



The Compton-Bateman House, Roanoke

VIRGINIA'S MOST **ENDANGERED** HISTORIC SITES

2013

For the ninth consecutive year, Preservation Virginia presents a list of Virginia's Most Endangered Historic Sites to raise awareness of places that face imminent or sustained threats to their integrity, or, in some cases, their very survival. This listing is intended to bring attention to the threats described and to encourage individuals and organizations to continue to advocate for and come to reasonable solutions for the protection and preservation of Virginia's historic places.

On the following pages are the 2013 most endangered sites in Virginia. There is a brief description of each site as well as the particular threat it faces and Preservation Virginia's proposed recommendation to counter each challenge.

Individual and community support are integral to rescuing each endangered site. Saving each site starts with identifying the challenge and bringing resources to resolve the issues. Help us find solutions to these endangered sites by getting involved.

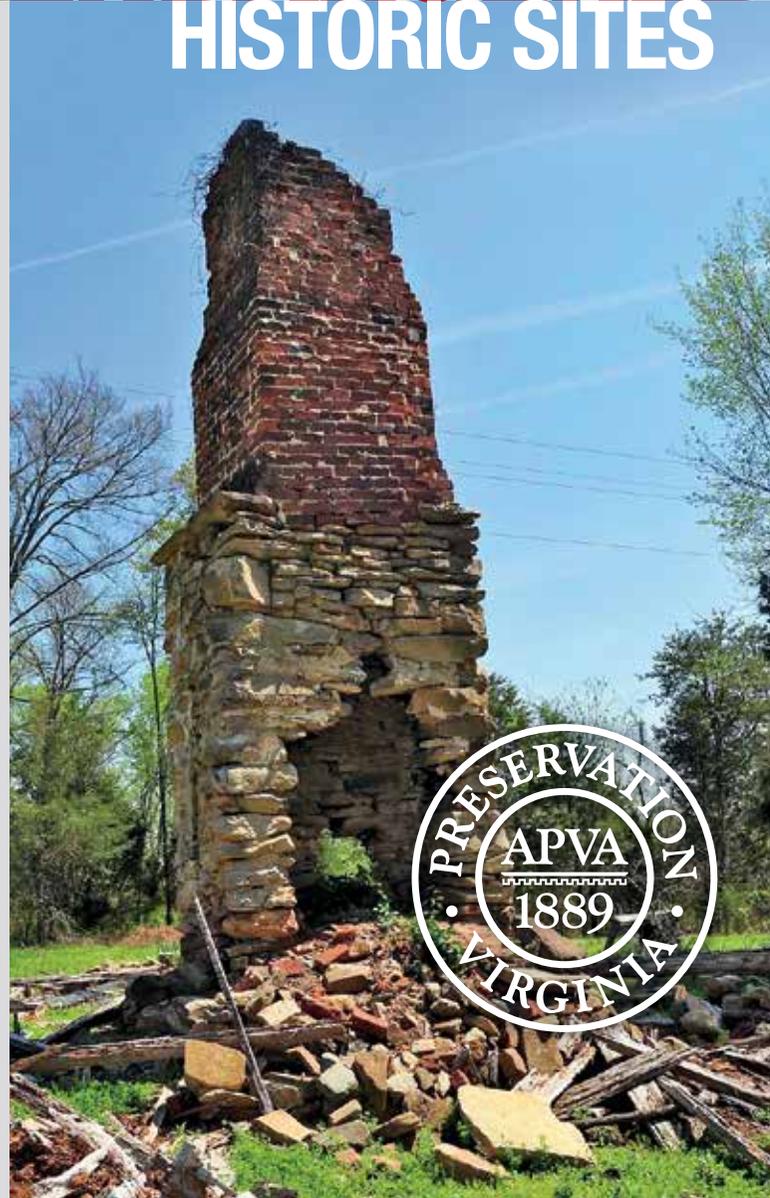


To learn what you can do to help save these important places, contact Justin Sarafin at (804) 648-1889, ext. 317, or jsarafin@preservationvirginia.org

In addition to spreading the word and getting involved, another excellent way to show your support and save these endangered places is by making a meaningful gift. Each contribution directly supports Preservation Virginia's work with the Virginia's Most Endangered Sites Listing program.

DONATE TODAY

Help Preservation Virginia save these endangered places. Visit www.preservationvirginia.org/give or contact Betsy Edwards at (804) 648-1889, ext. 311, or bedwards@preservationvirginia.org.



ENDANGERED



Rosenwald Clover School, Halifax County
COVER: The Fearn Site, Danville

THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

ARLINGTON — The Arlington National Cemetery Cultural Landscape is the final resting place for thousands who performed military service.



THREAT: The planned 27-acre Millennium Project expansion threatens to disrupt the cemetery's significant surroundings and destroy a 12-acre section of Arlington House Woods including old growth hardwood forest and a historic boundary wall.

RECOMMENDATION: We urge the Army Corps of Engineers to revisit the Environmental Assessment and to pursue an expansion of an already identified alternative. This alternative could increase the number of new burial spaces beyond those suggested in the current plan as well as respect the historical significance of Arlington Woods and protect its historic landscape.

THE LURAY GRADED AND HIGH SCHOOL

LURAY — Since 1881, the Luray Graded and High School served as a prominent fixture of downtown Luray.

THREAT: Page County is presently constructing a new office complex on an adjacent lot and proposes to demolish this two-story brick landmark for a paved parking lot.

RECOMMENDATION: We ask Page County to explore re-use alternatives, rather than demolition, and seek alternative parking locations.



THE EDITH BOLLING WILSON BIRTHPLACE FOUNDATION & MUSEUM

WYTHEVILLE — The Edith Bolling Wilson Birthplace Foundation & Museum commemorates one of the most influential First Ladies of the 20th century.



THREAT: The building is in need of immediate repair to address moisture intrusion and deteriorating masonry.

RECOMMENDATION: We encourage the Foundation's efforts to replace the leaking roof, stabilize the building's foundation, and undertake interior repairs.

THE COMPTON-BATEMAN HOUSE

ROANOKE — Constructed in 1835, the Compton-Bateman House is one of the few remaining antebellum houses in Roanoke. It features distinctive Greek Revival Doric pilasters and columns supporting a two-story front portico. The house and its surroundings were formerly used by the city as a public park and recreation center.

THREAT: The house, badly damaged by fire in 2011 and left open to the elements, will not survive much longer without immediate attention.

RECOMMENDATION: We urge the City of Roanoke to proceed with immediate stabilization efforts. Grass-roots efforts may help stabilize and keep the house active while the city decides whether to return the structure to its previous use or continues to seek a private buyer with a suitable preservation plan.



THE FEARN SITE

DANVILLE — Originally owned by one of Danville's founders, William Wynne, the Fearn site contains the ruins of the Fearn-Walters residence surrounded by a formal courtyard, a well, and a slave dwelling (with a stone foundation and surviving chimney), all of which date from the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The property also contains archaeological deposits and a historic cemetery.



THREAT: The site is slated for industrial development. The City of Danville currently plans to relocate the historic cemetery and to demolish intact foundations and associated archaeological sites that are important to Danville's early history.

RECOMMENDATION: We urge the City of Danville to consider an alternate design for the industrial park that would preserve and incorporate the historic resources into the plan.

THE JESSE SCOTT SAMMONS FARMSTEAD

ALBEMARLE COUNTY — The farmstead originally included a house and approximately 27 acres of land that Jesse Scott Sammons purchased in 1885. The cemetery contains the graves of two notable Albemarle County residents, Dr. George Rutherford Ferguson, Sr. and Jesse Scott Sammons. The farmstead is one of the few remaining sites in Charlottesville and Albemarle County associated with rural communities established after the American Civil War by newly freed African-Americans.



THREAT: The property is within or very near the proposed path of the Charlottesville Western Bypass. The details of the highway design and the ultimate fate of the Sammons house remain unclear.

RECOMMENDATION: We recommend that all concerned parties work together to ensure that what remains of the history of this site is adequately assessed and preserved.

ROSENWALD SCHOOLS IN VIRGINIA

STATEWIDE — The Rosenwald rural school building program was a major effort by Julius Rosenwald to improve the quality of public education for African-Americans. Between 1917 and 1932, more than 360 Rosenwald schools were built in rural areas across Virginia.



THREAT: These historic structures are often threatened with demolition due to lack of awareness and neglect.

RECOMMENDATION: We are launching a program that will provide community groups and individual owners with the preservation tools needed to preserve these schools. By helping localities identify new uses for the schools, the legacy of these community centers will thrive once more.

THE MANASSAS BATTLEFIELD HISTORIC DISTRICT REGION

MANASSAS — Since 1940, the Manassas Battlefield National Park (MBNP) has protected the site of the first and second battles of Manassas of 1861 and 1862. Both battles are considered to be among the most important of the American Civil War. The region surrounding the park contains additional sites and acts as a buffer to the MBNP.

THREAT: The plan to construct a highway known as the Tri-County Parkway along the park's western border has placed the "Bull Run Battlefield" at risk.

RECOMMENDATION: While government review is underway, we encourage all alternative routes to be fully and fairly considered so that broader preservation and landscape conservation efforts can be pursued to protect the battlefield and the nearby rural landscapes.

