Through a generous grant from PNC Bank, Stratford Hall has recently enhanced paleontology educational program offerings. The grant has enabled more schools to participate in this learning experience by offering stipends to four local schools—King George Elementary, Spotswood Elementary, Battlefield Elementary, and Burrows Elementary. It has also allowed Stratford Hall to substantially develop the content of this fossil program.

The new program features expanded hands-on opportunities for the students. Activities provide for exploration of the Stratford beach and stimulating rainy day alternatives. Of particular interest is Stratford Hall’s use of a Montross artist, Phil McKenney, to provide illustrations for the program. Stratford Hall’s staff also worked with several local fossil collectors to round out a truly multifaceted community project—one that will enhance the education of hundreds of school children each year.

This program will be incorporated into Stratford’s popular grandparent/grandchild summer camps.

Each student participating in the fossil program sent personal letters of appreciation to PNC and Stratford expressing what the experience of searching for fossils along the Potomac River shoreline meant to them. The central message in the letters was the acknowledgement that without PNC’s sponsorship these children would not have had this unique experience. Glenn Kinard, Regional President, PNC Bank in Fredericksburg, indicated that “the students’ letters underscored the very clear need for the business community to accelerate supplemental funding for educational enrichment programs such as Stratford Hall’s fossil program in response to decreased local, state and federal funding alternatives.”

Stratford Hall school programs are designed for elementary and middle school students.

Grant from PNC Bank helps bring more students to experience expanded paleontology program
Executive Director’s Report
Foxes and Hedgehogs

Recently, Stratford Hall hosted its first Lee Institute. This new program provides an opportunity for participants to interact with some of our nation’s great thinkers on the significant issues of our time.

The faculty for this first Institute was John Lewis Gaddis and Charlie Hill. John and Charlie are both professors at Yale and, along with Paul Kennedy, are co-creators of a year-long multi-disciplinary course called “Grand Strategies.” The purpose of Grand Strategies is to encourage students to take a more holistic view of global challenges by exploring the ways similar challenges have been addressed in the past. Students are required to delve into the writings of the world’s great geo-political thinkers and historians, including Thucydides, Sun Tzu, Machiavelli, Clausewitz and our own Founding Fathers.

The course is demanding and, as John Gaddis has written, its purpose is to encourage students to broaden their vision and become foxes rather than hedgehogs. Hedgehogs know one big thing. Foxes know lots of little things. Our modern media-driven culture and even the increasingly narrow and esoteric education provided by our modern universities are increasingly making us a nation full of hedgehogs.

To be successful at all these challenges required the Lees to know a little about a lot of things. Based on the records of their extensive library, surviving letters and other writings, we know the Lees worked very hard at learning these things: economics, politics, theology, warfare, and agriculture. The Lees were most definitely foxes.

We hope you will want to get in touch with your inner fox here at Stratford Hall by visiting or participating in one of our programs. Your financial support is important too, and is what makes it possible to develop and offer programs that reach thousands of school children and adults. At this time in our nation’s history, it seems especially important that we do all we can to resist becoming hedgehogs. I hope we can count on your involvement with the struggle.

Paul C. Reber
Executive Director
A comprehensive study of Stratford Hall’s complex 1,900-acre landscape began this spring when Stratford entered into an agreement with the University of Georgia and The Jaeger Company to produce a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR). The entire process is expected to take two years.

Stratford’s landscape includes many unique natural features, including remnants of past agricultural, milling, and shipping activities, gardens, dramatic vistas, as well as educational and recreational elements. The CLR will provide a comprehensive inventory and evaluation of the historic resources within the property in order to identify the cultural landscapes’ character-defining features. The CLR will also provide specific treatment recommendations and implementation strategies for the future preservation of this important cultural landscape.

The first part of the project, currently underway, includes doing a Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) and drafting a history of the landscape from the prehistoric era to the present.

The University of Georgia’s College of Environment and Design (CED) includes a bachelor of landscape architecture (BLA), a master of landscape architecture (MLA), a master of historic preservation (MHP), a master of environmental planning and design (MEPD), and an environmental ethic certificate program. The BLA is the largest landscape architecture program in the United States and both the BLA and MLA are ranked among the top programs in the United States.

Heading up the project from the University of Georgia is Dr. Eric MacDonald, Assistant Professor, Landscape Architecture/Historic Preservation, and Dan Nadenicek, Dean and Draper Chair in Landscape Architecture, College of Environment and Design. Graduate student Tim Barrett is currently working at Stratford.

The Jaeger Company, Gainesville, GA, has worked on numerous cultural landscape projects and cultural landscape reports across the nation. Examples include: Kingsley Plantation, Fort George Island, Florida; General Joe Wheeler Plantation Pond Spring, Hillsboro, Alabama; Reynolda Gardens, Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and the Historic Battlefields Parks at Folly Island and Morris Island, Charleston County, South Carolina. Keyes Williamson, Project Manager and Historian, is working on the project for The Jaeger Company.

Stratford Hall staff assisting the project includes Judy Hynson, Director of Research, and Ken McFarland, former Stratford Director of Education and consultant, who retired in April as Director of Education. Together they are working on drafting a history of the landscape.

Historical documents such as the insurance inventory from 1801 (right) and photographs such as the photo from 1929 (bottom) will be used to help produce the report.
Lee Institute Holds Inaugural Event

Yale’s Hill and Gaddis Bring “Grand Strategies” to Stratford

“G

rand Strategies: International Insecurity in the World, a Grand Tour of Dangerous Places with Special Emphasis on Afghanistan and Terrorism” was presented by Professors Charles Hill and John Lewis Gaddis of Yale University’s International Security Studies Department at the inaugural Lee Institute held on May 12 and 13 at Stratford Hall. This program was made possible by the generosity of Robert T. Isham, Jr.

The Lee Institute provides an opportunity for participants to interact with some of our nation’s great thinkers on the significant issues of our time.

Professors Hill and Gaddis, along with Professor Paul Kennedy, devised Yale’s Grand Strategies, one of the premier international security programs in the world. The program is now known as the “feeder” for up-and-coming young professionals in the State Department and the Pentagon. It is a two-semester, calendar-year interdisciplinary graduate-level seminar offered jointly by the Yale Departments of History and Political Science and the Yale School of Management.

Yale’s Brady-Johnson Program on Grand Strategy seeks to revive the study and practice of grand strategy by devising methods to teach that subject at the graduate and undergraduate levels, by training future leaders to think about and implement grand strategies in imaginative and effective ways, and by organizing public events that emphasize the importance of grand strategy.

Professor Charles Hill is a former chief of staff to Reagan Secretary of State George Schultz. He is co-directing a project on Islamism and World Order based jointly at Yale, John Hopkins, and the Hoover Institution, Stanford University. His book Grand Strategies: Literature, Statecraft, and the World Order will be published by Yale University Press this year.

Professor John Lewis Gaddis has taught graduate and undergraduate level courses on Cold War history as well as an undergraduate seminar on biography. He co-organized the “Democracy, Security, and Justice” lecture series, Yale’s response to the events of September 11th. His recent books include The Landscape of History (Oxford 2002), Surprise, Security, and the American Experience (Harvard, 2004), and The Cold War: A New History (Penguin, 2005).

For more information on Stratford Hall’s many educational programs and symposiums throughout the year, visit the website www.Stratford Hall.org and click on “Learn.”
“Non Incautus Futuri”
— Be Not Unmindful of the Future
Planned Giving Society Helps Sustain Lee Family Legacy

Generations of Lees viewed this family motto as a solemn charge to be aware of the impact their decisions would have on future generations. Today, Non Incautus Futuri also contains a message for supporters of Stratford Hall: as philanthropists, you can actively help sustain the Lee family legacy and its ideals of leadership, independent thought, and civic responsibility. Donors who choose to sustain this legacy through estate gifts to Stratford Hall are recognized as members of our Futuri Society.

Hope Jones, who served as the Robert E. Lee Memorial Association’s New Jersey Director for 15 years, chose to make a planned gift in the form of a charitable lead unitrust for Stratford Hall. A charitable lead unitrust is a custom designed and individually managed trust that enables you to give a variable annual amount to charity for a fixed term of years or the life of one or more individuals.

“I wanted to make sure that I could have an impact on Stratford far into the future,” Mrs. Jones said of her gift.

You too may be looking at various planning tools for your secure financial future. Becoming a part of Stratford Hall’s Futuri Society allows you to incorporate your desire to support Stratford Hall into your overall estate plan. Estate planning options offered by Stratford include: bequests, named endowments, charitable lead trusts and charitable gift annuities.

We hope that you will consider these options as ways to support Stratford Hall’s mission of preservation, education and research well into the future. A planned gift to Stratford can also provide you with lifetime income, reward you with a substantial income tax deduction, or reduce your tax burden and that of your heirs.

The Futuri Society offers other benefits as well, including special recognition in our Annual Report and inclusion in exclusive Stratford Hall events.

For more information about planned giving opportunities at Stratford Hall, please contact Moira Holdren at 804-493-8038 ext. 8920 or mholdren@stratfordhall.org.

Mrs. Hope Jones

“I wanted to make sure that I could have an impact on Stratford far into the future.” — Mrs. Hope Jones
University of Mary Washington Archaeology Field School

More Outbuildings and Artifacts are Discovered Beyond the Oval

This Spring Stratford Hall once again hosted a Field School in Historical Archaeology in cooperation with the University of Mary Washington’s Department of Historic Preservation. Under the direction of Dr. Douglas W. Sanford, students learned to survey, excavate, document, and interpret the archaeological record of Stratford’s former landscapes.

The focus of this year’s dig was the Oval Site (ST92), a farming complex which dates from approximately 1740 to 1780, and is located about 800 feet south of the Great House on the western side of the Oval drive. The site was originally discovered in the 1970s during a plantation-wide survey directed by Dr. Fraser Neiman. Beginning in 2001, the site has been investigated by eight UMW field schools. At present, the site consists of what is suspected to be an overseer’s house, featuring a full-height brick-lined basement, a large 20’ x 40’ post-in-ground barn, and a third structure, also post-in-ground, that was discovered last year in the western portion of the site. This structure is believed to have been either a kitchen or slave quarter.

The 2010 Field School continued to investigate and uncover portions of this possible kitchen or slave quarter. Students found a portion of what is hoped is another posthole for the building, several other features, and numerous artifacts. The artifacts include both architectural debris and domestic refuse ranging from countless brick fragments, hand-wrought iron nails, and pieces of window glass to a wide variety of ceramics, including coarse utilitarian earthenwares to fine porcelain tablewares. Brass tacks, white-clay pipe stems, table glass, gun flints, brass buckles, iron bridle bits, and even a prehistoric projectile point have been found.

By carefully digging 5’ x 5’ squares of dirt, layer by layer with shovels and trowels, in the area of the suspected third building, the students and crew continue to learn more about the size of this structure, what it was used for, and what was around it.

Learning more about this building and the enslaved African Americans and free white laborers who likely worked and/or lived in this structure contributes to the understanding of Stratford’s complex former communities and landscapes.
Come and join us for our 4th annual Chesapeake Bay Wine and Harvest Festival, expanded this year to a two-day event, September 25 & 26, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on both days.

Highlighted this year will be the nine wineries that comprise the Chesapeake Bay Wine Trail: Athena Vineyards & Winery, Heathsville; Belle Mount Vineyards, Warsaw; The Hague Winery, Hague; Ingleside Vineyards, Oak Grove; New Kent Winery, New Kent; Oak Crest Vineyard & Winery, King George; Potomac Point Vineyard & Winery, Stafford; Vault Field Vineyards, Kinsale; and White Fences Vineyard & Winery, Irvington.

Although the wines and wineries will be the highlight of the event, you wouldn’t want to miss the variety of distinctive arts and crafts, specialty foods, live music, wine tasting tips, and, of course, the petting zoo.

Adult wine-tasting tickets purchased online in advance are $15, and at the gate $20. Adult wine-tasting tickets include a commemorative wine-tasting glass and free tasting at each wine booth. Non-drinker tickets, in advance and at the gate, are $10. All tickets for children 12 years & under are $5.

Mark your calendar and plan on being part of this fun fall festival. For more information and to buy advance tickets, visit our website www.Stratfordhall.org and click on “Visit” and go to the link for the festival.

Wine tasters will enjoy samples from the nine wineries that comprise the Chesapeake Bay Wine Trail at this year’s festival.
Calendar of Events
For more info visit StratfordHall.org

**September 25 & 26**
Chesapeake Bay Wine and Harvest Festival
Celebrate the fall season with a wine and harvest festival featuring wine tasting from Virginia’s Chesapeake Bay Wine Trail, delicious food and live music. This year’s event has been expanded to a two-day event and will run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Advance tickets are now on sale.

**October 2**
From Harry the Fiddler to Covent Garden: Music of the Stratford Lees
The Lee years at Stratford Hall spanned a period unmatched in the history of music. Join us for a program examining what the Lees could have heard both in America and across the Atlantic. The program will feature a rich, historically-informed performance of Lee-era music in the Great Hall presented by the internationally acclaimed Four Nations Ensemble, one of our country’s premier groups specializing in historically informed music.

**October 9**
Psychic Time Travel: History Through the Eyes of Investigative Medium Laine Crosby
Laine Crosby will share the history of Stratford Hall, as told to her by those who lived it, as well as stories of Jamestowne settlers, soldiers at Gettysburg, and slaves in her own house, the 18th-century Maryland plantation she now calls home.

---

The Chronicle is a newsletter published quarterly by the Marketing and Public Relations Department. The Robert E. Lee Memorial Association is a private, non-profit organization that has owned and operated Stratford since 1929. Stratford preserves the physical and intellectual legacy of the Lee family and its plantation community to inspire an appreciation of our nation’s past and encourages people to pursue the Lees ideals of leadership, independent thought and civic responsibility.

Executive Director: Paul Reber
Editor: Jim Schepmoes

Questions, comments and address changes should be directed to:
Stratford Newsletter
483 Great House Road
Stratford, VA 22558

E-mail: info@stratfordhall.org
Phone: 804-493-8038
Fax: 804-493-0333
www.StratfordHall.org

If you would like to receive our e-newsletter, you can sign up on our website. Click on “Visit” and you will see a link on the side column for the e-newsletter.