



Farmville - Prince Edward Historical Society

P.O. Box 546

Farmville, Virginia 23901

August, 2010

Architecture of Downtown Farmville

**Slide presentation by
Robert Winthrop**

**Tuesday, August 17, 2010
7:00 p.m.**

**Prince Edward County Agriculture Building
100 Dominion Drive**

Board meets at 6:00 p.m.



Robert Winthrop, historical preservationist architect, speaks on Farmville's downtown

Robert P. Winthrop, of Winthrop, Jenkins & Associates Architects, specializes in institutional, church and residential work, with emphasis on the renovation of architecturally significant buildings. Projects include the Heritage United Methodist Church, Rivermont Presbyterian, Quaker Memorial Presbyterian and St. Thomas More churches in Lynchburg, and the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart and Chester Presbyterian Church in Richmond.

Winthrop's work has received awards from the Historic Richmond Foundation for the restoration of Columbia and from the James River Chapter of the AIA for the design of the Staunton River Memorial Library in Altavista and the Krumbein Residence in Richmond. The renovation and additions to the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart received the Historic Richmond Foundation's top award in 1992 for technical and design excellence. He received an award of excellence in the Building Better Communities competition in 1993. The Richmond Better Housing Coalition won the Mary Wingfield Scott Award for the Columns on Grove in 1998. His residential projects have been extensively published in *Southern Living*, as well as local newspapers. Church projects have been published in *American Organist* and *Inform*. His work,

including the restoration of Columbia, the Monumental Church, additions to the Valentine Museum, and numerous studies associated with the historical context of Richmond architecture prompted the American Institute of Architects to award him a special award for contributions to historic preservation in 1982.

Mr. Winthrop was a long-term member of the Commission of Architectural Review and the Urban Design Committee for the City of Richmond. He has written and lectured extensively on the history of Richmond's architecture. His books and articles include *The Architecture of Jackson Ward, Cast and Wrought: The Architectural Metalwork of Downtown Richmond, Virginia*, and *Architecture in Downtown Richmond*. Ten articles, written for the *Richmond Times Dispatch*, were published as "Richmond's Architecture." He has given major lecture series for the Monument Avenue Foundation and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. He is the co-author, with Sarah Driggs and Richard Guy Wilson of *Richmond's Monument Avenue* published in 2001.

Robert Winthrop and Associates was the architect for the restoration and renovation of the Moore Building in Farmville into the Virginia's Heartland Regional Visitor Center and Transportation Heritage Museum.

-- <http://www.winthroparchitecture.com/who.html>

This Day in August in Prince Edward County History

- 8-1-1922 Death of prominent Prince Edward tobacco merchant Walter Grey Dunnington, owner of Poplar Hill
- 8-2-1897 Civil rights activist W. E. B. DuBois studies Prince Edward County's black population for U.S. Labor Commission report
- 8-4-1851 Francis Carr and Christian Ehrman contracted with the Southside Railroad to build the High Bridge original wooden superstructure.
- 8-4-1899 Edward Wiltse, jeweler and silversmith, died
- 8-4-1922 J. C. Brickert seeks location at Third and Randolph streets to locate Farmville's first service station
- 8-5-1942 First daylight air raid test
- 8-8-1907 Prince Edward Hotel opened
- 8-8-1952 Farmville Drive-in opened on Route 15 just south of Farmville
- 8-10-1993 By-laws adopted for Rural Education Foundation, creating the Fuqua School that replace Prince Edward Academy
- 8-14-1902 Work commences to build Norfolk & Western station
- 8-14-1945 County-wide nighttime celebrations for end of World War II
- 8-17-1947 WFLO went on the air
- 8-18-1913 Henry Lindsey elected Fire Chief
- 8-19-1962 Saylor's Creek Battlefield Park dedicated
- 8-20-1969 Hurricane Camille brings flooding to Farmville
- 8-24-1884 Farmville Lithia Springs incorporate
- 8-26-1867 Prince Edward resident and nationally-recognized educator Robert Rousa Moton born in Amelia County
- 8-27-1894 Gov. O'Ferrall arrives for visit to Farmville
- 8-27-1909 Farmville Silver Band's first open air concert
- 8-30-1895 The Confederate Monument Association organized
- 8-30-1905 Partial eclipse of the sun witnessed



The Whitfield Building, constructed in the early 1860's, is the oldest storefront building still in its original form in Farmville. The building was designed from noted architect Asher Benjamin's early 19th century books on architecture. Of interest is the Greek Key over the windows on the second floor.



The Davidson Building was recently restored to its original store front. This building's Beaux Arts style architecture and original pressed tin ceiling make it a unique example of 19th century architecture.

-- photos from Society archives