

Colonial Williamsburg

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
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72nd Annual Antiques Forum Celebrates “The American Home” Feb. 21-25, 2020



Organized square piano, London, England and Germantown, Pennsylvania, 1801-1803, gift of Tom and Debra Strange; hot water urn, Thomas Whipham II and Charles Wright, London, England, 1761-62, museum purchase, the Friends of Colonial Williamsburg Collections Fund; slab sideboard, attributed to John Calvin Burgner, Greene or Washington County, Tennessee, 1820-45, museum purchase, the Sara and Fred Hoyt Furniture Fund and the Friends of Colonial Williamsburg Collections Fund.

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (Oct. 28, 2019) – Colonial Williamsburg invites material culture enthusiasts to its 72nd annual Antiques Forum Feb. 21-25, 2020 at the Williamsburg Lodge, where guests will join curators, conservators, collectors, scholars and aficionados from across the United States and England to re-examine “The American Home” and its occupants through decorative and performing arts and architecture.

“There are few better windows on life in early America than the homes people built and the objects they acquired,” said Ronald L. Hurst, Colonial Williamsburg Carlisle H. Humelsine chief curator and vice president for collections, conservation and museums. “The 2020 Antiques Forum features experts on a wide range of early material culture subjects as well as archaeology, foodways and music. Together they will offer a closer look at “The American Home.””

Guest presenter highlights include:

- World-renowned expert **Jeremy Musson**, to discuss the country houses of 18th-century Scottish architect and designer Robert Adam
- Foodways historian **Marc Meltonville** on the evolution of dining, including food, drink and manners
- White House Historical Society President **Stewart McLaurin** on Scottish stone masons and Virginia stone

- Historic New England Curator **Laura Johnson**, who will share findings from new textile research
- **Lauren Brincat** of Preservation Long Island, to explore material culture in Dutch New York homes
- **Alexandra Cade**, executive director of the Carolina Music Museum to discuss and perform period music

Sessions featuring Colonial Williamsburg staff include:

- Associate Curator of Maps and Prints **Katie McKinney** on “Maps and Prints in the 18th-century Chesapeake Home”
- Associate Curator of Historic Interiors and Household Accessories **Amanda Keller**, to discuss “Scenes of Mortality and Life Passages in the American Home”
- Shirley and Richard Roberts Architectural Historian **Jeffrey Klee** on new findings at Colonial Williamsburg’s Robert Carter House
- Director of Archaeology **Jack Gary**, with an overview of Colonial Williamsburg’s multi-year investigation of Custis Square, the site of John Custis IV’s city estate

Sponsors of the 72nd annual Antiques Forum include the Decorative Arts Trust, William & Mary’s National Institute of American History and Democracy, Skinner, Inc. and Brunk Auctions.

Museum professional and student discounts are available, as is a limited number of scholarships with an application deadline of Dec. 20, and special room rates at Colonial Williamsburg hotels for conference registrants on reservations made by Jan. 1. Conference guests who register by Dec. 1 and book accommodations at a Colonial Williamsburg property are entered in a raffle to win a free two-night stay for two at the Williamsburg Lodge.

Registration is \$650 and includes presentations, a welcome reception, four continental breakfasts, seven coffee/tea breaks, a tavern barbeque hosted by Jeffrey S. Evans & Assoc., a closing reception and dinner and a Colonial Williamsburg admission ticket. Registrant guest tickets are available for the opening reception (\$50), closing reception and dinner (\$85) and the Historic Area (\$20).

Three optional pre-conference bus tours to historic sites in Orange and Albemarle counties, Richmond and Surry County are available for conference registrants Feb. 21 for \$185, as is a special behind-the-scenes Historic Area tour for \$50.

Additional information and conference registration is available by visiting colonialwilliamsburg.com or by calling 800-603-0948 toll-free 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday Eastern time. Lodging reservations for conference guests at Colonial Williamsburg properties are available by calling 800-261-9530 toll-free Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Information is also available by following Colonial Williamsburg on [Facebook](#) and [@colonialwmsburg](#) on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation preserves, restores and operates Virginia's 18th-century capital of Williamsburg. Innovative and interactive experiences highlight the relevance of the American Revolution to contemporary life and the importance of an informed, active citizenry. The Colonial Williamsburg experience includes more than 600 restored or reconstructed original buildings, renowned museums of decorative arts and folk art, extensive educational outreach programs for students and teachers, lodging, culinary options from historic taverns to casual or elegant dining, the Golden Horseshoe Golf Club featuring 45 holes designed by Robert Trent Jones and his son Rees Jones, a full-service spa and fitness center, pools, retail stores and gardens. Philanthropic support and revenue from admissions, products and hospitality operations sustain Colonial Williamsburg's educational programs and preservation initiatives.

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