



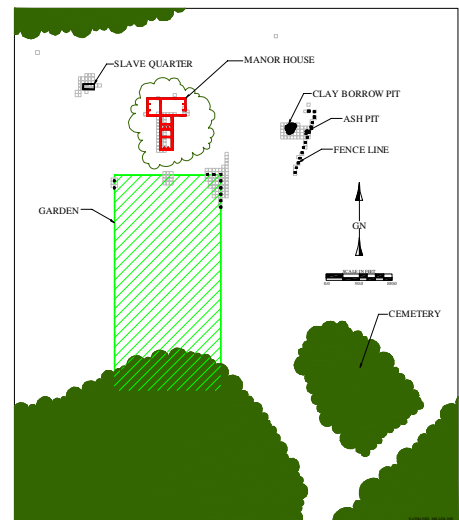
Summer 2003 Update

Summer Excavations Focus on Main House and Garden

After a winter and spring spent mostly in the lab, the summer excavations at Fairfield are starting again. Our goals are modest and are focused on answering specific questions about the chronology and spatial organization of the Fairfield plantation landscape. Top priority for the main house is to sample a section of the builder's trench for the southern addition. We know the 32-foot extension was built after 1694, but exactly when is still a mystery. Hopefully we'll find a datable artifact in the small section we excavate this summer that will give us an idea of which owner was responsible for the house extension.

Other excavation areas include the search for the north entrance to the formal garden. In 2001 we found the northeast corner, followed in 2002 by locating the northwest corner. This summer we hope to find the entrance gate closest to the main house and further define the layout of the garden. In addition, we plan to

excavate one of the garden fence posthole complexes. There seem to be numerous repairs for each of the garden posts, suggesting an extended existence for this landscape feature. Our hope is to further define the chronology and changes in layout for the garden.



Fairfield Archaeological Plan

House Excavation Report Nears Completion

The excavations at Fairfield have been supported by very generous individuals, private foundations, and state agencies. In return for the funding they have provided, the Fairfield Foundation has dedicated itself to involving the community in every aspect of archaeology, working closely with local students in the classroom and the

field, conducting archaeological research of the highest quality, and sharing the information we learn with the public. Before the end of the summer we will complete our first report on the excavations at Fairfield. The report will focus on the main house, including its design, evolution, and destruction from 1694 to 1897.

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Fairfield Facts:

- There are six photographs of Fairfield before it burned in 1897. Unfortunately, there are no known photographs of the building after that time.
- Haynes Mill Pond, once called Burwell's Mill Pond, was first dammed up by 1684 and a mill was present there by 1710.



Loraine County Community College Helps Dig at Fairfield



LCCC students help dig at Fairfield.

The Fairfield Foundation teamed up with students from Jennifer Williams' archaeology class from Loraine County Community College (LCCC) in Ohio to dig at Fairfield. Jennifer and her students worked with the Fairfield staff for three days in May, excavating plowzone near the 18th-century clay borrow pit and the

north entrance to the formal garden. They also spent time in the lab learning how to wash and label artifacts. Also, Bill Pittman, Curator of Archaeological Collections at Colonial Williamsburg, shared his knowledge of ceramics with the students. This is the first of what we hope will be many years of field schools involving our organizations.

Fairfield Website Update

April marked the unveiling of the Fairfield website at www.fairfieldfoundation.org. Since that time, we've added more information to and edited previous updates to streamline the site. The most significant change has been the addition of the digital models of Fairfield throughout its history. Designed by Intern Nathan Miller and based on research and excavations of the Fairfield staff, three Quicktime movies allow visitors to see the Fairfield main

house at different stages in its history. These are preliminary interpretations. Future tours will include other landscape features, including the formal garden. The website and additional on-site signage was funded through a grant from the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities (VFH). After viewing the Fairfield website, check out the VFH at www.virginia.edu/vfh/ and see the many other worthwhile projects they support.



NIAHD participants help dig at Fairfield.

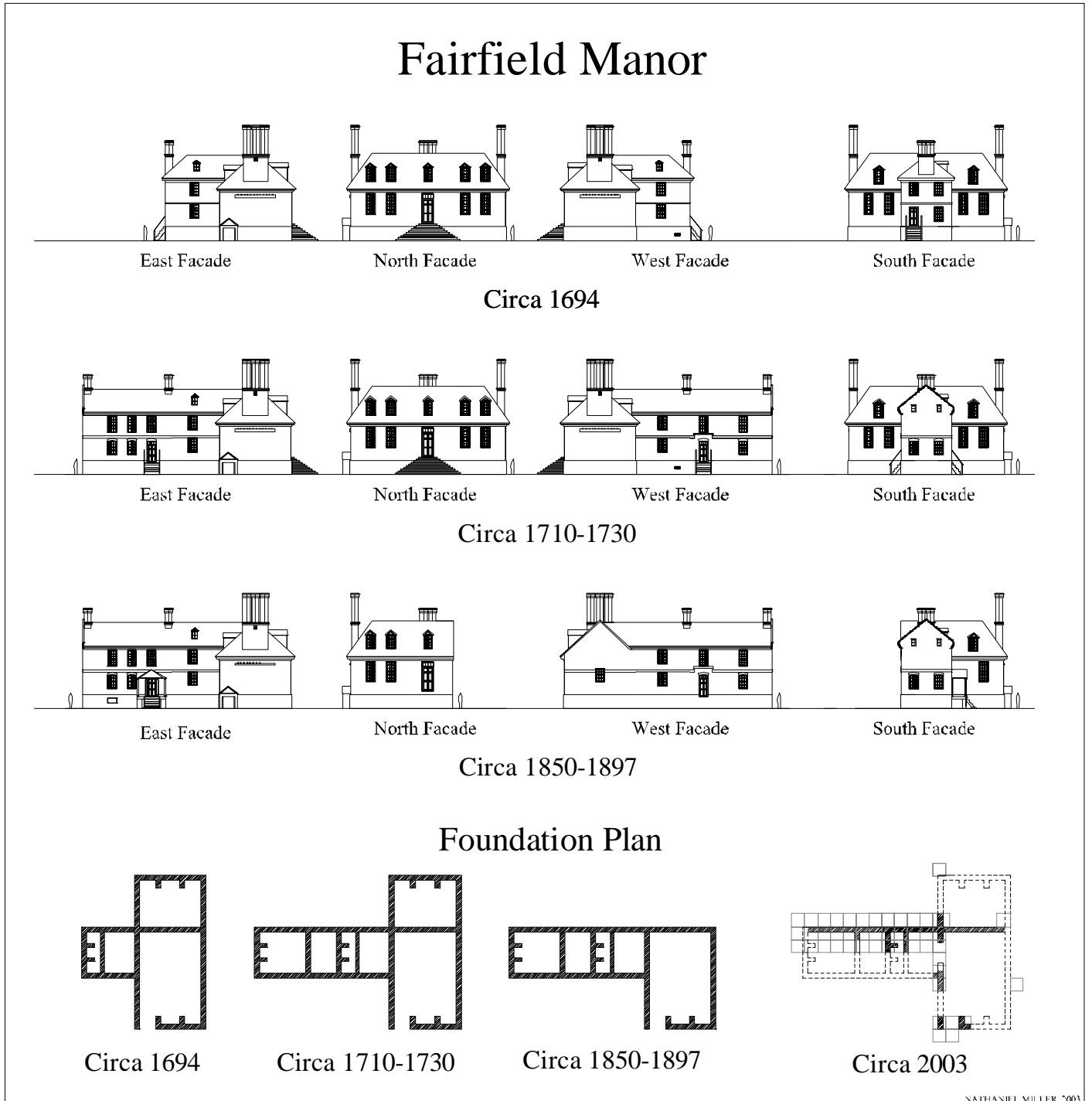
Fairfield Hosts NIAHD in July

Professor James Whittenburg of the College of William and Mary and high school students from his National Institute for American History and Democracy (NIAHD) summer program will visit Fairfield in July. The summer program introduces high school students from around

the country to the colonial history of Virginia. Fairfield is one of many historic sites the students will visit during the one month program. The students interested in participating in an archaeological excavation will be welcomed back for a volunteer dig day on July 12th and for three days at the end of July.



The Evolution of Fairfield, 1694-2003



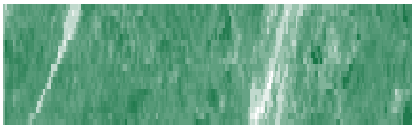
Over two years of excavations and the analysis of historical documents and photographs has led to the structural evolution pictured above. The divisions represent the building's three major forms during its lifespan, specifically its initial design (1694), the addition of the south wing, and the loss of the west wing. These are by no means definitive plans and we hope that future work on the house will help refine and correct these interpretations.

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1847 Sketch of Fairfield



Fairfield T-Shirt



The Fairfield Foundation is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization dedicated to the archaeological study of the Burwell plantation in Gloucester County, known as Fairfield/Carter's Creek. The foundation has launched an extended investigation into all aspects of this colonial plantation, with the goal of studying, preserving, and presenting this new knowledge to the public.

Volunteer Appreciation

The Fairfield Foundation would not be as successful as it is today without the volunteers that have contributed over 1000 hours since we began in November 2000. In recognition for all of the time many people contributed, and for those who continue to help us dig, wash, sort, and number, we've instituted new benefits for volunteers. The first 25 hours volunteered equals a certificate of thanks and a 1-year basic

membership with the Fairfield Foundation. At 75 volunteer hours, you can choose between a Fairfield hat or T-Shirt. After 125 hours, volunteers qualify for the Fairfield trowel. And finally, for those who contribute 250 volunteer hours, the Fairfield staff will take you and a guest to dinner. Volunteers are the engine that drives our work at Fairfield and we appreciate every person and every hour spent helping us.



Fairfield Hat



Fairfield Trowel

Check Us Out On The Web at
www.fairfieldfoundation.org

Welcome to New Members

Our membership drive is only eight months old and the list of supporters grows with each week. We are pleased to recognize and welcome the following new members:

Basic

Margaret Perritt
Nathan Miller
Hilarie Hicks
Chris Dunigan

Family

Anthony Smith, Christie Buie, and Jaguar Rain Buie-Smith
Victoria Respass, Lisa and Bob Harper
Lauren, Loretta, and Gretchen Bauer

Carter Creek Society

J. Goodwin Bland