

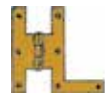
LYLE-SIMPSON PRESERVATION FUND

Arthur Bartenstein



This late-1800s frame house in Brownsburg was preserved and, in 2009, became the Brownsburg Museum.

On the 50th anniversary of its founding, Historic Lexington Foundation (HLF) announces the establishment of the Lyle-Simpson Preservation Fund. The fund encourages property owners to preserve architecturally and historically significant sites, structures and objects in Rockbridge County, Virginia, including the cities of Lexington and Buena Vista.



Historic Lexington Foundation

The fund honors the contributions in preservation made by Royster Lyle and Pamela Simpson, both of whom played seminal roles in HLF.

Every year, historic structures are lost in Rockbridge County and elsewhere in Virginia for lack of repair and basic maintenance. Often the owners of such properties just do not have the financial wherewithal to protect those properties. Once they are gone, localities lose important reminders of the past and connections with architectural styles and people so important to the history of the locality. With this in mind, HLF has established a grant program to help property owners with their preservation needs.

To be eligible for a grant, the property must be significant architecturally, historically, or socially to the Rockbridge County area. The sponsor must demonstrate the project's feasibility and an ability to implement it — along with reasonable assurances that repair and preservation will be maintained in the future.

As such preservation projects are important to the community at-large, HLF encourages other contributions, which might include material and labor, in addition to financial assistance. Applicants are also expected to contribute to the project. More information and application forms may be found on the HLF website at www.historiclexington.org or by calling the HLF office at 540-463-6832.

HLF is accepting tax deductible donations to the Preservation Fund. You can help to make this fund a long-term reality and help us to preserve the irreplaceable historic structures of Rockbridge County.

If you own or know of an important historic Rockbridge structure at risk, let us know. Please share the history and architectural construction of the structure, together with photos, a brief description of the restoration needs, and an address and directions to the at-risk structure.

Send your donations or information on an at-risk structure to HLF at P.O. Box 901, Lexington, Virginia 24450.



Washington and Lee University, 2006



Lexington News-Gazette, 1970

LOST HISTORIC ROCKBRIDGE STRUCTURES

STONE DISTILLERY, ca. 1800



Rockbridge Historical Society / Washington and Lee University

The Stillhouse at Willson Farm, also called Tuckaway, has now been completely demolished.

ENDANGERED HISTORIC ROCKBRIDGE STRUCTURES

HAMILTON SCHOOL, ca. 1823



The Hamilton School, listed on the National Register, is one of the last old log field schools built before the Civil War in Virginia. Built by the community on land conveyed by Robert Hamilton, the log structure also served as a church.

ANTEBELLUM STONE MILL



Rockbridge Historical Society / Washington and Lee University

The Buffalo Forge Mill was an integral part of William Weaver's 19th-century industrial enterprises. This photo was taken by William Hoyt in 1935, before the mill's significant deterioration.

HAYS CREEK MILL, ca. 1819



Arthur Bartenstein

Also known as Steele's Mill for William Steele, who owned the property in 1819, this structure is typical of stone and timber construction used in industrial buildings in rural Rockbridge County. It is also included in the National Register.