

WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF AMERICAN LEGENDS

During The Victorian Society in America Fall Study Tour

LYNCHBURG, APPOMATTOX & BEDFORD IN "SOUTHSIDE" VIRGINIA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11 - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2012

This study tour will examine an area of Southside Virginia that blossomed during the 19th and early 20th centuries with bustling industries such as tobacco, iron and steel and railroads. The thriving economy produced some wonderful architecture that survives from various periods throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries.

The tour will include a look at the impact that the Civil War had on the region with a number of sites associated with the war, including a house in Bedford that was used by Union General David Hunter as his headquarters, Appomattox Court House, where the surrender of General Robert E. Lee to General U.S. Grant took place in April of 1865, and the new Museum of the Confederacy in Appomattox which opened March 31, 2012.

First settled in 1757, Lynchburg was named for its founder, John Lynch, who operated a ferry service across the James River. He was also responsible for Lynchburg's first bridge across the river, which replaced the ferry in 1812. This "City of Seven Hills" quickly developed along the hills surrounding Lynch's Ferry.

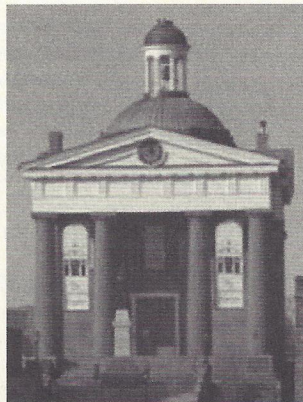
These new easy means of transportation routed traffic through Lynchburg, and allowed it to become a major center of commerce for tobacco trading. In 1810, Jefferson wrote, "*Lynchburg is perhaps the most rising place in the U.S.... It ranks now next to Richmond in importance...*" Lynchburg became a leading center of commerce and manufacturing and by the 1850s was one of the richest towns per capita in the United States. The principal industries were tobacco, iron, steel and textiles.

Transportation facilities included the James River Bateau on the James River, the James River and Kanawha Canal, and four railroads, including the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad and the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad.

During the Civil War, Lynchburg, which served as a Confederate supply base, was approached within one mile by the Union forces of General David Hunter as he drove south from the Shenandoah Valley. Under the false impression that the Confederate forces stationed in Lynchburg were much larger than anticipated, Hunter was repelled by the Confederate forces on June 18, 1864, in the Battle of Lynchburg. To create the false impression, a train was continuously run up and down the tracks while the citizens of Lynchburg cheered as if reinforcements were unloading. Local prostitutes took part in the deception, misinforming their Union clients of the large number of Confederate reinforcements. The war ended the following year at nearby Appomattox.

Following the War, Lynchburg's economy evolved into manufacturing (sometimes referred to as the "Pittsburgh of the South") and again the community became one of the wealthiest per capita in the United States.

Like Lynchburg, the tobacco industry fueled the economy of neighboring Appomattox and Bedford. These vast fortunes allowed the construction of beautiful homes and public buildings, many of which will be seen on this tour.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11

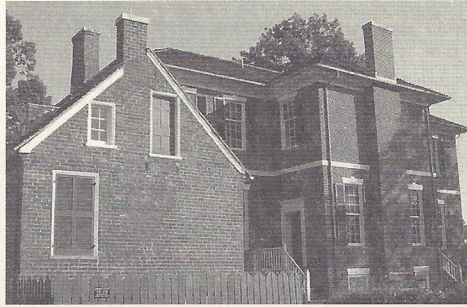
For those arriving early, there are many antique shops, art galleries and other interesting shops, cafes and restaurants to see within an easy walking distance of the hotel. Information about places to see will be available at registration.

- *All day VSA Board and committee meetings at The Craddock-Terry Hotel*
- *6 p.m opening reception with speaker (Sergei Troubetzkoy, Historian) at the Craddock-Terry Hotel*
- *Dinner on your own in one of the many fine restaurants within walking distance of the hotel*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12 • LYNCHBURG

• Complimentary breakfast on your own at the Craddock-Terry Hotel • Lunch and Dinner included

Our motorcoach will leave the Craddock-Terry hotel for a guided tour. We will first visit the **Lynchburg City Museum**. Housed in the historic former Courthouse (1850s), this museum provides a great overview of Lynchburg. Next we will visit the **Court Street United Methodist Church**, completed in 1902. The exterior is Romanesque revival in style and the interior is Roman Corinthian, based on the Roman Baths of Caracalla. The architect was Edward G. Frye, a leading Lynchburg architect. This will be followed by a visit to **St. Paul's Episcopal Church** (completed 1895). Frank Miles Day of Philadelphia was the architect of this Richardsonian Romanesque style church. The design of this building was published in the January 10, 1891 of *American Artist & Building News*. Our next stop will be **Point of Honor**. Completed in 1815 by Dr. George Cabell, Sr., this sophisticated Federal style mansion features matched polygonal bays, seven rooms, and Flemish-bond brick construction. *Point of Honor* was the antebellum home of Col. John S. Langhorne whose daughter Elizabeth Langhorne Lewis led the fight for women's suffrage. His



granddaughters include Mrs. Charles Dana Gibson, the original "Gibson Girl" and Nancy, Lady Astor, the first woman elected to the British Parliament. Nancy Perkins Lancaster, the famed interior designer, was his great granddaughter. Following this visit we will travel to the **Carriage House Inn**, where we will tour the house and enjoy a catered box lunch.

Following lunch we will drive through **Rivermont Avenue** to view extraordinary late 19th and early 20th century mansions. We will be visiting the **Anne Spencer House and Gardens**. Built in 1903, this was the home of Harlem Renaissance poet Anne Bethel Spencer who regularly extended her hospitality to friends, neighbors, and visitors ranging from George Washington Carver to Martin Luther King, Jr. Our motorcoach tour will then proceed through the **Garland Hill and Diamond Hill Historic Districts** before returning to the hotel to rest and refresh before dinner at the hotel.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1 • BEDFORD

• Complimentary breakfast on your own at the Craddock-Terry Hotel
• Lunch and Dinner included

Our motorcoach tour begins with a visit to **Otterburn**, a Palladian-influenced Greek Revival house in Bedford that was built in 1828 for Benjamin A. and Sally Camm McDonald. The house burned in 1841 and was reconstructed by 1843. At this time the final form of the house was created with the introduction of a loggia, cross-gable roof and Greek Revival detailing. The house was the seat of a 1,651-acre estate by 1825, with a mill, sawmill, and dependent structures. This is a private residence undergoing restoration by the present owners. We will then tour the **Bedford Museum**, housed in a Romanesque revival style building built in 1895 as a Masonic Lodge, and will have a brief free time to explore the surrounding historic district's antique shops, art galleries & cafes. We will then board the motorcoach for a catered lunch at **historic Avenel** (circa 1838) an imposing Greek Revival style house built for William H. Burwell. It was named for the spirit in Sir Walter Scott's novel, *The Monastery*. Burwell was a prominent lawyer and member of the Virginia House of Delegates during the 1840s and '50s. Originally part of a 200-acre plantation on what was then the outskirts of the town, *Avenel* has served as the centerpiece in the social, cultural and political life of Bedford for over 150 years. Union General David Hunter used this house as his headquarters when he came through Bedford on his way to Lynchburg in June of 1864. The house has played host to many distinguished visitors including General Robert E. Lee and Edgar Allan Poe, who was a classmate of William Burwell at the University of Virginia. Following a visit to **several private homes** in the neighborhood we will board the motorcoach for **Poplar Forest**, designed and built by Thomas Jefferson as his private retreat. Construction of "Poplar Forest" began in 1806 while Jefferson was President, and it was perhaps the first octagonal house built in America. He had inherited the land from his wife's family along with the

name "Poplar Forest." Five poplar trees survive from Jefferson's lifetime. In 1806, Jefferson traveled from Washington to supervise the laying of the foundation for the house, and when his presidency ended in 1809 he visited the retreat three to four times a year, staying from two weeks to two months at a time. His visits often coincided with the seasonal responsibilities of the working plantation. He also oversaw the ornamentation of the house and grounds, and the planting of his vegetable garden. Family members, usually grandchildren, often joined Jefferson. Jefferson made his last trip to *Poplar Forest* in 1823 when he settled his grandson, Francis Eppes, on the property. Ill health prevented further visits. In 1828, two years after Jefferson's death at age 83, Eppes sold *Poplar Forest* to a neighbor.

The design of *Poplar Forest* is highly idealistic in concept with only a few concessions to practicality – it was so perfectly suited to Jefferson alone that subsequent owners found it difficult to inhabit and altered it to suit their needs. Included as part of the original design - a pair of octagonal privies with domes! In 1845, a fire led the family then living at *Poplar Forest* to convert Jefferson's villa into a practical farmhouse. The property was privately owned until December 1983 when a nonprofit corporation began the rescue of the landmark for future generations. Visitors today see the house as preservation, reconstruction and restoration work are in progress. The house is undergoing a careful restoration. The exterior restoration is complete and work proceeds on the interior and on Jefferson's landscape design.

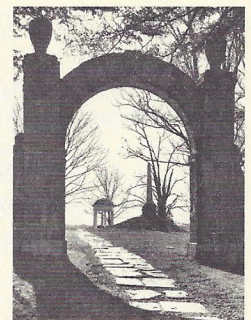
Following our visit to *Poplar Forest* we will visit **Sweet Briar Mansion**, an extraordinary antebellum mansion which currently serves as home for the president of Sweet Briar College. It was built during the first quarter of the 19th century, but was extensively enlarged and remodeled in 1851 by Elijah Fletcher, the owner and publisher of *The Virginian*, a Whig newspaper in nearby Lynchburg. It is one of Virginia's finest surviving examples of an Italian Villa style house. Following our return to the hotel we will have time to rest and refresh before a **progressive dinner in 3 private homes**.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14 • APPOMATTOX & LYNCHBURG

• Complimentary breakfast on your own at the Craddock-Terry Hotel • Lunch included

We will board our motorcoach for a visit to **Appomattox Court House**, site of the surrender of April 9, 1865 which ended the Civil War. We will then tour the **Museum of the Confederacy – Appomattox**. This museum opened March 31 of this year as a branch of the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond. This inter-active museum includes Lee's uniform and ceremonial sword that he had with him during the surrender. We will then leave for lunch at the **Babcock House** in the **Town of Appomattox**. Following lunch we will return to Lynchburg, where we will tour **Old City Cemetery**. Old City Cemetery was developed on land donated to the City of Lynchburg by city founder John Lynch in 1806. It has been estimated that over 90% of Lynchburg's enslaved and free African American population are buried in the Old City Cemetery, the primary burial site for African Americans from 1806 to 1865. In fact, at that time it was the only burial ground, excluding private family graveyards, available to African Americans in the area. 75% of the burials in the cemetery are African American. The cemetery's Confederate section contains the graves of over 2,200 soldiers from 14 states. It also contains a remarkable collection of heirloom roses.

We will return to our hotel at approximately 4:00 p.m.



GETTING THERE

By Train: Amtrak has two trains daily that come into Lynchburg...the Northeast Regional and The Crescent. Both serve the northeast including DC, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Trenton, NYC, New Haven, Boston and points in-between. The Northeast Regional originates in Lynchburg and goes north to Boston. The Crescent has essentially the same route except that it continues south to Atlanta and on to New Orleans. Taxis are always available at the Amtrak station.

By Plane: Currently only U.S. Air serves Lynchburg Airport (via Charlotte). Another option would be flying into Roanoke - which is served by US Air, Air Canada, Delta and United - and taking a rented car to Lynchburg or taking a taxi to downtown Roanoke's Civic Center Lot C and catching the Smart Way bus to Lynchburg www.smartwaybus.com

By Car: There are no interstates that come directly into Lynchburg, but Route 29 and Route 460 are both major roads coming into Lynchburg that connect with interstates. Route 29 runs North-South and connects to I-66 out of Washington, DC and I-64, which connects Virginia Beach / Norfolk / Richmond & Charlottesville in the east. Those coming from the south would take Route 460 to Route 29.

EATING OUT

Our hotel restaurant is excellent and there are several fine restaurants within walking distance from the hotel.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Our headquarters hotel is the **Craddock Terry Hotel**, 1312 Commerce Street, Lynchburg, VA, where we have secured a block of rooms at a special rate of \$139 single or double occupancy. This hotel was once a turn of the 20th century shoe factory but is now a boutique hotel blending urban architecture with modern amenities. Continental breakfast is included and is delivered to your room. For reservations call 1-434-455-1500 and be sure to mention that you are a member of the Victorian Society in America group. These rooms will be held for us exclusively until Monday, September 10, 2012. After this date the discounted rate may no longer be available and the rooms will be subject to availability.

MAKING RESERVATIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE HOTEL ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AND AT YOUR EXPENSE. THE SOCIETY'S ONLY ROLE IS TO SECURE THE DISCOUNTED GROUP RATE.

DRESS

The October weather will be temperate and light layered clothing and comfortable walking shoes are suggested.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration can be made via check (preferable), credit card or money order. Checks should be made payable to The Victorian Society in America. The Victorian Society in America is not responsible for accidents, injury or loss of personal items during this program. The Victorian Society in America reserves the right to make such changes to the schedule, sites to be visited, or personnel as may become necessary or desirable. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. **As this mailing has been sent via first class mail, reservations will be taken immediately.**

RESERVE EARLY AS SPACE IS LIMITED. Phone or fax reservations will ONLY be taken with a credit card payment at the time of reservation. Send your fax reservations to 215-636-9873. Registration can be made via check, money order, or credit card (VISA, MASTERCARD, or DISCOVER only). Checks should be made payable to the Victorian Society in America. Please note that we do NOT take American Express.

The Victorian Society reserves the right to alter the schedule of events or cancel events should it become necessary.

Refunds will only be given until September 11, 2012. A \$50.00 administrative fee will be deducted for each refund. **After September 11 no refunds of any kind will be given.** If you think that there is a chance that you will need to withdraw from this trip after you have paid you may wish to consider buying trip insurance. Trip insurance protects you against unforeseen need to cancel a trip. Trip insurance can cover the VSA fee and your airfare and hotel costs. There are many providers of this kind of insurance: one place to start looking is www.insuremytrip.com, 800-487-4722. The VSA is providing this information purely as a service to you: we do not receive any compensation from any insurance organization.

FALL STUDY TOUR

	COST	NO.OF PEOPLE	=	TOTAL
Registration Fee	\$25	_____	=	_____
Study Tour	\$560	_____	=	_____
Membership in the VSA (if not already a member)	\$55 individual	_____	=	_____
<i>Non-members wishing to attend the Study Tour must join the Victorian Society in America</i>	\$65 household	_____	=	_____
	TOTAL REGISTRATION AMOUNT		=	\$ _____

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ made payable to the Victorian Society in America

Please charge my credit card # _____ Expires _____ Security Code _____

Please note that we do NOT take American Express

Signature _____

Name _____

Additional Participant _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (day) _____ Phone (evening) _____

Email address _____

Please mail the completed form with your payment to:

The Victorian Society in America
1636 Sansom Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103