

Thomas Jefferson MONTICELLO

SPRING 2011

www.monticello.org

VOLUME 22, NUMBER 1

*What was life like for those who lived and worked on Monticello's plantation?
Two new programs at Monticello shed light on the community that once lived here.*

Mulberry Row: Monticello's Main Street

BEGINNING THIS SUMMER, Monticello's visitors can discover the sights and sounds of Mulberry Row, Monticello's main plantation road, during our Mulberry Row: Monticello's Main Street weekends. Mulberry Row was the hub of the plantation's domestic and light manufacturing activities, performed largely by Thomas Jefferson's enslaved African American workers.

"In Thomas Jefferson's time, Mulberry Row was not as it appears today," says Linnea Grim, Monticello's Hunter J. Smith Director of Education and Visitor Programs. "Then it was a bustling hub of work and cultural activities. On four weekends this summer, through costumed historical interpretation and activities for all ages, we'll invite visitors to experience the Mulberry Row of the past."

This four-part series offers a visual and interactive interpretation of Mulberry Row. Held on four weekends from June through October, each program offers a different glimpse into life on the plantation. Topics include gardening, crafts, culture and animal husbandry.

JUNE 4-5 • African American Gardens and Foodways at Monticello

JULY 23-24 • Crafts and Trades on Mulberry Row

SEPTEMBER 10-11 • African American Storytelling and Music at Monticello

OCTOBER 22-23 • Animal Husbandry at Monticello



*What was life like for those who lived and worked on Monticello's plantation?
Two new programs at Monticello shed light on the community that once lived here.*

Saturday Archaeology Workshops

THIS YEAR, MONTICELLO introduced a series of four Saturday archaeology workshops.

"The workshops offer visitors an in-depth look at how ongoing archaeological research is deepening our understanding of significant changes in the Monticello plantation landscape, along with ecological and social implications," said Fraser Neiman, the Thomas Jefferson Foundation's director of archaeology.

Each workshop has a different focus: Monticello plantation's agricultural landscape; the mountaintop and Mulberry Row; the ways in which Monticello fits into the larger context of slavery-based societies; and how archaeologists are making sense of finds from their fieldwork. Two underlying themes unite the workshops. The first is that our understanding of Monticello benefits from asking how and why Jefferson's house and the surrounding landscape changed over time. The second emphasizes the methods that Monticello's archaeologists are using to get answers to these questions.

The four workshops are scheduled for April, May, June and July. Advance registration is required. Workshops assemble at 9:30 at the Bronze Plantation Model at the Visitor Center. Expected duration is two and a half hours. For details, see page 8 for the Calendar of Events.

In addition to the four workshops, Monticello archaeologists will be conducting daily (Monday-Friday) walking tours in June and July to ongoing excavations at Site 6, an early 19th-century slave quarter, located about a half mile from Jefferson's mansion. This fieldwork is being conducted in conjunction with the annual Monticello-University of Virginia Archaeological Field School. The walking tours emphasize excavation strategies and what archaeologists are learning about the lives of the enslaved field hands who lived at the site. Visitors will have a chance to discuss the latest finds with students and staff.



Learn more about archaeology at Monticello during our new Saturday Archaeology Workshop series. T.J.F.