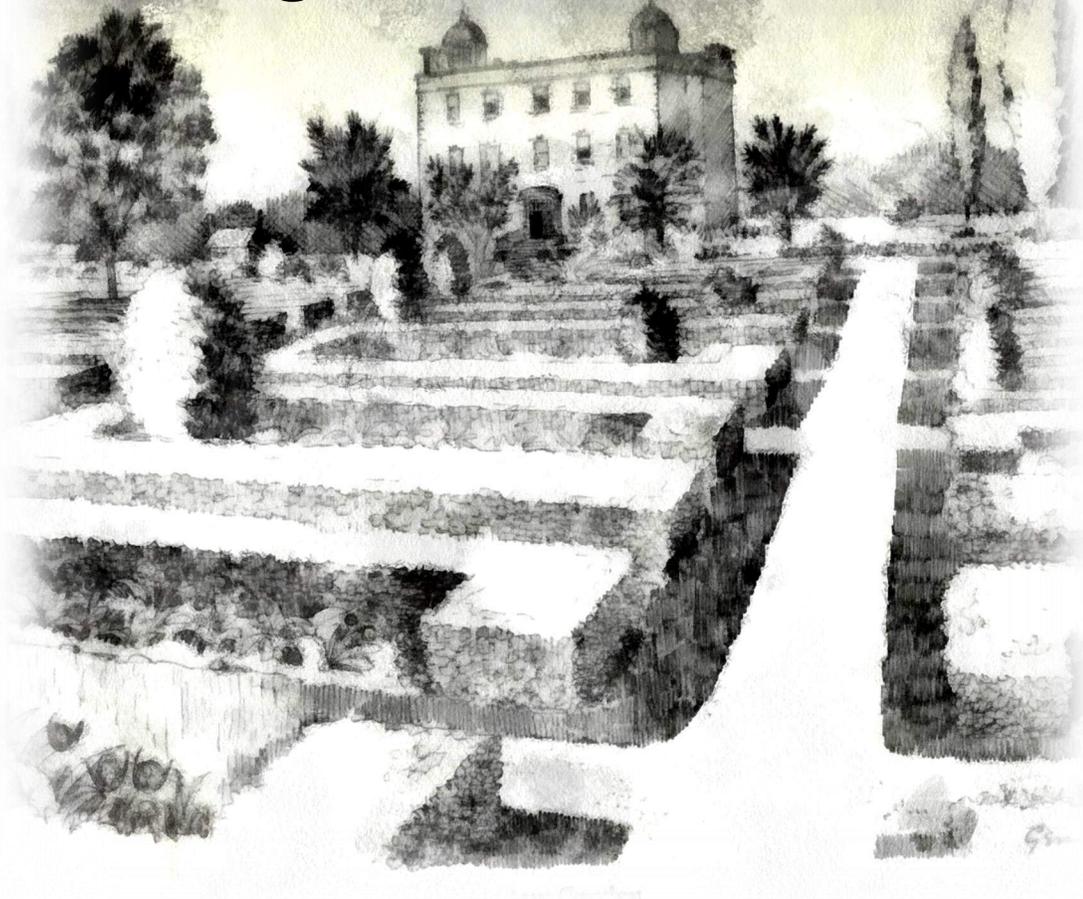




Rosewell

The Rosewell Newsletter

Funding the Dreams ...



Pictured are the 18th century English Gardens noted in historical journals and diaries as being some of the most beautiful in the colony of Virginia. Preliminary work has begun to accommodate re-establishing the Gardens at Rosewell. Your donations to the \$3 Million by 300 Campaign is helping to provide needed funds to protect, preserve and promote the ruins and to expand the narrative to include the 19th and 20th century history of events at Rosewell. See how you are helping to fund the dreams in the story on page 2.

Rosewell benefactor "Ms. Nellie" dies

Rosewell benefactor Ms. Nellie Greaves died peacefully on Wednesday May 23, 2018. She was 93 years old. It was through the generosity of Ms. Nellie and her brother Fielding (deceased) that we have the Rosewell Plantation Ruins. They gifted the Ruins to the Gloucester Historical Society (GHS) in 1979.

The Rosewell Foundation was established in 1995 to actively engage in the preservation of the Ruins and to promote its historical and educational benefits. GHS and The Rosewell Foundation have worked in partnership since then to ensure that the ruins remain for all generations to learn from and to admire.

A memorial service will be held for Ms. Nellie on June 23rd at St. James Anglican Church located in Gloucester VA.

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Funding the Rosewell Dreams ... Your donations make a difference!

When the Boards of The Gloucester Historical Society (GHS) and The Rosewell Foundation joined hands in 1995, they united “to continuously do the utmost to preserve and care for the ruin.” For almost a quarter of a century, the arbiters of this partnership have been working to make the Rosewell dreams a real-time reality through on-going efforts to stabilize and protect the ruins, document and abate deterioration, repair and slow future damage, and promote a greater understanding of Rosewell’s historical presence and value. Funding these dreams were and are daunting, but your contributions have helped to etch Rosewell deeply in the landscape of American history. Here’s how your donations have helped to fund the dreams during the past 12 months:



Provided for clearing the land that will be used to re-establish the English Gardens. The gardens were part of an exquisite Rosewell landscape that was admired by all who visited the plantation.



While clearing land, a foundation of another building was discovered at the site. Archeological research will be conducted to learn more about this structure.



Expanded the Rosewell narrative to include 19th and 20th history. The Civil War Exhibit examined the extreme human toll of the war using medical artifacts, weaponry, diaries and journals, personal accounts and images from the period.



Conducted laser scanning of the property to digitally capture information about Rosewell’s exterior and interior composition. (Photo at left is not of Rosewell’s interior, however when completed, the Rosewell project could provide such detail about the house.)

Author Dr. Henry Browne will present his new book at Rosewell on Sunday June 10th at 12:00

Paper Shoe Press publisher Patricia Castelli describes Dr. Henry J.



Browne as “an extraordinary, well-respected architect and visionary whose career in Virginia has spanned more than five decades. His new book *Vanishing History, Ruins in Virginia*, published by my company, is a beautiful compendium covering a variety of historically significant ruins throughout the Commonwealth, including canals, viaducts, bridges, springs, forges, mills, churches, and residences.” Dr. Browne will be presenting his book at Rosewell in a book signing event being held on Sunday June 10th at the Ruins from 12 noon to 3:00 pm.

The event is being hosted by the Rosewell Capital Campaign for the preservation and long-term protection of the Rosewell Ruins. Dr. Browne will be sharing his experiences as a historical preservationist architect and as an expert on a number of ruins in Virginia. He will be reading excerpts from *Vanishing History* ... and a signed copy of the book will be provided to anyone who makes a donation of \$250 or more to the capital campaign.

For more information call Rosewell 804-693-2585. The book signing event will be preceded by the Rosewell Board of Directors Annual meeting at 11:00 am. All donors and Friends of Rosewell are welcome to attend. New members of the board will be elected at this meeting.

**Rosewell Board of Directors
Annual Meeting
is Sunday June 10th at 11:00 am.
It is open to all donors and Friends of
Rosewell. New Board of Directors
members will be elected.**

From the President's Pen By Clayton James



Dr. Henry Browne, a renowned historical architect from Charlottesville has recently published a beautifully photographed book entitled, *Vanishing History – Ruins in Virginia*. Fortunately, (or perhaps unfortunately) Rosewell is depicted on the cover of Dr. Browne's book as a prime example of how Virginia's historical artifacts are at risk.

Our community and our culture cannot continue to leave these treasures to fend for themselves for another generation. These relics of yesteryear are silently slipping away, and they need our immediate unfettered attention. Left unaddressed, future generations will not have these monuments of the past upon which to study, to gaze, to explore, and to facilitate the inter-workings of their imaginations. They will not have these treasures to act as a catalyst for the mind and to serve as the back drop for the stories and lessons of the past.

We at Rosewell are taking this preservation challenge head-on. We have committed ourselves and our resources to saving Rosewell and to ensuring that she continues to stand majestically and proudly for another 300 years. Our capital campaign is slowly making progress towards raising the funds needed to preserve this great icon of American history. Recently we had an architectural firm complete detailed three-dimensional scans and surveys of the Ruins. These digital images will give us a much cleaner and more useable understanding of the quality and stability of the Ruins. This information will be fed directly to the preservation masonry teams who will undertake the challenges of mortar and brick refurbishment and replacement.

The images will also be used in an ocular sense to “virtually” rebuild Rosewell. We hope to eventually be able to take a real time walking tour of both the outside and inside of the great mansion and to see her as she existed in her prime.

As an ongoing part of the master site development plan, we are continuing to expand the entire Rosewell experience and narrative about the many generations of cultures who called Rosewell home. We are constantly expanding our understanding of the enslaved population and we have recently discovered foundations for two buildings which had been hidden for decades by thick vegetation and overgrowth. Some of the unique archeological features have led to the belief that at least one of these newly uncovered foundation sites could have been an original slave quarters building which housed some of the Rosewell African population. Although much more research and archeology is necessary to identify these discoveries, it is nonetheless exciting today to still be uncovering lost stories of the past and expanding our understanding of this fantastic site.

Rosewell needs your help! Please give serious consideration to supporting Rosewell and to helping us today save her for future generations. Please consider giving generously to this cause!

*Very truly yours,
Clayton James, President*

Rosewell's New Signature Fundraising Event offers *A Taste of Gloucester*®

Save this date - Sunday October 14, 2018
1:00 – 4:00 pm. That's when you'll have your

first chance to get *A Taste Of Gloucester*, The Foundation's newest Signature Fundraising event. It replaces the Annual BBQ and Winetasting event as the primary source of funds for Foundation operations.

"We are so excited to debut *A Taste of Gloucester* at Rosewell," said Board of Directors President Clayton James. He pointed out that the event is designed to achieve a number of significant goals. "We are looking to attract new visitors and expand Rosewell's exposure and awareness in the local and in regional markets." James added "*A Taste of Gloucester* provides us the opportunity to partner with area businesses in a community showcase. We want to introduce and attract tourists to Rosewell and Gloucester County and promote them as viable tourist destinations. We have many great things going on in the county. This event is going to be big and it will help to get the word out about Gloucester," James said.

A Taste of Gloucester will pull together some of the best food and beverages in the area and will provide a fun opportunity for participants to showcase their businesses. For one price, ticket holders will get to sample some of the best Gloucester has to offer. All restaurants and beverage purveyors in the county are invited to participate and showcase their tastiest dishes, their best beers, and their finest and most exotic wines.

"This event is a way of putting a fresh face on Rosewell's fundraising efforts. Although the annual BBQ had



loyal and committed followers, the attendance had not been experiencing much growth or attracting new visitors to Rosewell. By incorporating more community businesses in our fundraising efforts, we believe that our partnerships will benefit everyone who participates," said James. Since all the local and regional advertising and social media will feature the participating restaurants, breweries, and other businesses, everybody will enjoy getting maximum exposure, exposure, exposure!

A Taste of Gloucester will offer an exciting variety of foods and diverse cuisines, drinks, music, archeological digs, tours of the amazing Rosewell Ruins, raffle prizes, and more. Sponsorship opportunities are still available; businesses that want to participate should contact Rosewell now - space is limited. Call (804) 693-2585 for information and to sign up for *A Taste of Gloucester*.

Spring cleaning at the Ruins ...

Peter and Valerie Page were two of the volunteers who spent a long and tiring Saturday afternoon in March participating in a Board of Directors clean-up day at the ruins. The Pages took on clearing the Rosewell ice house of trash and debris. The remains of the 18th century ice house, which was 20 feet in diameter and 17 feet deep, are largely intact. The pictured structure was still standing with the roof intact until approximately 1949. Also, a shelter built to protect some of the centuries-old bricks stored on the site was fortified, and dozens of downed limbs and branches were removed. Most of the maintenance and landscaping at the ruins is done by volunteers. Call 804-693-2585 for information on becoming a Rosewell volunteer.



History ... Why it Matters

By Katrina White Brown, Executive Director

History vs Heritage vs Hatred: An Uncomfortable Conversation



Robert E. Lee's statue, located on Monument Ave. in Richmond, VA is among those being considered for removal.

It is an on-going and often times crushing debate: what is heritage; what is history; and how is it embodied or reflected as racial hatred? Although these questions have been uncomfortably addressed in muddled and murmured conversations that incorporate more fiction than fact, the conversational dis-

comfort has now become an in-your-face dialogue, and has launched a take no prisoners assault on our collective historical consciousness. It's all being fueled by viral videos, and it has created a social media feeding frenzy. Is it heritage or hatred to honor Civil War "heroes" with monuments and memorials?

Understanding the difference between history and heritage is a good place to start looking for answers. These are two words that always go together. *History is the study of the past; heritage refers to valued objects and qualities, such as historic buildings, and traditions that have been passed down from previous generations.* Understanding how these concepts inform our beliefs and actions is key in the heritage vs history vs hatred debate.

What is history? History tells us about the events and incidents that took place in the past. Everything on earth has a history and studying it helps us determine the who, what, where, when, and how of past life. History is based on facts and evidence, as well as legends, customs, myths, and oral traditions that can provide information about a past way of life. It looks at the origins and evolution of civilizations.

What is heritage? *Heritage refers to a thing that is transmitted by, or acquired from, a predecessor.* Heritage generally refers to traditions and treasured objects that have been passed down from previous generations. Historical artifacts, monu-

ments, sites, art, literature - these are all parts of our heritage. These are the achievements and accomplishments of our ancestors and they are the memoirs of our past. Heritage is the customs and traditions; the things that are unique to our culture; those things we inherit from our forebearers. There can be no heritage without a history. Neither history nor heritage can be changed, but both require conscious examination and cognizant understanding based on truth. And dealing with the truth can be extremely uncomfortable.

Creating monuments and memorials as tributes to those who have influenced the historical landscape of our lives is certainly appropriate. They create opportunities for us to honor and recognize those who, by their thoughts and ideas; their actions and behaviors; and their influence and impact, have made a difference in how we live and what we value.

In states that were formally a part of the Confederate States of America (CSA) the history and the heritage associated with the Civil War is both courageous and controversial - it has been for over 150 years. Throughout the southern United States statues and monuments have been erected to extol the gallantry and valor of CSA icons who fought for what they believed - this is reflective of true American spirit. Since the inception of our nation, Americans have been willing to: die in the pursuit of liberty and freedom; rebel against unreasonable government restraints; and to risk it all to defend what we thought was right.

This is the attitude that gave birth to the Declaration of Independence in 1776, the Ordinances of Succession in 1861, and the Civil Rights Act in 1964. These documents assert an American attitude and ideology based on freedom - an attitude best expressed by the New Hampshire state motto "live free or die." Americans fiercely proclaim this as an unalienable right, endowed by their creator. This is part of the self-evident truths embodied in the words of the Declaration of Independence, which states that *all men are created equal, and that all have a right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.*

For centuries Americans have embraced a proud historical heritage - we defend the rights

of others and we fight for truth and justice. But when truth and justice are discriminately applied, denied, and cast aside, both history and heritage become entangled in a mass of imbalanced, incomplete, and indifferent ideologies and philosophies that tend to obscure and deflect uncomfortable and painful realities. This is when heritage does indeed, become held hostage by hatred.

Heritage is important, but knowing the history that created the heritage is paramount. To simply remove artifacts, monuments, buildings, or statues from the historical landscape without addressing the underlying purpose or motives for creating them merely takes them out of sight, but not out of mind. The issue are Confederate monuments, most of which were erected during two key periods of American history: the beginnings of Jim Crow segregation in the 1920s and the initiation of the civil rights movement in the early 1950s and 1960s. During the uncomfortable conversations it is often suggested that erecting these monuments had nothing to do with paying tribute to the Civil War dead but everything to do with 20th-century racism, oppression, justice denied, and inequality towards African Americans and people of color.

There can be no value in sidestepping or avoiding uncomfortable and painful conversations. Museum professionals, and particularly historians, must hold themselves accountable in the truthful examination of history and heritage. Our job is to comprehend, not censor, the complexities of the past. While historians seldom look at events with a bias-free view, we must be the illuminating catalyst that gives volume to those whispered conversations fraught with inaccuracies, or worse, those that are loudly expressed in violent defiance.

Looking at monuments and statues, causes an emotional metamorphosis to take place. These symbols can evoke pride, or hatred, or reverence. They can make us feel connected or isolated - they encompass a myriad of emotions. Although the heritage vs history vs hatred debate has no simple answers or solutions, at the very least it should force an examination of who we were, who we are, what we want to be, and how we want to be remembered.

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**YOUR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS
NEEDED** to achieve our goals. Donors like you are helping to guarantee Rosewell's place, not only in Virginia's past, but also in its future.

CONSIDER MAKING A LEGACY GIFT to The Rosewell Foundation. Call 804-693-2585 to learn more about planned giving.

Colonial Dames of America provides grant to help create “virtual classroom”

The Rosewell Foundation will soon be able to offer visitors a virtual Rosewell experience, thanks to the Colonial Dames of America. The organization’s Education and Scholarship Committee has awarded Rosewell a \$4000 grant to assist with renovations needed at the Visitors Center to implement The Living Classroom Project.

The grant application pointed out that the Ruins themselves, are a living history classroom, *alive with the hopes, dreams, and artifacts of the diverse cultures that created the Rosewell community. Europeans, Indians, and enslaved people of African descent lived and worked at Rosewell. The remnant of their lives – what they ate, how they worked, what they wore, the things they treasured, how they celebrated, what they planted – how they made a life together, is waiting to be examined. The legacies of generations can be found just a few feet below the surface of the Rosewell Plantation Ruins.*

The Living Classroom Project will be completed in 4 phases. Phase one involves remodeling the two spaces at the Visitors Center, previously used as a lab and for storage, into an aesthetically-pleasing, and technologically-functional classroom. Phase two calls for adding a pergola to the outside patio area to create a protected outdoor learning space. Phase three will provide furnishings to include audio-visual equipment, whiteboards, computers, tables, and chairs. Phase four includes the full implementation of virtual classroom capabilities. Guests should be able to reconstruct the interior, exterior, and Rosewell landscape using software programs developed from the 3D imaging project currently being conducted on the ruins.

Regular field trips between the Middle Peninsula State Park and Rosewell are also planned when the project is completed. Both sites are valuable in unlocking the secrets of survival in 18th century Virginia. Particularly at the State Park, participants can better understand how the land, the surrounding waterways, nature and wildlife, and the environment was used to survive and thrive in building the Virginia landscape. Rosewell provides a wealth of material culture through its archeology, artifacts, and documented history, and the physical structure of the ruins and the Visitors Center. Combining these resources creates a unique opportunity; not just learn history but also live history, much like the three cultures who created the Rosewell community lived. The estimated cost to complete all four phases of the project is \$10,000.



Rosewell Executive Director Katrina White Brown was part of the delegation from Gloucester, VA who met with His Royal Highness Prince Richard, Duke of Gloucester (United Kingdom), to: explore mutual economic partnerships and the expanded tourism potential for Gloucester County from the United Kingdom; showcase Gloucester, VA’s resources and historical connections with its namesake; and share exciting future endeavors for the County. Pictured from left to right: Jenny Crittenden, Gloucester Main Street Preservation Trust Executive Director; Stephanie Heinatz, founder of Consociate Media; Kym Hall, Superintendent of Colonial National Historical Park; Beth Richardson, Glo-Quips editor; Pete Teagle, Gloucester-Mathews Gazette Journal reporter; Ashley Chriscoe, Gloucester Board of Supervisors Vice-Chairman; His Royal Highness Prince Richard, Duke of Gloucester; Gloria Williams, Gloucester Chamber of Commerce Executive Director; Katrina White Brown; Carol Steele, Assistant County Administrator; and Brent Fedors, Gloucester County Administrator.



Find Rosewell on the VA History Trails

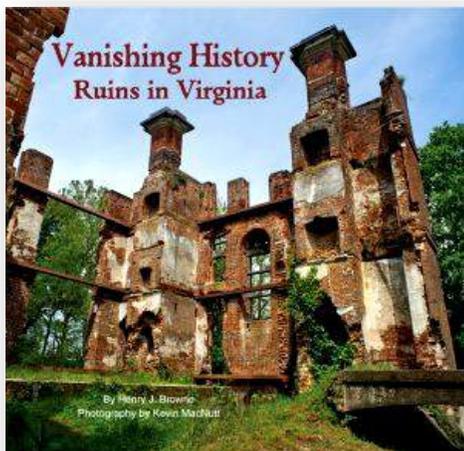
You can have Rosewell history right in your hand when you download the Virginia History Trails app to your mobile device. The Rosewell narrative is included in the collection of historic

destinations that tell the stories of the first 400 years of Virginia’s dynamic history. It will promote tourism throughout all regions of the Commonwealth while inspiring, educating, and stimulating awareness of Virginia’s role in the creation of the United States.

The VA History Trails is a legacy project developed as part of the statewide program entitled *American Evolution*. It commemorates the 400th anniversary of historical events that occurred in Virginia in 1619, which continue to influence us today. Each of the historical destinations included on the trail tell stories of Virginia’s rich and significant history, and represent contributions to democracy, diversity, and opportunity during the past 400 years.

To download the app for free, search “Virginia History Trails” in the App Store and Google Play.

Available at the Rosewell Visitors Center Gift Shop



Vanishing History: Ruins in Virginia

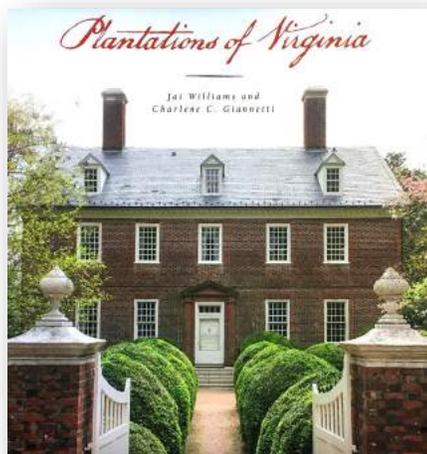
by Dr. Henry J. Browne

The architectural expertise and life-long vision of Henry J. Browne come together with Kevin MacNutt's outstanding photography to

honor the workmanship and ingenuity of those who came before us, and to encourage honest reflection about the spirit of progress and the mark we ourselves will leave behind. Each of the 12 sections of this full color book gives an historical overview, brief construction and architectural notes and a sampling of striking images. Several dozen ruined structures in Virginia are featured, some dating to the 18th century. They include the cold kiln of Wheelbarger-Rumsey, the abandoned milling and slitting manufactory on Belle Isle, the haunting company house of Alberene, the crumbling furnace of Lucy Selina, the empty fireplaces of the Rosewell, Barboursville and Ambler mansions, the decaying train depot of Fort Defiance, the half bridge of Mt. Meridian, the ageless beauty of the Folly Mills viaduct, the dark doorways of Rockbridge Alum Springs, the quiet gravestones of Wash Woods and a new model for historic preservation, Menokin.

Plantations of Virginia

By: Jai Williams and Charlene C. Giannetti

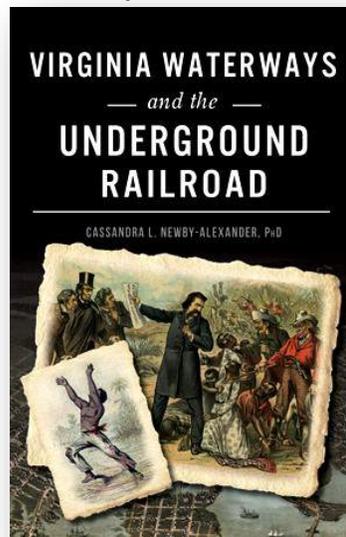


Southern plantations are an endless source of fascination. That's no surprise since these palatial homes are rich in history, representing a pivotal tie in U.S. history that truly is "gone with the wind." With the Civil War literally exploding all around, many of these homes were occupied either by Confederate or Un-

ion troops. No where else in the south were plantations so affected by the nation's bloodiest war than Virginia. At times, families fled, leaving behind slaves to manage the property. There are still more than 60 plantations in Virginia today, most of them open to the public. Some have been restored, others undergoing that process. This book features a number of these properties.

Virginia Waterways and the Underground Railroad

By Dr. Cassandra Newby-Alexander

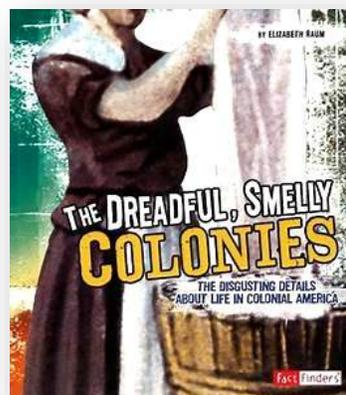


Enslaved Virginians sought freedom from the time they were first brought to the Jamestown colony in 1619. Acts of self-emancipation were aided by Virginia's waterways, which became part of the network of the Underground Railroad in the years before the Civil War. Watermen willing to help escaped slaves made eighteenth-century Norfolk a haven for freedom seekers. Famous nineteenth-century escapees like Shadrack Min-

kins and Henry "Box" Brown were aided by the Underground Railroad. Enslaved men like Henry Lewey, known as Bluebeard, aided freedom seekers as conductors, and black and white sympathizers acted as station masters. Historian Cassandra Newby-Alexander narrates the ways that enslaved people used Virginia's waterways to achieve humanity's dream of freedom.

The Dreadful Smelly Colonies

By Elizabeth Raum
An educational and entertaining look at what life was like in Colonial America. From moldy food and dirt covered clothes to poisonous pests and extreme weather, American colonists did not have the



easiest lives. Items that we take for granted like deodorant and soap were no where to be found. A great way to get kids interested in history and appreciative of our lives today. A *Young Historians* selection.

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Subject: Contact information

Visitor Center Hours

Tuesday - Saturday
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Sunday 1:00 - 4:00pm
Closed Mondays

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For more information,
or to comment on
anything in this
issue, contact
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804-693-2585

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

SUNDAY JUNE 10 AT 11:00 AM - 12 NOON

ROSEWELL BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL MEETING.
ALL FRIENDS AND MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

SUNDAY JUNE 10 AT 12 NOON - 3:00 PM

BOOK SIGNING BY DR. HENRY BROWNE,

AUTHOR OF

VANISHING HISTORY, RUINS IN VIRGINIA.

FREE ADMISSION TO THE RUINS. SEE STORY PAGE 3

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16 AT 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

IT'S A DOG GONE HISTORY BLOCK PARTY!

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GLOUCESTER-MATHEWS
HUMANE SOCIETY. FOOD VENDORS, "BARKEOLOGY"
DIGS, DOGS IN HISTORY FASHION SHOW AND
MORE!!! FREE ADMISSION TO THE RUINS.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 14 AT 1:00 - 4:00 PM

A TASTE OF GLOUCESTER FESTIVAL

TASTE THE BEST FOOD AND BEVERAGES THAT
GLOUCESTER COUNTY HAS TO OFFER!

SEE STORY ON PAGE 4

**FRIDAY OCTOBER 19 AND 26
SATURDAY OCTOBER 20 AND 27**

**THE ROSEWELL
GHOST TOURS**

