DISPATCH

A Newsletter of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation • Spring 2013

Cornerstone Dedication Is Milestone Event for American Revolution Museum at Yorktown

With the dedication of a cornerstone on May 10, another milestone was achieved in realizing the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown. The event took place at the Yorktown Victory Center, at the location of a new 80,000-square-foot building that soon will take shape. Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Chairman H. Benson Dendy III and Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., President Sue H. Gerdelman officiated and led in the unveiling of the 12- by 24-inch marble cornerstone, accompanied by a musket volley salute from the Foundation’s 18th-century honor guard.

The Fifes and Drums of York Town performed the prelude, processional and recessional, and Walter C. Zaremba, chairman of the York County Board of Supervisors, delivered greetings from York County.

University of Virginia Professor A. E. Dick Howard spoke on the worldwide impact of the American Revolution, and Virginia Secretary of Education Laura W. Fornash on museums as an educational resource.

“When we tell the story of the American Revolution, as it will be told in the new museum,” Professor Howard said, “we tell a story that resonates everywhere that people yearn for accountable government, the rule of the law, and the freedom of the human spirit.”

“School systems and museums have been long-standing partners in student education,” Secretary Fornash said. “As new education models are tried and tested, and as reforms in our educational systems are implemented more broadly, the new American Revolution Museum at Yorktown will certainly be an example for what works in education.”

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Hampton Roads Community Foundation Awards $250,000 for New Yorktown Museum

The Hampton Roads Community Foundation, southeastern Virginia’s largest grant and scholarship provider, has awarded a $250,000 grant for the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown.

The grant will support acquisition of artifacts, interactive exhibits, and films for the new museum galleries and will help to meet a challenge grant issued last fall by The Mary Morton Parsons Foundation of Richmond. The Parsons Foundation is matching 50 percent of up to $500,000 in gifts made through November 2013 for the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown galleries.

The Hampton Roads Community Foundation joins individuals, corporations and other foundations that have made commitments to the new museum. Private donations, including gifts to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund, are supporting elements of gallery and outdoor exhibits and educational resources.

The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown galleries will engage visitors through period artifacts, re-created immersive environments, dioramas, interactive exhibits and short films, including one about the development of the United States Constitution. A new introductory film will explore the world of Revolutionary America. Private donations are supporting film production and other elements of the gallery exhibits.
New Logos Designed for American Revolution Museum at Yorktown and Jamestown Settlement

Logos combining the museum names with iconic images – a soaring eagle and stars, and a trio of ship sails – were adopted for the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown and Jamestown Settlement by the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Board of Trustees and the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors at their joint meeting on May 9.

The new Yorktown museum logo will be used in early awareness promotional initiatives. Full implementation – along with the Jamestown Settlement logo – will begin in 2016, the year the transition from Yorktown Victory Center to American Revolution at Yorktown will be complete. The primary logos are presented in red and blue on a white background. Both are adaptable to horizontal and vertical applications and single- and four-color usage.

A board task force chaired by Foundation Trustee Suzanne O. Flippo and co-chaired by Foundation, Inc., Director Hunter A. Applewhite guided the logo development, working with Foundation marketing staff.

“The process included a review of existing logos with similar themes, selection of a firm – BCF, a Virginia Beach brand communications company that specializes in the travel industry – to create logo designs, and testing of three top designs with consumers,” Ms. Flippo said. “We are very pleased with the final selection. The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown and Jamestown Settlement logos are complementary and have a contemporary feel that will resonate for years to come.”
Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation to Assume Key Role in 400th Anniversary Commemoration of Landmark 1619 Events

Following designation of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation by the Virginia General Assembly this year “as the official Executive Branch agency to assist the Commonwealth in establishing planning systems for commemorating in 2019 the 400th anniversary of landmark events in Virginia's history,” Foundation Board of Trustees Chairman H. Benson Dendy III named a 2019 Commemoration Task Force, with Virginia Senator Thomas K. Norment, Jr., and Virginia Delegate M. Kirkland Cox as co-chairs.

Comprised of individuals from both houses of the General Assembly and members from the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation and Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., boards, the task force will discuss initial goals of the commemoration; identify planning strategies on behalf of the Commonwealth; and outline communication strategies to encourage statewide, national and international awareness and participation.

Beginning with the meeting of the first representative assembly in British America, a series of key events in Virginia’s and the nation’s history occurred in 1619: the landing of the first known Africans in Virginia; efforts of the Virginia Company of London to expand the colony by recruiting single women to send to Virginia; and the observance of a service of thanksgiving following a safe arrival at Berkeley Plantation.

The first assembly of 20 “burgesses,” which convened on July 30, 1619, in the church at Jamestown, is the antecedent of today’s Virginia General Assembly and marked the beginning of representative government, based on English law and political institutions, in what is now the United States.

In late August, a group of “20 and odd” Africans, captured from a Portuguese vessel in the Caribbean by English privateers, arrived at Point Comfort, the official entry point into the Virginia colony.

In November, to increase the population of English women in Virginia, the Virginia Company began a program of recruiting single women to emigrate, with the first group of “maids” arriving the following year.

In December, settlers reached Berkeley Hundred, upriver from Jamestown, with instructions “that the day of our ships arrivall at the place assigned for plantacon in the land of Virginia shall be yearly and perputaly kept holy as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God.”

Members of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Board of Trustees serving on the 2019 Commemoration Task Force, in addition to the co-chairs and Mr. Dendy, are Virginia Senators Janet D. Howell and John C. Watkins, Virginia Delegates S. Chris Jones and Beverly J. Sherwood, L. Ray Ashworth, Frank B. Atkinson, John T. Casteen III, Stuart W. Connock, Ervin L. Jordan, Jr., and Paul D. Koonce. Representing the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., on the task force are Board of Directors President Sue H. Gerdelman, Gordon C. Angles and Ann G. Gray.

The task force will later be expanded to include representatives of other organizations.

Baker Victory Challenge Extended

In May 2012, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors member Linda Baker and her husband, Don, longtime supporters of the Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund, issued the Baker Victory Challenge as an incentive for donors to invest in the future of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation museums and educational programs.

The response from donors has been positive, and as of May 31 the Annual Fund had received $110,000 in qualifying donations.

Recognizing the impact and potential, the Bakers are extending the Victory Challenge and will continue to match new or increased Annual Fund gifts of $500 or more, up to $150,000.

The Annual Fund provides support for artifact acquisition, collection conservation, special exhibitions, a variety of public programs, and on-site and outreach education programs. To learn more or to make a donation online, visit www.historyisfun.org/victory, or call Christina Dominguez, director of the Annual Fund, at (757) 253-4257.

This depiction of the 1619 representative assembly, painted by Jack Clifton for the 350th anniversary in 1969, resides at the Virginia Capitol in Richmond. Courtesy of the Library of Virginia.
The American and British Foot Soldier During the American Revolution
By Edward Ayres, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Historian

[They don’t] have quite the Air of soldiers. They don’t step exactly in Time. They don’t hold up their Heads, quite erect, nor turn out their Toes...they don’t all of them cock their hats – and such as do, don’t wear them the same way.

John Adams describing the appearance of Continental soldiers in 1778

According to popular belief American independence was won by a patriotic band of heroes, but in fact the American army was mostly made up of quite ordinary men. The typical foot soldier in both the British and American armed forces was more likely to be tested by the daily hardships of military life than by the havoc of combat. Many soldiers did die from battle wounds, but far more perished from diseases or in prisons. Although there were differences, it is not surprising that life in both the American and British armies during the Revolution also had much in common.

Recruitment

Convincing men to join the army was usually difficult since the pay was poor, discipline harsh, and daily life often monotonous. After the initial surge of patriotic feelings had subsided, American recruiters had to resort to additional incentives, such as cash bounties and the promise of free land. In order to meet their quotas as enlistments declined, some states had to enlist convicts, the physically infirm, or even deserters from the enemy’s army. As the war dragged on, both sides were forced to use the draft to fill vacancies in the ranks. Because the vast majority of America’s population was engaged in agriculture, a high proportion of Continental Army recruits at first consisted of farmers and rural laborers. Men working in the industrial trades were often exempt from military service since their skills were essential to the war effort. Continental Army recruits were usually young, mostly in their late teens and early twenties. By the last years of the Revolution the Continental Army was primarily made up of young, poor men as well as some immigrants, since men with property could hire substitutes to avoid military service.

The typical British infantryman tended to be older than his American counterpart, and many of these men had made the army their career. As Great Britain began increasing its armed forces after 1775, most new recruits tended to come from economically depressed areas. Many were Scots, and there was a high proportion of unemployed unskilled laborers and textile workers. Far fewer recruits came from industrial trades that were experiencing economic prosperity. By 1778 the British Army found it increasingly difficult to attract new recruits and began lowering its standards as well as impressing vagrants.

Training and Discipline

Although at times as many as 30 percent of the British Army consisted of new, raw recruits, at least these men were joining regiments composed of a core of seasoned, trained veterans. In contrast, when George Washington assumed command of the Continental Army in the summer of 1775 the vast majority of his men had received little or no military training and had never experienced combat. During the early years of the Revolution Washington struggled to forge a trained and disciplined fighting force from these inexperienced farm boys. Even the officers had to teach themselves how to lead and command. American officers had to learn what their duties were and how to perform them by reading and studying various British military manuals. Only after the Baron von Steuben began training and drilling Washington’s men at Valley Forge in 1778 did the Continental Army begin to exhibit the characteristics typical of a regular, disciplined European army.

Discipline in the British Army could be very harsh. Enlisted men who committed certain offenses could be...
most occupations. Although British soldiers could usually go about nearly naked and in the world could one do what was done by these men, who observe, "With what soldiers in England style as well as the English themselves." He went on to observe, “With what soldiers in the world could one do what was done by these men, who go about nearly naked and in the greatest privation? ... from this one can perceive what an enthusiasm – which these poor fellows call ‘Liberty’ – can do!”

Supply and Pay

In general, British infantrymen in North America were adequately supplied with food, clothing and standardized weapons. Shipments sometimes arrived late however, the quality of the provisions was frequently substandard, and the uniforms at times were impracticable for the climate in America. During the early years of the conflict American troops were very poorly equipped. Throughout the struggle they had to fight with a variety of non-standardized weapons, and it was years before Washington could provide his men with anything close to proper, standardized uniforms. Although American farms produced food and provisions in abundance, an inefficient system of supply and transportation meant that the Continental Army frequently went hungry. Although shipments of cloth from France helped ease the shortage of textiles, there were occasions when the Americans suffered from the lack of proper clothing, tents, and even blankets during the winter.

Soldiers in both armies were poorly paid compared to most occupations. Although British soldiers could usually count on being paid on a regular basis, after numerous deductions the average private had little left to spend. American infantrymen were supposed to be paid 22 cents per day, but their pay was constantly late and often in the form of increasingly worthless paper money.

By the time the war finally ended the two armies probably had more in common than either side realized. One German officer noted in 1781, “The so-called Continental, or standing, regiments are under good discipline and drill in the English style as well as the English themselves.”

American nation after 1783. Dr. Hoock is author of Empires of the Imagination: Politics, War, and the Arts in the British World, 1750-1850 and previously taught at the Universities of Cambridge and Liverpool, where he founded and directed the Eighteenth-Century Worlds interdisciplinary research center.

The series concludes October 5 with Carolyn J. Weekley presenting “Painters and Paintings in the Early American South: 1735-1800,” a survey of painters and their customers, in this case Southern clients, who commissioned various sorts of paintings, but mostly portraits, from about 1735 to the end of the century. Ms. Weekley is Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Juli Grainger Curator Emerita. She curated “Painters and Paintings in the Early American South” currently at Colonial Williamsburg’s DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum and is author of a newly published book by the same name.

Admission to the lectures is free, and advance reservations are recommended by calling (757) 253-4572 or e-mailing rsvp@jyf.virginia.gov. The series is supported with private donations to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc.
‘People, Plants & Animals’ Education Program Offers New Learning Connections, Experiences for First-Graders

On a spring morning at Jamestown Settlement, first-grade students scampered in and out of circles made of white flour. In this tag-like game, some classmates have been deemed “wolves,” while the rest are “deer” or, in this case, prey. The “deer” dart across the grass to avoid being eaten by wolves and seek a safe haven while adapting to diminishing habitats, or fewer circles.

The game is one of the teaching methods in “People, Plants & Animals at Jamestown,” a new on-site education program that aims for students to be able to understand the connections among people, plants and animals and their impact on habitats and the environment, correlating with several Virginia Standards of Learning objectives in first-grade science. Museum education programs are becoming more interdisciplinary, integrating core lessons in science, technology, engineering and math, teaching methodology known as STEM.

“From ‘Little Powhatans’ for kindergarten to ‘People, Plants and Animals’ for first grade, and on to fourth-grade classes who visit for history standards, our goal is to offer something for each grade level that’s not repetitive but builds on the lessons they’re learning now,” said Karen Norako, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation assistant education officer, who developed the program with lead historical interpreter Duane Baldwin.

While two-thirds of the education program involves students making observations in museum galleries and outdoor interpretive areas, on-site education teachers also use a variety of objects to supplement the lesson, including silhouetted flash cards of plants and animals, as well as a cane knife and altered shells to show how Powhatan Indians used plants and animals for tools.

A highlight of the program is an opportunity for students to touch a scute – a bony plate – of a sturgeon’s exoskeleton. A collaborative effort with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science led to the donation of a dozen sturgeon scutes. "Sturgeons were plentiful in the James River and swam with the dinosaurs during the Jurassic Period,” said Lee Ann Shelhorse, a Jamestown Settlement museum program assistant, as she held out the convex bone for eager students to touch. “Now you can say you’ve touched a dinosaur!”

“People, Plants and Animals” complements an array of Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation education programs and specialized tours offered at Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center, as well as in Virginia classrooms, that tell the story of America’s colonial beginnings.

Students touch a scute of a sturgeon, which has an exoskeleton. A collaborative effort with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science led to the donation of a dozen sturgeon scutes for a new Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation education program that mixes lessons in science and history.

Virginia Residents Can Visit Museums Year-Round for Cost of Single Day

Radio advertising in Hampton Roads, Richmond, Charlottesville, Lynchburg and Roanoke is spreading the word about a special offer on museum admission for Virginia residents. The American Heritage Annual Pass for 12 months of unlimited admission to Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center can be purchased online at www.historyisfun.org at the same price as one-time admission to both museums. Available to residents of the Hampton Roads and Richmond regions for the past two years, the offer was extended statewide this spring.

The four-month radio campaign runs through August and consists of a total of 2,500 60-second spots and mentions. It is supported by print and online ads in Hampton Roads, Richmond, Northern Virginia and military newspapers.
Generous Gifts Support JYF Museums

Carolyn and Bob Condon have provided $12,500 for the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund, renewing their membership in General Washington’s Council of The 1607 Society.

Joseph A. Gutierrez, Sr., father of the late Joseph A. Gutierrez, Jr., contributed $10,000 for the Joe Gutierrez Memorial Fund, which will be designated to support elements of the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown. As the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation’s senior director of museum operations and education, Mr. Gutierrez, Jr., was involved in planning for the new Yorktown museum until the time of his death in July 2012.

For information about supporting the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation museums, visit www.historyisfun.org/giving.

Document Box Commemorates Repeal of Stamp Act in 1766

A leather-covered document box, embossed with the gilded text “Stamp Act Rep’d / March 18, 1766” has been acquired for exhibit at the future American Revolution Museum at Yorktown with gifts to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund. The box, probably made in England, was discovered by Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation curators Sarah Meschutt and Martha Katz-Hyman, who were searching for an artifact that would be emblematic of the British Parliament’s repeal in 1766 of the Stamp Act, a tax imposed on newspapers, pamphlets and cards imported into the American colonies and which also placed a tax on legal documents.

In England, the repeal of the tax had advocates among British merchants whose livelihoods suffered when the American colonies boycotted the importation of English goods. In the 13 American colonies during the months following the repeal, there were public celebrations, and statues of William Pitt, a powerful Parliament member who persuasively advocated for the repeal of the Stamp Act, and King George III were erected to commemorate the event.

While researching the “Stamp Act Repealed” document box to verify its authenticity, curatorial staff discovered a similar box in the collection of Princeton University that shares a New Jersey provenance and the same embossed text – “Stamp Act Rep’d / March 18, 1766.” Based on comparisons of images, it is apparent that the same tools were used to create the embossed text on both boxes.

The Princeton example retains its maker’s label, which identifies it as having been made for export in London by James Season. According to Princeton’s documentation, their document box was owned by John Witherspoon (1723-1794), the sixth president of the College of New Jersey (now Princeton University), who was a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

While the original owner of the document box destined for exhibit at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown is unknown, it seems safe to conclude that the Stamp Act repeal had enough significance for this individual to merit owning a souvenir commemorating the event.

– Jane Hohensee, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Registrar

New Trustee Appointed to JYF Board

Burson Taylor Snyder of Alexandria was appointed by Virginia Governor Robert F. McDonnell to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Board of Trustees for a term through June 2016.

Currently deputy chief of staff to U.S. Senator Roy Blunt of Missouri, Mrs. Snyder has worked the past 15 years as a communicator for political campaigns and U.S. Congressional leadership. She serves on the Advisory Board of KIPP DC charter schools and on the National Alumnae Board of Hutchison School. She studied journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

‘Party on the Pier’ Returns to Jamestown Settlement

“Party on the Pier,” the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc.’s signature fundraising event, presented by TowneBank, returns to Jamestown Settlement on Saturday, June 22, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Guests can enjoy music by local favorite Slapnation band and dinner by Beach Bully BBQ of Virginia Beach. The Susan Constant, the largest of Jamestown Settlement’s re-created 1607 ships, will be open for touring. Advance tickets are $20 (plus a $2 service fee) for adults and $10 (plus a $1 service fee) for children ages 3-12 through June 21. Tickets sold on the day of the event are $25 for adults and $10 for children.

Tickets are limited and are on sale at www.historyisfun.org/partyonthepier.

Proceeds from “Party on the Pier” benefit the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund, which supports educational programming at Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center. For more information, call (757) 253-4219.

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**Through January 20, 2014**

**“Jamestown’s Legacy to the American Revolution” Special Exhibition**

*Jamestown Settlement & Yorktown Victory Center*

Tells the stories of Revolutionary War-era descendants of people associated with 17th-century Jamestown, the first capital of colonial Virginia, and features artifacts acquired for exhibit at the future American Revolution Museum at Yorktown.

![Statue of George Washington, 19th century, William James Hubard](image)

**June 22, 6:30-9:30 p.m.**

**Party on the Pier**

*Jamestown Settlement*

Music by Slapnation, barbecue dinner. Susan Constant open to guests. See story on page 7 for details.

**July 4-6**

**Liberty Celebration**

*Yorktown Victory Center*

Tactical drills, military exercises and role-playing demonstrations salute the anniversary of America’s independence.

**August 1-31**

**Pastimes of Colonial Virginia Theme Month**

*Jamestown Settlement & Yorktown Victory Center*

Period games – corncob darts, hoops, ninepins, mancala and quoits – and other diversions of the 17th and 18th centuries are featured.

**September 21**

**Community Day**

*Jamestown Settlement*

“Jamestown’s Legacy to the American Revolution” highlighted with family tours of the special exhibition, children’s activities, and interpretation of the evolution of military weaponry and uniforms and entertainment from 17th-century Jamestown to 18th-century Yorktown.

September 14 and 28, October 5, 7 p.m.

**Revolutionary War Lecture Series**

*Yorktown Victory Center*

September 14 – “To, Through, and Beyond Virginia”

September 28 – “The Tyranny of the People: A Loyalist Perspective on the American Revolution”


October 19-20

**Yorktown Victory Celebration**

*Yorktown Victory Center*

Military life and artillery demonstrations mark the 232nd anniversary of America’s momentous Revolutionary War victory at Yorktown.