

5. CHRONICLE ESMONT HISTORY

Friends of Esmont announces publication of its history book, Esmont Virginia
A community carved from the earth and sustained by story

Friends of Esmont, Inc., proudly announces the publication of its history book, **Esmont Virginia**, available for purchase in local bookstores and on Amazon. The **Esmont Virginia** history book was made possible by Preservation Piedmont through distribution from the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation's Watha J. Eddins, Jr. Fund, dedicated for protection of historic resources and advancement of cultural heritage in Virginia, by Virginia Humanities, and The Caplin Foundation of Earlysville.

Esmont Virginia history addresses Land Grants from the mid to late 1700s, and the historic plantations built in the area in the 1700s and 1800s, most of which have been carefully preserved and are still residences. Many significant churches, some dating back to the 1800s are addressed along with schools from early days of Porters, Chestnut Grove and Esmont Village, and a Forward written by author Jan Karon of Charlottesville.

The rich industrial and commercial history including quarrying slate and soapstone, building railroad lines connecting Warren, Esmont, Schuyler and Alberene, building and creating the busy regional Esmont National Bank and other commerce are all detailed in this amazing book.

Peggy Denby, Chair of Friends of Esmont, says, "We are delighted we had the opportunity to research, document, and now share the rich and interesting history of Esmont, Porters and Chestnut Grove areas that for all these many years had been untold."

Andi Cumbo-Floyd, the historian and author, commented "having grown up in Bremo Bluff, a rural Virginia community, I fell in love with Esmont's long history, its economic boon, and its continuing heart-beat in the lives of its people."

Friends of Esmont is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, organized in 2018 to rejuvenate the historic village of Esmont. The Board of Directors has selected seven projects to fulfill this mission which include, in addition to the History: Building a walking/riding trail; memorializing the Esmont Depot; creating a wildlife wetland; restoration of historic houses in the village; restoration of Purvis Store as a marketplace for grocery store and local arts/crafts; and gaining easier access to Fulfillment Farm for recreational purposes.

###

Available for purchase at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and through local bookstores, New Dominion Bookshop on the Mall in Charlottesville and Baines Bookstore in Scottsville.

