

Business Honor Roll

217
YEARS IN BUSINESS

Join us for our
Rustic Learning / Event Center
GROUND-BREAKING
SAT., JANUARY 11 at 2 P.M.
Historic Sappington Houses
1015 S. Sappington Rd. 63126 • 314-822-8171



GROUND-BREAKING

for the 1816 Joseph Sappington LOG House

Saturday, January 11, 2025
at 2 pm

Historic Sappington Park
1015 S. Sappington Road
Crestwood, MO 63126

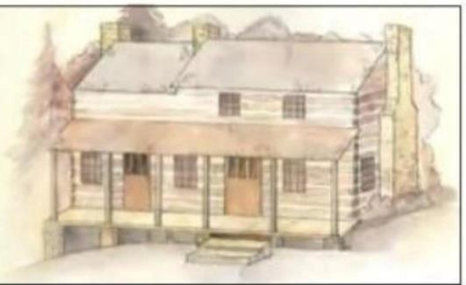
314-822-8171
historicsappingtonhouseS.org

Soon-to be a Rustic Learning/Event Center

Refreshments to follow in Library of Americana

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Future Site of the New Rustic Learning/Event Center - in between the Library and The Barn (shed already dismantled)

SAPPINGTON HOUSE FOUNDATION TO BEGIN RECONSTRUCTION AND PRESERVATION OF 210-YEAR-OLD JOSEPH SAPPINGTON LOG HOUSE AFTER MOVING IT TO HISTORIC SAPPINGTON PARK IN CRESTWOOD; Public Invited to Attend Historic Groundbreaking Event January 11 at 2:00 pm

Crestwood, Mo., January 2, 2025 – Two years after being rescued from destruction at its original location in Affton, the 1816 Joseph Sappington Log House will be reconstructed and preserved three miles away at the Historic Sappington Park in Crestwood and repurposed as a five-room rustic learning and event center. The Sappington House Foundation, which now owns the Joseph Sappington Log House, will conduct a groundbreaking event open to the public at the site at 1015 S. Sappington Road in Crestwood on January 11 beginning at 2:00 p.m. to kick off the reconstruction effort.

The rebuilt Joseph Sappington Log House will be located next to the Thomas Sappington 1808 brick house, which is on the National Register of Historic Places and widely considered to be the oldest brick home in St. Louis County. The Joseph Sappington Log House is one of the earliest surviving log structures in St. Louis County.

The Sappington House Foundation began making plans four years ago to save the Joseph Sappington Log House after the new owner of the property on which it was built in Affton wanted to clear the lot, which likely would include tearing the house down. Local historians and preservationists then launched the “Save JOE” movement, enlisting the popular backing and support of the community, businesses, family descendants and City of Crestwood civic leaders.

Antique Logs Unlimited of Kirkwood owner Mark Pratt has disassembled the tagged, hand-hewn logs of virgin timber and three massive stone fireplaces of the Joseph Sappington log home and is now pre-assembling the log house in his lumberyard in southeast Missouri. Utilizing architectural plans produced by Jeff Day and Associates, Pratt will rebuild the log house onsite to meet current building codes. The five-room log house will be repurposed for educational activities, events, meetings, exhibits and storage. It will be completed and opened to the public in 2026.

“The reconstruction of this historic cabin is a proud moment for Crestwood, reflecting how our shared history can shape a promising future,” said Mayor Scott Shipley. “More than just a building, it represents the dedication of those who work to preserve our past and those committed to shaping our future. It will be yet another reason for residents to take pride in Crestwood, and I’m excited to see this vision realized and the lasting benefits it will bring to our city.”

Crestwood Alderperson Rebecca Now added that Historic Sappington Park includes “cherished, cultural treasures that will now be preserved and enhanced for future generations to enjoy.”

Dyann Dierkes, Sappington House Foundation president, puts the reconstruction in an historical context. “The builder of the log house in 1816, Joseph Sappington and his wife Elizabeth, raised 13 children there and one of their sons, Sebastian, took Julia Dent Grant’s case to the Missouri Supreme Court in her bid to own their log home,” said Dierkes. “Sebastian Sappington won, making Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant the first American female property owner in the state.”

Following the January 11 groundbreaking, refreshments will be served in the Library of Americana and Decorative Arts in Historic Sappington Park, which also includes the Sappington House Museum, The Barn restaurant and the Loft Gift Shop.

The Sappington House Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is responsible for restoring and preserving two historic architectures, the Thomas Sappington House Museum and the 1816 Joseph Sappington Log House. Donations are still being accepted for this ongoing preservation project. For more information, contact Sally Cakouros, Site Manager for Historic Sappington Houses at 314-822-8171 or sallyc@historicsappingtonhouse.org.

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