

# Manuscript Society Annual Meeting

Williamsburg, VA & Richmond, VA  
May 12-16, 2020

Virginia has HISTORY! Founded in 1607 it is famous for many reasons! By the time of the American Revolution, it was the largest of the thirteen original colonies in both land and population. It is where the first slave ship landed in 1619 and Jamestown became the first permanent English settlement in America. It is the location of the surrender of the British ending the American Revolution. It is the home of four of the first five American Presidents. Can you name them? It was the home of the capital of the Confederate States of America, Richmond. Today it is the home of renowned research facilities and institutions of high education. American History permeates Virginia!

Williamsburg was founded in 1632 as Middle Plantation, a fortified settlement between the James and York rivers. The city served as the capital of the Colony and the Commonwealth of Virginia from 1699 to 1780 and was the center of political events in Virginia leading to the American Revolution. During the American Revolution, then governor, Thomas Jefferson moved the capital of Virginia to Richmond. Williamsburg also saw combat in the spring of 1862 during the Peninsula Campaign, an effort to take Richmond from the east from a base at Fort Monroe.

Not far from Williamsburg are Jamestown and Yorktown. [the three forming the Historic Triangle] Today in Colonial Williamsburg the 18th-century comes alive and is the world's largest living history museum, boasting eighty-eight original 18th century structures with four historic taverns, and a world-class art museum.

Colonial Williamsburg Lodge is the home base of the society annual meeting.

So much to see and so little time! Join us for the 2020 Annual Meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia with a day trip to Richmond.

**Registration:** \$600.00 (exclusive of airfare and hotel) Deadline for registration is April 10, 2020

**Annual Meeting Hosting Hotel:** Williamsburg Lodge in the heart of Colonial Williamsburg (CW) <https://www.colonialwilliamsburghotels.com/accommodations/williamsburg-lodge/>.

The block of rooms is reserved for May 11 through May 17, 2020

Group: **2020ManuscriptSociety**

On-Line Reservation Link: <https://book.passkey.com/go/dea7f989>

**Rate \$199.00** per night (plus taxes and fees) (double or single occupancy)

Rates are available until **April 10, 2020** or until the block runs out.

Rate available three days before and three days after the annual meeting, depending on availability

**Transportation:**

**Richmond International Airport (RIC)** All major airlines fly into Richmond. Located about 50 minutes north of Williamsburg. See <https://www.flyrichmond.com/ground-transportation/> and <http://tidewatercoach.com/> for ground transportation options.

**Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport (PHF)** – Delta and American Airlines both fly into Newport News/Williamsburg. Located about 30 minutes south of Williamsburg. See the following ground transportation options.

<https://flyphf.com/transportation/taxi-private-cars/>  
<http://tidewatercoach.com/>

**Norfolk International Airport (ORF)** All major airlines fly into Norfolk. Located about 50 minutes south of Williamsburg. Note: The **Norfolk** airport requires a commute across the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel that will take approximately 45 minutes to an hour with the possibility of delays due to stopped and/or slow traffic. See

<https://www.norfolkairport.com/parking-transportation/ground-transportation> or <http://tidewatercoach.com/> for ground transportation options.

## Schedule of Events

### Tuesday, May 12, 2020

**9:00 AM – 3:00 PM** Board meeting. Williamsburg Lodge, Colonial Williamsburg

**1:00 – 4:00 PM** Registration

**5:30 – 9:00 PM** Opening Reception and Fun Auction. Williamsburg Lodge, Colonial Williamsburg

### Wednesday, May 13, 2020

**8:30 AM** leave hotel by bus

**8:45 AM – 12:45 PM Rockefeller Library and Conservation Labs**, 101 Visitor Center Drive, Williamsburg, VA 23185; <https://www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/locations/john-d-rockefeller-jr-library>

The Rockefeller Library houses the research library of rare books and 18<sup>th</sup> century manuscripts of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. The Wallace Collections and Conservation Building has nine laboratories for conservation, storage space for collections and curatorial offices. The Bruton Heights School previously a high school for African Americans, has been renovated to provide space for the Executive Offices and classroom and meeting space. See more about the history <https://www.history.org/Foundation/general/bhsec.cfm>

We'll see the birth of Colonial Williamsburg with original blueprints, John D Rockefeller's famous telegram "from David's father" and other documents. At the conservation labs, we will see how Colonial Williamsburg conserves its remarkable collections of documents, fabrics and other treasures.

**12:45 -2:45 PM Lunch**

**2:45 – 4:00 PM** Presentation and site visit to Colonial Williamsburg's newest archaeological dig [Custis Square] weather permitting

### Dinner

Evening Free or

**6:30 – 10:00 PM** A Chef's Kitchen \*\* (optional with additional fee)- In this 26-seat restaurant we will enjoy a cooking demonstration, learn about cooking science and savor a five-course gourmet dinner with wine parings. The cost is \$133.35 per person. This option has limited availability. By marking your interest on the registration form, you will be contacted after registration closes to confirm reservation and pay for tickets.

**Thursday, May 14, 2020**

**8:30 – 9:15 AM Bus to Yorktown** via Colonial Parkway

**9:15-- 11:45 AM American Revolution Museum at Yorktown**, 200 Water Street, Williamsburg, VA 23185, <https://www.historyisfun.org/yorktown-victory-center/>

**The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown** replaces the Yorktown Victory Center, this change was made to broaden the focus of the Yorktown experience from only the battle of Yorktown to the entire revolution. Indoor galleries represent the colonies prior to the war, the triggering events leading to the revolution, the battles of Great Bridge, Saratoga, and the War in the South, the Declaration of Independence, the beginnings of our government, and life in the colonies after the war. Several short movies lead up to the Siege of Yorktown film, a 4 D experience where visitors are transported to Yorktown where they can see and feel the battle.

The outdoor site demonstrates life in the Continental Army and a middling plantation with slave quarters and gardens. <https://www.historyisfun.org/yorktown-victory-center/new-yorktown-museum/>

Our visit will include a presentation about the revolutionary period and a special guided tour of the museum to see their collection of Revolutionary War artifacts, including a July 1776 broadside of the Declaration of Independence. Although the war would last for another year, this British defeat at Yorktown effectively ended the war.

**11:45 AM- 12:00- Bus to lunch**

**12:00 – 1:30 PM Lunch** at Yorktown's The **Freight Shed**. Built in 1935, the building was originally used as a steamship terminal. It was renovated in conjunction with the Riverwalk Landing and is the "premiere waterfront venue" in Yorktown. Not only did Yorktown gain its notoriety in the American Revolution ( some of Cornwallis' ships are still sunken off of Yorktown's shore) , but it also figured prominently in the American Civil War, serving as a major port to supply both northern and southern towns, depending upon who held Yorktown at the time.

**1:30 -2:00 PM Bus to Williamsburg**

**2:00 – 6:00 PM Earl Gregg Swem Library, William and Mary College**, 400 Landrum Drive, Williamsburg, VA 23186, <https://libraries.wm.edu/libraries/departments/special-collections>

**At the Earl Gregg Swem Library** the members of the special collections team will pull items from the College of William and Mary's unique collection, including a hand-written letter from King William and Queen Mary regarding the founding of the college. The College of William & Mary, established in 1693, is the second-oldest institution of higher education in the United States and the only one of the nine colonial colleges located in the South. Its alumni include three U.S. Presidents as well as many other important figures in the nation's early history. Closing our visit to the Swem, there will be a reception at the library.

**6:00 PM** short bus ride to hotel

**7:30 – 9:30 PM – Dinner at Christiana Campbell’s Tavern** in Colonial Williamsburg. Not much has changed since George Washington frequented Christiana Campbell’s Tavern for its delicious food in the 18th century. Lively conversation and learned discussion still abound, and today’s menu items could easily have been ordered by our founding fathers.

This dinner is a gift to the attendees from Society Treasurer Anthony J. Loscalzo and his wife Kathlyn (Kathy).

## **Friday, May 15, 2020**

**8:00 – 9:30 AM** Bus to Richmond, Virginia

**9:30 AM – 12:30 PM Museum of History & Culture**, 428 N. Arthur Ash Blvd, Richmond, VA, 23220, <https://www.virginiahistory.org/>

The society was founded in 1831. The Virginia Historical Society elected Chief Justice John Marshall as its first president and former president James Madison its first honorary member.

During the early years, between 1831 and 1861, the society acquired valuable books, manuscripts, museum objects, and natural history specimens. During the Civil War, the historical society's collections were moved from place to place, with the result that many valuable items disappeared. The society invested its entire endowment—\$5,000—in Confederate bonds, so it, too, was lost. In 1870, the Virginia Historical Society was reorganized and attempted to reassemble its scattered collections.

In 2018, the Virginia Historical Society announced a new vision and a new name for its headquarters facility—The Virginia Museum of History & Culture so that it could tell a more inclusive story about the Commonwealth of Virginia to a more inclusive audience. <https://www.virginiahistory.org/about-us/our-history>

The Virginia Museum of History and Culture) will open its doors to us to view hand-written documents of our founding fathers and other notables, book collections, museum artifacts and its conservation lab. Presentations and four rotating groups will provide us with an opportunity to see the items specifically pulled for our visit.

**12:30PM Bus to lunch**

**1:00 –2:30 PM Hanover Tavern**, 13181 Hanover Courthouse Road, Hanover, VA 23069, <http://hanovertavern.org/>

Lunch will be served at the historic Hanover Tavern. A license for a tavern at Hanover Courthouse was issued in 1733. In 1750, John and Eleanor Shelton bought the tavern, Their son-in-law Patrick Henry greeted and served guests, tended bar, and entertained guests with his

fiddle. The proximity to Hanover Courthouse and its guests from the legal profession convinced Henry to try his hand at law.

This tavern hosted such notables as George Washington, Lord Cornwallis, the Marquis de Lafayette, Chief Justice John Marshall, Edgar Allan Poe, Charles Dickens, and J.E.B. Stuart.

**2:30 - 4:00 PM** self-guided tour of the tavern. Then we will walk across the street to the Hanover Courthouse where a special presentation awaits us.

**4:00 – 5:45 PM** Bus ride back to Hotel

**Evening Free**

**Saturday, May 16, 2020**

**8:30 – 10:00 AM** – Breakfast Buffet, Business Meeting, Williamsburg Lodge

**10:00 -12:00 PM Presentations**

**Afternoon Free** After the meeting, we will have time to explore Colonial Williamsburg with complimentary passes. The living history museum and art museum at Colonial Williamsburg offer something for everyone, from hands-on activities to guided tours of original 18th-century buildings to our unmatched folk-art collection. <https://www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/explore>

**6:00 PM – 9:00 PM** Closing banquet with a special appearance and presentation- Williamsburg Lodge

\*\*\*\*For those who wish to stay a little longer, your pass will be valid thru Monday \*\*\*\*

Venues and schedule are subject to change.