



A Closer look at Winton with the Winton Manor House Preservation Society

MISSION STATEMENT: The Winton Manor House Preservation Society seeks to interpret, maintain and preserve the historical buildings and cemetery on the Winton property and disseminate knowledge so future generations may remember and understand the past.

Winton is located at 599 Patrick Henry Hwy, Amherst, VA 24521

Presented in this issue are short histories of the 19th century owners and residents of the property. We encourage you to learn more about these amazing personalities as we can barely touch on them here.

John P. Samson

John P. Samson purchased Winton in 1839 from the Meredith family. Not much is known about John P. Samson. He is mentioned in a December 30, 1973 news article in the Lynchburg, Virginia newspaper The News, the National Register of Historical Places Inventory Nomination Form, and the Amherst County Deed Book Z, but all we presently know of Mr. Samson is that he purchased Winton in 1839 and then sold it four years later in 1843 to Edwin Matthews.

Edwin Matthews

Edwin Matthews was the Mayor of Lynchburg and purchased Winton from John P. Samson in 1843 and owned it until 1872. The Mayor never lived at Winton while he owned the home but descendants of the Meredith's and Garlands did. During this time period the Country was divided by the War Between the States. While many homes in Virginia were burned and looted by invading forces, Winton remained fairly unscathed. There is an oral tradition that while some Union soldiers approached Winton those in the home hid the silverware and some hams under the floor boards of the smokehouse from the pillagers. One of the small boys living at Winton approached the soldiers and asked them if they were looking for the hidden hams. The Union soldiers stated that they were and the small boy in his innocence showed them the hiding place. Local historian on this time period, Danny Bryant, was consulted concerning this event.

He said that he could tell us more if we knew what year this event happened but that isn't known.

Mr. Bryant said that after General Grant had dug in around Petersburg he released much of his Cavalry to roam Virginia up to the Charlottesville area, looting and harassing any locals they saw fit and to report any possible troop movements. These men wouldn't likely stay around for any serious looting or damage. It's possible that these are the soldiers that came to Winton. Dr. James Shepherd Pendleton Jr. and Lucy Ann Mill- Pendleton did not own Winton but also lived on the property during this time period. They had two children that rest in the family cemetery behind Winton, Robert Aldridge Coghill Pendleton and James Walter Pendleton. Mrs. Henson who later owned Winton lived at the home during this time.

Mr. and Mrs. Powatan Henson

Mr. and Mrs. Henson owned Winton from 1872 until 1907. The home was bought for them by Mrs. Henson's father, Mr. John W. Jennings. Mrs. Henson was present when the Union soldiers visited the home.

REFERENCES:

Sources for the above information are: National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, "Winton" by Greenwood H. Nowlin Jr., letter from Greenwood H. Nowlin Jr. to DAR member Ruth Blunt January 18, 1962, "Winton" Graveyard New Glasgow Amherst County (Clifford) by Maurice H. Garland – Civil Engineer with the assistance of Mrs. Mary G. Cabell, December 30 1973 news article in the Lynchburg, Virginia newspaper The News. Amherst County deed book Z

Upcoming WMHPS Events Calendar at Winton Manor

Tuesday Oct 18 Tour to Red Hill, Patrick Henry's Home, in Brookneal, VA.

Sunday October 30th Carts and Candy! - Come out to Winton from 4pm until 7pm to enjoy a fun Trick or Treat, Face Painting, Pumpkin Carving, and Hay Rides!

Sunday October 30th Winton Cemetery Tour - Learn about some of the historically important people that rest in peace at Winton from 4pm until 7pm.

Tuesday November 15 A local Girl Scout Troop will meet at Winton to create and construct Colonial Christmas Tree Decorations.

Sunday December 18th Serenity String Quartet and Colonial Christmas Tours – Cash Bar from 3:30pm until 4:00pm, Concert from 4:00pm until 5:30pm. During intermission from 4:40pm until 5:00pm Gingerbread and Cider will be served.- Baked goods and Winton memorabilia will be available for purchase – Tours of the Manor House will begin at 5:30pm - \$5 – WMHPS

Members, \$10 – Non Members . Please contact Gloria Stiltner gloriastiltner@gmail.com or cell (703)-431-8107 to pre-buy tickets. Tickets may be available at the door.

Board of Directors

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Restoration Projects: We are doing research and planning the refurbishing of the Sarah Henry Bedroom.

Donations: Two beautiful area rugs have been donated and placed in the Library and in the Parlor. In addition we have received a beautiful wall mirror and a wing chair. We are so grateful for these items. The WMHPS Board of Directors has approved the purchase of window shades for a number of the Manor House Windows to prevent further sun damage.

Working Together

Julie Wilson, Winton Events Coordinator, Ann Neff, Daughters of the American Revolution Regent and Gloria Stiltner, WMHPS President, put their hats together at a Tea Party Event to discuss promoting Winton Manor History.



WINTON MANOR HOUSE PRESERVATION SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Join us in preserving Winton Manor House and its historical grounds and outbuildings!

Your yearly renewable \$25 single person membership will be honored until June 30th 2017.
Winton Manor House Preservation Society historic lectures are free to members.

Simply fill out the form below, include your payment and mail it to Winton Manor House Preservation Society, 599 Patrick Henry Hwy, Amherst, VA 24521

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Phone number _____ Email _____

Would you be willing to volunteer at events or work projects? _____

Make checks payable to the Winton Manor House Preservation Society

Amount enclosed _____

What events would you like to see us host? _____

Note: All proceeds of memberships and events go to preserving Winton.

Your membership fee and any other donations are tax deductible. Winton Manor House Preservation Society is a 501(c) 3 organization.

Additional Contribution/Donation \$ _____

Winton - Where we embrace the future by learning from the past