



THE HISTORICAL LINEAGE

The Colonial Foundations (1735 – 1765)

- **November 12, 1735:** The land (originally 500 acres) is granted by Governor William Gooch of the Colony of Virginia to Isaac Parkins. Parkins established the homestead, building a small log cabin and barn. (Note: Wood salvaged from this original, still-standing barn was later utilized during the home's restoration and addition in 2000).
- **July 1, 1751:** Lord Thomas Fairfax officially confirms the land grant.
- **August 4, 1752:** Isaac Parkins conveys the tract to his son, Charles Parkins, "for the consideration of five shillings and for natural affection."
- **September 27, 1765:** Charles Parkins sells the tract (along with adjoining parcels) to partners Frederick Conrad and Henry Baker.

Construction of the Stone Manor & Early Ownership (1765 – 1800)

- **1765:** The original stone manor house was constructed by Frederick Conrad. Born in Baumholder, Germany, Conrad immigrated to America in 1750, married Marie Clare Ley, and became a highly prosperous Winchester tanner.
- **May 3, 1768:** Conrad and Baker formally divide the land. A survey reveals the tract actually contains 576 acres (rather than the alleged 664 acres). Conrad receives the northern 288-acre partition, adjoining the James Wood land.
- **January 7, 1794:** Upon his death, Frederick Conrad devises the plantation to his sons, John and Frederick Conrad Jr.
- **September 5, 1800:** Frederick Conrad Jr. conveys 192.5 acres of the estate to John Peyton, a prominent militia Colonel, wealthy land speculator, and a founding father of the historic Winchester Academy.

The Robinson-Pendleton Era (1808 – 1834)

- **1808:** Following John Peyton's passing, Special Commissioners sell the estate to Thomas Stribling, who immediately conveys it to Alexander Robinson of Baltimore.
- **September 8, 1815:** The heirs of John Conrad convey their remaining portion of the original bequest to Alexander Robinson, consolidating the entire estate under his ownership.
- **Historical Note:** Alexander Robinson was a highly successful Baltimore merchant and ship owner. His second wife, Angelica Peale, was the daughter of the world-renowned American portrait painter, Charles Willson Peale. Their lineage of prominent Winchester descendants included esteemed lawyer Alexander Robinson Pendleton.
- **September 28, 1821:** Alexander and Angelica Robinson convey the stone dwelling and tract to their son, Lyles R. Robinson, who had relocated to the estate from Maryland in 1816.
- **1834:** Upon his death, Lyles Robinson's will directs that the property be divided equally among his seven children.

A Period of Transition (1836 – 1885)

- **1836:** The Executors of Lyles Robinson convey the property to Richard C. Stockton.
- **March 7, 1840:** Following a lawsuit between the Robinson Executors and the Stockton heirs, a court trustee conveys the estate to Lucius W. Stockton.
- **March 10, 1840:** Lucius W. Stockton sells to Bushrod Taylor.
- **July 9, 1840:** Bushrod Taylor sells to George W. Higgins.
- **August 13, 1840:** George W. Higgins sells to John Merryman.
- **1881:** Charles and Ellen Gorsuch inherit the estate from the heirs of John Merryman.

The Modern Era & Preserving the Legacy (1885 – Present)

- **1885:** The estate was purchased by James B. Russell.
- **1919:** James Russell gifts the historic stone home and outbuildings (then sitting on 185 acres) to his daughter, Mrs. Mary R. Brown. Following her passing, the property transfers to her husband.
- **1939:** The property is acquired by the Pennypacker family, under whose stewardship the estate's historical integrity is maintained through the mid-20th century.
- **1999:** The Sfeir family purchases the estate, initiating the meticulous, multi-year 2000–2003 restoration project that seamlessly blended the home's 1765 structure with world-class modern luxuries.