

SEPTEMBER 2021

FARMVILLE - PRINCE EDWARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Monthly Newsletter

UPCOMING MEETING:

SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

7PM AT THE HISTORIC FARMVILLE TRAIN STATION

GUESTS ALWAYS WELCOME!



Our speaker will be FPEHS President Jimmy Hurt, who will present a program on the history of tobacco warehouses in Farmville. Jimmy has extensively researched 50 tobacco-related warehouses and over 200 years of tobacco history in Farmville. This presentation will focus specifically on the history of the old Craddock-Terry Shoe Factory building.



NEWS:

NEW WEBSITE

The Farmville-Prince Edward Historical Society recently unveiled a brand new website! The site includes information regarding upcoming meetings, news, and links to useful resources regarding Farmville, Prince Edward County, and Virginia history. Check out the site here: <http://www.fpehs.org/> and let us know what you think.

VIRGINIA CHRONICLE UPDATE



The Library of Virginia now has digitized issues of The Farmville Herald available on the [Virginia Chronicle](#) through 2010!

NEW MOTON MUSEUM RESOURCE

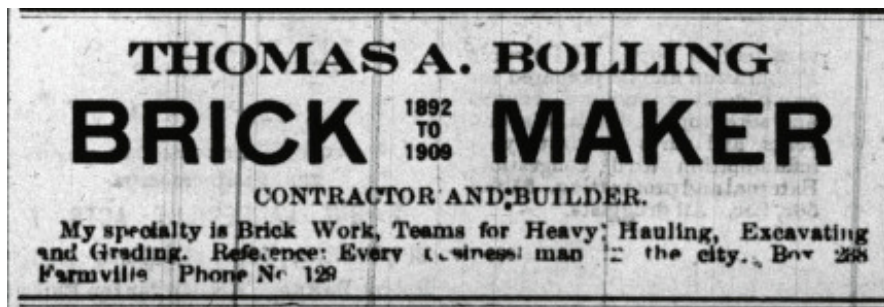
The Robert Russa Moton Museum has a new online [educational resource](#). A companion to their permanent exhibits in the museum, this new website provides an immersive experience with text, images, oral histories, and other resources for educators.

On September 3, 1906...

at 3:40 in the afternoon, according to an article in the Farmville Herald, "the first brick of the new Methodist church was laid in the Northwest corner of the foundation. General Contractor R.S. Rice and [brick] Contractor T.A. Bolling, were superintending the first step." It was, the article states, Bolling's 48th birthday.



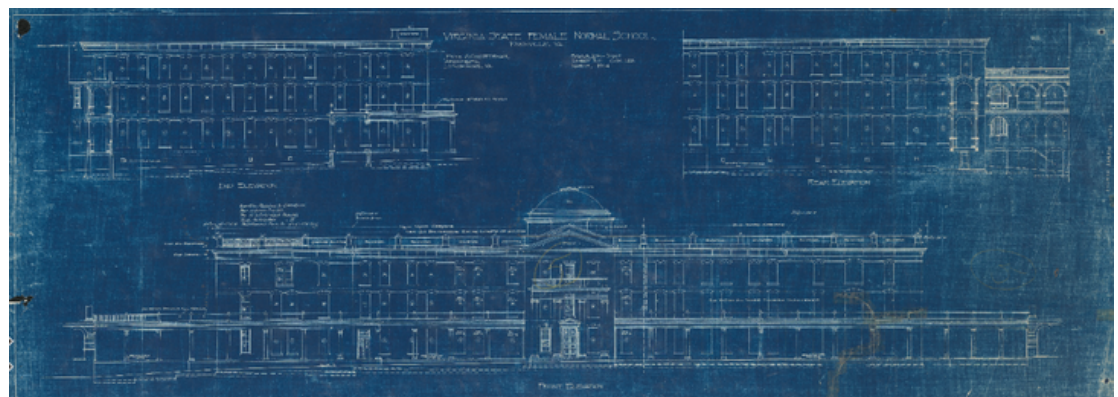
Over a century later, also in the Farmville Herald, a June 15, 2012 article by Dr. Ray Gaskins offers an in-depth look into the life and career of Thomas A. Bolling. According to the article, he was born into slavery near Lynchburg, Virginia in 1858. While there is some debate as to when Bolling came to Farmville, we do know that he was present for the Great Fire of 1898, and having already established a brickmaking yard and contracting business with his uncle Samuel Bolling, was responsible for rebuilding two four-story warehouses for C.M. Walker.



By 1902 he had also built a significant addition to the factory of W.G. Dunnington, a carriage repository for Duvall, Richardson, and Company, and was responsible for many of the new buildings at the State Female Normal

School. While we do not know specifically which of the Normal School buildings were built by Bolling, the most notable of those early 20th century buildings would have been the construction of the Rotunda and the East Wing; a project which would have required a tremendous number of bricks to complete.

It is estimated that half of the brick homes and buildings built between 1892 and 1912 were constructed with bricks from Bolling's High Street



brickyard, an operation which produced over 300,000 bricks annually. However, according to Gaskin's article, among the many buildings still standing in Farmville, his most noteworthy accomplishment was the Farmville Methodist Church.

For more information, see Dr. Gaskin's June 15, 2012 Farmville Herald article entitled, *Samuel and Thomas Bolling, Early Farmville Brick Makers*.

It Happened in September...

- 9-1-1775** Williamsburg newspaper carried first advertisement for new college for men to open sometime that fall in Prince Edward.
- 9-1-1902** 30 cars of processed tobacco left for Norway.
- 9-1-1891** Farmville Silver Band organized.
- 9-2-1964** County's public school system reopened as an integrated system, after being closed for five years.
- 9-3-1831** Union Seminary founder John Holt Rice died.
- 9-3-1906** The first brick of the Methodist church was laid in northwest corner.
- 9-4-1919** Farmville turned out to welcome its returning World War I veterans.
- 9-5-1898** Union Theological Seminary moved to Richmond.
- 9-5-1935** Hurricane-spawned tornado damaged trees and buildings at Hampden-Sydney and Kingsville.
- 9-6-1933** Virginia Dark-Fired Tobacco Warehousemen's Association organized at Planter's Warehouse.
- 9-7-1897** Norfolk & Western Railroad fined by Mayor Burton for excessive speed in town.
- 9-9-1885** Opera House contracted to be built by Burton and Davis.
- 9-13-1944** Honor Roll of World War II veterans unveiled on Courthouse lawn.
- 9-15-1907** Prof. August Schemmel, opened Farmville's Conservatory of Music.
- 9-16-2008** Lester E. Andrews, Sr., civic leader and prominent businessman of Farmville Manufacturing and Andrews, Large, and Whidden, Inc., died.
- 9-17-1862** Prominent county lawyer J. T. Thornton is mortally wounded in battle at Sharpsburg, Maryland.
- 9-20-1809** Missouri governor and Confederate Major General Sterling Price born near Hampden-Sydney.
- 9-22-1865** High Bridge reopened to regular traffic five months after being burned during the retreat.
- 9-22-1914** County voters approved (640-205) request for statewide Prohibition.
- 9-23-1890** After a bitterly contested election, Republican Party seats black educator J. M. Langston as this district's U.S. Congressman.
- 9-23-1923** Birth of county's famed soldier and educator, Lt. Gen. Samuel V. Wilson.
- 9-24-1776** Buffalo Presbyterian Church Session adopted "Petition for Religious Liberty" which was eventually sent to Virginia House of Delegates.
- 9-24-1890** Tobacconist J.W. Dunnington, born.
- 9-25-1869** Rev. Daniel Witt baptized over forty people in Miller's mill pond.
- 9-25-1922** Charles Edward Burrell published A History of Prince Edward County, Virginia from its Formation in 1753, to the Present.
- 9-28-1728** First known land grant to settler in Prince Edward area went to Richard Jarvis, Jr., for property along the Bush River.
- 9-30-1933** County voters approved bond issue to build present courthouse.