

REDEDICATION OF HISTORIC FENCE SET

The Francis Makemie Society will rededicate the restored historic fence surrounding the Francis Makeimie Statue at Makemie Park in Sanford, Virginia, on Saturday, June 9, 2012, at 11:00 a.m. The public is cordially invited to witness the rededication ceremony. There will be a Scottish bag piper in commemoration of Makemie's Scottish heritage performing 17th Century period music and readings on the life of the famous Founder of American Presbyterianism.

The wrought iron fence grew into disrepair after a century of protecting the statue and was removed 15 years ago. The fence lay in a woods awaiting restoration. One fence section was rescued from public auction. A local artisan has beautifully restored the fence to its original condition and to its place around the statue of the illustrious 17th century founder of six local Presbyterian Churches.

The fence was originally dedicated on May 14, 1908, amidst considerable fanfare and jubilation by the Presbyterian Church and its Historical Society in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Francis Makemie Society is conducting archeological work under the auspices of the Virginia Department of Natural Resources to locate the exact graves of the Makemie Family. David Hazzard, an archeologist with the Virginia Department of Historical Resources, is leading the archeological study of the track of land once owned by Francis Makemie and is directing the search for Makemie's gravesite.

Monument Park is open to the public. Membership information and contributions toward the Society projects can be made to The Francis Makemie Society, P.O. Box 361, Sanford, Virginia 23426.