

Key to the Past

STEWART BELL JR.
ARCHIVES

♦
Fall 2024



Hopewell Centre Meeting House in
Clearbrook, Frederick County,
Virginia

Date estimated as 1920

Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society
Collection, Stewart Bell Jr. Archives, Handley
Regional Library

From the Archivist

October is Archives Month!

Archives month is an opportunity for Archivists to talk about their work and the value of Archives.

This month, the Stewart Bell Jr. Archives will be celebrating Archives Month with a special Archives After Hours featuring a selection of my favorite items from our collections.

This includes items from one of our oldest collections, a letter from a lady sharpshooter in a Wild West Show, and other treasures from the vault.

The event takes place on Thursday, October 24th from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Space is limited and registration is required. Scan to register or call 540 662-5041 ext. 17.



You can also see us in person at the Family History Celebration at the FamilySearch Center at 399 Apple Pie Ridge on Saturday, October 26 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Visit our outreach table to speak with a staff member and learn more about our collections, services and programs.

Several other heritage organizations will have tables, and there will be classes and speakers.

Keep reading this issue to learn more about upcoming programs and a newly accessioned item documenting the history of the Society of Friends in Winchester and Frederick County.

Lorna Loring

Archives Manager

Events and Programs

Organizing Digital Photos with Tina Claflin

Saturday, October 19
10:30 am to 12:30 pm
Robinson Auditorium, Handley Library

Archives After Hours (Registration Required)

Thursday, October 24
5:30 pm to 6:30 pm
Archives Reading Room, Handley Library

How to Apply to Lineage Societies

Saturday, October 26
10:30 am to 12:00 pm
Benham Gallery, Handley Library

Author Talk: Prisoners of Congress: Philadelphia's Quakers in Exile with Ned Donoghue

Book signing to follow

Saturday, October 26
2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Robinson Auditorium, Handley Library

How to Apply to Lineage Societies

Saturday, November 2
10:30 am to 12:00 pm
Benham Gallery, Handley Library

Family History Hunters

Thursday, December 14
12:30 pm to 1:30 pm
Benham Gallery, Handley Library

How to Apply to Lineage Societies

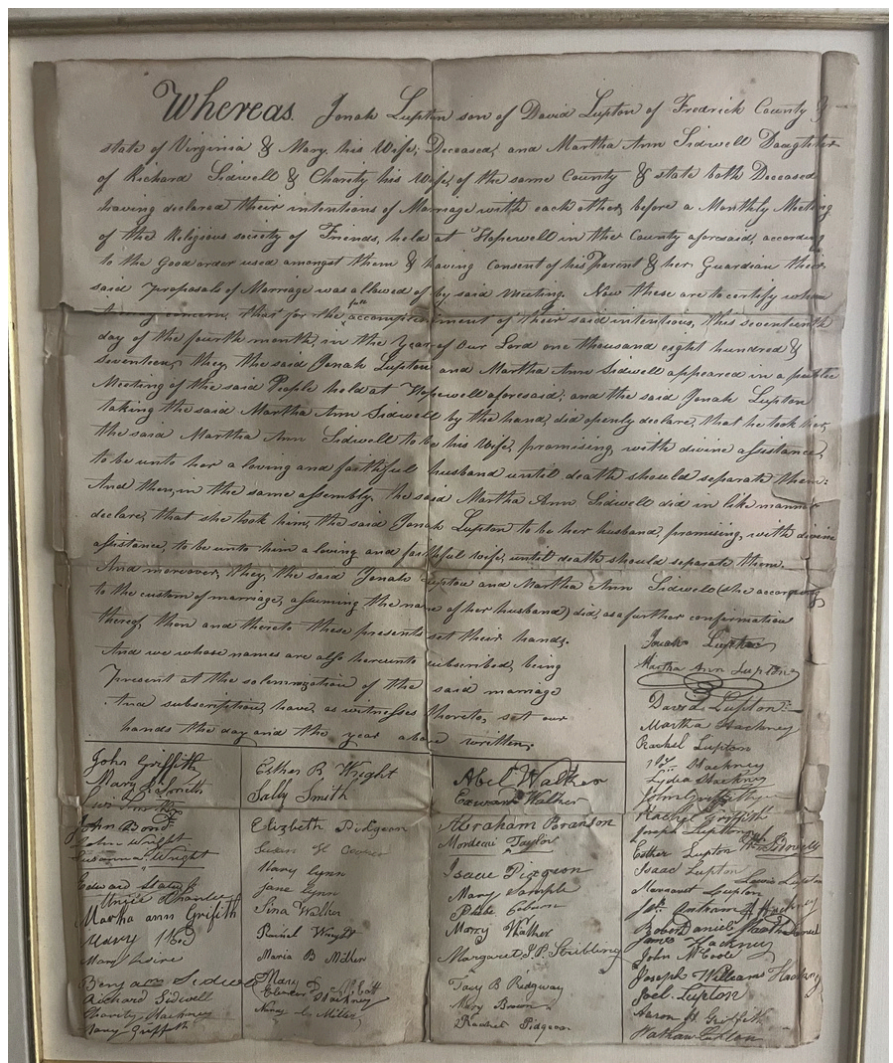
Saturday, December 14
10:30 am to 12:00 pm
Benham Gallery, Handley Library

Collection Highlights: Marriage Certificate of Jonah Lupton and Martha Ann Sidwell

Jonah and Martha were members of the Religious Society of Friends at the Hopewell Meeting House. They were married on April 17, 1817.

The document records the wedding promises, with each stating their intention to be "loving and faithful...until death should separate them." Following Quaker tradition, there were no clergy to officiate meetings and ceremonies. Instead, the marriage is witnessed by members of the congregation, all of whom then signed the bottom of the certificate.

These marriage certificates were often hung prominently in the couple's home following the wedding. Treasured as they were by the couple, and subsequent generations, it is not uncommon to find them still part of a family's personal belongings. We are grateful to the owner of this document for allowing us to make a digital copy for the use of researchers.



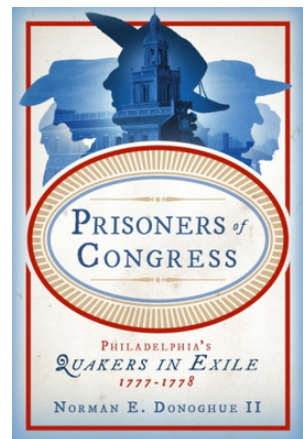
Hopewell Meeting House was established in 1734 by Quakers moving to the Shenandoah Valley from Pennsylvania, many from Hopewell in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, hence the name. About 70 families, led by Alexander Ross and Morgan Bryan, would settle in Frederick County on land granted by Virginia's governor. The Quaker community established a strong presence in the Valley, with many generations becoming orchardists, farmers, artisans, and business owners. The Hopewell Meeting has been in continuous use since its founding although it is now known as the Hopewell Centre Meeting.



Author Talk With Norman Donoghue

Quakers in Exile

October 26 -2:00pm
Robinson Auditorium
Handley Library





Have You Ever Wanted to Join a Lineage Society?

Saturday, October 26, November 2, and December 14
10:30 am to 12:00 pm
Benham Gallery, Handley Library

The Daughters of the American Revolution, the Mayflower Society, and the Jamestown Society are just a few of the many lineage organizations open to people with qualified descendants.

If you have ever wanted to join one of these societies but don't know where to begin, join us for a monthly meeting with Kat Collins.

Kat can help you understand what kind of proofs you need to establish lineage and the requirements for each organization. Meetings are free and no registration is required.

Practical Advice on Managing and Preserving Digital Photos

Saturday, October 19
10:30 am to 12:30 pm
Robinson Auditorium, Handley Library

It has become so easy to take pictures with our phones and digital cameras, that we very quickly amass dozens if not hundreds of images. How do we ensure that these photographs are saved for the future?

Tina Claflin has many years of experience helping people sort, catalog, and save their personal photos. In this presentation, she will provide strategies for creating a reliable system for backing up image files and ensuring that your cherished memories are protected and organized.

This event is free to the public. No registration required.



Contact

Tel.: (540) 662-9041, ext. 17
 Email: archives@handleyregional.org
 Website: www.handleyregional.org/archives

Reading Room Hours

Monday - Tuesday: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
 Wednesday: 10:00 am to 8:00 pm
 Thursday - Saturday: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Please note that we close for lunch daily from 12:30 pm to 1:15 pm

Location

Lower Level, Handley Library
 100 W. Piccadilly Street
 Winchester, Virginia 22601

The Stewart Bell Jr. Archives is a local history and genealogy center jointly operated by the Handley Regional Library and the Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society. Our holdings include a variety of materials documenting the history of the Lower Shenandoah Valley from 1732 to the present, with an emphasis on the City of Winchester and Frederick County, Virginia.

**VISIT OUR
OUTREACH TABLE
AT THE**

Family History Celebration

CONNECTING GENERATIONS • CELEBRATING HERITAGE

Stuart Scott



Stuart Scott from Richmond, VA. He is an avid family historian and will discuss the why, how, and when of family history and genealogy research.

Barry Lee



Barry Lee, a 37 year retired radio show host for WNCN-FM, will share his personal experience with FamilySearch.

Come Join Us

FamilySearch Center
Saturday October 26, 2024
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

399 Apple Pie Ridge Road
Winchester, VA 22603

Admission is free

For more information contact
Michael Gonzales (817) 726-3083

Celebrate your heritage by attending! Learn about different technologies that will aide you in your family history adventure. Be inspired by cultural music, dance, food, and stories as you connect with other family history lovers!

Classes & Demonstrations

- FamilySearch.org
- National Archives & Military Records
- Colorizing Black and White Photos with My Heritage program
- Roots Tech Online Training
- The Future of AI in Genealogical Research

Family Fun

- Cultural Food Tasting
 - Try some prepared dishes and grab a recipe to do at home
- Download Family Tree app and find relatives in real time using "Relatives Around Me"
- Family Photo
 - Document your moment and ask how to put it in FamilySearch Memories
- Story Time
 - Listen to real stories from the past
- Family History Scavenger Hunt