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The Ruffner Homestead at Big Spring Rededication Program

Ruffner Family Association

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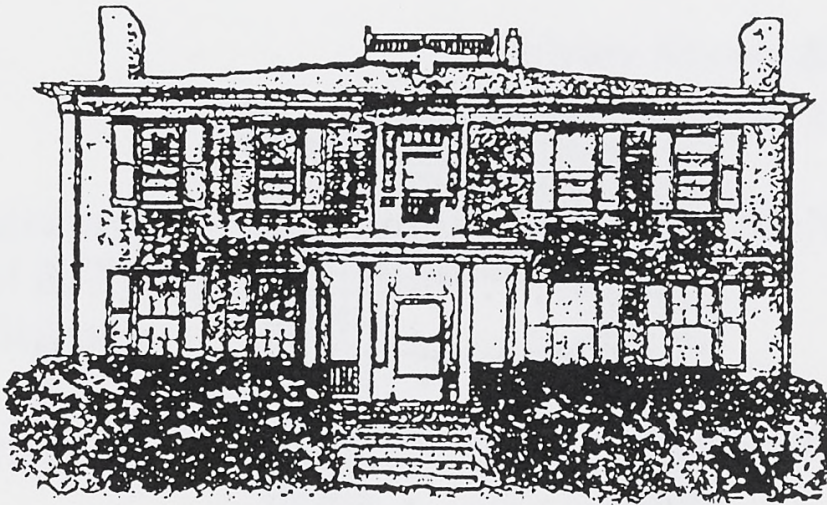
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Ruffner Family Association, "The Ruffner Homestead at Big Spring Rededication Program" (1999). *Ruffner Family Association Records*. 31.

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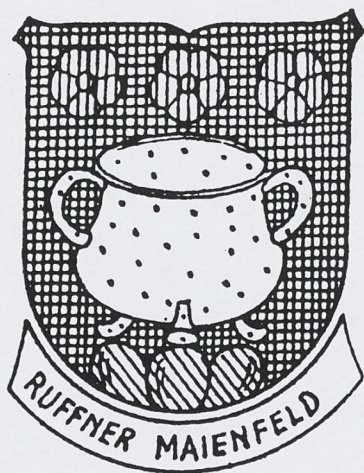
The
Ruffner Homestead
at
Big Spring



Rededication
June 2, 1999

The Ruffner Family Association Acknowledges the following for their assistance in this program.

**Sonia Croucher
Page Public Library
Vivian's Flower Shop
Luray Fire Department**



Prelude

Call to Order

Sam McNeely

Invocation

**Rev. David Lord
Pastor Luray UM
Church**

Introductions

Nancy Lee Shiflett

Ruffner Family History

**Vicki Cyphert
Librarian, Page
Public Library**

Music

**Shirley Sheets &
Dick Armstrong**

**The Turning of
the Soil & Tying
of the Ribbon**

Jim & Judi McNeely

Remarks

Jim & Judi McNeely

Walk to the Burial Site

All

Remarks

**Robert N Sheets
Chairman - Ruffner
Family Association**

**Rededication &
Benediction**

**Rev. Paul Mishler
Retired**

**Refreshments will be served following the
ceremony**

The Ruffner Homestead at Big Spring

In 1739 Peter and Mary Ruffner were married in Lancaster Pennsylvania, and navigated their flat boat along the banks of Hawksbill Creek to the land Mary's father Joseph Steinman had given them as a wedding present. It was on this site that they constructed their first home, and thus began the Ruffners American journey.

Peter Ruffner Jr. inherited the property from his parents and enlarged their family home by adding a second story with two rooms and a large cellar underneath.

William Chapman bought the property from a Peter Ruffner in 1840 and enlarged the red brick home to its present size. Ownership passed to the Defords in 1880, and thus began the Homestead's ownership by a succession of tannery owners and superintendents.

The Jerome Weinstein family of Virginia Oak Tannery purchased the home in 1978, and converted the home of Peter and Mary Ruffner to a Bed and Breakfast in 1986.

Today an eighth generation Ruffner welcomes you to your ancestral home.