

(A) The Visitor Center
106 East Washington Street

Our neighborhood tour begins at the Visitor Center; days open, hours of operation, and other information concerning the various sites can be found here.

(B) The Stonewall Jackson House
8 East Washington Street

Stonewall Jackson lived here with his second wife Mary Anna Morrison Jackson before leaving for the Civil War. Here you can see and hear about the life of a college professor in Lexington before the Civil War. Jackson bought the house in 1848; it was the only home he ever owned.

(C) Lee-Jackson House
On the campus of Washington & Lee

Not open to the public, nevertheless this 1842 home provides a glimpse of pre-war Lexington. It was where Stonewall Jackson lived during his marriage to his first wife Eleanor Junkin, whose father was at the time President of Washington College (now Washington & Lee University). Immediately after the Civil War and until 1869 it was President Robert E. Lee's home at Washington College. He later moved to a newly-built home on campus now called Lee House (also not open to the public).

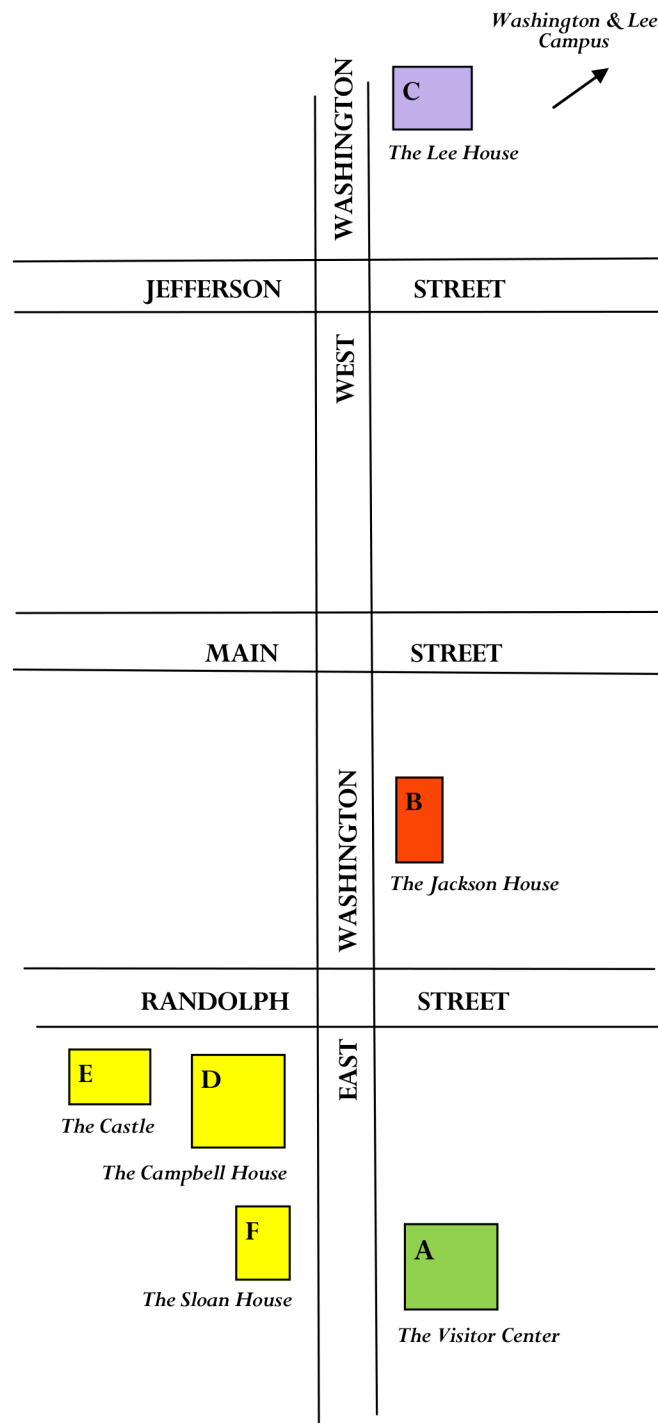
(D) The Campbell House
101 East Washington Street

After touring our neighborhood, come back to the Visitor Center by way of the Campbell House, built in 1844/45 by Lexington hotelkeeper Alexander T. Sloan on land purchased from Andrew Reid, who had bought the lot from the Trustees of the Town of Lexington in 1784. Here you will see interesting local artifacts and learn intriguing local history. It was in the Campbell House that the large family of Waddells—who had come from Waynesboro shortly after the war—struggled to make a living in post-Civil War Virginia. The grown sisters of the family operated a boarding house where they fed several generations of young college men. (The Campbell House, The Castle, and The Sloan House are all properties of the Rockbridge Historical Society; the Campbell House is its headquarters. All three properties were donated to the Society by Professor Leslie Campbell, their last owner and a founder of RHS.)

(E) The Castle and (F) the Sloan House
On either side of the Campbell House

Some of the men who took their meals at the Waddells' boarding house roomed in the interesting stone building on Randolph Street called the Castle, said to be the oldest building remaining in Lexington. The Sloan House was built in 1844-45 to be a tenant house and also housed students; it was built by Alexander T. Sloan whose private home was what is now called the Campbell House.

**WELCOME TO
OUR NEIGHBORHOOD**



*The
Rockbridge Historical
Society*

**WELCOMES YOU
TO
THE CAMPBELL HOUSE**

(ca. 1845)

RHS HEADQUARTERS,
HISTORICAL HOME
&
MUSEUM



OPEN
FRIDAY-SATURDAY
MARCH-DECEMBER
12:00-4:00
We are open when the flag is out.

FREE ADMISSION

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MARGARET JUNKIN'S NATURAL BRIDGE CHAIR



Margaret Junkin Preston, “Poetess of the South” and Stonewall Jackson’s sister-in-law and friend, was the owner of the chair shown above. The Rockbridge Historical Society has in its collections and on display in the Campbell House two pieces of furniture that once belonged to this remarkable woman: the Natural Bridge chair pictured above, which Margaret called her “fancy” chair, and a desk. The chair is decorated with a painting of the famous Rockbridge attraction the Natural Bridge.

The height of the writing surface of Margaret’s desk at the Campbell House is a reminder of her small stature. Margaret was a prolific writer whose themes were especially appealing to Southerners, even though she was Northern-born.

In August of 1857 Margaret married widower Col. John Thomas Preston of VMI. In May of 1861, when her stepson Rev. Thomas Lewis Preston chose a bride, Margaret became the step-mother-in-law of Lucy Waddell. In 1865, Lucy’s father Dr. Livingston Waddell moved his family into what we now call the Campbell House, and here various Waddell daughters operated a boarding house for local students until the turn of the 20th century. The Waddell sisters left their mark on Lexington’s memory as women who provided especially good fare, but more importantly they displayed a wonderful ability to adapt, survive, and persevere in post-Civil War Virginia.

THE BURIAL OF LATANÉ



A copy of the steel engraving called *The Burial of Latané* can be seen at the Campbell House in Lexington, Virginia. This engraving was very popular in the South following the Civil War, as it represented the death of a fallen soldier and his tender burial by strangers. To a people who had lost so many of their kinsmen and friends on distant battlefields with no hope of bringing their bodies home for burial, the scene depicted in this print was immensely comforting.

The burial in this scene actually happened. A young officer named Capt. William Latané was killed behind the lines, and it was left for strangers, women on a nearby plantation, to see to it that the traditional duties were performed: a coffin made, a grave dug, and the burial rites read. Although in the culture of the time and place these were functions to be carried out exclusively by men, no minister was available to read the burial rites. As the engraving shows, a woman, compelled by necessity and compassion, fulfilled this duty.

The steel engraving is after an oil painting by William D. Washington, a one-time resident of Lexington. His 1864 painting was inspired by a 1862 poem by John R. Thompson, also called “The Burial of Latané” and also widely popular in the Civil-War South.

MARY MOORE BROWN'S CRADLE



Mary Moore Brown’s cradle, on display at the Rockbridge Historical Society, was made to provide comfort to Indian captive Mary Moore. Mary, born in 1776, was the daughter of Rockbridge native James Moore, an early settler in Abb’s Valley in the county of southwestern Virginia now called Tazewell. In 1784, three Shawnee warriors, incited by broken treaties and the encroachment of settlers into their ancestral lands, kidnapped James Moore’s 14-year-old son James Jr.

This terrifying act, designed to drive the Moore family from Abb’s Valley, failed. James Moore refused to leave. As a result, in July of 1786 the Shawnee returned in strength, attacking and burning the Moores’ cabin, killing James Moore and four of his children. They took his wife Martha and the rest of the children who were at home that day into captivity. Only Mary—who was ten years old when she was taken—survived the ordeal.

After three years as a prisoner, Mary was at last located and ransomed, as was her brother James. She returned to Rockbridge and in October 1798 married Rev. Samuel Givens Brown. Rev. Brown died in 1818, leaving his widow with 11 children. Mary soon became ill with tuberculosis and was unable to sleep. The cradle now in the Campbell House was made to provide her some comfort and relief. She died in 1824, only 48 years old.