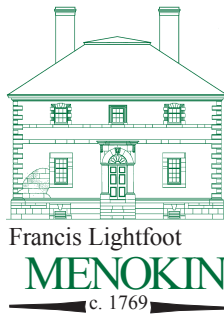


MENOKIN



A FIELD

A periodic newsletter chronicling the preservation of Menokin Plantation.

WE'RE BUILDING AGAIN!

The Menokin Foundation Board is proud of the Martin Kirwan King Conservation and Visitors Center, and it is a delight to walk into the Conference Room/Library and view the magnificent reassembled original chimneypiece from the Menokin manor house's best chamber. But in the adjacent conservation room some 1000 "pieces" of Menokin's original historic woodwork are waiting to be reassembled, and we are out of room.

With assistance from a 2005-06 grant from the Commonwealth of Virginia and from a private foundation, the Menokin Board of Trustees plans to build a storage building and additional assembly area on the south side of the King Center. It will be the second building of the Menokin "campus" and will hold, not only the historic interior woodwork, but the artifacts and structural timbers and material extracted from the cellars of the Menokin ruin.

Designed by landscape architect Will Rieley, and assisted by builder Herb Mulqueen, the 3000 square foot structure will feature a large clerestory area where the Foundation may one day reassemble the beautiful Menokin house interior staircase.

"This building will be on the tour for our visitors," said Menokin's president, Helen Turner Murphy. "We will have exhibits there, and 'visible' storage. We're delighted to be able to construct the facility this year."



Image of the Menokin storage and assembly building

Summer 2005

RUIN CONSERVATION

The Menokin Foundation is preparing to work on Phase II of the Menokin ruin project. This phase addresses the need to stabilize and re-position some existing walls, and to begin the extraction of artifacts and structural materials from the southwest quadrant of the ruin. The project is made possible with the assistance of a grant from a private foundation.



Annapolis conservator John Lee presents a seminar on masonry stabilization and conservation at the King Center

Phase I, conducted in 2003-4, with the assistance of a Save America's Treasures grant from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, concentrated on the southeast quadrant of the Menokin ruin. Led by a team assembled by John Milner Associates, the project included a laser scan of the entire ruin, the extraction of fallen structural material from the southwest quadrant of the ruin, and its identification and recordation into a site management database.

The foundation is eager to proceed with the next stage and looks forward to completion of Phase II this year. We hope to complete extraction of materials from all quadrants and to re-establish the foundation walls of the manor house by 2007.

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT MENOKIN

August is a month for changes at Menokin. Menokin's first full time executive director, Doris Lackey, is retiring. She and her husband will move to Charlottesville, Virginia at the end of the month. Doris Lackey has served as executive director since January 2003 when she came to the foundation to help manage and implement Menokin's Save America's Treasures grant.

"We will certainly miss her," said Menokin president Helen Turner Murphy. "She has guided us through an eventful and significant time in the development of Menokin, including the transition from a drafty trailer-office with no water, to the King Center, where we welcome visitors, produce exhibits, and conduct programs."

Mrs. Lackey will be succeeded in the position of executive director by Sarah Dillard Pope. "We are delighted about Sarah," Mrs. Murphy said. "She is experienced in the field of preservation, and she has roots in this area. Menokin is like coming home for her." Mrs. Pope grew up in Essex County across the Rappahannock River from Menokin. Essex County was once a part of Richmond County, which is home to the Menokin site.

Sarah Pope has her BA in Fine Arts and Art History from the College of William and Mary, and her master's in Historic Preservation from the University of Georgia. She comes to Menokin from her position as a planner with the Virginia Main Street Program in Richmond, Virginia. Previously she worked for the National Park Service in Washington, D.C., in its division of the National Register of Historic Places. Sarah Pope arrives at Menokin on August 22.