Corporate Donors Invest in New Museum

Two corporate commitments significantly advance private support of the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, now under construction.

Altria Group, Inc., headquartered in Richmond, has made a grant of $200,000 toward development of the inaugural special exhibition, expected to open approximately a year after completion of the new museum in late 2016. Grants from Altria Group, Inc., and its subsidiaries have contributed to a successful special exhibitions program at Jamestown Settlement, including the newly opened “Working and Racing on the Bay: The Chesapeake Log Canoe,” presented in partnership with The Mariners’ Museum.

A commitment from Ferguson Enterprises, headquartered in Newport News, will support elements of exhibition galleries, outdoor living-history areas and education programs of the new museum, as well as the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund. An event lawn located just outside the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown’s education center will be named for Ferguson Enterprises in recognition of its contribution.

Key Acquisition, Generous Grants Benefit Future American Revolution Museum at Yorktown Exhibits

1776 Printing of Virginia Declaration of Rights Added to Collection

A rare newspaper printing of the Virginia Declaration of Rights, a precursor of the United States Declaration of Independence, has been acquired for the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, replacing the Yorktown Victory Center by late 2016. The June 12, 1776, issue of *The Pennsylvania Gazette* containing the Virginia Declaration will be exhibited in the new museum galleries near a July 1776 broadside of the U.S. Declaration of Independence that currently is on exhibit at the Yorktown Victory Center.

It was the June 12, 1776, *Pennsylvania Gazette* version of the Virginia Declaration that was available to Thomas Jefferson and the other delegates selected by Congress to draft the U.S. Declaration of Independence, a task they began in Philadelphia on June 11, 1776. Expressing principles that citizens have the right to “enjoyment of life and liberty … and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety,” and that “all power is vested in, and consequently derived from, the people,” the Virginia Declaration of Rights directly influenced the composition of the Declaration of Independence adopted by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, and many later statements of basic human rights.

The Virginia Declaration of Rights was an outcome of a resolution passed by the Virginia Convention on May 15, 1776, appointing a committee to prepare a declaration of rights and plan of government and instructing Virginia’s delegation to the Continental Congress “to propose to that respectable body to declare the United Colonies free and independent states.” A draft of the Virginia Declaration, whose principal author was George Mason, first appeared in *The Virginia Gazette* on June 1, 1776. It subsequently appeared in newspapers outside Virginia, including *The Pennsylvania Gazette* on June 12, coincidentally the same date as a modified version of the declaration was adopted by the Virginia Convention.

*The Pennsylvania Gazette,* founded in 1728, was one of America’s most prominent newspapers during the 18th century and for a time was published by Benjamin Franklin. The June 12, 1776, issue containing the text of the Virginia Declaration of Rights was acquired with private gifts to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc.
Building a Revolutionary Experience

Planning Underway for Move to New Museum Building

By James S. Holloway
Director of Museum Education Services and Operations
Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation

Moving into a new home can be daunting but exciting. Moving into a new museum? Exponentially more so. Daunting but exciting times are afoot at the Yorktown Victory Center. The new building that will house the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown is nearing completion.

Beginning in the winter of 2015, visitors will begin to purchase their tickets in the new lobby, enjoy programming in the new theater, shop in the new gift shop, snack in the new café, and learn about the American Revolution in the grand corridor and new classrooms. Staff will shift to new offices and put the new maintenance areas, library, historical clothing shop, security offices, interpretive support, and other support areas to use. Exhibit installation in the permanent galleries will begin as well, with the exhibits slated to open in late 2016. Before the move this winter, however, comes planning, packaging, and recycling what may no longer be needed – all of which is well underway.

The Yorktown Victory Center opened for the Bicentennial in 1976, and as one might imagine, there is quite a bit of accumulated history in the building. Several years ago, staff identified furniture needs for the new building and began identifying various items from the Victory Center that would fit the bill and could move to the new building. This includes selected lighting systems, exhibit cases, a wide range of furniture, and various types of equipment. Staff escalated that process in 2013, and this year began to surplus items that will not move. The surplus process allows for other state agencies to purchase used items that may not work in the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown but will continue a useful life elsewhere in the Commonwealth. The surplus process will accelerate in the fall of 2014.

Coordinating this move is a big project involving many Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation departments that meet regularly under the guidance of a Project Management Institute certified project management professional. In order to move items ranging from the Declaration of Independence broadside and portrait of Lord Cornwallis to file cabinets, chairs, exhibit cases, security systems and light fixtures, certain things have to happen in order, and departments must coordinate effectively and meet schedules. Once the new museum building is ready for occupancy, staff will have three months to move out before contractor W.M. Jordan Company, Inc., begins demolition of the old building.

A dress rehearsal of the move occurred in May of this year, when ticketing and the museum store moved out of the old visitor services building – removed to make way for site improvements – into the existing gallery building.

Throughout, the Yorktown Victory Center will remain open to visitors, and staff will deliver dynamic, stimulating, exciting programming for visitors in the new theater, on the new event lawn, in the grand corridor, in the classrooms, and of course, in the living-history area to ensure visitors have a great experience and to entice them to return when the permanent exhibition galleries open in late 2016.
National Firm Selected to Fabricate Gallery Exhibits for American Revolution Museum at Yorktown

Permanent gallery exhibits for the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown will be fabricated and installed by Design and Production Incorporated (D&P), a nationally prominent firm based in Lorton.

Among recent clients of the 65-year-old firm are the National September 11 Memorial Museum, four presidential libraries and museums, the Little League and Kentucky Derby museums, the Library of Congress and the National Museum of the Marine Corps. D&P was exhibit fabricator for the Jamestown Settlement galleries that opened in 2006 as well as for “The World of 1607,” a yearlong quadricentennial special exhibition.

The 22,000-square-foot permanent gallery space will be located in a building now under construction. Featuring period artifacts, re-created immersive environments, dioramas, interactive exhibits and short films, the galleries will present five major themes: “The British Empire and America,” “The Changing Relationship – Britain and North America,” “Revolution,” “The New Nation,” and “The American People.” D&P will work with exhibit designer Gallagher & Associates of Silver Spring, Maryland, and media producer Cortina Productions of McLean on development and installation of custom exhibit settings and media systems for the new galleries.

“We are exceptionally fortunate to have this superb team engaged in creating the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown galleries,” said Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Executive Director Philip G. Emerson. “They will have a key role in achieving our vision for a significant and unique experience that enhances and complements the Historic Triangle region’s American Revolution offerings for a national audience.”

The permanent gallery exhibits are expected to debut in late 2016, when the museum’s name will change to American Revolution Museum at Yorktown. The Yorktown Victory Center continues in daily operation as a museum of the American Revolution throughout construction, which is occurring in phases and includes a transition from the existing museum building to the new facility in early 2015, followed by continued development of gallery exhibits, an introductory film and outdoor amenities, and reconstruction of the living-history Continental Army encampment and Revolution-period farm.

Education Program Initiatives Link STEM Concepts to History

This fall, students on guided tours at Jamestown Settlement will have new opportunities to connect important STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) concepts to history. Hands-on stations in the museum’s interpretive areas support science and math Standards of Learning for several elementary school grades.

Watches and Bells. At the re-created 1607 ships, students will use a sandglass, a bell and math skills to determine time passed aboard ship. After making simple calculations to tell time within a four-hour watch, students will learn how this information was critical to accurate navigation.

Simple Machines. In the riverfront discovery area, students will lift barrels using pulleys, build an inclined plane to move a heavy barrel, and sit on a draw bench to operate a lever and safely use a drawknife to see how it was used as a wedge in forming wooden pegs.

Archaeology. Inside the re-created colonial fort, students will handle and analyze reproductions of artifacts from the first well found at the original site of Jamestown, following a process archaeologists use to make and test hypotheses and formulate conclusions based on the evidence.

STEM stations are under development for the Yorktown Victory Center, and STEM concepts will be subjects of two new videos coming to www.historyisfun.org this fall. Simple Machines, a video in the award-winning Anna’s Adventures series, introduces viewers to simple machines found in the fort at Jamestown Settlement. Science of Navigation explores the tools and methods used by sailors to transport the first colonists to Virginia. Both videos were produced by the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation’s outreach education and special services staff to align with elementary school Science Standards of Learning in Virginia.
Learning the Tricks of Spy Trade at Yorktown Victory Center

“What are good traits of spies? What about when things go wrong?” Visitors were asked to ponder these questions at the outset of a program on Revolutionary War espionage offered this summer at the Yorktown Victory Center’s re-created Continental Army encampment.

The audience learned the stories of Nathan Hale, whose short tenure as a spy for the Patriot cause ended with his capture and execution by the British, and the Culper Ring, brought to the attention of 21st-century Americans by recent books and an AMC television series.

Methods of transmitting and concealing secret messages were discussed, and the program concluded with an invitation to take on a spy’s role by decoding a cipher message for delivery to the 1780s farm. Participants were instructed to look for signals: two red stockings hanging by the laundry tub meant the message could be safely delivered; a lone red stocking indicated the mission had been compromised, and the message should be destroyed.

Espionage materials are regularly on display in the encampment colonel’s quarters for visitors to examine and decipher.

Flags Atop Jamestown Settlement Ships Based on 1606 Royal Proclamation

Jamestown Settlement’s Susan Constant, Godspeed and Discovery are historically accurate representations of the three English ships that sailed to Virginia in 1607, up to the flags flying from their masts.

The British Union Flag of 1606 combining the English Cross of St. George – a red cross on a white field – and the Scottish Cross of St. Andrew – a white diagonal cross on a blue field – tops the mainmast of each ship. The St. George’s Cross is flown on the lower masts of the ships.

The Union Flag resulted from the “Proclamation declaring what Flags South and North Britains shall bear at Sea,” issued by King James I on April 12, 1606, two days after he issued the first charter to the Virginia Company and eight months before the original Susan Constant, Godspeed and Discovery departed England for Virginia. According to the decree, “… from hencefoorth all our Subjects of this Isle and Kingdome of great Britaine … shall beare in their Maintoppe the Red Crosse, commonly called S. Georges Crosse, and the White Crosse commonly called S. Andrewes Crosse, joynd together … and in their Fore-toppe … shall ware the Red Crosse onely.”

The Union Flag was initially for general use at sea, according to British historian Timothy Wilson in Flags at Sea. In 1634 King Charles I issued a new proclamation limiting its use to the king’s ships. Privately owned English ships reverted to flying the St. George’s Cross as a national flag, while Scottish ships flew St. Andrew’s Cross.

In 1707, when the English and Scottish parliaments joined and officially formed the United Kingdom of Great Britain, the 101-year-old flag became the official British flag. On January 1, 1801, when Ireland joined the union, the Cross of St. Patrick – a red diagonal cross on a white field – was added to the flag, creating the modern Union Jack.
As the history and evolution of the dug-out canoe is showcased in Jamestown Settlement’s new “Working and Racing on the Bay: The Chesapeake Log Canoe” special exhibition, visitors can see the methodical process of building a canoe in the 17th century unfold in the museum’s re-created Powhatan Indian village.

Historical interpreters demonstrate the burn-and-scrape method used by Powhatan cultures to make dugout canoes and involve visitors in fanning the fire with a turkey feather fan and scraping burned coals with oyster shells to hollow out and shape the vessel.

First, interpreters explain how the canoe-making process begins with a live tree. In the 1600s, cypress trees were typically selected along the riverbanks for canoes, while tulip poplar is commonly used in today’s interpretation. Powhatan Indian men would remove bark from the trunk, wrap it in clay and burn it down from the base. After the tree was felled, they used stone tools to cut off branches, and controlled fires and tools to shape the bottom of the canoe. Sand and clay were used to prevent over-burning. Once the bottom was flat and smooth, the canoe would be turned over, and the process of burning and scraping out the interior would continue until there was enough room for people, fishing implements and a bounty of fish.

“So, how long would it have taken to make a canoe?” is one of the most common questions asked of interpreters. The answer is complicated, as it depends on the size of the tree, what the canoe would be used for, and how many people were available to work on it at one time. At Jamestown Settlement, it can take several months for a canoe to be completed, given its purpose as a teaching tool to show visitors the importance of the canoe for traversing the waterways to fish and trade.

Dugout canoe demonstrations take place periodically in the Powhatan village and complement “Working and Racing on the Bay: The Chesapeake Log Canoe.” The special exhibition, presented in partnership with The Mariners’ Museum, continues through September 8, 2015.

A $100,000 grant from the James City County Board of Supervisors is supporting an array of public programming at Jamestown Settlement during the 2014-15 fiscal year. The grant provides funding for museum special events – “Community Day: On the Riverfront” September 20, “Foods and Feasts of Colonial Virginia” November 27-29, “A Colonial Christmas” in December, and “Military Through the Ages” March 21-22 – and materials used in daily interpretive programming at the museum’s re-created Powhatan Indian village, three 1607 ships and 1610-14 colonial fort.

A previous grant from the county supported the special exhibition “Working and Racing on the Bay: The Chesapeake Log Canoe” that opened September 19 at Jamestown Settlement.

James City County residents, along with residents of York County and the City of Williamsburg, receive complimentary admission at Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center.
Virginia-Australia Historical Links Explored

While at Jamestown Settlement in August to research early Jamestown history and the “starving time” of 1609-10, Jacqui Newling, a foodways interpreter for the Sydney Living Museums in Australia, met with historical interpreters and museum program assistants who conduct cooking demonstrations for the public.

The discussion focused on comparing the starving time at Jamestown to similar but less drastic hardships experienced by the colonists/convicts sent to Sydney almost two centuries later. British experience gained at Jamestown and other colonies informed planning and administration of the Sydney settlement.

Donors Support JYF, Inc., Annual Fund


Dominion Resources and Ferguson Enterprises, each with a gift of $10,000 to the 2014 Annual Fund, renewed their corporate memberships in General Washington’s Council.

The Charles Stewart Mott Foundation of Flint, Michigan, contributed $10,000 to the Annual Fund for the 2015 fiscal year.

The Annual Fund, which raised more than $798,000 in fiscal year 2014 (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014), supports Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation museum public programs, artifact collections, and on-site and outreach education.

Halloween Season Brings ‘Family Frights’ to Jamestown Settlement

“Family Frights at Jamestown Settlement,” a Halloween-theme museum night for elementary-school-age children, debuts Friday and Saturday, October 24 and 25. Trick-or-treating, ghostly tales, grizzly games and a spooky straw maze are among activities offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on both dates.

Sound effects, smoke and lanterns will create a ghostly atmosphere in Jamestown Settlement’s living-history areas. Along with trick-or-treating at buildings in the re-created colonial fort, families can explore a friendly haunted house.

Children can opt for frightening face painting; make cornhusk scarecrows and witches, ghost garlands, and creepy critters; and compete in eyeball-in-a-spoon-relays and zombie-walking races.

Each evening will conclude with a costume parade and contest and a monster mash disco.

Admission is $7 per child, ages 4 through 12, and $3 per adult. Children 3 and under are free. Advance reservations are recommended by calling (757) 253-4939.

The Jamestown Settlement Cafe will offer family specials starting at 5:30 p.m. on both evenings.

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The Yorktown Victory Center will host a series of Revolutionary War–theme lectures on Tuesday evenings this fall, with guest scholars speaking at 7 p.m., September 30, October 7 and 28, and November 4 in the museum’s Richard S. Reynolds Foundation Theater.

**September 30 – “Why Yorktown: A Geologic Perspective.”** Dr. Gerald H. Johnson, College of William and Mary Geology Professor Emeritus, will discuss how the location and layout of Yorktown – site of the decisive battle of the Revolution – was determined by geologic factors. Built next to a deep, navigable channel, the town rests on solid rock and sediments formed in shallow seas millions of years ago and used in recent centuries as building material.

Dr. Johnson was one of the founders of William and Mary’s Geology Department, helping establish its basic curriculum. He is widely published in scholarly journals and was recognized in the 1990s as an outstanding educator by the National Association of Geoscience Teachers and the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

**October 7 – “The Importance of the Second War of Independence to America and the World.”** Award-winning author Dr. George C. Daughan will discuss how the War of 1812 fundamentally changed the relationship between the United States and Great Britain, just as the War of Independence did, and how this led to the partnership between the two great English-speaking countries in the 20th and 21st centuries that proved of such benefit to the world. A book-signing for two of Dr. Daughan’s books, *The Shining Sea* and *1812: The Navy’s War*, will be held prior to the lecture, from 6:15 to 7 p.m.

Dr. Daughan served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War and taught at the Air Force Academy, where he was director of the master’s program in international affairs. He later taught at the University of Colorado, the University of New Hampshire, Wesleyan University, Connecticut College and Harvard University. He is the recipient of the Samuel Eliot Morison Award for the three books he wrote on the early American navy: *If By Sea; 1812: The Navy’s War;* and *The Shining Sea*. He also received the gold medal in history from the Independent Publisher’s Association and the George Pendleton Prize.

**October 28 – “The Loyalist/Patriot Divide Among the Merchant Elite in Marblehead, Massachusetts.”** In a fully illustrated talk, Judy Anderson, social, architectural and cultural historian, will tell the story of fishing industry magnates and brothers-in-law Robert “King” Hooper and Colonel Jeremiah Lee – whose homes were outstanding and whose loyalties were divided during the American Revolution – in the midst of Patriot fervor in Marblehead, a thriving Atlantic seaport and among the 10 largest towns in 18th-century America.

Ms. Anderson was curator of the Jeremiah Lee Mansion for ten years and is author of *Glorious Splendor*, a book about the rare original 1760s hand-painted English wallpapers still in the mansion. She currently is creating a nonprofit educational enterprise called Marblehead Architecture Heritage.

**November 4 – “The Men Who Lost America.”** Dr. Andrew O’Shaughnessy, the Saunders Director of the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies at Monticello and professor of history at the University of Virginia, will challenge stereotypical explanations of Britain’s failure to win the American War of Independence. The talk will offer a different explanation of Britain’s loss, commonly attributed to the incompetence of commanders and politicians.

Dr. O’Shaughnessy is author of *The Men Who Lost America: British Leadership, the American Revolution, and the Fate of the Empire* – recipient of numerous awards including New York Historical Society, George Washington and Fraunces Tavern book prizes – and *An Empire Divided: The American Revolution and the British Caribbean*. He is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society, serves on the board of the University of Virginia Press, and is a co-editor of the Jeffersonian America book series.

Admission to the lectures is free, with advance reservations recommended by calling (757) 253-4572 or emailing rsvp@jyf.virginia.gov. The series is supported with private donations to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc. ■
Calendar

Through September 8, 2015
“Working and Racing on the Bay: The Chesapeake Log Canoe”
Jamestown Settlement
Special exhibition curated by The Mariners’ Museum traces the evolution of the dugout canoe through the centuries, from the watercraft of the Powhatan people 400 years ago to multi-log trade vessels and work and racing boats.

September 30 - November 4
Revolutionary War Lecture Series
Yorktown Victory Center, 7 p.m.
September 30 – “Why Yorktown: A Geologic Perspective”
October 7 – “The Importance of the Second War of Independence to America and the World”
October 28 – “The Loyalist/Patriot Divide Among the Merchant Elite in Marblehead, Massachusetts”
November 4 – “The Men Who Lost America”
See story on page 7.

October 18 and 19
Yorktown Victory Celebration
Yorktown Victory Center, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Musket and artillery demonstrations and visitor-participatory programs mark the 233rd anniversary of America’s momentous Revolutionary War victory at Yorktown on October 19, 1781. Special programs take place in historic Yorktown and Yorktown Battlefield on October 19.

October 24 and 25
Family Frights
Jamestown Settlement, 6:30-9:00 p.m.
A child’s night out at the museum with trick-or-treating, games and crafts, straw maze and costume parade. See story on page 6.

November 27-29
Foods & Feasts of Colonial Virginia
Jamestown Settlement & Yorktown Victory Center, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Foodways of the 17th and 18th centuries are featured during this three-day event beginning on Thanksgiving Day. At Jamestown Settlement, learn how food was gathered, preserved and prepared on land and at sea by Virginia’s English colonists and Powhatan Indians. At the Yorktown Victory Center, learn about typical soldiers’ fare during the American Revolution, and trace the bounty of a 1780s farm from field to kitchen.

December 1, 2014 – January 4, 2015
A Colonial Christmas
Jamestown Settlement & Yorktown Victory Center, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Holiday traditions of the 17th and 18th centuries are recalled through special interpretive programs and, December 26-31 and January 2-4, period musical entertainment.

Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center are open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Admission to special programs during operating hours is included with museum admission. Visit www.historyisfun.org for a calendar of upcoming events.