

FOR THE JOURNAL

A replica carriage house and the Moorhead Cabin, located near Woodburn Plantation off SC Highway 96 in Pendleton.

Tour brings new perspective to plantation farms

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PENDLETON — A new tour being offered at Woodburn Historic House sheds light on technological advancements employed at Upstate plantation farms before the Civil War.

For $3 per adult, a one-hour science and technology tour is being held on July 10 between 10-11 a.m. at Woodburn Historic House, off Highway 76. Visitors will learn about technological and industrial advancements used at Woodburn during the 1830s, including techniques used in ventilation, heating and cooling, food preparation, water collection, insect damage prevention, lightning dispersal and field drainage. A short hike to plantation cistern will be included. Visitors should wear comfortable shoes or hiking boots.

"When we look back in time, many of us think that plantations used rudimentary tools and fail to realize how efficient farm and plantation life really was. In fact, many of the techniques used in pre-Civil War plantations can be, and in many cases are, still used today," said Sandra Magee, a member of the Pendleton Historic Foundation.

This tour is part of the Foundation's mission to bring the history of the South to life, while keeping it alive for future generations.

Guests wishing to tour through Woodburn Historic House after the science and technology tour is complete can do so for an additional $4 per person. For those wanting a guided tour of the house without experiencing the science and technology tour, a regular tour of the house is available for our regular rate of $6 per person, starting at 11 a.m.

"The science and technology tour really bring the past to life, because it illustrates the creative and innovating thinking employed by people during the height of the plantation era. It is one of several tours offered through the Foundation to share our community's rich cultural and social history with as many people as possible," Magee said.

The Pendleton Historic Foundation owns and operates two Antebellum-style historic homes, Ashtabula and Woodburn. The Foundation receives no federal or state government funding, but relies on tours, special events, donations and grants for operations and maintenance.

Ashtabula is open Tuesday through Thursday and Sunday from 1-4 p.m., Woodburn is open from 2-5 p.m. on Sundays.



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Woodburn Historic House. A new tour is being offered that discusses pre-Civil War technology as it existed on plantation farms such as Woodburn.



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Woodburn Plantation is pictured before its restoration to the condition in which visitors will find it today.