

'The Hollow' is purchased

The effort to preserve The Hollow, the boyhood home of the late Chief Justice John Marshall, has taken a giant step forward.

A 322-acre tract near Markham on which the home is located was recently purchased by Dr. David C. Collins, owner of Learning Tree Farms in nearby Delaplane.

Collins became interested in the land because The Hollow sat exposed and unprotected.

The Hollow is part of a large tract owned by a partnership that included Markham resident Warren K. Montouri.

As a minority partner representing the sellers, Montouri assisted in the negotiations that led to the sale of the land to Collins.

"I'm thrilled to see The Hollow move closer to historic preservation," said Montouri from his cattle farm, Gibraltar, near Markham.

"This is a milestone event for Marshall's boyhood home and for the Friends of the Hollow," said Thomas Marshall deButts, a sixth-generation descendant of the chief justice and president of the Friends of the Hollow.

"Our organization was

established in 1981 to work toward preservation of The Hollow. For many years, we have tried to obtain the landowners' permission to designate Marshall's boyhood home an historic landmark. Now, Dr. Collins has instructed us to move forward."

"The legacy of Chief Justice John Marshall's life's work continues to be of vital importance in our country's development," said Collins.

"Marshall is a true self-made American hero and a wonderful role model for our children. Bringing John Marshall's boyhood home 'back to life' is a way to connect children to the history of this great man, Virginia and the nation," Collins added.

Initial plans call for restoration of the structure and preservation of the surrounding property.

Collins intends to establish a park and educational facility for children, as well as an archaeological effort to learn more about how Marshall and his family of 12 lived in their humble frontier home.

Since the Friends of the Hollow was founded in 1981 by the late Evelyn M. (Eva) Light,

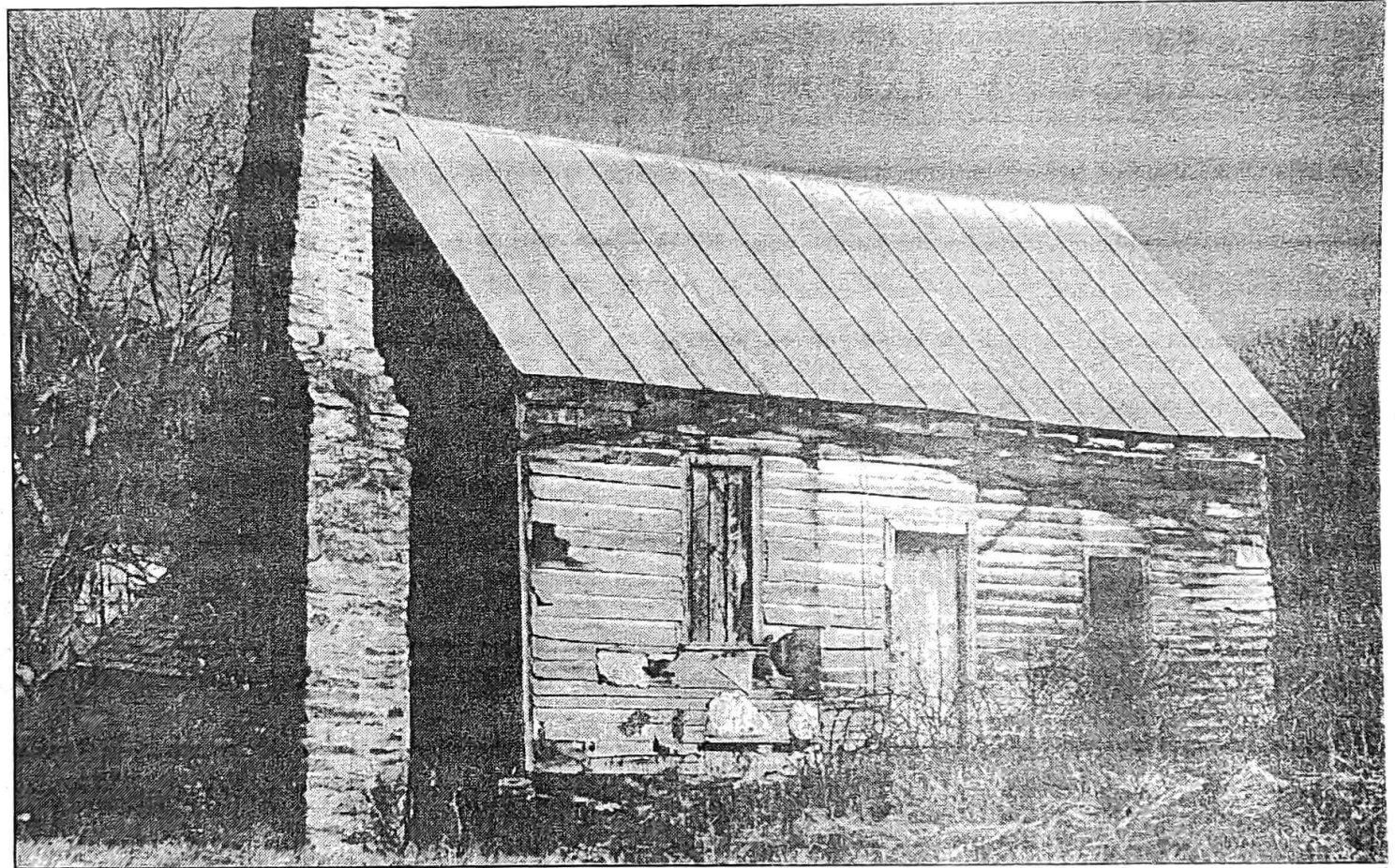


Photo Courtesy of The Friends of The Hollow

SAVED? Preservationists are hopeful Dr. David Collins of Delaplane will restore John Marshall's boyhood home.

it has pursued a vision to preserve and protect The Hollow.

"We hoped that, in time, our dream of a fully restored and preserved Marshall boyhood home would become reality," said John K. Gott, Friends of the Hollow founding director and Fauquier historian. "All

these years later, we're thrilled to see the light at the end of the tunnel."

Efforts of the Friends of the Hollow have included installing a roof and stabilizing the structure; dendrochronological (tree ring) dating of the structure to 1764; architectural

drawings of the structure, and application for and funding of an historical highway marker on Route 688.

Future efforts will include assisting Collins in gaining Virginia and National Historic Landmark recognition for the site and with restoring

the house.

Pictures, architectural drawings and other information about The Hollow can be accessed at www.further.com/hollow. Contributions can be made to Friends of the Hollow, Inc., 4283 N. 38th St., Arlington, Va. 22207.