

Gunston Grapevine

December 2011



In This Issue

BUCKLAND CHAIR 2

TABLES 3

THE TEA TABLE 5

FROM THE ARCHIVES 8

ASK GRAPEMAN 10

CHRISTMAS 1845 11

EXTRA GRAPESHOTS 14

On the Cover: A Gunston Hall deer grazes near the garden on a foggy November morning. Perhaps the doe is a descendent of one of George Mason's "native deer domesticated" described by John Mason in his Recollections.

BUCKLAND CHAIR NOW IN DINING ROOM ARTIFACT RETURNS TO ITS INTENDED SITE

The "Chinese" style walnut side chair (ca-1759) designed by William Buckland and carved by William Bernard Sears is now in Gunston Hall's "Chinese" style dining room.

"In the immediate future," according to Director David L. Reese, "the similarity of carving on the chair to carving on the interior architecture of the Mansion will be carefully studied and analyzed."

Eventually, the chair may be dressed with a seat or slip cover to make it more harmonious with the room.

"Although the back of the chair has been horribly compromised," Mr. Reese stated in a recent memo to Mansion Interpreters, "and the rear legs were cut down, it is still a wonderful object and of great inter-

est to historians."

Although other pieces of Buckland designed furniture still exist, the Director does not believe that any of them are displayed in the room for which they were created.

"Gunston Hall is unique in having a Buckland interior and a piece of Buckland furniture in situ."

This chair fragment likely represents a set of 12 chairs originally in this room. Gunston Hall purchased this piece in 2009 in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the completion of the Mansion.

Interpreters and docents are encouraged to share the important history of this object with visitors.

MEETINGS

The monthly Docent General Meeting is Monday, January 9, 2012, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Ann Mason Room.

The Docent Board will meet Monday, January 23, at 9:30 a.m. in the Hertle Library.

“NEW” 18TH-CENTURY DRESSING TABLE AND MULTI-PURPOSE TABLE NOW IN FIRST FLOOR BEDCHAMBER

By Caroline Riley, former curator

I am happy to write Collections has acquired two handsome pieces of furniture. The first is an Eastern Virginia dressing table (c.1750-1765). It is comprised of walnut primary with yellow pine secondary and brass and iron hardware.

The bead molded edges of the top, the lack of a rail above the drawer, the ornamental turnings at the top of the legs, and the ring turned feet on slightly elevated pads typify several groups in the Southeastern region of the colony. The table was refinished in the 1950s but retains almost all of its original elements including the plate pulls, escutcheon and lock. The feet have also not been altered, which is rare given their delicacy.

The form is stylistically similar to George Mason's writing table in our collection. Undoubtedly, the Masons both would have used a dressing table to prepare themselves for the day and for formal entertainments.

The second piece is a circa 1750-1770 walnut eastern Virginia multipurpose table

likely made in Norfolk. Tables in the group are characterized by their attenuated baluster turnings, tall, baluster-turned feet, stretcher bases, and beaded ornament. Notice where the leg meets the stretcher; it is a fantastic example of beaded ornament.

Although splay leg stands are rarely associated with the South, a small but growing number hail from the Chesapeake, including Norfolk and the Eastern Shore of Virginia. It is similar to a Tidewater Virginia stretcher table (circa 1720) in MESDA's image files and a documented dressing table from Williamsburg but likely made in Norfolk, Virginia, now in a private collection.

The table in the First-Floor Bedchamber could have been used in lots of different ways from setting out items from the closet to entertaining a guest for tea.

Please go and enjoy both of these “new” late-eighteenth century pieces in the First-Floor Bedchamber.



Archaeology Symposium MASON NECK UNDERGROUND

From **Pre-History** to the **Early Republic**

Saturday, January 28, at Gunston Hall
9 A.M to 4 P.M.

An archaeological symposium open to the public surveying recent investigations at multiple sites in Mason Neck, including

GUNSTON HALL, OLD COLCHESTER, MEADOWOOD, & LEXINGTON

Featuring presentations by Michael Johnson, Christopher Sperling, David Shonyo, Wendy Miervaldis, Paul Inashima, and Douglas Comer.

Morning refreshments, coffee, lunch and a house tour are included.



Registration

\$40 Individual prior to January 15

\$50 Individual

\$40 Friends of Gunston & FOFA

Register online by clicking here

<https://secure.ggiv.com/for/gunhal/event/4077/>

or phone 703-550-9220

COMING IN FEBRUARY



Sunday, February 12 at 2 p.m.

In the Gunston Hall Visitors' Center

Gunston Hall's 5th Annual Seeds of Independence Program

Exploring a small antebellum settlement of free blacks clustered along the "Neck Road," now known as Harley Road, on Mason's Neck and situated within properties owned by whites, some of them the owners of a few slaves.

Film premiere - *Between the Lines: Free Blacks Living on Mason's Neck During the Civil War*

This short film documents the impact of the Civil War upon this community.

Illustrated talk - *On Uneven Ground: Finding Freedom in the Civil War Chesapeake*

Professor Kym S. Rice, will discuss the everyday experiences of African Americans in Northern Virginia during the Civil War. Professor Rice is Director of Museum Studies at George Washington University and Co-author of *The World of a Slave, Material Life of Slaves in the United States*, and was Curator of the exhibit *Before Freedom Came, African-American Life in the Antebellum South* at the Museum of the Confederacy and co-edited the related book by the same title.

Sweet Potato Pie Reception & Guided Mansion Tour

For additional information: 703-550-9220 or www.GunstonHall.org.

Suggested donation: \$9, Adults; \$8, Seniors; \$5, 6 - 18 years.

Program includes film, talk, reception, & tour.

A LANDMARK LOST IN TIME: FINDING THE *TEA TABLE*

By Paul Y. Inashima, Archeological Consultant

During the evening of December 16, 1773, a party of Bostonians boarded the British tea ships *Dartmouth*, *Eleanor*, and *Beaver* anchored in Boston Harbor (Figure 1). Then the group proceeded to throw the cargo of tea contained in the holds overboard as an act of civil protest against the British Tea Act of 1773. This event, subsequently, became a symbolic statement against taxation without representation and about the unfairness of British rule.

Following the Boston Tea Party, the citizens of Fairfax County took up actions against the Tea Act and other abuses of British rule. Their actions included the famous Fairfax County Resolves^{2, 3} which were penned largely by George Mason and were adopted by a Fairfax County



Fig. 1

Convention on July 18, 1774. Lewis H. Machen⁴ declared the Resolves “one of the greatest events that ever transpired in America.” Resolution 11 (Figure 2) of the 23 resolutions stated in part, “that all [East India Company] tea now in this [Virginia] Colony . . . should be deposited in some store-house . . . until a sufficient sum of money be raised . . . to reimburse the owners . . . and then to be publicly burnt and destroyed . . . [unless the Tea Tax is repealed].”

In addition to the public resolution against the Tea Act, several of the leading citizens of Fairfax County pledged among themselves to forsake the consumption of tea within their homes. This pledge, however, posed a dilemma as the tea they already owned represented a costly expenditure.

An ingenious and highly practical solution to his dilemma, nevertheless, was soon crafted as described a century later by D.W. in the *Alexandria Gazette*⁵:

In the above named county and parish is a celebrated place which was called the Tea Table. It is situated on the road leading from Pohick Church to Gunston Hall, between Springfield and Gunston. I believe the land belonged to Col. George Mason, of Gunston.

Cockburn lived at Springfield, and was a near neighbor to Col. Mason. As there are few men now living who know anything about the Tea Table, I will give its history, as I received it from men who lived in those days and were familiar with those times: When the tea was thrown overboard in Boston harbor, Massachusetts, our people got news of it very



Fig. 2

soon and held a meeting The meeting was held and they resolved that they would buy no more tea from the mother country until the unpleasantness was settled, nor would they even use tea in their houses. Having some tea, which was then considered a great luxury, on hand, and not wishing to lose it, but to enjoy it, and at the same time conform to the resolution passed, they built a table at the celebrated spot, and there re-

(Continued on page 6)

paired in fine weather with their tea kettles, tea pots, & c, made the tea and drank it, and thus it was called the Tea Table. Now imagine the elite of that day assembled on a fine evening around about the Tea Table. Who were there? I will answer: Col. George Mason, General (then,) Col. Geo. Washington, Col. McCarty, Cockburn, Thompson, and others equally patriots. Richard Chichester . . . W. L. Massie, the parson, was also there to read prayers.

Thereafter, the location of the *Tea Table* remained a prominent landmark for at least three-quarters of a century before falling into obscurity around the time of the Civil War.

By reporter D.W.'s time, knowledge of its location, along with its history, largely had faded. D.W. placed the *Tea Table* on Gunston Road between Cockburn's Springfield and Mason's Gunston.

An 1844 Fairfax County Road Petition⁶ filed by Eleanor A.C. Mason and others provides additional insight as to the *Tea Table*'s location. The road petition referred to "two Roads leading from a place called the Tea Table to Hallowing point, the one passing through the enclosure of the Gunston estate, the other outside of it . . . the Outside Road (which was originally the public Road [the current Gunston Road] . . ."

The petition makes it evident that the *Tea Table* was situated near where the two roads diverged. Although it doesn't specify on which side of the main road it stood, the topography suggests that the *Tea Table* was situated on the small knoll which lies along the south side of the present Gunston Road and northwest of Shiloh Baptist Church (Figure 4).

In its time, the *Tea Table* was a noted local landmark which commemorated both the public and private efforts of George Mason and others to protest the abuses of colonial British rule. Hopefully, its place in history once again can be acknowledged some 237 years after the events which inspired it.



Fig. 3

(TEA TABLE Continued from page 6)

Notes.

1. "Americans throwing the Cargoes of the Tea Ships into the River at Boston," from W.D. Cooper, *The History of North America*, E. Newberry, 1789.
2. The original Fairfax County Resolves are available at <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trt010.html>.
3. A transcription of the Resolves is found at <http://www.virginiamemory.com/docs/FairfaxResolves.pdf>.
4. Machen quoted from his speech during the presentation of the Guthertz portrait of George Mason as cited in Susan Riviere Hatzel, 1901, "The Two Georges of Fairfax and Pohick Church," *Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine*, 19:369-375.
5. *Alexandria Gazette*, July 19, 1876.
6. Eleanor A.C. Mason et al.'s road petition, July 9, 1844, courtesy of Katrina R. Krempasky, Fairfax County Court Historical Records.
7. Aerial photograph from Google Earth, 2011.

Figure 1. The Boston Tea Party, 1773¹.

Figure 2. An excerpt from Resolution 11 of the Fairfax County Resolves².

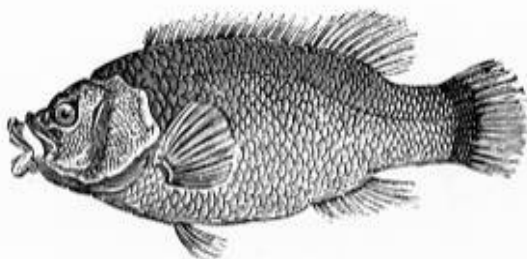
Figure 3. The likely location of the *Tea Table*⁷.

Caffeinated Fish?

Unexpected Casualties of Boston Tea Affair LONDON, *January 28*.

Letters from Boston complain much of the Taste of their Fish being altered. Four or five Hundred Chests of Tea may have so contaminated the Water in the Harbour that the Fish may have contracted a Disorder, not unlike the nervous Complaints of the human Body. Should this Complaint extend itself as far as the Banks of Newfoundland, our Spanish and Portugal Fish Trade may be much affected by it.

From the *Virginia Gazette*, May 5, 1774.



Amazing Trivia:

It Wasn't a Tea Party until 1834!

According to historian Alfred Young in his 1999 book *The Shoemaker and the Tea Party*, the term "Boston Tea Party" was not seen in print until 1834 in the first biography of George Robert Twelves Hewes *A Retrospect of the Tea Party* by James Hawkes.

Hewes, a struggling cobbler, was reputed to be one of the final remaining participants of the destruction of the tea in Boston Harbor.

Contemporary references to the affair included "Boston harbor a teapot tonight," "The Destruction of the Tea," "the Boston Affair," and even British Admiral Montagu's the "Indian Caper."

A LETTER FROM THE FILES From the Gunston Hall Archives

By Mark Whatford, Librarian/Archivist

From our collection of John Mason¹ papers—an unpublished draft letter to President Jefferson from Thomas Moore [1760-1822]. Jefferson named Moore, a surveyor and civil engineer from Cumberland, Maryland, to lay out the Cumberland Road to Ohio as detailed in this letter. Moore also engineered the Erie Canal [that Jefferson thought would never be built], the state road from Buffalo to Albany, the Aqueduct Bridge over the Potomac, and the James River & Kanawha Canal.

John Mason, in 1806, was a member of the Potomac Company [canal construction] and President of the Bank of Columbia, located in Georgetown.

But why, as the draft letter states, was he paid \$500 out of the Cumberland funds?

In the final letter sent to Jefferson on August 22, Moore mentions that *“While John Mason was in office he acted as treasurer to the Commissioners, & with the consent of the Secretary of the Treasury drew therefrom \$500. on account of the Road...”*; mystery solved and new information on John Mason’s public life.

Jefferson did reply to Moore on September 16, but makes no mention of John Mason. Construction of the Cumberland Road (which later became part of the National Road) was authorized on March 29, 1806, by Jefferson.

Georgetown 8th JULY 1806

Thoms Jefferson

President of U States

Esteemed Friend

I expect to set out in a few days to meet the other Commissioners of the Ohio Boad [Board?]; while John Mason was in office he debted our treasurer to the Commissioners², and drew from the treasury of the U States \$500 with the consent of the Secty of the Treasury³ drew there [sum?] \$500 once consent of the Board, the Chief Clerk to the Secty this day informs me the [?ably] to the Law no other person than the President can draw for that purpose. If this also thy opinion, I will thank thee to place such a sum as those may think proper in the hands of [? name] Cashier of the Bank of Columbia⁴, on whom we may draw as occasion may draw as occasion may require & in order to enable thee to judge of the requisite sum for this year I will take the liberty to state that the daily fees of the surveyor & his [?] accounts to is about \$9. If this Autumn & beginning of winter should prove favorable they will probably make 160 days. Which is \$1620. The Commissioners will wish at least wish to draw the amount of these expenses say \$6 [?] day probably for 100 days accounting in the whole to \$2220. Out of which \$500 has been paid⁵, the balance [crossed out illegible line] deposited as aforesaid, will I think enable us to try to prosecute this [?] until near the end of the year if it should not be sooner accomplished & I am very doubtful [? crossed out] it will not as if it should be thought more eligible for the President to give permission for such member of the Commissioners as may be appointed to [?] Treasurer, as the business may require to draw immediately on this Treasury [?] I have no

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

doubt [?] it will be equally as affable to them whatever made is a [?] for our accommodation it will be right for us to be made acquainted with as early as convenient, by letter directed to Cumberland.

I have sometimes thought that meteorological observations made on or about the Alleghany mountains compared with those of the same time made nearer the Atlantic might lead to illustration of some of the phenomena of our climate which at present are best infrequently understood, particularly the sudden transactions of heat & cold & the variableness of our winds in production of which I have no doubt but those elevated ridges have considerable agency. I have therefore concluded to take a small thermometer with me & to note in my diary the temperature of the air each morning before we set out & in the evening after & the course of the wind [? quite ?] also the precise time of day when any remarkable change takes place particularly the beginning and ending of any easterly storm & wind that immediately succeeds if this should be of the opinion that either usefulness or [?] may grow out of it & will engage a [?table] person somewhere near the tide to undertake a similar course of observations I will also try to have it done at Cumberland on somewhere near the foot of the mountain on this side.

I am sorry I have to inform thee that the completion of prior engagements in this place & the arranging of my own domestic concerns for an absence of several months has not left me sufficient time to complete the calculations those wished me to make relative the canal⁶ though I have paid some attention to this subject.

I am with great respect

Thy friend

Thoms Moore

T. Jefferson

Presdt U States

Monticello

PS letters to the commissioners should be addressed to Cumberland

(Portions of the letter in red and underlined are crossed out in the original.)

1 John Mason 1766-1849

2 Thomas Moore, Joseph Kerr of Ohio and Eli Williams of Maryland

3 Albert Gallatin Secretary of the Treasury 1801-1814

4 John Mason is President of the Bank of Columbia

5 The John Mason \$500?

6 Possibly the Potomac Co. canal?

MASON FAMILY PAINTING ADDED TO COLLECTION



**By Caroline Riley,
former curator**

A recently acquired painting now in our collection depicts Sally Scott Murray (1775-1854) and her sister, Anna Maria Murray (1776-1857), the daughters of James and Sarah Maynadier Murray of Annapolis, Maryland.

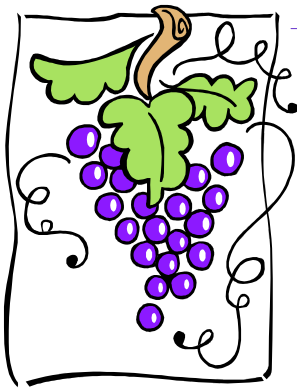
The painting is an

1838 copy by Charles Bird King after Bouce. It documents two young women standing full length, both attired in white dresses, walking toward a portrait bust of Dr. Upton Scott, who was a noted Annapolis physician.

Anna Maria Murray became the wife of John Mason. King

Painted at least four portraits of John Mason and three of Anna Maria Mason. Gunston Hall owns one of John Mason and one of Anna Maria Mason on view in the Visitor's Center.

The portrait was a gift from Ms. Ann Denny Solodar, a descendant of John and Anna Maria Mason.



Ask Grapeman!

Grapeman's first question today comes from **Mrs. Grapeman** who took a recent tour of Col. Mason's home. She writes:

*Dear Grapeman,
Why is that storage room on the second floor called the "Lumber Room." There were several household items there, but I didn't see any lumber.*

*Your loving spouse,
Mrs. Grapeman*
Dear Loving Spouse,

That's exactly what you did see. According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary lumber is "surplus or disused articles (as

furniture) that are stored away."

It's the second definition of lumber that is the more familiar "timber or logs, especially when dressed for use."

So Gunston Hall's lumber room, furnished as it is with disused articles such as spare mattresses, crutches, and candles is, indeed, full of lumber •

*Dear Grapeman,
Was Hanukkah celebrated in 18th century Virginia?
A Visiting Student, via a Docent.*

Dear Student,
An excellent ques-

tion! Grapeman wishes he had a better answer than "probably." There was a Jewish community in Virginia, notably in Richmond. Their celebrations of Jewish holidays and traditions were undoubtedly limited to family and synagogue and were not celebrated publically.

Grapeman searched the archives of the *Virginia Gazette* from 1736-1780 and found zero references to Hanukkah.

On the other hand, there was only one reference to Christmas, and that was of a celebration in England. •

ELEANOR MASON'S CHRISTMAS GROCERY LIST 1845

**By Jerry Foster,
Archaeological
Volunteer**

In 1844 Samuel F.B. Morse transmitted James K. Polk's nomination for the presidency by telegraph line from Baltimore to Washington – emblematic of a new era; in 1845 Texas was given statehood and Polk became President.

On December 18, 1845, the grocery firm of Kerr & McLean in Alexandria, Virginia sent the goods listed on the invoice (see illustration) to Eleanor Mason, widow of George Mason VI. Eleanor possessed Gunston Hall and resided there as her widow's dower right.

The firm of Kerr & McLean were John D. Kerr and his brother-in-law, Wilmer McLean. The latter would, a little over 15 years later, allow General P.G.T. Beauregard to use his home, Yorkshire, in Prince William County near Bull Run, as headquarters before the First Battle of Manassas. While the general's lunch was being prepared in the McLean kitchen, an artillery shell struck; some have called this the first official act of the Civil War.

The McLeans and their children moved to Appomattox, Virginia, to evade combat, but, ironically, the war followed them and General Lee surrendered to General

Grant in their parlor. Afterwards McLean would state that the Civil War began and ended on his property.

During the war, McLean supplied sugar to Confederate forces, and we can see, in this invoice, glimmerings of his expertise.

The first item on Eleanor

Weem's (who occasionally took services at Pohick Church until 1817) possibly apocryphal account, even George Washington made reference to Gunpowder Tea when he employed it in a double entendre with Lord Fairfax. Washington stated that his agent in London informed

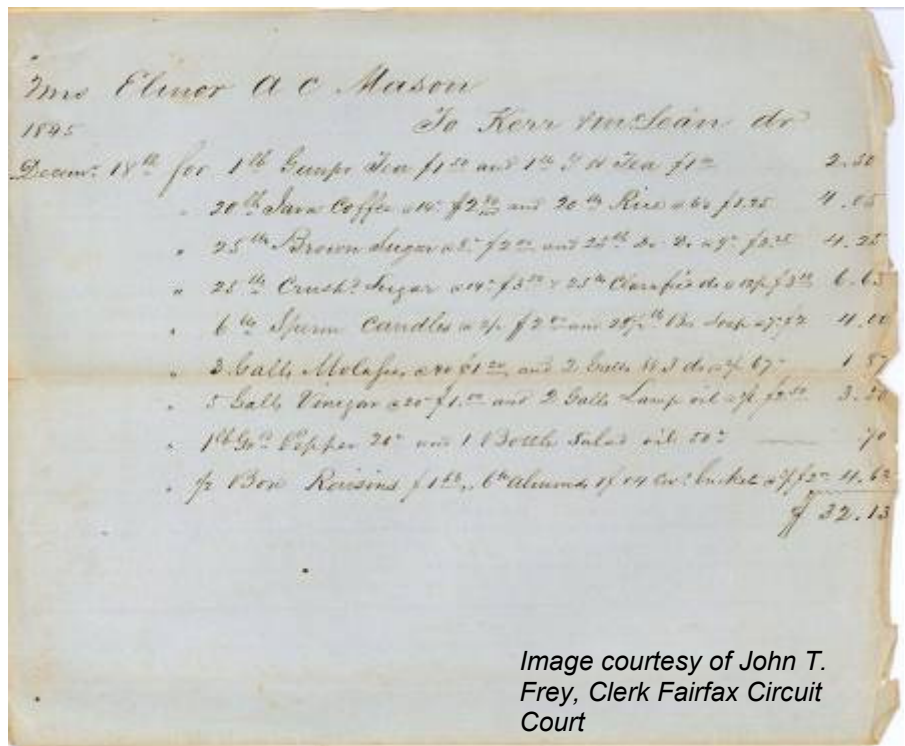


Image courtesy of John T. Frey, Clerk Fairfax Circuit Court

Mason's order is Gunpowder Tea, and it's interesting that the Lincolns were, contemporaneously in 1845, ordering Gunpowder Tea from the firm of John Irwin & Company in Springfield, Illinois¹; earlier, in 1830, James Madison requested it for Montpelier from William Allen in Fredericksburg.²

In Parson Mason Locke

him a shipment of Gunpowder Tea" was heading for Boston in 1773. When Fairfax asked for clarification, the reply was "it will prove inflammable, and produce an explosion that will shake both countries."³

Young Hyson tea (Y.H. on the invoice), was a documented victim of the "Mohawk Indians" in Boston harbor on

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

the evening of December 16, 1773. The Boston Tea Party managed to dump 15 crates of Hyson into the harbor.⁴

Tea would have been a relatively precious commodity for Eleanor Mason, and as she likely used the main bedchamber of George Mason IV's day, probably stored these teas in that room's "Upper Pantry" - carrying on a family tradition. John Mason, son of George Mason IV, in his *Recollections* states his mother, Ann Eilbeck Mason, employed the closet left of the chimney to house "the smaller or more precious stores for the table...."⁵

Tea and other commodities



Gunpowder tea—photo courtesy of Wikipedia

remind us of Alexandria's status as a port. Further proof of this is the importing of spermaceti candles, another item on Eleanor's list. It's likely these came from Nantucket which had in 1843 "the largest output of refined oil and sperm candles of any American community."⁶

Spermaceti candles "...are smooth, with a fine gloss, almost semi-transparent, and of

a silvery white, while those of wax have always a slight tint of yellow. When genuine, drops of spermaceti leave no stain. They are cheaper than the best wax."⁷

From the same source "...it burns with a clear white flame, superior to that of tallow, and without any disagreeable odour."⁸

Continuing down Eleanor's list, with the slim evidence presented, it's necessary to speculate regarding what Christmas dishes may have incorporated these ingredients: brown sugar, molasses, raisins, almonds, and black pepper.

Mary Randolph's *The Virginia Housewife* (1824 and many subsequent editions) provides some clues: brown sugar and molasses, combined with ingredients already on hand, would result in ginger bread; brown sugar, raisins, and black pepper, also with ingredients already stored, would create mince meat; raisins, sugar, and almonds, mixed with already-present goods would have resulted in Mary Randolph's "Rich Fruit Cake."

Unfortunately, we don't know at this juncture how Eleanor celebrated Christmas at Gunston Hall in 1845. We do know, from his diary entry, how President Polk celebrated it in 1845 his first year in office:

"This being Christmas Day no company called, with a very few exceptions who remained

but for a short time. Congress had adjourned, the public offices were closed, and no public business was transacted."

At Mount Vernon, later in the 1840's, we have John Augustine Washington III's account of a livelier Christmas:

"...the negroes dressed in their 'Sunday Best' with a horn, a fiddle and a tambourine, passed around the yard, and house to the Portico to give us a serenade...."⁹

Did Eleanor Mason attend Christmas services at Pohick Church in 1845? The church of George Washington and George Mason, when visited by Bishop William Meade in the summer of 1837 was described as being in dilapidated condition. Reverend William P.C. Johnson, the first post-colonial rector at Pohick (1836-1840), then began a very successful fund-raising campaign with contributions from prominent donors - President Martin Van Buren, former President John Quincy Adams, Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, and Francis Scott Key.¹⁰

Interestingly, at about that time, Reverend Johnson was living at Gunston Hall as a de facto glebe with his wife Ann, daughter of Bushrod Washington of Mount Zephyr, and their two young children - a boy born in 1833 and a girl in 1835. He was also teaching at a school operated by Eleanor Mason out of her home, [discovered by Paul Inashima,

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

consulting archaeologist at Gunston Hall through advertisements in the Alexandria Gazette (multiple issues in 1836) and Daily National Intelligencer (multiple issues in 1837)].

Martha Washington left funds in her will, with the stipulation that they be used by a specific time, for Pohick Church's acquisition of a glebe. That deadline was not met, the funds were forfeited, and no residence for the rector became available until after the Civil War.

So, it's likely Reverend Johnson and his family remained at Gunston Hall until he moved to another parish in 1840. Clearly, Eleanor Mason felt a bond with Pohick Church, and, purportedly, taught Sunday School there as well.

When Reverend Johnson left Pohick in 1840, the church was in much better physical condition, but religious observations became occasional, and we do not know whether Christmas services were held there in 1845. If so, at that time Episcopalian celebrations were held only on Christmas day, not Christmas Eve, and someone from the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria would have come out to officiate.

Christmas at Eleanor Mason's Gunston Hall would

have found an unusually-cold December – down to minus six degrees F. in Washington, D.C.¹¹ But guests coming in from the cold would have found rooms glowing with spermaceti candle reflection, possibly sprigs of native American holly, so plentiful on Gunston's grounds, and a household and kitchen redolent with fragrances familiar to us 166 years later.

With many thanks to John T. Frey, Clerk of Fairfax Circuit Court; to Katrina Krempasky of Fairfax Circuit Court Historical Records for her professional guidance; good friend Joanne Hughes for gunpowder tea clarification; Joan Stahl, Head Librarian at Mount Vernon; Claudette Crouch Ward; Reverend Donald D. Binder at Pohick Church; Leah Gass, Senior Reference Archivist at Presbyterian Historical Society; Julia Randle, Archivist at Virginia Theological Seminary; Heather Riser, Head of Reference, Small Special Collection Library, University of Virginia Library; and the ever-reliable Don Wilson, Head of RELIC at Bull Run Regional Library.

1 Account ledgers reproduced in Harry E. Pratt's article "The Lincolns Go Shopping" in the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society Vol. 48, No.1,p.73. 1955

2 William Allen letter to James Madison. November 20, 1830. John Dabney Shane Manuscript Collection, RG 196, Presbyterian Historical Society. Philadelphia, PA.

3 Parson Mason Locke Weems, *The Life of George Washington* (Philadelphia: Joseph Allen Co., 1840), p. 72.

4 Benjamin Woods Labaree, *The Boston Tea Party* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1964), East India Com-

pany's account records reproduced in Table IV of appendix.

5 Terry K. Dunn, editor, *The Recollections of John Mason* (Marshall, Virginia: EPM Publications, Inc.), p.64.

6 Samuel Elliot Morison, *The Maritime History of Massachusetts 1783-1860* (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1921), pp. 314-315.

7 Thomas Webster, *An Encyclopedia of Domestic Economy*, Vol. 1 (New York: Harper & Brothers,1845), p. 165.

8 Ibid., p. 148.

9 John Augustine Washington III, last of the family to own Mount Vernon, would be killed 13 September 1861 while serving as aide-de-camp to General Robert E. Lee. Reported in Lee letter to Edward C. Turner September 14, 1861 (Mss 7959, Papers of Beverly Dandridge Tucker, Small Special Collections Library, University of Virginia). The excerpt in text above is from a letter to his mother, Jane Charlotte Blackburn Washington December 28, 1849. (Manuscript RM-732/4926, Adelia Henry collection of Washington family manuscripts, 1831-1861; typescript, Notebook 17-c, Mount Vernon Ladies' Association.)

10 Source is historical data posted at Pohick Church's website – www.pohick.org.

11 United States Army Signal Corps, *Monthly Weather Review*, Vol. 12. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1884), p. 300.



PAGE 14 **GrapeShots**

Below right: A walk in the woods. Paul Inashima (center) points out an item of archaeological interest near George Mason V's Lexington Plantation site. In November, Paul led a group of 18 Gunston Hall employees and archaeology volunteers on a tour of archaeological and historical features at Lexington and vicinity. The event was organized by Gunston Hall interpreter Ray Boddie with the assistance of archaeologist Dave Shonyo. Photo by Carol Boland.

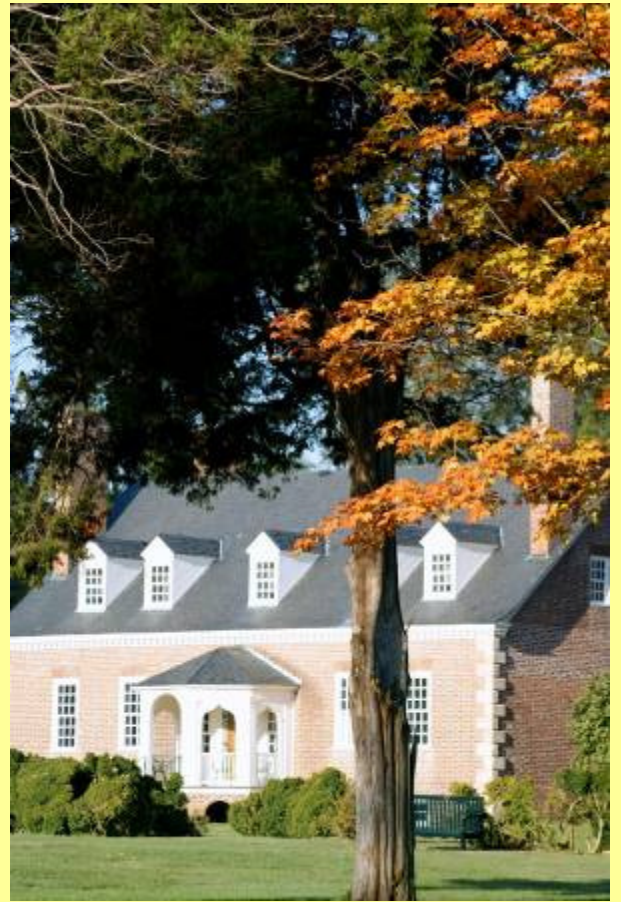
Below top: Docent Mary Lu Chatelier helps other docents decorate the Ann Mason Room for the Docents' Christmas luncheon.

Bottom: Judi Cohn sits with James and Dolley Madison during September's Docent trip to the Madison's home at Montpelier and Thomas Jefferson's Monticello.

Docents all dressed up and waiting for school children in September to celebrate Constitution Day. Front row: Julia Smiley, Debbie Bullock, Margaret Meath, B.J. McPherson, and Joanne Kelleher. Back row: Assistant Education Coordinator Frank Barker and Ruth Melvin.



Autumn on the Plantation



**Plantation
Christmas
2011**

