



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Huntington District

Castle Comments

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Archeological survey to reveal original state

Corps to take home back in time

By ELIZABETH SLAGEL
Public Affairs

How to restore the Jenkins house is the million dollar question and could cost more than that depending on the agreed plan to turn the 19th century plantation into a model of what it once was.

The Corps of Engineers continues to work with state and local interests on a plan for preserving the pre-Civil War home under legislation passed through the Water Resources and Development Act of 2000 sponsored by Rep. Nick Rahall D-W.Va.

With federal money to restore the 170-year-old home, the big question is, restore it to what period? Corps Archeologist Dr. Bob Maslowski said local historians interested in the project say it should be restored to the pre-Civil War date of 1850. "These plantations were continually going

through restructure so it is hard to tell what the structures were." The original state would include slave quarters, barns, outhouses and possibly an office.

The house, a two story brick Georgian Federalist style built in 1835, only reveals a glimpse of the original homestead of Confederate Gen. Albert Jenkins. Any amateur eye can easily spot the modernizations; painted over brick, addition to home, electric and running water.

But for historians and preservationists interested in making the home a historical attraction, much more is involved. That is where the Corps contractor, Cultural Resources Analysts from Hurricane, W.Va. comes in, the contractor that surveyed the Marmet expansion site.

The contractor is trying to determine what exactly the plantation was like in its heyday.

S o p h i s t i c a t e d equipment and the trained eye can locate spots where structures once stood. Maslowski said there are other signs to follow. The contractor examined the area and noticed some brown grass in square shapes. This simple clue can indicate a stone foundation below the earth.

From there Maslowski and the contractor mapped out a plan for the

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Inside this Issue

- ID badges are mandatory, but employees are finding all kinds of ways to make them a colorful part of their apparel. Page 5 features creative Corps badges.



- Sutton Lake campers are taking home more than the usual case of poison ivy or mosquito bites these days. A new pest poses a much bigger problem if not controlled. Page 6 features a proactive approach to slowing the spread of the destructive Gypsy Moth.

- A ranger recalls a chance meeting with a man on the brink of a violent attack. See article page 8.



Photo by Wayne Budrus

Two employees for Cultural Resources Analysts carefully sift through surrounding soil. They are looking for pieces of glass, pottery or clues as to the age of the structures found below.

Huntington District People

Congratulations

• To Shea Berry, daughter of Shawn Berry and granddaughter of former Chief of Real Estate Don Thompson, for helping her basketball team, the West Virginia Thunder to take fifth place in the 12-year-old AAU National Championships. The tournament was held in Amarillo, Texas June 28 through July 6. The West Virginia Thunder is a member of the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU). Berry played for the Thunder basketball team for the past three years. The Thunder won the state championship each of those three years. In the 2000 National Championships, the Thunder came in ninth place and thirteenth place last year in New Orleans. Berry is from Proctorville, Ohio.

New Arrival

• Congratulations to David Karickhoff on the birth of his grandson David Albert Chromka July 21. The baby weighed 8 pounds and 1 ounce.

• Congratulations to Natalie and Brenden McKinley on the birth of their son, Colin Andrew, born May 16 weighing 8 pounds and 14 ounces and measuring 21 inches.



• Congratulations to Sean Carter and his wife Lisa on their birth of their baby girl Amelia Rose July 10. She weighed 7 pounds and 15 ounces.

House restoration

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areas to be surveyed using a fluxgate gradiometer and earth conductivity meter to detect buried surfaces. "We took out two different types of units. One to detect the presence of metals and firing; the other detects stone and bricks."

The findings are expected late this month, which will give the Corps and its customers a start in determining how to restore the home.

Project Manager Wayne Budrus said the Corps is spending \$150,000 for the archeological work and will develop another contract this fall to analyze the findings. The Corps is working closely with the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, the Greenbottom Society,

the NAACP (since there were slaves on the plantation) and the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources on the proposed restoration.

The Jenkins house is surrounded by mitigated Greenbottom swampland from the Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam project. The Corps acquired the property in 1988. Since then it has been leased out to the DNR and the Division of Cultural and History.

Once the restoration is complete, it will be turned over to the Division of Culture and History for operations and maintenance, Budrus said.



Photo by Wayne Budrus

Contract employee William Updike discusses parts of the outdoor kitchen to (from left) Stan Bumgardner, assistant director of state museum, Nancy Herholdt, commissioner of Division of Culture and History and Stuart McGehee, Chairman of History Department at West Virginia State College during an onsite meeting July 23.

Department of the Army
Huntington Dist. Corps of Engrs
502 Eighth Street
Huntington WV, 25701-2070

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