OFFICE BOX 2064
CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 26301

FALL 1977

NEWSLETTER

ANNUAL TOUR

The annual tour for Harrison County Historical Society members and guests will be a visit on September 18, 1977 to the Alexander Campbell Mansion, the Campbell Cemetery, and Bethany College in Bethany, West Virginia. Alexander Campbell (1788-1866) was the leading influence in America's largest indigenous religious movement, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and was the founder of Bethany College. The old mansion of twenty-seven rooms was built in four periods: the original part, the John Brown Mansion, completed in 1793; Buffalo Seminary, in 1819; brick dining wing, 1836; and "Stranger's Hall", in 1840. Among the famous entertained in the mansion were John Calhoun, Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, Jefferson Davis, and James Garfield. In it are the furnishings of the 1800's, all of which can be identified with the life of Campbell and his family. In the Campbell Cemetery, referred to as the "Westminster Abbey of the Disciples", are buried Campbell, members of his family, leaders of the Disciples movement, missionaries, and noted Bethany College faculty members. Founded in 1840, Bethany College has long been considered one of the nation's finest small private colleges. Both "Old Main" on the campus and the mansion are on the National Register of Historic Places. Dinner will be at the college cafeteria at 6:10 p.m. There is a salad bar, and tour members will be permitted to have seconds on all hot and cold foods and beverages. The cost of the tour, including dinner, will be \$14.00.

A chartered bus will depart from the Amy Roberts Vance House in Clarksburg at 12:05 p.m. on Sunday, September 18. The bus can carry 43 persons. Reservations will be accepted on first come, first served basis. The final date for making reservations is Friday, September 9, 1977. Refunds for cancellations will be made through September 9, 1977. Please use the form at the bottom of page 2 for reservations.

NEWS OF HISTORIC SITES IN HARRISON COUNTY

The Shinnston Historical Association voted on June 17, 1977, to start immediately to restore the Levi Shinn House (1778) located south of the city limits of Shinnston. The association will spend the \$35,000 it has set aside for a roof, replacement of faulty logs, repair of chimney, and any other work needed to make the house structurally sound. At the meeting on June 17, Jack Sandy Anderson was elected president of the Shinnston Historical Association.

The William Johnson House in Bridgeport, residence of the late David Johnson, may be administered as a historic site open to the public. The Harrison County Historical Society was asked if it would be interested in administering the house provided all heirs to the Johnson estate would agree. The Society refused the provisional offer because maintenance of the Amy Roberts Vance House consumes the finances and the energy of the Society. A committee of Bridgeport citizens has been appointed by the mayor of Bridgeport to study the feasibility of purchasing the house from the estate and maintaining it with the help of Bridgeport civic organizations.

Mrs. Neil McIntyre of Smith Chapel near Bridgeport has led a battle to save the covered bridge that spans Simpson Creek near Bridgeport. The bridge will stand, the sycamore tree near it will stand, and Mrs. McIntyre is working now to keep the bridge open to traffic. Mrs. McIntyre has become so interested in covered bridges during the struggle to save the Simpson Creek bridge that she is working now to help people near the Rooting Creek Bridge to save it. The foundation of the Rooting Creek Bridge needs repair immediately. Mrs. McIntyre said when she spoke at the meeting of the Harrison County Historical Society on June 15 that she hoped to spend the remainder of her life saving for posterity the covered bridges of West Virginia. She is anxious that the authority for maintenance of covered bridges be moved from the Department of Public Highways to an agency for maintenance of historic sites.

Many of the log buildings within the enclosure at Fort New Salem, Exit Rt. 23 on Route 50, once stood as homes elsewhere in Harrison County. At the fort on July 4 blockhouse, inn, and store were draped in red, white, and blue bunting. In the afternoon what in pioneer days was called a "Ruckus" loudly proclaimed the 201st anniversary of the birth of the nation. At the fort, dedicated to furthering the culture of West Virginia through education, any citizen in the county may enroll for classes in fabric weaving, chair bottom weaving, basketry, and flower arranging.

THE COLLECTION

Accessions:

Mrs. Hamilton Smith (Caroline Jackson Needham Smith), Garden City, New York.

Loans: Portraits of James Madison Jackson, Caroline Virginia Moore Jackson and Meigs Jackson in oil.

Gifts: Haymond, Henry, History of Harrison County, 1st ed.

Vacuum Cleaner

Cream Whipper

Lighter for gas chandelier and wall fixtures

Photograph of the three "Moore girls": Caroline Virginia Moore Jackson (Mrs. James Madison Jackson);

Harriet Moore Goff (Mrs. Waldo Potter Goff); Delia Ann Moore Haymond (Mrs. Luther Haymond).

Charles S. Hornor, Parkersburg, West Virginia (Quotations are from Charles S. Hornor will).

"Gifts from Charles Scott Hornor and Betty H. Hornor"

Tilt top table

2 Ruby mantel lusters

4 Oriental rugs

"Descended to me from Louise Hutsinpillar"

Corner cupboard

Dining room table

Chest of drawers

"Grandfather Johnson clock"

Bed

Chest of drawers

"Descended to me from Betty H. Hornor"

6 Dining room chairs.

J. William Bonner

Gift: Scale model of engine used for pumping natural gas through pipe lines.

Belonged to Luther Ashcraft of McWhorter, W. Va.

SOCIETY BUSINESS

In order that the Society can stay within the \$3000 operating budget, the board of directors voted in May to drain the water pipes, to turn off the gas, and to close the Vance House during January and February 1978. This measure, if the winter is as cold as that of 1977, will save the Society approximately \$350. At the same meeting the board decided that because the preservation of Vance House is the prime concern of the Society, the trim on the outside of the house, last painted in 1971, will be painted in the summer of 1977. The board voted to raise the money for the painting through solicitation of members. Will you help by sending a donation to the Harrison County Historical Society, P. O. Box 2074, Clarksburg, W. Va. 26301?

We are publishing an itemized list of collections and expenditures for the year 1976-1977 to inform the membership. The assets of the Society, June 1, 1977, are \$1197.35 in check account; \$6430.21 (Book Fund, Tetrick legacy) in certificates of deposit; the Amy Roberts Vance House and the contents of the house.

Financial Report 1976-1977:

Collections:		Expenditures:	
Dues	\$1457.50	Utilities	\$ 700.37
Donations	181.50	Maintenance	1043.14
Note Paper & Books	373.23	Museum	197.00
Genealogical Dept.	40.41	Postage, News	124.92
Tour & Dinner	611.00	Tour & Dinner	570.69
Annual Dinner	396.00	Annual Dinner	403.23
	<u>\$ 3059.64</u>		<u>\$ 3039.35</u>

The membership of the Society is 256 represented by the following categories: Adult, 171; Student 2; Family 57; Institutional 5; Contributing 5; Life 14; Honorary 2.

CEMETERY MARKERS

The Harrison County Historical Society was given responsibility for spending \$700 allotted by the Harrison County Bicentennial Commission and \$25 donated by E. A. Payne to supply markers needed to identify burial sites in the Jackson Cemetery. A committee consisting of Dorothy Davis, Elizabeth Sloan, and Jack Sandy Anderson decided on legends for three separate markers and has ordered the stones.

VANCE HOUSE HOSTESSES

Hostesses at the Amy Roberts Vance House during June, July, August 1977 Monday through Saturday are Helen Ash, Florence Berisford, Frances Custer, Dorothy Davis, Audra Kincaid, Aileen Lucas, Madge McDaniel, Grace Martin, Gladys Merryman, Margaret Reed, Elizabeth Sloan, Frances Stout, and Nina Watson.

The Genealogical Department was open during the summer months for the use of members of the Historical Society. Mrs. Verna Shingleton and Miss Lucile Stryker answered genealogical questions by mail. Miss Elizabeth Sloan answered historical questions by mail.

HOSTESSES SEPTEMBER 1977 - MAY 1978

If you are willing to serve as a host or hostess at the Vance House on Saturday 2-4 p.m. from September 1977 through May 1978, please check and mail this form to Harrison County Historical Society, Post Office Box 2074, Clarksburg, West Virginia 26301.

Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1977	Jan	Feb.	Mar	Apr.	May	1978
3.....	1.....	5.....	3.....		7.....	4.....	4.....	1.....	6.....	
10.....	8.....	12.....	10.....		14.....	11.....	11.....	8.....	13.....	
17.....	15.....	19.....	17.....		21.....	18.....	18.....	15.....	20.....	
24.....	22.....	26.....	24.....		28.....	25.....	25.....	22.....	27.....	
	29.....		31.....					29.....		

Signature

Telephone

TOUR

Harrison County Historical Society

Tour of Bethany College, Bethany, West Virginia

CLOSING DATE FOR RESERVATIONS AND REFUNDS: Friday, September 9, 1977

Make check payable to Harrison County Historical Society

Mail this slip and check to: Harrison County Historical Society

Post Office Box 2074

Clarksburg, W. V. 26301

Number of reservations for Bus, Tour, and Dinner @ \$14.00

Amount of check enclosed

Signature_____