



August 2021 Update

Purvis Store

The big news is **WE CLOSED ON PURVIS STORE** on July 28! So now the work begins. We will be working on finding funding for the restoration of this historic building, which will likely be a slow process. We want to bring in volunteers when we get the building stabilized and looking for funding to bring in a landscape person to get us started on the cleanup.. Donations are welcomed as well as funding ideas!

New Board Members

The next big news item is to announce **two new board members**: Vivian Feggans and Dan Mahon. Vivian lives off Porters Road in Esmont giving us three board members in the village area. Dan just retired from the county where he was in charge of greenways and blueways for 20+ years.

Outdoor Classroom

We are talking with several folks who are interested in setting up an **Outdoor Classroom** when we get the wetland done.

Esmont Trail Mapping

Mapping has been done for the **Esmont Trail** and we have approached CSX asking them to donate the railroad path to our organization. CSX still owns a large portion of the proposed trail from Alberene to the James River. More on that as it progresses.

Alberene Depot Photograph

We received the picture (right) of the **Alberene Depot** which many of us have never seen! We learned that the Depot was attached to the mill at Alberene, and this photo was used as cover photo of a C&O historical society magazine and feature article.



“Quarry, in Winter Hiatus” Donation

Finally, Pat Healy, local artist and Friend of Esmont, donated his prize-winning art piece “Quarry, in Winter Hiatus,” to Friends. Due to our current lack of walls, FoE loaned the art to Yancey School Community Center. Below is a picture of the art and an explanation of materials used to create it.



QUARRY, IN WINTER HIATUS

Patrick Healy

2021

COMPOSITION AND MATERIALS USED

What is remarkable about this project is the way that its elements seemed to fall to hand: as if the piece was meant to be. That is a humbling observation.

Subpanel – scrap from trim from porch renovation

Frame – two battens commonly used in bulk shipping

Sky Panel – was once a windowsill, with original blue paint

Stone Underlay – scraps of cement board

Far Wall of Quarry – leftover tiles, installed upside down and piece of local soapstone

Near Quarry rims – local pebbles and stones

Quarry Pond – green Brazilian slate tiles

Muddy Patch in Center – strips of African slate

Quarried block in foreground – climax stone

Bird – from Christmas ornament

Fly-jib Crane and Track Mechanism – cut from a piece of bed frame

Cables and Hoses – pieces of tie-wire

Operator’s House – Agra Red sandstone showing the grooved side

Windshield – cut from an olive oil bottle

Gear Wheel, Smokestack, Wrecking Ball – odd bits of hardware

Cable – florist’s wire

Let me know if you have any comments or questions!

Until Next Time...

Peggy Denby