

# Bothwell Lodge State Historic Site



# Bothwell Lodge State Historic Site Mission Statement

Bothwell Lodge State Historic Site preserves and interprets the history of Bothwell Lodge, the larger property called Stoneyridge Farm, and John Homer Bothwell, the Lodge's creator, and the era in which he lived. This is accomplished through the care and use of various resources including historic buildings, structures, artifacts, documents, and the surrounding environment.

The 250-acre site also provides outdoor recreation for all visitors in the form of picnicking, hiking, biking, and nature-watching.

# Bothwell Lodge SHS Staff

- 3 full-time staff
  - Park Superintendent
  - Historian/Resource Interpreter
  - Senior Maintenance Worker
  - 3 part time staff members-Maintenance Laborer, Tour Guide
  - 1 Volunteer

# Staff Functions

- Park Superintendent
  - Customer service
  - “Guides the ship”
  - Provides employee resources
  - Helps with tours
  - Performs clerical duties
    - Bills, hiring, banking, shelter reservations, tour reservations etc.
  - Other duties as necessary-filling in during the absence of other staff members
  - *All duties are performed while maintaining a high degree of historic standards and customer service*

# Staff Functions

- Senior Maintenance Worker
  - Customer service
  - Performs routine and non-routine maintenance on all of the grounds and structures
  - Performs construction and landscaping work
  - Equipment operation and maintenance
  - Performs managerial duties in the absence of the manager
  - Other duties as necessary
  - *All duties are performed while maintaining a high degree of historic standards and customer service*

# Staff Functions

- Historian/Resource Interpreter
  - Customer service
  - Artifact management
  - Seasonal tour guide interviewing and training
  - Performs managerial duties in the absence of the manager
  - Performs some clerical duties that include the monthly souvenir sales reporting
  - Other duties as necessary
  - *All duties are performed while maintaining a high degree of historic standards and customer service*

# Work Since September 2021



Air conditioning work on the park van

# Work Since September 2021



Andrea clearing a tree that dropped on Radiant Trail.



# Work Since September 2021



Andrea clearing a tree that dropped on Radiant Trail.



# Work Since September 2021



Andrea performing artifact cleaning.

# Work Since September 2021



Plaster and paint repairs in the third phase dining room.

# Work Since September 2021



Original color of the dining room identified.

# Work Since September 2021



Plaster and paint repairs in the third phase dining room.

# Work Since September 2021



Jeff performing plaster and paint repairs in the third phase dining room.

# Work Since September 2021



Jeff performing plaster and paint repairs in the third phase dining room.

# Work Since September 2021



Jeff performing plaster and paint repairs in the third phase dining room.



# Work Since September 2021



Terry performing plaster and paint repairs in the third phase dining room.

# Work Since September 2021



Plaster and paint repairs in the third phase dining room.

# Work Since September 2021



East wing porch window rehabilitation

# Work Since September 2021



East wing porch windows before rehabilitation

# Work Since September 2021



East wing porch window during rehabilitation

# Work Since September 2021



East wing porch windows after rehabilitation

# Work Jeff Since September 2021



# Work Since September 2021



Terry painting in the upper hall of the lodge third phase



# Work Since September 2021



Plaster repairs in the lodge third phase upper hall

# Work Since September 2021



Terry painting in the upper hall of the lodge third phase

# Work Since September 2021



Progress on the replica well shed thus far. The original is pictured on the left.

# Work Since September 2021



Early work on the replica well shed

# Work Since September 2021



Early work on the replica well shed



# Work Since September 2021



Snow from February, 2022

# Work Since September 2021



Snow from February, 2022

# Work Since September 2021



Removing snow from February, 2022



# Work Since September 2021



**Bulk material storage area cleanup**

# Work Since September 2021



**Bulk material storage area cleanup**

# Work Since September 2021



**Bulk material storage area cleanup**

# Work Since September 2021



Tour guide Amanda in period correct clothing

## Day use area shelter



Site staff manage this along with the rest of the site.

# Day Use Area



Site staff manage this along with the rest of the site.

Check Out a  
Fun  
Upcoming  
Event at  
Bothwell  
Lodge SHS!

JOIN US FOR  
**FUN!**

## Dark Sky Wonders

**Oct. 21, 2022, 6-10 p.m.**  
**(Rain Date: Oct. 22, 6-10 p.m.)**

Program location: Bothwell Lodge State Historic Site day-use area (Once in the park on Bothwell Lodge State Park Road, take the first left.)

*This event is free and open to the public.*

**Contact us at 660-827-0510 or email  
[andrea.goldstrom@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:andrea.goldstrom@dnr.mo.gov).**

Bothwell Lodge State Historic Site  
19349 Bothwell State Park Road  
Sedalia, MO 65301-0085

Looking at the night sky, gazing up at the endless stars and amazing planets, evokes a feeling of pure awe and wonder, but it is possible that in a few decades we may not be able to experience this feeling due to light pollution. But there is something we can all do!

Join the Camdenton Astronomy Club and staff at Bothwell Lodge State Historic Site for a fascinating and informative presentation on light pollution and telescopes from 6:30-8 p.m. in the day-use area. Afterward, stick around to view the stars and planets from 8-10 p.m.

Free refreshments will be available while supplies last. Please dress warmly and bring bug spray, chairs and flashlights.

To register for this program, go to [mostateparks.com/event/dark-sky-wonders](https://mostateparks.com/event/dark-sky-wonders). The program may be canceled due to inclement weather.



Missouri State Parks - a division of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources



We constantly monitor the integrity of the lodge and implement proper cleaning and maintenance measures to the following issues:

- Damage to interior and exterior of lodge from natural elements
- Study the underground caves for structural strength
- Damage made by insects and other pests







We handle artifacts, loans and donations with care:

- “ Wear protective gloves when handling artifacts.
- “ Clean artifacts and lodge with minimal chemicals.
- “ Monitor conditions on artifacts.
- “ Measure conditions of the lodge using the HOBO data monitors.
- “ Work with Past Perfect, an archival system that keeps track of all the artifacts.
- “ Take pictures, measurements, and descriptions about artifacts that will be entered into Past Perfect.



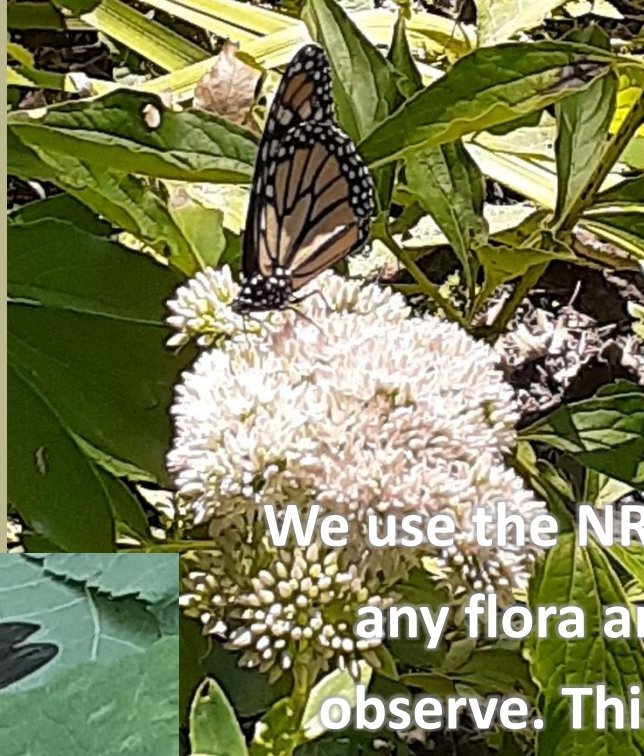


How do the gardens at Bothwell Lodge SHS stay so beautiful and bright?



Lots of weed pulling, thinning, planting, mulching, and maintaining is what it takes to make Lucy Bothwell's gardens beautiful!





We use the NRID program to enter any flora and fauna that we observe. This helps to observe

how our wild, beautiful and diverse natural community is doing.





We welcome organized groups from schools, scout troops and more for tours of the lodge and outdoor educational programs. Here is Girl Scout Troop 71902 enjoying a tour of the lodge and a nature hike on historic Stonyridge Trail!





**We enjoy having visitors of all ages from all over coming to tour the lodge and learn about Mr. John Homer Bothwell, his friends and family, and their life up on Stonyridge Farm. Sometimes, we surprise guests by dressing in period clothing to give tours!**



**Our visitors enjoy picnics, hikes, walks about the grounds, and so much more!**

### A Glimpse Into the Past

In this week's post we will dive back into the pool of historical information that Viola Rhodes generously left us. For those that don't know who she was, Viola Rhodes was the niece of John Bothwell's third cook, housekeeper Effie Patterson. When Viola became old enough, she would come to the lodge with her Aunt Effie and a pair with the food preparation and any other related chores that needed doing. As time went by, Viola got to know Mr. Bothwell quite well, and thus developed an in-depth knowledge of the lodge, which included its construction and inner workings.

Below is an excerpt from an interview of Viola by Tony Czech (former park superintendent), Annette Smith (tourist assistant), and Theresa Cline (a social employee) that was conducted between 1991 and 1996. The information gives us a glimpse into daily life at the lodge during John Bothwell's time.

Viola said,

"And we had no electricity so therefore no nothing to make toast in, so we had a square toaster that sat over the burner (on the kerosene stove). You had to stand there and watch the toast and turn it. But that was our simple way of having toast. One lady came in and said that she liked that flavor of toast. It was the kerosene flavor coming up in it."

The stove pictured left shows a toaster like Viola mentions. The toaster is the pyramid-shaped object on the right side of the stove-top. Liquid fat would be poured in the black tank on the right side of the stove, and would gravity feed to the three burners. These are the bluish cylinders in the middle of the stove.

John Bothwell usually cooked for him self and would often do so on one of these when not using the wood cook stove. One of the benefits of a stove like this one is that it is portable. These would often be used outside during warm weather to keep the added heat out of the home.



Viola tells us more.

"Another little interesting thing, I'm just telling these things as I think of them. Mr. Bothwell had this Franklin car, it was a pretty maroon red. At that time he had to haul ice in black boxes (for the ice box) out from town, and he was an older man, of course, and he wasn't able to take care of things like that. But as he came up the hill, he would foot his horn. Some of us from the Patterson household would rush up and get the toms out of the kitchen and he would have ice and he would stop there at the end of the path that went down to the kitchen, and would get the toms and take the ice out, and take it down and put it in the ice chest. So we were all very saving with the ice, because he had to bring it from town, and I think it was like 50 pounds to bring out and put in there. Now that was way back in the 1920's because it was before we got electricity, which was what? 1942."

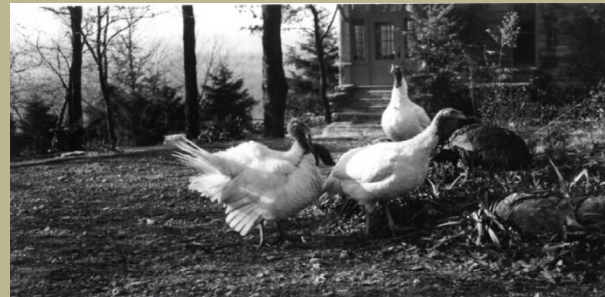


Above, a Franklin air-cooled car like the one Mr. Bothwell had. Photo courtesy: www.autoview.com. The Franklin didn't rely on a cooling system as other cars did: radiator, water pump, coolant, etc.

Left: Running along the picket fence, the path that went down to the kitchen where the ice blocks and groceries would be hauled down to the third phase kitchen.



# Be sure to check out “These Artifacts” and “Stonyridge Nature Adventures” on Facebook: Bothwell Lodge State Historic Site



Lucy loved raising turkeys. Here they are looking for insects near the East Wing and her Rock and Pond Garden. Turkeys can be fairly docile, but males (toms) can be aggressive.

Here are the boys again with another boy up on Stonyridge with a opossum that looks like it's smiling. Opossums are normally solitary and nocturnal (active at night). They are resourceful and opportunistic creatures.



### Stonyridge Nature Adventures: To Bee or Not to Bee?

At first glance, both insects look like bees. Both are fuzzy, with yellow and black colorations, both have antennae, six legs, and wings. But one of these flying insects is an imposter! Look and compare below, and see why this insect is a master of mimicry.



Bumblebee photo courtesy of: <https://education.mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide/commcn-eastern-bumble-bee>

Photo courtesy of Andrea Goldstrom

#### A Bee (Eastern Bumblebee)

- Antenna is “elbowed” with a joint that bends.
- Eyes are small, long, and narrow.
- Two sets of wings (Pollinator Team, 2018).

#### Not a Bee (Robber Fly)

- Antenna is short and stubby.
- Eyes are large, round, and meet in the middle.
- Single set of wings (Pollinator Team, 2018).

What also makes the robber fly a master of mimicry is their ability to look like a bee to other insects that may harm them or benefit them. Predators will not approach a bee that could sting. Prey could be confused thinking it is just a bee looking for nectar or pollen. But to their demise the robber flies are predators, smart hunters that will catch flying insects in the air. When the prey is seized, the robber fly will inject its paralyzing saliva through its hypopharynx (tongue). They will suck up the liquefied contents of the prey through their proboscis. Robber flies normally hunt in open, well lit area and are most active in the warmest part of the day (Scottking, 2017). This robber fly was found in the shaded woods of the Radiant trail resting on a leaf. Mimicry in nature is important for the survival of a species, and it's fascinating how insects are not only able to mimic their surroundings, but of other insects.

#### References

- Pollinator Team (2018). Flying under the radar: Encountering bumble bee mimics in the field. <https://wildlifeconservation.ca/blog/flying-under-the-radar-encountering-bumble-bee-mimics-in-the-field/>
- Scottking, (2017). Bumble Bee Mimic. <https://www.inaturalist.org/posts/10476-bumble-bee-mimic>

### Stonyridge Nature Adventures: Red-Eared Slider



Scientific Name: *Trachemys scripta elegans*

Family: Emydidae in the order of Testudines

The red-eared slider (pictured above) is one of the most common semi-aquatic turtles in Missouri. The striking red behind their eyes is what gives this turtle its name. They can live in many different types of aquatic habitats from rivers, sloughs, oxbow lakes, constructed lakes and ponds.

Red-eared sliders love spending most of their time basking in the sun on logs or rocks. Their name “slider” comes from their habit of sliding quickly into the water from their basking spots.