



*John Kinnier*



*John Kinnier House*

## The Kinniers of 518 Washington Street by Mary Kathryn McIntosh

John Hamilton Kinnier, who resided at 518 Washington Street, was the son of James Kinnier who was born July 22, 1801, in Drollaugh, County Monaghan, Ireland. He married Jane Ballagh, January 14, 1834, and immigrated to the United States settling in Lynchburg in 1840 where he engaged in the mercantile business for a number of years and died in 1860.

The couple had four sons who lived to adulthood, Robert, the eldest, was in the service of the Virginia Central Railroad; after he left the railroad he founded a wholesale liquor business with Joseph Lawson at the corner of Nineth and Commerce Streets. He resided in Lynchburg until his death in 1896. Second son, William, was born in 1838 in Ireland and died in 1899 in Lynchburg. James Freeland, the third son, was a successful Lynchburg merchant in this early life and became an official of the old Commercial Bank of the City. John Hamilton, the youngest, was born February 17, 1840, in Lynchburg.

John entered the Confederate States Army in the spring of 1862 in a battery commanded by CPT Thomas J. Kirkpatrick. He was engaged in all its movements until

shot at Cold Harbor, June 4, 1864. His wound was so severe that he was admitted to Stuart Hospital, Richmond, transferred to Lynchburg Hospital No. 4, and paroled April 15, 1865. After the war, he established a business in coal, wood, ice, and hay at 1200-1220 Jefferson Street. He was a director of the Lynchburg Cotton Mill Co, Lynchburg National Bank and the N. B. Handy Company. While in business he served on the city council and was an elder in the First Presbyterian church. He was also one of the original members of volunteer Hose Company No.1. An enthusiastic Confederate veteran, he was commander of the Garland-Rodes Camp in 1908-09. He was known to be the soul of honor, progressive and genial, and for his natural flow of humor which seemed to make all around him brighter.

On June 4, 1871 John married Telula Josephine Percy, who was born September 7, 1847, in Botetourt County, Virginia, the daughter of Isham and Ann Percy. The couple had two daughters, Mary Elizabeth and Josephine Percy, and a son, John Percy.

Between 1890-95 the couple built their unique Eastlake/Queen Anne residence at 518 Washington Street. The house is noted for its stained glass round window, the circular and oval hoops

on the porch, and the cut-outs in the porch ceiling. The couple enjoyed many festive gatherings there as evidenced by the photo discovered by George Carmichael, a later owner, who gave it to DHHS member Phillip Carwile.

John Hamilton Kinnier died January 5, 1909, at the home on Washington Street after an illness of some months which kept him confined. Josephine died on December 4, 1914. Both are buried at the Presbyterian Cemetery, Lynchburg.

Source of information from the Kinnier file at Jones Memorial Library.



## 2012 Diamond Hill Calendar

We are looking for vintage photos of Diamond Hill. Vintage can be 100 years or can be 40-50 years. We can also use pictures from Books, but likely will have to get permission from author/publisher and cite the source. Please send your pictures earlier rather than later to Jeff Schneider by mail at 307 Washington St., Lynchburg VA 24504 or e-mail at: [jeffandsally@ntelos.net](mailto:jeffandsally@ntelos.net)

### Poplar Forest April Events

April 2

Bird Walk at Poplar Forest  
8 a.m. Explore Poplar Forest with the Lynchburg Bird Club. Free.

April 2

Kite Day with special guest, Benjamin Franklin \*  
Bring a picnic and a kite (kites available for purchase on-site) and enjoy storytelling, living history demonstrations and family hands-on activities from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jefferson's octagonal table and other items will be on display in the house. Free with regular admission (\$14/adults) or free with membership.

April 13

Jefferson's Birthday  
11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Celebrate Thomas Jefferson's birthday. Cake served! Free with regular admission.

April 15

Architectural Restoration Weekend Field School  
Don't have time to attend the full two-week field school? Do it in a weekend! This new, three-day program, under the direction of the Director of Architectural Restoration, will focus on the documentation, investigation and analysis of an historic building. More information and application materials at : [www.poplarforest.org/programs](http://www.poplarforest.org/programs).

April 19

Virginia Garden Week: Restoring Jefferson's Poplar Forest Landscape  
Learn about historic garden archaeology and restoration at Jefferson's retreat (a new project of the Garden Club of Virginia) through guided landscape tours at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Free with regular admission or with Lynchburg Garden Day ticket. Reservations for landscape tours recommended.

## April Events

### Point of Honor

April 1: First Friday - Oddities and Curiosities

Oddities and Curiosities from the Museum Collection. Museums often have unusual and downright strange artifacts-- come see what the Lynchburg Museum has acquired over the years. 5 pm - 8 pm FREE (Old Court House)

April 2: 5K & YOUTH MINI-MILE

April 19: Garden Day

Free to visitors from 10 am - 5 pm and the Museum is free from 10 am - 4 pm. Tea and light refreshments will be served at Point of Honor.

### Old City Cemetery

April 8-9

Cemetery Preservation Workshop \$  
The first day will offer lectures and presentations while the second day will provide focus on demonstrations and discussions. Topics will include researching and recording historic cemeteries, following good practices for cleaning and maintaining gravestones, interpreting funerary symbols and iconography, and the proper techniques for photographing monuments and grave markers.

### Jones Memorial Library

April 20

Locally Owned Business in Lynchburg  
Billy Walker, of John Stewart Walker; & James Elson, for Barker-Jennings.

This presentation continues a series on the history of Lynchburg's locally owned businesses. As time passes, many local businesses are swallowed up by large companies which are managed by people in offices scattered all over the country. Gone are the days where a customer knew the owner personally, or as a trusted member of the community.

### LHF

Garden Day April 19<sup>th</sup>, the Miller Claytor garden will be open from 12:00 noon until 4:00. Refreshments will be served.

"On the Road Again" - to Orlean VA. We only have 8 seats left so call now to reserve yours. A fun day trip and a great way to see garden day in another area.

## Diamond Hill News

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**Diamond Hill Historical Society, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 803, Lynchburg, VA 24505  
Website: [www.diamondhill.org](http://www.diamondhill.org)  
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*Neighborhood Watch:* L. Robert Halpin  
*Children's Activities:* Mari Smallshaw  
*Auditor:* Todd Leap  
*Endowment Fund:* Jeffery Schneider  
*Parliamentarian:* Julie Kibby

### Meetings

Business meetings are usually held at 7:30 p.m. on first Tuesdays of each month except June, July and August. Owners of properties in the Diamond Hill Historic District and others interested in supporting historic preservation are welcome to attend.

### Membership

Annual dues for Active Members are \$10.00 per person and the initiation fee is \$5.00 (first year). Active Membership is limited to adult members of households owning Diamond Hill property. Annual dues for Associate Members are \$10 per person (no initiation fee). All members receive this newsletter at no charge. Newsletter subscriptions for non-members are \$5.00 per year.

### Publisher's Statement

The Diamond Hill Historical Society (DHHS) is a nonprofit historic preservation organization approved under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. Its purpose is to preserve and encourage—through the fostering of education, research and restoration—the historical and architectural integrity of the Diamond Hill Historic District. DHHS was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia February 22, 1979. Views expressed in the *Diamond Hill News* do not necessarily reflect the position of DHHS or its officers and directors.

## HORSES, FOXHOUNDS AND FARM MANAGERIES WILL DELIGHT GARDEN WEEK VISITORS

Visitors who love Virginia's magnificent hunt country, pastoral views, beautiful horses and purebred foxhounds will find much to enjoy on several Historic Garden Week in Virginia tours in April.

The tour, located near the rural village of Orlean, leads guests along narrow country roads to five new and historic homes with panoramic views of the Blue Ridge Mountains. A great day in the "Country" visit a late - 18<sup>th</sup> - early 19<sup>th</sup> century house, a contemporary house in a clearing within a forest above the Rappahannock River, a "new-old" house who's main structure is built from old brick and stone from a neighboring farm, an 1891 frame house and a French chateau. The Warrenton Foxhounds will be shown at the Cabin Branch Farm one of the properties on tour.

Fee:

LHF Member - \$65.00

Non-Member - \$80.00

Includes: transportation, box lunch and advance ticket to tour

Bus will leave Bragassa at 8:30 and return in the late afternoon or early evening.

Only 8 seats left so RSVP now!

Deadline for reservations - April 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Lynchburg Museum System Featured in National Trust Website

The Lynchburg Museum System is featured in a new online resource intended to help communities across the nation promote their unique historic and cultural attractions. Produced by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, the online toolkit includes profiles of more than 80 communities achieving success despite the challenges posed by today's economy.

"We've found that real-life stories like Lynchburg's are meaningful role models," says Amy Webb, director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Heritage Tourism Program. "Cultural heritage tourism attractions want to hear from

others in the trenches, facing similar challenges. These survival stories showcase how many communities are succeeding in the face of an economic downturn."

This user-friendly web site allows visitors to search for stories by region of the country, type of attraction or organization, and/or the survival strategy or strategies that the story illustrates. The toolkit also includes links to other online resources to help cultural and heritage tourism attractions and organizations stay afloat during tough times. The toolkit, [www.preservationnation.org/survival-toolkit](http://www.preservationnation.org/survival-toolkit), was developed after hundreds of hours of outreach to national and state leaders in cultural and heritage tourism over the past year.

Webb adds, "We see the stories in the toolkit as simply a starting point. Our hope is that the profiles will inspire others to share their stories so the toolkit is a dynamic and continually growing resource."

Rocco Landesman, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts says, "The economic downturn has had a harsh impact on all sectors of the cultural and heritage tourism industry. The NEA is proud to support this online toolkit that will provide solutions and timely resources to address today's economic challenges."

"I've been a stickler about collecting data," says Douglas Harvey, Museum Director. "We have been doing visitor surveys and found that over half of our visitors are from out of state including a good number from foreign countries. We went back to what is relative - our expenditures, school programs, special events and how we help generate economic impact for Lynchburg. We saw the tour with City Council as a way to meet and educate newer members, and they seemed to be impressed with what they saw."

For more information, visit [www.lynchburgmuseum.org](http://www.lynchburgmuseum.org) or [www.preservationnation.org/issues/](http://www.preservationnation.org/issues/)



## Lynchburg Residents Reminded To Purchase Alarm Permit

The Department of Emergency Services would like to remind residents that according to the City's Alarm Systems Ordinance, anyone who purchases a monitored security alarm system must also purchase an annual Alarm Permit before the system goes live.

Lynchburg's Alarm Systems Ordinance is intended to encourage the proper use of the alarm system by the users, proper installation of alarm systems, system maintenance, and to ensure that emergency personnel will not be unduly diverted from responding to actual criminal activity or other emergencies as a result of responding to false alarms.

The annual permit fees are as follows: Business/Industry \$55; Small Business & Non-Profit Organizations \$45; and Residential \$30. To purchase a permit, visit [www.lynchburgva.gov](http://www.lynchburgva.gov), and click on Governmental Services - Permits - Alarm Permits - Alarm Permit Information Form, or contact Amy Lowe, Alarm Systems Coordinator at 455-4286 or by e-mail at [amy.lowe@lynchburgva.gov](mailto:amy.lowe@lynchburgva.gov).

False alarms are monitored according to the Alarm Systems Ordinance, and if the City records more than two false alarms within a permit year for any alarm system, the user is required to pay a service assessment fee. These fees are on a graduated scale.

During this time of the year, some businesses conduct door to door sales of home security alarm systems. Here are some important tips you should know:

- Anyone selling alarms systems in the City of Lynchburg must have a local business license and a Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) license. If a salesperson comes to your door selling alarm systems, make sure you get them to show their DCJS license before conducting business with them.
- Take your time to make the right decision for your home security. Don't be tempted by offers that are "good for one day only."
- Get several estimates & compare pricing.
- Read the information carefully to be sure you know the terms of the contract you are signing.
- If you buy an alarm system from a door to door salesperson, remember the Virginia Home Solicitation Sales Act gives you the right to cancel your order within three days of the sale.
- The salesperson should advise you of the local alarm systems ordinance.



**Get Ready for an "Egg-Citing" Easter Egg Hunt!**

Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30

All children 10 and under are invited to join us for the annual Diamond Hill Easter Egg Hunt on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 on the lawn at the corner of Washington and Harrison Streets.

We will divide the children into different age groups so that they will be hunting for goodies with other children close to their own age. Afterward, everyone is invited to the Smallshaws' home, 409 Washington Street, for refreshments.

Bring your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends! And don't forget your Easter Basket!

For more information, contact Mari Smallshaw at 846-3242.

**HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK IN VIRGINIA AMERICA'S OLDEST AND LARGEST HOUSE AND GARDEN TOUR PROGRAM**

April 16-23, 2011

Sponsored by Lynchburg Garden Club and Hillside Garden Club

Lynchburg, Tuesday April 19 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

**Properties may be visited in any order:**

- 4717 John Scott Drive
- 4769 John Scott Drive
- 805 Old Trents Ferry Road
- 1172 Bateau Drive
- 412 Mill Lane Road
- Point of Honor
- Sweet Briar House

**Other Places of Interest:**

- Miller Clayton Gardens
- Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest
- Awareness Garden
- Sandusky
- The Anne Spencer Garden
- Old City Cemetery



*Happy Easter!*


**Apr. Meeting**

**Tues., Apr.5**  
**7:30 p.m.**

at the

**Stabler-Bocock-Watts House**  
**(c.1852)**  
602 Washington St

Hosts: Julie and Vernon Neighbors



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