

THE DATUM POINT

Newsletter of the
NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF THE
ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

Chapter Website – www.nvcasv.org

March 2013

FROM THE PRESIDENT – JACK HRANICKY

I am saddened to report the passing of former ASV President Kathy Bassett (1993-1994). She was the first woman ASV president and started the ASV's involvement in raising funds for archaeological work. She was truly a fine person, and I enjoyed working with her.

On a better note, I am happy to report that Virginia's state budgeting process did not cut the archaeology budget, but increased it by \$100 K. We survived dollar-wise for another year.

I attended the ASV Executive Board meeting in Charlottesville and it was mainly business as usual. It has been over 10 years since I was a voting board member; some things rarely change. I made a report on our scholarship fund and how to apply for it. Newsletter editor Randy Turner said notice of it will be in the next ASV newsletter.

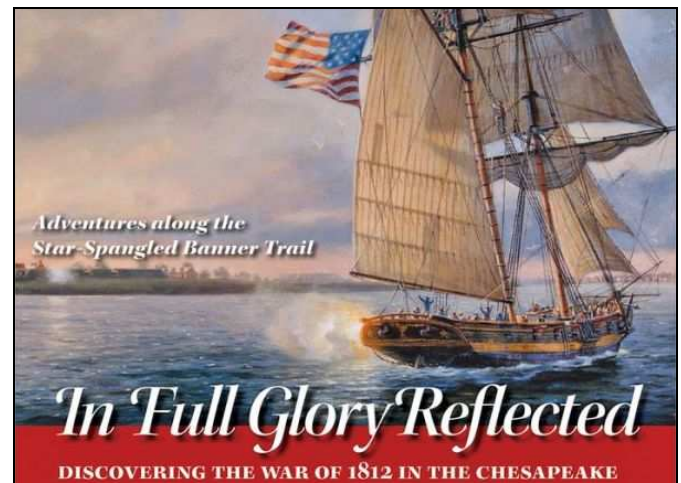
State archaeologist, Mike Barber, has announced the state's field school dates - April 16 to 24, 2013. There will be three different types of activities...plenty of work for everyone. They will be posted on the ASV's website (www.asv-archeology.org) which will have sign-up information. Plans are for salvage of eroding burials, large track of land survey, and a road impact project.

We are currently lining up chapter tours; one of which will be a tour to see the ASV's Kittiewan plantation. The society has done a tremendous amount of work getting the site ready for public tours. In addition to the house, the collections on display are worth seeing.

Talk March 13th

KNOWN AND UNKNOWN VESTIGES OF THE WAR OF 1812 THAT SURVIVED IN THE CHESAPEAKE BAY REGION

By Ralph Eshelman



Ralph Eshelman has over 35 years of cultural resource management experience. Specific to the War of 1812, Eshelman was co-director of the Patuxent River Cultural Resource Survey which discovered and partially excavated an American War of 1812 military vessel from the U.S. Chesapeake Flotilla. Eshelman's work includes "Maryland War of 1812: Battlefields, Selected Skirmishes, Encampments, Earthworks, and Related Sites" (2000; co-authored with Christopher George); and "Maryland Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefields/Skirmishes and Associated Historical Properties Survey" (2002). Eshelman served as the historian for the "Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail" Study Team of the National Park Service.

DISAPPEARING WALL AT COOMBE TRENCHARD MANOR IN DEVON, UK

A disappearing wall has been rediscovered at an Edwardian manor house in west Devon. The owners of Coombe Trenchard Manor discovered the moving wall after a villager said she had read that the house had the feature. The current owner, Sarah Marsh, said: "We live in a house full of panels, it could have been anywhere. It took Mrs. Marsh three years to discover the wall.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-devon-21661850>

BURKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Please mark your calendars for our general meeting, **4:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 24th.** We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 6304 Lee Chapel Road, Burke, VA 22015. For our last Civil War program of the year, journalist and writer Carl Sell will speak about his book, "*Thank God He Survived Pickett's Charge!*," a novel based on historical research about his great grandfather, a private in the Confederate army. Mr. Sell's granddaughter, Danielle Clarke, will also speak about her great-great-great grandfather, a Union private wounded at Fairfax Station.



Silas Burke House in Burke

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Carl Sell was a sportswriter and editor for the Washington *Star* newspaper. He also spent 15 years as the Director of Sports Information at George Mason University. A former member of the Fairfax County Planning Commission and chairman of the Fairfax County Park Authority, he has written two books and numerous articles for the Franconia Museum and currently is working on a book on the history of the Franconia Volunteer Fire Department.

Please note that we will meet a week early in order to avoid Easter Sunday. Also, we will continue to meet at 4:30. We apologize for any inconvenience.

We hope to see you there!

Brian Slawski
BHS Programs Committee

THE 3-MINUTE INTERVIEW: FAIRFAX COUNTY CEMETERY PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT MARY LIPSEY

From the *Examiner*, by Taylor Holland

Lipsev is president of the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association. The group recently completed a project in honor of the Civil War sesquicentennial that lists the names and stories of Civil War veterans buried or memorialized in Fairfax cemeteries.

Where did you get the idea to take such a massive project on? A Girl Scout approached us about doing a project on local history, and together we came up with the idea of creating what we called the [Civil War Honor Roll](#), which lists the biographies of veterans buried in the county who survived the war and are buried here. We collected the information and put it on a website along with a picture of their tombstone. After about a year, we listed 484 Confederate, Union and black troops on the site.

How did you collect all the information? We used two main sources, both of which were books that had the soldiers' service information and, if they

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knew where they were buried, it had that information, too. We searched beyond that on grave-finding websites, too, which had transcriptions of every tombstone in the county. We relied heavily on those sources to get all of the information.

Do any particular findings stand out? The list is mainly privates, many of whom came back to the county and went on with their lives after the war. A lot of soldiers passed through Fairfax County or decided not to go back to where they're from and stayed here.

What's next for the group? We're taking a breather now; we just finished this in November. But I think World War I is next; it's the next anniversary coming up. We've talked to county archivists who have enlistment records, so we can use those and some of the sources we used when completing the Civil War project, as well.

WESTBROOK SITE

By Mike Johnson

It has become apparent that, to paraphrase Voltaire, with regard to the re-analysis of Westbrook, the perfect has become the enemy of the good in the attempt to fix some of the problems with the data. We were originally changing all of the hornfels striking platforms to "modified/worn" on the code sheets and having to label all the new "MWs." We also were changing all of the artifacts coded as chalcedony to mylonite. Finally we were making sure the catalogued fire crack rocks were of comparable sizes across the site.

The first change was clearly going to take eons to finish, because of the need to use a white base coat on all dark varieties of new hornfels MWs. That meant first putting the white coat down and letting it dry. Then each artifact had to be labeled and left to dry. Finally, the whole thing had to be covered with the clear coat and allowed to dry again. We had gotten into block B covering the quartz concentration, which had a relatively light amount of hornfels. Blocks C and F, however, were both pitted hornfels blocks. Completing the re-analysis of the hornfels at this stage is not necessary. It can be done during the proposed analysis stage.

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Therefore, we have deferred re-analyzing the hornfels.

The second change involved the chalcedony-like raw materials. Several archeologists have recently identified that material as "mylonite." So we were in the process of re-examining the artifacts we had catalogued as chalcedony. At the recent Smithsonian lecture by NVCC geologist, Callan Bentley, which was attended by Becky Garber, Tabitha Eagle, Jean Teasdale and me, Bentley had a short section on mylonite. That indicated that he was very familiar with the material. I sent him a photo of an artifact of the material and he replied that it was, in no way Mylonite. It is clear that we need to re-assess the material before changing the catalogue. In fact, this makes the thorough analysis of all of the chert-like material from the site one of the prime opportunities for the crew.

Since the quantities of fire crack rocks need to be comparable between shovel test pit samples to be able to do accurate distribution plots, we will have to finish that part of the re-assessment. Fortunately, that was the easiest and fastest of the three changes. We will continue to do that.

There is one other positive result from the re-analysis. We discovered that we had not catalogued seven bags of material. Isabel Pease and I finished cataloguing them today. We were both reminded of how interesting this site was to catalogue. The seven bags had two quartz end scrapers. One had been used up and discarded. The bit was polished smooth.

Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, Inc.

By Mary Lipsey

FIELD TRIP—Saturday, March 23, 2013-9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Cemetery History Tour With Tombstone Cleaning, Photography Techniques, and a Unique Way of Capturing Transcriptions Demonstrations Where Possible

This field trip is co-sponsored by the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, Inc. (FCCPA) who will serve as our hosts and will be

making the presentations. The tour will begin by meeting at 9:30 at Andrew Chapel Cemetery at 9201 Leesburg Pike (west of Tysons Corner). We will be at this location until approximately 11:30. After this tour, we will take a lunch break. Lunch will be on your own, but a list of recommended eating places in the nearby vicinity will be provided. After lunch we will meet at 1:00 at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church Cemetery located at 1724 Chain Bridge Road in McLean, Virginia where presentations will include history of a few buried there as well as further demonstrations.

A \$5 donation to FCCPA for the trip is suggested and may be donated to their representative at one of the sites.

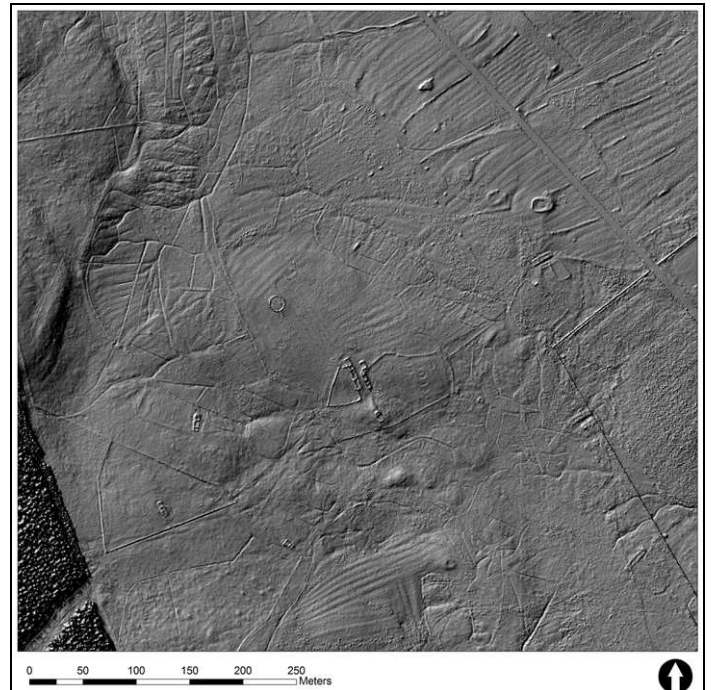
If you have questions about the site visits, Mary Lipsey is the FCCPA contact person and may be reached at christopherlipsey@verizon.net or (703) 321-2824.

Please sign up for this field trip at FxGS meetings or classes or notify Susan Krumhaus at fieldtrips@fxgs.org by March 15. If you sign up and need to cancel, please let Susan know no later than a week prior to the trip date if possible. A final count is needed in advance for planning purposes.

LIDAR


LIDAR is an incredible technology that can reveal long lost historical features. The link below, sent by Karen Lindquist, shows its application in a Scottish context.

<http://www.pasthorizonspr.com/index.php/archives/02/2013/hidden-landscapes-lidar-survey-allows-public-to-discover-new-sites>



FEDERAL FASHIONS

Talks on Historic Clothing
Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum
Free, open to the public



Saturday, March 9th
1:00 pm

1812 Menswear: Dressing for Success and War

Ross Kimmel and Ed Seufert, historians and re-enactors, will give a presentation on men's civilian and military clothing worn at the time of the War of 1812. They will use clothing of their own construction to illustrate proper dress for men in the early 19th century.

Location: MAC Lab meeting room

OLD COLCHESTER

By Megan Veness

February has been a busy month for the Colchester Archaeological Research Team (CART)! CART would like to welcome two new hires, Marion, our new GIS specialist, and Sheila, our new part-time lab technician. Our newest members will help in our continued efforts to analyze and process artifacts and create maps of our sites on Old Colchester Park and Preserve. Additionally, group of GMU students took the orientation and many have returned to volunteer in the field and lab. They are a welcome addition to the volunteer team. Artifacts are being processed almost as soon as they enter the lab. There is still plenty to do.



Despite the cold and rainy weather we have had the past few weeks, excavation of the Enyedi property continues. With the continued help of our volunteers, the excavation of Enyedi is almost completed! After clearing away all the thorn bushes and massive tree roots, we concentrated our efforts in finishing the MTUs located in the southern portion of the property. Artifacts included small pieces of ceramic, glass, and metal. One unit contained two quartz flake fragments. We have also found several features near the intersection of Old Colchester and Furnace Rd.

Once excavation at Enyedi is completed, the plan is to continue testing at the Roysdon property. The Roysdon house is located in the middle of downtown Colchester. We hope to find more large

stone foundations like the Morris Pound foundation and expand on already known features. CART is continuing to try and match up excavations done by GMU in the 1980s with our own test units.

In March, CART's Megan Veness and Christopher Sperling from the CRMPB will be presenting papers at the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference. The organized session will focus on the Lower Potomac region during the late colonial period and will also include presentations about Mount Vernon, and an Overseer/Slave site located almost between Colchester and George Washington's estate. This session will be a great opportunity for CART to place its work on Town and Cemetery into broader, regional context.

CIVIL WAR PHOTOGRAPHS SITE

This is a great site for finding Civil War photographs. Submitted by NVC member George Monken, all the way from Arizona!

<http://www.mikelynaugh.com/VirtualCivilWar/New/Originals2/index.html>

HUNTLEY MEADOWS PARK

By Kathleen Lowe (formerly of CART!)

Hello, folks! If you are interested in becoming a docent or program assistant for Historic Huntley, it isn't too late! The meeting was this afternoon, and although you missed the historically accurate snacks, I am happy to provide you with more information about the opportunity and upcoming training schedule. (Please note that leftover historically accurate snacks may be available for a day or two at the Huntley Meadows Park Visitor Center, but no promises.) Please contact me for more information at:

kathleen.lowe@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Thanks everyone, and I look forward to hearing from you! May our paths cross again soon!

SAVE THE DATE



THE

Fairfax County
Cemetery Preservation
Association, Inc.

INVITES YOU TO THE FCCPA CONFERENCE 2013

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2013

9:00AM-12:00PM

Civil War Interpretive Center at

Historic Blenheim

3610 Old Lee Highway

Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Blenheim is a Greek Revival brick farmhouse built in 1859 by Albert Willcoxon on his 367-acre farm. More than 100 signatures, artworks and poetic inscriptions - evidence of the house's occupation by Union soldiers during the Civil War - adorn its walls. Blenheim was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2001.

KEYNOTE: Glenn Wallace, Documenting historic Monocacy Cemetery

CEMETERY PRESERVATION: Mary Lipsey, FCCPA President

LIVING HISTORY: Jon Vrana & Jenece Lindner as the *Willcoxons*

CEMETERY TOUR: Willcoxon/Farr Family Cemetery

A donation of \$10 will be requested of attendees

For more information, please contact:

FCCPA president Mary Lipsey at chrisopherlipsey@verizon.net

FCCPA director Paul Kohlenberger at PaulKohl@msn.com

www.honorfairfaxcemeteries.org

Fairfield Foundation

By Thane Harpole

Do we have a lot going on this spring! I've included below many of the upcoming events and dig days that are coming up. There will be more things added to the schedule, and we are hoping to put a calendar up on our website soon (www.fairfieldfoundation.org) that will offer up to date information on where we are and what we're doing. Please come on out and join us on some of these activities! As usual, email or call us if you plan to come out to any of these events so we know how many people to expect.

March:

Archaeological Certification Program SURVEY and LECTURE

On Tuesday and Wednesday, March 19th and 20th, from 9am to 4pm, the Fairfield Foundation and Middle Peninsula Chapter ASV will be digging shovel test pits on part of the future Middle Peninsula State Park near the Rosewell Visitor Center in Gloucester County. We will continue shovel testing in the field and into the woods, extending from where we stopped last year, in an effort to help the folks planning the park avoid and better understand any significant archaeological resources. This has been a great experience the past two years, and we hope to continue that. If you are an ASV certification student this will count towards your survey hours. In case of inclement weather, we will likely move inside and do lab work. State Archaeologist Mike Barber will again offer an ASV certification lecture on Wednesday March 20th at noon at the Rosewell Visitor Center. He will speak about faunal analysis and its use in archaeological research. Please email us at Fairfield@inna.net if you are interested in attending, so we know how many people to expect.

Also, a great local restaurant, Jessica's on Main, is donating a percentage of their proceeds on March 19th to the Fairfield Foundation, so a number of us are planning on going there for dinner that night, and we may get some lunch food there as well. This will be a great way to support a local restaurant, help Fairfield, and fill your stomach with

delight at the same time. Even if you don't join us in the field, please enjoy a meal at Jessica's on Main and support Fairfield.

Mike Barber will be giving an ASV certification lecture on faunal analysis at noon on March 20th at the Rosewell Visitor Center.

If you are planning to come and need some lectures, let us know which ones you still need.

Garage Sale

Garage Sale and work day at Edge Hill Service Station: Friday/Saturday, March 15th/16th. If you'd like to help work on the station, we could use you on the 15th. If you want to assist with the garage sale, we could use help both days. Also, if you have items you'd like to donate to Fairfield that we can place in the garage sale, please let us know and we can coordinate getting them to the station.

April: Dig Days

Daffodil Festival, Gloucester Courthouse, April 6th and 7th. During this wonderful local festival, we will be conducting excavations behind the 1766 courthouse to learn more about the early buildings in this location. We could use some volunteers to help us excavate and interact with the public. Go to www.daffodilfestival.org to learn more about this wonderful festival.

Raids on Gloucester, Gloucester Courthouse, April 12 and 13. Picking up from the previous weekend, we will continue our excavations within Gloucester's court circle. We could use help with the excavation and public interaction. This should be a great event to learn more about Gloucester's Civil War encounters. Visit www.visitgloucester.org for more info.

May, September, October: Dig Days

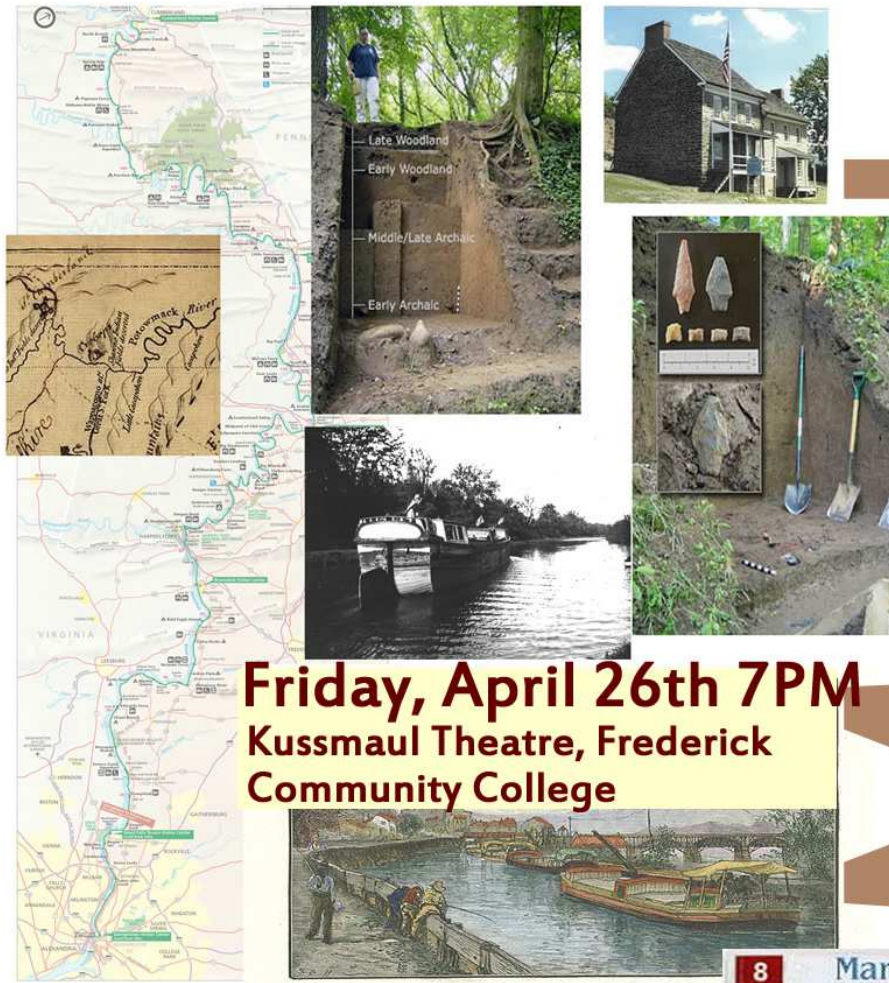
Fairfield Dig Days: We will hold public dig days at Fairfield on May 18, September 14 and October 12. Bring your friends and family to discover archaeology.

*A Public Presentation by the Monocacy Archeological Society
and the Frederick County Landmarks Foundation
in conjunction with the Catoctin Center and
Frederick Community College*

Tidelock to Terminus

*Highlights from the Nine Year Archeological and Historical
Study of the C&O Canal*

*Presented by Dr. Stephen Potter
Regional Archeologist
National Capital Region, National Park Service*



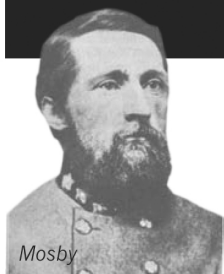
Friday, April 26th 7PM
Kussmaul Theatre, Frederick
Community College



<http://www.digfrederick.com>
<http://www.frederickcountylandmarksfoundation.org>
<http://catocctincenter.frederick.edu>



Maryland Archeology Month



Civil War 150th Anniversary Event

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2013

Mosby's Fairfax Raid Reenactment and Commemoration

10:30am-Noon..... Reenactment and Cavalry Tactics
Outside William Gunnell House on Truro Church grounds (10520 Main Street)

Noon-2:00pm..... Visit Stoughton's bedroom in William Gunnell House (10520 Main Street)
Site of Confederate John Mosby's capture of Union Gen. Edwin Stoughton

Interpretive stops outside other Mosby-related sites (See Map Below):

Joshua Gunnell House (4023 Chain Bridge Road)

Ford House (3977 Chain Bridge Road)

Murray-Moore House (3950 Chain Bridge Road)

Guided Tours of Fairfax County Courthouse

Circuit Court Archives (4000 Chain Bridge Road)



Old Town Hall Parking Lot (3999 University Drive)

10:00am-5:00pm..... Virginia Civil War 150 HistoryMobile
Traveling Civil War Exhibition • 1 Day Only

Old Town Hall Space is limited inside Old Town Hall (3999 University Drive)

2:00pm..... History Channel film screening: "John Singleton Mosby,"
from *Secret Missions of the Civil War*

2:30-4:00pm..... Mosby Scholars Symposium with Don Hakenson, Gregg Dudding,
David Goetz, Eric Buckland, Chuck Mauro, Tom Evans and more

4:00-5:00pm..... Reception and Mosby authors (books for sale and signing)

5:00-6:30pm..... Movie screening: *Mosby's Combat Operations in Fairfax County, Virginia*

Opening of New Civil War Exhibits:

"Civil War Fairfax 1863,"

at Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center

(10209 Main Street) Open Daily 9:00am-5:00pm

"Currency in Conflict: Money in the Civil War"
and

"Abraham Lincoln: A Legacy in Numismatics"
On loan through May 31 from American Numismatic Assn.

at Civil War Interpretive Center

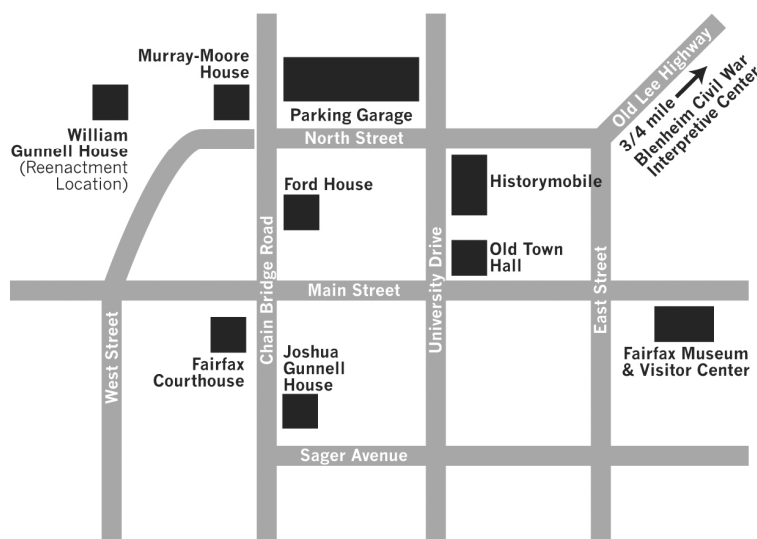
at Historic Blenheim (3610 Old Lee Highway)
Open Tuesday-Saturday Noon-4pm

For further information

please call 703-385-8414 or 703-591-0560

www.fairfaxva.gov

Free parking in Old Town Fairfax garage
behind Old Town Plaza 3955 Chain Bridge Road



ALL EVENTS ARE FREE TO THE PUBLIC

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Alexandria Museum	Francine Bromberg	Francine.bromberg@alexandriava.gov 703-838-4399 (information)

NVC/ASV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Phone: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

[] Please send *Datum Point* via e-mail

Individual (\$15) _____ Student (\$5) _____ Family (\$17) _____	New _____ Renewal _____
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Return to:
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THE DATUM POINT

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 Falls Church, VA 22042

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